

PROCEEDINGS.

I. SUMMER MEETING, 1962.

THE Summer meeting was held in the Gosforth and Millom district on 13 and 14 July 1962, the headquarters being the Scawfell Hotel, Seascale. Arrangements were made by a committee composed of the President, the Chairman of Council, Mr R. Hogg, Mr H. B. Stout, the Hon. General Secretary and Mr J. Hughes (hon. secretary for excursions).

A meeting of Council was held at the Inzievar Hotel, Seascale, on the evening of 12 July, Miss Hodgson presiding.

Friday, 13 July.

The coach left the Scawfell Hotel for a short run, members walking in fine weather to a spot overlooking GREY CROFT STONE CIRCLE, which was described by Mr W. Fletcher (see CW2 lvii 1 ff.). From Seascale we then drove to GOSFORTH CHURCH, where the speakers were Miss Rosemary Cramp, who talked on the pre-Norman crosses, and Mr Hughes on the history of the Church.

At HAILE HALL, Lady Ponsonby received us most kindly, and after an account of the house by Mr Stout entertained members to sherry. It had been hoped to visit HAILE CHURCH in order to hear an account from Professor Birley of the Roman altar therein. Unfortunately, time did not allow this visit to be made but Professor Birley's notes are as follows:

"There is not much needing to be said about this little altar, to which R. G. Collingwood devoted a note illustrated by one of his own drawings in CW2 xxviii 369 f. Found during the restoration of the church in 1883, it is a dedication to the gods Hercules and Silvanus by one Primus, a *custos armorum* (that is to say, armourer sergeant) on behalf of himself and a vexillation — of what unit, does not appear. Such detachments might be formed either for fighting (for example, mopping-up operations against bandits) or for more humdrum tasks, such as quarrying stone, which to me seems to be the likeliest occasion for setting up this particular altar: the labours of Hercules, and the special concern of Silvanus for fells as well as forests, make them a most appropriate pair of deities for such a detachment to wish to placate, and its small size — with only an N.C.O. in charge of it — should be sufficient to rule out the thought that it had any more strictly military task to perform.

"As Collingwood pointed out, there is no need to suppose that

there was a Roman fort near by; the detachment might well have been working a fair distance away from its base. There is no clear pointer to the date of the altar: the lettering is not necessarily late, as he was inclined to think — it would be better to note that it is in the style which the clerks of the Roman army were trained to use for the cross-headings of their paperwork (we might compare with it the altar dedicated by Aulus Cluentius Habitus in the Mithraeum at Carrawburgh), and that style persisted, as the military papyri from Egypt and Syria show, throughout the first and second centuries and well into the third. On the whole, the fact that the dedicator has only a single name, and not a Roman *nomen* and *cognomen*, suggests that it belongs to the second century rather than the third, and that he was an N.C.O. in an auxiliary unit, presumably then in garrison either at Ravenglass or at Moresby or even at Hardknott — which seems to have got what freestone it needed from this general neighbourhood. Collingwood indeed thought that he must have belonged to an *ala*, if not to a legion, since he knew of no evidence for cohorts having *custodes armorum* on their establishments; but a Syrian papyrus now furnishes the evidence — and all three forts were of a size to hold cohorts 500 strong, not *alae*."

A picnic lunch was taken at Beckermet, and we then walked to ST JOHN'S CHURCH, where Miss Cramp spoke on the early crosses, and Mr N. Roberts described the church. Time did not, unfortunately, allow of the projected visit to St Bridget's Church. We then drove to PONSONBY HALL where Mr Fletcher described the house, and the President spoke on the Ponsonby and Stanley families.

After tea in Calderbridge, members walked to PONSONBY CHURCH, where the vicar, the Rev. J. Johnson, described the building.

The General Meeting was held in the Scawfell Hotel, Seascale, at 8.30 p.m., with the President in the chair. Forty-one members were present. The minutes of the meeting held at Kendal on 7 April 1962 were read and approved. The President referred to the death of Major Carleton Cowper, a member since 1935. The resignations of five members were reported. Twelve members were elected.

