COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

SEVENTH REPORT, 1952

PART I - COMMITTEE REPORTS

OFFICE-BEARERS


MEMBERS

Aberdeen Natural History & Antiquarian Society.
Aberdeen University Archaeological Society.
Aberay Historical Society.
Ayrshire Archaeological & Natural History Society.
Badenoch Field Club.
Banarty Antiquarian Club.
Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.
Buteshire Natural History Society.
Dumfriesshire & Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society.
Dundee Museums & Art Galleries.
Dundee Musuem.
Dumfries Burgh Museum.
Edinburgh University Archaeological Society.
Elgin & Morayshire Literary & Scientific Association.
Falkirk Archaeological & Natural History Society.
Glasgow Art Gallery & Museums.
Glasgow Archaeological Society.
Glasgow University.
Hanley Archaeological Society.
Inverness Scientific Society & Field Club.
Kirkaldy Naturalists' Society.
Kirkintilloch & District Society of Antiquaries.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science.
Selkirkshire Antiquarian Society.
Sociey of Antiquaries of Scotland.
Third Spalding Club.

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II. Report of the Committee of the Scottish Field School of Archaeology.
III. Report of the Committee of the Scottish Summer School in Archaeology.

Queen Street, Edinburgh, 2.
I. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee has pleasure in submitting the report for 1952.

MEMBERSHIP. Since the publication of the report for 1951, the Selkirkshire Antiquarian Society has joined the Group. With this addition, membership of the Group reaches 23 Societies and 8 Museums, and now 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 EXCURSIONS. In accordance with a resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting in January 1952, there were two excursions during the year. A two-day excursion visited Dumfriesshire, under the care of Mr R.C. Reid. On the first day the party visited Birrenswark, where Mr Reid and Dr K.A. Steer gave talks; Hoddam, where Mr Reid and Mr A. Truckell spoke; and Caerlaverock Castle, where Mr H.B. St J. O'Neil, Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, gave an address. After a night at Dumfries, where the Provost kindly gave a reception for the party in the Burgh Museum, the second day opened at New Abbey, where Mr A. Cruden, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, gave a most interesting talk, after which the party was royally entertained at Aminfield Tower by Major and Mrs Johnstone, and Mr Reid gave an account of the history of the tower. Finally, Dr John Allan described the historical and political background of Crawford Castle, and, during a talk at the site of the Roman Fort at Crawford, was able to show the scars in the turf left by excavations there in 1939. After tea at Crawford, the party dispersed, having given a most sincere vote of thanks to Mr Reid for his efforts in making the two-day excursion such an outstanding success, and to the speakers for their co-operation.

The other excursion was arranged in Aberdeenshire by our Vice-President, Mr Charles Carter; it was attended by about 50 members, and was as successful as the southern one. The main feature was Kildrummy Castle where, by kind permission of Colonel and Mrs Yates of Kildrummy, the rock and water gardens were visited together with the castle, where Dr W. Douglas Simpson described with a wealth of historical and archaeological detail the history of the castle and the results of his excavations during more than 20 years. After tea in a picturesque barn, some souterrains were visited. A very sincere vote of thanks was given to Mr Carter for organising the excursion, and to Dr Douglas Simpson for his enthralling and profound discourses.

It is hoped that in 1953 there will be a two-day excursion in the north and a one-day excursion in the south.

TRAVELLING EXHIBITION. During the year the Travelling Exhibition arranged by the Group has been displayed at Falkirk, Dumfries, Paisley, Rothesay and Selkirk. The component parts of the exhibition have now been returned to Mr R.J.C. Atkinson at the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, Edinburgh University, to whom the thanks of the Group are due for very kind permission to use the material.

LIBRARY. The Group Library of pamphlets, reprints and other archaeological publications is held by Mr Alastair McLaren, Lorn, Braid Hills Approach, Edinburgh 10, and any member desiring to borrow publications is invited to apply to Mr McLaren; if the requisite books are held, they will be furnished on loan on payment of postage.
After the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 26th January 1952, twenty-two Representatives lunched together at an hotel; it was agreed that the occasion was both useful and pleasurable, and it is hoped that a similar gathering will be held on Saturday, January 31st, 1953.

The Group submitted written evidence to the Committee on the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, the Report of which was published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office in August. (Cmd. 8603; price 1/-).

**Activities of the Year.**

**Aberdeen Natural History & Antiquarian Society.**

Mr Alexander Macgregor, M.A., a past president of the Society, introduced and helped to compile the programme broadcast to commemorate the centenary of the death of Professor William MacGillivray, who founded the Society in 1835.

The Society protested to the Town Council about the proposed development of Seaton Park; the protest received some publicity and the park is to be retained in its present form with no interference with its natural resources.

**Aberdeen Historical Society.**

The Society hopes to begin a regular series of publications in the near future.

**Buteshire Natural History Society.**

The Junior Section of the Society, intended for young people who are not yet of an age to join the Society, is in a most flourishing condition. Founded and run by Miss Dorothy Marshall, with the assistance of Mr Glen Aitken and members of the Society, it has on its roll 75 members, and at the first meeting of the 1952-53 season 73 were present. At each meeting a competition is run by Miss Marshall on Natural History or allied subjects, and thereafter the meeting is addressed by a senior speaker or a visiting lecturer.

The first meeting this season, held on 23rd October, took the form of a film show, the films being of the local excavations at St Ninian's Chapel (see Excavation Reports). The commentary was supplied by Mr Glen Aitken. An attractive syllabus has been drawn up, and it is expected that the membership of this very alive group will be further augmented. Many members of the Juniors have, on passing the age limit for this Section, joined the parent Society.

**Falkirk Archæological & Natural History Society.**

The Society has issued its Fourth Volume of Proceedings during the year.

**Glasgow Archæological Society.**

This Society has once again issued a comprehensive Annual Report, running to 24 pages. Among other items of interest there are accounts of three excursions and of excavations carried out by members of the Society; the latter are summarised in the Excavation Reports in Part II of this Report.
HAWICK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Society held its 96th Annual General Meeting during the year, and membership stands at 425. The Annual Transactions were published in August.

A tablet was erected to mark the site of the Auld Brig of Hawick, which is said to have been built in the 13th century, and which was demolished in 1851.

The Society has again started a series of popular lectures of antiquarian interest, and public response was sufficient to warrant the continuation of the series. The Annual Excursion was to Dunbar Castle and Town House, and Tantallon Castle.

With the assistance of the Royal Scottish Museum, the Bird Section in the Society's Museum has been entirely re-arranged; a start is soon to be made with the Geological Department.

PERTHSHIRE SOCIETY OF NATURAL SCIENCE.

