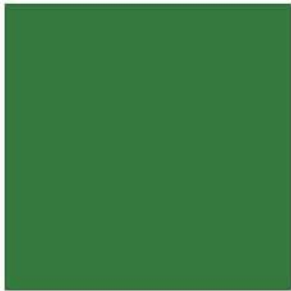


GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



**Blairbuy, Wren's Egg
Human Remains Call off Contract
Data Structure Report
Project 3507**

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Blairbuy, Wren's Egg
Human Remains Call off Contract
Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Historic Scotland

NGR: NX 3610 4199

Project Number: 3507

Report by: Warren Bailie

Illustrations: Gillian McSwan

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Approved by:



Date:

01/05/2012

*This document has been prepared in accordance
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

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Executive Summary

- 1.1 Archaeological investigations were carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited under a Human Remains Call off Contract (HRCC) on behalf of Historic Scotland at Blairbuy Farm, Dumfries and Galloway. The farmer had encountered a stone slab during ploughing on 29h March 2012; this was in fact the capstone of a stone cist burial. On further investigation (05th to 11th April) and after the removal of the plough-soil overburden under archaeological supervision, two additional stone cists were found in close proximity to the first. One cist contained skeletal remains and no artefacts; the other two cists did not contain skeletal remains or artefacts. All of the cists lay on a slight ridge leaving them at risk from further damage by agricultural practices. For this reason it was deemed necessary to record and remove the cists and any contents by archaeological excavation.

Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of the archaeological investigations undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Limited under an HRCC on behalf of Historic Scotland on the three stone cists at Blairbuy Farm. The work was undertaken from 05th and 11th April 2012 under the direction of Warren Bailie.

Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 Blairbuy Farm in Dumfriesshire and Galloway lies 3 km south-east of Portwilliam on the south-west coast of Scotland. The site of the cist excavations is located at NGR NX 35960 42058, approximately 140 m to the north-west of the site of 'Wren's Egg' (Canmore ID 62752, Site Number NX34SE 10) a glacial erratic with a pair of nearby standing stones, the Wren's Egg is located 240 m north-west of the Blairbuy farmhouse (Figure 1). The site of the Wren's Egg lies at approximately 35 m OD and the site of the three cists lay at approximately 31 m OD.
- 3.2 The surrounding landscape is one of undulating arable and pasture land with occasional pockets of deciduous and coniferous trees. The fields are delineated by dry-stone walls constructed of shale, sandstone, cobbles and whinstone, all locally available. The field where the cists were located is generally sloping down to the north-west with small intermittent ridges reflecting undulations in the underlying geology throughout. It was on one of these ridges towards the base of the north-west facing slope that the cists were located. The field is bounded to the north-west by Monreith Burn which leads out to the nearby shoreline.
- 3.3 The solid geology consists of Cairnharrow Formation - Wacke. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 428 to 443 million years ago in the Silurian Period. The drift geology consists of Till, Devensian – Diamicton, superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS).

Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The Blairbuy farmlands are located approximately 1 km inland of the raised beach fringe at Monrieth (Figure 1). The farm sits amidst a landscape that is very rich in prehistoric archaeology; with evidence of Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity. The closest site to the position of the cists is the 'Wren's Egg' natural erratic and nearby pair of standing stones (Canmore ID 62752, Site Number NX34SE 10). This particular site was investigated in 1972 as a result of the theory that the large erratic formed the centre of a double concentric stone circle, based on accounts from 1912 (RCAHMS). The investigations found no evidence of a former circle or circles of stone. It was conceded however that stone sockets could have been ploughed out. Finds, mostly from the plough soil, included a flint knife, scrapers, flakes, and unworked pebble flint. During the investigations at Blairbuy from in 2012 a number of large elongated boulders were observed around the edges of the pocket of trees adjacent to the Wren's Egg and existing stone pair. Along with these large stones lay extensive piles of rounded and irregular stones from field clearance. In addition there were also occasional large slabs of stone which

appear alien to the main clearance material. The presence of the loose large elongated boulders in the clearance material suggests they were removed from the main field area at some point. Whether or not they formed any relationship with the stone pair or erratic is unknown. The slabs observed may be an indication of further cists in the vicinity that have been disturbed by ploughing as these slabs do not occur naturally in the plough-soil. A bucket-shaped cinerary urn was found in a cist at Blairbuy (NGR: NX 363 418) in 1968 (Morrison 1968). This is held by the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland.

- 4.2 A number of artefacts from Blairbuie (Blairbuy) (NX 363 418) are in the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (NMAS). They comprise a perforated stone (Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1889), a quartz hammer stone (Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1891), a barbed and tanged flint arrowhead, triangular flint knife, flint borer (Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1910), and an abraded quartz pebble (Proc Soc Antiq Scot 1915). Other material is in Dumfries Museum: an Iron Age sinker, Mesolithic and Neolithic flints, and a polished stone axe and a number of the Mesolithic flints. Items found in 1962, also in Dumfries Museum, comprise a leaf-shaped arrowhead, a hammer-stone, a stone axe, some flint scrapers and flakes, some patinated, and a small perforated sinker.

Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The general aims of the fieldwork were to assess the character of the human remains and associated archaeological features at the site, record and recover the human remains and establish their context of deposition, the nature of the burial rite and its date, if possible.
- 5.2 The specific objectives were:
- to make an initial record and assessment of the cist(s) and any human remains and associated material left inside it;
 - to carefully expose, record and excavate the contents of the cist(s) according to standard methodologies for good practice;
 - to sample burial soils and other archaeological deposits in order to gather information on the contemporary environment and the burial rite, as well as material for dating;
 - to investigate and record the manner of the cists' construction.

