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Medieval Cross Slab Grave Covers in Northumberland, 3: North Northumberland

Peter Ryder

INTRODUCTION

This is the third of three articles covering the cross slabs of Northumberland (see Ryder 2000; 2002). There are around 730 cross slabs either extant or recorded in the county, the great majority associated with the medieval parish churches. This final paper covers the approximately 170 slabs in the deaneries of Alnwick, Bamburgh and Norham, and includes an analysis and discussion of the material from the whole county, including the problems of dating, and of the interpretation of the emblems used.

The slabs were measured and drawn by the writer over the period 1984–99; most have been revisited within the last two years or so, prior to the preparation of this article. Drawings were prepared at a scale of 1:10, except in the cases of a few small or intricate stones which demanded a larger scale. Dimensioned preliminary sketches were produced ‘on site’, and photographs sometimes taken as an aid to preparing the final drawings. It is inevitable, however, that a number of slabs will have been ‘missed’, built into obscure or inaccessible parts of church fabrics, half-buried in churchyards, or residing on the rockeries of former vicarages.

The vast majority of the slabs included in this survey are cross slabs proper, but a few allied monument types (e.g., slabs bearing emblems alone, or simple inscriptions) are included. The majority are of ‘medieval’ (i.e. late eleventh to sixteenth-century date) but a few may be Pre-Conquest and one or two are post-medieval.

Unless otherwise stated all illustrations are at a scale of 1:20. A small number of slabs, however, which were recorded by earlier

writers, are now lost. Illustrations of these carvings have been reproduced, or re-drawn, from earlier records; in such cases the size and scale of the original are not always clear but, where available, the dimensions have been noted in the text or illustration.

I should like to thank all who have helped with this survey, and in particular the incumbents who have cheerfully opened their churches to me, and the other archaeologists and members of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne who have assisted with providing records of stones.

List of slab sites discussed in the present paper:

Alnham, Alnwick, Alwinton, Ancroft, Bamburgh, Berwick, Brinkburn, Chatton, Chillingham, Doddington, Edlingham, Eglington, Embleton, Farne, Ford, Hepple, Holy Island, Holystone, Howick, Hulne Priory, Ilderton, Ingram, Kirknewton, Kyle, Lilburn, Longhoughton, Lowick, Old Bewick, Rock, Rothbury, Tughall, Wark on Tweed, Whittingham (and, in an addendum, Halton Castle and Ovingham)

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CATALOGUE

Note: in the following descriptions ‘right’ (r.) and ‘left’ (l.) are as seen by the spectator; for illustrations see figs. 7–25, pp. 118–36.

Alnham (St Michael)

Slabs (1) – (4) are all of fawn sandstone, and set in the chancel floor, just below the step into the sanctuary. Their designs are incised except where otherwise stated. From south to north they comprise:

- (1) Slightly-tapered slab bearing a sword, set slightly to the l. of centre, with a single fleur-de-lys springing from its r. side. The pommel of the sword, of an unusual multi-lobate form, is set within a sunk panel. Date uncertain.
- (2) Rectangular slab with a roll-moulded edge. Much of the surface has been destroyed by erosion; there is a sword on the r. side, and a small straight-armed cross at the upper l. Date uncertain.
- (3) Tapered slab with bracelet cross, the head carved in relief within a sunk circle, with a disc halfway down the shaft and a semi-circular arched base; a pair of shears on the l. of the shaft. Late twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (4) Tapered slab with an unusual design and double-moulded border. The cross head has a circle at the centre and convex arms, with a smaller cross set directly above; the shaft rises from an unusual base resembling a letter 'E' laid on its back. There is a trace of some emblem on the l., now too worn for identification. Date uncertain, but perhaps twelfth century.

Slabs 5 and 6 are built into the external face of the north wall of the nave together (the illustration shows them as they are now placed). They are in the blocking of the third arch (from the west) of the north arcade; set above the roof of an outshut they are difficult to inspect closely, and much lichened:

- (5) Rectangular slab of grey sandstone; incised cross shaft rising from stepped base, with a sword on the r., its left-hand

quillon down-curved in an unusual manner. Date uncertain.

- (6) Fragment of a slab of buff sandstone set horizontally in the wall (drawing 6a in the illustration); parts of a cross shaft and the blade of a sword on the l. are all that can now be made out; an 1886 Blair sketch (Blair, n.d.) shows a cross head of crude bracelet form. (Anon 1899, 83) illustrates a similar slab, but without the sword, which may be the same slab (shown as drawing 6b in the illustration). Twelfth century?

Lost slab:

- (7) A simple coped slab, with two incised lines running full length of left-hand chamfer (Anon, 1899, 83). Date uncertain. (Size and illustration scale uncertain.)

Alnmouth, see Hulne Priory**Alnwick (St Michael)**

Alnwick parish church has one of the largest collections of cross slabs in the county, including some unusual examples. All appear to be of local sandstone, of a variety of colours and textures; all designs are incised, unless otherwise stated.

Slabs (1) – (9) lie in the churchyard, in the angle between the west end of the south aisle and the south side of the tower:

- (1) Incomplete slab carrying eight-armed cross with trefoil terminals, the head carved in relief within a sunk circle. On the r. of the shaft are vestiges of a sword, on the l. a bow. Later thirteenth century.
- (2) Rectangular slab with simple straight-armed cross; carpenter's or masons' square on l. Date uncertain.
- (3) Incomplete tapering slab carrying eight-armed cross with trefoil terminals; shears on l. of shaft. Later thirteenth century.

- (4) Slab, eroded at edges, bearing an incised sword blade. Date uncertain.
- (5) Upper part of a slab bearing a rather crude bracelet cross, within a circle; on the r. of the shaft is a hammer and anvil. As far as is known this is a unique combination of emblems, presumably denoting a blacksmith or armourer. Probably thirteenth century.
- (6) Tapering slab with no motif other than a roll-moulded edge. Date uncertain.
- (7) Lower part of an incised slab, very worn; cross shaft, with traces of an arched base, and the blade of a sword on the r. Thirteenth or fourteenth century.
- (8) Part of an incised slab; cross shaft with top step of base and a sword on the r. Date uncertain.
- (9) Part of an incised slab; cross shaft with stepped base, and a large pair of shears on the l. Date uncertain.
- Slabs (10) – (21) have been set into the internal face of the west wall of the tower, probably during a Victorian restoration:
- (10) Part of a slab; incised cross with trefoil terminals. Thirteenth or fourteenth century.
- (11) Part of the head of a slab; cross with trefoil terminals, with ?pommel of a sword on the r., together with one possible letter of an inscription. Thirteenth or fourteenth century.
- (12) Two fragments of an incised slab. Cross with rather rude fleur-de-lys terminals, within a circle; parts of sword on r. of shaft. Fourteenth or fifteenth century.
- (13) Complete slab; cross with trefoil terminals and stepped base, sword on r. Probably thirteenth century.
- (14) Fragmentary slab with round-leaf bracelet cross, with cross bands, in circle; shears on l. of shaft. There is an incised cross with trefoil terminals at the centre of the head. Late twelfth or early thirteenth century.
- (15) Complete slab in three pieces. Straight-armed cross with fleur-de-lys terminals in circle, another fleur-de-lys at the head of the cross shaft, which rises from a trefoil-arched base. On the l. of the shaft a pair of shears with a key (or perhaps two keys?) beneath. Fourteenth century.
- (16) Slab almost complete, but in two pieces. Cross and base, rather worn, similar to (15); on r. of shaft a bow-and-arrow and on the l. a hunting horn and baldric. Fourteenth century.
- (17) Small slab with simple straight-armed cross. Date uncertain.
- (18) Lower part of slab with stepped base. Date uncertain.
- (19) Unusual small, round-headed slab; straight-armed cross with cruciform arrangement of pellets in sunken central groove; a few letters of an inscription may have been added later. Plain cross on reverse. Twelfth century?
- (20) Fragmentary slab with splay-armed cross. Eleventh or twelfth century.
- (21) Tapering slab with inscription only 'VXOR SIMOIS' (the wife of Simon). Date uncertain.
- Other slabs:
- (22) Standing loose against foot of north-east tower pier. Lower part of slab with roll-moulded edge, cross shaft rising from stepped base and blade of sword on r. Date uncertain.
- (23) Slab now forming internal lintel of head of western clerestory window on north

of nave. Cross with splayed arms, in circle, with sunk panels between arms; shears on r. of shaft and two circles (the loops of a pair of keys?) lower down on the l. Twelfth or thirteenth century?

- (24) Slab now forming internal lintel of the easternmost clerestory window on the north of the nave. The only motif visible is an incised lozenge shape, perhaps the lower part of a shield with a bend. Date uncertain.
- (25) Upper part of slab re-set in the (once) external face of the north wall of the north aisle, now the internal south wall of the late-nineteenth century vicar's vestry. Cross-head formed by an encircled cross patée carrying an incised cross at the centre; sword on r. of shaft. Probably later twelfth century.
- (26) Lower part of slab set below (25), as if part of the same stone, as shown in the illustration, although it is clearly part of a different monument. Cross shaft rising from a crocketed ogee-arched base. Probably later fourteenth or fifteenth century.
- (27) Fragmentary slab, now lost, sketched on 29th August 1891, along with many of above slabs, in one of Robert Blair's notebooks (Blair, n.d., VIII, 181). Dimensions given as 9" by 7" (229 by 178 mm), and the illustration is drawn to match that. The only decoration is an incised horseshoe or arch. Date uncertain.

Alnwick Abbey

- (1) In the Museum at Alnwick Castle is a slab brought from the site of the Premonstratensian Alnwick Abbey in 1884, where it had been uncovered during the construction of a drain (St John Hope 1884, 280). Complete slab of a grey fine-grained stone, probably a sandstone. Cross head,

carved in relief within a sunk square panel, has a wheel-like centre and eight discoidal terminals; incised cross shaft rising from trefoiled ogee arch base; this base carries a small cross upon its own stepped base. Marginal inscription in black letter, each word cut in relief within a sunk panel:

+ Obcuta loreta de botry per fera leta:
Hac jacet in meta vivat redimita q: leta

(Overcome by cruel death, Loreta de Botry lies in this place: she will live crowned and happy)

Loretta de Boterie is known to have been the daughter of Galfrid de Goswick, and to have died c. 1360.

Alwinton (St Michael and All Angels)

- (1) Part of the head of a slab of grey sandstone, built into the external face of the south wall of the south aisle immediately to the west of the sill of the lancet window on the east of the south door. Incised design of part of a cross head with crude trefoil or fleur-de-lys terminals. Date uncertain; possibly fourteenth century.

Ancroft (St Anne)

In addition to the single cross slab described below, a grey sandstone slab now forms the external threshold to the blocked twelfth-century south door. This has a petalled rosette (perhaps a cross head) and a line of big dog-tooth ornament on one edge. It is not clear whether this is a sepulchral monument.

- (1) Slightly-tapered red sandstone slab with incised bracelet cross rising from stepped base; on the r. a dagger with a trefoil pommel (rather more Scottish than English in style); on the l. are traces of a second emblem, perhaps a key or pair of shears. Late twelfth or thirteenth century. *Note:* there is some doubt as to the provenance of this stone; in 1982 it lay in Ancroft churchyard, but in 1993 was in

the garden of the Old School. The owner explained that it had been brought to the church 'in the early 1980s', along with other stone being used in repairs, from County Durham, and given to him by the workmen.

Bamburgh (Dominican Friary)

- (1) Head of a slightly-tapered slab of red sandstone; incised design, part of a cross head formed by a circle within which four further curved lines formed lenticular segments. Recovered during a 1993 archaeological watching brief at Bamburgh Friars (farm buildings built on the site of, and incorporating some remains from, the medieval Dominican Friary). Currently in the possession of the writer. Date uncertain, but perhaps thirteenth or fourteenth century.

Bamburgh (St Aidan)

Seven slabs, all with designs incised on local sandstone, lie in the crypt beneath the chancel of the church:

- (1) Coped slab of buff sandstone, with plain overlapping strips on one face and on the sloped end; on the other face is a round-leaf bracelet cross, carved in relief within a sunk panel. Flanked by a pair of shears on the l. The base of the shaft is missing. Late twelfth or early thirteenth century.
- (2) Part of a slab of red sandstone, actively decaying; straight-armed cross with fleur-de-lys terminals, with key on r. and the loop of what is probably a pair of shears on the l. Fourteenth century?
- (3) Part of small slab of grey sandstone. Straight-armed cross with circle round head and triangular panels between the arms; pommel of sword on r. of shaft. Twelfth century?
- (4) Small slab of fawn sandstone, with quite crudely-incised asymmetric simple

straight-armed cross rising from stepped base, with sword on l. of shaft. Such simple designs are almost impossible to date; affixed labels suggest 'c. 1300'.

- (5) Virtually identical to (4), but slightly more neatly incised and on pinkish sandstone; sword on the r. of the shaft. c. 1300?
- (6) Head of small slab of reddish sandstone, of the same type as (4) and (5). c. 1300?
- (7) Slab of buff sandstone, lacking its base. Cross botonée with round-leaf terminals, carved in relief in sunk circular panel; key on r. of shaft and shears on l. Some other incised design rather like a letter 'E' seems to overlie the lower part of the slab, but may be secondary. Later thirteenth century.

Bamburgh Castle

- (1) Upper part of slab, now lost but drawn by C. C. Hodges (Bateson 1893, facing 110) labelled 'in the Castle'. Incised multi-lobed pommel of sword, with rectangular object, perhaps a book, above. Date uncertain. (Illustration size and scale approximate.)

Berwick

Two *ex-situ* slabs, re-used on or close to the line of the north-western defences of the medieval town, may have originated in the nearby Franciscan friary:

- (1) Part of the head of a slab of medium-grained grey sandstone, built into the wall on the east side of the lane from Low Greens to the Bell Tower, c. 30 m from Low Greens. Bracelet-derivative cross, carved in relief within a sunk circle, with a petalled rosette at the centre and fleur-de-lys buds. Later thirteenth century.
- (2) Fragmentary sandstone slab, heavily lichenized, re-used in the side wall of a

mural garderobe in the sixteenth-century Lord's Mount battery. Incised cross shaft with a rectangular emblem (?) on one side. Date uncertain.

Berwick (Castle Terrace)

A series of early medieval slabs found in a cemetery attached to a previously-unknown Romanesque church were uncovered here in 1998. They have been fully published by the author (Cambridge *et al* 2001, 47–54).

Brinkburn Priory

Four grave slabs lie in the restored church of the Augustinian Priory at Brinkburn, one being a monument of considerable importance:

- (1) Slightly-tapered slab of fine-grained brown sandstone, bearing well-preserved incised design, set in floor on north side of choir, in front of arch opening into eastern chapels of north transept. Straight-armed cross with a small cross in a square at the head centre, with large fleur-de-lys terminals to the transverse and upper arms only; the transverse arms are disproportionately short, and the tips of the fleur-de-lys leaves are curled. Instead of a lower terminal there is a double ring or collar on the shaft, and there is a similar ring above the base, which has concave steps enclosing a large trefoil. On the r. of the shaft is a crosier and on the l. a bishop's mitre. The whole is enclosed by a border, with a four-petalled flower at each corner, containing the black letter inscription transcribed by Dixon (1902, 201) as:

Hic iacet Willm quondam Cluenensis epus ac Dunelmensis Suffraganeus et prior istius monasterii cujus anime ppitietur d'us qui obiit anno dni Millmo cccc lxxx iiiii

The inscription refers to William, Prior of Brinkburn, Bishop of Cloyne (Ireland) and suffragan Bishop of Durham, who

died in 1484. This is an important slab, one of only a handful of inscription-dated cross slabs in the North of England, and certainly one of the best-preserved.

- (2) Tapered slab of fine-grained brown sandstone, quite smooth and set flush with the floor into which it is set immediately south of (1); only its shape suggests a medieval origin. Date uncertain.
- (3) Tapered sandstone slab, showing some degree of weathering, set in the floor a little to the east of (1) and (2). There never seems to have been any carved design but it carries a broad chamfer on each long side; this is not continued across the head or base. There are very similar monuments in the chapter house at Rievaulx Abbey, and at Durham Cathedral. Date uncertain.
- (4) Tapered slab of fawn sandstone, with a narrow marginal chamfer, lying on the pavement at the north-west corner of the nave, perhaps brought in fairly recently. The light diagonal tooling suggests that the stone is relatively unweathered; at first sight there appears to be no design at all, but close inspection (side lighting is helpful) shows that there is a single scribed line running down the centre of the slab, and possible one transverse line as if to form a cross head; rather clearer are two concave lines at the base, which may be intended to simulate a simple mount. It is possible that these lines, which are scribed rather than cut, may be no more than the mason's setting-out for a pattern that was never completed. There is, however, a possible analogy slab in the nave at Byland Abbey where a slab bears a rudimentary cross formed by two intersecting scribed lines, in addition to a more conventionally-cut emblem. Date uncertain.
- (5) Slab, now lost, illustrated by Rowe (1879–82, IV, f.p. 62). His drawing shows a tapered stone, with its central section

missing, bearing a single sword, set centrally. Date uncertain. (Not illustrated.)

might be of the late eleventh century or even Pre-Conquest date.

