I am very glad to be able to say that this year's edition of Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, is as large and comprehensive in scope as any of our previous editions. Formerly we have had to seek information from those who were engaged in research or excavation but now reports are beginning to come to us unsought. Soon we hope they will come to us as a matter of course.

A publication like Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, encourages the sharing of information, which is ethically desirable in the pursuit of any study.

Once again to Mr J. G. Scott, our Editor, we owe a debt of gratitude which, while it cannot be adequately expressed, must be deeply felt by all who read and appreciate Discovery and Excavation, Scotland:

MARGARET E. C. STEWART,
President.

Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1958, may be obtained, price 2s. 10d. per copy post free, from the Art Gallery and Museum, Glasgow, C.3, on application to

J. G. SCOTT,
Hon. Secretary.

December 1958.
ABERDEENSHIRE

SANDS OF FORVIE

From Mr W. Kirk

NK/022265. Excavations this summer at the Sands of Forvie were restricted to further work on the mediaeval church located and partially desanded in 1957. Most of the work consisted of the removal of baulks left from the previous season and clearance of the E. and W. gables. During these operations further intrusive burials were uncovered and finds in undisturbed strata comprised 13th and 14th century pottery, coins and metalwork.

ANGUS

HURLEY HAWKIN, LIFF AND BENVIE

From Mr D. D. Taylor

NO/333328. Preliminary excavation of this "broch-like" structure, disturbed on at least two previous occasions, has revealed a much denuded wall, 17 ft. thick, surrounding a central area, 40 ft. in diameter. This area is partially paved over a clay subsoil. Finds include large quantities of animal bones, a whorl and part of a rotary quern. Report forthcoming.

ARGYLLSHIRE

SHUNA

From Mr J. M. Coles

NM/915497. Field work on the island in November 1957 suggested that an examination of several of the rock-shelters along the western beach might yield traces of occupation. As this area is central to the distribution of the Obanian Culture, it was felt that evidence of Mesolithic habitation might be revealed. In July 1958 the main shelter on the island was excavated, and showed, below sterile levels of grey clay and roof fall, an occupation deposit extending to the limestone floor of the shelter, the depth of habitation debris being 3 ft. This deposit was composed almost entirely of limpet shells, with much charcoal and carbonised wood. A dozen objects were found near the top of the shell-bed, and consisted of limpet-hammers made from beach pebbles, and unifacially- and bifacially-trimmed scrapers.

Mr S. E. Durno of the Macauley Institute for Soil Research is undertaking a pollen count from the deposit, and it is hoped that enough evidence will be obtained from this to enable a
Mesolithic dating to be assigned, based on the flora rather than on the typology of the artifacts.

From Mr E. R. Cregeen

DUN CRAGACH, BALURE, SOUTH Knapdale

NR/711679. A shell-layer, in places several inches below the level of the turf, was found on the raised beach about 200 yds. S. of the fort named Dun Cragach, and may be a kitchen-midden.

From Mr and Mrs J. G. Scott

ARDNACROSS, KINTYRE

NR/768261. In a field overlooking the shore on Ardnacross Farm are the remains of a cairn of stones, on the highest point of which has been erected a pole to carry a power cable. The cairn now appears to be roughly circular, and between 50 and 60 ft. in diameter, standing about 4 ft. high.

A few feet to the N.E. of the apparent rim of the cairn are to be seen the ends of at least five upright slabs protruding above the turf; three of them stand in a line extending for a total distance of nearly 10 ft. At one end of this line of stones lies a massive slab, some 6 by 6 ft. in size. These remains, taken together, suggest a ruined megalithic cist of the type appropriate to a Clyde-Carlingford cairn. It should, however, be pointed out that only one side of the supposed cist is well defined, and that its relationship to the cairn is not clear.

LOWER SMERBY, KINTYRE

NR/756227. About 50 yds. from the shore, on a small headland on the N. side of the burn which runs past the farm of Lower Smerby, stands a small, round, grass-covered cairn of stones, robbed in the centre. It is about 43 ft. in diameter and 5 ft. in height. Nearby are two smaller mounds which may also be cairns.

GLENCREGGAN, GLENBARR, KINTYRE

NR/668384. In June and early July a small mound, apparently the remains of a cairn, which was destined for removal to facilitate ploughing, was excavated on the farm of Glencreggan.

The mound was roughly oval in shape, about 20 by 14 ft. in size, and about 2 ft. in height, with its longer axis lying almost E.-W. A large stone slab, about 8 by 3 ft. in size, lay against its N. corner.
The cairn was found to consist of a small and fairly compact core of stones intermixed with sand and clay, surrounded by a rather ill-defined outer ring of boulders, the intervening space being largely filled with earth. Remains of a cremated burial were found beneath the centre core, but there was no trace of a cist, and the bones seemed to be scattered, giving the impression that the cairn might mark the spot where the cremation took place. Apart from a flint flake the only finds were two small boulders, each bearing a single cup-mark, which were incorporated in the material of the centre core.

The large slab seems to have no connection with the cairn, and it would be reasonable to assume that it had been placed against the cairn, so as not to interfere with the plough, after removal from some other part of the field.

ROSEHILL, GLENBARR, KINTYRE

NR/661378. In July an attempt was made to locate the site of "Carnan Fionn" on Rosehill Farm. This site, though marked as a "fort" on recent O.S. maps, was in fact completely removed some two generations ago, and there are no surface indications of any structure. A local account of the site, based upon oral evidence of men who had actually seen the structure, suggested that it was a cairn, and that a notable feature of it was a "passage," into which access had been possible until shortly before the structure was removed.

Bearings based upon the position of the site, as marked upon the 25-inch O.S. map, fixed the approximate centre of the "fort," and one of four trial trenches laid out around this point located the remains of what was quite clearly the "passage" referred to in the oral accounts. In the short time available some 9 ft. of the "passage," trending in a NE.-SW. direction, were exposed; it proved to be about 3 ft. 6 ins. wide, and was excavated to a depth of about 3 ft. The walls appeared to be built partly of boulders and partly of upright slabs; one 5 ft. lintel stone remained in position, and at least two others had been thrown down into the "passage," doubtless when the site was levelled. Numerous fragments of burnt bone and charcoal, as well as hazel nuts, were found in the filling of the "passage," but owing to loss of time through bad weather it was not possible to decide the nature of the structure. It is hoped that further excavation may be undertaken on this unusual site.

From Miss M. Campbell of Kilberry

KILBRIDE GLEN, MID ARGYLL

NR/858983. Up the Kilbride Glen, which runs to the NE. from the plain of the R. Add, with the Neolithic cairns of Rhudil
and Baroile (PSAS VI and LXIV) near its foot, is a ruined cairn, shown on the 6-inch O.S. map as “cist.” This consists of one side slab 8 ft. long, a slab 3 ft. long aligned with it, and two transverse slabs, one of which has a curved upper edge suggesting a deliberate cutting away as if to make a partial “port-hole.” No trace of any entrance or forecourt could be seen, but the presence nearby of old field walls and a ruined shieling suggests that extensive plundering may have taken place.

NR/859977. Across the glen, and a little nearer Kilbride, a large flat-topped boulder 7 ft. 4 ins. by 5 ft. 4 ins. projects from the sloping ground, its uphill edge level with the earth and the downhill edge 4 ft. above ground. On its top are more than thirty cupmarks, the larger averaging 2½ ins. across by 1 in. deep; none is ringed, but there is a suggestion of arrangement in groups, a large central cup surrounded by five to seven shallower and smaller ones forming a rosette.

I think this may be a site of which I was told by a former resident, who described it as a “Covenanter’s Communion Table”; he said it was called “Crubageen,” a name I am unable to translate.

KILCHOAN, POLTALLOCH, MID ARGYLL

NR/807965. When examining material stored in the Fort William Museum this summer, I found a glass-topped box containing a thick rim sherd of reddish ware with two raised mouldings, and decorated with circular impressions, small light strokes or nail-marks, and deep vertical grooves. The box was labelled “Fragment of pottery from chambered cairn, Kilchoan, Argyllshire. Proc. VI, p. 355.”

This would seem to be the fragment mentioned by Callander, PSAS LXIII, 38, and there stated to be lost.

I have informed the Curator of the Fort William Museum of the probable identification and I hope the sherd may now be put on view.

POLTALLOCH, MID ARGYLL

NR/821969. A short distance S. of Brouch an Drummin, in the grounds of Poltalloch House, is a low mound in marshy ground, planted with five trees. The mound is dry and green, and appears to be artificial. No cist is visible, but trees have been planted in cists elsewhere on this estate, and possibly the middle tree may be growing in a cist. I have examined the other groups
of trees growing nearby on the marsh, but could find no such level platform surrounding them.

KILMARTIN

NR/833992. In a small wood between a road and a stream, 300 yds. NNW. of the well known Glebe Cairn, Kilmartin, is a cairn approximately 120 ft. across and about 4 ft. high. There are several hollows in its flat top which suggests attempts at plundering in the past, but no cists are exposed. I suggest that this merits urgent investigation.

NR/830987. On top of the old river terrace, 250 yds. from the North Cairn, Nether Largie, and immediately N. of a rough farm track, is a low pile of water-rolled stones about 30 ft. across. At one side a rectangular clearing has been made, suggesting that stones have been carted away for building walls. There is no sign of definite construction, but I do not think it is a house ruin, as the stones appear too small; nor is it likely to be field-clearance, as the sensible thing would have been to tip such cleared stones over the edge of the terrace, as has in fact been done in several places nearby. I therefore put this forward as a possible small cairn in the Nether Largie series, while admitting that it is less striking than the previous item.

From Mr E. R. Cregeen

KILMELFORT

NM/838142. Interesting details of the finding of the Melfort armlet and jet beads were supplied by Mr Tom Campbell of Kilmelfort and his sister, Mrs Agnes Cameron, aged 87 and 84 respectively. Three cists were discovered by workmen building the new road to Melfort House in 1878. Two of the cists were about 4 ft. long, containing crouched burials, and the third was over 5 ft. long and contained a skeleton in extended burial, together with a jet necklace, bronze armlet and other grave-goods. Both informants recollect seeing the cists, with their cover-stones removed and the skeletons inside, and were troubled with nightmares for weeks afterwards as a result. Their father was one of the estate workers, and the proprietor, Mr MacLellan, invited all the workers and their families to view the finds before they were removed (as two of the cists were) or covered over again. One of the cists is still in its original position, in the bank by the estate road, 50 yds. from the wooden bridge over the R. Oude, but no longer visible and planted over with rhododendron bushes.

