

New discoveries at The Hirsell, Coldstream, Berwickshire

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In June 1977 when chisel-ploughing the North end of the field known as the Dial Knowe, see fig 1 No 7, the stones discussed below were turned up. They clearly indicated a religious site but at that stage one in this situation was unknown.

Subsequent research has shown that there is documentary evidence for the existence of a chapel in the Hirsell estate by 1165–6 and that a graveyard was still in use in 1627, although the chapel had ceased to exist. From resistivity and magnetometer surveys carried out in March 1978 by the Department of Archaeology of Durham University it would appear that the area where the stones were found is part of an extensive site which could have contained a church and grave-yard.

The earliest known facts about the church are contained in the *Carte Monialum de Caldstream* (British Library Harley MS.6670) and for this paper the Grampian Club edition of the Chartulary (Rogers 1879) has been used.

In Charter 8, the foundation gift of the 3rd Earl of Dunbar in 1165–6, it is recorded that his wife Derder has contributed ‘unam carucatam terra de terra de Hirsill et ecclesiam de eadem villa: one carucate of land of the land of Hirsell and the church of that vill’. This is confirmed by their son Waldeve, the 4th Earl, in Charter 26.

Charter 11, also of the 3rd Earl, adds the point that the church was given ‘cum omnibus pertinenciis – with all pertinents’ – and this is confirmed in Charters 15 and 17 by their (the earl and Countess Derder’s) grandsons, Patrick the 5th Earl and William the son of their second son Patrick who seems to have inherited his mother’s lands.

It would seem therefore that Hirsell, like Birgham and Lennel, whose lands also contributed to the support of Coldstream Priory, was a vill with a church of established rights by the middle of the 12th century. When Bishop Richard of St. Andrews, 1165–78, confirmed the grants of Leinhall and Heresille there was no hint that the endowments of these churches were not traditionally well known.

Countess Derder’s land was probably not a compact unit and further grants were added to the original donation which perhaps consolidated the holding. William, the grandson, in Charter 18, grants ‘terram que dicitur Rondes et pratum que vocatur Bradspotes in territorio meo de Herissill: land which is called *Rondes* and the meadow which is called *Bradspotes* in my territory of Hirsell’, and in Charter 24 he confirms ‘totam terram quam tenent in feodo meo de Hersill scilicet terram que vocatur Thotheryg et Spechenes et Kaldestreflat: all the land which is held in my feu of Hirsell, that is the land which is called *Thotheryg*, *Spechenes* and *Kaldestreflat*’.

Another parcel of land is granted and confirmed by Patrick the 5th Earl in Charter 19 as,

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‘terram illam apud Herssil que iacet iuxta Let ex australi parte pontis sicut eam eisdem perambulau habendam : land at Hirsell which lies next Leet on the south side of the bridge as I perambulated it for them [the nuns].’

In Charter 20 Patrick his son (later the 6th Earl) grants, ‘totam illam terram iuxta Let que vocatur Putanyshalwe scilicet de Let ex parte orientali totaliter usque ad terram dictarum monialium tenendam et habendam, all that land next Leet which is called *Putanyshalwe*, that is from Leet on the east side right up to the land of the said nuns’.

The 7th Earl, yet another Patrick, in Charter 16, confirms ‘unam carucatum terre in Hald-hirsehyll cum omnibus suis pertinenciis sine aliquo retenemento illam scilicet carucatum quam Walterus dictus capellanus. filius Valteri. filii Thome militis de Derchestyr. de nobis hereditarie tenuit et quam dictus Walterus nobis pro defectu seruicii de eadem terra nobis debiti in plena curia nostra pro se et heredibus suis per fustum et baculum sursum redidit resignauit’: one carucate of land in Old Hirsell being that carucate which Walter of Darnchester resigned for himself and his heirs for defect of the service due to the Earl (the 5th Earl).

In Charter 21, Walterus (filius) Domini Thome de Dercestria gives ‘xii acras terre que iacet propinquiores terre mee in Huyisheugh in australi parte et xii acras in Veteri Herissill scilicet vii acras in una cultura et quinque acras in alia cultura ex australi parte pro anima mea : twelve acres of land which lie nearer my land in *Huyisheugh* in the south part, and twelve acres in Old Hirsell which is seven acres in one cultura and five acres in another cultura on the south part’ (and this is confirmed by his son and grandson in Charters 22 and 23).

A number of references confirm the continuing existence of a church or churchyard on the Hirsell estate, chaplains or ‘masters’ of the church at Hirsell attest 12th and 13th century documents. In 1246 a chapel at Hirsell was dedicated by Bishop David of St. Andrews (Anderson 1922, 526), during what seems to have been a blanket rededication of the churches in his diocese.