Chatton (Holy Cross)

Four slabs, of local sandstone, now incorporated in the floor of the baptistery at the west end of the north aisle:

- (1) Near-complete tapered slab; incised design of straight-armed cross with fleur-de-lys terminals, within a ring, rising from a trefoil-arched base; sword on l. of shaft and axe on r. Thirteenth century.
- (2) Part of the head of a slab; cross patée in circle, with sunk lenticular panels between arms. Twelfth century?
- (3) Near-complete small tapered slab in three fragments; cross head, with expanded arms and fleur-de-lys terminals, carved in relief within sunk circle. The cross-shaft with its stepped base and sword to r. are incised. Twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (4) Small tapered slab, its r. third cut away. Variant on cross patée, with fleur-de-lys form terminals, carved in relief in sunk circle. Stepped base; shears on l. of shaft. Twelfth century?

Chillingham (St Peter)

- (1) Upper part of tapered slab, of light brown sandstone, built into the internal face of the east wall of the south chapel. Cross head, with fleur-de-lys terminals which have lozenge-shaped buds and out-turned tips to the leaves, carved in relief in sunk circle; remainder of design incised. Sword with ogival pommel, on r. of shaft. Fourteenth century?
- (2) Lower part of slab of coarse orange sandstone, with crudely-incised design built into west wall of north transept below (3); cross shaft rising from a single-step base, within an incised border. This stone

- (3) Upper part of slab of fawn sandstone built into west wall of north transept; incised design of cross head with fleur-de-lys terminals, enclosed in ring, above remains of cross shaft. Twelfth century?
- (4) Sandstone fragment immediately to the south of (1); remains of incised cross shaft only. Date uncertain.
- (5) Fragmentary tapered sandstone slab, with incised decoration, now forming internal sill of east window of south transept. Equal-armed crosshead with round-leaf terminals set above a sword substituted for the usual cross shaft. Thirteenth century?

Doddington (St Mary and St Michael)

- (1) Tapered slab of reddish sandstone built into internal face of west wall of porch. Cross head with fleur-de-lys terminals, the leaves linking to enclose heart-shaped 'bracelets', carved in relief in sunk circle. Remainder of design incised: cross shaft, with fleur-de-lys at top, rising from stepped base with sword on l. Thirteenth or fourteenth century.
- (2) Complete small tapered slab of purplish sandstone built into interior of east wall of porch. Very simple equal-armed cross with a pair of shears below. Date uncertain.
- (3) Fragment of incised sandstone slab built into upper part of internal face of west wall of porch. A series of circles with various curved lines apparently form part of a cross head. Early to mid-twelfth century?
- (4) Tapering recumbent slab of brown sandstone in the south-east part of the churchyard, c. 2 m south of a north-south row of

three table tombs; incised design with a broad marginal chamfer. The cross head is represented only by four incised circles (*cf.* slab (3)), the upper two largely erased by the secondary initials 'R L', evidence of post-medieval re-use (*cf.* several slabs at Newbiggin). A sword is substituted for the cross shaft, as at Chillingham, North Gosforth and elsewhere. Probably twelfth century.

- (5) Slab built upright into the internal face of the south wall of the churchyard, just beyond the junction between the original yard and a more recent extension. The only motif is an incised sword, set l. of centre; the present arched top of the slab cuts the pommel of the sword, and must be secondary. Date uncertain.

Slabs (6)–(12) are now lost but were illustrated in one of the Robert Blair sketch books (Blair n.d., III, 182). The sketches, with dimensions, are dated 11.9.1882 (the scale of the illustrations is uncertain):

- (6) Rectangular slab, labelled 'in church' with incised design. Plain cross rising from stepped base; on each side a sword with down-turned quillons, accompanied by a smaller dagger to its l. An appended note states that the l. sword was 'apparently of a later period'. Date uncertain.

Slabs (7)–(12) are labelled 'in churchyard at E end of church'.

- (7) Small slab with plain equal-armed cross at head, similar to slab (2) but without any emblem. Date uncertain.
- (8) Near-complete slab carrying cross with ring round head and sunk triangular panels between arms, rising from stepped base; sword on r. Perhaps twelfth century.
- (9) Complete slab carrying cross with ring round head, and sunk panels between

arms, rising from stepped bases. Shears on l. of shaft. Perhaps twelfth century.

- (10) Fragmentary slab carrying some form of ring-headed cross, its shaft rising from stepped base. Date uncertain.
- (11) Fragmentary slab with similar cross to slab (9) but with most of head missing; no emblem visible. Date uncertain.
- (12) Fragmentary slab, damaged on r. side, with similar cross to slab (8), rising from stepped base. No emblem survives. Twelfth century?

Edlingham (St John the Baptist)

- (1) Tapered limestone slab now forming the threshold of the south door; the head and base are concealed. Incised design. Simple cross with fleur-de-lys terminals (no lower terminal); sword with ogival pommel on r. and what appears to be a pair of scissors on the l. The scissors are a rare emblem; there is or was another example at St John's Chester (Boutell 1849, 96) and the writer has recorded a third at Tadcaster (North Yorkshire). Date uncertain.
- (2) Part of the upper section of a grey sandstone slab, set in the tomb recess on the south of the nave. Incised design; cross with clustered fleur-de-lys terminals linked to enclosed heart-shaped 'bracelets', with another cluster of fleur-de-lys at the head of the cross shaft; sword on r. of shaft. Later thirteenth century.
- (3) Complete (cracked) rectangular slab of fawn sandstone, with bold relief design, now lying in north aisle. Found in July 1977 in a field to the east of the church (*pers. comm.* David Sherlock, English Heritage). Cross with slightly cusped arms, a tapering shaft and a semicircular mount. Date uncertain, but the general feel is of an 'early' piece, either pre-Conquest or perhaps later eleventh century.

- (4) Fragment of brown sandstone, now lying near (3), with relief design including a fleur-de-lys. This is probably part of a cross slab, but insufficient remains to be certain. Twelfth century?
- (5) Fragmentary sandstone slab lying (in 1986) on pile of debris near gate of churchyard. Incised cross shaft, and borders. Date uncertain.
- (6) Tapered limestone slab, very worn, set in floor of north aisle, immediately east of step near west end. All that is visible is part of the cross head, carved in relief within a sunk circle; round-leaf bracelet cross. Late twelfth or thirteenth century.

Eglingham (St Maurice)

- (1) Slab of coarse-grained brown sandstone, damaged and in two pieces, now in the floor of the north transept or Ogle Pew, but said to have been found in the churchyard in the nineteenth century, and to probably come from the demolished chapel on the north of the chancel. Relief design; cross with late-type fleur-de-lys terminals and hearts in upper corners, rising from an ogee-arched base. On the shaft is a shield with the arms of Ogle quartering Bertram. On the r. a sword and a tree with perched birds, on the l. the monogram 'M' and a dragon biting the lower end of a sword or spear. Dodds (1935, 374) identifies the arms as those of Henry Ogle, who died between 1520 and 1530, although a note in the church links the slab to Mark Ogle, who fought at Flodden. It seems clear that the slab dates to the first half of the sixteenth century.
- (2) Head of a rectangular sandstone slab now lying in the north porch; incised cross, very similar to that on slab (1). Early sixteenth century?
- (3) Sandstone slab re-used in the plinth on the north of the tower. Only one edge is visible, with traces of what appears to be an incised inscription (probably indecipherable) and one sunk fleur-de-lys, perhaps of the transverse arm of the cross head. Date uncertain.

Embleton (Holy Trinity)

Drawings of slabs (1) – (5) appear in Bateson (1895, facing 80) and of slabs (1) – (6) in an unpublished notebook in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne (Hodges n.d.). The slabs are of local yellowish sandstone, unless otherwise stated:

Slabs (1) and (2) are set in the internal face of the west wall of the south porch.

- (1) Tapering slab, perhaps lacking its base. Incised design except for cross head carved in relief in a sunk circular panel. An unusual six-armed cross, related to the more common eight-armed 'interlaced diamond' type, with multi-lobed terminals which are somewhere between a fleur-de-lys and an acanthus leaf in form. Shears on l. of cross shaft. Difficult to date; perhaps c. 1300 although the acanthus leaves look earlier.
- (2) Upper part of slab; incised design except for cross head carved in relief in a sunk circle. Bracelet cross with unusual two-lobed ends to bracelets, and trefoil terminals. Sword on r. of shaft. Probably later thirteenth century.

Slabs (3) – (5) are set in the internal face of the east wall of the porch.

- (3) Upper part of slab, with incised design. Cross with trefoil terminals that have curled volute-like leaves, with incised line decoration; sword on r. of shaft. Perhaps twelfth century.
- (4) Upper part of slab; cross patée with sunk panels between arms. Twelfth century?

- (5) Complete tapered slab with relief design. Cross with rather odd heart-shaped 'bracelets' with round-leaf ends, and trefoil terminals; a further pair of trefoils spring from the top of the shaft, which rises from a stepped base; sword on l. of shaft. There are similarities between this slab and the rather more elaborate relief-carved Old Bewick (1). Thirteenth century.
- (6) Head of slab, in whitish sandstone, set in the internal face of the south wall of the vestry *c.* 3 m above the floor, along with a collection of architectural fragments. Relief design; cross botonée with cross bands and fleur-de-lys terminals, with a further fleur-de-lys springing from it on the top. Late thirteenth century?
- (7) Fragment from either the base of a slab or, perhaps, one end of a coped slab, set in west wall of vestry, *c.* 1.5 m above the floor. Incised design of a splay-armed cross inside a border. Twelfth century.
- (3) Small tapering sandstone slab, chamfered on its r. edge and base. Incised design; cross with simple fleur-de-lys terminals to the transverse and upper arms only, rising from a three-stepped calvary base. There is a short sword or dagger on the l. of the shaft. This is quite a common design; there are several similar examples in the collection in the Refectory Undercroft at Durham (Ryder 1985, 74–7, pl. 18–9). Fourteenth century.
- (4) Much worn slab of reddish-brown sandstone bearing a motif carved in relief within a sunk arched panel. This might either be a ring-headed cross of some form, rising from a arched mount, with a very short shaft, or, more intriguingly, the head and shoulders of a stylised figure, apparently with a nimbus; Honeyman (1930) saw this as 'what appears to be half of a very early monumental effigy in low relief'. Further work is required on this carving; could it be an early representation of Saint Cuthbert? It seems unlikely to be any later than the thirteenth century in date, which would make it, together with the re-used slab forming the lintel at the top of the staircase in Prior Castell's Tower, one of the earliest relics on the island.

Farne (St Cuthbert's Chapel)

Three medieval cross slab grave covers now lie in the sanctuary, having been brought inside from the court a few years ago. A fourth slab, probably a grave cover, still lies outside the west end of the chapel.

- (1) Tapering slab of fawn sandstone, with an unusual triangular top end. Relief design, quite worn. Straight-armed cross with 'bracelets' between the arms; these open at right angles to the cross shaft rather than in the more conventional diagonal manner. On the l. of the cross shaft is a sword and on the r. an open book. The base is a small triangular mount, with some motif, either a small disc or perhaps a flower, set centrally beneath. Probably thirteenth century date.
- (2) Tapering slab of fine-grained sandstone, slightly greenish in colour. Relief design;

Ford (St Michael)

Slabs (1) – (4) are set in the floor at the west end of the nave to the south of the font, with (5) and (6) lying north of the font:

- (1) Crudely-incised sandstone slab with cross head enclosed by a circle and a sword on

the r. of the shaft. Difficult to date; it could be as early as the twelfth century.

- (2) Upper part of incised slab, apparently of limestone; cross with round-leaf bracelet cross and shaft overlain by what appear to be the bag and chanter of a set of pipes. It is a matter of regret that there is now no indication of how the wind was provided (i.e. mouthpiece or bellows). For further discussion see Charlton (1930). In the nineteenth century this slab lay in the churchyard on the south of the church (Tomlinson 1912, 523). Late twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (3) Sandstone slab with a crude incised cross rising from a large square base; sword on the r. and perhaps another on the l. Inscription above the cross:
'... H DEPART-D TO THE MERCIÉ
O(F) GOD THE - OF SEP ANNO 1614'
- (4) Small sandstone slab with a double incised border and a small sword or dagger with a five-lobed pommel of Scandinavian type (Ward Perkins 1940, 22). Date uncertain.
- (5) Large but worn relief-carved slab of brown sandstone, within a raised border. Simple cross with sword on r. and dagger on l. Perhaps fourteenth or fifteenth century.
- (6) Small tapered slab of grey sandstone; cross with fleur-de-lys terminals and a pair of shears overlying the cross shaft. Perhaps fourteenth century.
- (7) Small incised slab, very worn, set in the floor at the extreme south-east corner of the south aisle; faint traces of a simple cross. Date uncertain.
- (8) Slab, similar to (3) but with Tau (T-shaped) cross, set at east end of north aisle. Inscription above, very worn; all

that is legible is 'THE 2 OF OCTOBER' and the date '161...'

- (9) Fragment of a slab of yellow ferruginous sandstone, lying (in 1986) with other stones at the north-west corner of the churchyard. Relief design; cross shaft with sword on the r. Date uncertain.

The group of stones in the churchyard includes: both ends of a coped and tegulated slab, perhaps of twelfth-century date; one end of a simpler coped slab and a stone, perhaps part of a grave slab, with a crude incised chevron pattern, perhaps of twelfth century date. Built into the external face of the west wall of the porch is a narrow tapered slab of pink sandstone with an incised border.

Hepple (Christ Church)

The present church is a building of 1893-4, but retains a Norman font and several monuments from the medieval chapel on Kirkhill, excavated in 1972 (Miket 1974).

- (1) Upper part of fawn sandstone slab set in internal face of north wall of nave, near west end. Relief design; unusual cross with eight lobed leaf-like arms, within a ring. The shaft, and sword to the r., are overlain by a shield, bearing three incised horseshoe-like motifs. Twelfth or thirteenth century?
- (2) Fragment of a headstone, or free-standing cross, of sandstone, now lying loose by the font. Incised design: on one face a simple cross above a loop-like motif, on the other a cross with two sets of transverse arms, above what looks like the pommel of a sword. Twelfth century?

Slabs (3) and (4) lie in the churchyard close to the north-west corner of the nave; they were brought from the medieval chapel site, where Miket describes them as lying in the same relative positions, but outside the south wall of the chancel.

- (3) Rectangular slab with chamfered sides, and a small plain foot-stone. Incised cross head only, formed by four D-shaped motifs within a circle, with a square object below. Twelfth century.
- (4) Small slightly tapered slab with a two-step chamfer all round, the top and steeper upper chamfer having incised panels below it. Probably twelfth century.
- (5) Sandstone slab, excavated in 1972, now in store at Woodhorn Colliery Museum. A drawing in the excavation report (Miket 1974, fig. 3a) omits some detail but does show some parts of the badly-cracked slab which have been lost. The design is carved in high relief; the cross head was apparently decorated with some variant on a round-leaf bracelet form, rising from a tapering shaft with chamfered edges each with its own broach-stop at the foot. The shaft is set on a stepped base with incised lines simulating coursed masonry. Incised inscription on either side of the shaft:
 . . . IACT DOM . . . MARIORA . . . VIT
 : UXOR DOMINI : ROBERTI : TAYL-
 BOIS

'Here lies the lady Marjorie . . . wife of Lord Robert Taylbois'. Miket (1974, 171) dates the death of the lady Marjorie to between 1257 and 1266. This would suggest that this slab is one of the few closely-dateable carvings in the county. Sadly, a note of caution needs to be sounded, as the 'masonry' decoration of the base is closely paralleled by floor stone cross slabs in South Yorkshire (Ryder 1980, 63-6), all of which are of late fifteenth or sixteenth century date. Might this be a late replacement of an earlier monument, or simply a freakishly early appearance of a stylistic motif popular two centuries later?

- (6) Lower part of a slab found in the nave of the chapel, illustrated by Miket (1974).

Relief design, showing cross shaft rising from curious Y-shaped foot; described as 'badly burnt and cracked'. Present location not known. Date uncertain. Not illustrated here; for illustration see Miket (1974, fig. 3d).

- (7) Lower part of a slab, present location not known. Miket's drawing is taken from a sketch by Hodgson (n.d., M, 87-90: Northumberland County Record Office ref M15, A29). The present location of the stone is unknown. Relief design; cross shaft rising from roughly triangular mount with double-cusped foot, with blade of sword on l. Date uncertain. Not illustrated here; for illustration see Miket (1974, fig. 3e).

Holy Island (St Mary)

- (1) Tapered slab of reddish sandstone, set upright against internal face of north wall of chancel. Incised design; a Tau (T-shaped) cross rising from a stepped base, with a sword on the r. Above the transverse arm is a peculiar five-sided shape, slightly reminiscent of a bishop's mitre. The design is all fairly crude, rather reminiscent of the two seventeenth-century cross slabs at Ford; is this another post-medieval survival?
- (2) Fragment of a slab of fawn sandstone, lying loose in the south porch. What is presumably a central cross shaft is flanked on either side by a series of saltire crosses, the panels between the arms being sunk. This seems to be an 'Early Geometric' piece (Butler 1964, 115). Probably early-twelfth century.

Holy Island Priory

A group of five slabs survive in the monastic cemetery to the south-east of the church. Only two retain any remains of their designs:

- (1) Complete tapered slab of whitish sandstone. Relief design except for cross head

carved in relief within a sunk circle. Bracelet-derivative cross with fleur-de-lys ends to bracelets and incised line decoration, rising from stepped base. Thirteenth century.

