DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND

A' LORG AGUS A' CLADHACH AN ALBAINN

NEW SERIES, VOLUME 9, 2008

THE JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND

ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND

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2008

Editor Paula Milburn

Archaeology Scotland

Archaeology Scotland

Archaeology Scotland is a voluntary membership organisation, which works to secure the archaeological heritage of Scotland for its people through education, promotion and support:

- education, both formal and informal, concerning Scotland's archaeological heritage
- promotion of the conservation, management, understanding and enjoyment of, and access to, Scotland's archaeological heritage
- support through the provision of advice, guidance, resources and information related to archaeology in Scotland.

Our vision

Archaeology Scotland is a key centre of knowledge and expertise for Scottish archaeology, providing support and education for those interested and involved in archaeology, and promoting Scotland's archaeological heritage for the benefit of all.

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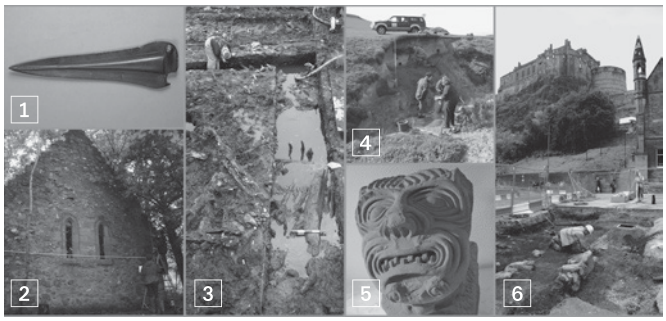
Membership is open to all individuals, local societies and organisations with an interest in Scottish archaeology. Membership benefits and services include access to a network of archaeological information on Scotland and the UK, four newsletters a year, the annual edition of the journal *Discovery and excavation in Scotland*, and the opportunity to attend Archaeology Scotland's annual Summer School and the Archaeological Research in Progress conference.
Further information and an application form may be obtained from Archaeology Scotland:
Email info@archaeologyscotland.org.uk
Website www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk.

A' lorg agus a' cladhach an Albainn, the Gaelic translation of *Discovery and excavation in Scotland*, was supplied by Margaret MacIver, Lecturer in Gaelic & Education, and Professor Colm O'Boyle, Emeritus Professor, both at the Celtic, School of Language and Literature, University of Aberdeen.



Cover images

1 Middle Bronze Age dirk from River Tay at Perth (Copyright Perth Museum & Art Gallery)
2 Students of Glasgow University survey Muckersie Chapel (Photo: The Strathearn Environs and Royal Forteviot Project - SERF)
3 Cults Loch Promontory during excavation (Photo: AOC Archaeology Group)
4 Excavating the eroding midden pit at Port Ban, Iona (Copyright The National Trust for Scotland)
5 Caerlaverock Castle, gargoyle (Photo: Mary Márkus)
6 View of a section of the Flodden Wall (Courtesy of John Lawson, CECAS)
7 Back cover: The opening ceremony at Cruester Burnt Mound in August 2008 (Copyright Tom Dawson)

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NEW SERIES, VOLUME 9, 2008

THE JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND

Editorial policy

Since the first volume in 1947 *Discovery and excavation in Scotland (DES*) has played a vitally important role in Scottish archaeology. Each new issue offers a simple way to keep up to date with current work in the field, and the back issues provide a research tool for anyone seeking information about the archaeology of Scotland.

The full run of *DES* is now available digitally, with the exception of the most recent five volumes. These are available in print form to members of Archaeology Scotland. All volumes from 1947 onwards are available as PDF files. They may be downloaded for research and teaching purposes but must not be resold or made available on any other website or any other medium with or without charge, unless with the prior written consent of Archaeology Scotland and the relevant copyright holders. The digital archive may be accessed via a link on the Archaeology Scotland website.

DES is not intended as a medium for final publication. It is a reference work, an annual summary of activity in technical form. A fuller account will eventually appear in print elsewhere, and/or further detailed records will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS: formerly referred to as NMRS) and in the appropriate museum service. It is a condition of Historic Scotland funding that entries should be supplied for publication in *DES*.

Archaeology Scotland publishes *DES* as a service to its members and to archaeology generally. It is aimed at a readership with a specialist interest in archaeology and welcomes contributions from all sectors of the archaeological community. Its production represents a significant percentage of Archaeology Scotland's annual income. Financial support is received from various bodies for entries relating to their work, and further contributions are received for reports on developer-funded projects.

DES aims to provide a rapid, comprehensive summary of all archaeological work undertaken in Scotland each year by the end of May in the succeeding year. This imposes a very tight timescale on the production process. These considerations underlie and constrain the editorial policy reflected in the notes for contributors below. It seeks to balance maximum information value and accuracy with speed of production and minimum cost. It is divided into two sections: notes for contributors on the format and deadlines for submissions, and a section on conventions, arranged in alphabetical order.

Acknowledgements

Archaeology Scotland would like to thank Ellen McAdam for the invaluable contribution that she made to *DES* in her role of Honorary Editor during 2007 and 2008.

I am very grateful to Ellen McAdam for her continuing advice and support during the production of this volume. Thank you in particular for your assistance with the proof-reading and for suggesting changes which undoubtedly improved it immensely.

Thank you to Jennifer Shore for assistance with final checks.

Thanks are due to the Stationery Office Ltd Cartographic Centre for the Local Authority map.

Archaeology Scotland is in receipt of an award from the Historic Scotland Heritage Grants Programme.

Archaeology Scotland wishes to acknowledge the following bodies for generous financial assistance in respect of the reports relating to their particular contributions to this volume:

- Historic Scotland
- Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
- The Crown Office (Treasure Trove Advisory Panel).

Paula Milburn, Archaeology Scotland

1 Notes for contributors

1.1 Content of *DES*

The editor will accept appropriate accounts of all forms of archaeological discoveries. It is preferable to submit entries in the year of discovery, but contributions may also be submitted at a later date. They may cover:

- Assessment (desk-based assessments should only be submitted if undertaken as part of additional work)
- Evaluation
- Watching brief
- Excavation
- Geophysical or other field survey
- Fieldwalking
- Historic building survey
- Palaeoenvironmental studies
- Finds studies
- Records of stray finds

Public access projects including Adopt-a-Monument
Full bibliographic references for the final publication, in any medium, of work previously recorded in *DES*.

1.2 Text format and deadlines

Please supply contributions as a Word attachment via email. In addition, one hard copy of each contribution and a disk with the entries and any illustrations should be submitted. Each contribution should be printed out on a separate page following the standard format, and typed or clearly printed in single spacing.

- Professional organisations should submit text in the format requested by the Bibliographic Officer. Individuals may submit text in the format of the sample entry below.
- Contributions may be sent in at any time during the year. The final deadline for inclusion of contributions in the volume for the current year is 15 November. Contributions received after that date will be included in next year's volume.
- All entries should acknowledge the contributor(s), organisation(s) and appropriate funder(s).
- The contributors' contact addresses will be listed at the back of the volume.
- The editor will not accept anonymous contributions.
- Contributions should be sent to Dr Paula Milburn at RCAHMS, John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9NX.
- Email Paula.Milburn@rcahms.gov.uk

1.3 Illustration format

- We will include illustrations to accompany your entry whenever possible, provided they are of appropriate quality. We particularly welcome plans of large-scale excavations and surveys.
- Please supply colour and black and white greyscale images as jpg or tif files at a minimum resolution of 300dpi.
- Black and white bitmap images should ideally be saved at 1200dpi, and no lower than 800dpi for optimum printing.
- Please supply a hard copy of each image, labelled on the back with local authority area, site name and file name, and a numbered list of captions cross-referencing images and files.
- Do not embed images in Word files.

1.4 Editorial process

- Copyright for text and images published in *DES* will rest with Archaeology Scotland. Entries will normally be added to CANMORE, the RCAHMS on-line database (www.rcahms.gov.uk).
- Contributors should ensure they have copyright clearance for images not their own before submission.
- The editor will apply the standards and conventions of these notes, as indicated in the sample entry below.
- The editor reserves the right to shorten contributions. Because survey observations can be replicated, these are subject to heavier editing than excavation reports, which are records of unrepeatable work. Negative reports (where no archaeology was found) should be as short as possible.
- Badly written, very long or controversial contributions may be returned to the contributor for revision.
- Contributors will not receive proofs of edited contributions.
- The contributor is responsible for the accuracy of entries, and all enquiries concerning content should be referred to the contributor. Contributors may be asked to verify their contributions. The editor will not enter into lengthy correspondence with contributors.

1.5 Sample entry

[Local authority]
[Parish]

Berry Burn Wind Farm
Evaluation and survey
Sarah-Jane Haston – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NJ 07032 46223 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in July 2006 to ascertain whether there were any archaeological constraints upon the location of a turbine forming part of the Berry Burn wind farm. The proposed turbine location lies near the prehistoric field system at Rochuln (NJ04NE 3).

Seven trenches were excavated, covering 392m^2, equivalent to just over 5% of the available area. The present ground surface was at 310m OD. The trenches were excavated through varying depths of peat, and all came down onto natural sand with frequent boulders protruding from the bedrock. In some places an iron-pan had developed before the onset of peat accumulation. Large tree trunks were visible within the peat at depths between 0.4m and 0.7m.

The evaluation identified three lengths of dry stone walling, comprising two separate structures lying on top of the natural subsoil and sealed beneath up to 0.7m of peat. Of unknown date or function, they may be associated with an early field system. All three features lie on the very E margin of the Turbine 30 location and *c*45m from the centre point of the turbine base.

Three linear banks that lay outside the limits of the previous work undertaken by the RCAHMS (survey DC17478/PO) were surveyed.
Archive and report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR
Funder: Entec UK
[Contact details for organisation/individual name – for contributors list]

1.6 Format for editors

[Local authority]
[Parish]
Site name
Type(s) of project
Name of contributor(s) – Name of organisation
National Grid Reference (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures) [space]
[Report]
[tab] second and subsequent paragraphs
Location of archive and/or report [no full point]
Funder: [no full point]

2 Conventions

2.1 Abbreviations and acronyms

- Do not punctuate abbreviations or acronyms, eg RCAHMS, National Museums Scotland, mm, m, Fig
- Use N, S, E, W, NE, SSE, E-W, and N–S for cardinal points and directions. Spell out northwards, southern etc in full.

2.2 Bibliographic references

- It will not normally be necessary to provide references for entries in the *DES* county list.
- References to previous *DES* entries for the same site should be in the form [author's name] *DES* 2001.
- For other references follow the Harvard system. Cite the reference in the text as the author's name and the year of publication, with page and illustration references. Provide a full list of references in alphabetical order at the end of the entry. Use the CBA journal abbreviations.
- Take the title from the title page, not from the spine or elsewhere on the cover. The title should be transcribed exactly as to wording and spelling but not necessarily as to punctuation and capitalisation. This means that except for proper names, only the first word of a title should be capitalised and no full stop is necessary at the end of the title.

2.3 Dates

- Cite dates as 30 July 1893.
- Use the form 5th century, 3rd millennium.
- Note that dates used as adjectives are hyphenated; 5th-millennium date, 18th-century moulding.
- Use 1590s, 1930s.
- Note the order 49 BC, but AD 1952.
- Elision of dates should be to the shortest form consistent with clarity, eg 5–15 July, 1745–7.

2.4 Geographical references

- To allow sites/finds to be located to the highest possible degree of accuracy National Grid references (NGRs) should be given as two letters and at least eight figures. Ten figure NGRs would also be most welcome.
- Exceptions are treasure trove locations where the submitting body feels that a more ambiguous location is appropriate, or completed work where the locational information has already been submitted to *DES*.
- Use current rather than historic local authority divisions (see map in this volume).

2.5 Italics

- Use italics for the titles of books and journals, eg *Discovery and excavation in Scotland*, *DES*, *Proc Ant Soc Scot*.
- Use italics for foreign words and quotations, eg *c* (for circa), *terminus ante quem*, *honi soit qui mal y pense*.

2.6 Numbers and measurements

- Spell out the numbers from one to ten except in measurements. Numbers 11 and above should be numerals except where the context makes this awkward (eg at the beginning of a sentence).
- Figures between 1000 and 9999 do not require a comma.
- Where numbers appear in a sequence, use numerals, eg of 100 trenches, 74 produced white gritty ware.
- Elision of numbers should be to the shortest form consistent with clarity, eg 254–8, 116–18, 196–203.
- Cite measurements in kilometres (km), metres (m) or millimetres (mm). Use the unit that is appropriate for the accuracy of the measurement.
- Do not use cm as they are not an SI measurement.
- Do not leave a space between the number and the unit of measurement.
- In a series of measurements using the same unit only the last measurement needs to be followed by the unit, eg 34 x 67 x 83mm.

2.7 Quotations

- Short quotations should be enclosed in single quotation marks.
- Lengthy quotations (more than five lines) should be indented, beginning a fresh line, and should not have quotation marks.

2.8 Spelling

- Spelling should follow the Concise Oxford Dictionary, preferring the first variants where offered.
- Note the preferred spellings of the following words and phrases:

1st Edition OS
annexe (noun)
artefact
cup mark
datable
dry stone
gazetteer
ground-breaking
groundwork
gully
hollow-way
hut circle
land use
medieval
metal detecting
millennium
penannular
planticrub
ploughsoil
posthole
rig and furrow
ring ditch
roundhouse
samian
viewshed
walkover
wind farm

2.9 Style

- Contributions should be brief statements of work undertaken.
- Survey information should be summarised.
- Write simply and clearly.
- Try to be interesting.
- Avoid the use of the passive.

Discovery and excavation in Scotland pro forma

Please supply the following information in this order and format.

If there is more than one item on a line please separate them by using the tab key.

Local authority…… .....

Parish…… .....

Site name .....Name of contributor(s)…… .....

Type of project.....Name of organisation……..…..

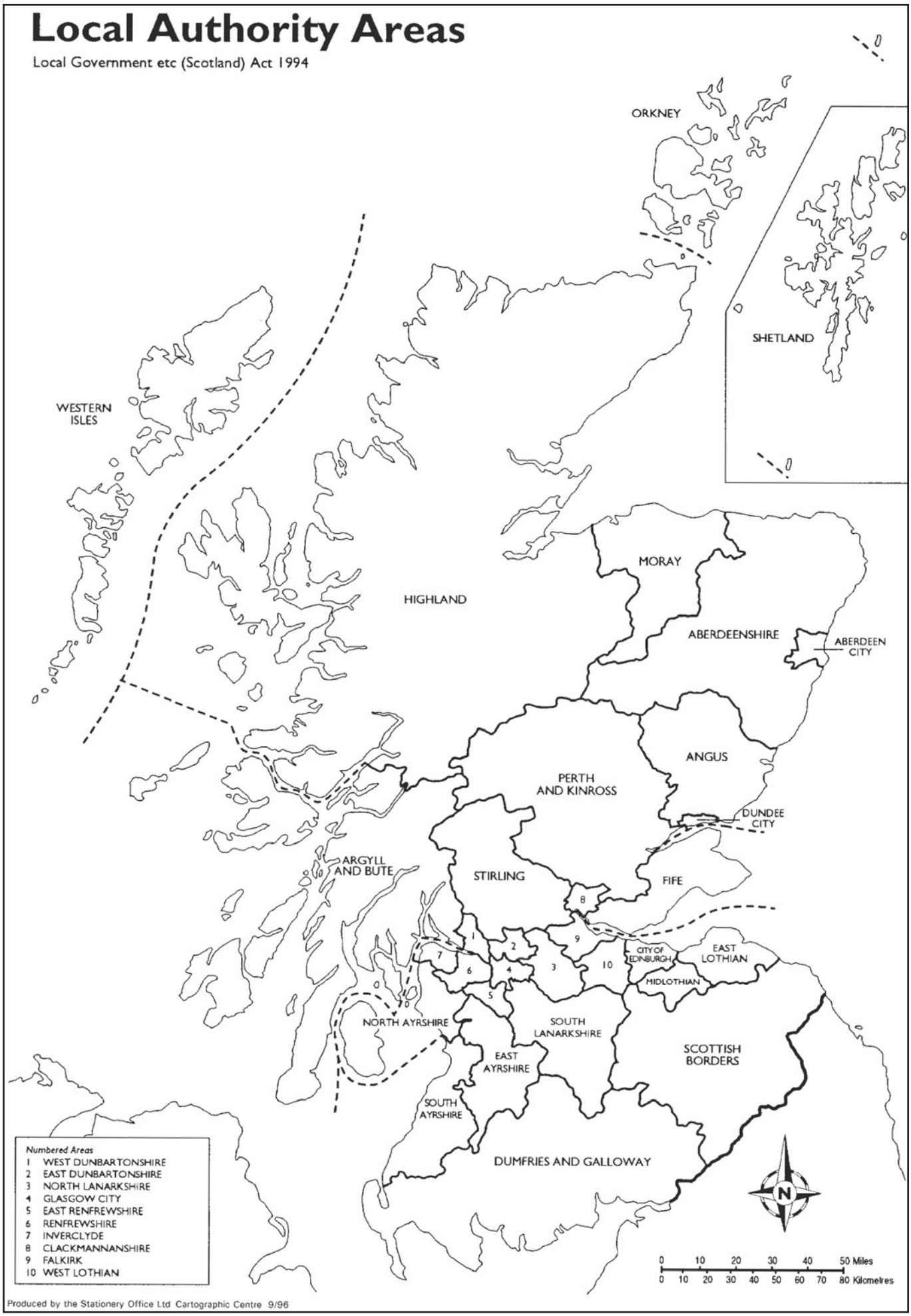
Nation Grid Reference (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)…… .....

[Report]

Location of archive and/or report …….. .....

Funder…….. .....

Contact details of organisation…….....


Local Authority Areas
Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994
ORKNEY
SHETLAND
WESTERN ISLES
HIGHLAND
MORAY
ABERDEENSHIRE
ABERDEEN CITY
ANGUS
PERTH AND KINROSS
DUNDEE CITY
ARGYLL AND BUTE
STIRLING
FIFE
CITY OF EDINBURGH
EAST LOTHIAN
MIDLOTHIAN
NORTH AYRSHIRE
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE
EAST AYRSHIRE
SCOTTISH BORDERS
SOUTH AYRSHIRE
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY
Numbered Areas
1 WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE
2 EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE
3 NORTH LANARKSHIRE
4 GLASGOW CITY
5 EAST RENFREWSHIRE
6 RENFREWSHIRE
7 INVERCLYDE
8 CLACKMANNANSHIRE
9 FALKIRK
10 WEST LOTHIAN
N
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Kilometres
Produced by the Stationery Office Ltd Cartographic Centre 9/96

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SURVEYS

Aerial reconnaissance

DJ Woolliscroft and B Hoffmann

The following is a list of new sites found from the air by the Roman Gask Project in 2008.
Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

ANGUS

Airlie

NO 370 499 **Greenbank** — Two large rectangular enclosures with rounded corners.

NO 296 460 **Wester Cardean** — Track flanked by possible rectangular buildings.

Fern

NO 465 630 **Deuchar Hill** — Rig and possible hut circles.

Kingoldrum

NO 331 552 **Kingoldrum** — Possible souterrain settlement.

NO 304 542 **Little Kenny** — Old road and ring cairn.

Kirriemuir

NO 382 546 **Woodbank** — Possible unenclosed settlement.

Lethnot and Navar

NO 442 734 **Water of Saughs** — Hut foundation.

Tannadice

NO 428 624 **Midtown** — Possible hut circles.

CLACKMANNAN

Alloa

NS 905 939 **Jerryholm** — Ring feature.

NS 907 940 **Jerryholm** — Ring feature.

NS 908 940 **Jerryholm** — Ring feature.

FIFE

Abdie

NO 258 153 **Woodhead** — Large partial ring feature.

Auchtermuchty

NO 241 123 **Auchtermuchty** — Ring feature.

Collessie

NO 332 101 **Pitlessie Mill** — Ring feature.

Kettle

NO 325 091 **Ramornie Mill** — Small ring feature.

Monimail

NO 319 136 **Bow of Fife** — Old field boundaries and ring feature (? modern).

NO 332 133 **Over Rankeilour** — Ring feature.

NO 333 133 **Over Rankeilour** — Ring feature.

PERTH AND KINROSS

Abernethy

NO 171 166 **Carey** — Two possible ring features.

Abernyte

NO 234 322 **Balloleys** — Ring feature.

Alyth

NO 263 456 **Easter Leitfie** — Four roundhouses around the previously known souterrain.

NO 226 495 **Whiteside** — Possible ring features.

Ardoch

NN 813 068 **Nether Camushinnie** — Rectilinear enclosures, ring features and linear cropmarks.

NN 817 058 **Woodside of Balhaldie** — Ring features.

NN 821 062 **Woodside of Balhaldie** — Possible ring cist.

Auchterarder

NN 936 135 **Castleton** — Rectangular enclosure.

NN 983 162 **Drumtogle** — Ring feature.

Auchtergaven

NO 074 331 **Loak** — Large rectangular enclosure with rounded corners.

NO 029 324 **Woodend** — Building ruins.

Bendochy

NO 224 456 **Blacklaw** — Ring features.

NO 228 456 **Blacklaw** — Possible square barrow.

Blairgowrie

NO 160 460 **East Gormack** — Possible souterrain.

NO 194 398 **West Banchory** — Pentangular germination mark.

Caputh

NO 175 390 **Black Hill** — Pits.

NO 114 418 **Middle Gourdie** — Enclosure.

Cargill

NO 139 341 **Pleasance** — Unenclosed settlement.

NO 134 343 **Pleasance** — Ring feature.

Clunie

NO 121 440 **Wester Tullyneddie** — Unenclosed settlement.

Coupar Angus

NO 222 390 **Balgersho** — Ring feature.

Crieff

NN 908 182 **Innerpeffray** — Ring feature.

Dunbarney

NO 134 170 **Grant** — Square enclosure.

Forgandenny

NO 094 176 **Little Kinnaird** — Unenclosed settlement and linear cropmarks.

Forteviot

NO 041 171 **Forteviot** — Ring feature.

Kinclaven

NO 137 384 **Balgreen** — Two small rectangular enclosures.

NO 106 375 **Silverwells** — Rig.

Kinnoull

NO 146 249 **Parkfield** — Ring features and souterrain.

Kinross

NT 120 986 **Hatchback** — Pits.

Lethendy

NO 149 419 **Mains of Pittendriech** — Possible ring cists.

Longforgan

NO 258 335 **Lochton** — Ring cists.

Orwell

NO 147 051 **Killyford Bridge** — Unenclosed settlement.

Redgorton

NO 087 296 **Battleby Farm** — Ring feature.

NO 089 297 **Battleby Farm** — Ring feature.

STIRLING

Kilmadock

NS 676 991 **Murdleston** — Ring feature.

St Ninians

NS 781 899 **Swanswater** — Possible barrow.

ABERDEEN CITY

Aberdeen

Aberdeen Harbour – Torry Quay

Environmental impact assessment, desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Cait McCullagh and John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NJ 9522 0538 (centred on) This assessment was based on a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey of the entire area of the proposed redevelopment of the River Dee Dock and environs. Work was carried out on 24 April 2008.

The Dee formed the S boundary of Aberdeenshire until the early 20th century. Facing it on the S bank were Kincardineshire and the riverside burgh of Torry. Torry received a charter in 1495 as a burgh of barony held by the Bishop of Arbroath. Despite this, it failed to thrive, no doubt greatly overshadowed by the already established and prosperous neighbouring burgh of Aberdeen. However, a pier was constructed in 1611–1612. By the 18th century one of the two principal landowners was the burgh of Aberdeen. The 1st Edition OS 1:10560 map of 1868 shows Torry as a fishing village, in which industrial development was beginning. The map shows a brickworks SW of the village.

The Victorian period saw great changes, including the diversion of the River Dee in the 1870s. This destroyed most of the old settlement of Torry, and in 1891 the City of Aberdeen absorbed its southern neighbour as well as its northern one.

Urbanisation was in progress by 1902, with a new harbour and quay, streets, and a school and church to serve the growing population. 25 years later, the River Dee Dock and Maitlands Quay had been established, together with a marine laboratory, shipbuilding yards and sawmills. These developments almost completely destroyed the remains of the old Torry village. However, the biggest alterations occurred after WW2, with large municipal housing schemes filling the previously open area S of Victoria Road.

Torry is now integrated into the larger city, with a modern urban industrial and residential landscape. Apart from late 19th to 20th-century industrial archaeology there is no visible surface evidence of the area's history. To the S open land remains at Tullos and despite recent use as a landfill site Bronze Age archaeology survives.

The archaeological sites in the development vary considerably and include findspots through to 20th-century industrial archaeology.

We identified 30 sites, 14 previously identified sites and 16 additional ones, during the walkover survey.

1) NJ 9845 0539 **The Sinclair Road, Wood Group Marine Base** (NJ90NW 1424) 20th-century feature. This includes the fixtures of the Maitlands Quay Area associated with the Wood Group, owners of the Quay and Marine base from 1972, and the previous owners of the site, shipbuilders' John Lewis and Sons Ltd. (1907–1976) as well as features 19, 21–23; 27–29. The base is apparently intact and lies beneath the present surface. It forms the western end of the current site.

2) NJ 95 05 (area) **4 stone balls** (NJ90NE 2) probably 16th- to 17th-century. This is a very approximate location. Two of the balls, now in the Marischal Museum, are of limestone and two of sandstone. They are undecorated and are probably medieval or early post-medieval cannonballs, perhaps derived from a warship. They were found underwater and are probably stray finds with no archaeological context.

3) NJ 95 05 (area) **Medieval watch tower** (NJ90NE 14), possibly 14th-century. The supposed and very approximate site of a medieval watch tower on the basis of documentary evidence (Aberdeen City Council SMR).There is no clear indication of where this stood.

4) NJ 9522 0537 **River Dee Dock** (NJ90NE 7.08), 20th century. This was constructed 1909–1915 and includes integrated structural elements of the Maitlands and Mearns Quays, including the Cross Berth. This is presently intact.

5) NJ 9537 0543 **Torry Valve House** (NJ90NE 30), 20th century. Constructed in 1905, this is a standing structure and still currently in use as the main valve for the siphon tunnel that carries waste water from the city to the outfall at Nigg Bay. The current condition of this feature is stable and no changes are predicted before the proposed development programme.

6) NJ 9530 0531 **Mearns Quay** (NJ90NE 7.09), 19th- to 20th century. This overlies and probably incorporates the Torry Harbour Timber Quay, constructed in 1895 and extended in 1923 by the addition of a further timber quay. It was further extended in 1984 westwards into the River Dee Dock area through the addition of steel sheet piles. The site includes the underlying remains, the integral structure and some fixtures (eg features 17 and 18). This quay may overlie evidence of the settlements of Lower Torry and Old Torry Village (feature 14). At present the quay and the underlying archaeology appear to be intact.

7) NJ 9540 0543 **Torry Quay Light Tower** (ASMR NJ 90NE 143), date unclear. Recorded as a standing structure, but no details were available and it was not found during the walkover survey. It may have been destroyed, or represent an error in the records.

8) NJ 9540 0543 **Torry Quay Light Tower** (ASMR NJ90NE 143), date unclear. As 7.

9) NJ 9537 0529 **West Leading Light/Beacon, Sinclair Road** (NJ90NE 7.19), 19th century. A beacon tower constructed in 1842 from riveted iron, relocated in the late 19th century. It is still in use as a working guidance beacon and outside of the development.

10) NJ 9554 0542 **Torry Quay** (NJ90NE 7.14), 20th century. This overlies the Torry Timber Quay constructed in 1895 and includes the Texaco Quay built 1965–1972. The site includes the underlying remains and integrated structural elements. Fixtures have been listed separately (features 5, 7–8, 10–13, 15–16, 25). It may seal evidence of the settlements of Lower Torry and Old Torry Village (feature 14).

11) NJ 9554 0542 **Old Torry Pier** (ASMR NJ90NE 206), 17th century. Data from cartographic sources. Constructed 1611–1612. It is unclear if anything survives of this structure.

12) NJ 9554 0546 **Torry Quay Pillbox** (NJ90NE 61), 20th century. This pillbox is no longer a standing structure and has apparently been destroyed.

13) NJ 9555 0541 **East Leading Light/Beacon** (NJ90NE 7.20), 19th century. A beacon tower constructed in 1842 from riveted iron, relocated in the late 19th century. It is still in use as a working guidance beacon, and outside of the development. Its condition is stable.

14) NJ9527 0542 **Torry Village**, 17th century or earlier. Data from cartographic sources including Parson Gordon 1661 and 1st Edition OS 1:10560 of 1868. It has apparently been almost entirely destroyed by the construction of the River Dee Dock, 19th-century realignment of the river and other works. It is impossible to clarify the nature or extent of any surviving evidence without excavation.

15) NJ 9550 0542 **Water Tank**, 20th century. A cylindrical, blue-painted water tank, the last known example of its type surviving on the Torry Quay.

16) NJ 9537 0447 **Quay Loading Arms**, 20th century. A pair of quay loading arms.

17) NJ 9503 0538 **Crane**, 20th century. One of a pair of quayside cranes, on fixed concrete platforms.
18) NJ 9527 0534 **Crane**, 20th century. One of a pair of quayside cranes, on fixed concrete platforms.
19) NJ 9490 0542 **Slipway**, 20th century. A series of dressed slipway abutments extending from the relic restraining walls denoting the previous course for the River Dee. These may be associated with the site's former use as a shipbuilding area.
20) NJ 9488 542 **Restraining walls**, 19th century. Relic restraining walls/baulk wall extending towards the Victoria Bridge.
21) NJ 9500 0545 **Mooring dolphin**, 20th century.
22) NJ 9497 0541 **Water Tower** 20th century. A cylindrical, corrugated sheet metal faced water tower.
23) NJ 9498 0544 **Loading Arms**, 20th century. A pair of loading arms.
24) NJ 9510 0530 **Electricity substation**, 20th century. An electricity substation building, constructed from dressed cobbles.
25) NJ 9555 0544 **Mooring dolphin**, 20th century.
26) NJ 9559 0543 **Undisturbed beach area**, with potential for archaeology. Undated. On the eastern edge of the present site and adjoining the Torry harbour and the former pier. Similar sites in Aberdeen have produced archaeological evidence including prehistoric remains.
27) NJ 9511 0539 **Slipway**, 20th century. Subterranean remains of the 1600 ton slipway constructed by the Wood Group, 1976.
28) NJ 9515 0531 **Maitland Quay facings**, 20th century. The 'Considere System' precast concrete and alloyed piles on the facing of the Maitlands Quay/River Dee Dock, constructed *c*1913.
29) NJ 9504 0438 **Texaco Timber Quay**, 20th century. Texaco Timber Quay, constructed *c*1956.
30) NJ 9500 0540 **Masonry wall**, probably 20th century. Subterranean remains of a masonry wall, apparently constructed across the River Dee to carry the Siphon Tunnel from the Torry Valve House to the outfall at Nigg Bay.

This assessment has attempted to develop the necessary knowledge of the site and its wider context, to consider its cultural significance and all phases of its development, and to ensure that where possible features and artefacts are preserved *in situ* with a minimum degree of intervention. Where this cannot be achieved they will be fully recorded.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

Bon Accord Centre, George Street
Evaluation, watching brief and excavation
Mike Roy – AOC Archaeology Group

Barrel lined well

NJ 941 064 Work was carried out 25 January–23 November 2007 in advance of the development of a site fronting onto the medieval thoroughfares of Upper Kirkgate and Gallowgate. 16 trenches (an area of 192m) were opened during the evaluation and identified zones of archaeological deposits in the E of the site, though with heavy truncation in the S and E, near the existing street frontages.

A full excavation was carried out of these areas. The site was divided into three. Area **A** to the NW covered *c*500m, **B** to the S covered *c*190m and **C** to the E covered *c*750m. The watching brief and evaluation works had revealed that medieval and post-medieval deposits survived relatively undisturbed in Areas **A** and **C**. More limited remains were encountered in Area **B**. The excavation confirmed these initial findings.

The earliest phase of activity on the site was marked by the excavation of features, mainly pits, through the gravel-rich clay and sand natural. These commonly contained waterlogged clay and clay silt fills conducive to the survival of organic material, including artefacts such as leather and wood. Pottery recovered from this phase has tentatively been dated to the 13th- to 14th centuries, possibly earlier, though further assessment of the artefacts is required. Leather is recorded in these pit fills, indicating that processes such as tanning may have been undertaken. Linear features were also recorded, generally functioning mainly as drainage features, though one ditch may also have formed a N/S boundary running at right-angles to the Upperkirkgate.

The second phase of activity, which is also likely to date to the 13th- to 14th centuries, involved the deposition of major clay silt and silty clay occupation deposits. There were numerous pits in Areas **A** and **C** associated with waste disposal, drainage and industrial activity. The bases of stake and wattle fence lines were also present in area **C** parallel with the Gallowgate. One of these lines clearly divided Area **C** into activity zones. A series of large pits were visible to its E. Many of the pits in the vicinity of the stake line were rectangular or sub-rectangular and may have been associated with tanning or other industry. One of these pits produced numerous well-preserved wooden artefacts, including several turned wooden bowls, structural timbers and a truncated hurdle screen. A large barrel-lined cut topped by a circular stone structure formed a well in the S of Area **C**.

The third major phase of activity, again tentatively dated to the 13th- to 14th centuries, involved the accumulation of further medieval silty clay occupation deposits. The many pits recorded had again probably served a mixture of waste disposal and industrial functions. Structural features included in Area **A** the remains of an E/W aligned wall [20473] and in Area **C** a remnant cobble surface and possible remnant wall. Evidence for buildings was limited. A possible hearth cut and associated stone structure were identified in Area **C**.

The fourth phase was tentatively dated to the 14th- to 15th centuries and saw an increase in structural remains, with evidence for clay-bonded stone walls representing the remains of boundaries and perhaps buildings, and drainage features, including a barrel-lined well. There were two possible stone-lined hearths in Area **C**. Pit features in both Areas **A** and **C** were commonly more shallow than in earlier phases and may have mainly functioned as refuse pits, though there were several stone-filled soakaways. The accumulation of clay and silty clay occupation and dump deposits continued.

The fifth phase of activity related to late medieval and post-medieval activity, provisionally dated to the 15th- to 18th centuries. Where not truncated by later activity there was an accumulation of layers of silty clay garden soil, later dump deposits and the remains of rubble walls, which served as boundaries. One wall delimited a zone of activity near the

Gallowgate to the E, from an area of little more than garden soils to its W. Within this area of activity in Area **C** structural remains included possible remnant rubble walls and surfaces and a series of drains and soakaways. Area **C** also contained further pits, which were at least partly for rubbish disposal.

Later, probably post-medieval deposits in the N of Area **C** contained dark grey or brown clay occupation deposits. A large deposit of iron slag pointed to iron production in the vicinity.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Land Securities

City Wharf

Evaluation and excavation
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit

NJ 9442 0624 On 7 November 2007 a building constructed of granite fieldstones with sandstone mouldings around one door was uncovered, recorded and dismantled prior to piling for a new entrance to a multi-storey car park. It showed similarities to Provost Ross's House immediately across Shiprow and may also date from the late 16th century.

Further work was undertaken on 4 September 2008 prior to the construction of a hotel. Waterlogged deposits included two medieval wooden drains, a 14th- to 15th-century stone-lined well and several wooden objects. Up to 4m of deposits were excavated and sampled, which should add to our knowledge of the environment of this area of Aberdeen in the medieval period and earlier.

Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Kenmore Aberdeen2 Ltd

City Wharf 1 – 16th-century building (foreground) during excavation showing its relationship to Provost Ross' House

Justice Mill Lane/Hardgate

Standing building recording and watching brief
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit

NJ 9349 0571 The Hardgate well has long been romantically associated with the Battle of Justice Mills in 1644 when wounded and dying soldiers were supposed to have been carried to that spot. Antiquarians claim that the well that day 'ran reid' with blood (Wyness, 1965, 179) but there is no contemporary evidence for the well's existence.

The superstructure over the well was constructed in 1970 and was recorded before demolition for the construction of a hotel. The demolition work was recorded and the well revealed underneath. An inscription in the cement around the well read 'C McALLAN/1969/REBUILT'. The current depth of the well was a maximum of 1.3m. It is hoped that the well will be retained in the service yard of the hotel. A watching brief of the soil strip for the development revealed no further archaeological deposits. Work was undertaken on the site 25 May–8 August 2008.

Wyness, F. (1965) *City by the Grey North Sea.*

Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Hazledene Estates

King Street Bus Depot, Aberdeen

Desk-based assessment, watching brief, evaluation and standing building survey
Cara Jones and Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NJ 9422 0734 Work was conducted August 2007–July 2008 during the redevelopment of a *c*3.38ha site. The earliest known record of the site is during the medieval period, with documentary evidence of a leper hospital and a chapel dedicated to Saint Ann, the exact site of which is unknown. In 1861 a Militia Barracks was built, occupying the northern half of the site. This is shown on historical maps as a quadrangle arranged around a parade ground. The offices of the First Bus Depot appear to conform to the configuration of the main barrack buildings on the E side of the quadrangle. The buildings served the needs of the Royal Aberdeenshire Volunteers until they were taken over by the Aberdeen Corporation Tramways. The site was developed as a tram depot and subsequently as a bus depot, still in use today. A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out of the depot prior to its demolition.

A limited number of archaeological features and deposits were recorded during the watching brief. These are all likely to be 20th-century in date and included a concrete plinth, a possible ditch feature, and the remains of a brick-built structure (possibly an outside toilet). No features relating to the leper hospital or of earlier periods were uncovered. The work demonstrated that there are up to at least 4m of modern made ground. There has also been extensive past disturbance from the insertion of services and remodelling of buildings.

The evaluation covered *c*14% of the new office footprint and revealed a concrete floor and wall which probably represent the remains of an open-ended tram shed, possibly for maintenance. A deep soil deposit containing 19th-century pottery and glass filled a natural hollow, and may represent deliberate infilling of the ground before the building of the barracks. Three footings of the interior walls of the former barracks' N wing were also revealed. No other archaeological remains or structures were revealed.

Archive: Aberdeen City SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: FirstGroup PLC

Rosewell Gardens, Lower Rosewell

Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit

NJ 9085 0620 On 24–25 April 2008 a cottage and agricultural buildings were recorded prior to their demolition. Although part of the buildings had been demolished previously and the cottage had been modernised, enough survived to determine

possible age and use. This may have been an 18th-century farmstead, part of the lands of Summerhill. The agricultural buildings were roofed with pantiles and were among the last of this type remaining in Aberdeen.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Cala Homes

Pitfodels House (Viewbank)
Standing building recording and field evaluation
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit
NJ 9077 0373 Standing building recording and excavation around the base of the tower, 17 April–27 May 2008, confirmed that the tower in the grounds of this 19th-century house were part of the original post-medieval Viewbank House. A stone dated 1692 and 1633 built into the side of the tower was a later addition and may not be associated with this property.

A bunker in the garden was recorded prior to demolition and was interpreted as a WW2 air-raid shelter with elaborate granite façade. A field evaluation of the remaining land revealed no features of archaeological significance.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: International School of Aberdeen

The armorial panel dated 1692 and 1633 (bottom)

Salvation Army Citadel, Aberdeen
Watching brief and excavation
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit
NJ 9455 0639 A watching brief was carried out 15 June 2007 –28 January 2008 during redevelopment of the Salvation Army Citadel. During this work a wall was uncovered which probably dates to the medieval period. The wall was recorded and left *in situ*. This area was built up by 1661, the date of Parson Gordon's map, and the wall may have belonged to one of the buildings dating to the late medieval or early post-medieval period.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Salvation Army

Virginia Street, Aberdeen
Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology
NJ 94314 06065 to NJ 94792 06290 Work was undertaken 19 August–11 September 2006 during cable trenching from Trinity Quay through Virginia Street to Commerce Street. No significant archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Hammerson

Wapping Street Gyratory
Excavation and watching brief
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit
NJ 9412 0603 Prior to the widening of Wapping Street an electricity sub-station was moved. Monitoring was undertaken, 1 April–21 June 2008, as the site is close to a Carmelite friary (*DES* 1996, 6). Wall foundations of the post-medieval Hadden's Woollen Manufactory were recorded but no earlier deposits were found. Several trenches dug to relocate electricity cables were also monitored but no significant archaeological deposits were recorded.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Aberdeen City Council

Dyce

Caie's Mill, Kinellar, Aberdeen
Standing building recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 8322 1424 A standing building survey was carried out 5–25 July 2008 prior to the development of a mill and associated dwelling. The corn mill, which had burnt down in the 1920s or 1930s, was a large two-storied T-shaped building with fine stonework and considerable detail of the mill workings evident in the structure. The mill lade and mill pond were traced and recorded. The mill has a date stone of 1796 with the initials JH. Documentary research by C Croly of Aberdeen Archaeological Unit has identified the initials as probably belonging to a John Henderson, apparently tacksman of the mill in 1795. Other references show there was a mill on the site from at least the beginning of the 17th century.
Reports: Aberdeen City SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: George Ferries

Caie's Mill, Aberdeen

Kirkhill
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy to recognise and safeguard sites in advance of timber operations that may be potentially damaging to the archaeological resource. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 859 136 **Boganjoss** – Area of clearance cairns.

NJ 843 146 **The Slacks** – A shallow hollow-way which might be related to the extensive prehistoric remains across the hillside.

NJ 841 145 **The Slacks** – Very deep hollow-way overlain by field boundary of 18th or 19th century date.

NJ 848 141 **Hill of Marcus** – Remains of a very slight wall above what might be an old track line. Behind the wall is what appears to be a levelled area, possibly a platform for a building. The slight wall continues westwards for *c*40m before turning northwards to connect with the modern field boundary. The area enclosed is quite free from stones and has probably been cultivated.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kirkhill
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described above. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 842 127 **Gorehead** – The upslope end of a building measuring *c*4m across. The rest of the structure is not visible but may be obscured by deep leaf litter and turf. Although in part of an 'improvement'-period field system, there is little evidence of clearance. There are the probable remains of an enclosure bank *c*10m N of the structure running NW/SE.

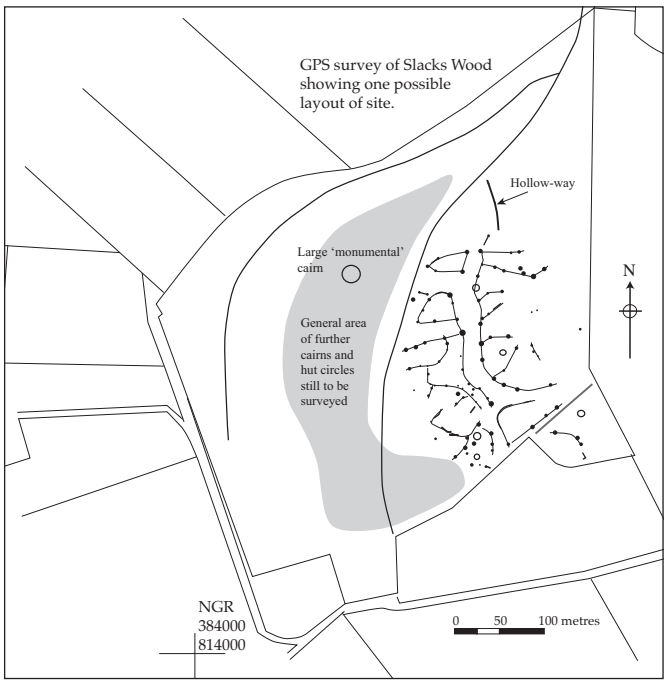
NJ 841 126 **Gorehead** – Clearance cairns.

NJ 848 122 **Gueval** – Cairns on top of a hill. They appear to be clearance cairns from their size, but their siting might suggest a more ceremonial purpose.

NJ 850 120 **Mount Joy** – The presence of an isolated clearance cairn measuring *c*5m should be viewed with caution. However, other cairns may come to light and link this feature to known sites in the area (see below).

NJ 848 121 **Tyrebagger** – A well-preserved hut with an external diameter of *c*7m sits on a steep slope. An area of good ground to its E might account for its position. A short distance to the W a fallen tree has brought up a collection of stones which might suggest the presence of clearance remains.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Slacks Wood, Kirkhill
Survey
Colin Shepherd
NJ 84000 14000 A GPS survey was undertaken on the remains of a cairnfield, associated hut circles and other anomalous features in an area of former woodland in order to facilitate land management. The method of recording was less accurate than a 'chained' survey but achieved an accuracy level of 4m, which was considered acceptable for this work. Further remains in standing woodland have been identified and will be recorded in due course.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission



Survey of Slacks Wood, Kirkhill, Aberdeenshire

Old Machar

Premier Travel Inn, Ellon Road, Murcar
Watching brief
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NJ 9462 1254 Monitoring was undertaken during the clearance of a 0.2136ha area along the S limit of the present inn. The work revealed no artefacts or archaeological features. The area had been heavily disturbed by the construction of the present hotel.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Aberdeen City Council
Funder: Whitbread Group PLC

Upper Westfield Primary School, Braehead Way, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 9346 1056 A watching brief was maintained on 29 May 2008 during soil stripping near the Scotstown cist burial (NJ91SW 13). No archaeological features or finds were recorded.
Reports: Aberdeen City SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Buro Happold Ltd

Peterculter

Dalhebity House
Standing building recording and watching brief
Alison Cameron – Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit
NJ 8756 0333 Standing building recording was undertaken on Dalhebity House, from 15 November 2007–15 January 2008, prior to its demolition. The house had originally been a small cottage which was extended several times, including the addition of two wings in 1891. A well was uncovered and recorded during a watching brief on the soil stripping of the garden. No other features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR, RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Stewart Milne Homes

Foggieton
Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork. The area of rig and furrow referred to below had previously been recognised and recorded by the City of Aberdeen Archaeological Service.

NJ 870 041 **Foggieton** – To the E of the rigs is an area containing the remains of a possible building with associated enclosure. These features are unlikely to relate to the early modern dyke system in the area and are more probably associated with the area of rigs.

NJ 869 040 **Foggieton** – At the S end of the rigs and in the circuit of the car parking area is a mound of unknown purpose. Its relationship to the rigs is unclear. It does not appear to relate to the construction of the car parking area

NJ 869 040 **Foggieton** – This is a western extension of the early modern dyke system. Its construction and alignment suggests that it was an earlier feature re-used in the early modern period. The alignment would not be entirely out of keeping with the rigs to the N and there is no evidence that the rigs ever stretched S of this boundary. (See below for a similar eastern extension).

NJ 870 037 **Foggieton** – In the SW corner of the woodland area is a slight earthwork. It appears to run E from the roadside dyke for approximately 17m before turning S for a further 10m. Beyond this is a further scatter of stones which might relate to the destruction of a further length. The 17m length is abutted on its N side by a modern drainage ditch, though there does not appear to be any direct association. However, the area defined by the two sides of the earthwork does seem depressed and there might be a possibility that it did form some kind of pool or sump.

NJ 871 038 **Foggieton** – This anomalous structure appears as an extensive and dense scatter of stones aligned at 305°, ie not on the alignment of the early modern dyke system. The early modern dyke appears to be absent from the area to the E of this feature, which may suggest the 'platform' was a modern creation using stones from the dyke. There is no obvious purpose behind the construction of this feature. The dykes run on an alignment of approximately 340° and no association to a simple clearance operation can be claimed. The 'platform' measures approximately 27 x 5m and has clearly defined edges, suggesting construction rather than destruction. There is a possible projection from its northern corner.

NJ 872 040 **Foggieton** – This area was found to contain a large scatter of stones which is either the result of field clearance or reflects the destruction of earlier structures. The latter suggestion might be supported by a very slight suggestion of a curvilinear setting of stones close by.

NJ 871 040 **Foggieton** – As above, this is an eastern extension of the early-modern dyke, though its construction would be more appropriate to an earlier period.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kingshill

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 855 050 **Gairn Hill** – A much denuded boundary bank appears to follow the hill contour.

NJ 855 049 **Gairn Hill** – A sub-rectangular enclosure *c*15 x 15m defined by flat-faced boulders. There are suggestions of structural platforms inside. The enclosure is next to a small 'cairn' or spoil heap produced from quarrying. There is a further similar 'quarry' structure a short distance to the N as well as a further possible dyke revealed by a tree-throw a few metres to the W of the enclosure. The enclosure sits amidst an extensive area of clearance cairns.

NJ 853 041 **Broomwood** – An extensive area of clearance that appears to relate to the use of this low-lying area, presumably for cultivation. The clearance remains surround what might be an 'island' in the low-lying land. At the W end, near the existing fields, the clearance remains are most extensive and probably relate to the clearance of those fields. To the E the remains are less pronounced but suggest use of the land, which by the time of the 1st Edition OS map, was known as the 'Moss of Rotten' and depicted as bog. The E end appears to have a low, earthen bank, *c*4m wide, curving away from it in a NE direction until interrupted by a modern drain.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

ABERDEEN CITY/ABERDEENSHIRE

Nigg/Banchory Devenick

Moss-side, Cove, Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

Evaluation and excavation
HK Murray and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

Mesolithic timber Moss-side, Aberdeen

NJ 9385 0026 to NO 9352 9960 A 7% evaluation took place, 8 November 2007–22 January 2008, on a 70 acre industrial development site that straddled the Aberdeen/ Aberdeenshire boundary. Two areas were excavated in more detail.

The site is a rare and interesting example of the archaeological evidence for the processes of improvement agriculture being matched by very detailed contemporary descriptions in estate records. Dykes, drains and culverts were recorded and areas of hand-dug trenching noted in the estate records were identified.

Part of the site was waterlogged with timber surviving over an area of *c*8ha (20 acres). A 10m square of the timber was excavated and shown to be part of natural woodland with no apparent human activity. Radiocarbon dates ranging between 7590 and 5530 cal BC (SUERC-17352-17354; 17358) indicate a Mesolithic date. Pollen analysis undertaken by R Tipping and A Davies (Stirling University) and wood and macro-environmental sampling by S Timpany (Headland

Archaeology) were undertaken to provide a detailed insight into the woodland development.

On the higher ground a number of ploughed-out features were associated with Early Neolithic Carinated pottery.
Report: Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire SMRs and RCAHMS
Funder: Stockland Halladale (UK) Ltd

ABERDEENSHIRE

Aboyne and Glentanar

Deeside Way Footpaths, South Ferrar, Aboyne
Watching brief
JC Murray and S Buchanan – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 4850 9859 A watching brief was maintained on 14 January 2008 on a new stretch of the Deeside Way footpath beside a number of known field monuments. No archaeological features or finds were evident.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Banchory-Ternan

Banchory
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NO 696 972 **Upper Lochton** – A clearance cairn stands *c*10m inside the boundary fence of the wood. To the W, just inside the fence line, is a large area of probably early modern clearance. A few metres further into the wood are the footings of much earlier dykes or structures. One stretch heads E/W, the other arcs northwards; both are visible only for a few metres.

NO 683 978 **Newton of Leys** – Extensive remains of a pre-'improvement' field system overlain by later 'improvement' period dry stone dyke. At the centre, to the S side of the power lines, is a possible structure. The remains presumably relate to the earlier, pre-'improvement' settlement of the 'New toun'.

NO 682 977 **Newton of Leys** – A sub-rectangular stone enclosure *c*23m across. It may be related to the extensive remains noted above.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Banchory
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NO 682 970 **Banchory Hospital** – A very slight hollow-way.

NO 684 973 **The Birks** – A much denuded dyke running to the W of the 'improvement'-period dry stone dyke. It appears to join another dyke (see below) at its northern end and to be part of the same pre-'improved' landscape. At its southern end it appears to turn eastwards.

NO 684 973 **The Birks** – A pre-'improvement' dyke which appears to belong to the same system as above and the derelict farmstead which lies to the E. It clearly pre-dates the later 'improved' dyke system. The apparent double line of stones where it crosses the modern path suggests that this feature formed a trackway running E/W.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Forestry Compartment 23, Milton Wood, Crathes Castle Estate
Watching brief
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 7380 9654 A watching brief was carried out, 12–13 August 2008, during the mechanical excavation of 130 tree planting holes to within *c*300–400m of the Warren Field timber hall (NO79NW 17) and pit alignment (NO79NW 18). Two stone features might be related to 19th-century dykes. An isolated sherd of Early Neolithic pottery emphasised the potential of finding further prehistoric activity in this part of the estate.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR, NTS and RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Nether Mills Farm, Crathes, Banchory
Fieldwalking and analysis of lithic material
Heather Sabnis, James Kenworthy and OFARS

Neolithic Polished Flint Knife

NO 75080 96030 Fieldwalking was carried out at 2m intervals on a recently ploughed river terrace. The field borders the River Dee and is the location of a lithic deposit previously recorded by Aberdeenshire SMR (NO79NE0022).

Over 3000 flints were collected from an area *c*350 x 100m. GPS co-ordinates were taken for each one using WAAS, typically accurate to ± 2m. Distribution figures were calculated on the basis of the number per 10 x 10m square. The highest concentration was in a 20 x 30m zone, containing almost 600 flints, at NO 75080 96030.

Two-thirds of the lithic material has been examined. The major component is Mesolithic of the 'Narrow Blade' (later) technology, and all phases of work from the preparation of raw material to the production of finished tools are represented. The assemblage includes diagnostic microburins and microliths, cores (mainly single platform), and a variety of scrapers. The microliths are mostly slim scalene pieces, with some tiny crescents; but so far no true late rod-like forms. However, there are a few earlier 'points', reminiscent of but smaller than those of the earlier 'Broad Blade' industry. Overall, it is one of Mellars' 'balanced assemblages' and probably represents continued base-camp occupation over a fair period.

The other component of this site is Neolithic. The most spectacular find was an extremely fine polished flint knife (Middle to Late Neolithic) made from a large tertiary flake (NO 75034 96002). The preform suggests a Middle Neolithic date, since large blade production is not usually a part of later industries. It is ground and polished on both sides and ends, with subsequent retouch backing. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 08/08) and allocated to the Marischal Museum, Aberdeen.

Other Neolithic artefacts include a small but diagnostic sherd of fairly fine Early Neolithic pottery (NO 74864 95991), a small retouched flake knife (NO 75075 96020) and a broken leaf-shaped arrowhead (NO 75076 96007).

Analysis of material and further work on the site is ongoing.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report (preliminary): Aberdeenshire SMR.

Belhelvie

Blackdog, Bridge of Don

Watching brief

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 9595 1403 A watching brief was carried out 25 March 2008 during site investigation works prior to redevelopment of a brownfield site which formerly housed the 19th-century Strathbathie Brick and Tile Works. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: WA Fairhurst and Partners

Blackdog Burn

Walkover survey and watching brief

Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NJ 9655 1408 (centred on) Nine concrete blocks dating from WW2 were discovered partially buried in the sand. These defences were probably intended to be used as tank traps. Sharp granite stones had been set into the top side of each block. Work was carried out 6–18 November 2008.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Golder Associates

Birse

Birse

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 540 955 **Newmill** – A clearance cairn positioned *c*6m inside the dyke enclosing the woodland. The presence of this possibly 18th-century dyke suggests the cairn is not modern field clearance.

NJ 550 951 **Bogranda** – This hollow-way forms part of the modern path network. Its depth suggests a long history. It is possible that it may have been used to provide access to summer pastures or shielings.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Boyndie

Boyne

Metal detector find

Martin Goldberg – Dept of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland

NJ 64 64 An Early Historic copper alloy pin was found during metal detecting. The pin has a bifurcated head split to form two inward-turning spirals and is comparable to similar pins from Culbin Sands, Moray.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT104/07) and allocated to Aberdeenshire Heritage Museum

Cairnie

Bin Forest

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 521 452 **Cumrie** – Machinery tracks revealed a concentration of stones which appears to be a clearance cairn. From this feature, the slight remains of a dyke could be seen leading to a more substantial boundary which runs down the hill from the corner of the present arable field. A further clearance cairn was noted at NJ 522 452.

NJ 524 451 **Cormalet** – A small portion of curved pre-improvement boundary survives in the wood to the E of the present field boundary. It is not depicted on the 18th-century estate plan and was presumably redundant by this time. It looks like a feature which is very common in pre-improvement fields in Strathbogie, ie a small extension to one corner of the field. It is possible that these small areas may have been fenced off and used to pen animals. This possible example has an entrance of *c*14m and opens onto an area with a slightly smaller radius.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Chapel of Garioch

Scottish Episcopal Palaces Project – Fetternear

Desk-based assessment, landscape survey and excavation

PZ Dransart and J Trigg – Scottish Episcopal Palaces Project

NJ 7233 1708 Work carried out 29 June–1 August confirmed that the moat, investigated in the 2007 season, reaches a terminus in the area S of the post-Reformation mansion which now dominates the site. The organic deposits in the upper fill of the moat are well preserved and extend northwards as far as the terrace wall. Offcuts of hewn oak and a fragment of lathe-turned wood were recovered from the moat fill.

The terrace wall runs E/W parallel to the moat and is aligned with the more southerly of the two robbed-out walls excavated (in 2005/06) to the W of the drive which bisects the site. E of the drive the wall extends E beyond the terminus of the southern portion of the moat, turning at a right-angle to continue northwards and run into a widened N/S trending wall, as described in previous *DES* entries. The wall encroaches onto a section of moat and we uncovered what appears to be its southernmost terminus in 2008, but did not excavate its fill.

The more northerly of the two robbed-out walls encountered W of the drive in 2005/06 continues E of the drive. Measuring nearly 3m in width, it probably formed part of one of the public buildings of the medieval bishop's palace. It was robbed in the 19th-century excavation of the site; a timber plank remains *in situ* from this earlier excavation, and was used to site a drain pipe which runs along its length underneath a layer of hardcore.

We further explored the cobbled area between the two termini of the moat in the SE sector of the excavation area. On the E of the cobbled area is a ditch with a V-shaped

profile. It runs S towards the Marshes Burn. The ditch differs in character from the moat, which is flat-bottomed where it was dug into the natural clay. A small gully fed into the ditch on its W side. Two massive boulders lay in the soil covering the northern part of the ditch. On their removal two *in situ* oak sill beams in a setting of stones were revealed. These beams are at the N end of the ditch, but further excavation is required to ascertain their relationship. Each has two mortises. They were converging to the W.

We wish to thank Mrs C Whittall, Mr J Whittall, Mrs C Fyffe, Mr R Fyffe and Mr D Fyffe for their support and for allowing access to the site.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR (intended) and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council, Council for British Archaeology Challenge Funding and Past Horizons

Chapel of Garioch/Monymusk

Bennachie

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 683 180 **Ramstone** – The corner of the very slight remains of a pre-improvement boundary bank and a cairn measuring *c*7m across sitting in this boundary.

NJ 684 181 **Ramstone** – A circular structure measuring *c*7.5m externally and 3.5m internally appears to be a small building. It sits on a slight rise. The area is depicted as rough grazing in the 1860s.

NJ 699 219 **Dorlethen** – A series of rigs with a wavelength of *c*8m running E/W from the present woodland boundary. They appear to extend for *c*60m into the wood where they are cut by a drain depicted on the 1st Edition 1:2,500 OS map of 1866. At least one seems to extend for a further 20m beyond the drain before being disturbed by more recent drainage features. Six rigs can now be seen though further banks extend on the same alignment further to the N. They are *c*13m apart and each is *c*2m wide. They do not appear to be modern drainage features and resemble a series of thin fields noted at Leschangie. Beyond these are drains which appear to be modern.

NJ 685 183 – NJ 684 181 **Ramstone** – A hollow-way leading from a break in the dyke system (see below) and possibly associated with it.

NJ 685 182 **Ramstone** – This is an extension to the dyke shown on the 1st Edition OS map and on modern plans. In places this dyke is virtually invisible and exists merely as a straggle of almost buried stones. The 1866 1:2,500 map seems to show this feature forming the boundary of a wooded area. This suggests that the dyke might have been constructed as part of the Grants forestation campaigns in the 1700s.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Coull

Lecht Cottage Mill, Coull

Standing building recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 5124 0338 A standing building survey was carried out of a mill and associated dwelling, originally known as Springbank or Springgarden, on 9 July 2008 prior to development. The threshing mill, lade and mill pond were recorded; a date stone of 1890 on the mill may indicate a renovation, as the map evidence suggests that there was a mill on the same footprint by the mid-19th century.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mrs Addy

Crathie and Braemar

Auchtavan Cottage

Standing building recording
Sarah Hogg, David Murray and Tom Whalley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NO 2035 9553 Auchtavan Cottage is one of a group of three roofed buildings, including the Queen Mother's Cottage and the Threshing Mill, in the otherwise ruined farmstead and township of Auchtavan at the head of Glen Feardar. On 22 October 2007 standing building recording was undertaken during consolidation.

With the exception of the sections of wall rebuilt during the current work, the walls of the cottage are original build. There is no evidence of an earlier structure, and the changes in build visible in the S wall and in the W wall are breaks in build during construction. The S and the W window and the SE and the SW door are built into the walls and are original apertures, but the wooden-lined recess may be a later insertion. The W window serving the upper floor level indicates that the upper floor level is original, just as the SE and SW door apertures indicate that there was originally a partition at ground floor level separating the E and W ends of the building. The floor structure of the cottage remains obscured but it is likely that the W end of the building is cobbled, possibly incorporating a drain.

The cruck-framed pine roof trusses are probably original, with original pegged joins. There are no obviously replaced timbers in the roof trusses, though some of the trusses are now broken and supported with modern scaffolding. The E/W-aligned roof framework nailed on the rafters of the trusses and the gable walls may also be original, but the unattached N/S-aligned framework above may have been periodically replaced along with the heather sod covering. The hanging lum is possibly not original as it does not correspond with the width of the hearth below. This is almost twice as deep as the base of the lum. A mortar surface and whitewash run behind the lum.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mott MacDonald Ltd

Old Bridge of Dee (Invercauld Old Bridge)

Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology

NO 1862 9088 Work was carried out 12 December 2007 during the excavation of a new drain near the bridge's S end. The excavation revealed two deposits of mortar and boulders at the E and W sides of the road aligned with the E and W walls of the bridge. These may be crude banks built to keep the sandy/gravelly road deposits from washing away. A modern plastic drain was also recorded in the W end of the trench.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Drumoak

Drum Castle – South Lawn, Drumoak

Excavation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 7962 0050 Work was undertaken, 25 February–3 March 2008, to establish the extent to which archaeological features survived in the S lawn of Drum Castle, which is used for public events. Documentary references suggest that a garden

had existed here in the 17th–18th centuries and may have been created when the mansion-house was added to the castle in *c*1615–21. A geophysical survey in 1988 had indicated that the garden plan survived.

The excavation revealed that the garden was in two parts; the part nearest the mansion was a fully walled garden with traces of possible geometric parterres. In the other part of the garden stone paths were excavated, alongside garden beds with revetting walls.

A small assemblage of medieval pottery and tile fragments was found in levelling material and probably derived from elsewhere on the castle site.

Archive and Report: NTS. Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Excavating garden path and walls at Drum Castle, Aberdeenshire

Dunnottar

Boggarthead

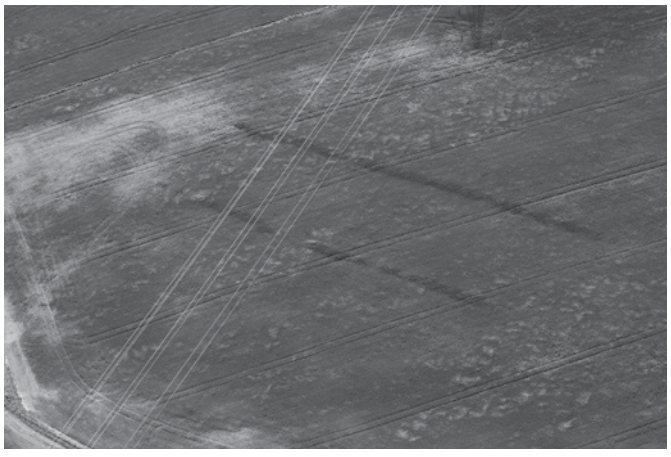
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service

NO 8786 8423 A linear cropmark *c*70m in length and *c*2m wide was recorded by aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. It is uncertain what it represents although it may be of agricultural origin (SMR ref no NO88SE0091).

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Clochnahill

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service



Clochnahill parallel cropmark feature

NO 8172 8221 Two parallel linear cropmarks *c*55m in length and *c*2m wide, *c*20m apart, were recorded by aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. They may represent a cursus monument (SMR ref no NO88SW0089).

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Dunnottar

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service

NO 8783 8392 Cropmarks of two possible small adjoining enclosures were identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. Other cropmarks of pits have been recorded previously to the W (SMR ref no NO88SE0026).

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Dunnottar Coastal Path, Stonehaven

Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NO 8812 8384 A watching brief was maintained on a coastal footpath between Stonehaven and Dunnottar Castle on 14 February 2008. No archaeological features or finds were evident.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Mains of Hilton

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service

NO 8783 8392 Cropmarks of rig and furrow in part of an enclosure were recorded by aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR ref no NO87NE0039).

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Durris

Durris

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NO 785 945 **Meikle Tulloch** – This feature is marked as a sheepfold on the 1st Edition OS map. However, the SW end appears to re-use a possibly earlier, larger enclosure. The NE end is curvilinear in comparison with the more angular SW end. The enclosure is subdivided and this division may relate to later use and possible reconstruction. The full enclosure measures *c*30 x 12m. An embanked trackway runs from the enclosure and the SW end of the enclosure appears to have been built on top of this trackway, with the corner of the enclosure sitting a metre within the defined track. A much denuded boundary dyke appears to extend E roughly parallel to the track for at least 100m.

NO 784 945 **Meikle Tulloch** – The enclosure noted above sits within this extensive field system. From the trackway noted above a dyke heads SW at NO 784 945. This dyke crosses a burn and meets a very large clearance dyke running from the modern track at the top of the slope down the hillside. The trackway later turns SW before meeting a further bank running SW on the same alignment. These features are obviously part of a larger system. Disparate parts of the system appear to be depicted on the 1st Edition OS map, but it had fallen into disuse by that time. The fields should probably

be seen as part of the pre-improvement landscape.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Ellon

1 Smiddy Lane, Ellon
Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NJ 9587 3076 A watching brief was maintained during excavations on the footprint of a new garage. The house was originally a smiddy (NJ93SE 52), built in the late 18th or early 19th century. A short distance N of the house were remnants of a cobbled yard overlain with a very hard-packed deposit of smiddy waste comprising slag and ash. At a lower level were the fragmentary remains of earlier cobbling, probably also associated with the blacksmith's workshop.
Archive and Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS.
Funder: Mr and Mrs J Crawley

Fettercairn

Edzell
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6280 6972 Cropmarks of field boundaries, a possible enclosure and other indeterminate marks were identified during aerial reconnaissance, July 2008 (SMR ref no NO66NW0062).
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Mains of Balnakettle, Fettercairn
Standing building recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 6257 7465 A standing building survey was undertaken 24 April 2008 prior to the redevelopment of a large complex of agricultural buildings incorporating a grain mill and feed store. Roy's military map of 1747–55 shows a farm at Balnakettle from at least the mid-18th century, and a date stone of 1797 incorporated into a later bothy may have come from a later 18th-century building. An estate map of 1850 showed the development of two main ranges of buildings, which the survey indicated were later than the grain mill. The development of the steading was recorded from the 18th to the later 20th century.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Fasque and Glendye Estate

Fetteresso

Aberdeen Western Peripheral Road
Watching brief
I Arabaolaza – GUARD
NO 876 893 Work was undertaken, 30 June–5 August 2008, during geotechnical test pitting along the proposed road route. The excavation of 103 trial pits and two soakaway test holes were monitored. During this phase of work a hand-dug drainage ditch of modern date was uncovered. No archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire SMR, and RCAHMS
Funder: Geotechnics

Invercowie House, Barclay Street, Stonehaven
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services
NO 8733 8622 A watching brief was undertaken, 7–11 March 2008, during soil stripping prior to a housing development in the garden of the Georgian Invercowie House. No archaeological features or finds were evident.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Jack Development Ltd

Fetteresso/Maryculter

AWPR Fastlink, Stonehaven
Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 87181 87466 – NO 86592 98292 A watching brief was undertaken, 14 July–21 October 2008, during the excavation of 300 trial pits along the proposed 10 mile route of the AWPR. No significant artefacts or features were uncovered during this phase of predevelopment works.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Norwest Holst

Fintray

Balbithan
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 813 179 **Greenlands** – An earthwork bank aligned *c*N/S and possibly part of a wider pre-modern landscape with other elements sharing this alignment (see below).

NJ 810 180 **Greenlands** – Further length of earthen bank possibly related to rig and furrow (below).

NJ 812 180 **Greenlands** – Rig and furrow running *c*N/S with a wavelength of 8m but some narrower rigs of *c*6m. Extensive area overlapping with clearance cairns (see below).

NJ 811 180 **Greenlands** – A number of clearance cairns are interspersed among the rigs. They might form a continuation of the nearby prehistoric settlement consisting of hut circles and extensive clearance remains.

NJ 811 180 **Greenlands** – Very large cairn, *c*17m in length, high at E end and sloping to the W. Possible long cairn.

NJ 812 177 **Greenlands** – Further denuded boundary bank which appears to share a similar alignment to features noted above.

NJ 817 175 **Lammerbrae** – An interesting but very slight enclosure measuring *c*16 x 15m and slightly 'D'-shaped. Similar in size and location to an enclosure noted at Kingshill.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Fordoun

Mackenzie Avenue Phase 2, Auchenblae, Aberdeenshire
Evaluation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 7290 7880 Work was undertaken on 7.5% of the housing development area on 5–6 February 2008. A cropmark thought to have been a possible souterrrain (NO77NW 161) proved to be a natural feature. A small fire pit of possible prehistoric date was excavated and samples retained for dating. A sherd of medieval pottery may have been derived from the adjacent Castle Hill.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: DLB Scotland Ltd

Gartly/Rhynie

Clashendarroch 2

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 434 298 **Bogancloch** – The platform of a small structure *c*6 x 4m stands in a well-preserved, earthen-banked enclosure which also contains the remains of an open-fronted byre (*DES* 2007, 8).

NJ 501 339 **Kemp's Hill** – A small cairn sited on the ridge of Kemp's Hill. It is presumably neither for clearance nor ceremonial purposes and therefore likely to be relatively modern.

NJ 493 337 **Coynachie** – Very slight hollow-way running due S. This does not appear to fit in with the field system as depicted on the 18th-century estate plan, nor the 1st Edition OS map and presumably pre-dates the 18th century.

NJ 462 323 – NJ 459 322 **Long Bank** – A section of this hollow-way runs parallel to the modern track and would appear to be the precursor of the present track. It is depicted on an 18th-century estate plan (RHP 2254), though the hollow-way appears to diverge from the modern course at its W end and to head off in a more westerly direction. A further stretch of hollow-way sticks more closely to the present line and this suggests that the former might be an unrecorded separate 'branch' off the main track which kept to the higher ground. The latter continues and appears to cross the modern track and it also has a short 'branch'. One or both of these would appear to cross the modern track and to merge with the hollow-way noted below.

NJ 457 321 – NJ 454 318 **Cransmill Hill** – This hollow-way appears to be a continuation of the one noted above and to link the route depicted on the 18th-century estate plan with the field systems of Brockholes and Cransmiln. The hollow-ways appear to be evidence of a network of tracks that were being abandoned by the 1760s and show how the fermtouns of the area were formerly connected.

NJ 440 324 – NJ 437 322 **Raven Hill** – This earthwork starts as a hollow-way but dwindles to a very faint 'lynchet'.

NJ 458 354 **Corshalloch** – A substantial amount of stonework showing in the side of a later drain. The section to the side of the feature is free of all stone and is composed of a deep build-up of peat/humus. The surviving stones suggest a structure *c*13m long, but of indeterminate width, running downhill.

NJ 458 355 **Corshalloch** – Clearance remains and a possible structure lie on the edge of the fields depicted on the 18th-century estate plan.

NJ 462 354 **Corshalloch** – The S and E boundaries of the fields depicted on 18th- and 19th-century plans are defined by a lynchet. This was formed by the clearance of the larger boulders to the field edge and over time appears to have been covered with an overburden of ploughsoil. The burns appear to have been used to exclude any stock, negating the need for a more substantial barrier.

NJ 462 357 **Corshalloch** – This building appears to have had quite insubstantial foundations and was presumably turf-walled. It appears to consist of two cells; the southern measures *c*5 x 3m internally and the other *c*18 x 3m, though it narrows to *c*2m at the northern end. This building might relate to the one shown, with the same orientation, at the E end of the fermtoun of Corshalloch on an 18th-century estate plan. It is not shown on the 1st Edition OS map.

NJ 423 318 **Craigwater Hill** – Old small-scale peat workings which are close to a hollow-way (see below) which seems to lead back towards the farm of Craigwater.

NJ 423 317 – NJ 428 316 **Craigwater Hill** – In parts this is a very substantial hollow-way which would seem to have little relevance to the 19th-century and later landscapes were it not for the existence of the peat workings (above) and the farm of Craigwater.

NJ 455 358 **Corshalloch** – A group of five clearance cairns of *c*3–4m diameter in an area measuring *c*25 x 20m. There are probably more to be found. In this area is an apparently linear arrangement of large boulders. It might be a boundary feature, though such an explanation does not explain why it is surrounded by clearance cairns. Another possibility is that it represents a robbed-out building platform. This area appears to be outside the limit of the fields depicted in the 18th and 19th centuries and also outside the boundary dyke noted below.

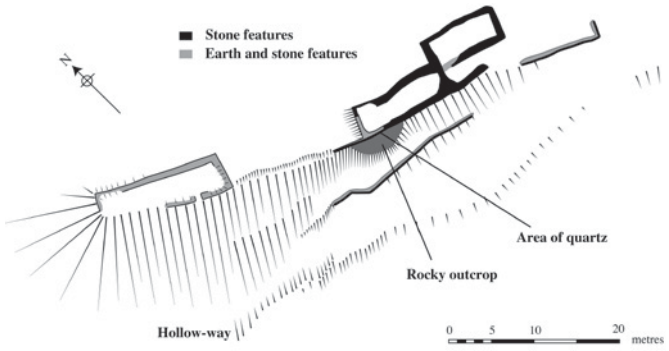
NJ 455 358 – NJ 456 357 **Corshalloch** – A much denuded boundary which lies outside the area of the 18th- and 19th-century fields but seems to enclose an area which does not include the clearance cairns noted above.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Glenbervie

Brucklaw

Survey
Colin Shepherd



Part of the plan of the settlement remains at Brucklaw

NO 748 878 A survey of the upstanding earthworks has shown a long range of buildings sitting impressively atop a prominent crag and faced on the S side by quartz rocks. The site and setting suggests a quite high-status dwelling which was presumably related to the relict field system surrounding it.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Fetteresso

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NO 733 866 **Pittengoggie** – Deep hollow-way winding up the hill from the river.

NO 763 874 **Cowie Water** – An enclosure defined by stone dykes and earthen banks encloses this waterside area. It is

not depicted on the 1st Edition OS map and was presumably out of use by that time.

NO 768 878 **Cowie Water** – An area of haugh enclosed by a stone-faced dyke on the landward side underneath a steep cliff. There appears to be the remains of a rig with a wavelength of *c*2m, but the area has been marred by the construction of an early modern trackway and by forestry ploughing. The enclosure is not shown on the 1st Edition OS map and was, presumably, abandoned by then.

NO 767 877 **Cowie Water** – Further area of enclosed haughland not depicted on the 1st Edition OS map.

NO 747 877 **Brucklaw** – Two sub-rectangular structures. The first measures *c*9 x 3.5m internally. The second has been ploughed through the middle and its length is uncertain. Its width appears to be *c*3.5m internally.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Glenmuick, Tullich and Glengairn

Sluievannachie, Ballater

Long-house (possible)

A Roch and KC Cooper

NO 361 961 At the picnic site/car park on the northern outskirts of Ballater, immediately to the S of the disabled parking area, are turf-covered remains of tumbled stone, damaged by trees but apparently walls, 17 x 6m with rounded corners. Not shown on any OS maps. Their form suggests the remains of a long-house.

Huntly

Clean Pool

Excavation

Colin Shepherd – Strathbogie Archaeological Group

NJ 517 425 Earlier topsoil stripping and recording prompted by forestry activity demonstrated that this area contained early features, including at least one cairn (see *DES*, 2007, 8, 24). In order to try to determine its nature, ie. whether or not it was a simple clearance cairn, further investigations were carried out May–September 2008.

Excavation has now shown that its use as a cairn formed only the final part of a much longer story. Stone concentrations from a pre-cairn horizon seem to have formed the eastern side of a sub-circular, enclosed area underlying the later cairn. This area was defined on the W by a low bank of soil/turf. A small, well-tended fire had been set on the N end of this bank. The enclosure was filled with a thick deposit of bright orange-yellow sand containing charcoal and there may have been an entrance on the E side. A further layer of orange-yellow sand was added, sealing a small area of 'articulated' stonework.

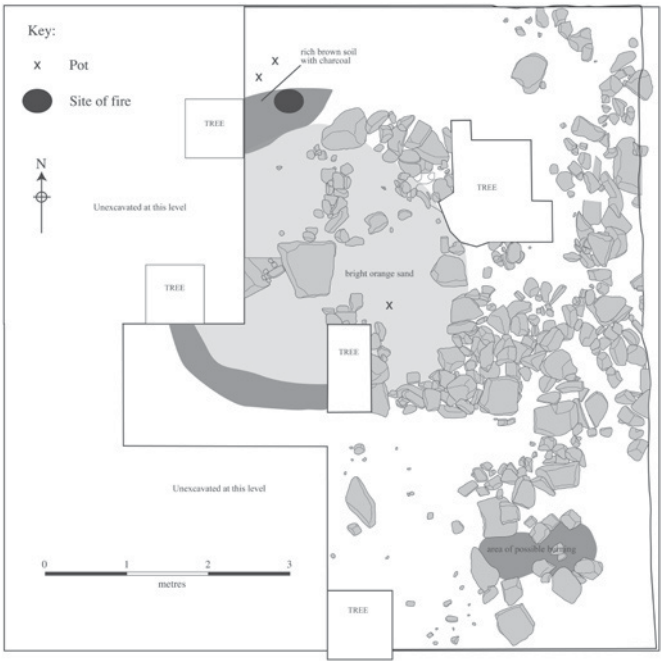
A subsequent phase saw a further internal, circular enclosure formed by a dense concentration of stones forming an eastern arc and a western arc formed by five (or possibly six) small 'orthostats'. The layer of stones which subsequently was used as the 'kerb' of the cairn appears to have been put in place at this time and the E entrance blocked.This phase possibly included the siting of a further small standing 'orthostat'. In the centre was a deposit which survived as a burnt concentration on top of a small, surviving piece of wood. All elements had been set on a small, flat stone. It seems that the monument was then abandoned for some time.

After this period of abandonment the enclosure was infilled with a mixture of dumped stones and mixed soils to form the body of the cairn. This was then capped with a very neat layer of small cobbles. A large boulder was set in the centre of the mound, within but sitting proud of the cobbles. A subsequent deposition is suggested by an earth-filled cavity beneath an area of patching in the cobbled surface just SW of the centre of the cairn. A patch of fire-reddened compacted soil was recorded from this context.

Further surveying and planning of the surrounding area suggests that a wider area (covering over 4000m^2) had been extensively used, though the nature of that use remains unclear. The lack of domestic (or any) debris relating to the excavated features suggests that the area was kept intentionally clean. The existence of up to three large cairns on a small rise *c*200m to the S and overlooking the site prompts the consideration that the apparent non-domestic nature of the excavated area might be related to nearby funerary monuments. However, there is at present no evidence that these sites were contemporary or associated.

This work is ongoing and this is an interim report. Thanks must go to the Aberdeenshire Conservancy of the Forestry Commission for access, to Moira Greig for sound advice and to the members of the Strathbogie Archaeological Group for their hard work and tenacity.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission and SMR Aberdeenshire



Phase 1 of enclosure underlying later cairn.

Kinnoir

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 560 444 **Longmuir Wood** – This is a collection of substantial boulders in a largely stone-free area. They resemble building foundations rather than enclosure dykes, though further work would be required to substantiate this. They stand at the edge of a gentle rise above a low-lying, though not boggy, area. The area appears not to have formed part of the 'infield' in the 18th century (RHP 2278 and 2279) and consequently the remains might relate to an earlier period. The immediate vicinity of the remains shows little evidence for ploughing between the 19th century and modern forestry-related ploughing.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Insch/Oyne

Hillforts of Strathdon: Phase 2 – Maiden Castle and Dunnideer

Evaluation

Murray Cook, Lindsay Dunbar and Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 6942 2435 and NJ 61215 28167 The RCAHMS volume on Strathdon identified six types of hillforts based on size and defensive systems. However, none of the sites have been dated. The Hillforts of Strathdon Project aims to recover dating evidence from one of each of the six classes of hillfort.

The second season, 21 July–1 August 2008, returned to Maiden Castle and opened a single trench on Dunnideer. The work identified a secondary rectilinear structure in the interior which was overlain by a soil layer onto which a post-built structure, associated with paving was constructed. Finds included crucibles, an unfinished stone bead, a glass bead and decorated glass sherd.

The work identified the inner face, recovered charcoal from the destruction of the site and confirmed that the rampart was at least 4m wide.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: AOC Archaeology, Aberdeenshire Council, The Mackichan Trust, The Hunter Archaeological Trust, Glasgow Archaeological Society and the CBA.

Inverurie

Blackhall Farm Inverurie

Evaluation

Elizabeth Jones – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NJ 755 216 An evaluation was undertaken, 26 May–6 June 2008, in advance of a housing development. A previous desk-based assessment indicated that there were several archaeological sites in the area and suggested that previously unrecorded sub-surface archaeological remains might survive.

98 trenches were excavated in 9 fields covering 6300m, equivalent to *c*5% of the development. A concentration of prehistoric pits was revealed in Field 7 containing pottery, flint, burnt bone and charred grain. Two isolated pits were found in Fields 8 and 9 and sporadic traces of possible rig and furrow were also found in the northern part of the development. A number of recent features including a field dyke, drainage ditch and a number of rubble field drains were recorded.

The area of activity lies on gently shallow sloping ground on the N side of the Backhill of Davah. There are a number of upstanding prehistoric sites in the area as well as prehistoric sites uncovered through previous developer-funded excavations. The present discoveries appear to fit with this pattern of small-scale prehistoric activity in the wider landscape.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council and RCAHMS

Funder: CALA Homes

Phase 3, Westgate Housing Development, Inverurie

Watching brief and excavation

HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 7539 2210 and NJ 7523 2212 Following work in 2006 a watching brief was maintained, 14–27 October 2008, during soil stripping between the areas previously excavated in 2006.

A second, heavily truncated ring ditch house was found near the 2006 building. A radiocarbon date of 390–160 cal BC (SUERC-15187, 15188) had been obtained for the original house, while the pits excavated in 2006 had been dated to the Early Neolithic by pottery and radiocarbon dates 3950–3650 cal BC (SUERC 15186,15189,15193 and 15194). Several additional severely plough-damaged pits excavated nearby in 2008 also yielded Early Neolithic Carinated pottery.

Part of a post-built roundhouse and a six-post structure of probable Iron Age date were found running below the field dyke in an area outwith the previous evaluation.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Malcolm Allan Housebuilders Ltd

Kemnay

Aquhythie

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 751 189 **Aquhythie Wood** – An earthen bank probably enclosing an area of rigs (see below).

NJ 750 190 and NJ 749 189 **Aquhythie Wood** – Two areas of rig were noted on either side of a large area of windblow. The areas seem to form part of a single field. The rigs run N/S and have a wavelength of *c*6m. They presumably relate to the enclosure bank above. The S boundary of the field may survive in a denuded form on the S side of the present track.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Aquhythie

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 740 183 **Rochead** – Two isolated buildings depicted on the 1st Edition OS map of 1869 appear to sit in a pre-improvement pattern of much denuded enclosure dykes.

Building 1 – the westernmost – appears to be earlier than the E building which abuts the present boundary dyke. Building 1 is rectangular with internal measurements of *c*5 x 3m and has an attached small sub-rectangular enclosure with internal dimensions of *c*7 x 6m.

Building 2 appears more rectilinear with dimensions of *c*9 x 3m internally.

The corners of Building 1 appear less 'square' than those of Building 2, though this might simply reflect differential survival. Building 1 also appears to have more robust walls. The ground in the immediate vicinity and enclosed by the denuded dykes may have been used for grazing. On this basis Building 1 may be interpreted as an animal shelter.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kemnay

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 742 142 **Leschangie** – A field system defined by the footings of stone dykes running S of and parallel to the track leading to Leschangie. The three parallel fields are rectilinear

and measure *c*120 x 13m. There is one small quarry pit, presumably later. At the W end another much denuded piece of dyke, curving roughly N/S, cuts off a tiny triangular piece of Forestry Commission ground in the NW corner of the area. (NJ 7416 1419).

The rectilinear shape of the fields suggests a historic date though it is not shown on the 1st Edition OS map. However, this map does suggest a tree-lined boundary in the woodland that coincides with the S side of the field system and this is still the clearest feature. The 19th-century boundary N of the track also appears to continue the line of the short section of bank 'curving N/S' and lies further to the E than the present Forestry Commission boundary.

NJ 743 140 **Leschangie** – An unusual dry stone structure of unknown purpose sits against the SW corner of the wood. It appears to be sub-circular but a rectilinear 'wall' has been inserted. One possibility might be that it was a kiln re-used as a shelter.

NJ 744 141 **Leschangie** – On the ridge of the entrance to a quarry is the corner of what might be the remains of a structure, presumably associated with quarrying.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Mill Farm Quarry

Watching brief
Laura Scott – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NJ 7370 1770 A watching brief was undertaken on 30 June–11 September 2008 during topsoil stripping in advance of extraction at Mill Farm. The quarry lies in a landscape of considerable archaeological sensitivity, containing sites dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.

The remains of a probable prehistoric settlement were found in a natural hollow and sealed beneath a thick deposit of colluvium on the W edge of the site close to the quarry limit. Features including a probable hearth, a small pit containing Neolithic pottery, two flint scatters and two stone concentrations were encountered. The area containing the prehistoric remains has been covered with geotextile fabric and preserved *in situ*.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aggregate Industries UK

Kennethmont

Rosa Croft, Wardhouse, Insch

Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 5748 3046 A watching brief was maintained on 9 June 2008 during soil stripping for a new house and garage in the vicinity of a number of field monuments. No archaeological features or finds were evident.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Derek Henderson

Kincardine O'Neil

Corrennie

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 627 087 A windblown tree revealed a collection of stones determined to be a clearance cairn. The stones are all large and are probably the result of primary clearance. It is likely that there are others in the vicinity which are hidden by overburden.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kinneff and Catterline

Kinghornie

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service

NO 8404 7271 Cropmarks of a possible ring ditch and other indeterminate linear marks were recorded by aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO87SW0114).

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Kintore

Auchry Cottage, Elphinstone Road, Port Elphinstone

Findspot
Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland

NJ 777 202 Garden find in 1977 by Charles Morrice of a leaf-shaped flint arrowhead, complete except for slight break at the tip. Dimensions L 26 x B 18 x Th 4mm.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT100/07) and allocated to Aberdeenshire Heritage.

Midmill, Kintore

Evaluation
Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 793 152 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out on 12–13 February 2008 in advance of development. 21 trenches (an area of 1820 m²) were opened. Despite the presence of Midmill Cairn, a scheduled ancient monument, in the SE corner of the development area, no features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: William Lippe Architects Ltd

Midmill, South East, Kintore

Evaluation and excavation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 7920 1460 A 10% evaluation was undertaken, 16 April–14 May 2008, on a large industrial development site adjacent to the site reported in 2007. Rig and furrow was visible on much of the site but earlier features only survived in two apparently unrelated areas some 120m apart.

Area 1 – There was a central straight-sided pit containing the cremated remains of a single adult male. This was enclosed by six small pits with shallow slots between, forming a ring *c*2.6–2.9m in diameter. The enclosing pits appeared to have silted before each had a secondary smaller re-cut containing some burnt material and burnt bone. A few sherds of Beaker were associated with this feature. An outer ring of post pits, 7–9m in diameter, was also centred on the cremation and is probably associated, although it could not be linked stratigraphically.

Some 10m away from the cremation there were three pits containing Grooved Ware and fragments of cremated bone. In the least truncated pit, a Grooved Ware vessel appeared to have been carefully supported by a stone setting.

Area 2 – This area was severely plough-damaged but a concentration of finds was focussed around a number of very truncated pits and possible post pits. There was a series of ard marks which appeared to be around but not across the area of pits. The evidence suggested that this was a settlement area; the considerable amount of Impressed

Ware pottery found there suggests that this was older than the cremation and ritual activity in Area 1.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Malcolm Allan Housebuilders Ltd

Leochel-Cushnie

Cushnie
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 495 147 **Drumfottie** – A hut circle with an internal diameter of *c*6.5m. It survives as a very low bank of boulders in pasture land and is presumably associated with the surrounding complex of clearance cairns and field boundaries (see below). This area was pasture in the 19th century and appears to have remained so to the present.

NJ 495 147 **Drumfottie** – These remains are presumably related to the hut circle (above). This is an ideal ridge-top siting between arable and upland pasture. There are numerous but very slight remains of clearance cairns and boundaries along with other possible structural features. These include a rectangular setting and it may be that this area of land was a settlement for some time before returning to permanent pasture land for the medieval fermtouns (below).

NJ 515 124 **Balchimmy** – The remains of what appears to be a rectangular or linear structure composed of fair-sized stones. Nothing is shown in this area in the late 19th- to early 20th-century maps. The nearby clearance cairn (see below) may be associated with this structure. If rectangular, it would appear to be *c*3m wide but of indeterminate length.

NJ 515 124 **Balchimmy** – A single clearance cairn with a diameter of *c*4m. Although no others were found, it seems unlikely that it would exist in isolation.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Logie-Coldstone

Poldhu Wells Restoration (Adopt-a-Monument)
Research, conservation and interpretation project
Nigel Healey – Cromar History Group
NJ 43495 03575 The well culverts which run from the wells to the adjacent burn were excavated and recorded during June–October 2008. Blockages were cleared from the culverts and they were relined to minimise the risk of future blockage before being rebuilt. A new path surface following the line of the original path and using similar materials to the original has been restored, as has the well stonework. A bridge in the style of the 1912 bridge and meeting modern Health and Safety and planning requirements has been built across the burn. A leaflet has been designed to accompany the project, and a path from the nearby village has been signposted and waymarkers installed along the route.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Cairngorms National Park Authority, Awards for All Scotland, Heritage Paths, Cromar Community Council

Longside

Rora, Longside
Watching brief
Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NK 040 495 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out 7 February–28 April 2008 on the ground-breaking works associated with a small residential redevelopment. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: VG Willox Ltd

Lonmay

St Combs
Metal detector find
Martin Goldberg – Dept of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NK 05 62 An Early Historic copper alloy pin was found by metal detecting at St Combs.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT61/07) and allocated to Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen.

Maryculter

Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (Southern Leg)
Watching brief
Alisdair Curtis – Jacobs UK
NJ 86026 00159, NJ 86103 00214 and NO 88248 98603, NO 88170 98437 An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of 57 geotechnical trial pits along the line of the proposed Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route. No archaeological remains or deposits were noted.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Aberdeen City Council Archaeology Unit, Aberdeenshire Council Archaeological Unit
Funder: Transport Scotland

Maryculter
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NO 862 985 **Maryculter** – Three low rigs lying in a small beech copse and truncated by the modern track which appears to be on the line of the 19th-century track. The rigs have a wavelength of *c*7m and run at 325°.

NO 860 990 **Maryculter** – A hollow-way which appears to be blocked by a 19th-century field dyke.

NO 856 989 **Oldman Hill** – An extensive area of small clearance cairns and other earthworks. A large number of small clearance cairns are sited W of the present forest road. Approximately halfway between this track and another track to the SW is a linear bank running *c*SE. Beyond this to the W are more and larger clearance cairns. These clearance cairns continue to the top of Oldman Hill where they presumably adjoin similar features previously recorded outside the woodland. The cairns continue down the hill to the SE until the ground becomes wetter. They also cover the hill on its NE side behind the present houses.

NO 858 988 **Oldman Hill** – Two 'doughnut'-shaped features which might be kilns. The larger has a diameter of *c*4.5m and a possible flue on its eastern side. The other is slightly smaller and a flue is not immediately obvious. They sit just outside the area of clearance cairns noted above.

NO 858 988 **Oldman Hill** – An enclosure dyke containing a large area of rigs with a wavelength of *c*8m. These rigs lie in the same area as the clearance cairns noted above and this raises the question of relative chronology.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Marykirk

Marykirk

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6881 6602 Cropmarks of possible souterrains and post pits were identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO66NE0128).
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Old Parish Church, Marykirk

Excavation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 6865 6553 Two small trenches were excavated on 14–15 August 2008 as part of the restoration by Aberdeenshire Council's Historic Kirkyards Project of the Barclay Vault and Thornton Aisle, the two surviving structures of the Old Parish church of Marykirk. Details of the original floors were established.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR, Historic Scotland and RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Methlick

Haddo House, Terraced Garden

Recording and excavation
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 8685 3475 The NTS is restoring the terrace gardens to the rear of Haddo House to recreate their appearance as shown on an estate map dated 1879. The restoration will not only remove the modern beds but will also remove any remaining traces of petal-shaped 'daisy' beds that appear to have been on either side of the house *c*1920. The outline of these beds had been recorded on photographs taken from the roof of Haddo House during dry weather and they remained as slight hollows in the grass surface. The hollows were planned on both the SW (hall) side of the main building and at the NE (chapel) side.

On the SW side these hollows were relatively clear with four main 'petals' at the corners and possible intermediate 'petals' midway along each side. The diameter of the whole 'daisy' feature was between 13–14m. Two small trenches were excavated on the SW side to provide a section across the top of one of the corner 'petal' beds. At this point it appears to have been *c*1.25m wide. The trenches also showed that the bed had been cut through a path-like surface of fine pink granite dust, which can with some confidence be interpreted as one of the mid-19th-century paths. This work was undertaken on 26 August 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS and NTS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Midmar

Midmar

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 702 070 **Upper Balblair** – A site previously considered to be a clearance cairn can now be identified as the remains of a hut circle of *c*11m in diameter. The fact that some of the stones from it appear to have been heaped up into a cairn suggests that the clearance cairns lying predominantly to the S and W of it might relate to a subsequent period of site use. Its position on the crest of a hill is slightly unusual. There may be indications of slight dykes between the cairns.

NJ 698 070 **Upper Balblair** – A small surviving area of rig running at *c*310°. At the S end they have a wavelength of *c*6m, but the final two seem to have a wavelength of 10m. The rigs are then interrupted by a modern track.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Monquhitter

Wagglehill

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 799 461 A low, circular earthwork with an external diameter of *c*7m and an internal diameter of *c*3m. The inner face may be revetted and helps to give the appearance of a kiln-type structure. Close by are further badly denuded earthworks suggesting the presence of other structural remains.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Monymusk

Pitfichie

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 665 129 **Glenvista** – An impressively deep ditch and bank curving round in the western portion of an old beech plantation. It seems to mirror a similar landscape feature to the N as depicted on the 1st Edition OS map. If they did form parts of a unified feature, it would have been sub-circular and measure *c*100m across its longest axis. In view of the scale of the ditch its position on a slope makes it a very perplexing monument.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire.
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Oyne

Bennachie

Survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen.

NJ 676 217 **Pitgaveney** – Small stone-built hut/shelter on the S side of a trackway. Sub-circular and with an internal diameter of *c*2.5m and an E-facing entrance.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

The Colony Bennachie

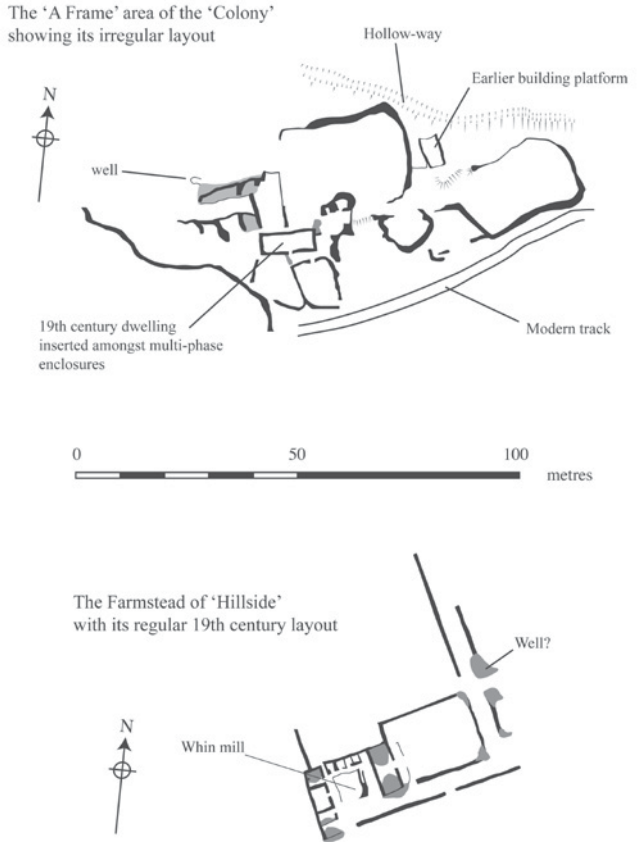
Survey
Colin Shepherd
NJ 695 217 An ongoing survey to record the remains of the 'Colony' of Bennachie is being undertaken by the Baillies of Bennachie and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commssion. The

'Colony' was cleared amidst much local disapproval during the second half of the 19th century and should perhaps be seen as one of the last acts of clearance undertaken by landowners in Scotland.

The survey has planned many of the habitation sites that make up the core area of the 'Colony' and has revealed many interesting and previously unrecorded architectural features, such as the 'whin-mill' at Hillside. It has also apparently demonstrated that the 'Colony' has a longer history than previously imagined.

Settlement remains are varied and as well as the more usual and regular 19th-century layouts demonstrated by many of the boundaries there are others which suggest that the area was reclaimed by the 'Colonists' rather than colonised anew. What appears to be a much earlier building platform survives outside an enclosure dyke.

Archive: Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission



Part of plan of 'The Colony' of Bennachie

Peterhead

Fairy Hillock, Dales Industrial Estate, Peterhead

Watching brief and recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NK 1102 4471 A watching brief was maintained, 25 March–14 April 2008, during the removal of a mound in the middle of an industrial yard. This proved to be entirely natural with no archaeological features or finds. A dry stone revetting wall around the base of the mound was recorded and was an 18th- or 19th-century landscape feature.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Total Waste Management Alliance

Rayne

Barclay Park Housing Development, Meikle Wartle

Evaluation
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 7231 3085 A 10% evaluation of a 3.5 acre site was undertaken on 23 July 2008. No archaeological features or finds were evident.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Neil Murray (Housebuilders) Ltd

Bishop's Manor, Old Rayne

Evaluation and excavation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 6758 2851 The development of a site incorporating the moated manor of the medieval bishops of Aberdeen at Old Rayne required a 10% evaluation of the area outwith the moat. The area inside the moat will not be developed, with the exception of the corridor for a mains sewer cutting across the side of the manor site. The sewer corridor was fully excavated.

The evaluation of the area outwith the moat revealed vestigial traces of medieval or post-medieval rig and furrow but no indication of manorial buildings. The moat ditch, which was sectioned in three places, was over 6m wide and 2m deep. Excavation in the interior of the mound, on the sewer line, revealed an elaborate medieval water cistern with traces of a wooden lining. Parts of two substantial stone-walled buildings were excavated; these had dressed sandstone at the surviving doorways and demolition rubble included roofing slates and fragments of several ceramic roof ridge tiles, one being a finial of highly decorated N Yorkshire Ware which can be dated with confidence to the late 13th/ early 14th century. After the buildings had been destroyed, a number of elaborate ovens were built within the ruins.

There was a some evidence for earlier, prehistoric, use of the site, including ard marks and some flints. Work was undertaken 22 May–30 June 2008.

Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Hamish McIntosh

Rhynie

Clashendarroch

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd and Tom Dunn

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 430 274 **Cran Bog Moss** – A stretch of hollow-way runs towards the modern road. This appears to be part of the track linking the Rhynie-Cabrach road to the deserted settlement of Longley, as depicted on an 18th-century estate plan of the area (RHP 2257).

NJ 433 279 **Cran Bog Moss** – A 'raised track' across the moss possibly linking the deserted Miln of Cormelet with the Garbet. It seems to be an earlier land level left as the surrounding peat was dug for fuel. The E end stops abruptly and appears to have been removed, presumably during peat extraction.

NJ 430 281 **Longley** – A small rectangular structure which might be either a pen or a small building sitting inside the end of a long earth-banked enclosure. Noted by Tom Dunn.

NJ 424 277 **Longley** – A square enclosure with possible internal division. Noted by Tom Dunn.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Skene

Broadshale, Westhill
Standing building recording
Anya Rardin – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 381310 807800 Prior to redevelopment Level 2 historic building recording was undertaken in June 2008. The site was developed by 1865 with significant growth *c*1900 and further alterations throughout the 20th century. The building is representative of the local farm style. The work produced detailed written, photographic records and elevations.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Stewart Milne Homes North Scotland

St Cyrus

Milton of Mathers
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 7721 6574 Cropmarks of at least three possible souterrains and a linear ditch cutting across a peninsula were recorded by aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. These may represent the remains of a small fort (SMR NO76NE0075).
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Strathdon

Bunzeach
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. This extensive collection of sheilings was recorded from an 18th-century plan as per RCAHMS NJ30NE 80 and a number have now been recorded on the ground in various states of preservation.

NJ 3755 0982; NJ 3755 0978 (visible in side of modern drain); NJ 3753 0976; NJ 3753 0973; NJ 3751 0972; NJ 3753 0969; NJ 3747 0964 (possible 'farmstead' with enclosure); NJ 3737 0951 (possible 'long-house' platform facing downslope); NJ 3733 0946; NJ 3727 0932; NJ 3724 0925; NJ 3717 0916 and NJ 3734 0952.
Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Corgarff Castle
Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NJ 2544 0866 A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of a small trench against the exterior SW corner of the curtain wall on 11 December 2007. The excavation aimed to locate the inlet for the castle well shown on an 18th-century plan. No evidence was found of the inlet but the excavation revealed the foundations of the SW corner of the 18th-century star-shaped curtain wall. Photographs show that some of this wall was rebuilt in the 1960s but it is was clear that the SW corner of the curtain is of 18th-century build.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Turriff

Upper Woodtown, Turriff
Watching brief
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7424 4600 A watching brief was carried out on 25 May 2008 on the foundations of a new house. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Robert Smart

ANGUS

Aberlemno

Melgund Mill, Brechin
Standing building recording
Candy Hatherley – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NO 5499 5723 Work was undertaken on 21 July to provide information on the structural history of the mill prior to alteration. The project included production of a phased floor plan, photographic survey, written description and limited desk-based assessment. The current form of the mill probably relates to the early to mid 19th century, although elements of the building are almost certainly earlier. It is a two-storey unroofed building in a partially ruinous condition and appears to be a fairly typical example of a rural corn mill serving the local farming community. On the ground floor it would have housed a low breast-shot water wheel served by a lade running off the burn and a corn-drying kiln. The grinding machinery and drying floor would have been on the first floor. All remaining space would have been used for the storage of grain and the by-products of milling.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Fiona Gill

Airlie

Airlie Primary School, Airlie
Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 3153 5016 Work was undertaken 27 May–12 June 2008 during ground-breaking works associated with the expansion and alteration of the school. In the late 19th century during the construction of the 'New School' and associated groundworks three cist burials were uncovered. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded during his work.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Angus Council

Airlie

Powmyre Quarry, Glamis
Watching brief
Jamie Humble – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NO 3646 5023 A watching brief was maintained 21–25 April 2008 during topsoil stripping in advance of extraction. An area 150 x 50m was stripped during this phase of work. A total of three isolated archaeological features were identified. These consisted of a posthole, a hearth and a probable trough filled with material characteristic of a burnt mound. Two of the features contained fragments of prehistoric pottery and lithics and these add to the growing record of prehistoric and early historic remains discovered during earlier phases of monitoring.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aggregate Industries UK Ltd

Arbroath and St Vigeans

St Vigeans

Inventory of carved stones
Mary Márkus
NO 6384 4291 This small collection was removed from the St Vigeans museum where it was previously on display while the building was being upgraded. Most of the stones are early, and include voussoirs with chevron ornament. An arch springer (VIG/as/1) stood out as almost certainly having come from nearby Arbroath Abbey, where the carved stone collection includes a number of other almost identical springers. Not only does the St Vigeans springer have a similar, complex moulding profile, but it is carved with a small decorative leaf across the springing of the mouldings on one end of the stone, as are many of the Arbroath Abbey examples.

For further information see: hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Archive: This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland's properties in care are held by Historic Scotland's Collections Unit.
Funder: Historic Scotland

St Vigeans, arch springer

St Vigeans Parish Church, Arbroath

Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 6384 4291 This church dates from the 12th century although there may have been a Christian foundation there since the 7th century. There were additions and modifications to the church in the 13th, 15th and 19th centuries and recently it underwent a programme of consolidation. Since then some of the drains taking rainwater from the church roof have become blocked, necessitating the excavation of trenches to locate and replace those drains. A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of these small trenches, three against the N wall of the church and four against its S wall. No features of archaeological significance were uncovered, although several disarticulated human bones were recovered where the existing drains had cut through earlier deposits.
Archive and Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS.
Funder: The Congregational Board of St Vigeans Parish Church

St Vigeans Parish Church and Churchyard

Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 639 429 A watching brief was maintained on 20 November 2007 during the excavation of 18 postholes for a new boundary fence and the removal of an earth bank at the rear of the property. 0.6m of rich dark brown garden soil was recorded in each posthole and the earth bank was composed of a similar soil, indicating that the site may have been levelled and landscaped using soil from the market garden that once existed in the area, following the destruction of a nearby cottage by fire in the late 20th century. The earth bank contained building debris from the demolished cottage including large, dressed sandstone blocks. Nothing of archaeological significance was found in the postholes.

A watching brief was undertaken February 2008 during excavations for a septic tank, a soak-away and a trench to connect the septic tank to the back of the museum. Up to 2m of dark brown silt and below this natural grey boulder clay were recorded to a depth of up to 3m. Nothing of archaeological interest was found.

A watching brief was also maintained during the exposure of a stone believed to be a Pictish symbol stone built into the external S wall of St Vigeans Church. A small amount of 15th-century wall fabric and lime mortar was removed from above and below the stone, revealing a carved surface over the underside and back edge of the stone. A deep groove in the extreme W edge of the stone indicated that the stone was a recumbent slab. This was also suggested by the uncarved rough upper face of the stone which would once have been face down in the ground, possibly against a wall with the carved back edge of the stone on display and possibly a wooden or stone upright in the deep groove. The stone was exposed to reveal the extent and character of the carving but it was not removed from the wall.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Barry

Barry Buddon Training Area

Condition survey
Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NO 54 32 A baseline condition survey was carried out of all recorded archaeological and historical sites and monuments. The training camp lies in an area containing a rare and important (SSSI designated) sand dune system. Cartographic evidence suggests that the land was not permanently settled until the late 18th century and that military use began *c*100 years later. A total of 46 sites were recorded, 24% related to the early civilian settlement, the remaining 76% consisting of military sites dating from the mid 19th to mid 20th centuries. Most of the military sites are shooting ranges, some of which are still in use. There are also several trench systems dating back to WW1 which were used for trench warfare training. Some of these were re-used during WW2.

The coastal dune landscape suggests that the sites are under threat from coastal and wind erosion. These threats have to some degree been addressed and most sites, were in a surprisingly stable condition, considering the highly dynamic environment. Only four sites seem to require urgent attention, a collapsing listed lighthouse keeper's building at Buddon Ness and three Allan Williams Turrets from WW2.
Archive: Defence Estates
Funder: Ministry of Defence – Defence Estates

Westfield Park, Carnoustie
Evaluation
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 547 346 A 5% evaluation consisting of the excavation of five trenches and 13 test pits was completed from 17–19 December 2007. The northern parcel of the site was found to overlie a probable 19th- to 20th-century dump. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: DJ Laing

Brechin

Balbirnie Mill
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6353 5852 An area of rig and furrow was recorded as cropmarks during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO65NW0091).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Cortachy and Clova

Burn of Cormandie, Glen Clova
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service
NO 3817 6929 An area of rigs lies on the E side of Glen Clova, just to the E of Burn of Cormandie. Recorded during winter aerial reconnaissance (SMR NO36NE0103).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Clayleith, Glen Clova
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Angus Council
NO 3228 7296 An area of rigs lies on the S side of river in Glen Clova SW of the village of Clova. Recorded during winter aerial reconnaissance (SMR NO37SW0107).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Crossbog, Glen Clova
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Angus Council
NO 3773 6245 Part of a heather-covered bank was recorded during aerial reconnaissance in February 2008 lying on the W side of Glen Clova. (SMR NO36SE0054).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Easter Lethnot, Glen Clova
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Angus Council
NO 3749 6374 Remains of buildings and a series of enclosures stand to the W of Easter Lethnot farm. Most of the footings are grass-covered and gorse grows over several of the walls. Recorded during aerial reconnaissance (SMR NO36SE0053).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Hydro-electric Pipeline, Rottal, Glen Clova
Watching brief
Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd
NO 379 710 This work involved working closely with the contractors to ensure that known archaeology was either avoided or recorded. Three site visits were made, on 9 and 16 June and 22 July 2008. The pipeline route was successfully altered to avoid damage to pre- and post-clearance structures. A short additional watching brief took place at a mound near

Remains of farmstead and enclosures at Easter Lethnot, Glen Clova

the terminal of a bank relating to a sheep fold. Excavation showed this feature to be natural in origin.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Rottal Hydro Ltd

Minrie Burn, Glen Clova
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Angus Council
NO 3234 7251 The remains of at least six small rectangular buildings and an enclosure were recorded during aerial reconnaissance in February 2008. All footings are grass-covered. (SMR NO37SW0108).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Rochteth
Survey
Flora Davidson – Glen Clova Group
NO 38765 60065 This survey was undertaken in Glen Clova as part of Scotland's Rural Past Project. The site was chosen for its accessibility and lack of scrub growth. The site consisted of a number of features including two long loans, other smaller buildings with enclosures and a corn-drying kiln.

The work aimed to date the building succession, to fix the date of abandonment and to trace the inhabitants in local records. The succession was established from the buildings' dimensions and degree of preservation. Records showed that Rochteth had ceased to be a working farm before 1841 and that the tenancy had changed in 1818 when the long-resident Lindsay family left and the adjacent farm assumed control of the land.

The buildings were then occupied by weavers and agricultural labourers until the departure of the last person at some time from 1861–71. The widening of a door may indicate the later use of the buildings as a barn. A long dyke of massive boulders respects the wall of the southern enclosure and is therefore considered to have been built after it. A series of holes drilled into the boulders for blasting powder suggests a tenant may have contemplated removing the dyke.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended) and Angus Council (possibly intended)

Craig

Craig Braes, Montrose Basin
Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 7020 5659 A watching brief was kept during the excavation of three trenches, across what is believed to have been one of the bucket pots for a saltworks of probable 18th-century date, in what is now a wildlife centre on the S side of the Montrose Basin. Several such pots were to be cleared of maritime club rush to encourage an increase in the diversity of birds nesting in the area. The excavation revealed no evidence of a timber lining in the bucket pot, but periodic inundation and drying might well have resulted in the decay of organic materials such as a timber lining.
Archive and Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Montrose Basin Wildlife Trust

Usan House
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 7248 5539 Cropmarks of a possible ring ditch, trackway and pits were identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO75NW0205).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Dun

Dun
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6750 5967 Cropmark of possible ring ditch was identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO65NE0096).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

House of Dun
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6732 5999 The cropmark of possible ring ditch was identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008 (SMR NO65NE0097).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Park House
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6878 5960 The cropmark of a ring ditch was recorded during summer aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. It lies within the Roman camp of Dun (SMR NO65NE0098).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Wellhill Croft, Pugeston, Montrose
Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 6884 6040 A watching brief was maintained during the removal of topsoil from the footprint of a new house 3km NW of Montrose. The site is close to the medieval chapel of Eglisjohn and several prehistoric sites identified by aerial photography. During excavation 0.5m of topsoil was found directly overlying glacial till. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded.
Archive and Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS.
Funder: Miss G Sutton

Dunnichen

Dunnichen Church
GPR survey
Donna M Maguire – GUARD
NO 506 488 A ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey was carried out on 18 April 2008 on the interior of the church. No archaeologically significant anomalies were detected.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Angus SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Dunnichen Heritage Society

Forfar

75 Castle Street
Watching brief
David Bowler – SUAT Ltd
NO 4554 5071 Work was carried out during the removal of a stone wall foundation to the W of Castle Street on 6 November 2007. No datable artefacts or structures were found, but the demolished wall and others adjacent to it probably belonged to the 19th century and later expansion of

the burgh into formerly vacant ground on the margin of the Common Myre.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Hudghton

Lunahead-Forestmuir Cable, Forfar

Watching brief
Claire Casey – SUAT Ltd
NO 463 526 Watching briefs were carried out on two occasions, 16 April and 6 May 2008, during the laying of a new electricity cable. The excavation of six trial trenches revealed very little archaeology, except for a small selection of 19th-century ceramics found out of context on the surface of the field and in the topsoil.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy plc

Myre Road and Castle Street, Forfar

Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 4543 5069 – NO 4562 5063 A watching brief was maintained 14–17 August 2008 during the installation of a new electrical substation in Myre Road and the laying of new electrical cable running from the Myre Road car park, E along Myre Road to Castle Street and at various locations to the E and W sides of the S end of Castle Street. The area is regarded as having high archaeological potential (Dennison and Coleman, 2000).