In the *Book of the Assumption of Benefices*, (Adv MS, 31. 3. 13.) the Priorie of Caldstreame is valued under the heading ‘The Rent of the whole Great Benefices within this Kingdom as they were given up at the General Assumption in the year 1561’. The rent is described as, ‘payd out of the lands of Lanaille, and Hirsell, Todrig, Skaitmure, Simprim, Whitechester and out of Lanaille, Kirk of Hirsell and Bassinden’. In 1587 the rent was £66. 13.4.

However, Robson (1896, 70) quotes an extract from an official report showing the state of ecclesiastical affairs in Lennel parish in 1627; ‘as for cheplanries we know none to be within our said parish bot ther hes bein of old neir to the Hirsell ather chappell or kirk quhair of ther is onlie restand ane kirk yaird callit Granton kirkyard possessit be the Earle of Home and we know no benefeit belonging thairto. “Written out and signed at Lenddell kirk the tuentie dau of Maij the yeir of God lm. vi c. tuentie sevin yeiris.”’

Granton is shown on Robert Gordon of Straloch’s map of c 1640 (Adv MS, 70.2.10., Gordon 58), but the relationship of the sites of Hirsell and Granton is not clear. On this map they are shown as separate sites but the scale is such that Granton could have been as near to Hirsell House as is the Low Field. After the disappearance of Coldstream Priory in 1621 the church at Lennel served the Coldstream parish and it may be that it is from this point that the church at Hirsell went out of use though the grave-yard may have remained as a family burial ground.

The fact that the parcels of land are specifically associated with the Leet and that they march with the Priory lands, points to their most likely position on the Hirsell Estate as the SE corner of the territory. Most of the names are too generalised to form the basis for positive identification and it is not possible from the modern topography to decide where the bridges were at that period, since there are several modern crossing points along the Leet (fig 1, all place names which are subsequently numbered refer to this figure).



FIG 1 1, Hatchednize; 2, Darnchester; 3, Castlelaw (possible earlier centre of the Hirsell Estate); 4, Hirsel Law possibly Hyndeslaw; 5, The Hirsel House; 6, Old Countess Croft; 7, Dial Knowe (the archaeological site); 8, Low Field (*Rondes*) or 9, Low Meadow; 10, Mill Field, possibly part of Coldstream Acres; 11, Coldstream Acres; 12, Site of Leet Mill; 13, Site of Coldstream Priory; 14, Possibly *Braidhayhe*; 15, Fireburn Mill; 16, Possibly *Hyndislaw*

The original carucate of Charters 8 and 11 is of land of Hirsel but in Charter 16 there is a carucate of land of Old Hirsel, although this may be a different area of the same size. Throughout the 17th century there is consistent reference to land at both Hirsel and Old Hirsel and at this time there is also reference to a tower house. It might be that the main house of the estate moved, probably nearer, as today, to the site of the abandoned church. The old castle site (3) could have been 'Old Hirsel'.

'*Rondes*' would seem to mean a border of land on a river bank and two fields could fit the description: the south part of the Low Field and 'Dial Knowe', (7) and (8) the site of the archaeological finds, and 'Millfield' which is part of the present golf course. Either of these could also be the otherwise unidentifiable '*Putanyshalwe*', the '*Puttamshauche*' of the Retours, Thomson, Berwick, No 191. The name can be interpreted as either 'whore's' or 'hawk's bend in the river'.

Thotheryg, 'look-out' or 'fox's hill', may be the present Todrig farm, to the north of the Hirsell estate, which marches with Darnchester. (2) *Spechenes* should be 'the hill where councils take place', but is not readily identifiable.

After the Reformation these gifts by the family of Dunbar were granted by Royal charter to various individuals including the Home family. Nevertheless the terminology which describes the land grants remains constant, and is further help in identifying the parcels of land.

The *Registrum Magni Sigilli Regum Scotorum*, The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, (Balfour Paul & Thomson 1883) is particularly illuminating.

In 1550 (entry 489) a grant to Ker de Dolphingtoun mentions, in the lands of Hirsell, *Hachatneis* (*sive Halkneis*), *Ovir Todrig Nether Todrig*. It seems therefore as though *Todrig* is a development of the earlier name of *Thotheryg*, Charter 24, and the difficult word *Spechenes* may by popular etymology have become *Hachatneis*, now *Hatchednize* (1) again marching with *Todrig*. Added to these names are two mills, the *Fyreburne* (15) and the *Leet* (12). Today the former is a farm on the west of the Estate, the latter was recently demolished during road works (see fig 1).

