

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

THE SUMMER MEETING AT DUMFRIES

10th to 15th July, 1939

PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING

Professor A. Hamilton Thompson, C.B.E., M.A., D.Litt., F.B.A.,
F.S.A., Hon. A.R.I.B.A., President.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—In the preparation of the present report, the Editor gratefully acknowledges the assistance rendered by Mr. E. B. Birley, F.S.A.; Mr. A. W. Clapham, C.B.E., F.B.A., Pres.S.A.; Professor A. Hamilton Thompson, F.B.A., V.P.S.A.; Mr. W. T. McIntire, F.S.A.; Mr. R. C. Reid; Mr. J. S. Richardson, F.S.A. Scot.; Mr. I. A. Richmond, F.S.A.; Dr. Douglas Simpson, F.S.A. Scot.; The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (Scotland); and H.M. Office of Works.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, July 10th. Evening Reception by the Provost.

Tuesday, July 11th. Caerlaverock, Comlongon, Ruthwell, Birrens, Burnswark, Amisfield. Evening Meeting.

Wednesday, July 12th. Cardoness Castle and Trusty's Hill, Cairn-holy, Old Place of Mochrum, Whithorn Priory.

Thursday, July 13th. Carlisle Cathedral and Castle, Lanercost, Naworth, Bewcastle. Evening Meeting.

Friday, July 14th. Mote of Urr, Kirkcudbright, Dundrennan, Sweetheart. Evening Reception.

Saturday, July 15th. Lincluden, Morton Castle, Durrisdeer, Nith Bridge, Drumlanrig Castle, Tibbers.

PREFATORY NOTE

THE ROMANS IN DUMFRIESSHIRE

During the past four or five years, the picture of Dumfriesshire in Roman times has been completely transformed, as a result of archaeological surveys and excavations carried out by various people, mainly under the auspices of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway or of

the Glasgow Archaeological Society. Before that work was begun, the known Roman sites within the county were confined to the line of the road from Carlisle, by the Beattock route, to the Clyde (even the course of this road being quite obscure for much of its way), and to the two sites in Eskdale, Gilnockie and Raeburnfoot near Eskdalemuir. As far as the latter site is concerned, the visible remains are enough to show that it represents a relatively long occupation, in at least two structural periods, while its situation suggests that its purpose was to control a populous upland valley rather than to mark a stage in a through route. Gilnockie, on the other hand, is one of the temporary camps which an army in the field might occupy for a short time—at the most for a few weeks—in the course of active operations; it provides evidence for one phase in the active subjugation of this part of Britain, but can tell us nothing of the subsequent organisation of the area. On the trunk road, there were three certain sites: the fort at Birrens (until recently believed to have been occupied only between the time of Antoninus Pius, or Hadrian at the earliest, and the close of the second century), the camps at Burnswark, and a temporary camp, of the same type as that already mentioned, on Torwood Moor. In addition to these three sites there was, it is true, a further site reputed to be Roman at Tassiesholm, near Beattock, but conclusive evidence for its date was lacking. Finally, to the west of the trunk road no evidence of any kind had come to light to justify the assumption that the Romans had penetrated that area. In other words, it seemed as though the Romans had maintained control of upper Eskdale for a considerable period and had established a route from Carlisle through Annandale to the Antonine Wall, but had otherwise entirely neglected the area now represented by Dumfriesshire and Galloway.

If that had been the full extent of Roman control to north of Solway, it would have been hard to understand, for the elaborate system of forts and signal-stations extending down the Cumberland coast is enough to emphasise that Dumfriesshire and Galloway were inhabited by people who might be expected to require active supervision rather than complete neglect. And the main result of the recent researches which have been referred to above has been to emphasise, though still only in outline, the thoroughness of the arrangements which the Romans made in this respect. In the first place, the line of the trunk road has been established in detail, and a comprehensive system of forts, linked by lesser posts, has been shown to have existed; this was no route provided for use in an emergency, lacking any permanent garrison between Birrens and Castledykes on the Clyde, but a closely controlled road, sufficiently well guarded to prevent any interruption of the continuous flow of traffic which the very thoroughness of the control compels us to postulate. As far as the sites on this road are concerned, reference is made on a later page to Birrens and Burnswark, and it will be sufficient here to mention Tassiesholm, which has been proved by Mr. John Clarke's excavations to be a Roman post of the 'Police Station' type. Recent research has not produced anything new in Eskdale, but the picture

of Roman Dumfriesshire has been transformed by the discovery of two Roman stations in Nithsdale. One of them is Carzield (pronounced Creel) in the parish of Kirkmahoe, some four miles north of Dumfries. This was shown by excavations in March, 1939, to have been a large fort, rather over six acres in size, with turf rampart and internal buildings of stone, whose plan enables us to say that the garrison was a cavalry regiment 500 strong. There were two structural periods in the occupation of the site, between them covering the last sixty years of the second century. The other site is at Durisdeer, some five miles north of Thornhill, in the mouth of the pass traversed by the ancient road, long reputed Roman, known as the Well Path, which provides a connecting link between Nithsdale and upper Clydesdale, where it must have joined the main trunk road close to Crawford. At Durisdeer, too, Mr. Clarke has conducted excavations which put the character of the small Roman fort beyond doubt; and at the other end of the Well Path, Dr. K. St. Joseph has found and tested by a trial excavation a larger fort, which guarded one end of this connecting road, in addition to providing a main link in the chain of posts controlling the trunk route itself. The picture provided by these new discoveries is obviously still incomplete in many respects. The fort at Carzield must have been connected by road with Birrens, either by way of Amisfield or of Tinwald and Lochmaben. A road up Nithsdale to Durisdeer is also to be inferred, and it seems impossible to suppose that there was not a continuation of that road beyond Sanquhar into Ayrshire; for the Well Path has all the characteristics of one of the cross roads, of purely strategic value, by which the Romans liked to separate one tract of hill-country from another, while the Nithsdale route provides an easy line for traffic, and has more than strategic value, as its use by modern road and railway still testifies.

The situation west of the Nith still remains obscure. The fact of there having been a cavalry regiment stationed at Carzield seems to suggest that we have not yet reached the western limit of Roman penetration, for it was not the Romans' custom to put regiments of this type in extreme outposts. It must be supposed therefore that one or more forts, large or small, still remain to be found somewhere in the Stewartry, and the search for such posts is one of the most pressing needs of research into the Roman period in the area covered by the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Society.

Southward from Carzield, it seems possible that a rectangular earthwork on Ward Law, above Caerlaverock, may be of Roman date, but this site still remains to be tested by excavation; it may be thought probable that somewhere in close proximity to Caerlaverock there was a post through which supplies or reinforcements could be sent, from one of the harbours on the Cumberland coast, to the inland forts for which Carzield may be supposed to have served as the key-point. In this connection, it is perhaps justifiable to refer to the importance of Caerlaverock itself for securing control of Dumfriesshire in the time of Edward I.

ERIC BIRLEY.

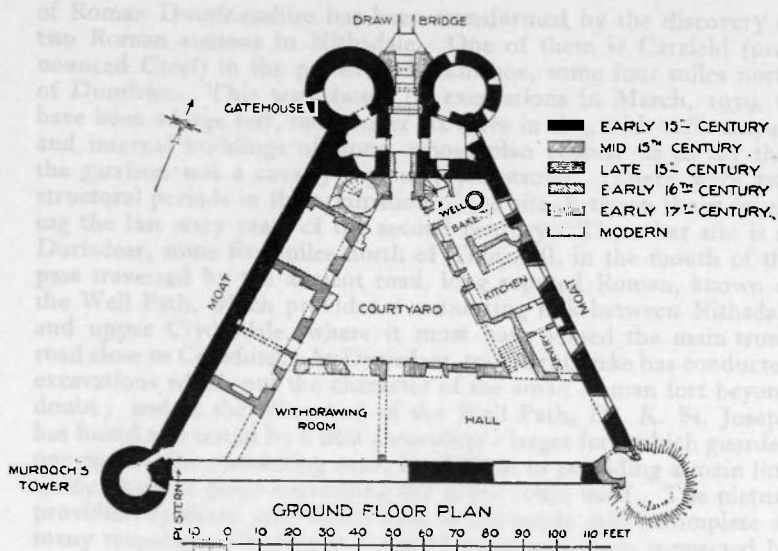


FIG. 1. CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE

(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M. of Scotland)

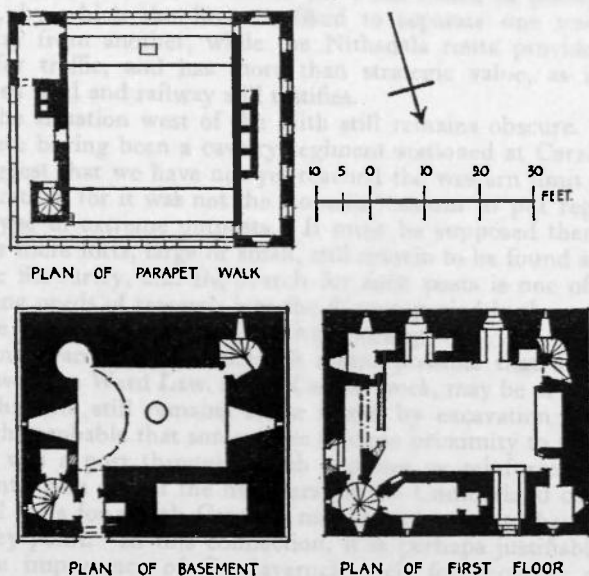


FIG. 2. COMLONGON CASTLE

(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 11th July

On Tuesday, 11th July, a visit was paid to Caerlaverock Castle, by kind permission of the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk, where members were addressed by Dr. Douglas Simpson, F.S.A.Scot.

Caerlaverock Castle (Fig. 1), the chief seat of the Maxwell family, is one of the foremost examples of medieval secular architecture in Scotland. It is famous in history and literature through its siege by Edward the First in 1300, commemorated in the well-known old French poem, 'Le Siege de Karlaverok'—a mine of information for genealogists and students of heraldry. After its capture the castle was held by the English until 1313, when it was taken and dismantled by the Scots. It was again garrisoned by the English during the second War of Independence and in 1356 was recaptured by the Scots and once more laid in ruins. In 1570 it was seized and wrecked by the Earl of Sussex. During the Civil War the castle was held for King Charles, but in 1640 it was taken, after a long siege, by the Covenanters and finally destroyed by Act of Parliament.

In the French poem of 1300 the castle is described as being shaped like a shield, with three sides, and on two of the corners a tower, while the third corner had a double tower containing the entrance. This is still the shape of the present ruin, which, moreover, appears to embody much virgin thirteenth-century masonry in its curtain walls. But the matter is complicated by the existence in a marsh nearby of the foundations of another castle of large size, but lozenge-shaped on plan. The present castle dates substantially from the later fourteenth century, and is a splendid example of the type of structure prevalent at that time, in which the weight and mass of the building are concentrated frontally in a composite edifice which is both the lord's residence and the gatehouse. The buildings round the courtyard are of various ages; and the latest of them, on the East side, built about 1638, is one of the finest examples of Classical Renaissance in Scotland.

Dr. Simpson also acted as guide to Comlongon Castle, which was next visited, by kind permission of the Earl of Mansfield.

Comlongon Castle (Fig. 2), the ancient residence of the Morays of Cockpool, is one of the finest examples in Scotland of the tower-house type of fortified residence which became the rule North of the Tweed, as in the Northern parts of England, during the period following the Wars of Independence. Its particular value consists in the fact that it is both intact and unaltered. The great hall with its carved dresser and heraldic enrichments is a striking example of a feudal baron's state-room. A remarkable feature about the castle is the way in which its massy walls are hollowed out into a labyrinth of mural passages and chambers. The iron 'yett' at the outer door belongs to a type peculiar to Scotland, marked by alternate inter-penetration of the bars.

Mr. A. W. Clapham, C.B.E., F.B.A., P.S.A., described the Ruthwell Cross. The party was received by the Minister, the Rev. M. McCaul.

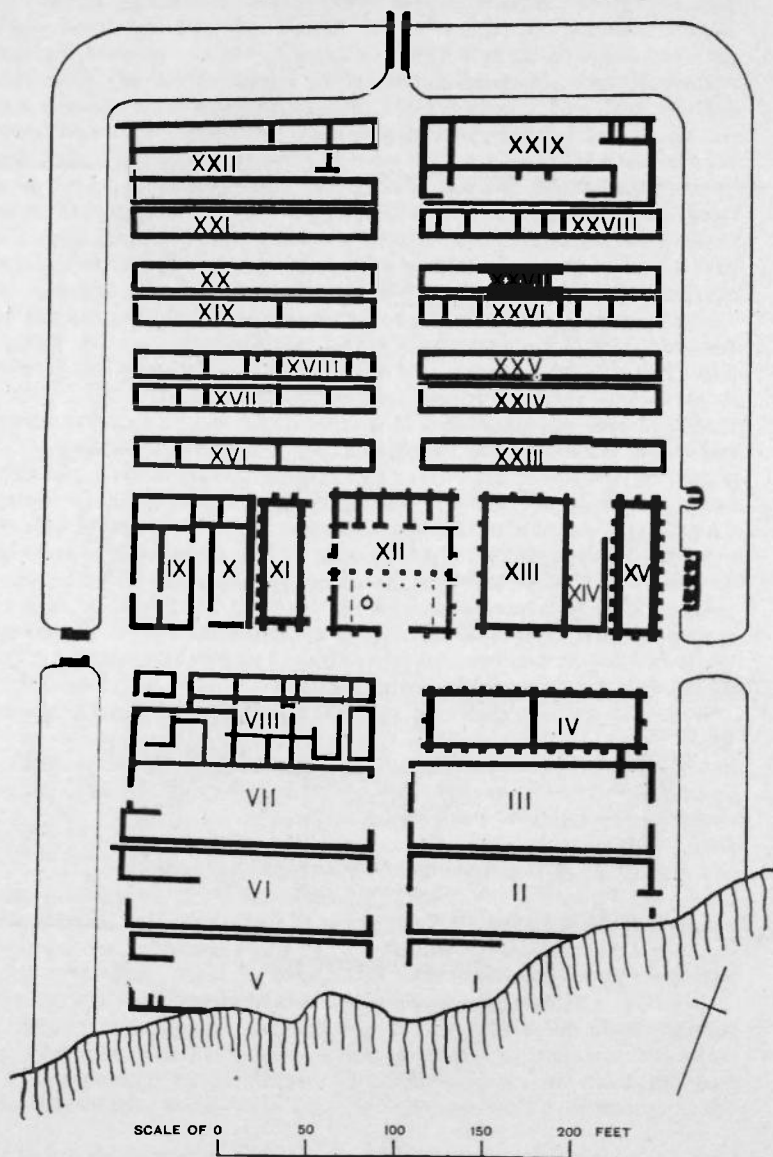
The church is a modern building but contains a few seventeenth-century memorials. In a modern chapel or annexe is placed the Ruthwell Cross which formerly stood in the church-yard. This and the Bewcastle Cross form the foremost monuments of Anglian art in stone and have been intensively studied; the most recent exposition is by the late Prof. Baldwin Brown in his book on the crosses and in the Royal Commission's volume on Dumfriesshire. The cross has been reconstituted with some new material mostly in the head. The main faces have figure-sculpture; on the N. side—St. John the Baptist, Christ with His feet on two beasts, SS. Paul and Anthony in the Desert and the Flight into Egypt, all with Latin inscriptions; to this side also belong the parts of the cross-head with figures and symbols of St. John and St. Matthew. On the S. side are the Visitation, Christ and St. Mary Magdalene, Christ healing the blind man, and the Annunciation; these have remains of Latin inscriptions except the first subject where the inscription was Runic. The cross-head has a bird and an archer. The sides of the cross have both a rich design of vine-scroll with birds and beasts. On the margins are passages from the poem—The Vision of the Rood—in runes; this poem has been ascribed to Caedmon. The date of the cross is now generally considered to be the last quarter of the seventh century.