MULL

The following finds are reported from Mull, where an
archaeological survey is being carried out by Col. and Mrs Betts and members of the Extra-Mural Class in co-operation with Glasgow University Extra-Mural Department.

An exhibition of archaeological finds is planned for 1959, and a full report of the progress of the archaeological survey of the island will then be given.

ROSSAL, MULL

NM/547284. A monument described in the New Statistical Account of Scotland, VII, 306, as a "Druid temple" was located by Mr O. Martin, Bunessan, on a ridge of land some 200 yds. E. of the main road running by the shore of Loch Scridain, and within \( \frac{1}{4} \) mile S. from the bridge over the Coladoir River. A circle about 11 ft. in diameter is formed by standing stones 2 ft. to 2 ft. 6 ins. high which are almost contiguous. A massive stone embedded in the centre of the enclosed space, and surrounding loose stones, indicate that the monument represents a much despoiled cairn, with the peristalith surviving almost intact. At distances of 50 and 70 yds. from this cairn are, respectively, a similar stone circle and a small round cairn. In the same line and further S. are other low eminences, seen in the distance but not visited, which may be other cairns. None of these appears on the 6-inch O.S. map.

SUIE, BUNESSAN, MULL

NM/371218. This monument, marked on the 1-inch O.S. map as a Stone Circle, contains in fact several interesting features. There is a cairn 75 ft. in diameter and 2 to 3 ft. high. The surface is pitted with regularly arranged depressions, in shape much like baths, but shallower. There are standing stones, either upright or fallen, on the NE. and SW. of the cairn on the circumference or immediately outside it. Those on the E. form a short passage (with the horizontal lintel stones fallen) into the cairn, but blocked by well laid courses of drystone masonry, which appear original and recall the Orkney chambered cairns. Miss M. Baird, Onich, was informed by old people living in the neighbourhood that they remembered more standing stones around the cairn than there are now.

ARDNACROSS, MULL

NM/541492. A standing stone marked on the 1-inch O.S. map above the main Salen to Tobermory road at Ardnacross turns out to be only one of a number of monuments. The fact was first observed by Miss M. Baird, Onich, and Mr J. Forrester, Ardnacross Farm. Mrs Betts reports: "There are two round cairns,
rather damaged, presumably Bronze Age: the peristalith of one is of very large stones. One cairn is 18 ft. across, the other 13 ft. ... they lie within an avenue of large standing stones, of which the one just by the cairns is the sole upright survivor. Five others are fallen, but in situ. The avenue runs NE.-SW. and is about 40 yds. wide. The stones are about 8 or 9 ft. long, and appear to have been spaced fairly regularly, about ten feet apart. I imagine the stone avenue went further in both directions, but the area has been very thoroughly cleared.

ARDFENAIG, BUNESSAN, MULL

NM/343228. Torr a' Caisteal is listed in the County List of Ancient Monuments (1915) as "remains of old fort" but does not appear on the 6-inch O.S. map, except as a place-name. It occupies the top of a low, rocky hill, largely hidden by a wood. An outer wall of enormous blocks is 60 yds. long. Within the inner wall is a rectangular building 9 ft. long by 6 ft. wide. The gateway and the passage leading to it are protected by outworks. But precise observation is made difficult by the irregular nature of the terrain and the abundant vegetation.

KINLOCH, MULL

NM/546293. What may be a small standing stone, 2 ft. 6 ins. high, was found by Col. and Mrs Betts on a low rocky mound 100 yds. N. of the road at Kinloch at the foot of Glen More. "It does not seem to be a boundary- or mile-stone or to be part of an old wall."

NEWDALE, TOBERMORY, MULL

Maj. MacLachlainn reports "a circle of stones" at Newdale, near the gate of Sgriob-ruadh Farm. This has yet to be investigated.

AROS, SALENS, MULL

NM/559445. A small Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead of grey opaque flint was found by Miss M. G. Turner in her garden at Aros, Salen. The tip is broken, and the arrowhead is 2.2 cm. long. Mr J. G. Scott of Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum examined it and points out that one of the barbs, which had been broken to a stump, had been ret rimmed for further use.

GLENGORM, MULL

NM/436554. Two implements of grey opaque flint were found by Mr D. Brown near the ancient circular structure in
Quinish Forest reported in *Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1957,* 9-10. Both retain on one edge the whitish surface of the flint nodule from which they were struck. One of the flints is a scraper, 4.3 cm. long, 3.5 cm. broad, and 1 cm. thick. Two adjacent edges have been worked to form a rounded blade. The other flint is trapezoid in shape, with two adjacent edges carefully worked and meeting in an elongated apex, which has been worked to form a boring point.

From the same area Mr Brown recovered a smooth grey stone, oval and regular in shape, but probably of natural origin. It appears to have been in use as an implement, one end being broken off, and the other much abraded. It measures 9.4 cm. long (about 11 cm. before it was broken), 4.4 cm. at the broadest width, and is an even 1.1 cm. thick.

Also found in Quinish Forest land is a fragment of a quernstone discovered by Mr A. McCallum, Tobermory. It is an almost exact quarter of the upper stone, with a perforation for the turning of the stone by a stick. The fragment is 1.9 cm. thick. The total diameter of the quernstone, when intact, would be about 19 cm.

LOCH TORR, MULL

A spindle whorl was found "on forestry ground at the head of Loch Torr" by Mr H. Campbell. It is of grey stone of soapy texture, and measures 3.2 cm. in diameter and 1.4 cm. in thickness, with a perforation 0.8 cm. in diameter.

ULVA HOUSE, MULL

A coin of Diocletian, in mint condition, was found in the grounds of Ulva House.

From Mrs U. V. G. Betts

DUN AOIDHEAN, ISLE OF EARRAID, MULL

NM/308203. On a small headland commanding the N. end of the tidal strait separating Earraid from Mull is a promontory fort, now almost destroyed. One course of massive walling, with entrance, survives across the neck of the headland, above a shallow gully which serves as a defensive ditch.

DUN EARBA, GARMONY, MULL

NM/677401. A small fort, an irregular rectangle in plan, stands on a rocky knoll near the sea about ¾ mile E. of Garmony farmhouse and close to the Craignure-Salen road. There is a
well marked entrance to the E., the seaward end, and there are traces of buildings or huts on the comparatively level ground just inside the gate. The fort measures some 30 yds. long by 16 yds. wide.

From Mr and Mrs E. R. Gregeen

RUAIG SANDHILLS, TIREE

NM/065476. Abundant sherds of pottery were found in the sandhills at Ruaig during a visit in September. The collapse of the dunes had exposed a layer of shells at a depth of about 8 ft. Pottery was found at this level, and also lying exposed where it had been carried down by the collapsing dune. Most of the fragments were of a hard, gritty, well fired ware, red or reddish-brown outside, but usually grey or grey-black below the outer layer. One fragment was simply decorated with two rows of punctured dots. This pottery was 5 to 6 mm. thick. Other sherds were of similar but thicker ware, of more even colour throughout (a reddish-brown), and varying between 6 and 10 mm. and occasionally more. A third type of pottery was thick (about 10 mm.), coarse, and buff in colour, and scarcer than the other two kinds. Associated with the sherds were several metal objects:—a piece of a sickle blade or similar implement, the iron corroded and flaking off, measuring 15.4 cm. in length, 2.8 cm. at the broadest part and 35 mm. in thickness at the back; an oblong plate of iron, 7.5 cm. by 3.5 cm. by 4 mm., composed of more than one layer of metal, and decorated with two circular studs, 1.8 cm. in diameter, fixed to the plate, and divided into segments; a convex square mount or button, made of iron, now much corroded, measuring 1.7 cm. across; two pieces of very thin metal, the larger 2.4 by 1.4 cm., which appear to have formed part of a blade.

Later finds from the same sandhills, made by Miss MacFarlane of Ruaig Schoolhouse, and Master I. Lamont, were of identical pottery. One sherd of thin reddish-brown ware exhibited a flattened rim and, below, a lightly incised pattern of vertical lines on either side of a horizontal line. Associated with the pottery were pieces of bone (mammal and bird), the tooth of a cow or horse, with a layer of calcareous matter near the root, a thumb scraper, 3 by 2 cm., with a broken end, and a flint 3 cm. long and 1.7 cm. wide, which had clearly been in use, though it had no secondary working. Both flints were of the same grey-white material.

DUN VAUL BEG, TIREE

NM/046493. This dun, described by Beveridge, occupies the top of a stack on the N. coast of Tiree. Mr Wilson of Scarinish
recovered whelk and limpet shells, animal bones, and two sherds of pottery from the sandy filling of the drystone wall. The pottery was of a dull, brownish, leathery appearance, soapy to the touch, and 6 mm. thick. One fragment was part of the base and side of a small vessel. If imported with the sandy filling and shells from the neighbouring raised beach, this pottery may not have come originally from the dun. Another sherd from this dun, found by a schoolchild, is of the harder reddish-brown ware more usual in the sandhills.

DUN HIADER, TIREE

NL/964388. Miss MacFarlane, Ruaig Schoolhouse, found sherds of pottery at Dun Hiader, a coastal fort in the SW. of the island, with a massive wall displaying a well built median face (cf. Kildonan, near Campbeltown). One was similar to the leathery ware from Dun Vaul Beg; three fragments were of very coarse material, light brown or grey in colour, 7 to 8 mm. thick; one was of reddish-brown, badly fired ware, contained fibrous matter, and measured up to 15 mm. in thickness; the last was 2.5 mm. thick, of coarse, grey, hard material, fired to a light red.

KIRKAPOLL, TIREE

NM/043475. On directions given by Mr J. MacKinnon, of Kirkapoll Lodge Farm, two crosses were found engraved on the surface of outcropping rock 70 yds. N. of the smaller church. Both were of similar type, the arms being short in relation to the shaft and placed near the top of the shaft. On a S.-facing surface the cross is engraved ½ in. deep and 1 in. wide. The shaft is 21 ins. high, the arms 8 ins. across and only 4 ins. from the top of the shaft. The right arm is slightly longer than the left. On an E.-facing rock surface 20 yds. from this last is a cross, less deeply but more finely engraved. The shaft is 16 ins. high, the arms 8 ins. across, placed 5 ins. from the top of the shaft. The ends of the arms and the shaft expand.

A few yds. E. of the SE. corner of the modern cemetery, and by the side of a field dyke, is a rough granite slab, bearing two incised crosses end to end, of early type. One is a Latin cross, 12 ins. long and 8 ins. wide, with expanded ends. The shaft and arms of the other cross, measuring 12 by 13 ins., terminate in extravagantly long cross-pieces.

