XI

EXCAVATION AND SURVEY ON THE STARSLEY BURN, NORTH TYNEDALE, 1972

Barbara Harbottle and T. G. Newman

DURING a fortnight in August, 1972, Stone House (NY 7007 8823) on the west bank of the Starsley Burn was excavated, and on the east bank Gordon's Walls (NY 7022 8838) and Starsley (NY 7017 8825) were surveyed (see fig. 1). The work was prompted by the proposal (deferred in January, 1973) to flood the valley of the North Tyne between Falstone and the Kielder Viaduct to a point above the 600 foot contour. We are grateful to the Forestry Commission for permission to excavate and, through the kind co-operation of Mr. G. Whiteford, for providing a hut. We are indebted to the University of Newcastle
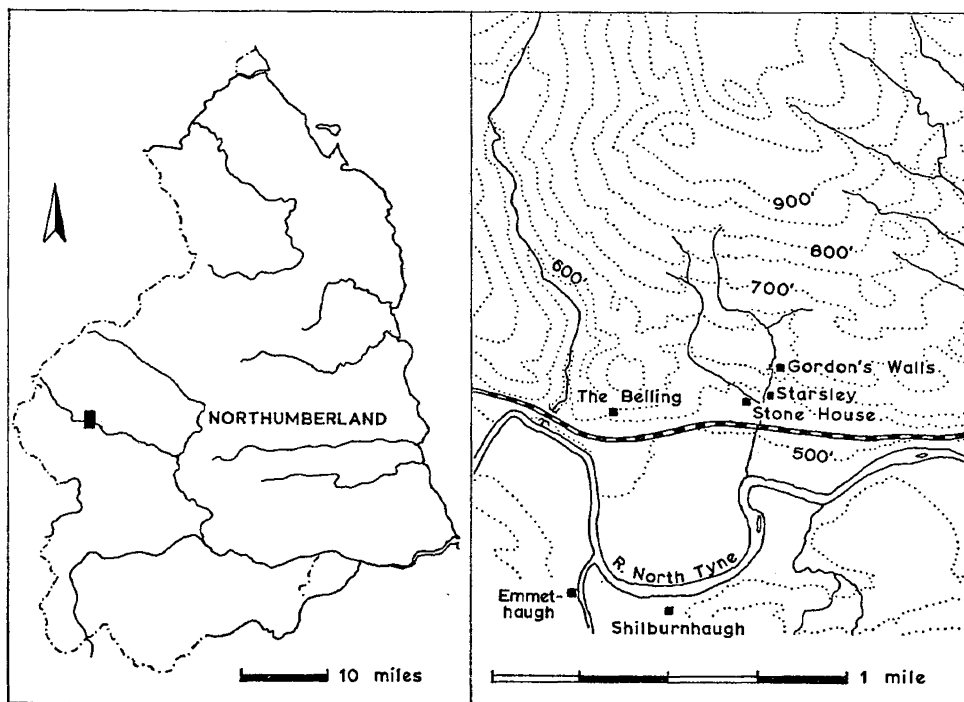

Fig. 1

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upon Tyne for financing the operation, to the Northumberland County Education Department for allowing us to hire the Kielder Field Studies Centre, to Mr. Brian Long for assistance and advice in a variety of ways, and to all the volunteers who took part.[1]

THE HISTORY

The lack of documentary evidence makes it impossible to outline the history of these three sites. It therefore seems better to speak in general terms of the development of the pattern of settlement in the upper reaches of the North Tyne valley, i.e. from Bellingham to the Border, remembering always that further excavation and more thorough documentary research could well make it necessary to modify what follows. For helpful discussion and suggestions regarding this section we are indebted to Professor G. W. S. Barrow, Dr. C. M. Fraser and Mr. S. Wrathmell, and to the Northumberland County Archivist, Mr. R. Gard, and his staff, Mrs. J. Campbell and Miss A. Arrowsmith.

In the latter part of the thirteenth century villages were few, and all were within 6 miles of Bellingham. In the *Iter* of Wark of 1279 seven places are described as *villa*—Bellingham itself, Charlton, Tarset, Thorneyburn and Donkleywood (Duncliffe) on the north bank of the Tyne, Chirdon in the valley of the Chirdon Burn, and Tirsethoppe, presumably on the Tarset Burn though no place of this name now exists.[2] Some of these names occur earlier than 1279, Bellingham in *c.* 1170,[3] Tarset in 1244,[4] Chirdon in 1255,[5] but only in the case of Donkleywood is there evidence to suggest the thirteenth-century colonization of the waste regarded as normal in other parts of the country. The identification of Duncliueshalch, the site of the hunting lodges of William the Lion in *c.* 1166, with Donkleywood[6] allows one to postulate that an area used for hunting in the twelfth century was being settled and farmed in the thirteenth.

Nothing is known of the size of these villages since the area was not included in the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1296, and there is little information about their appearance. The most important settlements were Bellingham and Tarset which, with Chirdon, were manorial centres each with its own

[2] C. H. Hartshorne, *Feudal and Military Antiquities in Northumberland and the Scottish Borders*, Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute, Newcastle, 1852, Vol. II (London, 1858), pp. lii-lv.

[3] *Reginald of Durham*, (Surtees Society, Vol. 1, 1834), p. 243.

[4] *Calendar of Close Rolls 1242-1247*, p. 221.

[5] *Calendar of Charter Rolls 1226-1257*, p. 446.

[6] *Regesta Regum Scottorum*, II, The Acts of William I, ed. G. W. S. Barrow, (Edinburgh, 1971), pp. 177-8.

mill.[7] At Bellingham there was a chapel, the only ecclesiastical building in the upper part of the valley and dependent on the parish church of Simonburn 6 miles away to the south.[8] Tarset was the only village with a fortification, a small castle for which a licence to crenellate was obtained by John Comyn in 1267/8,[9] and by the early fourteenth century there was a park here.[10]

While the surviving evidence is not precise, there may well have been both hamlets and farmsteads in existence in addition to the seven villages. There are, for example, references to Little Charlton and South Charlton though their location remains uncertain.[11] A few place-names are found in use as surnames—Richard de Emmoteshale (Emmethaugh), recorded in 1169-70,[12] Eda and Huctred de Heseliside, Adam de Stokhalche, and Emma de Waynhoppe in 1279.[13] While this type of surname eventually ceased to have any territorial significance these examples, and particularly Emmethaugh, are early enough to suggest the existence of some form of habitation probably of a permanent nature. It must be said, however, that not only does Emmethaugh appear early and surprisingly distant from the populated part of the valley, but also that the name does not occur again for a very long time. Without the references to Eda and Huctred there would be no reason to suppose there was a settlement at Hesleyside since, at this date, the name seems to have been applied to land inter-commoned by holders of free tenements in Shitlington, Little Charlton and Ealingham.[14] The location of Stokoe is uncertain; it could be represented either by the modern Stokoe on the north side of the Tyne, or by the modern Ridley Stokoe (South Stokoe) on the south side. The latter is perhaps the more probable if Stokhalgh hope (see below) is assumed to be the valley of the Stokoe Burn. Wainhope cannot be dismissed as an aberration since the name occurs again in the inquisitions of 1326-1330, which record a chief messuage, a park and assarts at Wainhope,[15] but whether it can be equated with the modern Wainhope seems doubtful. The situation is very remote for a permanent settlement of the late thirteenth century, and the place-name apparently disappears until the nineteenth century. Unlike other valley names, Waynhophope does not reoccur after the early fourteenth century, and the burn which flows past the Wainhope of

[7] Hartshorne, op. cit., pp. xlvii, lxiii (Robert miller of Bellingham); p. lxvi (William miller of Chirdon); p. liii (Tarset fulling mill); pp. xxviii-xxix (manor of Bellingham). Calendar of Fine Rolls IV, p. 129 (manor of Tarset).

[8] N.C.H. XV, pp. 222-3. The chapel is thought to date from the early thirteenth century, and was perhaps the result of an increase in the population in the area above Bellingham.

[9] Cal. Doc. rel. Scot., Vol. I, no. 2463. This is the usual reference, but it should be noted that in 1244 the castle of Tyreset was in the keeping of Hugh de Bolbec, sheriff of Northumberland. Calendar of Close Rolls 1242-1247, p. 221.

[10] Calendar of Fine Rolls IV, p. 186.

[11] Hartshorne, op. cit., pp. x, xxvi. In N.C.H. XV, p. 251, it is suggested that South Charlton lay on the south bank of the Tyne near Hesleyside, and that Little Charlton represented the modern Charlton. Since Little Charlton had rights of common at Hesleyside it seems unlikely to have lain north of the river.

[12] Pipe Roll, 16 Henry II (1169-70), p. 51. We are grateful to Professor G. W. S. Barrow for this reference.

[13] Hartshorne, op. cit., pp. lix, lxvii, lxviii, lxv, lxvi.

[14] Ibid., pp. xxvi, xl.

[15] N.C.H. XV, p. 244, and Cal. Docs. rel. Scot., Vol. III, p. 180.

today was Kennel Burn in the eighteenth century and Plashetts Burn thereafter.

Three other names must be added to complete the distribution of permanent settlements before c. 1300 so far as this is possible. The names of two hamlets, Snabothalgh (Snabdaugh) and Grenested, though first recorded in 1326,[16] were probably in existence in the thirteenth century. The position of Grenested is shown on Speed's map of 1610 and is represented by the modern Greystead. The third name is Dally Castle, also thirteenth-century in date if one accepts its equation with Lindsay's tower of 1237.[17]

Beyond this area of habitation the valley extended 10 miles to the watershed, and was some 10 miles across. Through the hills on either side streams flowed down to the Tyne and some, such as the Chirdon and Tarset Burns, were several miles in length. That this great tract was extensively used for

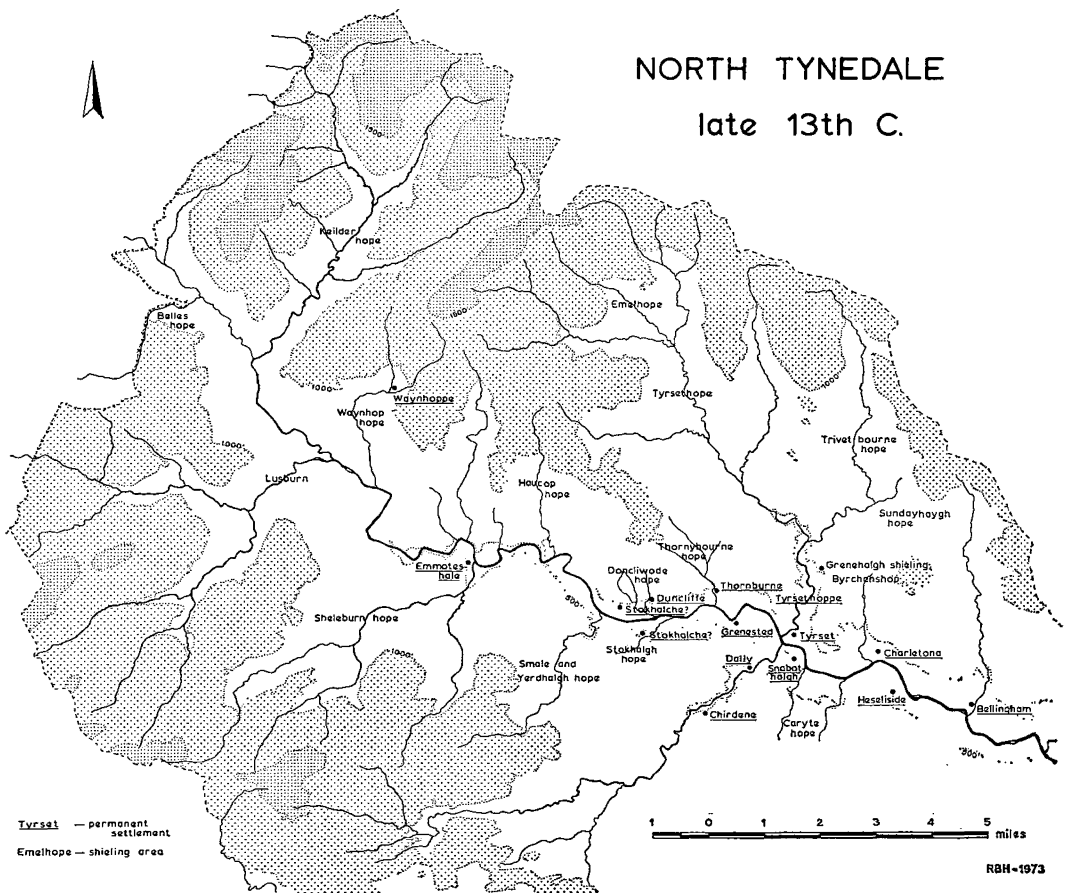

NORTH TYNEDALE

late 13th C.

Tyrset — permanent settlement

Emelhope — shieling area

Tyrset — permanent settlement
Emelhope — shieling area

RBH-1973

Fig. 2

[16] N.C.H. XV, pp. 244, 277.   [17] Ibid., p. 273.

grazing, that transhumance was an accepted way of life, and that the whole area was very vulnerable to Scottish attacks is clear from the inquisitions *post mortem* in 1326 of John Comyn and Robert de Swynburn, the owners respectively of the manors of Tarset and Chirdon.[18]

Since the Comyn inquisition suggests a highly organized and profitable use of the uplands before wasting by the enemy it seems reasonably certain that the practice of summering the livestock was well established before war began in 1296. While not all the names can be identified with certainty, it appears that the areas leased for grazing were closely related to the side valleys or hopes. On the north side of the Tyne the divisions were perhaps Sundayhayghhope (thought to refer to Sunday Sight[19]), Trivetbournehope (presumably Tarret Burn), Tyrsethope, Emelhope, Thornybournehope, Doncliwodehope, Haucophope, doubtfully Waynhophope, and Keildirhope. On the south side were le Belleshope, Lusburne (held by Adam de Swynburne in 1318[20]), Smale and Yerdhalghhope, Stokhalghhope, the upper valley of the Chirdon Burn (held by Robert de Swynburne), and le Carytehope (assumed to be Carriteth). This leaves Poltrernethhope, which cannot be located, Byrchenshope and Shovelborn or Sheleburnhope. In the past Byrchenshope has been associated with the Birks,[21] but such an identification is unsatisfactory since the hope would thus be sited in the manor of Chirdon instead of that of Tarset. It is worth noting in this connection that on the Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of 1866, sheet LX, the name Birchhope appears at the west end of Hareshaw Common. Assuming that Shovelborn and Sheleburn are identical, knowing that the rent, £26 13s. 4d., was the same as for the largest valleys of Kielder, Tarset and Tarret, and remembering the existence of the modern Shilburnhaugh, it seems highly probable that Sheleburnhope represents the Cranecleugh/Whickhope valley. If this is the case then Speed was mistaken when he gave the name Sheleburn to the Lewis Burn.[22]

The need for shielings, if these far-flung pastures were to be exploited, is obvious; their existence is indubitable. Two are explicitly named in the Comyn inquisition, Kielderheys and Grenehalgh, and twenty two *scalinge* are recorded in the manor of Chirdon. There are other possibilities since four of the hopes already mentioned are coupled with other names—Belleshope with le Bowhous, Trivetbournehope with le Grene, Thornybournehope with le Brendis, and Stokhalghhope with le Bernes.

