OFFICE-BEARERS


MEMBERS

Aberdeen Natural History & Antiquarian Society.
Aberdeen University Archaeological Society.
Aberdeenshire Field Club.
Benarty Antiquarian Club.
Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.
Buteshire Natural History Society.
Dumfriesshire & Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society.
Edinburgh University Archaeological Society.
Elgin & Morayshire Literary & Scientific Association.
Falkirk Archaeological & Natural History Society.
Glasgow Archaeological Society.
Hawick Archaeological Society.
Inverness Scientific Society & Field Club.
Kintyre Antiquarian Society.
Kirkcaldy Naturalists' Society.
Kirkintilloch & District Society of Antiquaries.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science.
St Andrews University Archaeological Society.
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.
Third Spalding Club.

Aberdeen Art Gallery & Industrial Museum.
Dollar Park Museum, Falkirk.
Dumfries Burgh Museum.
Dundee Museums & Art Galleries.
Glasgow Art Gallery & Museums.
Hunterian Museum, Glasgow University.
National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland.
Paisley Museum & Art Galleries.

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II. Report of the Committee of the Scottish Field School of Archaeology.
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Queen Street,
Edinburgh, 2.
The Executive Committee has pleasure in submitting the report for 1951.

**Membership.** During the year the following bodies applied for membership of the Group:

- Aberdeen University Archaeological Society.
- Badenoch Field Club.
- Benarty Antiquarian Club.
- Edinburgh University Archaeological Society.
- Falkirk Burgh Museum.

With these included, the membership of the Group reaches 22 Societies and 8 Museums, and includes most of the more important Scottish Societies and Museums. Application for affiliation by any Society, Club or Museum still outside the Group will always be welcomed.

**Summer Excursion.** The Annual Excursion took place on Saturday, June 9th, 1951. Ancrum, Peniel Heugh, Cessford Castle and Kelso were visited, and about 90 members attended. At Ancrum the Rev. P.B. Gunn spoke in the old kirkyard on the history and antiquities of Ancrum; at Peniel Heugh Dr K.A. Steer described the Iron Age and Dark Age Ports which crown the hill, and also pointed out other ancient monuments and the many topographical features which are visible from the hill. At Cessford Castle Mr C.S.T. Calder gave an account of the history and the architecture of this great Border strength. Opportunity was taken before leaving Kelso for visits to the Abbey and to Rennie's Bridge, after an excellent tea at which those who organised the excursion, and in particular Mr R.C. Reid to whom the provision of the buses was due, were cordially thanked by the members of the Group for their efforts.

The question whether more than one excursion should be held each year, in different areas of the country, to enable more members of the Group to participate, was raised; it will be discussed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the General Committee of the Group.

**Field School.** Summaries of the work done at the field schools held during 1951 are included in Section II below.

**Poster.** The Poster urging the public to report the discovery of archaeological material, the forthcoming publication of which was announced in the 5th Report, was produced by the Council for British Archaeology during the year. Over 2,000 copies were distributed in Scotland - to all Societies and Museums affiliated to the Group, to schools and to agricultural organisations. They have been very well received, and if more are required they can be supplied on application to the Hon. Secretary.

**Preservation of Ancient Monuments.** The Perthshire Society of Natural Science drew the attention of the Group to the condition of the Bore Stone of Gaek, the sculpture of which Remilly Allen described as 'one of the most remarkable on any early Christian monument in Great Britain' (Early Christian Monuments of Scotland, part III, pp. 290-1 and fig. 307). A report was forwarded to H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Scotland, by whom any action necessary will be taken.
PUBLICATIONS. Among the publications produced by the Council for British Archaeology - a list of which will be supplied on application to the Hon. Secretary - one of the most useful to those interested in prehistoric and medieval studies is the list of Current and Forthcoming Offprints which is issued four times a year. The subscription to this list is 5/- per year; subscriptions for the next year of issue, which starts in April 1952, will be welcomed in January or February by the Assistant Secretary, Council for British Archaeology, 74 Onslow Gardens, London, S.W. 7.

LECTURERS. Action was taken in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last Annual General Meeting of the General Committee of the Group which proposed the establishment of a list of volunteer Lecturers. In February all affiliated members were requested to supply names of volunteers, and the first list was issued in June. A second list, announcing 13 lectures, was issued in September. The cooperation of affiliated bodies and of individuals in this matter has been much appreciated by the Group, and it is hoped that more volunteers will allow their names to be added to what is already a very satisfactory and useful work.