In the afternoon, Mr. Eric Birley, F.S.A., acted as guide to the Roman Fort at Birrens and the earthworks at Burnswark.

The excavations of 1895 are described in detail in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, xxx, pp. 81–199 (also re-issued as an overprint with fresh pagination); compare also 'Birrens and its Antiquities,' Dumfries, 1897, which in one or two places clears up points left obscure in the original publication. The site is described in the Royal Commission's volume, 1920; and the excavations of 1936 and 1937 are published in *P.S.A. Scot.*, lxxii, pp. 275–347.

Birrens (Fig. 3) is a fort of rather more than four acres in size, standing on a bluff in the angle formed by the confluence of the Mein Water with the Middleby Burn, guarding the crossing of the former by the main west road from Solway to Clyde. Its ramparts were of turf, and the internal buildings (which have all been covered over again on the completion of excavations) of stone. At present, the most noteworthy features of the site are the massive north rampart, and the multiple ditches which defend that side, tactically the weakest, of the fort. The east and west ramparts become less prominent as one proceeds southwards, and the whole of the south rampart has been eroded by the Mein Water. The history of the fort has been recovered by excavation, though there are still one or two outstanding problems which can only be solved by further

BIRRENS - PRIMARY STRUCTURES



E. B. AFTER J. BARBOUR

FIG. 3. BIRRENS, ROMAN STATION

(From *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*)

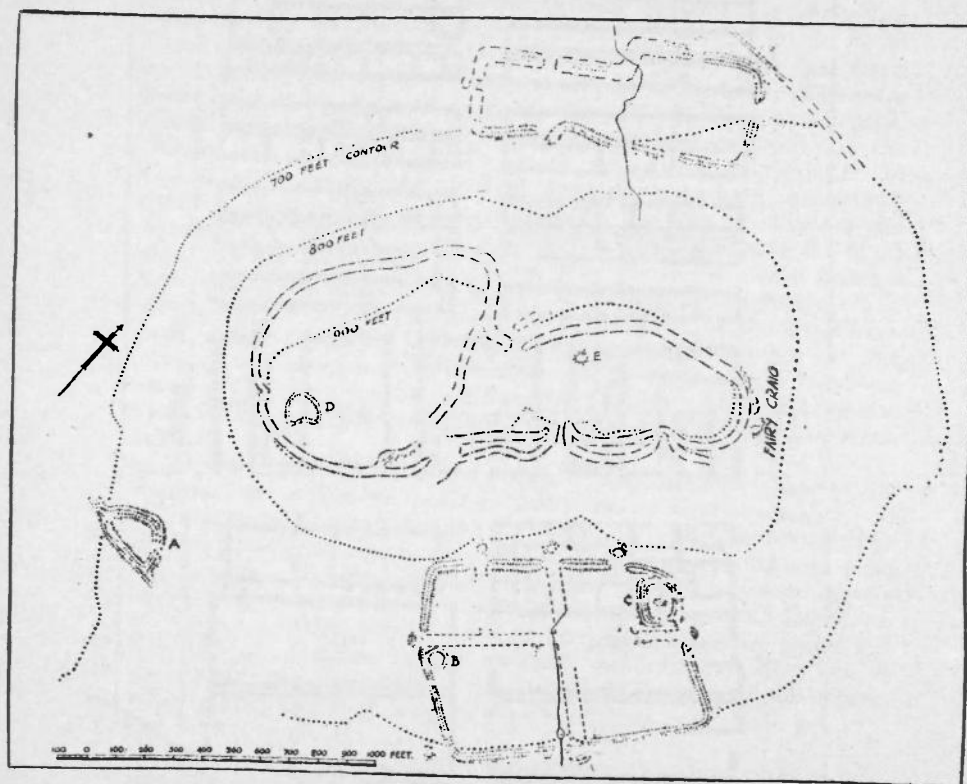


FIG. 4. BURNSWARK

(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

digging. Thus, though it seems likely that the site was first occupied by Agricola in A.D. 79 or thereabouts, it is not absolutely certain that the earliest structures found beneath the *praetentura* of the fort should be assigned to that period or to the time of Hadrian. Under Hadrian, Birrens was occupied as an outpost of his new frontier line, continuing the series whose other units, Bewcastle and Netherby, have actually produced Hadrianic inscriptions. The fort of that period was rather smaller than the one now visible, though on the same axis. It was overthrown shortly before A.D. 158, in which year (as an inscription found in 1895 shows) the site was reoccupied by Julius Verus, under whom it received as garrison the second cohort of Tungrians. At this time the fort was enlarged to its present dimensions, by the construction of a new north rampart some fifty feet beyond the original one; and though the internal buildings and the rampart itself were twice reconstructed after that date, under Severus and, a century later, under Constantius Chlorus, the fort retained the general appearance which it received for the first time in A.D. 158. Its final abandonment seems to have come about shortly before A.D. 343. In addition to records of the second cohort of Tungrians, Birrens has produced two altars set up by *cohors I Nervia Germanorum*; both units were one thousand strong, a quarter of the men being mounted, but the barrack accommodation revealed by excavation seems to be intended for a larger force than a regiment of that type, and it may be suggested that, from the time of Severus, a *numerus* was brigaded together with the cohort in garrison, as happened in many other forts on the northern frontier. It is only in recent years that the connection of Birrens with Hadrian's Wall has been made plain; previously, the accident of the fort being in Scotland has tended to make people think of it as necessarily sharing the history and vicissitudes of the Wall of Pius.

(E. B.)

This is one of the most spectacular sites anywhere in the Roman world. The visible remains fall into two groups, native and Roman (Fig. 4). Burnswark hill itself is a prominent landmark, visible from as far east as Winshields, the highest point on Hadrian's Wall, southwards as far as the Lake Mountains, and from many points in the Cumberland plain; viewed from that quarter, it appears as a flat-topped hill with steeply sloping sides. Its main axis lies north-east to south-west, its length being 1,700 feet, while its breadth in the eastern half is 400 feet, the western half swelling to an average breadth of 700 feet.

Round the edge of the hill top, where the steep slope begins, there has been the rampart of a native town: in places it is double, and it is pierced by gateways, of which three are on the south-east side, one on the north-west and the last (and least prominent) at the

¹ This is the form of the name now current in the district; one also meets with the forms Burnswark and Birrenswark: they should be suppressed. The excavations of 1898

are reported in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, xxxiii, pp. 198-249; cf. also the description of the site in the Royal Commission's volume, 1920.

south-west end. Within the ramparts the area is approximately 17 acres. The Roman structures consist of two camps of the type sometimes described as semi-permanent, one of them incorporating a small post of an entirely different type.

(a) The South Camp (facing the south-east side of the hill-town, and pushed up an inconveniently steep slope to within 100 yards of its rampart) is the larger and better preserved of the two. It is an irregular rectangle, containing nearly 14 acres; and the arrangement of its gateways shows that it was designed to face the native fortification, opposite the three south-east gateways of which it too has three gateways, each masked by an extremely large *titulus*—the three mounds being known locally as the 'Three Brethren.' The single gates in the remaining three sides are each protected by a *titulus* of more normal dimensions. The irregularities in the sides of this camp are due in part to the unevenness of the terrain, but at the north angle they are the result of the incorporation into the large camp of an early post of the type sometimes described as a 'Police Station.'

(b) The North Camp is set back a considerable distance from the north-west side of the hill-fort, occupying more level ground at a lower level; it has never been completed, though the rampart nearest to the hill-fort was finished and provided with a comparable large mound, facing the north-west gateway of the hill-fort and also the spring, some distance outside that gateway, which seems to have been the principal source of water-supply. It should be added that another spring has been included within the area of the 'South Camp.'

From the structural remains it seems possible to infer something of the history of the Roman operations at Burnswark. The 'Police Station' is the earliest structure of all; and its position on the sheltered side of the hill, conveniently placed for supervising the goings on in a friendly native town and traffic on the main road which passes a short distance away, seems to be the best reason, and indeed the only possible reason for placing so small a post there. The incorporation of that post in the large South Camp, whose construction is obviously directed against the hill-town, can only be explained by assuming a change of attitude on the part of the townsmen: that is to say a native rising. The 'Three Brethren' too, represent, not merely *tituli*, but also platforms for catapults, to batter down the gateways of the town; the fact that the Romans could establish their camp and set up their catapults so close to the town shows that they had established absolute ascendancy in the field; in such a case, they might well prefer to bombard or starve the rebels into submission, rather than to incur unnecessary casualties by storming a strong natural position defended by desperate men and women. The 'lines of circumvallation,' sometimes in the past assigned to the Roman period, seem (in so far as they exist at all) to be the remains of medieval field-boundaries, and we must suppose that the rebels were contained within their stronghold by patrols and pickets, rather than by a ditch or palisade. The north camp,

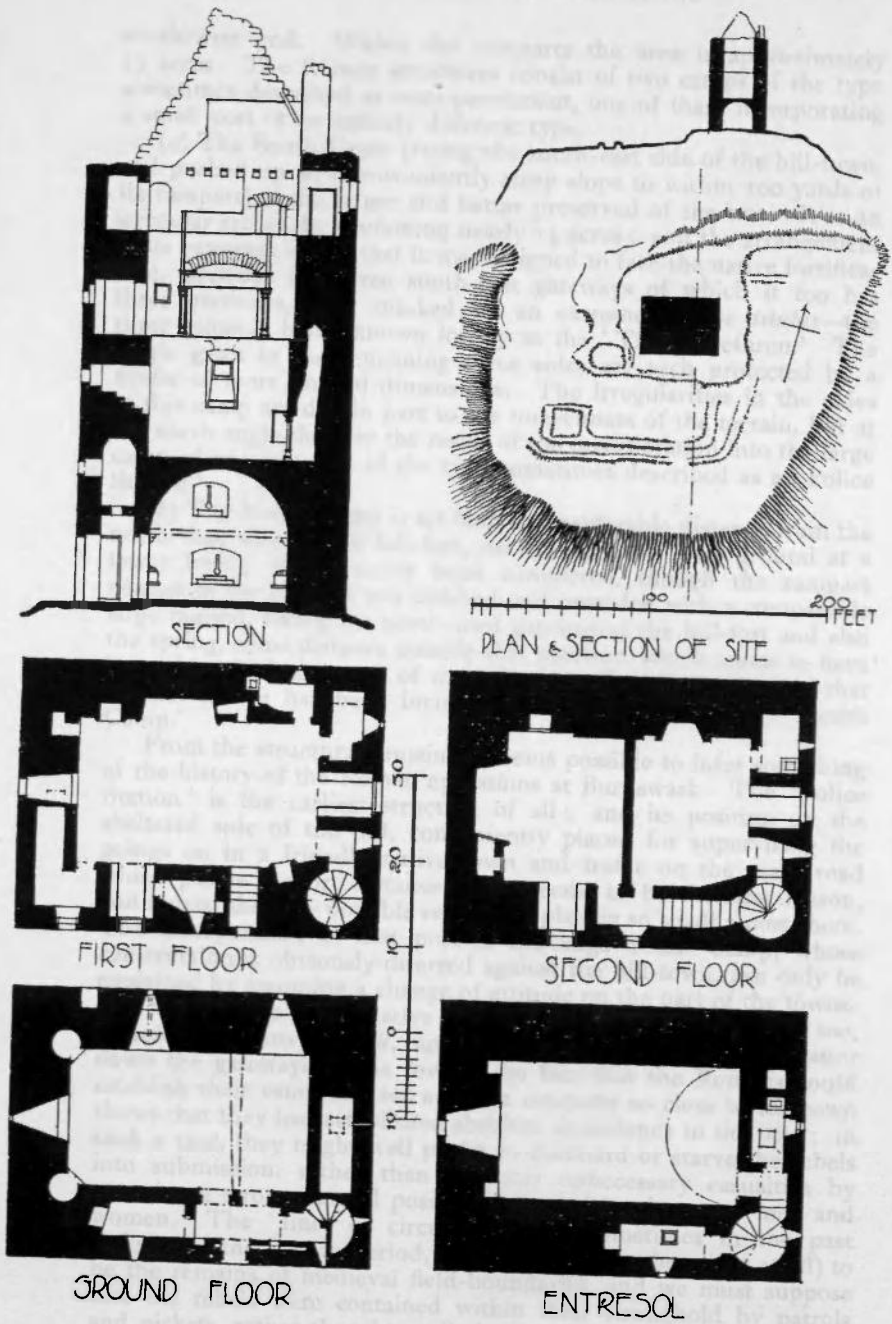


FIG. 5 PLAN OF CARDONESS CASTLE
(By permission of R.C.A.M., Scotland)

which, as we have pointed out, was never completed, seems to be out of catapult range of the town-gate which it faces, but it is conveniently situated for bombarding the spring which comes to the surface some way down the hillside from that gate; and it seems simplest to suppose that the moment a catapult had been mounted there and approach to the spring had been cut off by it, the people on the hill top capitulated—or broke out—so that there was no need to complete the north camp. The defences of the town were presumably slighted, so that there could be no danger of any similar trouble occurring in the future.

