Lecture Summaries

The discovery of a Norse horizontal mill at Orphir, Orkney

Colleen Batey

The site known as the Earl’s Bu at Orphir in Orkney, lies on the north side of Scapa Flow and includes the remains of the Round Church and adjacent Norse ‘Hall’, so often equated with the references in the *Orkneyinga Saga* for the year 1135 (Pálsson & Edwards 1978, ch 66, 113). The church itself is fragmentary, having been partially removed during the building of the later Parish Church immediately to its west, and itself subsequently re-sited. The other visible structural remains, uncovered in the 1930s, are an amalgam of several different structural phases, probably predominantly of the Late Norse period – but not necessarily the remains of the ‘Hall’ of Earls Paul and Harald.

In 1978, the farmer, Mr Stephenson, drew our attention to a feature he had uncovered some years previously during the digging of the foundations for a new barn. This barn was re-sited to the west and the remains of a drystone ‘tunnel-like’ feature remained undisturbed. Initial investigation revealed a series of slab lintel-stones and a clay capping to the passage. Small-scale investigation followed intermittently, as funding allowed, in subsequent years, and it was considered most likely that the feature was part of a souterrain, very similar in form to that discovered at Rennibister or Grain in Orkney (Ritchie & Ritchie 1988, 49–51). This was the preferred interpretation until 1988.

Dense banks of rich organic debris covered the stone lintels beyond the 1978 exposure. Dated by artefactual inclusions to the Late Norse period, this is likely to be the first stratified artefactual and ecofactual material to be recovered from the Earl’s Bu lying only some 10 m to the south. This dumping became more pronounced as the length of the passage was revealed and, some 10 m west of our starting point, it led into a chamber which was itself filled with similar material – mammal and fish bone, whale, seal as well as cat and dog bones, burnt oats and barley seeds as well as artefactual pieces. Extensive sampling and on-site processing of this material has provided us with an unparalleled wealth of information on the economic and dietary base of this Late Norse complex. A preliminary discussion of this material is now available (Batey 1992).

The identification of a chamber and realization that the passage was continuing beyond the chamber to the west, began to cause concern. Perhaps the features revealed could be the underhouse and tailrace of a horizontal mill? The work undertaken by Matthew Edgeworth and Paul Johnson to persuade me that this different function could be suggested is most gratefully acknowledged. Succeeding seasons of work have confirmed this: possible fragments of the upperhouse, headrace and stone-lined chute, as well as a fragment of a quern stone have now been identified. Additionally, a possible sump, covered by a substantial stone slab, was identified adjacent to the inflow of the lade or headrace, as well as several small pivot stones which could have acted as bearing stones (discussed in Batey forthcoming). Beyond the limit of the excavation, geophysical work has supplemented the picture: traces of
a water channel have been found from a more recent mill dam which had fed two phases of vertical mill to the north of the Norse example.

This stone mill, which is infilled with Late Norse material, has now been shown to lie on top of material which is also Scandinavian in character. A relatively brief lifespan would seem to be indicated within the Norse period, and clearly this was part of the complex of the Earl’s Bu. To date, a single fragmentary timber example is all that can be cited as a Norse parallel (from Omgard in Denmark, dated dendrochronologically to the 10th century), although several other earlier examples of wood have been noted from Ireland. The type of mill continued long into this century, and the many to be seen in the Shetland landscape can testify to this. In Orkney, the more gentle landscape may have militated against the type being so common, but the Click Mill at Dounby in Orkney provides an excellent modern parallel and helps us interpret the surviving elements. It is planned that this mill will be laid out for public display as part of the Earl’s Bu complex.

REFERENCES


Britain and the Mediterranean in Late Antiquity

Michael Fulford

This lecture was particularly concerned with the changing character of long-distance trade contacts between Britain and the Mediterranean, with special reference to the late Antique/early Medieval period. Imported goods from the Mediterranean – ranging from luxury silverware, glass, and miscellaneous metalwork, through wine, olive oil and other foodstuffs (and the containers which carried them) to ordinary domestic pottery – are not uncommon in the late Iron Age and early Roman period in Britain. In the mid and later Roman period such goods appear less frequently, although there is the possibility of increased contact in the fourth century. Although these imports may in some measure have arrived on boats navigating through the Straits of Gibraltar and up the Atlantic coast of Gaul, it is more likely that most of the trade travelled overland by a variety of routes: some ultimately via the Garonne and Bordeaux, some by the Loire, and the rest via the Channel ports or the Rhine delta. Apart from the direct trade, the economic context for the traffic which delivered these goods probably lay between Britain and Gaul. There is little evidence for British goods and commodities percolating in exchange through Gaul to the Mediterranean.

This puts into perspective one of the most distinctive elements of the material culture of western Britain and Ireland in the late fifth and sixth century – imported amphorae and tableware from the east Mediterranean. In contrast, Anglo-Saxon England has produced evidence only of more luxurious goods – silverware, cowrie shells, amethysts, etc. Recent
study of the western material suggests that the ships concerned set out from east Mediterranean ports with the deliberate intention of reaching the British Isles. The pottery evidence suggests that this direct trade continued for at least half a century from the end of the fifth century, but other evidence reviewed in the lecture suggests that it may have lasted for a while longer. The significance of this traffic and what was sought from Britain has aroused considerable discussion in the past. The purpose of this lecture was to re-examine its context, from both British and Mediterranean perspectives. While the origins of the traffic may lie in the relationship between late Roman Britain and the prefecture of the western empire, the eventual demise may be related to the disintegration of the Byzantine empire in the Mediterranean and of British society in the face of the advancing Anglo-Saxons. Environmental factors may also have played a part.

Scottish prehistoric ‘jet’ jewellery: some new work
Mary Davis & Alison Sheridan

The use of jet and similar-looking materials has a long history, stretching back to the early fourth millennium BC in Britain. Best known for its use as a symbol of mourning in Victorian times, jet has been accorded a special status at many periods in the past, for various reasons. Its rarity and aesthetic appeal have led to its use as a prestige commodity, and its unusual characteristics (which include its electrostatic property and the ability to burn) have engendered a widespread and persistent belief in its magical and medicinal powers. Pliny the Elder, for instance, claimed that jet was able to cure ‘suffocation of the uterus’, toothache and scrofulous tumours and, when burned, to drive away snakes.

The use of substitute materials has an equally long history, and the similarity in appearance between the various substances has led to a great deal of confusion and misidentification in the past. The role and importance of Whitby – the only significant source of jet in Britain – during the prehistoric period has been a matter of debate, with some arguing that it was an important centre of specialist artefact manufacture, exporting far and wide, and others claiming that most of the so-called ‘jet’ artefacts found away from Whitby are of local substitute materials.

In order to resolve this conflict of opinion, the authors have established a research project with Paul Wilthew of the NMS, featuring the use of non-destructive techniques to identify and (as far as possible) source the raw materials used for Scotland’s pre-Iron Age ‘jet’ artefacts. So far, 23 Neolithic, 62 Early Bronze Age, two Middle Bronze Age and three Late Bronze Age artefacts have been analysed, together with 26 post-Bronze Age items (for comparative purposes) and a selection of raw material samples.