Perhaps the most useful entry is 533 in 1582-3 which combines the grants of the 5th and 6th Earls in a grant to Ker of Lytildane '... terras de Auld Hirsell, carrucatum terre in villa et territorio de Hirsell, vulgo "lie" Countess-croft, Cauldstreme-flatt terram juxta torrentem de Leit ex parte australi pontis ejusdem in dicto territorio de H., Putannishauch, Dedreich et Leyis jacen, ex australi parte dicti torrentis versus dictum monast (ab. Hyndislaw ad aquam de Tweid) cum piscationibus de Braidhauche, Dedreiche et Leyis super aquam de Tweid, tres terras husbandias in Darnchester et 4 ter. husb. de Hatschetneis . . . lands of Old Hirsell, a carucate of land in the vill and territory of Hirsell known as Countess-croft, Coldstream flats, land next to the river of Leet from the south part of the bridge in the said territory of H., Putannishauch, 12 acres in the same territory, Rowndis and Braidspottis, lands of Braidhauch (14) Dedreich and Leyis from the south part of the said river towards the said monastery (from Hyndislaw to the water of Tweid) with the fishing of Braidhauche, Dedreiche and Leyis on the water of Tweid, three husband lands in Darnchester and 4 husband lands of Hatschetneis'. This could put all the early land grant in the most southern section of the estate. It is just possible that the modern field of Lees Haugh could have been *Braidhauche*, (14) in a bend of the river. *Dedreiche*, or *Erich* as it becomes in the entry in *The Retours*, is unrecognisable today but *Leyis* must be Lees. Several other entries refer to these same areas of land.

The reference to Countess-croft in this passage is interesting since it could refer to the Countess Derder's original land grant of one carucate. This name survives (6), but an estate map shows the area divided at sometime between 1760 and 1841, and, when the stables were built in 1900 the name was transferred from the northerly section of the land to the southerly section.

The landscaping and development of the land around the present Hirsell House has significantly changed the appearance of the area. The garden and walled garden now cut a wedge between Dial Knowe/The Low Field (8) and the Countess Croft area. It appears as though the present house stands on the river frontage of Countess Croft, and possibly the church and graveyard on the river frontage of the Low Field.

Hirsell house today stands on elevated ground which may have been artificially raised. Certainly there has been a tower house on the site since the 17th century, but there is at present no evidence for a domestic building there before that period. The motte and castle site of Castlelaw, fig 1, 3 to the NW could, however, be a possible predecessor (see above). Nevertheless, the site of the present house is a more commanding position for a domestic building than the archaeological site.

The area surveyed, south of the house, is lower lying and occupies a flat terrace which appears

to have been man-made. Before ploughing, three stone revetted terraces were clearly visible on the river frontage. The carved stones came from a slightly elevated area in the NE section of the site, fig 17, but to the W of the area surveyed with the resistivity instruments, the ground appears to have been hollowed away. Surface finds of 13th century pottery attest to some occupation here.

At the S section of the area surveyed the ground rises to the summit of the Low field, Dial Knowe, to a position which commands an extensive view of the valley and approach routes. A faint trace of a circular feature on the top of this raised ground was the reason why a magnetometer survey was undertaken there by Arnold and Priscilla Aspinall. The survey showed extensive human activity and a possible line of pits, but nothing that was conclusive enough to provide a clue to the nature of the activity.

The resistivity survey covered most of the flat terrace. Nevertheless, the survey (see appendix) was sufficient to show that the stones lay among extensive spreads of rubble as well as solid and robbed walls, and that the site was enclosed on the N by some solid feature which turned and continued eastwards.

The carved stones from the site can be described in two groups – funerary monuments and architectural fragments. All of these pieces are at present on display in the Information Centre at The Hirsell. A stone coffin, also now in the Information Centre, was discovered at some date before 1841. At that date it seems to have been located outside the SE corner of the walled garden and presumably was discovered not far from there.

No 1 Pl 13a-b

Type of monument: Upright grave-marker.

Measurements: Height: 42.5 cm Width: 34 cm; 26.7 cm
Depth: 8.3 > 6.3 cm.

Stone type: Grey-green micaceous sandstone.

Description: Although the stone tapers slightly the edges are unworked. Both broad faces are very roughly dressed. Face B has also suffered considerable damage in antiquity and from the recent ploughing.

Face A: Pl 13a The face is decorated only with a linear cross, 17.3 cm high by 17.8 cm wide. It is well centred in the slab and has been carefully and deeply cut with a chisel.

Face B: Pl 13b The face has been roughly dressed back to leave a deep boss which has been centrally placed on the upper portion of the stone. Superimposed on it is a deeply cut linear cross. The lower arm of which projects beyond the circle of the boss.

No 2, Pl 13c

Type of monument: Upright grave-marker.

Measurements: Height: 79 cm Width: 37.7 cm > 32.5 cm
Depth: 11.5 cm 11.0 cm.

Stone type: Fine grained grey sandstone.

Description: The stone is roughly shaped with a rounded top and slightly tapering sides. The broad faces are however smoothly finished, in particular below the linear cross. Only one face is carved. Carefully centred on the upper portion of the slabs is a fine linear cross (height: 19.6 cm; width: 18.4 cm). It is lightly cut but with deeply punched dot terminals on three of the crossarms.