TRAVELLING EXHIBITION. A Committee was set up in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual General Meeting of the General Committee of the Group to enquire into the possibility of arranging a Travelling Exhibition of drawings and photographs illustrative of some aspect of Scottish Archaeology. The Committee has assembled such an exhibition, and its work is now successfully accomplished.

A description of the exhibition, its subjects and its dimensions, will be forwarded to any affiliated body on application to the Hon. Secretary, and the exhibition will be sent on loan to any such body desiring to display it anywhere in Scotland.

LIBRARY. A collection of pamphlets, reprints and other archaeological publications has been formed by the Group for the benefit of members who live far away from libraries. It is held by Mr Alastair MacLaren, c/o The Hon. Secretary, and any member desiring to borrow publications on any particular subject is invited to apply to Mr MacLaren; if the requisite books are held they will be forwarded on payment of postage.

ENTERTAINMENT OF THE RHIND LECTURER. The Group extended an invitation to Professor R.E.M. Wheeler to meet them on November 7th after the first lecture at a sherry-party at Gladstone's Land. The attendance of 58 unfortunately did not include the host, Lt.-Colonel R.L. Hunter, President of the Group, who was on his way back from America at the time. Representatives of the following bodies affiliated to the Group were among those who applied to be present:

Abertay Historical Society.
Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.
Buteshire Natural History Society.
The Dumbartonshire & Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society.
Edinburgh University Archaeological Society.
Culzean Castle Archaeological & Natural History Society.
Falkirk Burgh Museum.
Glasgow Art Galleries and Museums.
Hunterian Museum.
Kirkcaldy Naturalists' Society.
Paisley Museum and Art Galleries.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science.
The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

The Aberdeen Natural History and Antiquarian Society and the Third Spalding Club intimated their regrets that no member could be present.
The host and the organisers were cordially thanked on behalf of the assembled company by Mr. Angus Graham, Honorary Secretary, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR.

DUMFRIESSHIRE & GALLOWAY NATURAL HISTORY AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY. The Society reports that pieces of various crosses, dating from the 8th, 10th and 11th centuries, have been found at Hoddam, and that an account of these will appear in the forthcoming Transactions.

With a membership of 390 this Society is the largest in the Group.

HAWICK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. This Society, now second largest in the Group with a membership of 385, reports that they instigated the erection of a commemorative stone on a building now used as an hotel in Hawick. The stone, which was unveiled by Her Grace the Dowager Duchess of Buccleuch, commemorates the incorporation within the building of the remains of the 16th century Black Tower of Drumlanrig, the Hawick residence of the Douglas family and later of the Scotts of Buccleuch. The Transactions of the Society were published in November 1951.

THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM. GLASGOW UNIVERSITY. It may be of interest to record that in the Hunterian Museum much time has recently been spent in making models and reconstructions of prehistoric and Roman structures. The two are not of course the same. A model is a replica, on a small scale, of a structure as it now stands above ground, for example, the broch of Mousa. A reconstruction is an attempt to reproduce a structure of which little or nothing survives, the reconstruction being based on the evidence of a ground plan, or of slight remains, or, as in the case of certain Roman structures, on literary evidence.

Models and reconstructions now on view in the Hunterian Museum include those of a Late Stone Age burial mound, of a Late Stone Age hut, of the Late Stone Age hut (No. 7) at Skara Brae, Orkney, of a Bronze Age burial cist, of Bronze Age moulds for casting bronze axes, of a coracle, of an Iron Age loom (with a little piece of cloth woven on it), of the Iron Age farm at Little Woodbury, of Hadrian's Wall, of the fort at Housesteads, of a milestone and of a turrett on Hadrian's Wall, of the Antonine Wall, of the Antonine Wall fort at Balmuildy with alternative reconstructions of its well-known north gateway, of a Roman leather campaigning tent, and of a Roman tiled roof. Wherever possible, the models and reconstructions have been made of the same material as the original structures, or failing that, of wood. Plaster of paris has the unfortunate habit of always looking like plaster of paris.

These models and reconstructions are exhibited alongside original prehistoric and Roman material in order to illustrate their use, and to place them in their ancient setting. They have proved so
instructive to ourselves as well as to our visitors, that we propose to go on making more and more of them. This means that we shall probably have models to spare from time to time which are not currently on exhibition. Museum officials who might like to borrow a spare model or reconstruction for a particular purpose, and for a short period, are advised to apply direct to the Hunterian Museum.

RHIND LECTURES. It is hoped that the 1952 Rhind Lectures will be delivered in Edinburgh by Professor B. Ashmole, M.C., M.A., B.Litt., Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum; the provisional title of the series is "Greek Sculpture; the Century after Phidias."

