DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND

A’ LORG AGUS A’ CLADHACH AN ALBAINN

NEW SERIES, VOLUME 13, 2012

THE JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND
DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND

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2012

Editor Paula Milburn

Archaeology Scotland
Archaeology Scotland

Archaeology Scotland is a voluntary membership organisation, which works to secure the archaeological heritage of Scotland for its people through education, promotion and support:

- education, both formal and informal, concerning Scotland’s archaeological heritage
- promotion of the conservation, management, understanding and enjoyment of, and access to, Scotland’s archaeological heritage
- support through the provision of advice, guidance, resources and information related to archaeology in Scotland

Our vision

Archaeology Scotland is a key centre of knowledge and expertise for Scottish archaeology, providing support and education for those interested and involved in archaeology, and promoting Scotland’s archaeological heritage for the benefit of all.

Membership of Archaeology Scotland

Membership is open to all individuals, local societies and organisations with an interest in Scottish archaeology. Membership benefits and services include access to a network of archaeological information on Scotland and the UK, three newsletters a year, the annual edition of the journal *Discovery and excavation in Scotland*, and the opportunity to attend Archaeology Scotland’s annual Summer School and the Archaeological Research in Progress conference.

Further information and an application form may be obtained from Archaeology Scotland

Email info@archaeologyscotland.org.uk

Website www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk

*A’ lorg agus a’ cladhach an Albainn* The Gaelic translation of *Discovery and excavation in Scotland* was supplied by Margaret MacIver, Lecturer in Gaelic and Education, and Professor Colm O’Boyle, Emeritus Professor, both at the Celtic, School of Language and Literature, University of Aberdeen.

Cover images

1. Recording the broch wall at Castle Craig, Perth and Kinross (Photograph: Heather James, SERF, University of Glasgow and Northlight Heritage)
2. A cup- and ring-marked rock at Balnasuim (Bal 2), Perth and Kinross (Photograph: George Currie)
3. A scan of the wooden bridge and potential configuration of strings (Photograph: Courtesy of AOC Archaeology Group). The bridge of this musical instrument was found during excavations associated with the High Pasture Cave and Environs project, Highland
4. The geophysicist Genevieve Shaw undertaking a geophysical survey at Kirk Hill, St Abb’s Head, Scottish Borders (Photograph: Gary Savory, CFA Archaeology Ltd)
5. Early Mesolithic wide based triangles from Nether Mills West, Crathes, Aberdeenshire (Photograph: Heather M Sabnis, OFARS)
6. The chapel, An Teampuill, Isle of Rona (Copyright Fred Hay of ACFA)
7. Back cover: Looking NNE from Minera Standing Stone, SAM 457, towards Buolfruich Wind Farm. Taken during a survey of Upper Smerral, Latheron, Highland (Photograph: Mary Peteranna, Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services)

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Editorial policy
Since the first volume in 1947 Discovery and excavation in Scotland (DES) has played a vitally important role in Scottish archaeology. Each new issue offers a simple way to keep up to date with current work in the field, and the back issues provide a research tool for anyone seeking information about the archaeology of Scotland.

The full run of DES is now available digitally, with the exception of the most recent two volumes. These are available in print form to members of Archaeology Scotland. All volumes from 1947 onwards are available as PDF files. They may be downloaded for research and teaching purposes but must not be resold or made available on any other website or any other medium with or without charge, unless with the prior written consent of Archaeology Scotland and the relevant © holders. The digital archive may be accessed via a link on the Archaeology Scotland website.

DES is not intended as a medium for final publication. It is a reference work, an annual summary of activity in technical form. A fuller account will eventually appear in print elsewhere, and/or further detailed records will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS: formerly referred to as NMRS) and in the appropriate museum service. It is a condition of Historic Scotland funding that entries should be supplied for publication in DES.

Archaeology Scotland publishes DES as a service to its members and to archaeology generally. It is aimed at a readership with a specialist interest in archaeology and welcomes contributions from all sectors of the archaeological community. Its production represents a significant percentage of Archaeology Scotland’s annual income. Financial support is received from various bodies for entries relating to their work, and further contributions are received for reports on developer-funded projects.

DES aims to provide a rapid, comprehensive summary of all archaeological work undertaken in Scotland each year by the end of May in the succeeding year. This imposes a very tight timescale on the production process. These considerations underlie and constrain the editorial policy reflected in the notes for contributors below. It seeks to balance maximum information value and accuracy with speed of production and minimum cost. It is divided into two sections: notes for contributors on the format and deadlines for submissions, and a section on conventions, arranged in alphabetical order.

Acknowledgements
I am grateful to Jack Stevenson for his support during the production of this volume and in particular his assistance with the proof-reading. Special thanks to Jennifer Shore and Dawn Evers for undertaking final checks. My thanks also go to Gordon Sorensen and Helen Sawyer at Cathedral Communications Ltd for all their hard work and to Susan Vaughan for compiling the index. The assistance I received from the people mentioned above undoubtedly immensely improved DES.

Thanks are due to the Stationery Office Ltd Cartographic Centre for the Local Authority map.

Archaeology Scotland is in receipt of an award from the Historic Scotland Heritage Grants Programme.

Archaeology Scotland wishes to acknowledge the following bodies for generous financial assistance in respect of the reports relating to their particular contributions to this volume:
• Historic Scotland
• Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
• The Crown Office (Treasure Trove Advisory Panel)

Paula Milburn, Archaeology Scotland
1 Notes for contributors

1.1 Content of DES
The editor will accept appropriate accounts of all forms of archaeological discoveries. It is preferable to submit entries in the year of discovery, but contributions may also be submitted up to three years later. They may cover:

• Assessment (desk-based assessments should only be submitted if undertaken as part of additional work)
• Evaluation
• Watching brief
• Excavation
• Geophysical or other field survey
• Fieldwalking
• Historic building survey
• Palaeoenvironmental studies
• Finds studies
• Records of stray finds
• Public access projects including Adopt-a-Monument
• Full bibliographic references for the final publication, in any medium, of work previously recorded in DES.

1.2 Text format and deadlines
• Please supply contributions as a Word attachment via email. In addition, one hard copy of each contribution and a disk with the entries and any illustrations should be submitted. Each contribution should be printed out on a separate page following the standard format, and typed or clearly printed in single spacing.
• Professional organisations should submit text in the format requested by the editor. Individuals may submit text in the format of the sample entry below.
• Contributions may be sent in at any time during the year. The final deadline for inclusion of contributions in the volume for the current year is 15 November. Contributions received after that date will be included in the next year's volume.
• All entries should acknowledge the contributor(s), organisation(s) and appropriate funder(s).
• The contributors' contact addresses will be listed at the back of the volume.
• The editor will not accept anonymous contributions.
• Contributions should be sent to Dr Paula Milburn at RCAHMS, John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9NX.
• Email Paula.Milburn@rcahms.gov.uk

1.3 Illustration format
• We will include illustrations to accompany your entry whenever possible, provided they are of appropriate quality. We particularly welcome plans of large-scale excavations and surveys.
• Please supply colour and black and white greyscale images as jpg or tif files at a minimum resolution of 300dpi.
• Black and white bitmap images should ideally be saved at 1200dpi, and no lower than 800dpi for optimum printing.
• Please supply a hard copy of each image, labelled on the back with local authority area, site name and file name, and a numbered list of captions cross-referencing images and files.
• Do not embed images in Word files.

1.4 Editorial process
• Copyright for text and images published in DES will rest with Archaeology Scotland. Entries will normally be added to CANMORE, the RCAHMS online database (www.rcahms.gov.uk).
• Contributors should ensure they have copyright clearance for images not their own before submission.
• The editor will apply the standards and conventions of these notes, as indicated in the sample entry below.
• The editor reserves the right to shorten contributions. Because survey observations can be replicated, these are subject to heavier editing than excavation reports, which are records of unrepeatable work. Negative reports (where no archaeology was found) should be as short as possible.
• Badly written, very long or controversial contributions may be returned to the contributor for revision.
• Contributors will not receive proofs of edited contributions.
• The contributor is responsible for the accuracy of entries, and all enquiries concerning content should be referred to the contributor. Contributors may be asked to verify their contributions. The editor will not enter into lengthy correspondence with contributors.

1.5 Sample entry
[Local authority]
[Parish]

Berry Burn Wind Farm
Evaluation and survey
Sarah-Jane Haston – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NJ 07032 46223 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in July 2006 to ascertain whether there were any archaeological constraints upon the location of a turbine forming part of the Berry Burn wind farm. The proposed turbine location lies near the prehistoric field system at Rochuln (NJ04NE 3).

Seven trenches were excavated, covering 392m², equivalent to just over 5% of the available area. The present ground surface was at 310m OD. The trenches were excavated through varying depths of peat, and all came down onto natural sand with frequent boulders protruding from the bedrock. In some places an iron-pan had developed before the onset of peat accumulation. Large tree trunks were visible within the peat at depths between 0.4m and 0.7m. The evaluation identified three lengths of dry stone walling, comprising two separate structures lying on top of the natural subsoil and sealed beneath up to 0.7m of peat. Of unknown date or function, they may be associated with an early field system. All three features lie on the very E margin of the Turbine 30 location and c45m from the centre point of the turbine base.

Three linear banks that lay outside the limits of the previous work undertaken by the RCAHMS (survey DC17478/PO) were surveyed. Archive and report: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland SMR Funder: Entec UK
[Contact details for organisation/individual name – for contributors list]
2 Conventions

2.1 Abbreviations and acronyms
- Do not punctuate abbreviations or acronyms, eg RCAHMS, National Museums Scotland, mm, m, Fig
- Use N, S, E, W, NE, SSE, E–W, and NS for cardinal points and directions. Spell out northwards, southern etc in full.

2.2 Bibliographic references
- It will not normally be necessary to provide references for entries in the DES county list.
- References to previous DES entries for the same site should be in the form DES 2001, 92–93.
- For other references follow the Harvard system. Cite the reference in the text as the author’s name and the year of publication, with page and illustration references. Provide a full list of references in alphabetical order at the end of the entry. Use the CBA journal abbreviations.
- Take the title from the title page, not from the spine or elsewhere on the cover. The title should be transcribed exactly as to wording and spelling but not necessarily as to punctuation and capitalisation. This means that except for proper names, only the first word of a title should be capitalised and no full stop is necessary at the end of the title.

2.3 Dates
- Cite dates as 30 July 1893.
- Use the form 5th century, 3rd millennium.
- Note that dates used as adjectives are hyphenated; 5th-century date, 18th-century moulding.
- Use 1590s, 1930s.
- Note the order 49 BC, but AD 1952.
- Elision of dates should be to the shortest form consistent with clarity, eg 5–5 July, 17457.

2.4 Geographical references
- To allow sites/finds to be located to the highest possible degree of accuracy National Grid references (NGRs) should be given as two letters and at least eight figures. Ten figure NGRs would also be most welcome.
- Exceptions are treasure trove locations where the submitting body feels that a more ambiguous location is appropriate, or completed work where the locational information has already been submitted to DES.
- Use current rather than historic local authority divisions (see map in this volume).

2.5 Italics
- Use italics for the titles of books and journals, eg Discovery and excavation in Scotland, DES, Proc Soc Ant Scot.
- Use italics for foreign words and quotations, eg c (for circa), terminus ante quem, honi soit qui mal y pense.

2.6 Numbers and measurements
- Spell out the numbers from one to ten except in measurements. Numbers 11 and above should be numerals except where the context makes this awkward (eg at the beginning of a sentence).
- Figures between 1000 and 9999 do not require a comma.
- Where numbers appear in a sequence, use numerals, eg of 100 trenches, 74 produced white gritty ware.
- Elision of numbers should be to the shortest form consistent with clarity, eg 254–8, 116–18, 196–203.
- Cite measurements in kilometres (km), metres (m) or millimetres (mm). Use the unit that is appropriate for the accuracy of the measurement.
- Do not use cm as they are not an SI measurement.
- Do not leave a space between the number and the unit of measurement.
- In a series of measurements using the same unit only the last measurement needs to be followed by the unit, eg 34 x 67 x 83mm.
- The accuracy of measurements and the units used to describe them will not be comprehensively checked, and the responsibility for ensuring their accuracy rests with the contributor.

2.7 Quotations
- Short quotations should be enclosed in single quotation marks.
- Lengthy quotations (more than five lines) should be indented, beginning a fresh line, and should not have quotation marks.

2.8 Spelling
- Spelling should follow the Concise Oxford Dictionary, preferring the first variants where offered.
- Note the preferred spellings of the following words and phrases:
  - 1st Edition OS
  - annexe (noun)
  - artefact
  - cup mark
  - datable
  - dry stone
  - gazetteer
  - ground-breaking
  - groundwork
  - guilty
  - hollow-way
  - hut circle
  - land use
  - medieval
  - metal detecting
  - millennium
  - penannular
  - placticrub
  - ploughsoil
  - posthole
  - rig and furrow
  - ring ditch
  - roundhouse
  - samian
  - viewshed
  - walkover
  - wind farm

2.9 Style
- Contributions should be brief statements of work undertaken.
- Survey information should be summarised.
- Write simply and clearly.
- Try to be interesting.
- Avoid the use of the passive.
**Discovery and excavation in Scotland pro forma**

Please supply the following information in this order and format.
If there is more than one item on a line please separate them by using the tab key.

Local authority........................................................................................................................................................................................................

Parish........................................................................................................................................................................................................

Site name .............................................................................. Name of contributor(s).................................................................

Type of project ................................................. Name of organisation...................................................................................

National Grid Reference (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)............................................................................................................................

NMRS No(s)/RCAHMS Canmore site number (if known)...........................................................................................................................

[Report]

Location of archive and/or report ........................................................................................................................................................................

Funder........................................................................................................................................................................................................

Contact details of organisation....................................................................................................................................................................
Local Authority Areas

Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994

Numbered Area
1 WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE
2 EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE
3 NORTH LANARKSHIRE
4 GLASGOW CITY
5 EAST RENFREWSHIRE
6 RENFREWSHIRE
7 INVERclyde
8 CLACKMANNANSHEIRE
9 FAULKirk
10 WEST LOTHIAN

Produced by the Stationery Office Ltd Cartographic Centre S/96
Survey of Places of Worship in Scotland

Edwina Proudfoot and Jonathan Dowling – Scottish Church Heritage Research (SCHR)

This has been a busy year, not helped by poor weather. This has been the third year of the Historic Scotland funded project, which will be completed by the end of March 2013. The Field Officer completed fieldwork in Angus early in the year and also entered all the records onto the website. From April fieldwork focused on Aberdeenshire and Moray; 602 sites were completed by November. By early December 424 of the recorded sites had been researched, written up and uploaded to the website, www.scottishchurches.org.uk. At the time of writing images of c180 other sites have been added to the web, and writing of the accompanying texts was under way.

Other work has been supported by the Church of Scotland and a number of private donations, as well as by the volunteers. In Fife about 50 places of worship have been revisited by a team of three volunteers and the interiors photographed, to complete the record. One volunteer has been recording places of worship in Ayr and Ayrshire. Most of the area has been recorded and details sent to SCHR on CDs, fully annotated and ready to upload. At the time of writing many of the newly recorded sites have not been uploaded, but a sample of sites of particular interest is given below. All will be fully uploaded by the end of the project.