Methodology

- 6.1 The strategy employed for the investigation and subsequent excavation of the cists consisted of the following:
- The stone cist was photographed as found and an account was taken from the landowner of the events since its discovery.
 - The spoil around the perimeter of the stone cist was passed through a 10 mm sieve for the retrieval of skeletal and any other artefactual or ecofactual material that may have been dispersed during the initial inspection by the landowner. This task was completed prior to any further ground disturbance.
 - The overburden was removed from around the cist to expose its full extent. This was done using a smooth edged bucket on a mechanical excavator under the supervision of a professional archaeologist. During this process two other stone cists were uncovered within 0.5 m of the edge of the first cist.
 - All three cists were cleaned by hand, planned and photographed. The position of each cist was plotted using a sub-metre DGPS Magellan Mobilemapper CX. This information will inform any further work that may be required. All pre-excavation, mid-excavation (where appropriate) and post-excavation plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All sections and profiles and plans of skeletal detail were drawn at a scale of 1:10.

- An area measuring approximately 7.5 m east to west and 6 m north to south was investigated during this excavation.
- Samples of the internal cist fills as well as fills below and around the cists within the construction cuts were retained for further analysis. A control sample was also retained of the surrounding subsoil in the event of a potential phosphate or multi-element analysis being carried out.
- All work was conducted by professional archaeologists at all times.
- All excavations were covered and public access was restricted to reduce the likelihood of accidents.
- On completion of the excavations the six whinstone slabs were left in the guardianship of Mr. McMaster, the stones from Cists 2 and 3 were not retained due to disrepair.

Results

7.1 After an initial inspection of the cist uncovered by Mr McMaster on 29th March 2012 (Plate 1), two other stone cists were discovered in close proximity (Plate 2) (Figure 2). The three cists had no direct inter-relationships other than the fact that they were cut into the subsoil at a similar level and were probably all covered by the same cairn prior to exposure. Each cist was numbered (1 to 3) in the order it was discovered and will be described in the same order below.

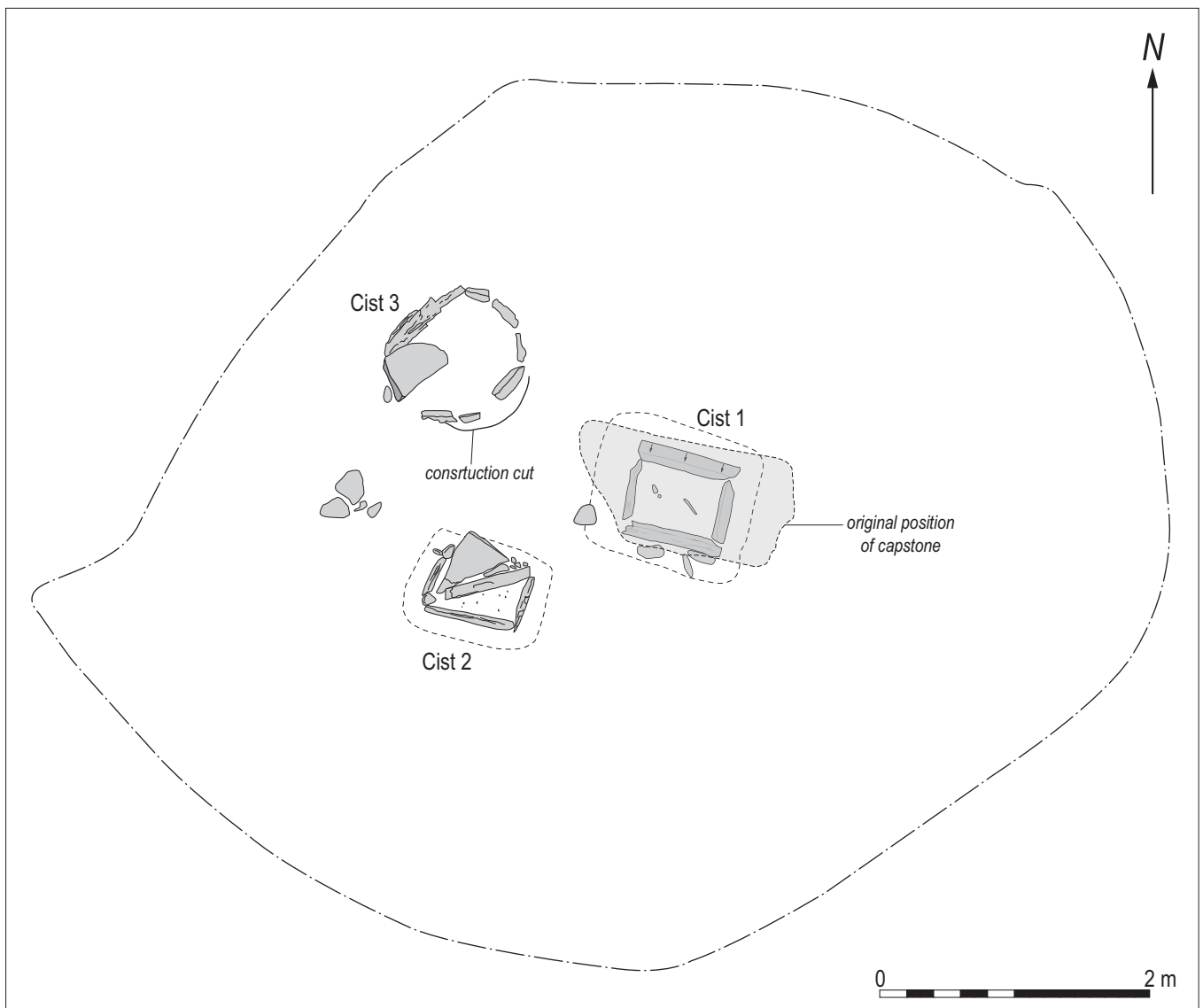


Figure 2: Pre-excavation plan of Cist 1-3, also showing capstone in original position.



Plate 1: Cist 1, as found from west.



Plate 2: Pre-ex shot of Cists 1-3 from west.