No 3, Pl 14a

Type of monument: Recumbent grave-marker. (Broken into two sections.)

Measurements: Length: 182.8 cm Width: 35.8 > 30.5 cm
Depth: (average) 14 cm.
Width of chamfer: 4.00 > 3.5 cm.

Stone type: Fine pinkish-grey sandstone.

Description: The upper face is very smoothly dressed, the lower face is roughly finished. The

edges are chamfered, with clear diagonal chisel marks surviving. On the upper face are faint compass drawn circles. At the break are two intersecting circles diameter 7.9 cm. Two others have diameters of 12 cm and 8 cm.

No 4, Pl 15

Type of monument: Cross shaft.

Measurements: Height: 119.5 cm Width: 30.5 > 23 cm.
Depth: 16.5 cm on one face 14.5 cm on another.

Stone type: Fine pinkish grey sandstone.

Description: The upper portion has been broken in antiquity; there is considerable damage from recent ploughing. The broad faces are dressed very smoothly; their chamfered edges and the narrow faces have fine diagonal chisel marks. On one narrow face (see pl 15b) there is a long groove which seems to have been made with a tool. In the top of the shaft is a deep dowell hole 9 cm deep and 3 cm in diameter.

No 5, Pl 14b

Type of monument: Upper portion of a ring headed cross.

Measurements: Height of each arm: 14 cm.
Width across the head: 38 cm.
Width at the end of each arm: 14 cm.
Width of the ring: c 5 cm.
Depth of the arm: c 15 cm.
Diameter of the central boss: 4.5 cm.

Stone type: Pinkish grey sandstone.

Description: This piece is the most weathered of all the stones in the group. The arms of the cross are wedge shaped tapering into a small, flat, rounded centre. The ring has been formed by roughly chiselling into the block from each broad face.

No 6, Pl 16a-b

Type of monument: Architectural fragment or grave-marker possibly unfinished.

Measurements: Height: 44.5 cm Greatest width: 40.0 cm.
Width across carved projection 23.5 cm.
Depth: 11 cm.

Stone type: Grey micaceous sandstone.

Description: The stone has been roughly dressed on both broad faces. On one face, B, the guidelines for marking out the angular outline cuts are clearly visible. The upper or outer curved and pointed surface is smoothly finished with a chisel.

No 7, Pl 17

Sections of two shafts:

Measurements: A. Height: 36 cm
Diameter: 14.5 cm
B. Height: 27.5 cm
Diameter: 14.5 cm

Stone type: Grey-sandstone.

Description: Both shafts are of the same diameter and have four flat faces divided by vertical roll mouldings with wedge shaped uncarved features behind (see fig 2). On A, the moulding nearest to the flat face of the wedge is unfinished as though it would be hidden from view. On B, (see pl 17b) there is a deep irregular groove beside the flat wedged face which could possibly have held a glazing bar.

No 8, Pl 16c

Type of monument: Part of a guttering or drain.

Measurements: Height: 42 cm Width: 20 cm > 15 cm.
Maximum height: 12.5 cm.
Interior depth: 4.5 cm.

Description: This piece is tooled in a different manner from the rest, the sides seem to be dressed with a claw hammer or very broad chisel, the interior with a fine claw chisel.

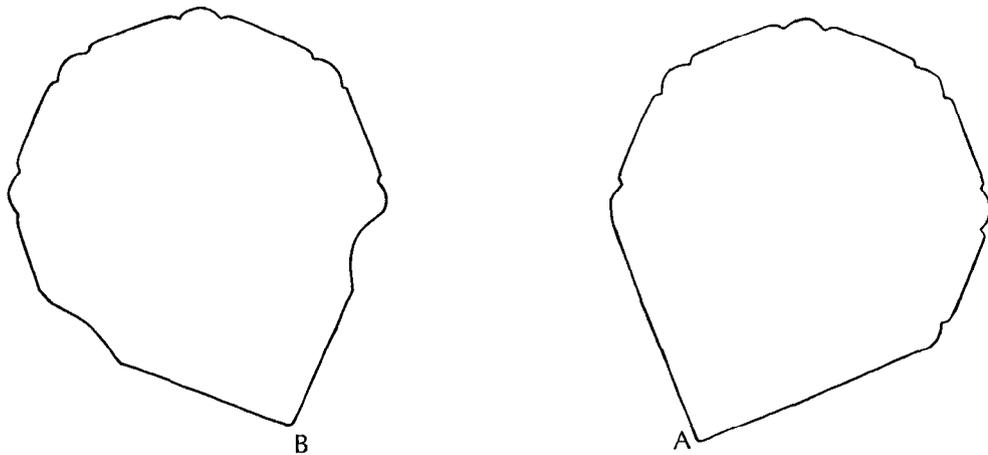


FIG 2 Sections across the two shafts (no 7)