Cullen Old Kirk, Moray NJ 5072 6635
Cullen Old Kirk sits at a distance from the modern town, which was removed to the present location from 1820. The church, dedicated to St Mary the Virgin is cruciform in plan. It sits in a graveyard where there are several historic stones. Dating from the 13th century with many additions and alterations, up to and including from the 20th century, it is a fascinating building. There is a birdcage bellcote on the W gable.

The kirk retains two features, once common in churches, but rarely surviving today, lairds’ tombs of 1554 and the laird’s loft, of 1602. In addition there are some 16th- and 17th-century pew ends, a 16th-century sacrament house, the remains of a chapel to St Anne and a tomb with carvings of knights on horseback. Associated churches are the former St John the Evangelist church, at Kirkton of Deskford, and at Skeith is a chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Pity.

Knockando Parish Church, Moray NJ 1864 4287
Knockando Parish Church suffered a severe fire in 1990 and as a result was deemed unsafe. It was demolished and in 1993 rebuilt on the same footprint. There is no record of excavations prior to the rebuilding, although the church sat on an old site. At least three earlier churches had been on the site, dating from 1757 to 1906. In that year a round tower was added to the SW and this was repeated in the new building. An old watch house in the graveyard has been transformed into another modern feature. It has been redesigned as a chapel, which is open all year. A number of unusual features can be seen in the graveyard, Victorian gravestones and other carved stones.

The interior is entirely modern, light and airy, with tall windows and a ridge light along the length of the church. The communion table sits on a curved raised platform, with the organ in the SE corner and the wooden font, with an unusual pottery bowl, is at the S.

Scalan Roman Catholic Seminary, Moray NJ 2466 1947
Scalan is situated in the remote Ladder Hills, among rough pasture and small farms. The college was founded in 1716 to train priests at a time when the Catholic Church was suppressed. It had a varied history during the 18th century, was burned down in 1746, but was rebuilt nearby, and remained in use until the 19th century. The college of the 1760s is a rectangular building of stone, now with a slate roof, to appear as a vernacular building. Originally it had a turf roof. There is no substantial church, although at the N end of the building a chapel is adjacent to the Master’s bedroom on the first floor. Late 20th-century conservation works returned the building from farmhouse to the college layout.
Aberdeen Community Health Care Village, Frederick Street
Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 9455 0657 A series of Level 1 and Level 2 standing building surveys were carried out, 23 March – 3 April 2012, at 54–60 Frederick Street. This former warehouse was most recently used by Aberdeen City Council as Whitespace, a community arts facility, art gallery store and archaeology unit offices.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen City Council

Airyhall Road
Evaluation
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 90818 03948 A 7% evaluation of a 1ha site was carried out 12–13 January 2012. A total of 13 features were recorded, including stone and ceramic drains. Three of the pits (F10, F12 and F13), which measured 6–10m in diameter, were filled with angular quarry waste. A small number of 19th-century pottery sherds were also associated with these features. The pits were probably small quarry pits dug to supply building stone for the construction of Airyhall House, and subsequently backfilled with stone waste. Several small quarries are recorded on late 19th-century OS maps, but none is in the vicinity of Airyhall House.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: BANCON

City Centre District Heating Phase 1
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
Watching brief
NJ 95273 07178 (Beach Ballroom) – NJ 94325 06603 (West North Street) – NJ 94325 06405 A watching brief was maintained, 17 November 2011 – 1 May 2012, during the excavation of trenches for new heating pipes. The trenches running from The Town House, Broad Street to Aberdeen Leisure Centre, Beach Boulevard were 1.5m wide and 1.2m deep. The foundations of 19th-century tenements were recorded in Broad Street and garden soils in Mealmarket Street.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen Heat and Power

50 – 52 College Bounds
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
Standing building recording and watching brief
NJ 93950 08088 A watching brief and standing building survey were carried out, 27 September 2011 – 20 June 2012, during conversion of this late 18th-century house to University of Aberdeen accommodation. A buried soil was recorded within and immediately outside the building, but no significant remains were uncovered.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen City Council

Duthie Park
Watching brief and standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 93889 04227 An evaluation undertaken in 2010 (DES 2010, 11) uncovered a set of concrete steps built in the early 1880s when the park was established. A watching brief was carried out 8–29 May 2012 as the steps were covered to allow the construction of new steps. A Level 2 standing building survey was also undertaken on a wooden pavilion and a stone shelter prior to their restoration.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen City Council

Esslemont and Macintosh Building, Union Street, Aberdeen
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 94289 06295 A watching brief was carried out 27 September – 29 November 2011 during the excavation of trenches below the floors of this former department store. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: CandL Properties Ltd

86–92 Fonthill Road, Aberdeen
Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology Ltd
NJ 93295 05186 A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out 7–8 May 2012 of a former police station prior to its demolition and the construction of new housing.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Veitchi Homes Ltd

Jopps Lane/Loch Street, Aberdeen
Standing building recording and evaluation
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 93990 06672 A standing building survey was carried out 11 June – 21 August 2012, on a 19th-century garage and a 20th-century public house prior to their demolition. Following the demolition an evaluation revealed deposits from the Aberdeen Loch. Documentary evidence indicates that in the 17th century geese were feeding on the grass of the loch, with Parson Gordon describing it as a ‘marisch’ in 1661, and Taylor’s map of 1773 showing the bed of the loch as an area of dry land called ‘Lochlands’.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scape Homes JF Ltd

Pinewood, Countesswells Road, Aberdeen
Evaluation
**Proverb Skene’s House, Aberdeen**

**Watching brief**

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 94198 06385 A watching brief was undertaken 1 November – 15 December 2011 during the excavation of a number of test trenches. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen City Council

**Rousay Drive, Aberdeen**

**Evaluation**

Rob Engli – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 8975 0658 An evaluation was undertaken 6–9 February 2012 prior to a proposed supermarket development on unoccupied urban waste ground. The NW of the site bordering the Lang Stracht appeared to be relatively undisturbed former agricultural ground, with the remainder of the site being heavily truncated by previous building and demolition works. A total of 13 trenches (1100m²) were excavated but no archaeologically significant features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Santon Group Developments Ltd, Tesco Stores Ltd and HSBC PLC c/o Goodson Associates, Edinburgh

**St Fittick’s Community Garden, St Fittick’s Road**

**Watching brief**

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 96094 05163 A watching brief was carried out on 20 June 2012 during groundworks associated with the construction of a community garden on the site of South Kirkhill Farm. An area of rubble from the former farm was recorded adjacent to the road in the SW part of the site. An area of natural subsoil was observed under a shallow topsoil in the NE part of the site. There were no features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aberdeen Forward

**Triple Kirks, Aberdeen**

**Evaluation**

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 9378 0627 An evaluation was undertaken 13–22 March 2012 at the site of the Triple Kirks. A total of 13 trenches (1100m²) were excavated within the confines of the Triple Kirks and a single machine dug trench (30m²) excavated in the area between the N façade and the street frontage. All of the excavated areas contained the remains of walls and/or floors, some relating to the Triple Kirk structure and others pre-dating the existing building. Finds of ceramic, animal bone, clay pipe and iron were recovered from various deposits in the test pits.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Stewart Milne Developments

**Dyce**

**Kirkhill**

**Historic landscape survey**

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy to recognise and safeguard sites in advance of timber operations that may be potentially damaging to the archaeological resource. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

- NJ 8572 1323 **East Woodland** An area of ground donated to the Forestry Commission contains a memorial to the benefactor’s wife. The memorial consists of a circular stone setting enclosing an area of ground containing a field roller, which was used on the former fields. The memorial and an additional limited area outside of the stone setting will be protected.

  Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
  Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Newhills**

**Burnside Road, Dyce**

**Evaluation**

Cat Peters – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 89116 12072 (centred on) An evaluation was undertaken 13–14 December 2011 prior to development work. The archaeological potential of the area was considered high as previous work and the presence of surviving canal mile and half milestones, one immediately to the S of the development area, indicated that the line of the Aberdeenshire Canal might have run across the site. A total of four trenches were excavated but no archaeological features were recorded, suggesting that any traces of the canal, if present, had been removed during previous development on the site.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Barratt East Scotland

**Chapel Farm, Bucksburn, Aberdeen**

**Watching brief**

HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 86628 11132 A watching brief was undertaken on 22 February 2012 prior to development. A 19th-century mill pond had removed any possible features associated with the adjacent medieval St Mary’s Chapel.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: City of Aberdeen SMR
Funder: Mr Hamish McDonald

**Davidson’s Mill, Mugiemoss Road, Aberdeen**

**Evaluation and standing building recording**

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 90071 10048 A 7% evaluation carried out 27 February – 11 April 2012 in the fields on the S side of Mugiemoss Road recorded no significant archaeological remains. The excavation of two trenches in the area of the oldest mill produced evidence that the height of the area had been increased by at least 1.5m using ash and rubble, presumably from the early mill workings. It is therefore possible that structural remains will survive in this area and further trenches should be excavated when the companies leasing buildings have vacated them or in association with the demolition work.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Stewart Milne Homes N Scotland for Stewart Milne Group Ltd and Manse (Aberdeen) Ltd
Aberdeen City

Boiler House chimney with remains of boiler house in foreground; mid-19th century, Davidson’s Main

**Dyce Drive, Aberdeen**

*Evaluation*

Rob Engl and Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 8789 1165 (Plot 1) and NJ 8808 1105 (Plot 2) A 5% evaluation was undertaken 16 April – 3 May 2012 on a 31.3ha greenfield site adjacent to Dyce Drive prior to its development. No significant archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: ABZ Development Ltd

**Kingswells, Aberdeen**

*Evaluation*

Lindsay Dunbar and Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 8610 0663 An evaluation was undertaken, 10–18 September 2012, prior to development of a greenfield site at Kingswells. An evaluation of Phase 1 had been undertaken in 2011 and this year’s work covered Phases 2 and 3 of the development. A bund area, haul road and site compound had been stripped to the natural prior to the attendance of an archaeologist and the evaluation worked around these areas. A total of 88 trenches, representing 10% (11296m²) of the site were excavated. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: ABZ Development Ltd

**Stoneywood, Aberdeen**

*Evaluation, standing building recording and walkover survey*

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 89507 11560 A 7% evaluation, standing building and walkover surveys were carried out, 19 December 2011 – 4 January 2012, on 12.43ha at Stoneywood. The Aberdeenshire Canal was noted in one area and its line and size were recorded. No other significant archaeological remains are to be affected by this development.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Dandara

A section of the Aberdeenshire Canal during recording, Stoneywood

**Nigg**

*Loirston Loch*

*Evaluation*

Warren Bailie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd

NJ 939 015 An evaluation was undertaken 16–18 January 2012 of a 15.9ha site. The evaluation consisted of the machine excavation of 23 trenches positioned over specific geophysical anomalies. No archaeological deposits were recorded in the trenches. A total of 58 core samples were extracted as part of the evaluation and 7 retained for possible palaeoecological analysis.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Barr Construction

**Ness Farm and Tullos Hill Landfill Site**

*Watching brief*

Cat Peters – Aberdeen City Council Art Gallery and Museums Service

NJ 9559 0355 (centred on) The closure of the landfill sites at Ness Farm and Tullos Hill required a programme of groundwork operations to ensure a safe closure. A watching brief was undertaken March–December 2011 during groundworks occurring in areas beyond the boundaries of the known landfill excavations. No archaeological features were recorded during the installation of a monitoring well pit, and the excavation of a cable trench, seven test pits and a surface water trench.

Archive: Aberdeen City Council

Funder: Aberdeen City Council

**Wellington Road, Aberdeen**

*Evaluation*

Cat Peters – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 94433 01673 An evaluation was undertaken 10–20 January 2012 of a proposed mixed development site at Wellington Road. A total of 27 trenches were excavated, covering 7% of the 9.03ha area. Stone drains and evidence for post-medieval field clearance were recorded, along with a ceramic jar, all of probable 19th- or 20th-century date. The consumption dyke at the S boundary of the site was recorded photographically and will not be disturbed during development work.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Stewart Milne Homes
Old Machar

6 Balgownie Road, Bridge of Don
Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 94061 09765 A standing building survey was undertaken on 7 March 2012 of a one room, above ground, concrete air raid shelter in the garden of 6 Balgownie Road, prior to its demolition and the construction of a house extension.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr P Ewen

Peterculter

Baads
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NJ 8114 0325 – NJ 8119 0326 – NJ 8121 0310 – NJ 8119 0307 (polygon) Baads An area of rig running at c350° with a wavelength of c8m.
NJ 8126 0325 – NJ 8122 0324 Baads A slight curvilinear bank or dyke overlying the earlier rigs (noted below). It extends to a modern trackway and may originally have articulated with a similar linear feature (see below).
NJ 8119 0323 – NJ 8120 0316 Baads This bank or dyke may possibly form an enclosure with the feature noted above, and appears to have been built on top of an earlier rig.
NJ 8119 0326 – NJ 8127 0329 – NJ 8134 0304 – NJ 8146 0306 – NJ 8144 0312 – NJ 8148 0314 – NJ 8147 0328 – NJ 8156 0301 – NJ 8163 0302 – NJ 8630 0302 – NJ 8170 0281 – NJ 8142 0286 (polygon) Baads An area of rigs running along the same alignment as the large area noted above, but with a number of different features. The E side of this area contains rigs with a wavelength of c10m but with narrow rigs and broad, flat furrows. At NJ 8138 0273 this changes to three rigs of 6m wavelength. There is then a broad 4m wide trackway before a series of rigs measuring 8–10m. These last rigs have very even waves, contrasting with the narrow rigs with flat furrows.
NJ 8133 0268 – NJ 8155 0278 Baads A linear bank cutting rigs which appears to define the shelter belt shown on the 1st Edition OS map.
NJ 8134 0266 – NJ 8138 0270(a), NJ 8135 0266 – NJ 8139 0269(b) Baads Two slight, ill-defined banks. It is not certain whether they overlay the rig system or whether the rigs stop at this point. The N one (a) appears to run almost to the early modern bank noted above whilst the S one (b) is almost parallel to the modern woodland boundary.
NJ 8150 0308 (centred on) Baads The E part of the large rig system noted above but shoewing a slightly different morphology. The rigs here measure almost 12m from rig to rig and are again narrow in character with broad flat furrows.
NJ 8140 0332 – NJ 8146 0333 – NJ 8148 0314 – NJ 8144 0313 (polygon) Baads An enclosed rig system of very well defined rigs with 10m wavelengths and clear wave shape. Another possible dyke seems to run S from the enclosure boundary, but it does not quite meet the bank enclosing the rigs at its N end.
NJ 8155 0277 (centred on) Baads A small sub-section of the large rigged field and on the same alignment, containing rigs with fluctuating wavelengths, some as little as 5m.
Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Beanshill Cottage, Milltimber

Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 94579 03203 A watching brief was undertaken on 7 May 2012 during the excavation of a trench for solar panels. No archaeological features were recorded and all finds were 19th or 20th-century in date.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Neil Cordiner

Conlaw Mains, Peterculter

Standing building recording and watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 83942 02802 A standing building survey was carried out 26 July – 22 August 2012 on the remains of a farm steading. A watching brief was also maintained during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of a new driveway. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Kinch Enterprises (Farms)

Woodend, Peterculter

Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 83748 01926 A standing building survey was undertaken on 15 August 2012 of 19th-century farm steading buildings prior to their conversion into a house.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Adam