The Scottish raids of the early fourteenth century devastated the north of England more severely than was ever to happen again, and in 1314 it appears that Robert Bruce resumed the lordship of Tynedale,[23] a liberty of the kings of

[18] *N.C.H.* XV, pp. 244, 277.
[19] *Ibid.*, p. 245n. Also -halgh and -heyh hope.
[20] *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, VI, no. 164, p. 95.
[21] *N.C.H.* XV, p. 244n.
[22] Excluding the Swynburne lands of Lusburne and Chirdon, this list of names is a combination of the Comyn *i.p.m.* of 1326 (*N.C.H.* XV, p.

244) with the mandate for the delivery of the Talbot lands of 1330 (*Calendar of Fine Rolls* IV, p. 186) and the assignment of dower to Comyn's widow in 1329 (*Cal. Docs. rel. Scot.* III, p. 180).
[23] G. W. S. Barrow, *Robert Bruce*, (London, 1965), p. 338.

Scotland from 1158 to 1296. It is possible not only that the Scots occupied the area for some time, but also that some of the damage was caused by the English. In 1315 Anthony de Lucy was granted, among other things, all that he could levy from the lands occupied by the enemy and belonging to the late John Comyn and others in Tynedale.[24] In the North Tyne valley the disruption, by whatever cause, of the farming of the uplands, and the partial abandonment of some of the permanent settlements is clearly revealed in the two inquisitions *post mortem* of 1326. In the manor of Chirdon the rents before the attacks amounted to £23 19s. 8d. but afterwards to only 15s.; the fall in the value of the manor of Tarset was even more catastrophic, from £248 10s. to £4 10s. 4d. This was the result of a combination of destruction of property, loss of livestock, and the death or emigration of the tenants. The twenty-two Chirdon shielings were abandoned, together with seven of the hopes of Tarset manor, and the rents from the remainder were reduced to a few shillings. Of the settlements which are mentioned Wainhope ceased to exist, Grenested suffered severely, at Snabdaugh it was possible to let only 30 acres out of the original five tofts with 16 acres each, and at Charlton only 20 acres from the fourteen tofts with 20 acres each. It seems certain therefore that for a time the upper part of the valley ceased to be used for the summer-ing of beasts, and that the frontier of settlement retracted. It is possible that sites of shielings or even permanent dwellings abandoned in this period survive, and await identification.

It is difficult to estimate how quickly the valley recovered and grazing was resumed in the outlying areas, and indeed when new settlements began to appear in any numbers, since the evidence is scanty in the later fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The fact that 1000 acres of pasture in the Chirdon valley was worth only 5 marks a year in 1416 suggests that the prosperity of the late thirteenth century had not yet returned.[25] Some hitherto unrecorded names appear in the inquisition *post mortem* of Henry Percy, third Earl of Northumberland, in 1464, but it is not clear which are settlements and which shieling grounds. It is possible that there were by this date farms at Longhaugh, Close Hill, Newton and even Yarrow in the main valley, and at Greenhaugh, Sidwood, Gatehouse and Dunstead up the Tarset Burn, and if so this would represent a considerable advance of the frontier of settlement. In view of later evidence, however, places such as Sundaysight and Emblehope must have been just distant pastures.[26] It is fruitless to speculate further, and more profitable to move on to the sixteenth century when the documentary evidence, though scattered, is more plentiful.

In 1541 the outer limit of settlement in the main valley was described by the king's commissioners as "a place called the bellynge which ys the highest

[24] *Cal. Docs. rel. Scot.* III, p. 86.

[25] *N.C.H.* XV, p. 278. The suggestion in H. G. Ramm, R. W. McDowall, Eric Mercer, *Shielings and Bastles*, (R.C.H.M., England, 1970), p. 6, that permanent occupation had

reached Hope House near the head of the Chirdon Burn by this date is surely an error, since "a certain hopp' called Chyrden" can only mean the hope or valley of the burn.

[26] Hartshorne, *op. cit.*, p. 260.

& uttermost Inhabytac'on nowe plenyshed in the said countrye of Tyndall".[27]
They also noted that from the Belling a "plenyshed" or inhabited strip of
land some 2 to 3 miles wide stretched downstream to Redesmouth, and that
above this on either side and at the upper end of the valley, particularly on
the Keylder and the Luseburne, were the wastes and moors used as summer-
ing grounds.[28] Thus far the situation was not unlike that at the end of the
thirteenth century: where it had changed was in the multiplication of tiny
settlements and in the dominant position of Bellingham.

Bellingham was now a "lytle towne", a local capital and retail centre. It
was here that the Tynedale men, regarded with fear and dislike by outsiders,
met to discuss matters of common interest; it was to the chapel at Bellingham
that they came not only for mass but also for the sacraments. Because of
the clannishness of the local inhabitants, and their physical and political
isolation, Bellingham had assumed some of the administrative and
ecclesiastical functions of Wark and Simonburn. The other early manorial
centres of Chirdon and Tarset had declined so much in importance that they
were indistinguishable from the surrounding hamlets and farmsteads. The one
fortification noted in the 1541 Survey was the little tower of Hesleyside, and
there was by this time a chapel at "the Fawe stone" for private masses.[29]

By the middle of the sixteenth century there were more than seventy settle-
ments strung out on either side of the North Tyne west of Bellingham and in
the Chirdon and Tarset valleys, and while the commissioners may have erred
in believing that the Belling was the most remote their general comment was
true enough. The distribution map[30] (fig. 3) is based on two lists of place-
names compiled for different purposes. The first, made in 1584, was a report
on Border depopulation since 27 Henry VIII (1535/6),[31] and the second, of
1552, was "The Order of the Day-Watch for North Tyndaill".[32] The full
implications of the 1584 report are not clear: were the places necessarily in
existence in 1535/6, and at what date between 1535/6 and 1584 were they
depopulated? Since depopulation in this instance seems to mean an absence
of "able men" rather than total desertion, and since the five settlements not
mentioned in 1552 but perhaps in being in 1535/6 all reappear in the
documentary evidence later, they have been included on the map, i.e. Borchop,
Bower, Brunehills, Stenherburne and Stratley. Lewisburn is the only place
not on either list and yet apparently in existence. Its site was curiously isolated

[27] John Hodgson, *History of Northumberland*,
Part 3, Vol. II, (Newcastle upon Tyne, 1828),
p. 231.

[28] *Ibid.*, p. 230-1.

[29] *Ibid.*, p. 231.

[30] Figure 3 should not be regarded as either
complete, or accurate in the siting of certain
places. Four names have been omitted, two are
included but without a precise location, and
the position and/or identification of others is
dependent on some guesswork backed by hints
in post-medieval documentary sources. The
boundaries shown are those which exist today.

The village of Bells, near the junction of Bells
Burn and the North Tyne, has been excluded
as it seems to have been the result not of
English movement westwards but of Scottish
penetration eastwards, being described in 1551
as "within the bounds of Liddesdale", (*N.C.H.*
XV, p. 190).

[31] P.R.O. SP 15/28. We are grateful to Dr.
C. M. Fraser for kindly lending us her photo-
stats of the relevant part of the survey.

[32] Bishop William Nicholson of Carlisle,
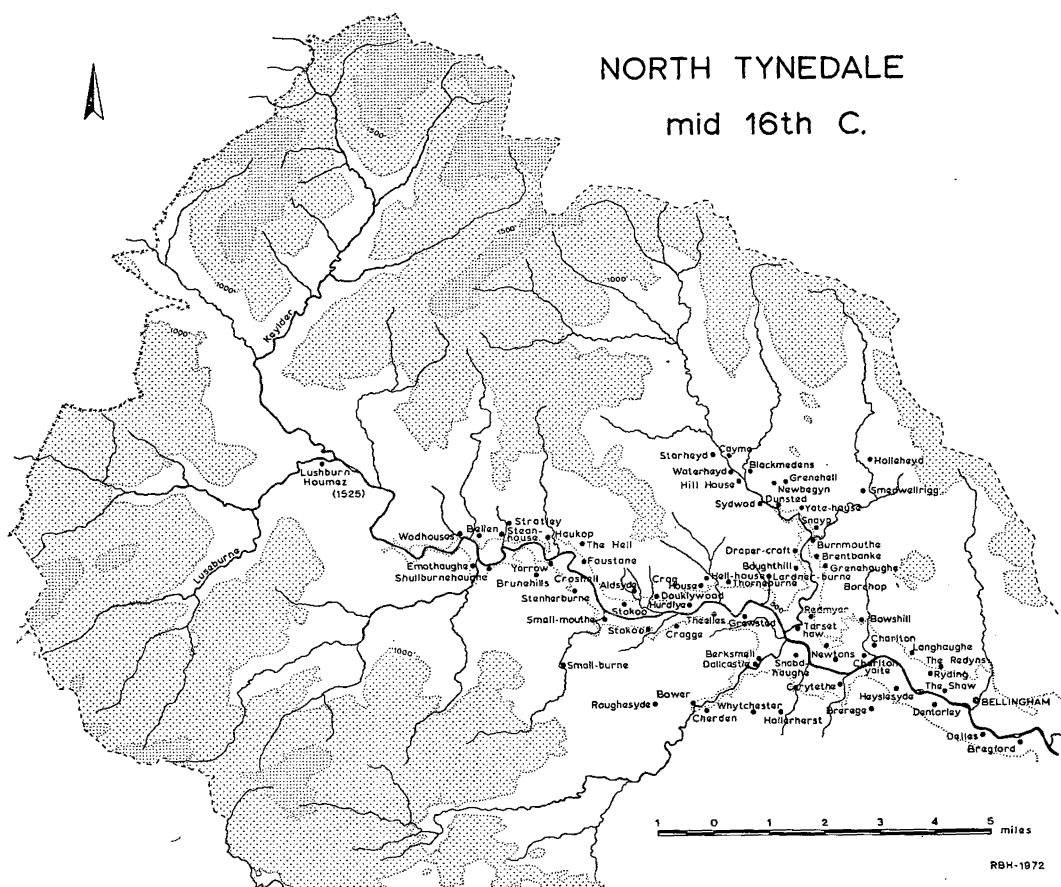*Border Laws*, (London, 1705), pp. 260-262.

NORTH TYNEDALE
mid 16th C.

Fig. 3

and, in view of Sir William Eure's comment to Cardinal Wolsey in 1525 that "the rebels of Tynedale are in a place called Lushburn Houmez",[33] it is possible that it was then little more than a robbers' hideout. With a few later omissions and additions the distribution of places forms a pattern familiar today, and the basic unit was the farmstead. The number of place-names in each group required to find two watchers was large, suggesting that there were few able-bodied men available in any one settlement, and this is borne out in 1584 when the loss of one or two men at many places was sufficient to render them "depopulated". Nevertheless hamlets did exist, and Snabdaugh was demonstrably larger than its immediate neighbours since it was required to provide watchers for two posts. It seems possible that some, perhaps many, of these places inhabited in the mid sixteenth century had been the

[33] *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, of the reign of Henry VIII*, Vol. IV, part 1, no. 1517.

sites of earlier shielings, but only in the case of Greenhaugh, a shieling in 1326, is the documentary evidence unequivocal.

In spite of the gloomy implications of the 1584 report on depopulation the second half of this century does not seem to have been a time when farms were deserted. Even if the commissioners were correct when they declared that no "able men" remained in the c. thirty-five settlements on their list, all the place-names appear again in documents of the late sixteenth or seventeenth century. Indeed in the fifty years before the Border Survey of 1604 the number of individual settlements appears to increase since certain names were recorded apparently for the first time. Whether they were really new farms, or had merely been omitted from the earlier lists is not known. It is therefore impossible to say whether Knoppishawhe (Knoppingholme?) represented in-filling within the inhabited area, or Leaplish[34] and Otterstonelee,[35] Highfield and Bog Head[36] continued colonization of the waste during this time.

For a number of the places in existence by the mid sixteenth century, and for some first mentioned later, there is either visible or documentary evidence that at some point in time the principal building was a bastle-house. The architectural characteristics of bastles have been fully described, and it has been suggested that in North Tynedale their construction cannot have been earlier than 1541 and might have continued into the seventeenth century, even as late as c. 1650.[37] It must be said, however, that this dating is not based on archaeological evidence since none is yet available. In some cases traces of other buildings, and occasionally enclosures, survive close to the bastle, for example Bog Head, Black Middings and Boughthill, although whether these are earlier, contemporary with or later than the house itself is not always obvious.

It is now possible to augment the R.C.H.M. list of eleven places containing thirteen bastles (two each at Black Middings and Gatehouse), and so arrive at a more realistic, though doubtless still inaccurate, figure. Ruins of five others survive—at Highfield,[38] at Boughthill,[39] at Crag, Crag House or Crag Cottage east of Ridley Stokoe,[40] another west of Ridley Stokoe (possibly High Stokoe),[41] and on the Starsley Burn, the site of the excavation.[42] Eye-witness

[34] Knoppishawhe and Leaplish were part of the Burgh moiety of the manor of Tarset in 1568, Hodgson, op. cit., Part 3, Vol. III (Newcastle, 1835), p. lxii.

[35] Survey of the Border Lands, 1604, (Alnwick, 1891), ed. R. P. Sanderson, p. 54.

[36] 1583, Cal. Border Papers, Vol. I, no. 174. Anyone searching the documentary sources for references to that bastle-house called Barty's Pele (N.C.H. XV, p. 271) or Corbie Castle (Shielings and Bastles, p. 91) should look for Bog Head, its real name and clearly marked on the O.S. 6 inch map of 1866.

[37] Shielings and Bastles, pp. 61-3, 66-7.

[38] Information from Mr. V. Blankenburgs and Mr. B. Long, NY 7538 9074. Part of the vault

still stood in 1814, John Hodgson's MSS, Notebook N, p. 274 (library of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle).

[39] N.C.H. XV, p. 249; NY 7873 8719.