No 1 could be the earliest monument of this group. Roughly shaped cross marked slabs are found in North Britain and Wales from the fifth century onwards although the terminal date for the production of such simple monuments is not known. Single linear crosses such as are found in both face A and B of this slab are found on what Thomas calls 'primary' grave-markers and small cross slabs (Thomas 1967, 152–3, fig 37 & pl 17B). Both the simple linear cross and the cross in circle occur in this primary group. The cross in circle seems to represent a development from the Chi-Rho symbol (Nash Williams 1950, fig 5, 11 & pl 17–19). Cross marked stones such as these are fairly common from churchyard sites in Wales, and some are associated with early religious structures as for example Nash-Williams 372 from St Nou's Chapel, St Davids. Nash-Williams assigns such stones, to his group 2 and dates them 7th to 9th century. It is possible, however, that when the circle is represented in the form of a boss on which the cross is cut, then it may be late in this bracket. Thomas (1967) assigns to the 10th century a slab from Ardwall (No 4) which has a roughly picked cross in a circle.

The linear cross on Hirsell (1) face A is even more difficult to date – such crosses again are common in Nash-Williams group 2. This shape has a particularly close parallel at Addingham in Cumbria. The Cumbrian stone has been dated by Bailey as possibly of the seventh century (Bailey 1974). See below.

No. 2 of the Hirsell group is more like the Addingham monument in the form of the slab but the distinctive cross shape with dot terminals is more difficult to parallel in North Britain or Wales. Such a cross shape was however found on a slab in the old burial ground of Eilean ch an Naomh associated with an early monastic site (Romilly Allen 1903, fig 421). Nearer at hand is the slab from Berry Knowe, Selkirkshire, (RCAHMS, *Selkirk*, 66, fig 99), in which is incised a cross with seriffed terminals. This Radford has dated to a period in the 9th or 10th century. The Selkirk cross was possibly a road marker and not a funerary cross.

The Anglian crosses of Northumbria seem to develop plain slab-like shafts in the eleventh century but most retain some form of edge moulding. Later, plain shafts such as Hirsell 4 tend to have chamfered edges, as for example one from Blanchland (Vallance 1920, pl 44). Such simple shafts, once deprived of their heads are rarely preserved or deemed worthy of recovery in comparison with the more elaborate medieval multi-angular shafts.

The cross-head No. 5 likewise looks to Anglian Northumbria for its immediate derivation.

It seems clear that the ring-head type was originally developed in Western Scotland, perhaps specifically in Iona. However, the Hirsell head has evolved a long way from the elegant outline of the Iona group. At Gosforth (Cumbria) one can observe a development from the type of ring-head on the churchyard cross to a detached head now built into the church wall (Collingwood 1927, 142). This development shows the arms of the cross head becoming more tapered or waisted towards the small central boss, and this type of wheel head is found in simple post-Conquest monuments such as upright slabs which served as head or footstones to plain recumbent slabs, or in elaborate examples of the 12th century such as the cross from Kelloe, Co. Durham (Lang 1977, 115–17, pl 6). This head seems nearer to the Cumbrian examples than the Kelloe, although both are more highly decorated than the Scottish example.

The Penrith heads have been dated to the early 10th century, and the plain Scottish head could be an eleventh century development (cf Lindisfarne, pl 14c). The Kelloe cross is obviously in another class of monument, and if it were not that a plain shaft has survived from the site one would think that the simple Hirsell ring-head was more fittingly applied to a plain head or footstone. Such a ring-headed footstone occurs widely in Scotland, eg Hoddam (Radford 1954, fig 5) or Nisbet (Laidlaw 1905, 39–40).

Little is known of the history of the church in this area in the sub-Roman to the 7th century. It is true that the famous Yarrow stone and several long cist cemeteries along the Tweed Valley seem to point to its survival (RCAHMS, *Selkirk*, pl 39). Charles Thomas (1971, 16–17, fig 2) has gone so far as to suggest that a bishopric could have survived ‘somewhere in the central Tweed basin (Old Melrose?)’ and further suggests that ‘the long valley of the Tweed . . . with all its subsidiary valleys, should be the lost native state of Bernicia’. So far these claims are unsupported by the archaeological record.

The place name *Eccles*, five miles to the north could indicate a settlement with a church which had survived from the period of British rule into the period when the area was subjected to the secular domination of the Anglo-Saxon kings, and the religious domination of the See of Lindisfarne. Lindisfarne possessed extensive land holdings in the Eastern borders, and the Community, even when removed to Chester-le-Street and Durham remained interested in their dependancies in the Tweed Valley (Morris 1977, 90–2). In 1018 when at the decisive battle of Carham, when Malcom II established the Tweed as the new frontier between Northumbria and Scotland, Bishop Ealdhun of Durham is said to have died of grief. In the immediately post-Conquest period this area came under the control of Earl Gospatrick, lord of Allerdale in Cumbria, who fled from the wrath of William the Conqueror and was granted the protection of Malcolm III some time after 1072. The connection between his family and Cumbria was maintained at least at the level of marriage alliances for some generations.