It has been customary to assign the Roman works at Burnswark to the time of Agricola, although the Roman coins found there include two of Trajan; but such of the pottery found in 1898 as has been preserved seems to belong to the middle of the second century, and it seems best to suppose that the rising whose closing stages are attested by these spectacular works is that which had involved the overthrow of Hadrian's fort at Burnswark; it may be permissible to go a stage further, and to connect with the successful suppression of the rising, the altar found many years ago at Kirkandrews upon Eden, set up by a commander of the sixth legion *ob res trans vallum prospere gestas*.

(E. B.)

Tea was taken at Amisfield, by kind invitation of Major and Mrs. Johnstone, after which the members returned to Dumfries. The evening was devoted to an inspection of the Dumfries Museum, followed by a lecture on Roman Dumfries by Mr. Eric Birley, F.S.A.

Wednesday, 12th July

The members first visited Cardoness Castle under the guidance of Mr. A. S. Morton.

Cardoness Castle (Fig. 5) stands on a rock platform above the Water of Fleet. It consists of a well-preserved tower of the fifteenth century with traces of outer defences on the platform. **CARDONESS CASTLE** It was for long the home of the M'Cullochs. The tower is a lofty structure of four storeys with remains of a gabled roof of the usual form. The ground-floor has a barrel-vault but the upper storeys were floored in timber. The Hall, on the first floor, has a fireplace with grouped shafts at the sides and a partly-destroyed head; near it is a recess or seat in the wall with an ogee head. There is a similar and better-preserved fireplace on the second floor (*R.C. Hist. Mons. Kirkcudbright*, p. 5).

The more active members climbed Trusty's Hill to inspect the vitrified fort and Pictish symbol-stone under the leadership of Mr. Clapham.

The summit of the hill is occupied by the remains of a fort with a vitrified stone rampart, now much overgrown with turf. The

entrance on the S.E. is between two rocks 11 feet apart, on the top of each of which is an artificial sinking. Beyond this are two outworks. On the face of the southern of the two rocks are cut certain symbols of the type generally known as Pictish (Fig. 6). One of these is the usual spectacle and z-shaped rod design but the others are of much less frequent occurrence. The date of these symbols when unaccompanied by the cross is very indeterminate, but seeing that they have no Christian significance they must be at least a survival from pre-Christian times if not themselves of that age.

Across the neck of land to the N. of the fort is a deep ditch, partly rock-cut.

(A. W. C.)

Mr. A. S. Morton was again the guide to the cairns and cup-marked stones of Kirkmabreck, Cairnholy.

The most complete chambered cairn at Cairnholy now consists of two tall portal stones, the passage to the chamber and the chamber itself: the latter with the roofing still upon it. The chambered cairn appears to have been a round one but almost all the stones have been removed. The two high pillars that probably formed the portal stand 6-10 inches apart at the base. The larger of the pair reaches the height of 8 feet. The passage, which is over 8 feet in length, increases in width and at the entrance to the chamber measures over 2 feet across. Of this passage only one stone remains *in situ* on the left side, but two others lie displaced. On the right side a large slab deeply set in the ground lies parallel with the passage and has probably supported now vanished wall-slabs. The chamber was a rectangular compartment about 5 feet by 3 feet and roughly 4 feet in height. It is closed at both ends and the innermost slab served also to support the roof. It is probable that the numerous monoliths used as gate posts, etc., at the adjacent farm were originally part of the monument.

Over the field-dyke to the S. of the road are the remains of another cairn, this time apparently of the horned type. The cairn itself has again been entirely removed but the frontal semicircle of standing stones still remains. This consists of seven stones, with two central pillars. The latter each rise to a height of 7 feet and are set a foot apart at the base. Behind these pillars the passage gradually widens to 2 feet and extends to the chamber with a total length of 9 feet. The chamber has been rectangular and closed at each end. In this example all the roofing has vanished.

Three detached examples of rock-sculpturing also exist at Cairnholy. These, which are heavily weathered, consist of cup-and-ring markings. Cairnholy in local folklore is associated with the burial-place of King Galdus, a mythical King of the Scots. Archaeologically the site represents a rather elaborate Bronze Age complex containing at the least two large tombs or cairns.

After luncheon at Newton Stewart, Mr. R. C. Reid guided the

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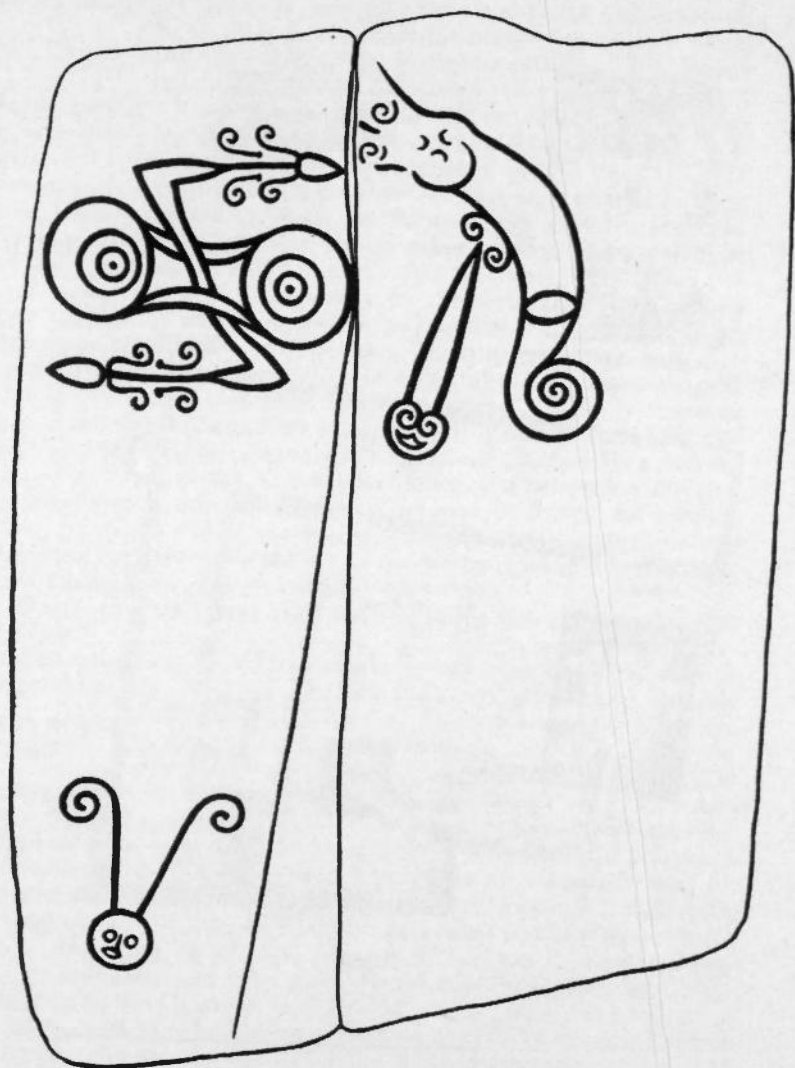
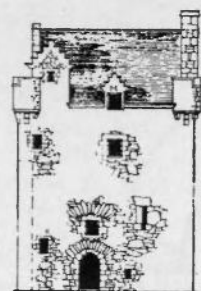
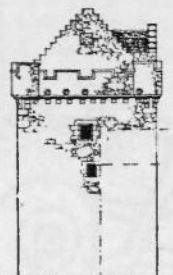


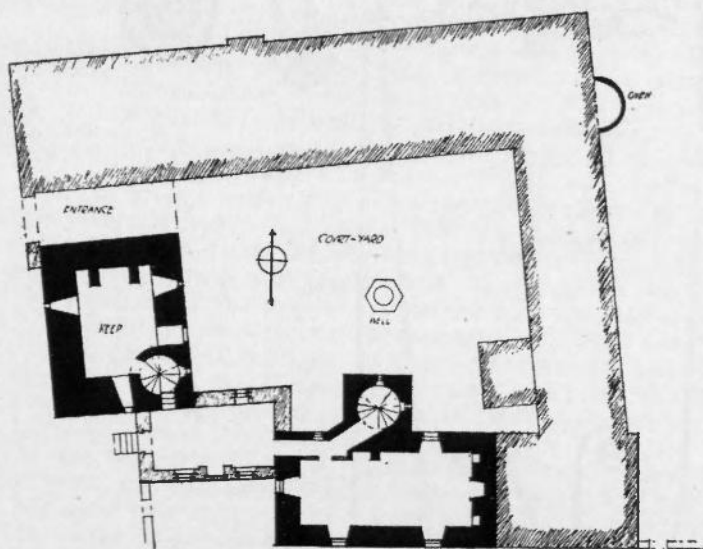
FIG. 6. SCULPTURED STONES, TRUSTY'S HILL
(By permission of R.C.A.M., Scotland)



WEST ELEVATION OF KEEP



SOUTH ELEVATION OF KEEP



PLAN

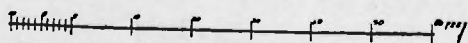


FIG. 7. OLD PLACE OF MOCHRUM

(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

members to Mochrum Old Place, by permission of the Marquis of Bute.

The lands of Mochrum are said to have been granted to Patrick, Earl of March, by David II, and they remained in the possession of the Dunbar family until the nineteenth century when they were sold to the Marquess of Bute. The buildings (Fig. 7), which have been restored by the present owner, consist of two towers standing side by side. Of these the W. is probably the older and was designed as a defensive castle. The walls, which are very thick, contain a wheel-stair and there is also a parapet walk. It probably stood alone without any courtyard. The ground floor and hall are both vaulted and both contain fireplaces. The superstructure has been largely rebuilt. A date around 1500 has been suggested for this tower. The E. tower, which does not seem to have been built primarily for defence, dates from around 1580. It has no angle towers and no vaulting and internally there have been considerable alterations. The superstructure here also has been partially restored, but in both towers the crow-stepped gabling, peculiar to Galloway, has been retained. The two towers were originally connected by a single wall, which probably formed the S. enclosure of the courtyard. The present courtyard is a restoration. The whole of the N. range had fallen, but excavation revealed the foundations, thus enabling the restorers to follow the original plan. At the E. end of the N. range is the kitchen, a great part of which has survived. To the W. of the kitchen and at a higher level is the dining hall. The gateway is a restoration.

Whithorn Priory was next visited, under the guidance of Mr. Clapham.

The monastery of Whithorn was founded by St. Ninian about 400, and there he built the Candida Casa, the white house of stone dedicated to St. Martin. Here were seated the early Anglian bishops of Galloway, 730-802, and the foundation survived for long after this date. The earliest memorial of this period is the Latinus stone, which no doubt dates from the fifth century. To a later period belongs the boundary-stone inscribed 'Locus Sti. Petri Apostoli,' which bears a late variety of the XP monogram. A number of other shafts may be dated to the eighth and ninth centuries, and still later is a shaft with Anglian runes to a certain Donferth and other shafts with a wheel-head. Drawings of all these crosses with those of Kirkmadrine, St. Ninian's Cave and other places in the neighbourhood, have been published in the Office of Works Guide.

The priory of Whithorn was founded c. 1130 by Fergus, Lord of Galloway, for canons regular of the Premonstratensian order. At the same time, or shortly after the See of Galloway was revived, the church became the cathedral and the canons its chapter. The church was burnt in 1286. It may perhaps be assumed that the first church was a simple aisleless building, perhaps represented by the existing nave. To this was added transepts and a long presbytery with a crypt under the E. end, in the thirteenth century. The excavations,

made in the last century, have recovered remains of the crypt and of certain added chapels at the E. end; they also established the general line of the transept. The chief surviving detail of interest is the late twelfth-century door of the nave. The monastic buildings lay on the N. side of the church.

After tea the members returned to Dumfries.

Thursday, 13th July

The members left Dumfries at 10 o'clock and travelled to Carlisle, where the Cathedral was first visited under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson.

The cathedral church of St. Mary (Fig. 8) had its origin in the existence, at any rate from the beginning of the reign of Henry I, of a community of canons on the site, whose early history and constitution are somewhat obscure, but which in process of time adopted the rule of St. Augustine and came into line with other similar foundations. In 1133 the church became the cathedral church of the last diocese to be founded in England before the Reformation, and the prior and convent became the cathedral chapter. After the dissolution of monasteries the chapter was refounded by Henry VIII with a dean and four prebendaries, a constitution which was left practically unchanged by the Cathedrals Act of 1841, which provided for a dean and four residentiary canons.