The Archaeological Section of the Perthshire Society of Natural Science has assisted the Archaeology Branch of the Ordnance Survey by additions to the 6" sheets for Perthshire. Mediaeval roads radiating from Perth have been marked, and sections of the so-called Coronation Road from Falkland to Scone have been included. A stone circle, a pair of upright standing stones and a single fallen stone have been noted in Banallian Woods near Abernyte, as has been a late mediaeval pottery manufactory in the garden of a house on the east bank of the Tay.

During the coming winter the Section is to help to compile a distribution map, painted on wood, of Bronze Age sites in Perthshire.

STIRLINGSHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

The Society organised a most successful exhibition in the Lesser Victoria Hall, Selkirk, during October. His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch spent some time watching the final preparations being made for the exhibition on the night before it opened, and has accepted office as honorary President of the Society. The exhibition included a very great variety of objects of antiquarian and bygone interest, including drawings of the Roman Fort at Oakwood, provided by Dr K.A. Steer, and the Group's Travelling Exhibition. The exhibition, which was formally opened by Provost MacDonald, was instrumental in more than doubling the membership of the Society, and the organisers are to be congratulated on the resounding success which attended their venture.

RHIND LECTURES. It is hoped that the 1953 Rhind Lectures will be delivered in Edinburgh by John Summerson, C.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.; the provisional title of the series is "Elizabethan Architecture."

EIGHTH REPORT. In accordance with a resolution passed by the Annual General Meeting of the Group in 1952, the Annual Report will in future be split into two halves, as this year. As the order forms for the Seventh Report had gone out asking the price of 6d when this Resolution was passed, the Seventh Report represents a transitional stage - the old price but the new form. It is hoped that in its new form the Report will in future cause no loss to the Group, as it has done in recent years. Accordingly, the order form attached to both parts of the Seventh Report provides for the ordering of one or both parts of the Eighth Report, for 1953; the first part, the Committee Reports, will be sent free to all Secretaries of Societies, Curators of Museums, and Representatives of Societies, but may be purchased by others interested for 6d. The second part, containing Discovery and
Excavation Reports for the current year and the Scottish Bibliography, will be sold at 1/6d, and no free copies will be distributed. In addition, a manifest attempt has been made to accord with the desire expressed at the 1952 Annual General Meeting that the appearance of Part II of the Report should be less unattractive. Practical suggestions to further this end will always be very gladly received by the Hon. Secretary.

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. B. Webster for invaluable secretarial assistance.

R. L. HUNTER, President.
C. CARTER, Vice-President.
R. W. FREAKER, Hon. Secretary.

II. THE SCOTTISH FIELD SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY: REPORT FOR 1952.

TRAINING SITES. The Committee of the Scottish Field School of Archaeology selected as sites suitable for the training of students in field archaeology during 1952 the following:

1. THE ROSEAN PORT AT CARICHERIDGE, DUPPLINESHIRE.
   Director of Excavations: Mr John Clarke, M.A., F.S.A.Scot.

2. THE MOAT OF URR, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.
   Director of Excavations: Mr B. Hope-Taylor, F.S.A.

3. FINAVON CASTLE, ANGUS.
   Duration of Excavations: From August 2-30, 1952.

Unfortunately, after the selection of training sites had been made, it became impossible for Mr Clarke and Mr Hope-Taylor to carry out the excavations they had planned, owing, in Mr Clarke’s case, to the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease in S.W. Scotland, and, in Mr Hope-Taylor’s case, to more pressing commitments elsewhere. Accordingly, students accepted for Field School training were all placed on the excavation at Finavon Castle, with the exception of one, who was sent for a fortnight’s advanced training to the training excavation conducted by the University of Durham at Corbridge.

FINANCE. The University of Aberdeen contributed £50.
The University of Glasgow contributed £40.
The University of St Andrews contributed £32.

These three sums were used for the maintenance of students from the Universities of Aberdeen, Glasgow and St Andrews respectively. The rate of maintenance was, as before, £1 per student week. Since, however, the number of student weeks actually spent by St Andrews University students at Finavon Castle finally exceeded the number of weeks for which a maintenance grant was applied for from the University of St Andrews, the
balance required - £8 - was taken out of the total balance standing to the credit of the University of St Andrews with the Field School. Also, an Edinburgh University student who trained at Finavon Castle was maintained out of the balance left outstanding from grants made in previous years by Edinburgh University. Since, on the other hand, the number of Aberdeen and Glasgow University 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 these two Universities as follows: Aberdeen University, £5; and Glasgow University, £32. 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 £26 out of the grant of £50 was used in 1952.

Angus County Council contributed £10 towards the expenses of the Field School training site at Finavon Castle, Angus.

Dumfriesshire County Council and the Stewartry Education Committee contributed £10 and £22:10/- respectively towards the expenses of the Field School training sites at Carronbridge, Dumfriesshire, and at the Mote of Urr, Kirkcudbrightshire. After the cancellation of the excavations originally planned for these sites, the two bodies concerned agreed that the grants should be held over by the Field School for excavations in these counties in 1953.

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>
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<th>UNIVERSITY</th>
<th>FINAVON CASTLE</th>
<th>CORBRIDGE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>3 (9 weeks)</td>
<td>1 (2 weeks)</td>
<td>4 (11 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>1 (4 weeks)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 (4 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td>1 (2 weeks)</td>
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<td>St Andrews</td>
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<td>3 (10 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sources</td>
<td>1 (4 weeks)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 (4 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>9 (29 weeks)</td>
<td>1 (2 weeks)</td>
<td>10 (31 weeks)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORTS. The Director of Excavations at Firavon Castle has provided the Field School Committee with reports on his students. These show that all the students benefited from the training given, and at the same time made a useful contribution to the work of excavation. Several students showed considerable promise, and will repay further training.

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 1952. Mr F. Newall and Mr H. Sinclair, with the assistance of other ex-Field School students continued work on the site of the Roman fort at Bishopton, Renfrewshire. Mr J. Wallace carried out the excavation of a Bronze Age burial cairn, at Crossmichael, Dumfriesshire. A few other ex-Field School students continued, for a second season, on the excavation of the Roman fort at Oakwood, Kirkcudbrightshire, under the direction of Dr K.A. Steer and Mr R.W. Peacham, of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments.

CONCLUSIONS. In spite of our disappointment at the severe curtailment of what promised to be a most important season's work, owing to circumstances beyond our control, we are glad to be able to record that students continue to come forward from all the four Scottish Universities, as well as from outside Scotland, to attend Field School training sites.

