

Discovery and Excavation in Scotland – OASIS-type Form (2006)

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	CLACKMANNAN
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Castle Campbell
PROJECT CODE:	HSCO-90063-2010-03
PARISH:	Dollar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	David Murray
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Kirkdale Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NS99NE 2.00
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Castle
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 961 993
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PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Monitoring was undertaken during the excavation of two small trenches at Castle Campbell, near Dollar. These were for the purpose of erecting an information sign and a supporting bank behind it. They were situated to the E of the approach road, and to the N of the castle.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Scotland
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	4, Western Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5QF
EMAIL ADDRESS:	g_ewart@hotmail.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

Historic Scotland
Properties in Care
Minor Archaeological Works 2010

Castle Campbell:
Information Board Excavations
April 2010

HS PIC Index Number: 90063
Project Code: HSCO-90063-2010-03



20th April 2010
Kirkdale Archaeology

<u>Site</u>	Castle Campbell, near Dollar, Clackmannanshire
<u>N.G.R</u>	NS 96128 99300
<u>Project Description</u>	Monitoring and excavation related to the erection of a new information board and supporting grass bank.
<u>Project Code</u>	HSCO-90063-2010-03

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Kirkdale Archaeology was requested by Historic Scotland under the terms of its PIC call-off contract to monitor the excavation of two small trenches at Castle Campbell, near Dollar. These trenches were dug for the purpose of erecting an information sign and a supporting bank behind it. They were situated to the E of the approach road, and to the N of the castle. The work was undertaken manually by Historic Scotland staff under archaeological supervision. The work took place on 20/04/2010.

2.0 DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION

Trench A - which was dug in order to create a stable base for the Historic Scotland sign - measured 700mm x 1200mm, and was located to the E of the approach road. After the removal of the topsoil, two large boulders were exposed on the W side of the trench (nearest the road). These boulders were beneath the level of the road and were most likely foundation stones for the road itself. The largest boulder measured 650mm long x 500mm wide x 250mm thick, while the smaller one measured 450mm long x 270mm wide x 230mm thick; they both appeared to be sandstone blocks. The removal of these caused the trench to be extended by a section to the NW measuring 350mm x 530mm. The trench was excavated to a depth of 530mm at its deepest, on its W side. The fill of the trench was a dark brown, loose, silt with sub-circular pebble inclusions measuring from 20mm to 80mm in diameter. The soil was full of roots of varying size and thickness, which could be seen protruding from the section and base of the trench. One modern luminous yellow, plastic bead of an irregular shape was found within the fill.

Trench B was also located to the E of the approach road. The purpose of this trench was to provide a base for a stabilising turf wall that was to be built around the sign (Trench A). It was located along the S side of the steps which come off the approach road to the E. The trench was terraced in order to respect the line of the steps, and

varied in width and depth, becoming wider to the S. At its N end (nearest the road) the trench was 200mm deep x 280mm wide., while at its S end it was 300mm deep x 760mm wide. The fill of the trench was a loose dark brown silt with some pebble inclusions 20mm to 80mm in diameter. Similar to Trench A, the soil was full of roots of varying size. The base of this trench mainly consisted of the edge of the cement steps.



Figure 1: Trench A, with the two boulders *in situ*.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

These small trenches failed to find convincing evidence for any particularly early deposits, and both trenches showed evidence of modern disturbance (such as the presence of the modern plastic bead in Trench A).

The two large sandstone boulders protruding from the W side of Trench A were most likely foundation stones for the modern approach road. However it is worth

noting that they were similar in size to those used in the building of the castle, and thus could have been re-used.