Of the church which was erected about the time of the formation of the diocese two bays of the nave remain, with part of a third, together with much of the fabric of the south transept and the arch leading into the south aisle of the presbytery. The west bays of the nave were destroyed in the Civil War. In the second quarter of the thirteenth century the presbytery was superseded by a choir with north and south aisles, terminating a bay west of the present east end. In order that the new building should not impinge upon the buildings south of the church, the main axis of the choir was planned 12 feet north of that of the nave. To this period also belongs the chapel east of the south transept, rebuilt on the site of an earlier one of similar shape. A similar fire in 1292 damaged the choir and north transept to such an extent that an almost complete rebuilding was necessary. This took place during the first half of the fourteenth century, when the outer walls of the aisles were retained, together with the arches of the main arcades, which were underpinned and new piers constructed beneath them. The upper parts of the north and south walls were also remodelled, the choir was lengthened eastwards by a bay and was completed by the beautiful east window, probably about 1330. The new work had no high vault, and the present timber roof belongs to an epoch of rebuilding and restoration which set in with the fifteenth century and was especially active about the middle of that period, when year after year indulgences

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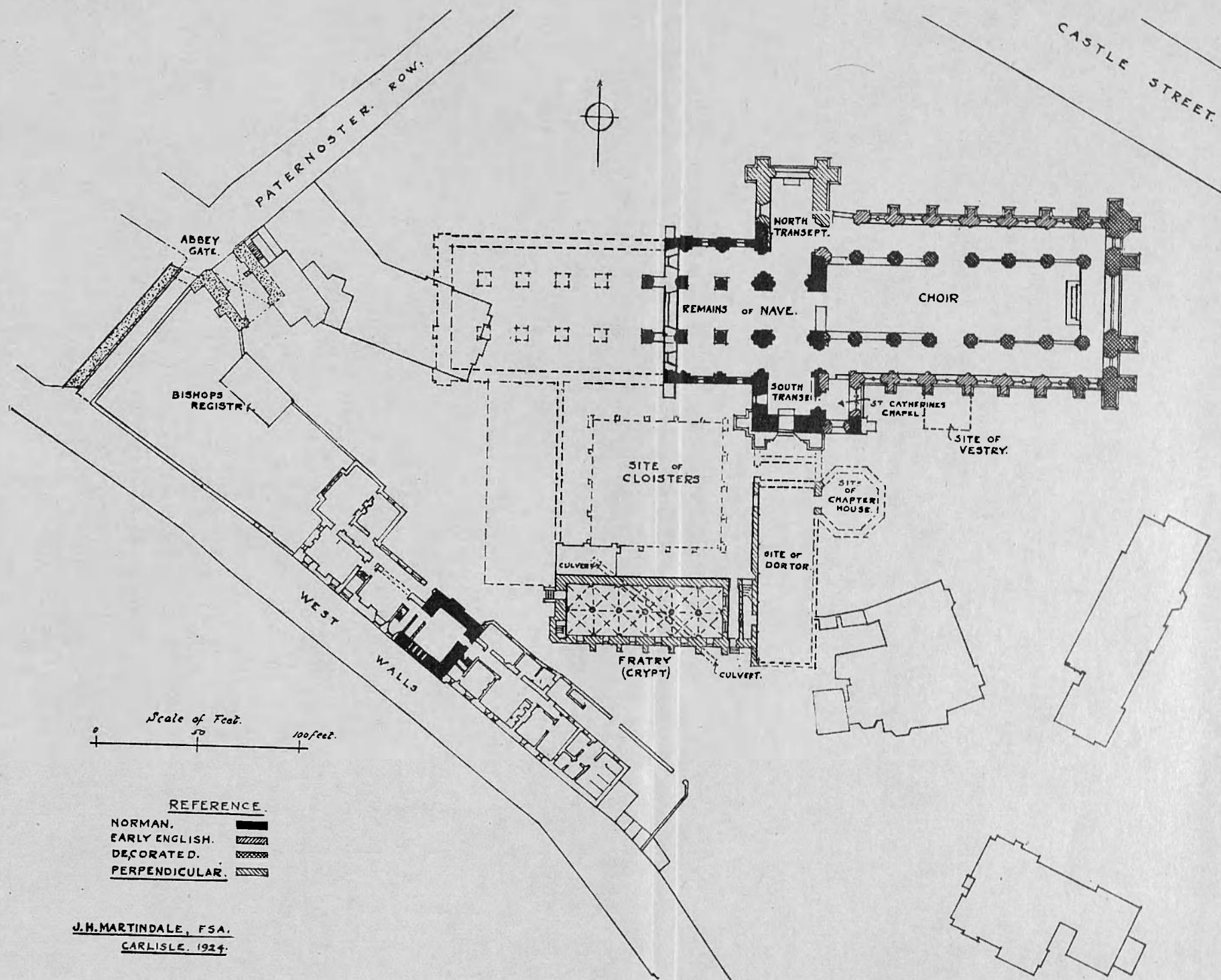


FIG. 8. CARLISLE CATHEDRAL

(From Trans. Cumberland and Westmorland Arch. Soc.)

on behalf of the fabric were circulated throughout the country. The most important piece of rebuilding during this epoch was that of the central tower and crossing. The weight of the early tower had caused serious settlements in the masonry of the transept and nave, and the tower was now rebuilt upon the strengthened foundations. Apart from the destruction of the west bays of the nave, the church suffered little further alteration until the last century, when a general restoration was taken in hand and the external stone-work was greatly renewed.

Much of the ancient furniture remains, including the choir-stalls and later fifteenth- and sixteenth-century screen work. At the back of the choir-stalls are a series of paintings representing the lives of St. Cuthbert, St. Anthony and St. Augustine with English verses describing each scene, and the twelve Apostles, each with his clause of the Creed. Stained glass of the later fourteenth century remains in the head of the east window. There is an effigy of a thirteenth-century bishop whose identity is uncertain, as is that of another episcopal effigy, about the middle of the fifteenth century: there are a brass to Bishop Richard Bell (1478-1496) and another, a duplicate of that at Queen's College, Oxford, to Bishop Henry Robinson (1598-1616), who was also provost of Queen's.

The refectory or frater of the monastery, restored and used as the Library of the dean and chapter and for meetings of the chapter, is to the south of the church, with a vaulted undercroft. With this exception, the cloister buildings no longer remain; but the Deanery, on the west side of the cathedral precincts, includes the fifteenth-century Prior's Lodging, its nucleus being a tower with a barrel-vaulted ground-floor and on the first floor the prior's great chamber with a flat painted timber ceiling.

(A. H. T.)

The party then proceeded to Carlisle Castle, where Mr. W. T. McIntire, F.S.A., addressed the members.

This great border fortress occupies a triangular site some three acres in area at the northern and highest extremity of the bluff of rising ground on the slope of which was built the city of Carlisle. Though traditionally this bluff is held to have been the site of a British fortress, few objects of such early date have been found to justify the belief. On the other hand a few remains of Roman occupation have been discovered and numerous Roman stones have been found built into the later masonry of the great tower and curtain walls.

The castle itself has developed from a fortress built by William Rufus when, in 1092, he came northwards and annexed Carlisle, at that time occupied by the Scots, to the English crown. This castle consisted probably of a motte crowned by a wooden tower with an outer bailey defended by palisades.

David I of Scotland, who occupied Carlisle from 1135 till his death in 1153, rebuilt this castle, though the 'Great Tower' or keep which forms its core apparently dates from a rather later period after the middle of the twelfth century, about which time also were built

the original parts remaining of the curtain walls of the outer and inner wards.

The south side of the castle was separated from the city by a glacis defended by two moats, one of which still survives, and a palisade, while the eastern and western extremities of its curtain walls were united with those of the city by still existing, though largely rebuilt, cross walls.

The original entrance to the castle, probably from the north-east, was replaced about 1168 by a gatehouse at the south-east corner of the inner ward. This entrance was in the fifteenth century superseded in turn by the present gatehouse (William de Ireby's Tower) in the middle of the south curtain wall of the outer ward. Numerous repairs and alterations were carried out in the times of Edward I and his immediate successors. The upper part of the curtain walls date from this period, as do the Captain's Tower, or entrance to the inner from the outer ward, and the scanty remains of the great Edwardian hall, the scene of the meetings of two parliaments.

To the fifteenth century and the activities of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, as Warden of the Western March, are due the final form of the great Gate-House Tower and the 'Tile Tower,' a brick construction upon the western connecting wall. In Henry VIII's reign numerous alterations were made to adapt the castle walls for the use of artillery. The wall between the outer and inner wards was widened to support cannon; a ditch was constructed between the wards; a half-moon battery with a covered way was built in front of the Captain's Tower; a breastwork was built between the entrance of the inner ward and the outer gatehouse.

The castle had become ruinous in the Elizabethan period and, as an inscription now upon the keep tells us, was then repaired and a range of barracks, now removed, built between the great tower and the Edwardian palace.

The principal feature of the castle is the keep, known formerly as 'The Great Tower,' built apparently about 1175, but considerably altered in later times. It has walls of enormous thickness (maximum, 17 feet) with numerous mural passages, stairs and chambers. It consists of a vaulted basement and three upper storeys. The roof was revaulted in the sixteenth century to support artillery. The original entrance was by a staircase in a forework on the eastern face, the present entrance on the ground floor is of the fourteenth century. An interesting feature of the tower is the mural cell, the traditional place of imprisonment of Major Macdonald, the original of Scott's Major Melvor in *Waverley*. This cell has been decorated by prisoners with numerous heraldic carvings.

Among interesting historical events connected with the castle are its defence by Sir Andrew de Harcla in 1315, when Carlisle was besieged by Robert Bruce; the sojourn there of Mary, Queen of Scots, in 1568, the rescue of Kinmont Willie by Buccleuch, in 1596, and the memorable rebellion of 1745.

After luncheon in Carlisle, the party drove to Lanercost Priory, which was described by Professor Hamilton Thompson.

LANERCOST PRIORY

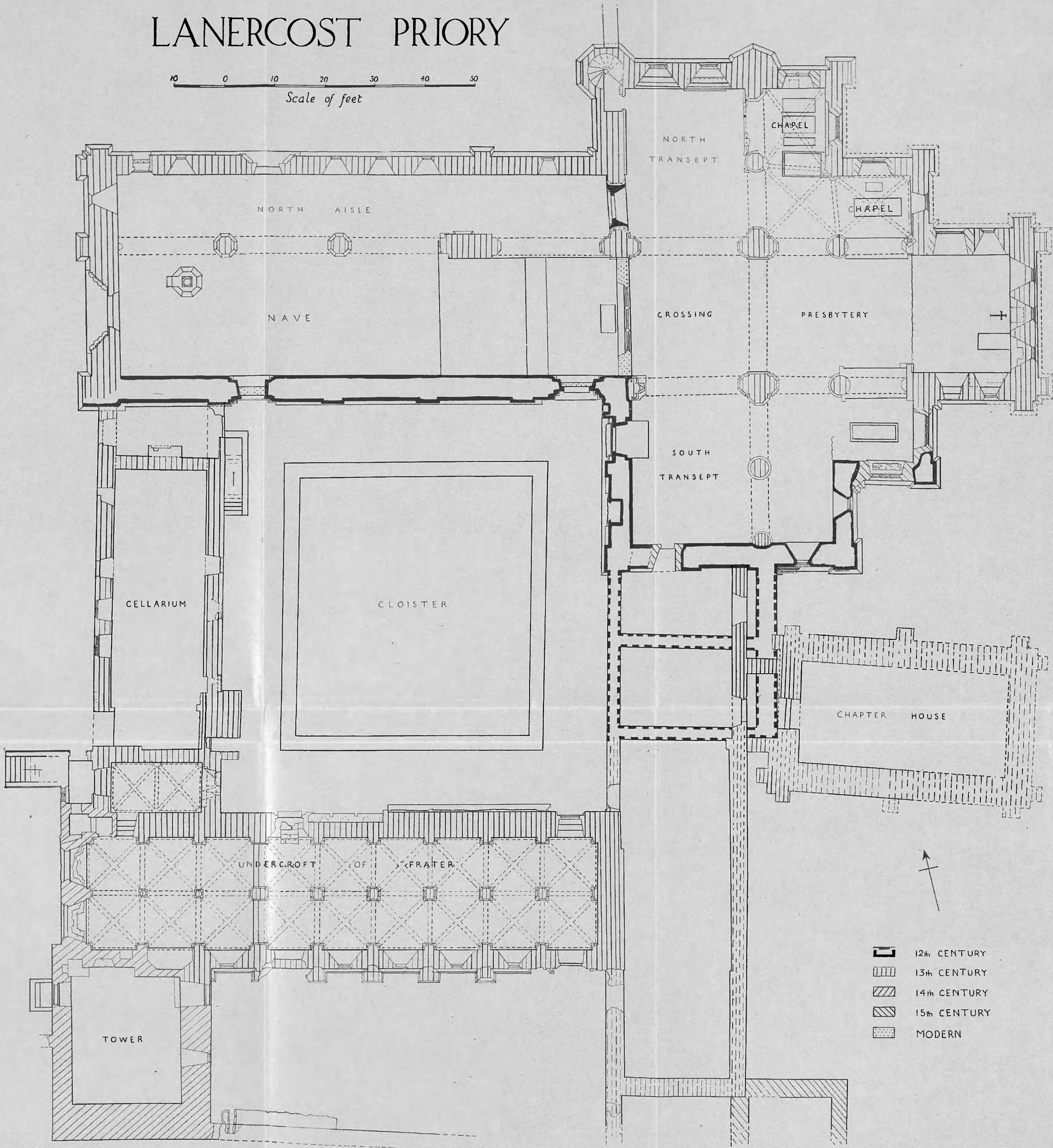


FIG. 9

(Note: Broken shading indicates foundations or "marking out" only.)
(Plan by courtesy of H.M. Office of Works)

The priory of St. Mary Magdalene, Lanercost (Fig. 9), in the valley of the Irthing, is said to have been founded for Augustinian canons by Robert de Vaux in 1169. This date, however, is that of the consecration of the church, and the community of canons may have come into being somewhat earlier. The present church consists of a ruined presbytery, partly aisled, crossing with north and south transept, with eastern chapels, and a nave with north aisle still in use as a parish church. It is for the most part of the first half of the thirteenth century, but the elevations of the north and south aisles of the presbytery and the adjoining transept chapels are different. The cloister buildings have recently been excavated. Foundations only remain of the east range, showing that the chapter-house was rebuilt in the fifteenth century as a separate building approached through the range. The vaulted undercroft of the frater, with the frater stair and lavatory, are on the south side of the cloister, the undercroft being continued westward beneath the west range. The first floor of the west range formed the prior's hall and lodging, with a fortified tower at its south end, which, containing a kitchen and above it the great chamber of the lodging, was probably added by Sir Thomas Dacre after the dissolution of the monastery.

The Dacres, lords of Gilsland, became hereditary patrons of the priory in the fourteenth century, and several of them were buried in the church. Of their tombs the most remarkable are those of Humfrey, Lord Dacre of Gilsland (d. 1485), and his wife Mabel Parr, north of the presbytery, and Thomas, Lord Dacre, and his wife Elizabeth, Baroness Greystoke, between the presbytery and the north chapel. The priory has a special historical interest as having been visited more than once by Edward I, who remained here for some months in 1306 recovering from sickness, and who died at Burgh-on-Sands in the course of the following year. (A. H. T.)

In spite of a collision on the road, Naworth Castle was next visited, again under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson. The party was received by Mr. M. Bell, representing the Earl of Carlisle.