VAUL, TIREE

NM/046493. Inland less than 100 yds. from Dun Vaul Beg is an area approximately 23 yds. square, surrounded by a V-shaped ditch, 6 ft. across at the top. The inner face of the ditch
is built up with small stones in places. The area within the ditch is elevated slightly, and contains a large number of round and oval depressions. The purpose and nature of these, and of the whole complex, is quite obscure.

**DUN KENOVAY, TIREE**

NL/992455. The "two grassy mounds, certainly artificial and probably sepulchral," which Beveridge saw 200 yds. NW. of Dun Kenovay and calls "Da Sithein," appear rather as field-clearrances piled on outcropping rock. This opinion was held by a local crofter, who dated them to the period when the crofts were enlarged.

**ISLAY**

A fortnight's field excursion on motor-scooters and on foot was carried out in Islay during the first two weeks of July 1958. The survey was planned on the advice of Mr A. D. Lacaille, F.S.A.Scot. No effort was spared in interesting local people in our aims. With the help of C.B.A. posters and diagrams distributed in schools and public places we were able to persuade many persons to report past finds and suspected antiquities. Among the items drawn and recorded were the following:

(1) A large tanged and barbed arrowhead of flint (5.5 by 3.5 cm. in maximum width) found in peaty soil during drainage digging at Upper Lyrabus (NR/305650 approximately). It is in the possession of the finder, Mr D. McLugash, 12 Hawthorn Park, Bowmore. It was found between 1928 and 1930. A similar arrowhead found at Gruinart Cottage (NR/276685) many years ago was reported as lost.

(2) A thin leaf-shaped arrowhead (3.7 by 2.1 cm. in maximum width) was found in a sand bunker at Kilellan Farm, Gruinart (NR/287721), by Mr McLellan, who retains it. The find-place is the same as that of the finds reported by the late Mr J. Whittaker: *PPS, X* (1957), 226.

(3) A ground axe, probably of a local granitic stone (15.4 by 8.1 cm. in maximum width). The pointed butt had its tip flattened to a tiny circular platform 0.7 cm. in diameter. The axe was found in clayey, peaty soil near Octomore Farm, Port Charlotte (NR/250587), in September, 1957. It is now in the possession of the finder, Mr Neil Macneill, Pier Road, Port Charlotte.
Sketches of the items will eventually be sent to the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh.

Among sites visited were Kilellan Farm (see item 2 above) which had already been studied by Mr Whittaker. We made several surface finds of well made flint scrapers and many rough sherds generally regarded as being of the Bronze Age. A sherd was photographed sticking out of the side of this bunker site. It was decided to return next year with a larger party to conduct limited excavations to ascertain the stratigraphical relation between the flints and the different kinds of sherds: cf. *PSAS* LXXXVI (1951-2), 210. Mr A. D. Lacaille will be publishing separately the flints from Kilellan Farm, which were sent to him by Mr Whittaker.

Perhaps of greater interest was a bunker site in Laggan Bay, in the dunes near Cruach Mhòr, some 3 miles S. of Bowmore (NR/307544 approximately). In a small area Mr Lewin noticed on the surface a varied concentration of flint artefacts. Mingled with these were many sherds—mostly “Bronze Age,” though some were probably later—and fragments of two Viking tortoise brooches of bronze. Nearby were two jet beads and one blue glass bead and various pieces of slag and iron. A larger party is to return in 1959 for collecting under grids to see which parts of the bunker might call for later excavation. In the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh (Cat. No. AB 1766-7) are “two light grey scrapers” from a bunker at Banaltrum Mhòr which is about ¼ mile from Cruach Mhòr.

Among monuments visited were four “unvisited” duns: cf. *PSAS* LXIX (1934-5), 81-4, and LXXX (1945-6), 86-103. Brief details of these will be published elsewhere. One should, however, bring to the notice of antiquaries the existence of a ditched earthwork, roughly oval and some 90 ft. in diameter, standing on a high cliff in the Oa (NR/285466), near the Gleann Bun an Easa. It seemed to be very well preserved except for some small exploratory hackings made by someone into the low rampart.

Dr J. G. Macgown of Callumkill, Ardbeg, pointed out the existence (NR/402472) of several ancient structures on his land which were not on the 6-inch O.S. map. These included a possible walled “dun,” an artificial “arrangement” of stones, remnants of a comparatively recent village or settlement—perhaps one depopulated last century by smallpox. Also notable was a boulder-circle, some 30 ft. in diameter, with an entrance; this was probably the base of a hut or enclosure. One might compare here a similar structure in Renfrewshire reported on p. 31 of *Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1957*. We have noticed several circles of this kind in Islay, for example three near the
road between Gruinart and Loch Gorm. One of these structures (NR/253665) was cleared of bracken and surveyed. It was about 30 ft. in diameter. The stones of which it was formed could be lifted with one hand, though there were some large boulders on the "walls" which were about 2 to 3 ft. high. The entrance was about 10 ft. wide. From a distance the structure looks like a bomb crater—which it decidedly is not since it has been there at least 90 years. We should be glad to exchange notes with antiquaries who have specialised in the study of such structures.

Since we have not found the following entry in archaeological publications we should like to record it for the benefit of those interested in stone-cist burials. The entry is quoted from p. 651 of Vol. 7 of *The New Statistical Account of Scotland* (1845); it was written about 1839: "During the last ten years, several stone coffins were discovered in the conical hills below Sunderland Farm: they were in length from 2½ to 3 feet, from 20 inches to 2 feet wide, and from 16 to 18 inches deep. They were formed of slabs of the clay slate of the district. Some contained one or two urns of rudely formed unbaked clay; others contained skulls, and other human bones." The area around Loch Gorm merits careful field surveys. We ourselves noticed a rusty Viking shield boss on rocks at Ballinaby; at Smaull, on the seaward side of Dùn nan Nighean, we examined an artificial one-man hiding hole.

*From Miss E. Burley and Mr P. J. Fowler*

**IONA**

Excavations were continued, on a limited scale, on Iona in July-August, 1958, under the auspices of the Russell Trust, Edinburgh. The aim of the excavation was twofold: to investigate the claim made by Skene in 1876 (*PSAS*, XI, 340) that the foundations of round cells were seen on the W. side of the Abbey cloister; and to follow up the preliminary work of 1957 on Dun Bhuirg.

1958 provided the last opportunity of excavating within the cloisters, as restoration work there is nearing completion. As it was, excavation was limited to a cutting along the W. side of the garth immediately inside the cloister walk. A complex of mediaeval drains, constructed of large stone slabs, and running W.-E. through the cloisters, was revealed. Sherds of green-glazed pottery were associated with these drains. It is probable that the drains represent the "foundations" reported by Skene, whereas they should be associated with some phase of the Benedictine Monastery. Lower levels were found beneath the drains but yielded no definite evidence of earlier occupation.

Abundant evidence of occupation was found, however, on the hill-top site of Dun Bhuirg, fully described in *Discovery and*
Excavation, Scotland, 1957, 10-1. There are only four possible hut sites on the confined, rocky summit, and two of these were investigated. On the S., a small plateau up against a rock face produced the remains of a rudimentary hut, possibly a lean-to. A burnt area against the rock face, a rough floor, and a quantity of sherds and pebbles, were all that remained.

On the NE. of the site, a larger area was cleared just inside the entrance. Here the remains of a roughly circular hut, including a central stone hearth, were uncovered. A large quantity of pottery, a bronze object and a pebble bead were also found. The stones of the hut circle were built between outcrops of natural rock, and presumably provided the base on which a turf wall was placed. This is precisely the way in which “Columba’s cell” on Tor Abb, excavated in 1957, was constructed.

A large amount of pottery recovered was in a very good state of preservation. The rim profiles were either plain and vertical or out-turned and flat, and many of the sherds were decorated with applied motifs, including a wavy cordon, or finger markings. While it is clear that the sherds represent a pre-Columban occupation, at the moment it is difficult to say when it began or whether it continued after 563.

NM/285244. The possible ring cairn mentioned in Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1957, 11, was located and planned.

From Miss M. Campbell of Kilberry

EILEAN DA MHEINN, CRINAN, MID ARGYLL

During 1957 a bead of blue and white vitreous paste, with a yellow collar at each end, was found while double-trenching garden ground on Eilean da Mheinn in Crinan Harbour, by the owner, Mrs Ascherson. The bead has been examined at Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum, and compared to a 9th century Irish example. It is hoped to exhibit the bead to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1959.

ALLT NAN SAC, MID ARGYLL

NS/988048. At the junction of two streams, Allt na Nighinn and Allt nan Sac, and on both sides of the united stream, are about twelve round or oval huts, one with a doorway defined by two short upright stone slabs, the biggest hut about 15 ft. on the longest axis inside the walls. The foundations stand up to 18 ins. above ground. The huts are arranged in adjacent pairs, with a common wall; they are very close to the water, and are well hidden in a fold of the hills. There is a low mound, con-
taining charcoal and suggesting a rubbish-dump, close by. On the NW. the site is sheltered by a low isolated ridge which has three well marked hollows in its top, suggestive of kilns. The site does not resemble the usual shieling site often seen in the hills; for one thing, there is no sheep-fank, and for another, shieling houses in the area are usually rectangular. A well marked hill road from Loch Fyne to Loch Awe runs nearby.

NS/987047. A small rectangular ruin marked on the 6-inch O.S. map S. of this track is a flimsy structure which has been altered to serve as a fank; it stands on a level green platform, in marshy ground. The platform may have a retaining kerb round it, and may be the site of some earlier larger structure.

The trackway is a packhorse trail rather than a cattle-drove, and was used according to local tradition by trains of pack-ponies bringing wood from Loch Awe for the ironworks established at Furnace, Loch Fyne, by an English company in 1754 (PSAS XXI refers).

AYRSHIRE

From Mrs A. Hallifax Crawford and Mr F. Ncivall

LAVEROCK CASTLE

The mound indicated at NS/23806682 on the 6-inch O.S. map should be inserted at NS/23726690 on the opposite side of the stream. This stony mound, 99½ ft. E.-W., by 17½ ft. N.-S. and 2 to 3 ft. high, has inserted in the E. end a subrectangular structure 17¼ by 15 ft. within 2¼ ft. thick walls. The site corresponds in position with Christison's "Laverock Castle."

KNOCKENCORSAN RIDGE

NS/24566751. Here is a built cairn, 21 ft. N.-S. by 28 ft. E.-W., disturbed at the centre.

From Mr R. B. K. Stevenson

MOSSEND FARM, BEITH

NS/377505. A small bronze container for a nest of weights ploughed up in March was found to contain 19 Scottish coins of
Queen Mary and James VI. It was perhaps hidden in the 1570's. Twelve of the coins have been added to the National Collection in Edinburgh.