ABERDEENSHIRE

Alford
Strone Hill, Alford
Survey
Stuart Farrell
NJ 580 140 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were undertaken in September 2012 on an area above Kinstair Farm S of Alford. A number of clearance cairns were recorded at NJ 578 139 (centred on); most looked recent in date.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: SAC on behalf of Mr J French

Banchory-Ternan
Banchory Woods
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NO 6821 9677 – NO 6821 9680 Corsee Wood A short curving section of pre-modern destroyed dyke located in an extensive area of clearance cairns.
NO 6831 9699 Corsee Wood An apparently semi-circular setting of stone construction on top of a hill. As a complete circular feature it would measure c12m in diameter internally. Located amongst clearance cairns and other structures, one of which has been identified as both a long cairn and as reflecting settlement activity.
NO 6689 9925 – NO 6687 9928 Larnach A short stretch of pre-modern linear dyke.
NO 6730 9914 – NO 6732 9905 Hill of Brathens A section of linear dyke.
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Banchory
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NO 6790 9788 East Brathens A sub-rectangular/circular enclosure, c7m internally, sits at the end of a trackway.
NO 6790 9788 – NO 6781 9802 East Brathens A hollow-way which appears to lead to the small enclosure noted above.
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Crathes Castle
Standing building survey
Tom Addyman and Kenneth Macfadyen – Addyman Archaeology
NO 73423 96331 A standing building survey was undertaken 22–23 November 2012 on the dilapidated Crow Wood cattle shelter at Crathes Castle prior to the development of a repair strategy. The drawn survey included plans, elevations and sections. The structure was early 19th-century in date and appears to be a rare example of a building type once common in the region and one of a number of very similar structures deriving from an episode of improvements on the Crathes Estate. The hipped roof structure is notable for the use of pantiles in general and tiles of varied colour in particular. They are of a very dark grey fabric on the entrance frontage and sides, but of a more common red fabric to the rear. The use of darker pan tiles seems to have been an aesthetic choice, employed to appear as slate from a distance.
The footings of the buildings were also evaluated and small excavations revealed that the rear wall of the building had been built directly on the subsoil, whilst the area close to the principal entrance had a projecting base course built on the subsoil. The structural instability of the building was attributed to the failure of the roof rafters, which had increased lateral pressure causing the walls to lean and crack.
Archive: The National Trust for Scotland
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Crathes Castle Stables
Watching brief
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 73372 96826 A watching brief was undertaken on 20 February 2012 during the excavation of a replacement soakaway pit to the S of the stables buildings. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and NTS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Nether Mills West
Fieldwalking and lithic analysis
Heather M Sabnis – OFARS
NO 7508 9603 Further fieldwalking was carried out at 2m intervals, 5 January – 26 February 2012, on two fields bordering the N bank of the River Dee. This was a continuation of the survey started in 2008 to discover the full extent of the flint scatter in Crathes (DES 2008, 16–17 and DES 2011, 12). GPS co-ordinates were recorded for each find, typically accurate to 2–3m. Distribution figures were calculated on the basis of flint numbers per 10 x 10m². The material has been briefly assessed but not examined in detail.

Early Mesolithic wide based triangles from Nether Mills West, Crathes. Scale: 10mm divisions

A total of c500 flints were recovered and in general the assemblage was similar to that recorded previously, with cores (mainly single platform), scrapers, and material representing...
all stages of preparation, but no diagnostic Late Mesolithic microliths, oblique points (possibly Early Mesolithic), or Neolithic pieces. However, this year three wide based triangles were picked up confirming an Early Mesolithic occupation.

Early Mesolithic wide based triangles have now been found at three locations in this 1.75km scatter through five adjacent fields along the N bank of the River Dee, the other two being at Nether Mills East (DES 2009, 16) and at Milton Cottage (DES 2011, 12).

Banchory-Ternan/Strachan

Blackhall

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NO 6859 9401 Craigloch A low cairn, c6m in diameter, which does not seem to reflect clearance activity.

NO 6855 9394 Craigloch A group of at least four clearance cairns.

NO 6841 9482 Craigloch A group of clearance remains to the SE side of a knoll.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Banff

Castle Street, Banff

Watching brief

JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 68441 64176 A watching brief was carried out, 26–27 March 2012, during work associated with the construction of two houses in the garden to the rear of the Category C listed building at 27–27A Castle Street. Each 10 x 5m plot was excavated to a depth of 0.8m and a single small sherd of unglazed possibly medieval pottery was recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR

Burtie

Barra Castle, Oldmeldrum

Watching brief

HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 79223 25756 Although described as an excellent example of a fortified laird’s house dating to the first half of the 17th century, part of the W range may date to the 15th century. A watching brief was maintained on 19 September 2012 during the laying of new flagstones in the courtyard of the castle. The flagstones were replacing earlier cobbles which were set in a mixture of topsoil and redeposited natural clay. No earlier features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR

Funder: Mr David Stephen

Cairnie

Donaldson Haugh

Geophysical survey and excavation

G Noble, O Sveinbjarnarson and C Hatherley – University of Aberdeen

NJ 533 472 As part of The Rise and Fall of the Picts: Survey and Excavation at the Early Power Centres and Symbol Stones of Northern Pictland Project a geophysical survey was undertaken, 13–14 October 2012, on Donaldson Haugh.

A total of five Class I Pictish stones have been found at Donaldson Haugh since the 19th century. Excavations in 1975 revealed a stone platform or cairn in close association with the findspots of the most recently discovered stones (NJ54NW 24). The magnetic survey recorded a number of linear anomalies, most of which run roughly E–W across the field and appear to represent the old routeways crossing the haughland and connecting two fords. A number of additional anomalies were also recorded. The excavation of test pits failed to reveal any archaeological features in association with the anomalies. Evaluative trenches opened over the findspots of the symbol stones and the cairn excavated in 1975 revealed only subsoil. It is possible that any in situ remains may have been removed by intensive ploughing of the haughland over the last few decades.

Archive: University of Aberdeen (currently)

Chapel of Garioch

Trump International Golf Links

Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

Survey, watching brief and excavation

NJ 99 21 Archaeological fieldwork was carried out at Trump International Golf Links at Menie Estate, before and during the construction phase. The fieldwork took place between June 2009 and July 2011 and comprised fieldwalking, survey and excavation. The fieldwalking identified the location and extent of two large and several minor flint scatters within the dune slack. The fieldwork also identified a former storm beach, largely buried in windblown sand, c150m inland from the current shoreline. It comprised a deposit of beach pebbles at the foot of a low eroded cliff. Several of the pebbles were flint nodules eroding out of the basal till. A programme of flint collection was carried out on two areas measuring 10 x 20m and 2 x 20m in the vicinity of the storm beach. There was a clear concentration of struck flints within both areas but none of these was associated with any features. A few retouched blades from the assemblage were identified as microliths indicating a Mesolithic date for the flint scatters.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Trump International Golf Links

Belhelvie

Trump International Golf Links

Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

Survey, watching brief and excavation

NJ 99 21 Archaeological fieldwork was carried out at Trump International Golf Links at Menie Estate, before and during the construction phase. The fieldwork took place between June 2009 and July 2011 and comprised fieldwalking, survey and excavation. The fieldwalking identified the location and extent of two large and several minor flint scatters within the dune slack. The fieldwork also identified a former storm beach, largely buried in windblown sand, c150m inland from the current shoreline. It comprised a deposit of beach pebbles at the foot of a low eroded cliff. Several of the pebbles were flint nodules eroding out of the basal till. A programme of flint collection was carried out on two areas measuring 10 x 20m and 2 x 20m in the vicinity of the storm beach. There was a clear concentration of struck flints within both areas but none of these was associated with any features. A few retouched blades from the assemblage were identified as microliths indicating a Mesolithic date for the flint scatters.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Trump International Golf Links

Cup marks on a boulder at Backley Hill

Backley Hill

Cup-marked rock

George Currie and Alexander Jarvie
NJ 71571 29202 Approximately 50m N of the cairn on Backley Hill, a boulder 1.4 x 1.3 x 0.9m bears 17 cup marks, the majority of which are on the E edge of the boulder. At the S edge there is the possibility of a more atypical marking.

**Mains of Balquhain**

*Watching brief*

JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NO 313 2455 A watching brief was undertaken on 7 May 2012 during groundworks associated with construction of a wind turbine on Gallows Hill to the N of Mains of Balquhain. The 15th-century castle of Balquhain (NJ72SW 5) lies to the S and a recumbent stone circle with cup-marked stones (NJ72SW 2) lies to the SE. No archaeological finds or features were recorded during the creation of a 180m access track and the 43.5 x 30m area for hard standing and turbine base.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR

Funder: Mr Mark Strachan

**Coull**

*Whiteknoes (Piperwell)*

*Standing building recording*

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 53922 09125 A standing building survey was carried out on 23 August 2012 on the ruins of a 19th-century farmstead on land NE of Whiteknoes. The ruins, which appear on the 1st Edition OS map, were being removed and topsoil stripped prior to the construction of a house. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded during the topsoil stripping.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr Graeme Robertson

**Crathie and Braemar**

*Camlet*

*Field visit*

KC Cooper, A Cooper and S Sedgwick

NO 311 926 A small lime kiln in an excellent state of preservation is built into a hillside below the settlement of Camlet next to a track through Glen Girnock. The kiln has a draw hole on the E side facing the track. The bowl measured 4.1m in diameter and the overall length was 4.7m W–E. It is shown on the 1st Edition OS map, were being removed and topsoil stripped.

Archives: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr Mark Strachan

**Glen Girnock**

*Survey*

Ken C Cooper and Stuart Farrell

NO 31806 93795 The remains of a house were surveyed on 27 July 2012. The NW–SE oriented building consisted of low, turf covered walls with an opening in its E wall. It measured 10.4 x 4.7m, with 0.8m thick walls. It is shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1869 and 2nd Edition OS map of 1904 as unroofed.

**Drumoak**

*Drum Castle*

*Standing building recording*

Jonathan Clark – FAS Heritage

NJ 7963 0051 A historic building survey of the tower, brewhouse and cross chamber at Drum Castle was carried out in November 2010, with further research undertaken in January 2011. The study established that the buildings represent nine phases of development. The earliest was the construction of the Tower of Drum in a single phase, probably initiated shortly after 1323. The building works appear to have been spread over a minimum of four years, with a possible hiatus in the construction of the upper hall level and above. The hiatus marked a change in design, from only timber floors above the ground floor vault, to the provision of vaults above each of the three levels. The main access to the interior was via a door and stair in the N elevation. A timber stair recovered from the NE corner of the hall was dendrochronologically dated, by Anne Crone of AOC Archaeology, to the first half of the 15th century.

The subsequent phases of development included the addition of a one-storey hall range on the S side of the tower, dated to the mid-14th to 15th century. The site was developed further with the addition of an entrance building on the N side of the tower, dating to the late 15th or 16th century. The latter building was subsequently converted for service use, including a brewhouse, with the addition of the Jacobean S range in the early 17th century. This addition resulted in the demolition of the earlier hall range and the construction of the cross range to link the new range to the tower. Dendrochronological dating of the timbers by AOC indicated that the timbers of the cross range roof had been felled in 1603, 1607, 1608, and 1612. Comparison with previous analysis of timbers from the S range, which indicated felling in 1608 and 1609, confirms that the two were constructed contemporaneously.

From the 17th century, the tower appears to have been little used, but subsequent changes of use can be traced in the brewhouse and cross range from inventories and plans.
prepared in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and NTS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Dunnottar

Clochnahill
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 8220 8230 A watching brief was undertaken 29 September – 29 November 2011 during the excavation of the track for the installation of an underground electricity cable and the construction of a new electricity pole associated with the Clochnahill Wind Farm. The track and pole were in close proximity to a standing stone and a short cist. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Hillhead of Auquhirie
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 8315 8368 A watching brief was undertaken 26 June – 4 July 2012 during the excavation of access tracks and the base of one of three wind turbines. An Early Bronze Age flat axe had been found in 1850 in close proximity to the turbine base and access track. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: SSE Power Distribution Ltd

Dyce

Kirkhill
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 8453 1303 – NJ 8509 1320 Boggenjoss A lightly metalled track located between enclosing dykes or banks. It is shown on the 2nd Edition OS map and is very well constructed for a local track.

NJ 8444 1374, NJ 8461 1366, NJ 8462 1349 and NJ 8444 1369 (polygon) Hill of Marcus The N part of this area contains low linear banks with a wavelength of 6m and appearance of rigs. One appears to extend across a modern track to the N. A single small clearance cairn is located at the S end of the rigs. Further clearance cairns extend to the S.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Ellon

Ellon Academy
Evaluation
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 9691 2982 (centred on) A 7% evaluation was undertaken, 13–21 August 2012, on the site of the New Ellon Academy, on gravel ridges on the S side of the Ythan River. The E end of the site had been partially used as a gravel pit during the widening of the A90 road and there was no survival in this area. Although considerable prehistoric activity is recorded from the lower gravel terraces beside the Ythan, no early features were evident in any of the evaluation trenches on the remainder of the site. A total of four flints and one sherd of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery suggest that any activity on this ridge may have been marginal, possibly activities such as herding livestock or gathering wood for fuel and construction. Four sherds of abraded medieval pottery are considered to derive from midden manuring. Traces of rig and furrow of medieval or post-medieval date were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Fetteresso

Fetteresso Forest
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NO 8091 8756 – NO 8097 8742 Burn of Day An area of clearance remains lying below unenclosed fields and at the front edge of a scarp overlooking the Burn of Day. The fields appear to have been drained by a back drain running above them.

NO 8099 8740 Burn of Day A mill dam is fed by an extension to the drain noted above. This lade is cut by an early modern track that is shown on the 1st Edition OS map.

NO 8090 8757 Burn of Day A probable ford which would have provided a viable crossing point for the track noted below. Some revetting has been carried out to create a level crossing point that does not appear to be linked to its present modern opportunistic use.

NO 8091 8757 – NO 8092 8763 Burn of Day A lyncheted trackway, not shown on the 1st Edition OS map, which possibly leads to the ford.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Fetteresso/Glenbervie

Fetteresso
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NO 8080 8757 Burn of Day A farmstead depicted on 1st Edition OS map. The interior shows some remarkably fine
architectural details hinting at a quite comfortable lifestyle for the inhabitants. The house consisted of four main rooms, each of which was heated by a fireplace. The fireplace in the W room was very large, beautifully finished and may have held a range. The joists supporting the upper floor can be seen in the wall sections and the remains of a horizontal plank immediately beneath these might suggest either ceiling boards or a thin wall plate. The details of windows and doors are equally well preserved at present. Outside are the remains of possibly earlier structures.

NO 7345 8648 Pittengogie Structures were noticed by FCS staff Rab Foulds and Graham Morrison and reported to Louise Simpson during the creation of a new track up the flank of the Hill of Pittengogie. The structures were close to an unroofed building shown on the 1st Edition OS map. However, the digger had struck an earlier feature lying to one end of building and a further structure lying adjacent to it. The buildings had been mostly removed to their foundations, though these suggested the building had been well constructed and probably walled with turf. The structures were interpreted as being multiphase, though their function remains unclear. The site is high up above a steep ridge by the side of a well known drove road. The route of the track was changed to avoid the site.

NO 7815 8806 Wood of Mergie A small cairn, c5m in diameter.