On July 27th, 1335, Randolph, first Lord Dacre, who had married in 1317 Margaret, daughter of Thomas de Multon, Lord Multon of Gilsland, had licence to crenellate his house of Naworth. On the death of his great grandson Thomas, sixth Lord Dacre, the peerage descended to Sir Richard Fienes of Hurstmonceux, the husband of Thomas' grand daughter Joan and the ancestor of the Lords Dacre of the South. Naworth descended to Thomas' second and eldest surviving son Randolph as heir male, summoned to Parliament in 1459 as Lord Dacre of Gilsland. He was killed at Towton in 1461, but his attainder was reversed in favour of his brother Humphrey, from whom the estate passed through four generations until the death at an early age in 1569 of George, Lord Dacre. His sisters and co-heiresses were married by their step-father Thomas, third Duke of Norfolk, to three of his sons. The

third sister Elizabeth, the wife of Lord William Howard, inherited Naworth, and her husband did much to improve and alter the house. Lord William, famous on the Border as 'Belted Will,' died in 1640. His great-grandson Charles was created Earl of Carlisle in 1661, and the house has passed through succeeding generations to the present holder of his title.

The situation of the castle is extremely picturesque, on a high tongue of land between two small tributaries of the Irthing. The house is an imposing example of a Border stronghold, chiefly of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, but somewhat modernised after a fire which took place in 1844. It forms an irregular quadrangle, approached through an outer courtyard and surrounded by domestic buildings, with towers at either end of the south face. The chief features of the building are the rooms upon the principal floor, largely remodelled in the time of Lord William Howard's long occupation and well restored after 1844. These include the hall, dining-room, drawing-room and the oratory or chapel. Few English houses afford a better example of the combination of domestic comfort with defensive precautions.

(A. H. T.)

From here the party proceeded to Bewcastle. After tea, Mr. Clapham described the Bewcastle Cross.

The cross stands on the S. side of the church and is complete except for the head. Only the W. face has figure-sculpture which consists of St. John the Baptist, similar to the figure at Ruthwell, Christ with His feet on two beasts, again similar to the figure at Ruthwell, and at the base the standing figure of a falconer. The S. face has three panels of interlacement and two panels with elaborate vine-stems; the upper of these includes a sundial. The E. face has an elaborate design of a continuous vine-scroll with birds and beasts. The N. face has two panels of vine-scroll, two of interlacement and one of checker pattern. The W. face bears a long runic inscription and there are short inscriptions in the same characters on this and the N. and S. faces. The main inscription is generally read as a commemoration of Alcfrith, son of Oswy, set up by Hwaetred and Wothgaer. The short inscriptions include the certain name Kyniburug. There seems no reason to doubt that this is a memorial to Alcfrith, sub-king of Deira, son of Oswy, king of Northumbria and husband of Cuniburga, daughter of Penda and later abbess of Castor. Alcfrith rebelled against Oswy and is not heard of after the Synod of Whitby in 664. There is therefore very strong evidence for dating the Bewcastle cross to about 670.

(A. W. C.)

The Roman Fort was next visited, under the guidance of Mr. I. A. Richmond, F.S.A.

The Roman fort of Bewcastle (Fig. 10) lies eight miles north of Hadrian's Wall, to which it forms an advance post. It is linked with the wall-fort of Birdoswald by a direct road and by a road-side signal-tower on the shoulder of Gillalees. Recent excavations have

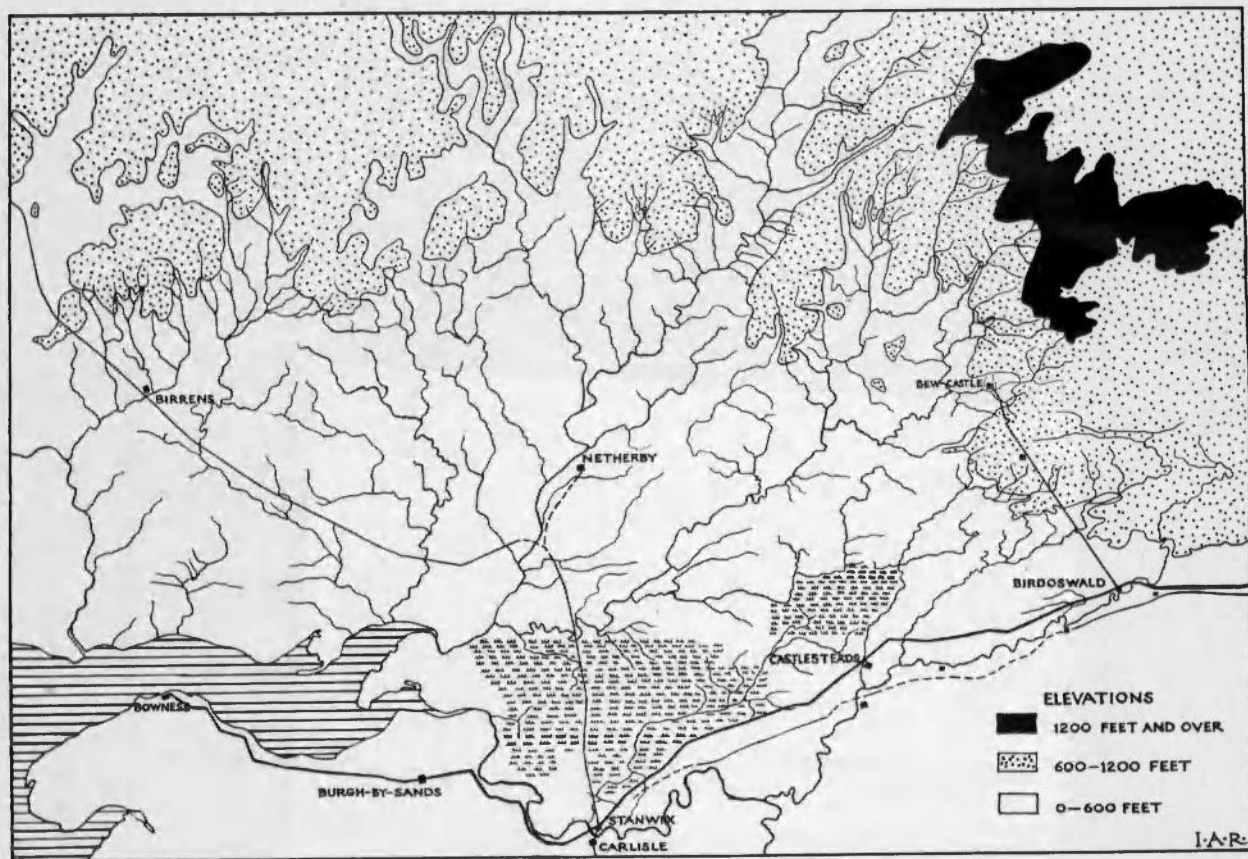


FIG. 10. BEWCASTLE ROMAN FORT IN RELATION TO OTHER ROMAN SITES

(From *Trans. Cumberland and Westmorland Soc.*)

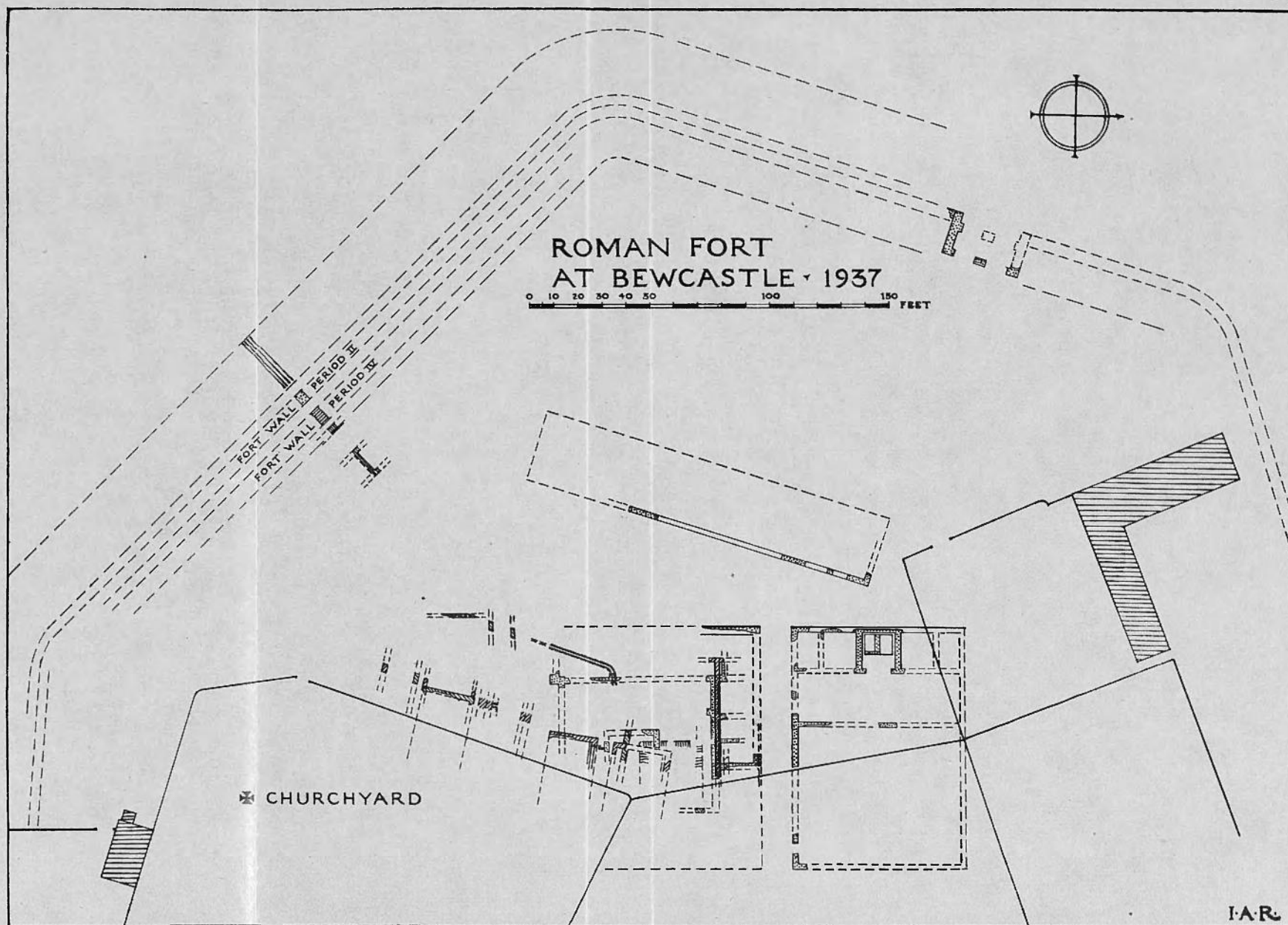


FIG. 11. BEWCASTLE FORT

(From *Trans. Cumberland and Westmorland Soc.*)

confirmed the testimony of a lost inscription, that the fort was founded under Hadrian, about A.D. 122 : but the fort then planned, with timber buildings, did not follow the outline of the defences now visible on the site (Fig. 11). These belong to the Severan restoration of about A.D. 200, and their multangular plan, occupying the whole six-acre plateau, is an interesting anticipation of the revolt from the stereotyped rectangle which marks late-Roman military architecture.

Within the polygonal work the buildings were of conventional form. Excavations recovered the commandant's house (west of the churchyard), the headquarters building (between Uris and Demesne Farm) and a stable or barrack. The headquarters building boasted an exceptionally fine plastered underground strong room, choked with rubbish discarded by looters who had fired the fort in A.D. 297. The debris comprised a stone base for a life-sized statue, silver plaques to the local war-god, Mars Cocidius, and an interesting selection of the local bronze currency (copies of coins a generation earlier), then in use on the northern frontier : also, mortaria used as hanging-lamps in the sanctuary.

There were two later restorations of the fort, the first by Constantine I, shortly after A.D. 297, the second occurring some time before the final disaster of A.D. 367, and probably to be equated with the Pictish expedition of Constans in A.D. 343. The last restoration involved a complete rebuilding of the defensive wall. After A.D. 367 the fort lay waste until the site was bestrewn with pottery contemporary with the Edwardian castle.

The site chosen for the fort, though by no means weak, lacks a wide outlook, and differs in this respect from many Roman forts. An explanation is to be sought in the purpose of the work. It flanks the narrow corridor between the Bewcastle Fells and the north-Cumberland mosses, by which raiders could reach Hadrian's Wall. It thus watches unobtrusively rather than blocks the approach, and its large garrison, one thousand strong, collaborated with the defenders of the Wall by attacking raiders in the rear when they had reached the frontier zone. Accordingly, signalling to the Wall was arranged to be screened from the northern view, in order that raiders might enter unwarily the tactical trap prepared against them. (I. A. R.)

On leaving Bewcastle the party proceeded to Dumfries, where an evening lecture on Scottish Architecture was delivered by Mr. J. S. Richardson, F.S.A.(Scot.).

Friday, 14th July

The members first visited the Mote of Urr under the guidance of Mr. Richardson and Mr. Reid.

The Mote of Urr (Fig. 12) is one of the most notable monuments of its class in Scotland. It lies in the alluvial plain N.W. of Dalbeattie and is now bounded 100 yards to the E. by the river. In former

times, however, the river divided higher up and contained the Mote as an island between its two streams. The hillock rises very abruptly

from the low-lying meadows to a height of over 78 feet. The lower slopes have probably been artificially scarped but on the W. side the gradient is less steep. At a height of 30 feet above the base on the W., and passing at about the same height around the hillock, a trench has been dug. Above the scarp of the trench there is a slight parapet mound most noticeable towards the W. and S. Enclosed within it, and occupying the summit, is a fairly regular oblong area. Near the S. end of this enclosure which has formed the base-court, there rises to the height of 30 feet a truncated cone of soil and stones. Around the base of this runs a continuous trench. There are two entrances to the enceinte, one from the S.E. and the other from the N.W. At the former the trench has probably been bridged: the entrance from the N.W. is undoubtedly original. There is evidence of stone-work at several places in the slopes of the citadel and ramparts, but the turf now obscures all details.

The party then proceeded to the Greyfriars church and to Maclellan's Castle, Kirkcudbright, where Mr. Richardson acted as guide.

In 1569 the buildings, site and lands of the convent of Greyfriars in Kirkcudbright, overlooking the River Dee, were conveyed to Sir Thomas Maclellan of Bombie on the plea that they were lying waste. A year later, however, Sir Thomas sold the kirk, offering to maintain the chancel if the parishioners would be responsible for the rest of the structure. As the monastery was in ruins, building material was readily available and on this site Sir Thomas Maclellan built his castle, the third in Kirkcudbright or its immediate vicinity.