Miss K. S. Hodgson, Chairman of Council, gave a résumé of a circular issued by the Council for British Archaeology relating to Industrial Archaeology and Ancient Field Systems. She appealed for volunteers to undertake the work of recording and photographing buildings and sites in the two counties and announced that instructions and record cards supplied by the C.B.A. would be issued on application to her. Any member or members observing traces of these field systems should notify

the secretary and the society would thus be able to take appropriate action.

The Hon. Treasurer reported the financial position of the society to be satisfactory. He thought it likely that Vol. LXII of the *Transactions* would, in all probability, show an increase in cost compared with Vol. LXI.

The Editor said Vol. LXII would be published in the not too distant future and already many papers had been received for Vol. LXIII

The following papers were communicated: "Robert Adam's drawings for Appleby" by Professor Robert C. Smith (Art. XVIII in CW2 lxii 304 ff.); "Excavations at Skelmore Heads" by Mr T. G. E. Powell (Art. I, above); "Eskmeals sand-dunes occupation sites" by Mr J. Cherry (Art. II, above); "Celtic fields, farmsteads and burial-mounds in the Lune Valley" by Mr R. A. C. Lowndes (Art. V, above); "Pre-Norman sculpture from Brigham" by Mr Richard Bailey (Art. XI, above); "The lost villages and hamlets of Low Furness" by Mr William Rollins (Art. XII, above); "Margaret de Latham, wife of Walter de Strickland" by Mr George Washington (Art. XIII, above); "Mr George Clerk and the Royal Hussars in 1745" by Mr W. A. J. Prevost (Art. XVI, above).

II. AUTUMN MEETING, 1962.

The Autumn meeting was held in the North Cumberland and Cockermouth districts on Friday and Saturday, 7 and 8 September 1962, with Tullie House, Carlisle, as the headquarters. The arrangements for the meeting were made by a committee consisting of the President, Miss Hodgson, Mr R. Hogg, Mr H. Clegg (hon. general secretary) and Mr J. Hughes (hon. secretary for excursions). Council met at Tullie House on the evening of Thursday, 6 September, Miss Hodgson presiding.

Friday, 7 September.

For the first time in the Society's history, mini-buses were used, some of the places on the itinerary being difficult of access by motor-coach.

OVER DENTON CHURCH was the first place to be visited. The vicar, the Rev. H. Clayton, was unable to be present, and the building was therefore described by Mr Hughes. Lord Henley and Professor Birley also made contributions.

From Over Denton we went to THIRLWALL CASTLE, where Mrs Bromley-Boorne was the speaker; cf. the account of the

castle by Cadwallader J. Bates, AA2 xiv 323-328 with a fine plate from a photograph by J. P. Gibson, showing its appearance in 1890.

At WALLTOWN CRAGS, Professor Birley was the speaker. He drew attention to the fact that Turret 45a, recently uncovered and consolidated by the Ministry of Works, had been built as an independent structure (though later incorporated in the Wall), and that it had perhaps been part of a somewhat earlier signalling-system in connection with the Stanegate line, like the towers on Pike Hill and Mains Rigg in Cumberland: cf. *Research on Hadrian's Wall* 140 f., 143 and 145. Members were greatly impressed by the fine length of the Wall, westwards from the turret as far as the edge of the Greenhead quarry, likewise recently exposed and consolidated by the Ministry.

A picnic lunch was taken at Walltown Crags and afterwards members went to CUMCROOK FARM, where the President spoke on the Routledge family and the Dormont case. The President was also the speaker at SLEETBECK, relating the history of the former owners of the property, the Sowerby and Greenwell families. Mr. Hughes briefly described the building.

The next visit was to the Iron Age fort at CARBY HILL, which Miss Hodgson described. She said that this was a good example of a native Iron Age "hill-top fort" with a single wall (this distinction is important because multiple ramparts and ditches are characteristic of the later Iron Age—Iron Age C). She could see no sign of a ditch here. Our own Carrock Fell, though much larger, is of the same type, and so is a fort some of them had visited — South Barnle in the Isle of Man.