Deep deposits of potentially early garden soil were recorded at the W end of Myre Road, presumably the backland of a property fronting onto Castle Street. Although heavily disturbed by previous services, a surprising amount of medieval pottery was recovered from isolated pockets of surviving medieval deposits at the E end of Myre Road and its junction with Castle Street.

A truncated ditch-like feature was found at 41 Castle Street, and surviving medieval levels at the base of a trench at 1–5 Castle Street may indicate the presence of a long medieval ditch running N/S along the W side of the properties fronting onto Castle Street. Conversely, trenches on the E side of Castle Street and one on the N side of East High Street were cut into natural with no surviving soil deposits. It may well be that the gradual slope of the natural topography from E to W in this sector of the medieval town has assisted the survival of medieval levels on the W side of Castle Street.

Dennison, E and Coleman, R (2000) *Historic Forfar, The Scottish Burgh Survey*.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: SSE Power Distribution

Glamis

St Orland's Stone, Glamis

Excavation
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 4008 5001 A series of small-scale excavations was carried out 14–18 August 2008 around St Orland's stone, a 'Class II' Pictish stone. This spectacular cross slab sits at the E end of an E/W sandy ridge, overlooking low-lying marshy ground to the E. The stone has been in this position since at least the late 18th century and excavations in the mid 19th century by Jervaise (1859) revealed a series of six crouched inhumations, all but one in stone cists to the SW of the stone. The stone was enclosed by a metal fence and reset in 1952.

Excavation aimed to determine if the stone was in its original location and find the extent of previous investigations at the site. The slab remained *in situ* and was braced by scaffolding during this work, which involved two trenches *c*2m² within the fenced enclosure, and a series of test pits outside this to provide context.

The cross slab had been reset with concrete running under the base of the stone, and the stone and the ground level within the fence raised 0.3–0.4m. The stone was tapered at its base, coming to a point at its S end 0.6m below the current ground surface and rising to the N. In the SE trench a partly exposed cut feature below the stone may have been an earlier socket, but further excavation would be required to confirm this.

Disturbed soils to the E of the slab were interpreted as part of Jervaise's excavation, although three 17th-century coins recovered from a layer above this may indicate that this reflects even earlier work. Archaeological deposits below this, including a cut feature at the E end of the trench, indicate that significant deposits survive in this area.

In the NW trench a pair of human tibia (not lifted) oriented E/W below a sandstone slab indicate the presence of surviving, albeit damaged, burials. A possible further cist cover (not raised), and two possible unlined graves in the W section were also recorded in this trench.

Both trenches produced evidence of an earlier circular fence around the stone, comprising massive slabs in which fence posts were set, truncating the W end of the human tibia. Test pits were dug to N, E, S and W, with those to the N and W revealing probable ploughsoil over sandy subsoil. To the E (coming off the ridge) darker hill-wash and gleyed soils were encountered, while to the S a more complex sequence of ploughed or windblown deposits was recorded.

Jervaise, A (1859) 'Notices descriptive of the localities of certain sculptured stone monuments in Forfarshire (Part 1)', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, **2**, 1854–7, 248–51.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Guthrie

Plots 7 and 8, Old Mill Place, Friockheim

Watching brief
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 594 500 Work was carried out on 14 November 2007 during ground-breaking works associated with development at the site of an early 18th-century and later industrial complex. No significant archaeological remains or features were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Firm of Val Dawson

Kirriemuir

Hillhead, Kirriemuir

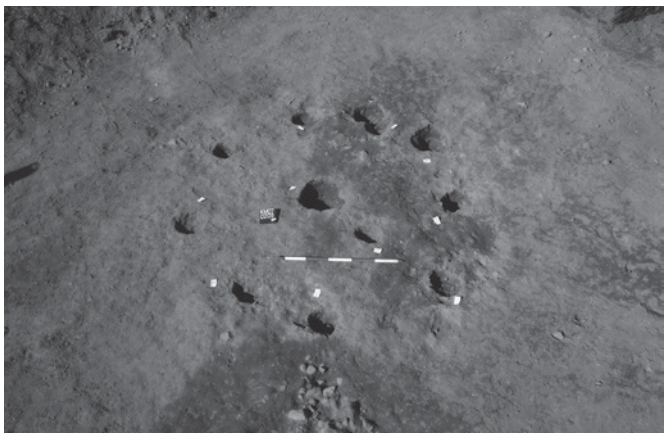
Evaluation, excavation and watching brief
Ray Cachart and David Bowler – SUAT Ltd
NO 381 545 (centred on) The work was undertaken during 19–26 May 2008 in good weather conditions. The requirement was to evaluate 5% of the available area, that is 3,800m² (38 trenches 50 x 2m). In total 39 trenches were excavated and two significant archaeological features were found.

In Trench 02 a circular posthole feature, internal diameter 2.25–2.35m, was found. It consisted of a central posthole within a circle of nine smaller postholes. One posthole was between the central posthole and the outer ring. The postholes were all fully excavated and sampled. No dating evidence was recovered from the fills and the function of the structure is unknown.

A major ditch feature extended NW/SE across the SW part of the site. The ditch profile varied between an expanded

U and an expanded V shape and averaged 1.5m wide and 0.35m deep. Two pieces of slag were recovered from the fill at different locations. We recovered a stone, the size of a large cobble, bearing three wide short grooves and at least one small cup mark. No dating evidence was found in the fill where the stone was excavated and the function of the ditch was tentatively interpreted as being a field boundary ditch, possibly medieval or post-medieval.

During the subsequent watching brief, the major ditch feature was found to continue towards the NW extremity of the site, where it petered out due to truncation. In the same area a segment of a large circular ditch was found, radius *c*32m, perhaps a prehistoric ritual or settlement enclosure.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Guild Homes (Tayside) Ltd



Posthole feature 0205, Hillhead, Kirriemuir

Lintrathen

New Primary School, Peel Farm, Lintrathen

Evaluation
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 2647 5403 Work was carried out 19–20 June 2008 in advance of construction of a new school. The site lies in the remains of an enclosure bank that once formed part of the perimeter of a medieval deer park created by Alan Durward during the 13th century. The line of the embankment is believed to have cut across the SE corner of the development area. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS and Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Angus Council

Maryton

Drum

Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6701 5826 Cropmarks of pits were identified during aerial reconnaissance in July 2008. A possible circular enclosure was also identified, although this may be a natural oxbow feature (SMR ref no NO65NE0095).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Monikie

Carlungie Souterrain

Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 5111 3597 A watching brief was maintained on 17 March 2008 during repair work on two main passages, Souterrain A (mostly N/S aligned) and Souterrain B (E/W aligned). A is shorter than B. The area requiring work was part of the E side wall of Souterrain A, just N of where Souterrain B crosses it. A short stretch of this wall had fallen, blocking the passage and this was to be removed and the wall replaced.

At the N limit of the trench, where it reached the edge of the area of collapse, the E wall of Souterrain A could be seen in section. It stood 1.1m high, *c*15 courses, was a single stone thick, with a vertical W face and irregular E face.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Montrose

Close at 25 High Street, Montrose

Watching brief
Claire Casey – SUAT Ltd
NO 714 580 A watching brief was carried out 25–26 March 2008 during the removal of the ground surface prior to resurfacing. Nothing of archaeological significance was found. The ground below the path had been previously disturbed during the laying of services.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Angus Council

Lower North Water Bridge

Mason's Marks Survey
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

Recording masons' marks at Lower North Water Bridge

NO 7245 6217 During renovation work, 7 December 2007–19 August 2008, a survey of masons' marks was undertaken, partly from scaffolding and partly from a cradle slung under the arches.

The bridge, designed by John Smeaton and constructed between 1770 and 1775, has eight arches. A total of 947 marks has been recorded. Fourteen possible masons have been identified, seven of whom worked on all parts of the bridge. Two marks were observed only on the foundations levels and the remainder occur less frequently and may belong to masons who were only employed for parts of the project.

A second series of marks which appear on the same stones as the masons' marks appear to be location marks. The letter M occurs only on the foundation levels. Letters A–D occur in sequence, with D for the outer arches, moving inwards to A on the stones of the central river span. The underside of the central span also bears a relief-carved date of 1774,

presumably when the final arch was completed.
Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Montrose Aerodrome
Chance find
Rachel Benvie – Montrose Museum
NO 725 598 Flax Bale Seal found while out walking at Montrose Aerodrome. It is Russian and probably originated from St Petersburg. Dated 1792. The obverse (undated) side reads in Cyrillic: L D/ P LE/BEDEV/ N [6] 1. The reverse (dated) reads in Roman N P/ M M 12 H/ 1792. The name of the Quality Control Officer was therefore P Lebedev, found on three other seals, and the quality control took place in 1792. The post from which he was working was 61, and evidence from other seals dates his work at this post between 1792 and 1796. Information from Mr J Sullivan, St Andrews.

Accessioned into Montrose Museum collection M2008.108
Funder: Angus Council

Montrose Beach
Chance find
Rachel Benvie – Montrose Museum
NO 723 569 Cannonball found near GlaxoSmithKline on Montrose beach in sand dunes. The Maritime and Coastguard Agency: Report of Wreck and Salvage form has been completed for this find. Circumference 0.34m, weight 5lbs.
Archive: Item is being returned to enquirer
Funder: Angus Council

Newbigging
Aerial reconnaissance
Moira Greig – Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service
NO 6996 5957 Thin traces of a circular enclosure, ring ditch and rectangular enclosure were identified during aerial reconnaissance in July, 2008 (SMR NO65NE0094).
Archive: Angus SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council/Angus Council

Oathlaw

A90 Finavon
Evaluation
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NO 49392 57383 An evaluation was carried out 16–17 January 2008 in respect of improvements to the A90 Finavon junction. The evaluation consisted of a single trench that followed the centre line of the proposed work.

There was a common stratigraphy along the length of the trench, with only two variations in the subsoil. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were recovered, although very occasional modern detritus of white glaze wares was noted in the topsoil of the trench.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Angus Council
Funder: Jacobs

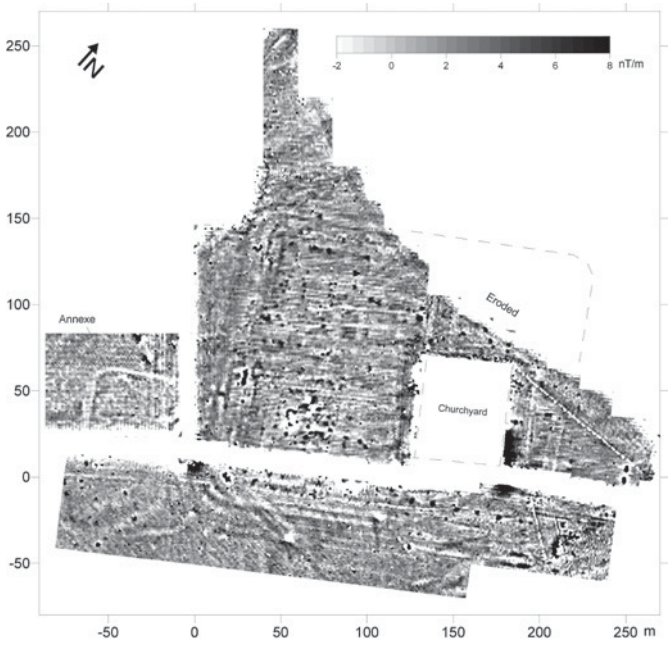
Panbride

Carlogie Road, Carnoustie
Evaluation
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 563 360 Work was carried out 15–26 September 2008 prior to development. A total of 39 evaluation trenches were excavated. All the trenches were excavated down to natural alluvial deposits. A mixture of tile and rubble field drains was recorded across the area. In addition to a number of shallow linear channels and ditches, a small number of pits were investigated. Artefacts were only recovered from four of the recorded features.

One of the main features was a linear ditch running through a number of the trenches. The fill of this ditch included a number of sherds of 19th-century pottery and it was thought to be the field boundary depicted on the 1st Edition OS map. Two possible hammer stones were recovered from two separate pits and two fragments of abraded red ceramic, provisionally attributed to the post-medieval period, were recorded in the fill of a linear ditch at the southern end of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: DJ Laing

Stracathro

Stracathro Roman Fort
Geophysical survey
P Morris – Blairgowrie Geoscience



Stracathro Roman Fort – Magnetic Gradiometer Survey

NO 6170 6575 The survey undertaken 24 March–15 May 2008 demonstrated that despite a high noise background due to a strongly magnetic topsoil, the main outer ditches and some internal structure of the fort can be delineated using a magnetometer. An area of large anomalies to the SW of the present parish church (which is inside the fort limits) might mark the site of an earlier medieval church, rather than Roman industry.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Blairgowrie Geoscience

Tealing

Walled Garden, Tealing
Standing building recording
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 4140 3801 The survey was undertaken on a walled garden to the E of Tealing House, 7km N of Dundee. The survey identified several features of interest in the walls relating to small-scale changes in the use of the garden in the 19th and 20th centuries.
Archive and Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: West Residential Limited

ARGYLL AND BUTE

Ardchattan and Muckairn

Crunachy Farm

Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NN 03375 29466 An evaluation undertaken 26–30 May 2008 has revealed the presence of a dispersed cremation cemetery, probably dating to the Bronze Age. The features consist of sub-circular pits typically with a charcoal rich core, cobbles (some rounded) and burnt bone, surrounded by a yellow to brown silt lining in which occasional charcoal flecks occur (12 to 14 have been tentatively identified). Elongated pits with charcoal, ash, mixed silt and charcoal and sometimes burnt bone (*c* ten); smears of ash, charcoal, fire-cracked stone and sometimes burnt bone (six). Other smaller pits or postholes (up to ten) and finally two narrow silt-filled ditches and a larger possible ditch terminal were found.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Dawson

Kilvarie, Connel

Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NM 9054 3142 A watching brief was kept during topsoil stripping on the footprint of a new house and the excavation of associated service trenches near the abandoned farmstead of Kilvarie, 2.5km S of Connel. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered.
Archive and Report: WoSAS and RCAHMS.
Funder: Mr Peter Topping

Arrochar

Inverarnan Substation, Inverarnan by Ardlui, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park

Watching brief
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NN 3156 1767 The upstanding surface remains of what is believed to be a pre-improvement agricultural settlement were identified during a watching brief on groundworks for an access road. This work was undertaken May–July 2008. It is believed that the remains relate to a settlement depicted on Roy's *c*1750 military map, which is annotated as 'Garball'. A more recent farmstead situated immediately to the E of the development also has this name, but the spelling has been changed to 'Garabal'. The principal feature of the settlement was a probable creel house with an attached kale yard containing rig and furrow. A further area of rig and furrow was identified immediately to the S of the creel house, on the opposite side of a small watercourse, along with a stone-built enclosure and a further enclosure that was only visible on aerial photographs. Immediately to the N of the creel house there are a number of possible structures/enclosures, but these are very poorly preserved and it is not certain that they are archaeological in nature. The area also contained a number of turf and stone field banks, one of which formed a revetment around the base of a knoll.

All the features were identified immediately in advance of the groundworks and no additional features were identified during the topsoil stripping. The line of the road was altered so that the settlement could be preserved *in situ*.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy plc

Campbeltown

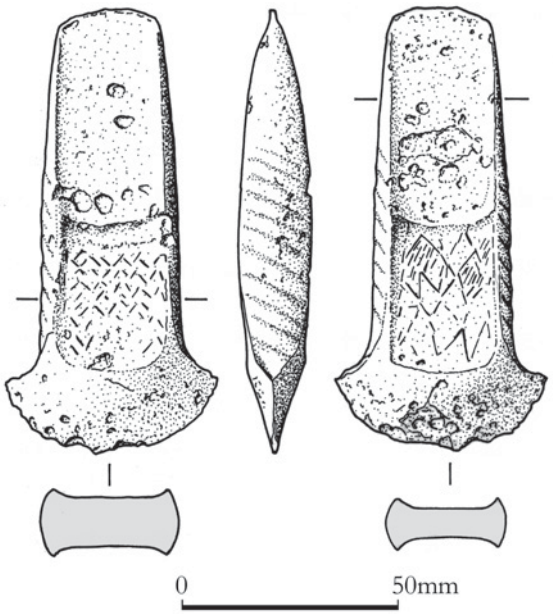
Bellfield Farm

Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Archaeology and Micromorphology
NR 73362 21027 The 8% evaluation carried out 22 October–9 November 2007 revealed the survival of prehistoric features in the central northern portion of the site. The features survived in and below colluvial deposits. They include part of a paired parallel posthole structure, a series of shallow ditches, a cist which appears to cut into a deposit consisting of mixed silt, ash, flint and pottery, a few shallow pits, and several postholes that appear to be part of undefined structures.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr MacLean

Cardross

Mollandhu Farm, Cardross

Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland



Decorated Early Bronze Age axehead from Mollandhu Farm, Cardross. Drawing by Alan Braby. ©National Museums Scotland

NS 33 78 This artefact was found by Morton Cullen in a ploughed field. The axehead is complete and in good condition apart from some modern damage to the flanges and one face. The axehead has been decorated with a rather irregular filled lattice design on one face and a herringbone pattern on the other, all made up of individual punch marks, and the cast flanges bear neat cable ornament.

This is a significant addition to the small number of developed flat axeheads and early flanged axeheads known from the W of Scotland. Good parallels can be found among Irish Derryniggin type axeheads (Harbison, 1969, 55–64). Among their British counterparts, it invites comparison with axeheads of the Bandon type, characterised by their straight-sides which gradually diverge to meet an expanded cutting edge, and by the presence of low flanges (Schmidt and Burgess, 1981, 65–68).

Harbison P (1969) 'The axes of the Early Bronze Age in Ireland', *Prähistorische Bronzefunde,* **IX**, 1 55–64.

Schmidt PK and Burgess CB (1981) 'The axes of Scotland and northern England'. *Prähistorische Bronzefunde,* **IX**, 7 65–68.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Glasgow Museums.

Coll

Grishipoll House (White House)

Standing building recording
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

Exterior of Eastern Elevation of Grishipoll House (or White House), Isle of Coll

NM 190 597 Historic building works, carried out 4–7 July 2008, recorded a large two-storey structure made of local rubble set in lime mortar. The structure consisted of three substantial gables; one at each end and a central one (aligned off-centre to the S), with a symmetrical eastern frontage. The central gable divided the interior creating two rooms. The upper and lower rooms at the northern end both had a further partition.

Although the eastern elevation was originally constructed with a central entrance on both the lower and upper floors, at some point the lower section of the upper entrance was blocked to form a window. A draw-bar slot in the southern jamb of the main entrance indicates that at some point the house required this defensive feature. Documentary sources suggest that the house was built at some time between 1737 and 1754, and cartographic evidence shows that it was abandoned and unroofed by 1881.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Seonaid and Alex MacLean-Bristol

Inner Hebrides Archaeological Project – Fiskary Bay

Excavation
Steven Mithen and Karen Wicks – University of Reading

NM 2116 5494 The site was discovered as a scatter of chipped stone artefacts in inter-tidal mud. Test pitting and a test trench in 2007 showed that the artefacts and associated wood charcoal and fish bone were from raised beach and underlying sand deposits. A total of 1445 chipped stone artefacts have now been recovered, all of which fall into the narrow blade tradition of the Scottish Mesolithic. Of the fish bones excavated in 2007, 164 were identifiable and include wrasse, haddock, flat fish and saithe. Excavation continued 9–17 September 2008, in the 7 x 4m trench opened in 2007. This work led to the recovery of further chipped stone artefacts, fish bone and wood charcoal, all presumed to be of Mesolithic date. No features have so far been identified.

Archive: Mull Museum, Tobermoray (intended)
Funder: University of Reading

Site to the North of Arnabost (1), Isle of Coll

Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NM 2092 6032 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 28 February and 7–8 April 2007 on a residential development site. No archaeological remains were recorded during the topsoil stripping or ground-breaking works.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Island Developments Ltd

Dunoon and Kilmun

Ardnadam Heritage Trail (Adopt-a-Monument)

Upgrade and ongoing maintenance of site
S Evelyn Hide – Cowal Archaeological and Historical Society (CAHS)

NS 1633 7917, NS 1690 8008, NS 1588 8049 The main adopted site, excavated during the 1960s and 70s by CAHS, contains Neolithic and Iron Age settlement together with the remains of a medieval chapel, some 'cell' graves and a surrounding early Christian enclosure. The surrounding landscape features 39 'recessed platforms' representing predominantly early historic settlement sites. Many were later used in the 18th and 19th centuries for the small-scale production of charcoal.

CAHS and Adopt-a-Monument have teamed up with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) to give the site a new lease of life. Funding from Historic Scotland has enabled BTCV work parties to assist CAHS in keeping the trail and its many archaeological sites free from vegetation and to repaint marking posts on the site. The trail combines nature and heritage conservation and the project included a training programme to equip conservation volunteers with new skills in archaeological recognition, survey and interpretation. Work on the trail began in August 2008 and will continue until June 2009. An Awards for All grant has been awarded to the group to pay for new interpretation along the trail.

Funder: Historic Scotland, Awards for All.

Gleann Ban, Ballochyle

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 12645 82808 On the N bank of the Balagowan Burn, in a flat wooded area, are two rectangular stone foundations of substantial houses **A** and **B**. They are much eroded and are obscured by a covering of turf and moss.

A) On a low mound near the river, and parallel to it (long axis 100° E of N), this structure measures 5.8 x 2.8m externally, internal wall height 0.4m to the vegetation fill, wall width indeterminate due to the heavy turf and moss cover. There is a probable doorway in the centre of the N wall, 0.9m wide.

B) The second rectangular stone foundation is farther from the river, 9.6m to the NE of **A**, also on a low mound *c*0.6m high. It is in poorer condition than **A**. It measures 6.1 x 3.3m externally with central gaps in each of the long walls, either doorways or broken down by animals. Its long axis is oriented 150° E of N.

Gleann Ban, Ballochyle

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 12024 83457 and NS 12122 83345 The 1st Edition OS Map (6-inch, 1843–1882) shows four unroofed structures in this area: two in a triangular area upstream from the confluence of two burns, one to the W of these across the S burn, and a fourth lower down the main burn on the E bank.

The ground within the fork of the two burns, which run NW/SE, rises steeply to form a high ridge, which is heather-

covered for *c*50m, then thickly forested NW of that point. A few metres inside the forest, at NS 12024 83457, are the remains of a rectangular dry stone structure *c*2m wide externally, in an approximately E/W line. The W wall of the structure and a 2m length of its N and S walls attached to the W wall remain. The walls are 0.5m wide and up to 1.3m high. The gap at the E end has been blocked by a wall of stones, not tied in. The remainder of the structure is represented only by a roughly rectangular spread of stones to the E, with the original external length estimated to be 3–4m. This is evidently a ruined dry stone shieling that has been altered for reuse, possibly as a twinning pen.

There is no evidence for the second structure shown on the 6-inch map. A search for the third structure in the forest to the W also failed to produce any evidence, though here the density of the forest precluded a thorough investigation.

The fourth structure depicted on the OS map is at NS 12122 83345, on the N bank of the main burn below a series of low waterfalls. It is an oval, or possibly rectangular dry stone structure on a mound, just inside the forest, with a heavy cover of pine tree litter. Its external length is 4.5m E/W; the width is less clear, about 3–4m. A break in the perimeter near the centre of the S side is probably a doorway.

Paper Caves, Loch Eck

Survey

David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 13640 89416 At an elevation of *c*100m on the track leading up to the well-known Paper Caves on the W side of Loch Eck is a broad flat sub-circular recessed platform 9m in diameter. The rear scarp is approximately 2m high; below the front is natural rock. In front of the platform, the ground slopes downhill at 45°. There is a widespread scatter of small pieces of charcoal across the platform, but no hearth or other evidence of a recent fire.

Puck's Glen

Survey

David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 15552 85374 Above Puck's Glen, at an altitude of 346m, is a roofed dry stone house. A visitors' book kept inside indicates that it was constructed over an unspecified period beginning in 1990 by a Mr John Wilson, but no information about the construction is given, in particular whether it was built up from an existing ruin. It is at the base of a steep hillside, below a rocky crag, and faces W. The hill rises steeply immediately at the back (E) of the house. A small stand of young spruce trees encloses it on the N and W sides, with only a small 2m gap between the front of the house and the trees. The approach is from the S.

The structure is largely intact and has been roofed with narrow poles anchored with plastic rope and sealed with reinforced plastic sheeting. Otherwise, the construction is similar to what is found in the many ruined dry stone houses or shielings in the area, for example in the occasional incorporation of a large flat boulder (*c*1.5m) into the base of the walls.

Internally, the single room is of internal width 1.9m at the N end, narrowing to 1.5m at the S end. A stone bench of width varying from 0.4 to 0.6m runs along the N wall. In the middle of the E wall is a fireplace with metal chimney. To the right (S) of it is a bench that continues round the S and W walls up to the doorway. The visitors' book shows that this bothy is frequently visited and is occasionally used as overnight accommodation.

Gigha and Cara

Gigalum, Isle of Gigha

Evaluation

Alastair Becket – GUARD

NR 6446 4683 Work was carried out in December 2007 on the site of a proposed house. Seven trenches were excavated by machine then cleaned by hand to reveal the natural subsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: Mrs M MacSporran

Keil, Isle of Gigha

Evaluation

Alastair Becket – GUARD

NR 6420 4815 Work was carried out 3 December 2007 on the site of a proposed house SW of Keils Cottage. Topsoil was removed by machine then cleaned by hand to reveal natural subsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: Mrs and Mrs K Robison

Glenorchy and Inishail

Bonawe Ironworks

Watching brief

Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NN 0090 3191 and NN 0093 3190 A watching brief was maintained on 25 June 2008 during the excavation of two small holes for telegraph poles, just NW of Bonawe Iron Furnace. The excavations re-used and slightly enlarged existing holes. Stone seen in one hole may have been demolition debris or structural remains, while the other hole was dug through a layer of slag to natural subsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Inverary/Kilmartin/Kilmichael Glassary

Arichamish – Gortonronach and Kilmichael Beg – Glen Shira

Walkover survey

Clare Ellis – Archaeology and Micromorphology

A pre-afforestation walkover survey was conducted during 12–21 November 2007 over a series of discrete parcels of ground at four separate locations in West Argyll – Arichamish, Gortonronach, Kilmichael Beg and Glen Shira, spanning the parishes of Inverary, Kilmartin and Kilmichael Glassary. 19 sites were recorded and are summarised below.

Arichamish – Kilmartin

NM 90259 06602 ARH1 – Sheiling, twinning pen. 5.5 x 4.5m at 196m OD.

NM 90365 06456 ARH2 – Clearance cairn. 4 x 3m at 129m OD.

NM 90912 06070 – NM 90859 06037 ARH3 – Wall. *c*70m and 0.60m wide at 77m OD.

NM 90870 06038 – NM 90838 06013 ARH4 – Quarry. Series of squared quarry scoops located at NE end of a ridge of rock. *c*40m and 5m wide, at 72m to 65m OD.

Gortonronach – Kilmichael Glassary

NR 92860 91997 GOH1 – Sheepfold. 24 x 32m at 48m OD.

NR 92727 91980 GOH2 – Lazy beds. 30 x 30m, each width of 4m, at 34m OD.

NR 92605 91928 GOH3 – Dry stone wall. *c*285m, at 36m OD.

NR 92888 91906 GOH4 – Possible clearance cairn. 5 x 4m, at 35m OD.

NR 92700 91841 GOH5 – Possible structure. 13.8 x 5.2m. Low earth and stone rectangular bank, the inner edge is not clear and the eastern limb is barely discernable. 0.2m max height, at 30m OD.
NR 92729 91806 GOH6 – Clearance cairn. 2 x 2m, at 32m OD.
NR 92927 91850 GOH7 – Clearance cairn. 4 x 8m, at 38m OD.
NR 92876 91844 GOH8 – Oval mound. 4 x 9.5m. Earthen oval mound with flat top and steeply sloping sides, at 35m OD.
NR 92762 91721 – NR 92729 91721 GOH9 – Wall. 23m, at 29m to 26m OD.

Kilmichael Beg – Kilmichael Glassary

NR 94810 92762 KIG1 – Structure. 18.5 x 9m. Sub-rectangular structure, 5.5 x 8.8m, with N side up to 1.3m in height. E and W sides curve inwards and reduce in height towards the S. The E and W banks stop at the burn/drain. A level platform some 7.5 x 13m abuts the burn on the S side. Possible mill. At 77m OD.
NR 94709 92829 KIG2 – Quarry scoops. 8 x 8m and 20 x 8m. At 84m OD.

Glen Shira – Inverary

NM 12546 09440 GLA1 – Structure. 6.5 x 5m. A low dry stone wall, 0.80m height and 3.5m long sits perpendicular to a burn. A flat platform sits behind this wall. Possible mill. At 59m OD.
NM 12446 09588 GLA2 – Bank/Head dyke. *c*150m. At 125m OD.
NM 11641 08917 GLA3 – Bank. At 102m OD.
NM 12237 11068 GLA4 – Bank/Head dyke. At 141m OD.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission

Inverchaolain

Balliemore, Loch Striven

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 05329 84723 A 1.2m wide circular turf-covered stone bank of 4.5m external diameter occupies the top of a mound on the E bank of a small tributary burn that runs into the Balliemore Burn from the N. On the burn side the mound is steep-sided and about 3m high. The bank encloses a hollow that is 0.7m deep to the inner fill level. This single structure is similar to, though a little larger than, the mounded structures found in a group in the neighbouring Tamhnich Glen (Dorren and Henry, *DES* 1999, 16).

Balliemore, Loch Striven

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 0551 8595 On a broad terrace on the W side of the track through Balliemore glen are at least eight rectangular dry stone foundations (**A–H**). With the exception of structure **E**, their long axes are oriented *c*N/S, to within about 20°. The structures are as follows:

A) Near the centre of the terrace is a large massively built near-rectangular yard or enclosure with turfed-over dry stone walls. Externally, it measures 32.8m long, and 16.3m wide at the S end narrowing to 15.5m at the N end. The walls are about 1m wide and stand up to 0.8m high. There is a 2.5m gap in the S wall. From the middle of the N wall, an external wall extends 25m to the N then curves a short distance W before coming to an end.

Some 10m E of yard **A**, on the edge of the terrace, is a N/S line of three rectangular dry stone foundations (**B**, **C**, and **D** from N/S). On their E side, the track rises to the level of the terrace as it runs N from the lower level of the glen. This track has cut into the E sides of **B** and **C**, but is below the level of **D**.

B) This structure is about 3.8m wide externally, and *c*6.0m in length, but uncertain due to erosion.

C) Adjoining **B** on the S, of 16.5m external length, but of uncertain width due to damage where the track meets it. The walls are 0.7–0.8m wide.

D) 7.2 x 4.5m externally, with walls 0.8m wide and up to 0.8m high. There is a door about 1m wide in the W wall. There is a 2.7m gap between **C** and **D**.

E) About 38m S of **D** is a rectangular dry stone foundation, long axis oriented E/W, 6.7 x 4.5m externally, with rounded corners at the W end. The walls are about 0.7m wide, badly disturbed in the middle section. It is on the terrace, well clear of the track.

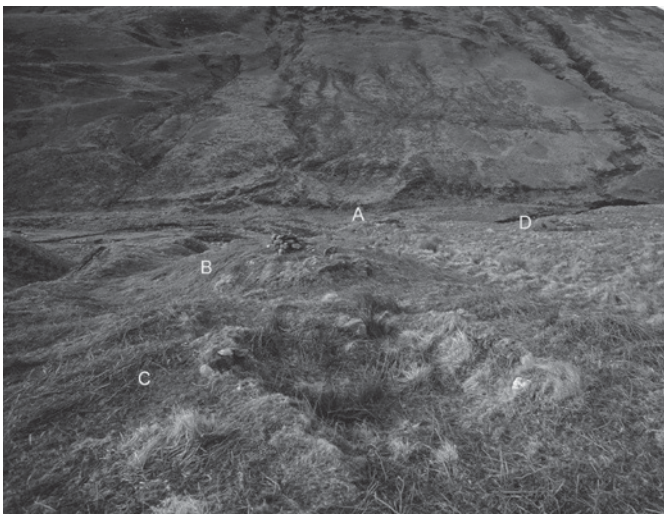
F) Immediately S of the enclosure **A** is a low dry stone foundation *c*0.2m high measuring 14.0 x 5.4m externally. Wall widths cannot be measured reliably due to extensive erosion.

G) To the SW of the enclosure **A** is a rectangular dry stone structure 11.0 x 5.9m externally. The walls are 0.8m wide and up to 0.3m high, with a door on the W side 1.2m wide.

H) On the W side of the enclosure **A** is a probable structure, a much-eroded low foundation, 4.6m wide by approximately 8.5m long (the N end cannot be reliably located).

Inverchaolain Glen

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry



Inverchaolain Glen – Sheiling group

NS 1066 7705 (vicinity of) A group of five low dry stone shieling foundations (**A–E**) is located on top of a steep embankment on the E side of the Inverchaolain Burn. They lie at an altitude of about 130m on the lower levels of a steep hillside on ground that is cut by narrow deep burns flowing W into the main burn, which is about 30m below. The structures, which are in an advanced state of erosion, are as follows:

A) At NS 10655 77047, this is the westernmost structure, rectangular, 4.0 x 3.0m internally, composed of large stones. The walls stand up to about 0.5m high and are about 0.7m wide. The orientation of the long axis is NE/SW. Attached to the SW wall is a small annexe, internally 1.8m broad and extending 1.6m from the SW wall. The ground slopes away steeply from **A** on all but the uphill SE side.

B) This is a badly eroded structure on a low mound, 36m uphill (SE) from **A**. It is rectangular or oval, with long axis downhill. Internally it is 3.3m long. The width is approximately 1.7m, uncertain due to the fragmentary state of the W side. The uphill short wall is about 0.9m wide. The most substantial remnant is a cluster of stones at the NW end, 0.7m high, and 0.5–0.6m wide.
C) This structure is the highest of the group, about 6m uphill from **B**. It is rectangular, measuring internally 3.7m parallel to the slope and 2.5m downhill. Wall widths are 0.4–0.5m and heights are similar. The ground drops away sharply on the downhill side.
D) 15m NE of **A**, and roughly perpendicular to **A**, this is rectangular, 3.7 x 1.9m internally. The walls are 0.5m wide and 0.6m high. The SE short wall is roughly built of large boulders.
E) About 16m NE of **D**, this is the longest rectangular structure, internally 6.7m long and 1.8m wide, with no evidence remaining of an internal division. It is oriented E/W. The E short wall, about 0.9m high, is the best surviving, and is composed of large boulders as in **D**.

Strone Point, Colintraive

Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry
NS 0745 7195 On clear ground on top of Strone Point at an altitude of *c*150m, is a rectangular turf bank measuring *c*6 x 3m externally. The bank is about 0.2m high and is on a low mound. No stone is evident and it is not known whether any lies underneath. The direction of the long axis is 170°, which is towards the nearest part of the shore. To the W is a small burn.

Kilchoman

Land North of Bruach Gorm

Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Archaeology and Micromorphology
NR 25365 58763 An 8% evaluation on 11–12 February 2008 revealed no significant archaeological features or artefacts other than an isolated, small truncated pit or posthole.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: West Highland Housing Association

Kildalton and Oa

Cille Chomhan

Postgraduate Research – Early Medieval Chapels of Argyll
Geoff Waters and Donald James MacPhee – Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh
NR 31406 41162 70m W of the medieval chapel of Cille Chomhan (NR34SW 4), a freshwater spring emerges from an opening in a dry stone-walled surround. Immediately behind the spring, a substantial earthen bank forms the front of a large levelled platform, which was covered in dense bracken at the time of our visit. The spring may originally have been associated with the chapel, but there is a ruined post-medieval steading 50m further W.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Abercromby Trust and Dr JN Marshall Memorial Trust

Coillabus, Islay

Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NR 32167 43957 During an evaluation, on 14 May 2008, a cup-marked rock, four corn-drying kilns, a small horse-shoe shaped feature, two earthen and stone banks, areas of peat cutting and an area of denuded rig were identified. The cup-marked rock consisted of two large (0.1 x 0.1m) cups up to 2.5mm deep and a third smaller possible cup (0.05 x 0.05m) on the flat surface of a glacial erratic. The corn-drying kilns were sub-circular and constructed from sub-rounded cobbles and earth. They had internal diameters of *c*2.2 x 2.7m, with cobble and earthen walls surviving to around 1m. Three of the four kilns occurred in a row just to the N of the township of Coillabus, while the fourth was isolated in an elevated position. The fourth kiln may have been used as a lime kiln. Three of the four kilns were in relatively good condition. A horse-shoe shaped structure (2.5 x 2m), possibly a denuded kiln, was also recorded just to the N of the row of 3 kilns, and there was the remnant of an earthen and stone head-dyke next to the row of kilns.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mrs Ross

Port Asabuis, Islay

Postgraduate Research – Early Medieval Chapels of Argyll
Geoff Waters – Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh
NR 31757 41274 Donald James MacPhee, Head Keeper of Dunlossit Estate, Islay, showed me what may be a fallen standing stone. This non-earthfast stone, 3.7 x 1.4 x 0.3m, is in a commanding position close to the cliffs overlooking the cove of Port Asabuis on the SE coast of the Oa of Islay.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Abercromby Trust and Dr JN Marshall Memorial Trust

Kilfinan

Middle Inens, Tignabruaich

Evaluation
MW Kimber – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NR 97670 73060 Work was carried out 30 January –7 February 2008 in advance of development. An 8% sample of available and accessible land was trial-trenched by machine. Additional hand-dug interventions were made at a cup-marked boulder (NR97SE 21), a feature thought to be a man-made platform (NR97SE 31) and a clearance cairn.

The machine trenching located a dump of massive boulders, probably recent in origin, a curvilinear feature apparently forming a small oval enclosure, and a single posthole near the curvilinear feature. The intervention at the cup-marked boulder recovered a number of struck flints, indicating the presence of a flint scatter. The possible platform was discovered to be natural in origin, while the possible clearance cairn was a dump of spoil probably related to recent road-building activity in the area. Extant field systems visible in the development were dated to the later post-medieval period, on the basis of pottery recovered from the topsoil during trenching.
Archive: Awaiting SAFAP
Funder: Banks Development Ltd

Kilfinichen and Kilvickeon

Bruach Mhor, near Fionnphort, Isle of Mull

Watching brief
Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NM 3061 2366 In September 2008 a watching brief was undertaken during the renovation and extension of a derelict stone building. The work was carried out as the site is marked on the 1st Edition OS map (1878) and may be a pre-improvement settlement focus. The layout of the two extant buildings does not correspond to that shown on the 1878

map and it is therefore suggested that they post-date 1878. Monitoring was carried out during the stripping of overburden to the W of the northern building and during the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension. Two lengths of a rubble drain, which probably related to the existing building, were recorded. There were no earlier finds or features.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Nigel Burgess

Dun Buirg
Watching brief
Derek Alexander – The National Trust for Scotland
NM 4232 2629 During a National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp, on 26–27 May 2008, volunteers cleared and extended surface drains in the fields to the E of Dun Buirg. A watching brief was carried out during some of the work, but apart from some 19th-century pottery sherds, nothing of archaeological significance was found.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Iona Abbey
Watching brief
Derek Alexander – The National Trust for Scotland
NM 2863 2439 Three narrow trenches were excavated across the presumed line of a blocked field drain in the field to the S of the Abbey on 26–27 May 2008. Below 0.2m of topsoil one trench located a spread of cobbles. No artefacts were recovered. The line of the field drain was found in only one of the trenches and further excavation was stopped. The location of the trenches was recorded by EDM.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Iona Abbey
Repairs to vallum earthwork
Derek Alexander – The National Trust for Scotland
NM 2861 2472 As part of a National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp on 26–27 May 2008, volunteers helped to repair a number of animal erosion scars on the northern corner of the monastic vallum earthwork. Around five scrapes were in-filled with sandbags filled with imported topsoil and packed in place with more soil. There were no archaeological finds.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Port Ban
Excavation
Derek Alexander – The National Trust for Scotland
NM 2666 2445 During a monitoring visit to the island on 7–8 September 2008, a midden pit was found eroding out of the S side of the burn that runs from Culbuirg Farm to Port Ban. The section was cleaned, photographed, drawn and samples taken. The area downslope was sieved for artefacts.

The eroding section stands up to 1.6m high and in the middle is a dark lens of a truncated pit, 2.1m long by 0.4m deep. It is cut into clean sand which also has a number of rabbit burrows. It is sealed by a similar layer of windblown sand (with some shells) and there is topsoil and turf above.

On close examination a cobble stone tool with a fractured end was visible in the section along with numerous limpet shells, burnt and unburnt bone, and small friable fragments of coarse pottery. One of the larger bones in the section proved to be part of a grey seal scapula. Sieving the collapsed material recovered a small assemblage of burnt and unburnt animal bone consisting mostly of sheep/goat bones. In addition, a small assemblage of flints and undecorated coarse pottery was also found. The farmer had previously recovered two cut lengths of red deer antler from a sand blow 30m further to the W.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Suidhe, Bunessan
Controlled topsoil strip
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NM 37153 21665 A controlled topsoil strip was undertaken 4–7 December 2007 prior to development. Three kidney-shaped pits were recorded. The pits were around 1.10m long and 0.55m wide. They were filled with charcoal, ash and fine white/grey sand with occasional small angular, heat affected stones. One of the pits was lined with ashy clay. Radiocarbon dating of oak from one of the pit fills gave a date of BP 5845 ± 30 (SUERC-18896, GU-16717), calibrated to 4790–4610 BC (at 95.4% probability) and 4780–4685 BC (at 68.2% probability), placing the pits in a late Mesolithic period. A white flint blade was also recovered from the topsoil.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Jeffree

Workers' Cottages, Tavool, Ardmeanach Peninsula, Isle of Mull
Survey
Members of PPHA – Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive
NM 435 271 This site lies about 400m to the SW of Tavool House, on either side of the track to Burg, amid open pasture, overgrown with bracken. It is S-facing and comprises two rectangular cottages, which are still standing to their full wall head height, two gardens and the remains of at least seven other rectangular buildings. The visible remains may represent several phases of occupation, four having masonry to knee height while the other three are almost completely robbed of stone. All the buildings are unroofed. The pastureland to the S of the cottages is enclosed by a dyke and is bounded on the S side by a large natural mound, known locally as the King's Mound. There is a substantial dry stone dyke further to the NW, bounding an area of pastureland that probably dates to the period when the farm became a sheep walk in the 1840s.

In 1494 McLean of Lochbuy was given royal charter of land previously held by the Lord of the Isles. Among these lands was Tayobill (Tapull or Tavool) on the Ardmeanach peninsula. The land remained part of the Lochbuy (Lochbuie) Estate until the 1840s, when it was sold. The farm had been a joint tenancy, but now became a single unit. No trace remains of the township (there was a population of 64 recorded in the 1841 census), though some of the robbed-out structures may have belonged to the pre-improvement period. Information about the last occupants of these cottages came from Chrissy MacGillivray (1898–1989), the last resident of Burg Farm, who passed on a wealth of local knowledge and legends relating to the area.

A) NM 43628 27162 – **The MacGillivray House** – Only the footings and most of the first course of stones remain of the house, which measures 8 x 5.5m, with the entrance on the SE side and an outshot of 2m on the N end. The corners of the building are rounded, the walls straight and 0.9m thick. To the E there is a hollow in the ground, and a scatter of tumbled stone, much of which appears to be of wall-core size, the whole area being marked out by partially buried footings and the occasional large stone or boulder. The area within the house has been used in recent years to dump old wire fencing and bottles. According to Chrissie MacGillivray, the house was occupied by a family of MacGillivrays in the

past, and the family was still there in her parents' time. The 1871 Census shows a McGillivray family living at Tapul (sic), a former shepherd and his wife, supported by their sons. They were gone by the time of the 1881 census.

B) NM 43560 27145 – **The Baker's House** – The building measures 7.1 x 4.6m and has a platform extending 2.1m at the front, SE side. The dry stone walls, which are externally square-cornered at the front and rounded at the back, are 1.8m high at the front and 1.55m high at the rear and are 0.7m thick. The entrance is offset to the E and 0.8m wide, and the lintel can be seen lying on the ground next to it. On the W side of the entrance the front wall has collapsed, but a window splay can be discerned. The walls have been pointed in several places with cement, both internally and externally, and there is a small recess or aumbry built into the NE internal wall.

C) NM 43580 27160 – **Ruins of house, garden and enclosure** – A once substantial building measuring 11.7 x 6m, the remaining masonry stands to knee-height and the spread of the tumble obscures potential structural relationships in several areas. The corners of the walls are rounded externally and angled internally. There is an entrance in the SE wall. Adjoining the E corner are the remains of another structure robbed out to its footings and measuring 7.8 x 5.8m.

An irregularly shaped garden plot measuring 18.7 x 11.6m abuts the NW wall of the building with an entrance on the SW side. Chrissie MacGillivray remembered that the Baker's House was so called because a baker and his family lived there. In the 1980s, his family still lived in the Fort William area. The house was latterly used as a byre by the sole remaining residents in this area, the MacLeans, who also used the garden for growing soft fruit.

D) NM 443511 27094 – **The MacLeans' house and associated structures** – This house (**D1**) stands close to the boundary with Burg and is scarped into the slope. It measures 8.3 x 5.5m, with a stony platform extending 2m from the footings in front of the house. The dry stone walls have rounded corners externally and are square internally and 0.7m thick. There is an entrance in the SE front wall slightly offset to the E with splayed window openings to either side. The walls stand to a maximum wall head height of 1.8m externally at the front reducing to a maximum of 1.4m to the rear.

There is a sub-oval garden plot (**D2**) defined by a boulder wall to the rear measuring 16 x 15m, with the remains of a lambing pen in the E wall.

There is an additional small sub-rectangular building (**D3**) just NE of the enclosure comprising a single sub-square compartment measuring 6.8 x 4.5m with 0.8m thick rubble walls standing to knee height and an entrance in the E wall. Abutting this on the same side is a smaller rubble-walled enclosure with an opening to the SE allowing access into the larger building. Pieces of a pottery whisky jar, crocks and bottle glass were found here, as well as old fencing wire.

There is a substantially built enclosure (**D4**), measuring 7.5 x 5m with faced rubble walls 0.7m thick, and standing to 1.10m at the highest point, finished with coping stones. There is no obvious entrance, but the NE wall is tumbled.

There are photographic as well as oral records of the MacLeans who lived here. They were still occupying the house in 1901. The house is remembered as having an earth floor and a thatched roof.

E) NM 43597 27044 – **Structure** – There is a further isolated building some 50m S of the King's Mound, at the foot of the slope and in the midst of a hazel copse. It is scarped transversely into the slope and measures 10 x 8m, the front and highest surviving wall being 1.1m high. The walls are 0.8m thick. There is an entrance in the S end wall. The interior long axis of the building is apparently lined by two slighter, secondary walls up to 0.3m thick. The interior is otherwise obscured by fallen stone.

F) NM 43602 27098 – **The King's Mound** – This natural hill lies to the SW of the track and workers' houses, and is surrounded by the remains of a dry stone boulder dyke. On the crest of the hill a small cairn has been built. Local legend says that it was a prehistoric burial place, but there is no field evidence and no other accounts to substantiate this.

Torrans Township, Isle of Mull

Survey

Members of PPHA

NM 48006 24979 This site complex, on the S side of Loch Scridain, consists of a hut circle, a pre-improvement township and a post-improvement farmstead or cottage. The settlement remains are on a NW-facing hillslope with frequent rocky outcrops SE of Cnoc Leathan. The remains are completely hidden by bracken from early summer into the winter months. Work was undertaken in February–May 2008. The majority of the recorded buildings and other structures appear as earth and stone banks standing to a maximum height of 0.6m with any remaining stonework largely obscured by earth and turf. A march dyke, dividing the farms of Torranbeg and Torranuachdarroch, runs across the W part of the site from NE to SW. The hut circle appears on an estate map of Pennyghael of 1819, but is not shown on the OS 6 inch maps of 1881 or 1900, or on any subsequent maps. On the 1819 estate map, the post-improvement building is shown as unroofed, but none of the other buildings, structures or enclosures is to be found on any map.

The splitting of Torrans into three farms, Upper, Lower and Little Torran, may have taken place before 1560 Lower Torran was mentioned in a rental of Church land in 1561 (Grant, 1935). The march dyke separating Torranbeg and Torranuachdarroch cuts through this site, suggesting that the main township pre-dated the sub-division of the land.

1) The hut circle is in a prominent position at the edge of a natural rocky terrace. It measures 12m diameter with low turf walls over 1m thick, standing to a maximum height of 0.6m high and with some evidence of stone facing in the lower courses. There is an entrance on the SE side.

2) The pre-improvement township lies to the W of the hut circle at the foot of a slope, and 19 buildings and other structures have been identified. All measurements are given externally unless otherwise stated.

The most northerly group of seven buildings comprises four larger and approximately equal-sized sub-rectangular buildings 10 x 6m (numbered 1, 2, 3 and 5) and three smaller buildings not greater than 5 x 5m (numbered 4, 6 and 7) at the base of slope below an area of outcrop that forms a natural boundary along the E side of the site. The larger buildings are presumed to be dwellings.

Buildings 8 and 9 are sub-rectangular and are above and to the W of the main group on a more exposed terrace. They are not as large as buildings in the main group and 9 has an opposed entrance, suggesting it functioned as a barn. There is a large irregular-shaped enclosure (10) measuring 16 x 10m along the top edge of the break of slope to the W that may be a stackyard.

There are a number of smaller buildings and enclosures (11–15) further W arranged along the base of slope. The most northerly consist of the footings of a small building (11) measuring 7 x 4m with an oval enclosure (12) constructed on levelled ground measuring 8 x 12m just to the S. Further

Torrans Township and hut circle, site plan

S and immediately below enclosure 10 are the footings of three small sub-rectangular buildings, the largest being only 8 x 4m. Below and to the W the more even ground, which has since become waterlogged, shows some evidence of cultivation.

On the edge of a level terrace above a small stream there is a substantial sub-rectangular building (16) measuring 19.5 x 6m, with opposing entrances and a more rounded SW end. Close by the SW end there is an enclosure (18) measuring some 11 x 8m adjacent to a smaller semi-circular arc of walling (17), which appears to be the remains of a smaller enclosure now bisected by the burn.

3) The remains of a rectangular stone-built, post-improvement farmstead or cottage (20) measures 12 x 5.5m and has a central subdividing wall. Much of the masonry has been robbed, but what remains appears to have been quarried and face dressed. There is a small enclosure (21) measuring 4 x 3.5m set into the hill slope behind and to the E of the main building. There are potentially associated remains of a small sub-rectangular building (19) and an enclosure (19b) at the edge of a low outcrop some 25m to the NE.

Grant, I.F. (1935) *The Lordship of the Isles Wanderings in the Lost Lordship,* Moray Press.

Killarow and Kilmeny

Bolsa, Islay

Postgraduate Research – Early Medieval Chapels of Argyll
Geoff Waters – Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh

NR 3761 7644 About 1.4km SW of Bolsa on moorland in a bend of the Allt Aonan an Eòrna there are three turf/stone shieling huts.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Abercromby Trust and Dr JN Marshall Memorial Trust

Kilmartin

Inverliever, Ford

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NM 8922 0663 to NM 8953 0543 A walkover survey was conducted along the proposed route of a pipeline, some 1.6km long, for a new hydro-electric scheme. Sites and monuments on, or very close to, the route are listed below.

NM 8926 0672 – sheepfold
NM 8919 0664 – possible shieling
NM 8922 0663 – possible shieling
NM 8960 0572 – remains of a structure with masonry foundations, measuring 5m square
NM 8957 0588 to NM 8959 0572 – remains of an old track. The track is probably associated with a small, presumably pre-improvement, settlement whose remains are located close by and which include the structure described above.

Archive and Report: WoSAS and RCAHMS.
Funder: Inverliever Hydro Ltd

Kilmichael Glassary

Achnabreck Rock Art

Excavation and watching brief
Roddy Regan – Kilmartin House Museum

NR 85566 90814 The rock art panel was first discovered in January 2008 when storms blew over a group of substantial tree roots revealing the rock panel below. The aims of this project were to identify the extent of the site and explore the nature and character of any activities associated with its construction and use and to recover dating material.

An excavation was undertaken from 28–30 May 2008 and

a watching brief was also conducted on the installation of the re-routed cycle track on 3 June 2008. The excavation revealed 12 motifs, consisting of cup and ring markings and 43 individual cup marks. The new site lies close to Scotland's largest rock art panel at Achnabreck 1 and adds to the extraordinary concentration of rock art in the Achnabreck vicinity. No further rock art was uncovered during the watching brief.
Archive: Kilmartin House Museum (intended). Report: WoSAS SMR, RCAHMS and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (intended)
Funder: Forestry Commission

Ballymeanoch, Kilmartin

Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NR 8315 9613 to NR 8313 9615 A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of trenches for three double poles supporting voltage regulating equipment. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in these trenches or in a narrow earth cable trench which ran some 35m to their NW.
Archive and Report: WoSAS and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Bridgend

Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Archaeology and Micromorphology
NR 85467 92990 An archaeological evaluation on 3 December 2007 over 7% of the site revealed no features of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Ms Smith

Dalriada Project – Kilbride farm, Kilmichael Glassary

Walkover survey
Roddy Regan – Kilmartin House Museum
NR 86000 96500 (centred on) This fieldwork was carried out in January 2008 as part of the Dalriada Project, in which members of the local community took part in a walkover survey of Kilbride farm, 5km N of Kilmichael Glassary. The survey recorded 89 sites, many previously unknown, including rock art sites and several enclosures with associated structures. The survey substantially increased our knowledge of past land use in Kilmichael Glen and augments and enhances previous work conducted in the area. The results are summarised below.

Rock Art – NR 87250 99540, NR 86983 99043, NR 87613 99615 and NM 87184 00514 One of the main discoveries of the survey was four rock art sites. Two of these sites were previously known to local farmers, but had not been reported or recorded; two were previously unknown. Three of the sites were on large horizontal boulders, although one may have originally stood upright. Two of these boulders had groupings of plain cup marks, and a third had at least six plain cups surrounded by single rings. Of some significance was the uncovering of a rock panel bearing at least 72 plain cup-marks. The group also contained two cups with three rings, one with an associated gutter. A more unusual (if not unique) motif was a cartouche of two incised ovals surrounding a single cup and a cup with two concentric rings and a gutter.

Possible Cairn – NR 86708 97041 This site had been previously described as a possible cairn/standing stone and subsequently dismissed as a clearance cairn. The survey suggested the upright stone is unlikely to be in a natural position. This raises questions as to the origin or function of the surrounding cairn, although there are other smaller clearance cairns within the surrounding cultivated ground. At present the nature of this site remains unclear.

Defended Site – NR 86733 97291 A site variously identified as a defensive structure or dun may date to the Iron Age or early medieval period. It occupies the end of a steep escarpment that enjoys fine views over Rhudle Glen towards the Mhoine Mhor. A tumbled wall suggested that the southern extent of the plateau had been deliberately blocked off, the other sides of the escarpment being steep enough to provide adequate deterrent. The site does not appear to be a traditional dun location (they tend to be oval or rounded structures set atop steep escarpments) but may represent some form of defended outlook.

Enclosure Systems – NR 87200 97600, NR 8717 97351, NR 86960 97176, NR 86958 97580, NR 86706 97220, NR 86665 97084, NR 85760 96666, NR 85918 97024, NR 85984 97244, NR 87182 98213, NR 87318 98815, NR 86036 97488, NR 87400 99550, NM 87165 00493 and NR 86800 99300 Several large enclosure systems were recorded strung out along the SE-facing slopes of the survey area, considerably adding to the knowledge of past agricultural and settlement patterns in the area. All the enclosed areas showed evidence of past cultivation, whether it was improved cleared ground as indicated by relatively lush grass growth, the presence of rig and furrow, and/or clearance cairns. Many of the enclosure systems were associated with settlement, as the presence of structures in or next to the enclosures indicated.

Stock(?) Enclosures – Open ended rectangular turf and stone enclosures were at recorded at NR 87764 99731, NR 87761 99703 and NR 87722 99598. The shape and size suggest these may have been used for stock.

Structures – NR 87320 97800, NR 87152 97600, NR 87011 97179, NR 87187 97351, NR 87155 97535, NR 86687 97065, NR 86720 97225, NR 86687 97065, NR 86286 96868, NR 85918 97024, NR 87153 98017, NR 86708 98533, NR 86480 97823, NR 87157 98406, NR 86026 97561, NR 87181 99247 and NR 87020 99061 Many of these structures were grouped inside enclosure/settlement systems. The majority structures were rectangular and of dry stone, with no evidence of chimneys. All structures, apart from the barn at NR 87153 98017, appeared to have been abandoned by the time of the 1st Edition OS map in 1873. Most of the rectangular buildings may represent domestic structures and/or byres. Apart from these, only a few structures had an identifiable function, with possible corn kilns at NR 86665 97041 and NR 87152 99355, and a lime kiln at NR 85909 97023. One noteworthy structure was recorded at NR 86286 96868, which appeared to be concealed in a small gully next to a burn and may represent the site of an illicit still. Circular structures were recorded at NR 87152 97600, NR 86665 97084, NR 86480 97823 and NR 87020 99061 and these might represent an earlier building tradition, although their age and function remain elusive.

Twinning pens – NR 86960 97176, NR 86687 97065, NR 87045 98204 and NR 86494 99205 Small oval dry stone structures interpreted as twinning pens. In two cases the pens were constructed in earlier buildings.

Cultivated Ground – NR 86415 97482, NR 86179 96853, NR 87268 98726, NR 86735 97979, NR 86591 98012, NR 86204 97853, NR 87613 99374, NR 87599 99595 and NR 87572 99593 While most of the relatively flat/even ground in the enclosure systems appeared to have been improved, other apparently unenclosed improved ground was observed during the survey. These areas were indicated by signs of rig and furrow, the presence of clearance cairns or relatively lush grass growth.

Peat Working – NR 87178 97118, NR 86937 96963, NR 86815 97558, NR 86295 97155, NR 86573 97768, NR 86943

98167, NR 86994 98805 and NR 86433 97909 Associated with nearby settlement were several areas of former peat extraction. These workings were usually indicated by sunken/lower areas in boggy ground with linear or regular edges.

Tracks – NR 87339 97813, NR 87133 97968, NR 87434 97164, NR 87411 97504, NR 87101 97736, NR 86937 96963, NR 86633 97888, NR 87153 98017, NR 86873 98110, NR 86899 98191 and NR 87810 99617 The main tracks recorded during the survey led to Kirnan and Upper Rhudle at the SE, the tracks joining at the NE. The Kirnan track can still be traced for much of its length in the survey area and crosses a burn over a stone culvert. The Upper Rhudle track can still be easily traced at its southern end. Between these two areas the track is less visible and in places lost in bog. Other tracks may have connected with this system and were probably local tracks giving access to fields and enclosures.

Quarries – NR 87262 97894, NR 87277 97816, NR 87411 97504, NR 87095 97794, NR 86937 96963, NR 86703 97361, NR 87392 98770, NR 87169 98230, NR 87535 99075, NR 87730 99420 and NR 87827 99565 Most of the quarries consisted of scoops of excavated soil, the soil or aggregate having probably been used for the construction of tracks and roads, while others may relate to nearby enclosed settlements.

Hazel Coppice – NR 87680 99425 An area of former hazel coppice was recorded situated N of a former field, both possibly last used at the same time.

Archive: Kilmartin House Museum (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR (intended)
Funder: Dalriada Project

Fearnoch, Kilmichael Glen

Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NR 8782 9657 to NR 8839 9673 A watching brief was kept during the machine-excavation of a trench to accommodate an underground power cable to a new house. The trench ran through rough pasture to the house which sits over the remains of an earlier farmhouse (see *DES* 2007, 43). The trench cut through thin topsoil and underlying glacial till, the only features uncovered being remnants of three demolished field dykes, probably dating to the 19th century.

Archive and Report: WoSAS and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Torbhlaren

Dating and analysis of prehistoric rock art
A Jones – University of Southampton

NR 8622 9438 Excavations in 2004 and 2006 produced evidence for a stone and clay built platform encircling the eastern edge of the rock art site. This is the first archaeological activity of its kind to have been excavated in association with a Scottish (or British) rock art site. The site was investigated due to its uncharacteristic position in the valley bottom.

The platform was covered in large quantities of smashed quartz, including some possible quartz and coarse stone hammer stones. A charcoal-filled scoop had been cut into its top. The platform extended around the outcrop for 4m to the S, while to the N the platform is visible as an earthwork. Excavations beneath the platform to the S revealed a small posthole structure of *c*1.5m in diameter, *c*1m away from the rock art outcrop. The structure had been burnt down and was sealed beneath the platform.

The post-excavation is at a reasonably advanced stage and two radiocarbon dates have been obtained from SUERC, for the postholes sealed beneath the platform and for a charcoal scoop inserted into the top of the platform. The date from the posthole structure is 2580–2340 BC at 95.4% confidence (2570–2510 BC at 68.2% confidence). The date from the charcoal scoop is AD 680–890 at 95.4% confidence (AD 760–870 at 68.2% confidence). Both dates are on oak, with the potential for problems associated with old wood. Nevertheless, while the date from the charcoal scoop provides a terminus ante quem, the date obtained from the posthole structure may provide a terminus post quem for the construction of the platform. While these dates do not date the rock art, they provide an indication of the likely date of the activities associated with the use of the rock art site. As such, these are the first dates obtained from a British rock art site.

Archive: Kilmartin House Trust/National Museums Scotland (intended)
Funder: British Academy, London Antiquaries, Scottish Antiquaries, AHRC

Kilmodan

Glendaruel

Survey
Charles McLaughlin

1) NR 99654 87580 This structure, average diameter 3.6m, is on the southern slopes of West Ghallanach on contour 169m. The front banking consists of schist base rock with schist slabs added to a height of 1.2m. The side and back sections have individual embedded stones max L 8m x B 4m completing the circumference. A semicircular turf bank extension with max H 0.7m slopes down to 0.3m further 3m up the slope.
2) NR 99654 87569 Sub-circular banking.
3) A further structure, average diameter 6.6m, lies 20m E of site 1 on contour 167m. This is turf banking with no detectable rock component, having a maximum H 0.5m in its southern sector fading to 0.2m upslope.

Kilmore and Kilbride

Cleigh Mill

Watching brief
Clare Ellis – Archaeology and Micromorphology

NM 87954 25682 A watching brief was conducted on the ground preparation works for an extension to Cleigh Mill. No features or finds of archaeological interest were found.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Gibson

Dunbeg

Walkover survey
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology

A walkover survey of a large parcel of land between Dunbeg and Ganavan Sands undertaken on 14–15 July 2008 identified 24 previously unrecorded sites. These included a linear deposit buried beneath 1.2m of colluvium which was rich in charcoal and fire-cracked stone, a cup-marked boulder, a clearance cairn overlying a possible earlier structure and two possible burial cairns. A hut circle, possibly previously recorded (NM83SE 36) was also noted.

NM 86299 32624 DUN1 – Quarry. 15m. At 10m OD
NM 86318 32618 to NM 86363 32571 DUN2 – Wall. 0.80m high and 1.20m wide. At 47m to 55m OD
NM 86741 32899 to NM 86475 33052 DUN3 – Wall. *c*1.5m wide and 500m long. At 43m – 24m OD
NM 86590 33055 NM 86488 33089 DUN4 – Bank. *c*1.20m wide and 200m long. At 37m – 27m OD
NM 86555 32832 DUN5 – Bank. 2m wide, *c*250m long. At 9m OD (central point)
NM 86511 32927 DUN6 – Possible cup-marked rock. 0.90

x 0.70m boulder, cup mark 0.08 x 0.06m and up to 0.03m deep. At 14m OD
NM 86488 32934 DUN7 – Rig. Approximately 100 x 100m. At 11m OD
NM 86369 32992 DUN8 – Possible hut circle. 8.20 x 6.90m. Low earthen oval bank, up to 0.50m high at W end and up to 1.6m wide. External diameter 8.20m (E/W) and 6.9m (N/S). Probable entrance W side, slightly off set. Located on edge of sheer cliff that faces W. At 18m OD
10m N of DUN8 DUN9 – Earthen bank. 13 x 8m, 1–1.5m wide and up to 0.5m high
NM 86421 33035 DUN10 – Rig. *c*100 x 100m. At 16m OD
NM 86513 32607 DUN11 – Farmstead. *c*50 x 50m. At 7m OD
NM 86931 32557 to NM 86959 32624 DUN12 – Wall. 100m. At 15–23m OD
NM 86920 32590 DUN13 – Enclosure. *c*8 x 8m.
NM 87106 32549 DUN14 – Wall. 2m wide, *c*120m long
NN 86798 32399 DUN15 – Quarry. 8 x 10m. At 34m OD
NM 86957 32712 DUN16 – Wall. 12m. At 12m OD
NM 87403 33104 DUN17 – Wall. 25m OD
NM 87403 33104 DUN18 – Deposit. 2.5m. An undulating layer of charcoal and heat-affected stone, 2.5m S/N and 0.2–0.3m high, some 1.2m below the current ground surface in the newly created section of the cycle track. This deposit occurs at roughly the same location as the axehead (DUN19) reported in 1993. At 25m OD
NM 87455 33110 DUN20 – Clearance cairn; possible burial cairn or structure. 7.6 x 7m. At 9m OD
NM 87472 33560 DUN21 – Wall. 150m. At 70m OD
NM 87556 33529 DUN22 – Quarry. 21 x 15m. At 35m OD
NM 87562 33441 DUN23 – Mound, possible burial cairn. 6.8 x 5.60m. At 36m OD
NM 87464 33334 DUN24 – Track. Roughly 120m. At 14m OD
NM 87464 33368 DUN25 – Mound, natural or possible burial cairn. 13 x 7m. At 13m OD
NM 87444 33750 DUN26 – Bank. 200m. At 28m OD
NM 86250 32700 DUN27 – Source/well

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: West Highland Rural Solutions Ltd

Dunstaffnage Environs Project

Excavation
Colin Breen and Wes Forsythe – Centre for Maritime Archaeology, University of Ulster

NM 8826 3449 In 2007 an integrated landscape survey of the environs of Dunstaffnage Castle was undertaken. It included an extensive marine and terrestrial geophysical survey coupled with a conventional landscape survey. During this work a number of features came to light which warranted further investigation and in June 2008 limited test trenching was carried out across the site.

Trench 1 (2 x 2m) consisted largely of natural geological/geomorphological features and a number of planting features. Finds from this trench were modern and consisted of slate fragments and sherds.

Trench 2 (2 x 1m) was positioned in an apparently artificial hollow immediately above the raised beach area and had the potential appearance of a naust. Excavation revealed collapse from an 18th-century structure. A large volume of 18th- and early 19th-century material was recovered including a drinking glass stem, sherds, clay pipe stems and other assorted finds.

Trench 3 (2x1m) was positioned over a defined flat rectangular area NE of the visitor centre and E of the castle. GPR survey appeared to show the survival of a floor surface at this location. Removal of the upper sod exposed a very thin spread of broken slate, brick and modern pottery. This had been spread out and levelled during 20th-century landscaping. This overlay a substantial soil deposit, 0.8m deep, consisting of well turned garden soil. A small number of modern finds came from this deposit.

Trench 4 (8 x 1m) was positioned to investigate a GPR anomaly that appeared to show a ditch surrounding the base of the castle outcrop. The trench was immediately below the southern castle façade and revealed a clear sequence of medieval and post-medieval activity. The earliest cultural levels took the form of a shallow trench surrounding the castle. This may have been associated with construction or may have been used as a temporary fence or slight defensive feature. Coin and artefact analysis would suggest a 13th-century date. Interestingly, the trench also produced evidence of significant refurbishment, possibly early in the 14th century. The analysis of a discarded brooch will allow closer dating of this event. Over the following 300 years this area was subject to continual dumping of midden material from the castle wall. The faunal material recovered will allow an accurate reconstruction of diet and economy from a sealed medieval context. This activity sort continued into the 18th century, when the site was finally abandoned and landscaped.

Trench 5 (2 x 1m) tested two enigmatic sub-circular stone features in the woodland NW of the castle. The structure was identified as a sub-circular stone walled kiln with a number of probable flues. The interior of the kiln contained a significant build-up of fill, with a substantial deposit of lime at the base. Unfortunately no dating evidence was recovered.

The excavations provided a valuable insight into the chronological sequence of activity at the castle and provided important information for developing future management plans.

Funder: Historic Scotland

Glenshellach, Oban

Excavation
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NM 8490 2839 The remains of two buildings, thought to be elements of a pre-improvement farmstead set on a ridge 2km SW of Oban, were completely excavated in advance of the development of the area. This was the final phase of a project which began in 2004, with an evaluation of the entire field, which revealed several post-medieval structures and features and a late Bronze Age hearth (*DES* 2004, 31; *DES* 2007, 45).

The largest building measured 10.8 x 6m and was built of dry stone rubble. Only a few courses of this survived and one side wall was almost completely missing. The floor was cut into bedrock that had been extensively quarried for building stone. No other floor surfaces were recorded and there was no evidence of a hearth, which suggests that this was not a house. The absence of any drain or stalls suggests it was not used to house animals. This building, which had been extended on two occasions, was probably a store, possibly for fodder. At one end of it was a large post pit, perhaps to take a roof support that appears to have been replaced at some stage.

Nearby were the heavily truncated remains of a more substantial structure, possibly a house, although again there was no floor surface or other internal features. Remnants of enclosures and field clearance cairns were identified close to these buildings. Other structures and features, including evidence of early agriculture, were noted in an adjacent field.

Archive and Report: WoSAS and RCAHMS
Funder: Iain Clark

Kilninian and Kilmore

Coille Creag A'Chait, Isle of Mull

Survey
Hylda Marsh and Bev Langhorn
NM 49677 54068 A substantial sub-rectangular building in a rectangular enclosure, possibly representing the remains of a chapel and burial ground, stands on a ridge about 700m to the SSW of Baliscate House. There is a second rectangular enclosure to the S which may be related.

The site stands in a forest clearing on the slopes of Coille Creag A'Chait at *c*108m. The building has an E/W axis, with an entrance in the N wall. It is 8.7m in length and 6.8m in breadth and its walls are *c*0.9m thick. The enclosure around it has an entrance in the E wall. It is 18.7 x 15.7m and its walls are *c*1.2m thick. The walls of both structures stand to a maximum height of 0.7m and appear to be of turf and stone construction.

The second enclosure is approximately square with an entrance in the S wall. It is 12 x 2m with dry stone walls *c*0.9m thick, standing to a maximum height of 0.6m. During recording some limited clearing revealed a stone slab *c*0.47 x 0.36m lying in the second enclosure. The slab has a straight cut along one of its long axes. In the first enclosure there is a smaller stone with a dished appearance.

The site is shown on aerial photographs (eg RCAHMS OS72-080-292). The recollections of Hector MacKinnon, carpenter at Baliscate, are that according to local tradition there was a church on the hill behind the crofts at Baliscate and a cemetery near the Tobermory poor house. The poor house stood on the S bank of the Tobermory river, *c*250m NW of this site (Source: Isle of Mull Museum).
Archive: RCAHMS (Digital)

Dervaig, Isle of Mull

Monitored topsoil strip and test pits
Christine Rennie – GUARD
NM 434 514 Monitoring was undertaken, 8 January–21 February 2008, at the site of a proposed water treatment plant. The work was carried out in two phases. Phase 1 was a monitored topsoil strip at the location of the septic tanks and treatment plant. Phase 2 involved digging eight test pits along the route of the rising main and an evaluation trench from the Darvaig/Salen road to the treatment plant. No archaeological remains were found and no artefacts were recovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Eilean Dioghlum

Postgraduate Research – Early Medieval Chapels of Argyll
Geoff Waters, Graham Ritchie and Sam Scott – Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh
NM 3520 4184 The islet of Eilean Dioghlum is situated off the NE coast of the island of Gometra. It forms the western shore of the inlet known as Acairseid Mhòr. The site was first noted in 2002 by Geoff Waters, and a more detailed examination was made during a brief return visit in July 2008. A sketch plan was drawn by Sam Scott.

Towards the S end of the islet there are a number of dry stone cellular structures. The remains are mainly on a grassy terrace between the high water line and the rising barren rocky outcrop of the islet, but three or four of the structures are built into the lower crags of the outcrop. Several cells are joined together, and one is built from upright stone slabs. The grassy terrace is divided by transverse dry stone walls, and an adjacent boat naust provided access to Acairseid Mhòr. Further examination of the N end of the grassy terrace may reveal more cellular structures. A date in the first millennium AD may be suggested for this settlement.

Between this cellular settlement and the higher N end of the islet, a dry stone wall cuts across the outcrop to the shore to the NE, effectively demarcating the area where the settlement lies from the rest of the islet. At its W end it is constructed from smallish stones. The NE section is more substantial with large stones up to 1m in length, and signs of wall-tumble at the foot of the rocks above the high water line. It has been carefully constructed between natural rock outcrops. Natural gullies and fissures in the bedrock have been filled in where the wall crosses them. Inside this wall on the N end of the islet is a solitary stone hut circle.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Abercromby Trust. Dr JN Marshall Memorial Trust

Eilean Dioghlum cellular settlement – photo from W

Eilean Dioghlum

Postgraduate Research – Early Medieval Chapels of Argyll
Geoff Waters, Graham Ritchie and Sam Scott – Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh
NM 35164 41829 The islet of Eilean Dioghlum lies off the NE coast of the island of Gometra. It forms the western shore of the inlet known as Acairseid Mhòr. On the highest point of the S end of the islet are the remains of a possible circular prehistoric cairn, 4m in diameter. Only some large angular stones survive, but the footprint of the cairn is visible on the barren bedrock. Under the stones, there is a suggestion of a small cavity cut into the bedrock. The hilltop is otherwise devoid of stones.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Abercromby Trust and Dr JN Marshall Memorial Trust

Shillinghill, Tobermory, Isle of Mull

Evaluation
Sarah Lynchehaun and Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NM 503 545 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out, 26–29 May 2008, in advance of a residential development. 14 trenches, 1032 m², were opened. No features of archaeological significance were identified. Four flint fragments were recovered from the topsoil.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Beaton and McMurchy Architects Ltd

Kilninver and Kilmelford

Kilmelford, Argyll

Evaluation
Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NM 8462 1266 An evaluation was carried out, 22 October–2

November 2007, in advance of development. Machine trenching took place across an 8% sample of the area affected by the development, a 3.2ha area of relict farmland currently under scrub and wetland grasses. A stone-built pediment of unknown function and date and three stone cairns recorded during the evaluation were subsequently excavated. The cairns were from clearance activity.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: M & K MacLeod Ltd

Lismore and Appin

Land North East of Iola cottages
Controlled topsoil strip
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NM 95920 44933 Work was undertaken on 15 August 2008 prior to the construction of a house. A single shallow pit 1.1 x 0.7m and 0.20m deep was recorded and interpreted as an early modern dump of ash. The metalled surface of a track depicted on the 1st Edition OS map was also uncovered along the western boundary of the development.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs McGlone

Tirefour, Isle of Lismore
Consolidation of Tirefour Broch
S Stoddart – University of Cambridge
NM 86750 42900 Consolidation work was undertaken, 28 February–29 March 2008, on the broch of Tirefour. The main work was carried out on the seaward side, where a recent deterioration had been recorded at the site of an older major collapse. The work was supported by the landowner (Fell Estate).
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Historic Scotland and Forward Scotland.
Funder: Historic Scotland and Forward Scotland

Lochgoilhead and Kilmorich

Cormonachan Forest
Walkover survey
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

A section of the head-dyke at Cormonachan Forest

NS 193 981 to NS 190 970 The works, mostly post-felling, were undertaken on 19 May 2008 prior to the construction of a new road. The route required an existing head dyke to be removed in two separate areas. The head dyke was of typical form, consisting of a grassy mound of stone and turf with a ditch in some sections on the upper side. Cartographic and documentary sources indicate that it probably dates from the mid to late 18th century.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

North Bute

Calum's Cabin, Straad, Isle of Bute
Evaluation
Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services
NS 0410 6200 Evaluation of a single house building plot on 11 June 2008 revealed no archaeological features other than modern agricultural drains on ancient beach deposits.
Archive: FAS (currently), RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr and Mrs D Spiers

North Knapdale

Achabeg
Watching brief
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NR 77564 86010 A watching brief, 18 February–13 August 2008, revealed a spread of demolition rubble from a single-roomed, gable-ended dry stone dwelling and its thin concrete floor. No other features of archaeological interest were observed.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Irvine

Crinan Canal, Bellanoch Basin
Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NR 7977 9265 Monitoring was carried out, 25–26 February 2008, during ground-breaking works in the car park next to the marina, including the removal of the wall surrounding the W edge of the car park.

All the ground-breaking work was very shallow, 200mm deep or less. Very little of archaeological interest was revealed, but features related to Crinan Basin may survive at greater depth. Looking at the bank of the canal from a pontoon, wooden edging and fixtures of unknown age were visible at *c*500mm below the level of the car park. The removed wall was probably the oldest feature seen. The boundary appears to be marked on the 1873 1:10560 OS map of Argyllshire.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: British Waterways Scotland

Dalriada Project – Kilmory Oib
Walkover survey
Roddy Regan – Kilmartin House Museum
NR 78080 90245 (centred on) The settlement of Kilmory Oib is in N Knapdale forest. During a previous survey 17 potential structures, in various states of preservation, were identified including possible byres, domestic buildings, two 'sub-circular' mounds of rubble that may represent corn dryers and buildings superimposed over earlier structures.

In April–May 2008 two trenches were opened across two badly collapsed structures (Structures 3 and 7) that were thought to represent the earliest buildings in the settlement. The excavation revealed that the two structures were probably in use until the settlement was abandoned.

Structure 3, while built with solid footings, appears to have been an outbuilding, store or workhouse, possibly a peat store. Structure 3 appears to have replaced an earlier building (Structure 17). This earlier building was a post-built structure with evidence of stone and clay footings along one

side. The building had a beaten earth floor with evidence of hearth placements. The age of this earlier structure proved elusive as no diagnostic artefacts associated with its use were recovered.

Structure 7, with its central drain, was probably a byre, the northern end of a byre dwelling. A later structure was built over the byre. This was probably a shepherd's bothy built after the settlement was abandoned and converted for sheep farming.

Both buildings, like other structures in the settlement, appear to have declined rapidly and it is possible they had been demolished. Whether this was deliberate so that the buildings could not be reused, or the result of the reuse of the building materials is not clear. It is possible that rubble from the buildings was used to build the track to the E of the site, which seems to have used substantial quantities of stone in its construction.

The date at which the settlement was abandoned remains unclear, although documentary research indicates it was not long after the Arichonan clearance in 1848. In 1843 those tenants liable to pay road money from Kilmory are listed as Neil McCallum, John Gillies, Archibald McDugall and Angus McDougall. Further research needs to be done, but these men and their families may have been the last to occupy the settlement, and it may be the remains of their life here that we have recovered during the excavation.

Archive: Kilmartin House Museum (intended). Report: Historic Scotland, WoSAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Dalriada Project

Rothesay

3 King Street, Rothesay, Isle of Bute

Watching brief

Alan Matthews and Kevin Paton – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 0871 6363 Monitoring was undertaken, 16 September–18 November 2008, during development work. No significant archaeological remains were identified and the exposed subsoil appeared to be free of any disturbance that was not obviously post-1900 in date.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: Fyne Homes

Kirkhope, Rothesay

Watching brief

Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 087 636 Monitoring was carried out on 2 September 2008 in relation to the construction of two houses on land to the S of Church Cottage, Townhead. No significant archaeological remains were identified and the exposed subsoil appeared to be free of any disturbance that was not obviously post-1900 in date.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: Mr Matts

Southend

Southern Kintyre Project – Interactions across the Irish Sea from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age

Fieldwalking, survey and excavation

Vicki Cummings and Gary Robinson – University of Central Lancashire (VC) and University of Wales, Bangor (GR)

Fieldwalking at NR 73147 08851, NR 72999 08569, NR 72752 08903, NR 69324 09560, NR 66783 08475, NR 67101 09358, NR 68749 08145, NR 68859 08141 and NR 65288 07717

Excavation at NR 72120 09180, NR 72350 09320, NR 75500 09300 and NR 72010 09130

In April 2008 we fieldwalked a total of nine large fields, all of which contained worked flint. Of particular note were the numerous pieces of burnt flint recorded in the fields at Druma Voulin and Carskey. These pieces were evenly spread across these fields and were clearly terrestrial flint (for which the nearest chalk source is in Antrim). This burnt flint may represent the remnants of a recent agricultural practice, where chalk (with flints) was imported from Antrim, burnt and spread on the fields in the same way as lime. Other interesting finds included a leaf-shaped arrowhead from Druma Voulin, a transverse arrowhead made from Arran pitchstone at Machribeg and a fragment of Langdale stone (probably the tip of a polished axe) from Macharioch. A walkover survey was also carried out on Blasthill and located field boundaries of probable prehistoric date and other features which were trial excavated during subsequent fieldwork.

In August 2008 we conducted two weeks of survey and excavation on Blasthill. A geophysical survey (resistivity and magnetic susceptibility) was carried out over a number of previously identified features.

The cairn on the summit of Blasthill (BH10) appeared to be a ring cairn and this was confirmed by trial excavation. Geophysics also identified a second possible ring cairn, next to the first, to the W of the summit of Blasthill (BH13). Trial excavation revealed this to be a natural feature.

We conducted a survey over another possible roundhouse on the E side of Blasthill (one was identified in 2007 on the W side of Blasthill). A trial trench was then opened over this feature (BH 12) but it seems unlikely this was a roundhouse. It may well be the remains of a stone quarry.

Due to severe waterlogging we were unable to conduct geophysical survey over a kidney-shaped feature, which we suspected might be a burnt mound (BH11). However, a trial trench revealed that this was an amorphous feature constructed out of turf and a few large stones. It is remarkably similar in construction to the boundary wall we excavated last year. The survey and excavation of the sites on Blasthill has furthered our understanding of the use of this area in prehistory.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: University of Central Lancashire

Strachur

Dufeorline

Survey – Settlement

David Dorren and Nina Henry

NN 1133 0125 (vicinity of) This settlement, consisting of eight rectangular dry stone structures and a corn kiln (**A–I**), lies within a forestry plantation, between the forestry road and the river Cur, in an area approximately 50m N/S by 60m E/W. The buildings are obscured by moss and by debris from felling. Windblown trees have fallen across some of the structures, and some have trees growing inside. It would appear that trees have been felled and replanted since an earlier 1971 note on this site.

To the W of the track the six structures **A–F** are located approximately on the arc of a circle of radius 30m centred on the corn kiln **G** farther W, though it is not suggested that this is significant. **D** is an annexe to **C**; otherwise no two of these structures have the same alignment. Two more structures **H** and **I** lie to the SW of **G**.

At least three of the larger structures (**B**, **C**, and **F**) were probably houses. In the following descriptions, distances between structures refer to their nearest points.

A) This is the northernmost rectangular dry stone

structure, measuring 6.4 x 4.5m externally. The long axis is oriented 25° E of N. The corners are well preserved. The walls are 0.6m wide and survive up to 1.8m high, except for the E wall, which has collapsed.

B) Located 7m ESE of **A**, this is a large house of substantial build, 8.0 x 5.8m externally, long axis 140° (roughly NW–SE), with well-preserved corners. The walls are 0.5–0.6m wide. It is covered in brush and two large trees have fallen across it. The SE short wall is extended to the NE then curves W, forming a yard.

C) A large house of massive build, with walls 0.8m wide and up to 0.7m high lying 9m S of **B**. It measures 10.3 x 5.7m externally, direction of long axis 60°.

D) An annexe to **C** is attached on the NE side, extending 3.9m from **C**, but of uncertain width due to severe erosion.

E) A small structure 8m S of **C**, 5.0 x 2.5m externally, long axis at 120°. It is low and badly eroded, with a single layer of stones remaining, and spread, so that the wall width is indeterminate. The two corners on the W side are best preserved. A detached section of straight walling runs between **C** and **E**.

F) Immediately SW of **E** is a long two-compartment house measuring 13.5 x 5.5m externally, with long axis E/W. The external lengths of the W and E compartments are 7.3m and 6.2m respectively. The walls are 0.8–0.9m wide and 0.3–0.4m high, composed of large boulders. The dividing wall and two end walls are clearly defined. A tumble of stones suggests that a third compartment or attached structure may be present on the E side, about 7m long.

G) The corn kiln is 22m NW of **F** and 28m SSW of **A**. It is horseshoe-shaped, and open or eroded on the W side. The inner bowl is 1.4m in diameter. An outer earth fast arc of stones is 3.5m in diameter. The kiln is on a mound of top width 4.5m.

H) A low, badly eroded structure lies 13m SSW of **G**. It measures 6.6 x 4.2m externally, and is composed of medium-large boulders. The two N corners are best preserved.

I) About 12m S of **H** is a better-preserved structure, 6.0 x 3.8m externally, long axis 100°. Its walls are about 0.5m wide and up to 0.5m high. Some 6m to the S, a small burn runs E to W.

Tiree

Inner Hebrides Archaeological Project – Salum Bay (Traigh Shathalum), Tiree

Recording and geophysical survey

Darko Maricevic – University of Reading

NM 06655 48820, NM06662 48854, NM 06679 48814 and NM06687 48848 The site exposed in the face of near vertical coastal dune near the E end of Salum Bay was previously reported to contain archaeological deposits, which were endangered by the rapid rate of erosion (Moore and Wilson 2002, *DES* 2005). The exposed section was recorded in April 2006.

The deposits take the form of midden layers, structural rubble and several cut features, including a large ditch and are concentrated in a *c*25m long stretch of the dune cliff. A further stretch of *c*30m towards the NE contains a well preserved buried soil horizon. The stratigraphic sequence in the section is split in two due to the recent intrusion by a rubbish pit containing plastic, metal wire and sheep bones. This modern material is looser and it is accelerating the erosion process.

About a dozen unstratified pottery sherds and fragments of sheep and cattle bones that had eroded from the section were collected. A further 23 sherds were retrieved directly from the section, from eight different contexts. The pottery fits well within the local Hebridean Iron Age tradition, with parallels from Tiree, Coll and the Western Isles. The finds have been deposited at An Iohdlann Archive and Museum, Scarinish, Tiree.

The geophysical survey was undertaken in two separate seasons, a magnetic survey in April 2006 and the ground-penetrating radar survey in July 2007. Both surveys took place on top of the dune, between the cliff face and the road. The magnetic survey also encompassed the remains of an adjacent post-medieval/modern stock enclosure to the S. The complexity of the Iron Age remains visible in the section have not been matched in the magnetic survey due to interference from scrap metal and the thickness of the windblown sand that overlies the archaeology. The GPR data, however, show that the area between the cliff and the road contains a complex set of archaeological features and deposits at variable depths. The information from the GPR data and the recorded section will be correlated to obtain a better understanding of the buried remains.

The site remains under the threat of erosion and continues to be monitored. The last visit was made in September 2008, when it was noted that the eroding front of the dune was being colonised by a denser population of marram grass than usual. This could help stabilisation of the dune in the short term, but its prospects are uncertain in the longer term.

Archive: University of Reading (currently), An Iohdlann, Tiree and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: AHRC, An Iohdlann Archive and Museum, Tiree and University of Reading

Iron Age pottery sherds of globular incised vessels from the Salum section

CLACKMANNANSHIRE

Alloa

Alloa Harbour, Clackmannan

Desk-based assessment, evaluation and standing building recording
Dan Atkinson and George Geddes – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 886 919 (centre of wet dock) Work was undertaken 1 June–13 November 2007 as a condition of planning consent for a housing development in Alloa Harbour. The assessment identified the location, limit and nature of the old wet dock and helped inform the location for the trenches during the evaluation. The results of the evaluation confirmed the findings of the initial assessment. The wet dock structures survived in particularly good condition beneath recent made ground.

Standing building recording was carried out on a roofless polygonal ruin at the Shore, to the W of the wet dock. The aim was to record, analyse and interpret the historic fabric of the building before its removal as part of the development. The group of buildings indicated a complex structural history, with elements that may stretch back to the later 18th century. The notable architectural elements of masonry and arches are mid-19th-century, of high quality and typical of the period. The buildings probably functioned as stores and workshops, connected with the early woodyard and activity in the dockyard.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and Stirling Council (intended)
Funder: Kenmore Homes Ltd

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

Applegarth

Hangingshaw, Dinwoodie, Phase 1

Evaluation and excavation
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NY 105 897 (centred on) A programme of works was carried out 22 January–7 February 2008. A total of 10 archaeologically significant features were located, comprising nine pits and one posthole. The pits varied greatly in size and depth and had no obvious distribution pattern; they were, however, consistent in that all their fills contained charcoal in various quantities. Three of the pits also contained burnt bone. Early Neolithic pottery was found in two of the pits, one of which also contained two fragments of Neolithic stone axe, which allows a speculative date for the site of 4000–2500 BC. Post-excavation work is currently being undertaken.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR
Funder: C & B Properties

Balmaclellan

Barnhillies

Excavation
Alastair Penman and Robert McCubbin
NX 6635 7699 and NX 6610 7688 A number of circular stone features, formerly locally reported as being Neolithic burials, were examined to determine their purpose in the landscape. On excavation these appeared to be the remnants of the bases of corn-drying kilns constructed in the form of a double wall of local stone boulders with an infill of smaller rubble stones. It was not possible to determine their original height, but the lack of rubble and the high state of repair of adjacent dry stone dykes suggested extensive stone robbing. The upper part of the features may have been constructed of turf. There was a stoke hole in front of a stone-lined channel facing SW (the prevailing weather direction in Galloway) in both features. Posthole evidence in the cobbled flooring of both features points to the presence of timber roof supports, possibly crucks from ground level. A number of the cobbled stones had been worked to support the square bases of timbers. These features may have been built to dry corn before threshing, in an area where it was not able to ripen before harvesting, and to dry damp corn before it was taken to the local mill.
Funder: Richard and Anne Peel

Caerlaverock

Caerlaverock Castle

Inventory of carved stones
Mary Márkus
NY 0254 6563 This small collection of late and post-medieval stones, mostly in the striking red sandstone of the area, was assessed during December 2007–January 2008. It contains a number of impressive carvings. Many of the stones are substantial and include window pediments and heraldic panels. A fine example of Maxwell heraldry is on display in the castle's museum. It shows a two-headed eagle with outstretched wings, and a small shield with a saltire. The damaged feature on the right-hand side of the shield is a stag, and one cloven hoof is still clearly visible. Another striking piece is the large gargoyle on display in the visitor tea room. The grimacing face is shown with lines around the eyes, nose and mouth, emphasizing the expression, and the teeth, Adam's apple and wispy beard are given detailed treatment. The lack of weathering on the stone indicates that it originally came from an indoor location, for example the W range.

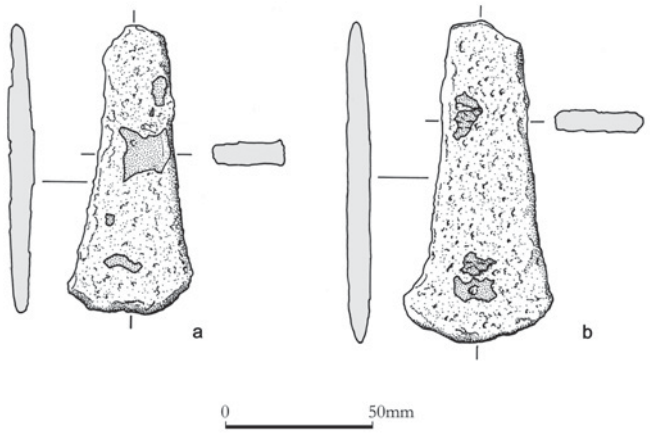
This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland's properties in care are held by Historic Scotland's Collections Unit. For further information go to: hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.
Funder: Historic Scotland

Caerlaverock Castle

Excavation
David Sneddon – GUARD
NY 025 656 The hand excavation of an electricity cable trench was undertaken from 7 April–8 May 2008 in the grounds of the castle. A total of 285m was excavated of which *c*140m was inside the scheduled area. A small section of post-medieval wall was uncovered near the current Greenhead Cottages. The wall, which was two courses high, was constructed directly on top of the natural bedrock, which had been cut to form terrace-like steps. A probable return was located but it appeared the stone here had been robbed away. This robbed-out return also appeared to be the terminus of the wall, but the narrowness of the trench prevented any further investigation. Although the main wall appeared to be running to the south-eastern corner of the existing cottages it was on a slightly more northerly alignment than the cottage wall. The finds from the fill of the cut for the wall indicate a later post-medieval date. A lead cannonball was recovered from a layer just to the SW of the current stone gate. It measured 45mm in diameter and weighed 630g. Several sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the trench along with a silver George III half crown dating to 1819.
Archive: Historic Scotland. Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR, RCAHMS and Historic Scotland
Funder: Scottish Power

Colvend and Southwick

Auchensheen West
Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland



Two Early Bronze Age axeheads found near Clonyard Loch, Colvend, Dumfries and Galloway. The axehead on the right retains traces of punched ornament. Drawing by Alan Braby. © National Museums Scotland

NX 85 55 A bronze axehead was found by Mr John McFern in September 2007 while metal detecting in farmland near Clonyard Loch, Colvend; a second axehead was subsequently found nearby and is reported below. This axehead is substantially complete but is in very poor condition. Although the original outline of the axehead has been lost as a result of corrosion, the surviving shape and the slight vestiges of a flange permit this to be identified as a developed flat axe (following Schmidt and Burgess 1981, 59–60). The extent of the damage rules out more detailed classification. Despite their present condition, this and the other recent find from Colvend are of considerable interest in view of the discovery of three other Early Bronze Age axeheads in the immediate area over the last 20 years, including a further two from the vicinity of Clonyard Loch (NX85NE 9, NX85NE 48) and one from near Duff's Loch (NX85NW 22). Publication of this local concentration of finds is in hand.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to the Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright

Auchensheen West
Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland
NX 85 55 A bronze axehead was found by Mr Daniel McFern in August 2008 while metal detecting in farmland near Clonyard Loch, Colvend, close to the findspot of the other axehead discovered the previous September and reported above. This axehead is substantially complete but is in very poor condition; two small areas of partially intact surface bear traces of punched ornament, probably indicating the former presence of ornament over much of the face of the blade. Although the original outline of the axehead has been lost, the surviving shape and the vestiges of a low flange and profuse decoration permit this to be identified as a decorated developed flat axe (Schmidt and Burgess 1981, 59–60). The extent of the damage rules out more detailed classification. As noted above, publication of this local concentration of finds is in hand.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to the Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright

Colvend
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NX 85 55 A copper alloy button-and-loop fastener of Roman Iron Age date was found by metal detecting near Colvend. It is of teardrop form (Wild class III).
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 19/08) and allocated to Stewartry Museum

The Newbarns Project
Excavation
Elizabeth Penman and Alastair Penman – Stewartry Archaeological Trust

Overview of the site, The Newbarns Project

This the 7th season of excavation by volunteer diggers and students of the Stewartry Archaeological Trust took place in 2008. Previous work has been reported in *DES* 2003, 44; 2005, 42; *DES* 2006, 48; *DES* 2007, 60.

NX 8810 5485 – **South Cairn** A 1.5m wide sondage was dug into the NW perimeter of the cairn and continued north-eastwards for 5.50m. The cairn was constructed of a thin layer of boulder clay, laid down as the cairn base, in the southern shallow end of Newbarns Loch. The clay was overlain by a 0.60m thick layer of aggregate and a further thin layer of clay had been deposited over the aggregate before the insertion of the cairn's boulders. In the SE and SW quadrants of the cairn a further nine possible Bronze Age cremation burial capstones were lifted, five of which concealed possible cremation pits. Due to the poor weather conditions during most of the season these have not, as yet, been subject to detailed examination.

NX 8812 5505 – **North Cairn** By the end of the season one Neolithic Passage Grave, four Early Bronze Age cremation burials set into full-size boat-shaped pits, and 30 later cremation burial pits, some containing two interments and all containing stone tools of some sort, had been recorded. Most were covered by flat-topped capstones ranging from a few pounds to several tons in weight. The early Bronze Age burials were dated by the presence of a flint barbed and tanged arrowhead in one of the cremation deposit depressions.

The burial levels had been covered by medieval cobbled floors, identified and dated by artefacts recovered from their surfaces. Further evidence of medieval occupation was indicated by the presence of a series of channels which had been dug down into the earlier levels and then roughly backfilled with shale and granite boulders. These cross the southern half of the cairn and are aligned SE/NW. They may

have been connected with some early medieval industrial work such as bleaching or tanning.

A 15m diameter satellite cairn immediately next to the E of the N cairn is in the process of excavation and is the site of several more Early Bronze Age cremation burials. With the aid of a JCB several huge capstones were lifted and moved. A burial beneath one of these yielded another barbed and tanged arrowhead of the period 2150–1800 BC. Unfortunately the very wet weather prevented further examination of this cairn.

Funder: Council for British Archaeology and Dr Donna Moore

Dryfesdale

Robert Hill Farm, Hallmuir, Lockerbie

Findspot

Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland

NY 126 793 Surface find by Mr Glaister of a Group VI (Langdale tuff) polished stone axehead. Damaged at the butt and slightly at the blade. Dimensions L 187 x W 64 x Th 36mm; weight 535g.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT.97/07) and allocated to Dumfries and Galloway Museums

Eskdalemuir and Langholm

Langholm

Walkover survey

Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group

NY 3683 8478 to NY 246 924 Work was undertaken on 11–12 December 2007 along the proposed route of the Langholm Pipeline. The condition and extent of several previously identified sites was assessed and several new sites were identified and recorded. These included numerous low turf and stone field enclosure banks, representing earlier field divisions and settlement, clearance cairns and the remains of two old tracks.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Hoddom

Solway Hinterland Archaeological Remote Sensing Project (SHARP) – Burnswark: South Camp

Geophysical survey

Richard Jones – Archaeology Department, Glasgow University

NY 1860 7870 A magnetic survey, undertaken in June–July 2008 and covering an area of 3.2ha, mostly within the S camp, revealed several features associated with the camp's defences and interior. A similar survey was carried out in the vicinity of the enclosure 250m SW of this camp.

Funder: Glasgow Archaeological Society

Inch

Cults Loch Promontory, Castle Kennedy

Excavation

Anne Crone and Graeme Cavers – AOC Archaeology Group

NX 1202 6057 A second season of excavation was carried out from 1–14 September 2008. A trench approximately 15 x 8m was excavated to the E of the promontory, in line with a row of vertical stakes recorded in the evaluation trench excavated in 2007. The area of possible horizontal planking encountered in the 2007 trench was did not continue, although a swathe of piles in a wide arc in the NE area of the trench may represent the perimeter palisade of the crannog. To the S of the trench horizontal timbers had been laid in a rough lattice in a matrix of organic silts and peats, which in places contained highly compacted reeds and other plant matter, suggestive of the remains of flooring. Areas of burning were also identified but nothing resembling an *in situ* hearth was recorded. Areas of stone dumping did not appear to represent superstructure but may be levelling or consolidation deposits. Small finds were few but included a fragment of shale or cannel coal bracelet and whetstones. Further work is planned for 2009.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Kelton

Ingleston Motte – Motte Hill, Ingleston, Gelston

Excavation

Robert McCubbin and Alastair Penman – Stewartry Archaeological Trust

Dumpy levelling in progress at Ingleston Motte

NX 774 579 An 11th season of excavation on the summit of the Motte Hill was undertaken by experienced volunteer diggers and advanced students of the Stewartry Archaeological Trust. Previous work has been reported in *DES 1997, 24; 1998, 27/28; 1999, 23/24; 2000, 20; 2002, 29; 2003, 45; 2004, 45; 2005, 44; 2006, 50; 2007, 62*.

Work has continued to the S and W perimeters of the motte and has revealed burnt timber construction and defence lines. These were highlighted by linear features consisting of iron nails and rivet heads from burnt timbers, along with charcoal, burnt clay and daub. Sherds of local galena-glaze pottery were also recorded. A double furnace on the SE perimeter of the summit was excavated and recorded and produced further fiddle-key head nails, glassy slag, furnace waste and evidence of a tuillère.

The remnants of a later timber tower were gradually uncovered in the form of burnt timbers and large quantities of iron nails. An area of possible flooring inside the tower showed some cobbling. Further excavation may reveal this feature's mode of construction and there is some evidence to suggest the possibility that part of the tower base may have been of sill beam construction. Previous work determined that there were two timber towers on site, both destroyed by fire during the civil wars in Galloway between 1175 and 1234 AD.

S of the previous feature a cobbled area with a quantity of hammerscale indicated a possible area of smithying. An iron arrowhead was found next to this feature. Further excavation of the outer defence line has uncovered evidence of a third stone base for a small timber tower. An iron arrowhead was found on the perimeter of the northern defences. An iron spearhead, a broken loom weight and a spindle whorl were recovered from the western perimeter of the summit.

Although the progress of the excavation has been adversely affected by record rainfall during 2008, the excavation is ongoing and further developments are expected next season.

Kelton Mains Farm, Threave Estate
Standing building recording
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NX 7456 6170 A comprehensive historic building survey was completed in June 2008 to inform future conservation needs for this 18th-century farmhouse. Documentary evidence points to the building being used by the laird of Threave Estate before the construction of nearby Threave House in the early 19th century. The survey identified four key phases in the development of the building. The primary phase dates to the mid 18th century and consists of a rectangular single-gabled block. The second phase dates to the early 19th century, when the building was substantially enlarged by the addition of the N wing. Phase 3 relates to minor undated alterations. Phase 4 saw the demolition of the second phase block and N wing in the 1950s. This demolition saw the building reverting back to an approximation of its original plan, with part of the second block being rebuilt and a new cat-slide roof with dormers added. A survey of the roof timbers confirmed that the original oak joists still survive *in situ*.
Archive: RCAHMS intended. Report: with client and RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Kirkmabreck

Cairnholy Chambered Cairn
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NX 5172 5389 To allow the placement of a sign a small trench was excavated in the car park WSW of Cairnholy Chambered Cairn 2 on 21 February 2008. Nothing of archaeological interest was noted.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Langholm

A7 Auchenrivock
Watching brief
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group
NY 3694 8132 An evaluation was carried out on 13–15 February 2008 in advance of the proposed road improvements to the A7 Trunk Road, to the S of Langholm. A total of 13,500m², 84 evaluation trenches were excavated, no significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded. A secondary watching brief was carried out on the area of a stone alignment identified during the evaluation. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified and no trace of the alignment was found.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Executive Development Department: Trunk Roads Design and Construction Division

New Abbey

Sweetheart Abbey
Inventory of carved stones
Mary Márkus
NX 9650 6627 The abbey has a large collection of *ex situ* carved stone, most of which is on display in the S transept. Work was carried out on this collection December 2007–June 2008. SWT/j/5 is a section of a jamb which can be related to those in the triforium arcade of the nave. As well as its well-preserved outer face, a mason's setting-out mark can be seen on one end of the stone, indicating the centre of the large filleted roll moulding on the outer face.

The tomb and effigy of the abbey's founder, Queen Devorgilla, occupies a prominent position in the S transept of the abbey church. The tomb has been moved from the choir to this location, and has been damaged and restored a number of times since her death in 1290. A group of six tomb panels, dating from the 16th century, including SWT/tpl/1a + b have been inserted into the sides of the present tomb-chest. These panels were recorded in 1914 as lying in a recess to the E of the S door. They are assumed to have come from a 16th-century tomb, replacing an earlier 13th-century monument, of which only the effigy remains (RCAHMS, 1914, 206–207). A drawing in Historic Scotland drawing office, ref 73/293/58, shows the 1932 reconstruction of the tomb, and indicates the placing of the 16th-century panels and coped moulding of the tomb slab.

RCAHMS (1914) *Fifth Report and Inventory of Monuments and Constructions in Galloway, Volume II, County of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.* HMSO.

This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland's properties in care are held by Historic Scotland's Collections Unit. For further information go to: hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.
Funder: Historic Scotland

Sweetheart Abbey, tomb panel

New Luce

Droughduil, Dunragit
Findspot
Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland
NX 149 713 Surface find by Walter Kerr after ploughing in 2005 of a Group VI (Langdale tuff) stone axehead roughout. Dimensions L 244 x B 86 x Th 55mm; weight 1246g. Findspot is immediately S of the Neolithic timber enclosure at Dunragit.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 74/07) and allocated to Dumfries and Galloway Museums (Stranraer Museum)

Old Luce

Dunragit WWTW
Watching brief
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NX 15236 57127 Monitoring undertaken 11 December 2007–

12 May 2008 in relation to the construction of a new sewer pipeline in Dunragit did not identify any archaeological features and recovered only two unstratified surface flints.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Old Luce/Penninghame

Barcyle to Painure Pipeline

Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun and Victoria Oleksy – AOC Archaeology Group
NX 21105 57543 to NX 40102 65456 Work was undertaken on selected areas of a 25km pipeline running from Glenluce to Newton Stewart from 21 June 2007–30 April 2008. The only feature recorded was the possible line of the Old Military Road near Three Lochs (NX 3100 6225). However, it is not certain that this is a man-made feature, and although it was in the vicinity of the Military Road it may have simply been a natural ledge. No other features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Penninghame

Merton Hall

Metal detector find and fieldwalking
T Cowie, J Pickin and E McQuarrie – National Museums Scotland/ Stranraer Museum
NX 383 643 A complete palstave was found by Mr Eric McQuarrie while metal detecting in a field near Merton Hall. The find was made in area of former marsh which was drained approximately five years ago.

The axehead belongs to the type known as 'transitional palstaves' which developed under continental influence in the 13th to 12th centuries BC. Such palstaves are uncommon in Scotland, with only a thin scatter from the Borders to Caithness.

Fieldwalking after ploughing in May 2008 by members of the University of the Third Age (Wigtownshire Branch) produced no further archaeological finds. A further metal detector survey of the general findspot by Eric McQuarrie was also unproductive.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Stranraer Museum

Rerrick

Dundrennan Abbey

Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NX 7493 4744 and NX 7494 4746 Trenches were excavated to the N, E and W of the stable block (NX 7493 4744) to tie the new roof drainage to an existing stone-capped drain crossing the site on 18 March 2008. Further trenches were dug to install a new railing fence around a monastic drain and to install concrete ramps at the doors to the stables (NX 7494 4746). The excavation revealed a complex series of surfaces and levelling deposits
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

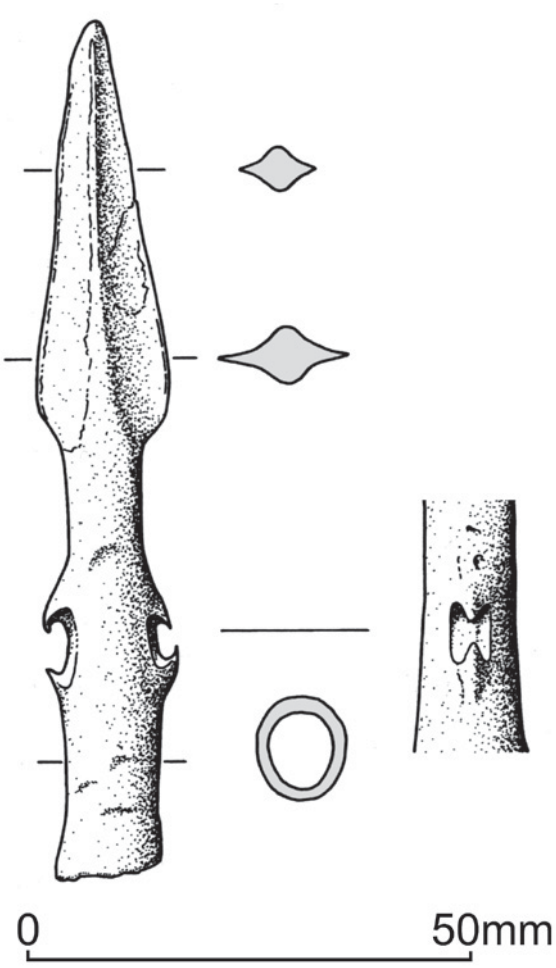
Dundrennan Abbey

Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NX 749 474 (centred on) A series of eight small holes, linked to the installation of survey points, were hand-excavated in the grounds on 18 September 2008. The holes were each 170mm^2 and not more than 130mm deep. Gravel-rich deposits below the topsoil suggested turf had been introduced and carefully laid over levelling.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Sanquhar

Mennock Water, near Wanlockhead

Chance find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland



Middle Bronze Age spearhead found in the Mennock Water, near Wanlockhead. Drawing by Alan Braby. © National Museums Scotland.

NS 871 108 A near-complete bronze spearhead was found by Mr Louie Chudziak while gold panning in the Mennock Water during August 2006. Side-looped spearheads are the most numerous and widespread of the Middle Bronze Age spearhead types found in Britain and probably had a long currency extending from the 15th to at least the 12th century BC.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Dumfries Museum

Stranraer

19 Market Street, Stranraer

Standing building survey
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Service
NX 058 609 A Level 1–2 standing building survey was undertaken 11 March–1 April 2008 and an evaluation was carried out on 2–3 April 2008. With the exception of the eastern gable, which is of stone and mortar rubble construction, the rest of the red brick structure probably

dates to the early 20th century with later repairs and additions. The sequence of five trenches sited randomly across the development area identified no significant archaeological features. Cobbling was found in a number of trenches and probably dated to the late Victorian period when the two buildings fronting onto Market Street and Fisher Street respectively, became one building. A discrete deposit of waste associated with a clamp or lime kiln and indicative of industrial activity was located in one small area. Clinker debris, presumably from the nearby railway, had been used to level the site on top of the cobbles for a concrete floor. Although the site undoubtedly housed a small house with a backland or garden area in the early to mid 1840s, no features, structures or finds relating to this period were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries & Galloway SMR
Funder: Galloway Timbers Ltd

Tinwald

Jericho Bridge (Area 2b), Locharbriggs
Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar and Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NX 9909 8197 A proposed quarry extension was evaluated 30 April–2 May 2008. A total of 18 trenches, 1800m^2, were opened. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile with no features or artefacts.
Funder: Tarmac Limited

Torthorwald

Solway Hinterland Archaeological Remote Sensing Project (SHARP) – Torthorwald
Geophysical survey
Richard Jones – Archaeology Department, University of Glasgow
NY 0328 7825 Most of the fields to the S and W of the castle were surveyed with a magnetometer in October 2008. The enclosure visible on aerial photographs was evident, but had an apparent break due S of the castle and the character of the enclosure either side of this break seems to differ. Several features are apparent inside the enclosure.
Funder: Hunter Archaeological Trust

Troqueer

Mabie Park
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NX 95 71 An Iron Age copper alloy sword hilt guard was found by metal detecting. It is an unusually ornate example of Piggott's group IV, the first of its type from Scotland, where the whole of the D-shaped hilt guard is metal. Decorated on both faces.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 70/07) and allocated to Dumfries Museum

Whithorn

Isle Head Fort, Whithorn
Survey
Mike McCarthy – University of Bradford
NX 4803 3605 A field survey was undertaken in January 2008 for research and in response to erosion of the ramparts. The work was required for long-term management planning and an assessment of settlement in the late 1st millennium BC and early 1st millennium AD. Isle Head fort appears anomalous among the group of promontory forts in SW Scotland.