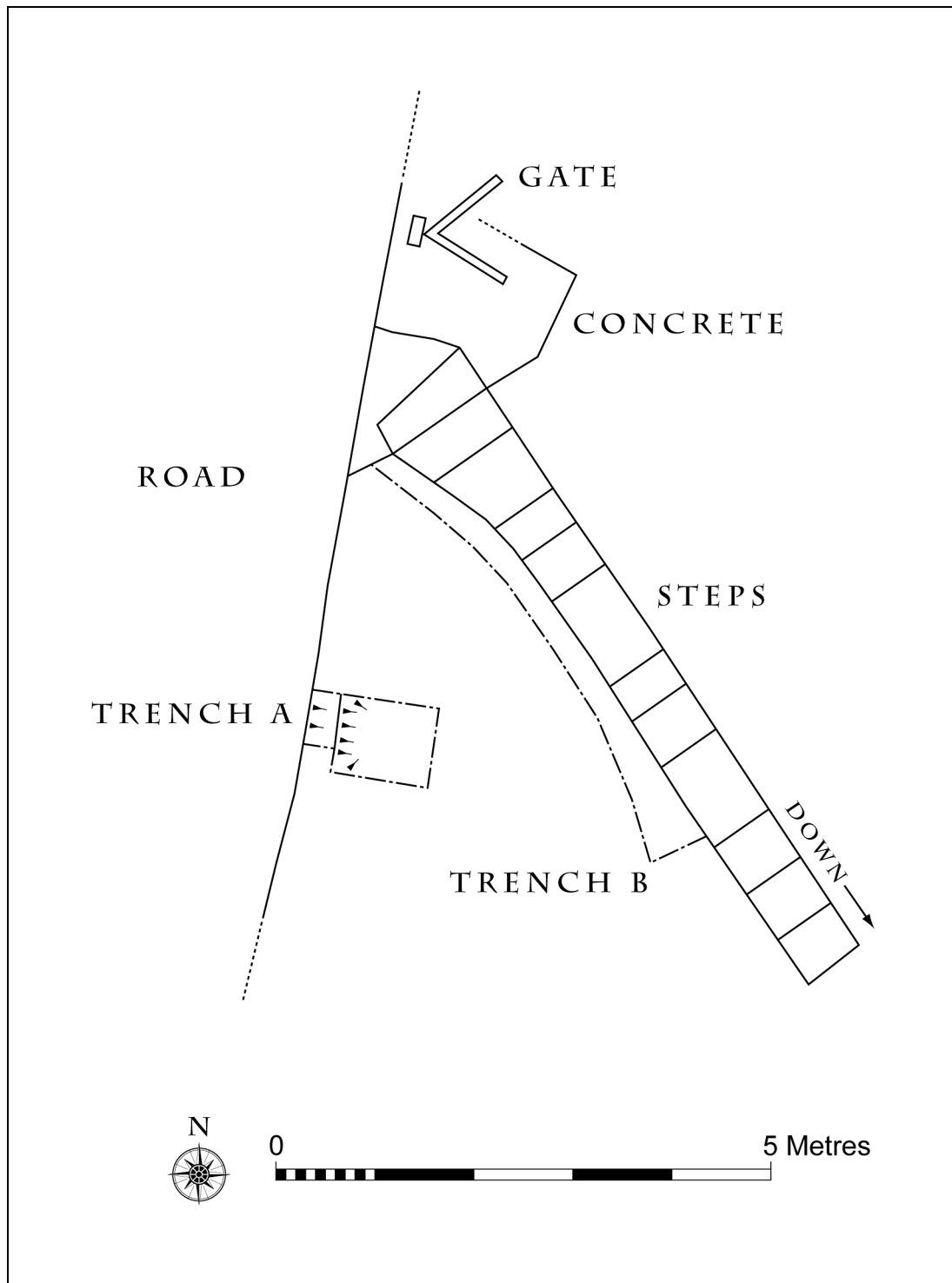


Figure 2: Plan showing the locations of Trench A and Trench B.

4.0 APPENDIX 1: LIST OF DRAWINGS

No.	Description	Scale
1	Plan of Trenches A and B.	1:50

5.0 APPENDIX 2: LIST OF DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

No.	Description	From	Date
1	Trench A, with the two boulders <i>in situ</i> .	E	20/4/2010
2	Trench A, picture of the W side of trench after removal of boulders. Note NW extension of trench.	E	20/4/2010
3	Trench A, including NW extension after removal of two large boulders. Tarmac road visible at the bottom of the picture. Taken from above Trench A.	V	20/4/2010
4	Trench A. Note the triangular section of the trench. Section and base of trench full of roots.	E	20/4/2010
5	Full length of Trench B, from E to W.	E	20/4/2010
6	Most southerly section of Trench B. Note the foundations of sign in Trench A in the background.	N	20/4/2010
7	Most northerly section of Trench B.	SE	20/4/2010
8	Full length of Trench B located to the S of concrete steps.	W	20/4/2010
9	Upper NW section of Trench B.	N	20/4/2010