"It differs from Carrock Fell in one important characteristic — Carrock Fell has no hut-foundations," she said. "In Carby Hill there are foundations, showing that it was intended for permanent occupation and not merely for a refuge in time of trouble. One of these foundations is unusual, having two concentric walls. The largest building was that in the middle — 30 ft. diameter — now, alas, wrecked by the putting up of a fire-watch station. It was probably as Professor Collingwood suggested, the home of a tribal chief, or the scene of tribal assemblies. Enough of the outer wall remains to show that it was true dry-walling and not a double line of orthostats like the walls of the 'settlements' at Crosby Ravensworth and elsewhere. It may even have been the timber-laced *murus gallicus*-excavation might show.

"Who built it and when? We know that all this part was the territory of the Selgouae so we may fairly assume that Carby Hill was the capital of a sub-tribe and a chief reigning over Liddesdale.

"When? These hill-forts in the North usually (according to

the Pottery evidence from such excavations as the Piggotts' at Hounham Rings) begin as purely native, therefore probably before the Romans moved north, and continue into the Roman period more or less. Some have been evacuated under Roman rule, and often deliberately 'slighted' by the Roman army. (I have not observed any definite sign of that here.) Many have been reoccupied in the Dark Ages, and there is a possibility of that being the case here, because you may notice as you go up the hill an encircling wall about halfway up, which is generally a feature of Dark-Age re-use.

"One point remains, and I think it is an interesting one. This side of the Kershope Burn is thick with hill-forts whereas there are none till we get far into Cumberland. Why? One reason may be a geographical one; that the gradual slopes of the Bewcastle Moors don't lend themselves to hill-top forts where as these sharp peaks and steep-sided hills are obvious natural defences. The other may be that once the Romans had determined the frontier by the great work with which we are so familiar, they would not tolerate any defensible post (which could also serve as a base for attack), within a given distance of the Wall.

"I would suggest an earliest date 100 B.C. to A.D. 100 as probable, and a possibility of re-use in the late 4th and 5th centuries A.D."

Tea was taken at Newcastleton and afterwards we re-crossed the Border and went to KIRKANDREWS TOWER, where Miss Claudia Murray was the speaker. She also spoke at Kirkandrews Church, which was the last place to be visited before the return to Carlisle. The annual General Meeting was held at Tullie House after dinner, with the President in the chair. The minutes of the previous annual General Meeting were read and approved. The President expressed satisfaction with the progress of the society and the satisfactory financial position as disclosed by the Treasurer's accounts.

The Chairman, Miss K. S. Hodgson, referred to the threat to the site of the Roman station at Maryport for housing purposes. She was happy to report that, in view of protests made by this society and other bodies, the Planning Officer had turned down the proposed scheme.

Miss Hodgson stated that the instructions and record cards relating to Industrial Archaeology and Ancient Field Systems had now come to hand and were available to the groups on application.

She also referred to the national appeal to be made in connection with repairs to, and preservation of, the nave of Lanercost Priory. Council had authorised the President and Chairman to sign the appeal on the society's behalf.

11 applications for membership had been received and, on the

recommendation of Council, the applicants were duly elected. 2 resignations.

The Hon. Secretary in his statement gave the present membership figures. They were Hon. members 8, Life members 46, Free members 5, Patrons 3, Ordinary members (Personal 439, Libraries 67), a total of 568. Volumes were exchanged with 42 organisations.

The Honorary Treasurer submitted the accounts for 1961/62 and expressed his satisfaction with the financial position. A vote of thanks to the Hon. Auditors for their services was passed unanimously.

Council was elected en bloc with the addition of Miss Dorothy Charlesworth and Mr B. C. Jones.

The honorary officers were elected en bloc. Mr J. Hughes' appointment as hon. excursions secretary was confirmed.