A topographic survey was undertaken using a Leica 307 Total Station with Sunscreen computer using Penmap software. Resistivity and magnetometry surveys were undertaken using a Geoscan Research RM15 earth resistance meter and a Geoscan FL256 Fluxgate Magnetometer.
Archive: University in Bradford (currently). HS and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Tonderghie Mine
Survey
John Pickin and Fraser Hunter – Dumfries and Galloway Museums Service/National Museums Scotland
NX 440 348 The first phase of work was undertaken from July–October 2008 at the multi-period Tonderghie metal mine, with the aim of establishing the types of ore being mined and the form, extent and date range of the workings. Work this season consisted of a geological and mineralogical survey by the National Museums Scotland and a geophysical survey of the area surrounding the mine by Tessa Poller. The geophysical survey highlighted several features of archaeological significance including a circular ditched enclosure, a circular stone banked or walled structure, rig and furrow cultivation and an area of high variable magnetism, possibly a kiln, furnace or hearth, associated with a small turf structure. A peat core was taken from a lochan at NX 441 352 and is being studied by Tim Mighall of Aberdeen University for evidence of heavy metal contamination. Work is ongoing.
Archive: RCAHMS and Dumfries and Galloway SMR (intended)
Funder: The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, The Mouswald Trust, Stranraer and District Local History Trust and National Museums Scotland

Wigtown

Southfield, Wigtown
Evaluation
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NX 4340 5520 Work undertaken on 24–26 October 2007 in advance of development revealed no artefactual material and no site disturbance apart from the establishment of modern buildings and services. It appeared that the site had been gradually cleared and levelled for use as a showground for livestock. No evidence was recovered to link the site with the Dominican Friary.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service
Funder: 3b Construction Ltd

DUNDEE

Collection of Teaching Material
Ex-teaching material, found at the former Dundee College of Education with no known history and used in teacher training.
Christina Donald – Dundee Art Galleries and Museums

A) Box of 12 flint flakes, some with legible place names inked on them. 'Kirkbuddo' on two of them.

B) Box of nine flint scrapers, etc 'Kirkbuddo' and 19th-century dates inked onto some.

C) Box of 12 assorted objects including pipe stems, spindle whorls and triangular pieces of shale with circular perforations. Most have 'Tentsmuir' pencilled on them. One spindle whorl has 'Bractullo 1880' pencilled on it.

D) Large macehead. Has '50' in yellow ink on underside, no other markings. L 265mm. Diameter of aperture 51mm. W 100mm. Th 71mm.
E) Yellow flint hand tool. No markings. L 75mm. W 61mm. Th 21mm.
F) Stone ball, flat on one surface, no markings. Diameter 26mm.
G) Large polished stone axe. 'Dr Joseph Sillars, Kirriemuir' inked on label affixed to axe. Tip broken. L 230mm. W 75mm. Th 27mm.
H) Vitrified stone. L 125mm. W 75mm. Th 93mm.
I) Two small polished stone axes, one reddish brown stone, the other greenish grey. Red – L 62mm, W 43mm, Th 21mm. Green – L 71mm, W 41mm, Th 20mm.
J) Polished stone axe. L 145mm, W 71mm, Th 30mm.
K) Brownish/yellow hammer stone. L 111 mm, W 71mm, Th 41mm.
Archive: Objects transferred from University of Dundee, Museum Services on 15 October 2008. They may be transferred on to Angus

Dundee

Balgarthno Stone Circle (Adopt-a-Monument)

Community outreach and education and conservation
Mary Ritchie – Friends of Balgarthno Stone Circle

Local school children sow seeds in late May 2008

NO 3533 3161 The Friends of Balgarthno Stones together with two local primary schools (St Clement's and Charleston) have adopted this stone circle in Charleston housing estate, Dundee. The site (consisting of nine large boulders, all fallen with the exception of the westernmost) is surrounded by a protective fence erected in 2006. This summer scheduled monument consent was applied for to plant a low wildflower meadow consisting of local native species. This was intended to offset the visual impact of the fence surrounding the stones and enhance the setting of the monument, while raising awareness of the site and boosting local biodiversity. A rolling programme of education and outreach continues.
Funder: Awards for All

City Quay, West Victoria Dock Road

Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 4031 3005 Work was carried out between January–September 2008 on the site of two new office blocks. The site lies in the former docks which are now in-filled. The site contains the remains of a patent slip, which the development will avoid. A range of other buildings relating to the use of the docks, including warehouses, the Arctic Tannery and launching slips, are depicted on maps dating from 1846.

The watching brief during enabling works on the N block uncovered the structural remains of the buildings shown on the maps, and three main phases of use and related structures were recorded. Two substantial sandstone walls representing the outer walls of one or more buildings and shallow brick walls representing launching slips were probably of early 19th century date. An extensive system of timber and puddled clay tanning pits and the cobbled floor of a former building with associated yards were dated to the late 19th-century. A system of concrete tanning pits, concrete plinths representing roof support pillars and other settings, concrete wall footings for brick walls, concrete floor surfaces and a drainage and manhole system dated from the early 20th century.

The watching brief during the enabling works on the S block identified and recorded the remains of building foundations, concrete piles, a concrete floor, concrete plinths and a substantial sandstone wall representing the outer wall of a former building or possible inner harbour bay. The piles and concrete floors relate to buildings shown on maps from 1903 to 1974.
Archive: RCAHMS and Dundee City Council SMR
Funder: Unicorn Property Group

38–42 North Lindsay Street/8–12 South Ward Road

Desk-based assessment
David Perry – SUAT Ltd
NO 3998 3021 (centred on) The site was extensively quarried during the first half of the 19th century, with only a strip of ground along South Ward Road possibly remaining untouched. The frontage on North Lindsay Street and South Ward Road is occupied by a B-listed building. This was constructed in 1909–15 as a factory for Halley Brothers and later occupied by DC Thomson's print works.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Reiach and Hall Architects

14–22 Trades Lane

Standing building recording and watching brief
David Perry – SUAT Ltd
No 4063 3047 (centred on) A desk-based assessment in 2004 had established that the site lay on land reclaimed from the River Tay in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Although fill used in the reclamation may have contained material from the medieval centre of Dundee there were no *in situ* medieval remains. The site provided the opportunity to investigate the reclamation of Dundee's early modern waterfront and find evidence of Dundee's industrial past. A shipyard, a foundry and a calendar works (jute mill) had previously occupied the site.

The building appeared to consist of the two warehouses of the calendar works, located on either side of an open yard (as shown on the 1st Edition OS map). These had been modified to accommodate the Arnold Clark showroom by replacing the walls adjacent to the yard with cast-iron columns, combining the former warehouses and yard into one area and roofing the whole area. The N and middle rooms seem to have been built as one. Their façade on Trades Lane consisted of ashlar stone with rusticated pilasters at each end, while the S room was comprised of roughly dressed coursed rubble. The N room which had been roofed at one time, the roof being subsequently removed, was entered off Trades Lane, through an arched pend, flanked with rusticated pilasters. The keystone of the arch was decorated with a carved head.

Eight engineers' test pits, excavated by machine, were

monitored. They provided evidence that the infilling and land reclamation undertaken in the early 19th century had involved the dumping of waste construction/demolition rubble from the urban redevelopment then taking place in Dundee. No medieval remains or dressed stonework were recovered. Evidence of previous industrial activity relating to the shipyard and foundry was recorded, as was a possible fragment of a sea wall/embankment in test pit 2. The purpose of the tank recorded in test pit 2 is not clear.

Monitoring of a manhole for a sewer pipe located two parts of a mortared stone wall at a depth of 0.45m below the former showroom floor, possibly another sea embankment wall.

A shipwright's adze was found by workmen during construction work; it was stamped 'ROB^{T} SORBY SHEFFIELD PAT^{N} 058½ A I WARRANTED CAST STEEL'. The 'A I' is in the form of a sailing ship and lighthouse. The adze will be given to Dundee Museum.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Henry Boot Scotland

EAST AYRSHIRE

Auchinleck

Laigh Glenmuir Cottage

Standing building recording

M Kimber – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 61545 20685 A Level 2 (RCHME) standing building survey was carried out on 8 May 2008, before its demolition in advance of open-cast coal mining. The structure was originally a school dating to the latter half of the 19th century, later converted into a house. Although the internal layout was largely unaltered few original internal features remain, with the exception of some panelled doors. The rest of the structure has been redecorated with modern materials.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: ATH Resources Plc

Dunlop

West Langton, Dunlop

Monitoring

Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 40165 50710 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on 10–11 October 2007 and 25 March 2008, during groundworks relating to the redevelopment and expansion of existing structures. No significant archaeological features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: Mr Alan Dunn

Galston

Belvedere View, Galston

Evaluation

Christine Rennie – GUARD

NS 502 362 An evaluation was undertaken from 19–29 May 2008 at the site of a proposed housing development. A total of 51 trenches, equivalent to 8% of the development area, were investigated. The evaluation uncovered three stone-filled field drains. No other archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: Barrett Homes West Scotland and David Wilson Homes Scotland

Kilmarnock

100–106 John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock

Standing building recording

Louise Turner – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 4265 3784 A programme of archaeological building recording was undertaken on 27–28 March 2008 in respect of a proposed building refurbishment. The property is a 3-storey building built in 1876 and attributed to architect William Railton.

The ground floor consists of commercial premises, still in use, with vacant flatted tenement accommodation above. The 1st floor plan had been subject to much alteration, but the original room layout remained unchanged throughout much of the 2nd floor. Many original features had survived, though the degree of preservation varied. Among the features recorded were plaster cornices, bed recesses, fireplaces, and timber sash-and-case windows with associated timber panelling.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: Mr R Lindsay

New Cumnock

Greenburn OCCS North-eastern Extension

Walkover survey and evaluation

Ross White – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 5750 1450 (centred on) A walkover survey and evaluation were undertaken during January–February 2008. The survey identified six sites, one of which was the possible remains of Crook Farmstead. The location was identified by map regression, and in the field the farmstead was recorded as amorphous grassy mounds. The evaluation in the immediate environs of the farmstead identified four shallow ditches, one of which yielded 19th/20th-century pottery. The ditches were probably associated with past agricultural practices.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS

Funder: Keir Mining Ltd

Old Cumnock

Dumfries House

Conservation plan

Jen Austin, Cath McFarlane, John Sanders, Tom Addyman, James Simpson, William Kay, Christopher Dingwall, Tanja Romankiewicz, Wilma Bouwmeester, Sophie Younger and David Jones – Simpson and Brown Architects

NS 5414 2039 Dumfries House is an exceptionally fine mansion built in 1754–60 for William Crichton-Dalrymple, 5th Earl of Dumfries, and designed by the architects John, Robert and James Adam.

The architect Robert Weir Schultz contributed substantial original works in the late 1890s for the 3rd Marquess of Bute, John Patrick Crichton-Stuart. The collection is exceptional and includes furniture bought specifically for the house from Thomas Chippendale during his '*Director*' period, and items from the contemporary Edinburgh furniture makers William Mathie, Alexander Peter and Francis Brodie. This Scottish group has no comparison anywhere in the world. The house is set in an extensive and complex designed landscape which includes several listed buildings, and other features and structures.

The new owners The Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust commissioned a conservation plan. The plan will help to direct future conservation, repair and management for the site, which opened to the public for the first time in the summer of 2008.

Extensive documentary and physical research was carried out from November 2007–December 2008. Surviving 18th-century estate plans were used to identify and explain features in the landscape. A detailed inventory of the house was completed. A detailed gazetteer of the buildings, features, structures, landscape areas, woodland, burns and roads in the landscape was also compiled. Discoveries included the history of the building of a Temple gateway among a full set of estate buildings identified as being designed by John Adam, including unlisted structures. Surviving 18th-century landscape features include 'clumps', round plantations on hilltops, which were visually interconnected with others often several miles distant. The remains of a WW2 army camp were identified. Features dating from before 1750 included the sites of two demolished 17th-century tower houses (Waterside and Leifnorris), a sycamore tree associated with Waterside which is it least 350 years old, a ha-ha which may be associated with Leifnorris or with the 14th-century Terringzean Castle, and the site and remains of an early 18th-century well canopy. Documentary research showed that Weir Schultz had designed a short-lived formal garden named 'New Chiswick', based on Lord Burlington's garden at Chiswick. Considerable numbers of 18th-century trees survive and could be used as guides in restoring the 18th-century landscape design.
Archive: The Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust
Funder: The Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust

Front elevation of Dumfries House

Grievehill OCCS Extension

Survey and evaluation
Ross White, Phil Richardson and Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 6490 1690 (centred on) A topographic and photographic survey carried out in January 2008 recorded 21 poorly preserved and grassed-over millstone quarries (NS96NW 17), on either side of the Glenmuckloch Conveyor Route. The quarries were irregular in shape and size but generally small and shallow. Some evidence of spoil mounds, probably related to the quarrying, was also recorded close to the quarries.

A further programme of works in July 2008 involved the evaluation of a wagonway that ran through the area of quarrying. It is believed to have been constructed by Sir James Menteith during the early 19th century to transport coal from his coal works at Grieve Hill to a coalyard in Sanquhar. It was constructed from crushed limestone placed directly on top of the existing peat topsoil. An area of backfilled quarrying underlying the wagonway probably related to the millstone quarries.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: ATH Resources

Riccarton

Riccarton Church

Evaluation
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 4282 3639 An evaluation was undertaken on 12 March 2008. The trenches revealed a sequence of accumulation and re-deposition, the earliest preceding the expansion of the church in 1910. A single surviving wall course with a facing of modern brick survived beneath a substantial quantity of made ground. Any traces of previous occupation have been removed from the site by later landscaping.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Riccarton Parish Church

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Cadder

Antonine Wall, Bishopbriggs

Excavation and Trial trenching
LJF Keppie – Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery
NS 6181 7265 In May 2008 a four-day excavation explored an area *c*80m E of the site of the Roman fort at Cadder, Bishopbriggs, immediately S of the Forth and Clyde Canal and N of the factory premises of Marley Eternit Ltd, in the hope of locating the extramural bathhouse generally believed to have been quarried away along with the fort itself in the early 1940s. Surface observation suggested that the quarrying terminated *c*110m W of the zone examined, a picture seemingly confirmed by an OS sheet (Plan 6172) of 1957 and an aerial photograph of Marley's premises believed to have been taken in the 1960s. A small segment in the northeast quadrant of the fort and much of any 'annexe' area to the E appear untouched.

Four small trenches were placed to catch the likely S kerb of the Antonine Wall and more particularly to investigate areas immediately to its S, where the bathhouse was thought to lie. However, excavation indicated that the ground had been disturbed, with a spread of waste material from the adjacent Marley tile works deposited over several decades, and in part compressed. The stone base of the Antonine Wall was not located, nor was any stonework from a bathhouse, or any of the distinctive Roman flue-tiles which might have been expected to be proliferate in its vicinity.

Some geophysical survey might be attempted in the future on other, apparently undisturbed, level ground to the W, but in the immediate area of the 2008 excavation only the use of an earthmoving machine over a wider area would elucidate the sequence of activity and determine whether any Roman structures have survived.
Archive: With excavator pending publication
Funder: Historic Scotland (Culture 2000 Programme)

Cadder, Bishopbriggs

Watching brief
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 6189 7270 Monitoring was undertaken between 25 October–9 November 2008 on all ground-breaking works associated with the laying of a new electricity cable between a substation in an industrial park and an existing cable close to the bank of the Forth and Clyde Canal.

The works involved the excavation of a 180m long cable trench, 0.5m wide and 0.9m deep, and took place close to the boundaries of two separate scheduled areas, a section of the Antonine Wall and the Forth and Clyde Canal. No

features or artefacts of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Power

Kirkintilloch

Southbank Basin and the Forth and Clyde Canal, Kirkintilloch

Watching brief
B Ballin Smith – GUARD
NS 6550 7345 Redevelopment of the remaining part of the old railway basin between November 2006–May 2008 allowed the investigation of the 18th-century double basin, the basin mouth where it joined the Forth and Clyde Canal and the 19th-century slipway and slipway finger. The canal is a scheduled ancient monument and additions, repairs and alterations to features beside it, as part of the new development, were also monitored.

The background to the development and use of the basin was also investigated, as various industries had targeted the basin for its convenient access to the canal and outlets to the W and E. When revealed from beneath the 1960s infill the dressed walls of the basin survived up to 2m in height, although their upper courses were missing. Stop log channels in the walls for stop planks across the passage between the two halves of the basin were also preserved. The basin mouth survived to its full height of nearly 5m, its walls resting on a foundation of concrete and pebbles lying directly on the subsoil. It also had stop log channels for taking stop planks to divide the waters of the basin from those of the canal.

Surviving evidence indicated that the slipway was a much later addition, as it was built for the construction of 'puffers'. The softwood timbers of the slipway ramp for the launching and repairing of boats survived and were covered in bitumen. The investigation of the slipway finger revealed that it originally had a sandstone bollard for mooring which was replaced in metal when the surface of the finger was renewed. The end of the finger was also extended and the whole finger resurfaced before its demise in the 1960s.
Archive: RCAHMS and Strathkelvin District Libraries and Museums, Kirkintilloch
Funder: Strathkelvin Development Company Ltd

New Kilpatrick

Antonine Wall: Roman Fort Environs Project – Castlehill

Geophysical survey
Richard Jones, Jeremy Huggett and Alan Leslie – Archaeology Department, Glasgow University
NS 5250 7270 Topographic, magnetic and resistivity surveys of much of the summit and eastern slope of the hill were carried out during March 2008. The magnetic survey detected the fort's E and W gates, parts of the N, W and E defences, as well as traces of structures within the fort, but failed to find evidence for a fortlet in the NW corner of the fort. Among the features identified by the resistivity survey was an enclosure lying within the western part of the fort, possible entrances to that enclosure, and structures on the E side of the fort.

New Kilpatrick Cemetery, Hillfoot, Bearsden

Recording and survey – Antonine Wall
LJF Keppie – Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery
NS 5565 7230 I drew two adjacent stretches of the stone base of the Antonine Wall, a total of 47m in length, which had long been exposed in New Kilpatrick Cemetery. John and Anne Macdonald of ACFA undertook surveying in tandem. In both stretches the stone base proved to consist for the most part of water-worn boulders edged by the familiar tapered kerbstones, in local yellow-buff sandstone which has weathered over the decades to grey.

The upper stretch of base, on view since 1921, had a width of 4.3m and was crossed by a single culvert, 0.2–0.25m wide, which drained water from S to N. Probing at either end of the culvert-passage indicated the presence of basal slabs. Contemporary accounts and early photographs clearly show that capstones were found *in situ* along the entire length of the culvert; but at present only a single massive capstone sits in place at its southern end, with a smaller domed capstone sitting sideways in the culvert-passage behind it.

The lower stretch, uncovered in 1903, has always attracted the greater attention due to the incorporation into it of a 'step', in the form of additional large cobbling, evidently intended to counter the sharp southwards slope. The stretch incorporated a single culvert 0.2m wide, long since cleared out, draining water from W to E. The base here was originally 4.3m wide at the northern end and 4.2m wide at the southern end of the stretch, but had been broadened on its eastern side. The western, enemy-facing side remained untouched, with a width of up to 4.6–4.7m. The broadening was in two short strips, to either side of the culvert, which was left untouched. Early photographs show the original east kerb both above and below the culvert. Kerbstones downslope of the culvert are now markedly out of position and some additional larger stones have been set against them, perhaps (quite incorrectly) to fill seeming gaps. The markedly smaller core of the base below the 'step' attracts attention as possibly reflecting a change in work-squads or in available materials.
Archive: With excavator pending publication
Funder: Historic Scotland (Culture 2000 Programme)

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE/ NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Kirkintilloch/Cumbernauld

Auchinstarry

Test pit survey and watching brief
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 71834 76157 – NS 71855 76193 – NS 72151 76226 A phased programme of works consisting of a test pit survey and watching brief were undertaken 20 March–7 May 2008 on the laying of a buried electricity cable across the Antonine Wall at Auchinstarry. No significant archaeological material was recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

EAST LOTHIAN

Aberlady

Haddington Road, Aberlady

Recording project
Jenni Morrison – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NT 467 800 An archive appraisal and monitored strip of a vacant plot of land were undertaken 15–17 October 2008.

The site lies within the village of Aberlady, which has early medieval origins. The monitoring was carried out as the contractor was removing tree stumps and stripping topsoil. Several features were recorded including a probable medieval midden/garden soil deposit, a medieval or post-medieval drain, probable post-medieval boundary features and a modern drain. Sherds of Scottish White Gritty Ware pottery were recovered from the putative midden/garden soil and from the medieval/post-medieval drain.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Developer

Athelstaneford

Gilmerton House

Metal detecting and fieldwalking
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NT 555 775 Following earlier finds of a Roman brooch (*DES* 2007, 69), three more brooches and a Romano-British stud were found by metal detecting in a field known to contain a later prehistoric enclosure on 20 February 2008. The farmer stated that a pair of rotary querns had also been found in the field during subsoiling 20 years previously, but their current location is unknown.

A fieldwalking exercise produced a thin scatter of both early and later prehistoric material, the latter including pottery and stone tools as well as two sherds of Roman glass, adding to the picture of a locally rich site. The finds came from around rather than over the enclosure, suggesting either off-site middening or a more dispersed open settlement.
The recent metal detecting finds were claimed as Treasure Trove (TT46/07, 79/07) and allocated to East Lothian Museums, where the fieldwalking finds will also go.
Funder: National Museums Scotland

Bolton

Under Bolton Farm Steading, Bolton

Standing building recording
Anya Rardin – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 50695 70054 An evaluation and Level 3 historic building recording were undertaken January–March 2008 prior to the farm's redevelopment. The steading consists of two cart sheds with associated granaries, two cattle byres, a calf byre, a farm cottage, an ancillary stable, a possible former threshing barn and the remains of an 18th-century dovecot. The steading range dates to the 18th century, with several phases of rebuilding occurring during the 19th century, followed by considerable expansion in the 20th century. It is a typical 19th-century Lothian farm steading and its building history provides a good example of the type of expansion that took place in 18th- and 19th- century farms, in response to the economic growth of the agricultural industry in Lothian during this period.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: NGP Architects

Dunbar

Dunbar Town House/Tollbooth

Building appraisal and survey
M Cressey and K Hicks – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 67931 78951 Dunbar Town House was the town's tollbooth for civil administration and housed the town's gaol in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The building is rectangular in plan and has two storeys with two vaulted prison cells, above which is a dormered attic. A semi-hexagonal stair tower is capped by a slated peined roof with a lead-covered spire. The masonry is of local red sandstone and is rubble-built with cream-coloured sandstone edging on the lower portions of the tower and crow-stepped gable. The building was stripped of its harling in *c*1920 leaving the fabric exposed to the elements, resulting in serious erosion over much of the exterior.

Dunbar Town House: Laser scan street-front elevation showing the clock tower

A survey of the building, including laser scanning, has shed new light on its development. Three floor joists have been subjected to dendrochronological dating and a felling date of between AD 1524 and AD 1539 places the construction of the Town House in accordance with the earliest historical reference for the building of AD 1539. The timber was imported from Scandinavia and correlates well with numerous other 'imported' timber chronologies in Edinburgh and the Lothians for this period. The Statutory List dates the structure to the early 17th century, a date which can now be revised in the light of these results.

Internal recording was confined to a rear outshot building recorded by RCAHMS as a late 17th- or early 18th-century addition. There is no conclusive evidence to confirm or refute this. Dendrochronological dating is currently being carried out on a number of internal oak floor joists and timbers which were found and are being replaced in the tower wall plate. These dates will determine the felling date of the timber and establish if the timber was imported. It is hoped that the results will support the established phase development model for the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: East Lothian Council

Halhill, Dunbar

Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Thomas Rees, Claire Williamson and Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NT 6700 7770 (centred on) Work was carried out 10 April–22 July 2008 on a *c*19.2ha development. The study area includes a 200m buffer zone around the development and includes fields W of Hallhill House, to the N of the A1 road and bounded to the W by the C road between Eweford and Dunbar.

The assessment identified six archaeological sites and the potential for the existence of previously unknown archaeology. The six sites lay at the NE edge of the area and along the access road to the NE. They included a large ditched enclosure and a long cist cemetery, both identified during archaeological works in the adjacent field. These sites may extend into the current development area. Cropmarks identified three other potential sites; two may be related to prehistoric settlement, while the third is of 19th-century trackways.

During monitoring potentially significant archaeological deposits were identified in three of a series of test pits excavated across the development area. These three pits were close to the area of the enclosure and cemetery. A possible settlement deposit was identified in the WSW area, while two test pits in the putative area of the enclosure revealed cairn-like material. Further investigation would be required to determine the exact nature of these deposits.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Elphinstone Estates

Dunbar/Innerwick

Aikengall Cable Link

Watching brief
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 6510 7735 and NT 7170 7455 Monitoring was undertaken, 30 July–29 September 2008, on all ground-breaking works in five specified areas along the route of groundworks associated with the laying of a new cable between Aikengall wind farm and S Belton Substation, Dunbar.

The works involved the stripping of topsoil, providing a 3m wide wayleave, prior to the excavation of a 1.2m wide x 1.3m deep cable trench. No features of archaeological significance were recorded at any of the five sites. At site 4, close to Chesterhall Farm House (the site of the Battle of Dunbar 1650), metal detecting was undertaken prior to the groundworks and again during the groundworks. A moderate collection of ferrous objects was recovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Power Energy networks

Garvald and Bara

The Beehive, Main Street, Garvald

Evaluation
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NT 58850 70825 Work was undertaken on 24 July 2008 to the rear of an 18th-century cottage in the medieval core of Garvald, prior to the cottage's extension. Excavation to a depth of 0.7m exposed the construction debris of a late 18th-century building/alteration, a late 19th- to early 20th-century stone wall extending from the SE corner of the property and at 0.52m below the current ground surface the boundary with the underlying clay natural.

The sandstone wall exposed in the E trench represents a late 19th- to early 20th-century extension from the SE corner of the main structure. The wall surrounds a concrete floor and further evidence for the extent of this structure is visible as a wraggle line in the rear elevation.

The barn to the W has been extensively altered and is secondary to the original single-storey cottage. It was built prior to the heightening of the main building and dates to the early – mid 18th century.

No significant archaeology was recorded and examination of the fabric that will be affected by the work indicates that very little historic material will be removed, as most of the area was heavily altered in the 1960s.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Dr and Mrs Hay

Haddington

Greystanes Field, Camptoun

Watching brief
Stephanie Leith – East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
NT 50198 77792 On 11 February 2008 a watching brief was carried out during ground-breaking works associated with the building of a shed. As long cist burials had been found in this field in past it was decided that the soil stripping would be monitored. An area of 9 x 14m was stripped. No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
Archive: East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
Funder: Local Authority (Council)

Harperdean

Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NT 51 75 A Roman knee brooch was found by metal detecting. A blue glass bead, probably Iron Age, was also found. Remains of later prehistoric open settlements are known in the vicinity.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 18/08) and allocated to East Lothian Museum Service

Tyne Lodge, Haddington

Evaluation
Ali Becket, Angela Boyle and Paul Duffy – GUARD
NT 5179 7394 Following the discovery of a human mandible limited work was undertaken on 16 June 2008 under the provisions of the human remains call-off contract. Evaluation of the findspot and immediately surrounding area suggested the mandible was an isolated find, most probably derived from a post-medieval dump of soil. This could not be fully demonstrated as the mandible had been removed from its context. No evidence of the reason for its presence was observed and sieving of the associated spoil heaps and specialist examination of the recovered bone suggested that no further human bone was present.
Archive: Awaiting decision. Report: HS, East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Innerwick

Aikengall Wind Farm

Watching brief and excavation
Ross White – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 6950 6950 (centred on) Work was conducted February–June 2008, prior to and during construction. A trench was excavated across the line of a track recorded during previous work. It appeared as a sunken track with sloping sides, up to 0.7m deep in places, and was approximately 8m wide from

bank top to bank top, but had no distinct surface.

A watching brief was carried out on *c*45% of the ground-breaking works. This included the place where the new access roads passed close to or through three sites identified during previous work. These were demarcated prior to construction to protect them from accidental damage by site plant. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded in two of the areas, but two ditches were identified below and inside a rectangular enclosure. The first ditch corresponded with the position of the ditched enclosure remains identified from aerial photographs and fieldwalking. A second ditch lay 3m to the NE of the first ditch. The function of this ditch was not ascertained, but it probably represents the remains of a feature associated with the rest of the enclosure. No other finds, deposits or features of archaeological significance were encountered.

Archive: RCAHMS and East Lothian Council SMR

Funder: Community Windpower

Inveresk

Haddington Road, Wallyford

Evaluation

Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 3680 7250 Six evaluation trenches were excavated, 28–29 January 2008, covering 5% of the site of a park and ride scheme. The cropmark of an enclosed settlement lies in a field *c*100m to the E, but no archaeological finds or features were found during this work. Four modern drains and two recent test pits were the only form of ground disturbance encountered.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Grontmij

Newhailes Estate – Stables Courtyard

Watching brief

David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

NT 32570 72410 A watching brief was carried out, January–March 2008, during remedial work on the drainage system in the stables courtyard. Two drains of probable early 19th-century date were located and their routes traced. A small section of sandstone and mortar wall foundation with a pantile damp course relating to the earlier 18th-century stables was also uncovered.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Newhailes Estate – Tea House

Recording project

David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

NT 32533 72931 A removal and recording exercise was undertaken on 14–24 June 2008. 118 architectural fragments were recovered, catalogued and stored with the assistance of volunteers from the Bank of Scotland as part of a Corporate Challenge. The principal elevation is now fully understood and the importance of the structure within the Scottish Enlightenment is confirmed.

The canal to the S of the Tea House was partially cleared of recent debris and the original side slope exposed. Additional artefacts were recovered from the river.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Newhailes House Estate

Standing building recording

David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

NT 32645 72665 A photographic and drawn building survey was required due to the collapse of a brick wall at the flower garden in the estate. These works were carried out in advance of and in conjunction with work by masons on repairing the wall. The work was undertaken 2 February–26 March 2007 and enabled the flue systems in the E and W halves of the wall to be recorded and better understood.

The heated wall, built in handmade brick in the 18th century, was sophisticated in design and use, supplying both an external heated wall and an internal greenhouse wall. The W wall was rebuilt to plans produced from the building record.

Archive: NTS and East Lothian Council Archaeology Service

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

253 North High Street, Musselburgh

Excavation

Phil Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 3361 7290 An excavation conducted 18–25 April 2008 recorded the remains of a rectangular sandstone structure and a larger rectangular brick structure. It is highly likely that the sandstone structure represents the remains of a rectangular building depicted in the NW corner of an orchard on the 1853 OS town plan. This may have been a gardeners' shed or store associated with the orchard, but it is unlikely that it was a dwelling. The brick structure is likely to have been a replacement or extension of this garden workshop. A later double-skinned sandstone wall was recorded in the NW of the site. No other archaeological remains were discovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Gregor Properties Ltd on behalf of Mansecourt Ltd

3 Smeaton Grove, Inveresk, Musselburgh

Desk-based assessment and evaluation

Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 3495 7150 (centred on) Work carried out November 2007 showed that the site lay in an area of high archaeological potential with several sites nearby. Roman ditches and finds, prehistoric cropmarks and a prehistoric settlement have been identified and scheduled to the E and S of the development site.

Eight evaluation trenches totalling 195m² (7% of the development) were excavated. The evaluation found the remains of two ditches of potentially Roman date, three apparently linear features and two pits of unknown date, and a modern feature containing building debris. Pottery of Roman date was found in the two ditches and in the topsoil. These ditches may form part of a boundary ditch associated with the nearby Roman field systems.

Archive: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Timber Bush Associates Ltd

The Laurals, 20 Carberry Road, Inveresk

Desk-based assessment and watching brief

Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 3499 7149 In August 2008 a desk-based assessment indicated that the development was in an area which contains a dense distribution of prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. Although no significant remains are known to exist on the site of the new conservatory it lies on the line of the 19th-century lane linking Inveresk Station with Carberry Road.

The building contractor's groundworks, monitored on 13 August 2008, involved the hand excavation of strip foundation trenches, but no stripping of topsoil outside these trenches. A single potential archaeological feature was recorded, a foundation of stone bonded with lime mortar.

This foundation, although undated, was probably relatively recent and had been constructed over made ground.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr John McLeod

Wallyford Settlement Expansion Project, Wallyford
Evaluation, metal detector survey and finds assessment
Stuart Mitchell, Ross White and Sue Anderson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3710 7250 (centred on) Between February–August 2008, four separate evaluations were carried out over four fields to the NE (Area 1), S (Areas 2 and 3), and SE (Area 4) of Wallyford. A further metal detector survey was carried out of the site of the Battle of Pinkie Cleugh (Area 4, previously sampled in 2005).

Area 1 revealed several features mostly associated with the former mine workings. A substantial sandstone wall footing was recorded in three separate trenches, although it was in poor condition. Two linear ditches, probably the remains of field boundaries were also revealed. 17 isolated oval or round pits were found scattered across the site, although many were demonstrably recent. A comprehensive system of rig and furrow also occupied much of the site. No finds or dating evidence were recovered from these features. Several mineshafts and spreads of modern industrial debris were encountered.

Area 2 revealed a stone-lined drain, a mineshaft and a probable quarry pit. The remains of a rig and furrow system were also discovered. Much of this area had been previously cut and reinstated as part of the A1 road building programme.

The evaluation in Area 3 revealed further remains of rig and furrow cultivation, a V-shaped ditch post-dating the rig and furrow, and a large area significantly disturbed by mining.

Area 4 revealed two discrete areas containing archaeological remains. The E of the site was occupied by a possible settlement and field system consisting of a large sunken-floored building; a possible second sunken-floored building; three large ditches, two of which intercut; two oval pits; and a linear ditch. No dating evidence was obtained but the two possible sunken-floored buildings were cut by an early 19th-century field drain. In the N of the site a sub-rectangular hollow and an unrelated prehistoric ditch were discovered. No securely datable finds were recovered.

The metal detector survey in Area 4 was carried out by members of the East Lothian Metal Detectors Club. Trenches were excavated in thin spits with each spit being scanned, and find locations surveyed in three dimensions. All finds were recovered. The majority of these represented domestic and agricultural waste dating from the 18th to 20th centuries. From a total of 1974 objects, 46 may belong to the period of the battle. These consist of an artillery ball, musket/pistol balls, a possible cannonball, a possible grenade and some buckles. None could be related with any certainty to the battle. Further work has been recommended on an additional 41 objects identified as possibly early shot or other military equipment.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Dunalastair Estates Ltd (Areas 1, 2 & 3), Miller Homes Ltd (Area 4)

Morham

The Old Manse, Morham, Haddington
Desk-based assessment, evaluation and building appraisal
Phil Moore – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 556 725 Four trenches (10% of the proposed development) were excavated by hand, on 18–20 June 2006, to evaluate the potential for archaeological remains in the walled garden in the vicinity of a previously demolished 18th-century manse.

The fieldwork revealed a stone drain and a series of possible exterior surfaces. The stone drain may be contemporary with the old manse although it had a later insertion of clay piping. Two courses of foundation masonry, interpreted as structural remains of the manse, were found. A building appraisal was undertaken of a section of the garden's walls, incorporating part of the surviving gable of the demolished manse, and a later outbuilding now used as a potting shed.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr Patrick Gammell

North Berwick

14/16 Dirleton Avenue, North Berwick
Evaluation
Jenni Morrison – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NT 5438 8519 Five trenches covering an area of *c*33m², 10% of the area to be disturbed, were excavated in December 2007. Two linear features of modern origin and three features of post-medieval or modern date were recorded. The evaluation demonstrated that the extensive multi-period archeological deposits discovered at Tusculum in the early 20th century do not extend into this development area.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr O Solhunt

Gardner's Gardens, North Berwick
Desk-based assessment and monitored topsoil strip
Leonard McKinney – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 5562 8523 A monitored topsoil strip was carried out 14–21 February 2008 during the extension of an existing car park. The site appeared to have been landscaped with imported soil containing medieval, post-medieval and modern artefacts. A stone-lined drain cut through this soil.
Archive: RCAHMS and East Lothian Council SMR
Funder: East Lothian Council

Gin Head, Tantallon
Evaluation
Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NT 5931 8524 An evaluation was carried out in August 2008 prior to the conversion of buildings to residential use. The work followed on from a desk-based assessment and standing building recording undertaken in 2005. Five evaluation trenches were opened by mechanical excavator. The trenches covered 150m², 5% of the accessible area of grass and light scrub. No significant archaeological remains were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Dunglass Limited

North Berwick Golf Club, Pointgarry Road, North Berwick
Evaluation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 5481 8534 An evaluation in the form of a monitored topsoil strip was undertaken on 21–22 January 2008 prior to the extension of the club-house. The development covered an area of *c*250m². No significant archaeological features or artefacts were observed.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: North Berwick Golf Club

Tantallon Castle
Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 5958 8502 A watching brief was maintained 30 April–1 May 2008 during the replacement of a section of cliff-top fence to the N of the E tower. Part of a sandstone wall was revealed just N of the excavated postholes. This abutted the surviving portion of the E wall of the E tower and was probably a retaining wall. It was not fully excavated and its exact date remains uncertain.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

The Lodge Grounds Restoration Project, North Berwick
Watching brief
Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 5548 8522 and NT 5544 8520 A watching brief was carried out 25 May–26 October 2007 during the excavation of drainage trenches and a soakaway pit in the lodge grounds. The work was the third phase of archaeological work carried out as part of the lodge grounds restoration project. Standing building recording and a watching brief were carried out during May and July 2007.

No archaeological features were uncovered. The soakaway pit did, however, expose over 1.4m of dark brown soils. This deep profile is likely to have formed as a result of landscaping or possibly as hillwash built up during the cultivation of fields upslope. The deposits contained one sherd of 15th-century Whiteware and four 16/17th-century sherds of Rhenish and Low Countries origin.
Archive: East Lothian Museums Service

23 Westgate, North Berwick
Evaluation
Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 549 853 Work was undertaken on land to the rear of 23 Westgate, 28 February–20 May 2008, prior to development. The site was considered of interest as it was thought to lie immediately next to the W boundary of the town's historic centre.

Phase 1 of work involved the excavation of two evaluation trenches in the footprint of the proposed property development. The earliest deposit relating to anthropogenic activity was a possible buried soil containing medieval pottery and other domestic waste. This deposit was concentrated towards the S and W side of the site and probably represented an accumulation of material over stabilised dunes.

Cut through this deposit and the underlying sand dune was a ditch on a NE/SW alignment. The ditch was recorded in both trenches.

Monitoring during the subsequent excavation of foundation trenches revealed that the ditch changed course to run NW/SE. The ditch feature is thought to represent two sides of a plot boundary defining a former rectilinear property. Almost all of the datable ceramics from both the ditch and the buried soil were medieval. If the ditch was a plot boundary, it implies that the limits of the medieval town were further W than has been previously assumed.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Glendale Developments (Scotland Ltd)

Prestonkirk

1 High Street, East Linton
Desk-based assessment and monitored topsoil strip
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 591 772 Work was undertaken on 18 August 2007 in advance of the construction of a new house in the heart of a town that retains its characteristic medieval layout. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Pat Macnair

Preston Kirkholm Sewerage Pumping Station, East Linton
Watching brief
Michal Michalski – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 5968 7792 to NT 5918 7746 A watching brief was undertaken, 3 June–3 July 2008, during topsoil stripping that formed part of the construction work for a pipeline from the East Linton WTW to the Preston SPS. No archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Sunnyside Farm, Haddington
Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Edward Bailey – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 59621 75750 Work was undertaken 27 July 2008 prior to construction. There were no known sites in the development area, although the wider area contains a high concentration of features. A 5% evaluation yielded no archaeological features and it is considered that the area has low archaeological potential.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Sunnyside Farmers

Prestonpans

43 High Street, Prestonpans
Evaluation
Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NT 3903 7475 In March 2008, we undertook an archaeological evaluation at 43 High Street, Prestonpans. Three evaluation trenches were excavated in advance of development, covering 5% of a site considered to be the location of the original Fowler's Brewery. Foundations of two brewery buildings were recorded; historic maps suggest that these structures were standing in the mid to late 19th century, but an earlier origin is not impossible because the small scale and imprecision of earlier maps makes it difficult to establish if these structures are depicted. In addition, two phases of wall were recorded which may pre-date one of these buildings. A stone-lined well was also revealed, and a Rapid Buildings Appraisal identified the SW gable of one of the probable brewery buildings surviving in the SW boundary wall of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Developer

212 High Street, Prestonpans
Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Ross White – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3841 7440 Work was carried out 5–6 June 2008 in advance of a housing development. The DBA indicated that there were no known sites in the development area. Four trenches, 23.6m² (*c*6.5% of the site), were excavated. A deposit of moderately compacted, dark greyish-black sand overlay the whole site and contained shattered sandstone, shell, pot, metal, plastic and so on, indicating that this was imported material used to build up the garden for the house. It was up to 1.8m deep, but became shallower to the S of the site. No finds or features of archaeological significance were encountered.
Archive: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Colin Blair

239–241 High Street, Prestonpans

Excavation

Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology

NT 3821 7424 The remains of two sandstone walls were exposed during the evaluation, one of which may be associated with a building demolished in 2000. A large waster pit containing 19th-century pottery fragments was also partially excavated. In addition a historic building assessment was carried out on the S boundary wall of the site. This work was carried out on 26 March 2008.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Oliver and Robb Architects

239–241 High Street, Prestonpans

Excavation

Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology

NT 3821 7424 Following the discovery of a large waster pit (see previous entry) an excavation was carried out, 16–22 June 2008, to fully define the limits and nature of the pit. The excavation showed that the pit was limited to the S half of the development area measuring approximately 19 x 12m

Due to safety constraints the depth of the pit was not fully ascertained but it was over 1.6m deep. The pit contained considerable quantities of 19th-century stoneware and Rockingham glazed pottery as well as quantities of kiln furniture and slag. It is likely that the waster pit was associated with the former Bellfield Pottery works which produced pottery from the 1830s to the 20th century.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Cairn Housing Association

Prestongrange Community Archaeology Project – Prestongrange Industrial Museum

Excavation

Melanie Johnson and Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 372 736 As part of the final season of fieldwork April–September 2008, a Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken of the Customs House remains. A watching brief was also carried out during the excavation of a trial pit at the location of a former salt girnal. This revealed the footings of a possibly substantial stone wall but further work to explore this was not possible. A walkover survey, including the foreshore, was undertaken and this work will be extended in 2009. Oral history and historical research are ongoing. Further information on the project may be found at www.prestongrange.org/pcap.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund

Prestonlinks Community Woodland, Prestonpans

Evaluation

Paul J Murtagh – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 3989 7482 An evaluation was carried out 19–20 November 2007 at the proposed site of a community woodland to the E of Prestonpans, within the core zone of the Battle of Prestonpans (1745). The excavation of five trial trenches, with a combined area of 384m², revealed no finds or traces of archaeology relating to the battle. However, three shallow pits and two linear features were discovered. The artefacts recovered were post-medieval, with the exception of a piece of possibly prehistoric chert recovered from a subsoil associated with the pits.

Archive: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Prestonlinks Woodland Group

Tranent

Seton Sands

Evaluation

Edward Bailey – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 42275 75670 An evaluation was undertaken 25–27 March 2008 on land adjacent to Seton Sands Caravan Park. There were no known sites in the proposed development area, although a DBA and evaluation undertaken during 2006 indicated that the environs of the site contain a high concentration of features, including a substantial and complex cropmark enclosure (SAM 6191) adjacent to Seton Mains and immediately S of this site.

The evaluation of the site consisted of the excavation of 8 linear trenches, 5% of the development area. No features of archaeological interest were encountered and it was concluded that the area is archeologically sterile.

Funder: Bourne Leisure Ltd

Whitekirk and Tyninghame

Auldhame 2008

Walkover and survey

Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 6016 8473 Under the terms of the Historic Scotland human remains call-off contract an evaluation was undertaken 18–22 January 2008 to determine the extent of damage to known archaeology. A large number of human bones were recovered from the surface of a damaged area and it was noted that protective Terram Geotextile matting which had been laid on the surface of the archaeological site at the end of the previous excavation in 2005 had also been brought to the surface. In addition areas of what where once buried archaeological deposits were present on the surface including a large amount of stone from a buried chapel. It is clear that significant damage has occurred to the underlying site and chapel.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Historic Scotland

Whittingehame

Papple

Evaluation

Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 593 729 In response to a building application for three houses an evaluation was undertaken on 1 May 2008. Two trenches covering 5% of the development and a total of 75m in length were excavated. No archaeological finds or features were recorded. A rubble field drain provided the only evidence of ground disturbance.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Developer

Yester

Crosshill, Haddington

Watching brief

Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 5485 6820 Topsoil was stripped under archaeological direction on the 28 April 2008 prior to the construction of a garage. The site is close to an earthwork enclosure. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Developer

EAST RENFREWSHIRE

Eaglesham

Ardoch

Survey

Robin Hunter and Susan Hunter – ACFA

NS 5855 4972 Firebrick with the wording 'J and M Craig Kilmarnock', measures 240mm long x 120mm wide x 30mm deep. This was originally located in a former three box stable for Clydesdale horses.

NS 58213 48513 Circle of nettles, measuring 18 x 19m in internally.

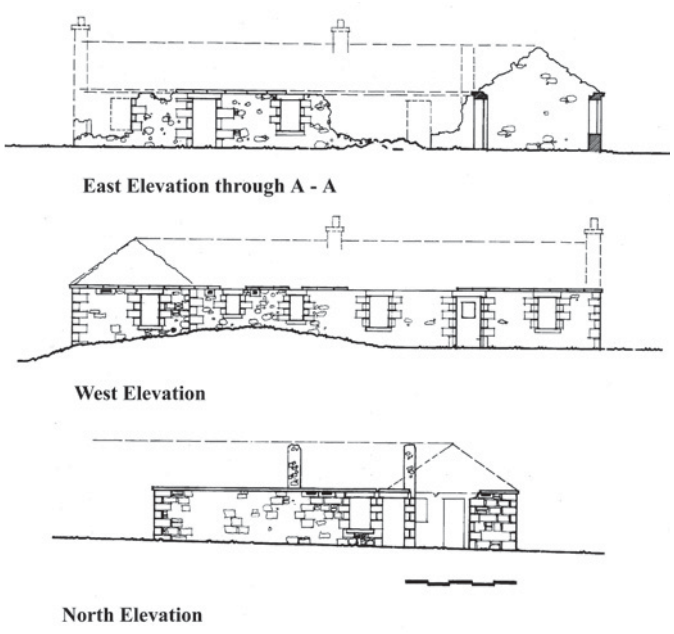
Full report published in *An Archaeological Survey of Ardoch, Stoneybyres and Threepland Farms, Eaglesham Parish, East Renfrewshire by Susan and Robin Hunter*. ACFA (Glasgow University) Occasional Paper.

Archive: This paper has been deposited with RCAHMS and WoSAS

Highcraig

Survey

Robin Hunter, Susan Hunter, Janie Munro, Ann Wood and Scott Wood – ACFA



Highcraig elevation drawings

NS5963 5009 The remains of Highcraig Farm (South Highcraig on the 1st Edition OS map) shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps (1856 and 1895) was subject to an archaeological and standing building survey. A photographic record was also produced.

NS 5945 5003 A building in a dilapidated state built during the 1920s (approximately), to the SW of Highcraig was subject to an standing building survey. A photographic record was also produced.

Full report published in *An Archaeological Survey of North Highcraig, Highcraig, Nethercraig and Temples Farms, Eaglesham Parish, East Renfrewshire by Susan and Robin Hunter*. ACFA (Glasgow University) Occasional Paper'.

Archive: Paper will be deposited with RCAHMS and WoSAS

Stonebyres

Survey

Robin Hunter and Susan Hunter – ACFA

NS 5975 4950 The central spindle for a horse gin mill is situated in the garden to the S of the steading. It measures 600mm from ground to tip and 100mm in diameter at base.

Full report published in *An Archaeological Survey of Ardoch, Stoneybyres and Threepland Farms, Eaglesham Parish, East Renfrewshire by Susan and Robin Hunter.* ACFA (Glasgow University) Occasional Paper'.

Archive: This paper has been deposited with RCAHMS and WoSAS

Central spindle for a horse gin mill

Threepland

Survey

Susan Hunter and Ian Marshall – ACFA

NS 5983 4841 Dry stone sheepfold 11m diameter x 1.3m high x 0.5m wide lies within the northern edge of the Whitelee Forest. It is shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps of 1856 and 1895.

Full report published in *An Archaeological Survey of Ardoch, Stoneybyres and Threepland Farms, Eaglesham Parish, East Renfrewshire by Susan and Robin Hunter.* ACFA (Glasgow University) Occasional Paper'.

Threepland

Survey

Robin Hunter, Susan Hunter and Janie Munro – ACFA

NS 60307 48959 The remaining northern quadrant of a ring ditch lying to the S of Threepland steading was drawn. This site had been identified on aerial photograph No.4056–106.G/SCOT/UK.77.10.MAY.46.F/36//540.SQDN. Circular cropmarks were also identified within and outwith the ring ditch.

Full report published in *An Archaeological Survey of Ardoch, Stoneybyres and Threepland Farms, Eaglesham Parish, East Renfrewshire by Susan and Robin Hunter*. ACFA (Glasgow University) Occasional Paper'.

Archive: This paper has been deposited with RCAHMS and WoSAS

Eaglesham/Mearns

Blackhouse – White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme

Evaluation

Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 5370 5320 A programme of archaeological investigative works was undertaken from 19 May–23 September 2008. The works consisted of an evaluation of eight trenches and the continuous monitoring of topsoil stripping for haul roads and compound in open farmland, which will be impacted upon by the extraction. These trenches totalled some 793m^2, slightly exceeding the 5% requirement for the study area. A total area of 21303m^2 was monitored.

The evaluation trenches all displayed a similar stratigraphic sequence of topsoil (200–360mm in depth) overlying a clay

subsoil. No significant archaeology was recorded during the works and no further archaeological works were recommended.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Carillion Capital Projects Ltd

Mearns

Broompark Drive, Newton Mearns
Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 5488 5674 Evaluation trial trenching, amounting to 352m^2, was carried out 5–7 March 2008 in advance of a residential development. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mactaggart and Mickel

EAST RENFREWSHIRE/ SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Eaglesham/East Kilbride

Kirkland Bridge – White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme
Monitoring, evaluation and standing building recording
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

Bridge at Mains Farm, Eaglesham

NS 5850 5250 A programme of archaeological works was undertaken from 19 May–11 September 2008 during groundworks relating to the flood prevention scheme. The work consisted of:

- Standing building recording of Mains Farm Bridge.
- Stripping, mapping and sampling of the haul roads and compound areas.
- The evaluation of the flood storage and borrow pit areas.
- The excavation of 45 trenches.

The first two stages of the work failed to uncover any significant archaeology. Artefacts from the topsoil indicated human activity over time in the area investigated.

The historic building recording of Mains Farm Bridge showed that it is a two-arched structure, constructed from squared rubble red sandstone, with ashlar (red sandstone) in the abutments, voussoirs, cutwaters and the quoins of the parapet. The masonry is stugged throughout, with contrasting droved margins on the quoins of the parapet, abutment and voussoirs and on the ashlar blocks that make up the cutwaters. The parapet wall has a triangular-sectioned stone coping. A short stretch of the original roadway survives, with earthfast stone boulders on the NW side acting as bollards to help prevent damage to the bridge and prevent loaded carts slipping down a nearby embankment.

Map evidence indicates that the Mains Farm bridge and its accompanying access road must have been built between 1826 and 1863, near a river that may already have been subject to extensive modification during the late 18th or early 19th century. This early to mid-19th-century date is further supported by the architectural style of the bridge.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Carillion Capital Projects Ltd

CITY OF EDINBURGH

Currie

Craigentarrie Farmhouse, near Harlaw
Fieldwalking, survey and historical research
Jill Strobridge – SRP Pentland Hills Project with EAFS
NT 1931 6481 2007 A ground plan survey and photographic record of the ruined farmhouse were produced and fieldwalking was carried out in the surrounding area. Craigentarrie Farm can be traced in the historical record as far back as the 1600s, and the field survey and building study are intended to assess the place of this steading in the wider scheme of 18th-century improved farming developments.

This work was carried out in connection with the Scotland's Rural Past project as part of a project to record the ruined steadings, cottages and associated structures in the Pentland Hills and to investigate the farming communities associated with them.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

58 Hermiston (Mid Hermiston Steading), Currie
Desk-based assessment, field evaluation and standing building recording
Laura Scott – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 17614 70216 Work was carried out 18 March–10 June 2008 prior to development. The farm steading, in the Hermiston conservation area was founded in the mid 18th century as part of improvements to the Riccarton Estate and may have originally included parts of the earlier fermtoun.

The steading was altered and expanded considerably throughout the 19th century. The impact of 20th-century and later developments in the area were significant, as demolition pits cut through the natural subsoil in some areas. Although excavations undertaken as part of the 5% evaluation uncovered the remains of culverts which corresponded well with the alignment of the buildings depicted on maps dating to the 1700s, no evidence for activity predating the 1700s was uncovered. Mitigation work was carried out in relation to the 1599 marriage stone which survived in the E gable.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Credential (Hermiston) Ltd

Threipmuir Farm, near Harlaw – Scotland's Rural Past Pentland Hills Project
Survey and historical research
Jill Strobridge – SRP Pentland Hills Project with EAFS
NT 1797 6429 2007 A ground plan survey and photographic record of the ruined farmhouse, outbuildings and enclosures were produced. Threipmuir farmhouse was originally built as part of estate improvements in 1773/74. The structure has been rebuilt and extended on several occasions and the survey is intended to analyse the different phases of

construction and use of this small steading. An assessment of the associated written historical documentation will also help to assess its place in the wider scheme of 18th-century improved farming developments.

This work was carried out in connection with the Scotland's Rural Past project as part of a project to record the ruined steadings, cottages and associated structures in the Pentland Hills and to investigate the farming communities associated with them.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Dalmeny

Echline Avenue, South Queensferry

Post-excavation analysis

Magnus Kirby and Sue Anderson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 12175 78184 An evaluation and subsequent fieldwork carried out revealed several scattered pits (*DES* 2005 and 2007). The artefacts recovered during the excavation of the pits consisted of 39 sherds of prehistoric pottery, four lithics and a coarse stone tool.

The pottery assemblage was studied by Melanie Johnson and has been identified as mid to late Neolithic Impressed Ware. The presence of impressed and incised decoration, including twisted cord, stabs, fingernail and lattices, is characteristic of this period. The rim forms and vessel shapes where discernible include heavy jars typical of the Late Neolithic.

The form and decoration of the vessels have many similarities with other assemblages from the E of Scotland, including Balfarg and Grandtully in Perthshire and Dubton in Brechin. This type of ware is now thought to date to the second half of the 4th and the first half of the 3rd millennium BC. There appear to be some differences between excavated assemblages, both in terms of dominant vessel forms and decorative techniques. The style is varied and regional groupings are not readily apparent. More synthetic work is needed to establish whether such groupings exist.

Four lithics were recovered and studied by Torben Ballin. Two artefacts (one chert, one quartz) were based on blade blanks (macroblades). The small group has been tentatively dated to the Middle Neolithic, or the earlier part of the Late Neolithic period. Unfortunately, no prehistoric pottery was recovered from the pit in which the two blades were found, but the other two finds, both quartz flakes, were associated with Late Neolithic pottery.

A single cobble tool was collected from a pit fill, in association with Late Neolithic pottery and a quartz flake. The angular edge shows signs of pecking and the cobble is likely to have been used as an expedient tool, presumably a hammerstone.

Small fragments of wood charcoal were recovered from one sample flot, but unfortunately they were not suitable for AMS dating.

Report: CECAS and RCAHMS

Funder: Places for People Group Ltd

Forth Replacement Crossing, South of the River

Watching brief

MC Kilpatrick – GUARD

NT 113 778 A watching brief was carried out 7 April–2 July 2008 on a proposed road access route. The work consisted of trial pitting and borehole extraction along the three options proposed as the new access road. A total of 150 trial pits were excavated and 24 borehole pre-drilling inspection pits monitored. No archaeological remains were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: WoSAS SMR, CECAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Ritchies

Edinburgh

Ainslie Park Playing Fields, Pilton Drive, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Jane Draycott – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2318 7607 A watching brief was carried out 30 October–14 November 2007 during topsoil stripping. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Thomas and Adamson Construction and Property Consultants on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council

31 Barnton Avenue West, Edinburgh

Excavation

Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 18867 75812 (centred on) Work was undertaken 18–25 February 2008 in advance of redevelopment. The work aimed to excavate features recorded during a previous evaluation in 2007.

The excavation revealed a heavily truncated, rectangular sandstone structure consisting of four 1m wide walls enclosing an area of 90m^2. A narrow brick drain of probable late 18th- to early 19th-century date cut the W, N and S walls. The structure, possibly a kennels or agricultural building, may be 17th-century and is probably associated with the site of Cramond Regis.

A large culvert with overlying wall, also of sandstone, lay to the NW of the structure. An associated section of wall aligned N/S overlay the NW corner of the putative kennel/agricultural building and is later in date. These walls probably relate to the SE corner of the later Barnton House. A limited number of artefacts were recovered. These consisted of ceramics including a single sherd of green glaze pottery and a copper button.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Mr Kevin Lam

Belmont Garden House, Murrayfield, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Chris O'Connell – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2174 7331 A watching brief was carried out 7 July 2008 during resurfacing work. A post-medieval rubble-built well was discovered. The well had a metal pipe exiting through its wall. No other archaeological finds were recovered and the well will be preserved *in situ*.

Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Murray International Holdings Ltd

Cable Trench, High Court, Parliament Square, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 257 735 A watching brief was undertaken 25–26 July 2008 on groundwork associated with the exposure of previously lain power cables. No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Scottish Court Service

Caltongate North, Edinburgh

Watching brief and excavation

Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2656 7390 A watching brief was carried out on a series of test pits excavated across the site, following a previous evaluation (Engl and Bailey, 2006). The work revealed significant upstanding remains relating to the former gasworks and isolated pockets of backland soils.

Subsequent ground-breaking works required a further

watching brief to record all exposed features in the northern area of the former New Street bus depot ahead of development. Any walls and floors encountered as part of the ground reduction works were to be removed and a number of substantial stone walls, brick walls and floors were recorded. The majority of these related to one or more phases of the gasworks. The gasworks were on site from 1818–1906 and features from three different phases were identified. A small number of stone walls pre-dating the gasworks were also recorded.

An area of backland soil pre-dating the gasworks was also exposed and excavated. This excavation took the form of a series of seven 1m² trenches, a 10% sample. A significant number of artefacts and ecofacts were recovered. The area of soil also contained a number of stone walls dating to the post-medieval period.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mountgrange (Caltongate) Ltd

Caltongate PA1 (A), Edinburgh
Evaluation
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 263 735 Work was undertaken 28–29 April 2008 prior to development. The evaluation consisted of four trenches, 8% of the area. A layer of rubble overburden covering a deep layer of sterile yellow sand was recorded in all four trenches. The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 3.5m onto bedrock. Trench 2 revealed a rubble stone well 1.7m in diameter. The well was un-bonded and although excavated to a depth of 3.5m the base was not reached. No other features of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Sponsor: Mountgrange (Caltongate) Ltd

Caltongate PA1 (A) and PA1 (B), Edinburgh
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 263 739 Work was undertaken 6–16 May 2008 at the development sites situated to the N side of Calton Road. All upstanding walls were recorded. Area PA1 (A) exposed a simple W-facing section of walling, and a number of blocked features including two fireplaces were identified. Area PA1 (B) was more extensive, exposing E- and S-facing sections of upstanding wall. The S-facing section rose to accommodate the steep bank. The earliest phase of the walls possibly dated to the 18th century with a number of later additions and alterations during the 19th and 20th centuries.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mountgrange (Caltongate) Ltd

Caltongate PA1 (B), Edinburgh
Excavation
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 263 739 Work was undertaken 6–16 May 2008 prior to development of the Caltongate PA1 (B) site. The excavation revealed a number of bonded stone walls, areas of flagstone floor; two stone-capped drains running into a central sump and the remains of a multi-phase fireplace that incorporated areas of cobble flooring. Many of the features had been truncated by modern ceramic drains and more recent test pits. All the recorded features appeared above or cut into a layer of sterile sand that covered the underlying bedrock and may relate to the 18th-century development of the site. All the features appear to date to the 18th and 19th centuries. A number of artefacts associated with the post-medieval/modern occupation of the site were recovered from the fills of various features. These included fragments of pottery, clay pipes and three small bone tools.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mountgrange (Caltongate) Ltd

Caltongate PA1 (C), Edinburgh
Watching brief
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 264 739 A watching brief 9–14 May 2008 monitored the removal of a modern concrete floor and support pillars in the proposed PA1 (C) development, at the corner of Tolbooth Wynd and Calton Road. The work was carried out due to the previous discovery of human skeletal remains relating to the 17th-century use of the Canongate Church graveyard and deep post-medieval soil deposits. Sections of a stone wall relating to the poorhouse that occupied the site during the 18th and 19th centuries were revealed but these were left *in situ*. No other significant archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mountgrange (Caltongate) Ltd

Calton Hill Stair Renewal, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology
NT 262 741 A watching brief was undertaken 11–15 February 2008 on ground-breaking works associated with the renewal of a stepped access route from Regent Street to Calton Hill. During these works the remains of a stone-lined culvert were uncovered beneath the sandstone stairs.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

Canonmills School, Edinburgh
Standing building recording
Suzanne Lilley – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 256 748 A Level 1–2 historic building survey of the school was undertaken in May 2008 prior to redevelopment of the site. The school building retained many original features and a full photographic and written record was produced.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: S1 Developments Limited

Capital Streets Project, Grassmarket, Edinburgh
Watching brief
James McMeekin – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2540 7335 A programme of works to refresh the Grassmarket and its approaches was monitored from 19 September 2007–November 2008. Substantial excavations took place during this work with open trenches of up to 5 x 3 x 3m and 25 x 8 x 1.5m. Deposits of archaeological significance were consistently encountered at depths of up to 2.3m below the modern ground surface.

A basic stratigraphic sequence, consisting of a series of old ground surfaces, typically cobbled and with associated occupational deposits, lying over an extensive, homogeneous colluvial deposit, was found across most of the site. The colluvial deposit reflected the downwash of material from the slopes below Castle Rock and the upper High Street. Beneath the lowest deposit of hillwash lay the natural subsoil into which the prehistoric and Dark Age features were cut.

Before this programme of works the Grassmarket was assumed to have been unoccupied in prehistoric and early medieval times, with little evidence for occupation prior to 1477, when the area was granted a weekly market by James III.

A summary of key findings is presented below:

Prehistoric deposits – Two pits were exposed *c*6m apart in

the excavation of an open cut pipe trench located along the S edge of the existing road on the N side of the Grassmarket. The pits were both sealed by a layer of colluvium and lay *c*1.8m below the modern ground surface. Radiocarbon analysis of material from the pits returned calibrated dates of 2200–1950 BC with a 95.4% probability (SUERC-19840) and 1500–1380 BC to 95.4% probability (Beta-242133). These features are considered indicative of sporadic use of this low-lying area in the Middle Bronze Age.

Dark Age features – Four negative features were identified as dating to the period of the Anglian occupation of Edinburgh. Two pits, *c*4.4m apart, were located towards the W end of the Grassmarket. Further upslope, approximately 68m to the E, a further pit was identified; *c*6m to the N of this a shallow linear feature was also exposed. Three of the four features returned calibrated radiocarbon dates of between AD 590 and AD 810; the final feature returned a wider date range of AD 690–AD 900 and AD 920–AD 950 (95% probability [Beta-242134]).

Stone deposits related to structural collapse were also exposed during the excavations towards the E end of the Grassmarket, together with a cobbled surface at the base of an apparent cess pit. The stratigraphic position of these features identified them as pre-dating the earliest medieval cobbled surface (not later than AD 1543). At the time of writing samples are awaiting radiocarbon analyses to confirm whether the organic material from related deposits is also Anglian in date. These findings have major significance for our understanding of the development of pre-burghal Edinburgh and may be indicative of more extensive Dark Age occupation in the area than was previously thought to exist.

Medieval deposits and structures – A record of street repairs to the Grassmarket dates to AD 1543. The lowest cobbled surface exposed during the excavations, up to 2m below the modern ground surface, showed signs of repair; fragments of White Gritty pottery and horseshoes dating to the 11th–14th century AD were recovered from overlying deposits. In West Bow at the NE end of the Grassmarket a number of roughly coursed walls, bonded together with a clean mid brown clay, were exposed. These are most likely to represent medieval and early post-medieval street frontages. A short section of wall abutted by the medieval ground surface was exposed immediately to the E of the probable location of the West Port and may represent an adjoining structure.

The Flodden Wall – The heavily truncated remains of a 1.8m wide wall were encountered at the W end of the Grassmarket and were in line with the upstanding sections of the Flodden Wall along Grannys Green Steps and the Vennel. The wall was constructed from large sub-angular blocks of a hard igneous stone bonded together with a friable lime mortar; there was little obvious sign of deliberate coursing. The wall continued down beyond the limit of excavation, with a 4 x 1.8 x 0.4m section being exposed.

Corn Exchange buildings – A sandstone structure bonded together with lime mortar was exposed at the E end of the Grassmarket and may relate to the 18th-century covered platform that served as the first Corn Exchange. The surrounding deposits were heavily truncated by modern activity.

Sandstone pads and piles representing the foundations of the 19th-century three-storey Corn Exchange building were encountered at the W end of the Grassmarket. These foundation pads were typically 1 x 1 x 0.5m, though the corner foundations were more substantial at up to 1 x 1 x 1.8m. These foundations lay beneath the columns of the arcaded edifice. The structure was demolished by the third quarter of the 19th century, having been replaced by a new Corn Exchange on the S side of the Grassmarket in 1849.

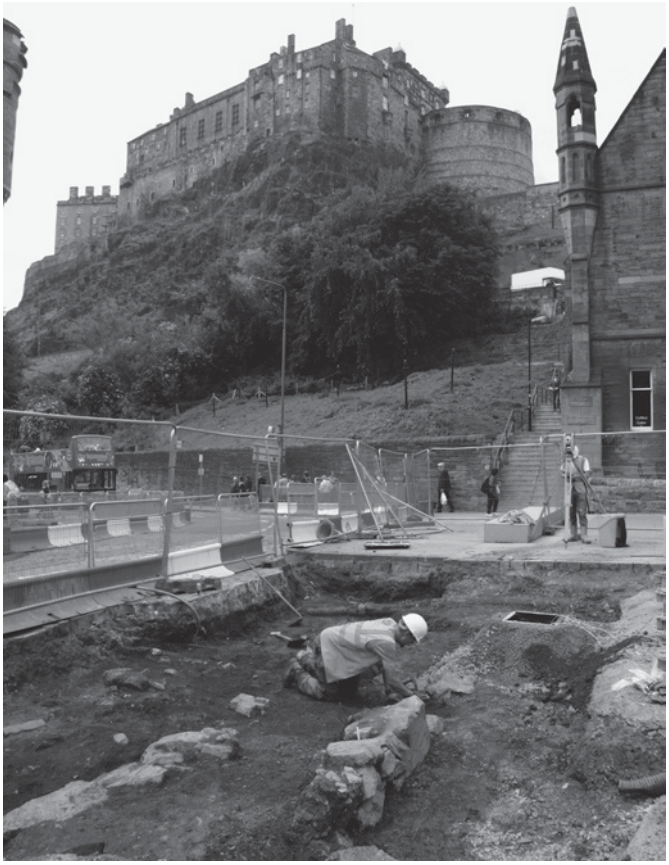
Drainage system – An elaborate system of stone-built culverts was encountered throughout the Grassmarket with two main E/W arterial culverts fed by numerous smaller N/S drains. All the culverts encountered were inactive. Finds recovered from in the culverts dated to the late 18th and 19th centuries. Cobbles representing the 19th-century ground surface were found to abut one of the culverts, suggesting that the lintel stones of these drains lay at the level of the contemporary ground surface.

WW1 bomb crater – A crater greater than or equal to 8m in diameter and up to 1.7m in depth was found in the middle of the Grassmarket, outside the White Hart Inn. This crater is the result of the high explosive bomb dropped on the night of 2 April 1916 by the German navy Zeppelin L-14. Four people were injured, one of whom later died from wounds sustained in the attack.

Most of the deeper excavations were in the central E/W corridor of the Grassmarket, with the depth of excavation around the edges of the area seldom exceeding 1m. The depth of deposits suggests that more deposits and features of archaeological significance are likely to be found if any further work takes place on the southern side of the Grassmarket, below the existing road and in the natural base of the valley.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: City of Edinburgh Council and RJ Mcleod Ltd



View of a section of the Flodden Wall, image courtesy of John Lawson (CECAS)

Chalmers Street

Evaluation

Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 25274 72876; NT 25314 72886; NT 25340 72807; NT 25292 72804 An evaluation was carried out on 24–25 June 2008 prior to development. Five trenches, just over 5% of the development area, were excavated exposing drains and remains of Victorian terraced houses demolished at the

end of the 20th century. Large areas of the site appeared to have been truncated in the recent past and no significant archaeological remains were discovered.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: UNITE

Charteris Land Building, 15 St John Street, Edinburgh
Evaluation and watching brief
Linda Somerville and Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 2637 7362 Work was undertaken March–November 2008 prior to the construction of an extension. A single trench of 10m² was excavated. This revealed deep deposits of made ground consisting of clayey gravel, mixed with thin re-deposited soils and mortar lenses. Occasional post-medieval finds were recovered. A watching brief during construction on two additional areas recorded deep deposits of made ground but no features or deposits of archaeological significance.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: The University of Edinburgh

Citadel Youth Centre, Commercial Street, Leith
Watching brief
Leonard McKinney – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 2661 7661 A watching brief was maintained, 14–15 November 2007, as five test pits and three boreholes were excavated for geotechnical purposes. Up to 1.6m of made ground was recorded, overlying boulder clay natural. No significant archaeological remains were discovered.
Archive: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Gray, Marshall & Associates for City of Edinburgh Council

Craigmillar Castle
Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 283 705 Prior to resurfacing shallow excavations were carried out 2–16 November 2007. The existing gravel and the deposits below it were removed to a depth of *c*150mm over much of the courtyard.

The fine-grained sandstone bedrock was exposed in a few areas. This sandstone is an excellent building material and was probably used for much of the construction at this site. Outside the courtyard an E/W ridge of bedrock was used as the site for the original tower.

Along the limit of the castle, on the S side in particular, is a low cliff line whose edge is followed by masonry. The drop is less dramatic on the N side of the site, but the fact that bedrock was exposed along the base of the tower demonstrates that it sits on the summit of a low ridge.

The excavations uncovered the upper deposits of an interesting and complex site that has seen little modern disturbance. Although the shallow nature of the excavations made it difficult to interpret fully the many features exposed, the work demonstrated the significant archaeological potential of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Cramond Management Plan – Roman Fort
Excavation and evaluations
Martin Cook and Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1900 7688 Work was undertaken, August–October 2008, to enable the formulation of an appropriate mitigation strategy for the future protection, conservation and interpretation of the Roman remains. The works consisted of three elements; the excavation of the two barrack blocks and evaluations of the granary building and the eastern entrance of the Roman fort.

The work was successful in identifying previously known features in Barrack Block B, but more importantly *in situ* deposits in Barrack block A and Trenches B and C. Fresh evidence for the phasing of the buildings was recovered and a large selection of artefacts was recovered. These included metalwork, coins and ceramics relating to the Roman occupation, and medieval ceramics and metalwork.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council and Historic Cramond Management Group

Cramond Roman Fort
Magnetometry survey
David Jones – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NT 192 769 A magnetometry survey was conducted in parkland to the E of Cramond House, covering the same area as a previous resistive survey (*DES* 2004, 53 and 2005, 63). Correlation between resistive and magnetic printouts is good, with the latter showing more fine detail. The line of the postulated upcast, ditch and wall/bank on the edge of the raised beach was confirmed. Significant anomalies to the S of this could be either Roman or garden features from the 1680 Cramond House. Some large magnetic features do not align with resistive anomalies and could represent the sites of ovens, pottery and tile kilns or forges.
Funder: Historic Scotland, Cramond and Harthill Estates, Dr Peter Morris and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Cramond Walled Garden
Test pitting
Martin Cook and Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1909 7677 A programme of test pitting was carried out 19–20 November 2007 before the extension of a play park. The new park falls inside the SAM of Cramond Roman Fort (NT17NE 3.00). No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Cramond Management Group

Edinburgh Military Tattoo Grandstand, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade
Watching brief
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 2531 7350 Monitoring of site investigation works was carried out in February 2008. The works included the excavation of seven test pits to examine the foundations of the Tattoo grandstands and 16 test pits at borehole locations, to investigate the depth and quality of the underlying bedrock. Deep deposits of made ground were encountered. Fragments of disarticulated human bone were also recovered from one test pit. In Princes Street Gardens made ground overlay either undated buried soils or concrete foundations for Raker supports for an earlier Esplanade Wall. Finds dating from the medieval period to the 20th century were recovered.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Thomas and Adamson on behalf of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo Company

Edinburgh Tram Scheme
Watching brief
Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 1740 7275 to NT 2995 7595 A watching brief was undertaken, 10 May–October 2008, on service diversions ahead of construction of the Edinburgh tram system and at the location of the Tram Depot at Gogarburn. The excavations for the service diversions consisted of linear trenches running the

length of Leith Walk, Constitution Street and at Haymarket.

Monitoring the excavations revealed that the upper parts of Leith Walk are formed from thick layers of made ground, deposited in the 19th century when the houses lining the street were constructed. Several cable tunnels relating to the old tram network of Edinburgh were found in these deposits.

The results from Constitution Street and the lower parts of Leith Walk were more interesting, with the line of the defensive town ditch of Leith, originally constructed in the 16th and rebuilt in the 17th century being discovered. Road surfaces on two early routes into Leith at Queen Charlotte Street and the Kirkgate were also recorded. Both routes contained a series of cobbled and earthen surfaces interleaved with midden deposits. Where the trenches ran close to the South Leith Parish Church four articulated burials and a large spread of disarticulated human bone were recovered, as well as an architectural fragment that probably came from a 15th-century building. Various isolated features of more recent date were also recorded.

At the junction of Dalry Road and Haymarket Terrace a number of features including a well, two culverts and a chamber were found. The well was under one edge of the excavated trench so only one half of the structure was visible. It was circular, with a diameter of 1.2m, and was constructed of sandstone blocks. A piece of 16th- to 17th-century pottery was recovered from the backfill of the construction cut. The well was preserved *in situ*.

The excavation of a narrow service trench immediately to the S of the well uncovered two stone-built culverts. Their orientation and projected line suggest that they are related to the well but this could not be confirmed.

The chamber was to the N of the well and was surveyed by CCTV for health and safety reasons. The chamber appears to be related to the cable-powered tram system that operated in Edinburgh from the 1890s. Map evidence suggests that the chamber was at a point where the rails crossed each other. The chamber was in good condition but any machinery relating to its use had been stripped out, probably when the cable-powered trams were replaced with electric power in the 1920s.

Funder: Carillion plc

Edinburgh Tramworks: Auguring the town ditch at Kirkgate, Leith

Edinburgh Tram Scheme – Gogar Church

Excavation and preservation in situ

Heather F James – GUARD

NT 169 725 Medieval remains were recorded during previous archaeological work at Gogarburn, to the W of this area, and an evaluation of the corridor of the Edinburgh tram scheme indicated an area that required further archaeological investigation (Sneddon and Will 2006). Four areas were investigated to the S and E of Gogar Church, 21 April–14 July 2008.

Site 2A consisted of a medieval cobbled courtyard which had been discovered during the initial evaluation. Excavation revealed a significant range of archaeological remains, including a corn-drying kiln, a complex medieval ditch system (which produced numerous medieval sherds and a copper alloy ring) and a possible medieval well. These features were cut by both stone-filled and ceramic field drains.

Site 2B consisted of a rough cobbled surface at a depth of 1.5m. Sherds of medieval pottery and clay pipe fragments were retrieved from the surface of the cobbles and from overlying layers. A linear feature containing only medieval pottery may be the remnants of a medieval field or property boundary. The layers sealing the medieval features consisted of re-deposited ploughsoil and building debris from the demolished 19th- and 20th-century buildings. A well found just outside the construction corridor was marked on an early 19th-century plan but had gone out of use by 1829. It was recorded and backfilled with gravel.

Site 2C consisted of rough cobbling of probable medieval date at a depth of *c*1.2m below the current ground surface. Several sherds of medieval pottery and a late medieval coin were retrieved. The cobbling was sealed by deep deposits of re-deposited ploughsoil and building debris. The corner of a 19th-century building was also found, possibly the village school.

Site 2D consisted of a possible medieval trackway with drainage ditches or hedgerows on either side. Ruts cut into natural subsoil beneath were probably cart tracks. Remnants of a ring ditch and an ephemeral curving ditch also indicate that there was more activity towards the northern edge of the site. The remaining features were predominantly either stone-filled field drains or ceramic field drains.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Transport Initiative Edinburgh and The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh Tram Scheme – Gogar Mains

Excavation

Heather F James – GUARD

NT 157 727 An evaluation of the corridor of the Edinburgh tram scheme had brought to light an area where further archaeological investigation was required (Sneddon and Will 2006). Two excavations were undertaken 25 February–18 April 2008.

Site 1 revealed significant archaeological remains in the form of several structures which ranged in date from the Neolithic to the Iron Age. These structures included a possible Bronze Age burial, a palisaded enclosure, five possible timber-built round-houses, a possible corn-drying kiln and windbreak and a dense concentration of postholes and pits surrounding a corn-drying kiln.

Site 1A revealed plough-marks and a small number of features. In addition, a standing building survey was undertaken of a WW2 pill box which was due for demolition.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Transport Initiative Edinburgh

Edmonstone Estate, Old Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh

Survey and evaluation

Charlotte Francoz and Alan Leslie – GUARD

NT 299 699 (centred on) In January 2008 a survey and

evaluation were undertaken ahead of proposed development. A photographic survey and recording programme were conducted to provide a general appraisal of the construction, character and condition of several surviving upstanding components of the designed landscape which surrounded the former Edmonstone House. These remains included an unconsolidated ha-ha (one of several on the estate) to the E of the extant stable block. The survey confirmed that the ha-ha had been adapted and repaired over time and is now in a poor state of repair. It also identified surviving structural features, such as three former gateways and two possible abandoned wells on the eastern belt of the ha-ha. Three non-archaeological sections previously cut through the ha-ha to the S of the stable block were cleaned and recorded. The sections showed that construction method of the ha-ha varied along its course, fitting the topography. Two further trenches were opened. The first, at the southern end of the estate, revealed the foundation of the ha-ha below an existing entranceway, suggesting that this opening was a later addition. Due to the lack of datable finds the date of the ha-ha is unknown. We carried out photographic recording and survey of a stone-built culvert, a series of wells and a sunken wall running N/S in the SE quadrant of the estate.

A total of 96 trenches were opened in March 2008 as part of a 5% evaluation of areas proposed for tree planting throughout the estate. Substantial quantities of masonry were uncovered in four trenches.

The stone foundations of a possible boiler house were revealed to the W of the estate's walled garden. This garden may have been in place by the late 18th century; a complex 'hot-wall' system fed hot air through cavities in the walls and through pipes beneath the ground to heat the garden, allowing exotic plants to be cultivated (Montgomery, 1984). Further investigation may shed light on the processes involved in heating the former greenhouses next to the walled garden. NW of these foundations the remains of a substantial sandstone wall were exposed.

A possible soak-away was found to the NW of the stable block, and we located the upper part of a stone-built culvert in the NW quadrant of the estate. A track leading to the stable block was exposed, revealing evidence of recent re-levelling and resurfacing in tarmac. This made the accurate recording of the sequence of construction difficult to determine. Rig and furrow indicated extensive agricultural activity across the site, and a number of trenches revealed stone-built field drains.

The evaluation also encountered numerous features, structures and deposits associated with mining, concentrated in the eastern part of the estate. Other modern uses of the landscape included demolition deposits and made ground surfaces, resulting from the construction of the ha-ha and estate boundary walls. NE of the stable block a shallow ditch exposed in three trenches appeared to be parallel to the ha-ha.

No evidence for prehistoric or medieval activity was found though on the E side of the estate three trenches revealed a possible Roman road. A Roman road might be expected in this area, representing either the continuation of Dere Street, or a major spur from it leading on to the Forth-Clyde isthmus. However, no dating evidence was recovered and the remains were badly disturbed by both recent ploughing and mining. Further investigation would be required to confirm the date and route of the road.

Montgomery, G. (1984) *A History of Newton Parish.* Privately published.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Boskabelle Ltd

56 and 58 Fountainbridge, Semple Street, Edinburgh
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2470 7305 Building recording was undertaken in February 2007 at the site of the former meat market, constructed in 1884 at the corner of Semple Street and Fountainbridge. Although much of the interior had been renovated to accommodate a restaurant, some elements of early (although not original) features associated with the meat market were identified and recorded. The exterior of the building still retained much of its original character with large round-headed openings and a decorative iron gate on the S elevation and a rising pediment with a date stone above.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Hanover Cube LLP

Gogar Bank, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Melanie Johnson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1669 7275 A watching brief was carried out on 5 December 2007 during the controlled demolition of a badger sett next to Gogar Burn. No archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS and CECAS SMR
Funder: Tie Ltd

Gogar Burn Sediment Management Project, Edinburgh
Recording and watching brief
Melanie Johnson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1726 7222 Work was undertaken between November 2007 and March 2008 on the site of sediment management works along the Gogar Burn. The work consisted of remedial measures including the cutting back of a section of the southern bank and two smaller sections of the northern bank. These banks were cleaned by hand and recorded prior to works commencing. A watching brief was then conducted during all ground-breaking works. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were uncovered.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: The City of Edinburgh Council

Hermitage of Braid
Findspot
Christopher A-Kelly
NT 2542 7048 A fragment of tile, 3.5mm thick, was found in the path immediately S of the ha-ha, at the northern edge of the Hermitage. The inward-sloping edges and peg hole in the upper surface indicate it was probably of a type imported from Flanders in the late 15th or early 16th centuries. Although well-worn, a fragment of white slip survived on the upper surface, indicating it was of the type with a white slip overlain by a yellow glaze. It may have come from the nearby mansion of Braid, depicted as 'Bread', on the N side of the Braid Burn, on Adair's 1682 map of Midlothian.

High Court, Lawnmarket, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Sarah Lynchehaun – AOC Archaeology
NT 2562 7363 A watching brief was undertaken, 10–12 June 2008, in the basement of the High Court during ground-breaking works associated with the creation of lift access. A 0.6m deep layer of mortar, set into natural bedrock and believed to be part of the building's wall foundations was recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Morris and Spottiswood

Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2690 7396 A watching brief was maintained, 22 February–20 March 2008, during the excavation of a service trench running N from the N wall of the Palace of Holyroodhouse past the W end of Holyrood Abbey. The trench followed the line of a previous pipe trench as closely as possible to avoid disturbing any previously unbroken ground.

Towards the S end of the trench there was a concentration of human bone in the backfill. An E–W aligned grave was also recorded at the SW corner of the N tower of the abbey. This burial had been cut through by the earlier pipe trench. It is likely that more than one grave had been cut by the initial pipe trench but only one definite grave was identified with fragments of bone visible in both sides of the trench. At the SW corner of the N corner tower an area of concrete was revealed below the foundations which may represent a repair to the corner of the foundations of the N corner tower.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Holyrood Park, Edinburgh

Findspot

Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland

NT 2811 7310 Large flint scraper (L 49 x B 46 x Th 13mm), probably Late Neolithic in date, found on the surface in 2008 by Mr and Mrs Hartley just to the S of Dunsapie Loch, where there was erosion along a track.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 15/08) and allocated to City of Edinburgh Museums

Holyrood Park – Arthur's Seat

Site inspection

Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2793 7306 A site inspection was carried out on 22 January 2008 on an area disturbed by vehicles. The wheel ruts were inspected to see if there was any damage to buried archaeology. The soft ground, reflecting poor drainage, has created a deep humic layer towards the top of the natural profile. This deposit has obscured any obvious signs of occupation activity at least to the depth observed in the wheel ruts, and there was no visible evidence of any archaeological features.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Holyrood Park – Bowling Green and Tennis Court

Watching brief

Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2706 7393 A watching brief was maintained, 4–22 February 2008, during the removal of bowling green and tennis court surfaces. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Holyrood Park – Orientation Signs

Watching brief

Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 274 732 (centred on) A series of watching briefs was maintained, 22–26 September 2008, during the excavation of small trenches at various locations around Holyrood Park. This work was to allow the installation of 13 orientation signs inside the entrances to the park. Where possible the signs were wall-mounted or fixed to railings or gates. However, seven of the signs required trenches to be dug for concrete bases. The seven trenches measured a uniform 1.35m x 0.6m and were 0.4m deep and were located as follows – (1) NT 2676 7360, (2) NT 2701 7371, (3) NT 2771 7401, (4) NT 2654 7334, (5) NT 2657 7292, (6) NT 2695 7272 and (7) NT 2825 7268.

The deposits encountered were predominantly modern, showing much recent disturbance or landscaping, although in some places there were undisturbed horizons, possibly 18th-century.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Holyrood Park – Service Trench

Watching brief and standing building recording

Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2695 7409 to NT 2713 7401 A watching brief was maintained, 4–12 December 2007, during the excavation of a new service trench. The trench ran from a point opposite the entrance to Croft An Righ House to a point just W of the Education Centre. The cut consisted of three sections.

The first ran S along Croft-An-Righ towards the entrance to Holyrood Park, a distance of *c*35m. The next section ran diagonally across the present tarmac roadway to meet up with N side of the path to the Education Centre, a distance of *c*20m. The third trench was cut along the N side of the existing path leading to the Education Centre, *c*110 m. The N/S section of the walling along the E side of Croft An Righ was also examined.

The area generally affected by the service trench was formed as a result of landscaping over various late medieval structures and road alignments from the early 18th century to the later 19th century. The present N area of the park largely represents the infill of a shallow slope which runs down from a point a short distance N of the tennis courts. At its deepest the infill is up to 1m deep (on the evidence of the threshold of a surviving door in the residual N wall of the park).

Based on the sequence of building, excavated evidence from the first section of the trench and historic map evidence three episodes of activity were identified.

1) Mid 17th to mid 18th century – Masonry may represent parts of the 17th- and 18th-century layout of walls at the S end of Croft-An-Righ. There is evidence to indicate the gateway was still in place in 1742.

2) Mid 18th to mid 19th century – The gateway was rebuilt a short distance to the N, with the construction of a stone buttress/gate pier with an associated cross wall. A slot received the E gate post. The earlier cross wall/gateway complex was dismantled. The main section of walling defining the E side of Croft-An-Righ was built against the new buttress.

3) Mid 19th century to present – Removal of the last gateway, levelling of the cross wall and establishment of present setts/roadway.

The second section of trench exposed modern road construction, and in the third section, the sequence of deposits reflected periodic landscaping since the late 19th century, when the area was raised and levelled by up to 0.5m to create the present park and plantation. A rubble spread may be levelling or demolition debris from reduced residual walls associated with the late medieval abbey/palace plan.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

James Braidwood Statue, Parliament Square, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 257 735 A watching brief was undertaken 9–10 July 2008

on groundworks associated with the erection of a statue. The fragmentary remains of a mortar bonded sandstone wall were identified. No other significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Ironside Farrar

43 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh
Excavation
Paul Masser – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2601 7372 An excavation carried out from 28 May–2 September 2008 between the High Street and Jeffrey Street, produced evidence for the development of the Old Town from the 15th–19th centuries. The work followed a previous evaluation in 2002 (*DES* 2002, 50) which had identified two areas where pre-19th-century structures and deposits survived.

Area A consisted of buildings on either side of Paisley Close, which originally extended through the site from the High Street. A small number of truncated medieval pits were identified in the W half of the area, between Paisley Close and Bailie Fyfe's Close. The earliest buildings post-dated these and are thought to have been built in the late 16th or early 17th centuries.

Part of a cellar was excavated at the N end of the site, to the W of Paisley Close. Another building to the S of this cellar had been divided along its length into three rooms, all of which contained floor deposits of ash and cinders. The central room contained hearth structures that appear to be related to metalworking. Floor deposits in the cellar and the adjoining building indicate that they were occupied into the early 18th century. Two adjoining cellars were accessed by a single flight of steps to the E of Paisley Close. The cellar to the N contained midden deposits dating from the 17th century that may have accumulated while the building was occupied. Fragmentary remains of paving were identified in Paisley Close overlying a culvert which ran the length of the close.

Comprehensive redevelopment in Area A, probably in the mid/late 18th century, produced the layout recorded on the town plan of 1854. The late 16th- to early 17th-century buildings to the W of Paisley Close were levelled and replaced

Jeffrey St, Edinburgh: 16th-century Maiolica tile – only five similar examples have been recorded in Scotland; all of which have come from the Canongate, two being recovered during excavations at Jeffrey St

Jeffrey St Area A – buildings on either side of Paisley Close

by a yard to the S, with a building to the N with its floor at ground level. To the E of Paisley Close, a building constructed over the backfilled cellar to the N, contained cobbled floor surfaces and deposits of cinder and slag that suggest it may have functioned as a workshop. The cellar to the S seems to have been retained for coal storage.

A further phase of redevelopment had occurred by the time the revised OS town plan of 1881 was produced. A single building, probably a large tenement, replaced the earlier buildings to the E of Paisley Close. The 1881 map shows that by this date the buildings to the N of Area A had been demolished.

Area B consisted of the area between North Greys Close on the W, and Morrison's Close on the E. A medieval soil horizon was preserved throughout the northern half of the area, and at the extreme N end medieval property boundary walls had been sealed by later medieval landscaping activity. There were a number of pits of medieval and 16th-century date associated with the medieval ground surface, some of which were filled with midden-like deposits. There was also an isolated cluster of medieval pits in the extreme S of the area.

Area B does not appear to have become built up until, at the earliest, the 17th century. Two cellars in the N of the area were probably 18th-century and were backfilled in the early 19th century. An area to the S of this appears to have been open land until the 18th century, and contained a cesspit. In the central part of the area the 17th-century wall footing of a substantial N/S-aligned building and the cobbled surface of a narrow lane running alongside it survived. This structure appears to have remained in use until the 19th century, although probably with some rebuilding on old wall footings. At the very S end of Area B another cellar survived, probably originally 18th-century, although it had been used up until the early 20th century. Abutting this structure were industrial structures, probably kilns or ovens, of 18th- or 19th-century date.

Much of the earlier archaeology was disturbed by the construction of a tannery within the site. This construction began in the 1830s, with a group of tanning pits being built into the backfilled cellars in the N of the area. Further expansion of the tannery in the 1860s seems to have incorporated the wall footings of earlier structures, and added more tanning pits in the central part of the site. Later modern development resulted in the terracing of the area, resulting in the truncation of the 19th-century tannery and earlier deposits.

Funder: Capital Land (Holdings) Ltd

Kings Stables Road, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Edward Bailey – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 24945 73462 A watching brief was undertaken, 27 February–20 May 2008, to monitor ground-breaking works as part of a project to landscape the entrance area to the Princes Street gardens. Excavation was carried out, to a minimum depth of 0.3m, on either side of the entrance, to 1.4m for drain pits on Kings Stables Road, to a depth of up to 1.4m into the raised earth bank, just inside the entrance to the gardens.

During the work the foundation of a 19th-century structure was exposed below the current road surface. Deposits containing 19th-century artefacts extended beyond the limit of excavation on both sides of the Princes Street gardens wall. All deposits related to the landscaping associated with the creation of the gardens and the raising of Kings Stables Road.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Peter McGowan Associates

Land adjacent to Whitehill Road, Kinnaird South, Newcraighall

Evaluation

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 3120 7152 A 5% evaluation of a proposed development site was carried out in August 2008. The work identified the fragmentary remains of sandstone walls and disturbed cobbled surfaces that may relate to a building depicted on an 1828 map of the area.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: City of Edinburgh SMR

Funder: Commissioned by Montagu Evans LLP – per South Yorkshire Pensions Authority

Leith Street

Watching brief

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2599 7412 A watching brief was undertaken January–July 2008 on all ground-breaking works associated with development of the site. A series of buildings associated with the post-medieval use of the area were identified and fully recorded, prior to their removal. No other significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Kilmartin Property Group

Liberton Road

Evaluation

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 271 704 An evaluation was carried out, 25–27 March 2008, in advance of a residential development. Two trenches, covering an area of 100m², were excavated through up to 2m of made ground. The E edge of a mill lade shown on the 1st Edition OS map was identified, but no trace of the associated mill complex was found. No other significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Applecross Properties Ltd

Mariner's Church, Leith

Standing building assessment

Anya Rardin – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2678 7662 A assessment of this building was carried out, 18 December–16 January 2008, prior to its redevelopment. The work established that the building, elements of which date to the 19th century, had three phases of construction with additional minor alterations.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Jonel Properties Limited

Mariner's Church, Leith

Standing building recording

Suzanne Lilley – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2678 7662 A Level 2 historic building recording survey was undertaken, 22–23 September 2008. Mariner's church was designed by John Henderson and built in 1839. It was built either in a single phase, or two consecutive phases. The form of the church shown in the earliest map of 1849 is a single galleried church room with school rooms to the W, largely as it appears today. Externally the church is a good example of Gothic architecture with a W tracery window and two spires with blind lancet windows. The interior of the church had been stripped during renovation and the schoolrooms had been fully renovated prior to the commissioning of this report. The recording involved a full photographic and written survey.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: MCP Mariners Ltd

Mary Kings Close, Edinburgh

Survey

Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2575 7366 Following an archaeological assessment in 2002 the site was revisited, 3–7 December 2007, in order to complete a condition survey using the previous survey results as a baseline record. The survey also aimed to record the alterations made since 2002, to record any deterioration in previously recorded features and to make recommendations to prevent further deterioration.

Since the 2002 assessment the site has been opened as a visitor attraction, leading to an increase in visitor numbers and alterations to some of the components to enhance the visitor experience or improve safety.

The compact earth floors of some rooms along the route of visitor tours have deteriorated, as have some plaster surfaces along the route. However, the impact of tours on the archaeological fabric is significantly reduced by practical measures put in place by the attraction's staff, such as new flooring and suggestions to visitors to look but not touch. For example, this has resulted in no further deterioration of 'Mr Chesney's house' since 2002.

Themed lighting and installations have had little negative impact on the site. The lighting was suspended from pre-existing electrical services. Most of the installations are almost free-standing, secured by rawl plugs in the masonry and would appear to be reversible to pre-2002 conditions if this were deemed necessary.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Continuum Group Ltd

Moredun House, Edinburgh

Standing building recording

George Geddes and Alistair Robertson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2881 6904 A survey was carried out, 1–25 April 2008, of a freestanding wall which forms part of a stable group lying immediately NE of the site of the Murray Home (now demolished) and Moredun House (demolished around 1929 and also known as Goodtrees/Gutters). The wall formed part of a group of category B listed buildings (HB Number 43262). It was not part of the earlier main house but formed part of the associated stables (NT26NE 35.03) which probably date from the 18th century. The surviving complete block dates to the 19th century. The wall is constructed of random rubble and retains an early doorway with a heavily worn roll moulded lintel as the cill. Additions against the NW face are 19th-century.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mottram Patrick Partnership

14 Old Church Lane, Duddingston

Watching brief

Jenni Morrison – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 2842 7266 Work carried out in July 2008 during the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension was required due to the medieval origins of Duddingston and the proximity of Holyrood Park. No significant archaeological remains were encountered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Mr Craig Douglas

Parliament House, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2580 7350 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 16 July 2008 during the excavation of two small trial pits in a courtyard close to Fishmarket Close at Parliament House. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Scottish Court Service

Parliament Square, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

Work was undertaken, 10 December 2007–14 January 2008, to address the potential impact of minor development work at two sites.

NT 25770 73567 Parliament Square – A substantial sandstone wall relating to a former 18th-century tenement was recorded.

NT 25727 73472 The Close to the West of the Solicitor's Building – Human remains in the form of two truncated inhumations were discovered. They represented the remains of an adult and a child. The skeletons were recorded and reburied *in situ*.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Scottish Court Service

Powderhall Bailey Bridge, Edinburgh

Desk-based assessment and recording

I Hill and P Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2570 7559 A Level 1 photographic survey was conducted in June 2008 to record the Powderhall Bailey Bridge prior to its demolition and replacement by a new walkway. The bridge was a 3-section Bailey Bridge of standard modular design. It was 52m in length with three 4m wide spanning sections. The bridge was supported on two iron piers and was 8.04m above the Water of Leith. Examination of archive material including photographs taken at the time of construction confirmed that the bridge is of standard Bailey format. The bridge had undergone minor episodes of repair since it was first constructed in 1948.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

RAF Turnhouse, Edinburgh

Desk-based assessment, standing building assessment and evaluation

Rob Engl and Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 160 741 (centred on) A desk-based and standing building assessment identified the buildings in the development area as a number of *c*1930s accommodation, service and welfare blocks and two gas decontamination blocks. The decontamination blocks were blast-proof, with a double brick wall, and banked to the exterior with turf. No significant archaeology was observed during evaluation of the site. Work was undertaken 15–17 April 2008 and on 2 May 2008.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Nisacrown Ltd

41 Ravenscroft Street, Gilmerton, Edinburgh

Watching brief

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2921 6847 A watching brief was carried out on 24 January 2008 during the exposure and removal of floor deposits in the Listed (Grade C) former pottery workshop. The modern wooden floor had a tar damp-proof layer, which overlay rubble and bedrock. A fragment of an earlier poured concrete floor also survived. A rock-cut drain was recorded leading from an outside toilet to the street. No artefacts were recovered.

Archive: CECAS SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Kenny Bullen and Rolf Whyte

17 Redhall House Drive

Evaluation

Linda Somerville – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 220 701 An evaluation was carried out, 27–28 May 2008. The site was considered archaeologically sensitive as the assumed route of a Roman road crosses the area. Eight trenches, 4% of the development, were excavated. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were uncovered.

Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Farningham and McCreadie Partnership

Shrub Hill Transport Depot, Edinburgh

Evaluation

Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2630 7515 Work was carried out, 16–17 April 2008, ahead of redevelopment. A desk-based assessment suggested that the first significant historical reference to the site was as a possible site of public executions in the 16th–17th centuries. In the 17th century the area was extensively quarried for mortar sand and in around 1800, Shrub House, a small country house and gardens was erected on the site. Shrub House and its gardens were gradually encroached upon by subsequent developments, including the Edinburgh Street Tramways stables and workshops. The horse-drawn trams were replaced by a cable system in the late 19th century, the development of which included the construction of a number of highly decorated brick buildings. The remainder of the site, including Shrub House, was demolished in the 1960s to be replaced by offices and sheds for East Lothian Transport.

The earliest recorded deposit was of glacial material, overlain with later deposits of windblown sands. The lack of windblown material toward the NW end of the site was thought to reflect 17th-century quarrying activity. This quarrying combined with the natural slope of the area accounts for the drop of over 3m in ground level from the front to the rear of the site.

Fragmentary sandstone walls were identified toward the centre of the site and these were thought to represent buildings associated with the Tramway Companys stores and stables, as depicted on the OS map of 1877.

Trenches excavated on the site of the former Shrub House revealed that the structure had been entirely demolished and the site comprehensively levelled. The only structural remains in the trenches relating to buildings erected in the 1970s.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Developer

SoCo South Bridge and Cowgate, Edinburgh

Excavation

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 259 734 Work was undertaken in response to the findings of an evaluation in April 2004. This showed that the southern part of the site was extensively terraced into the natural slope during the late 18th century, removing any earlier archaeology. The remainder of the site was overlain by deposits that increased in depth towards the Cowgate. These deposits ensured the survival of 18th- and 19th-century walls and small pockets of midden material that were presumed to be post-medieval, or perhaps medieval, in date (Dunbar 2004). The excavation carried out, 12 November–7 December 2007, revealed five distinct phases of activity.

Underlying the remnants of the 20th-century buildings, associated services and a series of brick access pits, were found the bases of 19th-century tenement walls. Some internal partitioning of the contemporary cellarage and an associated area of cobbles survived.

The 19th-century features truncated and overlay a number of 18th-century structures. These included a cobbled surface, a series of walls, some drains and discontinuous areas of stone flagging.

Underlying these were the traces of an earlier building with some intact architectural features and related drain systems.

The earliest phase of activity consisted of a substantial block of bonded masonry and the truncated remains of a large pit.

There was a sizable ceramics assemblage including a complete 'pirlie pig' money bank, a small collection of coins and worked bone, as well as animal bones and shellfish remains.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Whiteburn Cowgate Ltd, Edinburgh

Southbank, 145–147 Grange Loan, Edinburgh

Desk-based assessment and evaluation

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2509 7152 A desk-based assessment indicated that the site was not developed until the early 20th century and that Southbank was constructed as part of the Astley Ainslie Hospital after 1923. Three trenches, with a combined area of 81m^2, were excavated. These revealed deep deposits of made ground overlying angular stepped sandstone bedrock, which may have been quarried. No artefacts were recovered. Work was undertaken in July 2008.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: City of Edinburgh SMR

Funder: Commissioned by Queensberry Properties Ltd

St John's Church, Edinburgh

Evaluation

Edward Bailey – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 24810 73660 An evaluation consisting of peat probing and test pitting to a depth of 0.3m was undertaken in the churchyard on 29 April 2008. The work aimed to establish the depth and condition of any buried recumbent monuments and stub walls. Results indicate that virtually all plot walls present on the 1853 OS plan of the graveyard survive below ground level. Two buried recumbent monuments were also located.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Peter McGowan Associates

St Patrick's Church, South Grey's Close, Cowgate, Edinburgh

Evaluation and watching brief

R Will – GUARD

NT 2612 7361 Monitoring was carried out during work, September–November 2007. Several geotechnical cores of over 5m in depth were recovered. The cores contained evidence of human activity in the form of midden type material consisting of oyster shells and charcoal. The upper layers of the cores contained bands of mortar and building debris and sherds of medieval pottery.

A watching brief was also carried out during the excavation of a test trench to examine the foundations of the S wall of the church. This trench revealed the upper midden deposits and the deep masonry foundation piers that support the S wall of the church.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS

Funder: Archdiocese of Edinburgh

The Caledonian Alehouse, Haymarket, Edinburgh
Standing building recording
Anya Rardin – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2400 7320 A Level 3 historic building survey was undertaken, April 2008, prior to demolition. A written, drawn and photographic record of the building was produced. A small sub-basement beneath the adjacent steps leading to Haymarket Railway Station was also recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Graham Construction

The Mary Erskine School, Ravelston
Watching brief
Jürgen van Wessel – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2195 7400 A watching brief was undertaken 1–4 July 2008 on a topsoil strip in advance of the construction of a hockey pitch. It was thought that the remains of field or park boundaries relating to Ravelston House (NT27SW 127) might be in this area.

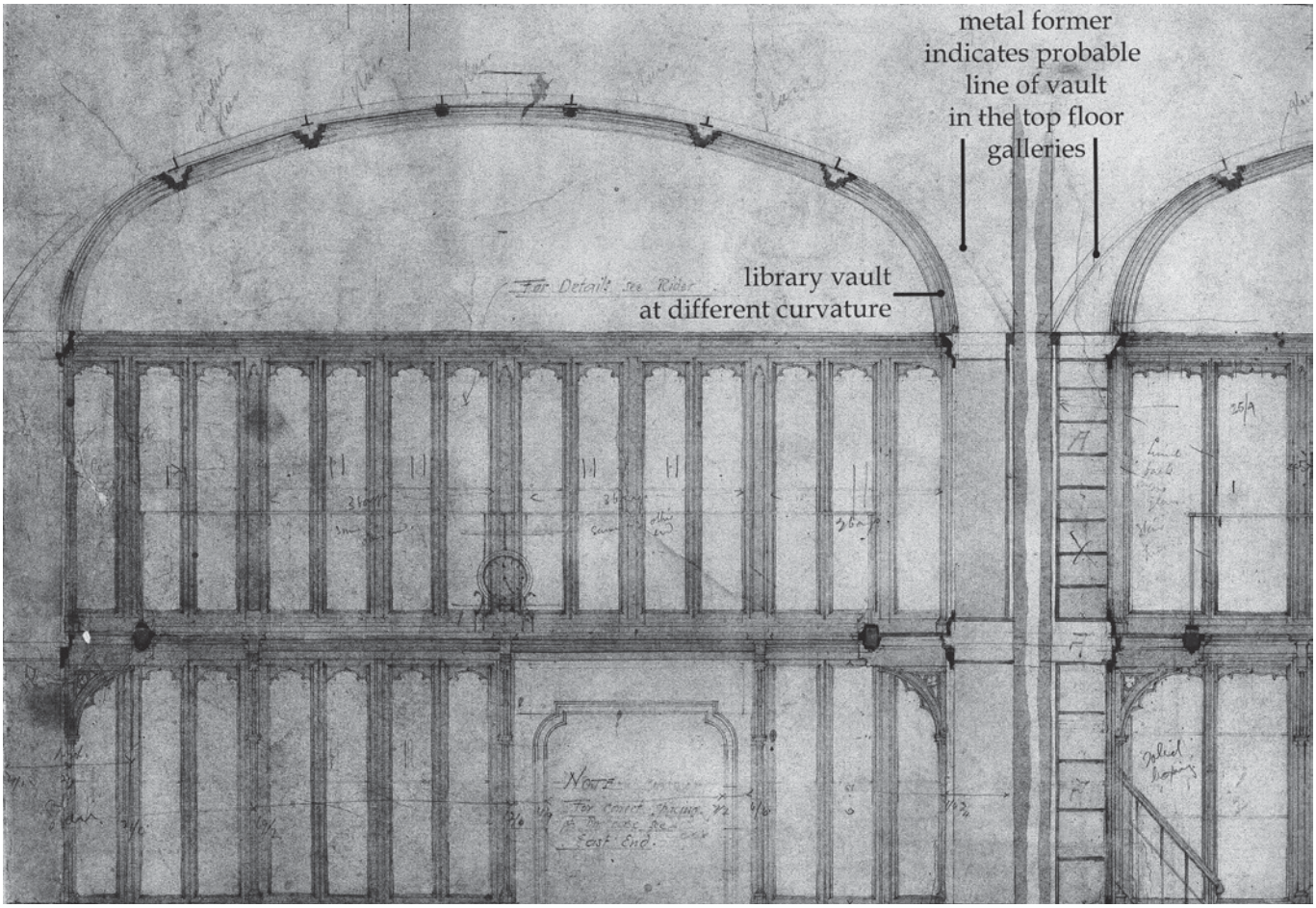
The topsoil was machine stripped and showed that 1960s groundworks for an earlier pitch had removed the original ground surface and disturbed much of the underlying glacial till. No remains of archaeological significance were encountered.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Erskine Stewart's Melville Schools

The Pleasance, Edinburgh
Historic building assessment and evaluation
S Lilley and D Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2638 7339 The historic building recording included an elevation survey of the 19th-century buildings facing the rear courtyard of the Centre for Sport and Exercise and the recording of the former air raid shelter in the lower basement. The archaeological evaluation consisted of five trenches covering a total area of 84m² in the rear courtyard. The trenches recorded a small number of features. The wall, concrete and sandstone surfaces are likely to pertain to the breweries built on the site during the mid-18th century. The landscaping deposits overlying these structures and buried garden soil deposits represent later development during the 19th century. Work was carried out August–October 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: University of Edinburgh

The Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh
Conservation plan
John Sanders, Jen Austin, Tanja Romankiewicz, Cath McFarlane and Joe Rock – Simpson and Brown Architects
NT 2557 7425. The building is a late 19th-century purpose-built museum and art gallery. It was endowed by John Ritchie Finlay in 1882, designed by Robert Rowand Anderson in a 13th-century French style, built in red sandstone, and completed in 1890. The similarities to and influences of Anderson's Mount Stuart House on Bute for the 3rd Marquess of Bute are notable (*DES* 2007, 45–46).

Research revealed the extent of alterations during the 20th century, notably the replacement of floor and ceiling structures for fireproofing. Documentary and physical evidence proved that no original ceilings and roof construction survive today. The W part of the building was originally used by the National Museum of Antiquities and the E by the Portrait Gallery.

The western part was fireproofed from 1914, introducing



Annotated detail of Robert Rowand Anderson's drawing for library detailing, January 1889, showing the original wooden vault. National Archives of Scotland, RHP6502/17 and Simpson & Brown Architects

new ceilings and roofs for the Museum of Antiquities. As part of these works the vaulted ceiling of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland library on the top floor was replaced. These works resulted in the loss of Anderson's ceiling for the library and the close correspondence between shelf detailing and ceiling construction of Anderson's original design was not reproduced in the new works.

Fireproofing works stopped with WW1 and were not resumed for the Portrait Gallery part until a fire threat in 1929. The Portrait Gallery side received new ceilings and roof in the 1930s, with a then state-of-the-art louvre fitting to diffuse lighting for the upper galleries. This was inspired by a contemporary construction at the Boyman Museum in Rotterdam, Netherlands. The different treatment of the ceilings is still visible today.

The later alterations are remarkable for the respect paid to the original building. The building is still perceived as a 19th-century museum and gallery despite comprehensive and extensive alterations during the 20th century. The conservation plan was produced on work undertaken May–November 2008.

Archive: National Galleries of Scotland
Funder: National Galleries of Scotland

The Yards, Duddingston Village, Edinburgh
Watching brief and standing building recording
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

NT 2830 7270 Investigation of the structures and walls (internal and boundary) at the property during 24 November 2007–24 April 2008 recorded the history of function, form and ownership relating to the re-establishment of Duddingston Village from the late 18th century.

During the 19th century the owners of Hawthorn Brae (to the E) and Bella Vista (to the W), used the areas for various functions, including a market garden, stables and bowling green. In the 20th century a structure now known as the Dairy was created from two pre-existing structures, and the upper level was developed with the building of a brick stables in the 1950s. The whole group is linked by a side vennel on the W and is built on three distinct levels or terraces into the lower slopes of Arthur's Seat to the N.

The most important, intact and visible alteration is a unifying screen wall that fronts the Causeway, uniting the property of Hawthorn Brae. This wall of yellow sandstone was built *c*1817 with the establishment of the Villa and grounds. Bella Vista's history of ownership, expansion and access is well recorded in the western boundary of the site.

As a whole, the site is a unique example of the development of Duddingston as a settlement for rich businessmen, with well appointed villas, private spaces and utilitarian buildings such as stables and a dairy.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Trinity House
Watching brief
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2460 7609 A watching brief was undertaken, 13 August–8 September 2007, during redevelopment work. No significant archaeological features or artefacts dating to earlier than the 19th century were identified.

Funder: Meyer Bergman

Trinity House
Excavation and standing building survey
Sarah Hogg and David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2699 7608 A programme of work was undertaken 17 December 2007–20 March 2008. Limited excavation in the N range revealed a complicated range of features. Many of these could not be physically related to each other. Despite this, a greater understanding has been gained of the most recent structure on this site, in particular its floor levels and internal divisions, which were built in two phases. Hints of earlier archaeological deposits were also noted. It is possible that another cellar or a large cut for the existing cellar could exist under the N range. The location directly opposite S Leith parish church, suggests that this area may have been an early focus for settlement.

During the standing building survey various features which pre-date the 1816–18 rebuild were identified. These include a possible 16th-century vault and a possible staircase or N/S wall built into the N wall. The whole of the E elevation and the E half of the S elevation definitely date to the 1816–18 build. The W half of the S elevation probably relates to this build, but could be a later insertion. Evidence for the 1816–18 roof only survives on the E wall and the E half of the S wall. It is likely that following the removal of the roof in the 20th century, the N wall, W wall and the W half of the S wall were reduced to a uniform height, repaired with bricks and rebuilt to create a flat course for coping slabs.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Tron Kirk
Excavation
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2592 7363 This site has been the subject of two previous excavations that identified the remains of a 17th-century street, Marlin's Wynd, and a series of associated cellars and features (Holmes 1976, 1986). Artefacts recovered included coins, ceramics, glass wear and clay pipes, all of which related to the post-medieval use of the area.

The recent November 2006–December 2007 works re-exposed previously identified remains associated with the 17th-century tenements and previously unknown cellars and buildings dating to the same period. The fragmentary remains of an early phase of the Royal Mile were exposed as well as the remains of five tenement buildings, including *in situ* floor remains and an area of probable industrial processing. The artefact assemblage consisted of material relating to the post-medieval occupation of the site and included seven coins, ceramics and clay pipes.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

Tynecastle High School, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NT 231 725 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on a range of dates between 12 February–8 July 2008 during the construction of a school. It was hoped that any remaining traces of buildings, shown on the 1896 OS map, would be located during the monitoring of soil stripping. The work revealed that the ground had been heavily disturbed during the construction of the City Roads Stone Depot around 1900. Made ground, under the stone cassies, was found to be up to 1.8m deep, suggesting that the water table had been a problem during the construction of the depot. No traces of the buildings shown on the 1896 OS map were discovered. During the excavation of an old sewer, a trench wall collapsed, revealing a barrel well which was then excavated.

The well was found to have been constructed in the 19th century, with voussoir bricks jammed in between the barrels and the cut for the well. Three barrels fitted with hazel hoops were recorded. The top one was probably softwood and the two below were oak. The lower barrel was under the water table and could not be investigated fully. The well probably related to one of the buildings shown on the 1896 OS map and may have been used as a domestic water supply. The barrels may have come from a nearby distillery or a local brewery.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Laing O' Rourke (Scotland) Ltd

Wanton Walls Farm, 103 Newcraighall Road, Edinburgh
Desk-based assessment, standing building recording and evaluation
Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 3222 7210 A programme of works was undertaken 18–27 August 2008. The steading was founded in the 18th century as part of agricultural improvements to Whitehill estate (later Newhailes). Due to its position at the SW extent of the Newhailes designed landscape, the steading was probably visible from the main house.