7.2 Cist 1

7.2.1 This cist was stripped of its capstone during the ploughing of a field to the north-west of the Blairbuy farmhouse. This cist was found to be constructed of six main slabs of whinstone which were arranged to form a rectangular chamber for the containment of human remains. The construction cut 003 was sub-rectangular in form and measured 1.14 m by 1.3 m on plan and 0.6m deep with quite steep sides (Plates 3 and 4) (Figure 4); the long axis was orientated ESE/ WNW (Figure 3). Once the construction cut was completed a slab measuring 0.42 m by 0.61 m in plan and 40 mm thick was laid on the relatively flat base of the construction cut. The base slab despite initial appearances was not level but actually sloped slightly downwards to the east with a difference of 40 mm in height at either edge of the slab. The four upright stones were then placed to fit this base slab with any gaps plugged by small pebbles and fragments of whinstone. The bottom edges of the two longer slabs were set at the base of the construction cut but the two narrower slabs at either end of the cist appeared to be driven in to the subsoil at the base of the cut by approximately 0.15 m, presumably to achieve a level platform for the capstone. The main internal cist area measured 0.5 m by 0.6 m on plan and between 0.45 m and 0.49 m deep. The cavity between the construction cut and the outer face of the upright slabs was back-filled by subsoil and rounded stones (016), with particularly large rounded stones set in at each corner to prevent movement of the slabs and preserve the integrity of the structure. The four upright stones were all very different in shape (Plate 5) but overlapped in such a way to create a neat rectangular space. The human remains were placed in the cist at this stage and the cap-stone placed over the top of the cist; the cap-stone would have overlapped the rectangular cist on all sides. The skeleton was covered by a gradual deposition of subsoil sands and gravels (002) over time.

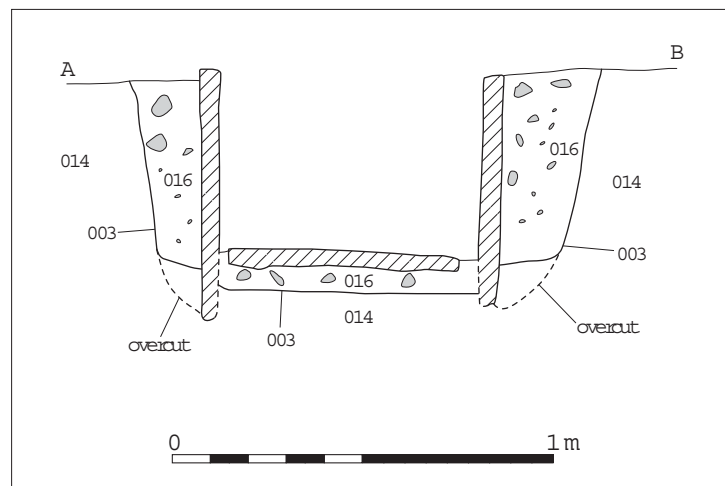


Figure 3: SSW facing section of Cist 1
- construction cut and slabs.



Plate 3: Cist 1, south-south-west facing section.



Plate 4: Post-ex shot of Cists 1-3 from west-south-west.