**BUTESHIRE**

**DUNAGOIL, ISLE OF BUTE**

From Mr F. Newall

NS/885531. A rim sherd and smaller fragment of pottery and a loaf-shaped sandstone rubber found during several visits to Dunagoil vitrified fort have been handed over to Rothesay Museum, after close comparison with finds from Walls Hill, Renfrewshire.

**LITTLE DUNAGOIL, ISLE OF BUTE**

From Miss D. N. Marshall

NS/086534. With the help of a grant from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland an investigation of the site known as Little Dunagoil was carried out for seventeen days in May and three days in August by Miss D. N. Marshall, assisted by Mrs Alison Young, Miss K. Richardson, Mr A. Hunter and, in August, Mr W. Glen Aitken.

The site is in three levels. Occupation was found only on the middle one. There were a considerable deposit of occupation soil, many animal bones, no walls, five post-holes and some bone, horn and lignite artifacts. It seemed to be more in the nature of a herdsmen's settlement for the probable cattle pen on the lower level than the dwelling of the people who conceived the nuclear type of walling which is to be seen up and down the site.

It is hoped to continue the excavation in 1959.

**CAITHNESS**

From Miss A. S. Henshall

**ACHIEGULLAN, REAY**

NC/988646. Mr R. Stephen reported the discovery of a short cist made of four flagstones, measuring about 3 by 2 ft. The capstone was probably a fairly modern replacement. The cist was empty. Many years ago a cist was found in the field
immediately to the SE. of Achiegullan house; it contained "an urn."

**DUMFRIESSHIRE**  
SMITHTOWN, DUNCOW  

NY/158841. A Mr Johnstone compiled a list of antiquities in Kirkmahoe and neighbouring parishes in 1825/7, and this list is now being checked on the ground. In the course of this work several sites not recorded in the *Inventory* of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) nor on the O.S. maps have been confirmed. On the farm of Smithtown, Johnstone speaks of two Druidical Temples; search so far has revealed only one site, a striking circular structure 54 ft. in diameter across the flat but slightly dished top, steep-sided, 10 ft. high on the side where the field level adjoining it is lowest, and sitting in a prominent position atop a meadowland ridge. It is shown on the 6-inch O.S. map but not marked as an antiquity: it is not mentioned in the *Inventory*. Where some stone has been removed from one side good drystone walling and revetting is revealed. The name of the site is "Knowe Buckle," but it and the ridge on which it stands are also called "The Roman Hill" by the local children. Along the side of the field within 200 ft. of the site passes the old hollow way from Clonfleckle, just a footpath at this point: this road is called locally both "the old King's Road" and "the Roman Road."

**PENNYLAND BURN, AULDGIRTH**

NX/949850. A cairn was pointed out, across the Pennyland Burn from the ruined Old Sawmill of Dalswinton estate, at the S. side of the steep cleugh in which the burn runs, as "the Roman Cairn": it is not recorded but has yet to be visited.

**DINWOODIEGREEN, ANNANDALE**

NY/107884. Mr B. Blake and Miss K. Hodgson, in conjunction with the Ministry of Works and Lockerbie Extra-Mural Class, excavated a crop-mark site discovered by Dr St. Joseph, just SW. of Dinwoodiegreen Farm 5 miles N. of Lockerbie on the main N. road, finding the remains of a timber hall, an area of cobble flooring, several rubble wall-bases, and rubbish pits containing pottery of the beginning of the 14th century. An unexpected "bonus" was the discovery of several Bronze Age cinerary urns, some of which are now in Edinburgh and one at Dumfries Museum. This entire site is being destroyed by new road works.
HIGH TOWNHEAD, AULDGIRTH

NX/934858. In the field E. of Stane Castle fort, between High and Low Townhead Farms, Johnstone mentions “Hut Circles” and “A Danish Camp.” Examination of the field showed a terrace, with well bedded stones showing along the front of it, and other stones showing through the turf on the terrace strongly suggesting the remains of hut foundations. Just NE. of this, in a hollow, was a large heap of stones ploughed out of the field and seeming to lie on more substantial and much more weathered stones, appearing to form an oval end with a suggestion of a kerb. This, whatever it is, is probably Johnstone’s “camp.”

ESKDALE

Members of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society have been conducting a survey of probable lines for the Roman road up Eskdale, and several possible stretches have been found, particularly the length up the end of Westerker Rig at the mouth of the Meggat Water and across the headwaters of the Shiel Burn.

CASTLE KNOWE, HANGINGSHAW FARM

A close watch is being kept on this possible site—a promontory of glacial drift scarped by the stream—in view of the possibility of its removal as gravel for the new Annandale Road. The site is near the R. Annan some 5 miles N. of Lockerbie.

CRAIGTURRA, TYNRON

On Craigturra, Tynron, a field system covering a considerable area was noted, the turf banks enclosing the fields showing up clearly: the traditional chapel site at the foot of the Craig shows as a platform with suggestions of rubble stonework: a flint blade was found at the mouth of a “cave” formed by interlocking boulders near the top of the Craig: and a few yds. back from the top of the Craig there is a definite rectangular building foundation. Examination of Craigturra was made at the behest of Mr Wilson of Tynron, who had noted these sites. Map refs. are, for the “chapel,” NX/811933, for the “cave” NX/811934, and for the rectangular house foundation, NX/811935, while the field system extends from NX/811933 to NX/813935 at least, and probably further.

CORRIE WATER

Mr Robert Little of East Hayriggs reports a possible Einzelhof near the head of the Corrie Water.
WHINNYRIG, ANNAN

NY/214648. Gen. Scott-Elliott has investigated a site two fields E. of Whinnyrig farm, and 100 ft. or so inland from the shore: a rammed stone floor and black occupation debris were found.

BLACKETLEES, ANNAN

NY/189688 and NY/190690. Two new sites, in addition to the one reported last year, have been found by Gen. Scott-Elliott on the farm of Blacketlees, a mile N. of Annan town, on the W. side of the R. Annan. The first, just behind the farmhouse, shows a ditch and bank, a floor of angular pieces of white limy sandstone firmly rammed (the stone is not immediately local), covered with a heavy black organic deposit containing much carbonised wood. The second site, a field away to the N., at the top of a bluff near the R. Annan and just over the dyke from the site of a farmhouse which ceased to exist at the end of the 18th century, shows a heavy stone roadway and more flooring, all of the same limy sandstone.

KIRKCONNEL, SPRINGKELL

NY/250755. The site of a large mediaeval village has been found in a parkland field adjoining Kirkconnel ruined church and churchyard (where "fair Helen" lies). It covers a considerable area: the line of the street and the outlines of the crofts and tofts are quite clear. The village had completely disappeared by the 16th century. A complete survey is being undertaken. The village, like the church, lies near the Kirtle Water.

UNTHANK, EWES

NY/390948. The site of a substantial mediaeval manor-house, probably a seat of the Lovel family of Hawick, who owned Ewesdale in the early part of the Middle Ages, has been discovered at Unthank on the Ewes Water, near the ruined mediaeval church.

It sits above a tributary stream, in a clump of old trees, and comprises a large rectangular foundation within a bank and ditch enclosure, with a smaller enclosure on the uphill side having from the fresh condition of its bank and ditch been used as a cattle-pound subsequent to the abandonment of the main site. On the uphill side of the site the old field system and ridge-and-furrow are clearly visible: also, on the holm beside the Ewes water, on the far side of it from the site, is a particularly clear stretch of
mediaeval furlong, each furrow showing the characteristic curve at the end, running downstream from the mediaeval road and interrupted by the modern road to Unthank. This stretch of furlong is immediately beside the modern main road from Langholm to Hawick.

DUNBARTONSHIRE

From Mr J. M. Coles

ARDMORE

NS/315785. Investigation of a large rock-shelter at the S. end of Ardmore Point was undertaken in March, and showed, below sterile loam and rock-fall, an occupation deposit of 12 ins. depth. This deposit consisted mainly of limpet-shells and carbonised wood. The occupation floor was examined and a central hearth of flat stones and much charcoal was discovered. The only artifact recovered was a sherd tentatively identified as "Iron Age," while the partial remains of a red deer were also obtained.

EAST LOTHIAN

SKATERAW FARM, DUNBAR

See below, Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments Report.

From Mr D. D. A. Simpson

CRAIGS QUARRY, DIRLETON

In March 1957 the foreman of the quarry reported the discovery of a long cist near the summit of the knoll into which the quarry is cut. When examined by members of the Edinburgh University Archaeological Society this cist was found to be much ruined. The capstone had been removed and the contents disturbed. Only the leg bones and feet had survived intact although a quantity of human bones retrieved from the nearby dump undoubtedly belonged to this burial. The cist measured 6 ft. 5 ins. long and was 1 ft. 8 ins. wide at the W. end and 1 ft. 2 ins. at the E. There were no grave-goods. While this cist was being excavated, another undisturbed grave was found a few ft. to the N. This cist contained an intact extended inhumation burial, a number of the bones of which had been disturbed by the action
of rodents and tree roots. The cist was parallelogram-shaped, the N. side being 5 ft. 7 ins. long and the S. 5 ft. 10 ins.; the E. and W. end slabs are 1 ft. 8 ins. and 1 ft. 9 ins. respectively. Beneath the capstone and therefore sealed within the cist was found a sherd of Iron Age pottery. As these two cists, together with two others excavated by the Society at Craig's Quarry in 1954, lie within the ramparts of an Iron Age hill fort, this sherd of an earlier period must have been accidentally deposited in the long cist when earth was piled over the body. A fuller account of these burials and of the hill fort will appear in PSAS.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH

From Mr and Mrs Alan Rae

CRAMOND

Work on the Roman Fort by Moray House Archaeological Society has revealed a granary, with walls 3 ft. thick at base, external buttresses 3 ft. square, at 6 ft. intervals, and floors consisting of 8 ins. of concrete (carried over the bottom courses of the walls and buttresses) based on cobble. Examination of the coarse pottery by Mr John Gillam shows the bulk to be Antonine (both early and late), with a few earlier pieces and with significant quantities of both 3rd and 4th centuries.

From Dr E. A. Cormack

CORSTORPHINE

NT/194724. Recent building operations on the Broomhall estate have revealed evidence of a fort and a road.

The fort, of rectilinear outline and considerable extent, lies on the S. bank of the former Gogar Loch. A substantial rampart and ditch have been seen in several cuttings through the N. and E. defences, and the structural features confirm the significance of linear crop marks seen on an air photograph in 1957. Although as yet no datable finds have been recovered, the evidence suggests the hitherto unsuspected presence of a Roman fort, linked by road with Cramond.