NO 8017 8564 Hillhead A farmstead as shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The N cell, which appeared to have been the main living area, measured 11 x 5m externally. A cell measuring 3m internally abuts the S side of the main room, with a further room measuring c2m internally beyond it. The possible remains of an enclosure dyke, cut by a drainage gully, lie to the SW.

NO 8064 8764 – NO 8073 8739 Burn of Day A fairly deep hollow-way presumably leading towards the site of Burn of Day and shown as a trackway on 1st Edition OS map.

NO 7746 8551 – NO 7736 8572 Old Moss A hollowed track measuring c2m between banks. An examination of a hole created by tree throw suggests the track may have been roughly metalled.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Fordoun**

**Mid Hill**
Walkover survey
Philip Karsgaard – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NO 7340 8510 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out in September 2012 following tree felling, in an area chosen for the construction of turbine bases and services associated with an extension to the Mid Hill Wind Farm. The survey identified the remains of an area of possible peat exploitation.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Natural Power Consultants Ltd

**Monboddo**
Geophysical survey and excavation
G Noble, O Sveinbjarnarson, C Hatherley and J Fallgren – University of Aberdeen

As part of The Rise and Fall of the Picts: Survey and Excavation at the Early Power Centres and Symbol Stones of Northern Pictland Project an open area evaluation excavation was carried out, 11–12 October 2012, at Monboddo. This site is considered to be of regional significance and aerial photographs taken since 1982 show what appears to be a timber hall and circular enclosure. The site has appeared in many reviews of early medieval settlement. However, the site appears as a circular plantation on the 1st Edition OS map of 1868 and in the same source the knoll upon which the site is located is named ‘Barn Knap’.

A geophysical survey of the site revealed few of the features which are identifiable on the aerial photographs. The survey did identify some concentrated metal signatures on the western part of the site which the excavation area targeted. The machine excavated evaluation trench measured 15 x 20m and covered almost all the western half of the site. The evaluation quickly established that the ‘timber hall’ was the foundation remains of a brick-built post-medieval structure. Four slots were dug through the enclosure ditch and one of these slots produced post-medieval ceramic building material and mortar throughout the profile, suggesting that the enclosure is also a later feature, and probably the remains of the plantation enclosure marked on the 1st Edition OS map. One pit in the enclosure was also half-sectioned revealing a posthole with brick fragments and mortar traces throughout the profile. Consequently, the Monboddo ‘timber hall’ and enclosure can conclusively be shown to be post-medieval in date and not part of an early medieval or prehistoric tradition of timber halls and enclosures.

Archive: University of Aberdeen (currently)
Funder: British Academy and Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland

**Foveran**

**Aitkenshill Farm**
Standing building recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 96863 21949 A Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken on 23 August 2012 prior to redevelopment of a cottage and attached building which had formed part of Aitkenshill Farm. Cartographic evidence shows the cottage had been built between 1866 and 1899, probably as accommodation for a grieve as it faced towards the steading, with a blank wall facing the main farmhouse. A slightly lower, late 19th-century addition at the E end may have been a dairy.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs:
Aberdeenshire Council SMR

**Fyvie**

**Cranna Farm**
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 73327 35262 A watching brief was carried out on 2 October 2012 during soil stripping associated with the construction of two wind turbine bases S of Cranna Farm. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Stanley McDonald

**Fyvie Castle**
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 7636 3928 A watching brief was carried out 23–24 January 2012 during the excavation of six trenches. The c1–1.5m square and 1m deep trenches were required for work associated with improvements to lightning conductors. Two possible features were recorded, but all the soil removed had been disturbed in the recent past and no significant remains were disturbed.

Archive: NTS and RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland
**Fyvie Castle**

**Geophysical survey**

Susan Ovenden – Rose Geophysical Consultants

NJ 76390 39306 A geophysical survey was carried out 8–12 April 2012 close to Fyvie Castle. As the full extent of the garden features detected in an earlier survey appear to extend to the S, the survey was extended in this area. The resistance survey successfully located the southern extent of the former formal gardens, together with internal garden features. A well defined curvilinear low resistance anomaly was detected through the centre of the survey area. This was thought to indicate the line of a former field boundary or hedge. However, subsequent excavations disproved this theory (see entry below). A number of linear trends were located elsewhere in the survey area, most of which appear to be agricultural in origin, including suggestions of early rig and furrow.

A GPR survey was undertaken in the areas surrounding the castle buildings. The strongest and most coherent anomalies are due to utilities and drains. Several anomalies of potential archaeological significance were located. These were focused in the courtyard and to the S of the castle. Within the courtyard two linear zones, c3–4m wide, were detected in the N and E of the survey block. These suggest the remains of possible N and E wings/court walls.

Archive: Rose Geophysical Consultants
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

**Fyvie Excavation**

Alison Cameron and Shannon Fraser – Cameron Archaeology/
The National Trust for Scotland

NJ 76393 39277 Following successful evaluations in 2010 and 2011 (DES 2010, 21 and DES 2011, 19) five trenches were excavated, 16–27 April 2012, to evaluate an area of the S lawn, prior to its possible use for marquees. The area is occupied by the S end of Seton’s 16th-century gardens and the robber trenches for the red sandstone boundary wall were identified and sampled. Some had been completely robbed whilst others still had some stone foundations in situ. The linear stone features recorded in the garden probably represented borders between planting areas, but further excavation would be required to create a plan of these features.

The excavation of a linear anomaly on the resistivity plot (see entry above) revealed a line of large postholes supporting posts at least 0.8m in diameter, which may reflect the presence of fortifications. The pottery from one posthole indicates a 13th, or early 14th-century date. There are several royal connections with Fyvie during this period. William the Lion was here with Fyvie during this period. William the Lion was here with Fyvie during this period. I visited ‘Fyuin Chastel’ on 21 July 1296. These fortifications probably dates to this period. A drain located in a shelter belt of the S, the survey was extended in this area. The resistance survey successfully located the southern extent of the former formal gardens, together with internal garden features. A well defined curvilinear low resistance anomaly was detected through the centre of the survey area. This was thought to indicate the line of a former field boundary or hedge. However, subsequent excavations disproved this theory (see entry below). A number of linear trends were located elsewhere in the survey area, most of which appear to be agricultural in origin, including suggestions of early rig and furrow.

A GPR survey was undertaken in the areas surrounding the castle buildings. The strongest and most coherent anomalies are due to utilities and drains. Several anomalies of potential archaeological significance were located. These were focused in the courtyard and to the S of the castle. Within the courtyard two linear zones, c3–4m wide, were detected in the N and E of the survey block. These suggest the remains of possible N and E wings/court walls.

Archive: Rose Geophysical Consultants
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

**Fyvie/Methlick**

**Gight**

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

- **NJ 8216 3896 Braes of Gight** A substantial stone rectangular enclosure, c13 x 10m, has a possible off-centre entrance on the S uphill side which is possibly marked by a ‘pillar’ on its W side.
- **NJ 8218 3899 – NJ 8219 3899 – NJ 8220 3898 Braes of Gight** Three short sections of roughly built dyke overlooking the River Ythan may be shooting stances.
- **NJ 8251 3900 – NJ 8253 8239 Braes of Gight** An area of rigs running at c20° with a wavelength of c7m.
- **NJ 8340 3969 – NJ 8350 3970 – NJ 8352 3964 – NJ 8345 3963 (polygon) Badiebath** An area of rigs, oriented at c140° and with a c6m wavelength is cut by a later track and a very small quarry pit.
- **NJ 8318 3958 – NJ 8301 3970 Badiebath** A hollow-way appears to run up from the site of a later bridge.
- **NJ 8293 3935 and NJ 8295 3934 Badiebath** Two clearance heaps.
- **NJ 8291 3941 Badiebath** An extensive area of clearance containing brick and slate waste lies at the base of a slope immediately E of the former 18th-century planned garden of Gight Castle.

Archives: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Gamrie**

**Hungryhills, Longmanhill**

Watching brief

Gary Savory – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NJ 74433 61519 A watching brief was carried out in October 2011 during groundworks associated with the construction of a wind turbine. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Mint Energy Ltd

**Gartly**

**Culdrain**

Historic landscape survey

Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

- **NJ 5174 3440 Upper Coudrain** This bridge/culvert marks the point at which the main 18th-century Strathbogie routeway crossed the burn at the fermtoun of Upper Coudrain and probably dates to this period. A drain located in a shelter belt to the N of the bridge/culvert appears to follow, and have been constructed over, the routeway. The lower end of the drain...
is very broad with a solid, gravelly surface. The remains of an earlier field dyke which runs along the E side of the road crosses a gateway into a field to the W of the shelter belt.

NJ 5178 3440 Upper Coudrain A nettle patch on a slight prominence, which contains traces of probable structural remains, matches the position of a small structure shown on an 18th-century estate plan. The remains are probably one of the nine buildings which formed the fermtoun of Upper Coudrain during the 1770s.

NJ 5129 3374 Nether Coudrain Quarry.

NJ 5154 3356 Nether Coudrain A lade which cuts off a large area of haughland. The earth dug lade has been replaced at NJ 5162 3357 by a concrete construction, which appears to have fed a small mill wheel (see below). There is a sluice gate at both ends of the earth dug lade and a pathway runs along its S side.

NJ 5173 3358 Nether Culdrain This relatively modern wheel pit appears to have powered a small hydro generator, possibly to provide electricity to Culdrain House. It is unclear if this pit replaced an earlier one or what function an earlier pit might have served. A lade is shown on OS maps but there is no reference to the wheel pit.

NJ 5177 3358 Nether Culdrain Medium-sized quarry.

NJ 5182 3362 Nether Culdrain A bridge shown on the 1st Edition OS map related to the post improvement road from Huntly to Rhynie and superseding the crossing point noted below.

NJ 5169 3366 Nether Culdrain A possible bridging point associated with the routeway shown on an 18th-century estate plan. In the absence of more substantive evidence, the substantial boulders in the river may potentially mark the bridging point.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

GARTLY/HUNTLY

Tullochbeg

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 5111 3868 Tullochbeg A possible 19th-century stone culvert is crossed by a modern trackway.

NJ 5099 3861 – NJ 5082 3850 Tullochbeg A late 18th/19th-century revetted drain lined with stone runs to a head dyke.

NJ 5082 3850 Tullochbeg The dyke and associated drain (noted above) run behind this substantial bank/probable head dyke. This may be the remains of the boundary of Clashmach Park depicted on an 18th-century estate plan.

NJ 5047 3818 Tullochbeg A possible ring cairn, c6m in diameter, provides a dramatic view over the surrounding landscape.

NJ 5060 3846, NJ 5067 3845, NJ 5076 3860 and NJ 5070 3861 (polygon) Tullochbeg This irregular complex of enclosures surrounds an area of springs and wet ground. Its function is unclear and it is possible it may have been associated with Clashmach Park.

NJ 5016 3838 – NJ 5019 3848 – NJ 5041 3855 – NJ 5051 3850 Tullochbeg The linear bank running NNW alongside the present field boundary may be the result of modern ground clearance. The linear bank running E towards the enclosure features noted above is probably pre-modern.

NJ 4973 3961, NJ 5000 3973, NJ 5011 3945 and NJ 4985 3931 (polygon) Ittingstone The very faint traces of a field system, consisting of small, irregular, sub-rectangular folds are noted on an 18th-century estate plan. Their apparent association with the scooped sub-circular platform (noted below) may suggest an earlier date. The majority of the banks are barely visible or hidden by gorse and the most visible feature is a pronounced lynchet running along the contour.

NJ 5000 3959 Ittingstone A SE facing scooped sub-circular platform c9m in diameter. A feature is shown on an 18th-century estate plan at this location.

NJ 5046 3946 Ittingstone An enclosure with internal structural remains is shown as a possible sheepfold within an enclosure on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps. It is very close to a farmstead shown on an 18th-century estate plan and the sheepfold may represent secondary 19th-century reuse.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

GLENMUICK, TULLICH AND GLENGAIRN

Knock Castle
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 3521 9515 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 9 November 2011 during the excavation of three small holes for permanent survey markers. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Old Sawmill, Cambus O’May
Standing building recording
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

Chimney of 19th-century steam-powered bobbin mill at Cambus O’May
Aberdeenshire

NO 4059 9794 A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out, 5 July 2012, on the buildings of a 19th-century sawmill on the N bank of the River Dee prior to their redevelopment. Originally built as a water-driven sawmill, by the mid-19th century it had been adapted to use a steam-powered engine. By 1900 it was used to make bobbins for the textile industry. The granite chimney is c.8.5m tall and abuts the boiler house, which retains its original cast iron boiler at first floor level, above the ground level flue, stokehole and ash pit.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Gerry Robb Architectural Design Services

Huntly

Milne's Croft
Survey
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 5001 4171 An annotated photographic survey was carried out on 31 July 2012 of a ruined cottage on hill ground near the River Deveron, prior to its demolition. The foundations of a related byre were also recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: John Wink Design

Insch

Picardy Stone
Geophysical survey
Gordon Noble and Oskar Sveinbjarnarson – University of Aberdeen
As part of The Rise and Fall of the Picts: Survey and Excavation at the Early Power Centres and Symbol Stones of Northern Pictland Project a magnetometry survey was carried out, 29–30 September 2012, around the Picardy Stone, a Class I symbol stone, at Myretoun Farm. An excavation in 1856 of the area around the stone had recorded a cairn, c.2m in diameter, surrounding the stone and a possible E-W oriented grave, just to the S of the stone.

The survey recorded a number of anomalies including a small number of rectilinear or sub-rectilinear anomalies. The size of these anomalies ranged from 10–25m long and c.8–12m wide. A number of linear anomalies, possibly old field boundaries and cultivation remains were also identified. Further clarification of the survey results would require trial excavation or more refined survey methodologies.

Archive: University of Aberdeen (currently)

Keig

Castle Forbes Estate
Excavation
Colin Shepherd – Bailies of Bennachie and University of Aberdeen
NJ 611 189 During July–August 2012 the Bennachie Landscapes Fieldwork Group carried out excavations in the grounds of the Castle Forbes Estate in support of the research being carried out by the teachers, pupils and parents of Keig School (see entry below). Grateful thanks are extended to the Master of Forbes for permission to pursue the work.

The findings of the landscape study had highlighted two areas for consideration. The first was the 18th-century road that formed the major thoroughfare linking the Forbe’s original power base at Druminnor in the N with their southern base at Puttachie, the present Castle Forbes. Beyond this, the road continued to the Boat of Forbes crossing of the River Don. The section across the road established that the standard of road building was more sophisticated than generally seen. The carriageway was 4m wide enclosed by banks and internal drainage gullets. It would be useful to section other parts of the road to establish if this level of construction was maintained for its full length.