J.D. Mackie, Chairman.
Anne S. Robertson, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

III. SCOTTISH SUMMER SCHOOL IN ARCHAEOLOGY: REPORT FOR 1952.

The sincere thanks of the Committee are due to the following affiliated bodies for grants towards the Summer School:

Abertay Historical Society.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science.
Perthshire Society of Natural Science, Archaeological Section.

After nearly eighteen months of preparation the first annual Scottish Summer School in Archaeology was held in Dundee during the long weekend 8th to 12th August, 1952. The theme chosen for discussion was 'The Problem of the Picts', and it was considered in a series of complementary lectures delivered by R.W. Peacham, K.H. Jackson, S. Piggott, R.B.K. Stevenson and F.T. Wainwright.

Applications for membership of the School exceeded available accommodation, and it was necessary to close the lists when the total membership, residential and local, reached 120. Among those present, in addition to the lecturers and members of the Summer School Committee, were Professor Ian A. Richmond, Mrs Annie L. Dunlop, Mr Stewart Cruden, Mr Angus Graham, Mr Joseph Macleod, Mr C.W. Phillips and Mr R.C. Reid. The average attendance at lectures was over 100, and places were found for about 80 members on each of three excursions. Lectures were held in University College, Dundee, and residential accommodation of a very high standard was provided in West Park Hall. Mrs F.T. Wainwright acted as hostess.

Very many letters of appreciation have been received, and there have been no complaints. In short, the School was a far greater success in every way than had been anticipated. Its future seems assured.

The thanks of the Director and the Committee are due to a host of
willing helpers; to the lecturers and the guests; to the local Committee
which planned and carried through the details of local arrangements; to
Mr D.B. Taylor, the local Secretary; to Mr J.D. Boyd, who set out a much
appreciated archaeological exhibition; to owners who lent material for the
exhibition; to individuals and bodies making grants and donations, and to
all who contributed to making the 1952 meeting the success that it
undoubtedly was.

The School has been no drain whatsoever on the funds of the
Group.

The 1953 School will meet in Dumfries during the week-end
24th to 28th July. The theme will be 'Roman and Native in North Britain',
and full details will be published shortly in the form of a leaflet
combined with an application form.

R.L. HUNTER, Chairman.
F.T. WALKER, Hon. Director.
R.W. FRANCIS, Hon. Secretary.
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PART II.

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Kintyre Antiquarian Society.
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Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.
Third Spalding Club.

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

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I. Discovery and Excavation, 1952.
II. A Scottish Bibliography for 1952.

Queen Street, Edinburgh, 2.
DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN 1952.

The following reports have been received:

ABERDEENSHIRE.

From Mr R.J.C. Atkinson:

Cairn, East Finnercy. 38/766043.

During June and July, 1952, an examination was made of this cairn, which, on the evidence of sherds of Western Neolithic pottery recovered from it during an unauthorised excavation thirty years ago, was suspected of being a chambered tomb. The work consisted of the cutting of a radial section six feet wide, and the stripping of a twenty-foot square at the centre. It showed that the cairn had been disturbed on at least two occasions previously, during which all traces of any central burial had been destroyed: it is unlikely, however, that the cairn ever covered a chamber.

From the disturbed portions of the cairn, and from the undisturbed ground surface beneath it, were recovered considerable quantities of Western Neolithic (Windmill Hill) pottery and a leaf-shaped flint arrowhead, associated with hearths. No signs of post holes or other structures were observed. It seems probable that the cairn was of normal Bronze Age type, and had been placed by chance upon the site of an earlier Neolithic domestic settlement. This settlement doubtless extends outside the cairn and will repay future investigation.

The work was carried out by students of Edinburgh, Glasgow and London Universities, under the direction of R.J.C. Atkinson.

ANGUS.

Mr D.B. Taylor has kindly sent the following information about the activities of the Abertay Historical Society in Angus:

Kinnetles. NO/427475. xxxvii. SE.


Cars Weston. NO/535598. xxi. SE.

Dr F.T. Wainwright records the discovery of bones and a "flagstone coffin" by a ploughman. Inquiries by Dr Wainwright elicited from witnesses the description of what certainly was a short cist burial.

Kimbblethmont. NO/6334/73. xi. SE.

Dr F.T. Wainwright records the discovery of a symbol stone. Report in press. (This stone was exhibited in the lecture room at the Scottish Summer School in Archaeology at Dundee in August, 1952).

Kingoldrum. NO/307551. xxxi. SW.


Carlungie. NO/514/62.

From Mr Jack Scott:

Braeckly, Kintyre. 16/72/48. osxliv.

In June and July, 1952, with the sanction of the Forestry Commission (Scotland) and of the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, excavations were carried out at the chambered cairn known as "Carragh an Talaich" or "The Druid Stones", at Braeckly Farm, about three miles north of Carradale, in Kintyre. The tomb stands at a height of just over 90 feet on the east side of Carradale Glen, overlooking Carradale Water.

Of the burial chamber, which was 15 feet long, the portal stones, one apparently broken off short, and the side slabs survive but the roofing slabs have disappeared, along with most of the smaller stones which must once have formed the body of the cairn covering the burial chamber. The taller standing stone was found to be over 9 feet high, and the slabs used in constructing the chamber were generally massive. The tomb faced almost due east. There was no evidence that there had ever been other orthostats besides the portal stones; in other words, there was no facade.

It was found that the area before the portal stones had been blocked with slabs of stone set in clay. This blocking continued without interruption between the portal stones into an antechamber about 2 feet deep, and then beyond an inner portal stone into the burial chamber itself. The inner portal stone seems to have had a stout oaken post as companion, the socket hole of which was found with carbonised remains of oak still in it.

No finds had been made amongst the blocking material before the portal stones or in the antechamber, but when the blocking was removed from the burial chamber eight beads of jet or lignite were discovered, apparently from a necklace similar in type to that from Poltalloch, in Argyll. Four of the beads were found close together, the others scattered through the blocking, together with a good many pieces of oak, some of which were burnt, and two fragments of pottery of Food Vessel type. The chamber was not cleared completely, but it seems likely that the beads and the fragments of pottery belong to an intrusive burial of the Early Bronze Age.

Of the jet or lignite beads, six are fusiform, one is a triangular end-piece and the other a spacer. The end-piece has on its outer side a simple dotted geometrical pattern; the hole through which the fastening loop passed shows considerable signs of wear. These beads form part of the first jet or lignite necklace to be found in Kintyre, though others are known from Arran and Bute.