A remarkable fortress with royal associations had existed on the site known as Castledykes to the west of the town, and in March, 1577, the lands of Castledykes were granted to Sir Thomas Maclellan. Stone may also have been taken from this site for the building of the new castle. As a fortified residence was no longer essential, especially within the burgh area, Maclellan's Castle was not planned on defensive lines, but it is a notable example of late sixteenth-century domestic architecture.

Above the entrance doorway is a large recess divided into three panels. The large upper panel, bordered with a design of roses and thistles, probably displayed the royal arms, but is now much weathered. Below this are two smaller panels, the dexter one bearing Sir Thomas Maclellan's arms, and the sinister one the arms of Lord Herries, quartering Maxwell and Herries. Above this sinister panel are the initials G.M. for Dame Grissel Maxwell, second wife of Sir Thomas, and the date 1582. In the adjacent north wall is a window of somewhat similar design enriched with debased dog-tooth ornament.

There are vaulted cellars on the ground floor and a kitchen in the

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PARISH OF URR.

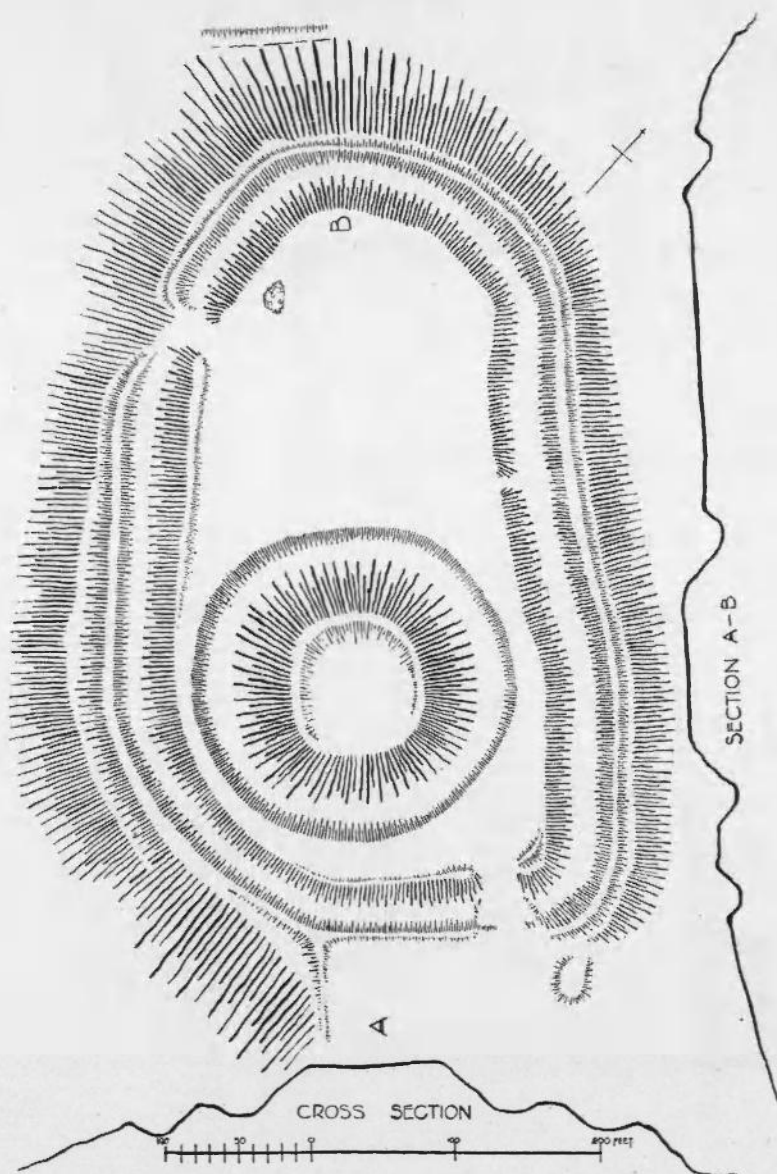


FIG. 12. MOTE OF URR

(Plan by permission of R.C.A.M., Scotland)

THE ABBEY OF DUNDRENNAN

ABBNEY KIRK LATE 12TH CENTURY
CHAPTER HOUSE 13TH CENTURY
WESTERN RANGE 13TH - 15TH CENTURY

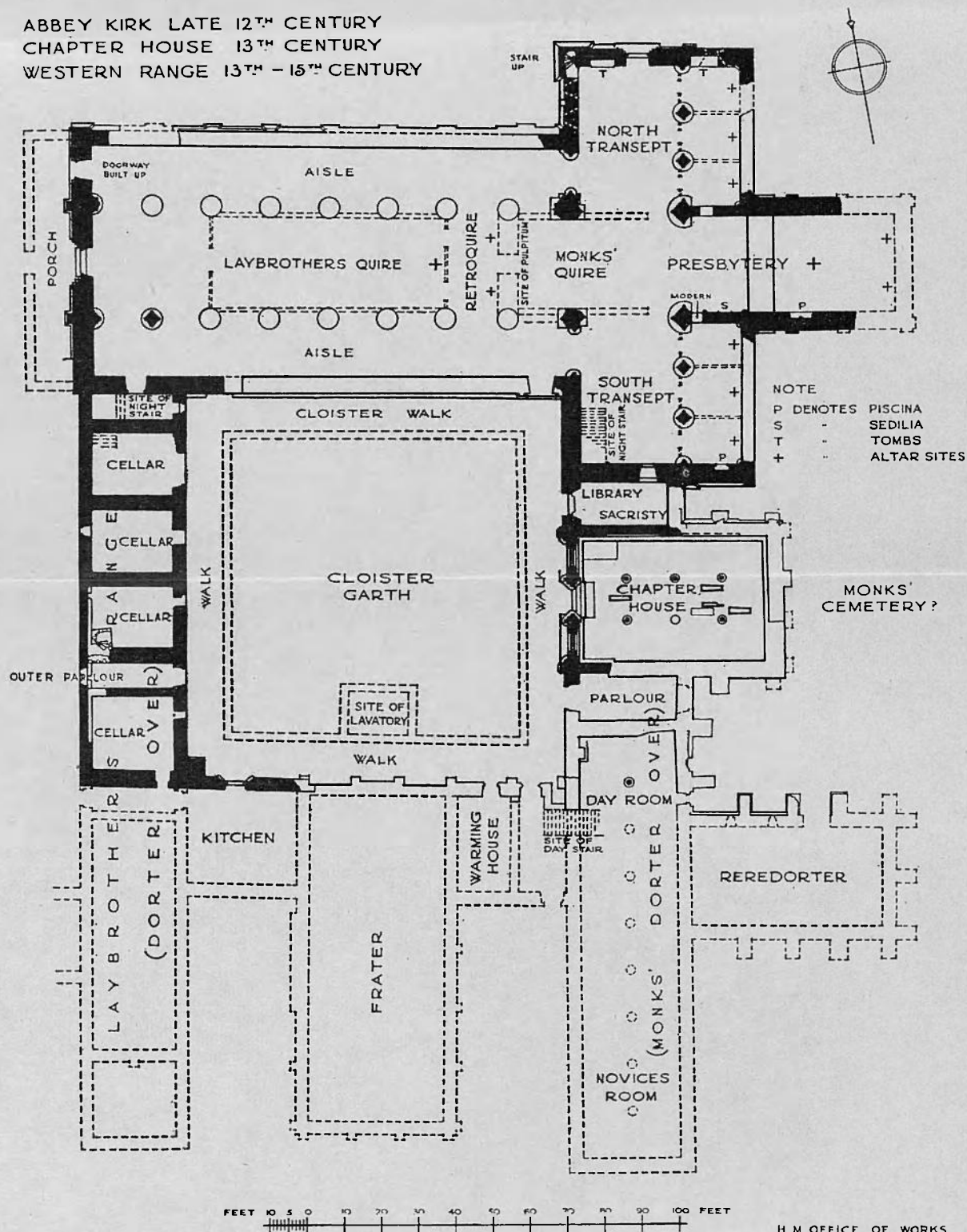


FIG. 13

(Plan by courtesy of H.M. Office of Works)

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.
ANCIENT MONUMENTS DEPT.
EDINBURGH. 1934.

north wing. On the south side of the large kitchen fireplace is a small window and on the north side a small cupboard. The sink in the south wall of the kitchen drains to the outside, and there is a service window in the west wall.

From the entrance the main staircase gives access to the great hall, with its adjoining room, and to the wing rooms which were probably used as bedrooms. The fireplace in the great hall, with its huge lintel cut out of a single stone, is impressive and has had an interesting spy-hole in the back which could be used by anyone sitting in the small chamber behind. The rooms in the east and south-west wings each have a garde-robe. Additional stairs starting from the first floor give separate access to the second floor rooms. There are no passages at this level, but doorways in the partition walls made direct communication possible between the rooms. The wheel stairs continue to the third floor which is now partly ruinous. There is a tradition that some of the rooms were never used and the structure is said to have been roofless since 1752.

Close to Maclellan's Castle on its eastern side stand the modernised remains of the old Greyfriars Kirk. Inside this building is the quaint monument erected in memory of Sir Thomas Maclellan and his wife. Sir Thomas, who had been Provost of Kirkcudbright, died in 1597, and was granted the special privilege of burial within the kirk although this practice had been prohibited. The tomb was erected by his son Robert, later first Lord Kirkcudbright, and is an interesting example of late Gothic work influenced by early Renaissance forms.

Robert Maclellan, who succeeded his father, took an active interest in public affairs and probably spent little time at the castle. His son Thomas fought in the Wars of the Covenant, and at the Battle of Philiphaugh in 1645 he commanded a regiment raised in Galloway at his own expense. Such adventures, however, dissipated the family fortunes, and probably the inheritance to which John Maclellan, of Borgue, succeeded, was small. John, cousin of Thomas, played an equally prodigal part in the Civil War and the estates did not recover. About the middle of the eighteenth century Maclellan's Castle, which had probably been standing empty for some time, passed to Sir Robert Maxwell, of Orchardton, and in 1782 the walls were sold to the Earl of Selkirk. Guardianship was entrusted to the Commissioners of H.M. Works in 1912 by Sir Charles Hope-Dunbar.

After lunch at Kirkcudbright, Mr. Richardson conducted members to Dundrennan Abbey.

The Cistercian Abbey of Dundrennan (Fig. 13) was founded in 1142 by King David I or his friend Fergus, Lord of Galloway, and was colonised by monks from Rievaulx in Yorkshire.

DUNDREN-
NAN ABBEY From time to time the Abbot and monks obtained charters of protection and privilege from Scottish and English kings, and in 1296 the Abbot swore fealty to King Edward I of England. Mary, Queen of Scots, sheltered within the monastery on the last night she spent in Scotland.

After the establishment of the Reformed Religion, the Lords of

the Congregation ordered Lord Harris, General Justice of the district, to demolish the monastery, but this he refused to do. In the seventeenth century the abbey and lands were first given by James VI to the first Bishop of Galloway after the Reformation, then to John Murray, His Majesty's Groom of the Bedchamber, and finally in 1621 they were annexed to the deanery of the Chapel Royal of Stirling. Part of the abbey church served for parochial use till 1742 when it was abandoned. The church was then quarried to its present ruinous state and by that time the domestic and attendant buildings had also disappeared.

The church, of which the ruins of the E. end still stand, was 209 feet in length and 63 feet broad. It was entered by a western porch and three western doorways, of which only the central one is still intact. The nave was eight bays long. The W. part was occupied by the lay-brothers' quire and at the seventh bay from the W. was the pulpitum or screen at the end of the monks' quire.

The transept chapels were ceiled with rib-and-panel vaults. The S. transept has an open arcade to the triforium and the N. transept a blind arcade of better architectural composition. There is a round-headed doorway of late Romanesque character in the N. wall and to the S. an arched tomb recess. In the chapel there is another such recess, containing the mutilated effigy of a knight.