The artefacts are items of personal adornment. Initial use, during the Neolithic, was small-scale and restricted almost exclusively to the production of large beads (and/or necklaces thereof) c 3800–3300 BC, and belt sliders c 3400–3100 BC. The popularity of jet and jet-like jewellery increased markedly during the Early Bronze Age (c 2400–1700 BC), with the manufacture of three types of necklace (namely the disc bead, disc-and-fusiform bead, and spacer-plate – the latter sometimes accompanied by matching bracelets) and the adoption of some European-inspired accessories (V-perforated buttons, ‘pulley belt rings’). One disc-and-fusiform bead belt is also known. Thereafter, interest in ‘jet’ declined, and only a handful of Middle and Late Bronze Age finds (comprising various types of bead, and armlets) are known.
The research project began with an assessment of the range of materials which could have been used. Fieldwork established that the four sources of true jet in Scotland are most unlikely to have been used (a conclusion supported by the subsequent analytical work), and examination of raw material samples and geological accounts enable other candidates (eg cloustonite) to be ruled out. Cannel coal, lignite and shale emerged as the most likely candidates, alongside Whitby jet. Cannel coal and shale are widely available in Scotland, with the former occurring in all the major coal-bearing deposits; sources of lignite are more restricted, the principal outcrops being in Skye, Rum, Canna, Mull and and the Morvern and Ardnamurchan peninsulas.

These materials are all derived – to varying degrees and by different processes – from organic matter. Jet is the compressed and semi-fossilized remains of the monkey puzzle tree, whilst lignite consists of less compressed plant matter, and cannel coal was formed from a mixture of plant remains (including pollen and spores), algae, and inorganic mud. Shales have a lower – and more variable – organic content than the other materials.

Differentiating between these materials can be problematic: reliable yet destructive methods (such as petrological thin-sectioning) cannot be used on archaeological specimens, whilst some non-destructive techniques (such as observation of colour and surface texture) are less than foolproof, although useful if employed in conjunction with other techniques. X-ray fluorescence analysis of chemical composition proved to be the most valuable technique, and is being used in conjunction with macro- and microscopic examination, X-raying and some scanning electron microscopy.

The results reveal that a reasonable degree of discrimination between the various materials can be achieved, although there is some compositional and textural overlap between jet and lignite, and between some cannel coals and shales. Whitby jet, although heterogeneous in composition, is distinguishable from the Scottish jets. Cannel coal is also heterogeneous, and, given its abundance, the chances of pinpointing a source for a particular artefact seem fairly low. The same may be assumed for shales.

The artefactual results show that Whitby jet was indeed being exported to Scotland from as early as the Neolithic period (as shown by the necklace from Greenbrae, Aberdeenshire), and that local substitute materials were also being used at the same period. A similar, but more complex, picture is emerging for the Early Bronze Age. A flourishing specialist Whitby jet industry evidently did exist, exporting all types of artefact to Scotland. Local non-jet materials (namely cannel coal, canneloid shale and lignite) were also being used, not only to provide replacement parts for broken spacer-plate necklace components, but also to make entirely new necklaces and other items. Indeed, most of the disc bead necklaces so far examined are of cannel coal; only one – from Cloburn, Lanarkshire – is of Whitby jet. Shale is represented amongst the analysed artefacts in the disc bead necklace from Taversoe Tuick, Orkney; another shale disc bead necklace (albeit unfinished) is known from Dunrobin Castle Park, Sutherland. Only five Middle and Late Bronze Age artefacts have so far been analysed; and although it is suspected that Whitby jet continued to be exported, the results so far (on armlets) reveal the continuing use of local materials.

The project continues apace, and is providing a wealth of new information – particularly about spacer-plate necklaces. It is planned to publish the results in the form of a corpus, fully illustrated by Helen Jackson.
Medieval embroiderers

Kay Staniland

The British Museum Press conceived their recent series on medieval craftsmen as one which would centre upon the highly skilled but usually anonymous band of workers responsible for creating some of the most impressive artefacts of medieval Europe.

While none of the authors would claim that their particular group of craftsmen was well documented, it is a fact that the producers of surviving embroideries are, with only a handful of exceptions, wholly anonymous. Some are clearly the work of skilled amateurs and others the product of convents. A large proportion, however, are the much-admired ecclesiastical embroideries generally known as opus anglicanum in which fine silk split stitch and gold thread underside couching are much-used distinctive techniques.

These embroideries have attracted the attention of art historians, intrigued by their close affinity with English manuscript illumination; however, tantalisingly little can now be discerned about links between these two groups of craftsmen. In Italy the writings of the painter Cennino Cennini, coupled with surviving contracts between artists and their patrons, offer more substantial proof of the involvement in embroidery design of artists of the highest calibre. Entries in the English and French Royal Wardrobe accounts reveal the way in which local artists, usually working in the armourers’ workshops, drew up designs for their fellow embroiderers.

Admiration for this English embroidery was widespread in Europe and examples found their way into many ecclesiastical treasuries. Already in 1295 the Vatican owned 113 examples of opus anglicanum, accumulated as the result of direct patronage or as diplomatic gifts. The 13th-century chronicler Matthew Paris noted the lustful admiration of Pope Innocent IV (1243–54) ‘allured by the desire of the eye ... for these embroideries which he preferred above all others’, despite the production of skilled and sophisticated embroideries in Italy. The marketing of these powerful symbols of status was already in the hands of merchants who, Paris continued, ‘sold them at their own price’. It is likely that these merchants commissioned the embroideries, bearing the expense of materials and labour until buyers appeared.

The techniques used for ecclesiastical embroideries indicate that they were probably created in small (domestic) workshops over an extended period of time by a small group of embroiderers. The opposite was true of workshops for royal embroidery where speed of execution was essential and dictated the use of less time-consuming techniques; equally impressive results, however, were still required. Here mixed teams of artists, embroiderers, goldworkers, tailors and sempstresses were brought together to create magnificently ornate garments, horse equipment, and bed and room hangings for the king, his family and friends. These were mainly for martial and ceremonial use and could still occupy a sizeable team for several months.

Court embroideries made much use of repeating motifs which could be worked separately and then assembled on a common ground. Coloured grounds and contrasting motifs formed instant heraldic bearings which could be embellished with gold embroidery, with stamped gold motifs, or with semi-precious stones such as pearls.
Field survey and excavation at Dunbeath, Caithness

Alex Morrison

The village and strath of Dunbeath are situated in the parish of Latheron in south-east Caithness, bordering with the parish of Kildonan in Sutherland. The first systematic record of prehistoric and historical sites in the area was the work of Alexander Curle in 1910, which appeared as the Royal Commission’s Caithness Inventory in 1911. He listed 36 sites in the area of the present Dunbeath Estate and this figure was greatly increased over the succeeding years by the archaeological field workers of the Ordnance Survey. Other than these surveys, the only archaeological activity was the excavation of Dun Beath broch by the landowner in 1866, but he left no plans or details.

The Dunbeath Estate has been owned by Mr R Stanton Avery, of Pasadena, California, since 1977. Mr Avery set up the Dunbeath Preservation Trust, which initiated the field survey of the Estate. This has involved students and staff of the Archaeology Department of the University of Glasgow in the discovery and recording of archaeological and historical remains in the region. Known sites have been checked and planned and many new sites have been discovered, particularly in areas which have not been regarded as suitable for agriculture or settlement in recent times. It has also been important to note the deterioration in the condition of some of the remains in the relatively short time since they were first systematically recorded and described by the Royal Commission in 1910/11. Some of this deterioration is undoubtedly due to natural processes of weathering and subsidence, but grazing animals and the hand of man seeking materials for making roads, dykes and other structures are responsible to an even greater extent.