**Lismore Cathedral.**

Private excavations on a small scale under the direction of Mr A.L. Brown and Mr A.A.H. Duncan, which had been begun in 1950 and 1951, were continued during 1952 on the site of the Cathedral of St Moling on Lismore. This was the seat of the diocese of Argyll or Lismore founded in 1200 for the area from Glenelg in the north to the Mull of Kintyre in the south. It fell into ruin after the Reformation, probably after a fire, and the only part now standing above ground is the choir which is in use as the parish church. The site has been very much disturbed in modern times and most of the stone removed, but excavation has revealed the remains of three additional parts of the cathedral - the nave adjoining the choir at the west, a tower at the west end of the nave and a chapel on the north-east side of the choir. The nave and choir together form a simple building measuring on the outside 128 feet long and 51 feet wide at the west end. The two parts were probably divided by a chancel arch and a rood screen, but plaster and rough-cast
conceal all but two corbels of these. The most unusual feature of the nave is that its floor was higher than that of the choir because of the upward slope of the site to the west. That more convenient sites were rejected suggests that this particular spot was chosen because of its connection with St Moluag (an Irish missionary who died in 592 after founding a community on Lismore and making a number of missionary journeys through northern Scotland), presumably because it was the site of his church and possibly of his grave. The tower was added later and at a higher level (because of the slope of the ground) to the centre of the outside west face of the nave. Its walls, 4 ft thick, enclosing an area 8 ft 9 in. square, are thicker than those of the nave and it no doubt dominated the cathedral. It has no entrances at ground level, and it was perhaps entered by a stairway from the nave. The aisle-chapel at the north-east end of the choir, entered by a doorway in the present church, now blocked up, is largely inaccessible to excavations, and reduced to its foundations. A preliminary examination suggests that it was 36 ft long and 19 ft wide, and it seems likely that it would be used as a sacristy and chapter house. There must have been other buildings around the cathedral, but a level area to the north revealed no trace of medieval remains, and it must be presumed that these were situated on rising ground to the south, which is now enclosed in the churchyard. Candlesticks and other objects, as well as building stone, have been found here in the past. The cathedral is roughly built of semi-fashioned local whin and limestone and with little decoration.

BUTE.

From Mr Glen Aitken -

St Ninian's Chapel.

The excavation of a mound traditionally known as the site of a chapel of St Ninian, situated on a narrow peninsula forming the western arm of the Bay of the same name on the Island of Bute, was undertaken by Mr Glen Aitken, D.A., F.S.A.Scot., and Miss Dorothy Marshall, F.S.A.Scot., in April 1952. This excavation, carried out on behalf of the Bute Natural History Society and with the permission of the Marquis of Bute, disclosed that the mound covered a rectangular building measuring 29 feet by 21 feet, with an internal length of 21 feet and a width of 13 feet, with no sign of an internal division. The walls were found to be still standing to an average height of 3 feet 6 inches, with a thickness of 4 feet at the gable ends and 3 feet 6 inches to 3 feet 9 inches at the sides. A large stone, 4 feet 6 inches long, 1 foot 6 inches wide and 4 inches thick, found lying across the south wall at right angles to it, had preserved the doorway - it probably was the lintel of the doorway itself. The doorway, 7 feet 4 inches from the east gable interior, without jamb but fairly evenly squared on the inner face, was 2 feet 4 inches to 2 feet 6 inches wide, and had a roughly oblong-shaped stone, measuring 2 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 11 inches, as a step. The walls of the chapel are bound with clay and clay-faced in the interior.

On the removal of the immense quantity of debris composed of earth, stones from the walls, and clay, some very rough crudely-shaped slates were found at varying depths. The slates, of sizes varying from 6 inches to 1 foot 9 inches in length and from 4 inches to 1 foot 7 inches in width, have been identified as local, in as much as the same crude and coarse slate-like rock is to be found in the neighbouring island of Inchmarnock, and about two miles away in Bute itself. All had large peg-holes, some with two and others with three.

At the eastern end of the interior - the chapel lies slightly north
of west and south of east—a most unusual altar was discovered. This consisted of a solid and a "hollow" portion—faced by two large flagstones set on edge. Both these have been broken in a diagonal north to south direction. The division between the two parts was exactly in the centre of the interior width of the chapel. The solid portion, clay-bound like the walls, is 2 feet 6 inches wide and 3 feet deep from the gable wall, while the right hand hollow part is 2 feet 2 inches wide and 3 feet deep. This latter contains a built stone shelf hard against the east gable, 10 inches wide by 7 inches deep. On either side of this altar, resting on clay and shell marl, are several irregularly-shaped flat stones, acting as a fairly level flooring, and on top of one of these, against the open end of the cupboard-like space, is an oblong stone about 4 inches thick, which would seem to have acted as a "kneeling stone". The area flagged, therefore, is very small, and is confined entirely to the space left and right of the altar.

In front of this altar, with the feet resting against a stone, which would appear to hold the upright flags in position, was found the skeletal remains of a man. The bones, which were in a very friable condition, indicated that the hands had been folded across the chest. A brooch found not far from the legs but some inches above the remains has been identified by Mr R.B.K. Stevenson as of 18th century date. Mr Stevenson suggests that a pointed object of bronze, found in conjunction with the bones, is of much greater antiquity, and would seem to have been wound round something like a strap.

The floor is extremely uneven, and has a slope downwards from west to east, with many islands of living rock. The spaces between these lumps have been filled in with coralline seaweed marl and clay. A large number of animal bones, including the tusk of a boar, were found at varying levels, together with fragments of mediaeval pottery and a large number of pieces of very old dark glass from a single vessel; this latter has still to be identified.

Excavation outside the chapel revealed a cashel wall 3 feet 6 inches thick, the height of which varies from a single layer of stones to about 3 feet. The area enclosed is small, the longest diameter, from north to south, being 80 feet, and from east to west, 70 feet. The wall thus presses very close to the chapel. Within the area are large deposits of coralline seaweed marl, but whether this has been a natural deposit in depth, or used to fill in behind the wall, is not easy to decide, since stratification is almost impossible to detect in this material.

On the line of the cashel wall and at the south west corner of the chapel, a large mound was found to contain in the crevices of the rock forming it a kitchen midden, containing a large quantity of oyster shells and animal bones. Further trenching uncovered several other kitchen middens close to the south and east faces of the cashel wall. Pits dug at intervals of 10 feet to the north and south proved that the incidence of similar shells was progressively less as the distance from the wall increased; 40 feet out from the wall no shells of similar type were found. At the east side, close to the wall, part of a jet bracelet was found. Further human skeletal remains were found just within the cashel wall at the east side. All were lying with the feet to the east. No pathway through the cashel wall has been found, but a built cross-over, formed of long narrow stones running through the wall at the south east, has been found.