SEVENTH REPORT. Anyone who would like to receive a copy of the next Report of the Scottish Regional Group, Council for British Archaeology, to be issued on January 1st, 1953, should send an order, with remittance, by 1st December 1952. An order form is attached.

THANKS. In conclusion, the Executive Committee wishes to thank the Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland for permission to use the rooms of the Museum, and Miss A. Webster for invaluable secretarial assistance.

R.L. HUNTER, President.
R.W. FEACHEM, Hon. Secretary.

II

THE SCOTTISH FIELD SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY: ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1951.

Training Sites. The Committee of the Scottish Field School of Archaeology selected as sites for the training of students in field archaeology during 1951 the following:

1. THE PREHISTORIC SITES ON THE LUCE SANDS, Wigtownshire.
   Director of Excavations: Mr. R.J.C. Atkinson, M.A., F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot.
   Duration of Excavations: From 16th June to 11th July 1951.

2. THE ROMAN PORT AT CASTLEFIDDES, LANARKSHIRE.
   Director of Excavations: Miss A.S. Robertson, M.A., F.S.A.Scot.
   Duration of Excavations: From 4th August to 1st September 1951.

When making its selection of training sites for 1951, the Field School Committee was asked to take into consideration the projected excavation, by Mr B. Hope-Taylor, of a mote in Scotland on a site which had not yet been chosen. Owing to lack of information, the Committee did not select this as a training excavation. In May 1951 Mr Hope-Taylor decided that his excavations were to take place in August at the Mote of Urr, Kirkcudbrightshire. At a subsequent meeting, the Committee of the Field School of Archaeology decided that Mr Hope-Taylor should receive maintenance grants in respect of the students from Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews Universities who worked at the Mote of Urr.
FINANCE.  

The University of Aberdeen contributed £28.  
The University of Edinburgh contributed £100.  
The University of Glasgow contributed £80.  
The University of St Andrews contributed £56.  

These four sums were used for the maintenance of students from the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews respectively, who attended one or other of the Field School training sites. The rate of maintenance was, as before, £4 per student week. As the number of students who actually attended was less than the number who originally applied and for whom grants were received, there were balances left to the credit of the contribution Universities as follows: Aberdeen University, £8; Edinburgh University, £14; Glasgow University, £8; St Andrews University, £2. These balances are in addition to any sums left unexpended from previous years.

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland contributed £50 for the maintenance of students from other sources than Scottish Universities. A sum of £48 out of the grant of £50 was used in 1951.

The Education Committee of Wigtownshire County Council contributed £25 towards the expenses of the Field School training site at Luce Sands, Wigtownshire.

The Education Committee of Lanarkshire County Council contributed £25 towards the expenses of the Field School training site at Castledykes, Lanarkshire.

STUDENTS.  

The Field School Committee decided to use the grants detailed above only for the maintenance of students prepared to spend at least a fortnight at a Field School training site, as experience has shown that little or no benefit is to be derived from a shorter period of training.

Students who spent a fortnight or more at a Field School training site were distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIVERSITY</th>
<th>GLENLUCE</th>
<th>CASTLEDYKES</th>
<th>NOT OF URR</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 (5 weeks)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 (5 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>5 (10 1/2 weeks)</td>
<td>1 (2 weeks)</td>
<td>4 (9 weeks)</td>
<td>10 (21 1/2 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td>2 (4 weeks)</td>
<td>5 (10 weeks)</td>
<td>2 (4 weeks)</td>
<td>9 (16 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Andrews</td>
<td>2 (4 weeks)</td>
<td>3 (7 weeks)</td>
<td>1 (2 weeks)</td>
<td>6 (13 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
<td>3 (8 weeks)</td>
<td>3 (6 weeks)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6 (14 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>12 (26 1/2 weeks)</td>
<td>14 (30 weeks)</td>
<td>7 (15 weeks)</td>
<td>33 (71 1/2 weeks)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORTS ON STUDENTS. The Directors of Excavations on the two Field School training sites have provided the Field School Committee with individual reports on their students. These show that, with a few exceptions, all the students benefited from the training given, and at the same time made a useful contribution to the work of excavation. Several students, both at Glenluce and at Castledykes, showed great promise, and will amply repay further training. One advanced student at Glenluce, Mr P.R. Ritchie, was given the responsible duty of directing the excavation of one of the Glenluce sites, at Nye Plantation, under the general supervision of the Director, Mr Atkinson.