The relationships discernible in the sculpture so far recovered are therefore explicable in terms of the known historical background: the cross-marked stones being a common British form; the late ring-headed cross linking with Cumbria and the Anglian area. The shafts and the recumbent grave cover could indicate new Anglian influence in the post-Conquest period. Nevertheless, the dating for funerary monuments such as these rests on a very subjective basis, and it would be useful to investigate such material within an archaeological context. Moreover save for the cross-marked slabs, the fragments are unique in this area and might be further explained by their context.

The resistivity survey, see Appendix and pl 18, would seem to indicate that the monuments stood within a wide enclosure: a bank or wall, and that within this perimeter there are two major areas of buildings. In one area, closely associated with the place of discovery of the stones, the building would reasonably be a church. Moreover, unless the shafts formed part of an elaborate

tomb, it was a church of some architectural pretension. The survey seems to show also buildings cutting one another, and the existence of both robbed and solid wall foundations. Only excavation can solve the problem posed by this site, but in an area where there is a pressing need to build up a picture of the Early Christian history, the Hirsell site has clearly great potential (see note p 232).

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APPENDIX

THE RESISTIVITY SURVEY (Pl 18)

R J Cramp and H M Watt

The survey was undertaken using three Bradphys Mk 3 Resistance Instruments and four teams. The survey team consisted of R J Cramp, C Douglas-Home, J Medley, R Payne, N Pearson, R Steele, I Smith and H M Watt. Priscilla and Arnold Aspinall undertook a magnetometer survey of the southern section of the field and checked part of the resistivity survey with a magnetometer and fluxigate gradiometer. F and G Bettess undertook a conventional survey of the site and a phosphate analysis.

An area comprising 41 ten-metre squares was surveyed. The readings were hand-plotted during and immediately after the survey. Unfortunately an attempt to plot the readings by using the computer in the Bradford School of Physics and Archaeology was unsuccessful and so the plotting lacks an overall uniformity. However, this is compensated for by deliberately blurring the photographic reproduction.

There were very considerable variations in the readings. In the NE section around the N perimeter of the site 2-3-4-11-20-21 very high readings could indicate a boundary, possibly, as seemed to be identified by a small trial hole, composed of earth and river gravel. The area 17-26-27-28 could include areas of rubble and robbed walls. The area 11-18-19 could possibly be curtain graves. In the central part of the plot, 24-25-26-32-33-34-35, the uniformity of the readings could indicate the interior of a building or a courtyard. In the SE section there seems to be a building or a courtyard. In the SE section there seems to be another distinct area of high resistivity (possibly a rubble spread) which an extension of the survey would help to clarify.

The area from which the carved stones were dragged by the plough was 9-8-10 and this seems clearly associated with the rubble spread of a building. On the N there was a natural perimeter in the Ha-ha, which divides the field from the Hirsell gardens. (The construction of this ditch could have affected the readings on the north.) On the E readings were taken to the edge of the terraces. No natural or man-made perimeter was used on the W and S, and here the survey could be extended.

A narrow area of low resistance runs through the centre of the entire site. This could be some sort of conduit which served Hirsell House. No record of such a feature survives on the site. However, it seems to cut the rubble and to be a late development.

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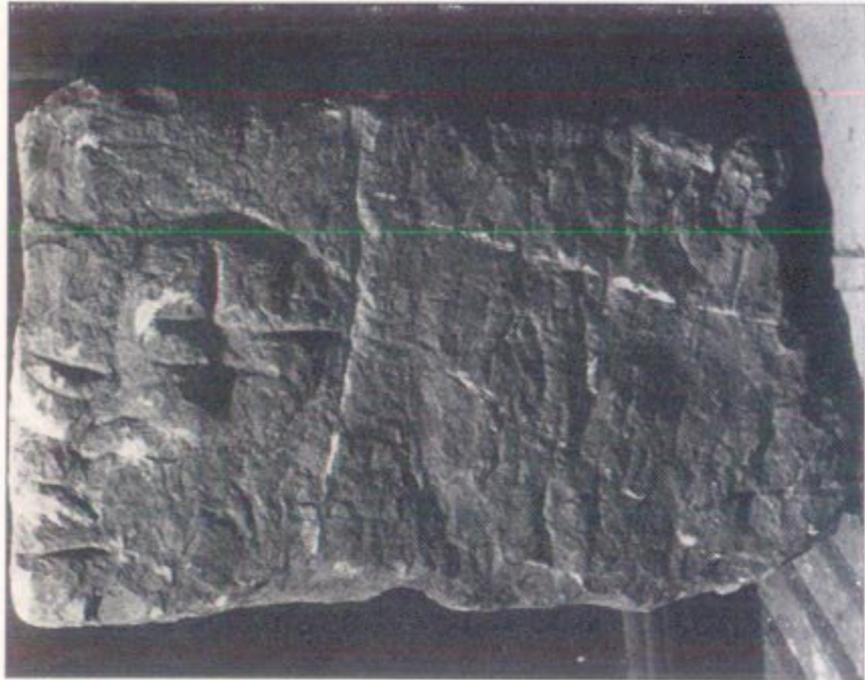
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NOTE