Remains on the ground represent practically every period since the earliest farming groups. The earliest structures that survive best in the landscape, from the very nature of their massive construction, are the chambered cairns. The Dunbeath cairns form one of four main groups in the Caithness region. There are eight reasonably certain surviving chambers or chambered cairns and a few possible sites, but most of the surviving cairns are greatly reduced or wrecked. Other cairns were listed in the area covered by the survey, and some may cover burials, but there is no indication from surface remains that they are chambered. Others may yet lie undiscovered under the deepest peat cover, particularly farther to the west towards the possible buried landscapes of the ‘flow country’.

A much wider range of field monuments, both physically and chronologically, is represented by the turf-covered hut-circle foundations scattered singly and in concentrations along the valleys of the Housy Burn and Dunbeath Water, in some cases with associated traces of possible turf-covered field walls. These round house remains have been classified according to structure, form and size. Recent classifications have produced many shapes, reduced by one writer to two basic types: the single-walled hut and the double-walled hut, with the former type being most common. The Dunbeath examples follow this trend, with some ‘tangential’ and ‘integral’ forms.

There are nine broch and possible broch sites in the Dunbeath area. Many Caithness brochs have been recorded simply as ‘broch mounds’ and only excavation will reveal the true nature of the buried structures. Some of the Dunbeath ‘brochs’ have this form and must therefore remain doubtful until excavation is possible. At Tiantulloch (‘the house by the mound’), for example, much of the building material for the more recent juxtaposed deserted
settlement has been derived from the broch mound. As mentioned earlier, the only site which has been excavated in the area is the Dun Beath broch, the best surviving example in the district.

Galleried structures, some locally termed ‘wags’, are numerous in the Dunbeath region, the ‘classic’ form having roofing slabs supported on stone pillars. This type of structure, whether or not it can be regarded as a unified class, appears to have its greatest concentration in the parish of Latheron. Only two such galleried structures have so far been excavated, at Langwell to the south of Dunbeath and at Forse to the north, both by Alexander Curle. Not all the remains recorded in the Dunbeath area have obvious traces of the upright supporting pillars and these ‘wag’ sites may represent a variety of structures and functions. At the moment they appear to defy generalization and there can be no simple interpretation based on the evidence from only two partial excavations. Until their natures and relationships with other forms of settlement and with the brochs (and perhaps the functions and varieties of the brochs and ‘broch mounds’ themselves) are better known by further research and excavation, it would be wrong to draw too detailed conclusions from the evidence of unexcavated field monuments.

There is little unequivocal field evidence for the first millennium AD, and much of the medieval period is better known from documentary evidence. Some Dunbeath place-names are recorded on the maps of Timothy Pont, and charters and other documents from the late 16th century onwards record the names of Dunbeath lands in increasing numbers. Some of these may have been the actual townships (they are sometimes listed as villas et terras) but it cannot be assumed that they were all settlement names. It would be difficult to say with certainty that any of the field remains recorded belong to these earlier periods, but many of the traces of field systems and almost-buried field walls must be older than the nearby drystone ruins and therefore represent possible survivals from pre-18th-century occupation.

By far the largest class of remains recorded during the survey were the ruins of the former farm townships, their fields and boundaries, some traces perhaps dating from the mid 18th century. The Military Survey (Roy’s Map) is the first map to show these settlement clusters and names with some degree of accuracy, although there are obvious omissions. Some of the settlements of the Dunbeath region were mapped and there are surviving remains at many of the sites. At one location (‘Halmie’ on Roy’s Map) there are remains of a settlement cluster with its various buildings and enclosures. It was listed as ‘Almens’ in 1789 and as ‘Almins’ in the first decade of the 19th century; by the later 19th century it was shown as a ruin on the first Ordnance Survey maps and the name had gone out of use. The settlement’s origins are as early as the first half of the 18th century and probably earlier. Within and around the edges of this settlement are scattered a number of structures, including what might be hut-circle foundations, mounds and cairns. These are indications of an even earlier occupation of the site and of the possible use of the same arable area.

In an attempt to discover just how far back these structures would date, and with a hopeful thought for the past few hundred years, a site was selected for investigation. It had been described in our original survey as a heather-covered circular bank, approximately 12 m in diameter, enclosing an apparently U-shaped arc of large sandstone orthostats which appeared to delineate the inner edge of a hut or chamber. As excavation proceeded it became obvious that the U-shaped setting of massive stones was more circular in form and was surrounded and partly covered by the remains of a large stone cairn at least 16 m in diameter. A section through the edge of the cairn showed a complex of supporting kerbs or revetments, one quite massive. In the spaces between these lines of stones were quantities of redeposited
earth with silts and clays and some traces of charcoal, apparently used as packing material between the stones. Underlying this again was a clay layer with many traces of charcoal and burning, resembling an occupation deposit.

The circular form of the layout of large stones in the centre and the remains of the covering cairn suggested for a time the possibility that this was some type of small passage grave or burial cairn but, as the level of the broken, slabby stones filling the ‘chamber’ was lowered, it was realised that the bases of the orthostats were actually lying slightly higher than the floor of the chamber and did not continue down into the underlying ground surface. No trace of human remains has so far been recovered. Quartz and flint working debris and many very small sherds of undecorated pottery have been recovered, scattered all over and among a spread of small stones on the south western edge of the cairn. Generalizing, the sherds resemble the undistinguished pot forms of the later second and early first millennium BC. A segment of jet or lignite armlet has been recovered, sealed under the broken slabs that filled the ‘chamber’ area. Towards the end of the 1992 season a curving line of large stone slabs, some partly overlapping, was uncovered under cairn material around the NW/N/NE edge of the cairn. Thoughts of a souterrain were dispelled when it was discovered that the space under the slabs amounted to only 0.2–0.5 m – more like a covered drain than anything else, but with a very massive covering. The results of analysis of samples and possible radiocarbon dates are awaited.

The field survey of the Dunbeath area, and those undertaken by Roger Mercer in the same county, represent catalogues, gazetteers or inventories of the visible remains of human activity, and will serve as frameworks for future detailed research and excavation. More important than single monuments are the areas where there is obvious surface evidence for more than one period of occupation, in particular where deserted settlements apparently of later 18th to early 19th century date are surrounded by, and sometimes overlie, the remains of circular stone-based huts, ancient field boundaries, and stone heaps and cairns. It is these locations which offer the potential to answer some outstanding questions in Scottish archaeology, not least the possibility of finding some traces of medieval settlement and field systems.

The post-medieval burial vault 1450–1715

Julian Litten

Apart from Howard Colvin’s majesterial *Architecture and the After Life* (1991), and James Stevens Curl’s *A Celebration of Death* (1980), little has been written on the mortuary chapels of post-medieval England and Scotland. Yet both publications omit to mention the complicated engineering required to construct the burial chambers beneath. Julian Litten’s *The English Way of Death* (1991), went some way to redress the balance and included a chapter on intramural burial and on vaults in particular. This lecture examined the circumstances giving rise to the burial vaults and mortuary chapels of England and Scotland from 1450 to 1715. Whilst the earlier intramural burials were contained in brick-lined graves, either beneath or adjacent to the tomb, the post-Reformation period saw the erection of private family chapels, connected to the parish church, with spacious burial vaults beneath. In England, intramural burial was tolerated, in Scotland it was frowned upon; thus the English vaults were encouraged, the Scottish vaults tolerated.
Few private chapels expressed association with contemporary architectural style, preferring a stylized late 16th-century idiom. However, this did not extend itself to the monuments themselves and neither, on examination, to the coffins beneath.