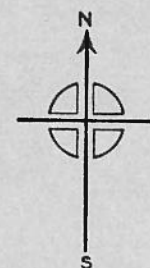
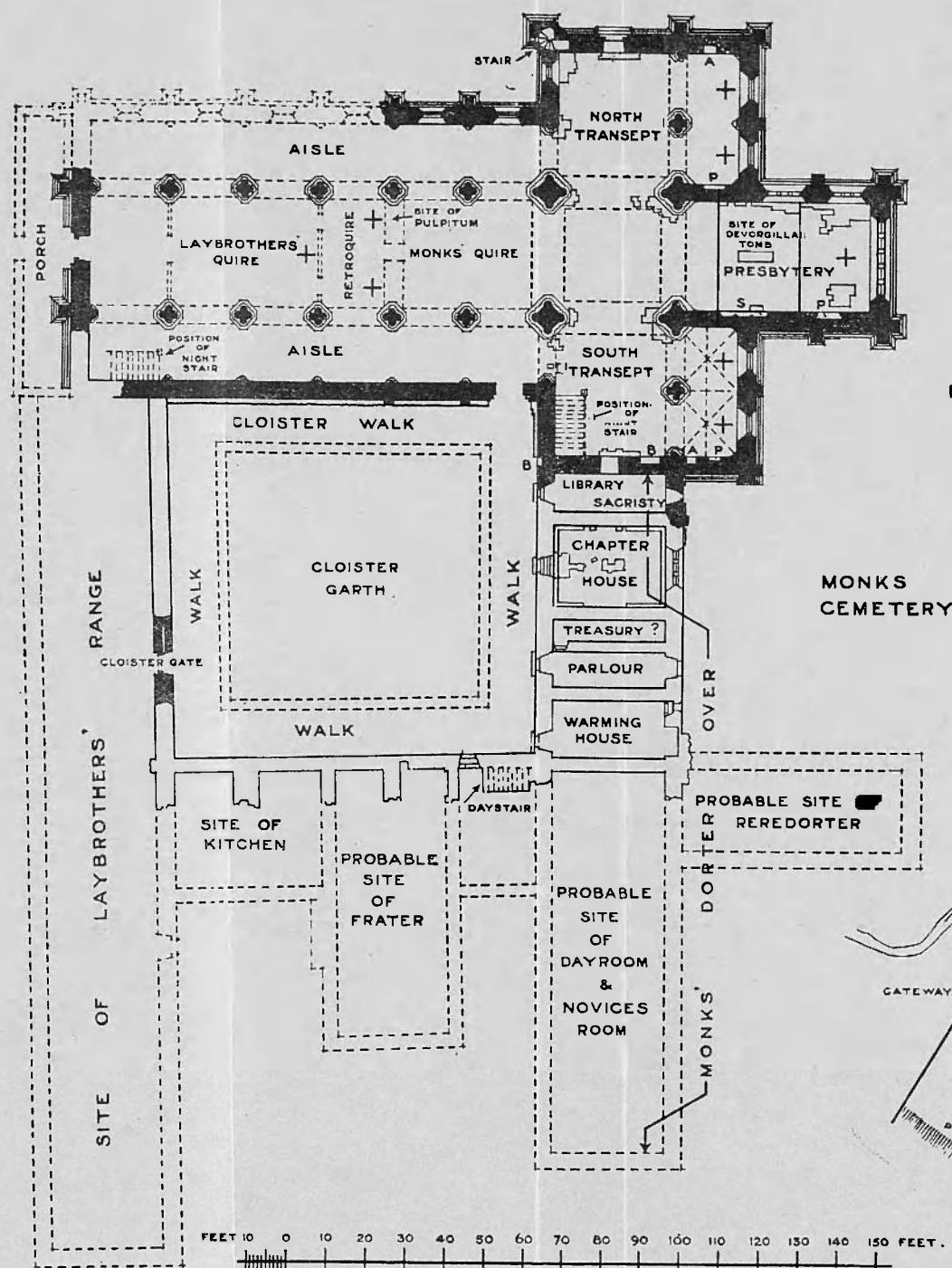
The Chapter House was rebuilt in the late thirteenth century. There is a central doorway, with enriched flanking windows. A number of bands of nail-head ornament enhance the moulding, and over the windows round panels display varieties of fleur-de-lis and conventional leaf designs. The inner arch of the doorway has a cusped head of unusual form, enriched with a running ornament of foliage. Above the triple arcade of the front of the chapter house is a ruined dorter-window. Within the chapter house are the decorated coffin-lids of the abbots who were buried there. Close to the S.E. pillar lies the most elaborate of these memorials. At the N.W. angle is a large slab of blue marble. This formed the background of a Flemish memorial brass: a fragment of a similar monument lies within the S. transept. Both of these stones were brought from the Franco-Flemish workshops at Tournai in the fourteenth century.

Set into a wall recess in the 'restored' west wall of the abbey is a remarkable thirteenth-century effigy of an abbot, which originally covered a table-tomb. The figure is vested in monastic habit and a small dagger penetrates the breast on the left side, suggesting that the abbot was assassinated. At his feet lies a small, semi-garbed human figure with a wound in the abdomen. This figure is probably the assassin. A grave slab in the same recess depicts Patrick Douglas, a cellarer, who died in 1480. On the S. side of the recess is a monument from the grave of Sir William Livingstone of Culter, who died in 1607.

Mr. Richardson also acted as guide to Sweetheart Abbey.

The Cistercian Abbey of Sweetheart (Fig. 14) was founded in 1273 by Devorgilla, wife of John Balliol, himself the founder of

THE ABBEY OF SWEETHEART



NOTE :-

- A DENOTES WALL AUMBRY
- B " BOOK PRESS
- P " PISCINA
- S " SEDILIA
- + " ALTAR SITE

DOTTED LINES INDICATE FOUNDATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REVEALED.

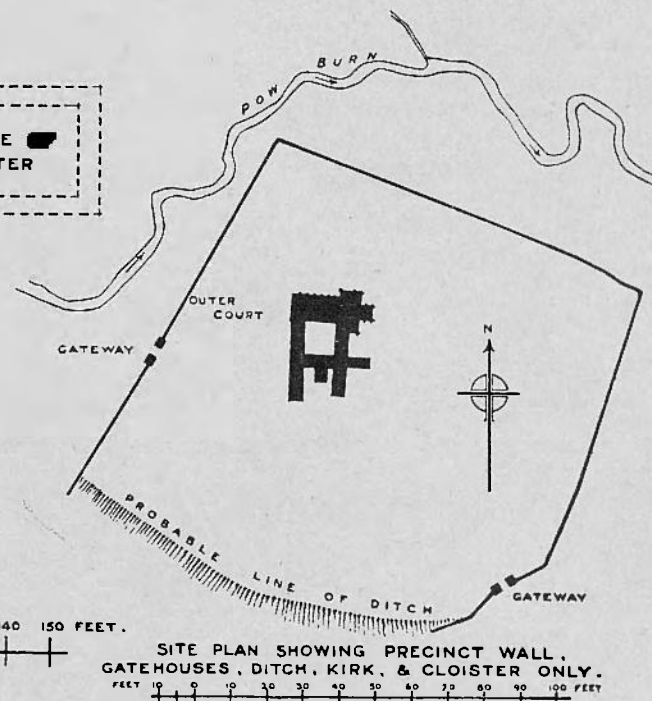


FIG. 14

(Plan by courtesy of H.M. Office of Works)

Balliol College, Oxford. At her death in 1289 the foundress was buried in front of the high altar, where her tomb remained until it was destroyed in the sixteenth century. Fragments of it, which have since been recovered, are set up in the south transept chapel.

SWEET-
HEART
ABBEY

The abbey lay within the area subject to frequent fights between the English and Scots, and in 1300 Edward I halted at Sweetheart on his return march from Kirkcudbright. In 1306, the year of his death, Edward I, while attempting the conquest of Scotland, summoned a levy of 1,000 Welshmen to pursue Bruce. The abbey seems to have suffered heavily from this importation and in the subsequent year the abbot petitioned the king for £400 compensation for the damage caused by the Welsh soldiers. In 1381, after the abbey had been considerably impoverished by the Wars of Independence, a patron appeared in Black Archibald, third Earl of Douglas, Earl of Wigtown and Lord of Galloway, whose benefactions appear to have been very liberal. Indeed, some of the restoration work, undertaken at this period owing to the destruction suffered by the monastery in a great storm, may have been due to his initiative.

During the turbulent times after Flodden in 1513, the monks placed themselves under the protection of Lord Maxwell, and with the onset of the Reformation they disposed of their property to such persons as could protect them and their interests. In 1548 all the property was thus turned over to Lord Maxwell, who was constituted heritable baillie by the monks. Despite the orders of the Lords of the Congregation, the buildings were not destroyed; Lord Maxwell refusing on the grounds that 'he was attatched to the place quhair he was maist part broeht up in his youth.' In 1587 the abbey with its revenues was vested in the king and in 1624 the king granted it to Sir Robert Spottiswoode and Sir John Hay. In 1633 they resigned it and the abbey was then given to the Bishop of Edinburgh. When this was suppressed shortly afterwards the abbey was returned to Sir Robert Spottiswoode.

At this time the parochial services were held at the abbey in the reconstructed refectory. In 1731 this was demolished and a new church built against the S. side of the nave. The present church was built in 1877. The abbey kirk itself appears to have been destroyed by fire at an unrecorded date, and the cloistral and attendant buildings to have been demolished in the seventeenth century.

The abbey precinct contains an area of some 30 acres. Its S. boundary was a water-filled ditch, elsewhere it was enclosed by a very remarkable masonry wall, one of the few relics of this clan in Scotland. There were two gates, one in the centre of the W. side, of which traces can be seen, and one in the E. side.

The church has an aisled nave of six bays, transepts, each of which has two eastern chapels, and an aisled presbytery. The W. window, altered towards the close of the fourteenth century, originally contained a geometric pattern of stained glass. After the great storm prior to 1381, it was reconstructed and a band of masonry

inserted. The nave had no triforium arching; only a clerestory without a passage broke the wall surface, and this clerestory is one of the finest architectural features of the building.

The monks' quire extended two bays westwards from the crossing, while the lay brothers' quire was in the western part of the nave. Each transept had two eastern chapels, separated from each other and from the transept by oak screens. The inner chapel of the N. group contains a piscina with an unusual arched head. The only vaulting now preserved is in the S. transept chapel and the ornament on the bosses suggests a fourteenth-century reconstruction. The grave of the foundress lay originally in front of the sedilia before the high altar. It now exists in a reconstructed form in the S. transept chapel, together with the decorated coffin-lid of John, first abbot.

After tea at Kirkconnell, by kind invitation of R. Maxwell Witham, K.G., the members returned to Dumfries.

In the evening, members were 'At Home' to their Scottish friends in the Headquarters Hotel.

Saturday, 15th July

Members first visited Lincluden Abbey, under the guidance of Professor Hamilton Thompson.

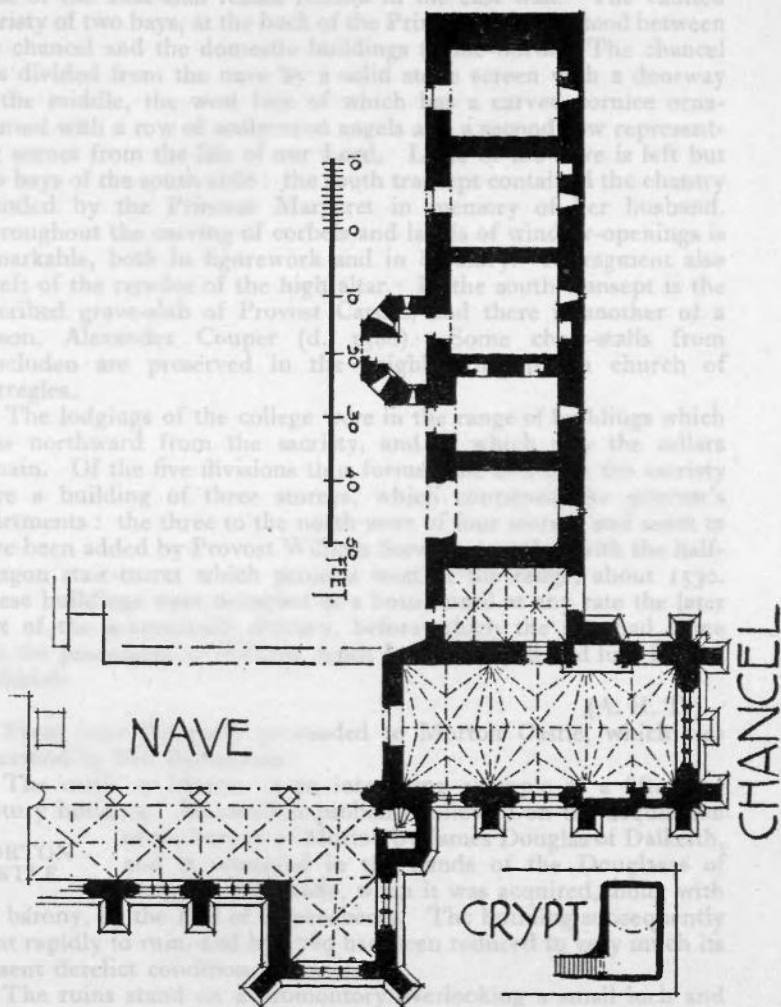
A priory of Benedictine nuns was founded at Lincluden, traditionally in 1164, by Uchtred, son of Fergus, Lord of Galloway.

Lincluden
Abbey

About the end of the fourteenth century this establishment fell into decay and was refounded by Archibald the Grim, third earl of Douglas, as a college of eight secular canons, with a provost at their head, which survived the Reformation for some time and seems to have been nominally extant as late as 1593.

The remains (Fig. 15) consist of the chancel of the collegiate church, of three bays, part of the nave, of four bays, with the south aisle and transept, and the lower part of the east range of the quadrangle on the north side of the church. The founder died in 1400 and the church was probably built in place of the old chapel of the nunnery during the rule of Alexander Carnes (de Carnys), second provost and chancellor to Archibald, fourth Earl of Douglas. Carnes was provost from 1408 to 1413, and the earl, created Duke of Touraine by Charles VII of France in 1424, died at the battle of Verneuil in the same year. He had married Margaret, daughter of King Robert III of Scotland, and it is probable that the tomb in the chancel was intended as their joint resting-place. She was buried there in 1449-50, but her husband was buried in the cathedral church of Tours.

The chancel is an elaborate example of Scottish fifteenth-century work with large windows of geometrical tracery. The springers of the transverse arches of the barrel-vault originally designed remain above those of the ribbed vault which superseded it. On the north side of the chancel is the tomb of the Princess Margaret, which,



(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

FIG. 15. LINCLUDEN ABBEY
(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

with the doorway of the sacristy at its west side and the piscina and sedilia in the south wall, form a connected design contemporary with the building. The high altar occupied a platform two steps higher than the rest of the chancel, and beneath it there was a small crypt with a barrel-vault now ruined. The corbels on which the back of the altar-slab rested remain in the east wall. The vaulted sacristy of two bays, at the back of the Princess's tomb, stood between the chancel and the domestic buildings to the north. The chancel was divided from the nave by a solid stone screen with a doorway in the middle, the west face of which has a carved cornice ornamented with a row of sculptured angels and a second row representing scenes from the life of our Lord. Little of the nave is left but two bays of the south aisle: the south transept contained the chantry founded by the Princess Margaret in memory of her husband. Throughout the carving of corbels and labels of window-openings is remarkable, both in figurework and in heraldry. A fragment also is left of the reredos of the high altar. In the south transept is the inscribed grave-slab of Provost Carnes, and there is another of a mason, Alexander Couper (d. 1588). Some choir-stalls from Lincluden are preserved in the neighbouring parish church of Terregles.

The lodgings of the college were in the range of buildings which runs northward from the sacristy, and of which now the cellars remain. Of the five divisions thus formed the two next the sacristy were a building of three storeys, which contained the provost's apartments: the three to the north were of four storeys and seem to have been added by Provost William Stewart, together with the half-octagon stair-turret which projects west of the range, about 1530. These buildings were occupied as a house until at any rate the later part of the seventeenth century, before which the site had come into the possession of William, tenth Lord Maxwell and first Earl of Nithsdale.

(A. H. T.)

From here the party proceeded to Morton Castle, which was described by Mr. Richardson.