Council submitted the names of Miss K. S. Hodgson and Mr Harold Duff as hon. members. They were duly elected.

On the recommendation of Council, Major R. Scott-Little, Mr John Gillam and Prof. G. P. Jones were elected vice-presidents.

It was proposed and approved that the following clause should be inserted in Rule IV immediately after that relating to Life membership fees: "That any Personal member who has paid forty subscriptions shall not be liable for any future subscriptions."

A proposal to amend Rule IV as follows was approved: For President *read* Presidents. For Treasurer *read* Treasurers. Addition: The Council shall have power to fill casual vacancies and appoint assistant officers at their discretion.

The Editor announced that Vol. LXII would be published quite soon and would be larger than usual.

Saturday, 8 September.

Members left Carlisle at 9.30 a.m. on the second day and the first visit was made to DOVENBY HALL, where we were received by Dr T. T. Ferguson, who described the house. Professor Birley and Mr A. R. Jabez-Smith also spoke.

From Dovenby Hall the party went to THE FITZ, COCKERMOUTH, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs H. P. Senhouse, who entertained members to sherry. Mr and Mrs Senhouse's son, Mr Patricius Senhouse, was the speaker. He said that "on 21 October 1620 Edward Savile¹ of Howley, Yorkshire, and

¹ Edward Savile was the son of Sir John Savile of Howley, whose step-mother, Isabel (Copley), was wife of Joseph Pennington of Muncaster. Edward was married at Muncaster on 11 November 1616 to Mistress Ann Tolson. J. W. Clay, *The Extinct and Dormant Peerages of the Northern*

Anne his wife, sold the capital message called 'le Fitt' or 'le Fittes' to Cuthbert Orfeur of Arkleby for £400.

"In Trinity Term 1627 Cuthbert Orfeur and Mabel his wife conveyed the property to Henry Dalton, gentleman, the vendors undertaking to indemnify Dalton against any claims by the heirs of Savile, or of William Vavasour, Esq., and Anne his wife (see footnote) or of George and William Walker. Many years before, on 8 August 1591, Henry Dalton had acquired for £46. 13s. 4d. from William Sanderson of 'Longmyrheade' in Kynnside, yeoman, Nicholas Woode of Cockermouth, and Helen his wife, daughter of Sanderson, a message called 'Brigfitte' in Greysouthen.

"(The form Brigfitte was not, apparently, known to the compilers of the *Place-Names of Cumberland*). Henry Dalton's son, Henry Dalton II married before 1648, Elizabeth, heiress of Thomas Bromfield of Hames hill — not hall, but a house which formerly stood just above the new roundabout at Papcastle. Elizabeth became an heiress through the untimely deaths of her brothers John and Henry, and her sisters Agnes, Janet and Isabel, who were all buried at Bridekirk on 9 June 1647, their deaths being recorded as 'peste mortui'. Henry Dalton II and Elizabeth Bromfield had two children — Henry Dalton III, and Jane, who married Henry Crakeplace, of Crakeplace Hall. Henry Dalton II was dead before 1656, when Elizabeth took a second husband at Cockermouth in the person of Patricius Senhouse, a younger son of John Senhouse of Netherhall. They lived here as their numerous children (most of whom died in infancy) were all baptised at Brigham. They removed to Hames in 1670-1, I suspect on the death of Elizabeth's mother. Soon afterwards their eldest son Patricius II settled here with his wife Dorothy, who was his first cousin, daughter of John Senhouse and his wife Mary Hudleston of Hutton John. Their eldest child was baptised at Brigham in 1686.