[40] Information from Mrs. Betty Gibson. The name first appeared on the 1552 list, and was still on the O.S. 6 inch map of 1866, sheet LXVII; NY 7522 8556.

[41] Information as in no. 38. It is perhaps the High Stokoe which appeared on the Enclosure Award of Greystead Common, Northumberland County Record Office (hereafter N.C.R.O.); NY 7398 8548.

[42] Information as in no. 38. For a discussion of its name see below.

accounts of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century antiquaries and others are a further source of information, though they vary in credibility. The descriptions of three bastles, however, appear sufficiently detailed to be acceptable, and to those it is probably safe to add two more from Warburton's rather bald list. In 1814 John Hodgson noted one between Falstone and Yarrow,[43] and in 1830 another at Chirdon.[44] Messrs. Tate and Bell, in their valuation of the Belling, Kennel and Law Farm in 1853, noted that among the buildings at the Belling was "an eight stand Byer, which has formerly been an old Peel House; the walls are in the lower part five feet thick".[45] In the early eighteenth century Warburton recorded "piles" at the Bower and at Shilburnhaugh, in addition to that at Chirdon.[46] Without attempting to assess the evidence for yet other bastle-houses in the valley it is possible to guess that the incidence of such buildings was one in every four or five settlements.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries seasonal grazing of the uplands gave way to pastoral farming all the year round, and the shielings were replaced by permanent farms. It is difficult to judge when this change began, how it was effected and when it was completed; the summering of livestock was still practised in the early seventeenth century,[47] and the pattern of settlement had changed little by 1663. By that time there were settlements at Sundaysight and High Green and, indicating a further move west up the main valley, at Wellhaugh, Plashetts and Kennel.[48] Nevertheless an alteration of earlier practice seems to be implicit in the Earl of Northumberland's lease, dated 1658, of his "somerings or waste grounds" in the area of the Kielder Burn to Henry Widdrington of Black Heddon.[49] This put a large area into the hands of one tenant who came from outside North Tynedale and who presumably then sub-let the ground. This trend can be seen on a larger scale in a Survey or Rental of the Percy lands in North Tynedale and, though un-dated, probably records the situation in the late seventeenth century.[50] Besides

[43] Hodgson, Notebook N, p. 283. "On Broom [?] hill between Falstone and Yarrow there is the arch of an old pele covered over with sods and green it was inhabited abt 2 yrs since". Hodgson's writing is sometimes illegible, but it is possible that this was the Brunehills of the sixteenth century and perhaps the remains at NY 7160 8716.

[44] Hodgson, Notebook Z, p. 51. "The peel at Chirdon is 27 feet by 15 within—the Vault has a window above the door to the Vaulted ground floor. The door on the south has no stairs to it. New stairs put on the outside on the north". This is probably the building of which there is an engraving, "A Peel on the Chirdon Burn", at the end of his History of Northumberland, Part 3, Vol. III.

[45] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/3.

[46] Arch. Ael., 3, XIII (1916), p. 14. Hodgson does not mention a bastle at the Bower, perhaps because he never reached it. On the day he visited Chirdon he went no further because it was raining and he wasn't feeling very well.

[47] N.C.R.O. ZAL 14/2/1, f. 3; Sanderson, op. cit., p. 52.

[48] Hodgson, History of Northumberland, Part 3, Vol. I, pp. 302-309.

[49] N.C.H. XV, p. 266.

[50] Alnwick Castle MSS, A VI, no. 2. Although undated this Survey is identical in format and hand to A VI, no. 1, dated 1702. Sir Henry Widdrington (knighted after the Restoration) died in 1665, and Ralph was presumably his son of that name (N.C.H. XII, pp. 334-5). Anne Duchess of Monmouth was Countess of Buccleugh in her own right; she married the Duke of Monmouth in 1663, and after his death in 1685 she married Lord Cornwallis in 1688, and died in 1732, (The Complete Peerage, Vol. IX (1936), pp. 60-66). The last date seems late for this document, so perhaps she was described as "the late Duchess of Monmouth" after her second marriage.

a list of fifty-three farms with one or more messuages and land, it includes a
few places where rent was paid for "land" or "waste ground" only. These areas
were the Kielder valley (by this time let to Ralph Widdrington), Emblehope,
Allerycleugh, Bewshaugh, Gowanburn, Cranecleugh, Whickhope and Smales
(most of which were held by Edward Charlton), and waste south-west of the
Bells (let to the "late Duchess of Monmouth"). Several of these grounds were
sub-let to one man, John Batey. It seems possible, therefore, that in the second
half of the seventeenth century, possibly extending into the early eighteenth,
there was an intermediate period between the earlier custom of shielding and
the later division into permanent farms when the uplands were let and sub-let
to a few individuals. By 1769, however, when Armstrong published his large
scale map of Northumberland, agricultural settlement had reached its furthest
extent in North Tynedale, and farms existed at the heads of the valleys, as at
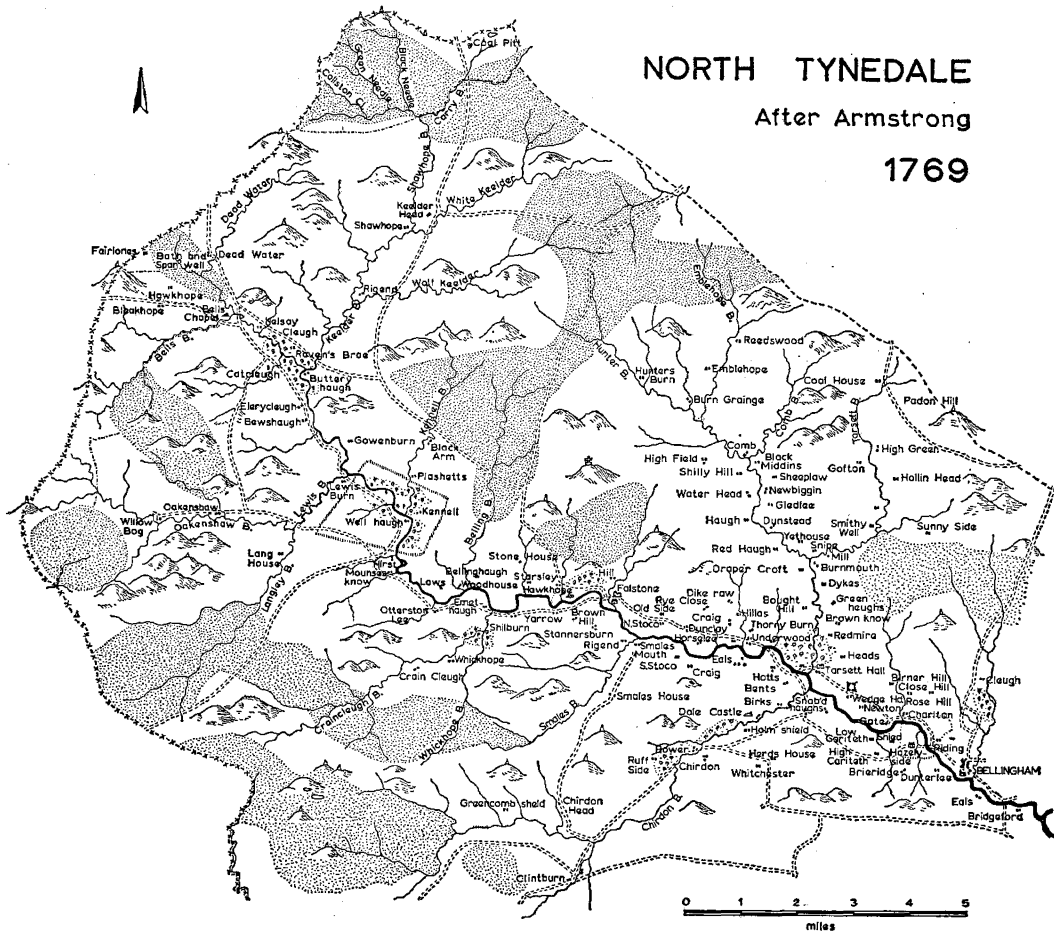Emblehope, Scaup, Deadwater and Willow Bog (see fig. 4).

Fig. 4

The changes in land-use and improvement of communications in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries affected different parts of the valley in different ways. In some areas the population increased and in others it declined, agriculture—though still important—ceased to provide virtually the only employment, and as a result the pattern of settlement also changed. There seem to have been six factors responsible, four of which can only be mentioned. The desire of the greater landowners to pursue game in the remote parts of their far-flung estates led to the building of shooting boxes and the employment of gamekeepers. The division of the parish of Simonburn resulted in new churches and houses for the clergy, educational facilities were improved by the provision of new schools, and there was increased exploitation of local minerals. The two remaining factors, which are of more immediate relevance, were the agricultural reorganization and—in the course of improving communications—the construction of the railway.

The number of farms in the valley reached a maximum in perhaps the latter part of the eighteenth century and thereafter decreased; this resulted in some cases in the abandonment of dwellings, and hence in a thinning out of settlements in certain areas. This very general statement, on but one aspect of the subject of agriculture, is based on a cursory examination of some of the documentary evidence, including the summarized figures for the census of 1811-1871, on the distribution and nature of certain deserted sites and on the O.S. 6 inch map of 1866. The reduction in the number of individual farms was caused by the amalgamation of smaller holdings into larger units, for example Low Stokoe and Old Side which were owned by George Gibson and let as one farm to John Robson in 1804,[51] and Bullcrag, which was an independent farm of 175 acres belonging to Robert Elliott in 1801[52] but which had been absorbed into the Duke of Northumberland's farm of Cranecleugh before 1849.[53] From just these two examples it is clear that the motives for such action could vary from a landlord's desire to improve the administration of his own estate to a wish to increase a farm's size by acquiring neighbouring property. There were obviously other reasons—the steady increase in rents may have made some farms difficult to let,[54] and some of the holdings downstream from Falstone were small, and perhaps uneconomic. The $43\frac{1}{2}$ acre farm of Dunstead, for example, disappeared very suddenly, for after being advertised to let in 1848[55] the buildings were no more than ruins by 1866.

The Belling Farm, within which was the area of survey and excavation, was itself the result of amalgamation of smaller holdings, and as such it will serve to demonstrate the effect that such amalgamation could have on the

[51] N.C.R.O., enclosure of Thorneyburn, Greystead and Stannersburn Commons, Commissioners' Papers.

[52] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/2, advertisement of stock farms to let, 1801.

[53] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/2, valuation of Cranecleugh and Bullcrag Farms, 1849.

[54] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/1, progress of the rental of the Duke of Northumberland's highland farms.

[55] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 82/6, advertisement of Dunstead Farm to let, 1848.

The
BELLING FARM
early 19th C.

Belling Burn

—·—·— farm boundary
----- internal boundaries
·········· field walls

Drift Road

Belling Burn Head

The Law (det.)

Kielder Drove Road

Drift Road

Kennel

Wood-houses

Belling
Heugh Head

Belling

Starsley

The Law

Long Walls

River North Tyne

0   1   2
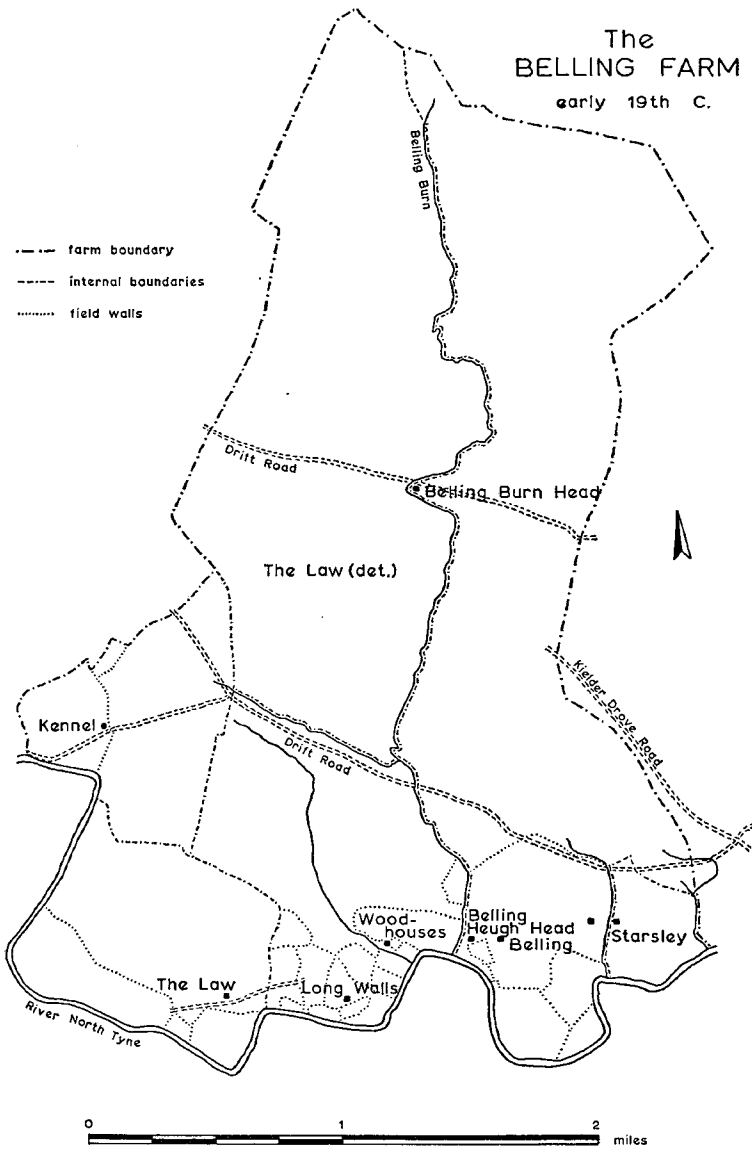   miles

Fig. 5

pattern of settlement. In 1828 the Duke of Northumberland paid John Reed
and others £15,000 for what was described as "the Kennell, Belling etc.
Estates".[56] Although more than one former owner was apparently involved
in the sale, the statement that the Belling, Woodhouses and Kennel Farms
of 4,365 acres were let in 1818 to John Ridley and relet in 1830 to John
Thompson[57] suggests that the unifying of the farms in the hands of a single
tenant was completed before the Duke's purchase. The whole consisted at
that time of five principal units, the Law (1,758 acres), the Belling (1,628
acres), Woodhouses (536 acres), the Kennel (312 acres) and Starsley (86 acres),
together with a small field received in an exchange of land with Sir John
Swinburne, and half the North Tyne bordering the farm (see fig. 5).[58] The
random nature of the documentary evidence for the eighteenth century and
earlier makes it difficult to describe the changes of ownership which resulted
in this single large farm. In 1663 Andrew Robson owned the Belling and,
as one, Plashetts and Kennel, Edward and Matthew Robson held the Belling
Mill, Mark and John Robson and Mungo Yarrow were at "Stanley" (assumed
to be Starsley), George Dodd and Reonald Robson owned Woodhouse and
Double Dykes, and the Law was not recorded at all.[59] No later reference has
been found to the Belling Mill and Double Dykes so it is not possible to say
when they were merged with, presumably, the Law and Woodhouses; and
Starsley and the Kennel are not mentioned again until after 1828. Although
Edward Charlton of Reedsmouth still owned the "farmhold" of the Belling
in 1785 when it was let to John Hutson and partners,[60] it is possible that John
Reed had acquired some of the other properties in 1782 when the Charltons
sold land to pay off mortgages on Hesleyside.[61] Reed was certainly in posses-
sion of the Law in 1814, though in dispute with the Charltons concerning
it.[62] Hodgson's comments on Woodhouses in that year suggest that the house
had been abandoned and the style of farming changed. He wrote "Robson
to whose father Tarset Castle belonged built a house at Woodhouses which
is now dilapidated, and also the cottage of his gardiner ... Robson's house
was the first good one that high ... It is very pleasantly situated among fields
that have been cultivated but now without fences and grazed upon".[63] It can