WORK OF EX-STUDENTS. Three ex-Field School students, with several seasons' training on Field School training sites to their credit, have conducted independent excavations during 1951. Mr F. Newall and Mr H. Sinclair, with the assistance of other Field School students, directed a month's work on the site of the Roman fort at Bishopston, Renfrewshire, where with great success they worked out the details of an exceedingly complicated ditch system. Mr J. Fiddes, also with the assistance of some other ex-Field School students, conducted trial excavations on an extremely difficult site at Chippermore, Mochnan, Wigtownshire.

OAKWOOD. A few students who could not be accommodated on Field School training sites, went instead to Oakwood, Selkirkshire, where they took part in the excavation of a newly discovered Roman fort under the direction of Dr K. Steer and Mr R.W. Peacock of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments.

CONCLUSIONS. It is satisfactory to be able to record that students continue to come forward from all the four Scottish Universities, as well as from certain other sources, to attend Field School training sites.

J.M. Davidson, Chairman.
Anne S. Robertson, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE SCOTTISH SUMMER SCHOOL IN ARCHAEOLOGY. An informal committee met on 24th February 1951 and discussed a proposal to initiate an annual Scottish Summer School in Archaeology. It was agreed to approach Dr F.T. Wainwright, University College, Dundee, and to ask him (a) to consider an invitation to assume the Honorary Directorship of the School and (b) to draw up a scheme for the organisation of the School.

Dr Wainwright drew up a scheme for the organisation and routines of the proposed School, and this was approved at a meeting of the General Committee of the Group on 19th May 1951.

A Committee for the Scottish Summer School in Archaeology was established, and the preliminary arrangements for the first annual School, to be held in 1952, have now been completed.

The Committee will present its first full report in 1952.

R.L. Hunter, Chairman.
F.T. WAINWRIGHT, Hon. Director.
R.W. FEOCHEN, Hon. Secretary.
DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN 1951.

Information about the following work has been received:-

**ABERDEENSHIRE.** Dundurn Castle. NJ/854648. ii. SW.

Following his summary in the 5th Report, Dr W. Douglas Simpson adds that on the point of the promontory a portion of the wall of a Celtic dun has been examined, and found to be made of mingled earth and boulders and to show stepped construction. Close behind this wall a portion of a hut floor was uncovered.

The Book of Deer contains an account of the founding of the Celtic monastery there by St Drostan. In this it is stated that Columba and Drostan came first to Aberdour, where they were given a *caithair* or fortified place by the local ruler. From here they afterwards went on to Deer. As Dundarg is the only early fortified site in the district, it seemed likely that this may turn out to be the scene of St Drostan's first monastic settlement.

The recent excavations have yielded some provisional evidence of this. The foundations of a small rectangular building have been uncovered, as nearly oriented as is possible on the site. This building has its west gable set into the rampart of the old Celtic dun. It is made of stones laid in clay, and much resembles some of the earliest Christian churches in Ireland. Beside it is a long building which has meantime only been partly uncovered. It is of the same primitive construction, and consists of one long compartment, with a smaller chamber at the end of it. This building has much the appearance of the early monastic dwellings on the Brough of Deerness in Orkney. It has also points of resemblance to the buildings of the Saxon monastery at Whitby. Further foundations of the same character lie beyond. There is, therefore, a distinct possibility that the completed excavation of the seaward point of the promontory may reveal the remains of a small Celtic monastery - though, of course, not necessarily the original buildings laid down by St Drostan.

It is proposed to carry out further excavations on the site in 1952.

**ANGUS.** Carlungie. NO/511359. li. SW.

Dr F.T. Wainwright reports that in June and July 1951 the three-season excavations of the souterrains at Ardestie (NO/503343) and Carlungie I were completed. Both sites are now open and will be taken over by the Ministry of Works for preservation as Ancient Monuments. These excavations owe much to the financial support of University College, Dundee, the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, other learned bodies and many generous persons.

Dr Wainwright reports the following discoveries and minor excavations:-

2. *Auchourie* (NO/504730). Structure discovered by Mr D.A. Gardner and Mr F. Thornton of Arbroath, the former undertaking an exploratory excavation.
3. Reswillie (NO/505515). Cup-marked and cup-and-ring stones reported and examined.


5. Carlungie (NO/510538). A second souterrain (Carlungie II) discovered. Two-day excavation identified the structure and produced a section and two finds. Site now filled in.

DUMBARTONSHIRE. Duntocher. NS/49727. xxiii.61.