Further excavation will be carried out in 1953, attention being paid to the area within the cashel wall.
Mr Aitken expresses his indebtedness to H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, Mr Stewart Cruden, to Dr Kenneth Steer and to Mr Ralegh Radford, for their help, advice and guidance during the progress of the excavation.

DUMFRIESSHIRE.

From Mr A.E. Truckell:-

Pressure of work at the Museum, and foot-and-mouth disease have combined to prevent excavation during the past season, but there are one or two discoveries to report.

In March, Mr Rodgerson, farmer at Carzield, took me round to his potato-pits and showed me a fine incomplete quernstone he had come upon when trenching round his clamps in the autumn: I could see at once that the clamps were covered with grey block soil containing pottery fragments, and in half an hour I picked up two stones of Antonine pottery, mainly coarse ware, and a great deal of burnt daub with clear wattle marks. The foot-wide trenches had penetrated about an inch into soft grey soil and moles were bringing up into the trenches more of this same black pottery-filled earth from some depth below. It was clear, therefore, that an annexe of the Antonine fort, abutting on it near its north-east corner against its north side, had been revealed. The corner of the field in which the clamp were was to be ploughed immediately, but to a depth of several inches less than the upper edge of the occupation layer, so it was decided to wait until the field was fallow, in two years' time, and then to carry out full investigation of what is evidently a very rich site. The area of rich occupation soil uncovered by the trenches was approximately 300 feet by 100 feet.

A mediaeval burial ground has been found on a natural platform on the hillside at Woodhouse Park, Penpont, overlooking the present Penpont parish church; the farmer's son when deep-ploughing the field some years ago revealed several tomb-slabs, one of which he kept. This, which he gave to the Museum, is a small neatly bevelled stone with a Maltese cross within a circle and a sword with an early pommel - there are pieces of two similar slabs with the same design in the garden of the Grierson Museum, Thornhill - possibly from the same site.

Mr Stuart Maxwell and Mr James Wallace inspected with me a bell-barrow which I had noticed three years ago when working at Crichope Linn in Closeburn parish (1" map 54/916960). It is a low circular tumulus with a marked ditch.

Mr Haslam of Cairngill, Colvend, has been working for many months at Southwick Old Kirk, a building of probably twelfth-century origin, strengthening the structure and clearing the foundations in an attempt to work out the history of the building. Coarse shell limestone has been used and corners and windows have been ornamented with small neat blocks of red sandstone, which occurs nowhere nearer than Caerlaverock. Two pieces of mediaeval pottery have been found, besides great amounts of bones.

FIFE.

A notice in the Times of January 14th 1952 stated that a stone cist, believed to be of the Bronze Age, containing burial remains, had been found in a ploughed field on the farm of Mr Frank Roger, of Kenny Green, near St Andrews. One of the farm workers made the discovery when his plough struck a large stone - the top slab of the burial place - measuring
9.

about 5 feet by 3 feet. A small portion was broken off the slab, and it was seen that there was a hollow space beneath. The find was reported to Professor R. Walmsley, of the Anatomy Department of St Andrews University, and an examination was made. The cist, which had an internal measurement of 4 feet 7 inches by 3 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 6 inches, contained fragments of bones thought to be those of an adult person, and a small food urn, about 6 inches in height, in a perfect state of preservation. Professor Walmsley removed the bones and the urn for further examination.

DUNDEE-Shire.

From Professor Stuart Piggott:-

Excavations were carried out by Professor Stuart Piggott on behalf of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland at the chambered cairn of Corrimony, Glen Urquhart, in July 1952.

The structure of the tomb, a passage-grave with corbelled chamber set in a cairn with massive kerb and a free-standing stone circle beyond this, was established. No artifacts were found except an eroded and calcined bone pin in the passage, and the burials in the chamber had been dissolved by soil acids. The final burial, in the centre of the chamber under a layer of small stone slabs, was, however, recoverable as a distinctive pattern of stains in the sand.

Trial trenches were also dug in the chamber areas of two ruined passage-graves of the same type, at Druidtemple, Leys, and Kinnylie of Doros, Scaniport. Both were found to have been much disturbed, and scattered cremated bones were present in each case.

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

From Mr James C. Wallace:-

In April 1952 the excavation took place of a Bronze Age cairn situated on the farm of Dryburgh, near Castle Douglas, about one furlong north of the ruined mansion of Aulnace.

The cairn was 50 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height, built of boulders of greywacke and topped by a large capstone of pink Dalbeattie granite, 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet in thickness and weighing some 12 cwt's. The cairn enclosed a roughly oval cist, 4 feet in length by 2 feet 6 inches in width, constructed of flat slabs of igneous sandstone, probably brought from an outcrop on the Solway. In the cist was a food vessel of vase shape, grooveless, 5½ inches in diameter at the rim, 5 inches in diameter at the shoulder and 2½ inches in diameter at the base. It was 5½ inches in height, with an internal depth of 4½ inches. The paste was of poor quality with large grits; it was black in the core and varied from grey to biscuit on the outside. The decoration was of a cuneiform stab type placed radially on the bevel of the rim, horizontally on the edge of the lip, in herring-bone pattern on the lower part of the neck and horizontally in vertical columns on the body of the vessel. Also in the cist were two sherds of beaker ware.

It is conjectured that the cairn was originally built by the Beaker folk, the cist then being sealed with sandstone slabs. Later, the cist was broken open by the Food-vessel folk, its contents removed except for the two Beaker sherds, and the cist re-used for a Food-vessel burial. The sandstone lid having been destroyed, the cairn was re-capped with the Dalbeattie granite slab. As this capstone was about 1 foot 6 inches above
the cist, the latter had become filled with soil, and all remains except the pottery had been destroyed. The food vessel is now in Dumfries Burgh museum.

ORKNEY.

From Professor V. Gordon Childe:-

The Ministry of Works' operations at the chambered tomb of Quoyness, Sunday, Orkney, resulted in the complete elucidation of the structure of this handsome monument, now in the Ministry's guardianship.

The chamber and passage were originally covered by a cairn, ovoid on plan, supported by two well built retaining walls, both resting on the virgin soil. The inner wall, A, certainly stood at least 13 feet high, but was mantled to its top in cairn material, supported by the outer retaining wall A', which runs 12 feet outside the former and is still standing in places 9 feet high. At the mouth of the passage through this wall A' the corners of the return have been artificially rounded off, but the lintels of the portal and the outer section of the passage have been destroyed by Farrer's excavations in 1867. Wall A' was in turn masked by cairn material, supported by a third wall, B. Wall B, however, is not concentric with walls A and A', and does not stand on virgin soil, but on a platform that raised its base 2 feet to 5 feet above virgin soil and that must have completely blocked the original entrance to the chamber.