[56] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/18.
[57] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/3.
[58] Ibid. Fig. 5 is based on an undated, but
probably early nineteenth-century, map of the
Belling Farm, N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 57/18. A
rough version, at a smaller scale, exists in ZAN
Bell 65/3. The cottages at Belling Heugh Head
formed part of the Belling farmstead, an un-
named building is shown on the site of Stone
House (see below p. 162), and the building at
Long Walls and the field boundaries round
Woodhouses have been cancelled with pencilled
crosses on the original map.
[59] Hodgson, History of Northumberland, Part
3, Vol. I, pp. 302-309. We suggest that Double
Dykes just might be the name of the building,
of which traces still exist, within the Romano-

British site on the west bank of the Pot Burn
opposite Woodhouses.
[60] Northumbrian Documents, ed. J. C.
Hodgson, (Surtees Society, Vol. 131 (1918)),
p. 122.
[61] N.C.H. XV, p. 267. This reference is not
wholly satisfactory as it concludes with a state-
ment that Plashetts was sold by Reed to the
Duke in 1828. The Duke had owned Plashetts
at least since 1801, and it was in fact the Belling
etc. which was sold. The source for this state-
ment is, as the result of recent renumbering, no
longer Bell MSS. portfolio 41 but ZAN Bell
65/18.
[62] Hodgson, Notebook N, p. 293.
[63] Ibid., pp. 294, 297.

perhaps be inferred that Woodhouses had by then ceased to be a separate farm. Until further information becomes available a more precise account of this complicated amalgamation cannot be written.

Consolidation of such small farms created a surplus of dwellings, and those which were not required for the working of the new unit were either abandoned or occupied for some or no rent by people in other employment. The latter was not necessarily a permanent arrangement. It is clear from what has already been said that on the Belling farm a number of places, of which Woodhouses was probably the latest, had been deserted before the Duke acquired the property in 1828. Thereafter the Belling (with its adjunct Bellingburn Head) and the Law were retained to house the shepherds employed on the farm, and buildings remain at these places today. A single roomed cottage at the Kennel survived for a time and was noted in the 1865 valuation, though not in that of 1853, but its role in the administration of the farm is not clear. At Starsley the two roomed cottage was occupied by the two households of Allen Hedley, a pitman, and Elizabeth Pattison, a widow on poor relief. Neither paid any rent to the tenant of the Belling, John Thompson, who wanted the building removed. The valuers described it as "quite ruinous" in 1865 but did not state if it were still inhabited. This last case suggests that once the landowner had decided not to spend money on the upkeep of houses surplus to his requirements their eventual desertion was inevitable.[64]

The construction of the Border Counties Railway in the late 1850s and early '60s had an immediate and obvious effect on the pattern of settlement. The permanent staff required to run the railway was accommodated in solid stone houses with slate roofs built by the side of the track. Not only did these buildings present a marked contrast to the farm cottages of the time, many of which were still tiny and thatched, but they had a rigidly linear distribution related to the track which itself passed south of most of the farms and thus nearer the river.

While the railway was under construction accommodation had to be found for immigrant workers in the townships which bordered the line, and in view of the results of the excavation it seemed desirable to test the commonly held belief that the navvies reoccupied any derelict houses and cottages which were reasonably accessible. A study of the enumerators' returns of the 1861 census for the township of Plashetts and Tynehead (i.e. the north side of the Tyne from Falstone to Deadwater) reveals that of the 494 inhabitants 233 Irish, Scots and English were "temporarily present" because of the railway works, or 182 males and 51 females, including children. Two-thirds of these people were housed at Kielder, and this can only mean in railway huts since in 1851 Kielder was no more than the castle and one or two cottages. Almost

[64] For the information in this paragraph see N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/3, the valuations of the Belling, Kennel and Law Farm of 1853 and 1865; and enumerators' returns for census of 1851 and 1861.

all the remainder lodged in farmhouses and cottages near the track, and
overcrowding was inevitable. The cottage at the Belling, which comprised
two rooms, a loft, a dairy and pantry, in 1861 accommodated the shepherd,
James Hutton, his wife, three children, a servant and five boarders. In only
one instance in this township is there evidence that Irish navvies squatted in
a derelict building (see below, p. 154). With the departure of the railway
workers rural quiet returned to the Starsley Burn and the present story can
thus be concluded.

Before attempting to fit the three sites on the Starsley Burn into a historical
context they must be identified, and the identification which follows relies on
a combination of Armstrong's map of 1769 with the Ordnance Survey 6 inch
map of 1866, sheet LIX. Armstrong marks two of the sites, Stone House on the
west bank of the burn and Starsley on the east. The Ordnance Survey also gives
names to two, both on the east bank—to the southern Starsley and to the
northern Gordon's Walls—but shows only the outline of an enclosure on the
west side. Although Armstrong's site for Stone House is farther north than
the true position of the excavation it seems more reasonable to suppose a
slight inaccuracy on his part than to introduce a fourth settlement for which
there is no documentary evidence. We have therefore adhered to these three
names for the purpose of this report.

The scanty documentary evidence for Stone House proves it was in existence
by the middle of the sixteenth century and suggests that our location of it
could be correct. The name occurs in "The Order of the Day-Watch for North
Tynedale" of 1552 between Belling and Hawkhope,[65] in the description of
the Burgh moiety of Tarset manor of 1568 between Strateley and Belling,[66]
and in 1654 it appears next to the Belling yet again in a list of Charlton
lands.[67] Even if the last of these references is applicable it does not seem that
any later mention of Stone House applies to this site. Two other places of this
name were listed in the book of rates of 1663, one at or near Middleburn and
the second near Shitlington.[68] The latter is presumably the Stone House shown
just east of Barneystead on modern maps, and probably the one which appears
consistently next to Barizand- or Barnard-Stead in eighteenth-century lists of
property belonging to the Charlton family.[69] While the omission, in 1663, of
Stone House near the Belling suggests that it was no longer inhabited by that
time this is not conclusive, since places such as the Comb are also missing.[70]
Furthermore, abandonment as early as the mid seventeenth century would
render Armstrong's inclusion of the name on his map quite inexplicable.
The date of desertion, therefore, must remain unresolved.

Starsley, in that form, does not appear before the eighteenth century, but

[65] Border Laws, op. cit., p. 261.

[66] Hodgson, History of Northumberland, Part
3, Vol. III, p. lxii.

[67] Royalist Compositions, 1643-1660, ed. R.
Welford, (Surtees Society, Vol. 111 (1905)),
p. 153.

[68] Hodgson, History of Northumberland, Part
3, Vol. I, pp. 306, 307.

[69] Northumbrian Documents, op. cit., pp. 14,
68, 117.

[70] Inhabited by John Milburne in 1662. Arch.
Ael. 2, VI (1865), p. 151.

there are two references to a place called Stratley or Strateley in the sixteenth century—among the settlements perhaps in existence in 1535/6 and "spoiled" by 1584,[71] and as part of the Burgh lands in 1568.[72] In the first the name appears between Hawkhope Hill and the Belling, and in the second between Old Side and Stone House. It is probably also included in the 1663 list as Stanley.[73] There is at the moment no connection which can be proved between Stratley and Starsley; all we have are two not dissimilar names and a hint that they might have been sited in the same general area. On this shifting ground we base our hypothesis that there was a farmstead on the east side of the Starsley Burn in the sixteenth century, that it could be represented by Gordon's Walls in its first period, and that later—possibly but not necessarily after a period of desertion—Gordon's Walls was replaced by a cottage at Starsley lower down the hillside. The original source for the name of Gordon's Walls is unknown and this type of place-name, of which there are others in Northumberland,[74] begs two questions—who were these individuals whose personal names were thus used, and does the use of "walls" signify a roofless or ruined structure? Even if this guess at the earlier name and period of Gordon's Walls is correct there is nothing at all to explain the later alterations and additions.

As has been said already, Starsley was probably a small farm which was merged with the Belling at an unknown date before 1818. A building (or buildings) was marked in the appropriate position and with this name on the map of the Belling Farm (fig. 5) and on the map of the 1840 Tithe Award.[75] It was described in 1853 as "A Cottage of two rooms, with temporary lofts, having a thatched roof and in so bad a state as not to be worth repairing. A Temporary erected Byer and Piggery partly formed of timber with turf roofs. One of the cottage rooms is occupied by Allen Hedley, a pitman, the other room by Elizabeth Pattison (a widow receiving parochial relief from Alwinton Parish) and her son, William Pattison, with his wife and family. He is an agricultural labourer but not in regular work. Mr. Thompson (the tenant of the Belling Farm) says they pay him no rent and he wishes to have those buildings removed which we (the valuers) also strongly recommend."[76] Although their families tended to go to and fro, Allen Hedley and Elizabeth Pattison (or Pattinson) were sharing this cottage in 1851 and were still there in 1861.[77] It is possible that they had left by 1865 when the cottage was described as "quite ruinous".[78]

Finally, an explanation is required of the discovery, during the excavation (see below, pp. 161-3), that Stone House was restored to a habitable condition in the nineteenth century. This fact was not recorded in the valuations of

[71] P.R.O., SP 15/28.

[72] Hodgson, *History of Northumberland*, Part 3, Vol. III, p. lxii.

[73] Hodgson, *History of Northumberland*, Part 3, Vol. I, p. 308.

[74] E.g. Buckham's Walls, Bran's Walls, Christy's Walls, Thompson's Walls.

[75] N.C.R.O., DT/375/M.

[76] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/3, valuation of the Belling Farm, 1853.

[77] Enumerators' returns for the 1851 and 1861 census.

[78] N.C.R.O., ZAN Bell 65/3, valuation of the Belling Farm, 1865.

the Belling Farm in 1853 and 1865, and the building does not appear among the enumerators' returns for the 1851 census. In 1861, however, there is an entry headed "Starsley" which is in addition to the two households already mentioned. It seems highly unlikely that these six new arrivals could possibly have found room in the tumbledown cottage east of the burn, and—since they were Irish—it is equally improbable that they would have been welcome. Of all the local householders in Plashetts and Tynehead only Richard Common of the Law had Irish lodgers. The choice, therefore, is between Gordon's Walls and Stone House, and in view of the archaeological evidence for the occupation of the latter in the nineteenth century, and its proximity to the railway track, it seems reasonable to suppose the Rafferty family settled here, and that the census enumerators gave the house the only name they knew. The family consisted of William Rafferty, a railway labourer aged 30, his wife Catherine (36), his daughter Ellen (9), his sons John (4) and James (2), his brother James (22) and a lodger, Dan Gallagher (21), the two last also being railway labourers. The children were not recorded as "scholars", and as the two boys had both been born in the parish of Hexham the family may well have been involved with the Border Counties Railway since its beginning. The length of their stay at Stone House is not known, but with their departure and the desertion of Starsley, probably both in the 1860s, life on the banks of the Starsley Burn came to an end.

THE SURVEYS

GORDON'S WALLS (fig. 6)

Gordon's Walls is situated at an elevation of 620 ft., on a hillside with a general southward slope. It presents the appearance of a two-roomed stone building with a somewhat pear-shaped dry stone-walled enclosure attached to it on the north side. The building stands on a small plateau, averaging only 10 feet above the surrounding land, but rising very sharply, especially on the west, and on the east, where it forms a miniature crag. The enclosure runs across a small valley, which is perfectly dry as the ground falls away gently both east and west towards two small streams.

The best-preserved parts of the structure are the north wall of the building and the enclosure wall, which stand over 4 feet high for most of their length and are approximately 2 feet 4 inches thick. The west wall of the building stands 4 feet 2 inches high at the northern end, but only three courses high at the southern: in construction it is by far the most substantial wall on the site, being of superior masonry, and 4 feet 3½ inches thick. The remaining walls are most ruinous and overgrown with grass and bracken, but it was ascertained that the east wall is 2 feet 5 inches thick, and the centre wall 3 feet 4 inches thick, while the south wall is 3 feet thick for the
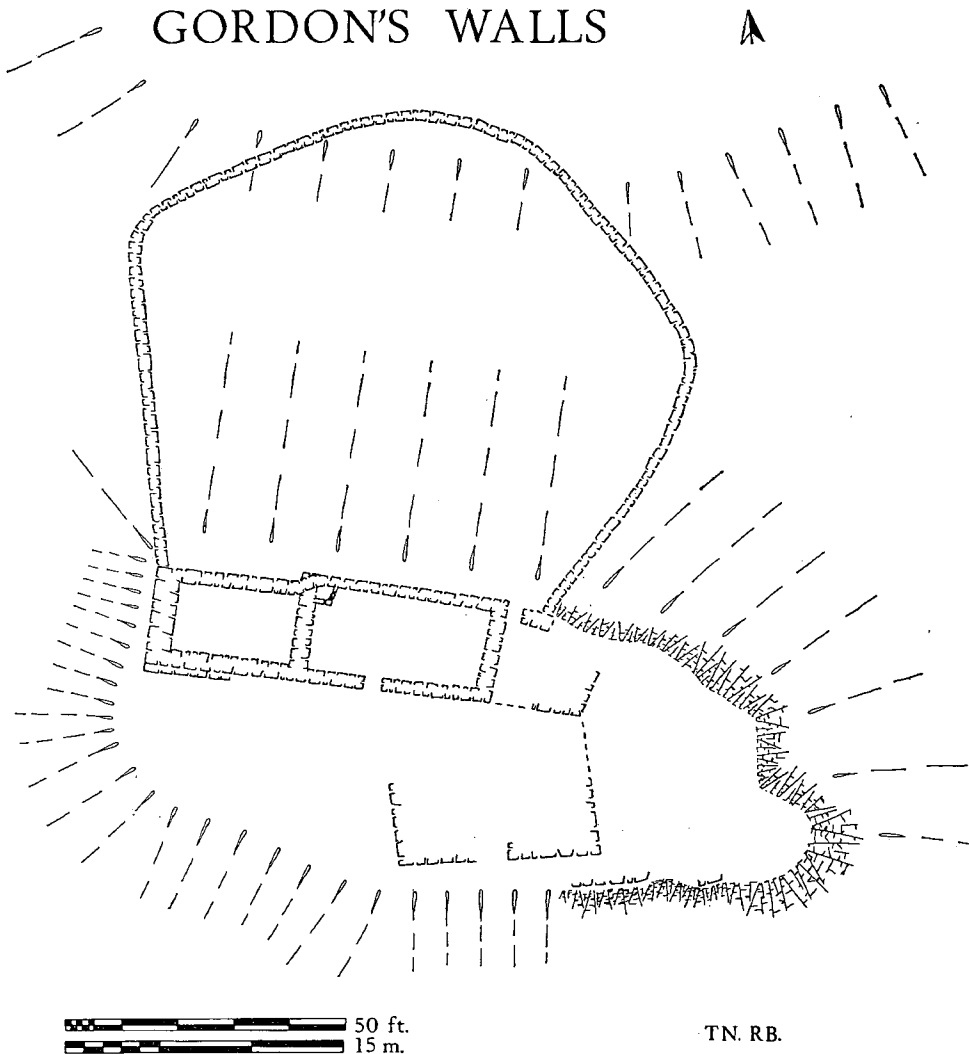
GORDON'S WALLS

50 ft.
15 m.