- (2) Fragment of small double slab of sandstone. Incised design of shafts and stepped bases of two crosses, with hints of an emblem (sword blade?) on the l. of the l. cross. Date uncertain.

Two further stones were, in 1997, in the English Heritage stone store at Berwick:

- (3) Thick slab of coarse brown sandstone or grit, slightly tapered, and lacking its head. Incised design within a simple border line, showing a tapering cross shaft, rising from a simple triangular mount, rather crudely laid out. Difficult to date, but could well be early; probably pre-1150, and could even be Pre-Conquest.
- (4) Head of a slab with relief design on pinkish sandstone; a rather unusual cross, related to the interlaced knot form seen at Bakewell and Hartington in Derbyshire (Butler 1964, pl. XXI) and elsewhere. Between the four diagonally-set loops are stylised fleur-de-lys terminals. The design is set within a roll moulding, bordered by a broad chamfer. The surviving fragment has its reverse face cut back (so that the full width of the chamfer is not seen), presumably during a later re-use. Late twelfth century?
- (5) A slab, simply labelled 'grave cover Lindisfarne; Stuart Vol II plate XXVIII' is illustrated in a tracing in the library of the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle. It shows a slab with two expanded-armed crosses enclosed in circles (with sunk panels between the arms), one above the other, with three intersecting incised circles between them; below the lower cross is what appears to be an incised

sword. Twelfth century. (Size and illustration scale uncertain.)

Holystone (St Mary)

- (1) Head of a slab of coarse-grained grey sandstone, set in the external face of the south wall of the church immediately east of (1). Relief design; rather asymmetric cross with clustered fleur-de-lys terminals. Probably thirteenth century.
- (2) Upper part of a slab of whitish sandstone, set in the external face of the south wall of the chancel close to its east end. Incised design. Cross with fleur-de-lys terminals, with sword on r. of shaft. Possibly quite late medieval, i.e. fifteenth century.
- (3) Upper part of slab of yellowish sandstone, set in external face of south wall of chancel, at its west end. Incised design except for the cross head being carved in relief within a sunk panel. Round-leaf bracelet cross, pommel of sword on l. of shaft. Late twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (4) Lower part of a sandstone slab, heavily lichened, set in the internal face of the west wall of the churchyard, north-west of the west door of the church. Incised design; cross shaft rising from stepped base; blade of sword on l. of shaft. Date uncertain.
- (5) Upper part of slab of pale grey sandstone built into the south wall of Mill Cottage, along with various architectural fragments. Relief design; cross patée, with pommel of sword on r. of shaft. Perhaps twelfth century.

Howick (St Michael)

In the churchyard 7 m south of the vestry of the eighteenth-century church is a group of at least four medieval slabs, partly buried. One is of semi-coped section, with moulded edges, but

no design surviving other than the merest trace of a cross head.

- (1) Tapered sandstone slab with relief design, now very worn, in churchyard 10 m south of the above group of slabs. Single cross with broad round-leaf or fleur-de-lys terminals rising from stepped base, with sword on r. Thirteenth century?

Hulne Priory (NU 164157)

During the nineteenth-century excavations at Hulne Priory several medieval grave covers were found (Way 1853). Three remain visible; it is not clear whether others are concealed by the inch or two of soil and grass in the priory church.

- (1) Incised rectangular slab in floor of nave. Tau cross rising from a trefoiled semicircular mount, the arms and shaft pierced diagonally by nails. The unusual form of this cross aroused some interest in the nineteenth century (Way 1853), but has not been satisfactorily explained. The trefoiled base suggests a later thirteenth or fourteenth century date.
- (2) Slab, the base now broken away, set inside the eighteenth-century Gothick summerhouse in the cloister garth. Incised design except for square sunk panel round the cross head. Bracelet cross head, sword on l. of shaft and an emblem on r. which resembles a long-handled spade. It might be over simplistic to interpret this as the founder's memorial, but the style is that of the late twelfth or early thirteenth century, so it must date from early in the history of the house.
- (3) Two pieces of an incised slab lying amongst the tumbled remains of the night stair, south-east of the sacristy. Very simple cross with fleur-de-lys terminals to upper and transverse arms only, and stepped base. Fourteenth or fifteenth century.

- (4) The first drawing (4a) shows a very worn relief-carved slab now set into the blocking of the west window of the priory church. This stone was brought from the ruins of St Waleric's, the medieval parish church at Alnmouth in the early nineteenth century; a published illustration and account (Hunter Blair 1926, 134–5) show that the design represented a tree with lopped branches. From branches on the r. hung a sheathed sword wound by its belt, and a shield bearing a chevron between three mallets, and on the l. a second shield charged with a bend, and a bugle horn hung by its strap or baldric. A ribbon was twined round the upper part of the tree trunk which was half encircled in the centre by a crescent. A mantled helm with a wheel-like device was perched upon the top of the trunk. Hunter Blair suggested that the slab commemorated a knight, or at least an esquire, who held the office of forester to Henry, Earl of Northumberland, and was probably connected in some way to the family of Denum; he considered the slab to be of later fourteenth-century date.

A late-eighteenth century drawing by Samuel Hieronymus Grimm (Northumberland County Record Office microfilm M542), from which the second drawing reproduced here is taken (4b), shows the same slab; its proportions are a little more consistent with the eroded remnants of the design that can be traced today.

Ilderton (St Michael)

- (1) Upper part of sandstone slab lying against external face of west wall of tower. Incised cross with large fleur-de-lys terminals, the leaves enclosing heart-shaped 'bracelets'. Thirteenth or fourteenth century.
- (2) Sandstone slab, lacking its head, now in the floor of the tower, near the north wall.

Incised design; cross rising from trefoil-arched base, with sword on r. Fourteenth century.

Ingram (St Michael)

- (1) Tapered slab of brown fine-grained sandstone, in floor at west end of chancel, towards north side. Incised design; cross with discoidal terminals with another disc above the pedestal-like base; shears on l. of shaft. Twelfth century?
- (2) Fragment of grey sandstone slab built into external face of east wall of porch; incised pair of shears. Date uncertain.
- (3) Fragment of grey sandstone slab built into external face of south wall of chancel 4 m above the ground. Relief design; fragment of head of cross patée within ring. Twelfth century?
- (4) Semi-coped sandstone slab standing (upside down) at west end of north aisle. Roll-moulded edges to panels on top and sides; top panel has worn bracelet cross (incised with sunk panels in head) best seen with side lighting. Twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (5) Fragment of head of slab of purplish sandstone, built into internal face of west wall of porch, and concealed by notice board. Incised design; cross with slightly-expanded terminals, pommel of sword or dagger with down-turned quillons on l. of shaft (see Ancroft (1)). Perhaps twelfth century.
- (6) Part of head of sandstone slab built into internal face of east wall of porch, concealed by notice board. Relief design; four-circle, or bracelet, cross with four-petalled flower at centre and incised line decoration on lozenge-shaped buds. Late twelfth century.

Inner Farne, *see* Farne

Kirkhill (West Hepple), *see* Hepple

Kirknewton (St Gregory the Great)

- (1) Small but complete slab of purplish sandstone, built into the external face of the south wall of the tower 4 m above ground level, above the boiler house roof. Incised design except for sunk diamond-shaped panel round head; cross with fleur-de-lys terminals rising from a stepped base, with shears on l. of shaft. Perhaps thirteenth century.
- (2) Fragment of a slab of fawn sandstone, lacking its head, built into the external face of the north wall of the tower 4 m above the ground. Relief design; cross shaft, from which two pairs of fleur-de-lys spring, rising from stepped base. Thirteenth century?

Kyloe (St Nicholas)

- (1) Upper part of a sandstone slab now built into the internal face of the north wall of church; the description and illustration here are taken from drawings sent by the present owners of the building and a sketch by Blair (n.d., VII, 57). Cross head with fleur-de-lys terminals, carved in relief within a sunk circle; there is a similar opposed fleur-de-lys at the top of the cross shaft, and what appears to be part of the ogival pommel of a sword to the r. Thirteenth century. (Size and illustration scale uncertain.)

Lilburn Chapel (NU 024242)

In the ruins of the medieval chapel at Lilburn are three slabs, protected by hinged wooden covers. Slabs (1) and (2) lie in the south chapel, and (3) at the north-west corner of the nave; they are described in the *NCH* (Dodds 1935, 386–8). In addition to these slabs, several other plain recumbent grave slabs in the small graveyard round the ruin may well be of medieval

date, including quite a large coped stone to the west of the south chapel.

- (1) Unusually large slab of sandstone, 2.34 m long. The body of the stone is raised above a flange or margin on either side, and along the axis is a central ridge or band in bold relief; at the top of this is a horizontal bar with, at the intersection, what seems to be a human head, largely cut back. Dodds (1935, 386) states that 'the head in a mail coif rests upon a flat square cushion, the face with shoulders and arms have been hacked off'. It is now difficult to see the cushion, or where the shoulders and arms might have been. The r. hand section of the bar has what may be a stylised animal head seen in plan; there is another, perhaps a dog, lower down the central shaft. On the r. of the shaft is a shield bearing a ring-encircled cross, and below that a sword; between the sword and the cross-shaft is a spear, point downwards. Around the base of the sword and spear are an incised fish and a bird, which the *NCH* identifies as a raven. On the l. are faint traces of an incised motif, and below that the inscription 'ALEXANDER' in a rude type of early Lombardic'.

The vertical face of the head of the stone carries a simple cross, springing from a rather broader base, carved in relief; at the foot of the stone the central ridge is continued down as a vertical bar, with incised line decoration. There are also some incised motifs on the left-hand 'flange'.

This is clearly an important monument. The *NCH* suggests that it may either commemorate the twelfth-century founder of the church, or possibly a Scots noble who fell at Alnwick when Malcolm Canmore was killed in 1093. Some of its features, such as the raised central bar or ridge, and the use of incised geometric panels, do look 'early', but in general there is little stylistic indication of date. Possibly twelfth or thirteenth century.

- (2) Tapering slab with, as on (1), a sunk 'flange' at the side and base. Relief design; simple broad-shafted cross with a ring round the head, rising from a simple arched mount. There is a raised horizontal bar above the cross, a smaller splay-armed cross superimposed on the centre of the head, and a sword on the r. of the shaft. Twelfth century?
- (3) Slab of orange sandstone, its design largely incised. Cross with ring round head, rising from crude stepped base, with sword on l. of shaft. There are also three crudely-carved small figures, one between the cross shaft and the sword, and two on the r. of the shaft. An incised line delimits a broad border. Twelfth century?
- (4) Slab lying recumbent c. 2 m east of the south chapel. Very worn; the only element of the design visible is the head, carved in relief within a sunk circle, which has broad fleur-de-lys terminals. Thirteenth century?

Lindisfarne, *see* Holy Island

Longhoughton (St Peter and St Paul)

- (1) Head of a small slab of blue-grey sandstone, now built into the external face of the east wall of the chancel, between the centre and northern window. Cross patée with sunk panels between arms; on the left of the cross what may be the loop of a pair of shears, or possibly the pommel of a sword. Twelfth century?

Lowick (St John)

- (1) Head of a brown sandstone slab now built into the internal face of the churchyard wall immediately to the north of the main gate, at the south-east corner of the churchyard. 'Marigold' cross head made up of eight 'petals' carved in relief within a sunk circle. Late twelfth century?

Old Bewick (Holy Trinity)

- (1) Intact slab of brown sandstone set in floor against the north wall of the nave. High relief design; floriated cross with clustered trefoil terminals and central seven-petalled flower. Trefoils spring from the shaft, which rises from a trefoiled mount. Embleton (5) has a similar although rather simpler design, incised rather than carved in relief. Probably late thirteenth century.

Slabs (2) – (7) are built into the internal face of the west wall of the porch, from south to north:

- (2) Weathered slab of purplish sandstone; bracelet cross with sword on r. and hint of a possible second emblem on l. Early thirteenth century.
- (3) Head of a relief-carved cross in pink sandstone, somewhere between a bracelet and a cross botonée in form, of c. 1300.
- (4) Fragment of a pale pink sandstone slab; relief design with the blades of a pair of shears and a buckle (?) on r. Date uncertain.
- (5) Two fragments of a reddish sandstone slab with an eight-terminal ring head; the sword on the l. of the shaft has a seven-lobed pommel of Scandinavian type (Ward Perkins 1940, 22). Late twelfth or early thirteenth century
- (6) Fragment of a flat-topped coped slab with roll-moulded angles and an incised pair of shears set centrally, perhaps as the only motif. Date uncertain.
- (7) Small slab of whitish sandstone, in good condition. Incised design with some sunk panels. Bracelet cross, set within a ring from which fleur-de-lys spring. On the r. of the shaft is a brooch or dress fastener above a chip-carved disc or rosette, and on the l. a pair of shears. An unusual but effective trefoiled base enclosing a fleur-de-lys. Late twelfth or early thirteenth century.
- (8) Coped slab of yellowish sandstone set in the wall at the north end of the east side of the porch, with a simple cross patée incised on each face. Twelfth or thirteenth century.
- (9) Small pink sandstone slab lying loose in the chancel, against the north wall. Incised design with some sunk areas. Plain cross in circle. On the r. are a quatrefoil, a brooch or dress fastener, and a plain rectangular object (a work box?); on the l. a pair of shears. Twelfth or thirteenth century?
- (10) Block of brown sandstone built into the south jamb of the sanctuary arch, 1.5 m above the floor, bearing an incised splay-armed cross within a circle. This might be a consecration cross rather than a sepulchral monument.
- (11) Part of a slab of pinkish sandstone set in the floor of the porch at its north-west corner. Remains of a cross head enclosed in a circle, with deep sinkings between the arms and traces of a sword pommel (?) on r. of shaft. Blair (n.d., III, 179) shows this rather better preserved, the sword having downward-pointed quillons. Perhaps twelfth century.
- (12) Upper part of an orange sandstone slab set in the floor of the porch at the north-east corner. Weathered cross in circle, incised – except for sunk panels between arms – with in-turned bracelets. There seem to be traces of some sort of emblem on the l. of the shaft. Perhaps twelfth century.
- (13) Slab outside the west wall of the porch. The design is almost erased by weathering; bracelet or four-circle cross

head. Twelfth or early thirteenth century.

- (14) Slab re-used on the exterior of the north wall of the chancel, 3 m above ground level. The head of a crudely laid-out incised cross, of a rather distorted bracelet form, on coarse-grained purplish sandstone. Twelfth or thirteenth century?

Rock (St Philip and St James)

- (1) Slab, probably of limestone, partly incised and partly carved in relief, set in chancel floor, against north wall. Cross head, within sunk circle, with peculiar terminals which are a combination of a trefoil and a fleur-de-lys, rising from an oddly shaped base formed from a pair of semicircular arches. Sword on r. and some other emblem, possibly a hammer, on the l. Date uncertain, possibly later twelfth century.

Rothbury (All Saints)

Slabs (1) – (3) are built into the internal face of the west wall of the south porch.

- (1) Small sandstone slab carved in high relief, part of cross head with clustered trefoil terminals; detached cross shaft from which further trefoils spring, overlain on r. by sword. All very crudely laid out. Twelfth century?
- (2) Complete small slab of fawn sandstone, carved in relief. Bracelet cross with trefoil terminals, rising from cusped trefoiled base, with shears on l. of shaft. Late thirteenth or early fourteenth century.
- (3) Two fragments of a coped slab of a distinctive red sandstone, the panel on its top face surrounded by a beaded border; fragment of some relief design on the sloping face to the l. Twelfth century?

- (4) Slab of sandstone built into the side of the coffin rest at the head of the steps at the south-east entrance to the churchyard. Incised design, very worn. Simple cross with fleur-de-lys or trefoil terminals, perhaps with an opposed fleur-de-lys/trefoil at the top of the cross shaft. Date uncertain.

- (5) Blair (n.d. IX, 114) gives a sketch of a slab 'in Rothbury churchyard'; cross patée with sunk segments between arms. Possibly a headstone. This seems to be the same stone as illustrated by Dixon (1903, 399) who describes it as being found in the school garden to the east of the churchyard 'a few years ago'. Twelfth century? (Size and illustration scale uncertain.)

Rothbury (Wreighburn House)

- (1) Slab of sandstone now in the garden north of Wreighburn House (NU 031020), bearing a cross patée on a broad shaft, incised; this seems likely to be a sepulchral monument. Dixon (1903, 463) gives an inaccurate sketch, and states that the house was supposedly built on the site of a medieval hospital 'Thropton Spital'. Twelfth century?

Tughall (ruined chapel; NU 213265)

- (1) Blair (n.d., VII, 32) gives a rough sketch of a grave cover, its head missing, with a sword on the r. of the shaft and apparently a semicircular arched mount. This stone is no longer apparent, although it might be identified with a heavy slab lying face-down near the fragmentary ruins of the chapel. (The illustration is not drawn to scale.)

Wark on Tweed

- (1) Rectangular slab, of quite fine-grained reddish sandstone, lying close to the

south-east angle of the grassed foundations of the chapel, and just inside the boundary fence of the old churchyard to the west of the village. Incised straight-armed cross with an incised border. A rough sketch by Blair on 10 September 1890 (n.d., VII, 211) shows in addition a sword on the r. of the cross (shown in dotted outline on drawing). Date uncertain, although it could be quite late, *i.e.* fifteenth or even sixteenth century.