Until c 1700, vaults were little more than subterranean chambers, but in the 18th century shelves and loculi were introduced, together with charnel cisterns into which were placed the more decayed coffins, in an attempt to provide order and maximum usage of space. Greater attention was being given to the means of ventilation, and some ingenious systems were devised to ensure ease of access for the bearers.

Examples illustrated from Essex, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Yorkshire showed that there were no regional differences in vault construction. In Scotland, the burial aisle frequently doubled up as a family pew and, whilst this was not always the case in England, there are some examples – notably at Kedington in Suffolk and Debden in Essex – where this is in evidence.

Post-glacial hunter/gatherers in Europe and their adaptation to change

W Finlayson

Summary of a paper presented to the Pithecanthropus Centennial International Conference, Leiden, Netherlands, June 1993, for which the author received a Young Fellow's Bursary from the Society.

The evidence for the Scottish Mesolithic comprises microlithic flint scatter sites and a series of sites, traditionally called ‘Obanian’, comprising shell-midden deposits. Comparison is made difficult because research on the chipped-stone scatters has concentrated on artefact typology and technology, while work on the shell middens has concentrated on economic data.

There is some evidence (from the presence of a high proportion of skeletal parts more suitable for tool making than for meat, and from the tool kit itself) that the Obanian sites, despite their rich economic data, are not just the waste heaps from fishing, but represent the results of non-subsistence activities. It is possible that highly predictable marine sources were exploited to allow time for industrial purposes. If the identification of bevel-ended tools (limpet hammers and scoops) as hide-softening tools is correct – and it is supported by initial results from experimental work – there is an implication that social pressures existed to encourage the labour-intensive manufacture of such fine clothing. Such clothing has been interpreted on the American north-west coast as indicating social stratification.

It appears likely that the Obanian overlaps in date with the microlithic sites, but continues after microliths ceased to be made. It is possible that the Obanian sites represent an increasing intensification of settlement and a developing social complexity preceding and during the transformation from Mesolithic to Neolithic, and in fact spans the two periods, as part of an unbroken continuum. Settlement in the west of Scotland appears to have continued to be small-scale and transitory during the Neolithic, with reoccupation of some sites over long periods. This suggests that an economy similar to the Mesolithic continued. There is often little to distinguish the sites, as at Kinloch, Rum, where only the appearance of small quantities of pottery and the disappearance of microliths provide evidence of a transition.
Change is always considered to be directly caused by economic necessity, regardless of whether that economic necessity is originally caused by an external factor such as the environment, or by population stress. There is little room for human decision making. Economic strategies are not necessarily clear cut, mutually exclusive alternatives. While the physical environment presents restrictions, the economy is culturally mediated. Within each environmental constraint, there are options that can be selected. This has been borne out by much recent research on adaptations to modern farming practices.

Anthropological evidence suggests that neither the hunter-gatherer nor early farming social organisations would have been stable, but may indeed have swung from one economy to the other and back again. Some groups may practice agriculture only intermittently once it is available to them. Evidence from the Obanian suggests that in western Scotland a complex stratified society may have been developing before contact with the Neolithic. The arrival of the Neolithic will have provided further potential means of status differentiation. Ritual monuments and pottery could be adopted by hunter-gatherer groups. Even aspects of the agricultural economy, such as domesticated animals, could be adopted. Groups that adopted pottery, agricultural elements or ritual monuments might appear as Neolithic from their material remains.

Environmental pressures cannot be translated into social and economic change without an appropriate social mechanism. This is a lesson that studies in modern development have recognised. The value of agricultural ‘improvements’ may appear clear to an outside observer, but their value has to be appreciated by the local culture for adoption to occur. The importance of individual decision makers is high, not only when economic change is apparently urgently required for survival, but when it is massively supported by an external agency. To be adopted, new technology has to fit the current mould. Congruency with the existing situation is important. No economic decision can be made without reference to its cultural context.

Evolutionary and Marxist models incorporated stadial interpretations that required the Mesolithic to be interpreted as part of a logical, developmental progression; the European Mesolithic did not appear to fulfil this role, for farming clearly originated in the east as part of a revolutionary total socio-economic package that was imported to the west by colonists. Pre-farming, post-glacial European societies were therefore not perceived, according to these models, to be on the main trajectory of human development. More recent research on the European Mesolithic has shown it to be part of a phenomenon encompassing Europe and the Middle East, illustrated by an increasing use of microliths from the late Upper Palaeolithic onwards. It was far from being a blind alley, but was a period when society was changing rapidly and was apparently producing a host of specific local adaptations. In the Middle East some of these adaptations led directly to farming. In Europe, adaptations to the post-glacial environment led to an equally intensive non-farming exploitation of the environment.

In western Scotland there appears to be strong evidence for continuity between the so-called Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. An innovative hunter-gatherer society appears to have been intensifying its economy, and developing increasing social complexity. There is no apparent-break in this process as elements of the Neolithic, most obviously pottery and ritual monuments, are adopted.

It is now beginning to appear that the Mesolithic in Europe comprised a range of economic and social adaptations, none of them necessarily stable. Neither the Mesolithic nor the Neolithic represent monolithic entities, they varied internally and contained varying patterns of behaviour, with substantial overlaps between them. As with the labels ‘hunter/gatherer’ and ‘farmer’, the archaeological names for these periods are exaggerations.
Brochs: domestic architecture and changing social configurations in prehistoric and Early Historic Scotland

Sally Foster

Summary of a paper presented to the 92nd meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington DC, USA, November 1993, for which the author received a Young Fellow's Bursary from the Society.

The paper presented a case study from the Orkney Isles between the period of about 600 BC to AD 800, outlining methodological advances which may be of wider chronological and geographical significance. It describes an archaeological application of access analysis, a form of spatial analysis, in order to demonstrate the potential of this technique for investigating the relationship between the arrangement of the built environment and the organisation of society. The technique appears to be a useful tool in articulating an understanding of the part space plays in structuring social relations and the part social relations play in structuring space. All analysis of material culture should be undertaken with reference to space because all social interaction is situated within space and time.

Access analysis looks at the patterns of relations between inhabitants, and between inhabitants and strangers, as they are reflected in the use of interior space, in terms of the patterns created by boundaries and entrances, and the form and function of the constituent spaces. The technique allows us to consider how frequently and under what architectural circumstances physical encounter might occur and can thus illuminate the way that a particular architecture may structure social discourse. Orkney, famous for the survival of its prehistoric architecture – whether Neolithic tombs and settlements or Iron Age brochs – provides a unique and exciting resource upon which to apply this technique.

The paper fell into four parts: a description of the technique; its application to the Orcadian settlement sequence; a social interpretation of the results; and a brief description of the way in which others have now developed this technique.

The technique is based on the gamma analysis of Hillier and Hanson, who believe that spatial organisation is a function of the form of social structure. Without adopting this extreme view, and by making modifications to it, this formal and vigorous technique can be demonstrated to be of some value to those who believe that spatial order does carry some social information (Foster 1989a).