TN. RB.

Fig. 6

length of the west room and 2 feet 6 inches for the east room. There was evidently an entrance into the east room from the south through a 3 foot doorway. A peculiarity of this south wall is that at the western end the bottom course of stone projects a full foot beyond those above, making a total thickness at this level of 4 feet. The north wall of the building is the most irregular of all: its lower courses, up to about 2 feet, are of larger blocks than, and of different workmanship from, the upper half of the wall, which is of dry-stone work similar to that of the enclosure wall. At its foot,

the north wall does not run in a straight line, but is rather formed of two walls, one for the east room and one for the west, and where they meet, the eastern part projects 1 foot 10 inches beyond the western. The upper courses of the wall, however, smooth out this difference into a gentle curve.

At the north-west corner of the east room is a small square stone-built structure which may best be explained as the shell of an oven, or a copper boiler. There is no other visible trace of fireplace or hearth in either room.

There are traces of other walls on the plateau on which the building stands, but none of them is more than a single course high. Some may have formed an additional room, or rooms, belonging to the building, while others must have formed a boundary wall round the edge of the plateau, creating a yard or garden area for the building.

The earliest visible remains on the site appear to be the west wall of the building, together with the lowest course of the south wall, at its western end. These are both 4 feet thick, or a little more, and may well represent a bastle similar to that lower down the hillside at Stone House. If that is the case, its entrance must have been at its eastern end, where the present centre wall of the building now stands. This earliest building was clearly ruinous and much robbed when its remains were incorporated into the existing structure. Whether there is any difference in the date of construction of the two rooms is impossible to say, but if either has priority it is the eastern, for the dividing wall fits together with the east half of the north wall more happily than with the western half. The other walls on the plateau are subsidiary to the main block, and therefore must be presumed to post-date it, if only by a short time.

This second building was probably a dwelling for at least part of its life, but without visible and undisputed fireplaces there can be no proof without excavation. Whatever its purpose it, like its predecessor, was clearly ruinous when further building was done on the site. Its north wall was partially rebuilt, and incorporated in the enclosure wall, which thus post-dates the life of the building. The enclosure would seem to be a relatively modern—probably nineteenth-century—fold for sheep or cattle; it is a somewhat large one, but it occupies a suitably sheltered and well-drained spot.

STARSLEY (fig. 7)

Starsley is situated in the fork formed by the junction of the Starsley Burn with a small tributary coming in from the east. The land is fairly level to the north of the site, but falls away very steeply to the streams on the other three sides, particularly the south and west.

The building consists of the remains of four rooms in a line, two either side of a central passage which originally ran right through the building, though the north entrance is now blocked. The walls are dry-stone built, and
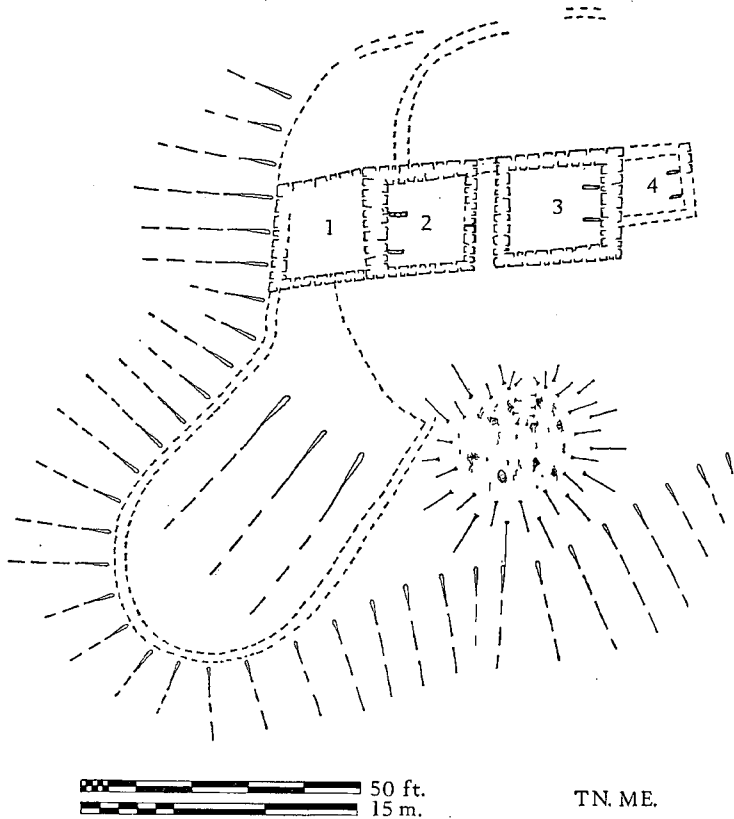
STARSLEY A

50 ft.
15 m.

T N. M E.

Fig. 7

approximate to 2 ft. 9 ins. thick. They are robbed to ground level except by the fireplaces of rooms 2 and 3 where they stand 5 to 6 ft. high. There are slight traces of enclosure walls to the north, and clearer evidence of an enclosure to the south, the outline of which follows the lie of the land where it changes from a gentle to a very steep slope. Also south of the building is a roughly circular mound of earth and stone which may be the debris resulting from its partial demolition.

The two central rooms of the range are clearly contemporary, and form the earliest part of the building, together with the passage between them. Such a ground plan is, however, so common as to be unhelpful in dating the building. Both rooms must have been entered from the passage, but there was evidence only of one side of the doorway into room 2. Rooms 1 and 4 can be seen to be secondary, not only because their walls abut on to the central block, but

also because their ground plans depend on that of the centre. Both were clearly added "by eye": room 4 lines up with the original north wall, but its east and south walls form a most inaccurate rectangle; the converse is true of room 1, which is aligned with the south wall of the central block.

In all the rooms except room 1 there are large fireplaces which are, structurally at least, secondary to the building. The sides of them only are visible, and consist, with one exception, of single upright slabs, set at right angles to the wall: they now stand as much as 4 ft. 6 ins. high. The exception is the north side of the fireplace in room 2, which is built of stone blocks, but which appears to have reached the same height, and served the same purpose as, the single slabs.
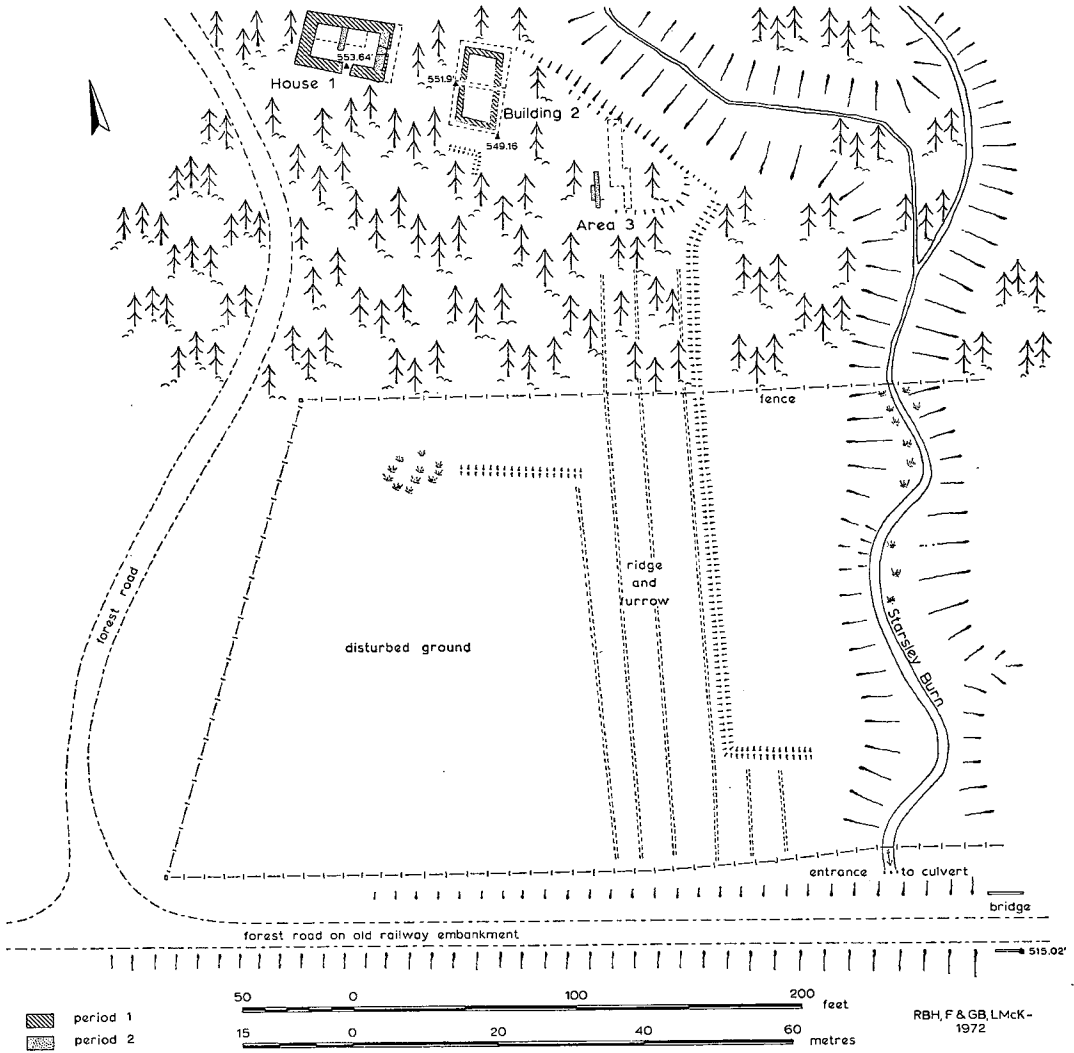
The remains of enclosure walls north of the building are very slight. Traces of two walls, however, are visible, abutting on rooms 1 and 2, and curving away north and east. As they appear to converge they are probably not contemporary, but indicate a "back-yard" which was enlarged when room 1 was added to the building.

The enclosure to the south would be most suitable for a garden, and its wall may have been no more than a revetment to prevent top-soil vanishing down the slope into the stream. This enclosure also, as it stands, is structurally subsequent to room 1.

THE EXCAVATION

Stone House, situated at almost 500 feet above sea level, lies west of the Starsley Burn, and is bounded by a lesser stream on the north and a forest road on the west (see fig. 8). While, in general, the ground is rising to the north and falling to the south, so that the house once commanded a wide view across the Tyne valley, locally there is a steep drop to the tributary burn and a gentle downhill slope eastwards to the edge of the bank above the Starsley Burn. On this shelf were visible the ruins of a stone house with very thick walls (House 1), the rectangular outline of another stone building (Building 2), and a boundary bank running eastwards and then appearing to turn, perhaps to form an enclosure. Running down the slope between this settlement and the old railway embankment was some narrow ridge and furrow. The principal building had not been disturbed but the other features had been overplanted, and though some felling was possible the trees and their furrows made both excavation and survey difficult. As a brief examination of House 1 in April, 1971, had confirmed the local view that it was a bastle, though with considerable later alterations, it was decided in 1972 to excavate this building more thoroughly, and also to investigate the other structures on the site in an attempt to determine their date and function.

STONE HOUSE, STARSLEY BURN

House 1

553.64'

551.9'

Building 2

549.16

Area 3

fence

ridge
and
furrow

disturbed ground

forest road

Starsley Burn

entrance   to culvert

bridge

forest road on old railway embankment

515.02'

| 50 | O | | 100 | | 200 | feet |

| 15 | O | 20 | 40 | 60 | metres |

▨ period 1
▧ period 2

RBH, F & GB, LMcK –
1972

Fig. 8

HOUSE 1

Work in 1971 had exposed the bare outline of the building by removing
the dense growth of heather which covered the top of the north wall, and the
debris obscuring the outer edges of the east wall and the east end of the south
wall. The north face of the north wall was not touched and remains invisible.
In 1972 rather more than half the interior was excavated in two stages, and
the east wall was fully revealed. The results of both periods of activity can
be treated together.

As originally built the house proved to be only roughly rectangular (see
fig. 9) since the walls were neither parallel nor the same length, and the east
wall, with its concave outer face, was particularly erratic in its course. The
lengths of the north wall, 39 feet, and the west wall, 24 feet 4 inches, are the
more reliable since the two others are exaggerated by their termination on a
very large boulder at the south-east angle. The internal dimensions also varied
considerably, the building being 15½ feet wide at the west end, and over 16
feet at the east, c. 28 feet long on the north side and over 29 feet on the south.

