

Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

Updated on 15/06/2007

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Dunbartonshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Dumbarton Castle – Governor’s House
PROJECT CODE:	HSCO-90107-2009-02
PARISH:	Dumbarton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	David Murray
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Kirkdale Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NS47SW 5.02
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Castle
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 4001 7440
START DATE (this season)	17 November 2009
END DATE (this season)	8 December 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	In response to a requirement to repair a burst pipe in the Governor’s Garden near the Governor’s House, Dumbarton Castle, a small archaeological excavation was carried out to determine the location and line of the pipe. The junction between two pipes, one lead, one iron, was found. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Scotland
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

**Historic Scotland
Properties in Care
Minor Archaeological Works 2009**

**Dumbarton Castle (Governor's House):
Archaeological excavation,
November & December 2009**

**HS PIC Index number: 90107
Project code: HSCO-90107-2009-02**



**23 March 2010
Kirkdale Archaeology**

<u>Site</u>	Dumbarton Castle (Governor's House)
<u>N.G.R</u>	NS 400 744
<u>Project Description</u>	Archaeological excavation
<u>Project code</u>	HSCO-90107-2009-02

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SUMMARY: In response to a requirement to repair a burst pipe in the Governor's Garden near the Governor's House, Dumbarton Castle, a small archaeological excavation was carried out to determine the location and line of the pipe. The junction between two pipes, one lead, one iron, was found. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Under the terms of its call-off contract with Historic Scotland, Kirkdale Archaeology was asked to undertake a small archaeological excavation near the Governor's House at Dumbarton Castle in order to locate a broken pipe under the Governor's Garden.

The work was undertaken on 17 November and 8 December 2009

2.0 DESCRIPTION

A trench aligned NW-SE was excavated between the corner of the Governor's House and the boundary wall in order to locate a burst pipe. The pipe was located at a depth of *c* 450mm running *c* N-S towards the northwestern end of the trench.

Topsoil (**F001**) was removed to a depth of 150 mm to reveal ash layer (**F002**) *c* 50 mm thick. This gave way to **F003**, a layer of broken sandstone fragments mixed with silt and mortar . This deposit was excavated to a depth of 250 mm but not fully bottomed. Cut against **F002** and **F003** was a narrow trench (**F 006**) for a cast iron pipe (**F005**) which was filled with **F004** (a mixture of redeposited **F002** and **F003**). A second, lead pipe (**F007**) was located, feeding into **F005** on its NE side towards the NW end of the trench. The damaged cast iron pipe was revealed and ultimately fully exposed before the repair and diversion of the water supply

3.0 INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATIONS

With the exception of the rubble and mortar deposit **F003**, which may reflect construction debris associated with the construction of the Governor's House, nothing of archaeological significance was revealed.

A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

#	Description
001	Turf and topsoil.
002	Ashy layer – mixed with dark grey silt
003	Sandstone rubble fragments plus mortar fragments in dark silt matrix.
004	Mixture of 003 and 002 – fill of 006.
005	Cast iron pipe
006	Cut for 005 – c 300mm wide – not fully excavated
007	Lead pipe

A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Files have prefix "hsco-90107-2009-02_" followed by number below

#	Description	From	Date
001	SE facing section	SE	17/11/2009
002	SW facing section	SW	17/11/2009
003	Detail showing junction of 004 and 005	SW	17/11/2009
004	Finds assemblage	-	17/11/2009

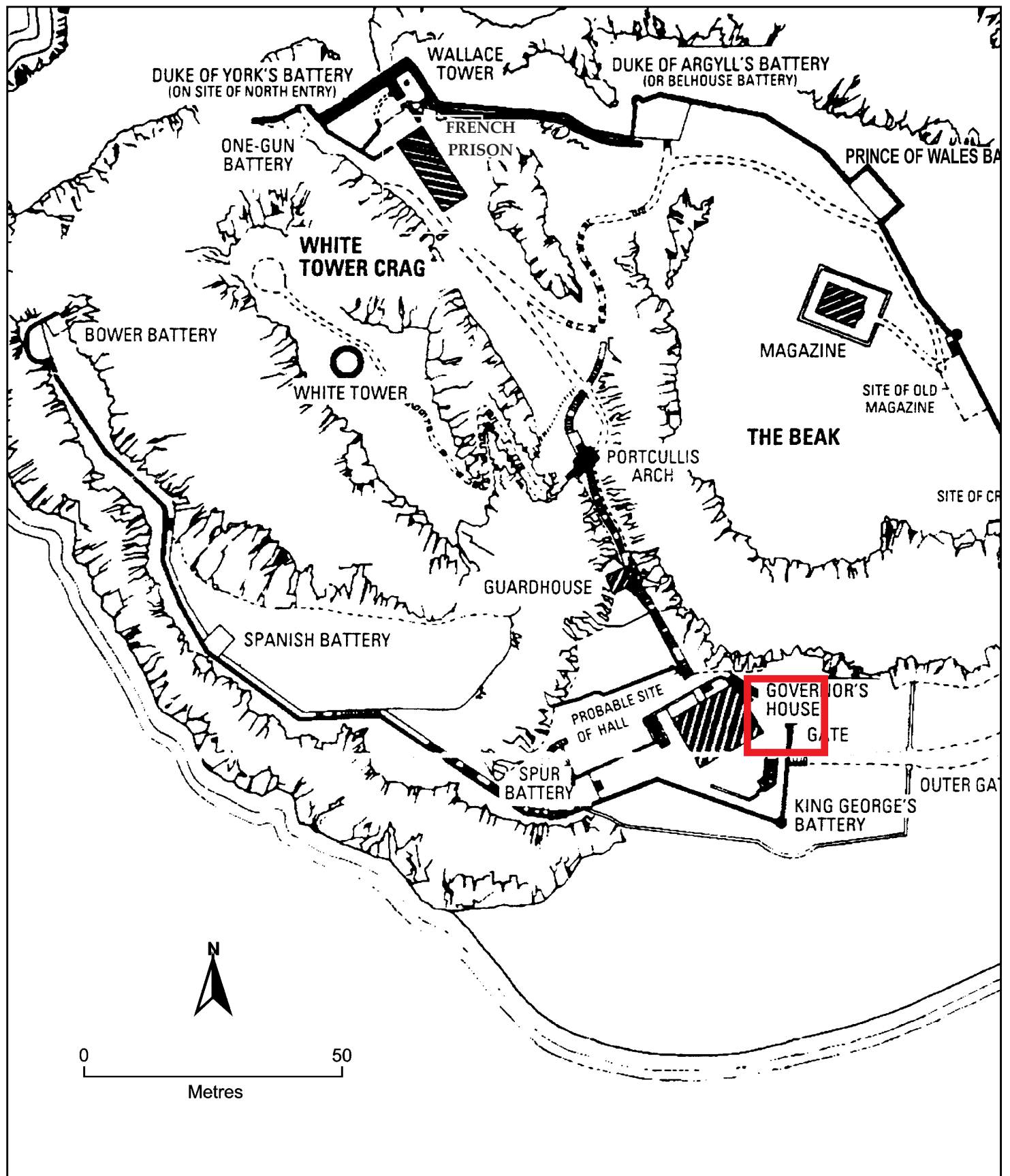


Fig. 1 : Plan of Dumbarton Castle showing location of excavation