The steading is notable for the lack of 19th-century improvements and the ranges are rare survivals in their current form. Evidence of the house's development is largely obscured by harl and later internal fittings, though its history is clearly complex and includes the loss of an east wing. The building displays varied types of masonry and pantile roofs and has an agricultural character.

During the evaluation ten trenches (5% of the available land) were excavated. Made ground containing rubble and modern brick was encountered in all of the trenches. In most the made ground overlay buried topsoil sealing glacial till. In three trenches the made ground directly overlay the till, suggesting some parts of the site had been truncated.

Several cut features were recorded in glacial till. All were interpreted as relating to the known post-medieval occupation of the farm. The evaluation did not record any evidence for earlier settlement and it seems likely that the farmstead was created on a greenfield site in the 18th century.
Funder: PPCA Ltd

4 West Mills Road, Colinton, Edinburgh
Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Kieran Haines – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 2125 6870 Work was undertaken on 14 February 2008 prior to development. Five evaluation trenches, totalling just over 5% of the development area, recorded the remains of a modern wall.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Change Homes (West Mill Road) Ltd, Cala Management Ltd, Bank of Scotland

102 West Port, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2507 7318 Monitoring was undertaken, 17 March–18 July 2008, on groundworks associated with redevelopment. A series of sandstone walls, a culvert and a possible well were identified. All features are thought to relate to the post-medieval occupation of the site. No other significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Kenmore Property Ltd

Kirkliston

Clifton Hall School Pavilion
Watching brief
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 109 709 No archaeological features or artefacts were recorded during monitoring 24 April–13 June 2008 prior to the construction of a new kitchen block.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Cairns Ford and Yuill Architects

Former Distillery Company Works, Kirkliston
Excavation
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1225 7419 Excavation was undertaken in three areas of the development, 15 May 2007–19 June 2008. The work exposed structures and deposits relating to the early development of the distillery, including stone-built walls and a mill lade. Scarring on one of the walls indicated the former presence of a large water wheel. Additional structures that may have been associated with the earlier Lambs Mill were also recorded. An additional excavation of a 28m² area was undertaken in June 2008. A truncated brick flue with associated stone built wall, overlying an earlier stone lined culvert, was recorded during this work.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Kenmore Homes (UK) Ltd

Garage at 25/27 High Street, Kirkliston
Watching brief
Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NT 1259 7432 A watching brief was undertaken on 2 September 2008 during the excavation of foundation trenches for a garage. Evidence was found of the N edge of an E/W ditch running parallel to High Street and for a narrow linear feature at right-angles to the frontage. Pottery suggests that the ditch may have been backfilled in the 15th – 18th centuries. The narrow feature contained a single sherd of 12th- to 15th-century pottery.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Landowner

Glasgow Road, Ratho Station, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1308 7260 A watching brief was carried out, March–July 2008, during groundworks for a hotel/office development. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Ratho Ventures Ltd

Ingliston Park and Ride Phase 2, Newbridge, Edinburgh
Watching brief
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1538 7268 A watching brief was carried out in November 2007 during groundworks for an extension to a park and ride scheme. Numerous field drains of the rubble 'soakaway' type and ceramic 'horseshoe' type were identified, indicating that this area was extensively drained during the 18th and 19th centuries for agricultural purposes. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: RJ McLeod Contractors Ltd

2A Kirkliston Road, Newbridge
Excavation
Rob Engl and Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 121 733 An excavation carried out, 7–28 April 2008, recorded a variety of archaeological features dispersed across the southern and central parts of the development area. Numerous ditches and pits, which appear to form part of a medieval field system, occupied the northern part of the site, together with two associated corn-drying kilns.

In the central area numerous pits, including a group of prehistoric pits which probably formed a timber structure, were recorded surrounding a stone-built hearth. In the southern end of the area there were four possible roundhouse structures each defined by a combination of ring grooves, ring-ditches and internal postholes. A substantial linear stone structure, probably a road, crossed the southern end of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Gordon Murray and Alan Dunlop Architects on behalf of Rooster II LLP

North Kirkliston
Evaluation
Victoria Clements and Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1217 7507, NT 1268 7507 and NT 1293 7479 An evaluation consisting of 78 trenches, totalling 23,500m², was undertaken prior to a proposed residential development on a greenfield site. Upon the discovery of possibly significant features and the recovery of a fragment of an unstratified polished stone axe-head (Langdale type IV) two areas, one of 3750m² and one of 10,000m², were topsoil stripped. 21 negative features on higher ground were recorded in one of the areas. No coherent structural plan was apparent. The small finds assemblage suggested the mixing of fills with artefacts from different periods. The overall impression was that most of the features were probably relatively modern. Of the other features investigated one contained a flint flake. The work was undertaken 9 June–2 July 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Walker Group, CALA Homes East Limited and Barratt East Scotland

Plot 1, Axis Business Park, Newbridge, Edinburgh
Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1207 7290 An evaluation was carried out 21–22 February 2008 prior to commercial redevelopment work. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Eastern Holdings Limited

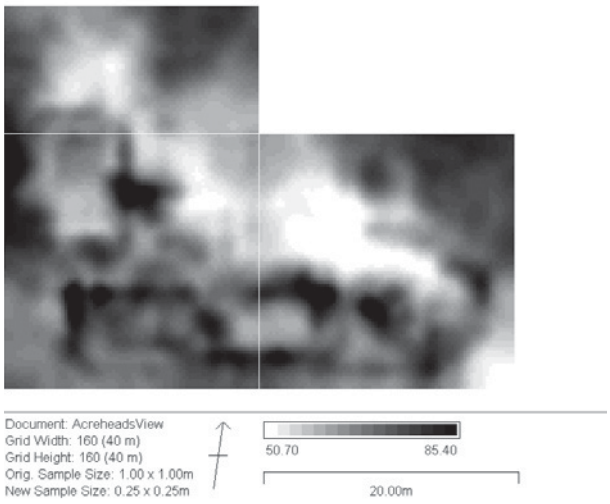
West Clifton Steading
Watching brief
Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1066 6980 A watching brief was carried out in May 2008 during ground-breaking works. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended).
Report: City of Edinburgh SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Moray Estates Development Company Ltd

Penicuik

Acrehead, Bavelaw Estate – Scotland's Rural Past Pentland Hills Project
Survey and historical research
Jill Strobridge – SRP Pentland Hills Project with EAFS
NT 1633 6294 2007 A ground plan survey, photographic record and resistivity survey were carried out across the foundations of a pre-improvement farmstead in the grounds of Bavelaw Estate. Acreheads was extant in 1727 but had been absorbed into the expanded parkland of the estate by 1812. The use of the land as pasture since then has preserved the layout of house foundations, yard and associated fields of rig and furrow.

The resistivity survey by EAFS identified a central core area aligned W/E with deep, wide foundations that probably represents the earliest building. Segments with slighter foundations and thinner walls to the E and W of the central core probably represent redevelopment of the steading. The foundations of a detached building to the NW could be a barn or detached byre. The survey and documentary evidence suggest this is a pre-improvement farmstead that fell out of use following 18th-century estate improvements.

This work was carried out as part of a project undertaken in connection with the Scotland's Rural Past project to record the ruined steadings, cottages and associated structures in the Pentland Hills and to investigate the farming communities associated with them.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)



Resistivity Survey of Acrehead, Bavelaw

FALKIRK

Airth

The Pineapple
Standing building recording
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NS 88930 88500 A section of walling in the main SW Walled Garden at the entrance to the private residence was recorded on 6–7 August 2007, in advance of its reconstruction. A further section of dangerous walling above the cart entrance in the NE Walled Garden was also recorded before remedial work. Distinct phases of development were noted, from the original construction to later repair and consolidation work. Constructional details will be used to enable accurate reconstruction.
Archive: NTS and CHC
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Bo'ness and Carriden

Carriden Farm
Fieldwalking – Roman fort

Geoff Bailey
NT 0261 8073 Fieldwalking on 8 March 2008 over the ploughed fort site recovered 10 sherds of samian, 6 mortaria, 59 amphora and 24 other Roman wares.
Funder: Falkirk Local History Society & Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Carriden Steading, Bo'ness

Excavation – Roman bathhouse
Geoff Bailey
NT 0233 8077 Two weeks of excavation in July–August 2008 continued the work of 2006 on the newly discovered bathhouse. The stone structure, aligned W/E, appears to have been *c*26m long with a timber extension to the E. It was terraced into the hill slope. At the W end was a large latrine with a robbed-out stone drain and a well-paved stone floor. Adjacent to this was a room with hypocaust whose S wall survived to a height of 1.1m, with a shelf on the inside to take the raised floor. The bases of two monolithic stone columns for the support of the floor remained *in situ*. The flue lay in the W wall and had cheeks on the outside to take a water tank.

Finds include a voussoir for a hollow vaulted roof and a tile with the hoof print of what may have been a deer. The latrine drain and hypocaust were robbed out in the 12th century.
Funder: Falkirk Local History Society and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Carriden Roman Bathhouse – View of Trench C looking S across the caldarium with the bases of hypocaust pillars in the foreground. Photo courtesy of Falkirk Local History Society

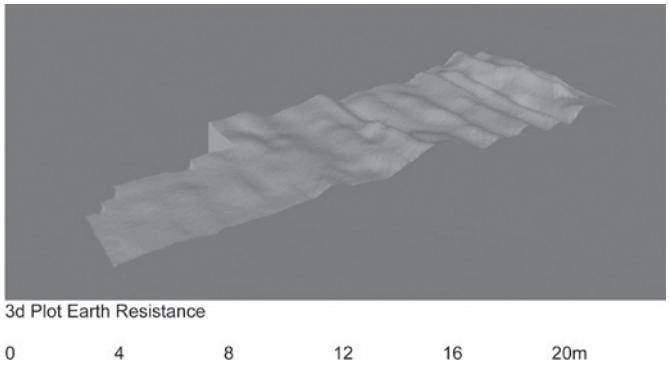
13 Gauze Road, Bo'ness

Earth resistance survey
Raymond S Kidd – RS Kidd Field Archaeologist
NT 0039 8096 Before the evaluation reported below the lawn at 13 Gauze Road was the subject of an earth resistance survey. An area measuring 17m W/E and 7m S/N was surveyed at 0.5m intervals using a 1m twin array.

Anomalies in the western 4m were revealed in the subsequent excavation as a N/S drain trench at a depth of 500mm, a metal bar at 400mm and a concrete base at 350mm. At 6m E 0–6m N are buried stepping stones (pers com – owner). The remainder of the survey running E across the lawn shows distinctive banding of alternate highs and lows approximately 3m apart running mainly N/S. The conductance analysis gives marginally more detail than the resistance analysis. Without further excavation, it is not possible to define the cause of the banding. However, four possible causes are:

- Rig and furrow: N/S direction is optimal and the separation is not unusual.
- Agricultural drainage: given the old water course at the foot of the slope this is also possible.
- Old garden features, paths between cultivation drills: some may be drains from northern properties.
- Defensive ditches from temporary Roman marching camp: such a ditch is referenced in RCAHMS at NT08SW 10. If so, this would place it some 10m further E than supposed.

A W/E 0.5m step level traverse along the 2m N line showed the high W end and in the E undulations with some correspondence with the plots highs and lows.
Archive: Falkirk SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr J Mulholland (Developer)



3d Plot Earth Resistance

13 Gauze Road, Bo'ness

Evaluation
Raymond S Kidd – RS Kidd Field Archaeologist
NT 0039 8096 Three 0.6m wide foundation trenches, 9.5m, 6.8m and 5.4m long, were excavated by hand for an extension to the house. The trenches were dug in 150mm spits and digitally photographed. The 1:10 sloping ground consisted largely of garden soil and rubble from a wing demolished in 1994. The final spit at 0.6m depth met the natural. The site overlies a previously reported line of the SE corner of the ditch of Kinglass Roman temporary camp. However, no trace of the ditch or features of archaeological significance were found.
Archive: SMR Callendar House Falkirk (intended)
Funder: Mr J Mulholland (Developer)

Falkirk

Blinkbonny Road, Falkirk

Excavation – Antonine Wall
Geoff Bailey – Falkirk Museum
NS 8716 7997 A single day's excavation in May 2008 confirmed the line of the Antonine Wall as found by Keppie and Walker in 1976. This places it slightly to the N of the 1980 OS line.
Funder: Mr and Mrs Binnie

Callendar Park, Falkirk

Watching brief – Antonine Wall
Geoff Bailey – Falkirk Museum
NS 8934 7996 A watching brief on a footpath across the line of the Antonine Wall from Belmont Tower to a car park to the S showed that its foundation did not go deep enough to disturb the Roman stratigraphy.
Funder: Falkirk Council

The Castlecary Limeworks

Survey and evaluation
Laura Scott – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 7870 7775 Topographic and earthwork surveys and an evaluation of the Castle Glen industrial area were undertaken from 17 May–20 December 2007, as part of the programme of works for the M80 Stepps to Haggs improvement scheme. The Castle Glen area is part of a larger area of extensive industrial remains that survive throughout the Castlecary glen, including lime workings, quarrying and mining sites. Other probable contemporary features included banks, trackways, revetting and terracing.

During the surveys the remains of a putative clamp kiln were uncovered. Evaluation of the feature revealed it to be two mounds of made ground, one associated with the construction of the A80 and the second probably associated with the construction of the river revetment. It was clear from the excavation that the landscape had been heavily impacted upon by modern development and the land had been sculpted.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Forth and Clyde Canal, Locks 18 and 19

Survey and watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 7961 7876 – NS 7913 7871 A photographic survey of the N wall of the Forth and Clyde Canal was undertaken in advance of the installation of by-wash culverts to help regulate water flow in the locks. The installation of these culverts involved a reduction in sections of the canal wall to the E and W of the locks as well as the excavation of deep trenches into which the concrete chambers for the culverts could be set. A large pipe set in a deep trench then joined these chambers. These ground-breaking works were monitored as part of a watching brief. The photographic survey of the N canal bank was limited to the stretch between Locks 18 and 19 and the short sections of wall to the W of 19 and E of 18 that were to be affected by the installation of the culverts. A further survey was carried out on the S face of Lock 19 to record the different phases of build and repair within. Work was undertaken from 16 November 2007–14 January 2008.

The work has shown that an apparently simple structure can be complex. By looking at both the original construction and the ways in which people have attempted over time to stem the erosive actions acting on the walls and structure of the canal, we can see that practical and financial considerations were being taken into account through the various phases of repair and rebuild.

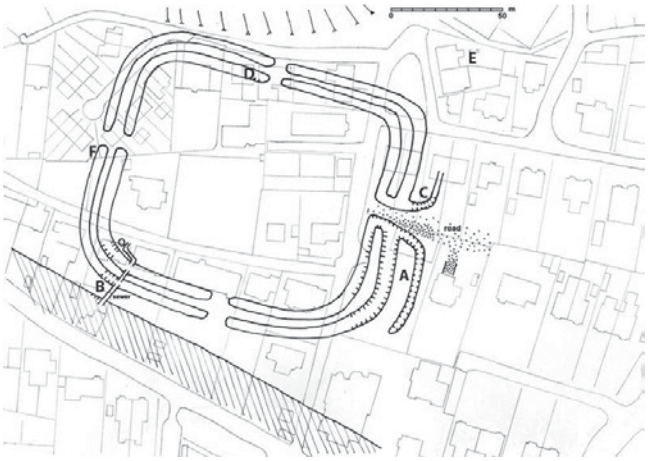
The original construction involved puddling the canal base with clay, footing a masonry wall on the N bank and sealing the rear of the wall with an impervious skin of puddle clay. Sand and boulders could then be built up behind the wall and the rising puddle base. In this way there was enough weight behind the wall to hold back the water and sealant to prevent leakage. However, over time breaching, slippage, inundation and erosion took their toll and leaks appeared. Some solutions may seem relatively short-term (such as small sections of wooden shoring) but they were thought to be worth the effort and must have had some kind of positive effect. Two trenches skirted behind Locks 18 and 19, and it seems that a similar but much tighter and better quality masonry construction was again backed by puddling with clay. Sand and boulders, presumably with a puddle clay liner below, also fill the area behind this.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: British Waterways Scotland

Grahamsdyke Street, Laurieston, Falkirk

Excavation – Antonine Wall
Geoff Bailey – Falkirk Museum
NS 9138 7952 A three-day excavation in March 2008 in advance of a house extension found a N/S gully containing Roman pottery heading for the Antonine Wall and at right-angles to it. On the W side of the gully was an area of laid turf.
Funder: Mr A Ogilvie

Pleasance Gardens, Falkirk

Excavation – Roman fort
Geoff Bailey – Falkirk Museum
NS 8866 7979 NS 8866 7979 The N ditch of the Roman fort at Falkirk was located in August 2008 during the hand-excavation of a foundation trench for a house extension. This confirms that the fort was 2.0 acres and earlier than the rampart of the Antonine Wall.
Funder: Mr and Mrs Leslie



A drawing showing the location of the Roman fort in Falkirk – D indicates the site of this years excavation. Courtesy of Falkirk Local History Society and Falkirk Museum

Grangemouth

Union Canal, Reddingmuirhead

Survey and watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 9154 7812 – NS 9120 7809 A survey and watching brief on the S side of the Union Canal was undertaken from 7 January–12 March 2008, before and during the development of a 295m stretch on the S side of the canal. The development took place in two stages; firstly the repair of the canal wall following dewatering and the establishment of new moorings, then ground-breaking work along the S bank of the canal to create an access path and service ducts.

The survey of the canal wall identified various structures such as original wall fabrics and repairs, crane posts, a swing bridge and a repair dock. The excavation of puddled clay below the canal wall also confirmed that the wall was built onto this waterproof lining.

The monitoring of the service trench excavation identified features associated with the railway siding that ran along the wharf, such as sleepers for rails and an enigmatic stone-built circular structure.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: British Waterways Scotland

FIFE

Culross

Culross
Metal detector find
Martin Goldberg – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NS 98 86 The terminal of a silver penannular brooch was found by metal detecting near Culross. Cut marks suggest that the piece may have been broken up for hacksilver. Other similar fragments of silver have been found in Fife recently (see TT 106/06 in *DES* 2007, 96).
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 96/07) and allocated to Dunfermline Museum

Culross Palace Garden Wall
Standing building recording
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NS 986 859 Prior to the reconstruction of a garden wall, sloping up to the N from Culross Palace, a full building record was produced. The work was undertaken from 23–30 July 2007 and showed four main phases of build, rebuild, repair and alteration. The earliest wall was of poor quality yellow sandstone, while the later constructions were of harder grey sandstone. Coping details were noted as being of the vernacular single slope, with the earlier coping detail having large sandstone blocks to the rear. Two investigative trenches were excavated on the site of potential retaining buttresses but no archaeological deposits were encountered to a depth of 0.7m.
Archive: The National Trust for Scotland
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Dalgety

Muir Dean OCCS, Crossgates
Evaluation
Philip Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 1515 8713 An evaluation consisting of 65 trial trenches, amounting to 5864m^2 (ca 5% of the site), was undertaken from 10–28 March 2008. The trenching targeted a number of locations where former mining settlements and other buildings were recorded on historic maps. A series of shallow undated linear ditched features was identified, together with six mine shafts and a badly truncated sandstone wall of probably modern date. No sub-surface remains of the mining settlement of Coalton were discovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended).Report: Fife SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: ATH Resources PLC

Dunfermline

Southern Gateway, Dunfermline
Monitoring
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NT 0896 8731 Monitoring works were undertaken between 25 February–16 July 2008 in relation to the development of St Catherine's Wynd and Monastery Street, next to Dunfermline Abbey. This entailed the repaving and landscaping of St Catherine's Wynd and Monastery Street as well as the adjoining passage through The Pends. Additional works, such as the felling of trees on Monastery Street, placement of services and street lighting were also covered. Several significant archaeological features were uncovered and recorded. These features related to the extended structure of the Abbey and the Palace as well as the subsequent surrounding industry.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Fife Council Property Services

Precinct boundary wall revealed during repaving along Monastery Street, by Dunfermline Abbey

Victoria Works, Pilmuir Street, Dunfermline
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 093 877 A preliminary stage of standing building recording was completed during January–March 2008 on the site of the former linen factory, the Victoria Works, prior to its demolition and the redevelopment of the site. The original factory was constructed in the 1870s, with further additions in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The Grade II listed main façade facing Pilmuir Street and the original vertical engine house will be retained. An additional programme of standing building recording will be undertaken when the soft strip and demolition of the buildings is taking place.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Fife Council

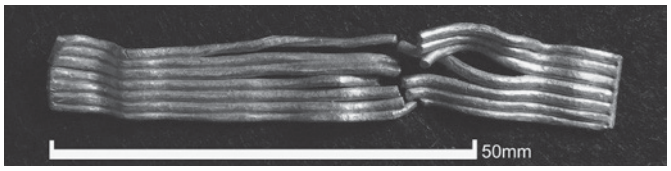
Falkland

Near Falkland
Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland
NO 24 08 A gold penannular ring was found by Mr Steven Moodie, while metal detecting in a field near Falkland. The ring is complete but broken into two pieces as a result of damage by farm machinery. It is composed of seven separate round-sectioned rods which have each originally been joined along their length by brazing to create a ribbed or corrugated band. At each terminal the ends of the strands have been united by brazing their ends together, one terminal being

more neatly finished than the other.

No examples of pennanular gold rings of this precise form have previously been recorded from Scotland. However, comparable rings of Bronze Age date are known from elsewhere in Britain, Ireland and France. Such composite rings form one component of the range of ornaments which characterise what used to be termed the 'Ornament Horizon', thought to be a period of strong Nordic influence on the British Bronze Age. While the validity of this as a narrowly defined horizon has recently been called into question, the broad period *c*1400–1100 BC was certainly one of strong continental links and technological developments, and provides an approximate date range for the Falkland ring. To be published in detail elsewhere.

The item was claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Fife Council Museums



Gold ring found near Falkland, Fife.© Crown copyright

Inverkeithing

Masterton Park, Dunfermline

Evaluation

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 1335 8535 An evaluation was undertaken on 10–21 December 2007 in advance of a proposed housing development. The evaluation consisted of trenching covering a total area of 7820 m². No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Bellway Homes (East Scotland) Ltd

Kinghorn

Inchkeith Island, Firth of Forth

Desk-based assessment and excavation

Dan Atkinson and George Geddes – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2960 8230 (centred on) An archaeological survey and assessment were undertaken of an area proposed for a temporary anemometer mast and anchor point, at the southern end of Inchkeith Island during August–October 2007. The assessment identified 13 structures and four areas of archaeological interest in an area of approximately 5400m².

The subsequent excavation consisted of six 'trenches' for securing the base and anchor points of the mast. The trenches demonstrated the degraded nature of much of the volcanic bedrock in addition to illustrating that certain areas retain deep soil profiles. Finds from the excavations were late 19th- and 20th-century in date. Archaeological features included cables and services, relating to the First or Second World War occupation. All archaeological features were left *in situ*.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: SLP Energy Ltd

St Andrews and St Leonards

Community Hospital, St Andrews

Watching brief

Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NO 5030 1530 (centred on) The watching brief was carried out between 4 December 2007–17 January 2008 in poor weather. The removal of topsoil was monitored during the construction of the new Community Hospital. The site revealed few features of archaeological interest apart from extensive evidence of medieval rig and furrow, which ran mainly on a N/S alignment.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Morrison Construction

Peekie Standing Stone

Excavation

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NO 5525 1335 Peekie Standing Stone (NO51SE 10) has recently fallen over after many years of tilting. Historic Scotland commissioned the recording and removal of the stone to a place of safe-keeping prior to possible re-erection and the excavation of a 10 x 10m area centred on its socket. This work, undertaken in February 2008, revealed that the socket contained a very large chocking stone, which the standing stone had been erected against. Two field boundary ditches were also recorded, one of which corresponds to that shown on the 1st Edition OS map (1855) and contained 19th-century pottery. A large natural spring/sink hole/kettle hole was recorded adjacent to the standing stone. No prehistoric finds were recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Fife Council and Historic Scotland

Funder: Commissioned by Historic Scotland

169–173 South Street, St Andrews

Watching brief

Daniel Rhodes – AOC Archaeology Group

Stone-lined pits

NO 507 165 A watching brief was undertaken between 31 October 2007–31 May 2008. during ground-breaking works associated with a residential redevelopment. Monitoring recorded a single posthole complete with packing stones and one large pit in the garden to the rear of the property. Ground reduction was also undertaken within a listed building and to the rear of the property. During this work three large rectangular stone-lined pits complete with stone flagged

bases were recorded. Much post-medieval pottery and bone and shell was recovered from these features. No significant features were seen during the underpinning of frontages of the existing South Street buildings.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Graham and Sibbald

St Andrews Priory
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 5135 1662 A watching brief was maintained on 8 September 2008 during works in Vault 3 (the southernmost vault in the West Range, at the W side of the Cloister), to allow the insertion of a concrete floor. A ramp was also to be inserted at the door in the NE corner. The area to be reduced was less than 2m^2 in the NE portion of the vault.

Large flat slabs could be seen against the N and S walls and in the SE and SW corners of the room, suggesting that the vault at one time had a flagged floor. There were no other finds or features of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Tulliallan

Longannet
Desk-based assessment and standing building recording
Kirsten Mckee – Jacobs UK
NS 9499 8563 A desk-based assessment and a Level 2 standing building survey were undertaken in January 2008 on Longannet Power Station, Kincardine-on-Forth. The aim of the work was to record the remaining upstanding structures within the site boundary of the Proposed Biomass to Energy Plant. The structures consist of seven buildings and bunkers associated with WW2 defences and a small single-storey cottage with two outbuildings, which appear to date from the mid 19th century.

The work confirmed that little is known about the origins of Newpans cottage and the renovations carried out to the main structure. It is unclear whether the ancillary structures next to the cottage are also original, as the OS maps do not show a clear footprint of the site's development. The remains of the munitions bunkers survive, but many of the original features have been removed and the structures have been vandalised.

Two of the structures next to the munitions bunkers were built later, as they sit over the earth banks that would have re-enforced the blast walls. Two of the structures are modern and of no architectural merit or historic value.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Power

Longannet Biomass Power Station
Evaluation and monitoring
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 9420 8632 The preliminary archaeological works at this site included a desk-based assessment, site inspection and intrusive trenching, covering a basal area of 735m^2, and took place 14–18 July 2008. The investigation revealed extensive modern disturbance and recent deposition. No pre-1850 artefacts were recovered. The only structural feature exposed during the evaluation was a stone culvert of substantial construction but of unknown origins. The culvert appeared to be disused and may be an element of a brine management system.

A later phase of archaeological monitoring was carried out 10–12 November 2008 during the topsoil strip of an area of roughly 0.25ha, to the S of Newpans Cottage The only structural features exposed were two stone walls at the eastern end of the study area. One of these walls (044) could be confidently associated with the outer boundary walls of Newpans Cottage. The second wall (045) was more difficult to interpret but it is likely that it related to the outbuildings of Newpans Cottage.

No evidence was recovered to indicate that salt panning took place within the development area. However, secondary evidence such as the accumulation of coal waste suggests that industrial-scale coal burning was taking place in the vicinity.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Fife Council Archaeology Unit
Funder: Jacobs UK

Regional Survey

Places of Worship
Survey
Edwina Proudfoot
The Fife Places of Worship Pilot Project ended in March 2008. From April 2008 the survey has continued on a more restricted scale, with volunteers. The current effort is mainly targeted on editing and ensuring that the image collection has been fully annotated.

The aim of the project has been to design and test the methodology, as part of a Scotland-wide record, in particular through images of each building or site and by creating a brief description. This refers to all places of worship, past and present, from archaeological sites to newly built buildings and includes all place of worship, not only listed buildings.

Some 700 sites were recorded in Fife and the team visited the vast majority, though about 50 remain to be visited. Many places are well-known, such as Dunfermline Abbey (Site 2260: NT0898 8731) or Leuchars parish church (Site 1349: NO4554 2139); others are less well known, and in many cases the name was the only information previously available. In the latter case, Gospel Halls, eg Ladybank, (Site 9898: NO 3043 0994) or Mormon churches, eg The Church of Christ of the Latter Day Saints, Kirkcaldy (Site 8126: NT2704 9255), were among many to be recorded for the first time, as were two Islamic Centres (Site 10606: NT283 920 and Site 10577: NT2709 9369). No synagogues were recorded, but unconfirmed information, to be followed up, indicates that a Jewish centre has been developed in the Chaplaincy at St Andrews.

The website also includes churches under threat and two examples are given below:

Ballingry
Kenneth's Roman Catholic Church, Glencraig

St Kenneth's Roman Catholic Church, Glencraig

NT 1789 9578 Site number 6684. Built in 1924. Out of use by 1987. To be demolished 2008. Housing proposed on the site.

A rectangular stone building, buttressed, nine bays. The design was based on a German church, and has an onion dome on the tower. The interior has been cleared, with the exception of the marble altar, which remains *in situ*.

Strathmiglo

Gateside, Edenshead

NO 1837 0935 Site number 1498. Built in in1827 as a United Secession Church, later becoming a Church of Scotland church. Closed in 2008 and to be sold.

A simple rural church in red sandstone, there are alterations that suggest modifications to the building at an early stage. The church has a set of important war memorial windows.

At present planning for the next geographical area, from the Tay to the Moray Firth, is under way and will start as soon as funding is in place. The website is to be updated in the near future with a 'how you can help' button and a form to allow individuals to add data for any church. These records will be checked and then uploaded. Membership of schr is now available.

Website: www.scottishchurchheritage.org.uk or Google: type in schr to access the home page.

Funder: HLF, Leader+, Church of Scotland, St Andrews Heritage Services

GLASGOW

Eastwood

Darnley Bleachfield Lade

Survey

Stuart Nisbet

NS 5232 5849 A system of parallel drainage ditches, centred on a building previously recorded at NS 5237 5839 (NS55NW 56), feed a brick-lined channel 25m long x 0.4m wide x 0.7m deep. The channel becomes a rock-cut ditch, falling steeply into start of main lade.

A lade commences as a natural weir on Brock Burn at NS 5232 5849. It follows the burn NW for 90m, then turns NE for 60m, entering a pond at NS 5230 5861.

The pond is 65 x 30m, stone-lined with a sluice at the N end. NW of the pond the lade is buried under the edge of substantial landfill *c*5m high, to adjacent limestone quarries.

At the N end of the lade, beyond the landfill, ruined buildings appear at NS 5246 5882. The largest is a rectangular sandstone building 8 x 14m in two compartments with walls 0.6m thick, upstanding to *c*1.2m. Remains of infrastructure of Darnley Bleachfield, founded 18th century.

Pollok House Garage

Standing building recording

HF James – GUARD

NS 548 618 03/07/08 A standing building survey was carried out on 3 July 2008, of a timber garage attached to the W side of Pollok House, prior to its demolition. The survey consisted of photography, a scaled plan, a scaled elevation and written report. The survey concluded that the cast iron columns used to hold up the roof may have been re-used from a late 19th-century, open-fronted, lean-to building, perhaps with a slate roof.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: NTS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Pollok Ring-work

Excavation

Stephen Driscoll and Mark Mitchell – Glasgow Archaeology Society

NS 557 627 The site occupies the crest of the elongated hill (a drumlin) occupied by the North Woods and is positioned to have a western prospect looking over the valley of the White Cart. The July 2007 excavations reopened 11 trenches of various sizes from excavations originally undertaken in 1959 and 1960. Several were extended to expose fresh sections and to obtain better profiles of the defences.

The site has been described as a ring-work and tentatively identified as a medieval structure. On the basis of the evidence uncovered and reported here, it is better to consider it as an Iron Age fort, the original interpretation of the 1959/60 excavators.

Trench A (approx 5 x 7m) was central in the hillfort. This trench revealed areas of cobble paving and fragmentary stretches of stone 'walling' and a substantial posthole, all of which suggests the presence of one or a sequence of buildings. In addition, a massive pillar of roughly worked sandstone, previously discovered in 1959, was examined. The original excavators posited that this formed a lintel for the entrance of a putative building. The scale of this stone (six people were required to drag it out of the trench) makes this most unlikely. Although the new excavations exposed to a greater extent the structural elements, insufficient was revealed to allow these structures to be reconstructed. An *in situ* hearth was discovered, which provided a charcoal sample suitable for dating. Finds included half a cobble with a pecked hollow, possibly a lamp, and another cobble with hollows pecked on both sides.

Trench B (2 x 2m) was adjacent to the rampart on the N side. It exposed the rear of the rampart and a stony, curving linear feature (*c*0.4m wide) which was also seen in trenches C and D, and which may represent the footing of a roundhouse.

Trench C (1 x 3m) was adjacent to the rampart on the N side about 2m to the E of trench B. It also exposed the rear of the rampart and the curving linear feature seen in trenches B and D, which came within 0.5m of the rear of the rampart.

Trench D (1 x 11m) was adjacent to the rampart on the N side, about 1m to the E of trench C. Here the 1959/60 excavations had dug through the back edge of the rampart and some of the stony feature in trenches B and C. To the S of the linear feature there were no deposits until the S end of the trench (towards the centre of the hillfort) which was extended 1m beyond the 1959 extent. Here there was a posthole and a stony bank.

Trench E (5 x 2m) was also on the N side about 8m to the W of trench D. Within this trench were numerous deposits of tumbled rubble, some of which presumably relate to structures, but no coherent plans were recovered. The back of the rampart was partially excavated.

Trench F examined the rampart bank and external ditch in a trench (1 x 15m) on the NE side of the fort where the preservation was best. The rampart proved to be a simple dump rampart with little sign of structural components such as revetting or timber elements. The ditch showed no sign of ancient recuts or modifications. A modern drain had been excavated in the centre of the ditch but this did not penetrate the primary silts. There was over 1.5m of clayey silts in the base of the ditch, which was waterlogged. Sealed below the rampart were small fragments of charcoal which may provide material for C^{14} dating.

Trench G (1 x 2m) was towards the entrance on the N side behind the rampart. This revealed a boulder which apparently served as a curb for the rampart and a well paved

surface of large cobbles.

Trench H (2 x 8 m) was excavated across the entrance causeway. Here we extended the 1959 trench to expose the body part of the S rampart and to cut through the N rampart. Both ramparts used boulders as curbs to retain simple earthen dumps. The causeway itself was a finely paved surface made of split boulders and large cobbles approximately 5m wide.

Trenches J and K (1 x 4m and 1 x 1m) were on the line of the road. Both revealed the same well made surface extending off to the E for an indeterminate distance.

Trench K (1 x 1m) exposed the exterior of the bank on the NE exterior. Boulders had also been used here to retain the earthen rampart core.

In summary, the excavations revealed the presence of an impressive paved road starting some 15m or more beyond the hillfort and passing through the ramparts on a well-defined causeway. The interior contains the remains of several buildings with stone foundations set around a cobbled courtyard. Despite the large quantities of stone exposed within the interior it is believed that the buildings were timber, and several postholes were found. Not enough of the interior has been exposed to allow plans of the buildings to be recovered; it is not even possible to say whether the houses were round or rectangular.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Glasgow Archaeology Society

Pollok North Woods

Excavation

Stephen Driscoll and Mark Mitchell – Glasgow Archaeology Society

NS 555 624 The focus of this season's work, undertaken in June 2008, was the semi-circular earthen bank *c*60m in diameter, tentatively identified as a medieval ring-work. The excavations examined the earthen bank, a rectangular building within the interior and a second prominent boundary feature (NS56SE 2229) formed by a bank and ditch which encloses an area approximately 130m in diameter to the W of the ring-work. A topographic survey was made of the excavation trenches and the associated features including the rig and furrow between the ring-work and boundary ditch.

Three trenches were excavated: A, the building, B, the ring-work bank, and C, the boundary bank and ditch.

Trench A (10 x 12m) was laid out to accommodate the footings of a building 9 x 5m, oriented approximately N–S with an entrance to the E. The building had been set up against the inside of the W side of the ring-work bank. Only the foundation walls of the building survived, generally to a height of one course high. The walls were composed of an inner and outer face of roughly shaped stone and with rubble infill. From their rudimentary construction it seems unlikely that these walls ever stood more than a couple of courses high and probably supported a turf-walled building. No evidence of crucks or posts was observed. No floor deposits or features survived in the interior. The entire interior was excavated down to subsoil, except for areas occupied by large trees, which obscured parts of each gable end. The surviving entrance was about 1.7m wide, but without a clearly defined opening, indicating that it had been robbed and disturbed at some point. An area (2 x 0.7m) of cobbling approached the entrance and provides a suggestion of the original scale of the opening. The NE corner of the building was poorly defined. Here the well-defined inner and outer wall faces gave way to a mass of rubble.

The building was constructed on silt deposits which had eroded from the ring-work bank, suggesting that it post-dates it by a considerable period. Over 100 sherds of pottery were recovered from the outside the SW corner of the

Building, Pollok North Woods

building and only a few were found within the building. A preliminary assessment of the pottery indicates a minimum of 12 vessels. These include vessels within the western White gritty tradition (14th–15th century), as well as reduced 'Throsk-type' vessels (16th–17th century). Only a single clay pipe stem was recovered. Overall it seems likely that this site was occupied in post-medieval times, but prior to the widespread availability of tobacco. It also seems likely that there was late medieval settlement nearby. The building was reinstated at the conclusion of the dig.

Trench B (2 x 8m) cut across the ringwork bank on its N side where its profile was crisp but not as wide as elsewhere. The bank was approximately 3.5m wide. The exterior face was marked by small stones which were deliberately laid but too slight to have served as a revetment. It may be that a stone facing had been robbed and these small stones were left. The inner side was not well defined, perhaps because of the later cultivation, which was visible as rig and furrow here. No ditch was noted inside or out and the feature does not appear to have been repaired or modified. Fragments of five different vessels were found in well stratified positions within the rubble on the outer face of the bank. Preliminary analysis indicates that this is predominantly 14th to 16th-century in date, which suggests that the bank is late medieval.

Trench C (2 x 7m) cut across the boundary bank and ditch to the W of the ring-work. Here the bank survived as a simple dump earthwork, 2.5m wide by 0.7m high. It appeared that the E side (away from the ditch) had been augmented, but this may be the result of ploughing, which survives as rig and furrow. The ditch was approximately 1m wide and 0.5m deep, with a flat bottom and steep sides. There was no sign that it had been recut or modified. There were no finds apart from modern ceramics from superficial deposits, so the feature remains undated.

On the basis of this work, we would suggest that the ring-work is more likely to be some sort of agricultural feature, possibly originally defining a farmyard, but certainly not defensive. The loss of the S sector can be explained as the result of later ploughing. The building seems on balance to be a dwelling, perhaps occupying a site established in the later medieval period. The relationship with the boundary bank and ditch to the W could not be established, but its earthworks were in better condition, suggesting it is younger.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Glasgow Archaeology Society

Glasgow

College Goods Yard, High Street

Evaluation
David Sneddon – GUARD

NS 600 650 During February and March 2008 an evaluation was undertaken at a site off the High Street. The site is currently in use as a car park but previously had been the College Goods Yard Railway depot. It originally lay within the gardens of the old university. The Molendinar Burn also formerly ran open through the site before its canalisation in the 1850s. The potential survival of archaeological deposits pre-dating the railway yard was assessed through a series of trial trenches.

The western part of the site, beneath the railway yard deposits, consisted of made ground that extended beyond the 4–5m excavated in the test pits in the main trenches. This complemented previous ground investigations which had showed the made ground to vary between approximately 5-9m in depth. To the far S of the site, in a small area off Bell Street, the evaluation showed that the most of the area had been disturbed down to a depth of at least 4m by large brick walls relating to the former goods yard.

In the eastern area of the site the natural slope down to the Molendinar Burn was found in two trenches, one of which showed modification and management of the drainage on the slope before infilling. However, it had been heavily truncated at the eastern end, presumably when the Dowhill was flattened for the goods yard, and the western end was not reached due to the extreme depth. At the northern end of this eastern area a brick-built manhole leading down to the canalised burn was found. It showed the water of the Molendinar to be running in the culvert approximately 8.5–9m below the current car park surface.

In the southern area of the E side of the site the lowest levels of a sandstone cottage were found. It was not clear whether the cottage was present when the burn was open or built after the burn had been canalised and infilled. It had been in existence before the final infilling of the slope in advance of the construction of the goods yard. The only direct documentary references to the site date to 1857–8 and 1864, after the culverting of the burn and partial infilling of the area. The cottage was probably built after 1820 when Blackfriars Street, at the end of which it sat, was created, while the burn was still open.

In general it appeared that the easternmost part of the site had been heavily truncated, removing any chance of archaeological remains surviving. The point from the mid parts of trenches one and two westward did show potential for preservation of archaeology, particularly to the E of the culverted burn where the original topography was uncovered and where remains predating the formation of the goods yard were discovered. The state of preservation in the western area is not known due to the depth of made ground.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: RMJM on behalf of Merchant City Properties

138 Elliot Street

Evaluation
James McMeekin – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 5746 6523 An evaluation was undertaken on 18–19 December 2007. The western part of the site had previously been evaluated and shown to contain structural remains relating to the Verreville Pottery. The eastern part lay outside the mapped extent of the pottery in the 19th century. To test the archaeological potential of the eastern part of the site six test pits were excavated. The results confirmed the presence of up to 3m of modern overburden. A lens of material containing ceramics and kiln furniture was identified 2.3m below the modern ground surface in one test pit. The pottery formed part of a more general accumulation of dumped 19th-century material and did not form part of a well stratified or substantial area of dumping. The 19th-century deposits lay directly over naturally deposited sands and alluvial gravels.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Cooper Cromar for Sovereign Properties Ltd

Glasgow Cathedral

Standing building recording
Paul Fox and Tom Whalley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NS 6024 6557 As part of an ongoing project to record the exterior fabric of Glasgow Cathedral, a standing building survey of the Sacristy/Treasury, the N and S doors to the Lower Church, and the West Façade of the Cathedral, and measured drawing of carvings on the Blackadder Aisle, took place between March and May 2008.

The Sacristy/Treasury on the N side of Glasgow Cathedral

originally dates to the mid-13th century. However, the structure was almost completely demolished in the mid-19th century and rebuilt to approximately half its original height. Detailed recording of the building has identified residual parts of the mid-13th-century structure which survive in the base courses of the buttresses on the N and W sides.

The West Façade of the Cathedral was also substantially re-built in the mid-19th century following the demolition of two towers at the N and S ends of the façade. Surviving parts of the 13th-century base course were identified within the mid-19th-century rebuild.

In addition to this systematic survey the stonework of the S and N doors of the Lower Church and the carvings on the exterior of the Blackadder Aisle were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Glasgow Cathedral

Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology

NS 6020 6557 A watching brief was maintained just to the N of the NW corner of Glasgow Cathedral during the excavation of three small trenches on 13 February 2008. The trenches were required for the insertion of three new folding bollards. Below *c*0.3m of road surfacing, deposits were seen which were thought to be possible graveyard infill.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Pointhouse Quay

Watching brief
Martin Cook and Joe Feeney – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 5591 6596 A watching brief was conducted between 3 March–23 July 2008, during the excavation of a series of super trenches associated with the construction of the Riverside Museum. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified during the work.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Culture and Sport Glasgow

Ramshorn Kirk, Ingram Street, Glasgow

Watching brief
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 5958 6522 Monitoring was carried out on 5–7 August 2008 in relation to groundworks connected with the renewal of pavement surfaces and other hard landscaping along Ingram Street. The monitoring revealed no evidence of archaeological survival in the upper sediments, as the area was heavily disturbed by modern services. Graves may exist alongside the modern services but these are likely to be severely disturbed. One fragment of human bone was recovered from the upper disturbed deposits.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: JRB Construction Ltd

St Enoch Centre, Glasgow

Watching brief
Daniel Rhodes – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 5904 6495 Extension to the current St Enoch's Shopping centre required the drilling of *c*160 pile holes to a depth of *c*30m. Between July–October 2008 119 of these and a large investigative trench, 10 x 10m, were monitored for possible archaeological material. Foundations relating to the 19th-century St Enoch's Train Station were uncovered. No earlier archaeological material was recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Cyril Sweett Group plc

Govan

Glasgow Harbour Quay Wall

Standing building recording
Suzanne Lilley – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 55690 66135 Prior to its demolition a Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken at the site of the Glasgow Harbour quay wall. The work undertaken in May 2008 produced a plan of the site and detailed written and photographic records.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Capita Symonds

18 Pearce Street, Govan

Watching brief and evaluation
Alastair Becket – GUARD

NS 554 657 A watching brief on demolition works and a subsequent evaluation were carried out in April 2008. The project required the monitoring of ground-breaking demolition works and the excavation of two evaluation trenches. Archaeological deposits were identified in both trenches beneath demolition waste and deposits possibly dating to the early 20th century. One trench contained a curved brick wall and a re-deposited sand deposit dating to the late 19th century. The second trench contained a small ditch and possible agricultural deposits from which 15th- or 16th-century green glaze pottery was recovered. The survival of late medieval deposits on the site may prove to be of some significance to our understanding of the nature and development of pre-industrial Govan.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Bield Housing Association

Water Row, Govan

Evaluation
S Driscoll, I Shearer and R Will – GUARD

NS 554 657 (centred on) An archaeological and historical study and evaluation of this area was undertaken in October and November 2007 in anticipation of redevelopment. The study examined the cartographic evidence and archaeological resources in order to assess the character, survival and significance of the archaeological deposits around Water Row.

The cartographic research traced the development of Water Row from its beginnings as a ferry crossing for a rural village through a period of intense industrial growth, culminating in the establishment of the massive Harland and Wolff shipyard.

The critical period of transition, in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, is not well documented. However, by combining the information from maps with the on-site observations it is possible to comment with confidence about the nature of surviving archaeological remains in the study area to the E of Water Row. For logistical reasons only limited excavation was undertaken to the W of Water Row; consequently, our understanding of the archaeological resource there is less secure.

The most significant discovery was the survival of two late medieval or early modern buildings (possibly cottages) at the southern end of the study area, which are not recorded on the earliest maps. Nearby, large quantities of medieval pottery were recovered, indicating that Govan Cross was a focus for settlement in the Middle Ages.

The most significant conclusion, based on detailed map analysis and extensive archaeological investigation, was to establish that the Doomster Hill was some 60m further E than was previously believed. The cartographic information does not allow the site of the Doomster Hill to be established with

great precision, but it is now believed to have stood to the E side of Napier Road, where it is partially covered by modern housing. Ground testing is required to establish its precise location.

The substantial remains associated with Reid's Dye Works were also examined. Although these had been levelled by the later shipyards, considerable evidence for this early industrial activity survives. Evidence for the shipyards was less extensive and was concentrated around the southern perimeter of the study area. The archaeological value of the dye works is probably greater than that of the shipyard remains.

Evidence documenting the transition from small cottage-like dwellings to tenements was found on both sides of Water Row.

The E side of the old ferry slip was located where the massive masonry retaining wall survives to its full height.

The limited work carried out on the N side of Pearce Lane suggests that construction of the Harland and Wolff plating shed removed many of the earlier structures on the W side of Water Row. However, excavations in the 1990s established that important archaeological deposits and structures survive, particularly near the churchyard. It should not therefore be assumed that the area W of Water Row is archaeologically sterile until appropriate investigations can be conducted. In total 11 trenches were investigated, equivalent to 10% of the available area.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Glasgow City Council

Paisley

Leverndale Hospital, Glasgow

Excavation
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 51657 61841 An excavation was carried out on 26 November 2007 in advance of a residential development. This followed on from a prior evaluation which identified two concentrations of features. In total four pits were revealed. Finds suggest a recent date for at least two of the pits. The other two are undated but are not thought to be of any antiquity. Numerous ceramic field drains of the horseshoe type were also uncovered.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Scott Wilson Ltd on behalf of Miller Homes

GLASGOW/SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Govan/Rutherglen/Old Monkland

M74 Completion Archaeological Mitigation Project

Standing building recording, evaluation and excavation
Candy Hatherley – Headland Archaeology and Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

A programme of works was undertaken in advance of construction across the S side of Glasgow and S Lanarkshire. Phase one January–April 2007 consisted of standing building recording at 12 sites. Phase two 18 July 2007 to 18 April 2008 consisted of a programme of evaluation and excavation. An oral history and public archaeology programme were run in tandem with the excavations and will continue until 2009. This programme includes exhibitions, a publicly accessible archive centre, activities for children, a schools outreach programme, workshops and talks.

Work Package 1 – Historic building recording

NS 6227 6172 Site 7 Gallowflat Railway Goods Station
NS 6086 6206 Site 13 Southcroft Football Park
NS 5861 6357 Site 31 St Andrews Works
NS 5848 6393 Site 35 Leyland Motor Works
NS 5842 6413 Site 46 Eglinton Engine Works
NS 5821 6425 Site 50 Smith Chemical
NS 5841 6384 Site 57 Kilbirnie Motor Works
NS 6394 6256 Site 65 Site of Fullarton House
NS 5813 6419 Site 80 Marine Engineering
NS 5810 6419 Site 107 Copper Works
NS 6236 6193 Site 108 Eastfield Ropery

A photographic record of the location and exterior was produced for each of the 12 buildings. More detailed recording was undertaken at sites which were to be demolished. The buildings were mostly 19th-century industrial sites.

Work Package 2/3 – Evaluation and excavations

NS 5792 6430 LP1 Tradeston – tenement houses and a public house
NS 5797 6432 LP2 Tradeston – tenement buildings along Gloucester Street/Scotland Street/Kinning Street, an Engine Works and a Biscuit Factory
NS 5804 6432 LP3 Tradeston – tenement buildings on Kinning Street and the Kingston Lime Works
NS 5815 6427 LP4 Tradeston – town houses with formal gardens, the Caledonian Foundry and other industrial premises
NS 5828 6419 LP5 Tradeston – a railway carriage shed, connected to the Glasgow and Paisley Joint Railway
NS 5837 6404 LP6 In Port Eglinton – a section of the Eglinton Canal
NS 5841 6394 LP7 In Port Eglinton – Falfield Cotton Mills and the St Mungo Soap Works
NS 5842 6388 LP8 In Port Eglinton – the Stromness public house
NS 5845 6384 LP9 In Port Eglinton – tenement houses
NS 6393 6245 LP10 At Fullarton – the formal gardens of Fullerton House
NS 5857 6368 WP4 The South Laurieston Tenements
NS 5894 6320 WP5 The Govan Ironworks and Lower English Buildings
NS 5908 6311 WP5 The Foundry
NS 5884 6334 WP5 Cathcart Road West
NS 6175 6188 WP6 The Caledonian Pottery Works

Trial trenching was undertaken in ten land parcels (LP) and this led to open excavations at a number of locations.

LP2 – Kinning Street Engine Works and the Kingston Biscuit Factory. Excavation recovered little evidence of the first development, the Engine Works. Evidence of the second later development, the Biscuit Factory, was better preserved and this factory's layout was identified.

LP3 – The Kingston Lime Works and the Kinning Street row of tenements. The general layout of the Lime Works was confirmed and two lime kiln bases were fully excavated. A brass foundry, built before WW1, was recorded in the SE corner of the site. Only the foundations and services of the Kinning Street tenements survived.

LP4 – The Caledonia Foundry and the McOnie Engine Works. Excavation confirmed the layout and development sequence of the two works. It also revealed a number of industrial structures and deposits.

LP7 – The Falfield Cotton Mill, the mill owner's residence and the later St Mungo Soap Works. The excavation revealed the internal layout and extension of the mill owner's house, the expansion of the weaving shed and the development of the engine and boiler houses. A cobbled yard and a building containing the bases for two vats were recorded in the SW of the site. The vats are marked on the 2nd Edition OS map of

1898 and may have been associated with the St Mungo Soap Works.

Work Package 4 – The South Laurieston Tenements
An open area excavation was undertaken between Devon Street and Turriff Street. Documentary and map evidence indicate that this was the site of an early (pre-1860) housing block and a number of later buildings, including the Queen's Park Terrace Tenements designed by Alexander Thomson. The tenement buildings were demolished between 1960 and 1980.

Most of the Queen's Park Terrace tenements had been 'grubbed out' during their demolition in 1980 and archaeological remains survived only at the foundation and basement levels. The remains of the pre-1860 flats and the later MacKinley, Devon and Pollokshaws Street tenement blocks were recorded. A series of outbuildings, workshops and stores were recorded in the back courts, as were signs of original and improved toilets. The western part of the site had been partly quarried and backfilled before the tenements were built.

Work Package 5 – The Govan Ironworks
We excavated three sites, two within the site of the former Ironworks (the Lower English Buildings and the foundry) and one along the western boundary of the Ironworks, to the W of Cathcart Road.

William Dixon of Calder established the Govan Ironworks in the 1830s to manufacture bar iron and produce iron castings for steam engines and general engineering products. The foundry and the Lower English Buildings (cottage-style accommodation for the workers) were presumably built around the same time. Both the foundry and accommodation are shown on the 1st Edition OS town plan of 1857/8. Only the accommodation is shown on the 2nd Edition OS town plan of 1892/4, suggesting that the foundry had ceased operation by this date.

Map evidence relating to the W side of Cathcart Road shows two, probably domestic, buildings. It is likely that this land was owned by the Dixon family.

The Lower English Buildings – Excavations revealed two rows of housing; a long row of *c*15 cottages to the N and three buildings, each containing four cottages, to the S. The cottages were single-storey and had two rooms, each containing a hearth and a box bed. Three circular brick washhouses and three hand-pumps were excavated in the central area between the rows of housing. A service yard with a cobbled floor, stables and barns was recorded to the E. The site appears to have been used as a training ground for the Army in WW2. Small quantities of munitions were uncovered and several of the cottages appear to have been modified as shelters.

The cottages are thought to have been named after the workers who lived in them, experienced English workers who were moved to Glasgow to work at the Ironworks. The combination of archaeological evidence with oral history has provided an invaluable insight into the mixed origins of the occupants of the buildings and their socio-cultural background.

The Foundry – The foundry was built in the 1830s and included a range of structures. A flue/duct system that re-cycled gas produced from the coke kilns to power machinery was built before the main buildings. Other major structures identified were a bank of coke-kilns (shown on the 1st Edition OS map), a moulding shop (containing two cupola furnaces), several machine bases and a sand moulding floor. A turning shop containing the remains of a possible finishing pit, a brick-lined structure used to house a large lathe for finishing

A circular washhouse under excavation at the Lower English Buildings, Govan Ironworks (Work Package 5)

casts, was also recorded. The boiler shop and smithy both contained a series of small brick-built smithy pits.

Cathcart Road West – The archaeological features fall into three main phases.

Phase 1 – A series of retaining walls. During this time the area may have formed the gardens or a light industrial area for the main household of the Dixons, just to the N of the site's boundary.

Phase 2 – One large building is shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1857. Excavation identified only one room of this building. A second building was identified immediately to the N.

Phase 3 – Later maps and archaeological evidence appear to show the 'making down' of these properties. This process, of piecemeal sub-division and addition, may reflect their conversion for commercial use.

Work Package 6 – The Caledonian Pottery Works

The parallel banks of gas fired-kilns at the Caledonian Pottery Works (Work Package 6)

The Caledonian Pottery company moved to Farmeloan Road, Rutherglen, in 1870 and constructed a purpose-built pottery factory next to what is now the W coast mainline railway. This large-scale industrial factory had its own railway sidings to transport materials and finished products, workshops, packing yards and banks of kilns. There was a dumping area for mis-fired pots and ashes behind the factory. The firm traded under the name Murray and Co and at the time of the move was producing a large range of stoneware and earthenware items. The pottery was largely demolished in 1928.

Murray appears to have been a highly innovative owner and carried out experiments on the use of coal gas to fire the kilns. Gas-fired pottery kilns had the potential to reduce coal use massively and increase the productivity of the works. In 1892 a patent was granted for a continuous gas-fired kiln system.

Work at this site consisted of an open-area excavation of the factory buildings and trenching through the pottery dumps to the rear of the factory. The excavations identified the complete complex of workshops, yards, railway sidings, clay processing tanks, boiler rooms and steam engines. It also identified several phases of kiln development and building. There was clear evidence of the gas-fired kiln system shown in the patent.

The pottery waste dumps were *c*6m deep and spread across all the available open land. Material from the dumps has allowed us to identify formerly unknown products and export markets. The waste dumps clearly recorded episodes of mis-fired pottery and fuel waste dumping spanning the life of the factory.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Transport Scotland working in partnership with Glasgow City Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Renfrewshire Council

Old Monkland/Rutherglen

M74: Areas 1 – 3

Watching brief

Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK

NS 639 624 to NS 624 617

Monitoring was undertaken of the ground investigation work being carried out in three archaeologically sensitive areas at Rutherglen from 6–26 August 2008. The soil samples from six boreholes in areas 1–3 of the M74 completion corridor were examined for archaeological material. A substantial deposit of made ground occupies the area, extending to depths of up to 10m. This deposit is predominantly composed of the waste material from the local iron and steel works, containing blast furnace slag, coke, burnt shale and clinker. No archaeological deposits were observed.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Glasgow City Council and Historic Scotland

Funder: Glasgow City Council and Transport Scotland

HIGHLAND

Alvie

Kinakyle, Aviemore

Evaluation

Charlotte Francoz and John Atkinson – GUARD

NH 8923 1100 An evaluation was undertaken, 14–25 April 2008, across the visible remains of buildings that may represent the remnants of Kinakyle township. Five trenches were positioned to investigate the character, date and degree of preservation of the five most promising structures. All five trenches were hand-excavated.

Structure A was 15.75 x 4.5m, oriented NE/SW and at its NE end exhibited good evidence of a stone-built corn-drying kiln, complete with slate floor. There is also a suggestion of opposing doors across the middle of the building. Viewed in conjunction, these features are strongly suggestive of a kiln barn. Additional evidence may indicate that the kiln was either added onto a pre-existing building or that the structure went through a number of phases of use and alteration.

Structure B was sub-circular in shape and oriented NE/SW. Its form indicates that it may be one of the earliest buildings on the site. Structure C was similar in shape to structure B, and had an entrance facing the SE and a central hearth. There was no evidence of occupation by animals and the building's curvilinear shape and sparse material culture suggests that it might have been abandoned early in the site's occupation sequence. Structure D was the worst preserved of the five buildings. Oriented NW/SE, it had an entrance facing SW at its SE end and may be two separate structures end to end. The walls strongly suggested that the building was constructed of turf, edged with slabs, a form of construction common before the mid-18th century in the Highlands. The discovery of two iron hoops, like those used for binding barrels, may imply that the building was used for storage. Structure J was a dry stone wall, possibly demarcating a yard to the rear of structure C or marking a land division in the group of buildings.

The artefactual assemblage, particular the ceramics and glass suggests that Kinakyle was still occupied during the

first half of the 19th century. The ceramic assemblage is rich in cream wares and also includes sponge-decorated wares dating from the 1830s to 1840s. The glass assemblage contains at least one two-piece moulded bottle (*c* post-1860) and other early 19th-century examples.

On the basis of the evidence from this evaluation and desk-based work the site has the potential to be of regional importance. The settlement is at least 250 years old and may be considerably older. The presence of turf building techniques in structure D is particularly noteworthy.

Archive: Highland SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Applecross

Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project

Excavation
Mary Peteranna and Cait McCullagh – Applecross Archaeology Society

NG 7118 4433 The third season of excavation, undertaken over two weeks in July 2008, aimed to uncover another quadrant of the site and to investigate the possible souterrain uncovered in 2007. The work brought further clarification to the broch site and revealed multiple phases, including a possible pre-broch structure.

Possible souterrain entrance, or entrance into an earlier structure, Applecross Broch

The third quadrant (Trench 4) revealed evidence of post-broch alteration to the walls, particularly where the inner broch walls narrowed and widened. There is evidence that parts of the inner walls were rebuilt and new internal partitioning constructed during a later phase of use. This evidence is similar to that uncovered during previous seasons in the first two quadrants. Three intramural passages and three intramural galleries were also recorded.

The excavation of the broch entrance, on a NE/SW orientation, revealed a paved passage and lintel-like steps within poorly constructed walls. It is an unconvincing original entrance and since a final quadrant remains unexcavated, it is possible that the original broch entrance remains to be found. It is also possible that this was a later entrance into a post-broch structure, since there is evidence of post-broch living and work surfaces in the courtyard.

Investigation of the possible souterrain entrance uncovered in 2007 revealed a slabbed surface or pathway leading to the outside of the broch. Several fragments of pottery, possibly of Iron Age date, were recovered from the fill overlying this surface.

On the opposite side of the broch from this entrance, a group of large flat slabs laid side by side were recorded. These slabs have not been fully excavated but appear to be very similar in arrangement to the slabs that overlie the entrance. As they underlie the broch's outer wall, it is possible that they cover an opposing entrance into an earlier roundhouse-type structure and thus that the possible souterrain entrance is not what it seems. This theory is further supported by evidence of a wall outside of the broch's outer wall.

Two trenches were excavated outside the broch to investigate possible sub-broch structures. Instead of structures the trenches revealed a metalworking surface, a stone bank/road and two related slab-lined features. All of these areas will require further excavation to establish their significance.

The site has been excavated to reveal the post-broch stage of occupation, but has not reached the earlier occupation layers. Excavation of the probable structure beneath the broch will require an extension to the excavated area.

Finds – In 2007 a fragment of a sandstone slab with incised carvings was uncovered in the fill overlying the broch entrance. A second fragment was later recovered from the spoil. Initial analysis suggests that the carvings were made using a metal implement. Other worked stone includes a number of whole and fragmentary stones that may have originated as coarse stone tools. The majority of these remain *in situ*. They may include a quern stone, grinding stone and bone fragments, re-used in or redeposited into the construction, shoring and in-filling of their current contexts. Other finds, in secondary contexts include undecorated and decorated steatite spindle whorls, possibly sourced from the natural steatite deposits of Glenelg.

Incised sandstone slab, Applecross Broch

Eleven polished stone tools were found during the 2008 season, including three whetstones, two picks and six polishing stones. A 'set' of four polished stone tools (whetstone, pick, polishing stone and ax/adze), laid out in a line, was uncovered after surface clean-back in Trench 1, near two rectilinear features that may be industrial areas.

A shale bangle was uncovered in redeposited loam in Trench 5, an area outside the broch. A full bangle diameter of 80mm has been projected, and infers a connection to Iron Age horizons on the site, specifically in its resemblance to similar finds at the High Pasture Cave site on the Isle of Skye.

For further information about the Applecross Broch Community Archaeology Project, or to get a copy of our most recent report, please contact Mary Peteranna at ampeteranna@aol.com.

Ardclach

Ardclach War Memorial

Recording

Stuart Farrell

NH 96118 46983 A survey and record of the names on the memorial was undertaken as part of an ongoing project to record the local war memorials in Nairnshire. The memorial, which takes the form of a Celtic Cross, was unveiled on Christmas Day 1921 and has views over the River Findhorn.

Report: HSMR and RCAHMS.

Ardersier

Fort George, Ardersier

Excavation

Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NH 7627 5672 Minor excavations were carried out, 4–10 December 2007, in advance of construction work. Four trenches were excavated to a depth that allowed the laying of service ducts. Trench 1 measured 13.5m N/S by 8.4m wide and was to the rear (W) of the NW corner of the artillery block in a walled courtyard. Trench 2 continued N from the courtyard to a service box. Trench 3 continued N from the service box. Trench 4 turned E from the end of Trench 3 to another service box.

Deposits thought to date to the original 18th-century construction of the artillery block and a series of later disturbance and rebuilding were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Ardgour

Airigh Neill

Walkover survey

JE Kirby and M Gascoigne

NM 9248 5763 – Recessed platform, 6.7 x 7.0m. Rear scarp 0.4m; front revetment of turf, 0.3m

NM 9244 5755 – Recessed platform, 6.3 x 6.2m. Rear scarp 0.2m; front revetment of stone, 1.0m. Eroded and wet, with charcoal.

NM 9238 5751 – Recessed platform, 8.5 x 7.5m. Rear scarp 0.1m; front revetment of turf, 0.4m. Charcoal present.

NM 9234 5740 – Recessed platform, 6.6 x 6.9m, severely eroded and obscure. Rear scarp 0.15m; front revetment of turf, 0.1m. Charcoal present.

The placename suggests that this area was a shieling (belonging to Inversanda), but there is nothing in the archaeological record to confirm this.

Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Allt na Craoibh Uinnsinn

Walkover survey

JE Kirby and M Gascoigne

NM 9211 5856 – Platform, 8.0 x 7.5m. Occupying the flattened summit of a low knoll and surrounded by a curb of large stones.

NM 9201 5854 – Recessed platform, 9.0 x 7.5m. Rear scarp 0.5m; front revetment of stone, 0.5m. Charcoal present.

NM 9212 5850 – Recessed platform, 7.0 x 8.0m. Rear scarp 0.5m; front revetment of stone and turf, 0.4m.

NM 9217 5856 – Recessed platform, 6.0 x 4.0m, much eroded and occupied by a transmission pole. Rear scarp 0.5m; front revetment of stone, 0.7m. Abundant charcoal.

NM 9213 5847 – Enclosure. A low rectangular enclosure *c*3.5 x 4.5m in a sheltered hollow by the burn. Dry stone walls to 0.6m.

Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Am Fasgadh

Lithic scatter

JE Kirby, OJ Kirby and M Gascoigne

NN 0094 6904 – Four flint flakes and three pieces of worked quartz from an eroding burnside.

NN 0106 6923 – A small piece of worked bloodstone came from an upturned root-plate.

Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Chasing Names – Norse Settlement and Contacts in Northern Argyll – Glengalmadale

Walkover survey

Anne Bankier – University of Glasgow

The principal purpose of this research was to assess the evidence for Norse settlement implied by the place-name evidence. This survey aimed to identify all the visible archaeology. A walkover survey was undertaken 19–25 April 2008 of the glen to a height of between 50–400m, depending on gradient. The fields and coast at Camas na Croise and headland of Ceanna Mor were also surveyed.

NM 87194 55978 (centred) – Shieling (14 structures)

NM 87328 56200 (centred) – Shieling (7 structures)

NM 86621 53764 – Dyke (running westwards to Glengalmadale River)

NM 86630 54662 – Wall (part of)

NM 86622 54622 – Wall (part of)

NM 86834 54995 (centred) – Structures (5), clearance cairns (4) and possible stack stand

NM 86794 54818 – Wall (part of)

NM 86463 53243 – Dyke (westwards toward NM 86536 53217)

NM 86749 53026 – Platform

NM 86780 53040 (centred) – Dyke

NM 86600 52750 (centred) – Dyke

NM 85914 52370– Oval turf mound

NM 85951 52313 – Turf structures (2)

The author was accompanied on survey by Stephen Digney, and John and Joan Bankier.

Report: Highland SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and the Caledonian Research Foundation Scholarship

Lochan Torr an Fhamhair

Walkover survey

JE Kirby and M Gascoigne

NM 9271 5804 – Recessed platform, 9.0 x 10.5m. Rear scarp 0.5m; front revetment of turf with occasional stone to 0.5m. No charcoal visible.

NM 9272 5811 – Recessed platform, 7.3 x 8.0m. Rear scarp 0.7m; front revetment of stone, 0.5m. Slightly mounded. Charcoal present.

NM 9327 5851 – Recessed platform, 10.0 x 11.0m. Rear scarp 0.45m; front revetment of turf, 0.75m.

NM 9332 5852 – Recessed platform, 7.6 x 10.0m. Rear scarp 0.7m; front revetment of turf, 0.8m.
Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Ardnamurchan

Achnalea
Findspot
JE Kirby and M Gascoigne
NM 8464 6105 Small flake of pale fawn flint in a gravel layer beneath peat containing a scatter of charcoal.
Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Bourblaige – Chasing Names – Norse Settlement and Contacts in Northern Argyll
Survey
Anne Bankier – University of Glasgow
NM 548 620 The remains of a much denuded roughly rectangular structure are situated at the edge, and possibly outside, the depopulated settlement at Bourblaige. The structure does not appear on an estate plan of the township (William Bald 1807).

The form of the structure is confused over large areas where both internal and external walling has collapsed. The entrance appears to have been on the eastern wall. External length 14.3m (*c*11m internally), external width *c*6m (unclear internal dimensions *c*3.4–4.3m). Anne Bankier was accompanied on survey by Stephen Digney, Oliver O'Grady and Alice E Blackwell on 1–2 April 2008.
Report: Highland SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and the Caledonian Research Foundation Scholarship

Camas Torsa
Findspot
JE Kirby
NM 6715 6218 An off-white flint scraper and a quartz scraper from upcast spoil from a forest road.
Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Kilchoan – Chasing Names – Norse Settlement and Contacts in Northern Argyll
Survey
Anne Bankier – University of Glasgow
NM 4930 6310 The much denuded remains of a large sub-rectangular structure, *c*15.1 x 6.7m externally with walls 1.5–2m thick, is situated in a sheltered location on the W side of the road to the Kilchoan–Tobermory ferry. The structure is not recorded on early maps or estate plans. The remains have been significantly damaged by cattle. Anne Bankier was accompanied on survey by Stephen Digney, Oliver O'Grady, and Alice E Blackwell on 1–2 May 2008.
Report: Highland SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and the Caledonian Research Foundation Scholarship

Ranachanstrone
Walkover survey
JE Kirby and M Gascoigne
NM 7904 6188 – White flint flake with cortex and retouch.
NM 7817 6139 – Scraper, rock crystal.
NM 7819 6135 – Off-white flint flake.
NM 7904 6188 – Off-white and dark brown flint flake with cortex.
NM 7896 6172 – Off-white flint scraper with retouch.
NM 7897 6176 – Several pieces of slag, indicating a bloomery site. Many of the local bloomerys consist of a slight scatter of slag only, and it is assumed that most of the slag was recycled as a flux in the Strontian lead smelter, or in the Bonawe Iron Furnace.
Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Salen – Acharacle
Watching brief
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NM 6900 6480 Monitoring was undertaken, 17–20 March 2008, during the construction of a pipeline between Salen and Acharacle. A presence was maintained on site during the excavation of *c*200m of pipeline trench. The entire area had been heavily disturbed by the establishment of a forest track and woodland management. No archaeological artefacts or deposits were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland Council
Funder: Jacobs

Excavation of pipeline between Salen and Acharacle, Ardnamurchan

Sanna – Chasing Names – Norse Settlement and Contacts in Northern Argyll
Walkover survey
Anne Bankier – University of Glasgow
A walkover survey was undertaken, 26 April–3 May 2008 on land to the N of Allt Sanna, eastwards to the depopulated township of Plocaig and then further E taking in a *c*100m broad coastal strip as far as Eigin –aig. The work is part of the project described under Bourblaige, parish of Ardnamurchan. Anne Bankier was accompanied on survey by Stephen Digney, Oliver O'Grady, and Alice E Blackwell.
NM 44257 69784 – Structure.
NM 44150 69960 – Cave with walling.
NM 44263 70369 – Circular area of stones.
NM 44517 64883 – Track way.
NM 4464 69733 – Old bridge supports.
NM 44841 70060 (centred) – Three structures and midden.
NM 44659 70133 – Structure and terrace.
NM 45166 70042 – Animal pen.
NM 45342 69952 – Structure/hut.
NM 45534 70042 – Cave with walling.
NM 45534 70042 – Sheep enclosure.
NM 46186 70424 – Structure/hut.
NM 46233 70381 – Circular structural remains.
NM 46130 70500 – Stone walling (in Glendrian caves).
NM 46261 70284 – Sunken hut.
NM 46824 70631 (centred) – Shieling (nine huts).
NM 46685 70570 – Possible shieling hut.
NM 46422 70181 (centred) – Shieling (six huts).
NM 46009 69990 – Possible shieling (two huts).

Report: Highland SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and the Caledonian Research Foundation Scholarship

Sonachan Hotel
Findspot
JE Kirby and M Gascoigne
NM 4530 6631 A small piece of worked mudstone was recovered from the spoilheap of a hole dug to bury rubbish in the field in front of the hotel.
Funder: Sunart Oakwoods Research Group

Arisaig and Moidart

Mingary
Survey
Ken Bowker – Moidart History Group
NM 68827 70315 (centred on) This deserted settlement is in a natural bowl in hills above the N shores of Loch Shiel around tributaries of the Mingarry Burn. The centre of the settlement is 1km N of the A861 road bridge at Mingarry. The site consists of scattered groups of ruined buildings and enclosures surrounded by a head dyke. The walls of most of the buildings stand to below knee height with only a few sections of wall remaining to sill height. Some can only be seen as stone outlines in the turf. Each group consists of at least one substantially built building with a collection of smaller, similarly designed structures and much smaller roughly built structures. It is possible that each group of buildings represents a farmhouse or houses and their byres and shelters.

The settlement contains 17 sturdy rectangular buildings of similar style with internal dimensions of 7–10 x 3–4m and lower dry stone walls of 0.7–0.9m thick. The external corners are rounded and the internal corners rectangular. The entrance is in the centre of one of the long sides. Few building stones are dressed. There are six buildings with internal dimensions of *c*10 x 3–4m, 12 smaller buildings of similar style and construction with internal dimensions of 5–7 x 2–3m, and the remains of five small shelters. Remnants of ten other buildings that have been too damaged to discern their original size and outlines of three round/oval turf shelters are visible. Five enclosures in close association with substantial buildings and two other enclosures have been identified. There are also five stone outcrops encircled by rough stone walls of varying thickness and height and the remains of a curious circular structure of unknown function.

The most visible part of the settlement is the NW area. This is overgrown in summer with high bracken. The NE and southern areas are in thick conifer plantation. The buildings in the plantation are badly damaged. All buildings are of the last phase of occupation but some have been altered, showing change of use.

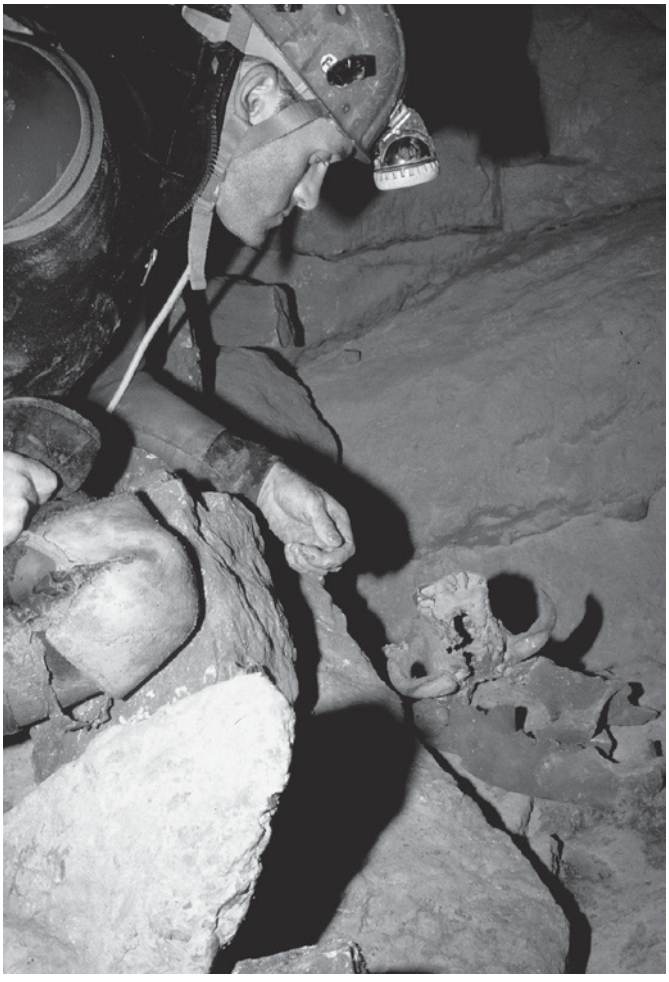
The settlement is reached by a N/S track from the road. This track post-dates the phase of occupation. It crosses the Mingarry burn in the forestry plantation, and crosses one of the main tributaries of the burn at the northern exit from the plantation by two fine late 19th century bridges.

Information from Moidart Local History Group (Comann Eachdraidh Muideart), January–June 2008
Archive: RCAHMS

Assynt

Uamh an Claonaite
Survey, excavation, sampling and analysis
Steven Birch – Grampian Speleological Group, Edinburgh
NC 2680 1702 The bones of an adult brown bear and an ulna from a second bear were recovered from a dry high-level passage in cave system, 22 June–15 October 2008. The remains, which were originally discovered in May 1995 by cave divers from the Grampian Speleological Group, were considered to be under threat when a new dry entrance, providing easier access to the site, was discovered in January 2008. The remains were in the area covered by the Creag nan Uamh Caves scheduled monument (Index 606) and the Ben More Assynt SSSI.

After surveying the passages containing the bear remains, which also included important cave morphology features, a limited excavation was conducted and was successful in removing around 80% of the bones from one bear and the ulna from a second bear; the latter relating to a different depositional event. The bones are now awaiting radiocarbon dating and detailed analysis, which will be crucial in determining how the animals or their remains entered the cave system. It is anticipated that the bears died at least 12,000 years ago.
Report: Highland SMR, Historic Scotland, RCAHMS and Scottish Natural Heritage
Funder: Grampian Speleological Group and National Museums Scotland



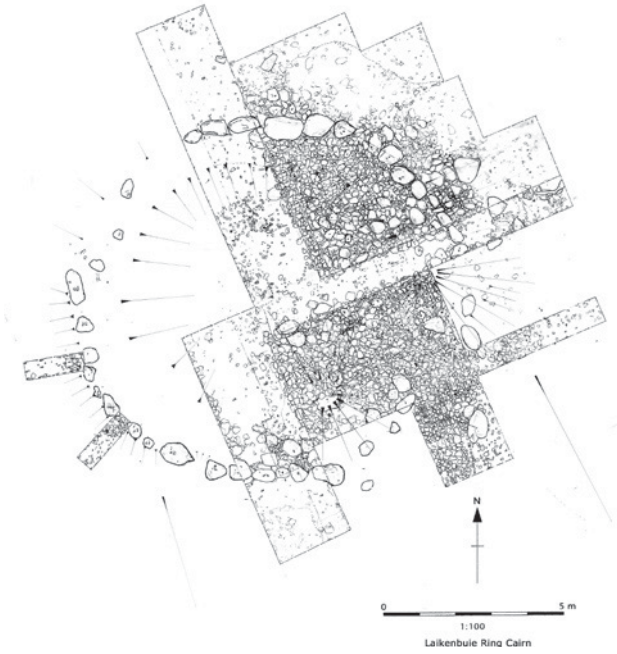
Caver examines bear skull and mandible, Uamh an Claonaite

Auldearn

Laikenbuie Ring Cairn
Ring cairn
Ronnie Scott and Annette Jack – NOSAS
NH 9086 5220 Laikenbuie Ring Cairn was excavated between 2003 and 2006. It lies to the NE of Laikenbuie Cairn Field (*DES*

2007). During excavation samples were taken from the fill of a small hole near the centre of the ring cairn and from the early land surface under boulders forming the ring of the cairn. The samples were analysed by Reading University and radiocarbon dated by SUERC. The date from the hole was obtained from a mixture of *quercus* and *corylus* charcoal (SUERC-16910) and gave a date of 2465±35 BP. The date from the early land surface beneath the ring was obtained from *corylus* charcoal (SUERC-16909) and gave a date of 2440±35 BP. At a 68.2% probability the dates are 550–480 BC and 525–455 BC. The dates are Early Iron Age.

These dates correspond with the latest of four dates obtained from Balnuaran of Clava S ring cairn 2420±45 BP (AA25259) (Bradley 2000) and with two dates obtained at the excavations of Kerb Cairn IIA Sands of Forvie 2565±140 BP (GU-1824) and 2510±125 BP (GU-1826) (Ralston 2000).



Laikenbuie Ring Cairn Plan

Laikenbuie Ring Cairn is in the Clava tradition of monuments. It is similar in form and size to Balnuaran of Clava S (*DES* 2007). It is interesting that both these monuments had been considered previously to be Iron Age hut circles. Richard Bradley's investigation published in 2000 proved that Balnuaran of Clava S was not a hut circle but a ring cairn, a similar result to our excavation at Laikenbuie. Three of the dates obtained at Balnuaran of Clava S Ring Cairn indicate activity there in the Late Bronze Age, though these earlier dates may indicate residual material. The fourth, later, date corresponds with the Early Iron Age dates obtained at Laikenbuie Ring Cairn and may indicate that the two cairns are contemporary (R Bradley pers com). Bradley suggests that Balnuaran of Clava S was part of a secondary phase of monument building at Balnuaran of Clava more than a thousand years later than the earlier monuments (Bradley 2000).

At Laikenbuie Ring Cairn we felt that elements in its design suggested that reflections of the earlier Clava monuments were being incorporated into the design of the later monument. From its typology we had thought the cairn to be Late Bronze Age but it has turned out to be Early Iron Age. It is interesting to note that Kerb Cairn IIA at the sands of Forvie also seems to reflect the earlier tradition of Recumbent Stone Circles in the surrounding area. It has a large flat stone making up the major part of its southern kerb, as do the RCS's. The excavation raises the question of whether these earlier traditions were being incorporated by the later monument builders with similar ideologies, or whether the builders were copying the form of degraded earlier monuments, seen in the landscape, without an understanding of the concepts of the earlier builders.

Bradley, R 2000 *The good stones. A new investigation of the Clava Cairns.* Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Ralston, I 2000 *Excavations of second and first millennia BC Mains on the Sands of Forvie, Slains, Aberdeenshire.* Aberdeen: O'Dell Memorial Monograph No 28.

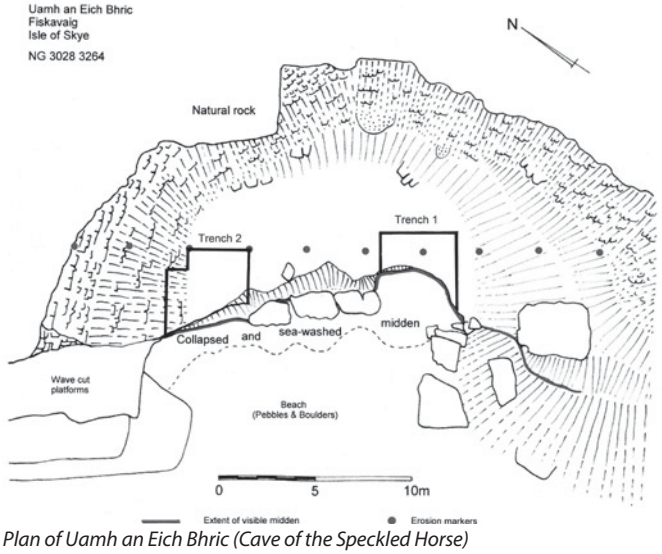
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: HRC SMR (intended)
Sponsor: Funded by Nairnshire Committee

Moyness Kirk, Brodie
Photographic survey
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 9700 5500 The building was visited and a photographic record produced on 2 May 2008 prior to conversion. Scale drawings were made of the principal elevations and plans. Historical background was included in the report.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Sarah Ashton

New Barn, Lochloy, Nairn, Moray
Watching brief
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 9250 5740 A watching brief was carried out on 9 July 2008 prior to the construction of a house. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR
Funder: Mr and Mrs Cox

Bracadale

Uamh an Eich Bhric (Cave of the Speckled Horse)
Assessment and rescue excavation
Martin Wildgoose and Steven Birch – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey/West Coast Archaeological Services



Plan of Uamh an Eich Bhric (Cave of the Speckled Horse)

NG 3028 6364 Two trenches were excavated in the threatened areas of the surviving parts of the 1st- to 2nd-century AD midden in this coastal rock-shelter. The trenches contained evidence that the shelter had been used, probably seasonally, for both domestic occupation and the production of small copper alloy items, with hearths, crucibles and mould fragments being recovered.

For more information visit the 'News' section of the High

Pasture Cave website, (www.high-pasture-cave.org). A fuller description of the work will be provided in a DSR in April 2009.
Archive: Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey (currently).
Finds: National Museums Scotland
Funder: Historic Scotland, AALS and WCAS

Canisbay

Huna, Caithness

Watching brief
Dave Lawrence – Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology (ORCA)
ND 3583 7353 A watching brief was undertaken, 14 May 2008, on preliminary excavations at a proposed new house plot. No archaeological remains were discovered.
Report: Highlands SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Derek Munro

Cawdor

Cawdor, Highland

Watching brief
Roz Gillis – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 84394 50237 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out, 25–26 September 2008, during test pitting in two fields NW of the B990 at Cawdor. The pits were being dug to establish the geology of a development site. Two isolated archaeological features were recorded, a boundary ditch aligned N/S and an oval pit with a charcoal-rich fill. No further evidence of activity was noted in the 16 test pits.
Report: Highland Council
Funder: Cawdor Discretionary Trust Trustees

Clyne

Back Beach, Brora

Excavation
Janet Hooper – Clyne Heritage Society
NC 9047 0329 The excavation of the salt pans along the Back Beach continued 16–31 August 2008. Work concentrated on the building partially exposed last year in Trench 4, which can be associated with the New Salt Works, dating to *c*1767–1777. One (unexcavated) corner of this building had collapsed over the winter. Dry weather during the early summer had exacerbated the damage caused by the winter storms, hastening the collapse of buildings believed to be associated with the Old Salt Works (1598–1617), just to the E of the main excavation area.

The 2008 trench exposed a substantial building, neatly constructed from hard white quartzite boulders. Much of the masonry was covered in barnacles, confirming documentary evidence that many of the stones had been taken directly from the beach. Both the internal and external walls appear to have been clay mortared and then harled. A substantial amount of broken tile overlying the floor deposits reinforced the theory that this building had a pantile roof. This appears to contradict the mention of slate in the 1767 lease of the salt works and the use of turf for the salters' houses, which were being built a year later; the tiles may have allowed better ventilation.

The building had been divided into two, the centrally placed fireplaces identified last year lying to either side of this wall. The eastern half of the building, measuring 3.7m N/S by 6.8m E/W internally, had a brick fireplace, contained with stone spur walls and a much heat-damaged hearth. The area around the fireplace had been covered with

Visitors at the open day watch the excavation of the 18th-century salt pans at Brora

roughly shaped slabs, while the rest of the floor appeared to have been cobbled. As the cobbles had been set into sand, they had required repair, and the fact that they survive only at the E end suggests they did not last long. Above the cobbles and covering the rest of the floor area the deposits were complex, comprising thin layers of midden material, predominantly unburnt shale/coal fragments, which as they were very compacted had probably formed an effective floor surface. This half of the building had a centrally placed doorway in the S wall (excavated last year).

The western half of the building was dominated by the hearth complex backing onto the division wall. Though this was not dismantled, enough was revealed to determine the phasing of the hearths. The first hearth was constructed in stub walls matching those on the E side of the division wall. This was largely obscured by a slightly smaller second hearth, which had been built on top of it, its base much higher than the floor level. This hearth was made of sandstone. Finally, the spur walls were extended and a brick and stone platform pierced by two 'flues' supported a raised hearth, enclosed by very roughly built brick and stone walling. The base of the fire must have rested on the clay used to form the top of the platform as this had been turned orange-red by heat.

The platform had been built on substantial stone slabs, which formed the central part of the floor. These were of enormous thickness and suggest activities requiring a very solid surface. The slabs did not extend eastwards as far as the division wall, the gaps on either side of the hearth being filled with a deep deposit of unburnt coal fragments. Though not as concentrated, coal also appears to have been piled up against the spur walls on the E side of the division wall, staining the stonework. On the SE side, two whole peats were found at the base of the coal deposit.

At the W end of the floor slabs, the situation is far less clear. A number of intercutting pits had been dug into clean windblown sand, while a line of probable stakeholes suggested the presence of a wooden partition. One side of a doorway was discovered in the S wall in the SW corner of the trench. This confirmed that the stakeholes represented an internal partition and that the building continued into the section, making its western half at least 5m long. Time constraints, combined with the complexity of the deposits, meant that excavation stopped at this point, leaving the W end of the building intact, to be uncovered next year if possible.

The middens known locally as the 'coal road' and visible in the face of the dune against the outside face of the building, were found to extend right around its E end. The midden material had been laid down in horizontal layers, some dominated by burnt and others by unburnt shale/coal fragments. The impression given is not so much of a 'road' as of a large amount of waste material used to create a firm working surface around the buildings. A number of U-shaped cuts dug into the windblown sand below these deposits, both inside and outside the building, suggest previous use of the site.

There are a number of still unanswered questions, particularly regarding the nature of the deposits at the W end of the building. Flake hammer scale was identified between the slabs around the hearth complex in the eastern half of the building. This was possibly derived from repairs to the pans, which because of salt corrosion would have been undertaken frequently. However, given the number of iron objects recovered it is possible that the hearth complex in the western half functioned as a forge. This interpretation is reinforced by the relatively small size of the building, which would not have been large enough to contain even one pan. Although the size of the pans at Brora is not known, they typically measured about 18 x 9ft x 18in (5.49 x 2.74 x 0.46m). A pan of this size would have been a tight fit in a building only 3.7m wide, particularly in view of the fact that at St Monans the pan houses varied between 8.5–8.7m and 9.2–9.7m wide.

Apart from the fireplace on the W side of the division wall, which is domestic in scale, there is nothing to indicate the function of this half of the building and it may have been used for storage. The high quality of the ceramic finds, which appear to support a late 18th-century date, contradicts the impression of an industrial building.

In addition to the main trench, a number of test pits were dug to explore anomalies identified by the geophysics undertaken by Orkney College Geophysics Unit in June 2008. These produced largely negative results, apart from one dug upslope from the Saltman's house, identified on the basis of Farey's 1813 map and lying just inland of the main trench. This revealed a roughly rectangular area of very neatly laid cobbling, on which was found a sherd of late 18th-century pottery. Below the cobbling and separated from it by a build-up of windblown sand was a thick midden deposit, consisting principally of shells. The remains of a building with associated floor deposits, which might form part of the Old Salt works, proved too precarious to examine this year, though as it continues to collapse the floor deposits become more accessible.

The second season of excavation has confirmed the quality of the remains and their potential to reveal much about the industrial history of this area. Work was undertaken with assistance from professional archaeologists and volunteers. The enthusiasm and energy of the volunteers, mostly locals, numbering 35 in total and ranging from 5 to 75 in age has contributed a huge amount to the project. It is hoped that excavation at both the Old and New Salt works can continue next year.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland; Heritage Lottery Fund, Awards For All, The SCAPE Trust, NoSAS and Sutherland Estate

Contin

Little Garve Bridge

Photographic survey

Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NH 3964 6288 Following a desk-based assessment and site visit in July 2007 further visits were undertaken in order to make a photographic record of progress during the two phases of the renovation works, with this season's work covering the final phase in the early spring of 2008. A geo-referenced plan and digital plot of the camera locations was also completed.

This stone bridge, scheduled monument no. 2720, located to the E of Little Garve, was built in *c*1762 under the supervision of Major Caulfield in order to carry the Contin to Poolewe military road (RCAHMS MR 17) across the river. Constructed from rubble (cobbles and boulders), including squared-off dressings at the arches, it is a long humpback bridge and has a large single arch ring (the eastern flood arch) with a secondary arch at the western end. A coped parapet made up of both horizontal and vertical slabs rises to a point over the apex of the eastern flood arch. The eastern approach is curved and splayed.

It is believed locally that the northern elevations, at the W end of the bridge, were shored up by the Newfoundland Timber Corps working in the area in the 1940s. A reference of 1934 says it was even then shored up at the NW end by

two old telegraph poles. These appeared to be still in place in 2007. In 1987, the poor condition of the bridge led to its being closed to traffic. The bridge was further damaged during the winter of 2005–6, when a small section of the bridge collapsed. The first photographs taken, at the end of July 2007, show trees growing from the stonework and the timber shoring on the NW side in a severely rotted state.

In February 2008 steeplejacks began repair and consolidation of those areas of the external elevations that had not been accessible from the temporary scaffolding erected in the previous autumn. In March fresh turf was laid over a combination of geotextile and bentonite (Water Lines Solutions) at the junction of the internal roadway and parapets, both N and S sides. This treatment was applied primarily as waterproofing.

Completion of the works was recorded in April 2008. All of the designated areas of masonry and mortar scheduled for repair and consolidation have been completed to plan, including the clearing of vegetation and heavy cement mortar from the junctions of the long walls with the natural rock outcrops in the inner arch elevations. However, it was also noted that some voids remain on these elevations to allow water to be directed off of the upper bridge roadway. Here, it is presumed, sacrificial weathering and water flow damage will continue and the masonry and pointing of these inner arches will require continual monitoring.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Creich

Achness Broch
Cup-marked stone
David J Allan
NC 4700 0255 A cup-marked stone, found partly exposed 2008. The stone is one of a handful of large boulders situated on what is said to be the site of a broch. There are 35–40 cup marks on one face of the stone.

Henderson Cottage, Invercassley, Rosehall
Building survey and watching brief
Catherine Dagg
NC 4708 0240 In advance of demolition, a building record was made, 28 April 2008, of two joined cottages, constructed around 1875 and inhabited until 2005. Many original internal features survived, including early floor covering and wallpapers. A watching brief was carried out on a house plot immediately to the N of the cottages. This ground proved to be disturbed, containing sewage pipes and a septic tank, quarrying and material deposited during adjacent house building.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Colvin Designs, Castle Hill, Crofthaugh, Brora, KW9 6NE

Invershin Cemetery
Graveyard survey
Stuart Farrell
NH 5754 9721 A survey was undertaken, August–October 2008, of the memorials contained in the older part of the cemetery as part of an ongoing study of graveyards in the Highland area. A total of 61 memorials were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS.

Murphy's Croft, Bonar Bridge
Watching brief
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 6161 9307 Further to an evaluation carried out in September 2007 a watching brief was carried out 5 July 2008 prior to construction of a house. The development is defined on the N, E and W by fencing and to the S by a drainage ditch, on the other side of which is a hut circle and several, possibly contemporary, field clearance cairns. These lie about 80m from the development site.

Turf and topsoil was mechanically cleared in four trenches. All four trenches came down onto natural sands, gravels and rocks of glacial/peri-glacial origin at a depth of 100–250mm. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were found.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Mr G Smart

Cromarty

Cromarty East Church
Watching brief, photographic survey and excavation
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 7909 6726 A repairs programme began on 30 September 2008. Following an initial photographic survey, the walls are being photographically recorded during the removal of harling. This work has revealed some blocked-up openings and indications of former windows.

Excavation of soakaways in the churchyard was monitored and no graves were disturbed. Excavation of a drainage trench along the outside of the church was observed and the foundations photographed. These mostly consisted of large rounded boulders but in two places, opposite each other in the S and N walls of the W aisle, very large dressed sandstone slabs were built into the wall. These had apparently been reused from another location. An exploratory trench was opened inside the church to establish whether these were there to bridge an area of possible subsidence or even a culvert, but this encountered inter-cutting graves cut down onto natural raised beach sand.

Following removal of rotten unventilated timber flooring from within the church, apparently medieval floor surfaces have been found including kerbstones formed by splitting a medieval gravestone lengthways.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Local HER
Funder: Scottish Redundant Churches Trust, with assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Cromdale, Inverallan and Advie

Advie Cemetery
Gravestone recording
Stuart Farrell
NJ 1418 3528 A survey was undertaken, April–May 2008, of the memorials in this cemetery (NJ13SW 1), as part of an ongoing study of graveyards in the Highland area. A total of 109 memorials were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Marc Fitch Fund

Cromdale Cemetery
Gravestone recording
Stuart Farrell
NJ 0667 2897 A survey was undertaken, February–April 2008, of the memorials in this cemetery (NJ02NE 13), as part of an ongoing study of graveyards in the Highland area. The churchyard was extended in 1894. A total of 365 memorials were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Marc Fitch Fund

Daviot and Dunlichity

Carr Bann, Farr

Walkover survey
Stuart Farrell
NH 6745 3715 A walkover survey was conducted September 2008 prior to residential development. No archaeological features were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Jeans

Culloden Battlefield Memorial Project

Watching brief
David Lynn – GUARD
NH 742 450 (centred on) This is an interim summary of the outcomes of this monitoring project, ahead of the full report being completed and submission of a final account for the next edition of *DES*. A full monitoring programme was undertaken, August 2006 and March 2008, on the construction of a new NTS visitor centre.

Previous work in the battlefield area had shown that the paths representing the opposing Government and Jacobite battle lines were incorrectly positioned, and new paths were laid out along more accurate alignments. The footpaths in the core area of the battlefield, known as the Clan Cemetery and designated a SAM, were also realigned and brought back to run along the old course of the B9006 road which ran through the cemetery area until the 1970s.

Earlier investigations by geophysical and metal detector surveys, controlled excavation and test pitting had suggested that the development footprint of the new visitor centre and ancillaries would be archaeologically safe, and this proved to be the case. No significant structural features were found in any of the excavated areas, and artefact retrieval was only achieved by the ongoing metal detector surveys of the topsoil, subsoil and spoil. This produced a few musket balls and other assorted battle-related objects, most of which showed signs of heavy plough damage. The footpath monitoring results were also negligible, with no structural discoveries and only a handful of minor artefacts.

One battle-related question which was partially resolved was the discovery of a much older (albeit undated) trackway sequence under the former B9006 road into the battlefield from the W. This is in keeping with contemporary maps which show a track through the battlefield to Leanach cottage, and this may have influenced how the conflict progressed.

Apart from validating the previous predictions of archaeologically safe zones, the value of the monitoring was in its ability to identify the degree of post-1746 agricultural improvement and sustained forestry programmes across the battlefield. Both regimes brought extensive impacts and terrain modifications which can now be quantified and related to the survivability of battle features and any earlier deposits and structures in the immediate area.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER/SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: NTS

Lochview, Achlaschoille, Farr

Watching brief
Stuart Farrell
NH 6924 3715 A watching brief was undertaken in June 2008 prior to construction of a house and associated access. The site is close to the site of Achlaschoille farmstead (NH63NE 1) No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Gorin

Dornoch

Earls Court Road, Dornoch

Evaluation
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 80460 90293 Work was undertaken on 13–14 February 2008 prior to a housing development. The evaluation covered 180m linear, a 10% sample of the total area. It was expected that shell middens would be uncovered at this raised beach site. Significant numbers of worked stone tools were recovered from the middens in the western corner of the site. The middens continued under the dunes outside the boundaries of the development. The finds are awaiting analysis.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR
Funder: Mr Ian M Anderson

North Street, Dornoch

Evaluation and watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 7975 8981 A trial trenching evaluation and watching brief were carried out, 20 February–12 March 2008, at a residential development site. The 1st Edition OS map shows buildings along the road frontage on this site. Eight trenches, an 11% sample of the site, were carefully monitored. There were no significant archaeological finds or features.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services
Funder: Brian Holmes

Sutherland Road, Dornoch

Evaluation
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 7900 8950 An evaluation was carried out, 12–21 August 2008, prior to development for housing. It was hoped that a boundary ditch identified on an early map would be uncovered. The water-logged areas closest to the road held large timbers, possibly ship-related. A ditch running N/S closer to the edge of town and in sandy conditions contained wooden pegs and knotted rope. At the far S end of the site, in clean sand, the shallow ditch of a burial mound *c*3.5 x 3.8m with terminals at the SW end was recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR (intended)
Funder: Pat Munro (Alness) Ltd

Duirinish

Ard Dubh, Gillen, Vaternish, Isle of Skye

Findspot
Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland
NG 275 597 Surface find in 1972 by Dr David Bertie of a large end scraper on a flake of baked mudstone; from a then recently excavated drainage ditch alongside a track leading down to the beach at Ard Dubh. Dimensions L 67 x B 40 x Th 18mm.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 99/07) and allocated to Highland Council (Inverness Museum)

Coishletter, Edinbane

Evaluation
Daniel Rhodes – AOC Archaeology Group
NG 342 507 An evaluation took place, 22–24 February 2008, on a 9.5ha area prior to development. The evaluation covered a 5% sample of the total area. Redeposited archaeological material was recorded in a natural alluvial gully. Evidence of rig and furrow cultivation was recorded on a small hill-side.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Ewen Gillies Builders

Dunnet

Dunnet Bay

Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Paul Sharman – ORCA
ND 21891 70543 Work was undertaken on 3 July 2008 during ground-breaking works at an area towards the N end of Dunnet Bay, where a subsea cable was being brought onshore. The work was considered necessary due to the proximity of known prehistoric and early medieval sites.

The DBA identified three sites in close proximity to the proposed route (ND27SW 35 and Highland SMR MHG32255 and MHG31755). There are also local reports of finds ending up on the beach and there are traces of midden material eroding from the dune edge 15m S of the cable route. All of these sites were avoided by the cable route.

The machine excavation of a 300m long cable trench cutting through the dunes and down to the low water line was observed. Submerged peat and a possible soil horizon indicative of a past environment when this area was land rather than sea were observed some 1.2m below the beach deposits. No other features of archaeological interest were noted.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: HCAU, HSMR, RCAHMS and BT Group plc
Funder: BT Group plc

Viking and Norse Heritage Project

Community training, survey and fieldwork
Andrew Heald – Castletown Heritage Society/AOC Archaeology Group
ND 218 690 Between July and August 2008 an ambitious archaeological community programme began in and around Dunnet Bay. The project aimed to encourage local people to engage with their heritage; to use their archaeology and history to enhance community and cultural identity; and to appreciate the cultural and natural resources of the area. Archaeological training in a range of techniques was central to all aspects of the work.

Working with AOC Archaeology Group a six week programme was formulated that included: survey, fieldwork, post-excavation, weekend workshops, evening lectures, schools workshops, a daily website, open days, posters and press releases. The aim was to engage as much of the community as possible.

Fieldwork was a central component of the project, and the programme combined community training with an assessment of the archaeological deposits in and around Dunnet Bay. The study area covered *c*5km^2. Known archaeology included chambered cairns, brochs, medieval buildings, a Viking grave and a possible Viking settlement. The fieldwork aimed to augment these findings and locate, characterise and define the extent of other possible human activity, with a particular focus on the Viking and Late Norse/medieval periods. Survey incorporated fieldwalking, EDM survey, 3D laser scanning and a programme of coring.

A small-scale evaluation excavation was also undertaken, focussing on two of the primary areas identified through survey. Both were in the northern area of the bay, close to a possible Norse settlement. In one of the trenches a putative wall associated with anthropogenic soils was recorded. Post-excavation analysis will concentrate on assessing the nature and date of these deposits. Following the successful training programme the area will continue to be mapped by the local community. Grateful thanks to Heritage Lottery Fund for sponsoring the project and to the local community for all their effort and support.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund

Edderton

Site for New Houses at Edderton, adjoining The Haven

Standing building recording
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 7098 8501 Building recording was undertaken, 17–21 January 2008, on a 2132m^2 site prior to development. Seven trial trenches, were excavated over 328m^2, 15.4% of the site. Clearance of scrub revealed the footprint of structure 1 and evidence of extensive wall collapse. The structure (NH78NW 63) is shown as a roofed building on the 1st Edition OS 6 inch map of 1881 and appears on subsequent 1907, 1959 and 1969 maps. A digital and photographic record of the building was produced.

The remains are aligned WSW/ENE and consist of a rectangular building measuring 14.9m in length and 4.4 and 5.3m wide at the WSW and ENE ends respectively. The building contains two compartments. The wall remains, where evident, are composed of unmortared, undressed boulders and are no more than two courses thick, 0.6 – 0.76m. The ground surface of each of the compartments is covered in thick vegetation and wall collapse is spread throughout.

The footings and some upstanding remains are only evident on three faces. The ENE end wall appears to have collapsed and to have been robbed out. The internal dividing wall, which constitutes the remains of the end wall of the first compartment, remains relatively intact to a height of up to 0.7m. There is one notable entry position in the SSE wall of Compartment 1, measuring *c*1.1m wide. The dividing wall, formerly the ENE end wall of Compartment 1, occurs at 9.7m. It is 5.1m long and has a thickness of 0.75m.

The second compartment appears as a later addition to the building on the 2nd Edition OS map of 1907 and may represent a byre extension. By the early 20th century the original building is depicted as unroofed, while the extension appears as roofed, suggesting that the structure was used as a byre after it had fallen into disuse as a dwelling.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Northmuir Ltd

Eddrachillis

Rhiconich and Sheilgra Water Main Renewal

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK
NC 24998 52316 – NC 25188 52157 Work was undertaken, October 2008, to assess the potential impacts of water main replacement from Achlyness to the A838. Seven sites were identified within 200m of the proposed route of the new pipeline. One site, excavated in 1993, could potentially date to the Bronze Age.

There is indication that this area was occupied and exploited from as early as the Bronze Age and the presence of several sites in the study area suggests that there is a moderate potential for archaeological remains ranging from the early – post-medieval periods.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Farr

House Site, 91 Naver, Bettyhill

Watching brief
Catherine Dagg

NC 70734 59913 A watching brief was carried out on 4 February 2008 at a residential development site. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded, although small finds recovered from the ploughsoil, including flint flakes and imported medieval pottery, suggest a long period of land use.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Ross MacKay

House Site North of 155 Armadale

Watching brief
Catherine Dagg
NC 7870 6433 A watching brief was carried out on 1 April 2008 on ground clearing in croft in-bye land. The site is in the vicinity of prehistoric settlement features and early modern land use. No archaeological features were recorded.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Mr and Mrs D Ellis

Fearn

Ashfield Farm, Fearn

Walkover survey and building recording
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 85925 77199 and NH 85863 77216 Work was undertaken, 13 October–6 November 2008, prior to residential development. The site covers an area of 700 x 300m, part of which lies in the eastern section of a WW2 military accommodation camp. The locations of each of 13 features and structures identified were recorded. A photographic record of all features was produced and the ground plan of structure 11 was recorded.

Remains of a WW2 military accommodation building, Fearn Airfield

Structures 1–10 Rectilinear concrete platforms, laid over brick foundations, the majority with no surviving elevations. Surviving walls are partial, in a dilapidated condition, or, in the case of structure 7 constitute later additions. Structure 1, consisting of three fragments of brick and mortar wall deposited on silty loam may be the remains of a scramble shelter. Structures 11 and 12 were considered of note and are detailed here.

Structure 11 (NH 85951 77197) – Military accommodation – This structure consisted of a partially roofed rectilinear building, including a concrete platform laid over brick foundations, with elevations surviving on three sides. It measured 17.3 and 16.95m in length on its NNW and SSE sides and 6.35 and 6.07m on its SWS and ENE ends respectively. It had an annexe incorporating an entrance porch, corridor and vestibule at the ENE extent. The annexed area measured 2.12 x 1.93 x 2.5m.

The interior of the main structure measured 16.79 x 16.96m A total of 14 window openings measuring 1.5 x1m were recorded at 1.35m above the floor. Substantial plaster survived on the interior elevations. The building's roof remained in a degraded condition towards its the ENE end. The roof was constructed of corrugated iron riveted onto a concrete A-Frame, underlain with wooden beams/joists to which a plasterboard ceiling had been riveted.

Structure 12 (NH 85932 77190) Remains of a possible scramble shelter – This structure consisted of a rectilinear, sunken concrete platform surrounded on three sides by brickwork elevations. There was no obvious alignment. The central platform was largely obscured by collapsed walls, soil and vegetation. The elevations measured 11.7 x 11.65 x 9.69m (NNW, ENE, SSE respectively), were 0.34m thick and reached a maximum height of 0.59m externally/0.70m internally.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Mr G Oliver

8 John Street, Balintore

Evaluation
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 8636 7570 An evaluation was carried out on 16 April 2008 prior to residential development on the site. Balintore is well known for the large numbers of human burials of various dates found throughout the village. 100% of the site clearance was monitored. There were no significant finds or features.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Ms D Oliver

Sand Dune Walk, Balintore

Watching brief
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 863 756 A watching brief was carried out on 14 April 2008 prior to residential development. Balintore village is rich in burials of widely differing dates and types including Bronze Age stone-lined cists containing crouched inhumations (NH87NE 5) and extended inhumations (NH87NE14). The mechanical digging of three foundation trenches was monitored. Redeposited material was recorded in trench 1, while trenches 2 and 3 contained areas of possible buried topsoil. All three trenches were archaeologically sterile.
Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Mrs L Knight

Gairloch

Badachro – Shieldaig Water Main

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NG 780 736 to NG 802 727 Work was undertaken, 1–2 June 2008, to identify any archaeology likely to be affected by the construction of a new water main at Shieldaig and Badachro. 13 sites were identified of which 7 were previously unrecorded. These included two hut circles, as well as post-medieval settlement, dykes, a trackway, and bridge footings.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Highland HER
Funder: Halcrow Group Ltd

Loch Maree Regional Scheme

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK
NG 84876 81108 to NG 79974 78338 Work was undertaken, April–May 2008, to assess the potential impacts of pipeline replacement, from Loch Ewe to Loch Maree and then westwards to Gairloch, linking to the existing water mains at NG 79974 78338. 38 sites were identified within 100m of the proposed route of the new pipeline. Eleven sites have been

identified that could potentially date to the Bronze Age. One Iron Age site was noted. The presence of numerous sites in the study area suggests high potential for archaeological remains ranging from the Bronze Age to the post-medieval period.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Mellon Charles Water Main
Walkover survey
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NG 848 914 (centred on) Work was undertaken, 1 September–1 December 2008, to identify any archaeology likely to be affected by the new Aultbea to Mellon Charles water main (phase 2). No prehistoric archaeology was noted, but 16 minor features associated with a pre-crofting landscape and redundant features of the crofting township laid out in 1840 were recorded. Six of these possibly date to the pre-improvement period, nine to the 1840s croft improvements and one to 1939–45 military activities.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Highland HER
Funder: Halcrow Group Ltd

Glenelg

5 Beolary
Watching brief
Martin Wildgoose – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NG 8485 2028 A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of a platform for a new house on 31 October 2008. The topsoil was stripped by an excavator using a 2m-wide straight-edged bucket. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR
Funder: Mr W J MacDonald

Golspie

House Site, Littleferry
Watching brief
Catherine Dagg
NH 80579 95755 Topsoil stripping on 23 June 2006 revealed a surface of fragments of roofing slate over part of the site. They varied in size but there were no complete slates and none with holes drilled for pegs. Three different types of slate may be represented, a coarse Balachulish-type slate, a smooth thin slate blue grey to green in colour and a purple smooth slate known as Spanish slate. Removal of the slate fragments revealed a surface which appeared to consist of small fragments of lime or shell mortar. Fragments of brick and coal were also present, although not in significant quantities. There is no cartographic evidence or local knowledge of a slaters yard at this location, but it is just N of Littleferry pier where materials such as imported slates are likely to have been landed.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Heartland Home Services Ltd, West Clyne, Brora, Sutherland

Halkirk

Brackrevack, Thurso
Watching brief
John Wood and Paul Humphreys – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
ND 0635 6352 A watching brief was carried out 5 January–2 March 2008 during site clearance prior to development. Work revealed an improved mid-brown mineral ploughsoil overlying a thin oxidised stony clay till with some areas of visible bedrock. The only finds were frequent occurrences of 19th- and early 20th-century pot sherds, indicative of manuring.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended).Digital Archive: Highland HER (intended)
Funder: M Macleod

Mybster Croft
Photographic survey and watching brief
Paul Humphreys – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
ND 1687 5215 Work was undertaken 23 March–16 April 2008 prior to development. Architectural elements of the extant but ruinous croft house suggest that it was built some time after *c*1850 and was occupied into the first half of the 20th century. It appears to have been one of several adjacent small holdings associated with 19th-century agricultural improvements.

Stripping of the site revealed soil profiles indicating that some soil improvement had been successful at the southern but not at the northern end of the site. In this area at least two phases of land drains, cut into the till, fed into a substantial 'French drain' that ran northwards from the croft house. The soil profile over the till became increasingly peaty towards the N. A natural basin in the till had resulted in an area of peat formation at the northern extremity of the stripped area.
Funder: Mr M Bowerman

Northern Scottish Henges Project
Excavation
Richard Bradley and Hugo Lamdin-Whymark – Reading University
ND 1147 5449 In the N of Scotland there are a number of earthwork monuments that have been described as 'henges' or 'hengiforms'. They have a number of features in common. All are small circular enclosures with an external bank, a wide internal ditch and a surprisingly small interior. Until recently, few of the sites had been excavated. One example at Loch Migdale, Sutherland, was investigated by Time Team without any result. Another was recorded during road building at Lairg. The first research excavation did not happen until Easter 2008, with the investigation of a well preserved earthwork at Pullyhour, Caithness.

The site was on the side of a valley overlooking the Thurso River, in a position with evidence of Mesolithic activity. The earthwork had a single entrance and a well preserved external bank. It was exactly aligned on the remains of large cairn on the opposite bank of the river. In Caithness, monuments of this kind normally date from the Neolithic period.