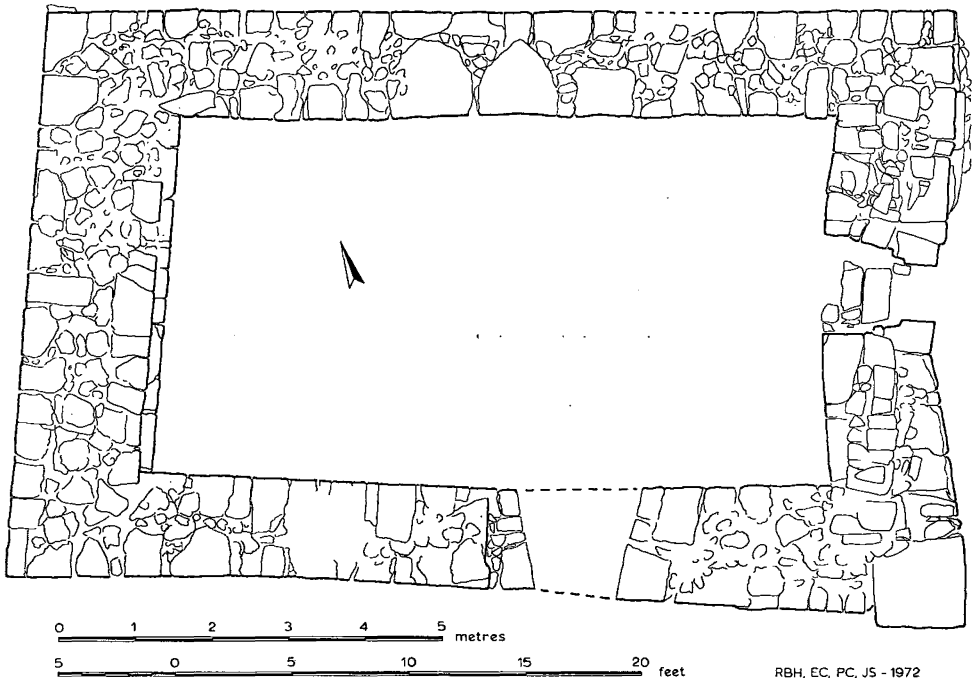STONE   HOUSE,   STARSLEY   BURN: House 1, period 1

Fig. 9

Fig. 1. House 1, east doorway of period 1

Fig. 2. House 1, blocked east doorway of period 2

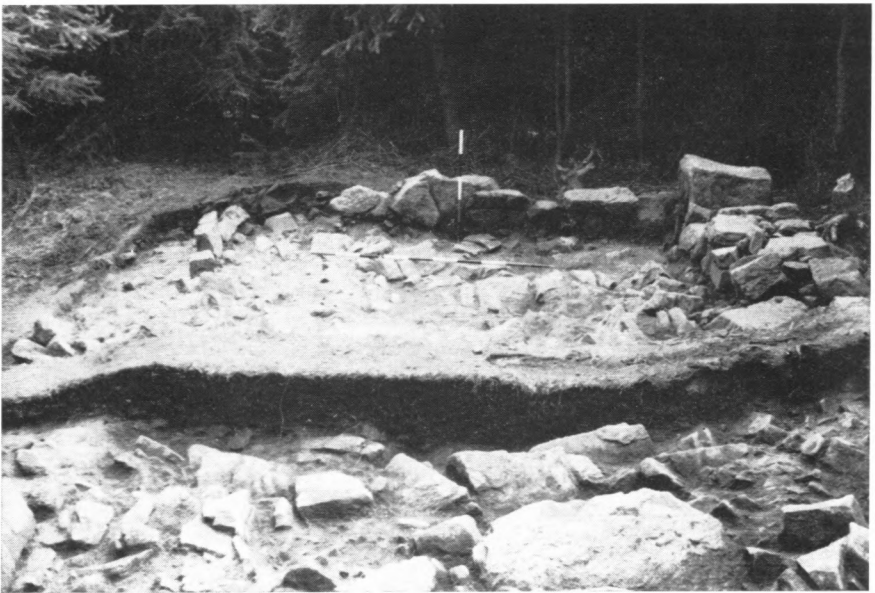Fig. 1. House 1, part of the east room in period 2

Fig. 2. Building 2, looking south

Fig. 1. Worked stone (No. 3) from the blocking of the east doorway of House 1

Fig. 2. Site 3, modern wall looking south

Plate XXV

The construction of the house was rough but solid. All the walls were thick though their width differed, the west wall being 6 feet thick at ground level, the north and south approximately 4½ feet, and the east 4½ to 5 feet. They were founded directly on the underlying bedrock or, where this was uneven, on very small stones rammed in to level up the irregularities. The walls themselves were built of large rubble or boulders, in some parts roughly coursed, and though sheer on the inside the lower stones projected from the wall face in places on the outside. Wide joints in the faces were filled with smaller stones, and where the core was seen in an unweathered condition it was found to be bonded with hard, bright yellow clay; no mortar was observed anywhere.

Few internal details survived. That there had been an upper floor which had rested on timber beams was clear from the scarcement, 5 to 6 inches wide, on the west wall about 6 feet above the bedrock. It is also certain that there had never been ventilation slits to the ground floor in either the west or the north walls; the existence of a slit towards the west end of the south wall would be possible but could not be proved. The only other feature of significance was the lower part of a doorway, just off-centre, in the east wall (plate XXIII, fig. 1). This consisted of well-dressed but ill-positioned jambs 2 feet 6 inches apart on the outer face, and of shabbily built internal splays widening to *c.* 4 feet 3 inches. The jambs, as they survived, each consisted of a single block set on end, 2 feet 6 inches and 2 feet 8 inches high, and without any decorative chamfer or moulding. The depth of the jamb, from its outer face to the 2½ inch rebate, was 1 foot 5 inches and thus rather greater than the more usual 9 to 10 inches. While the rear of both jambs behind the rebate and *c.* 2 feet 3 inches above ground level showed traces of the lower edge of a tunnel for the draw-bar, no attempt had been made to complete this tunnel when the jambs were built into the wall. There was no evidence for a harr-hung door, but there were remains of flagging in the entrance passage.

There is no doubt that House 1 was originally built as a bastle-house of the size and construction, and with the form and position of entrance typical of such buildings. Unfortunately no archaeological evidence was found in association with the house in the first period of occupation, and it is therefore impossible to date this period with any accuracy. Stone House, as a farmstead, was in existence in 1552, and the bastle could have been standing at that time. On the other hand there is nothing to show that it could not have been built later in the 16th or even early in the 17th century.

While it is unknown how long the bastle was abandoned, its dilapidation was far advanced at the beginning of the second period of occupation since the east wall was already reduced to a height of no more than 2½ to 3 feet. To render the building habitable its walls were repaired and altered, the interior was divided in two and each room refloored and provided with a fireplace, and—by inference—the whole was reroofed (see fig. 10).

There were two alterations to the shell of the house. The east doorway was blocked up, the inner face of the blocking being flush with the face of
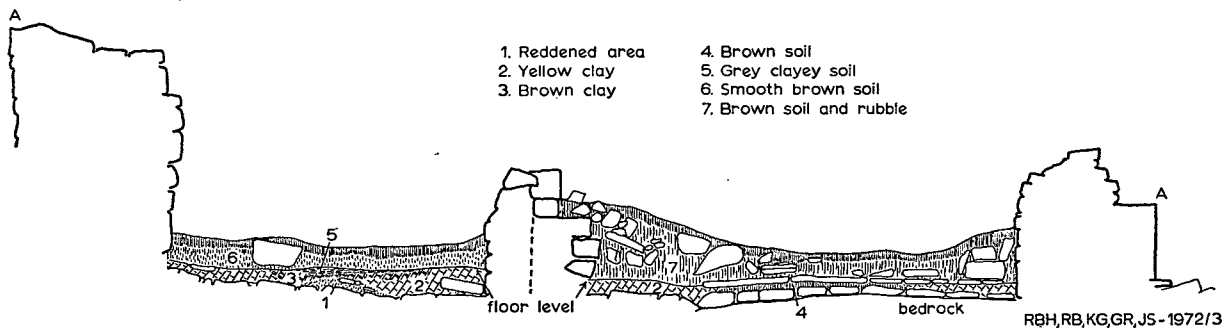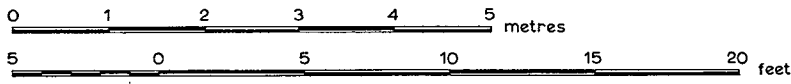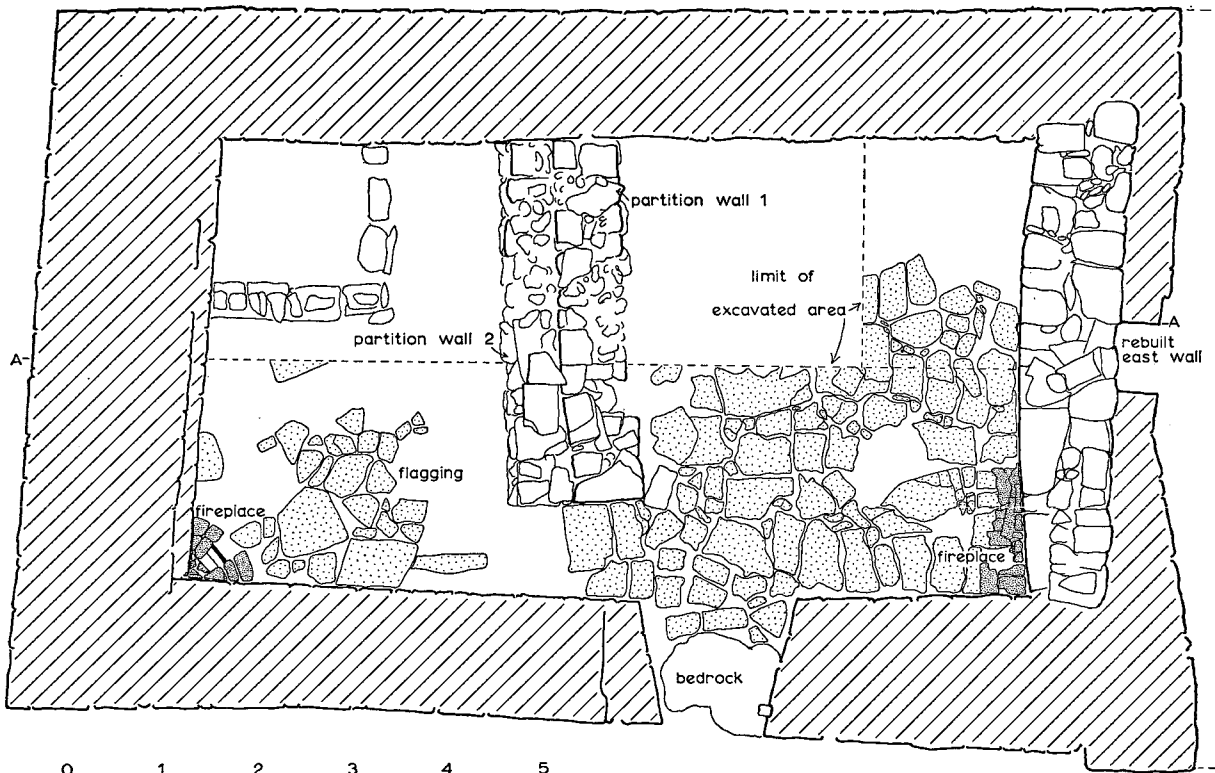
partition wall 1

limit of
excavated area

partition wall 2

A-

rebuilt
east wall

flagging

fireplace

A-

fireplace

bedrock

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
metres

| 5 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
feet

A

1. Reddened area
2. Yellow clay
3. Brown clay

4. Brown soil
5. Grey clayey soil
6. Smooth brown soil
7. Brown soil and rubble

A

5

6

7

1

3

2

floor level

4

bedrock

RBH,RB,KG,GR,JS-1972/3

Fig. 10. Stone House, Starsley Burn: House 1, period 2

the original wall (plate XXIII, fig. 2), and a new, narrow east wall of small stones was built along the top of the old. When it was excavated this new wall stood about 2 feet above the top of the surviving door jambs, which were left projecting from beneath it. Two worked stones (nos. 2 and 3, and plate XXV, fig. 1) and two fragments of modern pottery were found in the blocking. A new door, c. $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide on the outside, was then cut through the south wall with a considerable inward splay to a width of over 5 feet. Instead of rebates, a slight groove for a wooden door-post was provided in the east jamb, and this terminated in a shallow, square socket in the bedrock threshold.

Inside, the house was divided by a partition wall to provide two rooms, the western being $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet from east to west, and the eastern $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet. A gap of about 3 feet was left between the end of the partition and the south wall to give access to the inner room. This new internal wall was set on the bedrock and survived to a maximum height of $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. It was found to be of two parts; the eastern section was faced on both sides, and the western had then been added to it. Both were very poorly constructed of loose, dry-stone rubble and were in a state of collapse. There is no obvious explanation for the addition of the west half, and there is no reason to suppose that the eastern had survived from the first period of occupation since modern pottery was recovered from its core.

The bedrock beneath the house was extremely jagged and uneven, but showed a general tendency to fall to the south and east. The layer immediately above it varied in material, colour and depth. A small patch of reddish burnt material was found in the centre of the west room, the rest of which was covered with yellow clay or brown clayey soil. In the east room some irregular flagging lay both in and beneath the same sort of clay and soil. On top of this patchy layer there was a recognizable floor surface, largely of stone flags (plate XXIV, fig. 1) but in places of trampled soil and clay. The pottery and clay tobacco pipes found in the deposits beneath the floor were indistinguishable in character from those recovered on top of it, and almost all appeared to date from the nineteenth century. It was concluded, therefore, that on its reoccupation the house was wholly refloored, the level of the south side being raised to match that of the north with any material which came to hand. Since the bedrock could never have formed a reasonable surface, and as no earlier artefacts were found, it follows that the building was very thoroughly swept out before the new floor was laid.

The refurbishing of the interior was completed by the construction of a small stone fireplace in each room overlapping or at the same level as the flagging. The fireplace in the east room was set against the extreme south end of the east wall, and had originally had a hearth c. 1 foot square; the heat had caused the stones to crumble. In the west room the fireplace was built diagonally into the south-west angle, and was $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, tapering from 1 foot wide at the front to some 8 inches at the back. Two iron bars, one above the other, were found still in position across the centre of it. Apart

from fragments of cups and saucers strewn across the floor in both rooms, a number of iron objects, including a sickle, were found in the west room, and around its fireplace pieces of four chimney pots.