The second area investigated focused on the remains of a possible former lade and associated mill stance. A section across the structure confirmed the identification. Further research suggests that it may have been a saw mill, which existed for only a few years during the first half of the 19th century. Work was also begun on the probable site of the mill and this will continue in 2013.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR (intended)
Funder: Volunteer work

Keig School Community Cultural Heritage Project
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Paige Innes, Farquhar Macdougall, Alice Bradbury, Eavan Williams and Ben Gilmour – Keig Primary School

The serious face of archaeological fieldwork! – Keig School Project

NJ 6148 1925 – NJ 6152 1917 – NJ 6162 1917 (road), NJ 6147 1941 – NJ 6157 1930 (mill lade) and NJ 6151 1930 (mill) The aim of the project was to find out

Inverurie

Inverurie Golf Practice Area
Evaluation
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 76185 21315 Three trenches, totalling 7% of a 1ha site were evaluated on 19 March 2012 in advance of a housing development. All features recorded were modern, dating to the late 20th century, and were probably associated with the preparation of the ground for the golf course or practice area.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Kirkwood Homes
what happened to the landscape of Keig parish during the pre-modern period. We looked at documentary and 18th-century map evidence. After noting a number of features on the map, we went out into an area of woodland and tried to discover if any of the features had survived. There were the remains of a road with bridge footings and ford, a mill site with lade and an old river channel. The results of this work, which was carried out April – June 2012, were displayed in an exhibition for the community. Proposed future work will investigate the site of the mill more closely (see entry above). This project forms part of the Bennachie Landscapes initiative and was carried out with the support of the Bailies of Bennachie and Liz Curtis from Aberdeen University School of Education.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR (intended) and Keig Primary School
Funder: Bailies of Bennachie and the University of Aberdeen

Keithall and Kinkell

Stoneyhill, Keithall
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 8194 2237 A watching brief was maintained on 16 April 2012 during the excavation of the bases for two wind turbines. Although the turbines are located within 50m of the scheduled ancient monument of Stoneyhill Cairn, no archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended), Report and photographs:
Aberdeen City Council SMR
Funder: Mr Grant Watt

Kemnay/Kintore

Kemnay Woods
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 7483 1965 – NJ 7491 1962 Roquharold A linear dyke maintains the course of the present plantation boundary from the NW through the wood and then continues SE where it is cut by a modern field boundary. It is probably part of a field system that predates the wood.

NJ 7517 1982 Roquharold A linear bank which cuts into the wood and roughly encloses the hill top is probably part of a pre-modern field system. The possible remains of a pre-improvement farmstead are located inside the enclosed area.

NJ 7533 1971 Roquharold A probable cairn, which appears to be too large to reflect field clearance and is positioned in a highly visible spot on a ridge above a steep slope running down to the River Don. Some stones from this feature may have been moved to NJ 7535 1973, where there are the remains of extensive clearance activity.

NJ 7565 1455 Stony Hill A substantial D-shaped stone-built enclosure located on a hill top. It measures c24 x 24m, with the straight W edge measuring c19m. The purpose of the straight edge and the significance of a concentration of stones in the NE quadrant of the enclosure are unclear. An area of clearance cairns lies to the W but there are none in the enclosure. There is evidence of quite extensive small-scale quarrying around the enclosure. The castellated pattern on two boulders reflects the use of adze and bolster for splitting the stone and indicates that the quarrying predates the 19th century.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Kennethmont

Bridgefoot, Insch
Watching brief
Alison McCaig – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NJ 58659 28647 A watching brief was carried out in January 2012 during groundworks associated with the construction of two wind turbine bases at Bridgefoot. No features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Mint Energy Ltd

Kildrummy

Kildrummy
Survey and watching brief
Jamie Humble – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NJ 4205 2055 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 12 March – 1 May 2012 at Kildrummy Wind Farm. A walkover survey was conducted across the area and included a detailed survey of peat cuttings and associated cairns. A watching brief was carried out during the construction of a c1.1km access track and a compound. The excavation of the access track, which climbed up the valley side to the wind farm, revealed a thin topsoil derived from glacial deposits. A single linear ditch, interpreted as a post-medieval land boundary, was recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: RENERCO

King Edward

Backhill of Foulzie
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7263 5983 A watching brief was carried out on 27 September 2012 during the excavation of the base for a wind turbine at 2 Backhill. Between 2003 and 2005 fieldwalking to the NW of the site produced a range of flints and pottery dating to the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age and, until its removal in 1902, a long barrow was situated on top of the Hill of Foulzie. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs:
Aberdeen City Council SMR
Funder: Mr Philip Easter

Bridgend Quarry
Walkover survey
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7366 5689 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken on 28 June 2012 as part of the environmental impact assessment for a proposed quarry extension. No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Funder: Bridgend Sand and Gravel Ltd

Castleton Farm
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7242 5657 A watching brief was carried out on 28 June 2012 during the excavation of the bases for two wind turbines. The turbines are located on a hill top N of the ruins of the 13th-century King Edward Castle and motte. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs:
Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Mr William Sharp
Kintore

International Paper (UK) Ltd, Inverurie
Excavation
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7790 1870 (centred on) Following the results of an evaluation in 2010 (DES 2010, 25), two areas were excavated, 8–18 May 2012, prior to development. Early Neolithic pottery was found in pits associated with a hearth and stakeholes. A structured deposit in one pit included a pitchstone flake, carinated pottery, burnt hazel nuts and burnt naked barley. Later sporadic use of the site included structured deposits in pits associated with Late Neolithic Grooved Ware, lithics and burnt naked barley and wheat. Five cremation deposits, one in an urn, the rest in pits, are considered to be Bronze Age. Radiocarbon samples have been sent for dating. Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR Funder: Kilbride Group

Midmill, Kintore
Evaluation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 7976 1453 A 10% evaluation was undertaken, 10–12 April 2012, of a Sha site lying to the S and E of the existing Midmill Industrial Estate, where previous excavations had exposed Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement and ritual activity (DES 2010, 25). The only finds were five abraded sherds of medieval pottery, thought to represent midden manuring, and three flints in the plough soil. The only features recorded were medieval or post-medieval rig and furrow. Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR Funder: Malcolm Allan Housebuilders Ltd

Laurencekirk

New Mearns Academy
Excavation and evaluation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 72130 72075 and NO 71980 71990 A programme of archaeological work was carried out 19 March – 1 May 2012. Evaluation trenches revealed a concentration of medieval pottery in the SW corner of the site. Excavation of this area revealed an occupation deposit, c9 x 11m, containing 13th- to 14th-century pottery, charcoal and some burnt bone, overlying a cobbled floor with a possible hearth. There was limited evidence of clay walling. At the S side, wall slots framed a possible entrance or annexe. Rougher cobbles to the E appeared to have been a yard surface. The size of the structure and the quality of the pottery suggested a small, possibly quite short-lived, medieval farm. Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR Funder: Aberdeenshire Council

Leochel-Cushnie

Cairncoullie, Glenkindie
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 48715 14050 A watching brief was undertaken on 31 January 2012 at Mains of Cairncoullie during the construction of a wind turbine. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance. Archive: RCAHMS Funder: Mr Callum Keir

Craigievar Castle
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 56678 09486 A watching brief was carried out on 17 June 2012 during work on a track relating to the relocation of an electricity distribution board for steadings which lie NW of Craigievar Castle. No archaeological features or finds were recorded. Archive: RCAHMS Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Logie-Coldstone

Waulkmill, Tarland
Excavation
Richard Bradley and Amanda Clarke – Reading University
NJ 4753 0499 Work was undertaken 15–29 September 2012 to relocate a stone circle levelled by a farmer in the early 19th century and to compare its plan with that of its neighbour, Tomnaverie, which was excavated and restored in 1999 and 2000. Approximately 30% of the 16m diameter circle fell within the excavated area. The estimated 12-14 monoliths had been built flush with its outer kerb, which formed the outer edge of a ring cairn with an open court at its centre. Unlike Tomnaverie, this monument was not a recumbent stone circle. There was no direct dating evidence, but a pit dug into the centre of the court contained a quantity of cremated bone whose position was marked by a setting of rounded pebbles. An unurned cremation burial was also found a short distance outside the monument.

The site had been occupied during the Neolithic period, and a pit containing sherd of Carinated Bowl was identified. It was used again during the Iron Age. In 1898 a grave containing a penannular brooch and a set of gaming pieces was discovered in a quarry 350m from the stone circle. The grave dated to the 2nd or 3rd century AD. Other artefacts from the same area may have been associated with this burial or with further burials. In 2012, a similar grave was recorded just outside the monument. It had almost exactly the same contents. A second grave was beside one of the monoliths. It contained two bronze rings and a cow’s jaw. In this case traces of a wooden coffin were recorded. No human bones survived. Viewed in conjunction with the 19th-century discoveries, it suggests that the stone circle provided the focus for a large and unusual cemetery. Archive: RCAHMS (intended) Funder: Reading University, with help in kind from the McRobert Trust

Logie-Coldstone
Marnoch

Crommey Castle
Standing building recording
Thomas Addyman – Addyman Archaeology

NJ 59102  52250 A programme of building recording was carried out 7–14 July 2011 and 28 June – 20 July 2012 at Crommey Castle (historically alternatively spelt Crombie), near Aberchirder. The castle was probably built between 1543 and 1547 by James Innes and subsequently underwent significant alterations. The original building is masked by a series of extensions dating to c1820, 1860 and 1910.

The building is an excellent example of a 16th-century L-plan tower house that preserves, with little subsequent alteration (except to the upper works), a wealth of early features and details. It is also notable for the survival of interior plastered surfaces. The tower preserves extensive evidence for an important remodelling, perhaps of 17th-century date, that involved major modification of the roof structure and reduction and reordering of the original wall heads. Effectively the building was ‘demoted’ from one of mock-martial, lairdly appearance to a structure of more domestic character. An ex situ dormer head, dated MGM 1678, may relate to these works (the estate had been purchased by the parish minister, George Meldrum in 1664).

Crommey is also notable for a long history of later repairs undertaken by the Innes family. Works of the mid-1930s are particularly notable even though they remained unfinished. Survey drawings of the time by John Wilson Paterson provide an important record of the building before these works began. However, his own proposals, very much in the Arts and Crafts tradition of Lorrimer, were not enacted.

Monitoring was undertaken during the replacement of external harl in June–July 2012. The stripped exterior was surveyed and this confirmed and helped to refine the phasing of the building. The 17th-century alterations to the upper works were more fully defined. It is clear that the early wall heads and roof structure of the eastern jamb had formerly lain at a considerably higher level than existing. However, it was discovered that the main block of the tower to the W survives to its original height, the crown-stepped gable walls to N and S being undisturbed. Evidence survived for the removal of five original bartizans (two at the S gable, two at the E gable and one at the NW angle). That these had been roofed was demonstrated by plastered returns into the bartizan interiors visible internally. Remains of a number of original windows, either blocked or truncated were recorded at the upper level. Evidence for an unrecorded principal window in the S wall of the hall was recognised in the form of a relieving arch over, visible externally. Various shot-holes and gun-ports beneath the hall was recognised in the form of a relieving arch over, visible externally. Various shot-holes and gun-ports beneath

The secondary works involved the removal of the bartizans and lowering of the E jamb wall head and roof (including the removal of loft-level chambers). The rebuilt gables and chimney employed pale grey granite for its dressings, this in contrast to the more sharply cut sandstone dressings of the original build (various of the latter were incorporated into the secondary fabric). Following the removal of the bartizans the upper parts of the W wall of the main block were also reduced to upper floor level and re-erected. The existing three dormers date to this period though reusing earlier dressings. The E wall head of the principal block was also rebuilt, two pre-existing windows having been removed.

Various other openings at the lower levels saw secondary modifications. That within the N wall of the hall seems to have been enlarged as part of the 17th-century works (granite dressings employed). Other modifications were of later date – the two windows in the W wall of the hall were lowered (the sill of the northern of the two very dramatically lowered), as was the window in its E wall – brick employed suggested this occurred in the later 18th/early 19th century. A large new window was opened in the early 19th century at the foot of the intramural stair down from the hall within the N wall.

Based upon the recorded evidence it was possible to propose a reconstruction of the 16th-century appearance of the tower.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Private client

Maryculter

Blairs
Landscape and standing building survey
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd

NJ 8830 0080 (centred on) A historic landscape survey of the Blairs Estate and a Level 1–2 standing building survey of the buildings of Blairs College and its associated agricultural steading was carried out, 27 February – 14 March 2012, prior to redevelopment.

Much of the layout of the late 18th-century designed landscape survives and can be related to a series of detailed estate maps from the late 18th and early 19th century. The steading consisted of two U-shaped courts with later infilling and additions. The smaller court, mill and doocot appear to date to the late 18th century and would have been the farm buildings associated with the late 18th-century Menzies House. The larger court was built in the period 1827–9 when Menzies House was enlarged for the establishment of the Catholic seminary of Blairs. Further additions to the farm buildings were built to cater for the growing community as the college expanded with the New College built 1899–1902.

The earlier college buildings date from 1827–9 when the late 18th-century Menzies House and its chapel were converted and enlarged. It is argued that the unusual brick construction of the W facade of the Old Chapel may have been influenced by a similar use of brick at Kirkconnell in Dumfries and Galloway, the home of John Menzies’ mother. The New College, built 1899–1902, is a massive U-plan granite building with later additions and an imposing N frontage facing the entrance drive. Good internal details of windows, doors and door fittings and fireplaces survive.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Hermiston Securities Ltd
Methlick

Balquhindachy Steading
Standing building recording
HK Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 85450 42257 Prior to the partial demolition and construction of a new complex of cattle buildings, a Level 1 survey was carried out on 9 January 2012 on an extensive range of 19th-century studdings. This included an early 19th-century quadrangular range around a dung court with an additional late 19th-century range. Although the buildings had been in recent use as an intensive piggery, there were surviving original features in the bothy, stables and cart bays.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: S and G Mackie

Haddo House
Evaluation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 86860 34767 An evaluation was undertaken on 23 January 2012 of a trench for a lightning conductor beside the N wall of the main central block of Haddo House. An early 19th-century brick drain and part of a mid-19th-century garden path were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and NTS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Monquhitter

Wagglehill
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NJ 8049 4789 Hillview A small area of rigs runs parallel to and on the S side of a hollow-way. The very narrow wavelengths (2m, 5m, 4m, 3m and 4m) of the rigs may suggest an early date. A small clearance cairn sits on the side of the hollow-way at NJ 8044 4792. The rigs broaden out before disappearing at their E end. As the hollow-way appears to respect the rigs it might also mark their W perimeter. The limited area covered by the rigs again suggests an early date for their creation.
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Monymusk

Pitfichie
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NJ 6474 1292 Tillyfourie An area of extensive quarry workings consisting of pits and spoil heaps lying to the E of a later centralised quarry complex. A revetted trackway running from NJ 6464 1286 – NJ 6469 1288 appears to be related to this activity.
NJ 6553 1490 Newfold A single building oriented at c160° and down a slope. The building which is substantially built consists of two cells. The first cell measures c5 x 2m internally and the second c4 x 5m. The function of the building is unknown. A small settlement is shown on an early 19th-century estate plan, but that seems to be SW of this building.
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Old Deer

Old Deer
Excavation, fieldwalking and geophysical survey
HK Murray and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 9777 4769 (centre of village) A small excavation was undertaken with local volunteers in the grounds of the St Drostan’s Episcopal Church in Old Deer between 10–15 September 2012. The site, fronting onto the former market place in Abbey Street, was thought to have potential for surviving evidence of medieval and earlier settlement. The excavation revealed the foundations of two solid clay walls of neighbouring buildings at 90° to Abbey Street, with a cobbled pend between them. These appeared to have been in use until the church was built in 1851 but may have been built in the 18th or even 17th century. There was no surviving evidence of medieval activity.
Children from five local primary schools took part in a fieldwalking exercise in a field on the W limit of the village. Most finds were of 19th- to 20th-century date but nine sherds of abraded 15th- to 17th-century pottery were also recovered. All are thought to be from midden manuring.
A CPR survey was undertaken by Rose Geophysical Consultants within the Old Parish Church in an attempt to trace any continuation of a wall excavated in the chancel in 2011. Tentative interpretation of the results suggests the possibility of a continuation of the wall to the E with a return wall to the N, but this is far from conclusive.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Book of Deer Project

Oyne

Bennachie
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.
NJ 6611 2067 – NJ 6600 2067 Tillybrack An area of regs with c7–8m wavelength runs N–S between a track and a modern field.
NJ 6657 1958 Tillybrack The very slight earthwork remains of a c6 x 2m (internally) structure composed of two cells, which may have been used as an animal shelter. Its narrowness suggests it may have been for sheep or goats rather than cattle.
A scatter of stones c25m SE may represent clearance or the remains of an irregular enclosure. This well sheltered platform is close to a ‘funnel’ created by nearby dykes shown on the 1st Edition OS map.