Warkworth (St Lawrence)

- (1) Fragmentary slab of khaki-coloured sandstone built into the north face of the eastern respond of the south aisle, immediately above the capital. Head of an incised cross with cup-shaped terminals, probably enclosed within a circle. Twelfth century?

Three fragments of a heavily worn coped-and-tegulated slab, probably of twelfth-century date, are built into the external face of the east end of the south aisle, and three similar fragments into the internal face of the west wall of the aisle just below the sill of its west window.

West Hepple, Kirkhill, *see* Hepple

Whittingham (St Bartholomew)

- (1) Upper part of a small slab of orange sandstone, built into the internal face of the south wall of the chancel, midway between the two windows. Incised design; crude cross head formed of four conjoined trefoils within a circle, shears on r. of shaft. Possibly thirteenth century.
- (2) Rectangular sandstone slab lying loose outside the west wall of the south porch. Incised cross, damaged, with slightly-splayed arms; there seems to be a cable moulding on the edges of the stone. This slab was roughly sketched on 2nd July 1891 by Blair (n.d., VIII, 138) when it was noted as being 'found on pulling down hearse house'. This could be an early

medieval (eleventh or twelfth century) or even a pre-Conquest piece.

ADDENDUM

Recently-discovered slabs in other parts of Northumberland (see fig. 25)

Halton Castle

- (1) During building works in 2000 the remains of one of the original thirteenth-century windows in the south wall of the former hall were uncovered; its internal lintel was a reused grave slab, with a design incised on sandstone. Although its ends were concealed in the wall, enough of the cross head could be seen to show that it was enclosed in a number of concentric circles – a close parallel to one of the recently discovered slabs at Castle Terrace, Berwick (Cambridge et al 2001, 48, no. 4). Late eleventh or early twelfth century.

Ovingham (St Mary the Virgin)

- (15) During roof repairs in 2000, a fragment of a medieval headstone was found amongst loose rubble on top of the south wall of the chancel. This is of buff sandstone; on one face are remains of a design, carved in relief, of a cross with expanded terminals projecting beyond the enclosing ring; on the opposite face is an incised cross, with crude fleur-de-lys terminals. Late twelfth or early thirteenth century. (Illustration scale 1:10)

Warden (St Michael)

In addition to the medieval grave covers listed earlier (Ryder 2000, 77) there is a coped and tegulated grave slab, probably of the twelfth century, now lying on the north side of the sanctuary. (Not illustrated.)

DISCUSSION

Note: The following discussion covers slabs from sites in the whole of Northumberland. Unless otherwise stated, slabs from sites in South West Northumberland are described in Ryder (2000); those from South East Northumberland (including Newcastle) are described in Ryder (2002); and those from North Northumberland are described in this article (above).

Materials, Form and Function

The number of cross slabs surviving in an area can usually be correlated very closely to the availability of suitable workable stone; in Northumberland virtually every parish had quarries of Carboniferous sandstone or grit; the sandstones in particular proved a suitable and durable freestone.

The majority of slabs are of 'coffin lid' dimensions and shape, *i.e.* 1.6–1.8 m in length, often tapering from *c.* 0.50–0.60 m wide at the head to 0.30–0.40 m at the foot. Occasionally 'half-size' slabs are found, 0.60–0.90 m long. These are sometimes explained as the monuments of children; while this may sometimes be the case (e.g. Stannington (3), probably commemorating a male child of a noble family), the occasional predominance of such slabs at some specific sites e.g. Barnard Castle in County Durham (Ryder 1985, 53–8, pls. 4–6), suggests that they might also be a locally-popular style of grave marker. Thickness is generally in the region of 0.10–0.20 m. The angles of the carved upper face are often chamfered, or occasionally carry a more elaborate moulding.

The designs on these monuments are most commonly incised, although relief designs are also quite frequent; a common combination is seen on slabs in which the design is incised except for the cross head, which is carved in relief within a sunk panel, usually circular.

The slabs may either have served as the lids of stone coffins or, more frequently, as grave markers set above a burial. Many were probably placed in churchyards, although some of the higher-status slabs initially lay within a church; a few were provided with their own

architectural setting in the form of an arch or mural recess (such as the 'Tree of Life' slab at Hexham). Also included in this survey are headstones – smaller pieces, often discoidal, which would have been placed at the head (and/or foot) of a burial, whether or not accompanied by a body slab; these seem to have been locally popular, as can be seen from the considerable collections at sites such as Chollerton and Woodhorn.

Very few slabs now remain in the positions in which they were first laid; virtually the only ones that do are those which have come to light in the excavation of medieval cemeteries or monastic sites. In this respect the most valuable groups of early cross slabs and allied monuments in the county are thus those found *in situ* in eleventh and twelfth century graveyards at Berwick (Castle Terrace) (Cambridge et al 2001, 47–54), and at Mitford (Honeyman 1955, 32–3) and Newcastle Castles. The vast majority of the slabs known today are however *ex situ*, most having been re-used at some time as building material. The majority of those surviving came to light during Victorian rebuildings and restorations of old churches, and were often then retrieved and set into walls (e.g. Bywell St Andrew, Newbiggin and many other places) as antiquarian exhibits. The scale of such re-use, even in the medieval period, is demonstrated by the 300 slabs found when the south transept at Bakewell (Derbyshire) was rebuilt in the 1840s (Plumptre 1847) and, more recently, when over 70 came to light during the restoration of Brancepeth (Co Durham) after the disastrous fire of 1998.

Previous Work

No comprehensive study of the lesser medieval monuments of Northumberland has previously been published, although individual collections of stones have been illustrated in the *NCH* and other sources. Antiquarian interest in cross slabs in Northern England was first demonstrated by Charlton (1848), and a considerable number of northern slabs figured in two mid-nineteenth-century manuals by Boutell (1849)

and Cutts (1849) which remain the only substantial volumes devoted to this monument type at a national level. The most useful sources for drawings of individual slabs in the Northern Counties are provided by MS notebooks compiled by the local antiquaries Hodges and Blair, now in the Society of Antiquaries Library at Newcastle, and another unpublished MS by the Rev G. Rowe (1879–82) in the British Library. To the west of the Pennines a comprehensive survey of Cumberland and Westmorland material was attempted by Bower (1907–12). More recently there has been a full publication of slabs from both West Yorkshire and Co Durham (Ryder 1985; 1991).

Cross Designs and Dating

The principal design element on each slab is normally a cross. This usually runs the full length of the slab, rising from a base or 'mount', often stepped; the cross head can take on a great variety of forms, some very elaborate. This main motif is usually accompanied by some form of emblem, relating to the rank or occupation of the deceased or, much less commonly, by an inscription.

The changing style of cross designs gives some indication of the date of the slab. Basic stylistic patterns were recognised in the two mid-nineteenth century manuals already mentioned (Boutell 1849 and Cutts 1849), and, a century or so later, a detailed typology of cross forms was developed and refined by Butler for the East Midlands area (Butler 1987). What follows builds on this earlier work.

Chronology

a. The Late Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries

The earliest group of post-Conquest slab designs are termed by Butler the 'Early Geometric', and show the same types of simple geometric pattern as are favoured in early Norman architecture, sometimes tending to abstract doodlings oddly reminiscent of far-earlier rock art. The forms of the crosses themselves – simple splay-armed forms and variants

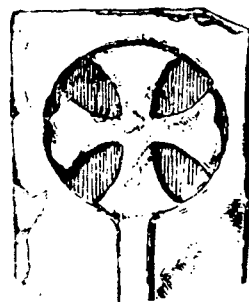


Fig. 1 A cross patée, probably of the twelfth century, although simple forms such as this might well persist in use for a longer period.

upon the cross patée being common – are found in Pre-Conquest work, but may now be accompanied by concentric circles enclosing the cross head, such as examples from Berwick (Castle Terrace) and the recently-discovered slab at Halton Castle. Three of the Castle Terrace slabs have groups of two or three rings that are difficult to interpret as a cruciform pattern; below is a cross shaft sprouting what may be rudimentary foliage, a precursor of forms so common a century or two later. Slabs at Bolam and Holy Island St Mary show the repeating chevrons and saltire crosses familiar from the voussoirs of Norman doorways; similar patterns in a simple and sometimes crude guise occur on slabs from Mitford Castle, but figure most memorably in a refined and delicate little semi-coped slab found in 1990 at Newcastle Castle alongside interlacing circles and basket work. Chollerton (17) is another small slab carefully carved with an asymmetric display of analogous patterns, including a cross patée and a radial-petalled disc.

More difficult to date are slabs which have the same simple cross forms as the set above but are not accompanied by geometric patterns, such as a whole series with the cross patée (fig. 1) at Birtley, simple four-circle crosses at Bywell St Andrew, Ryal and elsewhere, and a rather odd form approximating to the heraldic cross crosslet that occurs at several localities (Bywell St Andrew and St Peter, Elsdon, Newminster, Ovingham, Woodhorn). They might broadly be ascribed to the first half of the

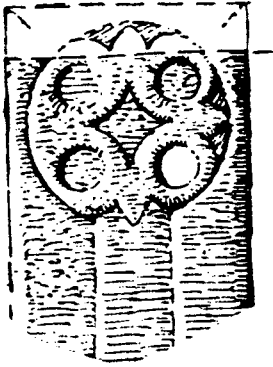


Fig. 2 Cross made up of four unbroken circles, stylistically a precursor of the familiar 'bracelet' type. First half of the twelfth century.

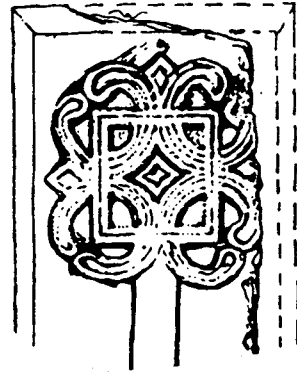


Fig. 3 Round-leaf bracelet cross, here with a 'box' round the head centre and incised-line decoration. Probably later twelfth century.

twelfth century, but could also result from a later carver simply copying, perhaps at a client's request, pre-existing slabs. One interesting case where this presumably happened is at Stannington, where slabs (2) and (4) have very unusual crosses with discs at the centre and odd cup-shaped terminals, reminiscent of some early Irish forms such as are found on the grave covers at Clonmacnois (Cutts 1849, plates 1 and 2). The tapering form of these slabs, and the emblems that accompany them, are however quite standard for twelfth- or thirteenth-century Northumberland, so it would be difficult to argue convincingly for an earlier date.

One quite distinct group of monuments also seems largely of twelfth-century date; these are coped slabs of triangular cross-section. In both their form and in some elements of their decoration these have obvious antecedents in pre-Conquest 'hogbacks' (Lang 1974, 101–6). Their sloping sides are sometimes carved to represent rows of shingles or tiles on the roof of 'man's last house' (e.g. Simonburn, Warden and an elaborate slab, where acanthus leaves replace the overlapping tegulations, at Whitfield St John); on occasions there may be a cross and emblem on one (Bamburgh St Aidan (1)) or both faces (Newbiggin (17), Old Bewick (8)). Allied to these are slabs with a narrow flat-topped ridge, sometimes carrying a slender cross or simply an emblem, and steeply-sloping sides.

Most surviving headstones also appear to date from this relatively early period, having simple splay-armed or patée crosses.

b. Bracelet Crosses; the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries

Towards the end of the twelfth century we see the development of what is probably the most common cross form of all, found throughout much of the country: the round-leaf bracelet. Here the common four circles (fig. 2) break open into bracelet-like forms (fig. 3), with round-leaf terminals and, usually, a triangular bud between. Butler (1964, 129) dates this form in the East Midlands to 1180–1220, but such are their numbers in the North East that one suspects their use may have continued through most of the thirteenth century.

The round-leaf bracelet cross also provided a theme that local carvers could further develop. Some of these more elaborate forms, here loosely termed 'bracelet derivative' (fig. 4), clearly occur as early as the twelfth century, to judge from slabs like Newbiggin (1) and (2) which, with their acanthus leaves and incised line ornament, still have very much a Romanesque feel. Embleton (5) has heart-shaped round-leaf bracelets with fleur-de-lys buds; the even more refined Old Bewick (1) takes the form a little further in that both buds and

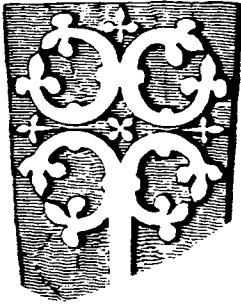


Fig. 4 A bracelet-derivative cross; the ends of the bracelets now developed into trefoils, approaching a fleur-de-lys form, rather than the simple round-leaf. Later thirteenth century.

bracelets have fleur-de-lys terminals – the beginnings of the ‘clustered terminals’ which become popular in the later thirteenth century.

Another popular Northumberland variation on the four-circle and bracelet forms involves eight rather than four rings or bracelets. Newbiggin (6) and two slabs at Simonburn have eight interlacing rings, the former closed and the latter open, while Woodhorn (7) and the smaller Ovingham (4) have very similar plain closed rings set between radial arms like the spokes of a wheel. At Kirkhill (Hartington) and Old Bewick the open rings develop into full round-leaf bracelets.

c) Developments in the late thirteenth and early fourteenth century

Overall the stylistic picture at this period can be seen as an evolving tree of types developing in parallel. By *c.* 1300 the round leaves and triangular (or lenticular) buds of the bracelet crosses give way to clusters of three fleur-de-lys, either on straight-armed crosses such as Bolam (2) (fig. 5) or on bracelet-derivative forms like Bedlington (1). Variants on the basic cross form also become more common in that eight-armed types become more frequent, notably in the churches of Newcastle. The dramatic semi-effigial Newcastle St Nicholas (1) has a cross with eight arms and fleur-de-lys terminals; Butler (1964, 139) sees the fleur-de-lys as a later medieval form, replacing round-leaf terminals



Fig. 5 Cross with its arms branching into clusters of fleur-de-lys. End of the thirteenth century.

and becoming common in the fourteenth century, but it would seem to occur in some forms from the twelfth century onwards, e.g. Chillingham (3) which has incised line decorations typical of the late twelfth or early thirteenth century. Fully-developed fleur-de-lys occur on three quite spectacular slabs at Haltwhistle, all carved in high relief, two with eight-armed crosses and one with a six-armed variant (seen again nearby at Haydon); two of the three have elaborate cusped ogee-arched bases which offer further indication of a fourteenth-century date. Rather less sophisticated is Bywell St Andrew (21) with concentric circles at the head centre and then no less than ten radiating spoke-like arms terminating in very angular fleur-de-lys; this may date to *c.* 1300.

One attractive form of the elaborate late thirteenth/early fourteenth century cross is the interlaced diamond, which can be viewed as a development from the earlier variant with eight interlacing rings. Examples occur over the whole North of England, although it only seems to have been really popular in certain areas (such as the Tees Valley, in Durham and North Yorkshire); in Northumberland there is a scatter of examples at Bywell St Andrew (fig. 6), Knarsdale and Stamfordham, with an unusual six-terminal variant at Embleton.

A handful of slabs also show the naturalistic Gothic foliage of the early-fourteenth century that can be paralleled in some architectural

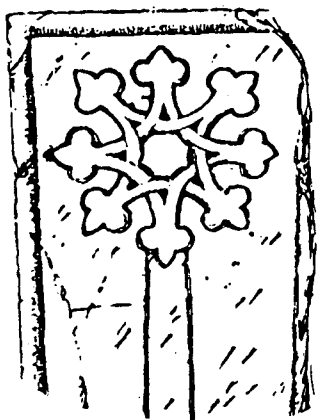


Fig. 6 *Interlaced diamond cross of c. 1300; later ones have more elaborate fleur-de-lys terminals.*

features. Good examples are a once-fine slab at Corsenside, now very worn, and a similar pair, both from Newcastle St Mary's Hospital (3) – now in the Museum of Antiquities – and Blackfriars (1), which have elegant inturned leaves as terminals. The apogee of such slabs in the county is however the well-known 'tree of life' slab at Hexham (Cambridge and Williams 1995, 120–21); here the naturalistic vine leaves that form the four arms of the cross slabs are repeated in a regular pattern while, at its foot, the cross shaft divides and issues from the mouths of a pair of grotesque masks.

The use of cross slabs seems to have declined after c. 1350, partly (at least at a higher social level) in response to competition from other monument forms such as effigies and brasses. Identifiable 'late' cross slabs often tend however to be fairly sophisticated monuments, such as the 'floor stones' (rectangular rather than tapered, so as to fit more readily into a church pavement) at Eglingham and Netherwitton. These have simple, straight-armed, crosses with fleur-de-lys terminals that have angular buds and downward-drooping leaves. Prior William's slab at Brinkburn is a rare dated example (1484); less elegant is another rectangular slab of the same period at Bothal (no 1) which has its fleur-de-lys leaves stylised into a single incised line. There are more late slabs at Blanchland, one with the Sacred Monogram

'IHC' at the centre of its head. All these are fairly high-status slabs, some with the cross accompanied by heraldic bearings. It is, however, more difficult to ascribe smaller and simpler slabs to this late period, perhaps because they cannot be recognised because earlier designs were still being used.