On its second abandonment the deterioration of the house began once more, although the levels above the floor were oddly different in the two rooms. The west room was covered with a smooth, pale brown, clayey soil (layer 6) and very little fallen masonry beneath the topsoil, while the east room was filled with large rubble amid darker brown soil. In view of the absence of any obvious roofing material it is perhaps worth suggesting that layer 6 might represent a collapsed turf roof, though if this were the case it is difficult to explain why it was not found overall.[79]

Outside the house a trench 3 feet wide was excavated along the whole length of the east wall. Apart from an opportunity to inspect the construction of the wall and original entrance it provided no useful information. There were three layers of stratification—grey/purple sticky soil (1) covered the bedrock; except opposite the doorway this was overlain by rubble mixed with yellow clay (2); and the top layer, which was banked up against the rebuilt east wall, consisted of rubble in brown soil (3). The rubble and clay was presumably the result of the deterioration of the first east wall. Modern pottery was found in all three levels, and two pipe stems in the bottom one.
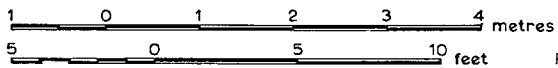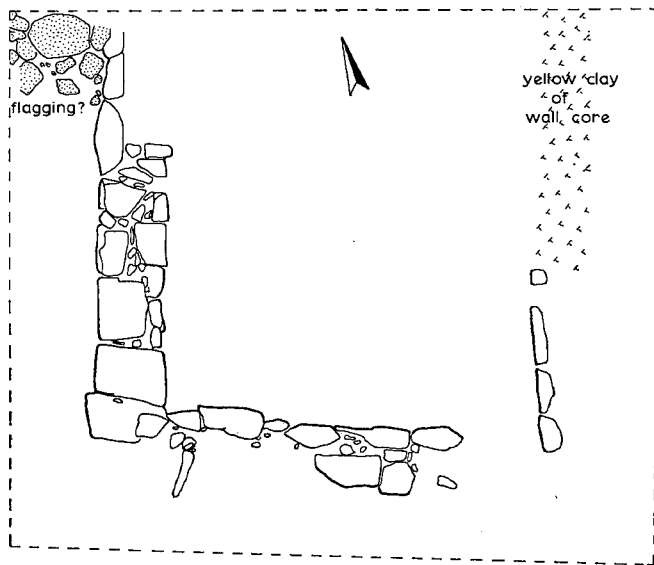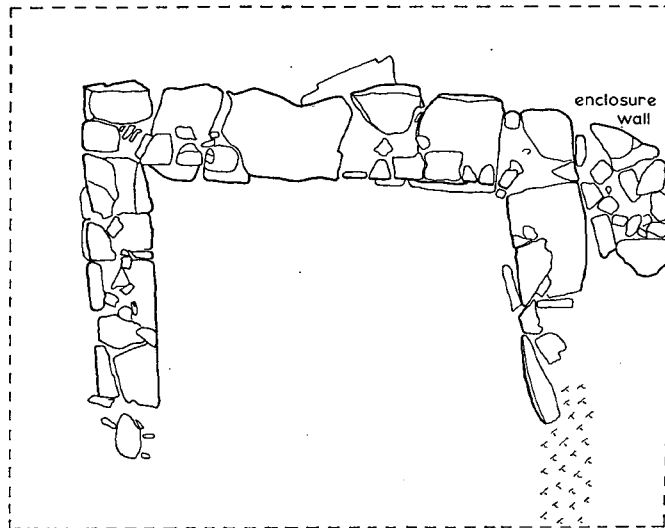
BUILDING 2 (fig. 11 and plate XXIV, fig. 2)

This structure was wholly stripped except for a 2 foot wide central baulk necessary to give access to Site 3. It was found to be a very fragmentary rectangular building, with external dimensions of 32 feet by 17 feet. Where they survived the walls were a mixture of boulders and rubble, with a core of yellow clay, and varied in width from over 3 feet to approximately 2 feet. The foundations of the north wall were the most substantial and were also complete, consisting of a base course of boulders below the partial remains of a course of smaller rubble, the top of which rarely stood more than 2 feet above the bedrock. While most of the bottom course of the west wall remained, and much of the inner face of the south wall, the east side of the building had largely disappeared, leaving but a few traces of the yellow clay core. A small patch of flattish rubble outside the west wall could perhaps be interpreted as flagging but there was no other evidence for the position of an entrance. Abutting the north-east corner of the building was the stone and earth bank which ran eastwards above the burn.

Within the building the bedrock stood out in jagged, irregular humps, and only in the north-east quarter was there a surface which might once have been

[79] A small stone "pen", purpose unknown, stands in the north-west angle of the house. Its walls are a single stone thick, and little more than piled up. It was not investigated, and though it is included on fig. 10 probably dates from after the second abandonment.

enclosure
wall

flagging?

yellow clay
of
wall core

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | metres |

| 5 | | 0 | | 5 | | 10 | feet |

RBH, TGN, HB-
1972

Fig. 11. Stone House, Starsley Burn: Building 2

a floor. Though roughly level it was patchy in colour and texture, ranging from a small area of burning against the north wall, through grey soil with a dark upper coating in the extreme corner to compact sandy yellow clay and stones. Where the bedrock rose through this its edges were worn. No datable finds were recovered from this surface, though pipe stems were found on top of the rock itself.

The stratification above was simple and uninformative. A layer of brown soil (1) lay overall, and above this there was small stone tumble (2), which was largely restricted to both sides of the west and north walls and the north part of the east wall. An upper layer of brown soil (3) separated the tumble from the topsoil. The pottery from these levels was in small pieces from a number of different vessels, and was consistently mixed from bottom to top. The predominance of brown over white glazed wares suggests that these sherds were largely but not entirely late seventeenth and eighteenth century.

From the nature of its construction and the small number of nineteenth-century artefacts it seems likely that this building was contemporary with the first period of occupation of House 1, and that it was not reused in period 2. The mixed pottery, and the discovery in the topsoil of the earliest sherd from anywhere on the site, perhaps suggest that it was dug over as part of a garden or area of cultivation. There was no evidence at all for its original function, though buildings such as this remain in apparent association with most ruined bastle-houses.

SITE 3

A trench 30 feet by 6 feet was laid out from north to south across what appeared to be an enclosure at the eastern end of the site. As a result of discoveries at its south end the trench was later extended to both east and south. Additional stonework was stumbled upon under the pine needles nearby, and the top of this was cleared so that it could be included on the plan (fig. 12).

The boundaries of the enclosure were duly found, resting on bedrock, at either end of the trench. That on the north was an untidy bank of earth and stones, over 5 feet wide at the base and some $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. The south side was delimited by a two course wall, with stone and earth core. There was not time to reveal its south edge, but it was a minimum of 2 feet 4 inches wide. Brown soil, rather darker at the northern, lower, end of the trench, occupied the space between these boundaries and lapped against or partly over them. The scraps of pottery, glass and clay pipes recovered from this soil appeared to be almost entirely pre nineteenth-century in date. Between this level and the topsoil there were two spreads of stones—small stones in black soil and spots of mortar in the centre of the trench, and larger stones extending from an east-west edge up to the south boundary wall. The reason for their existence was not apparent, and they did not appear to have any structural significance.
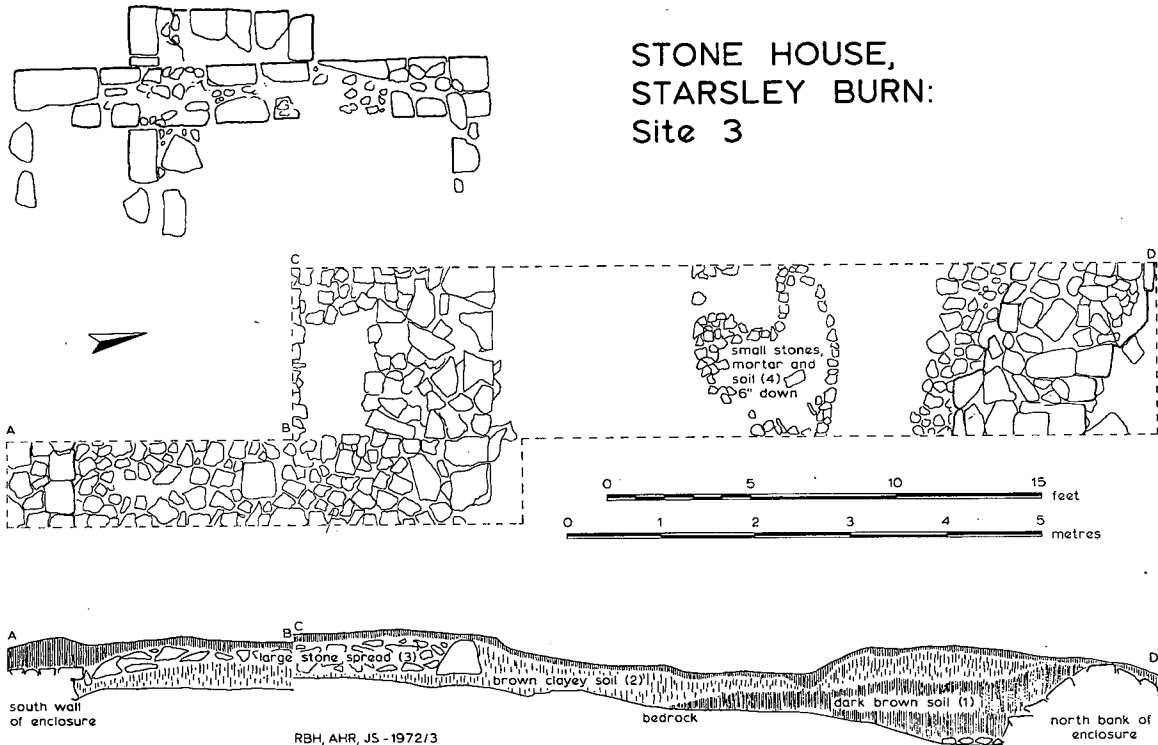
STONE HOUSE,
STARSLEY BURN:
Site 3

Fig. 12

The stonework cleared to the west consisted of a fairly well constructed north-south wall 2 feet wide, a minimum of 16½ feet long, and with traces of mortar in its core (plate XXV, fig. 2). On its west side it was abutted by masonry 2 feet by 6½ feet, and from its east side there were hints of small walls running off to the east, but the whole was too fragmentary to provide the plan of a building. The sherds of blue and white pottery found lying over and beside it closely resembled those from House 1.

CONCLUSION

It seems reasonably certain that this site was occupied on two separate occasions, and that House 1, Building 2 and the enclosure—though not necessarily strictly contemporary in construction—all date from the first period, which perhaps ended at some point in the eighteenth century. Then, after years of desertion, House 1 was repaired and reoccupied, and a stone building, of unknown function, was begun though perhaps not completed on Site 3. We feel confident that there is no evidence against the Rafferty family being the inhabitants in this second period, i.e. c. 1861. It is however difficult

to reconcile the almost total absence of sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century artefacts with the view already expressed that this was Stone House and hence occupied in the sixteenth century (from the documentary evidence), and that House 1 was a bastle-house, and therefore more probably sixteenth-century than later. Nevertheless, some of the evidence would have to be ignored in any alternative explanation, and it thus seems better to conclude that the beginning of the first period is likely to be in the sixteenth century.

THE FINDS

MISCELLANEOUS STONE

House 1, on the flagged floor.
1. A fragment of dark grey-brown, unworked flint; probably local.

BUILDING MATERIALS

House 1, in the blocking of the east door.
2. Worked stone; a section of door jamb 18 ins. high, 20 ins. long on the face and a maximum of 16 ins. wide. The depth of the jamb to the 3 in. rebate was 10 ins.
3. Worked stone, well dressed on three sides, broken on the fourth; perhaps part of a window. Along its longest face of 26 ins. one angle had been cut away to form a shallow recess c. 1 in. deep and 2 ins. wide. On the narrowest face, which was 10 ins. across, there was a socket 3 ins. × 1¼ ins. × 2 ins. deep. Since it was not related to a rebate the socket is unlikely to have been a bolt-hole, but might possibly have held a window bar. The recess could have been either an internal rebate or an external decoration. The greatest depth of the stone was 18 ins.

House 1, above and below the flagged floor, and in the topsoil; Site 3, topsoil.
4. Five fragments of roofing slate, blue-grey in colour, none large enough to give any dimension. One piece bore incised lines on one surface.

House 1, layer 6; Building 2, layer 3; Site 3, layer 2 and topsoil.
5. Eight fragments of red brick, of which one was certainly 2½ ins. thick.

House 1, on the floor around the west fireplace and in layer 6.
6.*Remains of four, plain cylindrical chimney pots, blackened on the inside. Height 12 ins., diam. 8 ins. It is difficult to suggest how they were used. None showed any trace of having been mortared into a stack and all four were recovered from the same area, implying they had been used over the same fireplace.

Building 2, topsoil.
7. A piece of burnt daub.

House 1, layer 6.
8. A small lump of mortar.

POTTERY (fig. 13)

House 1, layers beneath the flagged floor.
9. Fragment of base, yellow glaze with brown combed design on exterior. 18th-century Staffordshire ware?
10. Fragment of stoneware, glazed white on the inside, light brown on the outside which is decorated with two pairs of horizontal incised lines.
11. Pieces of brown glazed teapot.
12. A number of blue and white sherds of cups, saucers and plates. The shade of blue varies from greenish to royal blue, and the designs from abstract to formal. The latter included part of a cup decorated externally with an oriental gothic church, and a plate with the mark "British Rose".
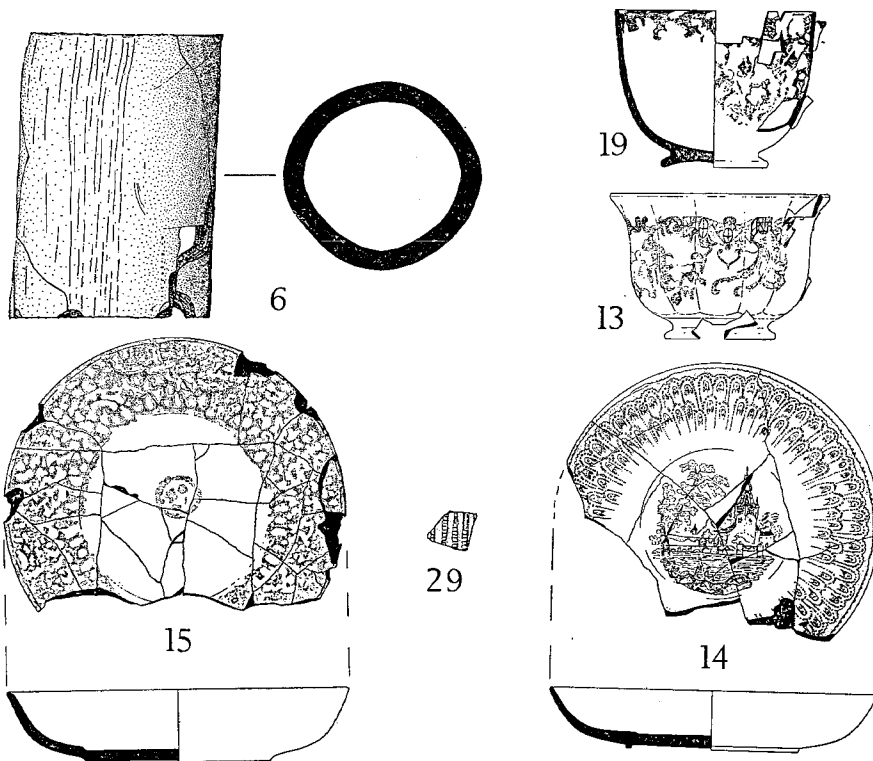

Fig. 13. No. 6 (1:8), remainder (1:4)

House 1, on the floor surface.
Numerous sherds of cups, saucers, plates and teapot, glazed white, blue and white and brown. Notable among these were:
13.*Cup, with dark blue transfer pattern which has run badly on the white ground. The decoration combines a floral design with oriental rustic fences. Height 3 ins., rim diam. 4½ ins.