The road links Drumbrae Road with Broomhouse Road and includes a water crossing at the E. end of the former loch by a wooden bridge. A small "pier" (showing two phases of construction of the bridge) was found 4 ft. below the present surface, covered with peat sealed by a 9 ins. layer of clay deposited by the subsequent flooding of the loch, later drained and diminished
since the 17th century (Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1957, 21, refers.) This discovery was made possible by the kind co-operation of Messrs Mactaggart and Mickel, Ltd., and their generous loan of a bulldozer.

A metalled causeway, ¼ mile N. of the fort, crosses the line of the Drumbrae Road and has recently been traced E. across the S. flank of Corstorphine Hill, in alignment with a similar causeway exposed in the grounds of Donaldson's Hospital and under the E. end of Eglinton Crescent, presumably an extension of the ancient "Lang Gait" and "Fishwives' Causeway" leading to Inveresk.

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**FIFESHIRE**

**COAL FARM, ST. MONANCE**

From Mr F. Newall

NO/531026. From field clearance on the roadside 100 yds. N. of Coal Farm level crossing was recovered an axehead of local carboniferous limestone. The butt is missing. The remaining length is 3½ ins.; breadth 1¾ ins.; width ¾ in.

From Miss A. S. Henshall

**LUNDIN LINKS**

NO/404021. Messrs J. A. Bell and D. Anderson reported the discovery of a small cairn covering a short cist containing a skeleton. The site is among the sand-dunes of the foreshore.

From Mr J. G. Scott

**TULLIALLAN**

NS/942897. Mr R. Wallace Menzies, of the Tulliallan Sand and Gravel Company, has presented to Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum a food vessel found in September during gravel working at Tulliallan, about 1½ miles NNW. of Kincardine-on-Forth. The food vessel was seen lying at the foot of the cutting face made by the mechanical excavator, so that it is impossible to say anything of the burial which it presumably accompanied, except that it must originally have been at least 3 ft. below the surface, for the vessel had survived intact the removal of 3 ft. of overburden.

The food vessel, which is of simple vase shape, is 3½ ins. high and 4¾ ins. in maximum diameter. It has thick walls and a flat rim with a slight internal bevel. Rim and sides are decorated with a simple impressed "maggot" pattern repeated in horizontal rows.
INVERNESS-SHIRE

WEST TOWN, LOCH DUN SEILCHEIG

At the request of Maj. Shaw of Tordarroch, a brief visit was paid during September to his property in that part of Inverness-shire which lies between Strathnairn and Loch Ness. The area is rich in prehistoric remains, many unrecorded, but so far only two sites have been examined thoroughly. In the vicinity of the now uninhabited steading of West Town on the NW. shore of Loch Dun Seilcheig (Loch Dunterchaig) are two cairns, neither of which is marked on either the 1- or 6-inch O.S. sheets.

NH/622327. A slight rise 250 yds. SW. of West Town steading is crowned by a ruined cairn. The main diagnostic feature comprises the visible upper edges of six slabs which mark out a circular central area 23 ft. in diameter. Small stones fill the central court to the general level of the tops of the slabs, and extend outwards for 6 to 8 ft. beyond them. No peristalith is visible and no free-standing uprights are present. Nevertheless the site seems almost certainly to be the remnant of a Clava ring cairn of Gask type. It has not been included in any previous published survey of Clava cairns. The central court may well be undisturbed.

NH/621324. Some 200 yds. SSW. of the cairn described above is another which, however, might consist of field-gathered stones piled round and upon a glacial erratic.

CLACHNAHARRY

NH/648463. A visit was paid to this site in September at the request of Mrs C. Whyte of Clachnaharry. An area of rock outcrops, on the E. slope of the NW. spur of Craig Phadrig and approximately 100 yds. from the main road, is surrounded by a ruined earth and stone wall which appears in general as a grassy mound 1 to 2 ft. high, and having no definite entrance. It encloses a roughly oval area measuring 252 ft. from E. to W. and 112 ft. from N. to S. Within this enclosure, and near its upper (W.) end can be distinguished three sides of an almost rectangular enclosure formed of large undressed slabs on edge. The longest wall runs from SSE. to NNW., and measures 52 ft. Walls can be traced leading from each end of this one in an E. direction, that at the N. end being distinguishable for 19 ft., while that to the S. is 36 ft. long and has an entrance 4 ft. wide situated 11 ft. from the junction with the long wall.

The region within the outer oval wall has been planted with trees lately removed, and it seems likely that this wall may be of
comparatively recent date. The inner enclosure, however, may well be much earlier and an investigation of the NW. corner where the inner and outer walls are contiguous might settle the question.

From Mr R. B. K. Stevenson

SANDAIG, GLENELG

NG/774150. A coin hoard in the remains of an animal horn was discovered by forestry workers in May. There were twenty-four English coins ranging from Mary Tudor to James I, and a Brunswick thaler of about 1620.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT

From Mr A. H. Johnson

CAIRNDERRY CAIRN

NX/315799. I chanced upon this monument, being until then unaware of its existence, in June 1949, and noted the presence of "alignments." No detailed record was then made, the intention being to check the literature before a further visit. In October 1958 the site was again visited, briefly and in rather unkind weather, and the present account is based on observations made then.

The large rounded cairn, robbed and with indefinite margins, with three chambers axially set and oriented approximately NE., NW. and S., has been described and planned by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland), Kirkcudbright Inventory, No. 346, and discussed by Piggott, who places it in the Clyde-Carlingford series (PSAS LXXXIII, 140 ff.). From present appearances at ground level the NE. chamber may be considerably longer than appears from the published plan and description. The features noted below have not been described.

1. A line of earthfast boulders appears to be directed from the NE. chamber, though not along its axis, and runs about 10° E. of N. on ground declining northwards. It begins 68 ft. from the chamber. In the next 120 ft. there are eleven boulders. The new access road made between the two visits is then reached and the N. extension of the alignment has almost certainly been destroyed. The stones are not individually conspicuous but there are no similar natural stones very close to them and by looking along their line one may be convinced that they have been placed.
2. A line of stones comparable with a wall foundation begins indefinitely in an area NW. of the NW. chamber and some 135 ft. from it, whence it runs about 2° E. of N. for 190 ft. on nearly level ground lower than the site of the cairn, to a definite end at the feature (3). For much of its length there is a single line of stones placed in contact or nearly so with a few uprights rising above the general height and here and there a suggestion of an upper course of stones, but no indication of much collapsed walling; and probably not much could have been supported.

3. The above terminates at a small hollow, with water in it at the October visit and probably for much of the year, in which stand two blocks on edge with their axes along the alignment, 2 ft. 7 ins. apart. The W. block, 5 ft. 2 ins. long, is plano-concave, recalling some of those used in the chambers of the cairn. The other is angular, elongated, 8 ft. 3 ins. long with a greatest visible width of 1 ft. 3 ins. It is adorned on both its outward- and inward-facing top edges with a repeating pattern of flat depressed U-shaped areas with intervening projections similar in area. There are seven such repeating units on the inner edge and ten on the outer, which presents a toothed appearance even from some distance.

4. The probable displaced capstone in the S. chamber of the cairn bears some thirty cupmarks, mostly round but with some multiple or ovoid forms, mainly arranged in four lines, one of which extends beyond the presumed former base and on to the side of the slab.

5. The second from the N. of the four stones forming a peristalithic setting to the W. of the cairn bears a single cupmark, on its outer face. I was apprised of this by Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Scott who also independently discovered the other cupmarks.

If all the above are prehistoric (this is of course unproven but the alternatives do not seem satisfactory) it is economical to regard them as part of one complex. The alignment (2) is not conspicuous from the cairn, and if noticed it may have been dismissed as a ruined field dyke. But if this is so it is hard to see (on the ground or on the map) what purpose it served, and the terminal feature remains unexplained. Alignments have no recognised place in the Clyde-Carlingford culture but are found in association with cairns on Dartmoor, in Caithness and Sutherland (Childe, Prehistory of Scotland, p. 114) and at Callernish. Linear features other than lines of spaced orthostats accompany the Clava ring cairn (three “causeways” up to 21 ft.; PSAS LXXXVIII), and Bryn yr Hen Bobl, Anglesey (325 ft. “terrace”; Archaeologia 85; Daniel, Prehistoric Chamber Tombs, pp. 88, 186-7).
LANARKSHIRE

MILLBANK, DOUGLAS

From Mr R. G. Livens

NS/8653. Road-widening operations on the Glasgow-Carlisle main road, conducted by Lanarkshire County Council, led to the discovery of a leaf-shaped bronze sword. The sword has broken across the two rivet-holes at the base of the blade. The tang has two centrally placed rivet-holes and has been repaired by casting on fresh pieces on at least one occasion. Full details of the discovery, together with drawings, photographs and an X-ray report, are deposited in the Hunterian Museum and will be published.

MIDLOTHIAN

EAST FIELD, INVERESK

From Mr D. D A. Simpson

NT/345704. Work on this site, reported in Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1957, was continued by members of Edinburgh University Archaeological Society. Two of the pits located by a resistivity survey were excavated but no datable evidence was recovered. Work this autumn is being concentrated on the S. sector of the site in the region of the "settlement," and one of the enclosure trenches has been recovered. It is hoped that further excavation this year will throw light on the date and precise significance of this interesting site.

ORKNEY

ISBISTER CAIRN, SOUTH UNIGARTH EARTH HOUSE AND BROUGH OF BIRSAV

See below, Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments Report.

PEEBLESSHIRE

POLMOOD, TWEEDSMUIR

From Mr R. B. K. Stevenson

NT/111270. Road straightening operations in June opposite the entrance gates to Polmood House involved removing part of a gravel terrace above the main road. On it a single long cist
was found, 5½ ft. long with, at each end, one slab 18 ins. wide, and three slabs on either side eked with cobbles. Of four or five overlapping cover-stones that at the head end lay 2½ ft. below the surface. The skeleton, stretched at full length on its back, was male, aged 30-40, and 5 ft. 3 or 4 ins. tall. The feet pointed to 65° E. of true N. If other cists had lain close by they would have been found. In 1939 another cist, also possibly single, was found on the next projecting terrace downstream, 330 yds. away.