The earthwork was built in two phases. The first was a circular enclosure with a broad internal ditch which must have held water. It had been built in open country which was not used for farming. A date from the old land surface shows that it has a *terminus post quem* of 1620–1450 BC. In its second phase the enclosure was converted to an oval ground plan by widening the ditch on the inside. A small horseshoe-shaped bank was constructed on its inner lip, and the area inside it was cobbled. At the same time the outer bank was enlarged and its inner edge was probably revetted on by a rubble wall. This phase is dated to between 1320–1120 BC. A small post was erected in the centre of the enclosure.

The entrance was very narrow and was flanked by a stone kerb. Just outside it was a pair of posts. One was much larger than the other, and the base of the upright still survived. This was a substantial piece of pine, a species which became extinct in Caithness at the end of the Neolithic period. It has a radiocarbon date of 2580–2340 BC. Its socket had been

cut through the secondary bank, so that it could not have been erected before the Middle Bronze Age. Not only had the builders aligned the enclosure on an ancient monument, they raised a massive post which must have been dug out of a bog. Its actual age could not have been known, but they would have been aware that it was a relic of some antiquity. The only artefacts associated with the Bronze Age structure were two flint flakes.

Finally, the monument was decommissioned. The rubble supporting the bank was pushed into the ditch and the entrance was blocked by a small cairn. The pine post was uprooted and the stones that had held it in place were smashed to pieces and used to cover its socket. There is no archaeological evidence of further activity on the site.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Reading University. Wood conservation and dating: National Museums Scotland.

Inverness and Bona

Balloan Cottages, Inverness

Watching brief

J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NH 6708 4238 to NH 6707 4242 A watching brief was maintained during the machine excavation of a trench for a new underground power cable near the former Balloan Cottages. A 53m long section of the cable route was monitored. This ran across the edge of SAM 5218 (NH64SE 37) which contains a pit circle and ring ditch. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered.

Archive and Report: Highland Council, Historic Scotland and RCAHMS.

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Burnside Care Home

Evaluation

Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services

NH 699 435 An evaluation was undertaken, 15–17 September 2008, prior to development. Six trial trenches were mechanically excavated. No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: Highland Archaeology Services

Funder: Highland Council

Culduthel Phase Six, Inverness

Watching brief

Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NH 66170 41950 Monitoring took place, 11–29 September 2006, during a topsoil strip of building plots. Few archaeological features were uncovered, but there was some evidence of earlier field systems including furrows and a possible field boundary. A small number of undated isolated pits were also recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland Council and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Tulloch Homes Ltd

Inverness Trunk Relief Road

Watching brief

Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NH 676 428 (centred on) A watching brief took place 3–24 June 2008 along the route of the new road. There were no archaeological features or finds, but the test pits and monitored boreholes accounted for a very small percentage of the overall route.

Archive: HAS Office

Funder: Highland Council

Knocknagael Substation Site

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Alisdair Curtis – Jacobs UK

NH 65131 39070 (centred on) Work was undertaken during July 2008 to assess the impacts of the construction of a substation. Nine sites were identified. One site dates to the Neolithic and three could potentially date to the Bronze Age. The presence of so many sites in the study area suggests that although dispersed, there is a high potential for archaeological remains ranging in date from the Neolithic to the post-medieval period.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Lower Slackbuie, Inverness

Evaluation

Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd

NH 6720 4200 An evaluation was carried out January–March 2008 over 7% of a proposed development site adjacent to Culduthel Road. The 19th-century farm of Lower Slackbuie still stood on the site, though in a modified form. A photographic record was made of the boarded-up house. A number of the earlier 19th-century walls were uncovered during trenching. No earlier finds or features were recorded.

Report: HSMR

Funder: Assura Group

Parks Farm, Inverness

Evaluation

Kirsty Dingwall – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NH 68900 42800 An evaluation was undertaken, 23–26 June 2008, along the route of proposed road. A total of 20 trenches were excavated across three fields, separated by two small streams. The trenching identified an isolated pit with a charcoal rich fill, a single posthole of modern date, and a cast-iron pipe running through two of the trenches. No other features of archaeological significance were identified.

Archive: The National Museum and RCAHMS

Funder: Tulloch Homes Ltd

Slacknamarnock Quarry, Inverness

Evaluation

Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NH 6585 4160 A monitored topsoil strip undertaken, 6–8 August 2008, uncovered several archaeological features, including a cist and a cremation burial. These features were found close to the site of another cist discovered in 1970 (NH64SE 33).

The cist, located on a small knoll at the southern edge of the stripped area, was capped by an arrangement of eight flat angular sandstone slabs laid in two distinct layers. It contained a single inhumation that had been placed in a crouched position on the right side with the head close to the SE corner. The hands and knees had been drawn tightly towards the head.

Only part of the skeleton was preserved, survival was dictated by location within the cist and how well the bones were sheltered by the capstones. They included part of the skull, vertebrae, part of both femurs and the lower arms. These bones were well preserved, suggesting that the rest of the skeleton had been dissolved by water infiltrating the cist. There was no deliberately made floor and the body had been placed on the natural sandy gravel till at the base of the cist. No artefacts were present.

Immediately to the E of the cist were two features, an irregularly shaped burnt spread and a small scoop containing charcoal and 1.378kg of burnt human bone. A pit containing

metalworking debris was also found.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Tulloch Homes Ltd

Torbreck
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NH 65 40 An enamelled Romano-British trumpet brooch found during metal detecting. It adds to an emerging concentration of Iron Age and Romano-British finds in the area at the head of Loch Ness, suggesting a local power centre in this area.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 63/07) and allocated to Inverness Museum

Torbreck, Inverness
Evaluation, watching brief and excavation
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 65312 40486 A 5% evaluation (100 linear metres) was undertaken, February 2008, on the site of this single house development. A single isolated find of a stone pounder and a handful of pits were recorded during this work.

A subsequent watching brief in September 2008 uncovered 40 postholes and pits, one flint fabricator and two sherds of pottery. The topsoil strip revealed two distinct areas of activity, a hut circle and an area of postholes and pits. The fabricator is a significant find. It was found in a pit and supports an earlier note that there was a flint production site nearby, location now unknown.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended).
Report: For evaluation – Highland SMR. For excavation – Highland Council (intended)
Funder: Ms Freda Rapson

Killearnan

Mullens Wood
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Catherine Dagg
NH 57529 52548 A survey carried out on 12 December 2007 on a proposed development area located one Bronze/Iron Age hut circle and a number of cairns or stone piles, which may be contemporary with the hut circle, possibly either a Bronze Age cairn field or prehistoric field clearance associated with cultivation.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Gunn MacPhee and Associates

Kilmallie

Druim Fada Wind Farm – Cultural Heritage Assessment
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NN 078 785 Work was undertaken 1–30 April 2008. The proposed turbines are to be located on moorland. No archaeological features were recorded but the peat that overlies the area may preserve buried evidence. The line of the proposed access road has not yet been advised so this assessment only covered the turbine sites.

A desk-based visual impact assessment was also undertaken which indicated that the turbines are likely to be visible from Fort William. Their likely impact on the visual setting and archaeological landscape context of other sites and monuments is considered insignificant.
Archive: HAS Office
Funder: North British Wind Power

Glencoe WTW
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw and Kirsten McKee – Jacobs UK
NN 12088 73896 – NN 05184 60015 Work was undertaken June–October 2008 to assess the potential impacts from the proposed insertion of water mains extending from Fort William to North Ballachulish sewage works. 121 sites were identified in a 300m corridor along the proposed route. There are indications that this area was occupied from as early as the Neolithic period. One site has been identified that could date to the Bronze Age, one to the Iron Age and one classed as prehistoric. The presence of so many sites suggests that the potential for encountering archaeological sites ranging from the early to post-medieval period is high.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Kilmonivaig

Blar na Leine
Assessment, metal detector survey and watching brief
Martin Wildgoose – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NN 2918 9705 Work was carried out on the site of a new house development on the traditional site of the Blar na Leine (Battle of the Shirts, 1544). The site was surveyed using metal detectors and a watching brief undertaken on subsequent site excavations. Nothing of archaeological interest was recovered.
Archive: Currently with Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
Funder: Mr David MacLeod

Kiltarlity and Convinth

Glen Convinth Water Main
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NH 508 377 to NH 546 415 Work was undertaken, 1 May–17 June 2008, prior to the renewal of a water main. The survey found eight archaeological sites, all previously recorded; but none likely to be endangered by the construction work.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Highland HER
Funder: Halcrow Group Ltd

Glenurquhart and Strathglass Wind Energy Project
Desk-based assessment and walkover surveys
David Lynn
NH 3253 2945 (centred on) Walkover surveys in July and October 2008 of the offsite cable route for this wind farm proposal led to the identification of an unrecorded ruined crofting complex. It contains seven distinct elements, three of which are rectangular house sites, the others being ancillary features relating to cultivation. They are clustered within a 200m stretch of the SE side of the Strathglass valley, overlooking the valley floor between Fasnakyle and Kerrow at altitudes of 135–155m OD. A modern 4x4 track up this dense scrub woodland hillside passes through the cluster, with sites **A–F** between 30 and 200m NE of the track and site **G** 7m to its SW. Sites **A–D** were initially located during an as yet unreleased walkover survey by GUARD for the Beauly-Denny pylon line, and then visited and described as part of this project. Details of each structure are:

A) NH 3254 2949 – Possible hut platform Strange feature containing wall outlines partially buried by clearance rubble dump, but with dug-in back wall. Possible second phase of dug-in structure with walling later abandoned and used as

dump. Max dimension 6m.

B) NH 3253 2945 – Dry stone wall and clearance cairn 5–8m long wall base, only 2 sides. Possible kitchen garden as **F**. Cairn is very small stone heap.

C) NH 3259 2941 – Croft house 1 (described by GUARD as a collapsed building) Major feature, long croft house, *c*18 x 5m, NNE/SSW orientation, rectangular plan with squared corners, internal divisions. May have less substantial shed onto N end wall.

D) NH 3256 2941 – Stone platform (described by GUARD as a collapsed building) 3 x 3m outline wall base/surface for a very small hut or possibly a haystack platform.

E) NH 32516 29383 – Croft house 2 Rectangular wall outline up to three courses high, 8.8 x 5.1m, walls 0.5m thick, with internal crosswalk and squared corners. NNE/SSW orientation, E side partly dug into hillside, big cornerstone at base of NW corner. Some collapsed rubble inside and outside wall outlines.

F) NH 32519 29484 – L-shaped wall Possible kitchen garden 12.3m long from SW tip at basal end stone to N corner, 9m long from SE tip. Partially encloses darker green grass, possible black midden soil development.

G) NH 32462 29391 – Croft house 3 Rectangular wall outline up to three courses high, 11.0 x 5.1m, walls 0.8m thick, with probable internal cross walls and squared corners. NNE/SSW orientation, E side slightly dug into hillside, with W side forming a slight platform. Some collapsed rubble inside and outside wall outlines. Possible stone footings for minor features against NW wall. Sits on slight rise above the track level by up to 1.5m.

This appears to be a broadly contemporary complex of post-medieval crofting settlement structures. **C**, **E** and **G** are the focal croft houses, each having distinct thick and well-built wall outlines which survive to at least 1m high amid dense bracken and tumble; the other structures seem less substantial ancillaries to create small cultivation patches. Only **A** seems to show any multi-phase characteristics, though this is a provisional interpretation of a confused feature.

The complex appears to have been simultaneously occupied with no clear indication of any of the structures being stone-robbed. The steep slope suggests this was a marginal or displaced settlement on poor ground which needed much work to bring into use; none of the ancillary structures look appropriate for animal enclosure and no outer walls were found, suggesting that either the crofters had limited livestock or that they had access to fields on the valley floor. However, the current scrub cover may camouflage what may once have been small patches of pasture, particularly slightly higher up the hill to the NE where the slope flattens out over a small area that might allow some degree of soil development. The stream 50–100m S would have provided a water supply for the settlement.

Despite the impression that this is a marginal location, it is clear that the steep valley side was consistently used in both historic and prehistoric periods for settlement and agriculture. A complex of up to 10 burial cairns was found by the GUARD survey at NH 3248/2880, 600m to the S, and suggests that a relatively long-lived prehistoric settlement existed somewhere on the slopes beneath. Martin Wildgoose's walkover survey in 2004 of the adjacent Kerrow farm forestry plantation to the NE found seven structural groups (*DES* 5 2004 76).

The complex was recorded by written description and photographs. No intrusive investigation was carried out and no finds collected. Appropriate exclusion zones will be defined to ensure all elements of this post-medieval crofting complex are not affected by the cable insertion.

No other archaeological sites were found in the development footprint of the proposed wind farm. It is unusual, if not unique, for Northern Scotland for a design to create no visual impact on any statutorily protected or designated historic environment sites in the local area.

Archive: None created

Funder: Girvan Enterprise

Kiltarlity and Convinth/Urquhart and Glenmoriston

Kiltarlity to Drumnadrochit Overhead Line

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NH 51144 38388 to NH 49873 30900 Work was undertaken, 5–28 August 2008, to assess the potential impact of a new overhead electricity line between Ardendrain and Culnakirk. 34 sites were identified. The following sites of note were recorded:

Post-medieval settlement

Convinth Croft (NH53NW 72) Depicted at NH 5129 3771 on the 1st Edition OS map of 1875 as the 'Smithy'. Two buildings were recorded, both aligned N/S; a longhouse, still inhabited, measuring 18.5 x 5.4–5.5m, and a byre/forge, measuring 12.80 x 5.15m. Two doorways are visible on the byre's E-facing elevation. Footings are visible at the base of the W-facing elevation and may represent the footprint of an earlier building.

Duallon farmstead Four roofed rectilinear structures and an associated enclosure are shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1875. The farmstead remains consist of an enclosure, a longhouse and a field dyke which in part, forms the SW elevation of the enclosure. All are aligned ESE/WNW, with the longhouse at the WNW extent. Cobbling to the N and ENE of the remains of the enclosure and longhouse appears to be a modern feature. Three modern clearance cairns were also identified immediately NE of this cobbling. The stones used in these cairns and for the cobbled surface may represent the robbed-out remains of the buildings identified as Duallan farmstead.

The enclosure measures 32 x 19.1 x 25.6m along its SW, WNW and NE walls respectively, with a possible 2.8m wide entrance at the ESE extent. The interior transversely measures 33.7 x 32.9m. The walls reach a maximum height of 0.8m and width of 0.6m. Some partially dressed, and dressed stones are visible in the wall. An ovoid cairn, 4.5 x 4.8m in width by 0.3m in height, was recorded at the ESE limit of the enclosure. The cairn is thickly covered in vegetation.

The remains of a field dyke, partially incorporated into the SW wall of the enclosure, are also evident. The dyke wall has a maximum height of 0.8m and width of 0.6m and measures 32 x 23.1m. It ends 4.7m from the ESE-facing gable of the longhouse.

The remains of the longhouse measure 6m in length, 0.6m in thickness and 1.2m at the highest point of the ESE-facing gable end. The remains of a cobbled terrace, 6.7 x 1.9m, can be seen directly ESE of the wall remains. The SSW-facing external elevation measures 24.4m in length, 0.6m in thickness and 1.2m at the highest point. A possible entrance, 0.9m wide, was noted 6.7m from the ESE extent. The NNE-facing external elevation measures 24m in length, 0.7m in thickness and 0.9m at the highest point. A possible internal dividing wall is visible 14.3m from the ESE extent. The interior of the structure is overgrown. Several of the boulders and cobbles used in the wall of the longhouse construction are dressed.

Cup-marked stones

Clachmor cup-marked stone (NH43SE 2) SAM (No. 552054), recorded in 1882 as consisting of a large flat triangular block of grey gneiss 5m long, 3m broad and 0.3m thick, oriented N/ S, containing a 113 cup marks. The stone was found to meet the dimensions recorded in 1882. However, only 37 cup marks were noted.

Culnakirk cup-marked stone (NH43SE 82) The boulder was recorded by RCAHMS in 1997. During survey in 2008 the boulder could not be located, suggesting that it may have been moved.

Culnakirk cup-marked stone (NH43SE 3) Recorded in 1882 as being marked on its exposed face with five circular depressions, all *c*60 x 75mm in diameter. It was recorded in 1964 as being deeply embedded in the ground. During survey in 2008 it could not be located, suggesting that it may have been moved.

Archive: HAS

Kintail

Eilean Donan Castle

Geophysical survey, topographical survey and evaluation
Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd

NG 8812 2583 Two phases of investigation were undertaken in 2008. During March, a geophysical and topographical survey was carried out of all accessible parts of the island. The topographical survey provided a detailed and accurate contour plan of the island, and accurately located visible earthworks and exposed stonework. The geophysical survey defined the possible line of the curtain wall, and allowed the design of an evaluation programme.

The evaluation took place, September–October 2008, and consisted clearance of vegetation from the earthwork representing the NW tower and excavation of five trenches. The removal of vegetation exposed the complete outline of the tower. The removal of rubble from half of the interior exposed the lower courses of the elevations and the unshaped bedrock surface inside it (Intervention 3).

The northwest tower, with Intervention 3 and Intervention 4

Intervention 4 consisted of an 11 x 2m trench immediately S of the tower. This exposed the external elevation and part of the abutting curtain wall. Previous 'wall-chasing' had removed the stratigraphic relationship between the deposits and the tower; however, well preserved medieval remains survive *in situ*, including occupation layers and a metalworking horizon. Finds included a small annular brooch, slag and a quantity of nails.

In the NE part of the island, intervention 5 encountered a mortar-rich dump, likely to relate to 20th-century reconstruction overlying a 4m wide length of curtain wall. Intervention 6 encountered a poorly preserved wall that appeared to represent the remains of a tower, which had been backfilled with large boulders. Intervention 7 was to the S of the island, and recorded a well preserved, well built length of curtain wall, measuring 5m wide and over 1.3m high. This would have been situated at the high tide mark on the island.

Archive: Post-excavation work is ongoing, and a report will be deposited with RCAHMS
Funder: Conchra Charitable Trust

Knockbain

Bellfield Farm, North Kessock

Evaluation
Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NH 6414 4860 An evaluation was undertaken, 6–28 May 2008, to investigate cropmarks identified on aerial photographs. 81 trenches and 17 test pits were excavated across three fields, with targeted trenching of one of the cropmarks interpreted as a bivallate enclosure. The trenches in the first field uncovered several features thought to be associated with the enclosure, including two curvilinear features, which were severely truncated. Small groups of postholes in the vicinity and a large pit with two *in situ* burning events were interpreted as evidence of settlement activity. Metalworking debris was also recovered from the pit and environmental evidence indicated a later prehistoric date. A group of postholes to the E of the enclosure suggested settlement activity elsewhere in the field and in the vicinity of another cropmark, which could not be trenched because of overhead power lines.

An enclosure, represented by a palisade ditch with *in situ* packing stones, was found in the second field. This was on an area of high ground. An arc of postholes and two stone-filled pits to the W suggested that a settlement may have spread across this high ground. The third field contained very limited archaeological remains and appears to have been subject to quarrying and reinstatement in the recent past.

Funder: Tulloch Homes Ltd

Knockbain/Urquhart and Logie Wester

Greenbrae Water Main Renewal

Precautionary site visits
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NH 618 596, NH 614 574 and NH 610 552 A series of precautionary sites visits were undertaken, 14–21 August 2008, during water main renewal around Braefindon Farm and between Green Brae and Crasky. The many chambered cairns in the area provide evidence of human occupation from the Neolithic period, while the 1st Edition OS map of 1871–2 shows a scattering of farms and smallholdings, in a pattern which seems to have changed remarkably little since medieval times.

A desk-based assessment in January 2008 identified 11 sites in the area surrounding the development. The excavation of three mechanically dug trenches was monitored but all were found to be archaeologically sterile.

Archive: HAS
Funder: Halcrow Group ltd. for Scottish Water

Lairg

Lairg: Shin Cabling

Watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NC 581 050 Work was undertaken, 19–21 May 2008, during excavations for underground cables. 100% of the excavations were closely monitored and there were no significant finds or features.
Archive: HAS
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy PLC

Sydney House
Evaluation
Stuart Farrell
NC 58891 07161 An evaluation was undertaken on 25 August 2008 prior to the construction of a house. The development lies close to an area of hut circles and associated field system (NC50NE 20). A total of five trenches, 16% of the development, were excavated. No archaeological features were recorded.
Report: HSMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr I Offor

Latheron

Borgue, Caithness
Watching brief
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
ND 13041 26125 A watching brief was carried out, 27–28 June 2008, during a single house development at Redlesburn croft. Although there had been 19th-century buildings on the site, only one single ruinous building remained. A possible denuded cairn close to the site was in a poor state. No archaeological features or finds were uncovered.
Report: Highland Council
Funder: MR G Elder

Rhianrivach Broch, Lybster, Caithness
Watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
ND 2303 3617 A watching brief was carried out on 16 April 2008 during excavations for a new water main at Achow. The work aimed to identify and record any evidence relating to the nearby SAM of Rhianrivach Broch. The trench was rerouted to avoid the broch and no archaeology was recorded.
Archive: HAS Office
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Lochbroom

Braemore Square
Excavation
Anna Welti and Gordon Sleight – Lochbroom Field Club
NH 1946 7909 A plane table survey over the entire site (*DES* 5, 6, 7 and 8) was followed, 21 May–1 June 2008, by a small-scale targeted excavation. The work aimed to reveal the form and construction of selected features and their inter-relationships, and if possible to locate datable finds or samples. Two features, a possible hut circle and a nearby cairn, both previously identified by field survey and thought to be of early prehistoric date were excavated.

Two trenches were opened across the presumed hut circle in opposite quadrants, each 2m wide and extending from the centre of the feature, to a distance of 2m beyond the visible wall alignment. One trench was later extended and a further trench was opened over a possible entrance.

Many parts of the walling had been extensively robbed out and damaged by tree roots. There were indications of inner and outer facing stones roughly 1m apart, with a possible further face 1m beyond this. The perceived gap in the wall to the SE was not an entrance. A more probable entrance was indicated by stone alignments and numerous paving slabs to the NW of the structure. No pottery was found, and no indications of either postholes or a hearth. Soil in the northerly trenches was darker than in that in other trenches and contained significant amounts of charcoal. There were several small white quartz chunks among the paving slabs. The structure was oval in shape and it was not clear if it was a hut circle or an unroofed enclosure.

Analysis of four charcoal samples showed them to be alder, birch, hazel and willow. Radiocarbon dating indicated a range from 800 CalBC to 200 CalBC. One of the samples had been located between interior slabs, and therefore provides a secure early prehistoric date for activity in the structure.

One quadrant of the cairn was excavated to ground level, revealing that it was a clearance cairn with no noteworthy features.
Report: Highland Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Awards for All (Big Lottery Fund), CBA Challenge Funding, The Russell Trust, The Catherine Mackichan Trust and local sponsors

Overview looking North, showing paving slabs, possibly indicating an entrance to the NW

Braemore Square
Excavation
Anna Welti and Gordon Sleight – Lochbroom Field Club
NH 1955 7895 Targeted excavation of two features at the northern end of the site (see above), was followed by a preliminary investigation, 22–24 August 2008, of a massive sub-circular stony mound of uncertain date and function at the southern end of the site. A shallow slot trench 1m wide was dug into the S bank of the mound, with a sideways extension at its lower end.

The upper part of the bank consisted of a matrix of coarse orange subsoil containing a mass of small stones and a few larger ones. The base end of the trench consisted of dark grey silt and clay. The boundary between the two soils was defined by narrow bands of red and black material. There was no evidence that the mound was man-made.
Archive: HSMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr and Mrs E Hughes

Lochcarron

Seafield Estate-SFGS
Walkover survey
Martin Wildgoose – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NG 8362 4044 A survey was carried out, 6 September 2008, in advance of woodland planting. A total of 13 new archaeological sites were recorded: seven lengths of boundary dyke, an area of rig and furrow cultivation, a small stone-built cell, a field clearance cairn, a stonewalled enclosure, a

mine waste heap and a concrete water tank.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: HSMR
Funder: Bell Ingram Ltd

Moy and Dalarossie

Hydro-electric Scheme, Coignafearn Estate, Tomatin, Inverness

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd
NH 70700 17700 A survey was carried out on 1 May 2008 prior to the construction of a hydro-electric scheme. The survey covered the area that would be affected by the building of the dam, associated service pipes and turbine. No archaeological features or finds were recorded in the lower areas of the glen. No sites were recorded by the desk-based assessment.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland Council
Funder: Adrian Laycock Ltd

Nairn

Sainsbury's, Nairn

Evaluation
Philip Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NH 8960 5611 An evaluation was undertaken, 15–18 September 2008, on a development site at Balmakeith Industrial Estate. 24 trial trenches were excavated, *c*7% (2500m^2) of the site. A number of pits and a series of undated linear features thought to be cultivation remains, probably furrows from rig and furrow cultivation, were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Halcrow Yolles

Petty

Morayhill Quarry Extension, Inverness

Excavation
Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NH 757 497 An excavation conducted on 2–6 June 2008 recorded the remains of an L-shaped stone-built structure and associated enclosure. This structure is depicted on the 1876 OS map as 'Balnallan' and is recorded as such by the RCAHMS. The structure probably represents a small farmstead with associated byre and enclosure walls. No other archaeological remains were discovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Moray Estates Development Company Ltd

Wester Kerrowgair, Ardersier

Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland
NH 75 52 The blade portion of a Late Bronze Age socketed axehead was found by Mr Eric Soane while metal detecting. Its incompleteness precludes detailed classification.
Claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Inverness Museum

Portree

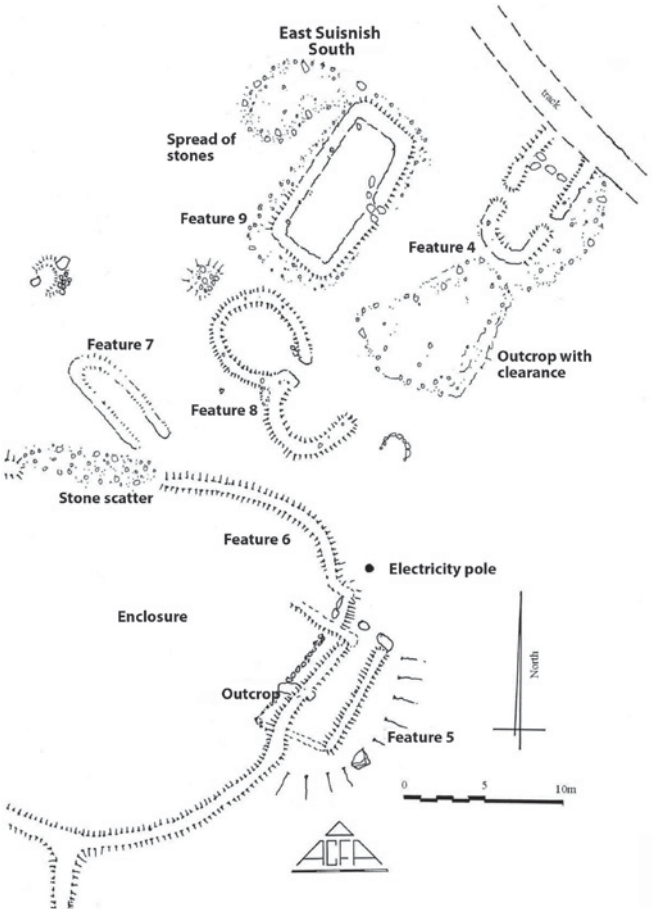
Braes Water Main, Portree, Isle of Skye

Watching brief
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NG 4800 4060 to NG 5008 3905 A watching brief was carried out, January–February 2008, during ground-breaking works for the section of the Braes water main pipe that runs between the road junction at Peinmore and the road junction at Camastianavaig. This area was considered to be archaeologically sensitive as it contains a prehistoric settlement and a series of post-medieval field systems. The line of water main pipe cut across a series of field banks and areas of rig and furrow. All these features were visible on the surface and are post-medieval in date, part of a wider pre-improvement agricultural landscape
Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Isle of Raasay

Survey
J Macdonald and S Scott Wood – ACFA
The survey of the following sites was carried out in April 2008 as part of a continuing programme to record the physical remains of human activity on the Island of Raasay.

NG 5574 3450 (centred on) – **Township of East Suisnish** The site consists of 12 structures including houses, byres, a possible winnowing barn, enclosures and a modern burial ground. This site is probably part of the township of East Suisnish recorded by ACFA in 2005. *See ACFA Occasional Paper No.80.*



East Suisnish South, Isle of Raasay

NG 5784 3445 (centred on) – **Township of Eyre** The site is situated above Eyre Point and consists of eight structures including houses, byres, stores and an enclosure. The site is part of the township surveyed in 1998. *See ACFA Occasional paper No.43 Appendix 2.*

NG 5865 4002 (centred on) – **Township of North Hallaig** The site lies on the E coast some 1.5km N of the township of Hallaig which was surveyed by ACFA in 2004. *See ACFA Occasional Paper No. 71.* The site consists of 15 structures including houses, byres, stores and enclosures.

NG 5527 3782 – **Homestead** Lying 100m downslope from the Raasay Youth Hostel is the remains of a house plus some field clearance.

NG 5615 3669 (centred on) – **Homestead** The site which lies in a clearing in the Inverarish forest consists of a house, a byre and a small enclosure.

NG 5638 3771 (centred on) – **Homestead plus rock shelter** The site lies *c*1km to the NE of the above site and consists of a multiphase structure, probably a house/byre plus an enclosure. Close by is a cave which has a rough boulder cross-wall across its mouth.

NG 5865 4112 – **Homestead** The site is situated on the E coast and close to the shore and consists of a house, a byre and two enclosures. The site is known locally as Tigh na Creige (The Rock House).

NG 5610 3489 (centred on) – **Cairn field** Situated at a height of 60m OD on the gently rising slope of Suisnish Hill to the E of the disused railway line. There are a total of 36 cairns plus a number of possible cairns. Also in the area are a number of small sheiling huts. In the RCAHMS notes of 1928, referring to a visit in 1914, (NG53SE 4) the cairn field is briefly described.

Report: RCAHMS

Funder: Glasgow Archaeological Society and The Robert Kiln Charitable Trust

Raasay Ferry Terminal

Watching brief

Phil Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NG 5440 3640 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out, February–September 2008, during land site works and offshore dredging in Clachan Harbour in advance of a proposed ferry terminal and infrastructure development in Churchton Bay. Previous archaeological work identified an archaeological layer, most probably Mesolithic in date, beneath a raised beach. Three sondages were excavated in Area 3 and dredging was monitored in the harbour. The peat layer was not identified in the sondages or during the dredging. Topsoil stripping on land in four separate areas revealed no features of archaeological significance.

Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Funder: Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd

Raasay House

Photographic survey

John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

NG 547 365 Photographic recording was undertaken 15 May–15 December 2008 during refurbishment and repair works. A range of interesting features, previously hidden behind internal wall linings, became visible during the work and provided important evidence of the building's development and condition. The project also provided a record of the renovation work and the changes it has made to the building.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Local HER (intended)

Funder: ROK Prime Contracting

Reay

House Site, Broubster

Watching brief

Catherine Dagg

ND 03717 59748 A watching brief on 18 March 2008 during topsoil stripping identified a number of small structures. These are probably modern corn stack bases and field clearance cairns. Two stones showing signs of deliberate working, one in the topsoil in the area of the new access road and one in an adjacent dyke, were considered to be of greater significance.

The stones are of soft, easily carved sandstone. Stone B is roughly triangular in section and each face measures a maximum of 250mm high by 500mm long. There are lines on two of the three faces and these marks run over the edges to connect the two faces. The marks are broad and deeply cut, similar to those on marked stone A, but more clearly defined.

Various suggestions have been made as to the origin or function of the marks, given that they do not appear to have been caused naturally or accidentally, including the possibility of decoration. There appears to be a deliberate cross-hatching motif on the stone. There are similarities to Norse hog-back grave markers, where decoration is supposed to imitate tiled roofing, and this may be a crude local imitation.

Report: HCAU. Stones offered for Treasure Trove

Funder: Alan Warwick

Rogart

Ard a' Chlachain, Rogart

Desk-based and walkover surveys

Stuart Farrell

NC 73085 01754 Work was undertaken in July 2008 on the site of a proposed new house. The only new site found was a possible clearance cairn to the N of the development area.

Report: HSMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Ms E Thomson

House Site, Torrbuidhe, Rogart

Trial trenching and watching brief

Catherine Dagg

NC 73883 04109 Trial trenching of the site of a new-build house on 1 May 2008 uncovered a ditch excavated into the subsoil and infilled with black-grey clay-rich material containing small to medium stones. This cut is 1.2m wide at 0.4m below the ground surface and is 0.3m in depth. The cut is irregular in section but has a generally shallow concave shape. It runs initially SW then curves irregularly round to the SE before tapering out. It is possible that it continued on the far side of the road where a slight knoll was noted. The ditch may surround it and this may indicate that this was the site of some form of enclosure or homestead. No artefacts or datable material was found in the ditch fill. A subsequent watching brief during ground clearance uncovered no further archaeological features.

Report: HCAU

Funder: Mr H Miller

Rosskeen

Newmore Castle, by Invergordon

Watching brief

Stuart Farrell

NH 6805 7195 A watching brief was undertaken, January–February 2008, on a residential development in an area immediately adjacent to Newmore Castle (NH67SE 7). The castle dates from the late 16th century. It was once was the home of the Munro's of Newmore but went out of use in the late 18th century. The grounds of the castle had been used as a walled market garden until the 1960s. The only features recorded were some drains relating to the walled garden and a shallow oval pit of unknown date.

Report: HSMR and RCAHMS.

Funder: Mr and Mrs J Jack

Sleat

Cladh Aruisg

Survey

Sarah E Thomas – Departments of Archaeology and History, University of Glasgow

NG 5826 0097 A survey was undertaken 26–27 February 2008 of a site consisting of a stone-built rectangular structure identified as a chapel and a sub-circular enclosure.

The enclosure measures 48 x 34m at its widest extent. The chapel is in the northern half of the enclosure and towards its western end. The enclosure is defined on the W by a gully and on all other sides by turf and stone banks. It is not clear where the entrance may have been as there are now many breaks in the bank.

The chapel measures 7 x 3.5m internally and is orientated *c*E/W. The walls are of variable thickness. The S wall is particularly wide at 1.5m, while the N wall is considerably narrower, *c*0.90m. The building has suffered a considerable amount of collapse. Only the S and E walls have clearly defined faces. There is a short stretch of external wall face towards the western end of the N wall.

Funder: Hunter Archaeological Trust

Snizort

Borve, Skye

Watching brief

Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd

NG 45574 47687 A watching brief was undertaken, April–May 2008, on a residential development in an area containing known archaeological sites, including a dun and to the N a line of standing stones. Early prehistoric field boundaries were also clearly visible across the area.

During the work a souterrain with an associated heat-affected paved area was revealed. The souterrain had been wholly infilled and a number of sherds were removed from a small sondage. The pre-clearance structures recorded may be a combination of Bronze Age walling and 18th-century builds. In one area a dog-legged arrangement of slabs with an associated compact layer was recorded. This may be historic or another souterrain. Work was halted and a protective boundary fence erected. One house was built on cleared ground to the W of the souterrain.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: HSMR (intended)

Funder: Mr Ewan Macrae

Borve to Edinbane Water Main Renewal

Site visits and watching brief

Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

Work was undertaken, 15 July–11 September 2008, during water main renewal. Site visits were conducted during trenching at the spur S through Glenbernisdale (NG 40347 58611 – NG 40284 48422) and a watching brief on the work from the Borve Service Reservoir to the A850–A856 junction (NG 44749 48344 – NG 45360 48002 – NG 45668 47854).

The desk-based assessment and walkover survey undertaken in September 2007 identified seven notable sites in the vicinity of the development at Borve and numerous footings of abandoned buildings, enclosures and dykes, either on the same alignment or further W of the spur S through Glenbernisdale. Prior to the 2008 work the proposed route of the pipeline was re-routed to avoid, where possible, these known township remains.

All three of the trenches monitored and recorded during this fieldwork were archaeologically sterile. The route of the pipeline trench passed in close proximity to eight structures. Whilst every effort was made to avoid compromising the visible archaeology, re-routing the trench lines on a number of occasions, there were three junctures at which the route of the new water main either truncated or abutted known remains. At NG 40347 48620, a partially remaining turf and stone field dyke (Feature 1) was truncated. At NG 45470 47875 a NNE/E aligned field dyke (Feature 2) was truncated. At NG 45723 47812, the trench abutted the remains of a structure (Structure 8).

Where the trench routes passed close to visible features and structures, rapid surveys and photographic recording were undertaken. Four features and eight structures were identified and are detailed below.

Feature 1) Glen Bernisdale Crofting Township (NG44NW 26) The partial remains of a degraded field dyke at NG 40347 48620, measuring *c*0.25m in height and *c*0.6m thick. This turf and stone dyke runs E/W. In parts, two courses of unmortared, undressed wall cobbles are visible. The dyke is largely obscured by vegetation.

Feature 2) Borve Crofting Township (NG44NW 30). A NNE/E aligned field dyke at NG 45470 47875, measuring a maximum of 0.8m high and 1.6m wide. The dyke is a turf and stone construction, from which much of the sub-structural stone appears to have been cleared. The remains when breached by the cutting of Trench 3 proved to be superficial and much degraded.

Feature 3) A row of boulders at NG 45362 47975, aligned NW/SE, consisting of 26 stones. It is 8.5m long x 1.2m wide and a maximum of 0.3m high. At the N end is a cup-marked stone measuring 0.66 x 0.44 x 0.15m. A single cup mark of 40mm, two natural fissures developed/pecked into channels and a possibly natural circular depression were noted.

Feature 4) A cup-marked stone at NG 45158 47912, upon which two cup marks apparently aligned along a WSW/ENE axis are visible in the S half of the stone. To the E of the most WSW of the cup marks is a channel running E/W. It is not clear if this is a natural fissure that has been developed/pecked. The stone measures 0.55 x 0.49m. Additional, possibly natural, circular depressions are visible on the E quadrant and S half of the stone.

Five structures relating to the Glen Bernisdale Crofting Township (NG44NW 26) were recorded:

1) NG 40284 48422 A curvilinear platform, measuring 5.7 x 6.3m, with no obvious alignment.

2) NG 4026 4873 A curvilinear platform, with a radius of *c*3.5m. Partially surrounded with undressed cobble footings and recessed into a field dyke embankment to the W. Possible entrance to the ESE.

3) NG 40266 48465 A double-celled, N/S aligned, rectilinear structure. The turf and stone wall remains measure 4.5 x 5.8m and reach a maximum height of 0.3m. A 0.8m thick dividing wall of non-mortared, non-dressed cobbles occurs at 1.8m on the N side.

4) NG 40255 48452 A curvilinear platform, measuring 13 x 14.5m by 0.5m high, possibly N/S aligned, surrounded by a turf and stone embankment. External ditching is evident on the N, W and W faces.

5) NG 40263 48424 A double-celled rectilinear structure, W/E aligned. In some areas two courses of apparently unmortared walling remain. Some large (0.5 x 0.22m) dressed stones remain *in situ* and measure 13 x 5m. An internal dividing wall, 0.3m in height and 1m thick, occurs 6m from the E end

Three structures relating to the Borve Crofting Township (NG44NW 30) were recorded.

1) NG 44731 48231 These L-shaped remains are *c*20m WNW of the Croft's eastern boundary fence. The stone

footings are turf-covered and measure 9 x 5m by 2m thick and 0.7m high.

2) NG 45162 47903 An ovoid platform with partially remaining stone footings, measuring 8.4 x 2.9m. The structure may have an E/W orientation. It has an apparent entrance at the E end and a less apparent interruption at the W. The structure measures 6.5 x 6.5m.

3) NG 45723 47812 The partial remains of a rectilinear structure. The remaining NNW and SSE faces measure 5.5m in length. The partially remaining undressed stone footings are 0.9m wide, 0.2m high and overlain with turf.

Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Halcrow Group Ltd for Scottish Water

Croft 5, Balmeanach, Glenhinnisdal, Isle of Skye

Assessment and recording
Martin Wildgoose – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NG 4025 5850 Recording and evaluation of upstanding farmstead ruins was carried out prior to erection of a new house. All structures and associated enclosures were recorded by measured survey and photography, followed by evaluation via excavation. The excavation results showed that the farmstead had been constructed in the 1860s and that by 1930 the site was abandoned and semi-ruinous. All upstanding remains are to be retained in the grounds of the new house.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Miss E Martin

Tote – Skeabost Link Path

Watching brief
Martin Wildgoose – Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NG 4204 4890 A watching brief was carried out, 3–7 April 2008, during the construction of a footpath linking the village of Tote to the village of Skeabost. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: HSMR
Funder: Skeabost and District Community Council

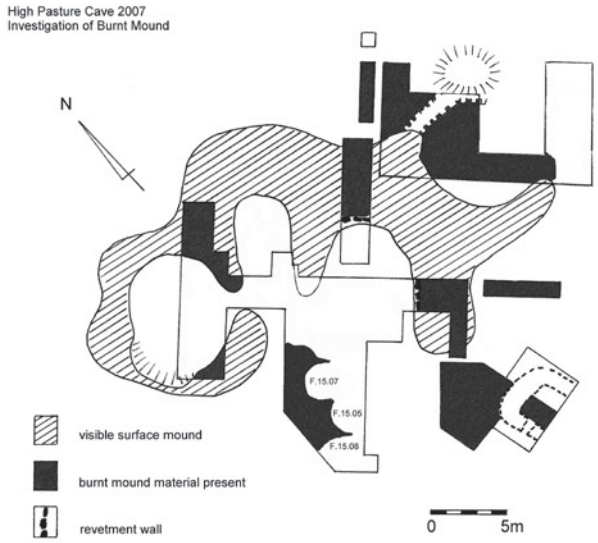
Strath

Uamh an Ard Achaidh (High Pasture Cave)

Excavation and landscape survey
Steven Birch and Martin Wildgoose – West Coast Archaeological Services/Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey
NG 5940 1970 The fourth year of a planned five-year project saw the completion of Trenches 14 and 15 and good progress in Trench 19. Trench 14 demonstrated that structured burnt mound deposits extended well to the S of the burnt mound visible on the surface. Trench 15 showed that the forecourt area immediately outside the cave entrance had been deliberately structured from at least the end of the Bronze Age, with successive enclosure walls, massive hearths and a formal approach path. Trench 19 demonstrated that structured burnt mound deposits also extended some 25m to the E, and SE, and that these deposits sealed as yet undated walls, postholes and stone alignments. The 2008 season also saw the recording of the staircase and Bone Passage by laser scanner and the long-awaited conversion of the surface contour data into usable computer models (AOC Archaeology Group).

The second season of landscape survey was successfully completed and it is anticipated that this will be finished during the coming winter and the 2009 season. A fuller description of the 2008 season will be made available through a DSR in April 2009. For more information see the website www.high-pasture-cave.org

Archive: WCAS and AALS, c/o Steven Birch and Martin Wildgoose. Finds deposited with National Museums Scotland
Funder: Historic Scotland



Investigation of Burnt Mound, High Pasture Cave 2007

Tain

Land South of Jubilee Drive, Tain

Trial trenching
Catherine Dagg
NH 772 815 (centred on) Trial trenching was undertaken on 21 August 2008 over 5% of the total area of a proposed housing development. The work revealed land drains and plough marks dating to the 19th–20th centuries, but no other archaeological features or deposits.
Report: HCAU
Funder: Albyn Housing Society Ltd

Morangie Road, Tain

Evaluation
Philip Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NH 7719 8261 An evaluation was undertaken 14–16 January 2008 to the W of Morangie Hotel in advance of a housing development. 23 trenches, 2225m^2 (*c*5% of area), were excavated. A complex series of field drains and number of undated linear features thought to be open drains or furrows from rig and furrow cultivation were identified.
Archive RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Robertson Homes Ltd

Tarbat

Loandhu to Portmahomack Water Main Renewal

Watching brief
Cait McCullagh – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
A watching brief was undertaken, 2 April–21 November 2008, on 12 areas of open cut trenching along a water renewal route. The areas were centred on the following NGRs – NH 9157 8460 (Harbour Road), NH 917 845 (Chapel Street), NH 84149 78523 (Hill of Fearn to Rhynie Road), NH 91716 84574 (Chapel Place), NH 84116 78542 (Rhynie Farmhouse Dyke), NH 91587 84252 (Gaza), NH 87800 79159 (Chapel Field Boundary Dyke), NH 88389 79178 (St Mary's Chapel/Cathabul), NH 88926 79068 (Cadboll Mound), NH 9156 8455 (Harbour Street/Castle Street), NH 9164 8452 (Castle Street) and NH 91456 84031 (Tarbatness Road).

The route along the eastern side of Tarbatness Road passes close to the known site of a Pictish early medieval monastic settlement and burial ground (NH98SW 4.02) and of Tarbat old parish church (NH98SW 4.00), partially rebuilt in the 18th century. The main structure retains its medieval E–W orientation. Below the E end of the church is a vaulted crypt.

During trenching at NH 91442 84008, W of the gate to the churchyard, a fragment of carved sandstone was recovered from the ballast that had been laid under the modern road. It is believed to be a column capital, decorated in the Gothic style and may date to the 13/14th centuries.

The front face shows relief-carved and incised Gothic scrollwork over two of the surviving four panels. Each scroll measured 0.17m in diameter and is squared off at the reverse extent of each of the side faces. A simple cruciform pictogram has been incised lightly onto one of the side panels of the columnar shaft. The reverse face has been pecked out, creating an 'hourglass'-shaped void, indicating likely re-use. The fragment is 475mm long, 330mm wide and 180mm deep. Further specialist analysis is needed to determine the date and purpose of this carved stone fragment.

The Water Main Renewal Project will continue into the early part of 2009. A full report will be published once works have been completed.

Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
Funder: Halcrow Group Ltd for Scottish Water

Thurso

East Brims

Watching brief
Paul Humphreys – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

ND 0547 6960 A watching brief was carried out, 25 February–26 March 2008, during the erection of new poles for an overhead power cable. The route of the poles passed close to a burnt mound. The status of the burnt mound was confirmed. No other archaeological deposits were recorded.

Funder: Scottish-Southern Electricity

Tongue

Tongue – Melness Replacement Water Main

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK

NC 5950 5820 – NC 5750 6430 Work was undertaken, May–June 2008, to assess the potential impact of the proposed insertion of a water pipeline from S of Tongue House to Melness reservoir. The work identified 35 sites within 100m of the proposed route of the pipeline. Six sites have been identified that could potentially date to the Neolithic and five that could potentially date to the Bronze Age. There is abundant indication that the area was occupied and exploited from as early as the Bronze Age period and the presence of so many sites suggests that the potential for encountering further archaeological sites is high.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Tongue – Melness Replacement Water Main

Watching brief
Alisdair Curtis – Jacobs UK

NC 5950 5750 – NC 5808 6084 A watching brief was carried out in 2008 to monitor the potential impact of replacing a water main between Melness reservoir and Melness House, *c*1km SE of the reservoir. No features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Urquhart and Glenmoriston

Glenurquhart and Strathglass Wind Energy Project

Compilation of oral sources, literature and field observation
David Lynn

NH 3727 2998 During an assessment, July–October 2008, of the archaeological implications of a proposed 5-turbine wind farm at the southern upland end of the Corrimony valley, it became apparent that the valley had a significant history. It began as a barony (in 1509) and culminated as a prosperous 10,000 acre Victorian sporting estate stocked with grouse, deer and trout in the early 20th century. before decline set in. This was accelerated by the destruction by fire of its centrepiece grand house in 1951 and subsequent fragmentation of the estate.

Although most of this sequence is known, the sources are widely scattered and do not appear to have been assembled into a full account before; as a result the estate's history has escaped recognition. A brief summary is given here to fill this gap and mark its place in the record. The sources include some recorded data, out-of-print local heritage publications, oral tradition and some field survey.

The primary event was the creation of the Barony of Corrimony in 1509 and its award by James IV to a branch of the Grant family after the family had been progressive landlords of the royal estates of Urquhart. The house of Old Corrimony (NH33SE 33) was built in 1740 and the estate was later sold to Thomas Ogilvy *c*1835. There is no record of a big house as the baronial seat in the valley until Old Corrimony was built.

(New) Corrimony House, also spelled Corriemony – The RCAHMS (NH32NE 12) simply records its depiction on 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps at NH 3727/2998 (about 590m SW of Old Corrimony) and the fact that the architect Alexander Ross was involved. The RCAHMS Demolition Register, a paper-based record held by RCAHMS and listed by Ian Gow as '*the only official attempt to record all Scotland's lost country houses*' does not mention New Corrimony. The Dictionary of Scottish Architects website mentions architectural work by Duncan Cameron in 1891 (no details of works given) and then three episodes by the Alexander Ross firm '*after 1907*' and '*before 1923*', each comprising '*additions*'. No reference was found to the original architect.

Out-of-print locally produced heritage booklets from 1982 and 1995 contained two captioned but undated photos in which a lot of detail is evident. New Corrimony was built in or immediately after 1840, and seems to have evolved into the prestigious style of house and designed landscape found on many Victorian estates. One caption describes it as '*an elegant structure in the Scottish baronial style*'. One photograph shows a Gothic-style frontage with three main storeys and a probable attic level; each of the three visible corners has a minor turret. A squared five-storey tower rose in the masonry from ground level beside the entrance with an ornamental minaret on its top, from which (according to the caption) Temple Pier on Loch Ness was visible, a distance of *c*10 miles. A third locally owned and undated photograph shows the house without a tower, suggesting it was a complete secondary insertion from the ground upwards rather than a modification of only the upper levels. If so, this would have been a major feat of engineering affecting most of the structural fabric of the house, and presumably relates to one of the four listed phases of architectural work, 1891–1923. All three photographs show New Corrimony sitting in a designed

landscape, with ornamental gardens in a formal landscape and a decorative lake.

The house was comprehensively burnt in an electrical fire in 1951, lying as a ruined shell which was adapted for use as a barn until the site was cleared in about 1981. Its site today is reached from the NE down a very evident and 300m long formal tree-lined avenue (possibly of imported *wellantonias*). The SW end of the avenue opens onto a modern forestry track. The full outline of the house is sub-square in plan, with paced dimensions of *c*50–60m across. It stands proud of the slope on its SE boundary, with the southern half at a lower level than the rubble platform, and various concreted and stone surfaces partly visible beneath the surface debris. These may in part be original house levels. In the SW corner a small stretch of stone walling still runs outwards from the hillside retaining wall amid the nettles and looks like the remains of a coal store or similar storage.

The surviving E portion of the platform was built out onto the sloping ground to create a garden terrace, and focuses on a surviving flight of six steps, originally leading down onto a formal path between two walled lawns or flowered gardens which sloped to a mature tree at the edge of an ornamental pond in the bottom of the valley *c*100m SE. The pond outline is clearly identifiable today, with the shore-side tree still standing; its dam to the NE was an earth and stone bank which is still visible as a curving feature 2m high and 3m wide. The other garden features were lost with its subsequent use as cattle pasture, although it still retains the appearance of a designed landscape park of grassland with isolated trees.

Mony's Stone (NH33SE 5) – This unscheduled standing stone is recorded as traditionally marking the burial place of Mony, '*a son of one of the Kings of Denmark*'; its date of erection is unknown. It is noted in the Name Book of 1871 and shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1876 in its current position. Mony is a character from legend and local tradition rather than a historical figure; one account describes him as an early Viking raider who became separated from his ship at Crinan and fled up the Great Glen with his sister and his men. Today the stone is incorporated into the eastern side of the formal avenue to New Corrimony and is totally dwarfed by the trees. The setting looks very incongruous and local tradition is that its original location was somewhere near Mony's Cave and the Corrimony waterfall, presumably removed before 1876 (or 1871) to create a trophy feature in the formal avenue. The stone apparently has some, possibly three, small '*Pictish*' inscriptions hidden near its base, but these were not found during these visits.

Other estate features – The current settlement complex at the northern outlet of the valley contains many further buildings and features which were part of the estate infrastructure. These include the listed buildings of Corrimony cruck-framed barn and Corrimony chapel and graveyard, with its graves of the Grant family, reputedly the site of St Curitan's chapel; Corrimony farm steading, now used as tourist accommodation; the former manse, and a complement of other estate buildings and cottages nearby.

The lower and mid-valley contain several ruined crofting complexes identified by previous surveyors on both sides of the River Enrick. These are all regarded as early clearances due to the lack of accompanying placenames on archival records. A previously unrecorded series of house sites and field walls exists around NH 373 297, roughly 200m south of New Corrimony. RCAHMS NH32NE 10 records another farmstead site at NH 3585 2690, shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1876 as three unroofed buildings. One of these was rebuilt as a cottage at NH 35826 26835, and survives today as a tin-roofed bothy. The date 1878 is carved into some internal wooden fittings; the site is the upper limit of any evidence for settlement in the valley and matches the point where a former track from the Guisachan estate reached the River Enrick.

Further evidence of the estate development as a shooting/fishing facility is provided by a major track through to the upper reaches of the valley terminating at *Loch ma Stac*, An unrecorded 3-storey lodge survives at NH 3476 2233, at 490m, on an islet reached by a causeway. This was not visited, but is shown by current OS mapping as a building.

An unrecorded set of watermill features may be added from local information. These were not visited. Two high level lochans on the E side of the valley were named *Loch a' Mhuillin* (= Mill Loch), at NH 381 249, 510m and NH 364 230 at 530m. The second drains into the Corrimony valley, and a lade from close to the loch is apparently still clearly visible down to a former mill site near *Lochan Marbh* (NH 381 285 at 310m); and follows the contour line for a steady descent of up to 7km. Although not precisely located, the mill site is also apparently still evident as a ground feature. The lade is not shown by the OS, although parts of the water courses shown may relate to it. No further information can be given for this system, and its provenance is only broadly assigned within a post-medieval origin. However, its existence and landscape extent show a degree of co-ordinated land management in the valley.

Chronological summary of the Corrimony Valley

Today, only one site gives Corrimony any archaeological profile as a Highland valley. However, the assembly of many minor indications suggests a more complex character, as summarised below. This is highly selective and is therefore presented as a précis to set a baseline rather than as an authoritative account.

Prehistory from Neolithic into Pictish periods (3000 BC – AD 700) Corrimony chambered cairn built in Neolithic era, with other possible contemporary mounds nearby noted in RCAHMS. Many recorded hut circles and field systems recorded around valley mouth and lower valley. Lower valley seems well settled and exploited for over 4,000 years for agriculture and settlement, extending some way into the mid valley and the probable limits of viable cultivation in terms of ground conditions and increasing altitude.

Late Pictish period (AD 700 onwards) Arrival of St Curitan as a missionary and Mony as a fleeing Viking raider. Both events, though legends about individuals, suggest that Corrimony was a settled area with resident communities.

1509 Creation of the Corrimony barony as one of three in the area as royal gifts to the local Grant dynasty. Suggests that Corrimony was prosperous enough to have value as a barony.

1509–1835 Continued development by the Grant family of the estate. Old Corrimony built in 1740 and cruck-framed barn, date unknown, suggests growth in agricultural prosperity. Estate sold in 1835 into related Ogilvy family. Probable feudal crofting estate economy, with evidence of clearances, probably for sheep farming, in the 1700s, relatively early in the clearance period.

1835–1891 Major change in role of estate to a sporting function. Construction of New Corrimony *c*1840 in newly created prestigious landscape and parkland, and opening up of valley with access track. Relocation of ancient features as trophies for new estate. 1888 estate sold to LA Macpherson and then passed to Wallace family. New ownership regimes moved the valley from its traditional economy into the fashionable Victorian leisure pursuits of hunting and fishing.

Agricultural revenue diminishing in significance and replaced by external revenue as a sporting estate. Early OS map shows much forestry in lower valley by the end of this period.

1891–1927 Four phases of architectural commissions to New Corrimony. No detail known of these alterations, but each phase involves named architectural practices so implies prosperity. At least one involved the tower insertion as a major reworking.

1927–1951 Land sales in 1941; New Corrimony burnt down in 1951 and not rebuilt, designed landscape abandoned. End of the 'golden age' as a sporting estate, and single ownership broken up by sale of farming units.

1951–present Renewed emphasis on agriculture in lower valley, mid and upper valley largely abandoned to intensive forestry plantation patches and conservation. Agriculture used as base for economic diversification into other forms of land use and stewardship, including Forestry Commission and RSPB.

A referenced and slightly expanded version of this narrative will be prepared and lodged with Highland SMR/HER and RCAHMS. No archive created.

Funder: Girvan Enterprise

New Corrimony – detail of terrace steps, with view onto platform; coal store at foot of trees on left of photo, behind grassed mound containing spoil from modern sump excavation. Car parked beside track within N corner of rubble platform covering former house footprint. From SE, July 2008

Millennium Wind Farm, Glenmoriston

Walkover survey

J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NH 2530 1160 Work was undertaken on an area designated for a wind farm. The site is located between the River Moriston and the A887 trunk road and measures *c*400m E/W by 150–250m wide. No structures or features of archaeological significance were noted, although several structures associated with the former township of Creagan Na H-atha were located nearby.

Archive: HSMR and RCAHMS.

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Urquhart and Logie Wester

Mulchaich Farm, Alcaig

Evaluation

Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

A watching brief was carried out on 13 March 2008 in three locations, NH 5748 5673 – Mulchaich Farm, NH5770 5630 – ring ditch S of Mulchaich Farm and NH 5766 5679 – Mulchaich chambered cairn and cup-marked stone. A mechanical excavator dug four linear trenches and two box trenches, covering over 10% of the development area. Topsoil in the trenches was hand excavated to reveal the subsoil. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded.

Archive: Highland Archaeology Services Ltd

Funder: Alan MacDonald

Urray

Fairburn Wind Farm

Walkover survey

Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group

NH 4200 5200 Four features were recorded during the walkover survey undertaken 28 April–2 May 2008. These consisted of a possible shooting butt, two dry stone walls of unknown date and a stone linear feature constructed from much larger stones and also of unknown date.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Fairburn Wind Farm

Evaluation

Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group

NH 4262 5415 to NH 4261 5416 An evaluation was conducted on 26 August 2008 at the site of a 12m long curvilinear surface feature, consisting of four large stones, recorded during an earlier walkover survey of this proposed wind farm development. The evaluation recorded no significant archaeological features, deposits or artefacts.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Watten

House Site, Loch Watten

Watching brief

Catherine Dagg

ND 2454 5479 No archaeological features or deposits were observed, during a watching brief on 16 March 2008 in a field adjacent to 'Murdo Rivach's Grave', a possible prehistoric site with later historical and folkloric associations.

Report: HCAU

Funder: Linda MacKay

Wick

Caithness Brochs Project

Excavation

Andrew Heald, John Barber and Jon Henderson – AOC Archaeology Group

ND 3541 6120 A third season of excavation was undertaken, 8–12 July 2008, which concentrated on the exterior area facing the sea. No traces of archaeology were visible prior to the excavation. Excavation revealed a possible enclosure wall, a burial and a drain leading to the roundhouse entrance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: National Museums Scotland

Castle Sinclair Girnigoe

Excavation

Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd

ND 3779 5490 Four sessions of fieldwork were undertaken, from March–November 2008, continuing the excavation of the Outer Bailey. In the first session the NE tower of the N range was excavated. Rubble collapse was removed, the work being halted upon contact with the mid-17th-century deposits associated with Commonwealth troops' use of the castle. The basement room was shown to have been furnished with a

fireplace with storage cupboards on either side. A connecting staircase linking the tower with an adjacent lodging to the W was also revealed.

The east quadrant of the Outer Bailey and the basement level passageway were excavated during the second session, revealing two areas of slate flagstone floors and the foundations of structures belonging to the earliest layout of the Outer Bailey.

During the third session rubble collapse from the bakehouse was excavated from the S range. This revealed a bee-hive shaped bread oven with collapsed roof and integral door opening and a slate flagstone floor beneath Commonwealth midden deposits. Excavation of the upper levels of the gatehouse lodgings was completed and an architectural stone bearing the cockerel emblem of the Sinclair family was recovered from the rubble. This may have been set in an internal wall in the gatehouse lodgings or represent a boss from a vaulted ceiling.

During the fourth session excavation of the stair turret revealed two intact flights of stairs beneath rubble collapse deposits including an under stair area. The original doorway into the ground floor gatehouse lodging was revealed with the southern jamb still furnished with its red sandstone quoins, with niches for door locks and bolts.

Archive: Post-excavation work is ongoing, and a report is to be deposited with RCAHMS
Funder: Clan Sinclair Trust

Hill of Man, Wick
Watching brief
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
ND 3723 4986 Work to identify and remove possible unexploded ordnance was observed, 5 January–2 March 2008, in preparation for the evaluation of the site for housing. No archaeological finds or features were observed apart from WW2 gun bases and possible signs of rig and furrow cultivation.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Highland HER

Raggra, Thrumster, Caithness
Standing building survey
Paul Humphreys – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
ND 3235 4477 A standard building survey was carried out, 29 January–11 March 2008, prior to the demolition of two 19th-century croft buildings. Five construction phases were identified from the standing structure with some evidence for a possible earlier (demolished) phase. A building was recorded as occupying the same footprint on the 1st Edition OS map of 1871.
Funder: W Morrison

INVERCLYDE

Port Glasgow

Bay Street, Port Glasgow
Assessment
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 3257 7441 A programme of assessment was undertaken from 16–19 September 2008 in relation to the proposed development of ground surrounding the existing brick built conversion of Gourock Rope Works.

Test pitting encountered human remains in Area A to the E of the Rope Works, while Area B to the W was found to be archaeologically sterile. The strip of the proposed building footprint in Area A uncovered the 19th-century cemetery boundary wall and identified surviving *in situ* graves along the western side of the development footprint. Disarticulated and disturbed human remains were recovered from 20th-century demolition deposits and *in situ* graves were not disturbed.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Clyde Homes

Newark Castle
Standing building survey
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 3281 7452 As part of an ongoing programme the roofs of the E and W bedchambers, the turrets of the N range, the roof of the gatehouse and the roof of the E range were recorded through measured drawing and textual descriptions of features between 30 May–14 July 2008.

The completion of the survey of the roofs has confirmed the generally excellent survival of late 16th-century roofs at Newark Castle. This survey has also uncovered evidence of an earlier, previously unrecognised, phase of roof surviving over the gatehouse. This was constructed between the late 15th century and the late 16th century, before the roofs of the N Range and E Range.

The N Range and E Range roofs were constructed using a high proportion of timbers reused from a previous roof structure. The roof of the E range contains the only evidence of reused timber not from a roof, which has been pit sawn to create collars in the current arrangement. Though it is likely that the E range roof is late 16th-century, on the basis of its relationship with the masonry it is possible that this roof belongs to a later phase.

During the centuries following the construction of the roofs it is likely that there were some small repairs, but it is remarkable that the next phase of widely visible work does not occur until the 20th century. It is possible that the Ministry of Works was responsible for the replacement of all the dormer window roofs and the E, NE, NW and W Turret roofs in the early 20th century; however, these may have been replaced in the mid to late 20th century, possibly along with the major structural changes to the E bedchamber roof and the subdivision of the upper floor of the E Range. Most of the sarking is 20th-century but late 16th-century sarking does survive in the W Turret roof, the Central Turret roof and in the Central portion of the N Range roof.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

MIDLOTHIAN

Cockpen

Stobhill Road, Gorebridge
Watching brief
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 340 630 A watching brief was carried out at land off Stobhill Road on 23–24 October 2008 during the excavation of a new main water pipe trench. A tarmac track and deposit of made ground were identified. No significant archaeological remains were discovered.
Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Onesource

Upper Dalhousie Farm, Rosewell
Evaluation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3020 6280 An evaluation was undertaken during May

2008 of two areas (A and B) in a proposed sand and gravel quarry. In total 49 trenches were excavated, following an agreed trenching plan, covering 2794m². In Area A, a scatter of pits was recorded, two of which contained Early Neolithic Carinated pottery. In Area B, further pits also contained Early Neolithic Carinated pottery and these were next to an irregular alignment of pits. Another pit contained Late Bronze Age pottery. A U-shaped ditch contained quantities of charcoal in the base.
Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Independent Aggregates Ltd

Cockpen/Newbattle

Hunterfield Road and Newbyres, Gorebridge
Evaluation
Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 340 614 (Newbyres) and NT 336 627 (Hunterfield Road) An evaluation was carried out, from 13–24 March 2008, on land parcels in advance of a proposed residential development. A total of 46 trenches with a combined basal area of 7070m² were opened. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Persimmon Homes East Scotland Ltd

Cranston

Big Cousland Dig
Community archaeology – geophysics, metal detecting, excavation and historic research
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NT 3770 6830 – NT 3700 6770 – NT 3770 3810

Area 1: The Castle field – We have confirmation that the castle is likely to have been built by the Ruthven lords around the end of the 15th century. Later, they constructed a residence, which hosted the Confederate Lords, and perhaps even Mary Queen of Scots, in 1567. The walled garden was built much later in the early 18th century and in the process quarried away most of the castle, though the residence remained until at least 1760. There is definite proof of structures in the S field, though these may be connected with later quarry works. The residence, although demolished, does have surviving archaeology to the S, and could provide evidence of construction, use and layout.

Area 2: The Pottery field – Examination of the pottery and kiln furniture recovered in the fieldwalking, and from the small evaluation trench confirm the presence of surviving archaeology. We are now sure that this is the pottery mentioned in the 1796 Edinburgh Advertiser as being for sale. This must also be the pottery that James Belfield arrived at in the mid 18th century from Staffordshire, before moving to Prestonpans where his son Charles set up the Belfield Pottery. This remarkable find is of great importance, as not only has geophysics shown the presence of kilns and possible waster pits, but the works themselves will be one of the earliest whiteware potteries in Scotland, marking the beginning of the industrial period. Careful examination of the technologies used, as well as the pottery produced here, will be of immense value to the study of ceramics in Scotland.

Area 3: The Windmill Plantation – The windmill fits well alongside the Smiddy and the walled garden as a standing monument to the history of 18th-century Cousland and another of the Dalrymple improvements. However, the mound it sits on is unusual and was examined for the first time.

Nearby are known long cist burials and this could be the final clue to the location of an early Christian religious establishment. Further geophysics, metal detecting and careful excavation could confirm this extremely important hypothesis.

The knowledge gained in this project has been of great importance, and the outcome has been most satisfactory. The option for extending the work to cover the period 1700 –2000 and the pre-1100 occupation cannot be discounted. It is one that must be seriously considered, along with the continued examination and display of what has already been found. Work was undertaken on the site between 11 November 2007–11 July 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Cousland Local History Project

Cousland Castle and Nunnery
Geophysical survey
David Jones – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NT 3780 6830 The area resistance surveys reported in *DES* 2006, 105 and 2007, 128 were continued to the S of the castle with a further 5200m² surveyed on level ground above the E–W step in the field. Significant high resistance lines run E/W with angled resistances at the ends. Lesser features run from these lines N towards the castle. A further linear high resistance, which turns through a right-angle, goes beyond the SW corner of the survey. The alignments suggest ecclesiastical structures.
Funder: D Connolly, British Archaeological Jobs Resource, Cousland Historical Society and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Edgehead Farm, Pathhead
Standing building recording
Anya Rardin and Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 37188 65310 A historic building assessment was undertaken on 25–26 September 2007 prior to residential redevelopment. The building assessment identified that the farm buildings, elements of which may date to the 19th century, had undergone several major phases of construction with additional minor alterations.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: CALA Management Limited

Edgehead Farm, Pathhead
Standing building recording
Suzanne Lilley – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 37188 65310 A Level three historic building survey was undertaken during May–June 2008, prior to the site's redevelopment. The work produced a detailed plan, photographic and written records.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Macfarlane Homes

Dalkeith

1–3 Musselburgh Road, Dalkeith
Standing building recording, evaluation and excavation
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3348 6764 A Level 1–2 standing building survey, supported by a comprehensive review of pertinent historical documents, was carried out in February–April 2008 prior to the demolition and conversion of a suite of buildings formerly associated with the Dalkeith Estate. The survey recorded a small building of early to mid 18th century date that had been used as a blacksmith's workshop. This was modified into a dwelling house in the late 18th or early 19th century. A larger two-storey dwelling was also constructed during this period and amalgamated with the older building. A suite of linear ranges was also recorded and corresponds to a series

of carpenter's workshops recorded on an 1832 estate plan.

Various other buildings survive including a 19th-century blacksmith's shop, additional fragments of buildings associated with workshops and later 20th-century sheds.

A 5% evaluation was then conducted to investigate whether any archaeological deposits survived. Five machine trenches and three hand-dug test pits were excavated. The results indicate that the site had been extensively levelled, removing almost all traces of previous use. However, the remains of a range of buildings shown on an 1830 estate plan of the area survived along the northern side of the site. A saw pit identified during the evaluation and a well identified during site demolition were excavated and recorded. The saw pit is depicted on an estate plan of 1832 and the well is thought to be of similar date.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Queensberry Property Ltd

Salters Road

Evaluation
MW Kimber – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 34450 67900 An evaluation consisting of trial trenching covering 5% of the site was undertaken from 16–18 April 2008, in advance of the construction of a new primary school. A previous evaluation (*DES* 2000) located a prehistoric settlement in the field to the N of the development area and post-medieval rig and furrow in the evaluation area. The aims of this evaluation were to expand the area of land investigated and to clarify the results of the previous work. The only archaeological remains found were two distinct cultivation furrow systems, a post-medieval system orient N/S and a 19th-century system orient N/E to S/W.

Archive: Awaiting SAFAP
Funder: Barr Holdings Ltd on behalf of Midlothian Council

Glencorse

Fulford Steading

Standing building recording
Phil Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2406 6466 An enhanced standing building survey was carried out in July 2008 in advance of the conversion of the farm into housing. The E-shaped farm was built some time after 1854 and modified throughout its life.

Fulford Steading is a typical estate farm used for mixed farming throughout the 19th century. In the 20th century there was a significant shift to animal husbandry with stalling for large numbers of livestock. The formal court system appears to have survived to the present day. Large lofts above the cart shed were for storing and crushing fodder. The remains of the belt-drive were visible in the ceiling of Unit 3 and the remains of a large pit wheel on the exterior of the S Range reveal the position of a motorised cattle-cake crushing device. These were used during the late 19th and early 20th centuries to crush the hard cattle-cake fed as a supplement to over-wintering cattle.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs G Manson

Glencorse Water Treatment Works, Glencorse Mains, Penicuik

Evaluation
Magnus Kirby and Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2347 6260 – NT 2370 6280 An evaluation was carried out in December 2007 on the site of a proposed new water treatment works. A total of 88 trenches were excavated, 7280m² (just over 5%), of the proposed development area. The evaluation targeted the known location of a cropmark, interpreted as a possible Roman fortlet.

The evaluation confirmed the presence of a rectilinear ditched enclosure, three sides of which were recorded. Sections were excavated across the SE, SW and NE sides of the possible fortlet. The excavations indicated that it measured *c*65m from SW to NE, the NW side of the feature lies outwith the proposed development area and at least 60m SE to NW. No features were identified in the trenches excavated in the interior of the possible fortlet and the entrance was not identified. The ditch ranged in width from 1.1–1.8m and up to 0.6m in depth.

Other features identified included a series of parallel boundary ditches, which relate to plantation boundaries depicted on the 1st Edition OS 6" map and a ditched enclosure surrounding a structure also depicted on the 1st Edition map.

A further evaluation (5% – 5255m²) of the soil storage areas took place in August 2008. The evaluation work took place in two fields. In the first field a ditch was identified which was overlain by truncated rig and furrow cultivation. In the second, a stone-built culvert was identified. No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified.

Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: ERM on behalf of Scottish Water

Mauricewood Mains, by Penicuik

Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Ross White – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 231 621 Cartographic analysis showed that the land had historically been a field system and no development had taken place until the building of the farmhouse in the mid-19th century. Five trenches with a combined area of 740m² (10%) were excavated, but revealed no remains of archaeological significance. Work was undertaken on 29–30 May 2008.

Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Cruden Homes (East) Ltd

Lasswade

Loanhead Farm, Lasswade Road, Loanhead

Standing building assessment
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 287 657 A standing building assessment was undertaken during July 2008 prior to the demolition of the former farm buildings. The buildings, including a three-bay two storey farmhouse, probably date from the late 18th century and are partly ruinous.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Zinc Developments

Mavisbank House Policies

Excavation
Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2890 6515; NT 2891 6516; NT 2886 6542 As part of remedial works excavations were carried out on and near the road to the E and S of Mavisbank House on 28 July–01 August 2008. Two trenches were sited E of the house towards the top of a slope, S of a sharp bend to the W, in an area where a landslip had occurred during the previous winter. A third trench was opened at the bottom of the hill immediately W of the boundary wall in the S part of the nursery, in an area where surface water had been seen to accumulate.

The excavations revealed several different phases of roadway and water damage. It appears that the roadway has been progressively raised and narrowed, with the W edge moving E. The woodland has gradually extended E

over the track, and rather than cutting back the woodland the track has simply been pushed a little further E and narrowed. Clearly there has been a long-term problem with flooding. The construction of each new roadway surface has involved the laying of deposits of ash, or other porous material, into the area to the W of it and has raised the level of the road.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Midlothian Community Hospital, Eskbank Road, Bonnyrigg
Evaluation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3190 6580 During June–July 2008 an evaluation (of *c*2450m²) was undertaken on the site of the proposed hospital. The work revealed truncated rig and furrow cultivation remains which were mostly aligned NW/SE. No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified.
Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Robertson Construction Lothians Ltd

Newbattle

Kippielaw, Dalkeith
Evaluation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 341 665 An evaluation was undertaken on 3–12 March 2008 prior to proposed redevelopment. A 5% sample (5500m²) intrusive evaluation of the 11ha area failed to identify any significant archaeological deposits, features or artefactual material.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Newton

South-eastern Wedge (Block O and Phase 4 Spine Road), Danderhall
Evaluation
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 3188 6941 A 5% sample evaluation consisting of 15 trenches, totalling 1535m², was undertaken on 3 – 8 October 2007. The work located disturbed building debris, probably associated with the Woolmet Mains Farmstead, but no intact walls or floors. Waste material found in the topsoil and cut features were indicative of the former use of the area by the coalmining industry.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Ironside Farrar on behalf of Turner and Townsend

Penicuik

Kirkton Cottage – Scotland's Rural Past Pentland Hills Project
Survey and historical research
Jill Strobridge – SRP Pentland Hills Project with EAFS
NT 2120 6444 A ground plan survey and photographic record of this ruined farm cottage was undertaken as part of a project in connection with Scotland's Rural Past recording the ruined steadings, cottages and associated structures in the Pentland Hills and investigating the farming communities associated with them.

Kirkton Cottage was built in 1853/54 as an improved farm worker's cottage on the farm of Kirkton to replace the farmhouse at Capelaw (NT 2158 6524). The survey and building study are intended to analyse its construction and subsequent development.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: None. Access permission kindly granted by Kirkton Farm

Penicuik Estate
Excavation
David Jones and Jill Strobridge – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NT 2084 5875 The excavation reported in *DES* 2004, 84; 2005, 93; 2006,107; 2007,131 was continued with a further deepening of the area beside the hearth in Trench 2. Soil from a possible pit close to the hearth has been sent for wet sieving. Hearth charcoal, from a previous sieving, has been dated by SUERC to 2150 ± 30 BP. Under-hearth samples were taken by Bradford University for archaeomagnetic dating but did not prove successful.
Funder: Sir Robert Clerk of Penicuik, David Connolly Archaeological Jobs Resource, Bradford University and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Temple

Tweeddaleburn Cottage
Chance find
RD Knox – Peebleshire Archaeological Society
NT 2770 5278 Chert scraper.
Report: RCAHMS and SBC SMR (intended)
Funder: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

MORAY

Birnie

Birnie
Evaluation
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NJ 2084 5851 In 2004 stonework was noted eroding from the edge of an old sand quarry immediately adjacent to the later prehistoric and medieval site at Birnie (*DES* 2007, 131); investigation revealed the bowl of a medieval corn-drying kiln (*DES* 2004, 85). From 27–29 June 2008 its extent was investigated in plan, to see how much had survived. It transpired that erosion had only slightly damaged one edge, with a stone-lined bowl 2.4m in diameter and a stone-lined flue 2.2m L x 1.4m W. The kiln had been destroyed by fire, with extensive charred timbers from the floor surviving; the clay dome had then collapsed on top. The sites integrity is severely threatened by rabbit burrowing, and further work is planned.
Funder: National Museums Scotland

Birnie
Excavation
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NJ 210 585 Excavations continued at the multi-period settlement site of Birnie (see *DES* 2007, 131), with four trenches being opened from 17 August–12 September 2008. Work continued on the burnt down roundhouse, with some two-thirds of the house now fully excavated. The extent of the smaller underlying ring groove house is now clear. The overlying large ring ditch house had been heavily used and repaired by the time it burnt down. The ring ditch had eroded around several postholes while others had been replaced, in one case with an overlying area of

stone packing, perhaps acting as a post base. A series of stone roof weights which had collapsed during the fire were recovered, as were substantial fragments of charcoal. Finds from the house included a fragment of a Type 1 glass bangle which showed evidence of repair. Soon after the fire a cobbled surface was laid over the remains.

Further investigation in the area of the coin hoards confirmed that another house lay immediately to their W. This was overlain by a spread of material which included cobbled areas, burnt clay layers and a spread of substantial charred wood fragments. This suggests that an industrial area, its date as yet unclear, may lie beyond the trench edge. To the SW among an extensive range of features was a small post ring some 3.4m in diameter.

Between this trench and the burnt house another substantial ring ditch house was investigated; this was known from cropmarks but previously untouched. It was a large single phase structure, some 16m in diameter, with a ring ditch round the northern half and a series of shallow erosion hollows in the peripheral space of the southern half. Internal features included a massive near-central posthole, an internal partition preventing direct access into the ring ditch from the door, and a linear slot which appears to post-date the house. On abandonment, burnt material was dumped in the ring ditch and a series of pits were dug across the doorway. Overlying it were the remains of a sub-rectangular Pictish building, its foundations represented only by two shallow postholes. Linked to this were a cobbled area, a hearth and associated pit, dated by an Early Historic gold-and-glass bead. The fragile remains only survived through slumping into the underlying roundhouse. Finds from this trench included a painted pebble (the first from the area), a small dagger in its sheath and a small spherical glass playing piece/pin head decorated with inlaid spirals.

A final trench to the E of the burnt house confirmed that remains noted in 2001 at the southern end of trench M comprised a further roundhouse.

A metal detecting survey produced a Romano-British zoomorphic enamelled brooch, several more denarii from the scattered hoard and a button-and-loop fastener.

Funder: National Museums Scotland, Historic Scotland, Ian Keillar, Moray Field Club and RAF Lossiemouth

Boyndie/Dyke and Moy

Boyndie Enclosure and Darnaway Enclosures

Excavation

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 6530 6360 and NH 987 571 Two archaeological evaluations were conducted in May–June 2008 across the proposed site of two cropmark enclosures identified during the Moray Aerial Survey. In the intervening years since the publication of the AP both sites have been subjected to heavy ploughing. Archaeological remains are now only present at Darnaway, the site at Boyndie seemingly having been eroded away completely.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Springfield Properties PLC

Duffus

Clarkly Hill

Metal detecting finds

Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland

NJ 13 67 A Romano-British headstud brooch, an unusual Roman Iron Age button and loop fastener and an enamelled Early Historic mount were recovered by metal detecting at Clarkly Hill. Other Roman brooches are known from the area (*DES* 2007, 132).

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 93/07, 95/07) and allocated to Elgin Museum

Elgin

Thornhill, Elgin

Evaluation and excavation

Nick Garry – Alba Archaeology (Highland) Ltd

NJ 2255 6114 (centred on) This site is near a number of known cropmarks. A 10% evaluation (of a total of 7500 linear metres) identified the position of a post-improvement farm, along with worked flint and three curvilinear pits of the Late Neolithic period. The evaluation was followed by watching briefs on additional work which uncovered a group of pits containing flint and pottery. A key find from this grouping was a near-complete, though broken, urn associated with charcoal dated to 3540 ± 30 BP. Work was undertaken from August–November 2007.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire SMR (intended)
Funder: Barratt North

Forres

Grantown Road, R2, Forres

Excavation

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 0263 5740 Following an evaluation in September 2007 this excavation of a greenfield site on 28 May 2008 unearthed later prehistoric settlement features consisting of a souterrain, a ring ditch, two four-poster structures, a circular structure, two furnaces and six isolated features.

Artefacts include a Neolithic ceramic vessel, two whetstones, fragments of two rotary querns, a saddle quern, two pieces of worked bone and a huge amount of slag material.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Springfield Properties PLC

Knockomie Hotel, Forres

Evaluation

Philip Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NJ 0263 5718 An evaluation was undertaken in December 2007 to the east of Knockomie Hotel in advance of its development for housing. A total of 55 trial trenches were excavated, amounting to 7020m^2 (*c*10%). Two probable circular structures and a dense concentration of pits were recorded in the N field, some of which contained sherds of prehistoric pottery and iron slag. It is possible that some of the other pits are also of prehistoric date. A small scatter of pits was also recorded in the NE of the southern field, although no patterns were discerned. It is likely that these features are the remains of prehistoric activity (including metalworking) and occupation.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Robertson Homes Ltd

Long (Thornhill), Forres

Evaluation

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 0285 5792 A total of 27 machine dug trenches, 4200m^2, were excavated across this proposed 6ha residential

development area from 21–24 July 2008. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Springfield Properties PLC

Forres/Rafford

Forres Flood Prevention Scheme

Watching brief
Lindsay Dunbar and Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NJ 051 575, NJ 036 560 – NJ 042 566 A watching brief was carried out between June–October 2008 during construction works. The work consisted of monitoring ground-breaking works associated with a new water supply pipeline and a new access road. Although the access road impinged very slightly on the scheduled area of the Dallas Dhu Distillery (SAM 90340), no features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
Funder: Morrisons Construction

Grange

Sillyearn

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 521 541 – **Edingigh**: forestry operations in advance of replanting revealed an extensive scatter of clearance cairns with possible traces of linking dykes to the NW of previously recorded remains (NJ55SW 2).

NJ 507 528 – **Bracobrae**: very slight earthworks of indeterminate structure crossing the present forestry boundary and extending into the farmland beyond are probably part of the pre-improvement field systems.
Archive: Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeenshire SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kinloss

Findhorn Water Main Renewal

Watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NJ 0542 6087 – NJ 0354 6477 A watching brief was undertaken from 15 January–22 February 2008 during excavations for the Findhorn Water Main Renewal. Work focussed on areas in the centre of the village where a Bronze Age cremation urn was found during previous service excavations. Urns do not tend to occur in isolation and the potential for further urn depositions and associated finds was considered to be high. However, no archaeological features or finds were recorded.
Archive: HAS Office
Funder: Halcrow PLC

Knockando

Aberlour Overton Warehouse Project

Trial trenching evaluation, photographic survey and watching brief
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NJ 2758 4489 Work was undertaken from 1 December 2007–25 February 2008 in advance of the construction of a warehouse at the Macallan Distillery at Charlestown of Aberlour.

The trial trenching and watching brief confirmed the presence of archaeology in the development area, but its significance was limited by the lack of diagnostic information. Six pits indicated evidence of human activity in the area, while three irregular patches of oxidised natural could be interpreted as either episodes of natural fire or man-made fire for agricultural land clearance. The burnt areas did not seem to represent intentional fires as they showed no signs of organisation or purpose. No finds or features were discovered during the watching brief on bulldozing work. Overton farm was recorded photographically.
Archive: Digital HER, final RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mansell PLC

Overton Farmhouse

Rafford

Burgie Castle

Photographic survey and watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NJ 0936 5931 Burgie Castle is the tower of a former tower house which is both scheduled and listed. A very similar tower house not far away, Blervie, collapsed about three years ago and Burgie was in imminent danger until the present stabilisation work. Major vertical cracks had appeared in the fabric, the roof was in very poor condition and mortar had failed in the walls at roof level. Work undertaken from 21 April–6 May 2008 accompanied emergency works by the Highland Buildings Preservation Trust to stabilise the building until a conservation project can be developed. A rapid photographic record was made of the building itself. The watching brief covered the opening of a small number of pits to form the bases for supporting scaffolding. 98% of the excavations were monitored.
Archive: HAS Office
Funder: Captain Hamish Lochore

Rafford Water Main Diversion

Watching brief
Brendan Malone – Highland Archaeology Services
NJ 059 563 A watching brief was carried out between 1 April–29 September 2008. The objective was to establish the nature and extent of any archaeology affected by the construction of a water main running through the town. No archaeological finds or features were uncovered.
Archive: HAS Office

Rathven

Bauds Garage Overhead Line, Cullen, Moray

Watching brief

JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 4820 6744 A watching brief was maintained on the 20 March 2008 during the erection of a staywire for an electricity pole beside a possible Bronze Age cairn. No archaeological features or finds were evident.

Report: Aberdeenshire Council and RCAHMS

Funder: SSE Power Distribution

Mains of Buckie, Buckie

Evaluation

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NJ 4320 6450 An evaluation in April 2008 on a proposed residential housing site on the southern edge of Buckie revealed eight isolated pit features, some containing fire-cracked stones. Seven of these features were less than 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m in depth but one, revealed in Trench 17, was circular, with a diameter of 1.3m and a depth of 0.45m. A primary deposit of clean sand underlay a deposit of charcoal-flecked grey silty sand. The upper fill consisted of fire-cracked stones within a black and grey charcoal flecked silty matrix. The feature was fully excavated and no finds were recovered. Numerous field drains were also observed.

Archive: RCAHMS/Moray SMR

Funder: Robertson Homes Ltd

Rothiemay

Rothiemay 1

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 565 472 – **Woodfold**: a much denuded dyke constructed of large boulders. It runs from close to the modern field march to where the line of it is taken up by a deep drainage ditch, apparently unrelated to the dyke. The land above the feature is uncleared while that below has been well cleared.

NJ 563 495 – **Inchcorsie**: an imposing dyke standing 2m tall in places. It appears to be related to a period of landscape planning, either as part of the policies of Rothiemay Castle (now destroyed) or connected to the unlocated Park of Corncagrin (Anderson, ML 1967, *A history of Scottish forestry*, Vol.1, 236). Apparently related to further landscape features (see below).

NJ 558 488 – **Inchcorsie**: embanked trackway respecting previous entry and entry below.

NJ 563 493 – **Inchcorsie**: an oval enclosure measuring roughly 80 x 50m. It appears to pre-date the trackway noted above, which uses the eastern side of the dyke, and pre-dates or is contemporary with a bank (see following feature), which abuts it on its NW part. It is faced on the outside, presumably to keep stock out rather than in. As there are no obvious buildings in the locality, this would suggest a small plantation of trees rather than food crops. This might make sense if the 'imposing' dyke, (see above) was used for keeping stock in. And, in these contexts, the 1536 reference to the unlocated Park of Corncagrin (cited in Anderson 1967) might be considered. Deer would then have been kept in by the large dyke but out of the enclosed oval area.

NJ 562 493 – **Inchcorsie**: a very denuded bank stretching between the oval enclosure (see above) and the present field boundary to the N, this also survives as a probable pre-'improvement' earth and stone dyke at this point. The denuded bank appears to be contemporary with or later than the oval enclosure.

NJ 558 492 – **Inchorsie**: further length of much denuded pre-'improvement' earth and stone dyke.

NJ 543 484 – **Pyetbush Wood**: the boundary bank marking the woodland boundary extends into the wood and curves around towards the W before being broken by a more recent drain. The boundary appears to be of pre-'improvement' construction.

Archive: Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeenshire SMR

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Rothiemay 2

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission's management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Dyce, Aberdeen. The following features were recorded during prospective fieldwork.

NJ 546 501 – **Scraib Wood**: much denuded bank which meanders W, S and W again before becoming lost in the course of a modern drain. Presumably related to a pre-'improvement' field layout.

NJ 547 498 – **Scraib Wood**: short stretch of dyke which lies S of but parallel to the present woodland boundary. The 'improvement' field layout presumably ran parallel to its predecessor at this point.

NJ 547 495 – **Scraib Wood**: denuded boundary dyke running down hill from near to corner of present boundary. Its relationship to the curving dyke which forms the present roadside boundary, and which is depicted on the modern map, is uncertain but the probability is that it preceded it.

Funder: Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Speymouth

A96 Fochabers to Mosstodloch Bypass

Excavation, building survey

Ian Suddaby and Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NJ 3349 5974 (Trench 1), NJ 328 597 (Trench 2), NJ 336 596 (railway) An excavation was conducted on this route with the aim of locating groups of features revealed during an evaluation in 1997 (*DES* 1997, 56). Two trenches were opened by machine, covering just less than 1000m².

In trench one features recorded included pits, stone extraction holes and a ditch. Two large intercutting pits contained an assemblage of Early Neolithic Carinated pottery, half a cannel coal bangle, lithics, a broken saddle quern and well-preserved carbonised environmental remains. Trench two by the Rothes Road revealed no significant remains.

A Level 1 standing building survey was conducted to record the visible remains of the tank shed, engine shed and footbridge on the disused Fochabers Branch line at Fochabers. This was a rectangular structure (6.6 x 3.7m) consisting of large dressed sandstone blocks with an arched doorway and arched window. The engine shed consisted of the heavily overgrown wall footings, concrete plinths 0.2m high and 0.35m wide. The footbridge that spanned the disused Fochabers Branch line was arched and built of large dressed sandstone blocks, with smaller sandstone brickwork beneath the arch.

Archive: Aberdeenshire SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Historic Scotland on behalf of Transport Scotland

Land at Mosstodloch
Watching brief, evaluation
Philip Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NJ 3339 6033 We undertook a watching brief and an evaluation between August and October 2008 at a proposed housing development at Mosstodloch. The watching brief was carried out during ground investigation works, which consisted of the excavation of 17 trial pits; no archaeological features were uncovered. We excavated 35 trenches, amounting to 3628m^2 (*c*10%) of the development area. Nine undated pits were excavated. The function of these pits was not determined through excavation. The pits show no spatial patterning to indicate structures, although the proximity and morphology of pits in Trench 10 may suggest they are related.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire SMR (intended)
Funder: WA Fairhurst and Partners on behalf of The Crown Estate

St Andrews–Lhanbryd

Pinefield, Elgin
Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NJ 2322 6254 An archaeological evaluation, consisting of four trenches with a total area of 480m^2, was undertaken on 12–13 December 2007, in advance of a proposed residential development. No significant archaeological remains were observed.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Springfield Developments Limited

Urquhart

Urquhart
Metal detector find
T Cowie – National Museums Scotland
NJ 28 62 The blade portion of a Late Bronze Age socketed axehead was found by Mr Alistair McPherson while metal detecting at Urquhart. Its incompleteness precludes detailed classification.
It was claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Elgin Museum.

NORTH AYRSHIRE

Ardrossan

Ardrossan Wind Farm
Watching brief
Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 23542 47317 A watching brief was undertaken from 22 April–30 June 2008, during topsoil stripping associated with the erection of three new wind turbines. The site was deemed to be of archaeological interest as the remains of Knock Jargon prehistoric hillfort and cairn, a designated scheduled ancient monument (SAM 305), are near the centre of the site, and upstanding elements of possible medieval cultivation practices are also preserved within its boundaries. As part of the works, upstanding features potentially affected by groundworks were fenced to prevent any accidental damage during excavations. No further archaeological features or deposits were identified during the course of works. This was considered to reflect a genuine absence of below-ground features in the monitored areas, rather than their destruction.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Airtricity

Cumbrae

18 Ritchie Street, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae
Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NS 160 548 A watching brief was carried out on 31 June–1 July 2008. The works revealed demolition material as well as a midden-like levelling layer. Both of these deposits overlay either a clay, sand or sandy clay subsoil. Bedrock was close to the surface in some areas. The watching brief identified no archaeological material during the ground-breaking works.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS SMR
Funder: Coastal Capers Ltd

Dalry

Dalry
Excavation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 3016 5132 A programme of excavation was carried out in 7–8 August 2008 N of Dalry in support of water pipe rejuvenation. The works included the sectioning and recording of the tramway (railroad line).
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Carillion Infrastructure Services Ltd

Kilbride

Cordon, Lamlash
Evaluation
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 0260 3000 An evaluation was undertaken on 24 April 2008 in respect of a proposed residential development on the site. The evaluation consisted of four trenches located within the footprints of the proposed development. All trenches exhibited a common stratigraphic sequence with a mid–dark brown topsoil of slightly sandy silt loam, with frequent rootlets and roots which varied in depth from 200mm to 300mm. The topsoil overlay a slightly varying subsoil of light-mid brown silty sand with occasional coal pieces. The first 6.4m of the northern end of Trench 1 contained a further deposit, underlying topsoil, which consisted of a mid grey slightly sandy silt loam. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded during the evaluation.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Armitage Groundworks on behalf of Mr John Lamb

St Brides Chapel and Burial Ground (Adopt-a-Monument)
Conservation and management planning, interpretation, consolidation and repair
Sarah Mackinnon (Strathclyde Building Preservation Trust) – Saving St Brides Chapel Arran Group (SSBC)
NS 0322 3227 St Brides is a 14th-century chapel, and 2008 marks the beginning of a project to devise a conservation and management plan to ensure collaboration by the Council and community in the future care of the chapel and its historic burial ground. The project aims to improve physical and intellectual access to the site, provide physical repair and consolidation for the chapel and memorials and research and make accessible information on the history, development and significance of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: North Ayrshire Council and Entrust

Kilmory

Lagg, Isle of Arran

Evaluation
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NR 9566 2158 An evaluation was carried out from 9–10 September 2008 on a greenfield site at Lagg. The work included the stripping of 303.8 linear metres of trenches, more than 8% of the development area. No archaeologically significant features were observed. Cartographic evidence suggests that the site has been used as arable land throughout recorded history. The lack of disturbance in the subsoil suggests that the site has consistently remained unoccupied, rather than that later land use has destroyed all traces of archaeological features.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Mr Tony Kilna

Kilwinning

Montgomerie Park (Phase 2), Irvine

Evaluation
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 3296 4121 An evaluation was carried out between 10–14 March 2008. The evaluation consisted of 23 trenches in targeted areas in the footprint of the proposed residential development. 15 negative features of potential archaeological significance were recorded. These comprised a linear feature, nine possible postholes and five pits. In addition, a limited range of un-diagnostic lithics and a sherd of medieval pottery were recovered from features and unstratified environments.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: North Ayrshire Council

Whitehirst Park Road, Kilwinning

Evaluation
Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 288 438 An evaluation was carried out from 12–16 May 2008 in advance of proposed residential development. 28 trenches with a combined basal area of 2960m² were opened. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Redrow Homes (Scotland) Ltd

Largs

Craighill, Fairlie

Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 2123 5544 A programme of archaeological works were undertaken from 23 July–15 August 2008, in response to a proposal for a housing development at this site. A proportion of the evaluation trenching targeted a possible chapel site (WoSASPIN 5746) and an enclosure site (NS25NW 26; WoSASPIN 5749). A total of 52 trenches, 7375m², were excavated. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile. No remains relating to either the chapel or the enclosure sites were recorded during the evaluation.
Funder: Dawn Homes Ltd

The Priory, Largs

Evaluation and standing building recording
Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services
NS 2040 5875 Five evaluation trenches covering 295m² were opened. All of the trenches revealed modern deposits overlying raised beach deposits. No archaeological features were located. Standing building recording of an early 19th-century stable block was undertaken prior to its demolition.
Archive: Held by FAS until deposited in RCAHMS
Funder: Ossian Homes Ltd

West Kilbride

Portencross Castle

Evaluation
Christine Rennie – GUARD
NS 175 489 An evaluation of the floor deposits in the basement and Great Hall of Portencross Castle was undertaken from 22–25 April 2008. The evaluation found that the existing basement floor, which consisted of flagstones and cobbles, was of relatively recent date and that the original stone floor lay about 0.45m below the flagstones and cobbles. A drainage culvert in the basement had been in-filled in modern times. The evaluation in the Great Hall found a compacted clay floor layer overlying a rubble infill.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: The Friends of Portencross Castle and The Heritage Lottery Fund

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Cambusnethan

Castlehill Road, Gowkthrapple, Wishaw

Evaluation
Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 7947 5333 Work was undertaken on 20–22 May 2008 at a proposed residential site. A number of relatively recent features were recorded across the southern and western part of the evaluation area. These consisted of rig and furrow, a pit containing a small animal burial, parts of a brick-founded hard standing, surfaces of red blaes (possibly trackways) and part of a small brick shed. A large machine-excavated pit and an area of made ground, containing modern detritus, were visible across part of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Dawn Homes

Cumbernauld

Rannoch, The Lane, Dullatur

Evaluation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 7465 7668 An archaeological evaluation, consisting of a controlled topsoil strip, was undertaken on 5 and 8 January 2008 on the 460m² site of a proposed residential house. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr Kenneth Kennedy

The Lane (Number 3), Dullatur

Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 7465 7676 The work undertaken between 9 November 2006 and 7 May 2008 consisted of a controlled topsoil strip of all areas (*c*150m²), covered by a proposed house and garages within the confines of Dullatur Roman Temporary Camps (NS77NW 22). No archaeological features were noted, though a number of 20th-century service trenches were encountered. A further watching brief on a service

trench revealed no archaeological features. No artefacts were recovered.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Andrew Mitchell

New Monklands

Aldi Stores, Airdrie
Evaluation and watching brief
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 7591 6569 An evaluation and watching brief were undertaken on 12–21 May 2008 in advance of a retail development. The work showed that the area had suffered considerable modern truncation with made ground directly overlying the natural. However, 19th-century wall foundations were recorded towards the eastern edge of the site. These can be traced on Wood's map (1846) and the 1st Edition OS (1858) map. No other significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Aldi Stores Ltd

Brownsburn, Target Tip
Watching brief and artefact retrieval
Alisdair Curtis – Jacobs UK
NS 7663 6450 A watching brief was carried out on 22 May 2008 during the excavation of a bing at Brownsburn during remediation work at Target Tip to recover rare bricks and tiles for recording.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: North Lanarkshire Council
Funder: North Lanarkshire Council

Old Monkland

Gartcosh Business Park
Watching brief
Christine Rennie and Charlotte Francoz – GUARD
NS 702 676 A monitored topsoil strip was carried out between 9 October 2007 and 23 January 2008, on parts of the proposed route of electricity cables running from Easterhouse Grid substation to Gartcosh Business Park and on boreholes to the N and S of the railway line. The monitored excavation uncovered demolition debris from the former Gartcosh Steel Works in the borehole to the N of the railway line. No other archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc

ORKNEY

Birsay and Harray

Midhouse, Birsay
Watching brief
Dave Lawrence – Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology (ORCA)
HY 2873 2334 A watching brief was undertaken on 11 April 2008 during preliminary excavations at a new house plot. No archaeological remains were discovered.
Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr M Dickinson

Midhouse, Birsay
Watching brief
Dave Lawrence – ORCA
HY 3075 2000 A watching brief was undertaken on 4 September 2008 during preliminary excavations at a new house plot. No archaeological remains were discovered. A large pit was interpreted as a modern feature.
Report: SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr A Corrigall

Cross and Burness

The Old Beacon, Dennis Head, North Ronaldsay
Watching briefs and excavation
Andrew Hollinrake – ORCA
HY 7901 5539 The work undertaken 5 May–15 July 2008 was split into three phases. The first phase consisted of a watching brief and small trial excavation during the erection of scaffolding around the Old Beacon. The second phase took the form of the excavation of debris from within the two lighthouse keeper's cottages to the W of the Old Beacon. Photographic recording and baseline standing building recording of the structures began and continued during the third phase, when a watching brief and recording were carried out during the removal of a substantial amount of guano from inside the Old Beacon.

During the initial works guano was removed down to a rough surface level in the passage between the beacon tower and the nearest cottage. This area has yet to be fully excavated but the surface encountered suggests secondary use of the passage after the beacon had been decommissioned. A small test trench showed an earlier, presumed original, floor level constructed from large sandstone slabs, below the later surface, layers of demolition debris and guano. It was noted that the door into the beacon had at some stage been blocked up and later re-opened

Excavation during the second phase removed debris from inside the two cottages down to floor level. The original sandstone slab floors had been robbed out. The westernmost of the two cottages was clearly a later addition to the original lighthouse keeper's cottage to the E, and although it appears to have been intended, at least in part, for human occupation the area of cobbled floor suggests use as a byre.

The hazardous nature of the guano made protective clothing necessary and excavation inside the tower was very difficult. The layered nature of the guano suggested it had been partially cleared several times, perhaps for use as fertiliser. Little of archaeological significance was encountered during this clearance apart from shattered sandstone, which was assumed to be the remnants of the internal stairs. After the guano had been removed it was possible to examine and record the floor level of the beacon interior and it could be seen that the stone stairs had been removed.
Archive: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The North Ronaldsay Trust

Eday

Green
Excavation
Mick Miles – BEVARS
HY 56971 28987 A second season of work at this Neolithic settlement site took place between 3–31 August 2008. The main aims were to obtain evidence for dating, activity at the site and material that could place the settlement within a wider context, together with an ongoing appraisal of the site, in particular the potential for environmental work.

The 2007 trench was re-opened and extended to expose an area *c*10 x 9m. This revealed more of Structure 1, a Neolithic building, the SE wall of which has survived up to two courses high for a distance of some 8m. It is made up of a mixture of grey and red sandstone blocks forming an inner facing

two blocks wide and an outer face one block wide, the gap between being filled with a relatively clean deposit of sandy clay. In plan it has the appearance of two gentle curving lengths with an internal partition stone set on edge where the curves meet, giving the building a slight narrowing in the middle. At the S end the wall turns sharply to the W and ends at another slab set on edge that presumably indicates an entrance at the SW end of the structure. There were three breaks in the inner face of this wall that contained stone packing for presumed posts.

Only a few slabs survive of the NW wall and the whole area on the W side has been truncated by agricultural activity, possibly a vegetable patch, on a line parallel to and approximately 6m from the modern field fence. This activity has removed all large stones and only a few negative features have survived below the ploughsoil which directly overlies the natural boulder clay. The NE end of the building remains unexcavated.

A grey sandstone slab *c*0.57 x 0.32m was found lying flat on the ground in the probable entrance. It has several pecked motifs on its upper face and had clearly originated from a larger panel of artwork. The stone was not earthfast and was lying in a thin silty layer which is believed to have been formed after the building had been abandoned and lost its roof. The entrance, being at the lowest point of the building, served as a natural drain. It is possible that the stone fell into position from above, but it appeared to have been deliberately placed along with another plain slab. If this is the case, it was probably a deliberate act of closure, as there is no wear on the stone and the peck marks are fresh.

Close up of peck marked stone

Inside the building there was evidence for a series of hearths and dark occupation deposits up to 0.18m deep. A small sample of these was excavated and found to be rich in charcoal and fragmentary burnt bone. Finds from within the building included some small flakes of polished granite similar to the unfinished polished macehead found in 2004, worked flint and utilised pumice stone.

In the truncated area to the W there was one posthole and a few shallow scoops, at least one of which probably pre-dates the building. They all contained groups of cultural material, some of which appeared to have been deliberately placed. Other depressions may indicate the position of absent structural stones.

To the E of the building is Structure 2, a line of flat contiguous slabs two courses high running through the trench for some 2.5m, probably the base of a wall up to 0.3m wide. Both structures were built directly on top of the boulder clay, and it is clear that the entire site was cleared of topsoil prior to construction.

There is a gully running down the contours between the building and the wall and this seems to have been dug through the natural to provide drainage for the site. The gully is stone-lined for much of its length with some flat slabs along the bottom and contains many small stones. It appears to have functioned as a land drain rather than a ditch or culvert. It was filled with a midden deposit rich in cultural material, including various coarse stone tools, potsherds, worked flint and utilised pumice. The bulk of the pottery was similar to the Grooved Ware recovered in 2007, but towards the base of the gully were a few sherds of what may be round-bottomed pot.

Other finds of note recovered from the ploughsoil include a miniature polished stone axe, a polished flint knife, a probable reworked flake from a polished axe, a sandstone cobble with several incised lines on one face and another sandstone cobble with a single cup mark.

Archive: To be arranged

Funder: BEVARS, Peter Mason and Chris Squires

Stackelbrae, Eday

Excavation

Amanda Brend – ORCA

HY 5641 2884 Stackelbrae is a large mound at the S end of Eday, the main core of which is rapidly being destroyed by coastal erosion. The site spans the medieval to post-medieval periods. Following previous recording and severe storm damage in 2007 that scoured the natural clay and undermined and destabilised the archaeological deposits, a small-scale 'tapestry' excavation was undertaken from 1–19 September 2008. This involved the cleaning and recording of the exposed section face, which measured approximately 40m, and in key areas the excavation of 1m^2 blocks against the section face

The erosion presented an opportunity to clarify the relationships between features which had previously been recorded as discrete erosion scars. The core of the eroding mound consisted of a multi-phase series of structures and deposits, the majority of which were too unstable to investigate.

Diagnostic artefacts were recovered from a suite of midden deposits at the E end of the site, including two pieces of glazed pottery. Clay pipe stem fragments were recovered from a drain next to the multi-phase structural features in the core of the mound. Wherever possible environmental samples were taken.

Five main phases of activity were recorded in the section:

Phase 1: The construction of paved areas onto an old ground surface, extending along most of the recorded section and directly overlying the natural boulder clay. The paving was overlain by windblown sand up to 1.20m deep along the whole of the recorded section.

Phase 2: The windblown sand was scalped before a dry stone building consisting of a combination of orthostats and coursed masonry was constructed.

Phase 3: The dry stone building was infilled.

Phase 4: The infilled building was built over and incorporated into a series of later buildings, with clay bonding and lime mortar. Clay pipe stem fragments, dating to at least the 17th century, came from a drain associated with these structures. To the E of these structures, a series of thick midden deposits had accumulated and been modified. It is difficult to ascertain when these deposits accumulated but they may represent fairly long-term deposition during Phases 2 and 3. Two sherds of glazed pottery, provisionally dated to the 16th century, were found in the midden. The midden deposits were capped with substantial paving, which may have been laid concurrently with the construction of buildings to the W.

Phase 5: The later, clay-bonded structures were infilled, and the paving to the E was capped by a rubble layer.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland, Orkney Islands Council, ORCA

Part of coastal section, Stackelbrae, Eday

Firth

Finstown
Watching brief
Dave Lawrence – ORCA
HY 3611 1415 The bases of four separate cut features were recorded during excavations for a new sewer pipeline on 28 October–19 November 2007. These were provisionally interpreted as multiple ditches associated with the nearby Hillock Broch.
Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Heddle Hill Quarry
Watching brief
Dave Lawrence – ORCA
HY 355 130 Drift deposits were removed by machine from bedrock on 12–14 August 2008 in advance of mineral quarrying. No archaeological remains were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Orkney Aggregates, Kirkwall, Orkney

Redland Farm Survey
Topographic survey, plane table survey and building recording
James Moore – Orkney College UHI
HY 3668 1703 As part of the MA in Archaeological Practice a group of postgraduate students undertook a survey of a range of features around Redland Farm on 17–19 June 2008. This included topographic survey and earthwork recording of a probable barrow cemetery (HY31NE 11), and standing building recording of a derelict post-medieval steading on the site of the modern farm (HY31NE 39). The burnt mound (HY31NE 10) was noted but no recording was undertaken.
Archive: Orkney College Archaeology Department and Orkney SMR (intended)
Funder: Orkney College, ORCA

Hoy and Graemsay

Environmental Context of Prehistoric Social and Cultural Developments in Orkney – Whaness Burn
Palaeoenvironmental investigation
Michelle Farrell and M Jane Bunting – University of Hull
HY 24575 01043 In this PhD project high-resolution palaeoenvironmental records for the period 4500–1500 BP (late Neolithic to Iron Age) are being reconstructed from sediment cores from three wetland basins in landscapes with differing degrees of marginality, in order to assess environmental evidence for the hypothesised Bronze Age population and/or cultural 'decline' in Orkney.

In June 2006 a 2.25m core was recovered from a valley mire site at Whaness Burn in northern Hoy. Three radiocarbon dates have been obtained on this core – SUERC-17751 (3415 ± 38 BP), SUERC-17752 (1214 ± 38 BP), and SUERC-17753 (987 ± 38 BP).

Pollen, charcoal, non-pollen palynomorph and plant microstructure analyses on the core have shown survival of woodland into the late Neolithic at Whaness Burn, with no indications of human activity. Woodland decline and intensive pastoral farming took place during the Bronze Age, possibly linked with a Bronze Age settlement in the valley. The site then became wetter, and this was associated with a decline in human activity in the vicinity of the wetland. Although the timing of this event needs to be confirmed by radiocarbon dating, it seems to occur during the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age.
Report: Orkney SMR (intended). Results to be included in University of Hull PhD thesis (2009)
Funder: The University of Hull and NERC

Kirkwall and St Ola

Hatston, Kirkwall
Evaluation
Caz Mamwell – ORCA
HY 4350 1275 Work was conducted before development on an area adjacent to the Hatston Pier access road, on 7–15 January 2008. The work was required due to the presence of a burnt mound (HY41SW 6). The burnt mound will be avoided by the development, but an evaluation of the subsurface remains associated with it was required.

Five trenches were opened by machine covering 522m^2 (5%) of the area. The trenches recorded nothing of archaeological significance, apart from the burnt mound, but showed the surrounding ground surface to be the result of considerable modern makeup, with the old ground surface surviving undisturbed below.

The burnt mound was accurately plotted in advance of the development and it was recommended that a 5m buffer zone should be left around it. It proved to be considerably larger than previously thought, extending up to 3.6–4.7m beyond its visible surface area and occupying a natural knoll in a low-lying and waterlogged landscape, with the old ground surface up to 1.70m below the modern surface.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Orkney Islands Council

Lady

Thrave, Sanday
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Paul Sharman – ORCA
HY 7650 4384 Work was undertaken on 10–14 April 2008 to ascertain the presence and location of the possible remains of a treb dyke (a type of prehistoric boundary). The possible remains of a treb dyke (HY74SE 19), or perhaps a small occupation site, were noted in the ploughed field W of the plot and at Thrave by a small mound in the N part of the plot, N of the steading buildings.

The Thrave steading (HY74SE 27) consists of two ranges, set at right-angles to each other, with associated walled vegetable plots or animal pens. The steading is of traditional vernacular construction and design, with flagstone walls, floors and roofs, a domestic dwelling in each range, a threshing

barn and byres and so on. The steading was recorded by the RCAHMS during the Scottish Farm Buildings Survey.
Archive: Orkney SMR (intended)
Funder: Ms Paula Batey

Orphir

Environmental Context of Prehistoric Social and Cultural Developments in Orkney – Hobbister

Palaeoenvironmental investigation
Michelle Farrell and M Jane Bunting – University of Hull
HY 39611 06640 In this PhD project high-resolution palaeoenvironmental records are being reconstructed as described under Whaness Burn above. In September 2007 a stratigraphic survey was undertaken at Hobbister, an area of blanket peat with underlying wetland basins (*DES* 2007, 142). A 3.7m core (A) was recovered from the deepest area of peat in one of the basins, and a 2m core (B) was extracted from a cut face at the edge of the blanket peat, which reflects later paludification of the landscape surrounding the basin centres.

Two radiocarbon dates have been obtained from each core. A – SUERC-19831/GU-17086 (3005 ± 35 BP) and SUERC-19832/GU-17087 (6205 ± 35 BP). B – SUERC-19833/GU-17088 – (2205 ± 35 BP) and SUERC-19837/GU-17089 (3920 ± 35 BP).

Pollen, charcoal, non-pollen palynomorph and plant microstructure analyses on both cores indicate very little human activity, with no cereal cultivation and only low intensity pastoral farming taking place in the vicinity of the site. The record from core B suggests that some woodland survived until the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. Peat began to form at the site of core A at *c*6200 BP and was spreading across the wider landscape from *c*3900 BP (core B). Although further radiocarbon dates are required to confirm this, there are indications of climatic deterioration in the records from both cores during the middle Bronze Age.
Report: Orkney SMR (intended). Results to be included in University of Hull PhD thesis (2009)
Funder: The University of Hull, Quaternary Research Association and Historic Scotland

Papa Westray

Holm of Papa, Westray North

Fish bone project
Jennifer Harland and Rachel Parks – Fishlab, University of York
HY 504 522 Fish remains were found in and around the Neolithic chambered tomb (ORK 21) and were recovered by hand collection and coarse/fine sieving. Two discrete types of deposit were found, one derived from deliberate, anthropogenic fishing and other from otter spraint; both were found throughout the tomb with little evidence of spatial or chronological patterning.

Analysis has shown that people were fishing for cod-family fish, including large cod and ling, as well as inshore, coastal species like wrasse. Comparisons with contemporary assemblages suggest that this was typical of the period. The presence of large ling suggests deep-water fishing from boats at some distance from the shore. Small quantities of pierced vertebrae from ling and cod-family fish were found throughout the tomb and may have been worn as beads. Parallels from other Neolithic Orcadian sites are discussed in the full report, as are their potential symbolic meanings. A single cod vertebra had been butchered with a stone tool and is likely to represent the earliest evidence for fish butchery and processing in the Neolithic.