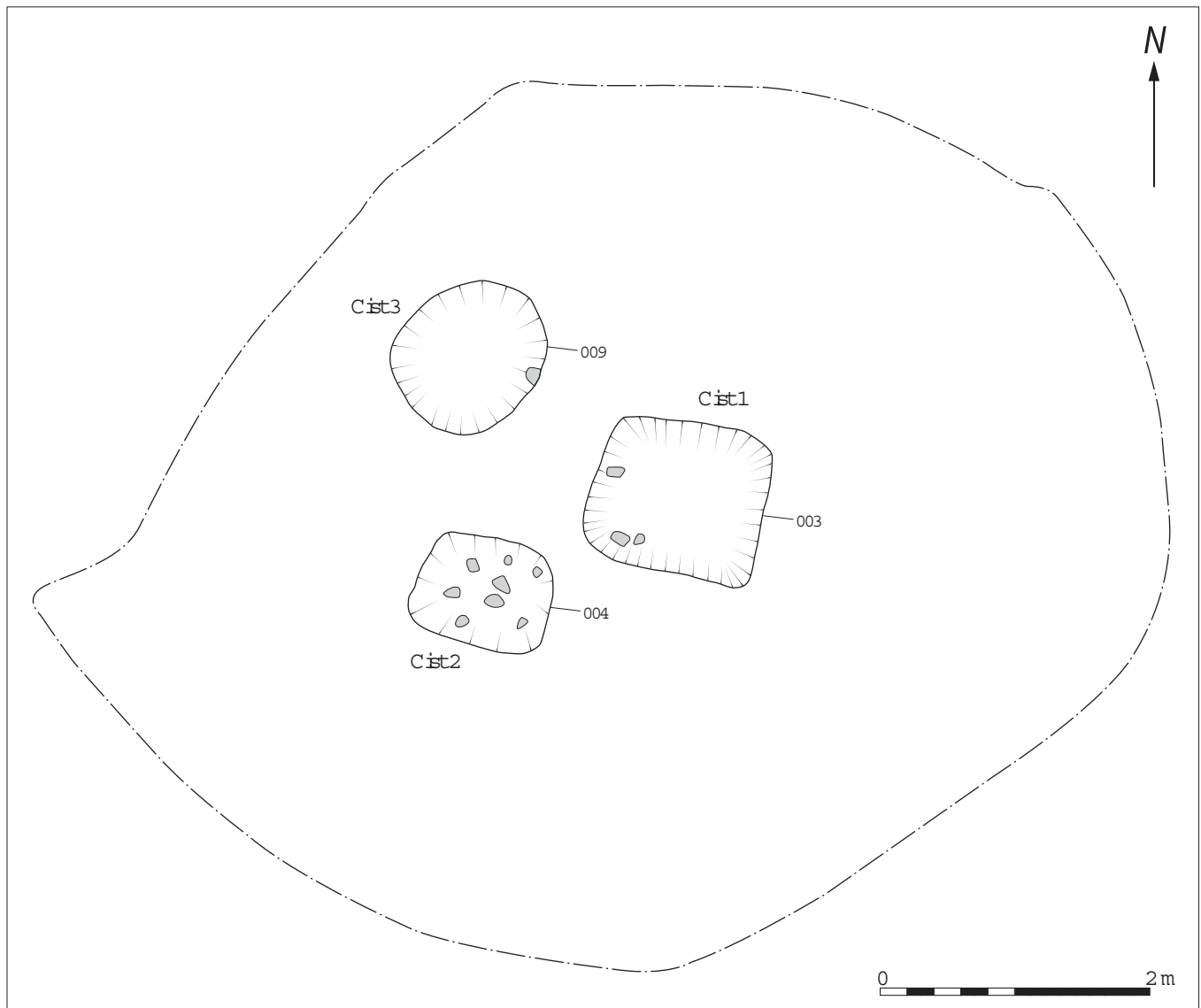


Figure 4: Postexcavation plan of Cist 1-3.

7.2.2 The Skeletal remains (SK 010) lay on the basal stone slab and are of fair preservation (Plate 6) (Figure 5) with most of the long bones, some vertebrae, some ribs, the skull, the pelvis and some hand bones surviving. The skeleton was crouched, lying on its right side and the long axis was orientated ESE/WNW with the skull facing north. The left hand may have been close to the skull as one finger bone was observed in situ near the mandible and the left arm was flexed in this general direction, which fits the hypothesis. The right arm was extended and was

positioned between the proximal ends of the right and left femurs with some hand bones found near the pelvis area. Both legs were quite tightly flexed into the chest area. The proportions of the skeleton were relatively small and although the third molar was observed in one mandible fragment, at least one possible milk tooth was also recovered during excavations suggesting a sub-adult individual. Any interpretations on the age or sex of the individual will be confirmed by an osteoarchaeologist.



Plate 5: Cist 1, six components.



Plate 6: Cist 1, Skeletal remains from south-south-west.

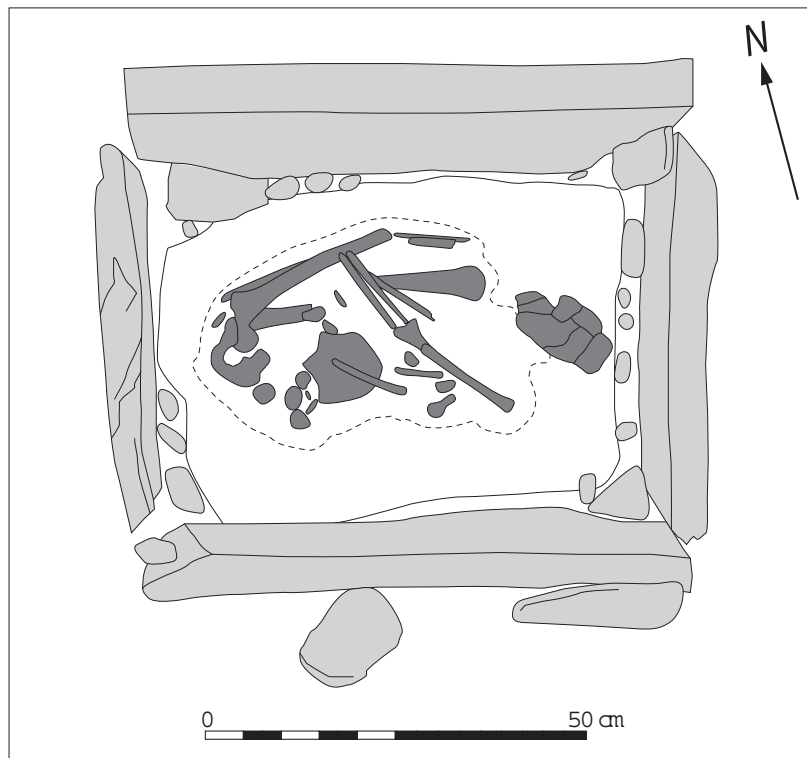


Figure 5: Plan of SK 010 remains in base of Cist 1.

7.3 Cist 2

7.3.1 This cist lay immediately south-west of Cist 1 (Plates 2 and 4) and was of a similar rectangular form with an ESE/WNW orientation. On discovery it was apparent that this cist was in disrepair and the whinstone cap had partially collapsed into the central area of the cist. The construction cut (006) reflected the cist shape and was sub-rectangular in form measuring 0.76 m by 0.95 m in plan and 0.35 m deep. There was no basal slab like that observed in Cist 1, instead subsoil formed the base of Cist 2. There were two side slabs of shale in place on the ESE and SSW sides (Plate 7) (Figures 6 and 7). These measured 0.42 m by 0.44 m by 50 mm and 0.45 m by 0.69 m by 70 mm respectively. The WNW side was composed of multiple irregular components and not a slab. There were no slabs or stones on the NNE side of the cist. The internal cist area measured 0.42 m by 0.64 m in plan and 0.35 m deep. There was some evidence of back-fill behind the

slabs, this consisted of mid brownish yellow sand and gravel (015) with sub-rounded pebbles. If there were human remains here at one time they have since been removed but it is impossible to say at what point in time this happened. The cap had been dislodged and or broken and the cist cavity was filled by loosely compacted sands and gravels (005 and 013). The lower of these deposits (013) at the base of the construction cut was sampled for further analysis, this consisted of a loosely compacted light brown silt sand lens.



Plate 7: Cist 2, two upright slabs exposed, from west-north-west.