Miss Robertson reports that at Easter 1951, a final week's excavation was carried out under the auspices of the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow University, on the site of the Antonine Wall fort on Golden Hill, Duntocher, with the assistance of eight University students or ex-students. The excavation proved that the first Antonine structure on the site, a small fortlet, 60 feet square internally, had originally been surrounded on all four sides by a ditch. This indicates that the fortlet had at first been intended to stand alone on the hill, before the Antonine Wall was built.

The outer ditch lying to the north of the Antonine Ditch was also traced east and west. After covering the north front of the fort and its annexe, the outer ditch had swung southwards at each end to join the Antonine Ditch. Trenching on the level ground to the north of the outer ditch failed to reveal any traces of recognisable structures. Excavation in this area, however, was much restricted by the fact that it is used as a football pitch. As much information as can be expected under present circumstances has now been obtained from this site.

On the western slope of Golden Hill, the Antonine Wall and its Ditch were traced for some distance westwards, and the Antonine Wall base was found to have maintained its generous width of 16 feet. A well-preserved stretch of the Antonine Wall base, with a covered drain running athwart it, was discovered, and has since been opened up for permanent exhibition by Old Kilpatrick District Council. Within the railing which protects it, there is displayed a large-scale, weatherproof plan of the Antonine Wall and Fort on Golden Hill, showing the exact position of the length of the Wall base which is now exposed to view.

DUMFRIESSHIRE. Wardlaw. NY/024667. Ixii.NW.

Mr Truokell reports that in September 1951 a section was cut across the ditch of the Wardlaw Roman Fort, the site having been first surveyed: the ditch was found to be Punic, rock-cut, and over eight feet deep, with a small rock-cut gutter two feet wide and a foot deep: width of the ditch was fifteen feet. Turf wash showed that the inner face had been turf-lined: oxidised nails and one small fragment of hard pale buff pottery - the first from this site - were found.

FIFE. Lochore. NO/166962. xxvi.SE.

Further work has been done by Mr E. Henderson at the earthworks at Lochore, which were described in the 5th Report.
Sir Lindsay Scott reports that excavation has been continued at the farmstead of the aisled roundhouse type on Allasdale Farm, Cuier, Barra. The farmhouse has now been completely excavated; it has a central hearth, a stone-faced wall with rubble core, and stone piers set radially to support the roof. The shortened rafters which these piers permitted were of drift timber (spruce) from North America. A door in the wall led down by steps into a souterrain running at right angles to the wall. This long and narrow storage chamber was shallowly cut down into the rock, built up at the sides with turf, faced with dry-walling, and roofed with spruce drift timber. A large rectangular barn and byre built as a lean-to against the stone farmyard wall had at the lower end a heavily built drain for the part partitioned off as a byre, and at the upper end a small hearth in the barn portion. Another building contiguous with the farmhouse had been used as a drying-house, probably for corn. Working places and shelters outside the farmhouse door are still in course of excavation.

Mr John Clarke made an examination of an earthwork called the Watch-Tower at Craigmuie. Two days excavation suggested this to be an earthwork made by people who knew Roman methods but lacked skill. It is of parallelogram form with rounded corners, double ditches and roughly central gates on three sides. The rampart has an eight foot core of solid earth or stones with laid turf facing: its total thickness is sixteen feet. The ditches are shallow. Through the gates pass seven foot lightly surfaced tracks. No structure was found in the interior, but considerable areas were roughly paved. The only relic was a hone. The place looks as if it might date from the 3rd or 4th centuries, a communal refuge point for people and cattle, constructed by men who had seen Roman fortifications in practical use. The similarity of construction is too close for Dark Age work when Roman methods had become a dim legend.

Dr H. Fairhurst and Sir J. G. Scott report that during late June and almost the whole of July excavations were carried out in Queen's Park, with the object of establishing the date and purpose of the earthwork which occupies the summit of Camp Hill. The excavations were sponsored jointly by the Art Galleries and Museums Committee and the Parks Committee. The Parks Committee very kindly lent two men to help with the excavations, as well as supplying equipment.

The earthwork is roughly oval in shape, some 300 feet across the longer axis. It now consists merely of a single earthen mound, about 5 feet high where best preserved, but broken away in several places. A modern laid pathway completely surrounds the outside of the earthwork.

The area selected for excavation was to the south-east of the
earthwork, where a gap in the rampart had some appearance of being an original entrance. An added advantage was that at this point the modern pathway was further from the rampart than usual, and so less likely to have interfered with an outside ditch, if any.