The fish remains may have been introduced to the tomb as grave goods, as feasting while interring or visiting the dead, or they may represent food consumed while building the tomb. The presence of otter spraint throughout this and other tombs suggests that otters were contemporary with the use of these tombs, and that they were probably accepted, or at least not discouraged, by humans.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: excavation report by A Ritchie (intended)
Funder: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Historic Scotland, The Binks Trust and The Robert Kiln Charitable Trust

Rousay and Egilsay

Braes of Ha'Breck, Wyre, Orkney

Excavation
Antonia Thomas – ORCA

Line of walling and entrance in Trench A

HY 4375 2592 Two trenches were excavated 25 August–19 September 2008, enlarging Trenches A and C from the 2007 season. Several buildings, all apparently Early Neolithic in date but representing different phases of habitation, have now been identified across the site.

Trench A was extended to investigate the extensive area of paving revealed in 2007. Further paving, consisting of slabs up to 1.5m in length was found underlying a thick layer of black midden that was rich in Skaill knives, Early Neolithic pottery and flint tools. This paving leads straight to a stone structure, the outer wall of which was exposed in the SW corner of the trench. Although the base of this wall was not reached, at least two courses of stones are surviving in places. A paved entrance with an upright threshold stone was also revealed in this wall.

Trench C was extended to 10m^2 to investigate the badly

plough-truncated features first exposed last season. The truncation was more severe than initially thought and there was a heavy iron pan across the trench. Nevertheless, postholes and gullies forming the footprint of an Early Neolithic-style 'longhouse' survived. A stone built 'longhouse' consisting of orthostats and further postholes forms a later phase of habitation, truncating the earlier building after it had fallen out of use. Hearths associated with both phases were relatively well preserved and despite the heavy plough truncation, a significant Early Neolithic ceramic and flint assemblage was recovered.

In total, five polished stone axes were found, in addition to the hundreds of fragments of Early Neolithic pottery, flint and coarse stone tools, making this assemblage one of the largest and most significant from an Early Neolithic domestic context in Orkney. The activity on the site, all apparently oriented NW/SE, is spread over an area covering several 100m^2 and is therefore one of the largest known Early Neolithic settlement sites in Orkney.

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Orkney Islands Council, ORCA, Orkney College, the Flaws family and The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Eynhallow

Desk-based assessment, walkover survey and geophysical survey

James Moore and Antonia Thomas – Orkney College Geophysics Unit/Orkney Archaeological Trust

HY 36041 29076 A total of 65 sites were recorded on the island from 25–29 April 2007, ranging from post-medieval buildings to prehistoric structures. Of particular interest was a previously unrecorded burnt mound in the N of the island, several possible prehistoric burial mounds and a well preserved sequence of field dykes. Initial assessment suggests that there is clear phasing and chronological depth to the boundaries which may include potential prehistoric land divisions.

A geophysical survey was conducted at two sites: *c*3600m^2 of gradiometry over a potential burnt mound, revealing several diagnostic crescent-shaped concentrations of highly fired material, and *c*1ha of gradiometry around the monastic site. Although results were partially obscured by an igneous dyke there was clear evidence of settlement corresponding to the mound on which the monastic site sits and some of the anomalies also hint at features pre-dating the extant structures. Anomalies also confirmed the existence of rig and furrow cultivation surrounding the monastic site.

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Hunter Archaeological Trust, Viking Society for Northern Research, Orkney Archaeological Trust and Orkney College Geophysics Unit

Quandale, Rousay: The Biography of a Landscape – an Interpretive Landscape Survey

Walkover survey

Daniel Lee – Orkney College

HY 37300 32500 (centred on) A walkover survey covering *c*275ha took place 25 October–13 November 2007. A total of 138 sites, ranging from Bronze Age burnt mounds and a possible Bronze Age settlement to post-medieval standing buildings, feelie dyke enclosures and kail yards were identified. These include 111 new sites not listed by the RCAHMS.

Rather than being confined to description, this MSc dissertation discusses the landscape of Quandale at an interpretive level. The aim was to attempt to break down period boundaries and use the same theoretical approach to the prehistoric and historical sites in the field and in later analysis and discussion.

Significant aspects of the earlier landscape include the close relationship between the Bronze Age barrow cemetery, burnt mounds and possible Late Bronze Age dyke in the S part of the study area. These monuments endure and take on new meaning in the later historical landscape. This is demonstrated by the appropriation of some Bronze Age barrows by certain crofts, a practice which is bound up in certain folklore beliefs. Several burnt mounds to the N fell within a large enclosure associated with the 16th-century house of Tafts (HY33SE 44). However, the large burnt mound, the Knowe of Dale (HY33SE 15), is not enclosed. It appears that while some burnt mounds were included, others were excluded from infield enclosures. The later landscape is considered in terms of the tasks of daily life, including the construction of post-medieval earth and stone dykes and aspects of tenure and folklore. Social stratification was reflected in the structures of everyday life and gender in these crofting communities. Quandale is not a relict landscape but a dynamic one with a future.

Dissertation: Orkney SMR, Orkney Library and RCAHMS (intended)

Sandwick

Birsay-Skaill Landscape Archaeology Project

Geophysical and topographic survey and excavation

David Griffiths – Oxford University

HY 2365 1962 This project focuses on building landscape context for coastal erosive areas in zones affected by significant windblown sand. Work from 2–30 August 2008 built on the previous survey (2003) and survey and excavations (2004–7) at the Bay of Skaill, which concentrated on N bay environs and focussed on the mound on the N side of the bay known as the 'Castle of Snusgar', which was the probable site of the 1858 Skaill Viking silver hoard. Gradiometry showed a dense concentration of magnetic anomalies in the Snusgar mound and neighbouring mounds. The concentration of multi-period 'mound' sites around the N of the Bay can now be expanded from one to at least five *foci* (excluding Broch of Verron, RCAHMS HY21NW 22).

The excavation area opened as a test trench in 2005 on the mound to the E of 'Castle of Snusgar', revealed Viking or Norse-period middens stratified over a well preserved stone building with *in situ* orthostatic internal divisions or 'furniture'. This had filled with windblown sand, which contributed to a diffuse gradiometer response in 2004. This was further excavated in 2006–7 and extended in 2008.

A coherent spread of stone walls has now been revealed standing up to 0.5m high, with clearly defined internal and external areas, stone flagged floors and entrances. Immediately to the N of the buildings exposed in 2005–7 (continued in 2008), the central section of a much larger bow-sided longhouse was exposed, with stone flagged floors, a central walkway and box benches at the sides. Strong evidence for spatial zoning in the character of deposits and a stub wall indicated the division between animal and domestic occupation. Finds and a coherent group of radiocarbon dates (SUERC, 2008) indicate a Viking/Late Norse date between *c*AD 1000–1200, which has been confirmed by a series of OSL samples processed at the Research Laboratory for Archaeology, Oxford University.

Outside the buildings exposed in 2005–7 was a square 'yard' area which was heavily burnt and contained very large quantities of metalworking waste, ferrous and non-ferrous slag.

Bone preservation was good, and bone is currently being assessed by Dr I Mainland, Bradford University. Environmental samples were floated and processed on site and are being assessed for archaeobotanic evidence and

Bay of Skaill – Overhead view of the E Mound, Trench 5 site from N, longhouse visible as area of darker deposits across width of trench in foreground with other structures behind: stone-flagged surfaces and walkway visible leading to flight of steps into smaller building, metalworking area to extreme top right of trench area.

radiocarbon potential by Dr D Alldritt, Glasgow.

The finds are being conserved on behalf of Historic Scotland by AOC Conservation Services, Edinburgh.

A geophysical survey was begun at Marwick Bay (continuing).

Archive: Oxford University. Report: HS, Orkney SMR, Orkney Museum and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland and Oxford University

Skaill Bay

Desk-based assessment and watching brief

Paul Sharman – ORCA

HY 2336 1890 (centred on) Work was undertaken 17–21 July 2008 during ground-breaking works for the placement of a cable in an area close to known prehistoric and early medieval sites, including the world heritage site of Skara Brae.

A cable trench, 260m long, was machine-excavated across a field adjacent to the N side of the world heritage site and down the beach to the low water mark. The trench cut through two stone field dykes and three stone field drains, probably dating to 19th-century agricultural improvements to the Skaill estate. The trench also cut a wall encapsulated in blown sand. This appeared to be a pre-improvement field dyke and may even date to the Norse or medieval agricultural landscape. Close to the NE end of the trench, almost 1m below the surface and at the groundwater level, stonework with associated shell, broken bone and a buried ground horizon was recorded. These remains appeared to be prehistoric. As circumstances did not allow for further investigation they were protected with a covering of geotextile and sand. Peat was observed in the trench at a depth of 0.90m as it crossed the beach and at greater depths below the storm beach.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Orkney SMR, RCAHMS and BT Group plc

Funder: Funded by BT Group plc

Skaill Farm, Orkney

Watching brief

Gavin J Lindsay – ORCA

HY 2318 1853 A watching brief was undertaken on 5 July 2007 during the excavation of a foundation trench adjacent to the SW boundary of the inner buffer zone of the world heritage site of Skara Brae. No archaeological remains were recorded.

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: Mr Colin Davidson

Sandwick/South Ronaldsay

Rising Tide

Sea-level survey

CR Wickham-Jones, S Dawson and A Dawson – University of Aberdeen/University of Dundee

HY 258 149 and ND 475 966 This is a project looking at former relative sea level change and prehistoric settlement around Orkney. Since 2006 a programme of coring has taken place and two radiocarbon dates have been obtained which start to give a more precise idea of the period at which the sea reached its present level around the archipelago. This is associated with gradual changes in diatom (microfossil) assemblages which reflect the changing salinity. In both cases gyttja (organic sediment) has been dated.

Echna Loch – 3950 ± 40 BP (Beta 242126) 2340–2570 cal BC – relates to a change to freshwater conditions from marine with the closure of the marine embayment after the emplacement of the barrier (a storm beach) along which the present road runs.

Voy, Stenness – 3090 ± 40 BP (Beta 242127) 1440–1270 cal BC – Voy lies at the inland extremity of the Loch of Stenness and the date relates to a change to marine and brackish conditions from freshwater/lagoonal.

These single dates give an initial idea of the age range when sea level reached present levels around mainland Orkney. The project now plans a more intensive programme of dating at these and other sites in order to refine interpretation.

The time lag between Voy and Echnaloch is likely to be due to their different geographical positions. Echnaloch lies at the head of a former inlet of the sea, now truncated by the storm beach, while Voy occupies a sheltered location behind a shallow rock lip which may have allowed freshwater conditions to prevail for longer at the NW end of the loch.

Archaeologically the dates are important because they indicate just how much the landscape of Orkney has changed since the world heritage sites comprising the heart of Neolithic Orkney were built *c*5000 years ago. Environmental reconstruction from coring suggests that rather than being connected to the sea the Loch of Stenness may have consisted of a lake with reed beds at the time when the Ring of Brodgar and the Stones of Stenness were first built. While the sites were in use the ingress of sea into the Loch of Stenness as it reached the level of the rock lip at the Brig o' Waithe must have been a notable transformation. The subsequent flooding of the Stenness basin took place over the later life of the monuments making this an area of dynamic environmental change which must have impacted on the lives of those living in and using the area. Around Orkney relative sea levels would have been lower for much of the Neolithic, raising the possibility of submerged Neolithic sites and landscapes in the shallow seas between the islands. The investigation of potential submerged archaeology is another aspect of the current project.

Further coring has taken place in the deeper Seatter embayment (nearer to the Brig o' Waithe) to refine the history of the Loch of Stenness, and in the Loch of Harray. Results will be presented in future editions.

Archive: RCAHMS, Orkney SMR, and ADS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland, The Crown Estate and Orkney Islands Council

Example of loch core

South Ronaldsay

Environmental Context of Prehistoric Social and Cultural Developments in Orkney – Blows Moss

Palaeoenvironmental investigation

Michelle Farrell and M Jane Bunting – University of Hull

ND 45457 85895 In this PhD project high-resolution palaeoenvironmental records are being reconstructed as described under Whaness Burn.

In June 2006 a 6.5m core was recovered from a large wetland (approx. 1250 x 250m). Three radiocarbon dates have been obtained on this core – SUERC-17185 (6402 ± 39 BP), SUERC-17186 (4864 ± 38 BP), and SUERC-17187 (3238 ± 78 BP).

Pollen, charcoal, non-pollen palynomorph and plant microstructure analyses on the core have shown that woodland decline at this site occurred at *c*6500 BP, much earlier than the generally accepted date for this event in Orkney of *c*5000 BP. Intensive pastoral activity occurred in the vicinity of the site during the Neolithic and this activity further intensified during the Bronze Age. Cereal cultivation also took place near the site at this time. Grazing activity declined at a later date, although low levels of arable cultivation continued. The timing of the decline in grazing activity is currently unclear.

Report: Orkney SMR (intended). Results to be included in University of Hull PhD thesis (2009)

Funder: The University of Hull and NERC

St Andrews and Deerness

Brough of Deerness

Excavation

James Barrett and Adam Slater

HY 5955 0873 The Brough of Deerness is a sea stack, the top of which holds the remains of a late Viking Age church and approximately 30 associated buildings. Past archaeological excavation by Christopher Morris and Norman Emery focussed on the church. Scheduled monument consent was granted for the excavation of two areas in 2008 in order to clarify the preservation, chronology and (as far as possible) function of the associated settlement. Most work in 2008 focussed on Structure 24 in Area A and on Area B.

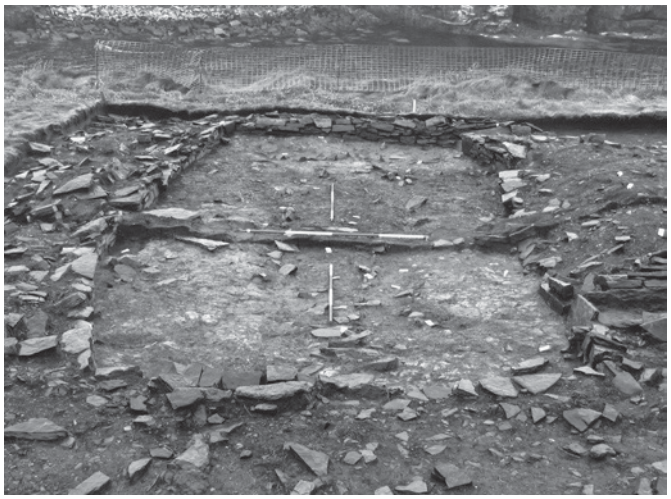
Area A – An area of *c*13.6 x 5.8m was opened over Structures 23 and 24 as recorded in the survey of Morris, Emery and Bettess (1977). Structure 23 was not visible on the surface in 2008, but Structure 24 was clear as a raised semicircular feature with a diameter of *c*4m. Excavation revealed the general outline of Structure 23 and showed that Structure 24 was a palimpsest of superimposed ancient features, rather than a single building or a large shell-hole from when the site was used for target practice during the First and Second World Wars.

Structure 23 was rectilinear but irregular in plan, partly due to post-abandonment collapse, but also because it was apparently inserted into a space framed by pre-existing buildings and/or ruins. Internally it measured *c*7.2 x 3.5m. It had an inner wall face of unbonded masonry, partly cut into pre-existing deposits and partly set in what was otherwise an earth and rubble foundation (presumably for a turf superstructure). Its bioturbated upper floor level included much charcoal. A single small shell-hole was discovered near the middle of the building, associated with fragments of probable shell-casing. The structure may have had two opposing doorways near its western gable, but it was not excavated after we exposed its general outline so this interpretation remains conjectural.

Structure 24 turned out to be a series of *in situ* features of differing dates. The lowest of these were midden deposits (with good preservation of animal bone) into which Structure 23 was inserted. The middens were examined in a small 2 x 1m sondage, but were found to overlie earlier structural features which prevented continued excavation in such a small trench. No clear dating evidence has was recovered from Area A, but it is considered that the absence of Pictish or medieval ceramics in the areas excavated to date strongly implies a broadly Viking Age chronology.

Area B – An area of *c*14.6 x 9.8m was opened over Structure 20, one of a series of parallel buildings W of a trackway running through the settlement. Before excavation

it was thought likely to be single-phase, based on the clarity of its outline in the earthwork and resistance surveys and aerial photographs. Excavation demonstrated that it was a multi-phase house of Viking Age Scandinavian style that was abandoned in the 11th–12th centuries. Internally it measured *c*10.4 x 4.1m (after narrowing from a probable original width of *c*4.9m). House 20 overlaid an earlier feature, possibly another building, the remains of which were found extending out from under its SE corner.



Structure 20, a Viking Age house, Brough of Deerness

The earliest construction and occupation phases of House 20 itself have not yet been excavated. In its penultimate configuration, the building was a three-aisled house with two rows of roof-supporting posts and probably an internal cross-wall of perishable material dividing its internal space into E and W rooms.

Its E room contained a central hearth, side aisles (marked out by the roof-supporting posts and small edge-set stones) and niches in the NE and SE corners (also demarcated by edge-set stones). At some point a small subsidiary hearth was also established near the E end of the building. The W room was mostly featureless, but may originally have had side aisles. The floors associated with this penultimate phase of the buildings use produced a glass bead of 11th-century date. Additional finds from the exterior of House 20, or from the destruction of its walls, may be broadly contemporary with use of the building. These included a steatite loom weight or fishing weight and a steatite vessel sherd. It is probable that there were originally two entrances into the building, in the NW and NE ends of the N wall. The N wall itself was a rebuild, the original having collapsed earlier in the life of the house.

The internal posts were removed from House 20 near the end of its life, possibly to be replaced with timbers along the inside edge of its N and S walls. A new entrance was inserted in the centre of the S wall and a new earth floor with occasional paving slabs was laid. At this time, or shortly after, a copper alloy pin of 11th- to 12th-century date and an inscribed spindle whorl were lost in the building.

There were no shell-holes in Area B, although occasional pieces of possible shell-casing were recovered. Bone was not preserved in this area, with the exception of a few pieces in the ash of a hearth. The sediments were probably too acidic, presumably because the cultural deposits are shallower in Area B than in Area A and do not adequately buffer the naturally high pH. The closeness of House 20 to the cliff edge may also be relevant. Presumably much household refuse would have been discarded directly into the sea.

170 sediment samples were collected to allow the post-excavation study of botanical remains, small animal remains, micro-refuse and soil chemistry. Samples were collected from middens and features (such as hearths) and on a 0.50m grid across the best preserved floor level of Structure 20. Soil micromorphology samples were also collected from floor surfaces. Animal bone (where preserved) was carefully collected by hand from any sediment not otherwise sampled.

Funder: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Orkney Islands Council, Royal Norwegian Embassy (London) and Norwegian Consulate General (Edinburgh).

Upper Stove, Deerness

Walkover survey

David Lynn

HY 5830 0740 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out in September 2008 as part of initial investigations for a potential wind farm. The work focussed on six mounds of uncertain origin which were first recorded in 1980 by Ken Steedman. All six features lie in a relatively flat landscape of regularly ploughed fields and were noted by Steedman as having stony content or as being difficult to plough by the then farmer. They varied in diameter from 10–35m and in height from 1–2m.

The mounds were visited with the current landowner (Jim Foubister) who was aware of the location of each mound due to ploughing difficulties over the years. Each was under low grass, giving little opportunity to investigate topsoil content and character or to confirm Steedman's dimensions. The visit validated their identification as potential archaeological features and allowed additional observations to be made (detailed below). A programme of field rationalisation and track realignment is underway. This will not encroach on the mounds but supersedes the pattern shown on the current OS maps.

A) HY 5864 0706 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 36 [Orkney SMR 1151] – The partial cut for an open field drain lies on the E side, and shows small stone inclusions in dark earth on a reddish clay subsoil. As exposed, these look to be rubble rather than structural.

B) HY 5852 0728 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 35 [Orkney SMR 1152].

C) HY 5846 0726 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 37 [Orkney SMR 1153].

D) HY 5839 0726 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 38 [Orkney SMR 1154].

These three mounds are about 80m apart in a W/E line standing slightly proud of a gentle slope descending E towards the sea 0.8km distant. Mound B at the E end stands out most from the slope and is reported from local information to contain a cist found during ploughing in the 1980s. Apparently the top slab was moved by the plough, but immediately replaced by hand without investigating the contents, which should be relatively intact. Mound C is clearly recognisable, though smaller than B, while D is very indistinct and only justifies its identification in the current field conditions because of the regularity of position between the three mounds.

E) HY 5820 0730 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 39 [Orkney SMR 1155] – Lies 200m W of B in the next field and currently hardly rises above the field, although the ground is rougher with greater grass growth, suggesting some incursion below ground into subsoil. However, it should be noted that a field drain system is visible to the N and W with similar differences in vegetation growth as the only identifying factor.

F) HY 5803 0774 revised in 2008 to HY 58080 07715 – Upper Stove – Mound HY50NE 40, [Orkney SMR 1156] – This is the biggest of the six mounds and lies in a newly expanded field as set-aside ground under rough vegetation immediately next to ploughed pasture. The revised NGR was given by hand-held GPS, and nothing is visible at the NGR from 1980.

The visit has not resolved whether these mounds are natural or archaeological features; the most likely explanation is that they are natural geological features accentuated by archaeological deposits, particularly B, C and F. Apart from the newly reported cist in B there is no confirmation of archaeological content in any of them and no artefacts were retrieved. While the cist in B suggests it may be more of a man-made mound than is apparent today, this cannot be assumed. It is clear that all of them have been plough-damaged. Regular ploughing occurs to a depth of 8", though further damage is unlikely under the current regime.

There are no associated placenames or depictions on early OS maps. The impression is that any archaeology is likely to be prehistoric. At present they would appear to be in a damaged but stable condition with no immediate threat to their survival. A geophysical survey of each site seems the most immediate route to resolve their origins.

Archive: This is a complete account of the survey results for these six sites and no archive was created.

Stenness

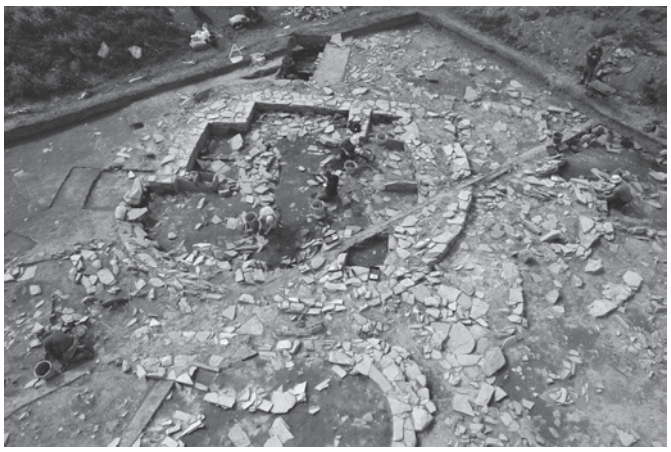
Ness of Brodgar

Excavation

Nick Card – ORCA and Orkney College

HY 303 129 Further investigation of the large late Neolithic complex on the Ness of Brodgar was undertaken in 2008 in order to characterise more of the structures and activity on the site.

Excavation continued in Trench P (opened over Structure 1, partially uncovered by GUARD in 2003). The work clarified the relationship of several of the structures. A sondage against the outer wall face of Structure 1 revealed three courses of basal slabs at a depth of just over 1m from the surviving wall heads. These slabs projected beyond the outer wall line. The sondage also revealed a V-shaped stone-built drain and confirmed that Structure 1 had been constructed on midden deposits. The removal of more collapse and infill relating to the later reuse of Structure 1 revealed more phases of reuse and its replacement by several small sub-circular single-faced stone structures.



Structure 1, Ness of Brodgar

Trench P was enlarged to the SE by 20 x 20m to investigate the nature of a large rectangular structure indicated by geophysics. The extension revealed a large, sub-rectangular structure defined by a wall, *c*2m wide, with slightly obtuse external angles and rounded internal corners. In the excavated area this structure is *c*15 x 15m wide, but geophysics suggests that it continues to the E under the present house of Lochview. Several wall lines are becoming apparent but at present it is not clear if they represent an inner structure contemporary with this 'outer enclosure', or if they form a later structure built in the collapse of the former. The E–W configuration of this building aligns with the chambered tomb of Maes Howe to the E.

The Trench P extension also revealed the opposite side of Structure 8. This had been partially revealed last year and is less well preserved at this level. As previously a double-skinned stone-faced wall with a midden wall core was revealed. Along their length were regular tapered stone-built divisions/piers creating very regular 'recesses' along each wall. This structure is *c*9m wide and as suggested by the geophysics 15m long.

Excavation was continued on the large oval structure, Trench J. The depth and complexities of later activity represented by ephemeral structures, hearths, spreads of ash and midden prevented the full extent of this structure being uncovered.

Trench N was opened in 2007 to investigate the massive boulder wall, the Great Wall of Brodgar which now seems to span the peninsula. It was further extended towards the Ring of Brodgar. This revealed that a ditch, *c*2m wide by 0.5m deep, had coexisted with and run parallel to the wall. A secondary wall had also been constructed on the inner lip of this ditch to increase the wall's width from 4 to 6m at a later stage of its life. The ditch terminated in Trench N, implying the existence of an entrance through the wall just to the SW of Trench N.

Over 20 more examples of Neolithic art with incised geometric designs were found on the walls of several structures in Trench P and in the collapse of Structure 1. Other notable finds were a polished stone axe, half a cushion-style macehead, and a large quantity of Grooved Ware with both incised and applied decoration.

Overall the excavations suggest that in one of the later phases of the site several very large and regular stone-built structures were built, in use at the same time as and contained by the Great Wall of Brodgar. There were several more structures outside of the excavated areas suggested by the geophysical surveys.

Report: Orkney SMR and the RCAHMS

Funder: Orkney Islands Council; Orkney Archaeological Trust, Orkney College, Robert Kiln Trust and Friends of Orkney Archaeological Trust.

Ring of Brodgar

Excavation

Jane Downes and Colin Richards – ORCA

HY 2945 1335 Two trenches were excavated across the ditch at opposite ends of the Ring of Brodgar from 7 July–1 August 2008 as part of a larger programme of work. The trenches re-excavated and slightly extended Trenches A and C from Colin Renfrew's 1973 investigations and focussed on the removal of ditch fills to obtain material for a range of dating applications.

The rock-cut ditch in Trench A, which was abandoned in 1973 due to waterlogging, was shown to have been quarried out in segments and provides the first clear evidence for the method of excavation, suggesting that the great ditch was dug in sections over a period of time, and/or that various

communities contributed to its construction. No tool marks were visible on the rock face and it is likely that the rock was excavated using wooden wedges.

In addition to the excavation of the ditch fills, a previously unrecorded stonehole was investigated in Trench C. The severe disturbance around the base of the cut for the stonehole indicates that this stone had been toppled in antiquity. This, along with the discovery of a ramp associated with the stonehole in Trench A, provides new information relating to the construction of the stone circle itself. No evidence for an internal or external bank associated with the monument was discovered during these excavations.

The analysis of the samples taken from the ditch fills in both trenches should provide significant new information about the construction and subsequent history of the monument.

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland, Orkney Islands Council, Manchester University, ORCA and Orkney College

Aerial view of Trench A during excavation (© Craig Taylor)

Stronsay

Links House

Fieldwalking, geophysics and excavation

Naomi Woodward – ORCA

HY 6550 2570 Following the discovery in 2007 of a discrete flint scatter that exhibited Late Upper Palaeolithic/ Early Mesolithic affinities (microliths and tanged points), two phases of fieldwork were undertaken to characterise the nature of the site and see if any associated features survived.

Phase 1 – In March 2008 prior to any ground-breaking activity, geophysical and fieldwalking surveys were undertaken within a discrete 60m^2 area. A gradiometer survey was undertaken over the core area of the scatter by the Orkney College Geophysics Unit, with the aim of locating any anomalies of archaeological interest. The survey failed to locate any features, but this was expected given ephemeral and subtle nature of such early prehistoric sites.

Fieldwalking identified two concentrations of lithics. These were then targeted using a series of 1m^2 test pits totalling 30m^2. The pits produced over 1,000 pieces of flint including microliths, backed blades, obliquely blunted points, knapping debitage, cores and many burnt flints. In two test pits (TP17 and TP22), *in situ* subsoil features in the form of two scoops were discovered. The location of these pits corresponded to the highest concentrations of surface flint. The scoops cut into the natural glacial till and were heavily truncated by ploughing, they may represent the last relics of posthole features. These initial excavations highlighted the site's potential in relation to the preservation of *in situ* remains.

Phase 2 – In September 2008 two larger area excavations were undertaken over the locations of the possible features. Trench A was opened over TP17 and Trench B over TP22. All excavated material was wet-sieved. Trench A produced the highest densities of flint, a total of over 8,400 pieces including high numbers of Mesolithic tool types. Numerous negative features were present in the excavated area, as were patches of staining and areas which may reflect the remains of possible old surfaces. The location of this evidence correlated with areas of high concentration in the flint distribution. The evidence of activity extends outside the current area of open excavation.

Trench B, although in an area that had a high density of surface flint, contained no further evidence of features. These were significantly fewer lithics than in Trench A.

A peat deposit eroding out of the beach cliff *c*200m away at Mill Bay was also examined and sampled by the University of Stirling and SUERC who are currently running paleoenvironmental analyses and using OSL dating techniques to examine the nature, extent and date of this deposit.

Funder: Historic Scotland and Orkney Islands Council

Walls and Flotta

Outer Green Hill, Cantick, South Walls

Excavation

Daniel Lee – ORCA

ND 3426 8957 Evaluation excavations on a large grassy mound, *c*20m wide and 2.5m high, took place 30 June–12 July 2008. This represents the third phase of research into the Cantick area and continues the work of the late Judith Robertson, who undertook an archaeological landscape survey of the area in 2006 (*DES* 2006) and targeted geophysical surveys of the main features in 2007 (*DES* 2007). The mound had been assumed to represent a broch, but the geophysical survey did not indicate features typical of this type of structure. The results suggested a squared internal setting perhaps more indicative of a Neolithic tomb or Norse stronghold. The 2008 work aimed to establish the date and character of the mound and place it within the multi-period landscape of Cantick.

A wedge-shaped trench (13m long x 1.5–4m wide) extending from the top of the mound down the S slope revealed the central chamber and outer revetment walls of a Neolithic chambered tomb. The central chamber consists of two parallel internal corbelled wall faces that appear to form the upper part of a chamber oriented E/W. The chamber is *c*1m wide at the top and widens to 1.4m where excavations stopped at a depth of 0.9m.

The hollow visible in the top of the mound was confirmed as the result of unrecorded antiquarian excavations. The upper part of the chamber was filled with loose stony backfill which contained several pieces of probable Late Neolithic pottery and frequent small mammal bones, including the first identification of the Orkney vole on the island. It is unclear whether the roof was intact prior to the antiquarian excavations, but this seems unlikely from the quantity of backfill and spoil that surrounds the summit of the mound.

The mound surrounding the central chamber consists of a solid wall-like core with an external inward sloping revetment wall that survives to over 1m in height. The side of the mound consists of loose collapsed and slumped stony deposits which overlay the revetment walls. A second outer revetment wall was located 3m to the S of the main wall and may represent secondary consolidation of an already denuded mound.

A second small trench was opened on the E side of the mound and revealed the continuation of the main outer

revetment wall, mound core and the top of a right-angled internal wall setting that is likely to relate to the central chamber and perhaps forms part of an entranceway or internal side cell. Limited excavation was carried out in this area and the position of the entrance was not established. The chamber walls, mound core and external revetments are constructed from large water-worn beach slabs. Similar beach slabs have been used in the Later Neolithic chambered tomb at Quoyness, Sanday. The corbelled central chamber walls are typical of Maes Howe-type tombs that are generally assigned to the Late Neolithic.
Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Orkney Islands Council

Westray

Berst Ness, Knowe of Skea
Excavation
H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology
HY 4416 4181 A further season of excavation was undertaken in September 2008. The focus of the work was Structure J, a roundhouse of probable Bronze – Early Iron Age date. This building is situated to the immediate N side of Structure A, the dominant building and is thought to postdate it. It had two entrances and was divided with radial partitions. The floors of this building were comprehensively sampled and a series of internal features were investigated. The artefact assemblage included skaill knives, stone tools and pottery.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Links of Noltland
Excavation
H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology
HY 428 493 A further season of assessment excavation was carried out July–September 2008. Work focussed on Area 5 which had been identified during 2007 as particularly vulnerable to wind erosion. A series of three trenches were opened to investigate probable structural remains, field systems and associated midden deposits. The results indicate the presence of at least three small buildings surrounding a larger building (Structure 8). These are thought to represent settlement remains of Neolithic date. A field wall was identified on the S side of the site. A large number of artefacts were recovered and included flint tools and working waste, stone tools, pottery (including grooved ware) and worked bone. The midden deposits contained a large quantity of animal bone and shell, together with a quantity of coprolites. A decorated stone was also recovered. The condition of the recovered materials is excellent.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

PERTH AND KINROSS

Abernyte

Access Road E of Abernyte House
Watching brief
Ray Cachart – SUAT Ltd
NO 2615 3215 (centred on) A watching brief was maintained on 30 September 2008 during the excavation for an access road and water pipe trench. Monitoring was undertaken because cists had been found in the 19th century in a field to the E of the site.

The access road cut was 3.5m wide x 0.30m deep and observed for 70m from the stone wall that marked the southern boundary of the site. A small boulder in the topsoil was considered to be natural and *in situ.* A 0.80m deep and 0.65m wide pipe trench was excavated 1m to the W of and parallel to the access road. A field drain was recorded in this trench. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded in either excavation.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Gerald McGouldrick

Alyth

Happy Hillock – Drumderg Wind Farm
Watching brief
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 1998 5222 Work was carried out 6 November 2007 during the excavation of a trench for new underground power cables. The new trench passed close to a burial cairn. No archaeologically significant deposits, features or finds were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Site 49 – Drumderg Wind Farm
Watching brief
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 18200 54290 Work was carried out 18 July 2007, during the construction of a new road for the wind farm over possible cultivation remains. Directly below the topsoil the remains of rig and furrow of indeterminate age were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Auchterarder

Land to the North of Drumcharry House, High Street, Auchterarder
Evaluation
Ray Cachart – SUAT Ltd
NN 9460 1290 Work was undertaken on 13 October 2008, prior to development of *c*200m^2 of garden ground containing bushes and mature trees. The site was considered to have archaeological potential because it was in the centre of the historic settlement of Auchterarder.

Two trenches each measuring 2 x 5m, 10% of the development, were excavated. The evaluation recovered 19th-century pottery but nothing was found to indicate earlier occupation on the site.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: MR A Whitelaw

Auchtergaven

House of Nairne, Loak
Geophysical survey
P Morris – Blairgowrie Geoscience
NO 0750 3275 The House of Nairne at Loak, 9km N of Perth, was 'one of the finest seats of the Scottish Nobility'. It was the last major design of Sir William Bruce (the King's architect) and was constructed between *c*1706 and 1710. The owner, Lord Nairne was a staunch Jacobite and lost the estate after the 1745 rebellion. It was purchased by his cousin James Murray, the 2nd Duke of Atholl, who had no use for another large house. This combined with a possible desire to remove a Jacobite rallying point, led to Murray contracting George Sandeman of Perth to demolish the house and sell everything. This roup was carried out 1759 – 1764 and the

site was returned to farmland.

A visit showed that the location of the house marked on all editions of OS maps and in the RCAHMS records (NO 0738 3284) is undoubtedly wrong. The stone remains at this position, perched at the end of a narrow ridge above the Ordie burn, might be a tower or pavilion in the former gardens or even the site of the earlier 15th-century Nairne House destroyed by fire in 1704. However, there is not enough space for the huge house depicted in the only known representation drawn from memory by James Nairne some time during 1764–1770.

The Blair Atholl House Library was able to provide a copy of a map drawn by James Stobie as part of a farm lease agreement in 1790 which shows the site of the former house some 200m to the SE of the OS position. This is on a broad plain about 100m wide and 300m long between the river and the ridge to the N, a much more likely situation. In favour of this site we can also note a large soil mark seen on the 'Getmapping' aerial photography, some rectangular-looking cropmarks (RCAHMS photo E06841 30.07.2001) and a prominent terrace in the field.

A magnetic survey of 0.5ha was carried out over the terrace and surrounding area on 12–14 October 2008. This showed that an E/W metal water pipeline has been laid across the centre of the terrace. There are a few small linear anomalies which lie on the correct orientations to be part of the house complex. A resistivity survey and a resistivity profile carried out over these anomalies demonstrated corresponding resistivity changes but failed to provide convincing evidence for a building. It appears that George Sandeman did his job too well.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

Stanley Mills

Evaluation and standing building recording

Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NO 1139 3286 Stanley Mills is a unique complex of Grade A-listed water-powered cotton mills on a majestic site in a bend in the River Tay. Water-power was used on the site from 1729, when a tunnel was driven through the peninsula to power a corn mill, until 1965, when the mills were finally connected to the National Grid. The lade system and water-wheel pits remain largely intact and have been the subject of renovation. The six-storey East Mill and four-storey Mid Mill were built of local sandstone around 1800 and were subsequently altered and extended as a result of fire damage and changing accommodation needs. The brick-built Bell Mill was completed in 1787 to the design of Sir Richard Arkwright, inventor of the water-powered spinning process and pioneer of the factory production system.

A programme of standing building recording, trial trenching, evaluation and archaeological watching briefs has been carried out as part of on-going renovation. In the autumn of 2005 we carried out a standing building survey on a disused carding shed of 1930s date prior to its demolition. The carding shed was on the W side of the 18th-century Bell Mill and occupied the site of a water-mill of the same period. The foundations of this feature, uncovered in July 2006, were found to be largely intact. The mill foundations survived to a depth of 1.5m and its gable at the W end had a double wall that would have supported a water wheel. A nearby lade provided power to the wheel. During the course of the excavation several complete mill wheels were found. Some had been re-used in the carding shed foundations. In other areas of the interior of the mill a wide assortment of architectural features has been recorded as the refurbishment progressed. In November 2006 the fire-proof vaulted ceilings and cast-iron structural beams in the Mid Mill, exposed during the insertion of a new lift shaft, were recorded. This work allowed a new insight into how each successive floor level was built and the techniques involved in the fabrication of the ironwork.

In 2007 work was confined to standing building recording in the disused tar dipping tank shed. Throughout the 20th century the mill manufactured belts for mill machinery and webbing that had to be treated with a tar-based solution to prolong its life. Belts were extruded through a series of rollers after having passed through the dipping tank. The Level 3 survey recorded all significant fixtures and fittings in the interior of the room. Local first-hand accounts provided a clearer picture of how the roller mechanisms worked. A watching brief was also carried out to monitor ground-breaking work during the construction of a porch on the N side of the Bell Mill.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and Perth and Kinross SMR (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Blackford

A9 Gleneagles Link, Loaninghead, Auchterader

Evaluation

Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NN 9233 0975 An evaluation, consisting of 16 trenches, was carried out 21–23 October 2008. Four negative linear features, generally aligned N/S, of potential archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

Funder: Muir Homes

gWest (Golf Development)

Watching brief, evaluation and excavation

Chris O'Connell – CFA Archaeology

NN 898 097 and NN 899 097 A watching brief and subsequent evaluation discovered a prehistoric (probably Bronze Age) landscape in an upland setting. Excavations revealed a number of probable Bronze Age roundhouses. Work was undertaken August 2007–July 2008.

A watching brief was carried out during a topsoil strip in advance of groundwork for the gWest development. A previous evaluation had identified two areas (X and Y) as having archaeological potential. A total of 26 pits were discovered and excavated, two of which contained fragments of prehistoric pottery and one burnt bone.

A further evaluation of 41,107m² identified five areas of extensive prehistoric remains, as well as a suite of isolated features in 11 other trenches. In these areas at least 14 roundhouse structures, three possible grain silos, a large elliptical palisaded enclosure and a possible cremation urn were uncovered, as well as an array of associated features including pits, postholes and linear features (possible small palisades). These areas were subsequently excavated.

The excavation of Golf Area P (Palisaded Enclosure) discovered a large elliptical palisaded settlement containing two large post-built roundhouses, two four-poster structures, a suite of isolated internal features and several isolated external features.

In Golf Area P (Houses) five post-built Bronze Age prehistoric roundhouses were excavated, along with 117 external features which included large elongated pits, circular and sub-circular pits and linear features.

Excavations at Westmoor House discovered a single post-built roundhouse with an entrance and porch facing SE.

Despite the heavily truncated ring-groove, the diameter was calculated as 11.5m. There were a few internal features the functions of which could not be fully determined, and some evidence of internal house divisions. The entrance was defined by four large postholes and the subsoil between them was heavily worn. The hollow created by wear was filled with a flat paving stone.

Excavations at Brookfield House discovered one roundhouse and a possible four-post structure, alongside an array of isolated features. There were no intercutting features and no apparent post replacements, which suggests a single main phase of occupation. A small finds assemblage of burnt bone and Bronze Age pottery was recovered from contexts in House 1.

Excavations at Westmoor A discovered two roundhouses and one other possible earlier structure, along with three isolated features. Excavations at Westmoor B recorded the remains of two post-built roundhouses (House 1 and 2), the remains of three other structures (Structures 1, 2 and 3) and a burnt mound.

Excavations at Golf Area H discovered one probable circular structure, 143 isolated pits, two probable structures (Area A and B), and a linear feature.

Archive: RCAHMS and Perth and Kinross SMR

Peterhead Farm, Gleneagles

Geophysical survey

Meggen Gondek – University of Chester and University of Glasgow (in association with SERF)

NN 9243 0980 As part of continuing research on the archaeological context of early historic Scottish carved stone monuments a resistivity survey was undertaken focusing on the monument known as the Peterhead Farm (Blackford) Class I symbol stone (NN90NW 3) and including part of an enclosure within the same field (NN90NW 26, NGR NN 9242 0975). Both areas are SAMs and permission was granted by Historic Scotland and the Gleneagles Trust for the survey. Work was conducted over a period of five days, 12–16 August 2008, and provided a training opportunity for SERF field school students.

The results highlighted known features such as the nearby circular enclosure visible on APs and previously unknown sites such as a small circular feature, possibly a building, a possible cairn around the symbol stone and potential Pictish-type square burial monuments. A small test trench across the wall of the possible circular building confirmed its existence, but the feature was heavily truncated and provided no secure dating evidence.

Report: Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust and Historic Scotland

Funder: Support was received from the University of Chester and the University of Glasgow

Blair Atholl

Kinaldy

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NN 77088 64432 350m W of RCAHMS NN76SE 3 and 5m S of two enclosures, a granite boulder 1 x 0.7 x 0.3m bears one cup mark measuring 60 x 12mm.

Tomintianda

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NN 81463 60626 300m E of Tomintinada Farm in improved pasture a rock flush with the ground bears 10 cup marks.

Cup-marked rock, Tomintianda

Blairgowrie

Drumlochy Castle, Blairgowrie

Evaluation

David Bowler and Claire Casey – SUAT Ltd

NO 1576 4690 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out on 31 January and 12 March 2008 before the building of a new house next to the ruins of the castle. The excavation of 12 test pits and two trial trenches showed that very little evidence survives below ground for the extent and character of the castle and ancillary features. However, some evidence has already been recorded in the topography of the site and the remains of the former steading.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr William Thomson

Collace/St Martins

South-east Perthshire Stone Circle Trail (Adopt-a-Monument)

Access and interpretation

David Perry – Archaeological and Historical Section of the Perthshire Society of Natural Science

NO 2091 3099 – Bandirran, NO 1106 3116 – Colen, NO 1476 3286 – Loanhead – Over several weekends in spring 2008 members cleared vegetation from the stone circles to improve access to them. The circles had been 'adopted' in 1996 when the AAM scheme was first proposed and a leaflet has been published by the CSA (*South-east Perthshire Stone Circle Trail: A Guide to Three Ancient Monuments*).

Funder: Archaeological and Historical Section of PSNS and Archaeology Scotland (Adopt-a-Monument)

PSNS at Bandirran Stone Circle April 2008

Comrie

Dalginross, Comrie
Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NN 7732 2077 and NN 7714 2070 Watching briefs were maintained during the machine excavation of small trenches for two replacement poles, as part of the reinforcement of the Dalchonzie to Comrie overhead power line. Pole 5 was in a Roman temporary camp (NN72SE 1) a scheduled ancient monument. Pole 3 was 100m beyond its W boundary. Nothing of archaeological significance was found in either trench.
Archive and Report: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Coupar Angus

Abbeyhill, Precinct Street, Coupar Angus
Evaluation
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 2222 3973 Two hand-dug trenches were opened to the W of Abbeyhill, in a garden where a new house is planned. The site lies on the S side of the medieval precinct of the Cistercian Abbey of Coupar Angus. No features of archaeological significance were uncovered, only 0.55–0.65m of garden soil which, in a small test pit, continued down to a depth of 1m. One large fragment of a strap-handle in a grey reduced fabric was retrieved from the upper level of the garden soil.
Archive and Report: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr H Taylor

Crieff

Callum's Hill, Crieff
Early Bronze Age cinerary urn and cremated bone
Mark A Hall and Alison Sheridan – Perth Museum and Art Gallery and National Museums Scotland
NN 874 221 The Early Bronze Age cinerary urn and cremated bones were discovered in the late 1960s (*DES* 1967, 36 and *DES* 1968, 27–8). The urn, of Enlarged Food Vessel (Vase Urn) type, was published in Trevor Cowie's corpus of such urns (Cowie 1978). Having been in private hands for many years, the urn and cremated bone re-surfaced in Crieff in 2007 and were deposited with Perth Museum.

When initially identified in the 1960s, the bones were believed to be those of two children, a possible adult and part of a goat. Re-examination of the remains led by Dr K McSweeney of Edinburgh University in December 2007 has concluded that only two human individuals are present. One is a child of *c*6 years, the other an adolescent aged 12–20, and the animal bones can only be determined as being of a sheep-sized mammal. The condition and colour of the cremated bones suggests that the bodies were burnt soon after death in a well controlled fire (with a temperature above 645°C).

No radiocarbon dating was carried out at the time of the discovery and two dates, one from each individual, have now been obtained. The dates show that the two individuals are around 4000 years old. There is a 95.4% probability that Individual 1 dates to between 2116 and 1881 BC (SUERC-18312, GU-16654, 3600 ± 35 BP) and that Individual 2 dates to between 2191 and 1947 BC (SUERC-18313, GU-16655, 3670 ± 35 BP).

The dates are statistically inseparable and the overlap between them indicates that both individuals could have died and been cremated and buried at or around the same time. The fact that the urn was found intact suggests that the remains were probably placed inside it at the same time and the probability is that the bones were interred simultaneously. The ^{14}C dates represent an important addition to our dating of the Vase Urn, the earliest type of cinerary urn in use in Scotland.

Dating carried out with grant aid from Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and partnership funding from National Museums Scotland.

Cowie, T G 1978 *Bronze Age Food Vessel Urns in Northern Britain*, BAR Brit ser 55, 131.

The cinerary urn from Callum's Hill, Crieff. Copyright and courtesy of Perth Museum and Art Gallery

Falls of Monzie (FM 4)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 88831 26254 Recorded on 20 August 2008, a triangular-shaped S sloping rock, 1.5 x 1.1 x 0.5m, 10m E of track to Falls of Monzie bears 17 cup marks.

Dull

Craig Hill (CR 29)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 81299 45074 Recorded on 13 August 2008, an earthfast boulder with ten cup marks along edge and one below.

Craig Hill (CR 30)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 81305 44558 Recorded on 13 August 2008, a rock bearing a central cup mark with two penannulars and radial.

Donafuil (DF 1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 7808 4971 Recorded on 16 August 2008, 600m N of Donafuil farm in a rocky area above the head dyke, an arrow-shaped rock 2.6 x 1.7 x 0.9m bears two cup marks.

Glen Goulandie
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 77093 52434 350m E of Glen Goulandie Farm in unimproved pasture at 330m OD an outcrop bears 18 cup marks.

Highland Adventure Safaris, Dull
Evaluation
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NN 8122 4902 The site is on the N side of the Tay Valley where there are many archaeological sites and monuments. A possible Iron Age settlement (NN84NW 37) has been recorded to the immediate E of the site, although a recent inspection has cast doubt on this interpretation. A total of 11 trenches were excavated but nothing of archaeological significance was recorded.
Archive and Report: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS.
Funder: Mr Donald Riddle

Lurgan (LG 2–3)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie
NN 82135 49947 Recorded on 4 November 2007, in a small area of unimproved pasture 450m SSE of Lurgen steading.

A boulder 3.5 x 3.0 x 0.9m bearing one cup mark.

7m SW a boulder 3.7 x 2.6 x 2.1m (at its highest) bearing one cup mark.

Lurgan (LG 4)
Cup-and ring-marked rocks
George Currie
NN 81963 50485 Recorded on 4 November 2007, a prominent outcrop bearing four cup marks, two of which are ringed plus a further two cup marks. It is likely that more marking will be discovered when the area is cleared of tree felling debris.

Lurgan (LG 5–6)
Cup-and ring-marked rocks
George Currie

Cup-and ring-marked rocks, Lurgan LG 5

NN 81872 50425 (centred on) Recorded on 13 November 2007 an extensive area of bedrock. A number of panels have over 200 hundred cup marks of various sizes and quality. Motifs include keyholes, wide spaced rings, rosettes, occuli and cartouches with three cup marks.

NN 81866 50394 (centred on) Recorded on 13 November 2007 50m to the SW of NN 81872 50425 are more panels, on bedrock and separate boulders, with less ornate markings than above but multiple cup marks.

Lurgan (LG 7)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 81971 50286 Recorded on 4 November 2007 just S of the Lurgan track, a narrow strip of outcrop bearing three cup marks.

Lurgan (LG 8)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 82044 50627 Recorded on 4 November 2007 280m NE of Lurgan steading a 7m high outcrop bears one cup.

Lurgan (LG 9–12)
Cup-and-ring marked rocks
George Currie
NN 81592 50621 Recorded on 4 November 2007.

1) 440m NW of Lurgan Steading and immediately S of the track, a stretch of outcrop, supporting a dyke, bears two cup marks each with a single ring.

2) 320m NW of Lurgan Steading at NN8168 50548 a stretch of bedrock, 3.4 x 2.5 x 1.2m, supporting the N/S dyke, bears a single cup mark.

3) In trees 175m S of (1) at NN 81605 50440 an outcrop 1.4 x 1.0 x 0.8m bears three pairs of conjoined cup marks and three smaller ovoid cup marks.

4) 90m S of (3) at NN 81618 50347 a narrow strip of bedrock flush with the ground bears at least eight cup marks.

Lurgan (LG 14)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 81936 50531 Recorded on 10 May 2008, a prominent outcrop 150m NE of the main group of rocks at Lurgan has many natural hollows but also at least two cup marks and a group of six cups at the NW.

Tominteold (TM 2–3)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie
NN 82764 50264 Recorded on the 4 November 2007.

1) 170m SW of Tominteold Farm a stretch of bedrock sloping to the W and measuring 0.9 x 1.4m bears 19 cup marks.

2) 100m SW of (1) at NN 82727 50166 an outcrop bearing two shallow cup marks 30 x 8mm and 25 x 8mm.

Tominteold (TM 4–7)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie

Cup-marked rocks, Tominteold TM5

NN 82655 50616 Recorded on the 4 November 2007.

1) 300m NW of Tominteold Farm a stretch of bedrock bearing three cup marks.

2) 80m W of (1) a boulder 1.7 x 0.9 x 0.3m bearing eight cup marks.

3) 100m SW of (2) a rock flush with the turf 1.1 x 0.8m bears one cup mark.

4) 70m NE of 1) bedrock 1.0 x 0.9 x 0.5m bearing one cup mark.

Tullichville (TV 2–3)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie
NN 78470 49843 At the point where the Tullichville hill track takes a sharp turn E (330m OD) a boulder 2.6 x 1.9 x 0.6m, sloping S, bears at least nine cup marks.

At NN 78411 49939 50m higher than NN 78470 49843 a 3m high outcrop bears three cup marks, the largest measuring 110 x 40mm. Both were recorded on 7 May 2008.

Wester Kinloch (WK 5–9)
Cup-and ring-marked rocks
George Currie

Cup-and ring-marked rocks, Wester Kinloch WK5

1) NN 87268 37679 A triangular-shaped rock 1.2 x 0.7 x 0.2m, 120m N of the Wester Kinloch–Turrerich track bearing 12 cup marks, two of which have rings; a groove partially encloses four cups.
2) NN87312 37582 An outcrop 0.7m high bearing five cup marks and a natural basin that may have been enhanced.
3) NN 87433 37543 In an area of improved pasture a stretch of bedrock flush with the ground bearing one cup mark.
4) NN 87553 37579 A rock 2.7 x 1.5 x 0.8m bears three cup marks at the NE.
5) 87182 37737 A prominent outcrop immediately E of a birch wood has six cup marks at its S edge and one a metre to the N. All recorded on 18 October 2008.

Dunkeld and Dowally

Balnald Sawmill
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NO 003 503 The site is on the E bank of the Tullymet Burn, *c*200m from the road and the small ruined farm of Balnald. The site consists of the remains of walls which held a water wheel and to the immediate E a flat level area bordered by a possible low wall. The flat area measures 12 x 33m and is 2.18m above the burn.

The 1st Edition OS map (1859–64) shows two buildings, a weir and a lade at this location, though no evidence of them was found during the site visit on the 6 October 2007. The route into the site from the public road is impassable because of briars and the site is covered in thick vegetation, including moss, which hampered the identification of features. Ash trees are growing from the remaining walls and causing collapse. There are two modern fences crossing the site.

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital Archive: RCAHMS

Bishop's Hill
Survey – remains
Tom Welsh
NO 0221 4253 The summit of Bishop's Hill is trapezoidal, 40m SW/NE by 27m at its widest, but this has been reduced by terraced tracks below the summit. A slightly sunken track, which crosses the summit SW/NE, is blocked by mature trees. This dissects several rectangular foundations at the SW end, the main one 17 x 6m, the second at 5m parallel is also 6m broad. The NE edge is an artificial scarp which the track crosses on a later causeway. Off-centre within the summit is a low oval mound 12 x 6m. In 1595 and 1616 there are references to 'lie muthill' here (RCAHMS accession 2008/47 and manuscript MS/5169), and it could indicate the castle erected near the Bishop's Palace in 1408 (New Statistical Account).
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5248

Bishop's Hill
Homestead dun
Tom Welsh
NO 0210 4254 On the same elevation as RCAHMS NO04SW 28 (windmill on Slezer's Prospect 1693) at NO 0211 4252 at its N extremity. The summit appears to have been enclosed by a double wall, overall 35 x 23m. However, a sunken track rising from S and modern trench on NW have confused the evidence. Rubble walls 3–4m broad are 3m apart on W and E but merge as one on N.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5248

Bishop's Hill
Platform
Tom Welsh
NO 0226 4255 This projects E from base of Bishop's Hill, below the level of a terraced track there, top 10m E/W by 20m, 2m high. A track has cut across the NE corner, leaving the corner isolated 3m E/W by 2m. This may be the site of the 2-storey ruin close to the base of Bishop's Hill shown on Slezer's Prospect of Dunkeld 1693.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5250

Craig Wood
Fragment of multivallate fort
Tom Welsh
NO 0370 4273 The remains survive within Craig Wood as five semi-concentric stony banks spread over a 50m width, on sloping ground. The two outer fade on steeper ground SE, and the third follows a diverging scarp crest W. The innermost bank is headland to cultivation ridges, alternating large and narrower flattened ridges aligned NW/SE. As the bank curves NW onto the ridge alignment it is lost in the ridge pattern. If the circuit is completed, it suggests it enclosed the summit at NO 0356 4278 (174m OD), with a possible centre at NO 0359 4275, internal diameter about 100m. The hilltop is 1.2km E of Dunkeld Cathedral and the pass to the SE was an important medieval routeway, represented by several deep hollow-ways.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5249

Craig Wood
Circular enclosures overlain by rectangular foundations
Tom Welsh
NO 0339 4273 On a local promontory there is a rounded elevation 45m in diameter, and a second oval elevation 15m

E, 50 x 40m. Both have sub-circular enclosures overlain by rectangular foundations in an H pattern, on the same alignment and showing the same symmetry. At both there is a wall circuit at the base, and a near concentric wall around the summit, linked by radial walls.

The W mound has a building 21 x 9m over a 3m wall within the N arc of the inner circuit, the E end more substantial, and with a parallel wall 5m S. 15m S are traces of a parallel building, mainly represented by a massive 9 x 9m at its W end. There are three cross-walls linking the two.

The E mound has the same overlying building configuration, but is scarred by diggings. The S wall is nearly co-aligned with the N wall of the first, and again has a parallel wall S. Over all three walls this is 20 x 12m, but is overlain midway by a circular enclosure 10m in diameter over a 3m wall. The S arm again has a rough rectangular enclosure at its W end, incorporating large rocks. The formality of these structures may indicate high-status buildings. They are 800m ENE of Dunkeld Cathedral.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5249

Craig Wood
Rectangular enclosure
Tom Welsh
NO 0352 4275 On the highest point in Craig Wood there is a rectangular foundation aligned SE/NW at least 25m to the woodland boundary x 9m overall, but with a parallel wall 7m to W, slightly downslope.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5249

Dunkeld
Documentary research – 16th-century layout of Dunkeld
Tom Welsh
NO 0249 4258 Documentary research on the late 16th-century layout of Dunkeld, using adjacency information in feus of prebendary manses, showed that the mansion and garden of the Duke of Atholl was S of Cathedral Street (Scottisraw), probably next to the cathedral precinct by the present manse at NO 0249 4258. This is the location for Dunkeld House on Slezer's Prospect of 1693, although the house was burned down in 1679. W of the cathedral, key landmarks were identified including 'lie muthill' (possibly Bishop's Hill) and the Bishop's garden.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/47, MS 5169

King's Seat
Circular enclosure within fort
Tom Welsh
NO 0093 4303 At the N end of the summit (27 x 17m) is a circular enclosure 10m in diameter over a 3m wall, which incorporates the rock outcrop on E. At the lower level N, where the plan in *South-east Perth – an archaeological landscape* 53 shows an entrance, the E arm is offset 4m N.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/105, MS 5250

Dunning

Boghall Hill – The Strathearn Environs and Royal Forteviot Project (SERF)
Walkover survey
Michael Given – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow
NO 0451 1309 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out 12–15 August 2008. Teams of students walked systematically across defined areas *c*20m apart, flagging any features of interest and returning to record them on a form and discuss their interpretation. In this way we covered 800 x 500m, and recorded 37 sites and features.

By far the most striking aspect of the archaeology of our area was the complex of substantial, almost monumental, turf dykes, typically 1.5m wide and 0.5m high. We recorded an area of rig and furrow immediately S of Knock of Boghall that had furrows *c*10m apart, *c25*mm high and a well developed curved profile.

The turf dyke complexes were associated with small, apparently turf-built structures, normally isolated or in pairs, with typical (and interestingly consistent) dimensions of 8–9m x 5–6m. These dispersed structures may be precursors of the familiar nucleated post-medieval settlements, or may be post-medieval and associated with the rig and furrow and the enclosures.

Permission to survey was granted by the landowner George Ritchie.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Dun Knock Hillfort – SERF
Excavation
T Poller – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow
NO 0231 1431 Situated to the SE of Dunning village, the fort at Dun Knock was first identified through aerial photography. Cropmarks of at least three, roughly parallel, ditches curve around the contour of the hill. As part of the SERF project the excavations undertaken 4–24 August 2008 were intended to characterise the defences and interior of the fort and to retrieve any dating evidence.

A total of five evaluation trenches were excavated in the areas to the S and W of the cropmarks. The defences were explored with three trenches, one of which, 1.5 x 20m, was situated along the E side of the hill, near a possible entrance to the fort. The other two trenches, 1.5 x 5m and 1.5 x 6m, were located on the W flank of the hill. Two small test trenches, each 2 x 2m, were excavated in the interior of the fort.

The results indicated that a variety of building techniques and materials were used in constructing the ditches and ramparts. Timber played a key role in consolidating the ramparts, which seem to have been largely composed of the natural sandy soil. Only one ditch, 1.5m in maximum width, was noted in the trench on the E flank of the hill. At the base of this ditch there was a line of stones, including a reused vitrified stone, which may have supported a timber palisade. The defences on the W side of the hill appeared to have been more substantial. Stone collapse was found in a thick layer of charcoal-rich soil in the third outer ditch, suggesting that this destroyed rampart may once have been faced with stone and interlaced with timber. The traces of what may be a rectangular scooped structure were recorded in a possible entrance to the hillfort. Parallel lines of stone running along the base of the scoop may have supported wooden beams. Prehistoric pottery, daub and fragments of both saddle and rotary quern stones were found in association with this feature. A single posthole of an earlier feature lay beneath this structure.

In the interior of the fort, near the summit of the hill, one of the small test pits recorded evidence for multiple phases of activity. This included a substantial pit filled with re-deposited gravel capped by a stone feature, which had been disturbed at a later date by a robber trench.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF
Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Forteviot

Forteviot Churchyard – SERF

Topographic survey

Jeremy Huggett – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow

NO 0514 1748 A small-scale topographic survey consisting of *c*1200 points was conducted, 4–24 August 2008, in the area of the churchyard immediately surrounding the church to investigate a small rise in the ground to the S of the church. Additional data processing is required but it seems likely that a detailed close-interval topographic survey and potentially some geophysical survey will be needed in order to investigate this feature further.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Forteviot Cropmark Complex – SERF

Excavation and geophysical survey

Kenneth Brophy and Gordon Noble – Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow/Department of Archaeology, University of Aberdeen

Excavating the henge ditch at Forteviot Cropmark Complex

NO 0526 1692 A cropmark complex was identified during aerial reconnaissance across three fields immediately to the S of Forteviot in the 1970s. It consists of a probable Neolithic palisaded enclosure, a number of possible henge monuments, later prehistoric settlement and an early medieval barrow and long grave cemetery.

The avenue of the palisaded enclosure and a small component of the cemetery were excavated in 2007 (*DES* 2007, 157–8). The focus of fieldwork in 2008 was a putative henge monument and timber circle within the palisaded enclosure. A geophysical survey was carried out over the henge cropmark in April 2008, although the results of this survey (resistivity and magnetometry) revealed little more than is visible as cropmarks.

Excavations carried out 4–24 August 2008 focussed on opening a trench over the eastern half of the henge, exposing about one third of the monument. The trench was machine-opened, but the quantity of stone uncovered led to much of the trench being excavated by hand. A complicated sequence of events that appear to have both pre- and post-dated the henge was recorded, with at least five distinctive elements or phases of activity identified.

Pre-henge activity – A large but shallow oval pit was dug and a large megalithic sandstone block, measuring about 2.1 x 2 x 0.5m was placed in it. The pit was subsequently filled with rounded and angular stones, perhaps cairn material. This pit feature was subsequently enclosed within the henge.

Outside the henge, aerial photography indicated the presence of a timber circle *c*40m in diameter surrounding the henge. Two postholes were excavated that revealed little more about this monument, but on the basis of other sites where henges and timber circles occur together, it seems more likely that the timber circle was the earlier of the two. In turn, the 'megalithic' element of this monument may well be the earliest element of the site although its character is as yet unclear.

The henge itself is identifiable from the air by two or three ditched features (35m N/S by 30m E/W) that enclose a central area approximately 22m N/S by 21m E/W. The henge has at least one entrance. Two sections were excavated through the ditch, one on the eastern side of the monument, the other across a ditch terminal. The ditch was shown to be substantial, with a maximum depth of 2.8m and a width of 11m, noticeably steeper on the internal side. A series of fills were identified inside the henge, mostly silts, and charcoal deposits and six sherds of the same Beaker were associated with the lower fills in the terminal section. About 1m from the top of the ditch, a deposit of possibly burnt turves or soil was found in the interior side of the ditch, and this was followed by a capping of clay across the whole ditch. No traces of a bank were found, nor any internal features associated with the henge.

Post-henge – The monument seems to have undergone substantial re-working, perhaps in the medieval period. The upper fill of the henge ditch, immediately above the clay level, consisted of large boulders and angular rubble, mostly basalt possibly quarried from a nearby quarry on the Dronachy ridge (NO01NE 106). The rubble and boulder fill seems to have been levelled out with cobbling, and traces of a compact ash skim across these cobbles survived in a very few locations. Around this time, or perhaps a little later, a large pit was dug in the central area of the henge. This shows as a cropmark 'blob' measuring approximately 12 x 6m, aligned NE/SW. Sections through this indicated it was a deep feature, at least 2.5m in depth, with a uniform silty fill that included sherds of Roman amphora and medieval White Gritty ware.

Analysis of environmental samples and a dating programme is ongoing, but at this stage we can speculate that this timber circle and henge monument enclosed an earlier and unusual megalithic monument, and was subsequently radically altered, perhaps by high-status medieval activity. This sequence will be further examined in the 2009 season.

A second trench was opened in the central area of the palisaded enclosure. This trench, 10 x 20m, was located to examine the pitted features appearing as cropmarks. Within the trench a few insubstantial features and a possible tree-throw were half-sectioned. The only feature of note, which was visible as a cropmark, was a sub-oval pit filled with clay and carbonised material which was subsequently cut by a field drain. The nature of this feature is as yet unclear as it rapidly flooded with the slightest rainfall and we were unable to excavate it fully. Environmental samples were taken and will be examined as part of our post-excavation programme.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Forteviot Village – SERF
Excavation and survey
E Campbell and M Gondek – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow
NO 0510 1750 Continuing the work from 2007, a 15 x 5m area was opened just S of the bowling green. A considerable depth of soil that produced medieval redware and was interpreted as a medieval ploughsoil was recorded, but no archaeological features. Test pits on the S and E sides of the village also failed to produce any evidence of medieval occupation. Considerable post-medieval disturbance had, in some areas, removed any earlier deposits. These results, combined with those of 2007, indicate that the medieval village occupied much the same area as the present one. No evidence was found of deposits which might indicate the location of the Pictish palace. This work was undertaken 4–24 August 2008.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Mijas Cairn – SERF
Survey
Jeremy Huggett – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow
NO 0531 1657 A topographic survey of the cairn consisting of *c*1800 points was carried out across an area *c*50 x 60m using a total station on 4–24 August 2008. A shallow scoop on the N side of the cairn was highlighted, as was an earlier field boundary and associated cottage which were visible on the 1st Edition OS map. No clear signs of an external ditch were found.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Muckersie Chapel Survey – SERF
Standing building recording and topographic survey
Stephen Driscoll and Jeremy Huggett – Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow
NO 0733 1567 Muckersie Chapel is a roofless ruin occupying the site of the former medieval parish church. Over a three week period, 4–24 August 2008, a measured survey of the building and topographic survey of the churchyard were undertaken.

The site is overgrown with yews, specimen trees and undergrowth, which hindered the photographic work. The chapel is a unicameral sandstone building (10 x 7 m) set within an approximately circular churchyard *c*40m in diameter.

The churchyard is defined by a tumbled dry stone bank and the interior is noticeably higher that the ground level outside the bank. This may reflect the natural topography, but also suggests a long period of use, perhaps going back to the early middle ages.

The chapel is built of local sandstone and shows several phases of construction and modification. The survey produced detailed measured drawings of the E and S elevations; the W elevation having been largely rebuilt in the 19th century and the N side being featureless.

Three broad phases of use were identified. The earliest masonry, built of coursed rubble, survived in the lower portions of the E and W walls and although there were no datable features, it is likely that this represents the fabric of the medieval parish church.

The second phase is represented by a door and two flanking windows in the S wall, with simple flat lintels and plain chamfered mouldings. The upper portion of the E elevation has been raised with a crow-stepped gable which is probably contemporary. Also broadly contemporary are a pair a massive gate posts of dressed stone, possibly supporting an arch to form an entrance in the SE of the churchyard. This phase of building apparently relates to a post-reformation refurbishment of the parish church which remained active until it was amalgamated with Forteviot in 1618. The octagonal font in Forteviot church may be contemporary with this early modern phase.

The final phase of refurbishment, in a Gothic style, was undertaken by the Belshes Family, who used it as burying place and for Catholic worship in the late 18th or early 19th century, and involved extensive reworking of the, by then, ruinous building. A massive new splayed doorway with a pointed arch and hood moulding was constructed in the W elevation, which had to be almost entirely rebuilt to accommodate it. A simple square-sectioned cross crowns the rebuilt crow-stepped gable. A double lancet window was inserted in the E elevation, which appears to have reused some jambs of an earlier window. It is not possible to say if the earlier window was single or double light. The openings in the S wall were blocked and the wall head repaired. The N wall appears to have been substantially rebuilt. A small, simple altar was erected in front of the new E window and stone benches were built along both the S and N walls. A flagstone path was paved from the entrance to the altar. Voids and gaps suggest that the flags cover burials, but there are no inscriptions to verify this.

The current condition of the building is poor, with large trees growing in the fabric in several locations. As well as recording the details of the chapel architecture the project conducted a topographic survey of the churchyard and its immediate environs, using a total station, covering *c*50 x 40m^2 and consisting of *c*1700 points. The survey highlighted the raised ground within the roughly circular churchyard; the interior is in places up to 1m higher than the surrounding land. It was noted that the ground generally falls away to the E, resulting in the chapel appearing to sit on a wedge-shaped platform.

www.gla.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/SERF
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: British Academy, Historic Scotland, Department of Archaeology University of Glasgow, and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Fortingall

Allt a' Chobair
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 6469 4522 Recorded on 19 April 2008, a sheet of bedrock on the W side of the Allt a' Chobair at 430m OD bears a single cup mark measuring 55 x 15mm.

Allt Dà-ghob, Glen Lyon
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NN 696 468 (centred on) Work was carried out in June and on 7 August 2007 on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme. The route runs from the intake on the Allt Dà-ghob (NN 6977 4621) northwards down the E side of the burn to NN 6960 4685. It then changes course to the E running down a small valley and to the outflow in the River Lyon (NN 7021 4703).

The work identified two old tracks and an unknown settlement. One of the tracks runs along the valley bottom next to the River Lyon and is associated with the settlement of Blackcroft; the pipeline route crosses it just above the outflow. The second track winds up from the first and passes through the newly discovered settlement before changing course and heading up the Allt Dà-ghob; the pipeline route crosses it at several places. The settlement was rapidly surveyed and consisted of three buildings and three smaller structures including a possible corn-drying kiln. The pipeline misses this settlement and poses no threat to these buildings.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Shawater Ltd

Camusvrachan, Glen Lyon

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NN 618 483 (centred on) Work was carried out in June and on 21 August 2007 on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme. The route runs from three intakes at NN 6239 4875, NN 6187 4914 and NN 6145 4870. The intake routes join and follow a track downhill, first in a SE direction and then S into Camusvrachan. The route then turns to the SE, crosses another track and opens to the outflow at NN 6204 4770.

The work identified three definite shieling structures and a possible shelter/pen. The survey also led to the discovery of the probable site of the old corrugated iron United Free Church

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Shawater Ltd

Garth Cottage (GC 1)

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NN 76312 50545 Recorded on 4 April 2008, the prominent outcrop behind Garth Cottage bears 21 cup marks. A turf-covered shelf below the main concentration bears six cup marks with the possibility of more under the turf.

Garth Cottage (GC 2)

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NN 76023 50705 Recorded on 4 April 2008, in improved pasture at 310m OD NW of Garth Cottage a boulder 2.0 x 1.9 x 1.0m bears one cup mark.

Roromore, Glen Lyon

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NN 623 464 (centred on) Work was carried out in June and on 15 August 2007 on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme. The route runs S from an intake at NN 6247 4573 down to the outflow at NN 6256 4697, opposite the old farmstead of Milltown.

We recorded no sites of archaeological importance along the proposed pipeline, apart from an old field boundary and an area of possible rig and furrow. During surveying various remains relating to the old mill were also discovered but these will not be affected by the pipeline.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Shawater Ltd

Roroyere

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NN 61177 47105 Recorded on 19 April 2008, a stretch of bedrock 200m S of Roroyere farm bears four shallow cup marks.

Roroyere, Glen Lyon

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NN 611 467 (centred on) Work was carried out in June and on 16 August 2007 on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme. The route runs from the intake at NN 6101 4611 N down the W side of the burn to the outflow at NN 6119 4736.

The pipeline route cuts along an important track which provided access to a longhouse/shieling, several animal enclosures and a possible field system. The pipeline poses a threat to these structures and it was recommended that the course of the pipeline should be altered to avoid the track.

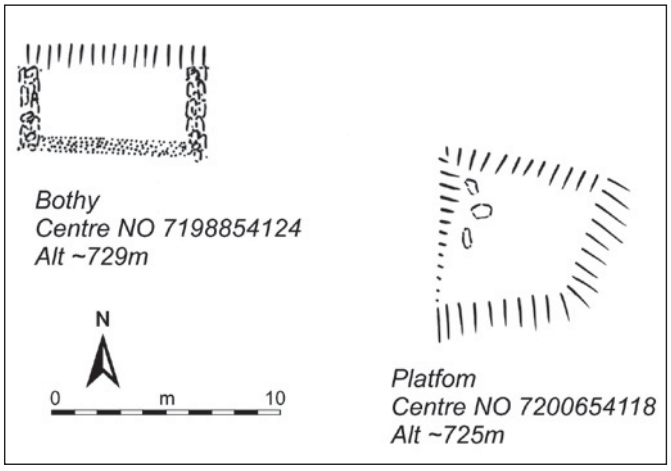
Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Shawater Ltd

Schiehallion – Southern Geophysical Observatory

Site identification – geophysical observatory

P Morris and C Pudsey – Blairgowrie Geoscience



Sketch Plan of Schiehallion S Observatory site

NN 7200 5412 (centred on) In 1774, Nevil Maskelyne measured the deflection of a plumb line by Schiehallion in order to determine the mass of the earth. The sites of the two temporary geophysical observatories on Schiehallion are not well known and are not shown on any modern maps. Pictures of the northern site taken in 1962 are in print and on the internet but it has been little visited since. It is straightforward to reach from the road to the N of the mountain and the levelled observatory terrace, with the remains of a bothy to the W, is easy to find (at NO 72100 55450, 635m).

The southern observatory site is much less accessible and the authors are unaware of any records of visits since the original experiment. It is in a remote location on a steep, rough, hillside lacking obvious landmarks, and prior to the advent of GPS would have been very difficult to find. Knowing the modern NGR of the ends of the original baseline used when surveying the mountain for the experiment (the summit cairn and the marker

cairn at the E end of the summit ridge) and using Charles Hutton's 1778 analysis of the topographic survey data a grid reference of NO 71990 54120 (722m) was calculated for the observatory site. When this position was visited a levelled grassy platform was found from the centre of which a handheld GPS gave a reading of NO 72006 54118 (725m). This platform would thus seem to be the observatory site. The remains of a bothy about 10m away, very comparable in form to the one seen at the northern observatory but somewhat smaller and much more overgrown, provides added confirmation.

The levelled platform, some 5m square, is of just the right size to accommodate the 15.5 foot square 'parallapiped tent' which contained the main zenith sector. It was cut back into the hillside to provide reasonable protection from the prevailing SW wind. The positions of the other instruments deployed are not so obvious but probably lay in the area between the platform and the bothy. The observatory had been built before Maskelyne arrived on the mountain and was probably rather cramped. It is notable that when the time came to construct the northern observatory it was built to a much more spacious design and some 100m lower in altitude. Work was undertaken on 13 May 2008.
Funder: John Muir Trust

Tom Liath (1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 75686 51353 Recorded on 4 April 2008, a S sloping earthfast boulder, 250m NW of the Tom Liath reservoir, bears four cup marks measuring 60 x 20, 55 x 15, 30 x 10 and 25 x 8mm.

Kenmore

Allt an Tuim Bhric
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 64362 39082 Recorded on 25 May 2008, immediately W of the fence on the western side of the Allt an Tuim Bhric on the 453m contour, a large boulder bears two cup marks.

Allt Coire Phadairlaidh (AP 1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 68966 42926 Recorded on 20 August 2008, a rock flush with the ground bearing 13 cup marks.

Allt Coire Phadairlaidh (AP 2)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 69290 42804 Recorded on 20 August 2008, two rocks 15m W of the Allt Coire Phadairlaidh, the northernmost bears seven small cup marks, the lower rock has three possible cups.

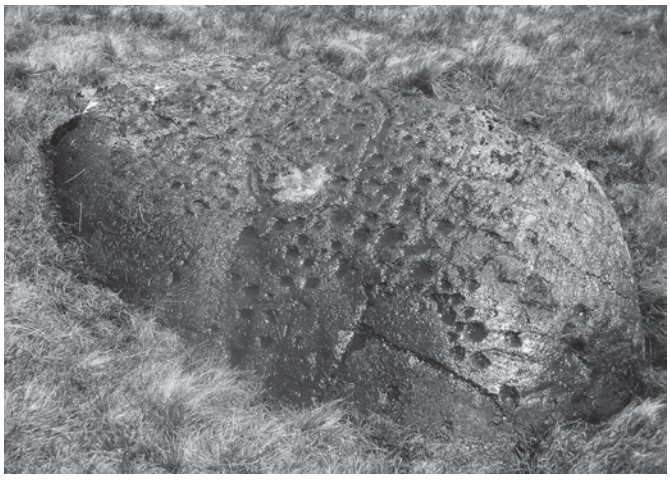
An Riol
Survey
Anne Macdonald – ACFA
NN 5822 4118 The site was surveyed 23–27 May 2008 with an EDM Total Station giving a plan of the area at 1:1000. The individual structures were drawn at 1:200 using taped offset. The sheiling grounds are thought to have taken their name from Coire Riadhailt which lies at the southern extremity of the site. The area is bisected by the Allt Riadhailt which flows N from Coire Riadhailt until it meets just S of the road with a burn which flows out of Lochan na Lairige, the two burns then joining to become Allt Baile Mhuillinn, which flows N down to Bridge of Balgie.

The sheiling grounds are spread over *c*2km N/S by 1.50km E/W. Time did not allow the recording of all the structures, thought to number *c*180 in total. The surveyors recorded the structures on the E side of the burn, between the road and the dams at the S end of the Water Board track, some 90 features in all. The structures were identified as sheiling huts and their associated small dairy stores with an occasional small enclosure. The huts clearly date from several periods and range from low circular turf structures to upstanding dry stone rectangular features with doorways. A further survey will be carried out in 2009 to complete the recording of what is a complex and iconic site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: ACFA Occasional Paper (intended)
Funder: CBA Challenge Funding, Glasgow Archaeological Society, Historic Scotland and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Detail of sheiling hut at An Riol

Beinn Ghlas (1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 63828 39501 Recorded on 25 May 2008, a prominent 3.5 x 6m outcrop at 629m OD and 500m N of the head dyke bears at least 15 cup marks. On the vertical E side of the rock are two possible cup marks.

Beinn Ghlas (2–3)
Cup-and ring-marked rocks
George Currie



Cup-and ring-marked rocks, Beinn Ghlas 2

NN 64042 39100 On a relatively steep slope 200m above the head dyke and 250m W of the All an Tuim Bhric a flat stretch of bedrock 2.3 x 1.4 x 0.7m bears at least 90 cup marks. One cup has two rings and three cups have single rings. The NW edge is marked by an approximately right-angled pair of grooves enclosing a single cup mark. Three other grooves connect motifs with the southerly edge of the rock.

30m to the W at NN 64013 39083, a flat slab 1.4 x 0.9m bears two small cup marks with a possible further two larger cups. Recording took place on 25 August 2008.

Braes of Balloch (3–5)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie
NN 79656 45019 Recorded on 14 September 2008, 2m N of a head dyke and partly supporting it, an outcrop with one cup mark.

At NN 79561 45034 a slab of rock, 1.3m long 0.2m wide with two cup marks on the edge.

At NN 79309 44521 a boulder 100m E of the Kenmore – Amulree road, 2.2m wide and 1m high bears one cup mark.

Braes of Taymouth (BT 8)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 79091 45408 Recorded on 10 May 2008, 250m N of sheep pens, a stretch of exposed bedrock bears eight cup marks, the largest measuring 112 x 45mm.

Cragganester (CR 6–8)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 66058 39667 Recorded on 25 May 2008.

1) The northernmost of three flat rocks measuring 1 x 1.1 x 0.2m bears a single cup mark.
2) At NN 66026 39153 a prominent boulder bears two cup marks.
3) At NN 65862 38743 a prominent boulder bears five cup marks.

Cragganester, Loch Tayside
Watching brief
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NN 6660 3872 and NN 6641 3851 A watching brief was maintained during the machine excavation of small trenches for two replacement poles on the overhead power line between Aberfeldy and Killin. The poles were 2km SW of Lawers, in an area designated a scheduled ancient monument and containing numerous individual monuments, most of them associated with pre-improvement farming. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded.
Archive and Report: Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS.
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Craggantoul, Loch Tay
Establishment of old land surface and context of submerged woodland in Loch Tay
Nick Dixon – The Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology
NN 66298 37497 The discovery and dating of submerged trees in Loch Tay were reported in *DES* 2005 and 2007. During 14 July–13 August 2008 an area of iron pan and a number of branches cut by beaver were discovered. The beaver evidence awaits dating to establish the relationship between the animals and the recorded timbers, which range in age from about 8000 to 1500 years ago. Consideration of the iron pan deposition will help establish the water level in the past.
Archive: BLHLP, Historic Scotland, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, RCAHMS and STUA
Funder: Historic Scotland and The Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology

Fearnan
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 72470 45005 Recorded on 10 May 2008, a rock 1 x 1.8 x 0.5m sloping 40° E/W has a line of six cup marks.

Kenmore Wastewater Treatment Works
Evaluation
Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NN 7745 4590 An evaluation was carried out, 12–13 May 2008, in advance of development works. Six trenches totalling 306m^2 were excavated. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed.
Archive: RCAHMS, Perth and Kinross SMR
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Lower Kiltyrie, Loch Tay
Evaluation and standing building survey
J Lewis and S Scott – Scotia Archaeology
NN 6305 3633 The farmstead of Lower Kiltyrie stood near the N shore of Loch Tay, 8km E of Killin, and consisted of the remains of five buildings and two enclosures. The most intact building was a byre-dwelling which, unlike the other buildings, retained several architectural features. A series of machine-dug trenches were opened around the site of a new house. These produced no evidence to suggest that the settlement was older than the 18th-century date already ascribed to it.
Archive and Report: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS.
Funder: Mr G and Mrs R Anderson

Meall Odhar (1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 65892 39689 Recorded on the 25 May 2008, on relatively steeply sloping ground, a boulder 3.7m long and orientated N/S bears two cup marks.

Meall Odhar (2)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 65987 40607 Recorded on 25 May 2008, 500m N of Meall Odhar at 540m OD in an area occupied by many shielings, an earthfast boulder 2.6 x 1.4 x 0.6m bears a single cup mark.

Morenish, Loch Tay
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd
NN 617 365 (centred on) An assessment was carried out on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme in June and on 8 August 2007. The route runs from the intake at NN 614 370 SE down the E side of the burn to NN 617 367. It then runs S down the hill and crosses a road into woodland just before the outflow at NN 616 359. The pipeline route cuts through a relatively well studied rich historical landscape. The route cuts along and across several walls and tracks that are associated with historical settlements.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Shawater Ltd

Tom a Mhor-Fhir (1–2)
Cup-marked rocks
George Currie

NN 63569 37469 In improved pasture to the E of Tom a Mhor Fhir, an outcrop bears a single cup mark at its highest point.

At NN 63521 37389 An earthfast rock 1.2 x 0.8m bears a single cup mark with two further possible cup marks. Both recorded on 21 June 2008.

Tombreck (TB 1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 65157 38288 Recorded on 7 June 2008, a boulder 1.7 x 1.6 x 0.8m bears two certain cup marks and a possible third.

Upper Carie (UC 1)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 64517 38134 Recorded on 21 June 2008, 250m S of the remains of Upper Carie, in improved pasture, an earthfast rock 1.9 x 1.6 x 0.3m bears 32 cup marks and a pair of conjoined cups.

Kinfauns

Polytunnel Investigation Project, Glendoick, Glencarse
Survey, test-pitting and evaluation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 2026 2243 An investigation into the impact of polytunnels on cropmark monuments was carried out in a polytunnel-covered field in November 2007 and March 2008. The area contains a souterrain (NO22SW 12) known from cropmark evidence. It is one element of what is probably a larger open settlement with other souterrains and structures, which are collectively protected as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM 7222). The souterrain was investigated by GS Maxwell in 1982.

The project aimed to establish the present position of all ground-breaking elements of the polytunnel prior to its demolition and removal, to recover evidence for the nature and extent of any changes to the condition of the site and to investigate the present condition of the souterrain. The project was therefore undertaken in two phases.

- Aerial photo rectification, survey and test-pitting prior to dismantling.
- Evaluation trenching following removal of the polytunnels.

Survey established the positions of the ground-breaking elements of the polytunnels prior to their removal. Two main elements were recorded, the support posts and the irrigation pipes. Test-pitting while the superstructure was in place established the depth of excavations associated with the polytunnel construction.

Test-pits were hand-excavated and revealed that the support posts had penetrated the subsoil to varying depths of up to 0.35m and were spaced at intervals of 2.2m along the wall lines of the polytunnels. The irrigation pipes were buried in a machine-dug trench at a depth of 0.35m below the surface.

Two trial trenches, totalling 54m^2, were excavated by machine across the known location of the souterrain and were positioned to intersect with the former location of ground-breaking elements of the polytunnel structures. The souterrain was lined with stone and measured 1.2m–2.6m wide by up to 1.7m deep; a stone paved floor was recorded in only one sondage. A buried soil and an associated cut feature appeared to lie over the souterrain. This latter feature measured at least 7.9m across by 0.6m deep but its extent and purpose were not established.

Polytunnel support posts were found to have impacted upon the souterrain to a depth of between 0.2m–0.3m. One of them cut through the upper part of the souterrain wall. An irrigation pipe trench was also found to have cut across the upper fill and wall of the souterrain and across the associated feature.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended).
Report: Historic Scotland, Perth and Kinross SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Kinloch

Leys of Marlee Stone Circle, Blairgowrie
Watching brief and limited excavation
Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd
NO 1601 4386 (centred on) Work was carried out on 28 October 2008 and consisted of monitoring the removal of the stone, excavation of its socket and supervision of its replacement to its original orientation and position. The work was required because a lorry had accidently collided with and pushed over one of the stones. The excavation revealed that the stone had originally been tightly held in position by packing stones which were found on three sides of the stone socket. No other evidence of note was recorded. After excavation, the stone was replaced in its original position and wedged tightly into the socket using new packing stones.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: NFU Mutual

Kinnoull

Barnhill
Building remains
Tom Welsh
NO 1291 2233 Rectangle internally 7 x 4m, end walls 1.7m, side walls 1.3m, with uprights for a window at N end. However, intruding 1.7m from E at N end is a more substantial 1.5m square within 1.7m walls. E of this is a lesser structure, and further E platforms and walls may be related.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/157, MS 5270

Barnhill
Survey – remains
Tom Welsh
NO 1297 2247 At N end of a low ridge 80m back from cliff is an oval elevation 30 x 22m within a concentric enclosure 60 x 33m. At the S end is half a round mound probably 16m in diameter, part removed by cultivation, and adjacent at base of elevation a rectangular foundation 10 x 5m over 1m wall. Other wall remains at E and W ends.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/157, MS 5270

Barnhill
Survey – remains
Tom Welsh
NO 1314 2246 Apparent platform 40m N/S x 20m, marked NW and SW corners, with 15m square mound stone-revetted round a quarried elevation at S end.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/157, MS 5270

Goul Hill
Round homestead with overlying L-shaped foundation
Tom Welsh
NO 132 226 (unable to be precise with available maps but is 15m N of ruined building 9.5 x 6m on tarmac path, with a terraced track 15m W).

Circular enclosure 18m in diameter on knoll, S arc best preserved. Partly overlain by L-shaped building, shorter E–W arm 12 x 9m over 2m wall and N arm from W end

projects beyond circle.
Archive: RCAHMS – 2008/157, MS 5270

Kinross

Near Lethangie, Kinross

Excavation
Ray Cachart – SUAT Ltd
NO 117 035 (centred on) Work was carried out on the site of a new school on a greenfield site consisting of two fields covering 13.7ha. A scheduled ancient monument (7614), an enclosed settlement of prehistoric date containing enclosure ditches and pits, lies in the S field of the development. An evaluation in July 2006 revealed a large ditch-like feature in the S field and a hearth, postholes and linear feature in the N field.

Excavations were undertaken 9 March–23 April 2007. A large open area and trenches in the S field were opened up to further investigate and record the ditch feature revealed in the evaluation. The work revealed that the supposed ditch feature was in fact a medieval pit, most probably a corn-drying kiln, deeply cut into natural sands and gravels.

A large area in the N field was excavated and four phases of activity were recognized; Neolithic, early medieval, medieval and modern. Most of the features were assigned to the medieval period. The features included a sub-circular enclosure ditch, part of a possible rectilinear building, kilns, postholes, narrow linear cuts and medieval rig and furrow. Some of these features were dated by radiocarbon dating and some from medieval pottery recovered from their fills. The majority of the features in the N field were associated with land use during the medieval period although positive dates were not obtained for all of them. Earlier activity was indicated by three later Neolithic flints and an early medieval grain drying kiln.

The results indicate that the areas excavated combined with the SAM settlement constitute 'favoured sites' with continuity of occupation extending from the later Neolithic, through the early medieval period and into the medieval and modern periods. The evidence of early medieval activity was of particular interest because little has previously been identified. Features representing medieval rural settlement were also significant, recognition of activity of this nature in the archaeological record is becoming more common in lowland Scotland.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Laing O'Rourke Scotland Ltd

Kirkmichael

Bleaton Hallet

Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NO 13914 57468 Recorded on 28 September 2008, a prominent boulder, 250m N of Bleaton Hallet bears two marks on a N-sloping face with a further possible cup mark.

Dalrulzion

Geophysical survey
P Morris – Blairgowrie Geoscience
NO 1230 5725 A trial magnetic gradiometer survey was carried out on 22 May 2008 over an area containing six hut circles near the Dalrulzion rocking stone. Most of the magnetic variation comes from the local geology, Dalradian meta-volcaniclastics at shallow depth. However, at least three of the hut circles show internal anomalies which may well reflect human activity. The most interesting of these is a double walled hut with a series of negative point anomalies more or less coincident with the inner wall. These look very much like postholes. Within the hut proper are a series of broader positive anomalies which could correspond to hearth stones or other burnt features in an occupation layer. A second hut has hints of similar features, though the picture is more degraded, while the third hut has a linear anomaly across its centre which may be natural but could mark the site of a previous excavation.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Blairgowrie Geoscience

Lethendy

Sanmar, Nether Pittendreich

Evaluation
Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 1545 4103 An evaluation carried out, 13–15 May 2008, on a proposed farming development, recorded a number of relatively modern features across the western and northern parts of the area. These consisted of parts of a linear ditch, probably associated with drainage, and a large pit associated with the repair of a blocked drain in the western part of the site. A number of miscellaneous cuts and fills, some of which were attributed to animal disturbance and others to probable garden features, were recorded on the northern most part of the site in front of Nether Pittendreich House.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Algo (Blairgowrie) Ltd

Little Dunkeld

Corrody

Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 98045 36983 Recorded on 27 April 2008, an outcrop, 220m E and above the Corrody Burn and 400m NNW of the ruined settlement at Corrody, bearing eight cup marks with a single cup in adjoining area of rock 0.5m to the SE.

Creag Liath

Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 97437 37964 Recorded on 27 April 2008, a prominent boulder 2.1 x 1.6 x 1.0m has two cup marks at its highest point at the N with at least three cup marks at the lower S end.

Logiealmond

Little Glenshee

Findspot
Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland

Polished stone axehead (TT 113/07) from Little Glenshee, Perth & Kinross. Scale in cm. Photograph: Treasure Trove Unit, Crown Copyright

NN 98 34 Surface find in 2006 by Paul Davidson of a small, complete polished stone axehead. Dimensions L 62 x B 41 x Th 13mm, weight 43 grams.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 113/07) and allocated to Perth Museum

Logierait

Achnahosher
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NO 0194 5474 This farmstead is on a SW-facing slope in rough pasture at 380m OD. There are two springs nearby. It consists of two buildings and a kiln set around a yard, with an adjoining enclosure on the NW side. The first building has five compartments and runs the full length of the yard. The second building is a smaller single compartment building, set at right-angles to the first. This building may have been shortened, or built on the foundations of an earlier, longer building.

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital archive: RCAHMS

Achnahosher
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NO 018 562 This farmstead is on open heather moorland at 370m OD. It sits on a small prominence to the NE of the confluence of two unnamed tributaries of Tulliemet Burn. The site consists of the low footings of a rectangular byre dwelling with a circular structure, thought to be a corn-drying kiln, some 15m to the SE. The byre dwelling measures *c*10 x 3.5m, over grass-covered walls standing to a maximum height of 0.6m. It contains two compartments of similar size, each with its own entrance. There is evidence of a byre drain in the NW compartment. The corn-drying kiln is approximately 6m in diameter overall and is constructed of heather-covered boulders. There are broken-down boundary walls on the opposite bank of the easternmost burn.

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital archive: RCAHMS

Meall Lochain Oisinneich
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NO 0192 5506 This farmstead is in rough grazing on a SW-facing slope at 385m OD. It is divided into two parts. To the N are the well-preserved stone footings of three large buildings, one small building and a kiln. The buildings are in a random cluster and the kiln is built into a bank. Approximately 100m to the S and over a small drainage ditch is the poorly defined foundation of one rectangular building. Immediately to the E, a well constructed head dyke separates the grazing land from the steeper, heather-clad land over 400m.

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital archive: RCAHMS

Tulliemet Burn
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NO 0222 5578 This farmstead is on open moorland at 390m OD. To its immediate NE is an area of better ground which may have been cultivated in the past, being generally greener than the land surrounding it. The site comprises three rectangular buildings and a kiln, arranged around a yard. The first building has three compartments and measures approximately 22.9 x 5m; the second has three compartments and measures 18.6 x 3.6m; the third is a single compartment building and measures 13.9 x 7.7m. The kiln is the best preserved structure on the site, standing up to 2m in height.

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital archive: RCAHMS

Tulliemet Burn – Saw Mill
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NN 999 537 The site is on a flat grassy area, some of it marshy, on the NW bank of the Tullymet Burn. It consists of the remains of two stone built structures, a weir, mill lade and two water overflows. There are also two outflows downstream approximately 50–55m from the mill wheel. The main building houses the mill wheel, where most of the metal and some of the wooden components are still in place. A willow has been growing in the wall and has blown over breaking some of the surrounding wall. The other stone structure is l-shaped and may have had a wooden shed on top as there are metal bolts fixed into the top of the stonework. A photograph taken in 1985 shows the site to include at least seven and possibly eight stone pillars (approx 2m in height) and supports for another building, *c*6 x 8m, immediately to the rear of the water wheel. These stone pillars have been removed, leaving only a few stones. The sawmill was constructed by William Dick, the local landowner. The Valuation rolls for 1870–1 show him having to pay rates. In the 1920s, local resident, John Ross remembers the sawmill. He said, 'the sawmill may never have been used. The wheel was covered in and all the work would be done inside. There was a four horse stable with a hay loft and another shed with joiners' benches. It could employ up to 12 workers though there was no accommodation.'

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digitalarchive: RCAHMS

Tulliemet Burn – Starch Mill
Survey
Jane, Robert and Hannah Scott
NN 9977 5319 This starch mill is on the W bank of the Tulliemet Burn, with its weir upstream, just as the burn emerges from a gorge. The site comprises a weir, a well defined lade of approximately 100m in length, and very fragmentary remains of the starch mill in two separate areas at the bottom of the present-day field. One substantial piece of curved wall remains topped with flat stones; this has been incorporated into the modern boundary wall of the field. The two areas where the mill buildings were situated were covered in nettles at the time of the survey and not investigated in detail. The Statistical Account for Logierait parish, Perthshire (compiled 1842, published 1844), stated that the mill could process 40 bolls of potatoes per working day and it was a major market for the potato crop of the district. A newspaper cutting of 1 June 1907 recorded that in around 1830 the mill would operate around the clock in the height of the potato season (newspaper unknown).

This work was carried out in connection with the RCAHMS Scotland's Rural Past project.
Digital archive: RCAHMS

Meigle

Ardler Road, Meigle

Evaluation

Ray Cachart – SUAT Ltd

NO 2864 4462 (centred on) Work was carried out 6 March 2008 prior to development. The site consists of a former workshop, garage and yards covering *c*1150m². The site was considered sensitive due to its proximity to a churchyard where early medieval sculptured stones have been found, indicating that Meigle was an important settlement and perhaps even an early monastic centre.

Two trenches were excavated, each 15 x 2m, in the back and front yards. Trench 01 in the front yard revealed the foundations of a 19th-century red sandstone building, garden soil with abundant 19th-century pottery and ash/cinders yard makeup. Trench 02 in the rear yard revealed an area of modern dumping, garden soil, subsoil and the bottom of a linear feature considered to be a cultivation furrow or trench. Nothing pre-dating the 19th century was identified.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: The evaluation was commissioned by James F Stephen Architects on behalf of their client Mr Easson

Village Field (aka Fullerton Field), Meigle

Metal detector find

Mark A Hall – Perth Museum and Art Gallery

NO 290 444 (centred on) Metal detecting by Paul Smith towards the end of 2007 recovered an assortment of post-medieval/modern metalwork fragments of no archaeological significance, with the exception of a medieval, mould-cast, lead papal bulla, which would have sealed a document issued by the papal curia.

Obverse of the papal bulla of Pope Gregory X from Meigle

In good, sound condition with small amounts of (mostly plough?) damage and surface cracking, it measures 37.7mm (diameter) x 4.9mm (thickness) and weighs 36.61g.

The obverse carries the inscription (in three lines) GRE/GORIUS/PP X, meaning Pope Gregory X (where PP is the standard abbreviation for *Papa* (Pope). Gregory was Pope from 1271–1276, admitted after the longest papal election in history (1268–71) because the French and Italian cardinals were at loggerheads.

The reverse has a beaded border within which, across the upper field, runs the inscription SPA SPE (the abbreviated forms of St Paul and St Peter) accompanied by abbreviated depictions – the heads of Paul and Peter beneath their names with differentially styled hair and beards. Each head is set within a beaded oval and between the two is a long-shafted, slender cross with short flaring arms and a Calvary mound. The formerly prominent noses of Paul and Peter have been removed by damage but the bulging eyes retain their apotropaic intent.

Archive: Perth Museum (intended) pending TT allocation

Methven

5–7 The Square, Methven

Evaluation

Claire Casey – SUAT Ltd

NO 0251 2599 An evaluation was carried out on 28 May 2008 prior to development. Three small trenches were excavated with a mini digger. The first two revealed only topsoil and subsoil, but a 19th-century layer which contained re-deposited post-medieval pottery was found in the third trench.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Gordon Brooks

Monzievaird and Strowan

Balmuick (BM 1–3)

Cup-marked rocks

George Currie

NN 77544 24360 Recorded on 3 May 2008.

1) In improved pasture 520m E of Balmuick Farm a rock 1.5 x 1.0 x 0.3m bears 5 cup marks.

2) 160m E of 1) at NN 77728 24266 a rock 1.2 x 1.0 x 0.3m with many natural hollows bears two cup marks, possibly enhanced natural features.

3) At NN 78229 23594 A granitic boulder 1.4 x 1.3 x 0.3m bears two cup marks, 60 x 15mm, 55 x 12mm.

Cup-marked rocks, Balmuick BM1

Moulin

Black Spout, Pitlochry

Excavation

David Strachan and Sarah Winlow – Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

NN 9523 5768 A fourth season of a community archaeology project was carried out, 14–28 June 2008, as part of Perthshire Archaeology Month (see *DES* 2005, 2006 and 2007). The excavations concentrated on the W wall of the homestead, revealing for the first time an unusual entrance, around 1.3m in width and including a recess in the S elevation. The enclosure wall at the entrance was found to be around 3.15m

thick. Outside the entrance a massive lintel, over 2m long and nearly 1m wide, was found. Further excavation of the central area of the homestead revealed a series of ill-defined hearths and a roughly centrally positioned hole, around 200mm in diameter and cut 300mm deep into the bedrock.

Radiocarbon dates from samples recovered in previous years have dated the earliest deposits to 350–50 BC (SUERC19150) and 360–100 BC (SUERC19154) at 95.4% probability. A further date from later deposits produced a date of AD 1040–1220 (SUERC19149) at 95.4% probability.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

The entrance to the Black Spout homestead © Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

Muthill

Strageath Roman fort

Excavation and geophysical survey

B Hoffmann and DJ Woolliscroft – The Roman Gask Project

NN 898 180 The geophysical survey conducted last year (*DES* 2007, 166) was extended to the W and S to provide a fuller picture of the fort's surroundings and southern defences. Excavations were opened to investigate a series of large magnetic anomalies to the W of the fort which might represent funerary activity. Instead, the Roman Gask frontier road was found leading W in remarkably good condition through a long ploughed field, with the substructure and much of the original surfacing still extant. Two heavy square flags immediately beside the line may represent altar bases. Additional trenches were dug further to the N to investigate a series of strong magnetic anomalies that had been traced during the geophysical survey right around the northern and north-western parts of the fort. These were suspected hearths, possible signs of vicus and/or industrial activity. In the event they proved to be caused by natural pockets of iron containing glacial sand, although one right-angled gully was uncovered which was probably an old field corner.

Archive: 55 Broadwalk, Pownall Park, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

Perth

HMP Perth

Evaluation

Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NO 116 224 An evaluation was carried on 4–29 February 2008 as part of a redevelopment programme. The site had originally been a Napoleonic prisoner-of-war camp and was subsequently converted into Scotland's first general prison. A single trench was excavated, next to the category B-listed hospital block, which revealed both the position of the 1811 perimeter wall of the prison and stone and concrete structures associated with 20th-century activity.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish Prisons Service

Kirkgate, Perth

Watching brief

Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NO 1195 2360 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 23, 29 and 30 January 2008 during the excavation of a sewage pipe in the middle of the street. The sections revealed a sequence of well preserved medieval midden rich in leather, bone, wood and pottery which dated to the 12th-15th centuries. The W-facing sections showed that the midden was separated by thin gravel layers. These are interpreted as either episodes of street resurfacing or the forelands of buildings lining Kirkgate. The watching brief recovered a medieval barrel lock and a copper alloy buckle with a foliage-type decorated buckle plate.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish Water

Riggs Road/Whitefriars Street, Perth

Evaluation and excavation

Derek Hall – SUAT Ltd

NO 1082 2380 (centred on) In advance of the demolition and redevelopment of Normands joiners workshop an evaluation was undertaken on 26–27 June 2007. Five machine-dug trenches were opened in the open ground around the standing buildings. The demolished remains of the friary church and its ranges were located in three of the trenches and human remains were encountered in the others. Further evaluation and monitoring of site investigation pits confrmed the presence and depth of the deposits.

Further large-scale excavations were carried out 16 June–22 August 2008 in advance of foundation work that would entail the destruction of all the archaeology within the footprint of the new development. The excavations located an undocumented group of Post-Reformation burials in the friary demolition levels, and exposed the full ground plan of the friary church and the N, W and E sides of the cloister arcade.

Excavations within the church located at least 103 articulated human burials and a sizeable amount of disarticulated human bone. New evidence for the rebuilding of the friary church by the Bishop of Dunkeld was discovered as were various construction phases for the W range of the friary. Excavations were halted by the developer on 22 August 2008 due to the costs involved in the excavation, lifting and analysis of so many human burials.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Direct Flooring Ltd

River Tay, Perth

Chance find

Mark Hall and Trevor Cowie – Perth Museum and Art Gallery/ National Museums Scotland

NO 1205 2150 (centred on) In August 2008, Mr I Robertson of Perth brought into Perth Museum a bronze blade which he had found in the River Tay at Perth *c*10–12 years earlier. Apart from the loss of one of the rivets (for attachment of the hilt), the blade is complete and finely ornamented with multiple grooves. Overall length, 197mm.

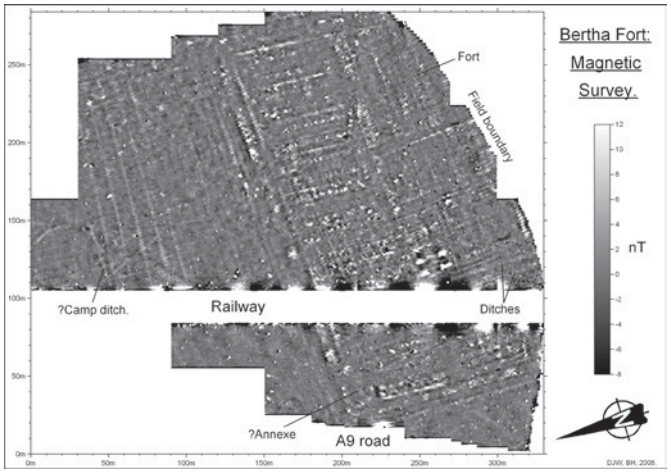
This is a fine example of the type of Middle Bronze Age weapon conventionally known as a dirk (late 16th–15th century BC). Such weapons are rare in Scotland and most common in Ireland, but there is another relatively local example known

from Pitcaithly, Perthshire. This new example is the first item of Middle Bronze Age metalwork from the Tay discovered in circumstances suggestive of deliberate deposition, and so in keeping with the pattern of recovery of the majority of dirks and rapiers from watery contexts such as rivers, lakes, bogs and fens.
Archive: The weapon is currently being held by Perth Museum & Art Gallery on behalf of the Receiver of Wreck pending a decision on ownership. The find will be published in detail elsewhere.

The White Horse Inn, North William Street
Desk-based assessment
Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NO 11621 23921 Work was carried out 24 April–12 June 2006 in advance of development. The site appeared to lie just outside the limits of the medieval burgh and close to the site of a 11th-century Dominican Friary in an area probably given over to rough grazing. The site remained undeveloped until the post-medieval expansion of both residential and industrial complexes in the 18th and early 19th centuries.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: IJ Property Developers

Redgorton

Bertha Roman fort
Geophysical survey
DJ Woolliscroft and B Hoffmann – The Roman Gask Project
NO 097 268 Resistance and magnetic surveys were conducted on the surviving parts of the fort itself, along with an area to its N. The site has never shown well from the air and little excavation has taken place, but the survey revealed a series of internal structures with unusual clarity, including barracks, rampart ovens and possible courtyard buildings as well as the defences and internal road network. In the W, two ditches were found running across the fort interior. These may suggest that the site was cut down (or extended) at some point, or that what had been thought to be the western end of the fort is actually an annexe. Outside the fort, a considerable area of rig and furrow cultivation was visible along with a ditch running parallel to the fort's northern defences, but *c*80m from them.
Archive: 55 Broadwalk, Pownall Park, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL
Funder: The Roman Research Trust



Magnetic survey, Bertha fort

Gowrie Quarry, Luncarty, Perth
Evaluation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 1001 3150 An evaluation was undertaken April–May 2008 in two areas (1 and 2) of archaeological potential in advance of development. A total of 43 trenches were excavated, 5% of the two areas (2558m^2). In Area 1, localised areas of broad-rig cultivation furrows, two pits and a possible burnt mound were recorded. Prehistoric lithics were also recovered from a localised deposit. In Area 2, two parallel ditches and three pits were recorded. These were undated.
Archive: Perth and Kinross SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Welchs Homes Ltd

Scone

Ardgilzean
Geophysical survey
P Morris – Blairgowrie Geoscience
NO 11640 29660 A magnetic gradiometer survey was carried out on 4 September 2008 over a circular cropmark about 15m in diameter seen on aerial photographs. Nothing of note was found.
Archive: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust
Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

St Madoes

Pitfour, St Madoes
Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 197 211 Work was carried out 12–13 November 2007 in advance of ground-breaking works associated with development. The area contained the remains of a possible cropmark interpreted as a possible prehistoric enclosure. During the field evaluation no significant archaeological remains were recorded. It is possible that ploughing has truncated this feature, or that the cropmark represents subtle changes within the underlying geology.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Barratt North Scotland

Weem

Glassie (GL 3)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 8588 5138 Recorded on 23 February 2008, 350m N of Glassie Farm a boulder flush with ground bears at least 16 cup marks one of which has an arc.

RENFREWSHIRE

Kilbarchan

Blackstoun Farm
Evaluation
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 4576 6601 On 17 January 2008 an evaluation was undertaken on the site of a proposed housing development at Blackstoun Farm. The evaluation consisted of two trenches and covered approximately 13% of the development area. The trenches exhibited a common stratigraphic sequence, with up to 0.55m of topsoil overlying up to 0.61m of mixed clays. No significant archaeological features were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Mr W Richie

Gryffe High School, Houston

Evaluation

Alastair Becket – GUARD

NS 403 664 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken from 22–23 January 2008 before the construction of a new sports pitch. The work was undertaken in response to an archaeological requirement by the planning authority due to the proximity of the site to the 'South Mound', a Bronze Age cairn and burial site 100m to the W. The evaluation showed that there were no archaeological remains in the construction area and that the site had been extensively landscaped during the construction of the school.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: Renfrewshire Council

SCOTTISH BORDERS

Cavers

Ashybank, Denholm

Watching brief

Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 5430 1774 Work took place on 8 May 2008 during the replacement of overhead electricity poles whose path crossed Eastcote Temporary Roman Camp. No features or deposits were recorded and no finds were recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Scottish Power

Channelkirk

Dunlaw Wind Farm Extension

Excavation

Ross White, Ian Hill and Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 465 568 An excavation was carried out from 17 September–16 November 2007 prior to construction of an access track. An evaluation in November 2005 (*DES* 2006) had identified the point at which the track would cross the scheduled monument of Dere Street Roman road (SAM 2962). The proposed access track cut approximately E/W through boggy ground.

Removal of topsoil and peat revealed a cobbled surface aligned approximately N/S and averaging 7.6m wide. This was interpreted as the agger of the Roman road. Excavation of the cobbled surface showed that the cobbles had been laid on a mat of brushwood to help float the road over the peat. The maximum depth of the road remains was *c*0.8m deep. A large spread deposit of silt was uncovered downslope to the E of the road alignment and overlay peat. This spread was evidently runoff material from the original Roman road surface which had slid off the cobbles and downhill after the Roman abandonment of the road.

A latticework of logs was identified below the road cobbles in the far S of the excavated area. Less than 1m of this feature was exposed, but it showed that more substantial foundations than brushwood were required in this area, possibly to cross a stream.

Several repairs were identified in the cobbled surface, probably infilled potholes, which can be attributed to post-Roman activity. The road is thought to have been a major communications route until the late medieval period, so the repairs were not unexpected.

A later detailed survey, excavation and watching brief were carried out on a trackway and a field boundary. The trackway consisted of a hollow-way with a width of up to *c*7m. A trial trench excavated across this feature identified two parallel wheel ruts. The field boundary appears on the 1st Edition OS map dating to 1862. A trench excavated across it showed that it consisted of numerous small angular stones, which took the form of a rough bank rather than a properly constructed dry stone wall. Both features had sustained considerable damage from forestry ploughing. The watching brief did not identify any additional features.

Archive: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR

Funder: Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Group

Coldingham

Coldingham Priory Community Garden (Adopt-a-Monument)

Creation of a community garden, linked to a wider restoration project for the priory

Julia Carter – Friends of Coldingham Priory

NT 9039 6594 The AAM project to develop a community garden (wildlife-friendly with monastic elements such as orchard trees, herbs and historical interpretation) has been in the planning stages for 12 months. It is now linked with the conservation of the Priory ruins. The local authority, Scottish Borders Council, and a charitable trust, Tweed Forum, are combining their efforts with the community group's AAM project.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Borders Council and various Charitable Trusts and foundations

Graveyard recording taster session with Dr Susan Buckham in April 2008

Pole Hill, St Abbs

Findspot

Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland

NT 9045 6845 Surface find by Wayne Gibson of a bifacially worked discoidal flint artefact, either a core or a knife-like tool, probably of Late Neolithic date. Maximum dimension 48mm, Th 14mm.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 16/08) and allocated to Scottish Borders Museums

Earlston

Huntshaw Brae (Plot 4), Huntshaw Farm, Earlston

Watching brief

Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP

NT 5730 3975 Work was conducted in October 2007 during groundworks for the erection of a new house and garage. Several cropmarks exist in this area but no archaeological finds or features were revealed.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Scottish Borders Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Mr and Mrs R Henderson

Eddleston

Cringletie Rig, Eddleston

Findspot
Alan Saville – National Museums Scotland
NT 22216 43678 Surface find in 2006 by Joyce Durham of a polished stone axehead, complete except for slight damage at the butt. Dimensions L 186 x B 70 x Th 40mm; weight 690g.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 98/07) and allocated to Scottish Borders Museums (Tweeddale Museum, Peebles)

Eddleston

Survey
RD Knox – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society
NT 2635 5030 to NT 2665 5040 – Cultivation remains.
NT 2500 5130 (centred on) – Fieldwalking. 6 chert cores, chert blades/flakes, flint blades/flakes, 2 pieces medieval pottery.
NT 2612 5080 (centred on) – Fieldwalking. 25 chert cores, 1 flint core, 6 chert scrapers, chert blades, flint blades, 1 flint arrowhead, 1 chert microlith, 1 hammerstone.
NT 2590 5120 (centred on) – Fieldwalking. 1 gunflint, 2 flint scrapers, 4 chert scrapers, 5 chert cores, 2 flint cores, chert blades/flakes.
Report: RCAHMS and SBC SMR (intended)
Funder: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Edrom

Allanbank House

Monitoring
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 8570 5440 The history of the site was traced from the early medieval period and there were at least three significant building complexes, the Castle of East Nisbet (15th- to 17th-century), a 17th- to 18th-century country house, and Allanbank House (1848–1968) built by David Bryce. A watching brief was maintained on 6–7 November 2007 as a total of three service trenches and three trial trenches were excavated over the proposed footprint of a new development.