In rural Northumberland the very end of the cross slab tradition extends beyond the Reformation; two crude slabs at Ford, dated by their inscriptions to the early-seventeenth century, have barely recognisable crosses, one of Tau form. Later still come the very similar Kirkwhelpington (8) of 1632 and Chollerton (18) of 1637, both to members of the recusant Widdrington family, with their inscriptions using the medieval 'orate pro anima' formula; both have very simple crosses with slightly-expanded terminals, the former still rising from a stepped mount in the traditional manner.

Emblems

The majority of grave covers in the Northern Counties have their cross accompanied by one or more emblems, indicating the occupation or rank of the deceased. The use of emblems, their significance and regional distribution was discussed by Butler (1987). Even though his data was then only available for less than half the country, the northerly bias for slabs with symbols was already very apparent, jumping from less than 5% in counties such as Bedford, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Leicester, Lincoln and Rutland to 40% in Nottingham and then 78% in South Yorkshire and 81% in Durham. Of the 731 slabs recorded in Northumberland, at least 396 (54%) have emblems. Many of these monuments are of course fragmentary, so the original total would have been considerably higher, and the proportion of emblem-bearing slabs may have matched the c. 80% of neighbouring County Durham.

Turning to the individual emblems, by far the commonest is the sword. This is clearly a male emblem, perhaps denoting the right to bear arms, and occurs on 221 Northumberland slabs (30% of the total). It is generally placed on the r. of the cross (140 slabs); on another 40

it is placed on the l.; in most of a further group of 41 it is the sole motif on the slab. On a few slabs, notably at Doddington and Woodhorn, it would appear that daggers are being represented rather swords; in fact on the latter slab, now sadly lost, the cross was uniquely accompanied by no less than two swords and two daggers.

The second commonest emblem in Northumberland is, as elsewhere, the shears. Although the significance of these has caused some controversy in the past, Butler (1987, 253) is probably right to conclude that 'there is . . . little doubt that the symbol . . . is principally used to indicate a female. . .'. There are 108 occurrences in Northumberland (15% of the total), just over half (56) being on the l. of the cross, 19 on the r. and 33 either the sole motif or placed elsewhere. The shears are sometimes accompanied by a key or keys, e.g. Bamburgh St Aidan and Tynemouth. Another probable female emblem is the buckle, seen twice at Old Bewick (once accompanying the shears on a beautiful little slab of c. 1200), and on a simpler carving at Morpeth.

As elsewhere in the country, the third commonest group of emblems in the Northumberland corpus are those of the priest, with the chalice occurring on 17 Northumberland slabs. At Blanchland a fine slab, doubtless commemorating one of the later abbots of the Premonstratensian abbey, has a crosier accompanying a chalice. Prior William's slab of 1484 at Brinkburn has a pastoral staff shown along with a mitre, as he was also Bishop of Cloyne. The clasped book is found accompanying a chalice at Bolam; its significance in other contexts is however uncertain, as when it accompanies swords at Newbiggin and Thockrington, or occurs alone at Bellingham. Plain rectangular objects, which could be a book or possibly a work box, occur elsewhere, e.g. at Hepple and on a slab at Bywell St Andrew accompanying a strange object that might be a lady's hair pin.

Haltwhistle (1) is an impressive slab with no less than four emblems denoting a member of the Blenkinsopp family who had clearly made a pilgrimage; there is a sword, a shield with the Blenkinsopp arms, a pilgrim's scrip or wallet,

and a staff. Two other near-contemporary slabs in the same church have shields with arms of Thirlwall. Shields, usually with arms, occur on a total of 12 slabs, the earliest probably being on the strange 'Alexander' slab at Lilburn.

The emblems of the huntsman, the horn-and-baldric, occur at Alnwick St Michael, Blanchland, Bywell St Andrew and Thockrington, with bows and arrows at Alnwick St Michael and Blanchland; arrows also occur separately at Blanchland, Elsdon and Knarsdale. Alnwick St Michael also gives us a real rarity, in a hammer and anvil, perhaps indicating an armourer, as opposed to the rather more common blacksmith indicated by a hammer and horseshoes at Newcastle St Andrew and a horseshoe on a lost fragment from Alnwick St Michael. Axes figure on slabs at Birtley, Chatton, Corbridge St Andrew, Rock and Stanington, and knives at Newcastle St Andrew and Ryal. Corbridge St Andrew gives us a shepherd's crook, Edlingham a pair of scissors, Simonburn a hammer, and a lost slab from Hexham a mason's pick and square. What may be a square occurs again at Alnwick St Michael, and a hammer at Simonburn. Perhaps the most memorable of all is a slab at Ford that bears the earliest known representation of a set of bagpipes in Northumberland.

Occasionally emblems cannot be identified; two slabs at Woodhorn and one at Newminster depict a mysterious object, seen again at several other sites in the North of England, e.g. Dewsbury (Ryder 1991, 20, 21 and 65). This resembles a staff with its lower end expanded to a trumpet-like form, and its upper turning to run diagonally towards the cross shaft; it might possibly be intended to represent the stole of an acolyte (pers. comm. L. A. S. Butler) or perhaps a trumpet-like musical instrument.

Inscriptions

Inscriptions are relatively rare on medieval grave slabs; out of 40 examples in Northumberland, the important collection of canons memorials at Hexham (most of which are not true cross slabs, bearing the inscription as their

sole motif) provides 17. At Blanchland, Hexham and Horton are slabs in which an inscription to a woman is simply accompanied by a pair of shears.

A Conservation Issue

One of the factors that prompted this survey was that quite a number of these monuments must today be regarded as 'at risk', both through decay, and through theft of smaller loose fragments. While some protective measures have been taken, as at Bywell St Andrew where many of the important collection of slabs have recently been moved from external to internal wall faces, elsewhere, e.g. at Stanington, important stones are in poor condition and action is urgently needed to arrest active decay.

The vulnerability of medieval monuments in large towns and cities is underlined by the fact that over half the cross slabs recorded in Newcastle have now been lost; this is probably because there was a tendency to donate slabs that came to light during nineteenth-century restorations to museums, or into private collections, rather than just to deposit them in the parish church as usually seemed to happen in rural villages. Some may still await rediscovery on suburban rockeries.

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Alnham (St Michael) Slab 7 is of uncertain size and scale.

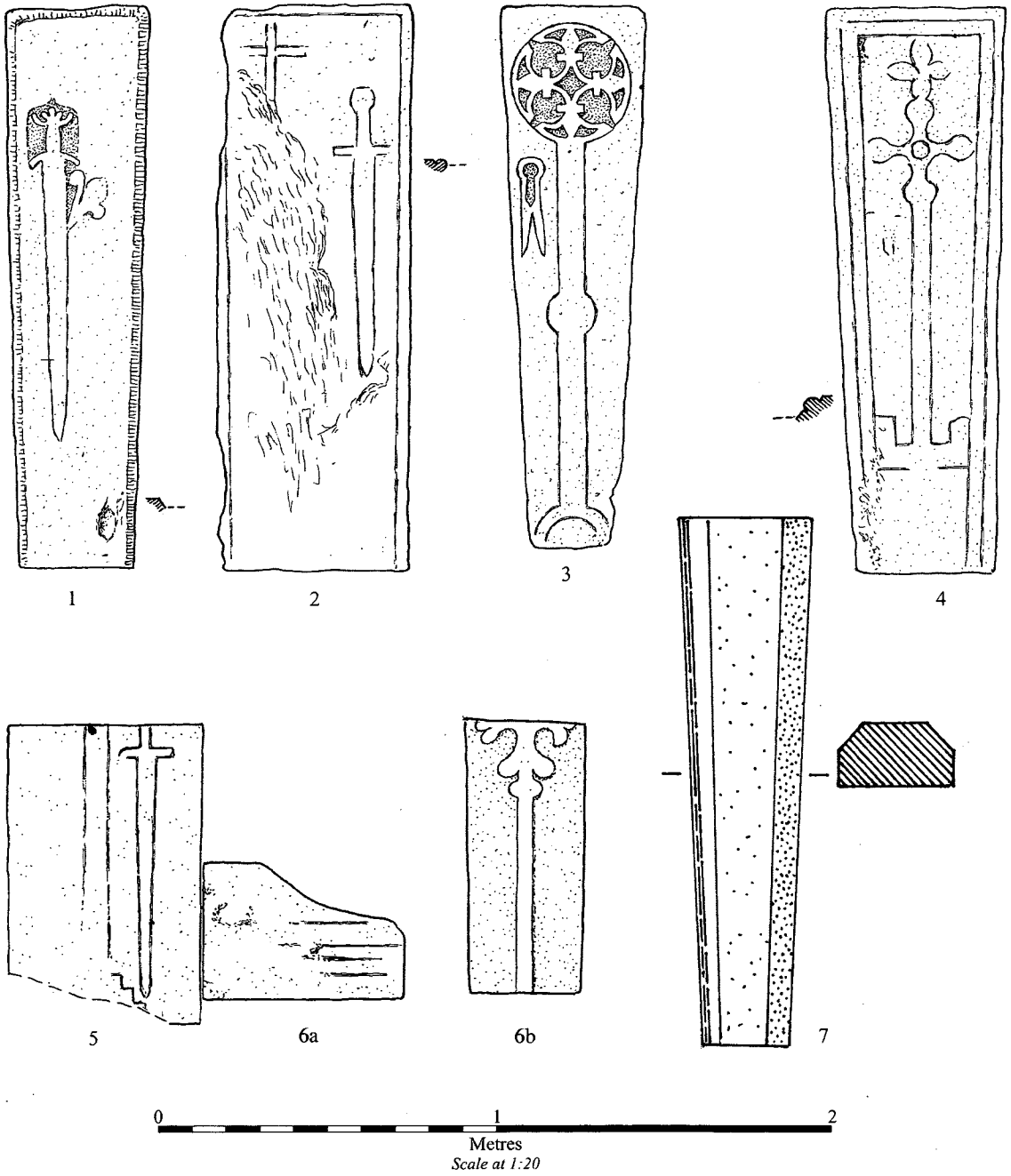


Fig. 7 North Northumberland cross slabs

Alnwick (St Michael)

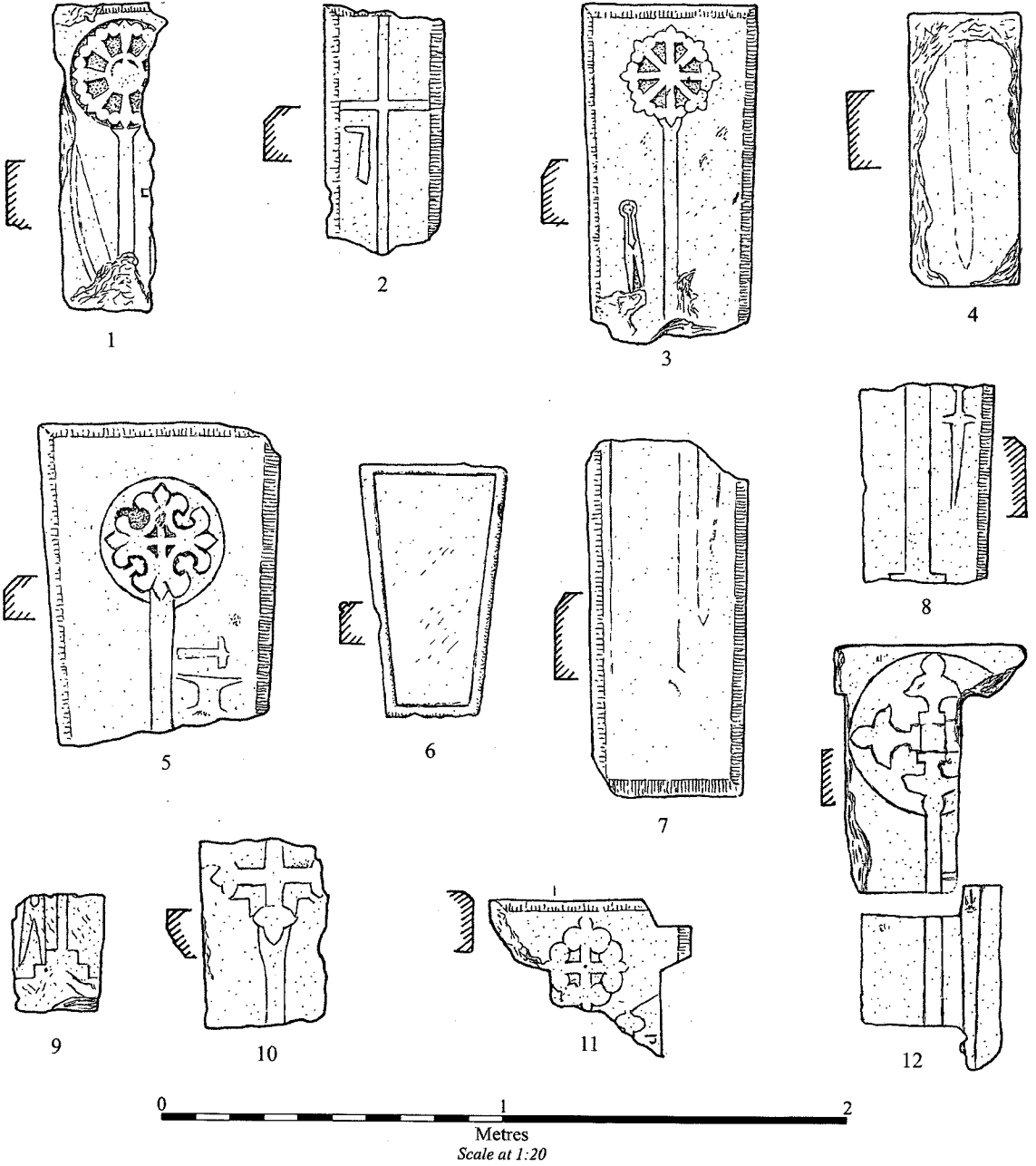


Fig. 8 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Alswick (St Michael), cont.

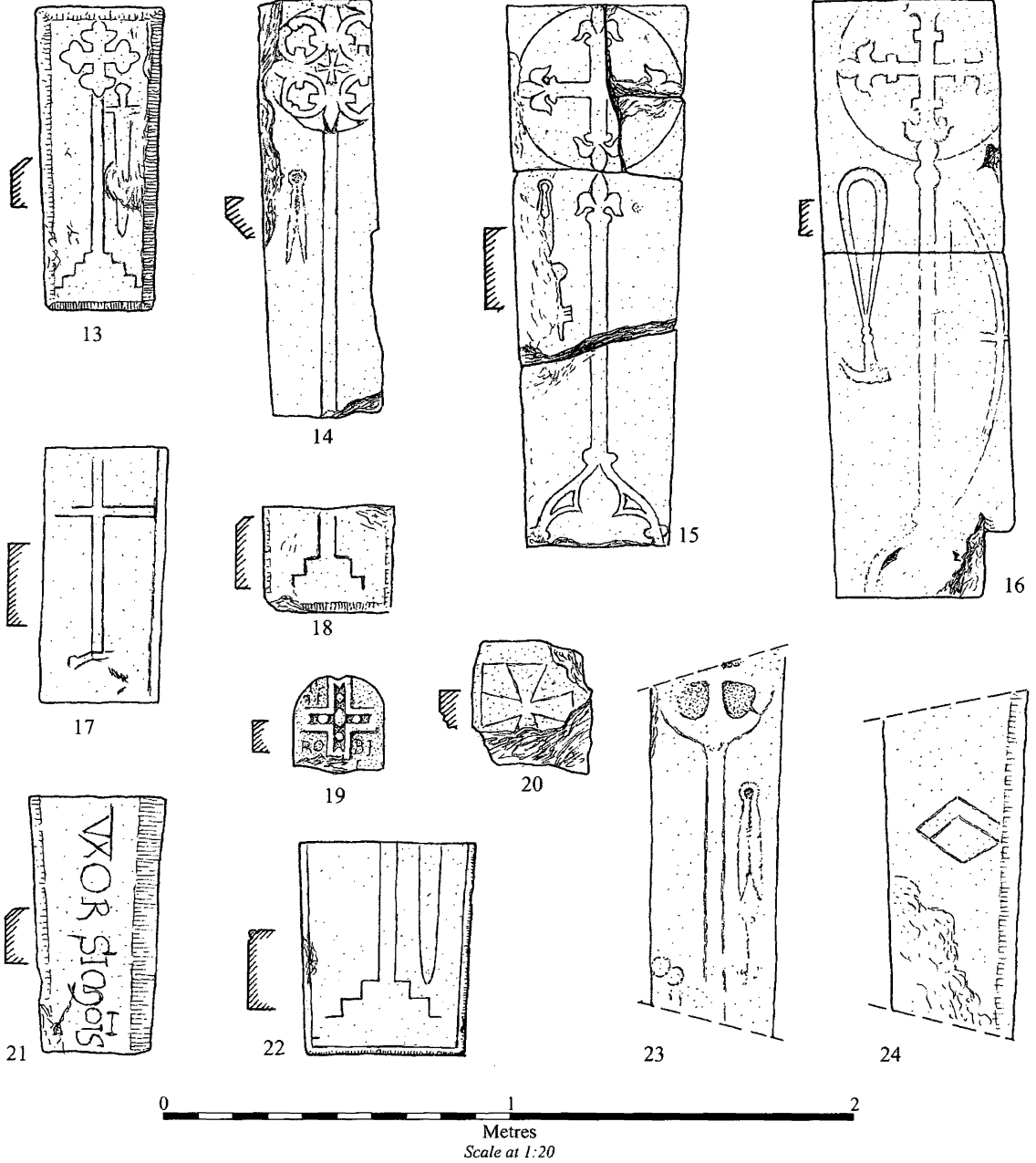
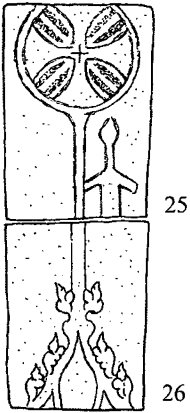
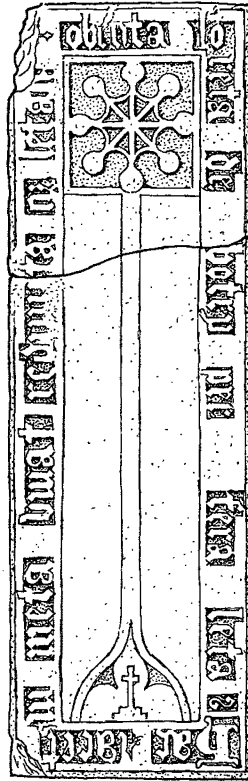


Fig. 9 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Alnwick (St Michael), cont.