NJ 6725 1929 – NJ 6744 1915 – NJ 6742 1905 **Tillybrack**
A section of poorly preserved dyke.

NJ 6893 2194 **The Colony** A very substantial quarry is associated with a major trackway leading S to join the main track leading W through The Colony from Boghead and another less substantial hollow-way leads NE. The spoil from the quarry was sufficient for it to cover the N dyke of the enclosure lying to the S. A number of drystone dykes and revetments appear to have been built within the area of the quarry.

NJ 6912 2199 – NJ 6895 2210 **The Colony** A well defined hollow-way leaves the main track leading W through The Colony from Boghead and heads NW up the hill.

NJ 6895 2203 – NJ 6895 2195 **The Colony** A small quarry sits at the end of a slight hollow-way shown as a track on the 1st Edition OS map. The hollow-way goes downhill to meet a track servicing the larger quarry noted above.

**Archive:** Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

**Funder:** Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Bennachie Landscapes**

**Evaluation and excavation**

**Gordon Noble, Jeff Oliver and Colin Shepherd – Bailies of Bennachie**

NJ 6911 2159 A second season of community focused archaeological research was undertaken May–September 2012 on the site of the ‘squatter colony’ on Bennachie. The work in 2012 consisted of the detailed recording of one of the farmsteads – Hillside. The turf overburden was removed from the ruins and the remains recorded. Test pits were dug and samples removed for soil chemistry analysis. The artefacts recovered will help shed light on variation within the colony and how this compares with the wider social landscape. It is hoped that a clearer recognition of how ‘enlightenment’ values affected and were perceived by different parts of the rural population will emerge from this study. Prior to the end of the season the tops of the walls were consolidated with local turves for conservation purposes. The work was carried out by volunteers from the local community along with staff and students from Aberdeen University.

**Archive:** Aberdeenshire Council SMR

**Funder:** AHRC, the Bailies of Bennachie and Aberdeen University

**Mains of Petmathen Steading, Old Rayne**

**Standing building survey**

**HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd**

NJ 6696 2722 Prior to redevelopment a Level 1 survey was carried out on 25 January 2012 of a small early 19th-century U-plan steading with late 19th-century additions. Considerable
surviving internal detail was recorded of the cattle trevises, stable, grain loft and dry toilet.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Mr and Mrs Bisset

Oyne School Community Cultural Heritage Project
Evaluation
Alanna Burnett, Lexie Habiby and Molly Simpson – Oyne Primary School
NJ 6815 2593 (centred on) The aim of this project was to discover parts of the settlement history of Oyne. Had the centre of the village always been where it is now or did it lie closer to the suggested castle on Old Hart Hill? Also, did a former castle actually ever sit on Old Hart Hill? We tried to answer these questions by carrying out shovel-pitting in April and June 2012 in a field by the possible castle.

A 10m grid was laid out and holes dug every 10m. The soil was then sieved back into the holes and any find recorded, washed, catalogued and plotted. A range of objects were found, the most interesting the small pieces of medieval pottery recovered from the E end of the field. Most of the later material was 19th-century in date and came from the W end of the field. The finds were displayed for the community as part of the Jubilee celebrations. We hope to continue more shovel-pitting next year.

This project forms part of the Bennachie Landscapes initiatives and was carried out with the support of the Bailies of Bennachie and Liz Curtis and other staff from Aberdeen University School of Education.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR (intended) and Oyne Primary School
Funder: Bailies of Bennachie and the University of Aberdeen

Rayne

Mains of Loanhead
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NJ 68382 31329 A watching brief was carried out on 22 November 2011 during the removal of topsoil prior to the construction of a wind turbine. No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: AT and JG Stephens

Rhynie

Clashindarroch
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 4512 2977 New Forest A stone-lined well located on the site of a spring. There is a retaining dyke in front of it and water exits from a small sluice. The well would have been at the foot of a row of houses depicted on an 18th-century estate plan as the fermtoun of New Forest.

NJ 4435 2797 Glackhead A small banked enclosure incorporating rock outcrops.

NJ 4435 2805 – NJ 4435 2805 – NJ 4432 2805 – NJ 4435 2801
Glackhead A poorly preserved sub-rectangular enclosure incorporating rock outcrops, which might be associated with the one noted above.

NJ 4466 2760 Orditeach A slightly irregular enclosure with turf banks measuring 14 x 15 x 18 x 15m.

NJ 4459 2760 Orditeach A bipartite enclosure with turf banks, its downhill part is sub-rectangular, c10 x 10 x 13 x 12m, and its uphill D-shaped annexe measures c9 x c6m.

Archive: Aberdeen City Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Rhynie Environs Archaeological Project
Excavation
G Noble, M Gondek, E Campbell and O Sveinbjarnarson – University of Aberdeen
NJ 4974 2634 An excavation was carried out 16–30 June 2012 at Barflat on the 5th- to 6th-century palisaded enclosure and associated structures identified during the first phase of trial excavation in 2011 (DES 2011, 27) and previous geophysical survey and aerial photography.

The excavation included a large proportion of the interior of the enclosures that surround the Craw Stane (NJ 4974 26345). In the area opened in 2012 linear settings of postholes, plank slots and associated features from at least one large timber building were located. These structural features lay within the two ditched enclosures and the palisade identified in 2011. Further sections were dug across the inner and outer ditches and the palisade to clarify the structural elements of the defended enclosures that surround the Craw Stane. The post and beam settings found near the Craw Stane appear to represent elements of an elaborate entrance structure to the fort. Clear evidence for the use of planks in the palisade construction was detected. The substantial area damaged by cattle in 2005 was also revealed during the excavation, underlining the threats to the site.

Artefacts recovered included early medieval metalworking tongs, sherds of imported Late Roman Amphorae (B-ware) of 6th-century date, bronze and iron pins, metalworking moulds for pins and a brooch, glass-working debris and sherds of 6th-century continental glass. This second phase of evaluative work strongly suggests that the Craw Stane and two other symbol stones (the Rhynie Man and a smaller slab) found downslope from the Craw Stane were associated with a high
status, possibly royal site, encompassing settlement and ritual dimensions of the 5–6th century AD. Detailed post-excavation including radiocarbon dating will help to further elucidate the full sequence.

Archive: University of Aberdeen (currently)
Funder: British Academy, University of Aberdeen; University of Chester; Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland.

Skene

Arnhall, Westhall
Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar and Jake Streatfield-James – AOC Archaeology Group
NJ 8369 0633 An evaluation was undertaken 9–10 October 2012 on a greenfield site E of Arnhall. A total of 39 trenches, amounting to c7000m², were excavated through the topsoil. The work recorded significant deposits of hillwash and a natural sandy subsoil, but no finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Westhill Developments Ltd

Slains

Nether Leask Steading
Standing building recording
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NK 02148 32589 A Level 1 survey was carried out on 10 January 2012 prior to the modernisation of a fairly typical Aberdeenshire improvement steading of the 19th century. It consisted of two U-plan early 19th-century ranges, each round a central dung court. Details of the central court and mill survived.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: David Irvine

Strachan

Ardlair
Watching brief
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NO 67034 93378 A watching brief was carried out on 2 February 2012 during excavations associated with the construction of two wind turbines to the N of Ardlair. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Brian Middleon

Bowbutts Farm
Standing building recording
Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology
NO 67539 92336 A standing building survey was carried out on 20 August 2012 prior to the demolition of the farm steadings in advance of a housing development.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr A Neish

Strathdon

Auchernoch
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 3101 1591 Aldachuie A pile of stones is probably a clearance cairn.
NJ 3117 1585 – NJ 3118 1586 Aldachuie The remains of a linear dyke. The first NGR defines the corner of a former enclosure.
NJ 3102 1591 Aldachuie A small pile of stones might be a clearance cairn or part of a destroyed dyke.
NJ 3112 1617 – NJ 3071 1604 Aldachuie A substantial hollow-way runs from Glen Nochtly up the Hill of Aldachuie.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Strichen

Lakeview Development
Evaluation
HK and JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NJ 9457 5483 An evaluation was undertaken on 9 April 2012 on the site of a former sawmill W of the graveyard and the Old Parish Church of Strichen, built in 1620 (NJ95SW 12). It was considered that this was the possible site of an earlier focus of settlement but no archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Aberdeenshire Council SMR
Funder: Colin Smith Estates Ltd

Turriff

Delgaty
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 7588 5079 – NJ 7601 5083 Barnyards Croft An area of riggs with a wavelength of c8m and oriented c330° stretch up a hill from a road.
NJ 7591 5079 Barnyards Croft Small quarry face sitting above riggs noted above.
NJ 7607 5067 Barnyards Croft A substantial quarry lies at the top of a narrow track that runs through the riggs noted above. Another wider track appears to run at c350° in the direction of the Barnyards Croft and this may appear on the 1st Edition OS map. Its continuation through the quarry suggests the quarry was abandoned before the track was created. A hollow-centred mound with an external hollowed feature sits beside the quarry and is likely to be associated with it.
NJ 7616 5079 Barnyards Croft A quarry is located beside a trackway; however, spoil from the quarry effectively blocks the trackway. A deep drainage feature, which curves behind the quarry at the top of a brae, may have been used to keep the quarry free from water. A narrower trackway (see below) probably provided access to the quarry. The quarry, drain and smaller track are shown on the 1st Edition OS map.

NJ 7614 5089 – NJ 7616 5079 Barnyards Croft A narrow lynchetted trackway runs from the quarry, around the spoil heap and down the hill, parallel to a wider and later track.
NJ 7626 5082 Barnyards A substantial quarry appears to overlie a series of riggs (noted below). A stone bearing drilled slots indicates that the quarry was in use during the 19th century, when this method was introduced. A platform lying to the NW was probably used for loading. The quarry is not shown on the 1st Edition OS map and may post-date it.
**Udny**

**Pittrichie Home Farm Steading**

**Standing building recording**

Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology

NJ 85497 25677 A Level 2 standing building survey was carried out on 7 June 2012 at the standings and doocot prior to their conversion to a house. The standings have several different phases including evidence of a horse mill. A central tower has a sandstone plaque with a dexter arm holding a laurel wreath with the inscription INVIDOS VIRTUE TORQUEBO 1823, (although the date is very faded), the crest and motto of the Mackenzie family who owned the property in the early 19th century. The doocot is well preserved and nearly half of the nesting boxes, which are constructed of brick risers and slate shelves, survive.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr and Mrs Des Patock

**Angus**

**Arbroath and St Vigeans**

**2 Market Gate, Arbroath**

**Watching brief**

Jake Streetfield-James – AOC Archaeology Group

NO 64804 42498 An evaluation was undertaken 26 September – 7 October 2011 prior to residential development on a greenfield site. A total of 58 trenches, covering 9374m² (8%), of the area were machine excavated. The work recorded a linear ditch and a single pit, both undated. A small assemblage of 17 lithics (flint, quartz and agate), including core fragments and retouched pieces, was recovered from the topsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Stewart Milne Homes

**Montrose Road, Arbroath**

**Evaluation**

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

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Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Stewart Milne Homes

**Brechin**

**East Pitforthie Farm**

**Watching brief**

James Lewis – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NO 61639 61554 A watching brief was carried out on 6 August 2012 during ground-breaking work associated with the construction of a wind turbine. No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: Angus Council SMR and RCAHMS

Funder: TGC Renewables Ltd

**Craig**

**Elephant Rock**

**Casual find**

Rachel Benvie – Angus Museums

NO 717 539 Half of a quern stone, broken in antiquity, was found near to Elephant Rock beside a collapsed wall. Accessioned into Montrose Museums Collection (M2012.43)

Funder: Angus Council

**Dun**

**House of Dun**

**Watching brief**

Cat Peters – Cameron Archaeology

NO 6707 5953 A watching brief was carried out, 25 January – 6 February 2012, during the excavation of a trench and seven soakaways relating to improvements to drainage in the area of the House of Dun/Dun Castle and a possible cairn, Gallows Knowe. Although the work was undertaken close to a probable prehistoric burial mound, and in an area known to have been occupied since 1375, no features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland
Angus

Langley Park
Casual find
Hilary White – Montrose Basin Heritage Society
NO 683 604 A medieval silver long cross penny was found in woods behind Langley Park House during work on the park and it was reported to members of Montrose Basin Heritage Society.

Leys of Dun Farm
Watching brief
Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NO 65925 60380 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 2 August 2012 during the excavation of foundations for a small wind turbine. The only remains recorded were a farm track and pieces of iron from the topsoil.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Greenfish Energy on behalf of John Sutcliffe

Dunnichen

Dunnichen
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NO 50 48 An enamelled Romano-British headstud brooch was found during metal detecting near Dunnichen. It is in poor condition, with a teardrop-shaped headstud with reserved central dot and enamelled ring, the enamel lost. The arms have reserved lozenges flanked by red enamel triangles and a step on the side of the head, while a row of red-enamelled triangles runs down each side of the bow. The hinged pin is lost. L 45.5mm, W 23mm, H 19.5mm.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT30/12), allocated to Angus Museums

Edzell

Edzell Castle
Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NO 5844 6911 A watching brief was undertaken on 15 November 2011 during the removal of an expansion joint in the concrete first floor of the W range. The concrete floor had been laid in the 1960s, with the expansion joint added in the 1980s to prevent cracking. Over time water had penetrated the sides of the expansion joint, causing flooding into the vault of the cellar below.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Forfar

Wellbraehead Primary School, Forfar
Standing building recording
Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NO 45863 50931 A standing building survey was undertaken of this Category C school in March 2012. The school had been built in the late 19th to early 20th century. The initial phase in c1878 consisted of a small utilitarian single storey building on a C-plan to the N of the site. The second phase built in 1908 consisted of a single storey building adjoining the S side of the original building. The later building contained significant Scots Baronial and Arts and Crafts detailing, including a conical roofed round tower style main entrance.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Taylor-Shepherd Homes

Glamis

Ark Hill Wind Farm, Glamis
Watching brief
JC Murray – Murray Archaeological Services Ltd
NO 3578 4217 A watching brief was undertaken on 7 June 2012 during the excavation of a borrow pit at the N end of an existing quarry on the S side of Ark Hill. The quarry appears on the 1st Edition OS map and probably continued to be used in the 20th century. Apart from soil and waste mounds no evidence for earlier quarrying was visible.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Angus Council SMR
Funder: Green Cat Renewables Ltd

Hunter's Hill, Glamis
Survey
Graeme Cavers – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 39379 46545 A high resolution laser scan survey was undertaken of the Pictish symbol stone at Hunter’s Hill on 2 February 2012. A solid mesh was produced, along with a series of visualisations of the carving.
Archive: RCAHMS

Inverarity

Carrot Hill
Cup-marked rock
Stuart Anthony
NO 45450 40000 On the N-facing slope of Carrot Hill at 225m OD, a sandstone boulder, 1.2 x 0.7 x 0.2m, bearing at least 15 cup marks.