The platform extends from 44 feet 6 inches to 34 feet from Wall A and from 28 feet 6 inches to 17 feet from wall B, so that the cairn is not centrally situated. Its margin is still marked from the south and the north-west by the remains of a very irregular kerb of upright slabs.

The relics recovered, in addition to those collected by Farrer in 1867, included a few small sherds of plain pottery that might be "secondary neolithic", a well-made stone disc, one and five eighths inches in diameter, a few fragments of red deer antler, and many bones of sheep and cattle.

PERTHSHIRE.

Mr Glen Aitken carried out some excavations at the marching camp at Broomhill, Forteviot (see P.S.A.S. lxxxiv, p.217). It was found that the camp ditch had been dug down to a pebble subsoil through sand, and that the rampart had been formed of the spoil from this ditch.

Professor I.A. Richmond has very kindly sent the following summary of the season's work at Inchtuthill.

The legionary fortress of Inchtuthill, which lies with the policies of Delvine, the property of Hugh Hogarth Esqre., was examined by Professor I.A. Richmond and Dr J.K. St Joseph. Preliminary work on the defences revealed a ditch 20 feet wide and 6½ feet deep, from which the upcast was disposed on the counterscarp in a regular flat-topped mound, increasing the depth of the ditch by a further 3 feet. The summit of the mound was originally occupied by an obstacle of interwoven branches, the Roman equivalent of a barbed-wire entanglement, which held up attackers in full range of missiles thrown from the rampart. The rampart lay well back from the ditch, which is skillfully dug in a rather loose gravel subsoil. It comprised a stone wall, 5 feet thick,
of which the foundation and scattered blocks still remain, backed by a bank of poor turf-work about 13 feet thick. The stonework was dry-built, with ashlar blocks of rather soft conglomerate derived from the Gourdie hill-side some two miles away. Since the four sides of the fortress each measure about 1520 feet long, it will be appreciated that no small effort in transport and quarrying was required to erect the stone wall, which can hardly have been less than ten feet high to rampart-walk.

Behind the defences came an open space, the intervallum, used partly for assembling of troops and partly for cooking operations. It also placed the timber buildings of the fortress beyond the range of fire-darts or bolts. Examination of these buildings was this year confined to those bordering the intervallum behind the main cross-street (via principalis) of the fortress. The 45-foot main street was itself bordered on either side by a row of large offices or store-rooms with wide ten-foot doorways, one range over 270 feet long being identified, as at the legionary fortress of Novaeusium (Noua) on the Rhine. Behind and at right-angles to the intervallum came six barrack-blocks in facing pairs to house the six centuries which made up one of the ten cohorts which composed the legion. Each block was 275 feet long by 35 feet wide. A large block of offices for the centurion occupied the end next to the rampart, after which came fourteen rooms for his subordinate officers and the men, fronting upon a long veranda. Next to this group of barracks came a large granary to store the corn which was one of the Roman soldiers' staple foods.

The pottery associated with the buildings is all of the Agricolan period, A.D. 83-85, to which the fortress belongs. The place may be recognised without doubt as the permanent fortress which formed the advanced general headquarters for Agricola's most northern campaigns, and did not long survive their completion, owing to the withdrawal of one legion from the British quota of four.

The site has been well known since 1751 when General Roy first surveyed it, but no work has been done there since 1901, when the existence of timber buildings within the legionary fortress was still recognised. In 1949, the very dry summer induced differences of growth which revealed to Dr St Joseph in air-reconnaissance the timber buildings in the SE quarter of the fortress (Journal of Roman Studies, vol. xlii, pl. viii). Combining this information with that now obtained by excavation, it becomes evident that Inchtuthill can provide a complete plan, covering 50 acres, of Agricola's advanced headquarters in timber. The task will take many seasons of work, but it can provide what is not obtainable elsewhere in Britain and is rarely obtainable in the Roman world at large, the complete plan of a legionary fortress.

RENFREWSHIRE.

Roman Fortlet, Greenock.

During the preliminary survey of Renfrewshire, now being carried out by the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, Mr R.J. Feachem has located a small Roman fort, in a remarkably good state of preservation, on the moors south of Greenock.

The discovery, made in 1949, by Dr K.A. Steer, also on the staff of the Royal Commission, of a large Antonine fort at Whitemoss, near Bishopton, had already suggested that a series of Roman posts must have run westward from that fort along the south side of the Clyde estuary, and the structure now located evidently belongs to such a system. It is of the
type known as a "fortlet," consisting of a rampart surrounded by a single
ditch, and measuring over all 160 feet from east to west by 140 feet from
north to south, with an entrance in the middle of the south side. The
rampart still stands to a height of as much as six feet from the bottom
of the ditch.

The fortlet can be compared closely with similar structures
known to be of Antonine date, and was probably built in the middle of the
second century A.D.

From Mr Frank Newall:

Roman Fort, Whitemoss. M3/18721. iii.SE.

In 1952 attention was divided between the east defences and the
principia. In each area confirmation was obtained of the three periods
of occupation previously seen clearly in the history of the south ditches,
but, due to shallow soil, somewhat more indefinitely at and behind the
rampart.

The East Defences:

(a) The shallow early ditch ended in an inverted clavichula about 180 feet
south of the probable position of the east gate, which lies under the old
Greenock-Renfrew road. The area to the north was extensively trenched
and revealed much post-Roman work - gravel levelling, disturbed tracks,
rumbling drains - but no undisputable continuation of this system.

(b) In a number of sections across the Antonine fort defences three
distinct occupation surfaces were uncovered, the three intervallum street
surfaces being very clear near the SE corner.

In the first period the fort was defended by an 18 ft wide turf
rampart. This was reduced by several feet in the second period, a new rear
kerb being provided, while the SE corner was occupied by a turret held
aloft on upright beams, the space beneath being open to the fort occupants
at all times. In the third period a complete reconstruction replaced the
early rampart by a 22 ft wide earth bank, backing a new 16 ft rampart of
turf, a 6 ft forward extension compensating for reduction behind the
earlier works.

In the first fort period (or earlier), a well at least 10 ft
square lay just within the SE corner.

The Headquarters Building:

The principia faced north at all times and was of timber except
for the second and third period sacella, which were of stone. In the
final period the principia measured 118 ft EW by 100 ft NS., including a
6 ft south extension of the rear wall of the sacellum. The latter was
17 ft square within 4 ft wide clay and cobble foundations, and was built
partly over similar foundations of the previous period. While the
principlaie of these two periods probably occupied the same area, the
bounds of the earliest building as yet lack definition.