A trench cut through the rampart showed that it was constructed of rammed clay, and was nearly 20 feet wide at the base. When the section was extended outwards a ditch, as expected, was found outside the rampart. The ditch was at least 15 feet wide, but its exact width could not be established, as its outer edge was beneath the modern pathway. Though wide, the ditch does not seem to have been very deep, perhaps not more than 3 or 4 feet below the original ground level. In this section of the ditch several pieces of green-glazed medieval pottery were found.

A second trench dug outwards from one side of the entrance revealed the trampled surface of what must have been the entrance road, but, when continued, once more struck the edge of the ditch, which therefore appears to have run right across the entrance. Perhaps planks were laid across the ditch to enable people to go in and out.

The original entrance could probably be closed by a wooden gate. Where the clay rampart ended a wooden stockade, clearly marked by post holes, began and aimed for the middle of the entrance. Presumably a similar stockade would leave the opposite rampart, and in between the two stockades would be hung a gate.

The pottery found in both ditch sections is consistently medieval, and though not yet fully examined may be 13th or 14th century in date. There is no sign of anything earlier, so that old ideas that Camphill was a 'Roman' or 'British' camp must be abandoned. Instead we appear to have a 'clay castle' of the sort popular in Scotland before the great days of stone castle building.

### Castledykes

Miss Anne S. Robertson reports that in August 1951, excavations were resumed on the site of the Roman fort at Castledykes, under the auspices of the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow University. The paid labour force of four men was supplemented by fourteen students from the Universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews, Oxford and London, who worked on the site for periods of a fortnight or longer, while receiving training in archaeological field work by arrangement with the Scottish Field School of Archaeology.

Previous excavation had already shown that the fort at Castledykes was in use both during the Flavian occupation of Scotland, from 80 A.D. to about 100 A.D., and again during the Antonine period, from about 142 A.D. to about 185 A.D.

In 1951, the exact position and width of the rampart surrounding the Flavian fort were at last determined. The rampart had been about 30 feet wide, and there had been a berm, about 6 feet wide, between the front of the Flavian rampart and the innermost Flavian ditch. The Flavian fort had had, in all, five ditches on the west side, four on the north side, and three on the east side. The number of ditches on the south side is not known, as the southern part of the site has not so far been available for excavation.

The approximate positions of the north, west and east entrances
of the Flavian fort had already been indicated by the discovery of
gaps in the innermost Flavian ditch on the north, west and east sides
of the fort. This year, the exact site of the Flavian west gateway
was discovered. It had been about 28 feet wide.

When the fort was re-occupied in the Antonine period, the
Antonine builders had partly re-used the earlier, Flavian ditch system.
They had, however, filled in the fourth Flavian ditch on the west side
of the fort, and the whole length of the innermost Flavian ditch on the
north, east and west sides of the fort. They had added a new front,
not more than 10 feet wide, to the original front of the Flavian rampart.
The new front lay partly over the innermost Flavian ditch, now filled in.
The Antonine builders had probably left most of the original front
portion of the Flavian rampart standing behind their own new front, but
had skilfully incorporated the rear part of the old Flavian rampart in
their own new rampart. When completed, the Antonine rampart was 30 feet
wide, and it had enclosed an area of about 6½ acres.

The north and east gateways of the Antonine fort had previously
been examined. This year, the exact site of the Antonine west gateway
was found. It lay farther north than the Flavian west gateway. The
road through the Antonine gateway was about 20 feet wide.

Excavation inside the fort revealed the outlines of a wooden
barrack block situated near the west gateway. It had been 112 feet
long by almost 24 feet wide, and it had been divided into eight rooms
of equal size. The barrack block had probably belonged to the Flavian
period.

The Principia, or Headquarters Building, of the Antonine fort,
which was located last year, was examined in more detail. The central
room in the back range of rooms, the Sacellum, had had its foundations
renewed and strengthened during the course of the Antonine period.

Immediately to the east of the Principia, the foundations of
another Antonine building were found. It had been a long, narrow
building, about 100 feet long, by 46 feet wide, and, to judge from its
shape and from its position in the fort, it had probably been a granary.
Like the Sacellum, the narrow building had had its foundations altered,
and in some places laid down afresh, during the Antonine period.

The work of this season, therefore, besides throwing more light
on the Flavian fort, has confirmed and amplified the evidence already
secured from previous excavations to the effect that, during the
Antonine occupation of the site, repairs and alterations had to be carried
cut over a wide area within the fort. So extensive in fact were these
repairs that they must, almost certainly, have been necessitated by a
military disaster which forced the Romans to evacuate the fort for a time,
and so leave it at the mercy of destroying North Britons. Many other
Antonine forts in Scotland are now known to have suffered serious damage,
and, like Castledykes, to have undergone reconstruction, before
being finally abandoned in about 185 A.D. The destruction was therefore
widespread. It was probably in fact the result of the great British
revolt of about 155 A.D.
ORKNEY. Quoyness. NY/576377. lxxxi.