Inverkeilor

Mains of Ethie Farm, Inverkeilor
Watching brief
Derek Hall
NO 6960 4820 A watching brief was carried out on 2 February 2012 during topsoil stripping on the site of two new wind turbines. Natural was reached at a depth of 0.30–0.35m on the site of Turbine 1 and 0.45–0.80m on the site of Turbine 2. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Duncan Gray

Kirkden

Idvies Mill, Letham
Casual find
Rachel Benvie – Angus Museums
NO 546 489 A Pictish to medieval rubbing stone, reddish brown in colour and with a bevelled edge was found in a garden.
Accessioned into Meffan Museum Collection (F2012.153)
Funder: Angus Council

Kirriemuir

Kirriemuir
Watching brief
Leigh A Garst – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 392 518 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out in November 2011 during soil stripping associated with the construction of a new transfer pipeline to convey final effluent from Kirriemuir waste water treatment works to a new discharge point located on the Dean Water. The pipeline crossed the route of a Roman road to the SW of Logie (NO35SE 9906). A total of six pits and a field drain, all modern in date, were recorded to the S of Logie.
Archive: Angus Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

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Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report and photographs: Angus Council SMR
Funder: Green Cat Renewables Ltd

Hunter's Hill, Glamis
Survey
Graeme Cavers – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 39379 46545 A high resolution laser scan survey was undertaken of the Pictish symbol stone at Hunter’s Hill on 2 February 2012. A solid mesh was produced, along with a series of visualisations of the carving.
Archive: RCAHMS

Inverarity

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Cup-marked rock
Stuart Anthony
NO 45450 40000 On the N-facing slope of Carrot Hill at 225m OD, a sandstone boulder, 1.2 x 0.7 x 0.2m, bearing at least 15 cup marks.

Inverkeilor

Mains of Ethie Farm, Inverkeilor
Watching brief
Derek Hall
NO 6960 4820 A watching brief was carried out on 2 February 2012 during topsoil stripping on the site of two new wind turbines. Natural was reached at a depth of 0.30–0.35m on the site of Turbine 1 and 0.45–0.80m on the site of Turbine 2. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Duncan Gray

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Accessioned into Meffan Museum Collection (F2012.153)
Funder: Angus Council

Kirriemuir

Kirriemuir
Watching brief
Leigh A Garst – CFA Archaeology Ltd
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Archive: Angus Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions
Westmuir
Casual find
Rachel Benvie – Angus Museums
NO 367 526 A Neolithic axehead found several years ago was donated in 2012.
Accessioned into Kirriemuir Gateway to the Glens Museum collection (K2012.120)
Funder: Angus Council

Lunard
A92 at Hawkhill and Courthill Bends
Watching brief
Jake Streatfield-James – AOC Archaeology Group
NO 6741 5212 A watching brief was undertaken 23 February – 17 April 2012 during the realignment of the A92 between Angus and Montrose. The route runs through 2km of farmland near two known prehistoric sites. The ring ditches at Hawkhill Quarry (NO65SE 37) and a Late Iron Age unenclosed settlement (NO65SE 38). Monitoring of the topsoil strip revealed a small sub-circular pit of prehistoric date, measuring c0.5m in diameter. The 0.15m deep pit, which had been truncated by ploughing, had a fill that contained several sherds of friable, non-glazed prehistoric ceramic, some of which appeared to have a decorated collar. Two flint fragments were also recovered from the ploughsoil.
Funder: Angus Council

Mains and Strathmartine
Baldovan
Metal detector find
Rachel Benvie – Angus Museums
NO 391 345 A medieval silver finger ring, engraved with a series of panels on the bezel. The decoration follows a recognizable style, being a mixture of cruciform and asymmetrical linear panels which can be paralleled on a number of similar rings with a wide European distribution. Most notable is a similar example from the hoard from Lark Hill, Worc, buried in the 1180s, and such rings appear in the vanguard of the more general European styles which appeared in Scotland from the mid-12th century onwards. Two similar examples have been found in recent years in Aberdeenshire and one from the Isle of Lewis. This example is comparatively crude and the ends of the metal are left unjoined at the back of the ring.
Accessioned into Meffan Museum collections (F2012.29)
Funder: Angus Council

Maryton
Bonnyton Farm
Casual find
Hilary White – Montrose Basin Heritage Society
NO 663 558 Members passing the site noticed that there are additional reused medieval/post-medieval sculptures built into the barn at Bonnyton Farm. The originals are believed to derive from Bonnyton Castle and/or dovecote nearby. The new pieces (viewed from the road) are built into the SE corner of the barn. Towards the top of the wall is a stylised animal head as a skewput (an addition to the previous two). Midway down the wall is an inscribed stone, which appears to carry the letters IHS.

Montrose
Charleton Farm, Charleton
Watching brief
Gary Savory – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 7210 6142 A watching brief was carried out in November 2011 during ground-breaking work associated with the construction of a wind turbine on land 32m NE of Charleton Farm. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.
Funder: Mark Abbott

Queen’s Close, Montrose
Watching brief
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 71562 57794 A watching brief was maintained on 1 December 2011 during the removal of topsoil from a 14.5 x 7.5m area prior to the construction of a house. The removal of a 0.5m deep layer of topsoil revealed a deposit of sand, which was excavated to a depth of 0.4–0.9m. The upper 0.2m of the sand contained charcoal and a few fragments of animal bone but no artefacts. The sand appeared to be undisturbed below this level. The boundary of the medieval burgh is believed to have cut across Queen’s Close, but no trace of it or any other features of archaeological significance were recorded in the trench.
Funder: Angus Council SMR and RCAHMS

Wharf Street, Montrose
Watching brief
Derek Hall
NO 7113 5732 A watching brief was carried out 17 April – 4 May 2012 during groundworks associated with the renewal
of sewer pipes to the new lifeboat station. The 2.3m deep area excavated contained a large dump of clean sand and small stones.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: RNLI

**Willow Grove Cottage, Pugeston**
*Casual find*
*Rachel Benvie – Angus Museums*
NO 692 600 A metal sword blade dated to c1800 by David Caldwell of NMS, was discovered by chance during the excavation of foundations.
Accessioned into Montrose Museum Collection M2012.42
Funder: Angus Council

**Stracathro**

**Ballownie Farm**
*Watching brief*
*Alison Cameron – Cameron Archaeology*
NO 61122 64940 A watching brief was carried out on 26 July 2012 during the excavation of foundation pits for an agricultural building. Although the site is in the immediate vicinity of nine scheduled ancient monuments, including Stracathro (NO66NW 0013) and Keithock (NO66SW 0001) both cropmarks of a Roman temporary camps, no finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: J and K Cuthill

**Stracathro Roman fort and camp**
*Geophysical survey*
*DJ Woolliscroft and B Hoffmann – The Roman Gask Project*
NO 6170 6575 and NO 61370 65610 Resistance and magnetic surveys were conducted, taking in the entire surviving area of the Roman fort (except for the modern parish churchyard), along with its annexe and part of the temporary camp to the W. The defences showed clearly over most of their course, with the ‘parrot beak’ style gates, but the impression of a triple ditch, gained in the past from the air, seems to have been caused by the rampart showing as a third linear cropmark in aerial views. The magnetic survey showed what are probably lines of pits in the interior, which may represent the postholes of barrack blocks. The supposed annexe showed clearly, but there were some signs in the magnetic data that its broad, single ditch might cross those of the fort, which may or may not suggest that the two are not contemporary.

Large areas of rig and furrow were detected by the resistance survey, both inside and outside the fort, as well as a number of ring features, which seem likely to represent roundhouses. The magnetic survey found faint signs of a linear feature crossing the fort interior diagonally. At least two possible posthole founded structures stood at right angles to this, and so may represent contemporary rectangular timber buildings beside a track, which does not relate to the Roman occupation.

Archive: The Roman Gask Project
Funder: The Roman Gask Project

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*Stracathro resistance plot*
Tealing

Prieston Hill
Cross-incised rocks
George Currie

NO 38471 40307 On a terrace to the E of Prieston Hill summit, at 375m OD, a rock 1.5 x 1.0 x 0.5m bears an incised cross, 165 x 195mm.
NO 38579 40557 A sandstone slab, 0.8 x 0.7 x 0.1m located 270m NNE of (1) bears a cross with arms 95 x 90mm.

ARGYLL AND BUTE

Ardchattan and Muckairn

Tiroran
Watching brief
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NM 91605 34957 A watching brief was undertaken on 18 June 2012 during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of a house on land N of Tiroran. A 1.5m wide by 0.4m deep drainage ditch was recorded running W–E in the N part of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Tindall

Arrochar

Ellan Vhow
Survey
Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services Ltd
NN 33130 12737 Ellan Vhow was visited during very low loch levels on 13 June 2012 to assess its condition five years after the last assessment in 2007. The low loch levels revealed that the entire island is fortified with a wall around the perimeter which is bonded with lime mortar in places. Five previously unidentified boat noots and jetties were recorded and the remains of a quite elaborate jetty system/defended harbour on the N shore. Late medieval and post-medieval ceramic sherds were found on the shore and shaped roof slates suggest the tower had a turret. The survey in 2012 added nine new features to the 19 recorded in 1995. Windblown trees that were adversely affecting the site were removed with scheduled monument consent on 7 August 2012.
Archive: Held by FAS until deposited in RCAHMS
Funder: Bruce McFarlin

Arrochar/Lochgoilhead and Kilmorich

Inbhir Laraichean, Glen Loin
Survey
David Donren and Nina Henry

Inbhir Laraichean is the area in the vicinity of NN 308 069 in Glen Loin. The OS 6" map (Argyll and Bute, Sheet CXXXV, 1874, survey 1870) shows a rectangular roofed building W of the Loin Water, the main river running through the glen, and N of a small burn running E into that river. N of it is a small enclosure. In the revised 6" map of 1897 the building is unroofed.

East of the Loin Water the OS 6" map (Dumbartonshire, Sheet VI, 1864, survey 1860) shows what appears to be a large enclosure centred on NN 308 070. It is bounded by the river on the W and a wall to the N, E and S. At the S end is a sheepfold with a roofed building within, and a building attached to the outside of the E enclosure wall. A track runs N–S to the E of the enclosure and there is a third roofed building across the track to the SE. Abutting the track on the E side is a second much smaller enclosure which is quasi-triangular with rounded vertices and a truncated apex to the SE near the edge of a burn. In the 1897 map revision this is absent, as is the building at the enclosure wall. E of the two enclosures the burn runs N–S, turning W just S of the enclosures into the Loin Water.

The triangular enclosure is located near NN 30897 06942. It is a broad stone and turf bank about 1.2m wide and 1m high. The course of the track has shifted E and now runs through it. W of the track is a straight 15m section of the enclosure bank running NE-SW. The N and S enclosure walls are 28m and 26m respectively and converge to the E, connecting with a 10m section that is parallel to the burn, which runs SW at that point. No entrance is apparent but is probably at one of the points where the track passes through.

The third building to the SE is not clearly visible, but may be represented by a 2m stretch of walling on a rocky mound at NN 30871 06882 E of a large hollow. The area has been disturbed and an iron drain has been put in on top of the mound S of the wall.

The large enclosure encloses very rough ground, including a steep-sided gully that runs through it. The river bank at the W edge is high and steep and unprotected by a wall. It is clear that this is not an animal pen, but has been constructed to keep animals out of a dangerous area. There is no trace of the sheepfold at the S end or of the two buildings apart from a large hollow at NN 30824 06924 and a piece of corrugated iron. The sheepfold is on the OS 1:25000 map sheet revised in 2001.

On the W side of the Loin Water is the house ruin at NN 30760 06923 with its long axis N–S, parallel to the river. Externally it is 10 x 5.7m with walls 0.8m wide standing up to 1.6m high. There is a door c.0.8m wide 5.9m from the S end on the E side of the building facing the river. The W wall is featureless. At the N end is an annexe whose 5m long E wall is a continuation of the E house wall. It is 3.9m wide with an entrance gap in the E wall.

North of the house, within woods at NN 30739 06962, are the very low remains of the enclosure shown on the 6" map. It is pentagonal or sub-rectangular enclosing an area 20m NW-SE by 15m NE-SW.

Inbhir Laraichean is known to have been the location of a droving stance. It is clearly not the prominent enclosure bordering the river that is described above. Rather, it may have been the large enclosed area c.950m N–S that is S of this site and E of the river. On the W side of the river, the smaller area S of the house may also have served to hold cattle.
Campbeltown

Glencraigs
Walkover survey
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NR 69590 23687 A walkover survey was undertaken in February 2012 on two small parcels of land in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Young

Killeonan Cottages
Watching brief
Clare Ellis and Alan Hunter Blair – Argyll Archaeology
NR 68900 18200 A watching brief was carried out 6–8 August 2012 at 5 Killeonan Cottages in advance of development. The work consisted of the removal of topsoil from the footprints of four houses, four garages and the site of a septic tank. Features were recorded dispersed across the site and included a number of pits, one containing a fragment of worked flint and another, a small quantity of burnt bone. An animal burial was partially excavated, a linear feature of unknown origin and areas of bioturbation possibly tree bowls were also recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Argyll and Bute Council

New Peninver Farm
Evaluation
Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services Ltd
NR 7585 2501 An evaluation consisting of 17 trenches and covering 1250m² (8% of the development area) was carried out 8–18 August 2012. The eastern half of the site is flat whilst the W half rises steeply onto a raised beach and schist bedrock. The trenches recorded raised beach deposits, a later Loch Lomond Stadial beach, a waterlogged interglacial ground surface in the lower lying area, and colluviums on the slope.
No in situ archaeological features were located apart from field drains but a small assemblage of lithics and a broken pottery vessel were recovered washed out in the colluvium and in the interleaved beach deposits at the edge of the raised beach. The lithics were examined by Torben Bjarke Ballin and consisted of 121 lithics of which 77% are debitage, 16% are tools and 7% are cores. Flint comprised 44% of the assemblage, quartz 42%, quartzite 7% and pitchstone and hematite 3% each. Nineteen tools including scrapers, burins, retouched edges and fragments of piercers, microliths or points are present; the majority of them are flint. Notably the hematite had been reduced to produce small blades. The lithics represent a range of dates from the Early Mesolithic through to the Late Mesolithic and first half of the Early Neolithic. One very battered implement fragment might be an angle backed point of Early Upper Palaeolithic date. The lithic assemblage indicates procurement of raw materials by beach combing, mining, collection of erratics and importation.
Fifty-six pottery sherds were found together on the first soil to accumulate on the sandy shingle beach at the edge of the raised beach bedrock outcrops and represent a single vessel. The pottery has been examined by Ann MacSween. The sherds are from a coil constructed vessel with a flat base and round shoulder which is decorated with a row of impressed dots. There are traces of incised lines and lozenges or chevrons above and below the dots. The fabric is fine sandy clay with c60% of angular rock fragments and the exterior was finished with a fine slip or wet hand finish. The base sherd has incised lines, two of which cross, on its underside. The pottery is similar to ceramics excavated at Kilellan Farm on Islay in the 1970s in middens dating to the Early Bronze Age.
Archive: FAS (currently) and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr W McMillan

Colonsay and Oronsay

Balnahard Farm
Walkover survey
Roddy Regan – Kilmartin House Museum
NR 41500 99500 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken November 2011 – February 2012 as part of the Scotland’s Islands, Island Archaeology Project. With over 200 sites recorded the survey can be considered to have shed valuable light on the past use of the land now encompassed within Balnahard Farm. The overall picture is of an intensively utilised landscape, given the number of enclosed and open field areas recorded during the survey. Much of the area was extensively covered in old cultivation remains in the form of rig and furrow, these surrounded by dykes and enclosures. In many cases these areas of past cultivation lie close to structures, of which over 70 were recorded, these ranging from twinning pens and rock shelters or sguiden to rectangular houses along with the remains of several hut circles, the latter likely dating to the prehistoric period. There appear to be several concentrations or clusters of buildings and these may indicate separate landholdings, those situated along the slopes of Beinn Bhreac-Cnoc na Faire and the settlement at Maol Bhuidhe being two examples. Other concentrations are perhaps seen between Cnoc Ormdale–Dun Leaghin, Dun Crom–Dun Meadonach, the S side of Beinn Bheag, the E side of Meall na Mondah around Port Obain and a small settlement at Meall a’ Chuilbh. Whether these are indicative of land settlement
division, or represent dispersed settlement preferring the best land, would need more careful examination, while excavation might date their occupation, which at the moment remains unclear. The presence of several possible hut circles may point to prehistoric settlement as does the recording of a cup-marked rock and a dun, which add to those sites previously reported at Balnahard. These, along with perhaps later structural remains, gave us a picture of an old and established settlement, now gone, across this end of the island.