Such analysis may impart social information at two general scales:

1. The variations in spatial arrangements impart social information about the realities of living in, or visiting, that particular building. This is analysed by examining the means of access to a space and its degree of segregation or integration. Interior spaces constitute some of the most common places for activity and social interaction, but the information on access maps is inevitably static. It is, however, of value in considering how space was occupied over time during the course of social interaction.

2. Study of the morphology of the access diagrams may reveal topological patterns which relate to social factors. The challenge is to consider what type of social relations these patterns might represent.
Turning now to Orkney, what can this technique tell us about the development of later prehistoric and Early Historic settlement (Foster 1989b)? From the point of view of social interpretation, placing these observations within a broader historical framework, it seems that the Orcadian brochs were local power centres; at the centre lived a pre-eminent family surrounded by those who probably paid tribute and who received protection and patronage in return. Broch society appears to have been closely defined and structured at the individual settlement level, but was part of a wider society with similar values. The transition in the post-broch period to more egalitarian, less spatially prescribed on-site relations, can be set against various literary and archaeological indications to demonstrate that there was a general trend towards the centralisation of power; certain individuals were able to extend their authority amongst a more widely distributed population, and ultimate power no longer resided in the hands of someone who lived at the centre of the immediate settlement, one of many similar power bases dotted throughout the Orcadian countryside. The changes observed in the spatial order of settlements therefore relate to a shift from a ranked society (where there was the ability to organize tightly and to command a high level of commitment or mobilisation from participants at the local level) to the emergent state in which there was the ability to organize large numbers of people over far-flung territories, although the relationship of co-operation between the ultimate authorities and the population may have been less stable. The archaeological and historical evidence suggests that the ultimate authorities were now based in south-east Scotland, with a local agent (probably based at the Brough of Birsay) representing their interests in Orkney (Barrett & Foster 1992).

Since the first publication of this work, progress has been made by others in the use of access analysis. There are problems with the technique, particularly in its application to prehistoric remains, since considerable options for error exist, but there have been attempts to address many of these problems, albeit using more recent data. Graham Fairclough (1992) has examined high-status medieval buildings, such as Edlingham Castle in Northumberland, and has recognized that it is also important to look at direction of access, its purpose, and the use and function of a space. His development of the technique places more balance on the use and function of spaces, with emphasis on the part this played in structuring the life and activity of its inhabitants, whilst marrying this with the ability of access diagrams to provide an insight into how the access to space was controlled. It also makes more complex access diagrams easier to use. The full potential of this technique for Scottish material has yet to be realized.

REFERENCES
Meetings of the Society, 1992–3

Monday 14 December 1992, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘The discovery of a Norse horizontal mill at Orphir, Orkney’, by Dr Colleen Batey.

Monday 11 January 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Richard Fawcett, BA, PhD, FSA, Vice President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘Britain and the Mediterranean in Late Antiquity’, by Professor Michael Fulford.

Monday 8 February 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘Scottish Early Bronze Age “jet” jewellery: some new work’, by Dr Alison Sheridan, Mary Davis and Paul Wilthew.

Monday 8 March 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘Medieval embroiderers’, by Kay Staniland.

Monday 12 April 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The Lecture was part of the official programme of the Edinburgh Science Festival, and the President offered a warm welcome to members of the public.
The following communication was read:
‘Times of Darkness: Icelandic volcanic eruptions and their environmental impacts in the North West Atlantic region’, by Andrew Dugmore, BSc, PhD, FSA Scot.

Monday 10 May 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘Survey and excavation at Dunbeath, Caithness’, by Alex Morrison, MA, PhD, FSA, FSA Scot.

Monday 14 June 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
This being the annual Public Lecture, the President welcomed all guests to the meeting.
The following communication was read:
‘The post-medieval burial vault’, by Julian Litten Esq.

Monday 11 October 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
The following communication was read:
‘The units of Scotland’s trade: the archaeology of early Scottish weights and measures’, by A D C Simpson, BSc, PhD.

Monday 8 November 1993, at 6.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the Chair.
Due to the illness of Dr Hunter, who was to have read a communication on Fair Isle, the following communication was substituted:
‘The Isle of May project’, by Mr Peter Yeoman
ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Minutes of the Anniversary Meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, held in the Lecture Theatre of the Royal Museum of Scotland, on Tuesday 30 November 1993, at 4.00 pm, Dr Anna Ritchie, BA, PhD, FSA, President, in the chair.

Apologies were received from a number of Fellows.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved.

The scrutineers for the ballot for office-bearers, Mr R Callander and Mr G Tilling, were appointed and the ballot was closed.

The Director then read the following

ANNUAL REPORT

Membership

The Fellowship of the Society now stands at 2,785. In the past year 167 Fellows have taken up election, or been reinstated; 38 names have been removed from the Roll due to death, and 162 through resignation or lapse of subscription. There are, at present, 21 Honorary Fellows.

Meetings

The Society has held a full programme of activities through the year. Nine meetings were held between December 1992 and November 1993. In accordance with custom, the session included a Public Lecture given by Julian Litten of the Victoria and Albert Museum on The Post Medieval Burial Vault 1450–1715; this was a highly enjoyable lecture, as was the other open lecture, given during the Edinburgh Science Festival, by Dr Andrew Dugmore, Times of Darkness: Icelandic volcanic impacts in the North West Atlantic region, which attracted an audience of nearly 200.

In addition to the monthly lectures, the Rhind Lectures took place in March, when Dr Mark Dilworth delivered a series of papers on Scottish Monastic Life on the Eve of the Reformation. This was a very popular Rhind series, and attracted a large audience. These Lectures are to be published by the Edinburgh University Press in 1994 and Fellows will be notified of the publication date in due course.

Also in March, Fellows were privileged to view recent acquisitions to the Departments of Archaeology and History and Applied Arts of the National Museums of Scotland. The Society is most grateful to the Keepers and Curatorial Staff for arranging this event and for giving so freely of their time.

The Annual Conference, organised by the Convener of the Research Committee, Mr John Barrett, was entitled Archaeological Research in Progress and was held in May. As the title implied it gave a large audience of Fellows, and others, an opportunity to hear from a variety of speakers up-to-date accounts of their recent work. It is hoped to hold similar conferences in future years and to highlight the projects that the Society has grant aided.

The Lindsay-Fischer Lecture, Church Art in the 17th and 18th Centuries in Norway, was given by Dr Sigrid Christie in Edinburgh and Aberdeen in May. The Society is most grateful to those Fellows who provided hospitality and entertainment for Dr Christie and her husband, our Honorary Fellow, Architekt Hakon Christie.

Buchan Lectures took place in October 1992 when Dr Keith Stringer spoke in Kirkcudbright on Lordship, prestige and piety: the monastic endowments of the Lords of Galloway, 1140–1234, and in May 1993 when Mr John Purser gave a lecture and demonstration on the Music of the Dark Ages at the Pictish Art Society Conference at Bridge of Earn.

In June, Fellows enjoyed an excursion by land and sea to the Isle of May where Peter Yeoman, the Fife Regional Archaeologist, and Heather James, Director of the 1992 excavations on the island, showed Fellows around the excavations and other sites revealed in the recent survey. This was a highly popular excursion and, as explained in the Programme for 1993–4 and the September Newsletter, there
will be a second opportunity for Fellows to visit the island, priority to be given to those on the waiting list.