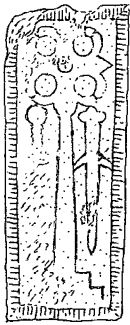
Alnwick Abbey



Alwinton (St Michael and All Angels)



Ancroft (St Anne)



Bamburgh (Dominican Friary)

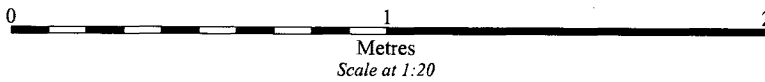
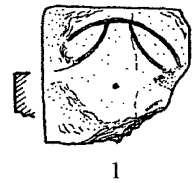


Fig. 10 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Bamburgh (St Aidan)

Bamburgh Castle

Slab 1 is of uncertain size and scale.

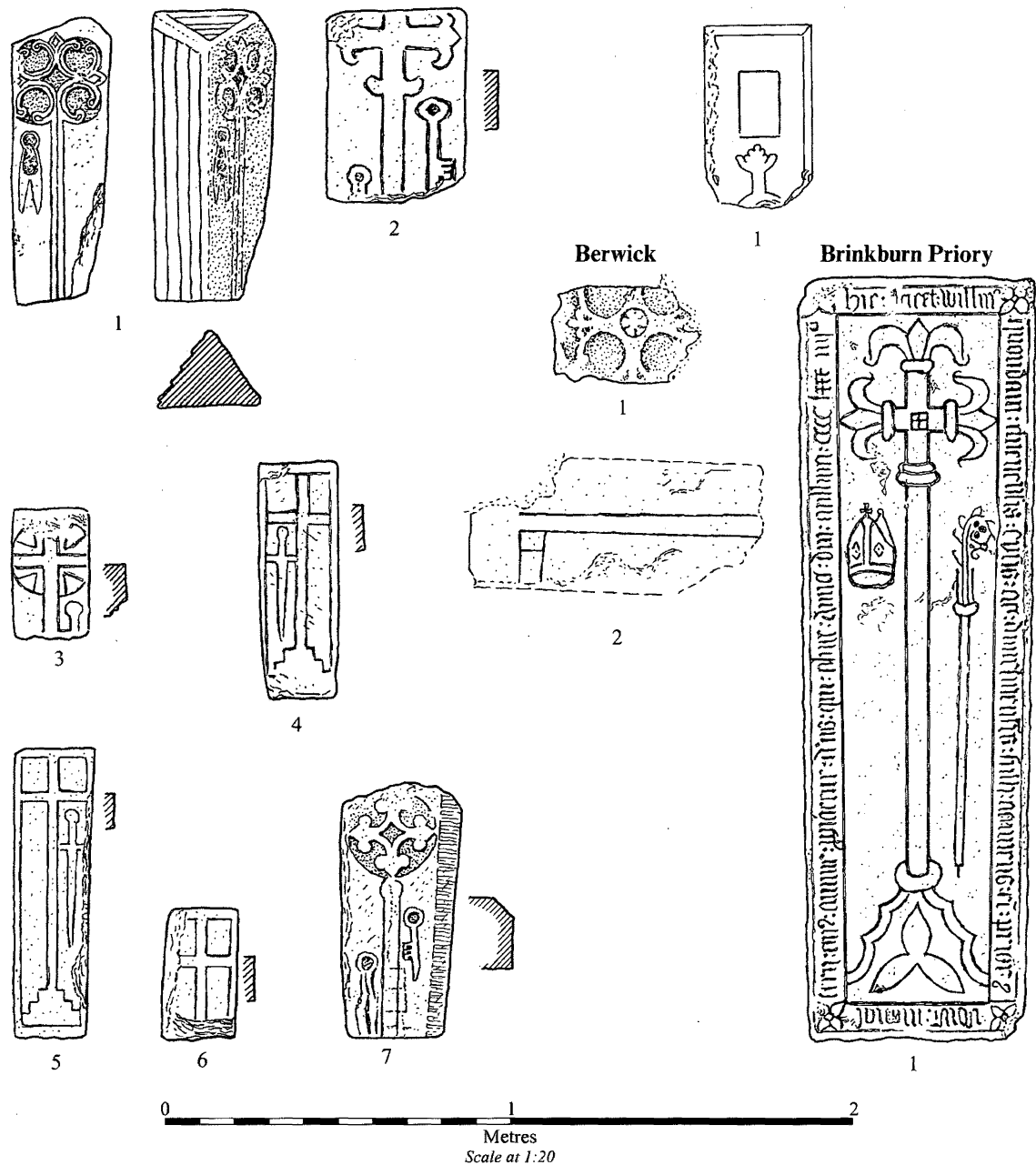
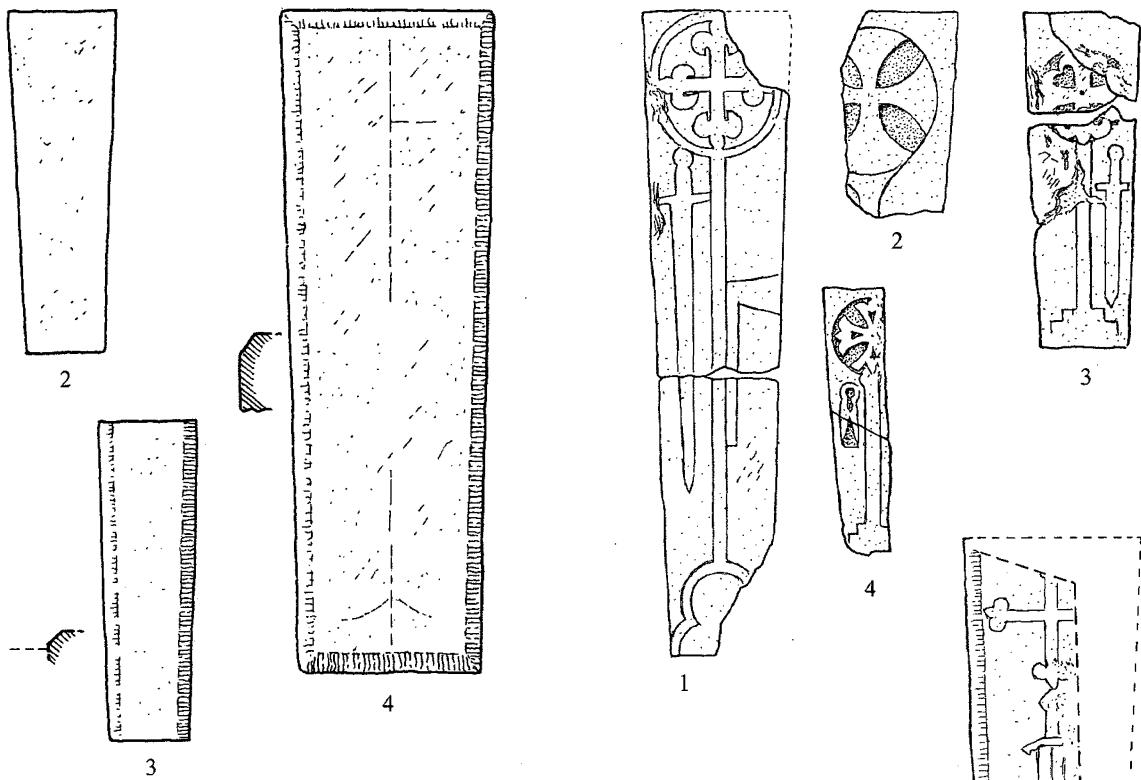


Fig. 11 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Brinkburn Priory, cont. Slab 5 was not illustrated

Chatton (Holy Cross)



Chillingham (St Peter)

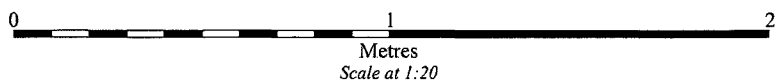
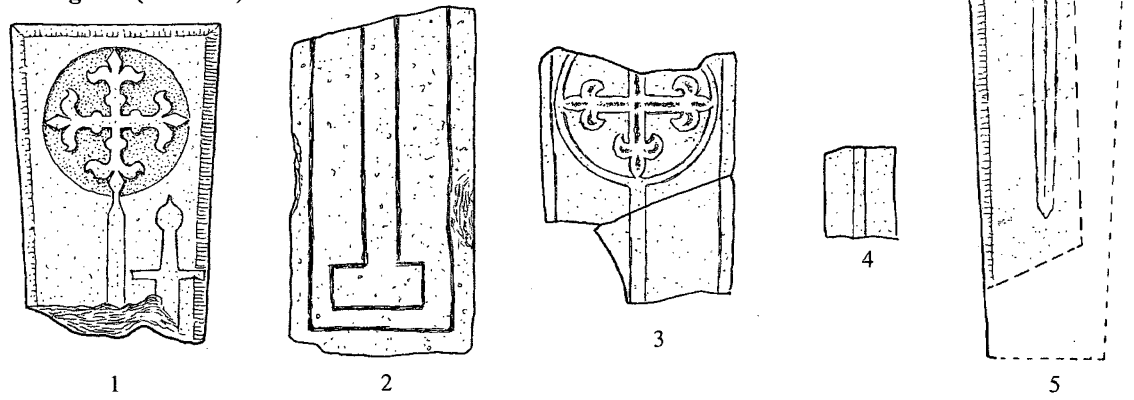


Fig. 12 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Doddington (St Mary and St Michael) The scale-bar only applies to slabs 1–5.

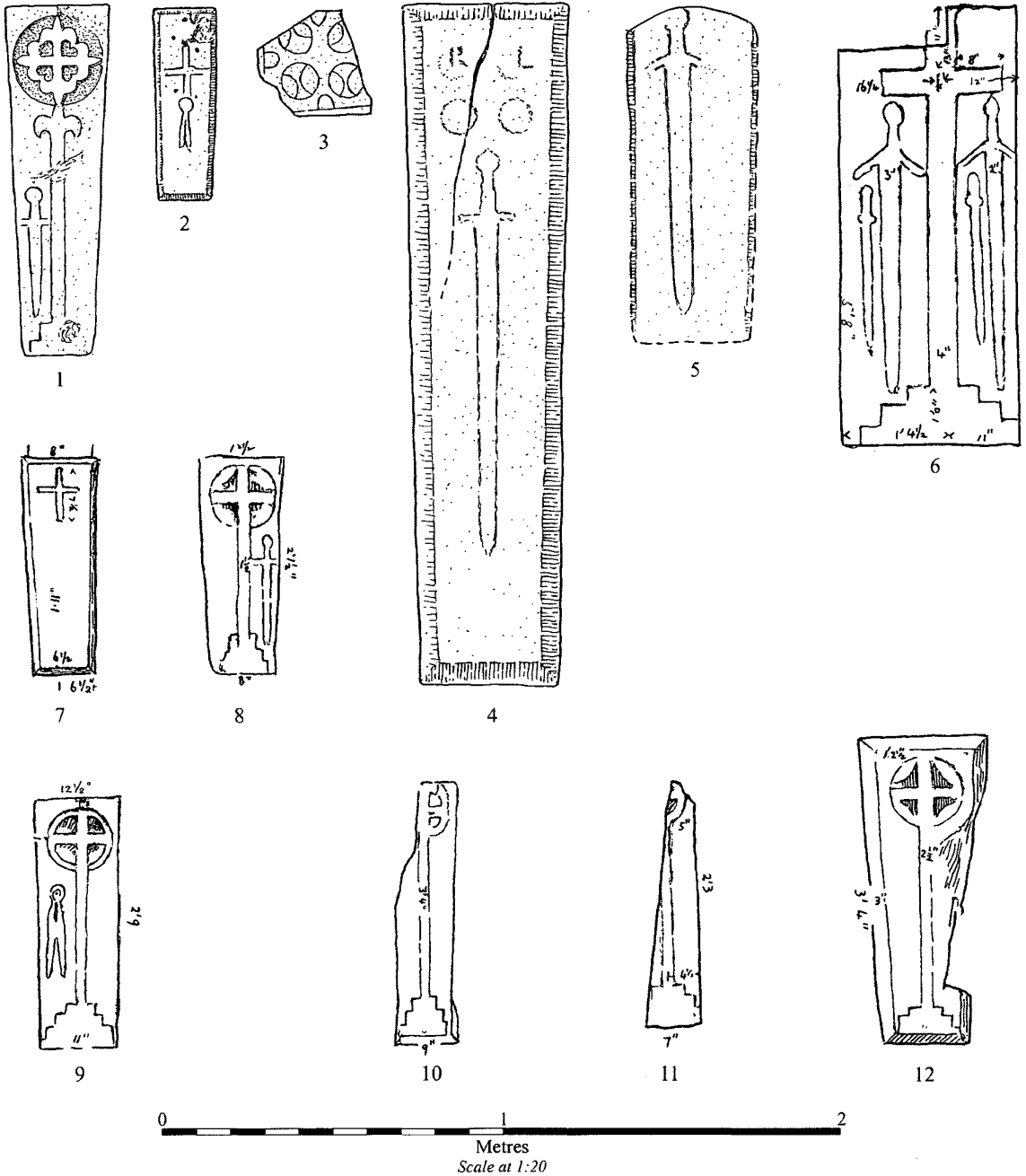


Fig. 13 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Edlingham (St John the Baptist)

Eglingham (St Maurice)

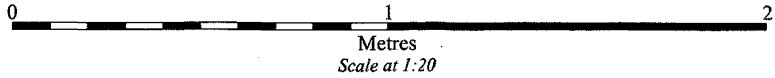
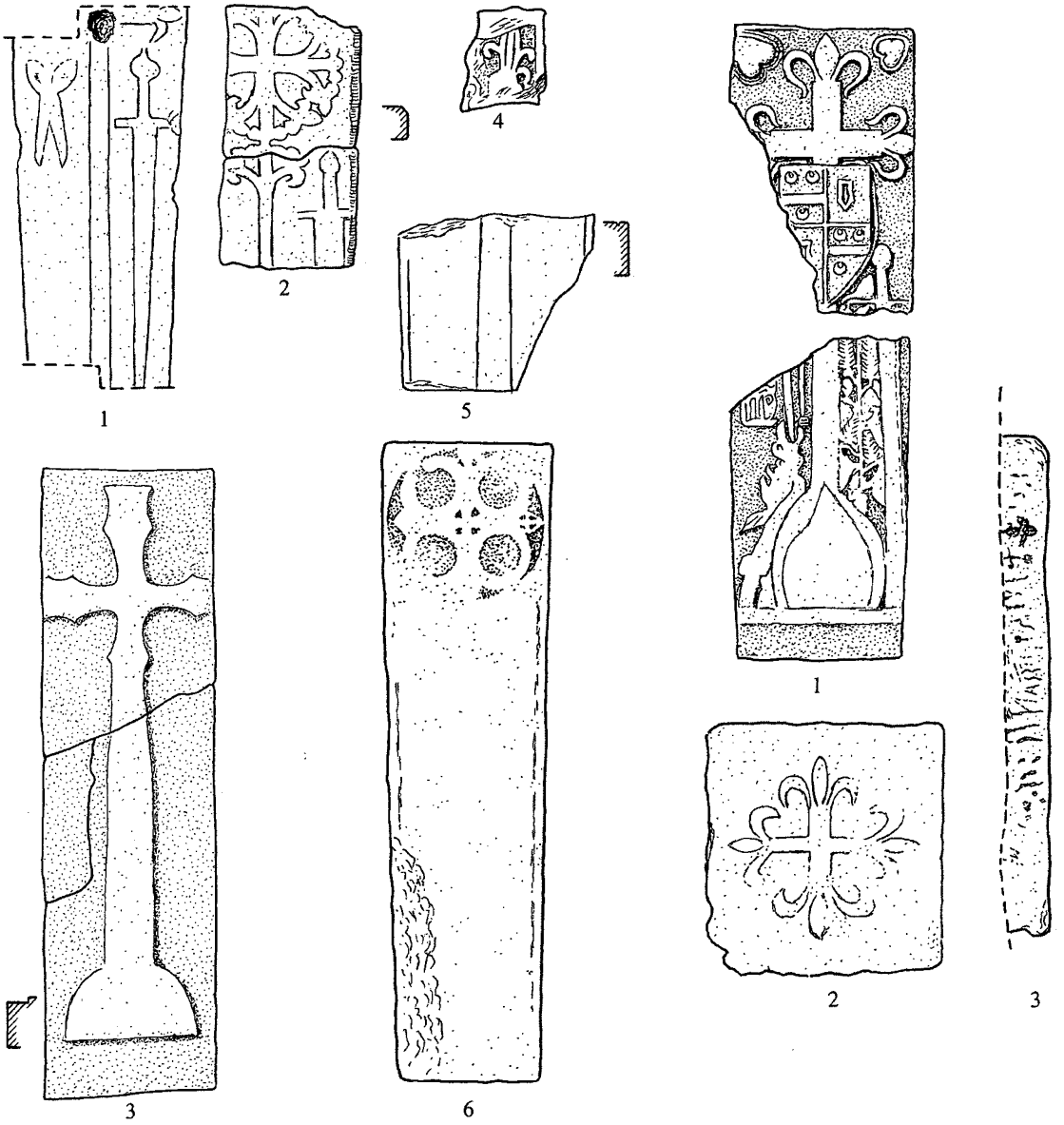