Professor V. Gordon Childe supervised operations undertaken by the Ministry of Works at the chambered cairn at Quoyness, on Sanday (R.C.A.M., Orkney, 449). The cairn lies on the east side of Els Ness, where a space some 20 feet from the edge of the shingle was stripped of turf and the foundations of the chamber laid on compact yellow clay. The chamber is roughly rectangular, measuring $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width and $13$ feet in height, with an entrance passage 12 feet in length. In the walls there are six cells. The chamber was encased in a cairn defined by a dry-stone wall, and eventually this structure was partially covered by an outer cairn which was never completed. Some sherds of pottery which were found in the clay floor attested the affinity of the persons working at or buried in the cairn with the Stone Age inhabitants of Rinyo and Skara Brae. An interesting discovery was a disc of stone which points to more distant connections. Similar discs have been found in comparable tombs not only in western Scotland but also in Wales, Spain and Portugal. It has long been believed that the ritual traditions embodied in such tombs reached Britain by Atlantic seaways from the South, and the disc lends support to this theory.

PERTHSHIRE. Forteviot. NO/039175. cix.57.

A Roman marching camp has been found at Broomhill, Forteviot, by Mr R.Yf. Peachem.

Maine of Kause. NO/065489. 111.NE.

Dr F.T. Wainwright reports that he has examined and noted the site where an urn was found.

RENFREWSHIRE. Whitmoss. NY/416721. 111.SE.

Mr F. Newall and Mr H. Sinclair report that the work at the Roman fort at Whitmoss continued during the year, attention being paid to the south defences and to the west ditch. Numerous ditches and ramparts, indicative of more than one reconstruction, were found. Publication of the results of this excavation is awaited with interest.

SELKIRKSHIRE. Cockwood. NY/435249. xi.SE.

Dr K.A. Steer began excavations at the Roman fort at Cockwood in June, with the support of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and of the Christianbury Trust. The whole outline of the fort was established, and sections cut through the defences revealed that the rampart had been made chiefly of sods and had been surrounded by two ditches. Time permitted a start to be made on the excavation of the west gateway; here it was found that at the time of a reconstruction the width of the original gate had been halved. The stump of a post, placed centrally in the original gate, was found in situ. It is hoped to carry out further excavations in 1952.
The final phase in the excavation of the Viking and later Norse Settlement at Jarlshof undertaken by the Ministry of Works and supervised by Mr J.R.C. Hamilton, was completed this season. The last of the individual house and communal middens dating to the earliest period of the settlement were fully excavated together with minor structures, including a yard wall, smithy, and hay rick settings. The finds included further examples of slates worked in graffito. These bore representations of animals, ships, a dragon-head prow, and two portraits. The nature of the initial colonial settlement was determined and its subsequent growth over the first two or three generations closely defined.

Upon the completion of the Viking settlement attention was directed to the series of post-broch buildings which awaited excavation beneath the northouthouse of mediaeval Jarlshof. The foundations of this outhouse were removed and the underlying structures fully exposed. These excavations not only produced a stratified series of post-broch pottery types, but threw much light on the sequence of buildings. Conclusive evidence was found for the existence of an oval courtyard on the north and north-west side of the broch. Later, within this courtyard an aisled house was built, its inner wall resting against the broch. Four floor levels associated with this house yielded a coarse grey steatite ware. Later the house was partitioned and the larger of the two wheelhouses discovered by Mr John Bruce built over part of the foundations. The building of the second wheelhouse was preceded by the further taking down of the broch tower. In the windblown sand and ash deposits which accumulated against the outer face of the original courtyard wall, a passage house was built. Associated pottery of a degenerate type found in association with this structure was identical with that obtained from the so-called Pictish huts lower down the slope and immediately preceding Viking occupation.

Lieut.-Colonel R.L. Hunter reports that Falkirk Archaeological & Natural History Society excavated the old Parish Church of Kinneil during July 1951. The building was abandoned in the late 17th century for the newly erected Church of Bo'ness, and today nothing is left except the western gable and some foundations of the remaining walls.