"One would have expected the children of Henry Dalton II to have inherited his property. Henry Dalton III certainly did, but on his death his estate did not pass to his sister, Mrs Crakeplace. The story emerges from a document which appears to be instructions to counsel, drawn up in 1678 for Patricius and Elizabeth Senhouse. There was some dispute about the will of Henry Dalton III, and it appears that he had entered into an agreement with his mother and stepfather, whereby in return for ready cash, should he die without children (as he did), the Fitz should revert to his mother and not to his sister. This arrangement was challenged by Henry Crakeplace, who pro-

Countries of England (1913), p. 197, says that Anne was daughter and heiress of Richard Tolson of Bridekirk, but her name does not occur in the Visitation pedigree of Tolson. She remarried, Clay says, on 2 June 1625 at St Helen's, York, William Vavasour of Weston, Yorks., Esq., and died 11 November following. Edward Savile was buried at Thornhill, Yorks., 16 February 1623/4. (Yorkshire Archaeological Society's *Journal* xiv.) C.R.H.

duced a will made by Henry Dalton in the Isle of Man, when he was dying. It is difficult to tell from this fascinating, though unfortunately incomplete document, exactly what happened, but plainly Henry Dalton's will was easily upset, since he was apparently under pressure from a mysterious Stevenson and, 'there's but two witnesses to this will and one had 10/- for going to York to prove it, and is near kinsman to Stevenson and the other is a legatee'. What is quite plain is that Patricius and Elizabeth Senhouse triumphed, or we would hardly be in possession today.

'Patricius Senhouse died in 1681 and his widow in 1708, when Patricius Senhouse II removed to Hames. He died in 1737 and his wife in 1742, leaving three sons and three daughters. The Fitz was left to the younger sons, Patricius Senhouse III and John. Patricius married Frances Fletcher, a co-heiress to Moorland Close, and great-aunt of Fletcher Christian, but died in 1749 leaving his share to his eldest brother Humphrey. In 1751 Humphrey, John, and their three sisters, all of whom were unmarried, mortgaged the property. Later Humphrey appears to have defaulted on payment of the interest and repayment of the principal. One can only assume that he managed to save the property by a rather odd marriage. In 1753, at the age of 58, he married a girl of 16 called Mary Richardson from Caldbeck.

'One suspects that his brother and sisters were furious as they removed to Great Broughton, and when Isabella, one of the sisters made her will in 1759, she left Humphrey 1/- and no more. Humphrey died in 1768, leaving a young widow and a son, Humphrey II. The widow married almost at once Thomas Cowman, and they lived at Bridge End House. Cowman paid the interest on the mortgage on behalf of his stepson. Presumably the property was let at this time, nor did the family ever return to Hames, though I cannot say when they sold, but it was perhaps when the Fitz was built.

'Humphrey II was a militia officer and married Isabella, daughter of William Ponsonby of Whitehaven by Catherine, daughter of John Senhouse of Whitehaven, shipmaster, who was a son of Peter Senhouse, whose sister Dorothy had married Patricius Senhouse II. Isabella appears to have been an heiress not only from her father, but from her grand-aunt, the childless widow of Dr Richard Senhouse of Whitehaven, who was apparently the heiress of the Bennis of Starmire. Mrs Senhouse left a house in Whitehaven to her niece Catherine Senhouse, who became Mrs Ponsonby. This house was inherited by her daughter Isabella, the wife of Humphrey Senhouse II, and there they made their home and their family was born. Early in the 19th century the mortgage on the Fitz was paid off, but they lived at Bridge End. Humphrey II died in 1839 and his son Humphrey III, my great-great-grandfather, at once began work on this house, though, alas, he did not long survive.

'The name of the architect is unknown. Hames is supposed

to have been demolished to provide materials. The stone is said to have come from near Carlisle and it is not unlike that used for the gateway of Crofton Hall. The design is very simple and has affinities with several other houses, such as Greenhill near Wigton and Ehen Hall, Cleator."

After Miss Charlesworth had spoken on her recent excavations at Papcastle, members went to the house in Cockermouth where William Wordsworth was born. Its history was related by the President and Mr Bruce. L. Thompson also spoke. NORHAM HOUSE nearby was next visited and the President was again the speaker. It is hoped that an account of the house, with illustrations, may be published in a future volume of *Transactions*. After an hour's break for lunch, members went on to HEWTHWAITE HALL, which was described by Mr Hughes. The President gave an account of the Swinburne family, former owners of the Hall.