Fig. 14 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Embleton (Holy Trinity)

Farne (St Cuthbert's Chapel)

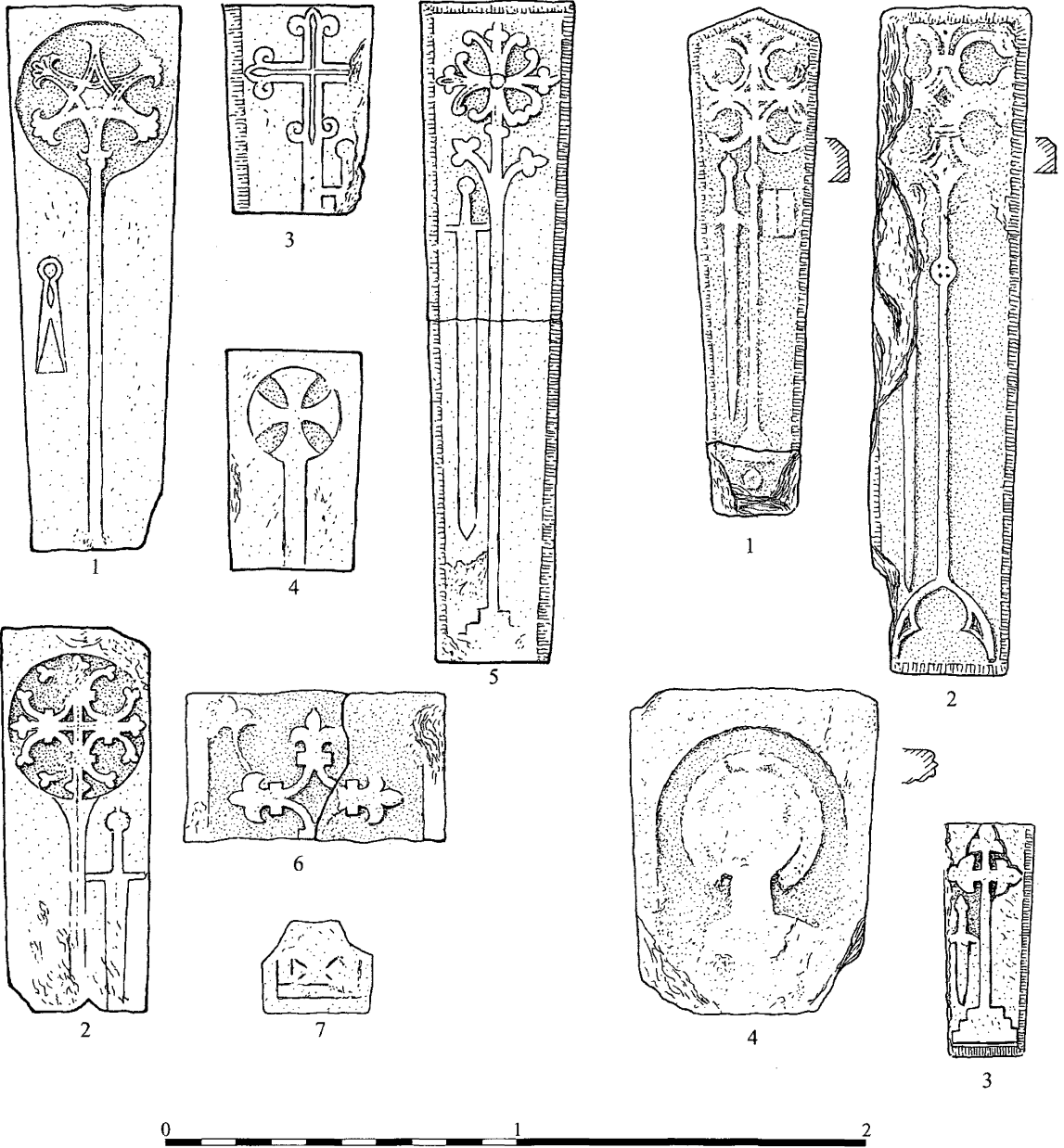


Fig. 15 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Ford (St Michael)

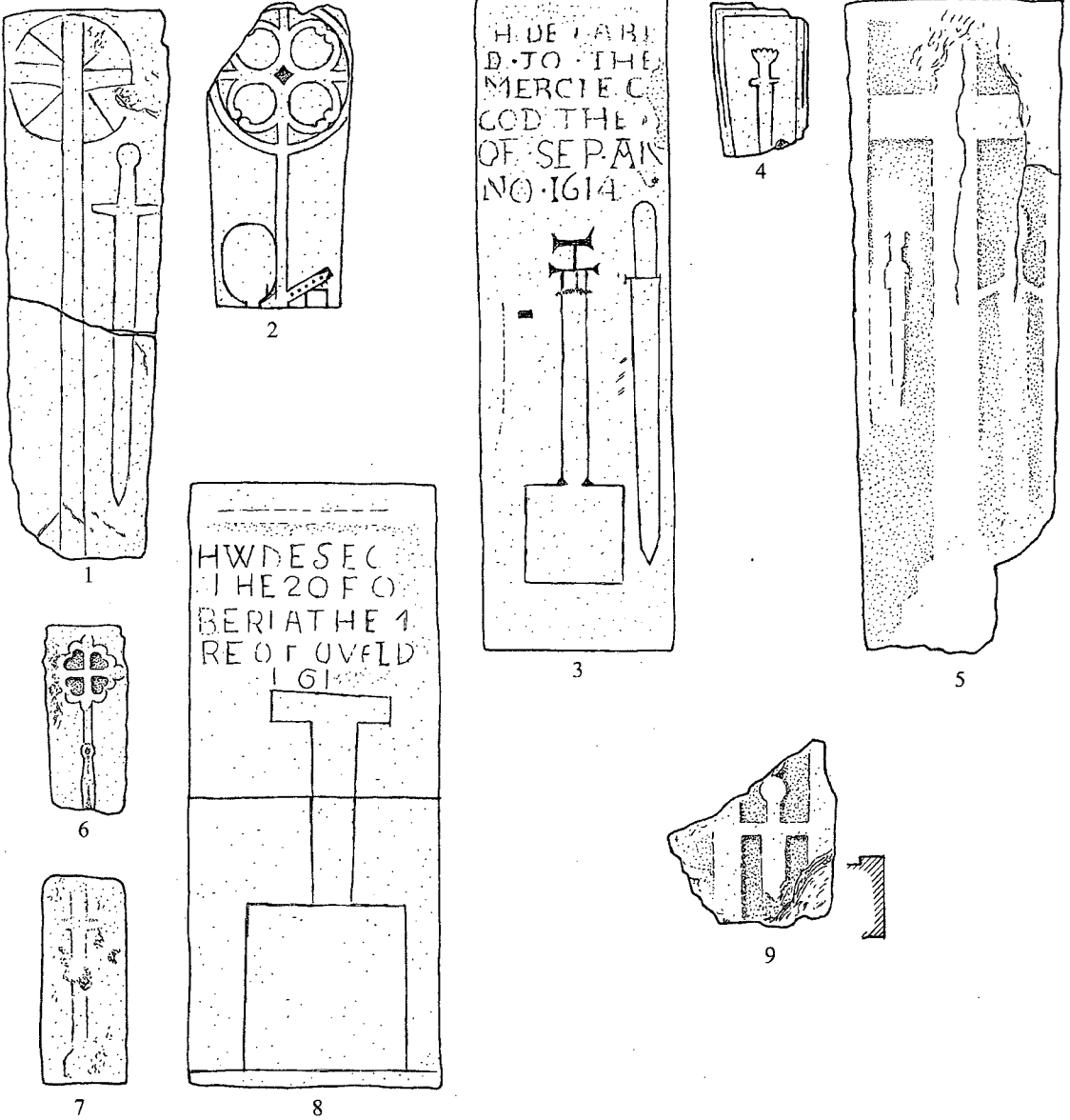


Fig. 16 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Heple (Christ Church) Slabs 6 and 7 were not illustrated.

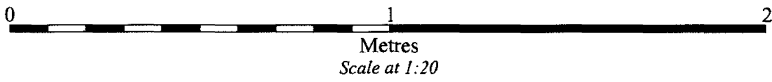
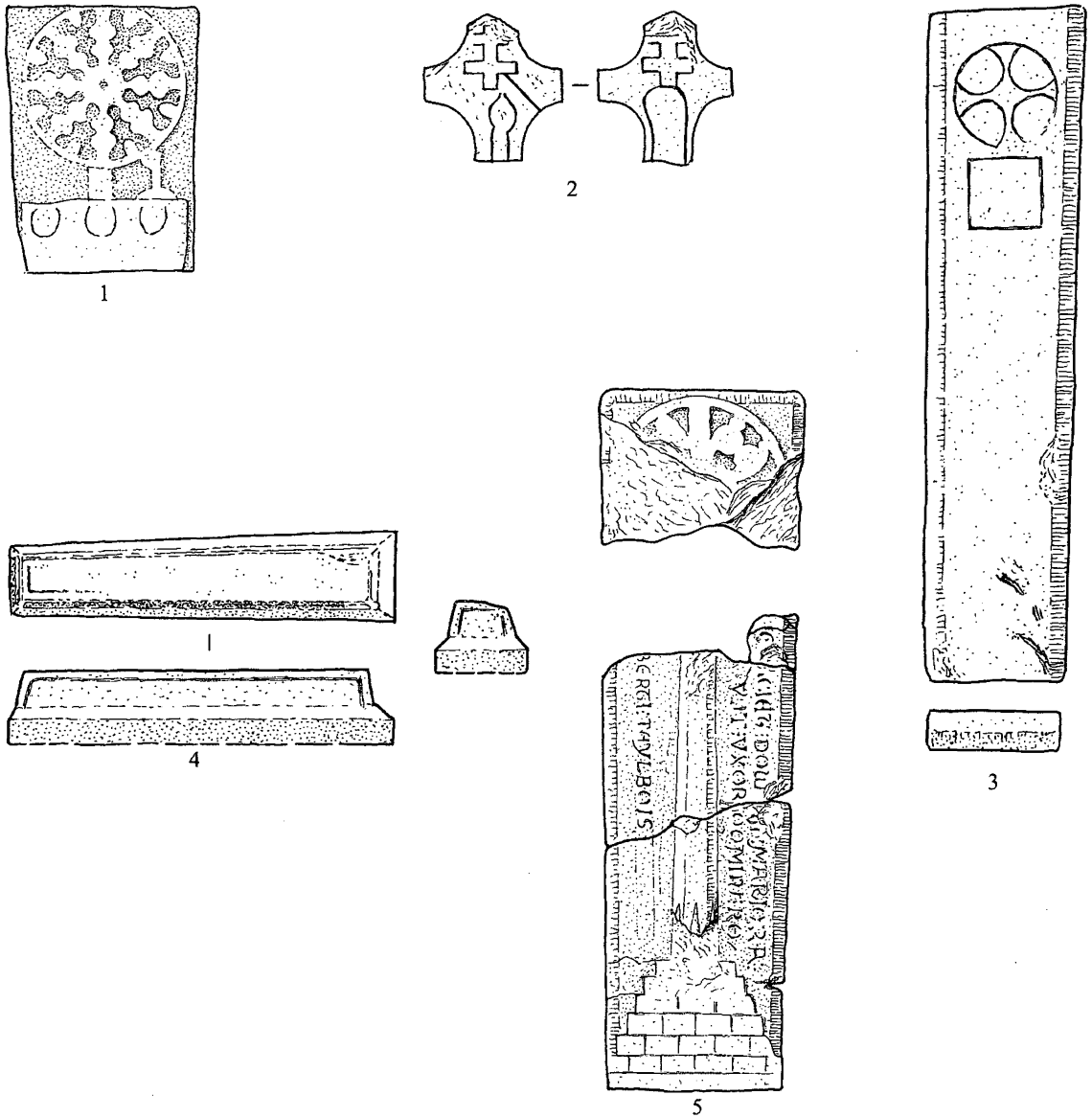
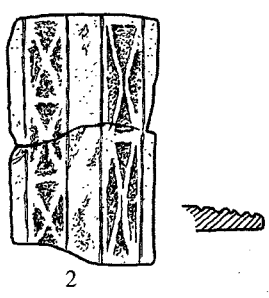
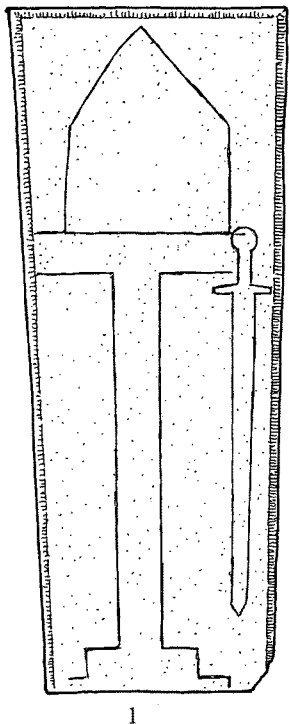


Fig. 17 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Holy Island (St Mary)



Holy Island Priory Slab 5 is of uncertain size and scale.

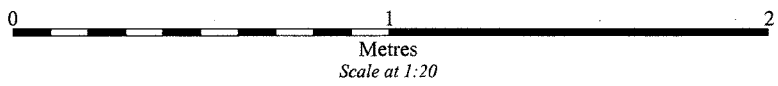
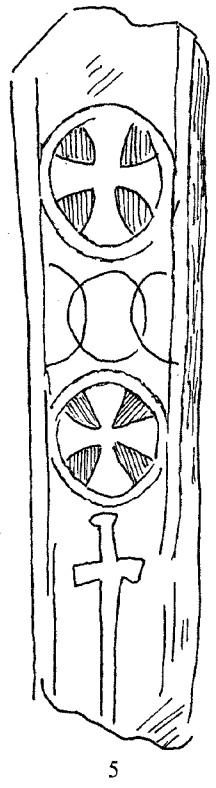
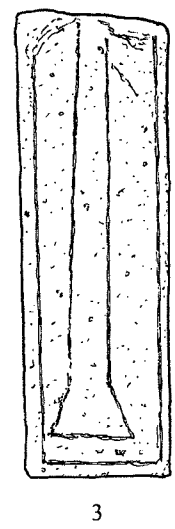
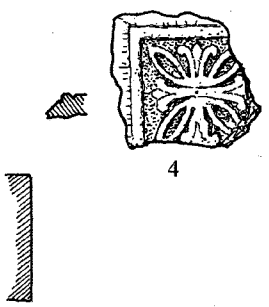
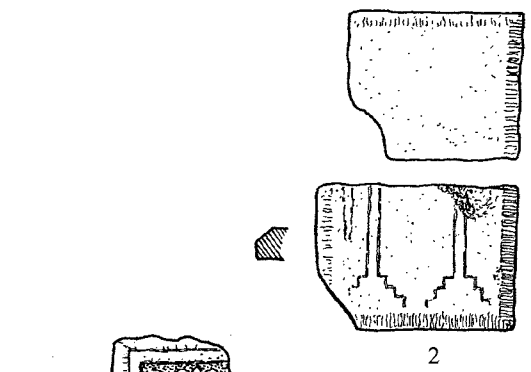
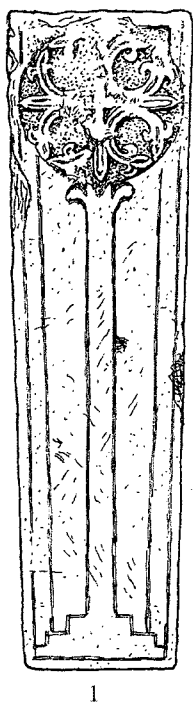
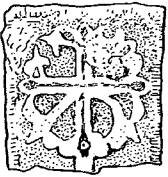
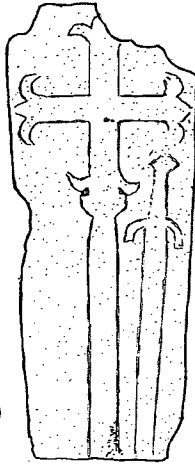