The proposed gathering of North American Fellows in Chicago, alas, did not take place. Though great interest had been expressed in response to a questionnaire, the firm bookings received did not live up to this promise and, regretfully, the event was cancelled.

The North-East Section

The Section held nine meetings with the same programme of speakers as in Edinburgh. This included the Lindsay-Fischer Lecture by Dr Sigrid Christie. In addition, Dr Alex Morrison gave his paper following the Annual General Meeting in May. The lectures were well attended, and membership of the Section stands at 268. Summer excursions were organised to castles in the Mearns, stone circles of Buchan, and the Aberdeen Town House.

The Committee for 1992–3 was: Alexandra Shepherd (Chairman), Juliet Cross (Vice-chairman), Neil Curtis (Secretary), John Cruse (Treasurer), Judith Cripps, Elizabeth Curtis, Frank Donnelly, Anne Johnstone, Margaret Jubb, and Graham Steele.

Research grants

In accordance with Law 1 – 'The purpose of the Society shall be the Study of the ANTIQUITIES AND HISTORY OF SCOTLAND, more particularly by means of archaeological research.' – the grant aiding of research is considered one of the most important parts of the work of the Society; in 1993 support was given from the general research fund to projects covering survey, excavation and post excavation work.

**General Research Grants:** Cleaven Dyke, survey and excavation (G Barclay); Robert's Haven, environmental sampling project (J H Barrett); Western Isles Project (Prof K Branigan); Tree-ring database, Phase I continued (Drs A Crone & C Mills); Scottish export pottery to Far East; visit to museums in Holland (G Cruickshank), an award for this project was also made from the Gunning Jubilee Gift; Kilfinan Parish survey (Dr S Driscoll); Allt Garadh Ealbais, Islay, study of wooden artefacts (Dr C Earwood); Human bones from Obanian Cave sites (Miss Y Hallen); Whithorn Phase 1 (Mr P H Hill); Whithorn Phase 2 (Mr D Pollock); Hebrides Mesolithic Project (Dr S Mithen); North of Scotland Field Survey Project (Mr C Richards); Millfield, Stronsay, Orkney, field survey (Ms C Wickham-Jones); 18th Century Graveyard Survey (Mrs E Willsher); Glencoe Military Way Survey (Mr M Wilson); Isle of May Project, interpreting the historic environment (Mr P Yeoman).

**Other Grants:** Sir George MacDonald Fund. Dr D Woolliscroft was awarded a sum for Excavations at Garnhall.

**Young Fellow's Bursaries** were awarded to: Dr W Finlayson to give a paper entitled Post-glacial hunter/gatherers in Europe and their adaptation to change, at the Pithecanthropus Centennial International Conference in Leiden, June 1993; Dr S Foster towards the costs of giving a paper entitled Spatial analysis in buildings from the Scottish Atlantic Iron Age, at the American Anthropological Association Conference, Washington DC, 1993; Dr S Mithen towards the cost of giving a paper entitled Mesolithic settlement and raw material use in the Southern Hebrides, at the 'Man and the sea' Conference, Kalundborg, Denmark, 1993.

**The Gunning Jubilee Gift** was awarded to Mr G Cruickshank towards the costs of a visit to museums in Holland for his researches into Scottish Export Pottery; the remainder of the costs were met from the Research Funds.

Publications

*Volume 121 of the Proceedings* was posted out to Fellows in December 1992. This was produced by Dr Ann MacSween as Co-ordinating Editor with the assistance of an Editorial Board composed of members of the Publications Committee of the Society and a professional copy-editor. Dr MacSween must be...
thanked for her hard work in producing this volume which continues to reflect the high standards of publication by the Society.

*Volume 122* has been published, copies were posted to Fellows on 29th and 30th November, directly from the printers. The Editor, Mr Humphrey Welfare, must be congratulated on his tireless work in preparing articles for publication and ensuring that the *Proceedings* will appear on schedule.

Monograph Series; Professor Bradley's Rhind lectures of 1992 - *Altering the Earth* - were published in the Spring of 1993; several volumes are nearing completion, with others in the pipeline. Mrs Alexandra Shepherd, Editor, and Mr Stuart Campbell, Administrator, must be thanked for their work, which enables the Society to maintain a flourishing series. The Society still has good stocks of past monographs and a new leaflet about the series will shortly be circulated to Fellows.

Newsletter. Two issues of this were produced to keep Fellows up to date with the affairs of the Society and to inform them of other matters of interest. If there is an issue or topic which Fellows consider should be aired in the Newsletter, they are asked to contact the Director, who is most grateful to those Fellows who responded to a similar request last year.

The work of the Society

In addition to the regular Fellowship affairs, the Society has a wider role in the heritage field, and we are regularly consulted on such issues by a wide variety of organisations. The Society is represented on a number of bodies, including The Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland; The National Trust for Scotland; The Council for British Archaeology; The Council for Scottish Archaeology; The Traprain Law Management Group; The Scottish Field School; The Scottish Wildlife and Countryside Link; Scottish Archaeological Link; the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland; the newly formed National Committee on Carved Stones; the Mousewald Trust and the Dalrymple Trust. The Society has recently been invited to be represented on the User panel of The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. In the interests of increasing awareness of the built heritage, the Society also assisted in sponsoring Doors Open Day in Edinburgh, the Library in Queen Street being one of the venues that opened its doors.

Society work such as this draws on a broad range of skills, and members of the Committees and Council, and the other representatives, work hard to assist the Director in these wider matters. Inevitably the President and Treasurer play a major role in the Society's affairs; to them, the other Office Bearers, and Conveners of the Committees, and all those others who play a part in the complex affairs of the Society, we owe particular thanks.

The Society is delighted that the Museum of Scotland has at last become a reality with the digging of the foundations. Fellows will be aware from the President's letter in the most recent Newsletter that Council hope that our Appeal Fund will now be used to commission a work of art commemorating the links between the Society and the Museum; this work will be built into the fabric of the new building. We are equally delighted with the news that the Society's offices will be housed in Chambers Street, again perpetuating our close links with the Museum.

Once again Fellows are reminded of the services available from the Library in Queen Street including the hard copy print-out facility for microfiche. An updated information sheet for newly elected Fellows has been prepared and copies are available on request from the office. As ever we are grateful to Mr Andrew Martin and his colleagues for the unstinting help they give to Fellows using the Library and its services.

Administration

There have been no changes in the Office staff this year; Mrs Ashmore remains as Director, Mrs June Rowan as Administrative Assistant; Mrs Maureen McLeod as Assistant Treasurer and Dr Stuart Campbell as Monograph Administrator and Computer Advisor. We would remind Fellows that the Staff work part-time, and though every attempt is made to ensure 9–5 cover, this is not always possible.
Fellows, who are always welcome to visit the office, are therefore advised to ring ahead; messages may be left on the answerphone.

The Office work is considerably eased by the voluntary help provided by Fellows, in particular by Mr Maurice Carmichael who has been of enormous assistance to the Assistant Treasurer in dealing with Fellowship records and subscriptions. If you think that you could spare one morning two or three times a year to help with our mailings, then please put your name down on our volunteer list. Thanks are due in particular to this year’s band of envelope fillers: Mrs Lynne Arnott; Mrs Jean Brownlie; Mr Robin Callander; Mr M Carmichael; Major Patrick & Mrs Mary Cave-Brown; Miss M E Doull; Mr H G Ford; Mrs S Grossmith; Miss M R Hilton; Mr G A Hutcheson; Mr R W & Dr Jean Munro; Mrs P A Murdoch; Mrs B J Murray; Mrs MacNeil of Barra; Mr J C Parry; Mrs S Robertson; Mr J P Shepherd; Professor Mary Smallwood; Miss C Sym and Mr G H G Tilling.