From Hewthwaite Hall members went on to see ELVA HILL CIRCLE. Here Miss Hodgson was the speaker. She said that the Circle, which now consists of 15 stones and an outlier, is 470 ft. above sea level. Miss Hodgson said:

"If we may assume that stones were all placed at about the same intervals as those in the S.-W. sector, originally there would have been about 30 stones. One, which seems to be a single stone, is really three together, a feature so frequent in this kind of circle that I am inclined to believe it is not accidental (the result of field clearance, etc.) but deliberate. The circle has a diameter of 100 ft. which puts it in the class of 'great' or ceremonial circles (one avoids the overworked and misused word 'ritual'), although the stones are not very large, but it is pretty clear that these are *not* burial circles. The smaller circles, varying from 12 ft. to 60 ft. diameter, are plainly shown to enclose one or several burials, whereas any burial in these great circles is clearly not the reason for the circle — in fact, in a true burial circle the circle exists for the burial; in a 'great' circle, the burial, if any, exists for the circle. (I am glad to see that 'foundations of round huts' is being substituted for 'hut-circles', and a source of confusion is thereby eliminated.)

"These circles are usually near a spring: in this case at the farmhouse of Elva Plain and a river — the Derwent — is about a mile away to the north. Professor R. G. Collingwood thought that this indicated an 'overseas' origin, of sea-borne incomers approaching by sea and up the rivers, in which case it seems to me that their advent need not be as much delayed as is sometimes held — sea-travel would be very much quicker than forcing a way through jungle and scrub on land. There is a tendency now to reduce all dates except Palaeolithic and I am not willing to commit myself, even if a firm date is agreed on

for the south-country circles we still have not the means to fix dates for the north.

"What we do not feel clear about is the originate in a fusion between the 'Beaker' folk and the Neolithic earlier inhabitants.

"The name Elva = Elf-House."

Tea was taken at the Armathwaite Hall Hotel, and the last visit of the day was to CAERMOTE, where Mr R. L. Bellhouse was waiting to greet members and describe the site.

III. SPRING MEETING, 1963.

The Spring meeting was held at Tullie House, Carlisle, on the afternoon of Saturday, 6 April 1963. Council met earlier in the day. The President was in the chair and 32 members were present. The President referred to the death of Mr J. B. Wrigley, who was elected a member in 1913. 16 candidates for membership were elected.

The President announced that Vol. XVI of the Society's Tract Series, Mr H. B. Stout's *Monumental inscriptions in the church and churchyard of St James, Whitehaven*, was now available at 15/- a copy. The next volume in the Extra Series would be Machell's account of the Barony of Kendal, edited by Miss Jane Ewbank, under the title *Antiquary on Horseback*.

The following papers were communicated: "Some recent prehistoric finds of Lake District origin from the Yorkshire Pennines" by Mr J. Davies (Art. III, above); "The Dog Hole, Haverbrack" by Mr Don Benson and Mr Keith Bland (Art. IV, above); "An inscription from Pike Hill: CIL VII 836" by Prof. Birley (Art. X, above); "Some Birkbeck documents" by Mr C. Roy Hudleston (Art. XV, above); "The Griffith family: Wordsworth's kinsmen" by Prof. C. L. Shaver (Art. XVI, above); "The Nent Force Level" by Mr Paul N. Wilson (Art. XVIII, above).

Mr Bruce L. Thompson exhibited Roman pottery and leather which had recently come to light on a building site near the Roman fort at Ambleside. Mr R. L. Bellhouse showed coloured slides of his excavation work at Milecastle 22, and Mr Robert Hogg described developments at Tullie House Museum, and said that preparations for the display of prehistoric material were well in hand.

Mr J. Hughes, Excursions Secretary, gave details of the July meeting, to be held with Rydal Hall as the headquarters, and of the September meeting, which is to be held in North Westmorland, with Penrith as the headquarters.