Fig. 18 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Holystone (St Mary)



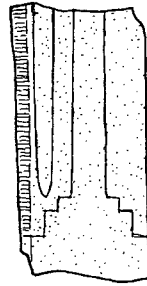
1



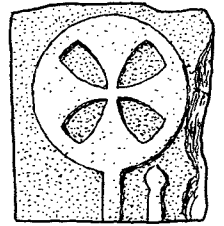
2



3

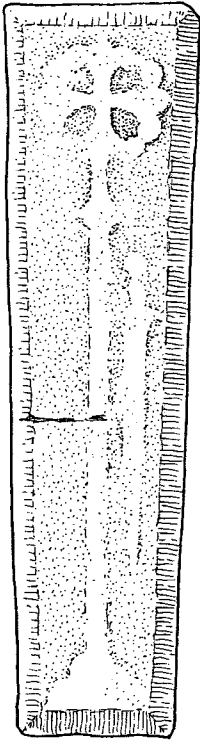


4



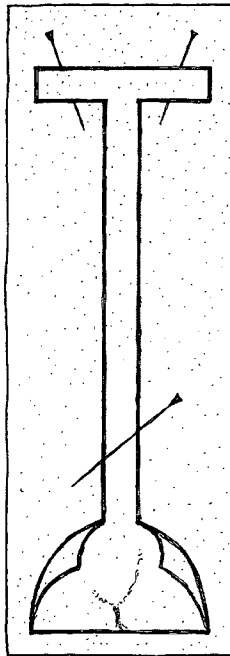
5

Howick (St Michael)

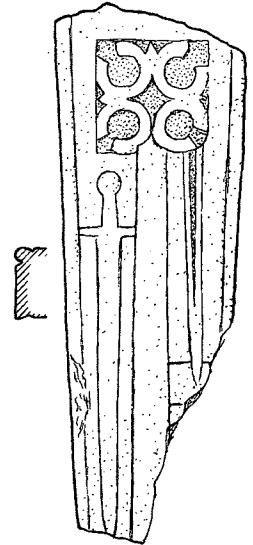


1

Hulne Priory (NU 164157)



1



2

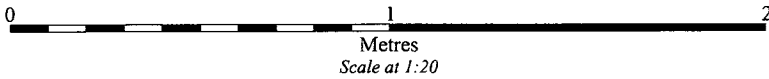
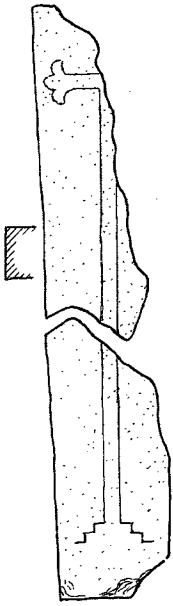


Fig. 19 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Hulne Priory (NU 164157), cont.



3

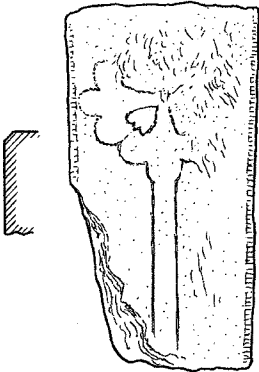


4a



4b

Ilderton (St Michael)

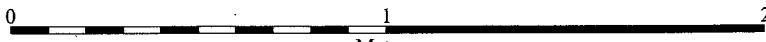


1



2

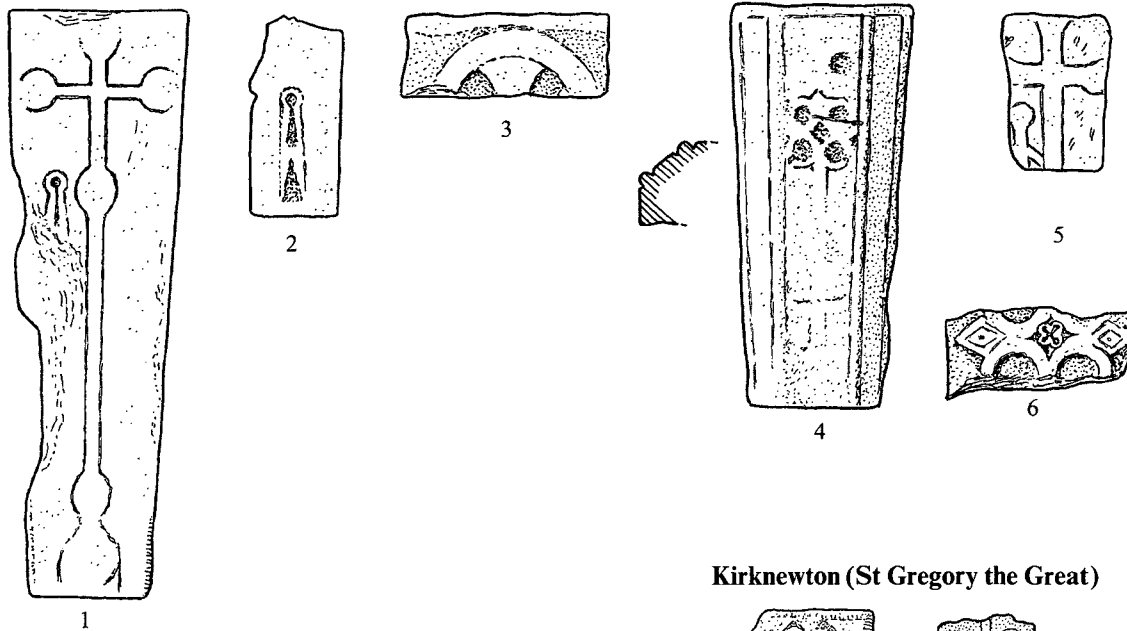
2



Metres
Scale at 1:20

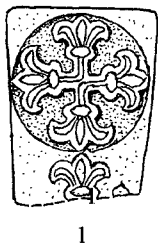
Fig. 20 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Ingram (St Michael)



Kyloe (St Nicholas)

Slab 1 is of uncertain size and scale.



Kirknewton (St Gregory the Great)

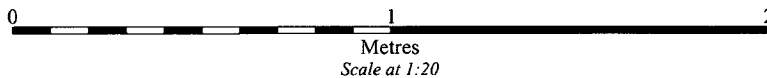
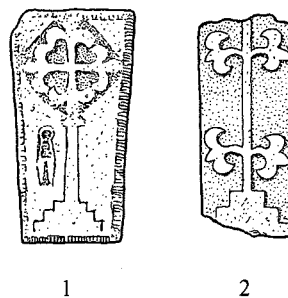
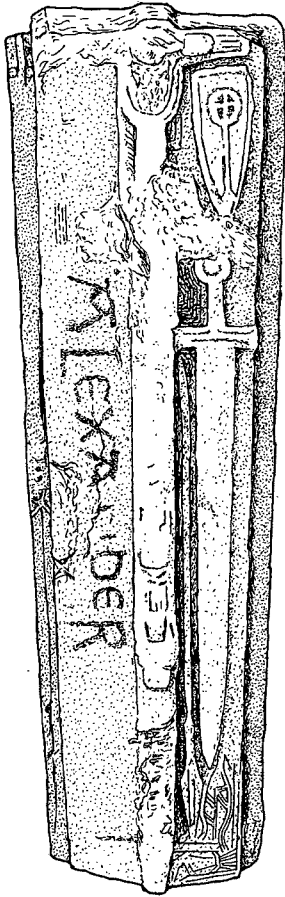
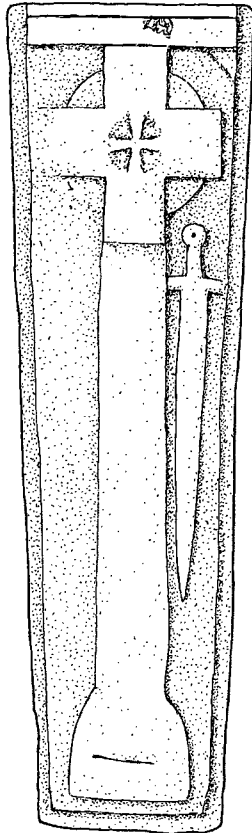


Fig. 21 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Lilburn Chapel (NU 024242)



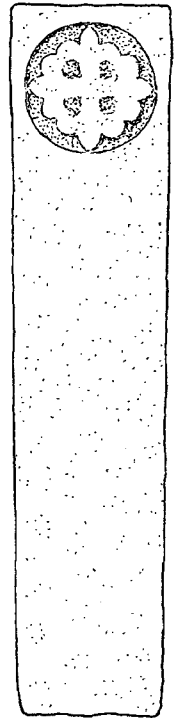
1



2



3



4

Longhoughton (St Peter and St Paul)



1

Lowick (St John)



1



Metres
Scale at 1:20

Fig. 22 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Old Bewick (Holy Trinity)

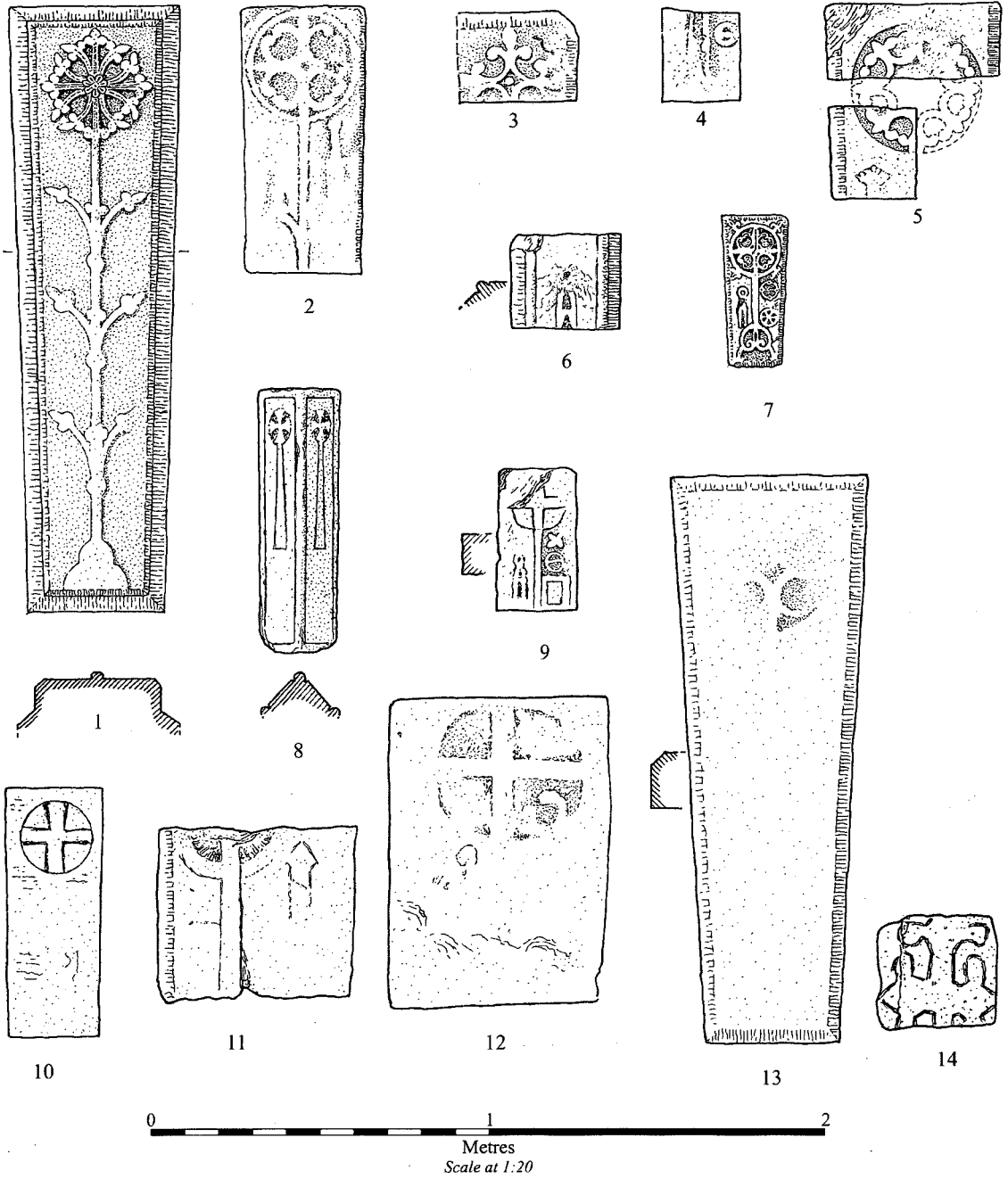
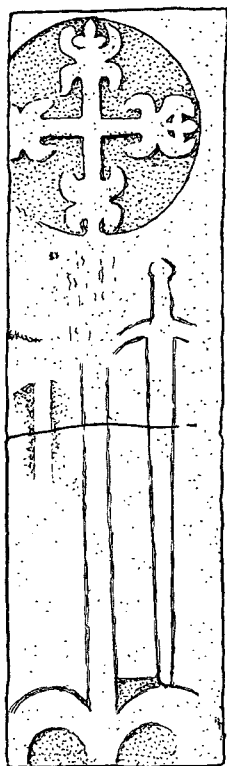


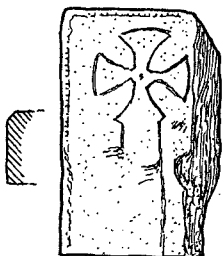
Fig. 23 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Rock (St Philip and St James)



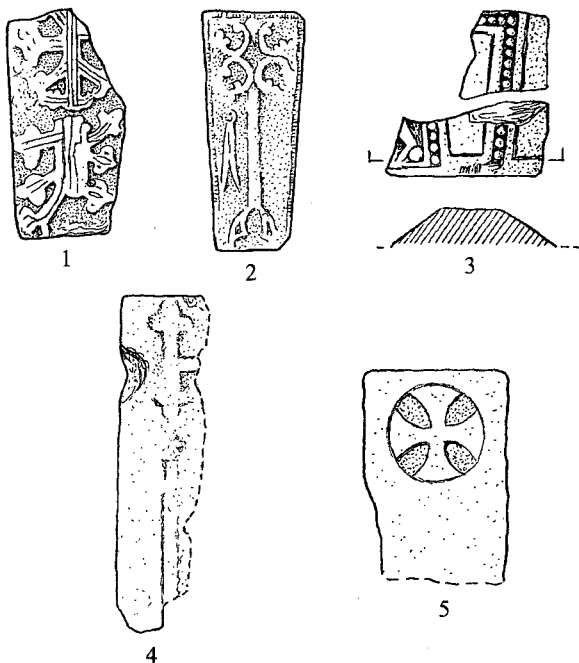
1

Rothbury (Wreighburn House)



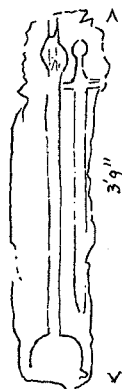
1

Rothbury (All Saints) Slab 5 is of uncertain size and scale.



Tughall (ruined chapel; NU 213265)

Slab 1 is not drawn to scale



1

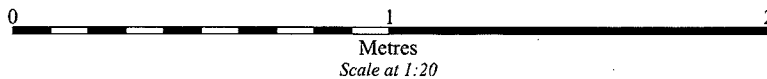
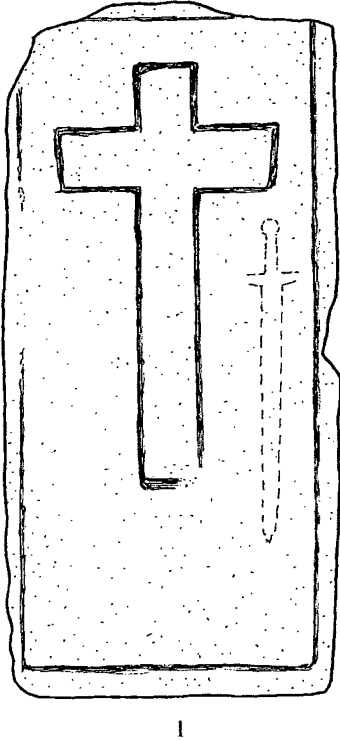
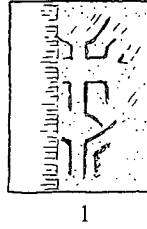


Fig. 24 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.

Wark on Tweed



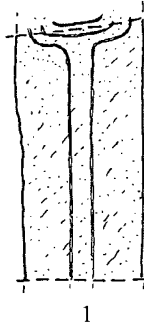
Warkworth (St Lawrence)



Whittingham (St Bartholomew)



Halton Castle



Ovingham (St Mary the Virgin)

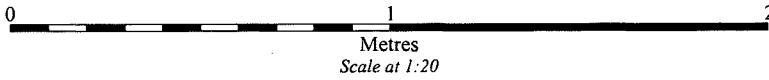
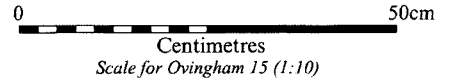
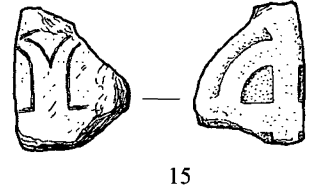


Fig. 25 North Northumberland cross slabs, cont.