The most interesting find, however, was the strong-room of the
first principia a few feet west of the SE corner of the foundations of the
late sacellum. This was a pit 7 ft 6 ins. by 3 ft 6 ins. and 2 ft deep.
The corners were occupied by square post holes where a wooden floor had
been supported over the pit. After the insertion of the posts the sides
had been lined with clay. Thus the impressions of the posts showed in
the corners, ceasing abruptly where later levelling passed over them. The
clay of the pit floor was red beneath a layer of charcoal.
The pit had been emptied before abandonment in the first period. Then the burning floor above fell in. In the succeeding period the pit was filled with fort debris including much worked freestone, perhaps from a nearby granary, and was sealed with clay. The pottery recovered from the filling is, then, of the first period and probably from its close. It comprised black-fumed cooking ware and a Samian plate form Dr.18/31 with complete potter's stamp VELOX. The first period is, then, Antonine. In the third period, into the depression caused by subsidence over the filled pit, were thrown freestone fragments and the site level was raised by 8 inches of brown earth.

This evidence was supported at the front of the rear suite of offices, where a first period sleeper trench was partly filled and partly used to secure posts, the stone-lined holes of which were uncovered. Some of these were re-used and others added in the final occupation.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

From Mr H.E. Scott:-

Cist, Doorpool, Bonchester.

On Thursday, 22nd May, 1952, Mr John Whitecross, of Doorpool, Bonchester, unearthed what he thought was an ancient grave. This occurred, as frequently happens, during ploughing operations, so he immediately reported the facts to Mr Robert Barbour, Town Clerk, who in turn notified the Hawick Archaeological Society. On further enquiries being made by telephone, it was established that the relic was situated on a hill-top and was partly filled with gravel and soil, and had been left undisturbed until expert advice had been sought. The Secretary immediately reported these facts to the Secretary of the Scottish Regional Group of the Council for British Archaeology. Mr Whitecross is to be commended for his interest and for his prompt reporting of his find to the proper authorities. The cist was of a type found fairly often in the Tweed basin; the skeleton had all, or almost all, dissolved owing to the action of the soil, and the fact that there was no vessel or flint implement buried with it would suggest that it belonged to the latest period of the local Bronze Age, dating from somewhere around 500 B.C.

SHETLAND.

From Mr J.R.C. Hamilton:-

Jarlshof. HU/3909. lvii.

In 1952 the Ministry of Works completed the excavation and conservation of the Late Iron Age settlement, the second of the three major settlements established on the site in prehistoric and proto-historic times.

The history of the present complex begins with the erection of a broch and attached oval courtyard on top of windblown sand which largely covered the preceding Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement. For the building of this complex a labour force was brought on to the peninsula from the Shetland mainland. The pottery belonging to these people, a coarse ware with steatite or soapstone backing, is a more primitive ware than that encountered in the early settlement. The vessels were built on the coil principle.

On the completion of the tower these people settled in the oval...
courtyard, building a large oval house 32 feet in diameter with an internal scarcement course, peripheral paved area and central hearth. At a later date a heavier outward sloping roof was constructed supported by free-standing piers, forming a so-called "aisled round house." The inhabitants hunted seal, fished in the tideway, grew crops on the landward slope of the mound and continued to manufacture slate implements. Grain was ground on saddle querns.

At a somewhat later date new people arrived at Jarlshof introducing a red hard fired class of pottery with everted, square section and bead rims reminiscent of wares found in secondary levels of broch sites in the Orkneys. These immigrants were also responsible for many innovations such as the use of the rotary quern, the re-organisation of the field system on the landward slope of the mound and a practice of painting pebbles with natural dyes, hitherto only recorded from the Keiss site in Caithness. Greater use was made of metal as several mould gates were found in the refuse outside the settlement walls, while from the later deposits belonging to this period bar and mirror-like moulds occur. A ring headed pin was discovered in the earliest midden scatter.

The characteristic dwelling of this period was the "wheelhouse", a circular structure with solid radial uprights dividing the interior into a series of voussoir-like compartments round the central hearth area. The settlement underwent considerable expansion until all the available living space within the courtyard was exhausted. The houses were largely built of stone plundered from the broch. This process reduced the fabric of the tower to a dangerous state and the structure was then purposely reduced to a safe height.

Throughout this period windblown sand mounded against the outer walls of the settlement and it was in these deposits that a large earth-house was constructed on the north-west side. The original entrance down a flight of stone steps was eventually replaced by a long gently sloping passage.

In 1952 storage pits and byres attached to this late wheelhouse and passage dwelling complex were discovered outside the older walls to the south-east of the broch tower. The pottery from these levels corresponded with the wares found on the latest floors of the small huts set within a field or boundary wall on the landward slope of the mound underlying the Viking farmsteads. Occupation of the site by a few scattered families in the 7th centuries A.D. was confirmed prior to the coming of the Norsemen.

STIRLINGSHIRE.

Miss Doreen Hunter has kindly sent the following notes:

A small bronze socketed axe has been found in the garden of the South Lodge, Carronvale House, Larbert; details will be published in the next volume of the Proceedings of the Falkirk Archaeological & Natural History Society.

The Field Group of the Falkirk Archaeological & Natural History Society investigated a road which runs parallel to the River Carron at its first main bend above Larbert Viaduct. Several trenches were dug in a low flat field north of the river, and the road was found to be on an average 11 feet wide and 10 inches thick in the centre, being made of cobbles laid on the surface of the natural gravel, without heavy bottoming. There were clearly marked ruts, made by carts of about 6 feet wheel-base. It contrasted in structure with a field road from which it appeared to start, and to which the banks and ditches between which it appears on the surface to
run may belong. Iron objects were found above its surface, some evidently derived from carts and harness, but not in unquestionable association with it.

It might appear to be a field road relaid at higher level after the deposition of silt by the Carron, which is known to have undergone changes of course and very severe floods, but for that it appears very well made and well used. 1" map sheet 67; 849820.

SEIKIRKSHIRE.

The excavation of the Roman fort and temporary camp at Oakwood, four miles west of Selkirk, which was begun last year under the direction of Dr K.A. Steer and Mr A.W. Peacham, of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, was completed. The work was financed by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and the Christianbury Trust, and was carried out by voluntary helpers from Edinburgh and Fife, members of the Selkirkshire Antiquarian Society, and students from Durham, Glasgow and Oxford Universities.

The fort proved to have been built about 80 A.D., when Roman troops under Agricola first penetrated into South-Eastern Scotland. The fort was square, with rounded corners, it enclosed an area of 2½ acres, the space normally allotted to a regiment of 500 men, and was defended by a turf rampart and two ditches. The rampart was 20 feet thick at the base and probably rose to a height of 18 feet, including wooden battlements, while the ditches were each 13 feet wide and five feet deep.