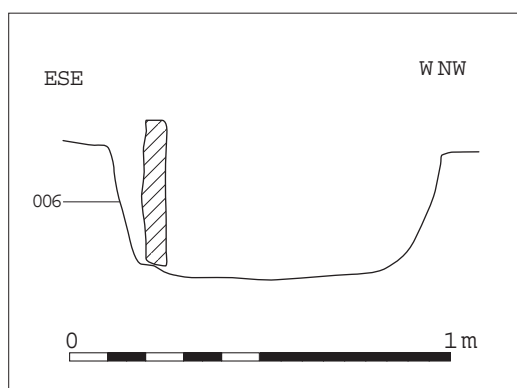


Figure 6: ESE-WNW profile of Cist 2.

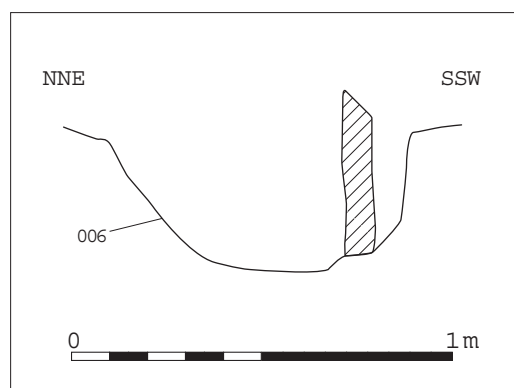


Figure 7: NNE-SSW profile of Cist 2.

7.4 Cist 3



Plate 8: Cist 3, after removal of basal slabs from south-west.

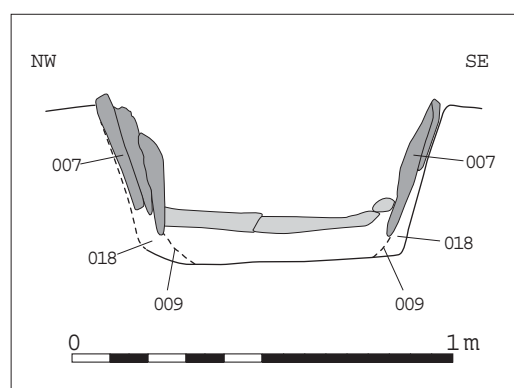


Figure 8: SW facing section of Cist 3, showing uprights and base slabs.

7.4.1 The third cist lay 0.8 m north of Cist 2 and 0.8 m WNW of Cist 1. This cist was different in a number of ways to the nearby Cists 1 and 2. The construction cut (009) was oval in plan, the material used was exclusively irregular pieces of shale and the long axis of this cist was orientated north-east to south-west. The construction cut reflected the shape of the cist and was oval in shape, lying approximately 0.1 m to 0.15 m outside the edges of the stones around the perimeter; the construction cut measured 1.04 m by 1.2 m in plan and between 0.47 m and 0.48 m deep. The initial construction involved setting the various irregular shale stones around the edge of the construction cut (Plate 8) (Figure 8). These were then backfilled behind to hold the shape of the cist. The basal stones were then laid in tight formation against the side slabs with any small gaps plugged with small shale pieces (Plate 9) (Figure 9). The internal area of the cist measured 0.74 m by 0.92 m at the top edge with an area measuring 0.5 m by 0.62 m defined at the base, a similar area to that of Cist 1. The depth of the cist varied between 0.33 m

and 0.39 m due to the irregularity of the shale stones used. There were no skeletal remains or artefacts present but a layer of loose orange brown sand (008) had accumulated in the base of the cist over the shale pieces, this was sampled for further analysis. Sample of material from the base of the construction cut (017) and behind the side slabs (018) were also retained for further analysis.

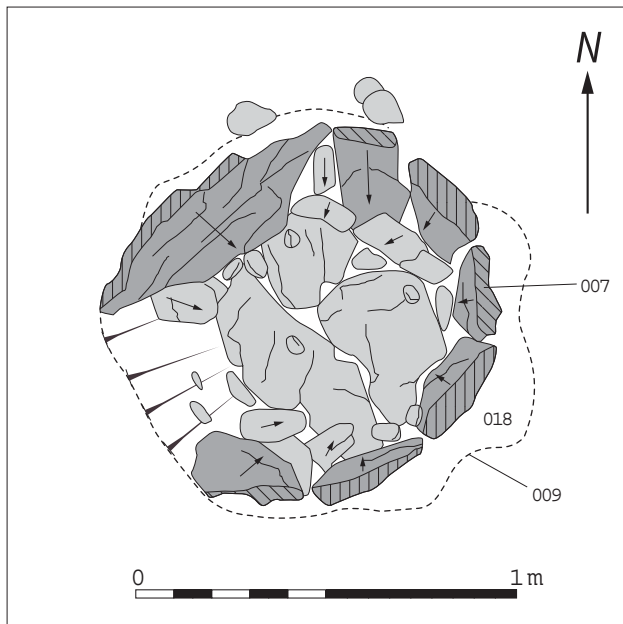


Figure 9: Mid-excavation plan of Cist 3.



Plate 9: Cist 3, side slabs and basal stones exposed, from south-west.

Discussion

- 8.1 The landowner, Mr. McMaster revealed that the site of the three cremations was until quite recently a mound of large cobbles and smaller rounded stones, the summit of which would have lay up to 1 m higher than the ground level here at the time of investigation. There is an obvious area of scree matching Mr. McMaster's description down-slope from the cists' locations. This all suggests that there was a cairn over the position of the three cists that is now removed. All three cists had construction cuts which were first visible at the undisturbed subsoil level showing they were likely to have been originally cut at this level and the mound therefore would have been artificially placed over the cists. There is however a natural ridge at this location and any artificial mound would have utilised this position, enhancing its prominence with a mound of stones, of which there is a ubiquitous supply in this farmland. This would have made the site of the cists even more conspicuous and would have further improved the current inter-visibility with the Wren's Egg if this had significance to the cist builders (Plate 10).
- 8.2 Although Bronze Age cists can and do occur in isolation, there is a tendency for such groups of funerary sites to cluster in certain locales. It is also a possibility that a natural phenomena, such as the Wren's Egg glacial erratic, could have acted as a foci for such activity. For this reason there is a high potential for further similar cist burials to exist in the surrounding landscape of those excavated here. Further evidence of this is available in the form of large slabs of stone discarded around the perimeter of the field and in the area of trees adjacent to the Wren's Egg. These slabs, although available from natural outcrops in neighbouring fields, do not occur naturally in the plough soil here. These slabs are reminiscent, in terms of material and form, of those slabs used in at least two of the cists excavated on this occasion (Cists 1 and 2).
- 8.3 The three cists were each constructed in a slightly different way, with Cist 1 having the most robust and substantial construction of the three. However the other two cists were both in disrepair and Cist 3 in particular may have once had a particularly intricate capping if constructed of shale. Cists 1 and 2 contained no skeletal remains and there are no artefacts from any of the cists to allow comparison. If skeletal remains were once in one or other of these cists it is impossible to say when they might have been removed or if they simply decayed. However