In 1979 an excavation in area 16-17 revealed several phases of a perimeter wall enclosing a cemetery of dug graves apparently of early Medieval date. Some of these had plain head or foot stones. The area 10-9 provided evidence for Neolithic and early Medieval occupation. The enigmatic trench running diagonally through the site revealed itself as a modern but defunct cable.



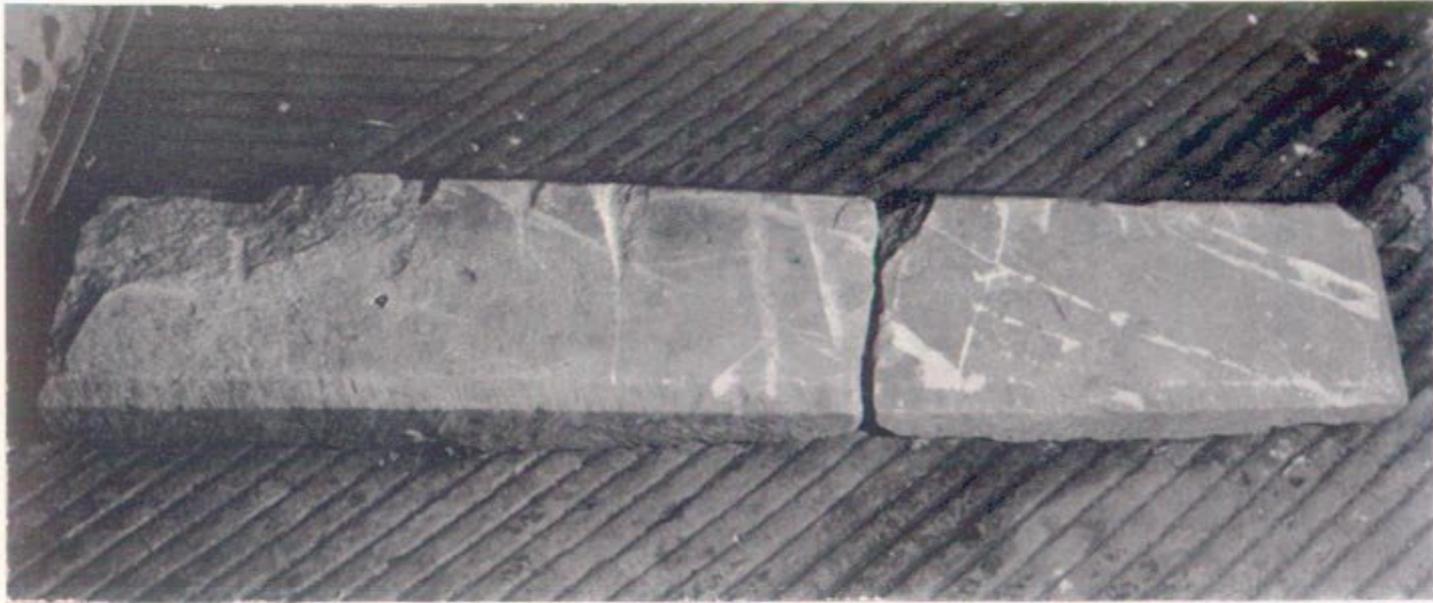
Stone no 2