Finally, thanks are also due to the National Museums of Scotland and those members of the Museum staff who help with bookings and other arrangements, in particular to Mr Grant MacRae who attends meetings as projectionist.

The Treasurer read the following Treasurer’s Report.

This year has been an exceptional one for the Society’s finances. The magnificent bequest by Miss Dorothy Marshall has transformed the balance sheet, being the main explanation for a virtual doubling of the Society’s total assets. The objects of the bequest are to aid excavation, research, dating, and publication, preference being given where suitable to the work of non-professionals. These objects are central to the Society’s work, which will now be on a more substantial financial base. The full implications of the Marshall bequest, the bulk of which has now been received by transfer of shares, will only become apparent in 1993-94, and your Council has yet to decide what kind of permanent marker will perpetuate Miss Marshall’s generous and wise gift.

The receipt of other bequests, from the estates of Miss Isobel Rae, Dr Robert Stevenson, and Mr John Wilson, must also be gratefully acknowledged, and the importance of this kind of enhancement for the Society at a time of low interest rates and reduced income from investments cannot be over-emphasised.

The format of the full Accounts for 1992-93 has been altered to comply with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1992, and these Accounts are now quite lengthy. Copies are available to any Fellow on application to the Society’s office, but a charge of £1 will be made to cover the cost of production and postage. The results of the year are shown more concisely on the Summary sheet circulated to all Fellows. The surplus for the year, excluding the gains and losses on investment transactions and the legacies received, amounted to £10,386.

The increase in subscriptions from 1st July 1992 has not been achieved without difficulties, and our Assistant Treasurer and Mr Maurice Carmichael have laboured hard on your behalf to counteract the inertia of some Fellows, particularly in adjusting banker’s orders. A depressingly large number of Fellows had to be sent a third reminder of the increase and those not responding to this have regrettably had their names removed from the Fellowship. However, although the process of raising the subscription has been painful and expensive, the resulting increase in subscription income is significant.

General expenditure has been kept remarkably under control, though a rise under the lectures and conferences heading reflects the high public transport and accommodation costs incurred in maintaining a quality programme. More inexorable seems the rise in publication costs. These are closely monitored, but this key activity of the Society cannot be achieved on the cheap and I hope all Fellows will be pleased by the continuing excellence of the Proceedings.

A step into the dark this year has been the production of the first monograph to be wholly funded by the Society. Again I trust Fellows will agree that the decision to publish Professor’s Bradley’s Rhind lectures was admirable, and I anticipate that the 1993-94 figures will justify this in terms of income from sales. If any Fellows have yet to obtain their own copy of this monograph, it is a real bargain at only £12.

On the administration side there has been continuing rationalization and reorganization of the Society’s accounts and investments, ably undertaken by our Assistant Treasurer and with guidance from Michael Balfour-Melville at our stockbrokers Torrie & Co. Administrative improvements are constantly
under review, and the purchase of a new personal computer, new software, and a photocopier this year, with the assistance of the Rae and Wilson bequests, will further upgrade the maintenance of Society records. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of our very strong administrative team formed by Fionna Ashmore, Maureen McLeod, and June Rowan; the Society is very fortunate to have such committed staff.

It is particularly gratifying this year to record an increase in the Society's allocation of research grants. This area of the Society's work has already benefited from the Marshall bequest, and I hope that this level of expenditure can be maintained, if not increased, in future years to enable the Society to support and promote worthwhile research.

Finally, I would like to thank the outgoing President, Dr Anna Ritchie, the F&A Committee Convener, Mr Humphrey Holmes, and all the staff, for patiently guiding me through my first year as your Treasurer.

Appeal Fund: President's statement

The President then added a statement on the Museum of Scotland Appeal Fund. She said that when the Appeal was launched in 1991, the specific target was funding for a Special Collections Room within the Library in the new Museum of Scotland. Earlier in the year the Society had been informed not only that the Library was to be in the old rather than the new Museum building in Chambers Street, but also that plans for a special Collections Room had been dropped. Council had debated long and hard about other proposals of how the money collected by the Society might most appropriately be used. The Library is of course of considerable importance to Fellows, but Council felt strongly that the link must be maintained between the Society and the artefact collection which it founded more than 200 years ago.

Accordingly, as Fellows would be aware from the September Newsletter as well as from the Annual Report, Council is exploring the possibilities of commissioning a work of art to be incorporated permanently into the very fabric of the new Museum. Council and the President were of course conscious of the legal aspects of using the Fund for a specific purpose other than that for which it was set up, but it is to be used for the Museum of Scotland, the primary object of the appeal. She was glad to report that two and a half months had passed without a single objection from any Fellow. The new President and Council would be able to proceed with the assurance that they had the full support of the Society.

Mr Munro, a Fellow, stated that he accepted the President's explanations, but that he hoped that the link between the Society and the Library would be commemorated in some form; this need not require major expenditure. The President thanked him for his point and assured him that the matter would be raised at the December Council meeting. There were no further questions or points arising from the Annual Reports.

The Director's and Treasurer's Annual Reports were then adopted on the motion of Dr D J Breeze, seconded by Dr J N G Ritchie.

The Ballots

The President announced that the election for new Fellows had been entirely successful and she was delighted to welcome Professor Bruce Trigger to the ranks of Honorary Fellows and to welcome two hundred and nine new Fellows of the Society.

The ballot for Council was also successful. The Society owed a great debt of gratitude to the retiring Vice-President, Mr Lionel Masters, and to the retiring Councillors, Dr Lesley Macinnes, Dr Alison Sheridan, Professor Gordon Nicoll, and Mr Humphrey Welfare, for their hard work over the last three years, not only in Council, but also on Committees. Mr Masters completes a long record of service to the Society, having acted as Convener of the Research Committee before becoming Vice-President, and he was also a member of the working party set up during Dr Breeze's Presidency to examine the staff structure in the Society's office. The President also mentioned that although Mr Welfare retired as a Councillor, he would remain on Council in his capacity as Honorary Editor. She congratulated him on the timely production of a fine volume of the Proceedings. The President was delighted to announce the
election of Dr Barbara Crawford as Vice-President. Dr Crawford had recently served as Convener of the Publications Committee, overseeing the new editorial procedures that were set in place two years ago. She was also delighted to welcome Dr Nicholas Dixon, Mrs Doreen Grove, Mr Colin Richards and Mr Neil Taverner as Councillors.

On a personal note, the President thanked all those with whom she had worked during her term of office, all the Vice-Presidents and Councillors of the last three years and particularly Miss Caroline Wickham-Jones and Mrs Fionna Ashmore as Directors, Mr Jack Stevenson and Mr Alan Saville as Treasurers, Mr Ian Shepherd and Mr Humphrey Welfare as Editors, Mrs Rosemary Meldrum and Mrs Maureen MacLeod as Assistant Treasurers, and Mrs June Rowan as Administrative Assistant.