with the use of multi-element analysis and phosphate analysis it may be possible to compare the three samples from the base of each cist for the presence of human remains. Each sample will be compared to a control sample, which was taken of the natural subsoil approximately 2 m south of the cists. This analysis may confirm the presence of decomposed human remains in each cist at a point in time despite there being no physical remains.

Recommendations

- 9.1 A programme of post-excavation analysis is recommended to bring the results of the excavation to publication. This will involve specialist analysis of the skeletal remains, environmental samples and radiocarbon dating of a selection of material, research into comparable evidence for contemporary burial rites in south-west Scotland and the production of a written, illustrated and refereed report for publication in an academic journal.
- 9.2 Although parts of the skeleton are fragmented and missing, most of the bones and teeth were recovered. Skeletal analysis may be able to establish the sex and age at death of the individual, as well as any pathologies that affected the bone. Radiocarbon assays will provide a date range for the person's death.
- 9.3 Post-excavation analysis of the environmental samples and possible organics found under the skeleton and within the vessel should maximise the interpretive potential of the recovered material. It is recommended that the samples taken from the base of each cist are analysed for the presence of indicators that may suggest human remains being in the empty cists at some point in time despite no physical remains surviving at the time of excavation. The fact that Cist 1 did contain skeletal remains will provide a comparison for the other two and all will be measured against the control samples taken of the natural subsoil.
- 9.4 The cists at Blairbuy, Wren's Egg are a valuable find and have the potential to provide a great deal of information about contemporary life and burial practice in the Bronze Age in this area.

Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology would like to thank Rod McCullagh of Historic Scotland for his input and guidance. We would also like to thank Andrew Nicholson of for his site visit and support. We also extend our gratitude to Jock McMaster, owner of Blairbuy Farm, for reporting the find and for his hospitable reception. Technical support was from Aileen Maule, John Kiely and Jen Cochrane. The investigations were directed by Warren Bailie with assistance from Alan Hunter Blair, Maureen Kilpatrick and Beth Spence. The illustrations were produced and the report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD by John Atkinson.

**Blairbuy, Wren's Egg
Human Remains Call off Contract
Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices



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Appendices

Appendix A: References

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Canmore- <http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk>

Satellite Imagery consulted:

Google Earth Version 6.2.1.6014 (beta), Build date 02/02/2012- Position: 54° 44' 47.73" N, 4° 33' 00.15" W

Appendix B: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
001	Cist 1	Whinstone slabs forming rectangular cist, Six components, one basal slab, four uprights and one cap-stone. Internal area defined: 0.5 by 0.6m in plan, 0.45-0.49m deep.	stones used for BRA cist burial, possibly associated with Cists 2 and 3
002	Cist 1	Loose grey brown gritty gravel with occas. small rounded stones. Max 0.56 by 0.73m in plan and 0.46-0.5m thick	Main fill of cist, filled internal area and covered inner edges of uprights, borne of subsoil

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
003	Cist 1	sub-rectangular construction cut, 1.14x 1.3m in plan and 0.6m deep. Sharp top b.o.s., almost vertical sides, gradual bottom b.o.s. flat base. Orientated ENE - WSW	cut for construction Cist 1 for SK 010
004	Cist 2	whinstone slabs on two sides with two parts of cap-stone collapsed in centre of cist. The remaining sides were made up of irregular shaped stones. The cist was in a general bad state of disrepair when found. Area defined measured 0.42 by 0.64m on plan and 0.35m deep.	remains of stone cist, possibly associated with Cists 1 and 3
005	Cist 2	Fill of cist 2, orange and brown coarse sands and gravel with sub-rounded pebbles and cobbles, small sand lens at base of this material 013 sampled for further analysis	Fill of cist 2, probably filled quickly after removal of body? Borne of subsoil.
006	Cist 2	Cut for Cist 2, sub-rectangular, orientated ENE-WSW. 0.76 by 0.95 m on plan and 0.35m deep. Filled by 013, slabs 004 and 005	cut for construction of Cist 2, possibly associated with Cist 1 and 3.
007	Cist 3	Shale slabs used in construction of Cist 3. Unbonded slabs laid around sides and then base fitted with smaller stones against bottoms of side stones. One slab missing on south-west edge of cist	Cist 3 slabs, no cap present, possibly related to Cists 1 and 2.
008	Cist 3	Fill of Cist 3, Moist, orange brown sand and gravel. Freq. inclusions of pea gravel. Sampled for analysis.	Cist 3 fill, borne of natural subsoil washing in.
009	Cist 3	Rounded oval shape cut for Cist 3. Measures 1.04 by 1.2m on plan and between 0.47 and 0.48m deep.	Construction cut for Cist 3, possibly associated with Cists 1 and 2.
010	Cist 1 SK	Articulated human remains of a possible sub-adult in fair preservation. Body in tight crouched position on right side with left arm extending up to skull and right arm extending between legs. Both arms and legs are flexed. Body orientated ENE - WSW, skull faced north.	Skeleton contained in Cist 1, possibly associated with Cists 2 and 3.
011	VOID	VOID	VOID
012	VOID	VOID	VOID
013	Cist 2	Thin lens of light brown silty sand, against southern side of internal cist area. Sampled for further analysis.	Found at base of Cist 2 construction cut. May represent the initial decomposition of a body once deposited here.
014	All	varies between loose small gravels, sand layers and more compact medium and large cobble stone layers. Colour dependant on material, from orange-orange grey sand, to grey brown gravel and cobble layers to brown silty gravel layers. V. occas. large rounded stones of greater than 0.2m across.	Subsoil
015	Cist 2	light yellowish brown sandy gravel with inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles.	Backfill behind upright slabs of Cist 2. below 013, above 004.
016	Cist 1	loose mix of grey brown and orange brown gravels, sand and rounded stones.	Backfill behind at base of Cist 1 slabs, material borne of subsoil
017	Cist 3	Fill of Cist 3, loose grey brown gravel, freq. pebbles	Fill of Cist 3, probably borne of surrounding subsoil.
018	Cist 3	brown orange gravel, frequent pebbles. Behind side stones of Cist 3.	Backfill behind side slabs of Cist 3