From Mr J. G. Dunbar

NETHERURD MAINS

NT/108440. A carved stone came to light in September 1958 at Netherurd Mains Farm, during the routine survey of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) in that county. It is of sandstone and measures 1 ft. 5 ins. by 1 ft. 2 ins. over all, the upper part of the stone being roughly carved in the shape of a cross with expanding arms. One face of the stone, which may be ascribed to the 10th or 11th centuries, bears relief decoration and also an incised swastika. The stone is said to have been ploughed up in a neighbouring field some ten years ago; it has now been presented by the finder, Mr Sanderson, to the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

PERTHSIRE

From Mrs M. E. C. Stewart

DERCULICH, STRATHTAY

NN/884526. Above the farm of Derculich, in Upper Strathtay, there is a tree-covered knoll in a field to the E. of the Derculich Burn. The trees shelter the last vestiges of a chambered tomb. Its type is difficult to determine as only the end slab and two side slabs remain in situ and the covering cairn has been removed. It should be related to the Clyde-Carlingford chamber at Dull, also in Upper Strathtay (NN/808492; cf. Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 1955, 23).

BRAES OF TAYMOUTH, KENMORE

NN/792448. During field work in connection with the Pitlochry Summer School two stones in an area of cup-marked stones on Braes of Taymouth, above Kenmore, exhibited gapped circles similar to those at Knowth in Ireland, illustrated by MacWhite in Journ. Roy. Soc. Ant. Ireland LXXVI (1946), 59-80.
From Mrs M. E. C. Stewart and Mr J. M. Coles

DALNAGLAR, BLACKLUNANS

NO/151643. A hut circle, one of a pair in the same field about 1,000 ft. above sea level, in close proximity to a long house, was examined by members of the Archaeological Section of the Perthshire Society of Natural Science. A section of 4 ft. width was carried from outside the circle to the interior, and such constructional details as can be ascertained from so limited an excavation showed an outer and inner facing of stones, with an intervening wall filling of sterile yellow loam. The absolute identification of these and other features, particularly in the central area of the circle, awaits further investigation. Mr S. E. Durno, of the Macauley Institute for Soil Research, has undertaken analyses of soil and pollen from the site and surrounding area.

A considerable quantity of pottery was obtained from the area immediately outside the outer facing of the wall, and was covered in places by collapsed material from the wall. This pottery appears to belong to the Covesea Ware family in rim form and texture, but a further type appeared, of a well prepared clay with little grit, and decorated with a series of close-set finger mouldings placed horizontally below a simple rim.

The Dalnaglar excavations will be continued next summer.

INCHTUTHILL

From Professor I. A. Richmond

At Inchtuthill, Professor I. A. Richmond and Dr J. K. St. Joseph continued their examination of the Agricolan legionary fortress. Six barracks in the SW. corner of the fortress were identified, bringing the total now known up to fifty-two out of a possible sixty-four. The centurions’ quarters of the first cohort, lying to N. of the W. half of the via principalis, were further explored, resulting in the identification of four similar courtyard houses (comparable with those at Caerleon) in addition to the larger house of the primuspilus. On the S. side of the via principalis the entire range of colonnaded stores-buildings from the W. gate to the junction of the via praetoria was outlined, together with the first group in the corresponding ranges on either side of the via praetoria. This group ran as far as the street parallel with the via principalis which formed the frontage of the tribunes’ houses, of which two further examples were identified. The plan of the westernmost very closely corresponded to that of the easternmost in general disposition and in many details. The second example was larger, and lay in the angle formed by the stores-buildings fronting the via praetoria and principalis. But
its office quarters were of the same size. It is hoped to complete
the planning of the praetentura of the fortress during the coming
season. Among finds should be mentioned two more assēs of
Domitian, both from demolition layers, one of A.D. 86 in mint
condition, the other, now much corroded but well preserved when
lost, of after A.D. 85; also a large quantity of coarse ware, almost
all from one and the same pottery, found in the westernmost
tribunes' houses.

From Mrs M. E. C. Stewart

BERTHA

From the bank of the R. Almond, near its junction with the
R. Tay and close to the site of the Roman camp of Bertha, 2\frac{1}{2}
miles NW. of Perth, schoolboys recovered a stone bearing the
inscription DISCIPVLINAE AVGVSTI. The lettering, which
is of 2nd century date, is the first proof of an Antonine occupation
of the adjacent camp. The stone would formerly have stood in
the sacellum, or shrine, of the headquarters building, and its
excellent preservation is no doubt due to the fact that it was
buried for safety when the camp was either attacked or
abandoned.

From Mr D. B. Taylor

KINGOODIE, LONGFORGAN

NO/342294. As previously reported in Discovery and
Excavation, Scotland, 1956, three long cists were found in the
garden of a newly built house. A fourth has now been uncovered
intact, and when excavated was found to contain a full-length
burial. There were no other relics. Reports forthcoming.

From Mr J. G. Scott

RENFREWSHIRE

RENFREW

NS/517666. Mrs D. L. Frame, of Glasgow, reports that a
stone macehead, now in her possession, was found in a sand
bunker on Renfrew Golf Course, beside Hillington Road and
almost next to the boundary fence near the NE. runway at
Renfrew Airport. The macehead, 3\frac{1}{8} by 2\frac{1}{4} ins. in size, has a
pronounced hourglass perforation narrowing to an opening only
\frac{1}{4} in. in diameter. The macehead strongly resembles similar
implements of quartzite which in England have been found in
Mesolithic contexts.
From Mr F. Newall

KILMACOLM PARISH

Mr W. O. Black has handed in a stone axehead, later used as a hone, from Kilmacolm Parish, farm unknown; size $5\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{3}{4}$ ins., of a rather soft stone, perhaps weathered.

DUNCARNOCK

NS/501559. From a sheep scrape near the NE. corner of the hill fort were recovered a fragment of worked shale and a small piece of Damnonian pottery (Dunagoil-Meikle Reive-Walls Hill type fabric).

From Mrs A. Halifax Crawford and Mr F. Newall

REIVE HILL

NS/53855035. The existing sheep reive on the hill was constructed in 1870 from an earlier ruin which may or may not have been a sheep enclosure. In 1938 it became a target for light artillery, hence its present dilapidated condition (information from Mr Gibb of Greenfield).

DUNWAN HILL

NS/547489. This is an oval hill fort, 280 ft. N.-S. by 176 ft. E.-W. over a 23 to 25 ft. wide single rampart. A 14 ft. wide entrance on the S. is flanked by considerable rampart expansion.

DUNWAN DAM

NS/55454873. On the opposite side of Dunwan Dam are the remains of a pound, 264 ft. E.-W. by a remaining 100 ft. of S. wall and 259 ft. of N. wall. The rest of the circumference has been erased by cultivation, but rushes indicate part of its course. The wall is 12 ft. wide and 3 to 4 ft. high externally in places. Turf dykes run off to form an enclosure some 240 by 400 ft. between the pound and Dunwan Dam.

NS/535483. An enclosure so built on the slope that the S. side is 12 to 15 ft. higher than the N., and measuring 69 ft. E.-W. by 67 ft. N.-S., is entered via a 2 ft. wide gap in the S. The heavy boulder and turf wall varies from 8 to 19 ft. in spread. This is not accepted by the local shepherd as a probable sheep fank.

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TOPFAULDS HILL and BLACKWOODHILL

NS/53474822 and NS/59404845. Here there are turf mounds respectively (a) circular, 2 ft. high, 21 ft. in overall diameter with an 8 ft. diameter hollow at centre, and (b) oblong, 2 ft. high and 47 ft. N.-S. by 24 ft. E.-W. which may be merely height marks.

BLACKWOODHILL: SHEPHERD'S HOUSE

NS/544484. Immediately to the NE. of the house is an oval raised and embanked platform about 200 ft. by 150 to 180 ft. To the SW. of the house is a circular mound about 30 ft. in diameter and crossed by a ruined dyke. Both are of doubtful age and purpose.

TANDLEHILL: HILLTOP FARM

NS/35776451. The field system of an early farm covering about 2½ acres can be traced as a low mound, or, in places, an alignment of heavy boulders, following in Iron Age fashion the edge of the hill scarp. The farmhouse is an oblong mound measuring 40 by 29½ ft. with but few stones showing above ground. Terraced tracks lead up to the hill surface. It is probably 17th century or perhaps a little earlier. A comparable site is "The Covenanters' Cairns" first indicated by Mr W. O. Black in 1953. Here, at NS/324703, numerous cairns, undoubtedly field clearance, occupy the shoulder of the hill, while lower down a drystone dyke follows the contour, in places adapted closely to the edge of a rock face. The farmhouse was oblong and is now completely overgrown.

ROSS AND CROMARTY

From Dr and Mrs A. A. Woodham

NH/569516. Examination of the area immediately outside the entrance to the burial chamber of the chambered cairn at Kilcoy West revealed that the original ground level fell away rather sharply, and a flat forecourt had been achieved by the construction of a platform of earth and stones, the upper surface of which was practically on a level with the chamber floor. During September a section was cut from the chamber entrance to the outer edge of the platform.

In contact with the two portal stones marking the entrance to the chamber was a charcoal patch which extended outwards on top of the platform for 8 ft. and attained a maximum width of
10 ft. No bone was found in this area, nor were any finds made in the whole of that area of the forecourt which was examined.

No further work is contemplated at this site, and it is hoped to publish a detailed report of the excavation in *PSAS*.

*From Miss H. C. Nisbet*

**CHAPEL AND VILLAGE, NORTH RONA**

HW/809323. (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland), *The Outer Hebrides*, 1928, p. 3 and Introduction). In summer 1958 a party from Glasgow University carried out a detailed ground survey of the ecclesiastical and domestic structures on North Rona. The village is situated towards the NW. corner of an infield of about 20 acres, cultivated in large lazybeds. The pattern of domestic architecture is of a central rectangular courtyard about 30 by 10 ft., surrounded by a variable arrangement of low covered passages and small circular or oval corbelled cells. Two such steadings are built close against the outside of the chapel enclosure wall, on the S. side; a third stands apart, a little to the S.

Saint Ronan's cell and chapel stand in the SE. corner of a roughly oval enclosure bounded by a heavy turf and stone wall. The small rectangular cell, almost certainly built before 900 A.D., is well preserved, while the mediaeval chapel which was added to form a nave to it is of more elaborate design and inferior execution.

The houses were occupied at least as late as 1683, and all show signs of reconstruction. A lower limit for the date of human settlement has not been established.