b Stone no 1, face B



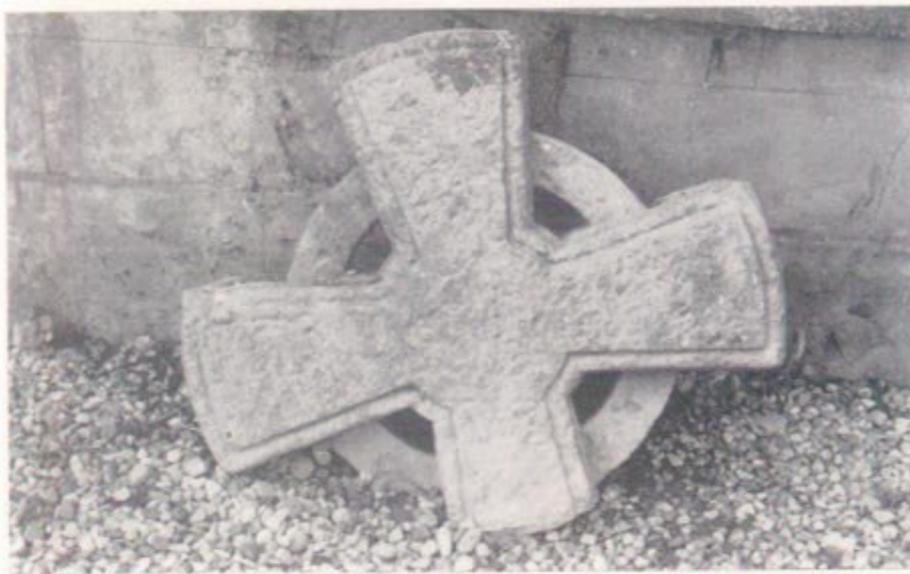
a Stone no 1, face A



a Stone no. 3



b Stone no. 5



c Cross-head from Lindisfarne



a Stone no. 4, broad face



b Stone no. 4, narrow face



a Stone no. 6, face A



b Stone no. 6, face B



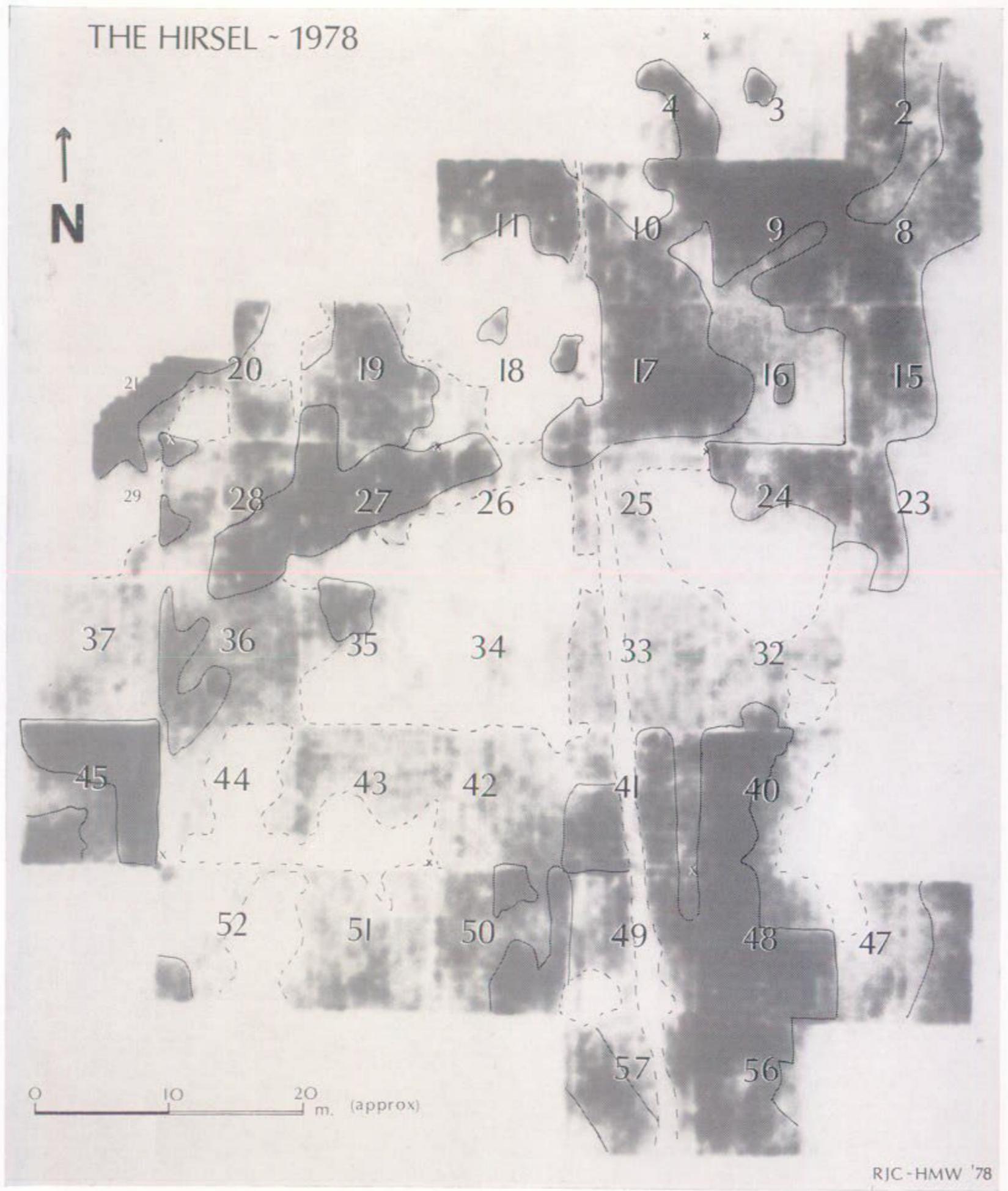
c Stone no. 8



b Stones no. 7, detail of groove on shaft B



a Stones no. 7, shafts A & B



The resistivity survey