Council for 1993–4 comprises:

**PRESIDENT:**

Gordon S Maxwell, MA FSA

**VICE-PRESIDENTS:**

Richard Fawcett, BA PhD FSA
Charles J Burnett, KSt J DA AMA
Ross Herald of Arms
Barbara E Crawford, MA PhD FSA

**TREASURER:**

Alan Saville, BA FSA MIFA

**EDITOR:**

Humphrey Welfare, BA MPhil FSA MIFA

**COUNCILLORS:**

R Maurice Carmichael
B Jane Murray, BA
Trevor G Cowie, MA
Professor Christopher D Morris, BA FSA MIFA
George Dalgleish, MA
Professor Michael Lynch, MA PhD FRHistS
Ann MacSween, MA MA PhD AIFA
Peter Yeoman, MA MIFA
Nicholas Dixon, MA PhD
Doreen Grove, BA
Colin C Richards, BA
Neil G Taverner, BDS

**EX OFFICIO:**

Chairman of North East Section
Alexandra N Shepherd, MA MIFA

Publications Convener
J N Graham Ritchie, MA PhD FSA

Research Convener
Alan Saville, BA FSA MIFA

Finance & Administration Convener
Humphrey M Holmes, CA

Heritage Convener
Fionna M Ashmore, BA

Representative to the Ancient Monuments Board of Scotland
W David H Sellar, BA LLB FRHistS

Representative of the National Museums of Scotland
David V Clarke, BA PhD FSA
The Following were elected Fellows:

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GORDON DUNCAN NICOL AGNEW, OStJ JP, 68 Strathayr Place, Ayr.
DEREK LINDSAY ALEXANDER, Centre For Field Archaeology, Appleton Tower, 56/57 Crichton Street, Edinburgh.
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GAVIN DAVID ANDERSON, MA LLB, 10 Blackford Road, Edinburgh.
JAMES G ANDERSON, BArch RIBA FRIAS, 119 Townhead Street, Hamilton.
JOHN A ATKINSON, MA, Guard, 10 The Square, The University, Glasgow.
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The Roll

The record of the deaths of the following Fellows, intimated during the year 1992–93, was not read at the meeting:

Miss Margaret Johnston Aitken, NDD, 7 Chantry Court, St Radigunds Street,
Canterbury, Kent. 1977
Col Harold H Armstrong, KCT, BS, GSO, OTC, Mangerton Manor, 1511 Stoneleigh Way,
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30088, USA. 1984
James Barber, MA, FSA, AMA, 19 Erme Gardens, Efford, Plymouth. 1983
Mrs Margaret Jane Bouth, 301 George Street, Aberdeen. 1974
Kenneth W MacLeod Bowers, 137 Ashley Lane, Manchester. 1969
Dr Anna Ritchie then welcomed Mr Gordon Maxwell, the new President. Mr Maxwell is a highly respected scholar who has specialized in the archaeology of Roman Scotland, excavating the great Roman fort at Crawford and publishing on many aspects of Roman history and archaeology. He is Head of the Archaeology Division within the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, and has been responsible for the development and remarkable success of the Commission's aerial photographic survey. He has served the Society in many ways over the years, particularly as a past Editor of the Proceedings; she was delighted to welcome him back as President.

Dr Ritchie then handed over the Presidential badge to Mr Maxwell.

Mr Maxwell, the new President, then thanked Dr Ritchie and the Fellowship for the honour they had paid him in electing him to the Office of President. He was proud to be the thirtieth President of the
Society, the fifth associated with the Royal Commission, the fourth with the surname of Maxwell and the first to be associated with aerial survey work. He then paid tribute to Dr Ritchie’s exceptional association with the Society as Editor, Secretary and President and felt that it would indeed be a ‘hard act to follow’. He noted her remarks in the recent Newsletter that her grandfather, an active Fellow, might have disapproved of his grand-daughter holding the office of President, but considered that if he had been aware of her exemplary work, dedication and presence, he would have heartily approved of his grand-daughter’s role. He was aware that it was not the custom for the outgoing President to be given any tangible memento of their term in office and asked the Fellowship to join with him in indicating their thanks to Dr Ritchie.

The new President then welcomed and introduced Mr Trevor Cowie, who read the following Communication: ‘Tinkers and Titles: the archaeology of fake Bronze Age axes from Scotland’.

A Reception for Fellows then followed in the Bird Hall.
Instructions for Contributors to these Proceedings

Papers and shorter notes are invited on all aspects of the archaeology and history of Scotland.

In order to be considered for the next annual volume of these Proceedings, completed typescripts and illustrations must be sent to The Editor, The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, The National Museums of Scotland, York Buildings, Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JD, to arrive no later than 30 November each year. Prospective contributors are urged to consult the Editor as early as possible in the preparation of their work. (Those considering the preparation of a monograph should write to the Monographs Editor at the same address.)

Contributions (three copies) must be typed on one side of A4 paper, with double spacing and wide margins. The additional submission of a disk will be of assistance as this can significantly reduce costs and errors; if the paper is accepted for publication the Editor will ask for a disk at a late stage in the editing process.

Papers will be acceptable only if they are submitted in their final form. Drafts will not be considered. The Society does not accept responsibility for the safety of texts and illustrations submitted. Contributors are urged to keep an exact copy of each item.

Each paper should be preceded by an Abstract of no more than 200 words.

Lengthy papers (eg reports of large excavations) which contain extensive appendices, tables, or specialist reports, may be most efficiently published, in part, on microfiche. Authors considering this medium must consult the Editor at a very early stage about the presentation of this material, for which separate guidance notes are available.

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Please ensure that the text, the illustrations, and the references all conform to the style of the latest volume of these Proceedings.

Headings within the text should be restricted to a hierarchy of no more than three grades. These should be clearly indicated in the margin of the typescript (A, B, C).

Dimensions shall be given in metric units (eg 1 km, 6 m, 48 mm). Please note the spacing. As a general guide, millimetres should be used as the unit where the original measurement has been made in millimetres; for larger sizes and distances use metres. Centimetres should not be used. Imperial units may be quoted from earlier sources but the metric equivalents must also be given (in brackets).

Radiocarbon dates should be cited in their uncalibrated form, with the error at one standard deviation (eg 1530±70 BC uncal), with full details of their laboratory reference numbers. The international convention BP should not be used by itself. Any calibration exercise must be fully explained and referenced.
A National Grid Reference must be given for each archaeological site or historic building that is central to the content of a paper.

Footnotes will not be used, but numbered notes that expand on points that would lie uncomfortably in the text may be listed at the end of the article.

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The Harvard system (author, date, page), set within the text, is preferred and should always be used when the majority of the references are to published books or articles. Numbered end-notes may, however, be used for articles on historical topics in which the references are predominantly to documentary material. Every manuscript referred to must be given its full reference number, assigned by its repository, including the folio or page number.

In either system, standard historical reference works may be referred to by their abbreviated titles (eg Acts Parl Scot), in the form given in the supplement to the Scottish Historical Review, 42 (1963). All such abbreviations must be expanded in the list of references that must be set out at the end of each article, whichever system is used. Abbreviations of journals should conform to the style listed in Signposts for Archaeological Publication (3rd edn. 1991), published by the Council for British Archaeology, to the style of the British Archaeological Bibliography, or to the list in Scott Hist Rev, 42 (1963). The names of foreign journals should be given in full.

Examples of the correct form of each reference system may be found in volume 118, pages 285–7 (running notes), and volume 119, pages 27–31, 223–36 (Harvard).

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