*From Mr R. E. Scott*

**ROXBURGHSHIRE**

**DINLABYRE, OR KILLOLEY, CHAPEL**

NY/537914. During the first week of August, 1958, a brief examination was made of the remains of Dinlabyre, or Killoley, Chapel, in Liddesdale. The site is unnoted by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) in the Roxburghshire Inventory, and the little known of its early history has been recorded by the earliest writers on Liddesdale. A section of the wall in the NE. corner of the building was uncovered, revealing the rubble core of the wall which had been considerably robbed of its facing stones. The over all size of the chapel is
35 by 20 ft., with the gables facing E. and W. A portion of the interior was cleared to a depth of about 18 ins., exposing a reddish-coloured beaten clay floor. A 5 ft. wide ditch and another wall enclosed the entire building and may have been used as drainage. On the N. side and a strip along the E., a stone-built enclosure wall marks the site of the churchyard. Probing failed to reveal any marking stones in the burial-ground. On such a brief examination it was impossible to place the doorway with accuracy, but from general appearances it would appear that access could be gained from the chapel to the churchyard in the NE. corner, while another entrance in the SW. is conjectured by signs of a path leading down to a spring. Some turf and loose stones were removed from the mouth of the spring revealing side-walling, and bridging and evidence of flagging can be seen in the bed of the water-course. The terrace above the source has been built up to prevent soil slip and on one side lay a large slab apparently toppled down the bank from the direction of the burial-ground. Unfortunately no equipment was available to raise the stone for examination.

A fuller report and a note on its history will be made in _THAS_ (1958).

Thanks are due to Mr Robert Little, of Dinlabyre, for his ready permission to examine the site.

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**SHETLAND**

**From Mr and Mrs Alan Rae**

**QUENDALE BAY**

HU/383128. At the NE. corner of Quendale Bay, 2 ½ miles from Jarlshof, total excavation was made in 1957 and 1958 of a house site. The structure, modified during occupation and much eroded, showed a group of cells with hearths and work-benches grouped round a central feature of stone slabs set on edge. Pottery was mainly Neolithic-Bronze Age, resembling that reported in _PSAS_ LXXIX by Mr Charles Calder; stone artifacts, bone artifacts, and other bones await report.

**From Professor A. C. O'Dell**

**ST. NINIAN'S ISLE**

HU/367207. Excavation was carried on at a number of points outwith the walls of the Medieval Church. To the N. a wall parallel to the Church was traced over a length of 30 ft. It may have been a garth wall. A test pit was sunk N. of the apse and this was found to have at a depth of 6 ft. below the Medieval
Church two non-Christian burials. A test pit was sunk S. of the apse and a cist burial was found at about this same depth. To the SE. of the Church on the flank of the hillside a pit was sunk to a depth of 14 ft. below the foundation of the Church, and this pit revealed a succession of features: a long extended burial, long cist burials and what appear to be iron ore and iron slag. Within the area of these pits it was not possible to obtain much information about structures.

An extended opening was made at the E. end of the nave between the buttress and the N. wall. This was made possible by the kindness of Messrs Tawse, an Aberdeen contracting firm who are doing work on Lerwick Harbour, and the skilled help given by Mr R. Brown, their resident engineer. The firm supplied timbering materials and Mr Brown with the foreman saw that the mediaeval walls were rendered safe by substantial timbering during the process of the excavation. In the area in the nave the ground was opened out to a depth of about 6 ft. and there has been found abundant evidence of Iron Age occupation with a great number of pot fragments. Most of the sherds are without ornamentation and the quality of the pot varies very considerably and suggests that this was a gathering place of pots from a number of sources. Little was found in the way of other material except one soapstone whorl and one bronze pin which had disintegrated to a powder.

In this test excavation in the nave was found, between the Iron Age occupation zone with its structure (wheel-house) and the Mediaeval Church, the Ninianic hoard. This is still awaiting full description, but consists of over two dozen silver objects, some of which have been gilded and which have been ornamented with either semi-precious stones or coloured glass. This collection, which is of Scoto-Irish style, with ornamentation resembling the designs of the Lindisfarne Gospel, has been hailed by museum authorities as being second only to Sutton Hoo as regards importance as a collection of native craftsmanship. While the weight of about 60 ozs. (Troy) of metal is slight compared with some other hoards, these are of non-native origin and so lack in importance as a source for studying Scotland during the Dark Ages.

STIRLINGSHIRE

From Mr and Mrs J. G. Scott

KETTLEHILL FARM, BALDERNOCK

NS/576748. In 1957 two boys from Milngavie discovered and partly exposed a site at Kettlehill Farm, in Baldernock Parish.
In the spring of 1958 the site was visited by Mr R. W. Feachem, of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland), and subsequently a partial excavation was carried out in August and September by Dr H. Fairhurst and the writers with members of the Glasgow Archaeological Society and the two boys. The Ministry of Works, through Mr P. R. Ritchie, gave most valuable help with equipment.

The remains discovered by the boys consisted of a passage approximately 8 ft. long, 2 ft. wide and 3 ft. high, aligned almost N.-S., and built partly of massive stone slabs and partly of dry-stone walling, a few naturally outcropping rocks being incorporated into the construction. The passage was roofed by massive stone lintels covered by rubble and earth. Though situated on a prominent knoll overlooking Kettichill Farm, these remains had been entirely concealed below ground. Their general situation, and the mode of construction of the passage, suggested that the remains might be those of a Neolithic burial cairn.

Subsequent excavation showed that the N. end of the passage had been blocked, apparently deliberately, though roughly. At the S. end the passage gave on to what appeared to be an E.-W. "transept," which, like the passage, combined massive-stone slabs with dry-stone walling in its construction. The "transept" was about 11 ft. long and 3 ft. 6 ins. wide. On the W. side it terminated in a bay with a clay floor approximately at the same level as that of the passage. On the E. side the floor level was raised rather more than 1 ft. and paved with stone slabs; furthermore, the "transept" developed from its E. wing an extension to the S. covering an area, also paved, of about 3 ft. square. No roofing survived over the "transept" and its extension. Considerable quantities of animal bones, apparently food refuse, and some red deer antler, were amongst the rubble which filled the W. bay of the "transept"; underlying the bones, and on the clay floor of the bay, was a stone spindle whorl.

The discovery of the "transept" and its S. extension seems to lessen considerably the likelihood that the site is indeed that of a Neolithic cairn. The writers are inclined to accept the suggestion of Mr Ritchie that the passage was the entrance through a rampart, now largely destroyed, into a small fort, or dun. A strong factor in favour of this argument is what appears to be a bar-hole, with its opposing socket, in the walls of the passage; moreover, the finds, such as they are, belong to the Iron Age or later periods. The surface of the knoll is irregular, but there are certainly artificial mounds upon it, some of which might be construed as additional defences; in particular, on the weakest side, the NE., there seem to be clear signs of an outer bank and ditch. The facts so far revealed are insufficient to identify the nature of the site, and obviously further excavation is necessary.
From Miss D. M. Hunter

LAURIESTON

NS/909796. A denarius of Faustina Junior was found during the clearance of houses from Grahams Dyke Street, Laurieston. The houses lie close to the Antonine ditch. The coin is now in Falkirk Museum.

STENHOUSEMUIR

A coin, perhaps an antoninianus, of Trajan Decius was found in a housing scheme garden at Stenhousemuir. It remains in the finder's possession.

MUMRILLS

See below, Reports of Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland).

SLAMANNAN

NS/856734. In August, 1958, excavation took place at the motte of Slamannan. The N. half of the mound top was stripped, but no clear evidence of any structure was found; though if the mound were assumed to have been lowered, certain holes might be interpreted as the tips of postholes. There was some degree of rabbit and plant disturbance. Two sections were cut across the ditch, and sherds obtained from primary silting in each. One section was never successfully cleared of water; the ditch may have been originally a wet one.

TORWOOD

NS/835844. Mr Gordon Millar of Torwood has uncovered a number of structural features—gateway, door and window openings—at the Castle, and fallen stones, where they have been identified, are being replaced. Small finds (the greater part being very late medieval pottery, unstratified and perhaps redeposited in the courtyard) include the remains of a fine plated key from an internal door.

MUGDOCK CASTLE

See below, Report of Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland).
SULA SGEIR

From Miss H. C. Nisbet

HW/620305. General observations were made on archaic stone bothies used annually by the Lewis gannet-catchers, with a detailed investigation of the building known as "Teampull Sula Sgeir." There seems now little prospect of establishing the true nature of this building, since the E. wall has been breached in recent years and a crude excavation occupies the site of the altar described by T. S. Muir.

WIGTOWNSHIRE

From Mr A. E. Trickett

LOWER BLACKQUARTER FARM, PENNINGHAME

The farmer, Mr Ryman, reports an unrecorded village site on Lower Blackquarter Farm.

Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments

From Mr S. Crudcn, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland

ISBISTER CAIRN, SOUTH RONALDSAY, ORKNEY

Upon hearing that a cairn on South Ronaldsay had been opened the Inspectorate visited, completed an investigation of the exposed part, securely closed the remainder, and ensured that no further unauthorised disturbance would take place. The cairn is Neolithic, apparently of a well known Orkney type, stalled, and with at least one small mural chamber. The partial excavation has yielded what is probably the most remarkable assemblage of skeletal material yet to have been recovered from a Neolithic cairn in association with grave-goods. There is skeletal evidence of at least thirty bodies, including sixteen complete skulls. The remains are seemingly disarticulated, but whether deliberately for ritual or by disturbance in later interment it is not at present possible to say, for many of the skulls had been extracted and dispersed in the neighbourhood before recovery by the Inspectorate.

The skeletal material is to be presented to the Department of Anatomy, Edinburgh University. The smaller finds include two fine, small, polished axeheads and a polished hammer head.
A short illustrated report will be published, probably in PSAS.

SKATERAW, EAST LOTHIAN

This discovery was notified to the Police by a farm manager. The Inspectorate investigated with this result.

The burial was Early Bronze Age and contained a fine necked Beaker. The cist was well made with local flags for sides, top and floor. The remains, in the usual crouched position, were those of a young adult male in his late twenties or early thirties suffering from root abscesses in two molars. Burial was evidently after the passing of rigor mortis. Decomposition of the body before interment is probable. The arms were severed from the trunk and placed separately on the wrong sides of the body.

This discovery is the result of ploughing. Another cist was found pre-war. Bronze Age gold objects have also been recovered from this farm.

SOUTH UNIGARTH EARTH HOUSE, MAINLAND, ORKNEY

This earth house, of typical Orcadian type, was discovered by Hydro-Electric workers and reported to the Ministry. The site has been photographed, surveyed and filled in. The passage is cut in soft rock and covered with lintels. There are two orthostats at the entrance and five piers round the sides of a sub-rectangular chamber near the centre of which another helps support the roof.

There was only one small find, a hammer stone of indeterminate date.