It was found possible to establish the ground plan, which showed that the Church had consisted of nave and channel and was of late 12th century date. A "Lairds Left" had been erected on the south side at some time after the Reformation. Under the east wall of this left the excavators found a churchyard cross about 6 feet high, which had been used as part of the foundation of the wall. The figure on the Cross had been considerably mutilated, but otherwise the Cross was little damaged and would appear to be the only survivor of its type in Scotland.

Carved tombstones of early and later mediaeval date were also found, with some fragments of window glass and mediaeval patterns.

Mr. J. Fiddes reports that a well-built dry-stone wall, 7 to 8 feet thick and originally about 5 feet high, encloses an oval about 120 feet by 100 feet. The interior has been levelled into two platforms. Evidence was found of a succession of phases:

I. On the bedrock underlying the upper platform, indications were found of a crude hut about 15 feet in diameter.

II. At two points underlying the outer wall of the enclosure, there was a single layer of heavy paving of flat stones associated with numbers of whelk and limpet shells. The areas in which these shells occurred were clearly defined but were not fully cleared: they suggest the interior of huts.

III. The outer wall was partly reconstructed at least once and probably twice. No internal constructions were found which could be associated with the wall except the two platforms. The levelling of these required a fair amount of labour. No indications were found of the purpose of the enclosure.

IV. A small and poorly-built cairn (diameter 12 feet, height 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) feet) had been erected near the centre of the upper platform. No evidence of an inhumation was found. It is unlikely that the well-built enclosing wall and the platforms were designed as a setting for this cairn.

The chronology is probably as above, although phase II may precede I. Associated with I there were beach-pebbles ('limpet scraps' and 'pot-boilers') of which the majority showed no sign of use and the remainder only slight signs. No pottery was found except a few fragments which confirmed other evidence that part of the lower platform was used on occasion in mediaeval and recent times as a lambing-pen or similar shelter.

A fuller account of the excavation will appear in the Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society.

Excavations were carried out on the Luce Sands, Wigtownshire, in June and July 1951, on behalf of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and the Scottish Field School of Archaeology, under the direction of Mr. R.J.C. Atkinson, assisted by Mr. P.R. Ritchie.

After a survey had been made of the sands from air-photographs and on the ground, two main areas were selected for investigation. At the first two superimposed old land-surfaces were excavated; the lower one contained cord-ornamented and other pottery of a type peculiar to the district, and not hitherto dated, while the upper one produced a few sherds of Middle Bronze Age Food-Vessel. It would thus appear that 'Glenluce Ware' is not later than the Middle Bronze Age, and is probably neolithic. This was confirmed at the second site, where the lowest of three superimposed land-surfaces yielded a quantity of similar ware associated with corded beaker. There was evidence to suggest that pottery had been manufactured on this site.
At Nye Plantation, immediately N. of the dunes, Mr Ritchie re-examined the prehistoric pits first excavated by Mr Ludovic Mann in 1902 (P.S.A.S. XXXVII (1903), 370-415). Pit No. 2 was completely excavated, a section was cut into pit No. 3 (originally dug by Mr Mann), and the area intervening between the two pits was stripped. Over 50 stakes, mostly of birch, some 30 inches long and 6 inches in diameter, were found at the bottom of pit 2, whose sides had been successively revetted with three concentric layers of upright brush-wood; similar revetting was found in pit 3. On the intervening area were five postholes, presumably representing a fence between the pits. Beneath the original dump cast up from pit 2 were two sherds of secondary neolithic pottery of Peterborough type; other traces of slight occupation were found between the pits. It was possible to show that the better preserved stakes in pit 2 had been cut to sharp points at their upper ends; the lower ends showed clear traces of working with a stone axe. There seems little doubt that these pits were constructed as pit-falls for the trapping of game, and that they date from the end of the neolithic period. A full report will appear in P.S.A.S.

V

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The following abbreviations are used:

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CEA. Council for British Archaeology.
CUP. Cambridge University Press.
HENC. History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.
PPS. Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society.
PSAS. Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.
TDGS. Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society.
TSES. Transactions of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society.

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In days of old, when knights were cold,
And spelling not so hot,
Fitzdouglas lived upon a Motte -
Fitzpercy on a Motte.

Each spent his life in warlike strife,
In plot and counter-plot -
Fitzdouglas far preferred a Motte,
Fitzpercy yearned for Motte.

Although the feud is continued
'Twixt Englishman and Scot,
Fitzdouglas now despises Motte -
Fitzpercy sneers at Motte.

This little quarrel points the moral -
History is tommy-rotte;
Thank God you've got a Motte (or Note),
Don't envy Note (or Motte).
COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY
Scottish Regional Group

Financial Statement as at December 31st, 1951.

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