The evaluation trenches exposed parts of the S and E limits of the Bryce house, demolished in 1968. A previous owner commented that much of the building stone had been salvaged and the remaining demolition debris landscaped flat. The remains of the house were relatively well defined by truncated wall lines with areas between these apparently external walls infilled with light rubble and general debris. The excavation revealed the presence of cellarage. The irregular alignment of the outer S walls is reflected by a probable window and doorway, the latter also showing the presence of an external series of at least two steps, the N one of which has been robbed out.

Nothing of any earlier occupation was observed, which may be due to the apparently extensive landscaping of the natural ground surface when the Bryce house was constructed. The site appears to have been cleared down to firm clays, which lie at a general depth of 0.5m below topsoil. The contents of the service trenches also suggest that the site had been cleared towards the S limits of the available building platform.

The drain in Trench 6 may have some association with a pronounced rounded depression lying NW of the Bryce house, a possible pond or garden feature, drained or fed by the drain. The feature appears to have been an open, deep channel and may have been a feature of the 19th-century garden layout to the NW of the Bryce house, as opposed to a simple field drain.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr J Church

Hawick

Trident 132Kv OHL Route – Hawick Grid Substation to Tower V269, Hawick

Watching brief
Melanie Johnson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 4879 1587 (centred on) Work was carried out in January and February 2008 during the excavation of postholes for an overhead power line. One of the postholes impinged upon the edge of a turf bank. Topsoil was generally shallow and no features of archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Scottish Power Energy Networks

Hutton

Spital Mains Steading, Near Paxton

Standing building survey
M Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 9249 5284 (centred on) A Level 3 standing building survey carried out from January–June 2008 recorded the principal architectural features. The farm was built in the late 18th century on a courtyard plan and its general layout has remained little altered throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. The farm was geared to rearing livestock and this is reflected in the formal layout of the buildings arranged round the courtyard to form three cattle courts.

A derelict two-storey mill, horse engine and a long range of cattle sheds were recorded. Evidence for the use of diesel-powered machinery represents the second phase of power within this building.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Ross Architectural Consultants

Jedburgh

Jedburgh Abbey

Watching brief
Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 6503 2044 A watching brief was undertaken on 14 May 2008 during the excavation of a small trench at the E end of the Nave where there is a step down into the Crossing. The area appeared to have been disturbed during the laying of slabs in the 1990s. A lower deposit contained crushed sandstone, perhaps the remnants of an earlier floor surface. Human bone was also seen, although this appeared to have been redeposited in a mixed deposit containing relatively recent earthenware.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Jedburgh Health Centre

Evaluation
Daniel Rhodes – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 6515 2057 Work on 4–9 July 2008 before development uncovered the foundation remains of two sandstone walls and demolition material. These are thought to be associated with a former brewery and possible Victorian tenements.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Borders Health Board Ltd

Lilliesleaf

Plot 1 and Plot 2, Stack Yard, Easter Lilliesleaf

Watching brief and evaluation
Melanie Johnson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 5371 2525 A watching brief was carried out in April 2008 during the excavation of foundation trenches for a proposed new house on Plot 1. This was followed by an evaluation on the site of building plot 2. The area is close to the presumed location of the former Lilliesleaf Tower (NT52NW 9). Four trenches, an area of 70m^2, were excavated within the footprint of Plot 2. No archaeological remains were discovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Mr David Forster

Lyne

Lyne Kirkyard (Adopt-a-Monument)

Gravestone conservation and interpretation
Trevor Cowie and Helen Bradley – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society and Archaeology Scotland
NT 1917 4052 Further to the graveyard survey in 2007 (*DES* 2007, 172–3), the monument to Janet Veitch (d 1712) was removed for professional conservation prior to reinstallation in November 2008. The gravestone bears a particularly fine representation of the Fall, Adam and Eve and the Serpent being vividly depicted beneath the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and other sculpted features.

Conservation was required to make good the effects of well-meaning but inappropriate protective measures which were apparently undertaken in the 1980s, when the gravestone was set on a concrete plinth in an enclosed perspex box. This exposed the stone to the effects of damp, moss and lichen growth and more recently damage from abrasion following failure and loosening of the cover. In order to address these problems, the stone has been cleaned and stabilised, set in a new sandstone shoe and protected by a secure and properly ventilated reinforced glass cover. The conservation work was carried out by Graciela Ainsworth Sculpture Conservation and Restoration.

The other strand of this project has involved the production of interpretive materials explaining the significance of the gravestone and setting it and the church in their local archaeological and historical context. A graphic panel has been installed and a leaflet has been published; a booklet is in preparation.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland, Awards for All

Melrose

Easter Langlee, Galashiels

Evaluation
Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 5520 3580 A total of 88 trenches, 7540m of trenching (7% of the site) was excavated from 3–14 December 2007. A possible prehistoric enclosure (NT53NW 57) identified on aerial photographs was the only known archaeological monument in the area. The enclosure was identified during the evaluation and consisted of a *c*3–4m wide by 1.20m deep ditch. Three pits were also fully excavated and sampled. No other significant archaeological features or artefacts were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Persimmon Homes

Harmony Hall

Evaluation
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NT 54693 34248 An evaluation to a depth of 0.4m below ground surface was carried out on 2–5 July 2007. It aimed to ensure that archaeological features relating to Melrose Abbey were not damaged by the use of the lawn for events. A gravel rich drainage layer containing 18th-century artefacts overlaid possible natural clay subsoil at 0.4–0.42m.
Archive: CHC and NTS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Harmony Hall, Rear Courtyard

Watching brief
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NT 54690 34240 On 11 November 2008 repairs were made to the courtyard. Late 20th-century stone slabs were removed and replaced with new slabs. The original pebble cobbles had previously been removed to form a base for a 1980s repair. A small section of the original slabs that had formed the parking area for a cart remained. These were recorded but not retained. Sand had been used to form a footing for the cobbles and beneath this was a mixed clay layer. A fragment of a 1760s glazed Scottish Manganese bowl was found on the interface between the two layers. This corresponds with the late 18th- to early 19th-century dates for the construction and redevelopment of the house.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Melrose Abbey – Brewery Yard Vaulted Building

Standing building recording and historical research
Sarah Hogg and Tom Whalley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 5493 3420 Detailed recording took place between 15 November 2007 and 14 February 2008. Historical research into the origins and use of the structure was also completed. The building in question is an enigmatic structure in the SE corner of the yard. The vault is almost entirely intact with only two small breaches in the NW and NE corners. The exterior walls are in varying condition with the S and E wall in the best condition. The N wall has been made unstable by a (now dead) tree and the W wall has partially fallen away. While possibly of medieval date, the building has seen much alteration, particularly when it became part of a brewery in the 19th century.

The main elevations of the vaulted building were drawn and described. Where practical these were drawn stone-by-stone, but elsewhere schematic drawings were produced that outlined the main details.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Melrose Cauld

Watching brief
Laura Scott – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 5443 3444 A watching brief on excavations to repair a river wall in a scheduled ancient monument next to Melrose Cauld took place on 22 February 2008. The excavations uncovered the remains of an older river wall running parallel and to the rear of the existing wall. There were no visible differences in the sands and river gravels surrounding the earlier wall. Two hypotheses were suggested:

- The wall once abutted an earlier riverbank, but the line of this bank cannot be distinguished from redeposited sand and gravel dumped when the existing wall was built.
- The recorded section of earlier wall was freestanding

and was covered when the riverbank was raised during the building of the existing river wall.

Given the rough construction of the wall the former explanation seems most likely.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish Borders Council

Townhead Farm, Melrose

Watching brief

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 5617 3371 to NT 5675 3394 The excavation of a trench for a water pipe through the Newstead Roman Camps (S and SE), a scheduled ancient monument (No. 163), took place on 13–15 April 2008. The trench cut through 0.30m of topsoil and 0.30m of subsoil for a distance of 600m. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: SA Farming Ltd

Mertoun

Dryburgh Abbey

Watching brief

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 5914 3170 Work took place to replace a wooden stair connecting the upper floor of the E range with the church and a watching brief was maintained on 26 November 2007 during the excavation of a shallow slot in the S Transept. The slot was just N of the junction of the S and W walls of the S Transept and was needed to take the N end of the new timber stair. The wooden stair can be seen to overlie the scar of a robbed-out stair (presumably stone), contemporary with the Abbey's use. A stair in this position, connecting the monastic dormitory and the church, is a standard feature of such sites, known as the 'night stair'.

An irregular line of stones was thought to be the top of the below-ground level footings of the Transept's W wall. The scars noted on this line of stones probably represent the base of the night stair.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Dryburgh Abbey

Watching brief

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 5911 3171 A watching brief was maintained on 26 November 2007 during the removal of a diseased laburnum tree and excavation of a small hole for a replacement tree. The tree was directly against the N boundary wall, some 3m W of where the path and wall meet at the NW corner of the church. The replacement hole's NE corner was 2.4m W and 2.4m S of this junction. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Dryburgh Abbey

Watching brief

Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 5912 3170 and NT 5901 3173 Three small trenches were excavated on 15 May 2008, one just inside the nave near the W door and two at the far W end of the Abbey grounds, near the River Tweed.

The two trenches in the grounds were for the relocation of a bench, while the trench in the nave was a shallow excavation to allow the placement of slabs in an area of erosion next to a notice board. Nothing of significance was seen in the first two, but human remains were found in the nave trench. This burial had been previously disturbed, but both sides of a pelvis in good condition and traces of the coccyx and the base of the spine were still *in situ*. Bones found in overlying deposits were replaced and the trench backfilled.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Dryburgh Abbey

Excavation and standing building recording

David Murray and Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 591 316 Following large-scale excavations in 2006, minor excavations were carried out 4–6 June 2008 as part of works to improve drainage near the E range. An underground 'mole' was used to dig a drain, at a depth intended to avoid disturbing any archaeological deposits, from the sump and soak-away just S of the Warming House to the ditch to the S of the Novices' Dayroom.

Three small trenches were excavated, one an extension of an earlier trench at the sump and two on the N side of the ditch where the 'mole' was intended to emerge. The sump trench did not reveal any new features beyond those seen in 2006, relating to 'industrial' activity during the monastic period. Features in the two ditch trenches were thought likely to be of post-monastic date, associated with late 18th- to early 19th-century landscaping.

A standing building survey was also carried out to examine the exterior N and E walls of the Chapter House. Evidence suggested the presence of timber structures, including what may have been a substantial timber gallery running around the upper E end of the Chapter House and possibly extending to the N face of the NE tower.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

Oxnam

Swinside Townhead

Standing building recording

Alistair Robertson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 7265 1635 A desk-based assessment and Level 2 standing building survey were carried out between 12 December 2007–8 January 2008. Swinside Townhead Farm is part of a group of three and lies at an altitude of approximately 186m. The three farms (N to S) are Swinside Townfoot, Swinside Hall and Swinside Townhead.

Swinside Townhead was founded in the 18th century, probably later than both the other farms. The original group included a farmhouse (now demolished) and a byre, barn and stable. Later additions included a large cart shed and an additional byre as well as hay/grain lofts and a steam power plant and thresher. The farm is part of a locally significant architectural group characterised by rubble masonry and slate roofs.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Ada Properties Ltd

Peebles

Edston Hill

Cultivation remains

RD Knox – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society

NT 220 410 to NT 221 412 to NT 226 412 to NT 224 408 There are a variety of types of rig and furrow, including reverse S broad rig, at the head of the Edston Burn, not only

on the SE-facing slopes as described in RCAHMS NT24SW 90, but also on the S-facing and SW-facing slopes.

Edston Hill
Burnt Mound
RD Knox – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society
NT 22382 41197 There is a prominent burnt mound approximately 8 x 6m and 1m high, surrounded by rig and furrow.

Edston Quarry, Peebles
Walkover survey
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NT 2260 4000 A walkover survey over an area measuring 300m N/S by 100–230m wide, where the existing quarry is due to extend, recorded no sites of archaeological significance. Several possible cup marks were noted on an outcrop of rock further S at NT 2256 3978.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS
Funder: Leiths (Scotland) Limited

Smailholm

Smailholm
Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NT 6485 3647 Evaluation work carried out 24 June–8 July 2008 during the erection of a house identified numerous features. As all features fell outside the footprint of the house they were recorded in plan but mostly left unexcavated. The remains of a cottage shown on Roy's Map were found and recorded. The floor of the cottage appeared to be of compacted clay. Post-medieval ceramics, glass and building materials were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Guy Bailey

Sprouston

Land South of Old School House, Lempitlaw
Evaluation
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 7868 3264 An evaluation on the 15 September 2008 before development found no deposits, features or finds of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: TH Brewis, Lempitlaw Farm

Traquair

Camp Shiel
Retting Pond
RD Knox, J Durham and J Boughey – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society
NT 34302 32934 On the right bank of, and adjacent to, the Camp Shiel burn is a roughly circular pond. This is presumed to be a retting pond, measuring *c*4 x 3.5m internally, enclosed by turf banks 1m wide x 0.80m high internally. Water entered by means of a channel from the burn through a gap in the E side, and left by means of a channel from a gap in the N side to join the burn downstream.

Shaw Hill
Burnt Mound
RD Knox, J Boughey and J Durham – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society
NT 33622 33508 On the right bank of, and adjacent to, the unnamed burn that drains into Fingland Burn there is a burnt mound, approximately 5 x 3m and 1m high.

Yarrow

Yarrow, Selkirk
Watching brief
Joe Feeney and Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 350 278 Ground-breaking works associated with the proposed construction of an agricultural building were monitored on 3–4 April 2008. The site is close to known prehistoric and early historic monuments. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Buccleuch Estates

SHETLAND

Bressay

Cruester Burnt Mound
Excavation
H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology
HU 4815 4231 A burnt mound with an integral structure at Cruester was originally excavated in 2000. The site lies on the coast and had been damaged by erosion. In 2008, under the auspices of a project entitled 'Bronze Age Bressay', the site was reopened and some additional excavation was carried out. The purpose of this work was to facilitate the removal of the stonework from the site in order to reconstruct it in a new location where it was not vulnerable to further erosion. The new excavation undertaken in June–July 2008 included an examination of the subfloor deposits and the surrounding mound. The demolition of the building provided the opportunity to re-examine the nature of the construction. The work was undertaken in conjunction with local volunteers.
Archive: RCAHMS and SAT
Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund, Shetland Islands Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Shetland Amenity Trust

Cruester Burnt Mound – Bressay History Group (Adopt-a-Monument)
Relocation and reconstruction of eroding coastal site
Douglas Coutts – Bressay History Group, The SCAPE Trust, Archaeology Scotland

The opening ceremony at Cruester Burnt Mound in August 2008 © Tom Dawson

HU 48907 41608 (reconstruction site) Bressay History Group, in partnership with The SCAPE Trust and Archaeology

Scotland, rescued the core structures of the Cruester Bronze Age burnt mound (see above for account of the excavation). The structures were transported to a new site next to the Bressay Heritage Centre at Leiraness, where it was rebuilt by professional restoration stonemasons. The professionals were supported by local volunteers, both members of the Bressay History Group and others. During the project a programme of open days with re-enactments, demonstrations and site tours was run. There were also public lectures and schools visits. For more information see the project website at www.shorewatch.co.uk/cruester.
Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund, Shetland Islands Council, Highland and Islands Enterprise and Shetland Amenity Trust

Delting

Voe Cemetery Extension
Assessment
H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology
HU 4048 6355 An assessment was undertaken in February 2008 on land adjoining the S side of Voe Cemetery in response to a proposal by Shetland Islands Council to extend the graveyard. A total of three trenches were opened by hand; all were sited to investigate a topographical anomaly. This was shown to be of natural origin. One feature was identified as being of probable archaeological interest; this consisted of a metalled surface, of probable post-medieval date.
Archive: RCAHMS, SAT
Funder: Shetland Islands Council

Dunrossness

Sumburgh Early Neolithic Burial Cist
Osteological reassessment and multiple isotope analyses of Early Neolithic human remains
ND Melton – University of Bradford
HU 393 106 Research is being undertaken on the human remains uncovered in 1977 during construction works at Sumburgh Airport. The assemblage of skeletal material consisted of the fragmented and co-mingled remains of at least 18 individuals. A bone from the assemblage was radiocarbon dated to 3235–3135 BC, making them the earliest human remains found in the Shetland Isles (Hedges and Parry 1980).

The current research is being carried out as part of a wider study of the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition in Shetland that was initiated by the discovery of Mesolithic-Neolithic transition middens at West Voe, some 400m to the S of the burial site. Seven new radiocarbon dates have been obtained from the human remains, indicating that they were deposited in *c*3500–3000 BC, and are therefore in part contemporary with the upper of the two middens present at West Voe which was deposited in *c*3500–3250 BC.

The research on the Sumburgh assemblage has included an osteological reassessment and isotope analyses of bones and teeth. The former has provided a revised estimate of the number of individuals represented in the assemblage. Evidence of trauma, degenerative joint disease, osteoarthritis, infection, childhood periods of stress, and nutritional disorder has been noted in the skeletal assemblage. Bone fracture morphology, together with evidence of weathering, erosion and carnivore activity has been used to investigate mortuary practices.

Hedges, JW, Parry, GA 1980. *A Neolithic multiple burial from Sumburgh, Shetland*. *Glasgow Archaeol J*, **7,** 15–26

Thanks to Tommy Watt and Dr Carol Christiansen at the Shetland Museum for providing access to the skeletal material and for their support and advice.
Funder: Historic Scotland, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and The University of Bradford

Fetlar

Fetlar Cemetery Extension
Assessment
H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology
HU 6075 9053 An assessment was undertaken on land adjoining Fetlar Cemetery during February 2008. The work aimed to test for the presence of subsurface archaeological remains prior to the extension of the graveyard. Three trenches were excavated by machine; no features or deposits of an archaeological nature were found.
Archive: RCAHMS, SAT
Funder: Shetland Islands Council

Lerwick

Fort Charlotte
Excavation and monitoring
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
HU 476 415 A programme of excavation and monitoring was undertaken from 4 December 2007–15 February 2008, in advance of and during intrusive works near and under the E battery wall. This was the latest phase in a series of works started in 1992. Earlier visits had located and recorded the remains of 18th-century gun platforms hidden below the current turf level and it was necessary to carry out further minor excavation, both to locate the previously excavated platforms and to reveal the northern limit of one partially revealed platform. This was followed by more substantial excavation to allow the insertion of reinforced concrete piles and underpinning under the E battery wall. Since much of the area had been examined in some detail during previous excavations, this latest work did not add a great deal to the interpretation of the sequence of construction in this part of Fort Charlotte. The deliberate avoidance of the more significant structures (gun platforms) also made any new archaeological discoveries less likely. There was no new evidence of the earliest phases.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Lerwick/Tingwall

The Islands of East Burra, West Burra and Trondra
Landscape survey to produce gazetteer as part of PhD thesis
Deborah ES Lamb – Bradford University
Study area: the islands of East Burra, West Burra and Trondra, all lying within a rectangle marked by a SW point at HU 3450 2800 and a NE point at HU 4050 3900.

The archaeological sites and monuments in the study area were comprehensively examined in order to provide a fully mapped and referenced gazetteer. This involved examining the existing record and producing updated information including current condition and accurate GPS location. Sites were also surveyed and photographed and where appropriate re-assessed in the light of recent research and excavation. In the course of a full programme of fieldwalking, over 100 previously unrecorded sites and monuments were identified and described. Around 60 of these were individual stretches of prehistoric boundary, with the others comprising a range of cairns, houses and enclosures. The most notable and best preserved monuments were a prehistoric burial cairn, two

early oval houses, a homestead within its enclosure and an Early Norse longhouse. Work relating to this project was undertaken between October 2000–March 2008.
Archive: Bradford University, RCAHMS and Shetland Amenity Trust (intended)
Funder: Bradford University

Northmaven

Hagrie's Böd, Gunnister Voe

Excavation
Mark Gardiner – Dept of Archaeology, Queen's University Belfast
HU 3095 7416 The trading site at Gunnister Voe is mentioned in a court case of 1603 when the Hamburg merchant Simon Harratstay or Hagarskilde noted that he had a licence dated 8 August 1582 to operate there. The traditional name of a knowe which projects into the voe is Hagrie's Böd, which is evidently a corruption of the name of this Hamburg merchant. Excavations were undertaken from 5–12 September 2008 as the first stage of a longer-term project to identify and survey Hanseatic trading sites in Shetland. Two walls of the booth or böd were uncovered and possible traces of floor stones. However, the building appears to have been reused in the later 18th or early 19th century and no evidence was found for 16th- or 17th-century activity. There had been considerable over-washing of the site by storm action which had led to the deposition of stones and gravel. Iron Age pottery was found in a trench cut immediately to the N of the booth, though no structures or other features were recorded.
Archive: Lerwick Museum, Shetland (intended)
Funder: Römisch-Germanische Kommission and Queen's University Belfast

Unst

Sandwick

Chance find
Martin Goldberg – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
HP 61 02 Two conical steatite spindle whorls were found on the Isle of Unst. Conical spindle whorls appear from the Viking period onwards and are scarcer than their bun-shaped equivalents in Shetland. These two differ slightly in form and shape and are also enhanced by different types of decoration. Sandwick has numerous contemporary settlements, some of which have been excavated (see *DES* 1980, 26–7).
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 27/08) and allocated to Shetland Museums

Hamar, Belmont and Underhoull

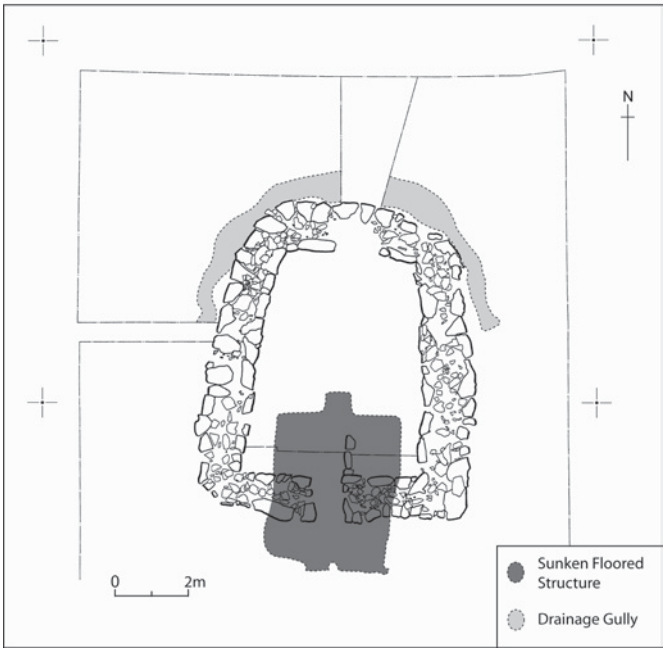
Excavation
JM Bond, AC Larson and VE Turner
This was the third year of the Viking Unst project which incorporates the excavation of Viking longhouses at Hamar, Belmont and Underhoull. Work at Hamar and Underhoull was drawn to a conclusion, with a further season proposed for Belmont.

Hamar, Baltasound

HP 6463 0933 This was the third year of work at Hamar and the second at Upper House, Underhoull (see *DES* 2006, 2007). The aims of this final season were to complete the excavation of the remaining features at Hamar House 1, the upper room, western annexe and ash pit/drain, while leaving the walls intact for consolidation and display. At House 2, the aims were to extend the exploratory trench opened in 2007 in order to understand (and date) the floor deposits beneath the medieval ash infill and to understand the 'yard' area between the house and the hill.

House 1 – Excavations at House 1 showed that there were many more phases of the structure than previous surveys and studies had suggested (Stummann Hansen 2000, Bond *et al* 2006). The latest (as yet undated) occupation seems to have used only part of the upper room, with a dividing wall and post setting forming a smaller space at the northern end. A stone setting running N/S parallel to the eastern long wall suggests the possibility of a sprung floor. A stone setting and burning part way up the wall on the western side indicate a possible corner hearth or oven.

These features sealed an earlier phase where an ashy floor lay directly over bedrock. Early indications are that this phase relates to the building of the secondary cross wall which created the upper room, and that it dates to the Late Norse period. The finds from this floor surface included fragments of a pot with a gritty texture, a schist hone stone and fragments of steatite bake plate. Surprisingly, the bedrock floor surface was not dug into the slope of the hill to form benches and a sunken floor, as earlier investigations based on a small exploratory trench had suggested (Stummann Hansen 2000), but was mostly level with base of the walls. This occupation surface sealed the deposits encountered in the earlier excavations, which were in fact the fill and floor surfaces of a sunken-floored structure which lay under the cross wall of the extant building and on the same alignment as the long walls. This structure is *c*3 x 4m with settings for post pads at the centre of the N and S pit edges and possible evidence for smaller corner posts. To the S the pit is *c*200mm deep, while to the N it is dug into the bedrock to a depth of *c*300mm. The finds from the deposits included a steatite line sinker and fragments of copper alloy. The later cross wall seals this feature and the infill of the pit. No closely comparable sunken-featured building has been found in Shetland, although there are traces of a sunken structure at The Biggins, Papa Stour, and the Hamar structure bears a close resemblance to pit houses found in Norway dating from the 9th century and later (Crawford and Ballin Smith 1999, 208–213; Mårtensen 1997).



The upper room of House 1 at Hamar (Unst, Shetland), highlighting the sunken floor structure and drainage gully. (Drawn by Daniel Bashford)

Investigation of the remaining fragments of the western

annexe continued and revealed a wall hearth sealed by later flagging. Samples for archaeomagnetic dating were taken from this and other burnt features.

Work also concluded on the substantial ash pit running lengthwise down the lower room and out under the end wall of the house. It is now confirmed that the pit is older than the end walls and that the house must have been substantially shortened (or the position of the house as whole shifted down slope) when the later end wall was rebuilt over the ash pit. Whether this ash pit formed part of a structure of the same or an earlier or later phase as the sunken structure is not yet apparent. A lone posthole hard by the western long wall, with a fragment of steatite bake plate at the base of its fill, suggests that rebuilding may have been more substantial than is obvious from the remaining deposits.

House 2 – Work on House 2 investigated the deposits sealed by the medieval ash midden infill of the structure, which was rich in charred grains of hulled barley and fragments of straight-sided steatite vessels. The work demonstrated that there was a drain or gully on the hillward side of the building, presumably to drain hilllwash away from the walls of the house. Excavation of the interior revealed a flagged surface and a small patch of burning, which was sampled for archaeomagnetic dating.

Underhoull Upper House, Westings

The Upper House at Underhoull, Unst, Shetland (Photograph: Julie Bond)

HP 5734 0435 This season assessment trenches excavated in 2007 were extended. It is now known that the Upper House is quite similar in plan to the original house excavated at Underhoull (Small 1966), with two annexes on the southern (seaward) side of the building. Investigation of the structure showed that it was constructed with a stone frontage on the southern long wall and western gable, while the northern upslope side had a turf and stone construction with a gully running along the northern long wall. The southern side of the building faces down slope and towards the sea and so would be the most exposed face. The southern side is also the most likely direction of access to the structure. The two annexes flank the entrance on the southern side and there are areas of flagging here also.

The upper part of the house had a floor constructed partly of flagstones and partly of the natural bedrock. This was sealed by a deposit containing the highest concentration of artefacts on the site. This included a large quantity of steatite with fragments of large vessels, pottery fragments and an unfinished steatite lamp. The mid part of the building was largely sterile in terms of finds, though two line sinkers of steatite were found in this area. Lines of flagstones butting the long walls in this area suggest the possibility that there was a sprung timber floor.

The two annexes proved to have more than one phase, with multiple occupation surfaces sealing hearths in both rooms. Samples have been taken for archaeomagnetic dating. A turf-walled enclosure to the N of the building and connected to it externally was also investigated; small fragments of steatite and charcoal were the only finds recovered from this area. It is possible that this area formed a small yard or work space.

The peat growth which covered the flagging on the south side of the structure was also further investigated this year, with sampling for pollen, tephra and other analyses. The date and nature of this peat growth is still under investigation. Post-excavation work and dating of the Hamar and Underhoull structures is continuing.

Belmont

The settlement, of which the Norse site is part, is located on a W facing slope consisting of marginal hill grazing at around 30m OD. The Norse settlement is aligned downslope and is part of a multi-period complex. Earlier excavations took place in 1996 and 2006 (Larsen 1997a, 1997b; Bond, Larsen and Turner 2006), as part of an extensive investigation of Viking Age (early Norse) and Late Norse settlement in Unst.

The principal objective for 2008 was to further investigate the phases defined in 2006 including:

- Deposits pre-dating the construction of the longhouse.
- A Viking longhouse (primary house) with curved walls and with drains constructed before the house. Soils associated with the house.
- Second phase longhouse with the walls straightened and with the extensions added to the building. Soils associated with this phase of the longhouse and its extensions.
- Late Norse structure built over the north-western portion of the longhouse and with a re-modelled north-western extension. Soils associated with this phase of the house and its extensions.
- Deposits post-dating abandonment of the longhouse.
- Planticrub structure and soils associated with the planticrub cultivation. The planticrub was constructed over the abandoned Late Norse house in the post-medieval period.
- The construction and character of the different house units, the settlement structure, the economic resource unit and the dating of the different phases of the Norse farm.

The excavation area of two years ago was extended with a new area (Area 20) to the N of the NW extension and with another area (Area 19) to the S of the longhouse. Removing the last remains of the planticrub on top of the northern longwall made it possible to get a better insight into the different building phases of the Norse settlement.

Longhouse (House 1) – The interior of the Norse dwelling-house (measuring approximately 22 x 7m) was excavated through the removal of internal baulks and further removal of floor layers. In the SE (upper slope) part of the longhouse the centrally placed *longfire* (hearth) was further investigated and a paved area was found N of the hearth. This paved area leads to a tentatively identified entrance in the northern long wall.

The bench located in 2006 in the northern part of the upper end of the house was located further to the NW and was seen as a continuous structure running along the northern longwall. In the lower-lying end of the longhouse a set of postholes for roof supporting posts were identified near the NW gable end, and together with the posthole identified in 2006 the two postholes can be linked to House I. Another new discovery in House I was an entrance in the middle of the southern longwall opposite the northern entrance located in 1996. This year's work confirmed that the original northern longwall had been straightened in a later building phase.

Extensions – The western extension situated to the N of the longhouse was further excavated and a paved passage was located running between the northern longwall and this extension. From this passage an entrance leads into the extension. The deposits in the eastern extension were only briefly investigated but it was possible to locate a concentration of hammer scale indicating that metalworking activities had taken place there.

Later construction – A better understanding of the shorter, rebuilt, later house (House II – *c*13 x 6m) was obtained. Apart from the fireplace constructed against the S wall (already identified in 1996) a new centrally placed hearth was found. This hearth was constructed re-using part of the internal drain of House I. A little to the N of this hearth a posthole (for a roof supporting post) cut into the bedrock was excavated. To the S of the hearth a flat stone situated opposite this posthole indicated a probable base for another roof supporting post.

An additional possible posthole was found immediately inside the SE gable end of House II. To the N of this possible posthole a bench was located inside the eastern gable end running SE/NW along the northern wall of House II. This area was extremely rich in finds (see below).

Environmental samples were taken from inside the structures.

Paved areas and drains – Several paved areas connected with the longhouse were more thoroughly investigated – eg around the entrance area of the northern longwall in House I. A slab with two drilled holes found in the interior part of this entrance of the longhouse might indicate the presence of an internal dividing wall (eg made of wicker). A part of the internal drain in House I was reused as a hearth in House II.

Outhouse or enclosure – The SE part of the oblong structure situated parallel and to the N of the longhouse was uncovered in order to determine any stratigraphic relationship between this structure and the Norse settlement. The pathway running from the northern entrance of the longhouse and between the two extensions was discovered to continue further to the N. It was possible to follow the pathway passing and overlying the oblong structure which means that the latter is older that the pathway.

The structure seems to have a double-walled construction, but its dating is uncertain. Parallels are known from Neolithic times in Shetland (eg West Mainland).

Stone walls – The stone walls uncovered in 2006 were further surveyed in 2008 in order to produce data for a three-dimensional model of the Norse site.

Norse finds – More than 300 finds were uncovered this season, including artefacts such as steatite lamps, net sinkers, line sinkers, hones of schist (local and imported Eidsborg types), fragments of household articles such as pottery and steatite bowls as well as large amounts of raw materials and manufacturing waste. One of the most significant finds this season was an iron bloom found in a circular stone structure to the S of the longhouse (found on the last day of excavation). Some form of channel seems to be running downslope from this structure. Another find of potential importance is a roundish, composite metal object, presumably a weight.

Preliminary dating – The layout of the structures and the finds suggest possible dates for the settlement site. The earliest phase of the longhouse, its curved walls, size, the byre and the centrally placed hearth, has parallels with other Norse sites in Shetland and the Faroe Islands, dated to the 9th–10th centuries AD. The later House II has parallels with the Norse coastal site at Underhoull. The two hearths indicate two different phases of House II. The house is smaller, a feature which seems characteristic of the medieval or late Norse period. The structure is currently tentatively dated to the 11th–12th centuries AD.

Rock carvings – The cup-marked feature to the S of the southern longwall was further delimited but it is still uncertain whether it is a cup-marked stone or if the cup-marks were made on bedrock.

Economy – The large quantities of worked steatite, raw material and manufacturing waste indicate that steatite quarrying and production might have played a very important role in the economy of Norse Belmont. This summer, a survey took place in order to determine the proximity and extent of local steatite resources. Several outcrops were found in the vicinity and some showed traces of having been worked. The survey and geological maps show seven to eight outcrops of steatite near Belmont.

The discovery of an iron bloom indicates that iron smelting could also have played a part in the economy of Belmont.

Excavations will continue at Belmont in 2009.

British and Danish sponsors, funding bodies and support: European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, Shetland Amenity Trust, Shetland Development Trust, Shetland Enterprise Company, Shetland Islands Council, The Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, University of Aberdeen, University of Bradford and University of Copenhagen

Uyeasound

Watching brief

H Moore and G Wilson – EASE Archaeology

HP 5980 0070 A watching brief was undertaken in March 2008 during the demolition of a former shop and associated groundworks. This work was carried out in preparation for the development of industrial units and the creation of a new pier. No features of archaeological interest were noted. Part of a field drain uncovered during the groundworks is thought to be of post-medieval date.

Archive: RCAHMS and SAT

Funder: Shetland Islands Council

SOUTH AYRSHIRE

Ayr

Alloway Auld Kirk and Kirkyard

Monitoring of renovation works

Christine Rennie – GUARD

NS 339 180 Monitoring of restoration and conservation works was undertaken between 22 August and 30 October

2007. During the removal of the existing public footpath around the Kirk large quantities of human remains and two previously unmarked graves were uncovered. The remains were disarticulated and had clearly been disturbed at an earlier date, probably during work to create the existing footpath. The human remains have been re-interred in an appropriate manner.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: ARP Lorimer and Associates; CBC Stone

Castlehill House, Ayr
Evaluation
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 3520 2027 An evaluation was undertaken of a possible barrel-vaulted chamber on 26 March 2008. The work revealed the existence of the lower level of Castlehill House built by David Hamilton in 1804.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: South Ayrshire Council

Coylton

Cloquhairnan Farm, Coylton
Monitoring
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 4320 1740 Monitoring was undertaken on 23 October 2008 during the construction of an underground slurry storage tank. No significant archaeological features were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Mr James Kerr

Dundonald

Barassie, Troon
Evaluation
Alastair Becket – GUARD
NS 338 327 An evaluation was carried out between 17 March–4 April 2008 and investigated 5% of the area of the site. Several localised archaeological features were encountered and an area of possible prehistoric activity consisting of four stakeholes, a pit, a possible hearth and several lithic and pottery finds was recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Stewart Milne Group Limited

Girvan

William Grant Distillers Ltd – Warehouses 33 and 35
Evaluation
Donna M Maguire – GUARD
NS 200 003 As part of a warehouse construction programme an evaluation of the footprint of warehouse number 42 and the associated spinal road was undertaken between 18–25 March 2008.

12 evaluation trenches, equivalent to 8% of the area, were opened. Although deep deposits of re-deposited natural were observed no archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: William Grant and Sons Ltd

William Grant Distillers Ltd – Warehouse 37
Watching brief and excavation
Charlotte Francoz – GUARD
NS 203 005 A watching brief was undertaken prior to the construction of warehouse 37. During the course of topsoil stripping traces of an early prehistoric occupation were discovered. The site was excavated in October 2007. On a raised gravel and sand terrace the excavation revealed over 100 archaeological features. These included the plough-truncated remains of 98 features, 74 pits/postholes and 22 pits of various sizes and shapes. 19 of the pits contained significant artefactual and ecofactual deposits and three very large pits revealed a series of several phases of activity and re-use. Two of these pits also showed the possible presence of postpipes.

The northern part of the site was defined by the possible remains of a palaeochannel running E/W. The channel was filled with midden material and truncated by a series of wide and elongated shallow dumping pits. A further 39 features were investigated but proved to be non-anthropogenic in nature.

A large artefactual assemblage was recovered, consisting of over 787 items including 341 pieces of struck lithic material, 55 worked and/or used stones and approximately 104 sherds. A preliminary assessment of the finds has suggested that the site dates to the early to mid Neolithic.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: William Grant and Son Distillers Ltd

Girvan/Kirkoswald

A77 Burnside
Watching brief
Donald Wilson – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 193 002 to NS 202 034 A watching brief was undertaken between 2–9 September 2008 on the excavation of a series of trial pits along the proposed route of the A77 improvement scheme. A total of 28 small trial pits were excavated between Dowhill Farm and Chapeldonan. No significant archaeological deposits, features or small finds were recorded during these works.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Amey on behalf of Scottish Transport

Kirkoswald

Crossraguel Abbey
Watching brief
Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 2749 0836 A watching brief was maintained on 22 July 2008 during the dismantling of a stone wall in the grounds of Crossraguel Abbey. This revetting wall to the NW of the Abbey appeared to be of relatively recent construction, possibly 20th-century, and contained architectural fragments which were probably reclaimed from collapsed Abbey structures. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

High Whitestone, Culzean
Fieldwalking
Derek Alexander – The National Trust for Scotland
NS 2425 1038 A fine dark polished stone axehead was found at the lower edge of the field called High Whitestone at Culzean. The axe (L 64mm, W 43mm, Th 12mm, weight 70g) is flat on one face and convex on the other, perhaps suggesting it was an adze rather than an axe. Its long edges appear roughly parallel although its butt end is broken off and so the full form is unknown. In this field there is an annular cropmark enclosure (NS21SW 16) and three stone axes were found by fieldwalking in 2001.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Symington

Townhead Terrace, Symington

Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 3808 3183 An evaluation was undertaken from 8–11 September 2008 at the site of a proposed housing development. A total of 19 trenches covering just over 2,800m^2 were excavated during the course of the evaluation. This 3.5ha greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile.
Funder: Mactaggart and Mickel

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Avondale

Snabe Quarry, Areas A and B

Evaluation
Christine Rennie – GUARD
NS 645 390 An evaluation was carried out from 10–31 March 2008 on two areas of the proposed expansion of Snabe Quarry. 49 trenches, equivalent to 5% of the available area, were investigated. No archaeological features were uncovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Tarmac Northern Ltd

Biggar

Biggar Gasworks

Archaeological recording
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 0388 3768 A short programme of recording was undertaken from 8 February–4 March 2008 following the discovery of a circular lattice-like structure at the bottom of the smaller of two gas holders during remedial works to the interior. The gasworks was built in 1839 and the smaller of the two gas holders is the original. It consists of an upper section running on early triform lattice guides into a semi-subterranean water tank; this enabled consistent gas pressure to be maintained in the mains. The upper section was rebuilt in the 1970s. Most of the features identified are likely to be original features including the side wall with inbuilt grooves or guides, the circular lattice structure of the base of the water tank, the 'T'-section iron plates and pipes. Repairs seen probably took place during the rebuilding of the upper gas holder in the 1970s.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Biggar Rugby Pitch Extension, Biggar

Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NT 0375 3642 A programme of investigative works was carried out on 20 and 23 June 2008. The evaluation consisted of nine trenches covering approximately 10% of the development area. The area had been used as a dump for spoil during the construction of the rugby pitches and no archaeology was encountered.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: South Lanarkshire Council

Blantyre

Craighead, Blantyre

Walkover, evaluation and walled garden survey
Ray Cachart – SUAT Ltd
NS 7050 5775 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out on the site of a proposed mixed use development from 31 March–6 May 2008. The site covered an area of 19.6ha, mainly arable, but also included the site formerly occupied by the mansion of Craighead House and its associated outbuildings, designed landscape and walled garden. The house and most of the outbuildings were demolished in 2001 or 2002 but the walled garden was still upstanding at the time of the evaluation. A desk-based assessment was completed and a walkover survey took place 26 March 2008.

The evaluation took place 31 March–10 April 2008. In total 91 trenches were excavated, most of which were 40m long and 2m wide. Trenches in the arable fields found 19th- to 20th-century pottery scattered in the topsoil and field drains cut into the natural boulder clay. There was deep recent infilling over a dip in the former ground surface in the SW corner of the site, and some 19th-century disturbance around the upstanding remains of a former lodge. Two walls in the S field were considered to be boundary walls. Nothing of archaeological significance was found in the arable fields.

Trenches around the site of Craighead House and the walled garden revealed walls, floors, drains and other services relating to Craighead House and possibly its predecessor, the W side of which is probably partly preserved in the E wall of the walled garden. No archaeological features or other dating evidence from earlier than the 18th – 19th centuries was found in this area. There was one undated small circular feature to the E of the site of Craighead House.

A survey of the walled garden was recommended as it appeared to contain parts of the 18th-century predecessor of Craighead House in its E wall. The survey focusing on the garden E wall was undertaken over four days during 30 April–6 May 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Craighead Properties Ltd

336 Main Street, Blantyre

Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 680 567 An evaluation was carried out on 29–30 November 2007 in support of the development of an apartment block, car park and infrastructure. The evaluation recorded only modern features. The site contained building material, ceramics, glass and general rubbish from the 19th and 20th century (none retained).
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Liberty Homes (Development) Limited

Bothwell

Camphill Vaults, 1–3 Main Street, Bothwell

Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NS 705 584 A programme of monitoring works was carried out from 9–12 June 2008 and comprised monitoring of the reduction of the ground level for the footprint of the new extension. A roughly rectangular red sandstone structure measuring 11 x 5m internally and divided into two compartments with one main entrance and an access between the two compartments was recorded. The walls averaged 1m in width with both entrances measuring more than 1m.

There were no finds, but cartographic evidence indicates that the structure dates from between 1816–1859 and was demolished between 1963 and 1974. The thickness of its

walls and width of the entrances indicate that the structure was probably built for some form of industrial or storage purpose rather than as a dwelling, though it may have latterly been used as a dwelling.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS SMR
Funder: ZRL

Uddingston Grammar School
Evaluation
K Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 68892 60839 An evaluation was carried out on 19–21 February 2008 on land prior to redevelopment as a sports pitch. The site was close to findspots of both prehistoric and Roman artefacts and to the suggested site of a medieval chapel identified on historic maps of the area. An earlier evaluation on a different part of the development area had failed to identify any features of archaeological significance, but surface finds of pottery indicated possible medieval activity on, or near the site. This phase of work did not reveal any features or deposits of archaeological significance and a horseshoe-shaped mound, thought to be of interest, was identified as being the result of 20th-century site clearance, probably associated with works on the adjacent viaduct.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: WSP Environmental for Morgan Ashurst

Carluke

Carluke
Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 8484 5052 An evaluation was carried out on 1–2 October 2008 in support of the construction of a NHS care home. The evaluation found numerous remains of 19th- and 20th-century structures. The evaluation also identified ceramics, glass building material and general rubbish from the 19th and 20th century (none retained).
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: Graham Construction

Carnwath

Medwyn Park, Carnwath
Evaluation
Richard Heawood – Abercorn Archaeology LLP
NS 9865 4665 On 29 October–7 November 2007 an evaluation was conducted on agricultural land to the NE of Carnwath, on a site where BHC Ltd proposes to extend its production line facility. The evaluation comprised the excavation by machine of evaluation trenches equivalent to 8% of the 6.35ha field which forms the southern part of the proposed development area; the northern part of the site has already been subject to ground reduction. A few field drains and other very shallow features considered of recent origin were revealed, but no significant archaeological remains were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Rural commercial

Muirhall Wind Farm
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Kate Bain – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 00781 53336 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were undertaken from 10–23 September 2008 in advance of the erection of six new wind turbines and associated access. The development area is in an upland bog environment containing examples of rig and furrow cultivation, suggesting that the area has not been subject to much recent development. Other evidence of human activity in the immediate area of the turbine sites appears to be exclusively associated with attempts to drain or improve the land for grazing livestock. Subsurface archaeology, relating to prehistoric activity pre-dating the incursion of the blanket bog, may potentially be preserved beneath the peat that now covers the area.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Muirhall Windfarm Ltd

Newbigging Mill Quarry, Carnwath
Evaluation
Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 0295 4510 An evaluation in a proposed quarry extension from 11–15 October 2007 recorded a variety of archaeological features across the evaluation area. These comprised pits containing prehistoric pottery, including a fragment of Grooved Ware, linear cuts towards the NW part of the site and a relic trackway, possibly a section of Roman road, aligned N/E to S/W along the crest of a steep ridge in the southern part of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Tarmac

Newbigging Mill Quarry, Carnwath
Excavation
Alan Hunter Blair – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 0295 4510 An evaluation in a proposed quarry extension from 12–23 November 2007 recorded a variety of archaeological features across the study area. These comprised pits, yielding early Neolithic to early Bronze Age pottery and lithics, possible occupation layers and linear cuts in the central and northern part of the site and a relic trackway, possibly a section of Roman road, aligned N/E to S/W along the crest of a steep ridge in the southern part of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Tarmac

Wilsontown OCCS
Evaluation
Ross White – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 960 544 An evaluation was carried out in April 2008 in advance of an extension to Wilsontown Open Cast Coal Scheme. 21 trial trenches covering 2100m^2 were excavated. One of the trenches recorded a section across the Lawhead Branchline Mineral Railway. The embankment was found to be 13m wide and survived to a height of 0.52m. It was laid directly onto the underlying peat and was made up of a dark grey, gritty, coal and ash-rich sand. No other features or deposits of archaeological significance were found.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: Hall Construction Ltd

Covington

Boat Farm, Thankerton
Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 9783 3809 An evaluation was carried out on the 7 of March 2008 on a plot next to the River Clyde S of Boat Farm. These works were required in respect of the proposed construction of a residential dwelling. The evaluation consisted of one trench 1.6m in width and 31m in length. Artefacts from the 19th and 20th century were noted but not retained.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR (intended)
Funder: Mr Hugh Jackson

Culter

A702 – A72 Symington Junction

Evaluation

Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NT 0317 3672 A programme of investigative works was undertaken on 13 March 2008 in respect of the proposed improvements to the A702–A72 Symington Junction. The evaluation comprised two trenches covering approximately 19.8 linear metres of trenching. The trenches exhibited a common stratigraphic sequence with topsoil up to 400mm in depth overlying mixed clays. No significant archaeological features were identified.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: BEAR on behalf of Transport Scotland

Douglas

Glentaggart Open Cast Coal Site, Glespin

Evaluation

Linda Somerville – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 7786 2521, NS 7821 2532 An evaluation was undertaken of a possible sheep ree and a possible platform, which had been identified by desk-based assessment and reconnaissance survey in 2001 (*DES* 2001; Sites 98 and 112). The possible sheep ree is recorded on the 1st Edition OS map. Evaluation revealed both features to be natural. A slight quarried hollow may be the feature recorded on the OS map. This work was undertaken on 28–31 January 2008.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: Scottish Coal

Hagshaw Hill Wind Farm

Watching brief

Linda Somerville – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 785 306 A watching brief was undertaken between November 2007 and February 2008 during construction works. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: CRE Energy Ltd

Happendon Camp

Standing building recording

Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK

NS 85261 33342 (centred on) A Level 1 standing building appraisal was undertaken during February 2008 in order to assess the structural remains in respect to the proposed development at Poneil of an OCC mine and associated features such as topsoil storage and water treatment.

The POW camp dates to WW2 and consists of a complex of three camps; the main camp is to the W and is set in a large rectangular area. The later insertion of the M74 destroyed the other two camps and possibly compromised the easternmost corner of the central camp. The central camp currently comprises a series of brick and concrete bases which formed the base for the Nissen huts that were used to house Italian and German prisoners of war.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish Coal

Poniel Open Cast Coal Mine, Happendon

Evaluation

Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NS 8428 3349 A programme of investigative works was undertaken in respect of the development of a new opencast extraction site. An evaluation was carried out from 11–28 February 2008 and comprised 85 trenches in open farmland which will be impacted upon by the extraction. These trenches totalled some 27,238m^2, slightly exceeding the 5% requirement for the study area.

All trenches exhibited a common stratigraphic sequence with topsoil which varied in depth from 230–530mm, though it was generally about 300mm deep. The topsoil overlay varying clay subsoil. No significant archaeology or artefacts were recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS Report: WoSAS

Funder: Scottish Coal

Rigside Primary School

Watching brief

Donna Maguire – GUARD

NS 879 350 A watching brief was carried out from 30 June–2 July 2008 in relation to an extension to the existing school and nursery. Within the area of the temporary car park two 1930s prefabrication foundations were uncovered and recorded. No other archaeological features were observed.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: South Lanarkshire Council

East Kilbride

High Alderstocks Steading

Standing building recording

Phil Richardson – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 6100 4490 A programme of standing building recording was carried out from 9–11 July 2008 in advance of demolition. The building survey confirmed that High Alderstocks Steading has occupied the same building footprint since the early 19th century. The E range was connected to the farmhouse and the northern portion converted to more domestic use, probably in the later 20th century. The farmhouse itself was enlarged upwards through the insertion of three dormers, again probably in the later 20th century. The W range continued to be used as a stable and storage/workshop area. The Dutch Barn and Pole shed were built in the 20th century and are largely unaltered, with the exception of the addition of the lean-to corrugated tin shed. The original 19th-century enclosures to the W of the buildings continued to be used in their original form although probably for different purposes, most recently for keeping fowl.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR

Funder: ScottishPower Renewables

Jackton Road, North Allerton

Evaluation

MW Kimber – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 60340 51720 A 5% sample of trial trenching was undertaken on this site from 26–29 November 2007 in advance of a housing development. A previous desk-based assessment (*DES* 2006) indicated a lack of archaeological work in the area. The only archaeological remains located were a quarry or borrow-pit marked on the 1st Edition OS map (1864) and fragments of rig and furrow systems. Several sherds of modern pottery were recovered from furrows and from the topsoil. A modern coin was also recovered from the topsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: CALA Homes (West) Ltd

Hamilton

Cadzow Castle

Excavation and recording

Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 7344 5377 Further excavation and recording was undertaken on 13–14 December 2007 in the NW corner of the Middle Ward of Cadzow Castle. This was the latest in a series of visits examining features in this area. The work comprised a brief examination of areas already partially excavated, now more readily accessible due the removal of scaffolding.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Lanark

Castlebank Park
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 878 434 A programme of recording was undertaken in January–February 2008 at the terraced gardens, former pond pavilion, gate piers to St Patrick's Road, and all associated features in advance of detailed renovation of this area of the park by South Lanarkshire Council. The record included a detailed photographic and written survey and drawn plan of the terraced garden area, including three terraced garden walls and associated steps, paths and rose and plant gardens. Castlebank Park was originally an area of landscaped gardens associated with the Castlebank Estate in the early 19th century. It became a public park in 1952 and included a pond area, tennis courts and the terraced garden walls. The latter was closed in 2002 due to health and safety concerns.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: South Lanarkshire Council

Hagholm Road, Cleghorn – Development Phase 2
Evaluation and monitoring
Alan Matthews and Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 9113 4510 The first phase of investigative works at the site included a desk-based assessment, site inspection and intrusive trenching covering approximately 10% of the proposed development area and was carried out from 3–5 December 2007. The investigation of the site revealed only one feature which was interpreted as a bipartite pit. This feature was approximately 3m from the southern boundary of the site and may relate to Roman activity in the general area. No trace was found of the Roman road noted within the area. Monitoring was later undertaken on 21 October 2008. This failed to identify any significant archaeological features in the development area. The bipartite pit discovered during the evaluation had been removed without archaeological supervision.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: RF/Chattelle Developments

Lesmahagow

Birkhill, Coalburn
Evaluation
Alastair Becket – GUARD
NS 8381 3650 An evaluation undertaken from 6–12 August 2008 on a site proposed for development investigated 5% of the total area of the site. A total of 15188.4 square metres of trenching was undertaken, spread over 231 individual trenches. The trenching revealed only two localised and enigmatic archaeological features, both of which were of low archaeological significance and were fully excavated. No artefacts were recovered.

One linear feature was hand-dug, measuring 3.4m long x 0.8m wide and 0.27m deep, with rounded terminals. The feature had been lined with stones and a fire had been lit in it. The second feature was a small pit filled with a red and black deposit containing fire-reddened stones. Further trenching was undertaken around the two identified features, in order to ensure that no associated remains existed. The trenches revealed no evidence for further archaeological activity.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: The Coakley Group

Blair Road near Crossford
Excavation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 8237 4575 (centred on) A programme of excavation was carried out at the end of November 2007 to the beginning of January 2008 on a greenfield site, in support of the development of a stable block, car park and infrastructure. During the stripping of the area a kiln with a flue was identified along with other associated features. All features were excavated but no datable artefacts were recovered.
Archive: WoSAS SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Steven Forster

Poniel, Happendon
Mitigation – topsoil stripping
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NS 8028 3406 A programme of investigative works was undertaken in respect of the forthcoming industrial development at this site. Four areas centred on archaeology identified during previous works were topsoil stripped under archaeological supervision between 3–12 December 2007.

Several negative features were investigated, but they were ephemeral and modern in nature. It has therefore been concluded that the archaeology located by the evaluation did not represent elements of a larger archaeological site but were rather stray features. On balance we consider that there are probably no further sites of archaeological significance in the development area.
Archive: RCAHMS Report: WoSAS
Funder: James Barr Ltd

Pettinain

Land South of Cairngryffe Street, Lower Pettinain
Evaluation
Mikael Simonsson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 95165 42280 A sample amounting to 8% of the development area was exposed by trial trenching on 6–7 November 2007. The area had been used for horticulture up until 1997 and all the features recorded during the evaluation may have been created as part of that use. They were mainly drains and furrows, although a gully and the probable base of a dry stone wall were also recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forth Homes Ltd

Pettinain, Covington
Evaluation
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NS 9533 4308 An evaluation was carried out in May and June 2008 on a plot in Pettinain in respect of a proposed housing development. An early post-medieval pit was found and excavated. The pit contained green glaze, stoneware and white china pottery, glass, and clay pipe fragments.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: South Lanarkshire Council

Rutherglen

Burgh School, Rutherglen

Watching brief

Joe Feeney – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 6158 6177 Due to the site's proximity to the medieval centre of the town a watching brief from 11–29 February 2008 monitored all ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a new primary school in the grounds of the former Burgh School. Several sandstone walls relating to the former Victorian school building were observed. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Atkins Heritage Water and Environment

Richmond Court, Rutherglen

Evaluation

Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 6232 6162 An evaluation was carried out on 11 March 2008 prior to the site's development for housing. The site is directly N of Gallowflat Mound (66SW20), an upstanding monument of unknown date and function. Seven trenches of varying length and orientation were excavated across the site, representing a 20% sample of the total development area. The trenches all showed that modern made ground lay directly over the natural geology, indicating recent truncation of the site. In addition foundation trenches of a previously demolished modern building were seen to cut the natural geology. No deposits, features or finds of archaeological significance were found.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Kenmore Homes (UK) Ltd

STIRLING

Balquhidder/Killin

Glen Ogle

Survey

J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NN 5585 2863 to NN 5740 2514 A walkover survey was undertaken along the proposed route of a new underground power cable to replace an existing overhead 11kv line through Glen Ogle. The route passed very close to the 18th-century military road from Stirling to Tyndrum and Fort William (NN52NE 11) and a possible Roman road (NN52NE 3) which could equally be a pack road. The survey identified two apparently unrecorded sites. At NN 5677 2694 there was a sub-rectangular enclosure, measuring 13 x 5m and bounded by banks 1–1.5m high. At NN 5842 2515 were the remains of a rectangular structure, measuring 6 x 3m, and on a level platform some 15m to its E, an enclosure measuring 12–15m across.

Archive: this project is ongoing

Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Buchanan

Tigh an Eas, Ardess

Excavation

Derek Alexander and Christine MacPherson – The National Trust for Scotland

NS 362 996 06/04/08 An NTS Thistle Camp excavated three trenches on 11 April 2008. The first site (No. 184 – NS 3622 9959) is a boulder-defined foundation for a rectilinear building, 9m long by 6m wide. A 3 x 3m trench was excavated in the centre of this structure. The only noticeable feature was a band of darker soil and stones down the centre of the building.

The second trench (No. 183 – NS 3623 9959) was excavated in the base of a quarry scoop 11m long by 6m wide and 1.5m deep. The trench measured 3 x 2m and was placed against the eastern face of the quarry. Large quantities of coal were found in the upper layers, and the lower layer was mostly fragmented bedrock.

The third site (No. 185 – NS 3619 9959) is marked on the 1st Edition OS map as 'Tigh an Eas' and had been trial trenched in 2007. A small 2 x 2m trench was excavated by the entrance to the house and the threshold stone was found, along with a range of 19th-century artefacts.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Dunblane and Lecropt

Glassingall

Geophysical survey

DJ Woolliscroft and B Hoffmann – The Roman Gask Project

NN 796 048 Magnetic and resistance surveys were conducted on a ring feature seen from the air close to the Roman Gask Frontier road and suspected to be a possible Roman watchtower. The feature proved to be oval in shape with an intermittent ditch of between 14–17m in external diameter, and seems more likely to have been a barrow than a tower. The survey also revealed a 10m diameter circular ditch with a substantial anomaly in its centre, which may be a ring cist, and a large circular feature *c*46m in diameter that had not been visible from the air, which could be a palisaded enclosure.

Archive: 55 Broadwalk, Pownall Park, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

Funder: The Roman Gask Project

Kinbuck Muir

Geophysical survey

DJ Woolliscroft and B Hoffmann – The Roman Gask Project

NN 803 051 A resistance survey was conducted on a ring feature seen from the air close to the Roman Gask Frontier road and suspected as a possible Roman watchtower. The feature proved to be irregular in shape with an intermittent ditch *c*23m in external diameter and seems more likely to have been a barrow than a tower.

Archive: 55 Broadwalk, Pownall Park, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5PL

Funder: The Roman Gask Project

Killin

Glen Falloch

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NN 360 217 An assessment was undertaken on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme at Glen Falloch. The work was comprised of a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey carried out in June and on 9–10 August 2007. The proposed route consists of three main pipelines which run from the three main tributaries of the River Falloch. The pipelines meet at NN 3492 2156 and NN 3460 2142 and the route follows the River Falloch down to the outflow at NN 3394 2093, just upstream of the Falls of Falloch.

The work revealed that most of Croiteonan, an old farmstead, has been destroyed by the A82, though several external structures remain. The survey also discovered a track and several walls associated with the old settlement of Blackcroft or with Derrydaroch. Several other important

features were recorded including two sheepfolds, four shielings and a possible standing stone. The planned pipeline crosses or runs close to many features and it will be necessary to alter the route in places and to carry out watching briefs.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Shawater Ltd

Glen Falloch – Derrydaroch Hydro-electric Scheme

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd
NN 360 217 This work is a revision to a hydro-electric scheme proposed in 2007. The assessment comprised revisions to the desk-based assessment and a walkover survey carried out in July and on 7–8 August 2008. The proposed route consists of three main pipelines which run from the three main tributaries of the River Falloch. The pipelines meet at NN 3489 2159 and the route runs down to the powerhouse at NN 3446 2150. The work revealed that most of Croiteonan, an old farmstead, was destroyed by the A82 as noted under Glen Falloch above.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Hydroplan UK

Ledcharrie, Glen Dochart

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
David Perry and Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd
NN 508 272 (centred on) An assessment was undertaken on the site of a proposed hydro-electric scheme at Ledcharrie. The assessment was comprised of a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey carried out in June and on 20 August 2007. The proposed route runs from the intake at NN 5080 2648 north-eastwards down the E of the Ledcharrie burn to NN 50825 26780 where it crosses two field boundaries. From here the route continues N down the hillside and passes under an old railway, at NN 50760 27435, before following a field boundary down to the outflow at NN 5065 2771. Apart from the field boundaries no archaeological features were identified along the route of the proposed pipeline.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Shawater Ltd

Shaft Road, Boreland Estate, Glen Lochay

Field survey
Bruce Henry and Dugie MacInnes – ACFA
NN 54 35 Prior to the replacement of timber poles that support the Cashlie-Lochay high voltage overhead line, ACFA carried out a field survey of a small area of ground above the Lochay Power Station. The findings comprise three shieling huts, a possible animal pen, clearance cairn, a complex of linear field banks and enclosures, a dry stone dyke and the remains of Hydro Board activities. The last, in the form of disturbed ground, possible building footings and a concrete slab, may relate to the construction of the Breadalbane Hydro Electric Scheme of the 1950s.

Sixteen papers on Glen Lochay have been published. Details of these can be found on the ACFA website at www.acfabaseline.info
Archive: All ACFA Occasional Papers relating to Glen Lochay are deposited in RCAHMS and the Stirling and Clackmannanshire SMR
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy Power Distribution Group

Tyndrum Water Treatment Works

Watching brief
Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NN 3350 2950 A watching brief was carried out in September–October 2008 during groundworks for a raw water intake and new water pipe between Dalrigh and Tyndrum. This was at the southern end of the development and centred on the confluence between the rivers Cononish and Crom Allt. This part of the development lay in close proximity to an industrial metalworking site (NN32NW 4). No remains or finds relating to this site, or any other of archaeological importance, were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS, and Stirling SMR
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Upper Glen Lochay

Field survey
Bruce Henry and Dugie MacInnes – ACFA
NN 47 36 to NN 45 38, NN 39 29, NN 37 33 and NN 45 34 The ongoing field survey by ACFA in upper Glen Lochay has recorded a further 1200 archaeological features.

In altitude the main survey area ranges from the course of the River Lochay, between *c*200–400m OD up to the 500m contour. Several sites were noted above this height, including the footings of a hut at 607m OD.

The finds are predominately the remains of shieling huts and associated buildings. Other recorded features include clearance cairns, footbridge piers, old head dykes and other filed banks, longhouses with associated barns, artificial platforms, lazy beds, fanks, enclosures, drying kilns, lambing pens and possible graves.

Remains of the construction phase of the Breadalbane Hydro Electric Scheme of the 1950s were also recorded. These remains include spoil heaps comprising tunnelling waste, footings of buildings and levelling stations.

The most notable sites from the survey include:
NN 47390 36810 – robbed out Clyde-type long cairn
NN 41010 31921 – homestead
NN 42486 34825 – hut circle
NN 46400 36300 – hut circle
NN 41555 33625 – hut circle
Several other features remain as yet unclassified.

All of the buildings, excluding fanks and enclosures, are being drawn at a scale of 1:100. An electronic distance measurement (EDM) survey at a scale of 1:1000 is in progress and a photographic record of each feature is currently being carried out.

The findings from each section of the survey are published in ACFA Occasional Papers. Those published to date from this recent fieldwork are:

Kenknock – Occasional Paper 86, Doctor's Burn West Shieling – Occasional Paper 88, Allt Coire Challum Shieling – Occasional Paper 91

13 other papers on Glen Lochay have been published. Details of these can be found on the ACFA website at www.acfabaseline.info
Archive: All ACFA Occasional Papers relating to Glen Lochay are deposited in RCAHMS and the Stirling and Clackmannanshire SMR
Funder: Pitcastle Estate Management Ltd

Kilmadock

Land to the North of Moray Street, Doune

Evaluation
Linda Somerville – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NN 7256 0182 An evaluation was carried out from 22–24 September 2008, in advance of a proposed housing development. One of the aims of the evaluation was to determine if Doune standing stone had been moved to its current location in the recent past. The evaluation did not identify any clear indication that the standing stone had been relocated and cartographic evidence suggests that it has been in its present site since at least 1862. No other features of

archaeological significance were identified.
Archive: RCAHMS and Stirling SMR
Funder: Miller Homes Ltd

Kincardine

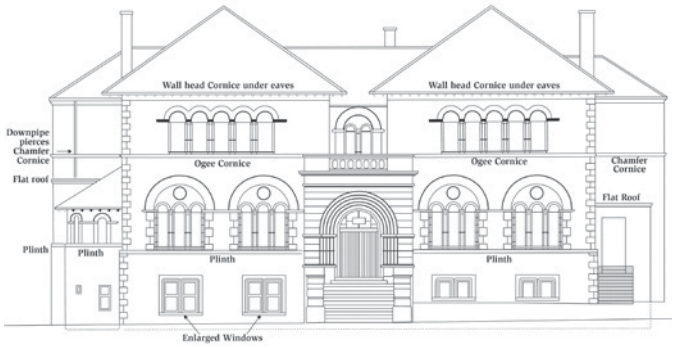
New Livestock and Auction Market – North of the Hill of Drip Farm

Evaluation
Malcolm Corney – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 76691 96095 A watching brief was conducted from 5–9 May 2008 during topsoil stripping of the site. There were no known archaeological sites within the development area. A WW2 emergency bridge (NS79NE 76) and a Bronze Age spearhead findspot (NS 79NE 7) lay just outside the boundary of the development site. The historical map evidence suggested the potential for the remains of two former post-medieval farmsteads within the site. No trace of the farmsteads was found.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: United Auctions

Logie

Museum Hall, Bridge of Allan

Standing building recording
David Bowler and David Perry – SUAT Ltd



South Elevation, Museum Hall, Bridge of Allan

NS 79857 97181 The aim of this work, which was undertaken from 26 July–1 August 2007, was to provide a record of the building prior to its partial demolition and redevelopment for flats. An historical search recorded the varied fortunes of the building as a museum, concert and dance hall, including as the venue for a performance by the Beatles in 1963, and of its collection of specimens, including a stuffed tiger used for bayonet practice in the Great War. A photographic survey of the building recorded its complexity, sophistication and eccentricity, its adaptation to changing tastes and uses, and its ultimate decay.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Imagine Developments

Stirling

Stirling Castle Palace

Standing building recording
Paul Fox, Sarah Hogg, David Murray and Tom Whalley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 7899 9403 As part of works in advance of the restoration works in the Palace various standing building surveys were completed between 5 March–22 September 2008. These surveys built upon and added to work undertaken between 2003 and 2007. The surveys were:

SCPP-2008-01 – Recording of fireplace hearths – Before restoration work began the hearthstones of the fireplaces in the principal rooms of the Palace were removed. These hearthstones were known to be early and mid-20th-century replacements. The opportunity was taken to record any surviving original fireplace features. It is apparent that the original fabrics of the 1540 hearths have been destroyed or seriously truncated over time with the main damage coming from the insertion of the large Caithness slabs in the 20th century. It seems that the original form of the fireplaces was a mortared platform of sandstone carrying the uprights, with a further platform internally onto which the flat sandstone hearth slabs could bed.

SCPP-2008-05 – Recording of a fallen sash window – In July 2008 one of the large sash windows in the S wall of the Queen's Inner Hall collapsed into the Palace and suffered some damage. This gave the opportunity to record both the window and the surrounding aperture in detail. The window, previously assumed to be of possible 17th- or 18th-century date was shown to be an early 20th-century replacement with cast iron sash weights.

SCPP-2008-08 – Recording of recently stripped walls in the Princes Tower – The two remaining unstripped walls in the first floor of the Princes Tower were stripped of plaster in 2008. Before re-pointing these walls were recorded to the same standard as the recording in 2004 and 2005.

SCPP-2008-09 – Recording of the upper floor – The upper floor was originally surveyed as part of the 2003–2004 works. In 2008 the opportunity arose to revisit this work and to complete a full photographic survey of the rooms before restoration. Various interventions into the wall fabrics since 2004 were also recorded.

SCPP-2008-13 – Recording of the Governor's Kitchen – Recording of the fabric of the interior walls of the Governor's kitchen was undertaken following stripping of plaster from some of the walls. The walls were drawn by hand, added to existing elevations drawn during the 1997 (SCAK97) excavation in the rooms, and the features described. Evidence for changes in wall fabric was noted including original builds and crude 19th- and 20th-century repairs.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Stirling Castle Palace

Watching briefs
Paul Fox, Sarah Hogg, David Murray and Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 7899 9403 Various archaeological watching briefs were carried out between 1 April–29 September 2008 at Stirling Castle Palace before and during restoration works in 2008.

SCPP-2008-02 – Monitoring of slab removal prior to excavations between the Governor's Kitchen and the King's Old Buildings.

SCPP-2008-03 and SCPP-2008-06 – Monitoring of the excavation of a new drain along the base of the main W elevation of the palace (on the Ladies' Lookout) – Most of this drain's route was through backfill from the 2004 excavation of the Ladies' Lookout. However, the S end of the drain revealed more of the foundations of the ragged angled wall at the SW corner of the Palace.

SCPP-2008-07 – Monitoring of the construction of new doorways in the Palace – The doorways were constructed between the King and Queen's bedchambers and also between the Queen's Inner and Outer Halls. Wall fabric and original door features revealed during restoration were recorded.

SCPP-2008-11: Inside the Palace the re-pointing of a relieving arch in the King's closets was monitored and organic material sealed behind it was sampled. Also, the removal of plaster

from the S end of the upper corridor of the West Range was monitored and recorded as it revealed roof fabric.

SCPP-2008-15: The removal of 20th-century service conduits from the King's Inner Hall and the Queen's Inner Hall was monitored and the residual plaster sealed behind was recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Stirling Castle Palace
Excavation
Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology

NS 7899 9403 Two excavations took place between the 17 April–11 September 2008 as part of the Stirling Castle Palace Project (SCPP) in advance of restoration works.

SCPP-2008-04 & SCPP-2008-12 – Excavation between the Governor's Kitchen and the King's Old Buildings – The area to the NW of the main Palace block comprised three discrete spaces, numbered from W to E during the main investigation into the Palace as P19, P20 and S07.

Early masonry made up the N and W walls of the 'Governors Kitchen', as well as the 'corridor' running around the W end of the building. This phase may be summarised as consisting of an E/W rectangular structure, with a corridor built around at least its W end. This is thought to be the castle chapel dating back to at least the 12th century, with the corridor providing access to the W end of this building, an arrangement perhaps necessitated by liturgical reasons.

These apertures were later blocked and a substantial amount of material introduced across much of the site. Most of these layers are characterised by a concentration of charcoal, although a number of dumps of crushed sandstone indicate demolition or construction material. A relatively large amount of bone was recovered from these deposits, but few other finds. Although divided into numerous generally thin layers, much of this material probably came from the same sort of source, possibly from middens within the castle. A variety of later structural remains and modern services were also uncovered.

SCPP-2008-10 – Excavation above the vault of the Princes Tower – Three small trenches were excavated in the first floor (above vault level) Prince's Tower. Trench 1 was in the NE corner of the room, trench 2 the NW corner and trench 3 along the S wall of the room.

Structures were identified that possibly pre-date the vault of the Princes Tower. The structures were all seen at or below the current ground level. The height of the structure of which they formed part is not known. The suggestion is that it continued down to where there is now a vault. However they may have continued upwards and been demolished immediately before the construction of the existing building.

The top of the vault was only seen in small parts of both of the N trenches, where it was an uneven surface and would have sloped steeply to the E and W. Levelling deposits raised the ground level by up to 400mm at the E and W ends of the vault but petered out in the central part above the crown. Above this was a clay deposit, possibly a floor surface, although there was no surviving evidence of anything being laid on the clay. An earlier fireplace was glimpsed behind and below the current one in the N wall and includes a structure up to 230mm below the current floor level, at roughly the same level as the clay 'floor'.

The current floor is dated to the 19th–20th centuries and the dusty loose deposits below it yielded a single coin of possible 17th-century French origin.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Upper Castlehill, Stirling
Watching brief
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 792 940 The watching brief on 4–5 August 2008 monitored the topsoil stripping of a *c*900m^2 land parcel on level ground at 70m OD, during the construction of a temporary site compound. The watching brief revealed no features or artefacts of archaeological significance. No further archaeological works were recommended.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: DCT Civil Engineering Ltd

Westlands Care Home
Findspot
Stephen Digney and Euan MacKie

An unfinished rider of a Fintry type rotary quern, Westlands Care Home

NS 7979 9236 An unfinished rider of a Fintry type rotary quern was discovered by Stephen Digney at the doorstep of Westlands Care Home and may suggest that the possible 'dun' described by Maclagan (1870 33) was at Wester Livilands rather than Easter Livilands, (NS89SW 7). While there is no guarantee that the quern was originally found at Wester Livilands, there is a strong possibility that it was unearthed during the construction of the present building in the 1890s or by earlier landscaping of the grounds. The quern itself may indicate a possible early 1st millennium trade in (unfinished) querns between Stirling and a probable source in the Trossachs, or the presence of itinerant quern wrights.

The quern rider is another example of the Fintry type – bun-shaped with a large, cup-shaped hopper and with a laterally projecting knob or lug for an upright handle socket – the distribution of which seems to be concentrated in Stirlingshire and northern Argyllshire (MacKie 2002). This example is unfinished, there are no signs of the handle socket in the lug (which is damaged) nor of the feed pipe from the hopper to the grinding surface, and there no circular striations on that surface. Why was the manufacture of this Iron Age hand mill stopped after so much stone dressing had already been undertaken? There are three clues:

- A knob of apparently foreign material embedded in the rock just at the centre of the base of the hopper. The discovery of this by the quern maker, just as he was about to drill the feed pipe, may have made him believe that this task was now impossible.
- The closeness of the base of the handle lug to the grinding surface-to-be. One would normally expect a much greater thickness of stone here to allow for a considerable amount of wear in the mill before the base of the handle socket was worn away.
- The shortness and stubbiness of the projecting lug for the handle socket.

All these clues suggest that the maker of this rider was relatively inexperienced and gave up on the stone too soon.

The significance of the finds location, a more detailed discussion of possible reasons for its unfinished state and a description of its geology are shown in full in the archaeological notes for site NS79SE 405 on the RCAHMS Canmore database.

The quern has been gifted to Glasgow Museums by the Westlands Care Home. The authors are grateful to Dr John Faithfull of the Hunterian Museum for his opinions on the nature of the rock (EWM).

MacKie, Euan W 2002 Two querns from Appin. *Scott Archaeol Journ.* **24.1**, 85–92.

Maclagan C 1870–72 'On round castles and ancient dwellings of the Valley of the Forth, and its tributary the Teith', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot* **9** 29–44.

St Ninians

Craigends Mid and Upper Lime Works

Survey
Stuart Nisbet

Upper Craigends Kilns

Craigends Mid Lime Kilns – Three groups of lime kilns serving mines under Sauchie Crags, 400m W of the previously recorded site (NS 7655 9068 – NS79SE 166) along continuous level track between Sauchie Crags and Bannock Burn.

NS 7617 9060 Three ruined draw kilns, built of massive dolerite boulders and shale arches. Kiln heads level with continuous track along northern base of Sauchie Crags. Main single kiln to E protruding 5.5m from main path, with 8.7m long frontage facing Bannock Burn has three draw holes, central draw hole partly buried under collapsed rubble, side draw holes 2.5m wide by 2.1m deep on E and W sides. Fragments of egg-shaped kiln bowl survive, lined in dolerite and encrusted with slag.

Double kiln 5m to W, but perpendicular to burn with 16m frontage facing E. 4 draw arches 2.1m wide along E frontage. Low arch number 1 centred on N kiln. High arched opening number 2, 5m deep, accessing side draw holes to both kilns. Arch number 3 in centre of second kiln. Arch number 4, another deep recess, serving side arch of second kiln. Fifth arched draw hole on buttressed N elevation, 2.1m wide facing burn. The Kilns are shown as disused on 1st Edition OS.

Extensive stone-built terraced infrastructure linked to kilns. Track at kiln heads, supported on rubble embankment extending E and W of kilns. Level plateau in front of kilns retained by 6m high rubble wall above S edge of burn.

Site directly related to partly-buried adit at foot of Sauchie Crag directly behind kilns. 40m W along track, another similar buried adit.

Craigends Upper Lime Kilns – 100m further W along main track in steep side of Bannock Burn at NS 7606 9056. Large draw kiln, protruding 5.8m N from track, built of massive dolerite boulders and shale arches. Kiln 7m high facing burn accessed by central draw hole (buried by rubble). Flanked by symmetrical archways 6m high by 2.7m wide by 5.8m deep on E and W sides, each accessing side draw arches 2.5m to central bowl.

Remains of second kiln on E, accessed by draw arch from eastern archway.

Frontage continues 9m to E, gradually reducing in height. Extensive ruins mark further kilns indicated on early plans.

Track curves E around crags and becomes steeper. Further adit (blocked) 150m S along track from upper kiln (NS 7603 9041). Track continues S to further quarries named on Roy's Military Survey (1750s) and several clamp kilns (eg at NS 7604 9030). Further lime quarry (Touchadam) on N side of burn at NS 759 905 containing possible clamp kilns.

Stirling Reinforcement Pipeline, Cowie

Watching brief, monitored topsoil stripping and excavation
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 8321 9080 to NS 8524 8750 A watching brief and monitored topsoil strip carried out in August–September 2008 during groundworks for a gas pipeline identified nine archaeological sites, five of which are believed to relate to 19th-century agricultural improvements. The remaining sites consisted of two concentrations of four pits, an isolated pit and a spread of shattered limestone close to a small watercourse. The shattered limestone appeared to be fire-cracked and may be the remains of a burnt mound. The pits did not contain any datable material, but soil samples were retained for analysis.

Archive: RCAHMS, Stirling SMR
Funder: Land and Marine Project Engineering Ltd

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Bonhill

Vale of Leven Academy, Leven

Watching brief
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 3907 7941 A watching brief was undertaken on 10–19 March 2008 in advance of the re-development of the site and monitored the stripping of topsoil on the playing fields to the E of the current academy buildings. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were recorded. No further archaeological works were recommended.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Buccleuch Estates

Dumbarton

Dumbarton Castle – Governor's House

Watching brief
Alan Radley – Kirkdale Archaeology
NS 4001 7440 On 18–19 February 2008, in advance of the construction of new toilets, a small trench was excavated by the NW corner of the Governor's House. No finds or features dating to before the construction of the Governor's House in 1735 were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Dumbarton Sheriff Court

Watching brief
Laura Scott – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 3982 7536 Ground-breaking works were monitored during the redevelopment of Dumbarton Sheriff Court. An evaluation was undertaken in the area to the E of the Court building in August 2007. The impact of 19th-century and later developments in this area was significant. Service pipes and building foundations truncated the buried soil deposits and cut through to natural sand. Although no archaeological features were observed, fragments of green glaze and white ceramic pottery were recovered from the buried horticultural soil. A watching brief undertaken in the areas to the S and E of the court uncovered the remains of buildings extant until the 1960s. Although no archaeological features were observed, a considerable depth of topsoil was encountered. The soil became paler towards the base, which would be consistent with garden soil that had not been disturbed or turned over to any depth in recent years. The gardens shown on the 19th-century maps of the site could have caused these conditions.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Rok Group Ltd

Strathleven SUDS Pond Development, Dumbarton

Watching brief
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 3952 7680 A watching brief was carried out on 9–10 May 2008 during ground-breaking works associated with the development of the site. No archaeological remains were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Walker Group

Valeview Terrace, Bellsmyre, Dumbarton

Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 4031 7694 An evaluation was undertaken at this site on from 6–14 May 2008 prior to its development for housing. The work required an 8% sample of the 1.5ha area, equating to trenching totalling 800m^2. Overall a total of 17 trenches covering 835m^2 were opened. This greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Hypostyle Architects

Old Kilpatrick

Cart Street, Clydebank

Evaluation
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NS 498 696 An evaluation trench was excavated at this site on 10 September 2008 before the building of 40 flats. It was considered that there was the potential for remains associated with the Forth and Cart Canal to be found along the western and northern areas of the site. The Forth and Cart Canal, was constructed to link the Forth and Clyde Canal with the River Clyde. It was opened in 1840 and closed in 1893. It is not known if the canal, which would have run along the western edge of the site, was entirely removed or merely infilled, but the eastern half was heavily disturbed by the construction of a railway line on the site in 1896 by Lanarkshire and Dumbartonshire Railway. The evaluation trench revealed infill material, consisting of various deposits, to a depth of at least 1.25m across the northern end of the site (the limit of excavation undertaken). Although structural remains and deposits relating to the later railway were found, the canal and any other remains associated with its use, if they still survive, must lie below 1.25m.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS SMR
Funder: Clydebank Rebuilt URC

Cochno Hill

Field survey
Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services
NS 4756 7525 to NS 4765 7572 to NS 4865 7600 and NS 500 750 to NS 4877 7460 to NS 4924 7423 to NS 4907 7406 (NGRs give the survey area boundaries, not all of the defined area was surveyed) A field survey of Cochno Hill undertaken from 7–14 July 2008 in advance of forestry work located 109 sites ranging in date from Bronze Age to post-medieval. The survey area is dominated by a head dyke, field dykes and field systems with narrow rig and furrow below the 270m contour across the S face of Cochno Hill. Several other large field dykes are present along with two upland enclosures. A known sheiling site (NS47NE 14) was found to be more extensive than previously recorded. A known Bronze Age burial cairn (NS47SE 49) was found to have satellite burial cairns and a new Bronze Age burial cairn was located at NS 49538 75279. Four recessed hut platforms were located at NS 490 753. A standing stone incorporated into a major dyke was located at NS 49129 75479.
Archive: Held by FAS until deposited in RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS SMR
Funder: Forestry Commission

North Canal Bank, Clydebank

Monitoring of renovation works
Christine Rennie – GUARD
NS 497 704 to NS 500 703 Monitoring of ground-breaking works associated with the landscaping and renovation of North Canal Bank were undertaken between 13 August 2007–4 February 2008. During the work some sandstone blocks representing the remains of the original canal wall were uncovered. The blocks were found 2m from the new canal wall and had been partially destroyed, being mixed with more modern building debris.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: AEL Enterprises Limited

WEST LOTHIAN

Bathgate

Glen Turner Distillery at Starlaw Farm, Starlaw, Bathgate

Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Chris O'Connell – CFA Archaeology

NT 010 672 The desk-based assessment indicated that significant mine workings and a railway line, running E to W, once occupied part of the site but are no longer upstanding. 59 trial trenches were excavated, covering a total of 5200m², approximately 8% of the defined area. Two modern pits cut through the topsoil and filled with topsoil were identified. Numerous field drains were also encountered. The spreads of shale observed are presumably related to the storage of waste from the mining that took place within the application area. Work was undertaken during July–August 2008.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: ARUP on behalf of Glen Turner Distillery Ltd

Linlithgow

52 High Street, Linlithgow
Watching brief
Victoria Clements – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 003 771 A watching brief was carried out on the ground-breaking works associated with a small extension (63m²) to a restaurant at this location from 24–30 September 2008. Several features were identified including a brick surface, three sandstone walls and small areas of cobbling overlying a very thick deposit of made ground. All of the features have been identified as post-medieval and are probably 19th-century or later in date.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: TB Michie

121 High Street, Linlithgow
Watching brief
Scott Jacobson – Archaeological Heritage Services Ltd
NT 000 770 A programme of archaeological monitoring was carried out 17–23 September 2008 in support of the re-development of a building. During excavation in the area for the foundation post, medieval features were found, excavated and recorded. A partition wall was also identified. The monitoring also identified ceramics, glass and general rubbish from the 20th century, none of which was retained.
Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR
Funder: RSK Group PLC

Linlithgow Palace
Watching brief
Sarah Hogg – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 0086 7773 A watching brief was maintained on 4 February 2008, during the excavation of a small trench in advance of the installation of a new viewing platform and information board by the side of the loch towards the far E end of the Royal Park. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Union Canal, Park Basin
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 0291 7698 A watching brief was completed on the works to the canal basin at Park Farm from 19–20 February 2008. The works comprised the partial demolition of the present S canal wall over an area *c*10m long. Behind the lowered wall, the ground was scarped to create a slipway/ramp for new access to the canal for boats. The works showed how the canal wall in this area was in two apparent phases, revetting a sequence of infill deposits.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: British Waterways Scotland

Livingston

Eliburn Park, Livingston
Evaluation
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 0310 6802 An 8% sample evaluation was undertaken from 26–30 May 2008 prior to the recreational development of the 4.73ha site. A total of 36 trenches, covering 3810m², were opened. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile with no significant features or artefactual material recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: West Lothian Council Property Services Department

Mid Calder

Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme – Harperrig Reservoir
Watching brief, walkover survey, excavation and survey
Ian Hill – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 0905 6100, NT 10445 60992 A programme of works was undertaken from March–May 2008 during construction activity for the Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme. This included a watching brief during all ground-breaking works at four areas – Gull Island, Cairns Castle, the Harperrig Reservoir spillway and on the Haughhead Ford. A site compound at Harperrig and the upgrading of an access track were also monitored. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

During the works at Harperrig Reservoir the water levels were artificially lowered by around 3m. A walkover survey of the edge of the reservoir was conducted, to assess if any archaeological features or sites survived within this usually flooded area. Four sites were recorded, including bridge footings and an associated trackway running between Harperrig and Baad Park.

Further excavation and survey work was conducted at the remains of the bridge and trackway. It appears that the trackway was informal in nature and represents that depicted on the 1st Edition OS map. The bridge remains are probably those indicated on a map of the reservoir by Edinburgh and District Water Works in 1887. The bridge and track may have remained in use until the reservoir was enlarged after 1887.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR (intended)
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

Torphichen

Ogilface Castle
Resistive linear array survey
David Jones – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NS 9270 6901 Ogilface Castle stood on a small promontory between the Barbauchlaw Burn and a burn that joins from the N. It was the subject of area resistive and magnetic surveys (*DES* 2007, 194) and a limited excavation some 20 years ago which recorded a 'set of descending steps'. This survey of 42m across the middle of the building outlines was made to see whether any downward-sloping resistive feature could be detected. High resistance, descending at 45° to a depth of about 1m, was found on the W side of a square feature. The dimensions of the square feature and the descending steps are almost identical to those at Cramond Tower, suggesting a tower house built for the de Bosco family.
Report: HS, RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland, Dr John Wells, History of Armadale Association, Dr Peter Morris and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Whitburn

Cowhill
Evaluation
Mike Roy – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 9339 6537 An 8% sample evaluation was undertaken from 8–16 September 2008, prior to a road improvement scheme. A total of 24 trenches, 3585m^2, were opened. The greenfield site proved to be archaeologically sterile with no significant features or artefactual material.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Ecosse Regeneration Limited

COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR/ WESTERN ISLES

Barra

Allasdale Dunes, Isle of Barra
Evaluation
Steve Thompson – Wessex Archaeology (on behalf of Time Team)
NF 6561 0283 In May 2007 an evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's Time Team to investigate a number of cist graves and stone structures eroding out of the sand dunes. The aim of the evaluation was to investigate the nature of the burials and structures in a large sand dune blow-out, and to add to the results of an earlier rescue excavation by AOC Archaeology. The project also aimed to investigate a large earthen mound, said by local tradition to be a Viking burial mound.

The evaluation revealed stratified archaeological deposits potentially dating from the Late Neolithic to the Iron Age. These included a possible Neolithic building and associated cultivation soil; a number of Early Bronze Age burials in stone-lined cists, including inhumations and cremations, radiocarbon dated to 1880–1520 BC; and two Iron Age roundhouses, the earliest dating to 750–400 BC.

Evidence of Late Iron Age activity sealed beneath the sand dunes was identified through a geophysical survey, which revealed the well preserved remains of a very large wheelhouse, the largest yet found on Barra, and initially identified by CF Tebbutt in the 1950s.

Investigation into the possible Viking burial mound found no evidence of a boat or buried structures, and it appears that this is merely a sand dune.
Archive: Paper records to be deposited with RCAHMS; finds to be deposited (subject to SAFAP) at Museum nan Eilean, Stornoway
Funder: Videotext Communications Ltd

Pabbay Symbol Stone, Pabbay
Erection of symbol stone
Jill Harden – The National Trust for Scotland
NL 6072 8745 This Pictish symbol stone has lain on the side of the chapel and graveyard mound for over 100 years. Concerns have been voiced by the community about the safety of the stone since the 1990s. Upon acquisition of the three southernmost islands in the Western Isles, the NTS made a commitment to erect the stone to ensure its long-term protection.

A small trench 0.7 x 0.45m and 0.3m in depth was excavated towards the edge of the mound, through windblown sands that contained a couple of pieces of broken china, sea shells and three pieces of unarticulated human bone. The latter were replaced in the bottom of the trench. The stone was then prepared for erection and moved to an upright position, protected by a sleeve from the lime concrete setting. This work took place 27–29 August 2008.
Archive: NTS, SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Barvas

Arnol, Isle of Lewis
Casual find
Fraser Hunter – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NB 302 494 Twelve sherds of later prehistoric pottery from at least five vessels were found at the foot of a low sandy cliff. Shells were also noted and it seems a midden is being eroded.
The finds were claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 69/07) and allocated to Museum nan Eilean
Archive: Stornoway

Borve, Butt of Lewis
Watching brief
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NB 4080 5705 Monitoring was undertaken 6–8 May 2008 during the renewal of a sewer. The pipeline extends from the N of the beach at Mealabost to an existing manhole to the SE, then turns E towards the river. The pipeline route was covered by short turf grass, typical of machair environments, below which lay degraded sands and occasionally silty clay. All of the trenches showed similar soil profiles and stratigraphy.

The trenches encountered several furrows. These are visible both on the ground and in aerial photographs. The furrows align with the surface morphology and can be confidently identified as post-medieval. No other deposits of archaeological significance were found.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Jacobs UK on behalf of Scottish Water Solutions

Borve Open Cut Sewer
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK
NB 40854 57253 to NB 40584 57093 An assessment undertaken 8 January–26 March 2008 has identified two sites on the proposed route of the open cut sewer. On the basis of the location of the study area and presence of machair archaeological preservation is considered to be good.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Galson, Isle of Lewis
Chance find
Martin Goldberg – Department of Archaeology, National Museums Scotland
NB 43 59 An enamelled mount was found at Galson. Parallels for this type of mount can be found in Viking Age island contexts (for a close parallel see Graham-Campbell 1986 in *PSAS* 116). The type has been associated with horse-harness.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 17/08) and allocated to Museum nan Eilean

Lewis Coastal Chapel Sites Survey – Isle of Lewis
Topographic and geophysical survey
Rachel C Barrowman – Glasgow University
Walkover, topographical and geophysical surveys were undertaken between March 2007 and February 2008 at two sites the W side of the Isle of Lewis.

NB 3792 5499 – **Teampall Pheadair, Siadar** – Eroding Iron Age structures were recorded below the later chapel. An enclosure and possible grave slabs were recorded from around the chapel site, as well as the pre-crofting enclosure walls and

a corn-drying kiln on the N side of the Teampall. Geophysical survey confirmed the presence of earlier structures below the chapel site.

NB 2882 4890 – **Tempall Eoin, Bragar** – Topographic survey was carried out of the chapel building and later enclosures, before further collapse of the chapel's walls. The survey also recorded over 2,000 unmarked gravestones in the old cemetery around the Teampall. A detailed contour survey of the sandy mound into which the chapel is set was carried out, different alignments of grave slabs were identified, and the locations of roofing slates from the ruined chapel which had been re-used as grave markers were noted. Topographic survey had also been planned at Tigh a' Bheannaich, Aird Uig, but was cancelled due to storms.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland and Glasgow University

Ness WTW, Isle of Lewis

Evaluation

Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NB 5319 6043 (centred on) An evaluation consisting of seven trenches in the footprint of the proposed WTW was carried out 14–15 November 2007. All trenches showed a similar stratigraphic sequence, with a peat topsoil of 0.23–0.6m (0.3m on average) in depth overlying a slightly varying subsoil of sub-angular and sub-rounded stones, with either a dark or light brown silt matrix [102], [103] and a mottled brown grey stony sandy clay [104]. No archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Western Isles Archaeology Service

Funder: Jacobs UK on behalf of Scottish Water Solutions

Harris

Berneray Hall, Berneray

Evaluation

Kate MacDonald

NF 90933 81345 An evaluation was undertaken in November 2006 as a condition of planning consent for a wind turbine. The site consists of a mound, *c*4m high by 40m in diameter, on machair on the W side of the island. A trial trench, 1m square, was excavated. This revealed masonry and midden deposits, although no datable finds were recovered. A number of prehistoric sites have previously been recorded in the vicinity, including a souterrain *c*300m to the NW (NF98SW 12). This suggests that the site may be a later prehistoric settlement mound. In response to the evaluation the site was preserved *in situ*.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR

Funder: Berneray Hall Committee

Gleann Mor, Hirta, St Kilda

Plans and photographs of prehistoric stone circle

MR Curtis and GR Curtis

Complete stone circle with GR Curtis at the centre looking W, Gleann Mor

NF 0886 9943 This site was surveyed and appeared in *DES* 2007, 198. The site was photographed and planned in 2008.

St Kilda

Excavation and survey

George Geddes – The National Trust for Scotland

NF 101 991 (centre), NF 10436 899032 (store), NF 10063 89934 (cross-marked stone) A full season of fieldwork was undertaken 1 May–16 September 2008. This included condition surveys, coastal erosion monitoring, conservation work, building survey and small-scale excavation.

A small excavation was undertaken in the revetted access path to a WW1 munitions store (NF 10436 899032). Four linear trenches were excavated on the N bank to expose the construction and condition of the bank and to inform drainage and conservation works on the path and building. Finds were all late 20th century.

Two weeks of survey by the RCAHMS and NTS culminated in the discovery of an incised cross-marked stone by Strat Halliday. It had been re-used as a drain cap between a 1860s house and an earlier blackhouse (NF 10063 899343), near the reputed site of Christ Church and the current burial ground. This adds to the two known cross-marked stones on St Kilda, both re-used in later buildings, one in the front of House 16 and one as a lintel in Cleit 74. The cross slabs and early historical records suggest that there may have been an early Christian foundation, though direct evidence for buildings is notably lacking.

Details of all work undertaken will be available on the St Kilda website by the beginning of next year's field season. http://www.kilda.org.uk/ .

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Historic Scotland and The National Trust for Scotland

Stockinish to Rodel Powerline, Harris

Walkover survey

Tamlin Barton – SUAT Ltd

NG 13 94 to NG 04 83 A walkover survey was undertaken along the 30km long route of an overhead powerline 29 September–2 October 2008 in wet conditions. The work aimed to identify any existing or new sites that were in danger of being damaged by the proposed refurbishment of the line.

Over 50 new sites were discovered including abandoned houses, field systems and areas of cultivation. Though many of these sites dated from the 19th century, at least three low-lying structures could be much earlier. Various mitigation measures have been proposed to protect the sites.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Tarbert Gravity Mains

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Claire Shaw and Kirsten McKee – Jacobs UK

NG 196 986 to NG 195 985 and NG 196 985 to NG 196 984. The assessment undertaken February–March 2008 has identified 10 sites along the proposed routes of the gravity main. The presence of numerous archaeological sites close to the study areas indicates that the archaeological potential of the study area is high

Archive: RCAHMS Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Harris/North Uist

Berneray WTW

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Jonathan Dempsey – Jacobs UK
NF 9133 8016 (Trumaisgearraidh) – NF 8712 7449 (Aird Ma Ruibhe) Work was conducted April–May 2008 to assess the potential impact of the proposed insertion of water mains over a distance of *c*8km. A total of 154 sites were identified within 300m of the proposed route of the new pipeline. There is abundant evidence that this area was occupied and exploited from as early as the Bronze Age. One site has been identified that could potentially date to the Neolithic and two sites could potentially be Bronze Age. It is considered likely that the proposed works will impact directly upon the remains of archaeological features in the study corridor.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Lochs

Abhainn Na Muilne
Prehistoric standing stone, horizon survey
MR Curtis and GR Curtis
NB 2888 1917 There is a standing stone 1m tall x 0.3 x 0.4m at the base and 0.18 x 0.35m at the top (Callanish 39) on the right (N) bank of the Abhainn na Muilne. The mill river, having meandered across open moorland, runs in a narrow valley between two hills, then falls steeply to the lade and mill 200m downstream. The standing stone is located where the river runs between the two hills, which restrict views of the far horizon to the SW 217 to 234 degrees azimuth only.

The standing stone is within the river's flood channel, and there is an old river channel to the N side, about 0.5m higher than the present channel to the S side, leaving a long narrow ridge in between. A boulder and a row of stones across the river may be the remains of an attempt to divert or dam the river.

GR Curtis by standing stone Callanish 39 recording midwinter sunset data

Seen from three nearby prehistoric standing stone sites, Cnoc nan Clach (Callanish 35) 200m away (*DES* 2006, 175), Beinn Chleiteir (Callanish 36) 450m away (*DES* 2007, 201; *DES* 2008) and Beinn Chleiteir (Callanish 38) 575m away (*DES* 2008), the midwinter sun skimmed the Sleeping Beauty's 'forehead', set into an angular hill, Sgaoth Losal, 20km away, then re-appeared briefly at the right (W) side of the hill. From the mill river standing stone, the Sleeping Beauty is hidden by the hill immediately across the stream. The far horizon becomes visible at 217 degrees azimuth at the hill Sgaoth Losal.

Seen from this standing stone, the midwinter sun set behind the nearby hill about an hour after midday, re-appeared from the nearby hill about an hour and a half later, set immediately into Sgaoth Losal, and then re-appeared briefly at the right (W) side of Sgaoth Losal. We believe that this standing stone's location, from where a double re-flash of the midwinter sun could be seen, is unique. This method of defining a lunar or solar event at a junction between the immediate and far horizons also exists at Callanish 5 and Callanish 8.

Beinn Chleiteir
Cairn and stone structure
GR Curtis and MR Curtis
NB 2913 1975 The top of Beinn Chleiteir is concave, *c*60m across, with over 1m of peat in the hollow centre and a crescent of small rocks around the W rim. The rock summit is at the SW rim. It is partially hidden by a pile *c*4 x 4m (but elongated on the E side) and 1.5–2m high of stones and grass. The cairn on the NW, N, NE and E sides is edged by a perimeter ditch which separates the cairn from the area of rushes and peat. It lies on the rim of Beinn Chleiteir with extensive views to the E, S and SW. 5m to the E of the summit cairn there is a concentration of 18 visible *c*0.4 x 0.4 x 0.4m-sized stones inside an area *c*4 x 4m with a curved bank on the W side. It has the appearance of a demolished stone-walled structure. There are no similar stones on the hilltop. The structure may have been built with stones robbed from the cairn which appears disturbed on the nearest side to the structure.

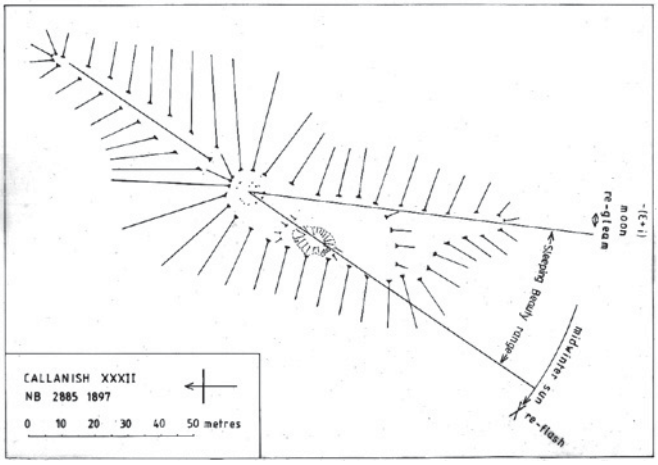
Beinn Chleiteir
Corbelled stone structure; possible beehive dwelling
MR Curtis and GR Curtis
NB 2900 1944 Lying in a spur running SSW from Beinn Chleiteir, and 72m NNW of a minor bend in the roadside fence, is a circular corbelled stone structure. It lies mostly below the current ground surface; the peat is < 0.90m deep on the uphill side. It measures *c*2.0m across internally at its base and *c*6.0m externally. It stands to a height of *c*1m internally and *c*1.30m from the stone floor to the top of the corbelling stones. Four roof slabs < 1.10m long lie inside obscuring the view of some 50% of the interior; no entrance is visible, and one slab lies nearby. There is a hole in the roof measuring *c*1.5 x 1.5m. Only a few stones seem to have been removed. Drawn to our attention by Mr MacLauchlan, C Russell and J Langton.

Beinn Na Muilne
Prehistoric stone settings and backsight
GR Curtis
NB 2741 1832 On the main S summit of Beinn Na Muilne there is a low mound, *c*3m across and 0.5m high, of stones and grass surrounded by peat and heather. 31m away on the lower secondary N summit there is a low mound, possibly annular, *c*2m across and 0.3m high, of stones and grass, surrounded by peat and heather. A stone 0.85 x 0.70 x 0.3m (possibly fallen) lies 9m further N. It seems that from this potential backsight marker a person could have seen only the rise of the S extreme moon (ie pre-zenith at due S, Sleeping Beauty's 'knee') above the stones of the two stone settings and left of the Sleeping Beauty's 'feet', before the moon disappeared behind the 'legs' of the Sleeping Beauty range of hills. A person at the N stone setting could have seen a similar view of the S extreme moon above the S stone setting. This site (Callanish 40) complements the stone setting and backsight marker at NB 2695 1895 (Callanish 33) (*DES* 2006, 175) 750m away, from where the set of the S extreme moon could have

been seen only to gleam briefly at the Sleeping Beauty's 'forehead'. This method of marking S extreme moonrise left of the Sleeping Beauty's 'feet' from a backsight stance over a stone setting(s) was also used at A' Clach Chrom (Callanish 35) (*DES* 2007, 199) and Cleiter (*DES* Callanish 37) (*DES* 2007, 201) over Cnoc nan Clach (Callanish 32) (*DES* 2006, 175).

Cleiter, Beinn Chleiteir, Loch Erisort
Corn-drying kiln
GR Curtis and MR Curtis
NB 2881 1969 A well preserved corn-drying kiln forms the NE corner of the main enclosure, 7.5m from the erect stone Callanish 37 (*DES* 2006, 175 and *DES* 2008). The wall of the building is 10.2 x 6.5m externally and 7.4 x 2.7m internally and has an entrance on the outer N side of the enclosure. The two W corners of the building are rectangular, but the two E corners are rounded. The platform and kiln are in the E end of the building. The corn-drying kiln pre-dates the enclosure wall.

Cleiter, Beinn Chleiteir, Loch Erisort
Horizon survey
MR Curtis and GR Curtis



Location of Callanish 32

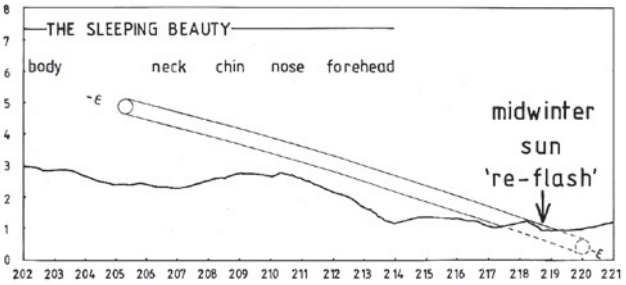
NB 2881 1969 The erect stone (Callanish 37) (Curtis *DES* 2007, 201) stands 700m from the two prehistoric stone settings on the hogback hill, Cnoc nan Clach (Callanish 32) (*DES* 2006, 175). From Cnoc nan Clach the S extreme moon could be seen to gleam briefly in the col to the left of the Sleeping Beauty at 183.5 to 185.5 degrees azimuth. There are two small notches in the horizon at 175.85 and 179.3 degrees azimuth where the S extreme moon may not have been seen from Cnoc nan Clach. From this erect stone, the two settings on Cnoc nan Clach are seen extending from 172.18 to 173.94 degrees azimuth, two degrees below the horizon. A horizon survey from the erect stone showed that the S extreme moon rose at 172.15 degrees azimuth above the annular NNE stone setting on Cnoc nan Clach, skimmed along the horizon over the two notches, and set at 186.8 degrees azimuth at the Sleeping Beauty's 'feet'. From the standing stone A' Chlach Chrom (Callanish 35) the two settings on Cnoc nan Clach are seen extending from the left-hand notch at 176 to the right-hand notch at 179.05 degrees azimuth, half a degree below the horizon. A horizon survey from here showed that not only the brief gleam of the S extreme moon in the col to the left of the Sleeping Beauty, 182.5 to 185.25 degrees azimuth (*DES* 2006, 175), but also the same S extreme moon could have been seen first in the two notches above Cnoc nan Clach. This stone (Callanish 37) and A' Clach Chrom (Callanish 35) (*DES* 2007, 199) 290m away, both acted as backsight markers for viewing the S extreme moon over the stone settings on Cnoc nan Clach (Callanish 32).

Beinn Chleiteir, Loch Erisort
Prehistoric standing stone, horizon survey, probe survey
GR Curtis, MR Curtis and BPI Ponting
NB 2937 1948 There is the stump of a standing stone (Callanish 38) 0.80m tall (above the till) x 0.50 x 0.45m in a disturbed area *c*3m across of uneven turf, peat and stones surrounded by rough grazing, 8.5m NE of a minor bend in the roadside fence. The top has broken faces with sharp edges. It protrudes 0.15m above the present ground level. The standing stone seems to have been dug around and broken up, possibly at the same time(s) as the stone circle 170m away (*DES* 2007, 201).

A probe survey revealed two large stones lying in peat just below the surface, 0.80 x 0.45 x 0.40m and 0.40 x 0.40 x 0.25m, and numerous smaller fragments. The presence of the longer stone, which may have fitted directly onto the stump, suggests that the standing stone was at least 1.60m tall. The smaller fragments suggest that part of the standing stone's upper portion was trimmed and removed for use elsewhere, eg as a lintel. It would be possible to re-assemble the stone material from the peat to ascertain the original dimensions of the standing stone.

The horizon survey showed that, from the standing stone, the prehistoric midwinter sun skimmed the Sleeping Beauty's 'forehead', set into an angular hill, Sgaoth Losal, 20km away, then re-appeared briefly at the right (W) side of the hill. This standing stone is at the easternmost location for seeing the re-appearance of the midwinter sun.

Beinn Chleiteir, Loch Erisort
Prehistoric stone circle, horizon survey
GR Curtis and MR Curtis



Horizon profile, Callanish 36

NB 2918 1950 The horizon survey showed that, seen from the stone circle (Callanish 36) (*DES* 2007, 201) the early prehistoric midwinter sun skimmed the Sleeping Beauty's 'forehead' set into an angular hill, Sgaoth Losal, 20km away, then re-appeared briefly at the right (W) side of the hill. This suggests that the stone circle may have been set up between *c*3300–*c*2300 BC, when the midwinter sun would have totally disappeared behind Sgaoth Losal. The horizon profile shows the path of the sun in 1550 BC. Observation and photographs taken at midwinter currently need to allow for the sun's path being higher than in prehistoric times by approximately the diameter of the sun.

Lemreway Water Main
Watching brief
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Limited
NB 3751 1578 – NB 377 160 Monitoring was undertaken on 22 August 2007 on the construction of pipeline to the N of Lemreway to Grabhair. No significant archaeology was observed and though the route of the pipeline came in close

proximity to the known archaeology it avoided it.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland Council
Funder: Jacobs

Leurbost
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Kirsten Mckee – Jacobs UK
NB 3825 2470 (centred on) Work was conducted in December 2007 to assess the potential impact of the insertion of a pipeline E/W from the western end of Leurbost to the western end of Crossbost (NB 3620 2567 – NB 3916 2454) and N/S from the eastern end of Leurbost to Bheinn a' Chladdich Mhoir (NB 3827 2475 – NB 3850 2280).

39 sites were identified within 100m of the proposed route, 18 of which pre-dated the 1st Edition OS map and were associated with pre-clearance land use, being potentially occupied from the early medieval period. A walkover survey identified 17 additional sites and confirmed the survival of nine sites on the 1st Edition OS map.

The identification of so many sites in the study area suggests that the potential for the occurrence of sites, ranging in date from the early to post-medieval period, in the area of the pipeline is high. To mitigate against any potential damage to these sites, it was suggested that a system of targeted archaeological work should take place before any ground-breaking pipeline work and that monitoring be carried out wherever ground-breaking works are undertaken.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

North Uist

Baile Mhàrtainn
Evaluation
Kate MacDonald
NF 7238 7371 An evaluation was undertaken in April 2007 as a condition of planning consent for a programme of sand extraction from a dune. A coring survey was undertaken using a hand-held auger, to a depth of 4m. No archaeological deposits or structures were found during the evaluation.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR
Funder: John Allan MacLellan

Baile Sear Community Archaeology Project – Sloc Sabhaidh, Baile Sear, North Uist
Excavation
Rebecca Rennell – The SCAPE Trust

Making a latex copy of a decorated hearth, Baile Sear ©Tom Dawson

NF 782 608 Salvage excavation of a wheelhouse partially revealed in 2007 at the northern end of an eroding mound continued from 13 September–5 October 2008. Excavation was undertaken by the Access Archaeology group of North Uist with the support of the Shorewatch Project.

A trench (*c*15 x 7m) was positioned over the trench from 2007. It was extended *c*1.85m further E in response to erosion of the coastal dunes that delineate the limit of excavation on the landward side. Extension of the trench E confirmed that the wheelhouse and associated archaeological deposits continue beneath the coastal dunes.

Some of the exterior wheelhouse walling on the W edge of the trench, identified in 2007, had suffered significant erosion. Deposits in this area had also been severely truncated. A number of small pits were excavated and contained semi-articulated animal remains and complete ceramic vessels. The stratigraphic context of these heavily truncated pits was difficult to ascertain due to the severe erosion. They were probably cut beneath the wheelhouse wall and therefore represent some of the earliest deposits on the site.

The excavation confirmed that in the southern area of the site a section of the outer wheelhouse wall, including one of the piers, had collapsed in antiquity. It is possible that this collapse was due to the inherent instability of this wall, which had been built above a large pit. The collapse of the wall appears to have marked a period of abandonment, long enough for the collapsed masonry to be covered with a deposit of windblown sand.

In the southern part of the trench, a series of deliberate deposits that were stratigraphically earlier than the collapsed masonry were revealed. These deposits were above what is presumed to be a floor surface relating to the occupation of the wheelhouse immediately before its disuse. The surfaces were not excavated. A rotary quern with a single stone placed so as to block the central hole was recorded. Burnt material had been dumped around and above the quern. Above this deposit a low kerb defined an area containing a further sequence of burnt material including cremated animal bone and a mixture of disarticulated and semi-articulated animal remains. A lower human mandible had been placed in these deposits. The mandible showed significant tooth wear on the left side.

A later wall was built on the inside of the wheelhouse to replace the collapsed section of walling. The extension of the excavation trench to the E revealed that this later wall was similar in construction to the original wheelhouse wall. The wall was corbelled inwards and survived to a maximum height of nine courses, 1.49m. Like the earlier wheelhouse structure, this wall was built of large blocks of gneiss, maximum size 0.80 x 0.56 x 0.22m, with flatter blocks for the inner facing and rougher stones for the outer face. A former pier and collapsed masonry from the earlier wall were incorporated into the foundation. At the edge of the N/S section this wall included a small niche or alcove *c*0.2 x 0.18 x 0.3m. The later wheelhouse wall was built without reconstructing the collapsed piers. The remains of a robber trench for the removal of pier 6 were revealed in the W of the site. During later occupation the structure therefore ceased to be a wheelhouse in the conventional sense of this term.