The castle at Morton is an interesting example of a fifteenth-century building. Its erection probably followed on the acquisition of the barony of Morton by James Douglas of Dalkeith, and it remained in the hands of the Douglasses of Dalkeith until 1680, when it was acquired, along with the barony, by the Earl of Queensberry. The building subsequently went rapidly to ruin, and by 1789 had been reduced to very much its present derelict condition.

The ruins stand on a promontory overlooking a small loch and were probably defended by a ditch. The castle possesses a gatehouse on the W. entered between D-shaped towers. From these towers a curtain returned eastwards to a circled tower on the E. angle, then northwards, probably to the apex of the site where there may have been another circled tower, and thence probably returned to the gatehouse. The area thus encircled is triangular and the S. half of

this enclosure was occupied by structures in which were incorporated the curtain. There still remain the E. tower, the wall of the gatehouse, a small portion of the E. angle tower and between these a main wing, a structure of two storeys.

The entrance was defended by a drawbridge, which gave access over a built fosse and which, when raised, lay within a recess against the front of the building forming an additional barrier. Immediately within this was a gate opening outwards. The gatehouse tower as now standing is five storeys high. The first floor was entered from the adjoining main wing and access to the second and third floors was by a wheel staircase contained within the thickness of the walls.

The main wing between these towers is 30 feet wide and the upper storey was carried upon a wooden floor supported by corbels. There would appear to have been a single fireplace on each floor and there is no evidence of partitioning. Against the outer face of the N. wall there appear to have been two other structures.

Durisddeer Church was next visited, under the leadership of Prof. Hamilton Thompson.

The parish church of Durisddeer is a cruciform building with west tower, rebuilt in 1699 in the Renaissance style of the period.

DURISDEER CHURCH The tower is set within a range of buildings with an upper floor, no doubt intended for the use of the family from Drumlanrig on their visits to the church, and entered by a west doorway. Internally the church is plain, but the north transept, divided from the rest of the building by a fine wrought-iron screen, contains the black-and-white marble monument of James, second Duke of Queensberry (d. 1711), and his wife, who, for his activity in furthering the Act of Union in face of Scottish opposition, was created Duke of Dover in the peerage of England. In this transept also are contained a seventeenth-century hour-glass stand and baptismal basin bracket, both of wrought iron. The table-tomb of the Covenanter Daniel McMichel, 'Martyr, shot dead at Dalveen by Sir John Dalrymple,' in 1685, is on the south side of the church; and in the churchyard is a grave-slab with the effigy of a mason and on the reverse side the inscription:

HEIR · LYES · ANDRO · PATRIK
GEORG · AND · REBECCA · CHILD
REN · TO · WILLIAME · LUKUP · M^R · OF
WORK-IN-DRUMLANGRIG · 1685.

(A. H. T.)

The Nith Bridge cross-shaft was then described by Mr. Clapham.

The cross-shaft (Fig. 16), in a field near Nith Bridge, stands some 9 feet high, and is complete except for the arms of the cross.

NITH BRIDGE CROSS-SHAFT It is in the purely Anglian tradition and the decoration of three faces consists of beasts and interlacement; the fourth side has interlacement alone. The head had arms with a double curve like the cross at Ruthwell, but the monument is considerably later in date and may be assigned to the ninth century.

(A. W. C.)

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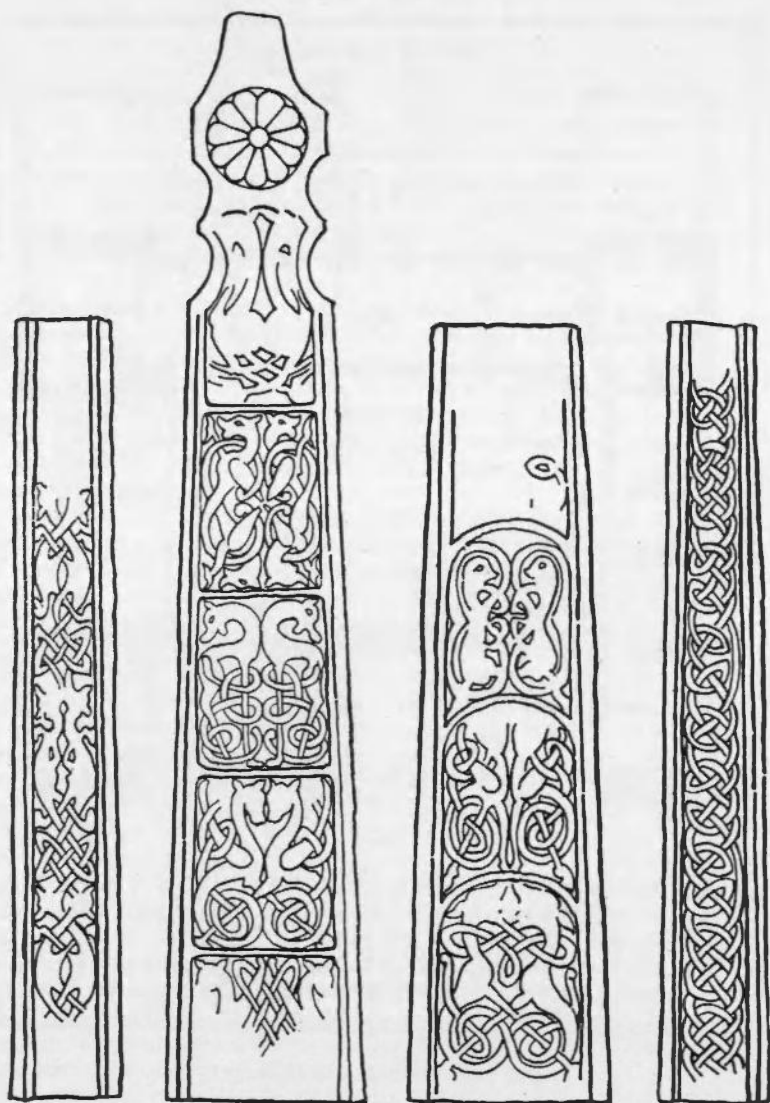


FIG. 16. CROSS AT NITH BRIDGE

(By permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)

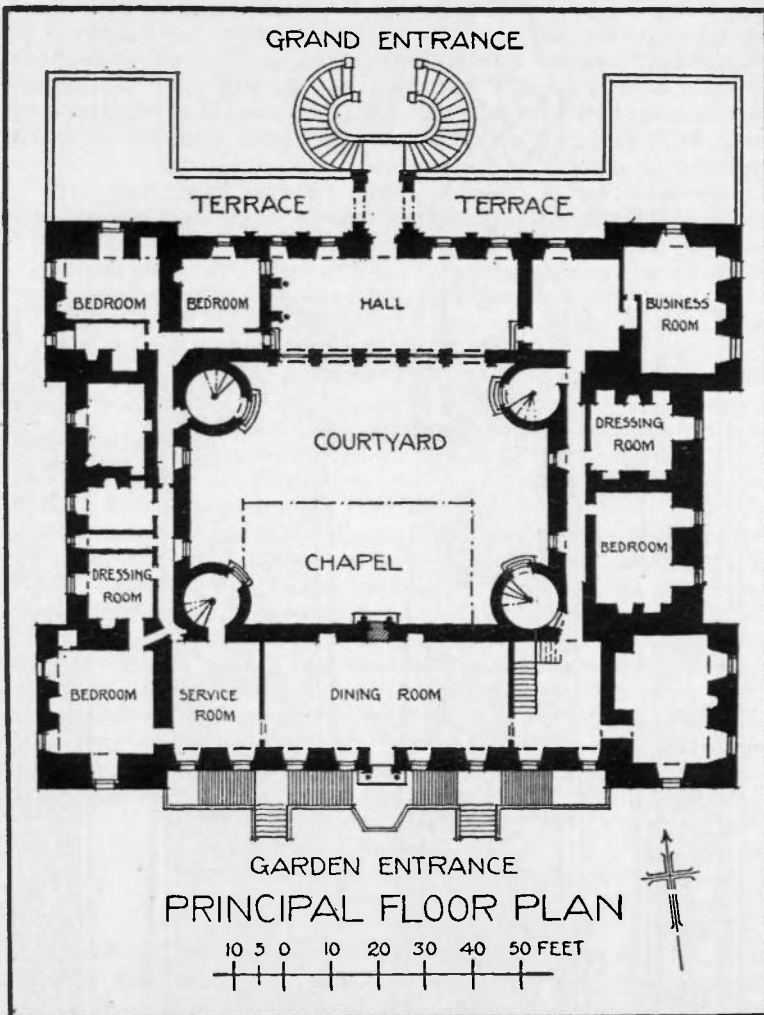


FIG. 17. DRUMLANRIG CASTLE
(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M. Scotland)

After luncheon at Thornhill, members proceeded to Drumlanrig Castle, which was inspected by kind permission of the Duke of Buccleuch. Prof. Hamilton Thompson acted as guide.

The barony of Drumlanrig has its origin in William, son of James, second Earl of Douglas, towards the close of the fourteenth century. His descendant, the ninth baron, was created Viscount Drumlanrig in 1628 and Earl of Queensberry in 1633. In 1683 the third earl, created Earl of Drumlanrig and Marquess of Queensberry in 1682, received the additional title of Duke of Queensberry. His son, the second duke, was given a new grant of his father's honours in 1706, by which the remaindership of those honours and titles, with the exception of the marquessate of Queensberry, was extended to heirs male or female descended from the Earl of Queensberry. Thus, on the death of the fourth duke, without legitimate issue, in 1810, the marquessate and earldom of Queensberry, together with the viscounty of Drumlanrig and other titles unaffected by the limitation of patent made in 1706, passed to his distant cousin Sir Charles Douglas of Kelhead, as heir male of the first earl, while the duchy of Queensberry and earldom of Drumlanrig, together with the Dumfriesshire estates and titles, were inherited by Henry, third Duke of Buccleuch, whose mother was the eldest daughter of the second Duke of Queensberry.

The house (Fig. 17) was built for the first Duke of Queensberry in the last quarter of the seventeenth century. Dates on two of the stair-turrets in the quadrangle range from 1679 to 1689. The name of the architect is unknown, and the attribution of the building to Sir William Bruce, on the ground of the resemblance of the principal front to his work at Holyroodhouse, is merely conjectural. The plan is quadrangular with square towers at the angles. The principal façade, a storey lower than the rest of the building, is on the north side. The hall, on the first floor, is entered through a porch which is approached by a horse-shoe stair and is continued upwards with a second storey to a round pediment, above which rises an octagonal clock-turret. The ground floor, containing the kitchen and other offices, is entered from a vaulted arcade beneath the porch and the terraces in front of the first-floor windows on either side. The whole design of this front is an admirable and imposing example of Scottish Renaissance work. The rest of the building is much plainer, but the series of stairs which lead from the first-floor rooms to the garden form a design of remarkable elegance, the centre-piece of which is a pedimented doorway opening upon a platform above a projecting porch. The wrought-iron balustrades of the platform and stairs, and of the lateral platforms above smaller porches at either end of the design, add considerably to the general effect.

The principal apartments internally are the hall in the north wing and the dining-room with drawing-room above in the south wing. The provision of corridors, as part of the original plan, in front of the rooms in the other two wings, is somewhat in advance of the ordinary planning of Scottish houses at this date. A modern

chapel, which occupied the south part of the quadrangle, has been removed. The stairs were planned in the round turrets which fill the internal angles of the court, but at a later date an oak stair was made at the east end of the dining-room to the upper floors.

(A. H. T.)

Tibbers Castle was next visited, under the guidance of Prof. Hamilton Thompson.

Tibbers Castle (Fig. 18), though now reduced to mere foundations, is a ruin of exceptional interest, as being one of the few authentic surviving remnants of English castle building in Scotland during the Plantagenet occupation. The castle was begun in August, 1298, by Sir Richard Siward, a Scottish knight in the English service, and four years later a grant of money towards the work was made by Edward the First. The site is a mount-and-bailey one: 'Le mote de Tibers' and the 'Peill-dikis' are on record in later writs. The ruins conform to the normal type of late thirteenth-century English castle, consisting of a quadrangular courtyard with curtain walls, angle-towers, no donjon and a gatehouse. The outer ward does not overlap the inner, but owing to the site the latter is inaccessible save through the former. Hence to that extent the Edwardian concentric principle is maintained.

After tea at Newlands, by kind invitation of Walter Duncan, Esq., members returned to Dumfries.

NEW EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

For the Year 1934

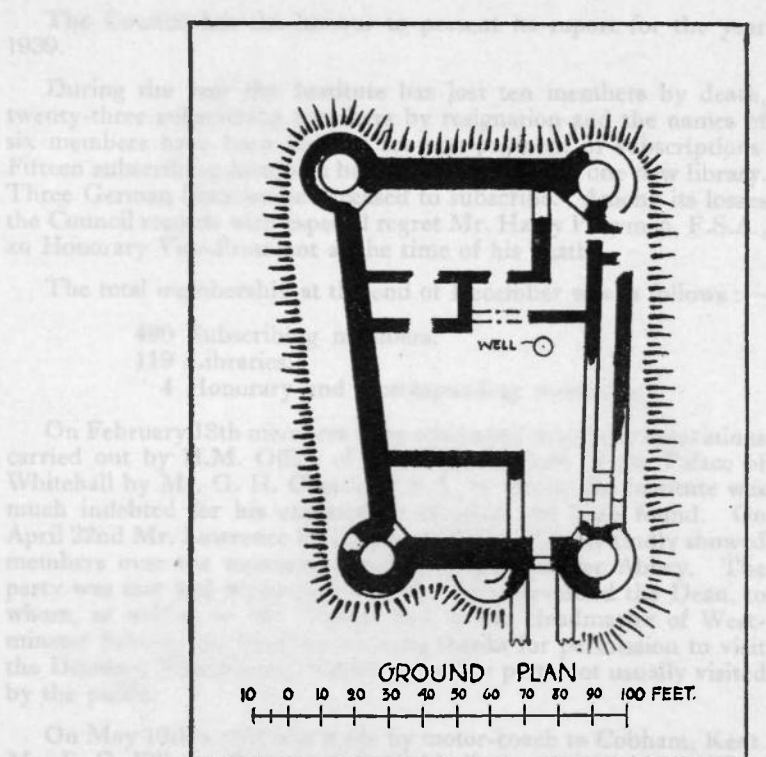


FIG. 18. TIBBERS CASTLE
(Plan by permission of the R.C.A.M., Scotland)