

## *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*

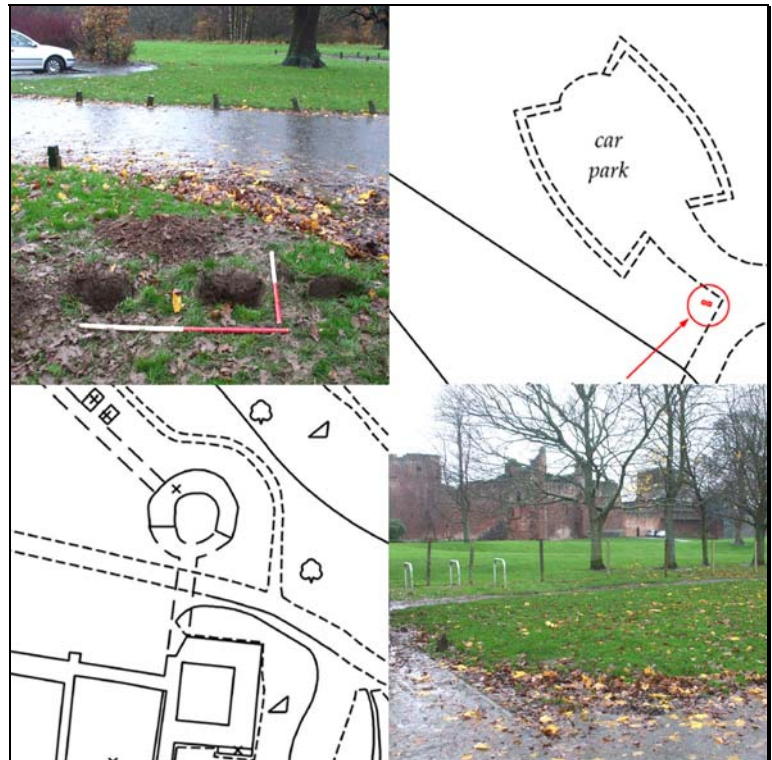
Updated on 15/06/2007

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	South Lanarkshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Bothwell Castle
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	HSCO-90038-2009-02
<b>PARISH:</b>	Bothwell (Hamilton)
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Gordon Ewart
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Kirkdale Archaeology
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological monitoring of minor excavations
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NS65NE 5.00
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Castle
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b> (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 6891 5940
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	24 November 2009
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	24 November 2009
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of two holes to receive the uprights for a new sign at the entrance to Bothwell Castle. Nothing of archaeological interest was noted.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Historic Scotland
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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

Historic Scotland  
Properties in Care  
Minor Archaeological Works 2009

# Bothwell Castle: Archaeological monitoring, November 2009

HS PIC Index number: 90038  
Project code: HSCO-90038-2009-02



23 March 2010  
Kirkdale Archaeology

<b><u>Site</u></b>	Bothwell Castle
<b><u>N.G.R</u></b>	NS 687 593
<b><u>Project Description</u></b>	Archaeological monitoring
<b><u>Project code</u></b>	HSCO-90038-2009-02

## **Contents**

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Description	1
3.0 Interpretation and observations	1
A1.0 Appendix 1: List of contexts	3
A2.0 Appendix 2: List of photographs	3
Fig. 1 : Plan (1:1000) showing location of works	4

*SUMMARY: A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of two holes to receive the uprights for a new sign at the entrance to Bothwell Castle. Nothing of archaeological interest was noted.*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Under the terms of its call-off contract with Historic Scotland, Kirkdale Archaeology was asked to undertake a short period of archaeological monitoring at Bothwell Castle during the excavation of two small pits. These were intended as the settings for the uprights for a new sign at the entrance to the castle. The work was undertaken 24 November 2009

## **2.0 DESCRIPTION**

Two trenches were excavated at the outer gateway to the castle. The outer gate lies at the end of a rough roadway leading ultimately to the castle ruins. The site of the new sign was placed to be seen by visitors before they cross the outer area into the monument. The entrance to the outer area with its track etc is a farm style gateway with stud fencing.

The trenches were placed towards the N end of a grassy verge adjacent to the site car park on the W side of the roadway leading to the outer gateway. Both trenches were identical in terms of both dimensions and contents. They measured 400 mm square and were dug to a depth of 400 mm. The trenches were aligned E-W and set 700 mm apart (centre to centre). The trenches contained turf and topsoil (F001) to a depth of 250 mm giving way to a compressed clay-rich subsoil (F002) about 150 mm in depth. In turn, this sealed a reddish brown, fairly clean, relatively stone free clay-silt rich natural level (F003). This natural layer was excavated to a depth of 100 mm and was not bottomed.