In each side there was a gateway, 20 feet wide, flanked by two-storeyed wooden guard-towers, and the internal buildings, comprising headquarters, commandant's house, granaries, and barracks, were likewise of wood. The gateways were of an unusual design, the rampart terminals being angular instead of square, while the guard-towers stood immediately behind them. The gateways, on the east and west sides of the fort, were completely excavated and the stumps of no less than 11 of the 20 main timbers of the towers and of the connecting gangways were found in the large rectangular pits which had been dug to receive them.

This wealth of gateway timber, whose preservation is due to the exceptional soil conditions obtaining at Oakwood, is unparalleled in Britain, and affords a unique opportunity for studying the techniques employed by Roman military carpenters. All the stumps are of oak and most of them measure from two feet to three feet in length by nine inches square. The bases appear to have been charred to prevent rotting, and many of them still exhibit the original axe and saw marks, while the tops are tapered as if the superstructure had finally been destroyed by fire.

At the same gates four pits for the derricks used to raise the main uprights were also uncovered, and one still contained a two-inch plank which had been laid under the derrick to facilitate its removal.

After a few years occupation the fort was extensively renovated; the front of the turf rampart was refaced in clay, the approaches to the gateways were narrowed, the roads were resurfaced, and an annexe was added on the south side. No direct evidence for the precise date of this renovation was forthcoming, but it is significant that the neighbouring Agricolan fort at Newstead was remodelled soon after 86 A.D. And by analogy with Newstead it is reasonable to suppose that the second phase of
occupation at Oakwood terminated about 100 A.D., when the Romans were compelled to withdraw to the Tyne-Solway line. Thereafter the fort does not appear to have been reoccupied, but it is possible that it was replaced, during the Antonine period, by a small patrol-post which still awaits discovery.

The temporary camp, which was defended by a turf bank, originally palisaded, and by a small external ditch, lies a short distance north of the fort. About two-thirds of the perimeter is still visible on the ground, and this year the missing southern portion, which has been obliterated by former cultivation, was traced by a series of trenches.

Rectangular on plan, the camp encloses 34 acres, an area sufficient for the accommodation of 7500 men in leather tents. It is probable that this camp preceded the fort and housed the initial task force operating in the district, but no dating evidence has so far been recovered from it. Nor is anything known, as yet, of the Roman road which must have linked Oakwood with the key-fort at Newstead, 10 miles to the north-east.

**SHETLAND.**

During the summer Mr Chas. S.T. Calder, A.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.Scot., examined some house-sites on the "Ness of Gruting" and in the neighbourhood of the "temple" of Stanydale. Three were excavated and proved to belong to the late neolithic period contemporary with the temple. Attached to most of the dozen or so discovered there were traces of field systems which will be more fully investigated on a return visit. On plan the houses were roughly oval and averaged about 50 feet x 35 feet on the axes. Each contained a main chamber with, in two of them, a small apartment in the inner end which, in the third case, was left open as an apse. The walls consisted of a core of rubble revetted on each face with a lining of heavy boulders. The entrance passage to each was situated in one end; the floors of the chambers were unevened, but in each there was a paved hearth. Pottery fragments, plain and decorated, represented over seventy vessels in the house at the Ness of Gruting, and most of it was gathered from a layer of peat ash about 30 feet long, 4 feet wide and 22 inches deep, which had been placed in the heart of the wall after the core had been extracted. This pottery has been tentatively assigned to a period from the Late Stone Age to the Mid Bronze Age. Under the ash at foundation level a large deposit of carbonised grain (beere) was found lying beside part of a broken dish quern. Rude stone implements were abundant, as many as 400 being recovered from one site alone. Other particular relics included a perforated mace-head, two toy axe-hammers, a leaf-shaped arrowhead of quartz, a piece of the blade of a porphyritic knife and a stone bell. Excavation will be resumed next summer, and after completion a report will be published in Proc.Soc.Ant.Scot.
A SCOTTISH BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR 1952.

This section has been compiled by Mr R.B.K. Stevenson.

The following abbreviations are used:

AJ. Antiquaries Journal.
Arch.J. Archaeological Journal.
HBNC. History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.
JRS. Journal of Roman Studies.
LHA. London Historical Association.
TDGS. Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society.
THAS. Transactions of the Hawick Archaeological Society.
UJA* Ulster Journal of Archaeology.

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<td>R.E. Scott</td>
<td>Ancient Grave at Doorpool, Dolchester.</td>
<td>do.</td>
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<td>J.E. Stone</td>
<td>British &amp; Egyptian Palace Beads.</td>
<td>do.</td>
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<td>A.E. Truickell</td>
<td>Some Dumfries Museum</td>
<td>do.</td>
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<td>S. Maxwell and</td>
<td>Acquisitions.</td>
<td>do.</td>
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<td>R.B.K. Stevenson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R.B.W. Wheeler</td>
<td>Earthwork since Adrian Allcroft (Vitrified and Gallic Forts)</td>
<td>do.</td>
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Arch.J. Suppl. to CVI.
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Anne S. Robertson. Roman Coins found in Scotland. [do.]
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C.E. Hunt. Date of the Croy Hoard. [PSAS,1949-50.]
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W.D. Simpson. Restenneth Priory. [HExO, 1952. 3d.]
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Balmerino Abbey 1/5; The Bins 1/5; Culzean Castle 9d; Crookston Castle 6d;
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A. McKerral. Land Divisions in the W. Highlands compared with those of Man. [L.O.H.N.H. & A.Soc. 1950.]
G.S. Pryde. Burghs of Dumfriesshire & Galloway, [TDGS, 1950-51.]
do. their Origin and Status. [do.]
EIGHTH REPORT. In accordance with a resolution passed by the Annual General Meeting of the Group in 1952, the Annual Report will in future be split into two halves, as this year. As the order forms for the Seventh Report had gone out asking the price of 6d when this Resolution was passed, the Seventh Report represents a transitional stage - the old price but the new form. It is hoped that in its new form the Report will in future cause no loss to the Group, as it has done in recent years. Accordingly, the order form attached to both parts of the Seventh Report provides for the ordering of one or both parts of the Eighth Report, for 1953; the first part, the Committee Reports, will be sent free to all Secretaries of Societies, Curators of Museums, and Representatives of Societies, but may be purchased by others interested for 6d. The second part, containing Discovery and Excavation Reports for the current year and the Scottish Bibliography, will be sold at 1/6d, and no free copies will be distributed. In addition, a manifest attempt has been made to accord with the desire expressed at the 1952 Annual General Meeting that the appearance of Part II of the Report should be less unattractive. Practical suggestions to further this end will always be very gladly received by the Hon. Secretary.