BROUGH OF BIRSAY, ORKNEY

Excavations were continued by the Ministry of Works under the direction of Mr Stewart Cruden and Mr Ralegh Radford. Trenches W. of the Norse graveyard brought to light part of the W. wall of the Pictish enclosure. Two opposing arcs of a circle some 150 ft. across have now been traced, together with the remains of at least one internal division. The central space formed the graveyard, with buildings, no longer traceable, in the area to the N. Two of the isolated Norse houses were examined in detail, revealing the layout of the posts carrying the roofs; these details were recovered for two successive stages in one of the houses, where the original structure dates from the 9th century. The house type conforms to that known in Scandinavia in the
Migration period and later. Further work was also carried out in the area of the Norse Earls' hall E. of the Cathedral. An Official Guide is in the press.

Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland)

From Dr K. A. Steer, Secretary

This year the Commission has completed field work in Stirlingshire and has made further progress with the survey of monuments in Peeblesshire.

Details of excavations carried out by the Commission's staff are given below.

MUMRILLS, STIRLINGSHERE

NS/9179. On behalf of the Society of Antiquaries and in co-operation with the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate of the Ministry of Works, an emergency excavation was undertaken on the site of the supposed Agricolan fort at Mumrills which has been acquired for building purposes. Proof was obtained that the enclosure in question is not, in fact, an Agricolan fort, but simply the fortified annexe of the Antonine station which housed a considerable civil settlement. An exceptionally large quantity of pottery from this settlement was recovered from the outermost of the four ditches on the W. side of the fort, and is at present being studied.

A section cut through the Antonine Wall in the same area showed that it was built wholly of turf in the normal manner, and not, as has previously been supposed, of clay. A detailed report of the excavations, which were made possible through the courtesy of Messrs Mactaggart and Mickel, Ltd., the owners of the site, will appear in due course in PSAS.

MUGDOCK CASTLE, STIRLINGSHERE

NS/550772. A short excavation was conducted by Messrs J. G. Dunbar and G. D. Hay at Mugdock Castle in order to determine the full extent of the inner and outer baileys.

The line of the outer bailey was confirmed at its NE. angle, while in the inner bailey some traces were found both of the N. curtain wall and of the E. part of the S. curtain.
The Archaeology Division opened on 1st October, 1958, at Government Office Buildings, Bankhead Avenue, Sighthill, Edinburgh, 11. The office is under the direction of the Assistant Archaeology Officer, who is now permanently stationed in Scotland, and will deal with all archaeological matters concerning the Scottish Region of the Ordnance Survey. This includes the whole of Scotland, Northumberland, and a part of Cumberland, and all the Survey's archaeological records relating to this area have been transferred to Edinburgh.

The activities of the Archaeology Division are geared to those of the Survey as a whole and have two main aspects—the revision and improvement of the archaeological matter included in existing maps, as and when new editions and reprints of them are produced, and the correction and addition of fresh archaeological matter on the new maps which result from the current resurvey programme.

1. **REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS**

   In the case of these it is only possible to add new material when they cover areas which have already been resurveyed at a larger scale. They include the Seventh Series of the 1-inch Map, which is now nearing completion and which will be progressively improved as reprints are demanded, and the Provisional Edition of the 6-inch Map on National Grid sheet lines, which now covers virtually the whole of S. Scotland and is advancing up the E. coast into Aberdeenshire. A new edition of the 1-inch Map is also in preparation.

2. **NEW MAPS RESULTING FROM RESURVEY**

   The resurvey of the country is being carried out at three basic scales, according to the nature of the area concerned—urban areas at 1/1250 (50 ins. to the mile), agricultural areas at 1/2500 (25 ins. to the mile) and mountainous areas at 1/10560 (6 ins. to the mile). At the two larger scales the main effort has hitherto been directed to the towns and their immediate environs, and the part played by the Archaeology Division has been correspondingly small, but the 25-inch survey is now breaking out into the open country, for example in Ayrshire and in Fife, and our commitments are increasing accordingly. Meanwhile the use of air survey methods in the 6-inch areas of the Highlands and the
Southern Uplands is greatly reducing both the time needed to survey them and the time available for dealing with their antiquities. In all cases the units into which the work is divided are not counties, nor can they be chosen for their archaeological coherence, but are determined by the programme of the Survey as a whole.

The effectiveness of the Division's work depends largely on the accuracy and completeness of its records. Basically these consist of a set of annotated 6-inch maps with a related card index. Each site or findspot is allotted its card (or set of cards) on which is recorded, with references and authorities, all the information we can gather regarding it, while to facilitate the recording of any particular site or area as and when required a bibliographical index, arranged by counties and parishes, is also maintained. This information, supplemented by the inspection of air photographs, is used to brief our field investigators when they carry out their ground check and survey, and their notes and plans are ultimately added to it.

While the backbone of the record is provided by published material and the notes of our own field workers, however, there is one other very important source of information. Throughout its history the Ordnance Survey has always relied heavily on the goodwill and assistance of the informed public. Since the time of O. G. S. Crawford we have had the help of a number of honorary correspondents and we are always glad to be informed of new discoveries, whether by regular correspondents or by anyone else; all we ask is that reports should be as full and as factual as possible. Conversely our records are available for consultation by serious students and, subject to security restrictions, some air photographs may also be inspected; in either case a few days' notice would be helpful. We cannot, however, supply prints of air photographs.

The same records also serve as a basis for the compilation of Period Maps. Of these the following are at present in print:

- Roman Britain (3rd edition, 1956),
- Britain in the Dark Ages (2 sheets, 1938 and 1939),
- Ancient Britain (2 sheets, 1951),
- Monastic Britain (2nd edition, 2 sheets, 1954 and 1955),

and the following are in preparation or projected:

- Southern Britain in the Iron Age (for publication 1959),
- Britain in the Dark Ages (new edition),
- Hadrian's Wall.
The School of Scottish Studies, Edinburgh University

From Mr B. R. S. McGaw

RECORDING AND RESEARCH

Selected features of the work of the School during the year 1957-58.

Oral Tradition

Mr Calum Maclean recorded much valuable material, particularly in Wester Ross, Lorne and W. Perthshire, comprising folktales, legends, beliefs and customs. "The material on the mainland of Argyll is as fine as anywhere in Scotland, but to collect it properly not one but a whole team of collectors is necessary." Mr Maclean was also engaged on a study of beliefs and customs connected with death, with special reference to divination.

Mr Hamish Henderson recorded many fine tales and legends from tinker families, especially in Ross-shire and Sutherland.

Mr Stewart Sanderson has begun work on the extensive MS collection of the late Dr J. F. Crombie, which is on temporary loan from the Folk-Lore Society for this purpose. He has also completed the indexing of the School's collection of over 500 riddles ("guddicks") from Shetland, with a view to publication.

Folk Music

Before he retired, on 30th September, 1958, Mr Francis Collinson completed a number of large tasks, including transcription into music notation of more than 500 songs from Mrs Kennedy Fraser's phonograph recordings.

Mr Henderson had several successful tours yielding new song-recordings, including material from Tiree, Kintyre and the Blairgowrie berry-fields.

Mr James Ross obtained song-recordings in the course of a visit to members of the Lewis community living in London, with results "comparable to any trip of similar duration to the Western Isles"; and fine recordings were also obtained in Skye, among them a Skye waulking. With Mr Collinson, he was engaged on the extensive song repertoire of Nan Mackinnon of Vatersay with a view to publication.

Material Culture

Dr Ian Whitaker was engaged in preparing for publication the results obtained by him during the School's expedition to St. Kilda (1957). Former St. Kildans now resident in Argyllshire
were visited, as well as the muniments of the Macleods at Dunvegan Castle. In N. Uist Dr Whitaker examined (with Dr W. H. F. Nicolaisen) vestiges of the shieling system in relation to the place-name evidence.

Mr Sanderson has investigated traditional methods of salmon-net fishing on the Tweed, and of salt-making at Prestonpans (Scotland's sole remaining salt-pan), in both cases with extensive photographic records of processes and tools and notes of dialect words still in use.

Mr Basil Megaw visited W. Inverness-shire with Mr A. T. Lucas, Director of the National Museum of Ireland, and recorded some interesting cruck-built houses on Loch Eil.

Mr Henderson recorded descriptions of setting up the tinker tents, with the technical terms employed, and mapped out routes followed by the tinkers in the N. Highlands.

The photographic archive more than doubled its size during the year, and now includes some 3,600 items. A particularly valuable contribution has been made by Dr Werner Kissling, who has given many fine prints from his pre-war photographs of Eriskay and S. Uist. Dr Kissling also carried out, on the School's behalf, photographic tours in Dumfriesshire and the Borders.

The card-index of printed sources on Scottish material culture compiled by Dr Whitaker, with the voluntary assistance of Mr Robert Kerr as regards the First and Second Statistical Accounts, now, comprises some 50,000 cards.

The Place-Name Survey

An especially valuable gain was the co-operation of the Gaelic Department of Jordanhill Teachers' Training College, in enabling prospective teachers to join in place-name field work. Most of the maps and note-books handed out at Easter were returned to Dr Nicolaisen, who is in charge of the survey, during the summer with good results.
A Scottish Bibliography for 1958

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

The following abbreviations are used:

- **AHR**: Agricultural History Review
- **Ant. J**: Antiquaries Journal
- **BNJ**: British Numismatic Journal
- **HBNC**: History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club
- **PPS**: Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
- **PSAS**: Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
- **TDGAS**: Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society
- **TELAS**: Transactions of the East Lothian Antiquarian and Natural History Society
- **THAS**: Transactions of the Hawick Archaeological Society

**GENERAL**

- **H. R. Schubert**: History of British Iron and Steel Industry to 1775 - Routledge (1957), 60/-
- **ed. J. Walton**: The Border: National Forest Guide (Chapters by H. L. Eldin, I. A. Richards, J. D. Mackie) - HMSO, for Forestry Commission, 5/-
- **C.B.A.**: Archaeological Bibliography for Great Britain and Ireland: 1956 - Forthcoming, c. 9/6d
- **D. B. Taylor**: Archaeology of Teeside - Dundee Museum and Art Gallery (1958), 2/6d
- **J. G. Dunbar**: Carved Stone, Tomintoul, nr. Aberfeldy (Bronze Age and Christian) - PSAS (1955-6)
- **I. Finlay**: Scotland's Treasures (Articles in 'Scotsman' on Saturdays in August-November 1958) - Grevin, 1, 4
- **F. A. Aberg**: The Early Plough in Europe - Greenwich, 1, 4
- **W. Ryle Elliott**: Discoveries at Belleville Farm, Berwickshire (Ionic capitals and a king's head) - ibid.
- **A. A. Buist**: Torso of sandstone found at Copland, Ancrum - ibid.

**PRE-ROMAN**

- **S. Piggott and K. Henderson**: Scotland before History - Nelson (1958), 15/-
- **J. G. D. Clark**: Notes on the Obanian - PSAS (1955-6)
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