14.*Saucer, white, with the whole of the inside decorated in blue, the centre bearing
    an oriental gothic church seen across a lake or river. Rim diam. 6¾ ins. Fragments
    of cups of this design were also found, see no. 12.
15.*Saucer, white, with a repeated abstract transfer pattern in light blue round the
    inside of the rim. Rim diam. 7¼ ins.

        House 1, in the partition wall.
16. Five conjoined fragments of a plain white plate.

        House 1, in the blocking of the east doorway.
17. Two fragments, probably of a cup, glazed white, and blue and white.

        House 1, layers 6 and 7.
    Sherds similar to those found above and below the floor, including:
18. Part of a white china insect, perhaps a bee; either an ornament or, since the body
    is hollow, a miniature container.
19.*Cup, with an abstract transfer pattern in blue on a white ground. Height 3¼ ins.,
    rim diam. 4 ins.

        House 1, layers 1 and 2 outside the east wall.
20. Seven fragments of white glazed pottery.

        House 1, layer 3 outside the east wall.
21. A few sherds glazed blue and white, and brown.
22. The base of a stoneware bottle. Diam. 2½ ins.

        Building 2. Apart from no. 29, none of the pottery found in this building is
    earlier than the second half of the 17th century. The group contains some 18th-,
    and possibly some 19th-century material, but no blue and white sherds.

        Building 2, layer 1.
23. Nine sherds in hard red fabric, glazed brown on one or both sides, or brown
    externally and yellow on the interior.
24. Three fragments of fine, white glazed pottery.
25. Two sherds in hard, dark red/purplish fabric with traces of burnt green glaze.

        Building 2, layer 3.
26. Three fragments of stoneware.
27. Eighteen sherds in red fabric glazed brown, mottled brown or brown and yellow.
28. Two fragments of fine, white glazed pottery.

        Building 2, topsoil.
29.*One sherd of type I Cistercian ware, perhaps early 16th century.
30. Two sherds in red fabric glazed brown, and one with yellow glaze.

        Site 3, north boundary bank.
31. One sherd in red fabric, with brown/yellow glaze.

        Site 3, layers 1 and 2.
32. Fifteen sherds in red or pink fabric, glazed brown or yellow with a brown line;
    two covered with creamy white glaze; and one sherd of "marmalade pot" type
    with white glaze over a fluted exterior.

Site 3, layers 3 and 4.
33. A teapot handle and a blue and white sherd, together with a few brown glazed sherds similar to those in no. 32.

Site 3, topsoil over stonework to the west.
34. Blue and white sherds similar to those from House 1, with examples of both the abstract and "British Rose" patterns.

CLAY TOBACCO PIPES[80]

One hundred and thirty five fragments of pipes were found distributed through most layers in all three areas of excavation. The majority were unmarked fragments of bowls and stems, and of those which were marked or had a characteristic shape only three appear to be certainly earlier than the 19th century. It is worth noting, however, that no demonstrably 19th-century pieces were recovered from Building 2.

House 1, layer 3 outside the east wall.
35. Stem with the stamp of Edward Crage(s), of Gateshead (1707-1717).

Site 3, layer 1 (no. 36) and layer 3 (no. 37).
36. Fragments of two bowls with flat bases, one bearing the letter R in a horizontal position above the base, (Parsons type b, c. 1700-80).
37. The other perhaps being Parsons type 35 or 36 (late 17th century).

House 1, on the floor surface and layer 6.
38. Fragments of two bowls (in shape similar to Parsons type 17) and two stems of the same design. The upper half of the bowl is decorated with vertical flutings, the lower and c. $\frac{1}{2}$ in. of the stem with an overall net pattern. Beyond that first $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and on either side are vertical saltires. First half of the 19th century?

House 1, on the floor surface and layer 6; Site 3, topsoil.
39. Fragments of three bowls with overall vertical fluting (similar to Parsons type 13). Late 18th/early 19th century.

House 1, under the flagged floor.
40. Fragment of a bowl with vertical scales below a double band of horizontal cable decoration. 19th century?

House 1, under the flagged floor; Site 3, topsoil.
41. Parts of two stems bearing the stamp (Parsons type d) T. HENDERSON HEXHAM. He was known to have been working between 1855 and 1865.

House 1, below the flagging, layer 6 and topsoil; Site 3, layer 4 and topsoil.
42. Three complete bowls and fragments of nine others all bearing the stamp TH within an oval on the back of the bowl. These bowls are undecorated and resemble Parsons type 16 (1820-60). It seems possible that they too could have been made by T. Henderson of Hexham.

[80] For all types and dates see J. E. Parsons, "The Archaeology of the Clay Tobacco-Pipe in North-East England", *Arch. Ael.* 4, XLII (1964), pp. 231 *et seq.*

House 1, below the flagged floor; Site 3 topsoil.
43. Parts of two stems bearing the stamp (Parsons type d, from *c.* 1840) of THo. WHITE & C(o) EDINBURGH.

House 1, above and below the flagging, and layer 6.
44. Fourteen fragments of stem, unstamped but decorated with a horizontal relief strip 15 mm. long and 2 mm. wide on the right hand side 22 mm. from the heel of the bowl.

WINDOW GLASS

45. Seven fragments of clear flat glass, varying in thickness from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 mm., were recovered from House 1, layers 6 and 7, and from Site 3, layer 1 and topsoil.

GLASS VESSELS

Fragments were found in House 1, above and below the floor, and in layers 6 and 7, in Building 2, layer 3 and topsoil, on Site 3, in layers 1 and 2, and topsoil. Most were pieces of green or brown beer bottles or the equivalent. Worthy of note were:

House 1, layer 3 outside the east wall; Site 3, topsoil.
46. Fragments of two bases showing a pronounced kick. Probably pre 19th century.

Site 3, topsoil.
47. Two clear fragments of the rim of a drinking glass decorated with a scratched floral pattern.

House 1, layer 7.
48. Four conjoined fragments of the base of a brown glass bottle marked STEPHENSON SMITH & Co.
49. Bases of three green glass bottles marked JOHN MACKAY & Co. EDINBURGH GLASGOW AND NEWCASTLE.

IRON[81] (fig. 14)

50. An assortment of nails were found in all the areas excavated. Their condition was extremely poor, but they appeared to have square shanks and to vary in length from 2 ins. to 7 ins.

House 1, layers 6 and 7.
51. Disc, 13 ins. in diameter, possibly a girdle but with no trace of a handle attachment.
52. Knife handle, laminated, with drooping butt. 5 ins. $\times$ 1 in. $\times \frac{3}{8}$ in. thick.
53. Fragment of a knife blade, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide, length uncertain.
54. Ferrule, 2 ins. long, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. diam.
55. Flat washer, $2\frac{3}{4}$ ins. square.
56. Fairly straight bar of circular section, with larger lumps of corrosion at either end. Length 8 ins., diam. $\frac{1}{4}$ in.
57. Bar, bent round in a semi-circle. Length 17 ins., diam. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
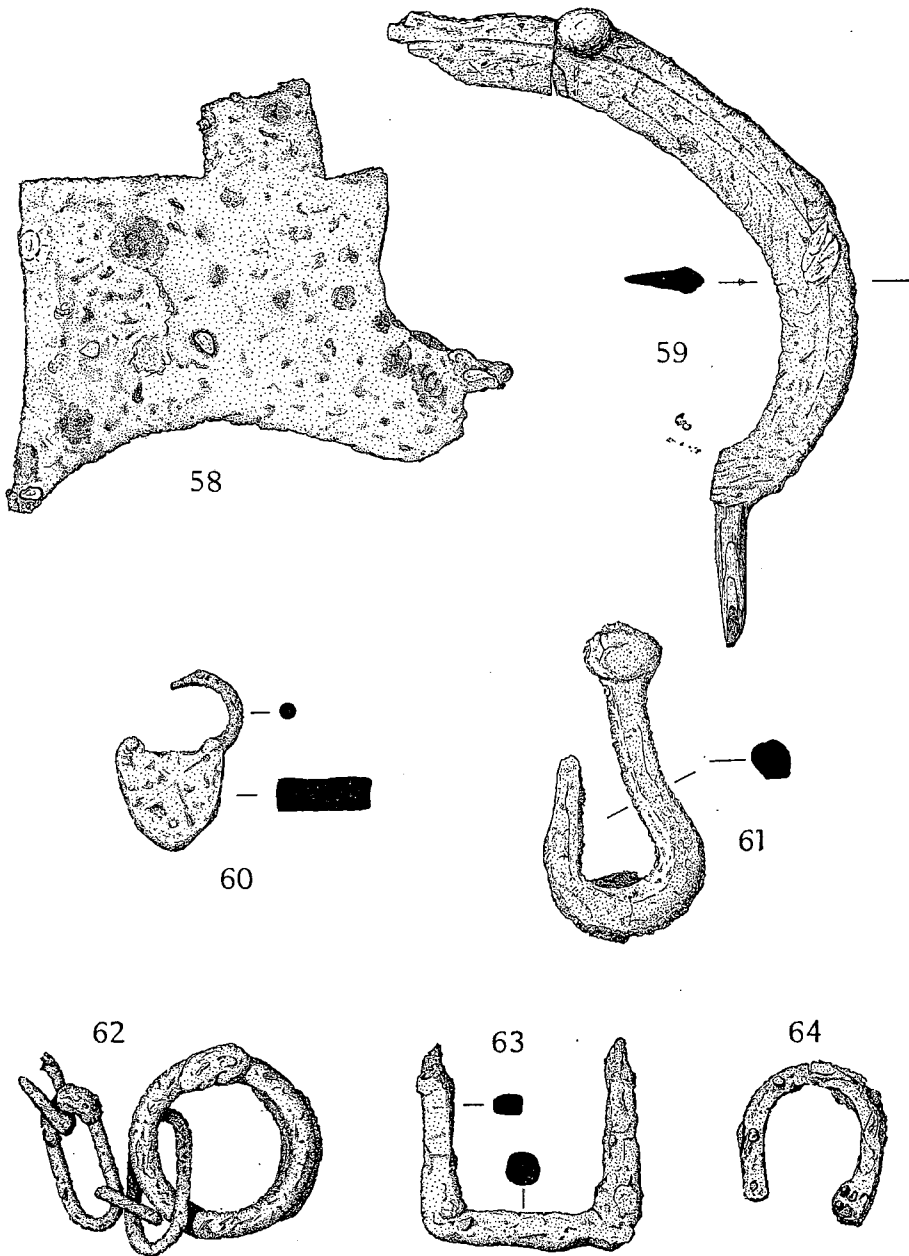
58　　59　　60　　61　　62　　63　　64

Fig. 14. (1:4)

House 1, on the floor surface.
58.*Fireplace hood, of wrought iron sheet which went out of use by *c.* 1860.
59.*Sickle, in two pieces. Remains of a wooden handle.
60.*Padlock, rusted on to a fragment of iron plate.
61.*Hook. The small ring-head has a bolt rusted into it.
62.*Chain, consisting of alternate large and small links with a ring at the end.
63.*Large bracket or staple, with pointed ends for driving into a post or wall.
64.*Boot-heel rim.

Building 2 on ? floor surface.
65. Fragmentary remains of a knife, consisting of a piece of handle $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. long × 1 in. wide × $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, from which a stub end of blade protruded for 1 in. and tapered to a point.

Site 3, topsoil.
66. Nut, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. square, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick and with a hole $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. No trace of thread survived.

COINS[82]

House 1, on the floor surface.
67. William IV, Æ Farthing, 1837.

House 1, topsoil.
68. Victoria, Æ Halfpenny, 1861.

Site 3, topsoil.
69. George II, Æ Halfpenny, date indeterminable.
70. Victoria, Æ Farthing, 1860.

OTHER NON-FERROUS METAL OBJECTS

House 1, on top of the north wall.
71. Brass object hinged into a fragment of wood. Identified by Miss Janet Slade as the key of an Irish flute.

House 1, beneath the floor.
72. Trouser button, $\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter, dished with four holes. The material has not been determined.
73. Two teaspoons, with indecipherable marks, 5 ins. and 6 ins. long. Of a common type of brass, consisting of 70% copper, 30% tin.

Site 3, topsoil.
74. Back of a button, consisting of a dished bronze disc $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter with $\frac{1}{4}$ in. loop on the back.
75. Teaspoon, made by John Yates of Birmingham, 6 ins. long. Of Britannia metal, i.e. 90-95% tin, 1% copper, 4·5-9% antimony.
76. Two copper rivets, with square shanks $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. long and square heads $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. The shank had been hammered through a soft material, or put through a hole ready pierced, and then the square head had been hammered out, presumably as an ornament.

[82] We are indebted to Mr. G. D. Robson for identifying the coins.

MISCELLANEA

Site 3, topsoil.
77. Mother-of-Pearl flat button with bevel edge, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. It has a brass disc interior and loop on the back.
78. Flat disc, of bone, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter, with small central hole. Button?

House 1, layer 6.
79. Two fragments of woollen cloth, now dark grey in colour.
80. Pieces of coal, charcoal, clinker and cinder were found in every layer on all three areas.

ANIMAL BONES

Very few bones were found, and only five were stratified. They were recovered from House 1 under the floor and in the blocking of the east doorway, in Building 2, layer 3, and on Site 3, layer 4. Those which could be identified were either of cow, or were cow-sized.