Appendix C: List of Samples

Sample No.	Area	Context No.	Size (L)	Reason for Sampling				Application/Comments
				Pot	Bone	Lithics	Botanics	
1	Cist 1	002	5 - 6	-	✓	-	✓	Sample from around pelvis area and around west end of SK010
2	Cist 1	002	2	-	✓	-	✓	Sample from around SK010 at base of Cist 1
3	Cist 2	013	2	-	✓	-	✓	Sample from silt lens at base of Cist 2
4	Cist 2	015	2	-	✓	-	✓	Sample from SE corner of construction cut backfill for Cist 2
5	Cist 3	008	2	-	✓	-	✓	Sample of dark material within 005, interior fill of Cist 3
6	Cist 3	017	3	-	✓	-	✓	Sample of material below base slabs in Cist 3

Sample No.	Area	Context No.	Size (L)	Reason for Sampling				Application/Comments
				Pot	Bone	Lithics	Botanics	
8	Cist 3	018	5	-	✓	-	✓	Back-fill of construction cut for Cist 3
9	subsoil	-	1	-	-	-	-	control sample
10	subsoil	-	1	-	-	-	-	control sample

Appendix D: List of Drawings

Drawing No.	Feature No(s).	Subject	Scale
1	Cist 1	Plan of displaced capstone from Cist 1	1:10
2	Cist 1	Plan of underside of capstone for Cist 1	1:10
3	Cist 1	Plan of Human remains SK 010	1:10
4	Cist 1	WNW-ESE profile of Cist 1	1:10
5	Cist 1	SSW-NNE profile of Cist 1	1:10
6	Cists 1-3	Pre-ex plan of Cists 1-3	1:20
7	Cist 3	Mid-ex plan of Cist 3	1:20
8	Cist 3	SW-NE profile of Cist 3	1:10
9	Cist 3	NW-SE profile of Cist 3	1:10
10	Cist 2	Post-ex plan of Cist 2	1:20
11	Cist 2	ESE-WNW profile of Cist 2	1:10
12	Cist 2	NNE-SSW profile of Cist 2	1:10
13	Cist 2	Post-ex of cut for Cist 2	1:20
14	Cist 1	SSW facing section of Cist 1	1:10
15	Cist 3	SW-NE profile, SE facing section	1:10
16	Cist 3	NW-SE profile, SW facing section	1:10
17	Cist 3	Mid-ex plan of Cist 3 showing base of cut	1:20
18	Cist 2	N-S profile fo 006	1:10
19	Cist 2	E-W profile of 006	1:10
20	Cist 1	ESE facing section of Cist 1	1:10
21	Cist 3	NW facing section showing cut 009	1:10
22	Cist 3	NE facing section of Cist 3	1:10
23	Cist 3	NE-SW profile of 009	1:10
24	Cist 3	NW-SE profile of 009	1:10
25	Cists 1-3	Post-ex plan of Cists 1-3	1:20

Appendix E: List of Photographs

Digital

Frame	Context	Subject	Taken from
1	-	ID shot	-
2	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	E
3	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	SE
4	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	W
5	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	NW
6	Cist 1	Close up of Cist 1 as found	N
7	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	SW
8	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	S
9	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	E
10	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	N
11	Cist 1	Cist 1 pre-ex	W
12	Cist 1	Cist 2 pre-ex	W
13	Cists 1-3	General view of cists with Wren's Egg in background	W
14	All	General working shots	-
15	All	General working shots	-
16	All	General working shots	-
17	All	General working shots	-

Frame	Context	Subject	Taken from
18	All	General working shots	-
19	All	General working shots	-
20	All	General working shots	-
21	All	General working shots	-
22	Cist 1	During excavation, possible cist in foreground	W
23	Cist 3	Pre-ex	NW
24	Cist 3	Pre-ex	NW
25	Cist 3	Pre-ex	SW
26	Cist 3	Pre-ex	SW
27	Cist 1	During excavation	W
28	Cist 1	During excavation	W
29	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
30	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
31	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
32	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
33	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
34	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
35	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
36	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
37	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
38	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
39	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
40	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
41	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
42	Cist 1	Working shots Cist 1	-
43	All	General view of Cists 1-3	SW
44	All	General view of Cists 1-3	SW
45	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010	SSW
46	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010	SSW
47	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010	SSW
48	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010 working shot	SE
49	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010 working shot	SE
50	Cist 1	Post-ex of internal area	N
51	Cist 1	Post-ex of internal area	N
52	Cist 3	Cist 3 during excavation	SW
53	Cist 1-3	General shot of all cists	E
54	Cist 3	Working shot	NW
55	Cist 2	Shot of possible capping stones	W
56	Cist 2	Shot of possible capping stones	S
57	Cist 2	Post-ex of Cist 2	N
58	Cist 2	Close up of WSW facing slab	W
59	Cist 2	Close up of NNW facing slab	N
60	Cist 2	Internal area of cist	W
61	Cist 2	Internal area of cist	W
62	Cist 2	Internal area of cist	N
63	Cist 1	Mid-ex shot	W
64	Cist 3	Mid-ex showing base slabs	SW
65	Cist 3	Mid-ex showing base slabs	SW
66	Cists 1 and 3	Working shot	NE
67	Cist 1	SSW facing section	SSW
68	Cist 1	SSW facing section	SSW
69	Cist 1	Before removal of southern slab	SE
70	Cist 1	Before removal of southern slab	SW
71	Cist 2	W-E profile of Cist 2	N
72	Cist 2	N-S profile of Cist 2	SSW