## **3.0 INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATIONS**

These holes were excavated through a cultivation layer (F001) probably related to the use of this area as a field. The two lower horizons (F002 & F003) represent A and

B horizons in the subsoil profile. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

**A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS**

#	Description
F001	Turf and topsoil c 100mm deep
F002	Compressed clay rich subsoil c 150 mm deep
F003	Reddish Brown clay-silt natural level (not bottomed)

**A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

Files have prefix "hsco-90038-2009-02\_" followed by number below

#	Description	From	Date
1	General view of site of proposed sign on grassy verge	N	24/11/09
2	General view of site of proposed sign on grassy verge	N	24/11/09
3	Trenches 1 and 2	S	24/11/09
4	Trenches 1 and 2	S	24/11/09
5	Trenches 1 and 2	S	24/11/09
6	Trenches 1 and 2	N	24/11/09

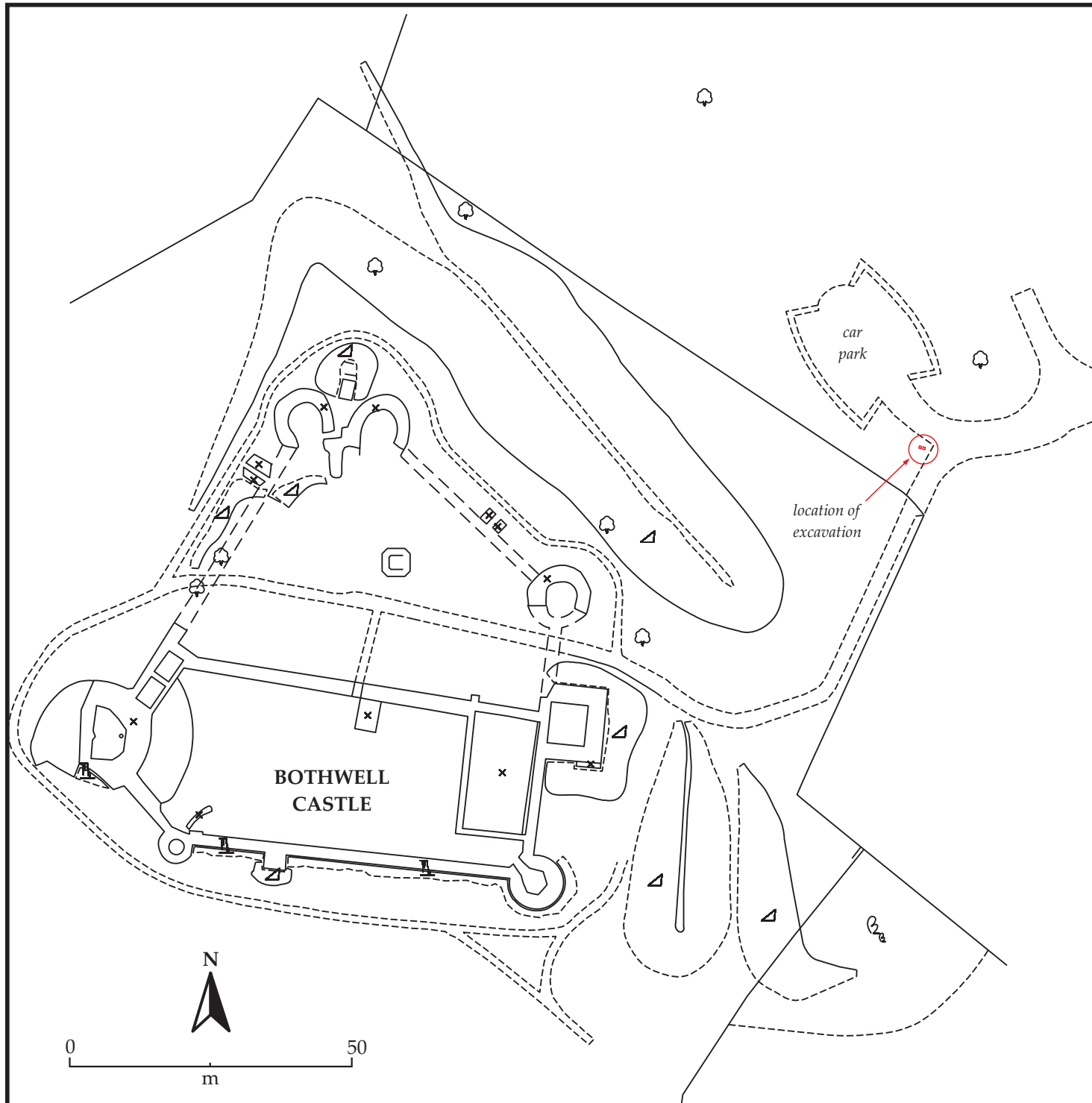


Fig. 1 : Plan (1:1000) showing location of works