In the northern area of the site excavation focussed on exploring post-wheelhouse occupation deposits and surfaces. A succession of hearth deposits and structures were revealed immediately outside bay 1 in the central wheelhouse area. These included two rectangular stone-kerbed hearths with stone bases, and a rectangular hearth with a fired clay base. The clay base of this hearth had been incised with a cross, apparently using three finger marks prior to firing. A similar fired clay hearth base with incised decoration was found in post-Atlantic roundhouse phases at Berigh, Lewis (Harding

Visitors watch local volunteer Kirsty lift a rotary quern, Baile Sear © Tom Dawson

and Gilmour 2000). The hearth structures at Sloc Sabhaidh were positioned in the same area of the wheelhouse but the alignment altered slightly from E/W to NE/SW. Excavation of occupation surfaces in bays 1 and 2 revealed a sequence of stone kerbs which altered the way in which these spaces were delineated over time. Deposits were found above a layer of grey sand that appeared to distinguish between the primary wheelhouse and post-wheelhouse occupation.

Finds, were typical of later prehistoric domestic sites in the Western Isles, and included large quantities of animal bone, some cetacean and fish bone, worked antler, coarse stone tools and large amounts of Iron Age pottery. The most notable finds were two almost identical bone combs, several bone needles, a fishbone pin, and a worked scallop shell.

Baile Sear Community Archaeology Project – Sloc Sabhaidh, Baile Sear, North Uist

Excavation

Ian McHardy – SCAPE Trust

NF 782 608 Further excavation was undertaken 13 September–5 October 2008 in Trench 2, 50m N of trench 1 and in the same position as trench 2 in 2007 (*DES* 2007). The trench was *c*20 x 7m with the main axis parallel to the beach. As in 2007, it was positioned to cover the largest area of eroding features and to gain a full cross-section of an eroding mound containing structures and midden. This mound is being eroded by a shingle beach which is advancing inland, truncating deposits at a 30°–45° angle.

What had been 'a series of adjoining sections of dry stone walling which did not readily conform to any known typological form' in 2007 resolved itself into the truncated remains of a wheelhouse the outer wall of which had (probably) collapsed around a pier and had subsequently been rebuilt closer to the centre of the building. While it seems highly probable, conclusive proof of this interpretation awaits further erosion of the mound.

Although perhaps only a quarter of the circumference of the full house remained (diameter estimated at *c*12m), a full sequence from pre-wheelhouse levels all the way through to the re-build was preserved. The wheelhouse was built upon a level area of clean yellow sand, although the entrance passage, guard cell and structure 4 (see below) were laid onto or cut through pre-existing midden. No evidence for deliberate levelling was seen, although this seems likely.

To the N of the trench, the sand contained a flat-bottomed *c*0.9m wide trench-like feature with a clean, slightly darker fill which did not respect any alignment of later walls, and was interpreted as pre-wheelhouse. A *c*0.4m diameter pit with undercut edges, *c*0.3m deep, was cut through the edge of this trench, almost directly under a wheelhouse pier. It seemed to have been subject to *in situ* burning. It is possible that this feature is related to the wheelhouse construction, perhaps during ground preparation. Partly over it a shallow, linear cut was made, in which a dark fill and then the first course of a pier were laid. The first course of slabs had smaller packing stones at the sides and/or corners which probably acted as levellers. The sand beneath these deposits was very compacted. Nearby another pier demonstrated a similar sequence (and levelling stones) but was cut directly into the yellow sand. After this a layer of fine-grained sand appears to have been deliberately spread, as the outer wall of the wheelhouse sits on top of it, with no construction cut.

Only two piers remained, one extant to 1m and the other to only two or three foundation courses, with an internal dividing wall between them in a similar spoke-like alignment. The wall was constructed of orthostatic slabs, making it a proper pier, and like the outer wall it was laid on top of the fine-grained sand. Between this wall and the southern pier a great deal of burning had occurred. Between this dividing wall and the N pier, and to the N and S of each pier, were

compacted sandy layers interpreted as floors.

The floors contained finds such as pottery and worked bone, including what appears to be a bone brooch or pendant. Overlying the sand layers was a slimy black organic-rich layer, containing pottery shell and bone (some worked). This layer was not compacted. Directly over it, to the N of the southern pier, was a large amount of tumbled stonework which had been re-built to create a new wall face, presumably concurrent with the original. This new wall abutted the southern pier, the northern pier having collapsed and been rebuilt into it.

To the S of the trench, only one side of the original entrance passageway remained. This contained the small corbelled cell (the 'Guard Cell') described in 2007, and led to the subterranean structure tentatively interpreted in that year as a corn-drying kiln. This 'structure 4' was further excavated this year and discovered to have been substantially modified at some point in its use to create the approximate plan of a corn-dryer.

The original structure was almost egg-shaped, and built for most of its length from orthostats cut *c*0.8m into midden material overlain with two or three courses of horizontal slabs. At its northern, thinner, extreme these were missing, suggesting either an opening or robbing. Its floor was a layer of peat ash in the midden, thinning towards the wider S end. The primary deposit was a large stone in the middle of this S end. The presence of a piece of pottery and darker sand (not midden) immediately beneath the stone suggest it may have been placed in a cut through the peat ash, although no distinct cut was seen. In the N end a rough pile of beach cobbles was mixed with a cow horn, cow and possibly other animal bone and a large concentration of pure white quartz pebbles as well as two hammer stones. Two rough parallel walls were superimposed on these deposits to create a narrow trench running from the N to a smaller circular bowl at the S end, ie the plan shape previously thought of as the possible corn-dryer. It has subsequently been noticed by the author that the original structure 4 here is very similar to structure 5 at the Cnip wheelhouse, Lewis (Armit I 2006, 68), and is similarly situated in an area close to the entrance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The SCAPE Trust

Balranald
Field visit
Mick Miles – BEVARS

Possible cists eroding out of cliff (walking stick for scale = 1metre)

NF 7161 6823 During the course of a field visit by members of the Society in April 2008 it was noted that two small stone settings were eroding out of the sandy cliff face within 5m of the NGR for previously reported Beaker pottery (*DES* 1978, 35, 36). The settings were about 2m apart and appeared to have been constructed in the same strata of sand. Each consisted of two on edge slabs set approximately at right-angles to each other, between which was a dark layer covered by a layer of rounded quartz pebbles. Given that Beaker pottery was found close by, it seems possible that these represent the largely eroded remains of cists, although other interpretations are possible.

Funder: BEVARS

Clettraval
Field visit
Diana Coles – BEVARS

NF 7499 7135 During the course of a field visit by members of the Society in April 2008 it was noted that a cup-marked stone was lying loose near the base of the S side of the cairn. The stone measured *c*0.25 x 0.25m and the pecked cup mark was 75mm in diameter. The stone was left as found and the Western Isles archaeologist notified.

Funder: BEVARS

North Uist Water Main
Monitoring
Alan Matthews – Rathmell Archaeology Limited

NF 7488 6836 to NF 8717 5648 Monitoring was undertaken from 10 September 2007–3 June 2008 during the insertion of a water pipeline. Monitoring was continual during the first stage of works and targeted on areas considered archaeologically sensitive in stages two and three. No known archaeological sites were disturbed and no new deposits of significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Western Isles Archaeological Service
Funder: Jacobs UK

The perils of monitoring, North Uist Water Main

Scolpaig Tower Conservation, (Adopt-a-Monument)
Survey
Rebecca Rennell – Access Archaeology

NF 7310 7502 A survey of the causeway was carried out 18–21 June 2008 for Access Archaeology as part of a wider project, supported by Archaeology Scotland's Adopt-a-Monument scheme, to conserve the tower and make the site accessible as a visitor attraction.

Scolpaig Tower is a 19th-century folly situated on a small islet within Loch Scolpaig, Uist. It is likely that the folly overlies the remains of an earlier historic and/or later prehistoric dun. A 1:20 plan, a photographic record and a detailed description of the remains were produced prior to restoration work.

The survey confirmed that the remains of two short sections of a stone causeway (*c*18m and 8m) connect the islet in Loch Scolpaig to the shore via a small rocky outcrop covered with dense vegetation. The remains of the causeway were insubstantial and had been heavily eroded. The causeway

consisted of some blocks of unworked stone, the largest 0.8 x 0.8m, which were visible above the current water line. Below water the causeway was constructed of loosely packed smaller stones (*c*0.2 x 0.2m), possibly sitting above a layer of gravel. Only one area of the causeway formed a continuous and compact surface. There was no firm evidence of multiple construction phases. No finds were recovered.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: local authority Archaeological Officer (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Scolpaig Tower Conservation – (Adopt-a-Monument)

Tobthaichean Dubh, Baleshare

Excavation
Kate MacDonald
NF 7864 6232 An excavation was undertaken April 2007 as a condition of planning consent for a dwelling. The site consisted of a low sub-circular mound, approximately 9m in diameter, with a retaining wall visible around parts of the circumference. Two trenches were excavated across the feature, covering 12m^2. The trenches revealed that a natural rocky outcrop had been enhanced by the addition of stonework, creating a flat-topped mound with hard standing. This is likely to be the remains of a stockyard. Five abraded sherds of pottery were recovered, one of which was glazed. The site is post-medieval and probably dates to no later than the early 19th century. Two related features were also recorded, a field clearance cairn and a turf and stone dyke that formed part of a rectangular enclosure. These two features were not threatened by the proposed development.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR
Funder: Alasdair MacDonald

South Uist

Airidh nam Ban, Loch Aineort

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Kate MacDonald
NF 7935 2866 Work was undertaken in March 2007 to assess the archaeological implications of *c*9ha of planned forestry development. No sites or monuments have previously been recorded in the area. Six sites were identified relating to settlement and land use in the 18th and 19th centuries. These included an unimproved blackhouse, areas of 'lazy beds' or feannagan, and a number of turf field boundaries. A section of the head-dyke for the township of Airidh nam Ban was recorded to the SW (NF72NE 13). A buffer zone of open ground was recommended to protect the sites.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR
Funder: UPM Tilhill Ltd

Benbecula

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
J Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NF 7910 5387 to NF 7910 5090 to NF 7822 5085 to NF 7830 4996 Work took place along the route of an existing 11kv overhead power line which is due to be upgraded. One new site, a short stretch of freestanding wall, was recorded at NF 7894 5115. This may be associated with an abandoned settlement at NF 7903 5117.
Archive and Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish & Southern Energy

Smeircleit (Tipperton)

Assessment survey
Rachel Ballantyne and Mark Ward – Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge
NF 7415 1520 In 2000, while participating in excavations at Bornish (*DES* 2000, 96), the authors' attention was drawn by Niall Sharples to an unrecorded strip of intertidal peat just S of Loch Smeircleit. The largest outcrop was recorded at NF 7415 1520, with intermittent small outcrops to 30m on either side of a slight headland. Where clearly exposed, the upper surface of the peat included lengths of wood (*c*0.1m diameter, 0.8m long) that suggested this might be a submerged forest and that characterisation was important before further sea erosion.

During 2–6 September 2002, a self-funded survey covering a 25 x 5m area of beach recorded the height, location and distribution of exposed wood, with ten fragments from three clusters sampled for speciation. A monolith of 0.2 x 0.2 x 0.55m was also excavated through a central area of the peat, with 11 contiguous bulk samples comprising 100% of 0.05m spits. This report follows radiocarbon dating in 2008 of plant macrofossils.

All recorded wood was branch fragments lying horizontally within the peat surface, with no tree stumps. Alan Clapham (Archaeology Service, Worcester) has identified all the wood samples as willow/sallow; probably brushwood at the edge of a freshwater body and not true submerged forest. The underlying peat sequence represents a hydrosere, descending from + 0.38m AOD through 0.05m of wood peat, 0.3m of reed peat and 0.2m of gyttja over gneiss bedrock. Waterlogged plant macrofossils have been analysed from all layers. At 0.45–0.5m depth are fragments of ericaceous charcoal, with charred heather flowerheads, a bell heather seed and tiny burnt soil fragments.

Radiocarbon dates are as follows (Lab code, Years BP ± error, d13C):

Waterlogged willow/sallow wood at the peat surface – Beta-244200, 5260 ± 40, -26.3

Charred ericaceous stems at 0.45–0.5m peat depth – Beta-244201, 7580 ± 50, -26.1

Many early Holocene pollen and microscopic charcoal sequences have been published for the Outer Hebrides, notably Edwards *et al* 1995, whose cores on South Uist from intertidal peat 20km N at Peighinn nan Aoireann (Peninerine) and 8.5km N at Loch an t-Sil both show burning episodes of very similar date.

The charred plant macrofossils and burnt soil in gyttja at Smeircleit represent a burning episode of nearby 'heath' followed by topsoil erosion into a freshwater body. The microscopic charcoal in cores further N could reflect the smoke shadow from this more southerly event, suggesting it was an extensive fire, or may represent other near-

contemporary smaller fires along the W coast of South Uist. Two more easterly cores by Edwards *et al* 1995, at Reineabhal (Reineval) and Loch Airigh na h-Aon Oidhche, do not share these microscopic charcoal peaks (although the former has a peak at 6500 BP). In the absence of any Mesolithic archaeology, it remains open whether these early burning events on South Uist had natural or human causes.

Edwards, K, Whittington, K and Hirons, KR, 1995 The relationship between fire and long-term wet heath development in South Uist, Outer Hebrides, Scotland, in *Heaths and moorlands: cultural landscapes* (ed. DBA Thompson, AJ Hestor, and MB Usher), Edinburgh, 240–8

Archive: Western Isles SMR (intended)
Funder: Self-funded

Stoneybridge, Raw Water Mains Replacement

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK

NF 772 322 to NF 783 308 The assessment 25 November–19 December 2007 identified two sites in the area surrounding the proposed route of the Raw water mains upgrade, the scheduled ancient monument standing stone An Carra, and a previously unknown artificial island discovered in Loch Beinn Charra at NF 77246 31252. The lack of sites in the area indicates that the archaeological potential of the study area is low.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Stoneybridge, Water Mains Renewal

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Claire Shaw – Jacobs UK

NF 751 345 to NF 746 338 The assessment 13 October 2007–10 January 2008 has identified 37 sites in the area surrounding the proposed route of the water mains pipeline. The most common sites were post-medieval structures; however, a couple of prehistoric sites were also identified.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Stoneybridge Water Treatment Works

Evaluation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NF 7712 3212 An evaluation was undertaken in December 2007 before the upgrading of the WTW close to the standing stone An Carra (SAM 888, RCAHMS NF73SE 1). Four trenches were excavated covering 125m². Part of the site had been disturbed by modern construction and the remainder contained peat to a depth of 0.6 – 1.3m. No archaeological remains were recorded and no finds were recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS and Western Isles SMR (intended).
Report: With client and RCAHMS
Funder: Jacobs Ltd

14 Torlum, Isle of Benbecula

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Kate MacDonald

NF 7865 5126 Work was undertaken in April 2007 to assess the archaeological implications of a *c*5ha forestry development. No sites or monuments have previously been recorded in this area. Four sites were identified including field clearance cairns and a turf boundary that possibly formed part of an enclosure. The remains are probably post-medieval. It was recommended that a buffer zone of open ground be established to protect the sites.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR
Funder: Angus Monk

Stornoway

Eaglais na h'Aoidhe, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis

Excavation
Catherine Dagg

NB 4846 3225 In advance of the erection of a new gate at the entrance to the burial ground at Aoidhe church an excavation was undertaken on 8–9 April 2008 of the ground to be disturbed by the gate. The work located a possible occupation layer in the form of midden material including hand-made pottery at a depth of 0.75m below the present ground surface. The layers above this, which included iron slag of a possible medieval date, had been severely damaged by large concrete blocks inserted to support a previous gate.

Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Funder: HAIP, Archaeology Service, Achmore Old School, Achmore, Isle of Lewis

Eilean nam Marbh

Sea stack with ruined building(s)
Mark Elliot, Carol Knott, Finlay Macleod and Ian Mchardy

NB 53596 31114 Eilean nam Marbh is a steep sided little stack, roughly 20m high and slightly less than 20m² in summit area. Access is relatively difficult, requiring a *c*20m climb. A vertical fissure only 5m wide separates it from the mainland of Lewis and an arch would have been present at some time.

'Eilean nam Marbh seems to mean the Island of the Dead, marbh being Gaelic for dead' (Dr Finlay Macleod, pers comm). It is situated to the N of Bayble bay. The name Bayble, or Paible in Gaelic, has Early Christian connotations.

Upon the summit plateau which measures 20 x 15m and gently slopes towards the S or seaward side, lie the low and partially grassed-over remains of a substantial 16 x 7m sub-rectangular structure, which originally had dry stone (faced?) walls *c*2m thick, lying with the long access perpendicular to the slope.

The northernmost wall of this structure runs along the landward edge of the stack, creating the impression of a defensive wall, although when examined closely it does not run the length of the chasm and seems to be part of the structure described above. What may have been a small 2m diameter circular cell appears to have been superimposed at the E end of the main structure. There are no other distinct remains although the large quantity of tumbled stonework may well disguise further archaeological remains. Work was undertaken at this site on the 13 May 2008.

Only *c*30m away is Eilean a' Chaise. The interpretation of this site's name is not certain but 'steep island' seems to be the most sensible translation, on the basis of a visit which suggested that access would require rock climbing directly from a boat. The name is pronounced with a short 'a' (thus spelt 'caise') referring to steepness or twisting, cas being an adjective meaning steep.

64 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis

Evaluation
Tamlin Barton and Claire Casey – SUAT Ltd

NB 4233 3306 An evaluation was undertaken on 24 April 2008 before development of a site N of the Royal Hotel consisting of a shop and garden. It was considered possible that medieval or deposits relating to the 17th-century Cromwellian occupation of Stornoway might be encountered. The work took place in the garden, as the shop had not been demolished. Three 7 x 1.6m long trenches were excavated revealing several 19th-century features relating to the garden, but no significant archaeology.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Donald MacFarlane (Stornoway) Ltd

Lady Matheson's Seminary, Stornoway

Photographic building survey
John Wood – Highland Archaeology Services Ltd
NB 424 331 A photographic record was produced 1 October–1 December 2008 before proposed refurbishment and repair work. The building was in very poor condition but of considerable historical interest.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Digital Archive: Western Isles HER
Funder: Lewis and Harris Buildings Preservation Trust

Uig

Breasclete

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Kirsten Mckee – Jacobs UK
NB 2134 3562 In February–March 2008 a desk-based assessment and walkover survey was conducted to assess the potential impacts upon the archaeology and cultural heritage of the proposed insertion of a stretch of pipeline through the village of Breasclete stretching approximately 1km from NB 2080 3563 to NB 2181 3541.

A desk-based assessment and walkover survey identified 47 sites within 100m of the proposed route of the new pipeline. Eight of these sites pre-dated the 1st Edition OS map and are associated with pre-clearance land use, potentially occupied from as far back as the early medieval period. An additional 35 sites were identified from the 2nd Edition OS map. A walkover survey of the proposed development identified three previously unrecorded sites and verified the remains of 46 sites from the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps.

Eight sites in the study area have been identified as pre-dating the 1st Edition OS map and are associated with pre-clearance land use. The areas in which these sites are located may have been occupied from as far back as the early medieval period. Five sites within 0.5km of the study area are of prehistoric date. These include sites mostly associated with Neolithic settlement. The relative proximity of this site to Calanish and Dun Carloway indicates a high level of activity along the western coastline of Lewis in the prehistoric era.

The presence of so many prehistoric sites close to the study area suggests that there is high a potential for archaeological remains from the prehistoric period. However, the level of late 19th-century development and agriculture in the study area may have disturbed many of these remains.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Cnoc Dubh, Gearraidh

Watching brief
James Crawford
NB 23213 30225 A watching brief was kept on the construction of a new sheep fank for the village of Garynahine adjacent to Cnoc Dubh shieling NMR number 219. In 1986 this site suffered severe disturbance from the construction of an access road to the fank (see *DES* 1987, Curtis and Ponting). The site was reassessed during restoration and recording of the Both (beehive shieling), which has led to the site being considered as a homestead rather than a transhumance site. The existing fank was demolished and the surface soil stripped from the site using a machine with a toothless bucket. Sensitivity was needed in view of the fact that in 1986 the medieval and later soil levels had been removed leaving the possibility that the remaining levels were Iron and Bronze Age.

Several features were observed, recorded and photographed. A substantial former standing stone 2.2 x 1.1m with adjoining socket stones was found. There was also a possible funerary cairn which had been disturbed and partially destroyed by the Gearraidh cultivation rigs. The realisation of its significance may have curtailed further development. Site conditions suggest that more easily developed ground would have been found towards the habitation. An extensive area of burnt soil was observed around the cairn and several lithic assemblages were recovered.

With the approval of the Grazings Committee, the size of the fank was restricted in order to keep the main features outside the fank. Other less important features were recorded, covered in terram and incorporated below the new fank.
Report: Western Isles archaeologist and RCAHMS (intended)

Loch Roag Erosion Survey

Survey
James Crawford
NB 14410 41845 Monitoring of erosion sites revealed a quartz lithic tool embedded in peat growth below eroding machair. Peat would appear to have been developing for approximately a century before inundation by sand and machair. The tool was embedded *c*40mm below the top of the peat and a date of *c*4,000–3,500 BC can be assigned to it. The author is indebted to Torbin Ballin for evaluation of the lithic.

Loch Roag Islands Survey

Survey
James Crawford
A third year of survey of uninhabited islands of W and E Loch Roag was undertaken, and the following islands were surveyed in 2008.

Eilean Euglam, East loch

NB 16008 39719 – Footings of hut (shieling type).
NB 16049 33701 – Summit cairn.

Eilean Mhor, East loch (Loch Risay)

NB 17515 37350 – Remains of hut (shieling type).
NB 17391 38004 – Summit cairn.

Eilean Riosaigh, East loch

NB 17010 37447 – Hut circle and oval in heavy heather undergrowth.
NB 16986 37394 – Summit cairn.
NB 16994 37426 – Substantial boulder wall isolating islet.
NB 16990 37385 – Hut platform set amongst boulders.

Pabbay Beag

NB 10051 38717 – Remains of rectangular building *c*5m long in rubble stone, remains of door jamb *c*0.80m high x 0.65m wide on its E. The S wall of the structure has been eroded by the sea.
NB 10055 38721 – Remains of shell midden and lens of charcoal running NE for 14m along an eroding shore.
NB 10089 38739 – Small rectangular structure 1.8 x 1.9m which appears to open out on to a small terrace on the NE. The structure sits atop a rocky knoll with a setting of small stones running from the terrace.
NB 10065 38767 – Remains of circular hut (shieling type)
NB 09934 38885 – 099545 38761 – Turf and stone dyke running across island dividing cultivated land from rough grazing.
NB 09867 38922 – Remains of small cairn.
NB 09801 38934 – Rough rectangle of stones 1.0m high, probable wind shelter.
NB 09816 38926 – Possible remains of 4m diameter hut circle foundation
NB 09819 38935 – Possible remains of 5m diameter hut circle foundation.

NB 09820 38928 – Possible remains of 5 x 3m rectangular hut foundation.

Note: The last three structures have to be exceedingly ancient due to the extreme exposure of the site.

NB 09890 38813 – Much denuded cairn incorporating hornblende boulder.

NB 09966 38758 – D-shaped enclosure measuring 4.5 x 3.3m, rubble stone footings still extant to a height of 0.50m.

NB 09991 38763 – An unusual 40 x 21mm rectangular setting of stones only just showing above turf height and concave between stone settings.

NB 10011 38781 – Possible field clearance which interrupts runrig running from the head dyke, NB 09934 38850 – NB 09954 38761, to the rear of the beach at NB 10055 38721.

NB 10053 38735 – Circular depression 0.6m deep and 2.0m in diameter which may represent an attempt at providing a water source for habitation on the island.

Shiaram Mor

NB 10318 36655 – Stone summit cairn (modern).

NB 10330 36715 – Substantial rubble walled hut built against rock outcrop approximately 2.3 x 3m, the walls surviving to a height of 1.75m with an entrance facing NW.

NB 10281 36805 – Remains of circular wall footings of a 2m diameter hut.

NB 10287 36745 – 3m length of midden remains eroding on beach front consisting of mussel, oyster and limpet shells.

Eilean Kearstay

NB 20102 33347 – 14 x 3m sheep fank which appears to overlie an earlier settlement site. At the N of the area NB 20108 33360, two oval compartments are discernible with adjacent platform sites. Local tradition knows this site as Tigh-na-talla.

NB 20117 33414 – Footings of 8 x 4m house site with attached circular hut just discernible on its SE aspect. A substantial runrig system runs N to NB 20034 33751 and S to NB 20155 32898.

NB 20055 33495 – Remains of hut in dense heather undergrowth.

NB 19577 33961 – Modern stob and wire sheep fank.

NB 19824 33708 – Summit cairn of some antiquity.

NB 19861 33788 – Small area of runrig.

NB 19532 33792 – 19.2 x 4.1m house site in blackhouse building style without attached byre, much overgrown with heather but wall on E survives to a height of 0.8m.

NB 19478 33760 – Setting of stones which may be the remains of a chambered cairn passageway. Adjacent to this setting is one orthostat 0.8m high which is probably part of the same structure. At the rear of the structure is a small area of runrig.

NB 19436 33532 – Remains of 6 x 2m rectangular hut with adjacent runrig.

NB 19444 33488 – Remains of footings of small hut now being eroded by the sea.

NB 19499 33393 – Small area of runrig.

NB 19687 33043 – Small area of runrig.

NB 20144 33292 – At just above high-water mark and on a stream running from the centre of the island, there appears to be a possible attempt at a horizontal mill construction which was not completed. On the adjacent foreshore is a 5m rubble boat slip.

Eilean Trosdam

This low-lying island lies some 800m S of the main Callanish Stone complex. It is generally only 1m above the high-water mark with the exception of one small rock outcrop but has some interesting features. For example, some 85% of its landmass is runrig with the exception of a small part of its SW quadrant which contains the rock outcrop NB 21264 32042, used in the construction of a possible prehistoric cairn.

NB 21253 32044 – Indiscriminate hollows on site which show up on aerial photographs as one feature. Oval hut and three circular huts grouped to the SW of the rock outcrop.

NB 21290 32055 – Rectangular house measuring 18 x 5m sits at the extremity of the island SSE and forms a bridge between the main part of the island and a rocky spur. It is evident that this is caused by tidal encroachment from the fact that the door to the structure on the W eroding wall exits directly onto the high-water mark with the E wall eroding at the same high-water mark. The house at some point has been used as a corn-drying kiln.

Eilean an Tighe

NB 22085 30735 – A small cellular homestead structure occupies the S tip of the island. The main compartment is approximately 7 x 4m, with a westerly compartment 5 x 3m which is being severely eroded on its SW aspect exposing midden material in the wall. This consists mainly of mussel and limpet shell. A small circular hut occupies the rear of the main compartment at its N end and a further compartment at its S end. Immediately to the S lie the probable remains of a circular hut turf foundation.

NB 22110 30740 – An extensive area has been cleared and a small breakwater has been formed to provide a harbour area to the homestead.

NB 22055 30740 – Modern landing stage in rubble stone for loading sheep.

Sron a' Chrip, Cnip: Broadband Infill

Watching brief

Catherine Dagg

NB 0995 3655 A watching brief on the excavation of a trench for an underground electricity cable on 18 December 2007 located no features or finds from the prehistoric period, and only minor features of settlement and land use dating to the 19th–20th century.

Report: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

Funder: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

Tolsta Chaolais

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Kirsten Mckee and Adam Brossler – Jacobs UK

NB 19538 37805 (centred on) Work was undertaken January–May 2008 to assess the potential impact of the insertion of a stretch of pipeline running N/S from the A858 (NB 20738 37289) through Tolstachaolais. N of Loch á Bhaile the pipeline forks E and W, with the western section heading toward Loch Shiadair (NB 19038, 39086). The eastern section follows the road around the N of Loch á Bhaile and continues toward the A858 (NB 19880 38595).

68 sites were identified within 100m of the proposed route of the new pipeline, and three more were identified next to the scheme. 54 of these sites were identified as pre-dating the 1st Edition OS map and are associated with pre-clearance land use. They may have potentially been occupied from the early medieval period. A walkover survey recorded 28 additional sites and confirmed the survival of four of the sites identified on the 1st Edition OS map.

The presence of so many sites suggests that there is a high potential for archaeological remains ranging in date from the early to post-medieval period.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

*Adopt-a-Monument

Archaeology Scotland re-launched Adopt-a-Monument (AaM) in August 2006 and it has proven popular with local societies across Scotland. The Scheme provides support and training for groups who wish to conserve, interpret and promote local sites and monuments. Projects have sprung up all over Scotland from Shetland to the Borders and there are now 12 participating groups. Projects vary from full-scale restorations to clearing unwanted vegetation, installing signage and improving access. For more information, look out for AaM entries in this edition of *DES*.

If you would like to know more about AaM and how you can get involved, contact Helen Bradley, AaM Officer, at the Archaeology Scotland Office. To subscribe to the quarterly AaM bulletin, email h.bradley@archaeologyscotland.org.uk.

Adopt-a-Monument is sponsored by Historic Scotland.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND

Introduction

The format of this report continues that of previous years, with summary accounts of the major RCAHMS field and aerial survey programmes, plus details of educational and outreach activities, followed by a list of accessions to the archaeological collections. Fuller details of RCAHMS activities, along with a list of the principal accessions to the collection, are published in the RCAHMS *Annual Review*, copies of which are available on request. Further information on projects and publications can be found on the Commission's website (www.rcahms.gov.uk), which also provides access to Canmore, the RCAHMS records database.

SURVEY AND RECORDING

General

In what was a very busy and productive year, RCAHMS undertook three main archaeological surveys in 2008 and completed processing a large backlog project into the RCAHMS database. Two surveys that started in 2007 – the mapping of the archaeology of the St Kilda archipelago and the topographic survey of the site of the medieval burgh Roxburgh, were continued in 2008. Also undertaken was an archaeological and architectural survey of the Cape Wrath Training Centre in Sutherland, which was carried out in partnership with Defence Estates. In the spring, site descriptions for over three hundred sites in Glen Clova, Angus were added to the RCAHMS database. Special surveys were undertaken of a broch at Clachtoll in Sutherland and at Balmerino Abbey in Fife.

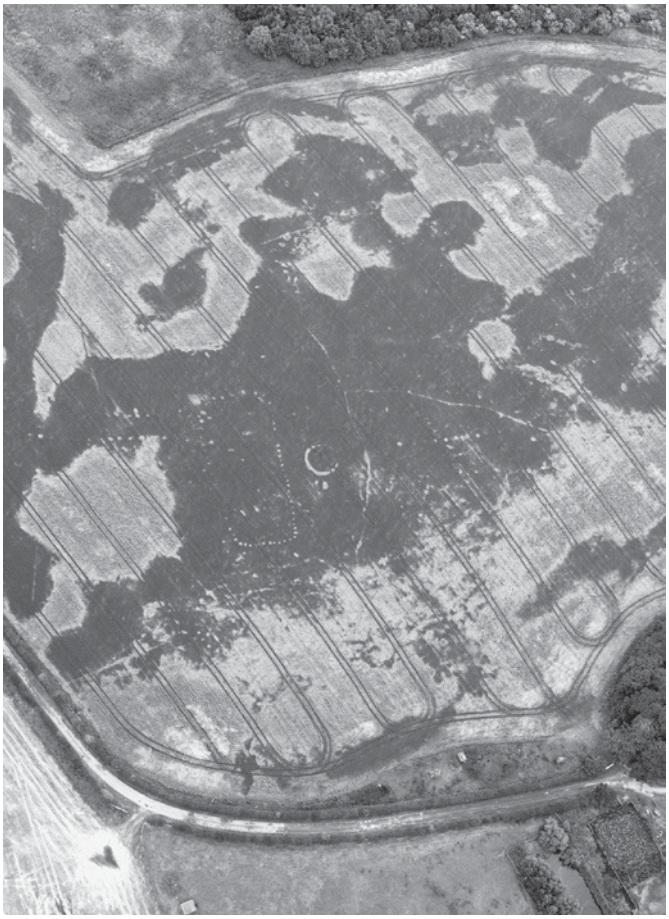
The Scotland's Rural Past project, which is hosted by the Royal Commission, continues to go from strength to strength. In addition to the field survey training sessions that were undertaken throughout Scotland, two workshops on the use of historical documents for research were held in Edinburgh. A very successful photo competition was organised, with prizes awarded at an extremely well attended first SRP conference in Birnam.

Angus Carved Stones

All of the early medieval carved stones from Angus have now been photographed and the completion of the measured drawing work is scheduled for 2009.

Aerial Survey

The RCAHMS aerial survey programme has continued through 2008 with a mix of archaeological and architectural recording. Highlights included recording along the Waverley Line through the Borders, and some spectacular returns from summer reconnaissance in the west. Summer 2008 was characterised by relatively unusual conditions that saw the west enjoy dry and warm conditions while the east was generally damp. This produced good cropmarkings in the Rhins of Galloway, in the Campbeltown area and on Islay. In the Rhins there was a good mix of previously recorded sites and new discoveries, while reconnaissance across Islay and around the area from Campbeltown to Machrihanish produced an excellent suite of previously unrecorded plough-levelled monuments.

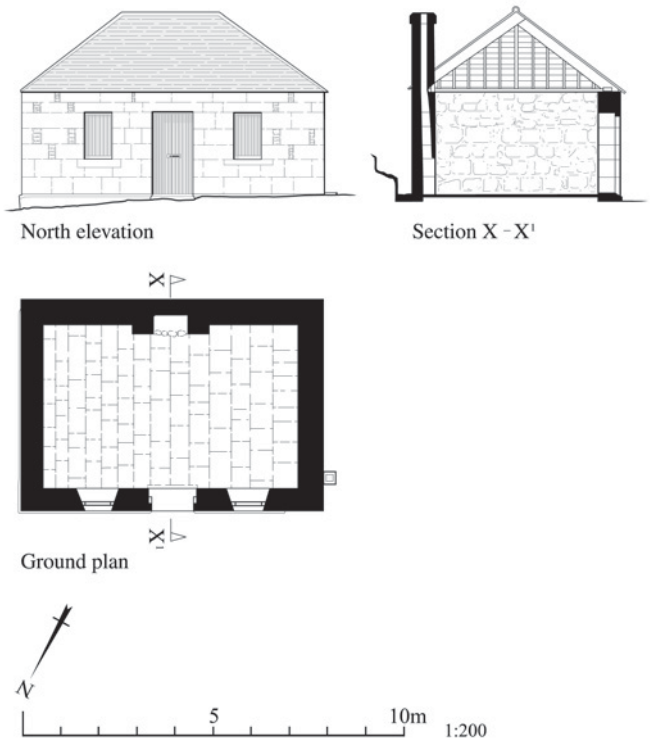


This previously unrecorded Neolithic pit-defined enclosure was discovered in August 2008 at Kirkmabreck at the west end of Luce Bay. (Crown Copyright RCAHMS DP044522)

Cape Wrath Training Centre

This project, which was undertaken in partnership with Defence Estates (Ministry of Defence), resulted in the complete revision of the archaeological and architectural record for the Cape Wrath Training Centre in Sutherland. Over 440 features were recorded, most for the first time, and among the more significant discoveries were of two round-ended buildings on the north coast, which hint at a possible early medieval presence on the Cape, and the recognition at Kearvaig of a hunting lodge (1877) belonging to the Sutherland Estate.

In addition to completing the GPS mapping of the training centre, the survey team was able to undertake detailed drawn and photographic survey on a number of monuments including two bridges on the road built in 1827–8 to provide access to the Cape Wrath lighthouse, its associated storehouse and slipway at Clais Charnach, built initially to enable the delivery of construction materials for the lighthouse and thereafter to enable the supply of personnel and provisions. Other aspects of the road recorded in 2008 were the milestones, probably erected after 1833, when the road was adopted as a public highway. The latest use of the landscape is represented by a number of derelict armoured vehicles, airlifted on to the range in 2005 as targets for gunnery and bombing practice.



Ground plan, elevation and section of the store house at Clais Charnach, Cape Wrath. Surveyed by RCAHMS 2008, scale 1:200 (Crown Copyright RCAHMS GV004524)

Image: View from south of one of the 11 milestones on the road that links the Kyle of Durness ferry and the Cape Wrath lighthouse. The stone was probably erected soon after 1833, when the formerly private track was adopted as a public road. (Crown Copyright RCAHMS DP047783)

View from west of one the many derelict armoured personnel carriers airlifted on to the Cape Wrath Training Area in 2005 as targets for off-shore, on-shore and aerial gunnery practice. (Crown Copyright RCAHMS DP 047847)

Historic Land-use Assessment

The Historic Land-use Assessment project (HLA), jointly funded by Historic Scotland and RCAHMS, continued work across Scotland during 2008, with the aim of creating a complete data set for the whole country by 2012. This year's work was concentrated largely on Argyll and the Western Isles, with Fife being completed early in the year. The data for Fife is now available online using HLAMAP (www.rcahms.gov.uk), or may be obtained from RCAHMS as a GIS dataset for use under licence.

Recumbent Stone Circles

The editing of text and illustrations for this volume, which will be published in 2009, is nearing completion.

Roxburgh

RCAHMS has continued the topographical survey of Roxburgh Castle and Burgh. The survey of height data for the generation of a digital terrain model (DTM) was successfully completed during February 2008. Because much of the impressive castle is covered by mature trees, the survey involved using a combination of GPS and Total Station ground survey techniques. Following field survey, the height data was used to generate a DTM which can now be viewed in ArcMap GIS along with other datasets, including the original RCAHMS site plan from the 1956 Inventory, vertical and rectified oblique aerial photography, geophysical survey data, current and historic Ordnance Survey data and early maps and plans of the site. Parch marks, which are visible on the 2006 RCAHMS aerial photographs and show previously unknown streets within the burgh as well as buildings and pits, are being plotted. The preliminary results of a Lidar survey undertaken in the spring of 2008 are currently being assessed and will eventually be added to the GIS. Ortho-rectified and infra-red photography, taken as part of the Lidar survey, has been added to the project dataset.

St Kilda

A three-year survey of the St Kilda archipelago by RCAHMS and the National Trust for Scotland, which owns the islands, was started in 2007. The principal aim of the project is to compile a map of the archaeology on the islands, but this is being undertaken in tandem with writing descriptions,

taking photographs and assessing the condition of all the known features.

Excellent progress was made on the two 14-day field trips undertaken in 2008, with the exceptionally dry weather in May allowing the safe investigation of some of the more inaccessible areas of Hirta, the main island. Significant discoveries included sixty-nine rock-shelters in the boulder scree slopes of Carn Mor, bringing the total number of these monuments now known to exist on the island to over 100.

A reassessment of the archaeological features around the main area of settlement in Village Bay brought to light remnants of a much earlier field system, and the process of identifying and mapping this will continue in 2009. Elsewhere on Hirta, more detailed survey work at a scale 1:500 was undertaken of the fields and settlement remains on the west side of Gleann Mor.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of 2008 was the discovery of a previously unrecorded Early Christian cross-incised stone, reused as the cover of a drain. This adds to the two cross-incised stones already known from the island, one built into a cottage of the 1860s and the other incorporated into the roof of a cleit.

Scotland's Rural Past

2008 was a very busy year for the Scotland's Rural Past team, with many new groups and individuals starting projects. There are now 45 projects under way across the country, researching, recording and raising awareness of Scotland's rural heritage. Eighteen training courses in fieldwork and recording techniques and two on historical document research have been carried out by RCAHMS's SRP staff in 2008 to help new projects get started. The team and other colleagues from RCAHMS have also provided extensive support in the field by visiting sites with groups and providing back-up training. A number of projects have submitted text, photographs and survey drawings to the RCAHMS database, and have posted additional material on the SRP website (for further information see, www.scotlandsruralpast.org.uk).

During the summer and autumn, many projects raised awareness of rural history in their communities by undertaking guided walks, exhibitions, talks and other events. The quality and quantity of material being produced and promoted by local groups during 2008 as been very exciting and rewarding, and we are looking forward to more of the same in 2009. The first SRP annual conference, which was held in Birnam, near Dunkeld, in November, provided the opportunity for eleven projects to present their work to a packed audience. A similar number of projects displayed their results on exhibition stands.

Scotland's Rural Past was shortlisted for Best Archaeological Project in the British Archaeological Awards (2008), and members of the team and other colleagues from RCAHMS travelled to the awards ceremony in November to receive a 'Highly Commended' award.

Special Surveys

Among the special surveys undertaken by RCAHMS in 2008 was that at Balmerino, Fife, where work focused on completing a plan of the ruins of the abbey, including the so-called Abbot's House and Barn, the Commendator's House and the later farm buildings, at a scale of 1:200. The wider landscape is being analysed with the help a Lidar survey of the hamlet and the immediate fields around the settlement, commissioned from Cambridge University, which has produced a 3-dimensional model of the ground surface and infra-red data. This will provide a context for asking questions about such things as the location of water-management systems, including the lades of the two abbey mills recorded in the 16th century, and the limit of the abbey precinct.

Another special survey took place in early June 2008, when the Commission surveyed the remains of a broch at Clachtoll, on the Sutherland coast. The broch, perched on a rocky headland, suffers from erosion by winter storms, and the survey was undertaken at the request of Historic Assynt, which is exploring possible approaches to the conservation of the monument. The survey established the position and dimensions of four ground-floor cells, and recorded traces of a first-floor gallery.

An aerial view of the hamlet of Balmerino Abbey, with the medieval jetty visible in the centre left of the image. (Crown Copyright RCAHMS DP 020542.)

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

As part of the centenary celebrations work has focused on two major exhibitions. Between April and July over 15,000 visitors viewed 'Faces and Places', a joint exhibition at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, mounted as a partnership project by RCAHMS and the National Galleries of Scotland. Through paintings, sculpture, drawings, photographs, notebooks and instruments from these two National Collections, the exhibition highlighted the work of the architects, engineers, industrialists, archaeologists and antiquarians, some famous, others less well-known, who created Scotland's buildings, and who recorded and studied those of Scotland's past.

The Treasured Places project (www.treasuredplaces.org.uk) continued and over the three months from October 2008 to January 2009, nearly 15,000 visitors attended a major exhibition of original archive material at the City Art Centre in Edinburgh. Entitled '100 years of RCAHMS', this exhibition used a walk-through timeline to explain the growth in RCAHMS survey and collections work from its foundation in 1908 to the present day. In the main area of the exhibition, over 200 items were carefully selected to illustrate the full scope of RCAHMS' work and historic collections,

ranging from archaeological survey through industrial and architectural recording to aerial survey and recent experimentation with the three-dimensional visualisation of survey results. The exhibition also incorporated memories and stories about specific 'treasured places' across Scotland, which had been submitted by the public as part of the online vote for the nation's favourite archive image in the preceding year. A specially commissioned film featured RCAHMS staff in the field explaining their work, and younger visitors were encouraged to engage with the exhibits through a programme of school's workshops and a series of interactive exhibits placed strategically throughout the exhibition.

'100 years of RCAHMS' closed on 18th January, but the online version of the exhibition can still be seen on the Treasured Places website at http://exhibitions.treasuredplaces.org.uk/100years/ . Discussions are now under way to take a version of this exhibition to other venues around Scotland.

Treasured Places education workshops are continuing, and will travel to areas as far apart as Peebles and Elgin, offering schools and community groups the opportunity to respond creatively to archive material relating to their local area. A travelling exhibition, 'Creative Connections', showcases the output from previous workshops and will be touring to support the workshop programme.

The final, online, phase of the project will begin in March 2009. For the first time, members of the public will have the chance to upload their own memories, stories and images relating to any of the 270,000 sites in Canmore, the RCAHMS online database.

RCAHMS is committed to continually improving access to its archive for users, whether in person or online, and a priority in the 2008 Centenary year has been to review and re-develop both the RCAHMS website and Canmore. Development work on both has been taking place over the last year, including a period of Beta testing and feedback conducted with a range of users, and the new sites are now in place at www.rcahms.gov.uk/ . Further changes will be introduced systematically to both the website and Canmore as part of an ongoing programme of work over the next two years.

Scotland's forests contain a wealth of sites with archaeological and industrial interest, many of them relatively unknown. As part of the celebrations for Homecoming 2009, RCAHMS and Forestry Commission Scotland have joined forces to launch a new project, Forest Heritage Scotland, to research such sites and develop a range of material which will make them accessible and comprehensible to the public.

The project website is available at www.forestheritagescotland.com/ and invites members of the public to become involved in exploring sites in their local areas, in conjunction with the Forestry Commission Scotland Ranger services, and to contribute material of their own relating to the sites for future reference.

More than 10 years ago, RCAHMS was a founder partner (along with the National Museums of Scotland) in the launch of Scran (www.scran.ac.uk/) which started life as a digitisation project to make visual material from the archives of participating institutions available online to educational and cultural researchers. Since then, Scran has grown to become a familiar and trusted online resource, offering its subscribers copyright-cleared access to more than 360,000 items from more than 300 contributors. Scran has now formally become part of RCAHMS, and over the coming months will be developed to become an integral part of RCAHMS' education and outreach provision, complementing the research resources available through the re-launched Canmore database.

COLLECTIONS

In the course of this year we have received a wide range of archaeological material, from reports on watching briefs to full archives from excavations and surveys.

Material can be accepted in both traditional paper form, and as digital media. RCAHMS continues to take a lead role in the development of policies and guidelines on standards of archival creation and preservation, to ensure that this material continues to be accessible for the future.

Copies of guidelines for the creation of paper and digital archives are available online, through the Freedom of Information section of the RCAHMS website www.rcahms.gov.uk.

The RCAHMS public search room is open for consultation, Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 4.30pm at John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9NX.

Telephone	0131 662 1456
Fax	0131 662 1477/1499
Email	info@rcahms.gov.uk
Website	www.rcahms.gov.uk

All the material detailed in the following accessions list is available for public consultation, although it may be a considerable time before it is catalogued and a detailed record is available through the online Canmore database. It should also be noted that some material is housed in an external store, and that several days notice may be required to retrieve it. Contact Dr Iain Fraser to check whether an appointment is necessary to consult any of the material.

PRINCIPAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACCESSIONS

April 2008 to December 2008

SCOTLAND, GENERAL

Archive from investigations by GUARD: an evaluation on the M80, Stepps to Haggs, 1993; field records from the Farm Ancient Monument Scheme project, 1999; video display on work on the M74, Dumfries and Galloway and South Lanarkshire, 1993; reconstruction drawings, 1994. (GUARD)

A collection of slides relating to the work of the architect, JW Paterson. Some relate to his work with the Ministry of Works, *c*1910–20, and include views of numerous Guardianship monuments. (Mrs J Munro)

The monastic lavatory at Melrose Abbey, Scottish Borders, under excavation, c1920. From the JW Paterson collection of glass lantern slides (see Scotland, General). (Crown Copyright: RCAHMS SC 1131684).

ABERDEEN, CITY OF

Reports and archives from projects in the city of Aberdeen by Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit: King's College, 2003 and 2005; Torry Battery, 2004; St Mary's Chapel, Stoneywood, 2003; St Fittick's Church, 2004 and 2008; St Nicholas' Church, 2005; Bishop' Palace, Old Aberdeen, 2005; Milburn Street, 2005; Grampian Hotel, Stirling Street, 2005; Mearns Street, 2007; Stoneywood Terrace, 2007; Shiprow, 2008; Salvation Army Citadel, Castle Street, 2008; Wapping Street, 2008; Pitfodels, North Deeside Road, 2008; Marischal College, 1995 and 2008; Taylor Building, Old Aberdeen, 2003; Deeside Golf Club, 2004; College Street, 2005; Burnbanks Village, 2005; King's Links Pillbox, 2005; Seaton Combined Heat and Power, 2005; Timmer Market, 2005 and 2008; Cruickshank Botanical Garden, 2005; Cairn Lee Avenue East, 2006; Newton Dee, 2007; Hazlehead Walled Garden, 2002; Portland Street, 2007; Bridge of Dee, 2007; Crombie Mills, 2007; Caberstone House and Belmont House, 2007; Kingswell House, 2007; Fraser Noble Building, University of Aberdeen, 2007; Justice Mill Lane, 2007; Howe Moss Crescent, 2007; Dahebity House, 2008; Chris Anderson Sports Stadium, 2007-2008; Glashieburn, 2007; Timber Kinder Garden Nursery, St Ninian's Place, 2007; Rosewell Gardens, 2008; Station Road, 2008; Wellington Road, North Loirston, Burnbanks, Sheddocksley, and Greenfern, 2008; Ness Farm and Tullos Hill Landfill Sites, 2008; St Andrew's Street, 2008; Claymore Drive, 2008; and Belmont Street, 2008. (Aberdeen City Council Archaeological Unit)

Archives from projects by AOC Archaeology Group: watching brief at Ness Farm Gully, Tullos Hill, 2007; watching brief at Old Machar Churchyard, 2005. (AOC)

Report on a desk based assessment and level 1 standing building survey at King Street Bus Depot, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2007. (CFA)

Report on an evaluation at the Marriot Hotel, Aberdeen Airport, Argyll Road, by Murray Archaeological Services Ltd, 2007. (Murray Archaeological Services)

ABERDEENSHIRE

Archive from a survey of Dunnideer Hill to determine the extent and severity of fire damage to the archaeology, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2005. (CFA)

Archive from projects by GUARD: evaluation at the Coachford Realignment and Climbing

Lane, 2004; survey at Paper Hill, Oyne, 1994; evaluation at Moss-Side, 1993. (GUARD)

Reports by Murray Archaeological Services Ltd: watching brief at Deeside Way, Footpaths South Ferrar, Aboyne, 2008; evaluation at Mackenzie Avenue (Phase 2), Auchenblae, 2008; watching brief at Braemar Castle, Braemar, 2007; excavation at Craigievar Castle, 2007; building assessment at 59A Bogie Street, Huntly, 2007; evaluation at Broom Lodge, Mill Road, Port Elphinstone, Inverurie, 2007; excavation at Leith Hall pavilion, Kennethmont, 2007; evaluation at Essie Road, Rhynie, 2007; evaluation and excavation at Moss-Side, 2008; watching brief at Dunnottar coastal path, Stonehaven, 2008; watching brief at Strathbeg pumping mill, Crimond, 2007; evaluation at Lower Woodtown, Hatton, Turriff, 2007. (Murray Archaeological Services)

Report on a watching brief at 1 Smiddy Lane, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, by Scotia Archaeology, 2008. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

Reports on a walkover survey and watching brief at Blackdog Burn, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. (SUAT)

ANGUS

Archives from watching briefs by AOC Archaeology Group: Plots 7 and 8, Old Mill Place, Friockheim, 2007; former Greencore Maltings, Victoria Street, Carnoustie, 2007. (AOC)

Reports on archaeological surveys by GUARD: Rottal Farm, Glen Clova, 1999; Kilburn, Tarrabuckle and Wester Eggie Farms, Glen Clova, 1999. Archive from a human remains call-off at a medieval hospital site, Wishart Avenue, Montrose, GUARD, 2003. (GUARD)

Archive from excavation at Benvie Church, by the National Museums of Scotland, 1991. (National Museums of Scotland)

Report on the recording of Mason's Marks at Lower Northwater Bridge, Angus, by Murray Archaeological Services Ltd, 2007. (Murray Archaeological Services)

Reports by Scotia Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at 22–26 East Abbey Street, Arbroath, 2007; watching brief at Wellhill Croft, Pugeston, Montrose, 2008; watching brief at Craig Braes, Montrose Basin, 2008; watching brief at Queen's Close, Montrose, 2007; watching brief at St Vigeans Church, Arbroath, 2008; standing building survey at Tealing House walled garden, 2008. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

Reports on projects by SUAT Ltd: watching brief at Lunanhead-Forestmuir Cable, Forfar, 2008; watching brief at 75 Castle Street, Forfar, 2007; watching brief on the hydro-electric pipeline Rottal Glen Clova, 2008; evaluation at Seaview primary school, Victoria Street, Monifieth, 2007; watching brief at Seaview primary school, Victoria Street, Monifieth, 2008; watching brief at a site north of Dorward House, Montrose, 2008; watching brief at the Close at 25 High Street, Montrose, 2008; watching brief at a site north of Dorward House, Montrose, 2007. Archive from projects by SUAT Ltd: watching brief at Woodhill House, Barry, 2001; standing building recording at the Channonry, Brechin, 2005; evaluation and watching brief at Hillhead, Kirriemuir, 2008; evaluation and watching brief at Seaview Primary School, Monifieth, 2007; desk-based assessment, standing building recording, watching brief and evaluation at Old Montrose Farm, Maryton, 2003; excavation and watching brief at Tannadice Church, 2002. (SUAT)

ARGYLL AND BUTE

Reports from projects by Archaeology and Micromorphology: watching brief and monitoring at Garistuck, Ardlui, 2006; evaluation at Ardnacross Farm, 2007; pre-afforestation walkover survey, Arichamish, Gortonronach, Kilmichael Beg and Glen Shira, 2007; evaluation at land adjacent to Kildonald Cottage, Ballochgair, 2007; topsoil strip on land east of Ledaig House, Benderloch, 2007; evaluation at Bellfield Farm, 2007; evaluation at Bridgend, 2007; controlled topsoil strip, Port Mhor, Colonsay, 2007; evaluation at Gallowhill Farm, 2007; Garrachra, 2007; watching brief at Garrachra, 2007; Glenramskill House, 2006; Drimfern, Inveraray, 2006; Coillabus, Islay, 2008; Imeraval, Port Ellen, Islay, 2006; evaluation on land north of Bruach Gorm, Port Charlotte, Islay, 2008; data structure report and watching brief on land

southeast of Bay Lodge, Port Ellen, Islay, 2006; desk-based assessment at Fish Farm House, Craighouse, Isle of Jura, 2005; Fish Farm House, Craighouse, Isle of Jura, 2005; Lussagiven, Isle of Jura, 2005; controlled topsoil strip, Suidhe, Bunessan, Isle of Mull, 2007; building recording and watching briefs, North Knapdale Forest, 2005; Cleigh Mill, Kilmore, near Oban, 2008; Dal na Breac, Kilmore, Oban, 2006; Burnside Cottages, Stewarton, 2006; building recording and evaluation at 8 Kilkenneth, Tiree, 2007; evaluation at 7–11 The Meadows, Toward, 2006. (Archaeology and Micromorphology)

Reports on field survey and re-appraisal of sites and castles, Loch Lomond Islands survey, by Firat Archaeological Services, 2007. (Firat Archaeological Services)

Archive from projects by GUARD: assessment at Ardchattan, 1995; excavation on an urned cremation at Benderloch, 1996; evaluation on Iona, 1993; evaluation at Low Clachaig, Kintyre, 1993; digital archive from the Mid-Argyll MOLRS Project, 2003; evaluation at Strachur Smiddy, 1993. (GUARD)

Reports on projects by Kilmartin House Museum: walkover survey at Carnassarie Farm, 2007; excavation at Kilmory Oib, North Knapdale, 2008; excavation at Ormaig Cup and Ring marked rock art site, 2007. (Kilmartin House Museum)

Three digital photographs of Knockalava Steading, by S Malcolm, 2003. (Mr Scott Malcolm)

Material from research by E B Rennie: folder of drawings of Ardnadam, Cowal, Argyll and Bute; text of 'The recessed platforms of Argyll, Bute and Inverness: discussion and conclusions', with accompanying letter; reprint of 'An investigation into the history and function of the so-called charcoal burners' platforms in the west of Scotland', from the *Scottish Naturalist*, 104 (1992). (Dr E W Mackie)

Report, with accompanying DVDs, on a survey of the landscape archaeology of Glendaruel, by C McLaughlin, 2003–8. (Mr C McLaughlin)

Archive from projects by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: mitigation at Coll Airfield, Isle of Coll, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Reports on projects by Scotia Archaeology Ltd: watching brief at Broadhill, Coll, 2007; watching brief at Kilvaree, Connell, 2008; excavation of Structure 3 at Glenshellach, Oban, 2007; excavation of structures 1 and 2 at Glenshellach, 2008; watching brief at Ballymeanoch, Kilmartin, 2008. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

CLACKMANNAN

Final conservation report on the Stone of Mannan and Clackmannan Mercat Cross, Clackmannan, 2008. (Nicolas Boyes Stone Conservation)

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

Archives from projects by GUARD: evaluation along the proposed A75, 1998; assessment, Annandale, 1994; evaluation at Beckton, 1994; assessment at Dinwooodie Mains, 1994; assessment at Waterhead of Dryfe, 1995. (GUARD)

Report on an archaeological survey at Broughton House and Garden Lily Pool, by Kirkdale Archaeology, 2008. (Kirkdale Archaeology)

Report on a watching brief at Bankhead Farm, Dalswinton, by Oxford Archaeology North, 2008. (Oxford Archaeology North)

Archive from projects by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: evaluation and mitigation at Pearmount House, Dumfries, 2007; monitoring at Lockerbie Wastewater Treatment Works, 2006; mitigation and evaluation at Planting End, 2006–7; watching brief and monitoring at Clay Croft, Stoneykirk, 2007; cultural heritage assessments at: Breddock Hill, Kirkmaiden, 2006; Clanyard Moor, Kirkmaiden, 2006; Inshanks Moor, Kirkmaiden, 2006; Cairn Hill, Leswalt, 2006; Killumpha, Port Logan, 2006; Knockglass Croft, Stanraer, 2006.

Reports from cultural heritage assessment projects by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: Coreholm Hill, Kirkmaiden, 2006; East Myroch, Port Logan, 2006; Paddy's Plantation, Port Logan, 2006; Craigoch Park, Portpatrick, 2006; Low Three Mark, Stoneykirk, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Archive from an evaluation adjacent to B7076 at Lockerbie, by SUAT Ltd, 2003. (SUAT)

DUNDEE, CITY OF

Report on a desk based assessment and watching brief at Dundee One, North Block, West Victoria Dock Road, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2008. (CFA)

Archive from standing building recording, desk-based assessment and watching brief at Trades Lane, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. (SUAT)

EAST AYRSHIRE

Reports on projects by CFA Archaeology Ltd: survey at Grievehill Opencast Extension, New Cumnock, 2008; walkover survey and evaluation at Greenburn Open Cast Coal Scheme, Northeast extension, 2008. (CFA)

Archive from projects by GUARD: excavations at Galston, 2004; evaluation at Loudoun Hill, 1994; assessment at Loudoun Hill, 1995; field survey of the Ayrshire Coalfields, 2002. (GUARD)

Archive from projects by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at Castlehill, New Cumnock, 2003; mitigation at 27 Mill Street, Ochiltree, 2006; watching brief at Stewarton Polo Club, 2004. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Report on a watching brief at Douglas Academy, Milngavie, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2007. (CFA Archaeology Ltd)

Archive from an assessment at Cadder, Antonine Wall, by GUARD, 1995. (GUARD)

EAST LOTHIAN

Reports on recording by East Lothian U3A Family History Group: a ruined building at East Adniston, 2005; ruined cottage at Old Hailes, 2004. (East Lothian U3A Family History Group)

Archive from excavation prior to construction of Park Lane Hospital, Musselburgh, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 1995. Post-excavation and publication archive from the excavation of a cropmark enclosure at Dryburn Bridge, by J Triscott and D Pollock, 1978–9, and CFA Archaeology, 2001–06. Excavation archive from rescue excavation at Sunnyside Farm, Traprain Law, by PJ Ashmore, 1973.

Reports from projects by CFA Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at Crystal Rig Wind Farm (Phase II Substation), 2007; archive assessment, metal detecting survey and evaluation at land adjacent to proposed horse arena at Brandsmill, Dunbar, 2007; archive assessment and monitored topsoil strip at 1 High Street, East Linton, 2007; assessment and evaluation (phase 1) at Elvingston Science Centre, Gladsmuir, 2007; assessment and evaluation at Brierbush Road, Macmerry, 2007; assessment and evaluation at Macbeth Moir Road, Musselburgh, 2007; desk based assessment and evaluation at 3 Smeaton Grove, Inveresk, Musselburgh, 2007; desk based assessment and monitored topsoil strip at Gardner's Garden, North Berwick, 2008; standing building survey at North Elphinstone Farm, 2007; standing building recording and test pitting at Old Pencaitland House, 2007; desk based assessment and metal detecting survey at Prestonlinks Community Woodland, Prestonpans, 2007; evaluation at Prestonlinks Community Woodland, Prestonpans, 2007; metal detector survey at Wallyford, 2007. (CFA)

Report on a watching brief and buildings appraisal at The Beehive Cottage, Garvald, by Connolly Heritage Consultancy, 2008. (Connolly Heritage Consultancy)

Reports on DNA analysis on a skeleton with leprosy recovered from the Dryburn Bridge excavation in 1978–9, GUARD, 2002. (GUARD)

EAST RENFREWSHIRE

Reports on surveys by the Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists: Park, Netherton, Nether Enoch, Over Enoch, Carrot and Myres Farms and the farmlands of Hare Shaw and Drumduff, 2008; Mains, Polnoon and Waukers Farms, the farmlands of Damhead and the Hamlet of Millhall, 2008. (ACFA)

Report, guidance notes and correspondence relating to a horse engine survey undertaken in East Renfrewshire and East Kilbride, by TC Welsh, 1975 and 1986. Report: A guide to key themes for East Renfrewshire with reference to the book *Eastwood District History & Heritage*, by TC Welsh, 1989, and a list of antiquities, 1983, revised 2000. (Dr TC Welsh)

EDINBURGH, CITY OF

Archive from investigations by AOC Archaeology Group: evaluation at the former Tartan Club, Fountainbridge, 2007; watching brief on the Ratho-Dalmahoy Line Rebuild, 2004; historic building recording at 16 Tower Street, Leith, 2004. (AOC)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at Braid Burn Flood Prevention Scheme, Inch Park, 2008; watching brief and excavation at Braid Burn Flood Prevention Scheme, Inch Park, 2008; watching brief at Colinton Castle, 2007; watching brief at The Pottery, 41 Ravenscroft Street, Gilmerton, 2008; watching brief at Gogar Bank, 2007; watching brief at Gogar Bank, 2008; evaluation at Madelvic Plot 8, Granton Park Avenue, Granton, 2007; watching brief at Grassmarket, Edinburgh, 2007; watching brief at Greyfriars Kirkyard Regeneration, 2007; standing building recording and evaluation at 57–59 High Street, 2007; watching brief at Citadel Youth Centre, Commercial Street, Leith, 2008; watching brief, evaluation and desk based assessment at Merchiston Castle School 6th Form Boarders' Accommodation, 2007; watching brief at Ingliston Park and Ride Phase 2, Newbridge, 2007; watching brief at North Edinburgh Football Academy, Pilton Drive, 2007; evaluation at Charteris Land, 15 St John Street, 2008; desk-based assessment and evaluation at 4 West Mills Road, 2008. (CFA)

Archive from investigations by GUARD: human remains call-off at Graham Street, Leith, 2003; evaluation at Maybury Park, 1994; evaluation on the M8 Extension, Claylands to Sighthill, 1993. (GUARD)

Report on a magnetometry survey in the parkland to the east of Cramond House, Edinburgh, by Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society, 2008. (Mr HMD Jones, Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society)

Digital images of gravestones from cemeteries in Scotland, primarily in Edinburgh, from the book *Silent*, and of gravestones at Warriston Cemetery, from the book *Sleep*, by R Reinhardt, 2008. (Mr Robert Reinhardt).

Angel, Warriston Cemetery, City of Edinburgh, by Robert Reinhardt, 2008 (Copyright: Robert Reinhardt: DP 051742).

Image: Cherub, Warriston Cemetery, City of Edinburgh, by Robert Reinhardt, 2008 (Copyright: Robert Reinhardt: DP 051742).

Reports from investigations by SUAT Ltd: desk-based assessment and walkover survey at Tynecastle High School, 2007, and watching brief, 2008. (SUAT)

FALKIRK
Archive from evaluation at Falkirk Gateway (Phase 1) Development, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. (AOC)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at proposed housing development, Tamfourhill, 2007; excavations at 76 Grahamsdyke Street, Laurieston. (CFA)

Report on a geophysical survey at the site of Manuel Nunnery, Edinburgh Archaeological Society, 2008. (Mr HMD Jones, Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society)

Report on excavations at Unit 1 Lochlands Industrial Estate, by Falkirk Museum, 2007. (Falkirk Museum)

Report on an evaluation at 13 Gauze Road, Bo'ness, by RS Kidd, 2008. (Mr R S Kidd)

FIFE
Report on a historic building survey and analytical assessment at Law's Close, 339-343 High Street, Kirkcaldy, by Addyman Archaeology, 2008. (Addyman Archaeology)

Archive from evaluation at St Andrews Medical Centre, St Andrews, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. (AOC)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: watching brief at Melville Lodges to Newburgh, 2007; excavation on the fallen Peekie Standing Stone, 2008. (CFA)

Archives from investigations by GUARD: evaluation at the Gask, Lathalmond, 1993; excavation at Kincardine Bridge, 1993; A985 Kincardine Eastern Link Road: excavation of eighteenth/nineteenth century drainage, 2003, environmental coring assessment, 2003, and correspondence on evaluation/mitigation, 2003. (GUARD)

Pilot study of Shoreline Management Plans on Fife Coastline, by I Oxley, 1997. (Mr Philip Robertson, Historic Scotland)

Archive from an evaluation and investigations at Clatchard Craig Quarry, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Archive from investigations by SUAT Ltd: watching brief at Ceres Folk Museum, 2003; geophysical survey and evaluation of Kinloss Farm, Cupar, 1997; watching brief at Carnegie Museum, Dunfermline, 2006; excavation and watching brief at Dunino Church, 1997; survey of WWII POW camp at Bonnytown Farm, Dunino, 2004; impact assessment at Little Raith, Lochgelly, 2004; watching brief at St Andrews' Community Hospital, 2007–08. Report on a watching brief on gas pipe re-lining at St Catherine's Wynd and Monastery Street, Dunfermline, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. (SUAT)

GLASGOW, CITY OF
Archive from an evaluation at 272–274 Bell Street, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2004. (AOC)

Report on an excavation at Leverndale Hospital, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2007. (CFA)

Report on a survey at Darnley Estate, Mill and Farm, by GUARD, 1996. Archive from investigations by GUARD: assessment at Braehead, 1994; evaluation on Crosssunk Railway, 1993; evaluation at West Flank Road, Drumchapel, 1995. (GUARD)

Archive from an assessment at College Park, Duke Street, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2005. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Notes on 'Doomster Hill', Govan, by TC Welsh, 2008. (Dr TC Welsh)

HIGHLAND
Archive from an evaluation of the A9 Helmsdale to Ord of Caithness, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2006. (AOC)

Report on recording and evaluation of a new house site, Croft 5, Balmeanach, Glenhinnisdal, Isle of Skye, by Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey, 2008. (Archaeological and Ancient Landscape Survey)

Report on a survey of a number of homesteads in the south and east of Raasay, and of a cairnfield, Suisnish Hill, Portree, Skye and Lochalsh, by the Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists, 2008. (ACFA)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: standing building survey and conservation plan at Tom Beag Inclined Plane, Ballachulish, 2007; excavation at Borrodale, Lochaber, in advance of work on the A830, 2005; standing building survey at Larichmore Bridge, 2005; watching brief along the proposed A830 between Loch Nan Uamh and Arisaig, 2007; desk-based assessment and evaluation at Morangie Road, Tain, 2008. (CFA)

Report on maintenance work undertaken at Dun Da Lamh, by the Forestry Commission, 2007. (Forestry Commission)

Archive from investigations by GUARD: evaluation at Ballachulish Moss, 1993; survey of Caulfields Military Way, 1994; evaluation at Grantown on Spey, 1996; watching brief at John O'Groats, Caithness, 1995; human remains call-off contract at Lothbeg, Brora, 2000. (GUARD)

Report on a watching brief on the Tongue – Melness water mains pipeline, by Jacobs, 2008. (Jacobs)

Photocopies of data from surveys of brochs, compiled by EW Mackie. (Dr EW Mackie)

Archive from an evaluation at Dornoch Business Park, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

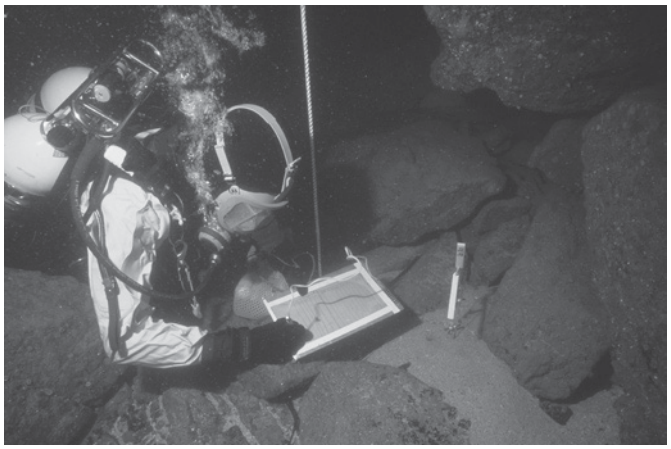
Reports from investigations by Scotia Archaeology Ltd: watching brief at Dun Colbost, Skye, 2007; watching brief on a new 33kv underground cable at Balloan Cottages, 2008; watching brief undertaken during the upgrading of a military road near Fort Augustus, 2007. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

Report on an excavation at Slackbuie, Inverness, by SUAT Ltd, 2007. Archive from a watching brief at Ashton Farm, Resaurie, by SUAT Ltd, 2001. (SUAT)
Report on Strageath Castle, by T C Welsh, 2008. (Dr TC Welsh)

INVERCLYDE
Archive from an assessment at Priestside, by GUARD, 1993. (GUARD)

MARITIME

Archive from the excavation and survey of the Kinlochbervie wreck, Bagh Poll A' Bhacain, by NAS, RAF and Time Team, 2000–4.



Maritime archaeologist recording sediment levels on a sediment stake from a shipwreck near Kinlochbervie by the RAF Lossiemouth Sub Aqua Club, 1997 and 2000. Accession Number 2008/86 (Copyright: Historic Scotland SC 1118763 CS).

Archive from the Sound of Mull Archaeological Project (SOMAP), 1994–2005. Includes Remote Sensing Project; *Thesis; Pelican; Rondo; Hispania; Strathbeg; Evelyn Rose; John Preston; Dartmouth; Swan*; Shuna; Loch Tearnait Crannog; Calve Island; Duart Point; Stone Quay, Ardtornish Bay; Loch Aline Jetty; Scallastle Bay.

Archive from surveys by the Archaeological Diving Unit: *Kennermerland* wreck, 1971–96; Mingary; Scapa Flow; *Wrangels Palais*; Duart Point; Burntisland; *Dartmouth*; *Campania*; Kinlochbervie; Siccar Rock, and miscellaneous sites. (Mr Philip Robertson, Historic Scotland)

General underwater shot of cannon in situ *at the investigation of the wreck, Wrangels Palais, 1990. Accession Number 2008/159 (Copyright: Historic Scotland SC 1128273).*

MIDLOTHIAN

Archive from investigations by AOC Archaeology Group: evaluation and historic building record at Whippielaw Steading, Pathhead, 2007; evaluation at Todhills, Dalkeith, 2006. (AOC)

Report on a geophysical survey adjacent to Castlehill Plantation, Penicuik, Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society, 2008. (Mr HMD Jones, Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: assessment and evaluation at Build 27, New Hunterfield, Gorebridge, 2007; evaluation at proposed housing development at Vogrie Road / Lady Brae, Gorebridge, 2007; standing building recording, evaluations at 1–3 Musselburgh Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian, 2008; environmental investigation at Mauricewood / A702 roundabout, 2005; evaluation at Greenlaw Mains, Penicuik, 2007. (CFA)

MORAY

Archive from evaluation at Pinefield, Elgin, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. Report on a watching brief on the Forres flood prevention scheme, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2008. (AOC)

Reports on excavations at Birnie, by the National Museums of Scotland, 2006-08. (National Museums of Scotland)

Report into the investigation of buried and other inaccessible tombstones at Birnie churchyard, 2006–8, by The Moray Burial Ground Research Group, 2008. (The Moray Burial Ground Research Group)

NORTH AYRSHIRE

Digital images of limekilns at Over Hessilhead, Gateside, by A B Eadie, 2006. (Mr Andrew Eadie)

Archive from investigations by GUARD: evaluation at Brodick Castle, Arran, 1992; evaluation at Kilwinning, 1994. (GUARD)

Archive from investigations by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: evaluation and mitigation at Kinloch Court, Blackwaterfoot, Arran, 2006; mitigation and evaluation at Seafield Cottage, Arran, 2007; evaluation at Lainshaw House, 2005; evaluation at Swinlees Quarry, Dalry, 2006; mitigation at Sevenacres Mill, Kilwinning, 2006; watching brief at Golf Road, Millport, 2006; monitoring at 23 Hamilton Street, Saltcoats, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Sevenacres Mill, North Ayrshire, from a survey by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (Copyright Rathmell Archaeology Ltd; RCAHMS SC 1112850).

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Archive from an evaluation at Garnhall, by GUARD, 1993. (GUARD)

Report on a watching brief and artefact retrieval at Brownsburn – Target Tip Remediation, by Jacobs, 2008. (Jacobs)

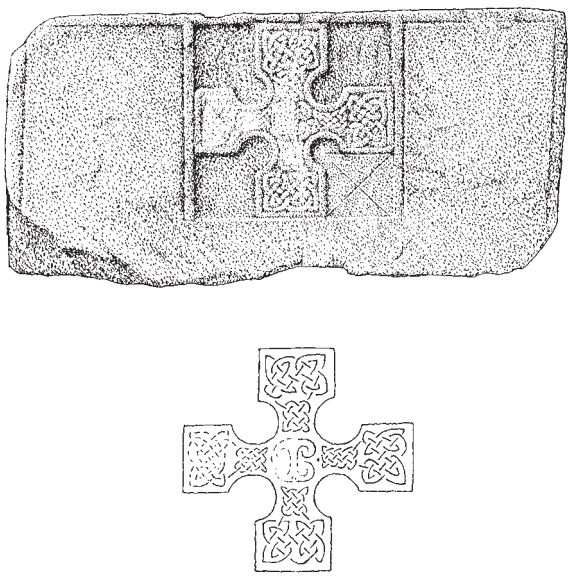
Archive from excavation and recording of the Antonine Wall at Cadder and New Kilpatrick Cemetery by L Keppie, 2008. (L Keppie)

ORKNEY

Reports on geophysical survey at the World Heritage Site, Orkney, by GSB Prospection, 2003 and 2004. (GSB Prospection)

Archives from investigations by GUARD: excavations at Skaill House, 1996; evaluation at Unga Fold/Linga Fold, 1994. (GUARD)

Measured drawing of a carved stone altar frontal from Flotta, Orkney, now in the National Museums of Scotland, by IG Scott, 2008. (Mr Ian G Scott)



The Flotta shrine or altar frontal, Orkney, by IG Scott, 2008. (Crown Copyright: RCAHMS SC 1104306)

Report on excavations at the Ring of Brodgar, Stenness, by Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology, 2008. (Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology (ORCA))

Report on a landscape capacity study of the setting of the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site and a comparison of landscape character assessment and historic landuse assessment in the area, by David Tyldesley and Associates, 2001. (David Tyldesley and Associates)

PERTH AND KINROSS

Archive from evaluation at Pitfour, St Madoes, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. (AOC)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: standing building recording at Ballinluig Junction Improvement, 2007; standing building recording survey at Stanley Mills, Stanley, 2007; monitored topsoil strip and excavation at A9, Kindallachan Junction Improvements, 2007. Archive from the evaluation and excavation of the two interchanges at Kinfauns and Glendoick on the A90, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2005. (CFA)

Archive from survey and desk-based assessment at Wester Bleaton Quarry, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Reports from investigations by Scotia Archaeology Ltd: evaluation at Highland Adventure Safaris, Dull, Aberfeldy, 2008; evaluation at Abbeyhill, Precinct Street, Coupar Angus, 2008; watching brief at Cragganester, Loch Tay, 2008; evaluation at Lower Kiltyrie, Loch Tay, 2008; evaluation at Plot 2, East of Dull Church, 2007. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

Archive from investigations by SUAT Ltd: watching brief on an access road east of Abernyte House, 2008; evaluation on land to the North of Drumcharry House, High Street, Auchterarder, 2008; walkover survey and desk-based assessment of Binn Farm, 2006; evaluation and desk-based assessment at Welton Road, Blairgowrie, 2005; watching brief and limited excavation at Leys of Marlee Stone Circle, Blairgowrie, 2008; evaluation and contour survey at Camusericht, Kinloch Rannoch, 2004; watching brief at Barton Hill, Kinnaird, 2007; watching brief and excavation at Comrie Parish Church, 1999; watching brief at Cleish Castle, 2001; trial excavation at Home Farm, Castle Menzies, 1999; evaluation at 5–7 The Square, Methven, 2008; watching brief at Orwell Old Parish Church, Milnathort, 2007; walkover survey and desk-based assessment of West Blair Farm, 2006. Reports from investigations by SUAT Ltd: watching brief at East Tempar, Kinloch Rannoch, 2008; watching brief at Barton Hill, Kinnaird, 2007; evaluation at Gairneybridge, Kinross, 2007; evaluation at Ardler Road, Meigle, 2008; watching brief at Kaimes Cottage, Muir of Orchil, 2007; watching brief at Kirkgate, Perth, 2008; evaluations and watching briefs at Riggs Road / Whitefriar Street, Perth, 2007 and 2008. (SUAT)

Reports on investigations by T C Welsh: the Gilt Arbour of the Silver Book and St Paul's Chapel, 2008; notes on the Granges and other holdings of Coupar Angus Abbey, and the Burgh of Keithick, predecessor of Coupar Angus, 2008; fieldwork on the medieval town of Dunkeld, 2008; notes on the medieval town of Dunkeld, 2008; Craig Wood, Dunkeld – Hillfort and 'rounds', 2008; observations on King's Seat near Dunkeld, 2008; a 17th century malting kiln and coble on Canal Street, Perth, 2008; various remains at Barnhill, Kinnoull, Perth, 2008; the extent and disposition of the Forteviot church lands, 2008; the Hall and Chapel of Carsegrange, Carse of Gowrie, 2008. (Dr T C Welsh)

RENFREWSHIRE

Archive from a watching brief and evaluation at Ferry Village, Renfrew, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2006. (AOC)

Archive from an evaluation at Amochrie Primary School, by GUARD, 1995. (GUARD)

Archive from mitigation at Abbotsinch, by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, 2007. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Report on a watching brief at Strathcarron Drive, Dykebar Hill, Paisley, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. Archive from an evaluation and standing building survey of Johnstone Castle, by SUAT Ltd, 2004–05. (SUAT)

SCOTTISH BORDERS

Archive from investigations by AOC Archaeology Group:

excavations on the A1, Houndwood, 2002; project at Airhouse, Oxton, Lauder, 2006. (AOC)

Reports from investigations by CFA Archaeology Ltd: watching brief at St Mary's School, Abbey Park, Melrose, 2007; excavation at Toddleburn Windfarm, 2008; watching brief at Trident 132Kv OHL Route – Hawick Grid Substation to Tower V269, Hawick, 2008; standing building recording at Glenormiston Steading, Glenormiston Estate, 2007. (CFA)

Archive from an evaluation at Teviothead, by GUARD, 1993. (GUARD)

Report on a watching brief on Melrose Cauld River Wall Repairs, by Headland Archaeology Ltd, 2008. (Headland Archaeology Ltd)

SHETLAND

Report on an excavation at Belmont, by CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2006. (CFA)

Archive from excavation at Catpund steatite quarry, by B Smith, S Carter and V Turner, 1988–90. (Ms Val Turner, Shetland Amenity Trust)

SOUTH AYRSHIRE

Archive from an archaeological evaluation at Crossraguel Abbey, by GUARD, 1995. (GUARD)

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Report on an evaluation at Wilson Opencast Coal Scheme, Forth, 2008. (CFA)

Archive from an archaeological evaluation between Symington and Abington, by GUARD, 1996. (GUARD)

Report on the Castlehill to Hillhead connection route, a possible Roman road, by W Huston, 2008. (Mr W Huston)

Archive from investigations by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd: cultural heritage assessment at Duneaton, Abington, 2007; watching brief at Bonnington Penstock, Lanark, 2006; monitored strip at Stravenhouse Farm, Law, 2006. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

Report on a walkover, evaluation and walled garden survey at Craighead, Blantyre, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. (SUAT)

Newspaper article on aspects of the history of East Kilbride, by T C Welsh, 1986 (Dr T C Welsh)

STIRLING

Reports on field surveys by Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists: Dalgirdy in Glen Lochay, 2008; Allt Coire Challum Shieling at the Head of Glen Lochay, 2008. (ACFA)

Archive from investigations by GUARD: evaluation at Place of Killearn, 1993; recording and evaluation of sites near Cambuskenneth Abbey, 1996. (GUARD)

Archive from excavations at Drumquhassle Roman Fort, by Alba Ltd and Headland Archaeology Ltd, 1997–2000. (Headland Archaeology)

Digital images of St Maha's Well, taken by G Márkus, 2008. (Dr Gilbert Márkus)

Report on a walkover survey at Auchlyne Estate, Glen Dochart, by SUAT Ltd, 2008. (SUAT)

Oil painting of the Dumgoyach stone row, by the topographic artist, William Barry, *c*1890.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Archive from watching brief at Riverside Lane, Dumbarton, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2006. (AOC)

Oil painting of the Dumgoyach stone row, Stirling, by the topographic artist, William Barry, c1890. (Crown Copyright: RCAHMS DP 051391)

Archive from an assessment at Cleddan's Farm, by GUARD, 1996. (GUARD)

WEST LOTHIAN

Archive from a watching brief at Lowdoors, Kirknewton, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. (AOC)

Report on a geophysical survey at Ogilface Castle and Stand Hill, Armadale, by Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society, 2008. (Mr H M D Jones, Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society)

WESTERN ISLES

Archive from watching brief at Bragar, Isle of Lewis, by AOC Archaeology Group, 2007. (AOC)

Report on a walkover survey at 1 Floddabay, Isle of Harris, by C Barrowman, 2007. (Dr Chris Barrowman)

Report of Coastal Zone Assessment Survey (SCAPE) of North Uist (East Coast), by CFA Archaeology, 2006. Archive from the excavation of a kerb cairn near Calanais, Isle of Lewis, by CFA Archaeology, 1995. (CFA).

Report on excavations at Hirta, St Kilda (2002 season), by GUARD, 2003. Archive from a human remains call-off contract at Pabay Mor, Lewis, by GUARD, 2002. (GUARD)

Reports on projects by the National Trust for Scotland: coastal erosion survey at Village Bay, St Kilda, 2006; work undertaken by the St Kilda Archaeologist on St Kilda, 2007; condition survey at Gleann Mor, St Kilda, 2008. (National Trust for Scotland)

Report on an archaeological watching brief at Poball Fhinn, by R Rennell, 2007. (Dr Rebecca Rennell)

Reports by Scotia Archaeology Ltd: desk based assessment and walkover survey for a wind generator connection at Liniclate, Benbecula, 2008; desk based study and walkover survey at Torlum to Nunton and Hacklett to Grimsay, Benbecula, 2008. (Scotia Archaeology Ltd)

Reports from projects by SUAT Ltd: walkover survey, Stockinish to Rodel Powerline, Harris, 2008; evaluation at 64 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, 2008.

Archive from projects by SUAT Ltd: walkover survey of the route of a power line at Gisla, Isle of Lewis, 2006; evaluation at 64 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, 2008; walkover survey of the route of a new power line on Benbecula and North Uist, 2005; walkover survey of the route of a new power line at Ludaig, South Uist, 2005; watching brief and walkover survey of proposed power line route at Drimore, South Uist, 2005. (SUAT)

Report on an evaluation and assessment of results at Allasdale Dunes, Barra, by Wessex Archaeology, 2008. (Wessex Archaeology)

General view of the excavation of a prehistoric kerb cairn at Callanish, Lewis by CFA Archaeology Ltd 1995. Accession Number 2008/119 (Copyright: Historic Scotland SC 1127047 CS).

RADIOCARBON DATES ARRANGED THROUGH NATIONAL MUSEUMS SCOTLAND ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENT DURING 2007/8

Alison Sheridan

The main thrust of NMS Archaeology Department's radiocarbon dating activities this year was on Scottish Bronze Age monuments, with Historic Scotland kindly funding a series of dates for funerary (and other) monuments in mid-Argyll and Morvern, with a special focus on kerb cairns, and NMS funding dates for monuments elsewhere in Scotland. Collaboration was a key aspect of this work. The Pullyhour date formed part of Professor Richard Bradley's dating of this hengiform monument. The Torbhlaren date was organised on behalf of the excavator, Dr Andy Jones. The Upper Largie dates (on material excavated during the early 1980s: Mercer & Rideout 1987) contributed to AOC Archaeology's broader synthesis of investigations at this Kilmartin Glen quarry. The Fortingall date assisted staff at Queen's University of Belfast in publishing the late Professor Derek Simpson's excavation of this site. The Callum's Hill date formed part of a pair of dates for two cremated individuals found in a Vase Urn, the other being submitted by Mark Hall and funded by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (see Hall and Sheridan on Callum's Hill, this volume).

The work of re-dating material that had previously been dated by the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit (ORAU) between 2000 and 2002, when there were problems with the equipment, continued. (See previous reports on this in *DES*, 7, 202–4 and 8, 225, for details.) Where it was not possible to secure replacement samples from the previously-dated specimens, ORAU permitted new material to be submitted, and the opportunity was therefore taken to date bones from two brochs (Whitegate and Burrian) and from the Neolithic non-megalithic round mound at East Finnercy. The Broch of Burrian bone was an ox phalanx decorated with a Pictish symbol; a further date, for a second decorated ox phalanx from the same site, is reported here for the first time. The latter had been obtained for NMS during 2007, and both dates have been discussed in Clarke and Heald (2008). These represent the first directly radiocarbon-dated pieces of Pictish 'art', and as such are of considerable importance.

The following are thanked for their assistance: Rod McCullagh and Dr Noel Fojut (HS); Dr Ellen McAdam and her staff at Kelvingrove Museum; Dr Mercedes Okumura (Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies (henceforth LCHES), Cambridge University); Dr Tom Higham (ORAU); Professor Gordon Cook and his staff at SUERC; Matt Leivers; and Hugo Lamdin-Whymark.

Note: As in previous years, some additional radiocarbon dates, for Bronze Age material from England, were also arranged by NMS Archaeology Department, either as part of the author's long-standing research project on faience jewellery, or to assist colleagues with other research projects (including the international *Project JADE*). Traditionally these have not been published in *DES*. Some of the results can, however, be seen in a new on-line publication, *Bronze Age Review* (Sheridan 2008).

The dates are presented in chronological order. All samples are of cremated human bone unless specified otherwise, and all dates are AMS dates. Single entity samples have been used throughout. The results have been calibrated using OxCal v4.0, with the INTCAL04 dataset (*Radiocarbon* 46(3), 2004); in no case was it necessary to correct for a marine reservoir effect.

Neolithic and Bronze Age Material

***Findspot**, location of sample, RCAHMS no.*	*Dated material, context, associations*	*Sponsor*	*Lab no.*	*$\Delta^{13}C$‰*	*Date BP*	*Calibrated date at 1σ and **2σ** cal BC*
Orwell, Perth & Kinross (**cremation deposit B**) (NMS unreg; NO10SW 8)	From lower part of a double deposit of cremated human bones, found in the hole for a standing stone, one of a pair. Dated bone fragment was from a probable femur shaft, adult	NMS	SUERC-18309	-22.7	4180±35[1]	2880–2696 **2889–2635**
Pullyhour, Highland (c/o excavator; ND15SW 3)	Waterlogged Scots pine post; post pit cuts through the Phase 2 bank	NMS	SUERC-20320	-25.5	3965±30[2]	2565–2463 **2573–2348**
Acharn, Highland (**cairn 2, cist 1**) (NMS unreg; NM65SE 4)	Among disturbed material in cist under cairn; unworked flint and quartz flakes; small pieces of charcoal	HS	SUERC-16638	-26.6	3755±35	2271–2061 **2287–2038**
Callum's Hill, Crieff, Perth & Kinross (**individual 2**) (Perth Museum & Art Gallery; NN82SE 39)	Inside Vase Urn that had been found inverted, in (presumed) pit: found a few inches below ground surface during building operations	SAS	SUERC-18313	-24.9	3670±35	2132–1980 **2191–1947**
Upper Largie, Argyll & Bute (**cist 3**) (HS; NR59NW 43)	Inside cist; pyre debris	HS	SUERC-16633	-26.8	3645±35[3]	2118–1952 **2135–1921**

Balbirnie, Fife (**cist 2, child**) (LCHES; NO20SE 4)	From cist in cemetery under cairn inside stone circle. Square-sectioned burnt bone bead	NMS	SUERC-18301	-25.7	3625±35[4]	2031–1940 **2130–1891**
Horsbrugh Castle Farm, Scottish Borders (**inhumed body**) (LCHES unreg; NT23NE 29)	Unburnt human bone. On floor of cist; small flint knife or scraper	NMS	SUERC-18302	-21.1	3610±35[5]	2023–1925 **2121–1885**
Callum's Hill, Crieff, Perth & Kinross (**individual 1**) (Perth Museum & Art Gallery; NN82SE 39)	See above, re individual 2	NMS	SUERC-18312	-23.2	3600±35	2018–1910 **2116–1881**
Glenreasdell Mains, Argyll & Bute (**cist 5**) (LCHES; NR85NE 14.00)	From floor of cist containing a 'mini-cist', in flat cist cemetery	HS	SUERC-16642	-22.5	3565±35	1972–1832 **1949–1751**
Cairny, North Lanarkshire (**deposit I**) (NMS unreg; NS86NE 1)	From pocket of cremated bone in cairn material close to (and possibly thrown out from) a cist under a cairn. A 'crumb' of coarse buff pottery was associated	NMS	SUERC-18305	-23.7	3530±35	1920–1776 **1949–1751**
Upper Largie, Argyll & Bute (**Feature 1**, context 7, find 2) (HS; NR59NW 43)	Inside urn, probably Collared Urn, that had been buried upright in a shallow pit	HS	SUERC-16631	-27.6	3520±35	1896–1774 **1938–1749**
Acharn, Highland (**grave pit near cairn 1**) (NMS unreg; NM75SW 2)	In pit 3m to the E of a cairn. Charcoal and earth; calcined bone toggle or pin-head, smoothed stone and several burnt flint flakes	HS	SUERC-16637	-24.1	3505±35[6]	1886–1771 **1938–1749**
Horsbrugh Castle Farm, Scottish Borders (**cremation deposit 2, child**) (LCHES unreg; NT23NE 29)	From deposit of dark ashy soil with cremated bone, at top of cist pit fill between W capstone and a stone at the side of the pit. Fragments of burnt antler, 2 sherds, charcoal and cobbles like those forming the packing between the capstone and the W side of the pit	NMS	SUERC-18304	-24.6	3355±30[5]	1690–1611 **1739–1532**
Horsbrugh Castle Farm, Scottish Borders (**cremation deposit 1**) (LCHES unreg; NT23NE 29)	From pit partly dug into upper fill of cist pit, and partly into gravel subsoil; small flat stone above main deposit of the cremated bone. Small sherd and 2 pieces of ?poplar charcoal	NMS	SUERC-18303	-25.3	3325±35[5]	1663–1532 **1726–1516**
Temple Wood, Argyll & Bute (**Burial E, secondary**, TW79) (Glasgow Museums; NR89NW 6)	From kerb cairn inside Temple Wood southern stone circle. From inside a probable cist; a secondary deposit within the kerb cairn. Overlies pit containing primary deposit of cremated bones (see 'Burial E, primary'). Sealed by cairn material.	HS	SUERC-17361	-26.7	3100±35	1425–1316 **1441–1270**
Temple Wood, Argyll & Bute (**Burial D**, TW14) (Glasgow Museums; NR89NW 6)	From SE quarter of cist in the centre of the Temple Wood southern stone circle; probably deposited when this cist (which is almost certain to be of Early Bronze Age date) was converted into a kerb cairn	HS	SUERC-17360	-26.0	3080±30	1407–1316 **1421–1268**
Temple Wood, Argyll & Bute (**Burial E, primary**, TW89) (Glasgow Museums; NR89NW 6)	From kerb cairn inside Temple Wood southern stone circle. From sub-rectangular pit; sealed by the secondary interment (see above, 'Burial E, secondary') and all sealed by cairn material	HS	SUERC-17362	-20.3	3065±35	1396–1302 **1420–1220**
Claggan, Highland (**cairn 1**) (NMS unreg; NM64NE 7	From kerb cairn: from deposit of cremated bone and charcoal on site of probable pyre, within inner stone setting, under cairn	HS	SUERC-16639	-25.0	3050±35[7]	1386–1270 **1414–1213**

Upper Largie, Argyll & Bute (**Feature 2, sample 2**) (HS; NR59NW 43)	Inside remains of inverted Bucket Urn in pit; charcoal. Excavator argued for *in situ* cremation in the pit	HS	SUERC-16632	-22.7	3040±35[8]	1380–1265 **1410–1209**
Claggan, Argyll & Bute (**cairn 3**) (NMS unreg; NM64NE 7)	From small kerb cairn close to cairn 1: from pit containing cremated bones and charcoal, under cairn	HS	SUERC-16640	-24.1	2995±35[9]	1308–1133 **1379–1123**
Strontoiller, Argyll & Bute (**1**) (LCHES; NM92NW 7)	From kerb cairn: from central area, in back-fill of a 19th century pit and in the undisturbed basal layer of cairn material; from area where cremation pyre is suspected to have existed. Sealed by cairn	HS	SUERC-16641	-23.8	2930±35[10]	1208–1056 **1261–1018**
Fortingall, Perth & Kinross (**site 1**) (NMS; NN74NW 3)	From circular spread of charcoal and cremated human bone (C27) in the south-eastern section of the interior of Site 1 – one of a pair of eight-stone circles, containing elements reminiscent of 'four-poster' monuments	NMS	SUERC-18874	-25.1	2825±30	1012–927 **1108–901**

Notes

1. This is surprisingly early for a pair of standing stones, although very few standing stones have produced datable material relating to the time of their erection. Cf. late second millennium BC dates relating to a stone from a short stone row at Ballymeanoch, Argyll and Bute (*DES* 6, 183); to another short stone row at Ardnacross on Mull (Martlew and Ruggles 1996); and to a single standing stone at Dunure Road, South Ayrshire (Duffy 2007, 87). Graham Ritchie, the excavator of the Orwell site, argued that 'it is likely that this [the deposit of cremated bone] was inserted as a single ritual act immediately after the setting up of the stone during the filling of the stone hole.' (Ritchie 1974, 8). The date suggests that the stone pair was erected during the Late Neolithic. Perhaps fresh fieldwork at the site might clarify whether we might be dealing with the remains of a stone circle?
2. This date confirms that the wood for this post must be bog pine, which was suspected when the post was sampled for dating as it was very hard and fresh-looking on the subsurface. Pine only grew in northern Scotland during the second half of the third millennium BC (Tipping pers comm). This means that the people who modified the Pullyhour monument must have selected a substantial piece of ancient bog pine. The C14 date obtained for Phase 1 of this monument gives it a *terminus post quem* calibrating to 1620–1450 cal BC, and the date for the Phase 2 monument is 1320–1120 cal BC (Bradley pers comm; and see Bradley elsewhere in this volume).
3. Charcoal (from mixture of alder, oak and willow) from this cist had previously produced a date of 3595 ± 70 BP (GU-1978: Mercer and Rideout 1987).
4. Cf. the dates of 3335 ± 40 BP (GrA-24860) and 3320 ± 40 BP (GrA-26151), obtained for cremated human bone from cist 3 at Balbirnie and reported on in *DES* 5, 175).
5. These dates allow the sequence of events at this grave to be clarified. The excavators hypothesised that the disarranged and suspiciously incomplete nature of the inhumed body in the cist was due either to its initial interment in a partly skeletonised state, or to subsequent re-opening of the cist and removal of some bones. They favoured the former interpretation, given the 'solid construction of the cist and the absence of any obviously intrusive material' (Peterson *et al.* 1974, 46). It now appears, however, that the latter had been the case, with the inhumation having taken place around 2000 BC, and the disturbance most likely to have occurred when the two deposits of cremated bone were inserted into the upper fill of the cist pit, probably during the 17th century BC. It is unclear whether the position of the cist was known by the people who deposited these remains, or whether they had come upon it by accident, having chosen to use the summit of a sand and gravel knoll.
6. Cf. the SRR-594 date of 3264 ± 55 BP from charcoal ostensibly associated with the cremated bone, obtained in 1973 or 1974. The charcoal species was unspecified in the published report (Ritchie and Thornber 1975, 17). Ashmore *et al.* (2000,45) have recommended that dates obtained by the Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre laboratory, up to GU-1500 (and including SRR- dates), should have their standard deviations increased to ± 110, thus rendering the date effectively useless. The newly-obtained date for the cremated bone should be regarded as providing a reliable date for this grave.
7. Cf. the SRR-284 date of 2925 ± 50 BP, obtained from associated charcoal (species not specified in published report by Ritchie and Thornber 1975, 21). See note 6 regarding SRR-dates.
8. Two samples of charcoal (one from a mixture of alder and willow, the other from a mixture of alder, hazel and oak) from this feature had previously produced dates of 3000 ± 65 BP (GU-1976) and 2970 ± 55 BP (GU-1977) respectively.
9. Cf. the SRR-285 date of 3008 ± 40 BP, obtained from associated charcoal (species not specified in the published report by Ritchie and Thornber 1975, 21). See note 6 regarding SRR-dates.
10. The suite of dates from kerb cairns reported upon here confirms that they are a feature of the Middle Bronze Age, dating to the second half of the second millennium BC.

Post-Bronze Age Material

Findspot, location of sample, RCAHMS no	*Dated material, context, associations*	*Sponsor*	*Lab no.*	*$\Delta^{13}C$‰*	*Date BP*	*Calibrated date at 1σ and **2σ** cal AD*
Whitegate Broch, Highland (Caithness) (c/o AOC Archaeology Ltd; ND36SE 3.00)	Unburnt human bone (SF 323/1.206), within the broch	ORAU	OxA-18378	-20.38	1666±28	346–418 **259–432**
Broch of Burrian, Orkney (NMS X.GB 227; HY75SE 3.00)	Unburnt ox phalanx, decorated with Pictish design; probably a gaming piece; no information about context or associated material. No. 210 in MacGregor 1974, fig. 16	NMS	UB-6923	-22.0	1435±29	605–645 **571–655**
Broch of Burrian, Orkney (NMS X.GB 228; HY75SE 3.00)	Unburnt ox phalanx, decorated with Pictish design; No. 211 in MacGregor 1974, fig. 16. (As above)	ORAU	OxA-18353	-22.63	1289±27	675–767 **666–774**
East Finnercy, Aberdeenshire (NMS unreg; NJ70SE 3)	Unburnt bone (femur shaft fragment, adult) from cairn of Early Neolithic non-megalithic round mound: from 'N section [of cairn material] amongst stones' (original excavation notes)	ORAU	OxA-18374	-21.21	1124±27[11]	892–970 **828–990**
Torbhlaren, Argyll & Bute (c/o excavator, Dr A Jones; NR89SE 5)	Alder charcoal from small charcoal-rich scoop, dug into a clay layer that contained a pitchstone flake and flint scraper, on the 'nose' of a whale-backed outcrop bearing 'rock art'	HS	SUERC-17359	-27.8	890±35[12]	1050–1210 **1040–1218**
Cille Bhrea, Highland (HS; NH56SE 3)	Unburnt human bone (right femur) from post-medieval cemetery associated with a chapel. Context 102, sample 102/1	ORAU	OxA-18377	-20.73	221±25[13]	1650–1952 **1643–1955**
Cille Bhrea, Highland (HS; NH56SE 3)	Unburnt human bone (long bone) Context 16, sample 16/1	ORAU	OxA-18375	-21.10	181±26[13]	1667–1951 **1655–1955**
Cille Bhrea, Highland (HS; NH56SE 3)	Unburnt human bone (skull fragment) Context 27, sample 27/1	ORAU	OxA-18376	-21.09	109±26[13]	1694–1918 **1682–1935**

Notes

1. This bone is clearly intrusive and appears to relate to a Viking age interment in a pre-existing Early Neolithic mound (for details of which, see Leivers *et al.* 2000).
2. This clearly dates medieval activity in the immediate vicinity of the outcrop with cup-and-ring 'rock art', and not activity contemporary with the creation of the 'rock art', as the excavator had hoped. See Jones and O'Connor 2007.
3. These three dates are substitutes for ORAU dates OxA-9882–5, 9887 and 10010 for Cille Bhrea, which have been withdrawn and should not be cited in future. Regarding the new date OxA-18375, ORAU report that there was a low collagen yield (*c*8mg) and slightly high CN value (3.4) but these are unlikely to have affected the age determination. See Rees 2004 for a discussion of this post-medieval cemetery.

Additional note: In *DES* 7, 205, the museum cited with regard to the Easter Essendy cremated bones was mistakenly given as NMS; it should have been Dundee Museum and Art Gallery. Apologies to Christina Donald for the error.

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Further references for some of the individual sites are given in the relevant RCAHMS Canmore entries.

ALLOCATIONS OF TREASURE TROVE CASES 2008

The following is a list of cases claimed by the Crown and allocated to the museums or museum services indicated. The list comprises cases dealt with by the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel (SAFAP) at its meetings of February, June and October 2008 and is organised by the council area in which finds were discovered.

Contact details with addresses and opening hours for all museums can be found at: www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk.

	Findspot	Museum Allocation	TT no
ABERDEENSHIRE			
Medieval watching brief finds	Slains	Aberdeenshire	48/07
Medieval and prehistoric watching brief finds	Rathen	Aberdeenshire	49/07
EH/Viking ring headed pin	St Combs	Marischal	61/07
Neolithic flint arrowhead	Port Elphinstone	Aberdeenshire	100/07
Early Historic copper alloy pin	Boyne	Aberdeenshire	104/07
Multi-period excavation assemblage	Auchenblae	Marischal	112/07
17 multi-period objects	St Combs	Aberdeenshire	119/07
Prehistoric lithic assemblage	Drumoak	Marischal	04/08
Bronze Age flint knife	Crathes	Marischal	08/08
ANGUS			
Medieval seal matrix	Auchmithie	Angus	86/07
Medieval French jeton	Montrose	Angus	92/07
Prehistoric assemblage	East Ingilston	Angus	105/07
Neolithic/Bronze Age assemblage	Mains of Kinnettles	Angus	106/07
Metal detected assemblage	Mains of Kinnettles	Angus	107/07
Metal detected assemblage	Mains of Kinnettles	Angus	108/07
ARGYLL AND BUTE			
Flint flake and slag	Coll	Glasgow	56/07
Stone slab from excavation	Colonsay	Campbeltown	110/07
Neolithic excavation assemblage	Isle of Bute	Bute	03/08
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY			
MBA spearhead	Wanlockhead	Dumfries	62/07
IA sword hilt	Dumfries	Dumfries	70/07
Two Roman denarii	Mousewald	Dumfries	71/07
Four Roman and medieval coins	Dumfries	Dumfries	72/07
Roughout of Neolithic axehead	Dunragit	Stranraer	74/07
Medieval silver coin hoard	Dumfries	Dumfries	78/07
MBA palstave	Newton Stewart	Dumfries	81/07
Four Roman coins	Annan	Annan	88/07
Neolithic stone axehead	Lockerbie	Annan	97/07
Prehistoric excavation assemblage	Cairnderry	Stranraer	109/07
Prehistoric excavation assemblage	Bargrennan	NMS*	109/07
EBA axehead and IA loop fastener	Dalbeattie	Stewartry	19/08
Roman coin	Glenluce	Stranraer	24/08
EBA axehead	Dalbeattie	Stewartry	26/08
EAST AYRSHIRE			
Medieval/Modern excavation assemblage	Stewarton	Glasgow	55/07
EAST LOTHIAN			
Two Roman brooches	Athelstaneford	East Lothian	46/07
Roman excavation assemblage	Inveresk Gate	NMS	47/07
Metal detector survey finds	Pinkie Cleugh	East Lothian	52/07
Roman tombstone	Carberry	NMS	64/07
Roman gold coin	East Linton	East Lothian	76/07
Roman trumpet brooch and stud	Haddington	East Lothian	79/07
Medieval seal matrix and two coins	Auldhame	East Lothian	83/07
Medieval excavation assemblage	North Berwick	East Lothian	05/08
Medieval/post-medieval assemblage	Aberlady	East Lothian	06/08
Roman brooch and glass bead	Haddington	East Lothian	18/08
Medieval annular brooch	Longniddry	East Lothian	23/08

EDINBURGH CITY			
Neolithic flint scraper	Arthur's Seat	Edinburgh	15/08
FIFE			
Medieval gilded mount	Newburgh	E Fife	67/07
21 medieval/other finds	Crail	E Fife	80/07
Eight medieval objects	Crail	E Fife	85/07
Alexander III silver sterling	Crail	NMS*	89/07
Early Historic brooch terminal	Culross	Fife	96/07
8 medieval/later finds	Crail	E Fife	12/08
Medieval bronze fede ring	St Monans	E Fife	14/08
Bronze Age gold ring	Falkland	Fife	21/08
Three medieval coins	Crail	NMS*	25/08
GLASGOW CITY			
Post-medieval/modern assemblage	Duke Street	Glasgow	53/07
HIGHLAND			
Excavation assemblage	Dornoch	Historylinks	58/07
IA trumpet brooch	Torbreck	Inverness	63/07
Fragment of LBA axehead	Ardersier	Inverness	73/07
28 medieval/later finds	Dornoch	Inverness	82/07
Eight medieval/later objects	Ardersier	Inverness	87/07
Prehistoric chert scraper	Skye	Inverness	99/07
Seven medieval/later objects	Beauly	Inverness	117/07
70 medieval/later finds	Cromarty	Cromarty	118/07
Prehistoric excavation assemblage	Raigmore	Inverness	01/08
Medieval seal matrix	Cromarty	Cromarty	09/08
13 multi-period finds	Fortrose	Groam House	11/08
Three medieval objects	Torbreck	Inverness	25/08
Medieval gilded strap fitting	Castle Rait	Nairn	30/08
MIDLOTHIAN			
Bronze Age excavation assemblage	Newbigging	NMS*	02/08
MORAY			
Medieval papal bulla	Forres	Forres	75/07
17 multi-period finds	Roseisle	Forres	90/07
51 multi-period finds	Burghead	Elgin	93/07
Bronze Age blade and two other finds	Urquhart	Elgin	94/07
Roman brooch and pinhead	Burghead	Elgin	95/07
ORKNEY ISLANDS			
Medieval bronze ring	Papa Westray	Orkney	29/08
PERTH AND KINROSS			
Prehistoric/later bead	Meigle	Perth	65/07
17th century Jew's harp	Meigle	Perth	91/07
Neolithic polished stone axehead	Little Glenshee	Perth	113/07
Post-medieval seal matrix	Kinross	Perth	114/07
Nine medieval/later objects	Kinross	Perth	116/07
Medieval excavation assemblage	Horse Cross, Perth	Perth	10/08
Medieval silver gilt ring	Inchaffray	Perth	28/08
RENFREWSHIRE			
Post-medieval watching brief finds	Renfrew	Glasgow	54/07
Two sherds medieval pottery	Abbotsinch	Glasgow	59/07
SCOTTISH BORDERS			
Post-medieval gold posy ring	Melrose	SBM	66/07
Fragments of medieval macehead	Peebles	SBM	77/07
Medieval gold florin	Jedburgh	SBM	84/07
Neolithic stone axehead	Eddleston	SBM	98/07
Prehistoric flint tool	St Abbs	SBM	16/08
SHETLAND			
Two Norse spindle whorls	Unst	Shetland	27/08

SOUTH AYRSHIRE			
Sherd of green glaze pottery	Ayr	South Ayrshire	57/07
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE			
Prehistoric excavation assemblage	Glentaggart	Biggar	50/07
Medieval gold ring	Lamington	Biggar	102/07
WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE			
MBA axehead	Cardross	Glasgow	07/08
WESTERN ISLES			
Assemblage of Iron Age pottery sherds	Arnol	Stornoway	69/07
Viking enamelled mount	Isle of Lewis	Stornoway	17/08

Abbreviations

BA	Bronze Age
EBA	Early Bronze Age
MBA	Middle Bronze Age
LBA	Late Bronze Age
IA	Iron Age
EIA	Early Iron Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
EH	Early Historic
NMS	National Museums Scotland
* =	case allocated to NMS as the sole bidder with no local bid
** =	case allocated to NMS in the absence of any bids at all

CURRENT POST-GRADUATE SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE UK

This is not necessarily an exhaustive list. The university departments providing courses in archaeology listed in the 2000 *CBA Guide to Archaeology in Higher Education* were asked to give details of their current post-graduate research involving Scottish sites or materials. The information below is that provided by the institutions who responded. Archaeology Scotland encourages any readers engaged in continuing research to submit details (as set out below) for publication in the volume for 2010.

Institution	Name	Research	End date	Status
Univ Birmingham	Kevin Colls	Archaeology, visibility and scholarly perceptions: Redefining and characterising the archaeological resource on the Isle of Harris	2011	PhD
Univ Bradford	Sarah-Jane Clelland	Investigations into the geomagnetic field during the first millennium BC	2010	PhD
Univ Bradford	Julia Cussans	Changes in the size and shape of domestic mammals in the North Atlantic region	2010	PhD
Univ Bradford	Geoffrey Davis	The fate of neonates? Bovine infant health implications of dairying in antiquity, using six orcadian contexts	2009	PhD
Univ Bradford	Deborah E S Lamb	Modelling an Island Landscape in the North Atlantic Iron Age: The interpretation of monuments and resources in order to understand local factors influencing settlement and social organisation	2011	PhD
Univ Bradford	Dave Lawrence	Orkney's First Farmers: The effects of environment, society and subsistence on the inhabitants of Orkney at the dawn of agriculture	2011	PhD
Univ Bradford	Robert Michael Legg	Neglect of the byre: Geochemical and geophysical appraisal of Scandinavian farmsteads on the isle of Unst (Shetland)	2011	PhD
Univ Bradford	Mhairi Maxwell	Broxmouth and materiality: understanding objects in the southern Scottish Iron Age	2011	PhD
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Many of the projects described in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* include an input by the archaeological advisors to local authorities. Amongst their core activities, these advisors have a responsibility to monitor planning applications and other proposed developments in their area, and to ensure that adequate provision is made for archaeological recording if such developments are to go ahead. This responsibility may include writing the specification for work to be undertaken by archaeological contractors, and monitoring that work to ensure that appropriate standards are being achieved.
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS VOLUME

AAM Adopt-a-Monument
ACFA Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists
ADS Archaeology Data Service
AMS Accelerator Mass Spectrometer
AP Aerial Photograph
ASMR Aberdeen Sites and Monuments Record
AWPR Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route
BEVARS British Excavation Volunteers and Archaeological Research Society
BLHLP Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project
CAHS Cowal Archaeological and Historical Society
CBA Council for British Archaeology
CECAS City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service
CFA Centre for Field Archaeology
CHC Connolly Heritage Consultancy
CNES Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
CSA Council for Scottish Archaeology
DES Discovery and Excavation in Scotland
EAFS Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
EAFS Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
GPR Ground Penetrating Radar
GPS Global Positioning System
GUARD Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division
HAS Highland Archaeology Services
HCAU Highland Council Archaeology Unit
HER Historic Environment Record
HLF Heritage Lottery Fund
HS Historic Scotland
HSMR Highland Sites and Monuments Record
NERC Natural Environment Research Council
NGR National Grid Reference
NMRS National Monuments Record of Scotland
WWTW/WWTP Waste Water Treatment Works/Plant
NMS National Museums Scotland
NOSAS North of Scotland Archaeological Society
NTS National Trust for Scotland
OCCS Open Cast Coal Scheme
OFARS Over Fifties Archaeological Research Society
ORCA Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology
OSL Optically Stimulated Luminescence
POW Prisoner of War
PPHA Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive
PSNS Perthshire Society of Natural Science
RCAHMS Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SAFAP Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel
SAM Scheduled Ancient Monument
SAT Shetland Amenity Trust
SBC Scottish Borders Council
SCAPE Scottish Coastal Archaeology and the Problem of Erosion
SCHR Scottish Church Heritage Research
SUERC Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
SERF Strathearn Environs and Royal Forteviot
SMR Sites and Monuments Record
SNH Scottish Natural Heritage
SRP Scotland's Rural Past
SSBC Saving St Brides Chapel Arran Group
SSSI Site of special scientific interest
STUA Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology
SUAT Scottish Urban Archaeological Trust
TT Treasure Trove
WoSAS West of Scotland Archaeology Service
WTW Water Treatment Works
WW1 / WW2 World War 1 / World War 2

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