Frame	Context	Subject	Taken from
73	Cist 3	Mid-ex of Cist 3, base of cut	SW
74	Cist 3	Mid-ex of Cist 3, base of cut	SW
75	Cist 1	SSW facing section	SSW
76	Cist 1	SSW facing section	SSW
77	Cist 2	Post-ex of cut	N
78	Cist 2	Post-ex of cut	W
79	Cist 2	Side slabs	-
80	Cist 2	Possible cap-stones	E
81	Cist 1	Mid-ex of Cist 1	E
82	Cist 1	Mid-ex of Cist 1	NW
83	Cist 3	SW-NE profile	NW
84	Cist 3	SW-NE profile	SW
85	Cist 3	Post-ex showing section	W
86	Cist 1	Base slab in situ	W
87	Cist 1	Six components of Cist 1 laid out in formation	-
88	Cist 1	Six components of Cist 1 laid out in formation	-
89	Cist 1	Six components of Cist 1 laid out in formation	-
90	Cist 1	Six components of Cist 1 laid out in formation	-
91	Cist 1	Cist 2 slabs laid out in formation	-
92	Cist 1	Cist 2 capstones laid out in formation	-
93	Cist 3	Post-ex of Cist 1 cut 003	E
94	Cist 3	Post-ex of Cist 1 cut 003	E
95	Cist 1	Post-ex of Cist 1 cut 003	N
96	Cist 3	NE facing section/ profile of Cist 3	N
97	Cist 3	NE facing section/ profile of Cist 3	N
98	All	Post-ex	NE
99	All	Post-ex	NE
100	All	Post-ex	NW
101	All	Post-ex	NW
102	All	Post-ex	NE
103	All	Post-ex	NE
104	All	Post-ex	S
105	All	Post-ex	S
106	All	Post-ex	WSW
107	All	Post-ex	WSW
108	All	Post-ex	SE
109	All	Post-ex	SE
110	-	Crew at Wren's Egg	NW
111	-	Crew at Wren's Egg	NW

Black and White

Frame	Context	Subject	Taken from
1	-	ID shot	-
2	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	E
3	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	SE
4	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	W
5	Cist 1	General view of Cist 1 as found	NW
6	Cist 1	Close up of Cist 1 as found	N
7	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	SW
8	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	S
9	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	E
10	Cists 1 and 2	General view of cists after cleaning	N
11	Cist 1	Cist 1 pre-ex	W
12	Cist 1	Cist 2 pre-ex	W

Frame	Context	Subject	Taken from
13	Cists 1-3	General view of cists with Wren's Egg in background	W
14	Cist 3	Cist 3 pre-ex	NW
15	Cist 3	Cist 3 pre-ex	SW
16	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010	SSW
17	Cist 1	Cist 1 and Sk 010	SSW
18	Cist 1	Cist 1 and SK 010	N
19	Cist 1	Cist 1 and SK 010	N
20	Cist 2	Cist 2, possible capping stones	W
21	Cist 2	Cist 2, possible capping stones	S
22	Cist 2	Post-ex of Cist 2	N
23	Cist 2	Cist 2, Close-up of SSW facing cist slab	W
24	Cist 2	Cist 2, Close up of NNE facing cist slab	N
25	Cist 2	Internal area of Cist 2	W
26	Cist 2	Internal area of Cist 2	W
27	Cist 2	Internal area of Cist 2	N
28	Cist 1	Cist 1 before removal of southern slab	SSW
29	Cist 1	Cist 1 before removal of southern slab	SSW
30	Cist 3	Mid-ex of Cist 3 showing basal slabs	SW
31	Cist 2	W-E profile of Cist 2	N
32	Cist 2	N-S profile of Cist 2	W
33	Cist 3	Mid-ex showing base of cut for Cist 3	NW
34	Cist 1	SSW facing section of Cist 1	SSW
35	Cist 1	SSW facing section of Cist 1	SSW

Appendix F: Discovery And Excavation Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries and Galloway Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Blairbuy, Wren's Egg
PROJECT CODE:	3507
PARISH:	Glasserton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Warren Bailie
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Human Remain Call off Contract
NMRS NO(S):	Canmore ID 62752 Site Number NX34SE 10
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Three stone cists
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Skeletal remains from one of three cists
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NX 35960 42058
START DATE (this season)	05/04/12
END DATE (this season)	11/04/12
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Archaeological investigations were carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited under a Human Remains Call off Contract (HRCC) on behalf of Historic Scotland at Blairbuy farm, Dumfries and Galloway. The farmer had encountered a stone slab on during ploughing on 29h March 2012; this was in fact the capstone of a stone cist burial. On further investigation (05th to 11th April) and after the removal of the plough-soil overburden under archaeological supervision, two additional stone cists were found in close proximity to the first. One cist contained skeletal remains and no artefacts; the other two cists did not contain skeletal remains or artefacts. All of the cists lay on a slight ridge leaving them at risk from further damage by agricultural practices. For this reason it was deemed necessary to record and remove the cists and any contents by archaeological excavation.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Not known
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Scotland
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	warren.bailie@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

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