Archive: Kilmartin House Museum (intended), Report: RCAHMS and WoSAMS 5MR

Craigynish

Lergyconiebeg
Walkover survey
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NM 82592 09321 (centred on) A walkover survey was conducted April–May 2012 over a parcel of ground prior to a commercial woodland planting scheme. The survey identified:

- NM 82954 08651 Bank
- NM 82904 09028 Clearance cairn
- NM 82920 08715 Bank
- NM 82797 09011 Clearance cairns
- NM 82891 08825 Dun
- NM 82674 08913 Structure
- NM 82832 08830 Platform/structure
- NM 82853 08943 Structure
- NM 82254 08711 Lazy beds
- NM 82712 08955 Bank
- NM 82848 08717 Cairn
- NM 82523 08832 Sheep fank
- NM 83053 09231 Structure
- NM 82463 08810 Structure
- NM 83033 08950 Lazy beds
- NM 82369 09092 Structure
- NM 81972 08871 Bank
- NM 82691 09512 Track
- NM 81972 08871 Bank
- NM 82610 09100 Structure
- NM 82075 08839 Structure
- NM 82624 09125 Structure
- NM 82125 08837 Track

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Woodlands Ltd

Dunoon and Kilmun

Croichtorrach
Settlement
David Doren and Nina Henry
NS 15840 73941 On top of a hillock on the flank of Croichtorrach hill is a group of three dry stone structures, two rectangular houses and a third that is either a single rectangular structure or two sub-circular contiguous structures. On the slope below these is a probable corn-drying kiln. The small Ghelaram Burn runs W–E a little N of the group. The OS 6" map (Argyllshire, Sheet CLXXXIV, 1869) shows four rectangular structures, two of which are subdivided. We did not find the smallest structure which lies to the E of and below the main group.

From S to N, the three structures A, B and C are as follows:

- **A** is at NS 15840 73941, rectangular, long axis 70° E of N. It is c10m long E-W by c4.5m N-S, length and width uncertain due to tumble and spread N and E walls. On the E there is a broad spread where the stones have tumbled down the slope. The walls are 0.8m wide and up to 0.7m high. There is an internal dividing wall 0.5m wide 3.8m from the W end. The house entrance is in the N wall near the subdivision opening into the E compartment.

- **B** is 4m N of **A**, much eroded, long axis parallel to that of **A**. This is either a single two-compartment rectangular structure or two contiguous sub-circular structures in an E–W line. The W component measures 2.2–2.9m internally with 0.8m wide walls. There is a gap on the E side. The E component has a gap in the W side and is 2.5–3.0m internally with walls c1m wide and up to 0.7m high. There appears to be a small gap between the two internal walls on the N side, suggesting that there are two structures here. The E compartment has 2–3 flat stone slabs in the floor.

- **C** lies 10m N of **B** and is oriented differently from **A** and **B**, with long axis 15° E of N. It is rectangular, with its S end set into the slope. Its width is 5.2m externally and the length is c8m, very uncertain due to tumble and spread. The walls are 0.8m wide and up to 0.7m high. There is a possible subdivision 3m from the S end, and an entrance gap in the long E wall into the larger S chamber.

- **D** is at NS 15840 73941, a circular stone structure of c1m internal diameter. Its back, a vertical stone wall c0.9m high, is set into the slope. The front, downhill side is defined by a lip of stones. It appears to be a corn-drying kiln. No flue was found.

**Remains of lime kiln (right side of image) with Toward Lighthouse in background**

**Glenorchy and Inishail**

Barbreck Farm
Walkover survey
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NN 04658 22653 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out in March 2012 over a parcel of ground prior to new tree
planting. The survey identified four features of archaeological or historical significance.

NN 04659 22724 Enclosure/structure 7 x 8 m at 113m OD
NN 04763 22720 Cup marked boulder 100 x 150 x 40mm at 123m OD
NN 04550 22587 Boulder wall 24m long at 95m OD
NN 04474 22022 Clearance cairn at 69m OD

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Neish

The Upper Settlement

This is a group of four houses at NN 12610 21241 on a broad flat hill c20m higher than the lower group and c100m ESE of it across the steep-sided burn. Three houses E, F and G are associated with a large sub-rectangular enclosure; the fourth house H stands on its own c10m to the NE. The N and S enclosure walls measure c36m; the E and W walls are respectively c21m and c31m. The enclosure is subdivided by a N-S wall into a large compartment on the W, 27m wide and an 8m wide compartment on the E with a central subdivision. In the NW corner of the larger compartment are two houses each c9m wide N-S and c10.8m long, in a single long 21.5m building. Their walls are 1m wide and up to 1.7m high, with entrance gaps in the S walls.

Outside the enclosure and attached to it on the E side is house G, 10.4 x 5.5m externally, with its long axis near-perpendicular to the E enclosure wall but rotated slightly anticlockwise, suggesting that this may be an earlier structure that was incorporated into the enclosure system after disuse as a house. Its walls stand up to 1.4m high and are 0.9m wide. It has a 0.9m wide doorway to the outside in the longer N wall and a doorway into the enclosure in the W wall.

The fourth, detached, building H is at NN 12633 21265, 8.5m NE of G. H is 7.3 x 5.7m externally, with longer axis 20º W of N. It has broad walls 1m wide standing up to 1.5m high. The entrance was in the centre of the S wall, now broken down. A short stretch of turfed-over stone dyke extends the line of the E wall a short distance S and a large boulder 1.5m broad and at least 1m high stands in front of it. Across this is a short stretch of turfed-over stone dyke, which is part of a much more extensive wall, and that was incorporated into the enclosure system after disuse as a house. Its walls stand up to 1.4m high and are 0.9m wide. It has a 0.9m wide doorway to the outside in the longer N wall and a doorway into the enclosure in the W wall.

The Lower Settlement

The house group W of the burn is located on the flattish top of a long narrow steep-sided grassy ridge whose line is NW–SE. They occupy an area c72m NW–SE and c27m NE–SW. The ground falls away steeply on all sides apart from the S where it rises sharply then flattens out at a higher level. There are four rectangular dry stone houses, all with long sides parallel and oriented NE–SW so that the long walls face NW and SE. At the SE end of the ridge are three single houses A, B, C close together, with A farthest to the SE near the base of the rising ground. B is 10m NW of A; C is NE of B and end-to-end with it, with a 2.8m gap between them. D is 32m NW of B and C on slightly lower ground. It has an annex on the SW end and an attached yard on the NW side. A, B and C each have a single entrance in their NW long walls facing house D whose entrance is in its SE wall facing the other three. The doorways, where measurable, are c0.9m wide (= 3ft, evidently a standard size) and offset from the centre of the wall.

House A measures 10.8 x 4.9m externally, with walls 0.7m wide and up to 0.7m high and a doorway 6.6m from the SW end. B is 12.3 x 5.7m externally, with walls 1m wide and up to 0.8m high; its doorway is 4.4m from the SW end. C is 11.8 x 5.2m externally with walls 0.7m wide and up to 0.9m high; its doorway is 6.8m from the SW end. House D is 13.2 x 5.8m externally, with walls 0.7m wide and up to 1.3m high and its doorway is 3.4m from the SW end. It has an annex on the SW end 10m long and the same width as the house. The entrance to the annex is by a doorway in the front SE wall at the house end. There is an opposing doorway in the rear wall providing the only entrance into the yard, which is attached to the 23.2m long rear wall of the house plus annex but is a little shorter at 19.8m. The yard wall extends 12.5m from the back of the house and is 1.0m broad and 1.1m high. It is built up to the edge of the plateau where the ground drops away sharply, as it does also at each end of D.

To the SW of the houses is an incomplete rectangular turf-ed dry stone enclosure extending down the slope. The upper E wall runs N-S and is 27.5m long. Its S end is at NN 12472 21244 where a 14m E-W section is attached to it. The N wall is 19m long with a gap c1.7m wide 4m from the top E end. A short 2.5m N-S section meets it at the lower end. The W and S walls do not connect, leaving a large gap at the SW corner where satellite images show a trace of a rectangular structure, but due to the vegetation cover it is not clear how much remains.

The Lower Settlement

This is a group of four houses at NN 12510 21258 (and vicinity) The township of Bocard consists of two compact groups of dry stone houses and enclosures on hilltops c100m apart on either side of a small burn with steep high banks that runs NW into the Allt an Loin, with the E group on a higher hill. Three small structures were found on the S side of the burn separate from the house groups. There is also a clapper bridge c300m SSW crossed by the track and a substantial house ruin c1km to the SW by the track near Accurach Farm.
may have been a matching window W of the doorways but that section of wall is broken. Close to the building at the rear, running along the length of the rear wall are the low remains of a parallel detached wall.

**Large enclosure and droving** To the SW of the settlement is a large heptagonal enclosure encompassing an estimated 60000m² (6ha) with longest NE side c250m. It may have been a drovers’ stance. Bocard is on a droving route that passed S of the township and continued E to Loch Shira then NE to Dalmally past the abandoned settlements of Barran and Auchtermally.

![Clapper Bridge, Bocard](image)

**Craig Farm**

**Walkover survey**

**Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology**

NN 20903 29684 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken December 2011 – January 2012 on a parcel of land in advance of a proposed commercial woodland planting scheme. The survey identified: 14 structures, the majority interpreted as shielings; a rectangular enclosure and associated bank; portions of a head dyke; an area including an enclosure, possible structure, clearance cairns and improved ground; and an area of lazy bed cultivation. In all 22 sites were recorded.

NN 20415 28859 (52m OD) An earthen and stone bank running along the track before turning up slope towards and enclosing (2). Oriented NE-SW, up to 0.5m high, 1m wide, corner at NN 20450 28913 at 52m OD, heading NW up slope. The lower NE-SW portion is depicted on 1st Edition OS map of 1870/4, but the NW portion is not. 18th/19th century.

NN 20348 28988 (68m OD) A possible shieling 5 x 5m C-shaped low grass/moss bank on N side, 0.5m high, sunken centre, S-facing entrance. Adjacent to (1), located on N side of (1). 17th/18th century.

NN 20322 29862 (71m OD) Cultivated, improved ground, c200 x 75m with faintly visible lazy beds oriented E-W. Located on S side of (2). 18th/early 19th century.

NN 20392 29086 (88m OD) A possible shieling, 9 x 9m. A flat mound of rounded cobbles, curvilinear wall on S side, one course visible. 17th/18th century.

NN 20351 29164 (115m OD) Shieling, 4 x 4m, with a circular low bank, and sunken centre, located adjacent to a burn. 17th/18th century.

NN 20332 29242 (140m OD) Shieling, 7 x 6m. A circular structure, stone built, collapsed, S-facing entrance, next to burn. 17th/18th century.

NN 20325 29675 and NN 20466 29343 (149m OD) Possible shielings, 6 x 6m and 4 x 4m. Bank with sunken centre, ephemeral. Bank with hollow centre. 17th/18th century.

NN 20447 29325 (144m OD) Shieling, 5 x 5m. A C-shaped bank 0.5m high, hollow centre. 17th/18th century.

NN 21005 29523 to NN 21063 29535 (81–73m OD) Stone and earthen bank 0.25m high and 0.75m wide and oriented E-W, possibly continuation of (1). 18th/19th century.

NN 21027 29555 (80m OD) Shieling, 6 x 4m, oval 0.25m high, walls ill defined. 17th/18th century.

NN 21101 29465 (59m OD) Bank, earthen and stone 0.5m high and 1m wide, oriented NE-SW, cut by track, probably continuation of (1). 18th/19th century.

NN 21117 29469 (53m OD) A U-shaped quarry, 30 x 30m, next to burn. 19th/20th century.

NN 21158 29481 (55m OD) A U-shaped quarry, 20 x 10m. 19th/20th century.

NN 21112 29512 and NN 21183 29498 to NN 21185 29498 (65–63–57m OD). An enclosure with dry stone walls, which are 0.8m wide by 0.15m high. A curvilinear stone and earth wall/bank on SE side, 0.15m high and 0.75m wide. This runs NE for c16m then turns E and runs down towards the track and river. 17th/18th century.

NN 21279 29681, NN 21237 29700 and NN 21222 29715 (85, 91 and 91m OD). A group of three shielings. The first, 4 x 4m, low sunken centre and slight trace of walls. The second is a large mound with a flat base. The third, 5 x 5m, low banks with a hollow centre. 17th/18th century.

NN 21216 30080 (200m OD) Shieling, 5 x 5m, 0.75m high, stone structure set next to a burn, with a second structure on the N side, W wall only visible. 17th/18th century.

NN 21311 29934 to NN 21373 29823 (127–98m OD) A dry stone wall cuts off land between gorges and then runs down the N edge of burn. 17th/18th century.

NN 21583 29888 and NN 21565 29918 (80–74m OD) Two possible shielings, one measuring 4 x 5m and one 4 x 8m. The first rectangular structure has 0.75m and 1.2m high walls. It is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map of 1870/4. The second structure located to the W, in a small gorge, is oval and also constructed of cobbles. 18th/19th century.

NN 21589 29834 (64m OD) A stone wall depicted on current maps extends along a track. A stone enclosure, 16 x 14m, and stone wall depicted on 1st Edition OS map of 1870/4. Possible structure on SE corner of enclosure, 4 x 4m, and a number of clearance cairns are located in the field on the S side of the enclosure. They appear to be the remains of agricultural buildings/structures and activities. 18th/19th century.

NN 20959 29411 (67m OD) A circular quarry, 10 x 10m, has opening to SW. 18th/19th century.

NN 21627 29886 (65m OD) A 12m long, 0.3m high, 1m wide stone and earth bank, oriented E-W. 18th/19th century.

NN 21884 30161 (84m OD) A 30m long, 0.75m high and 0.90m wide stone wall, oriented N-S by a burn. 18th/19th century.

**Glen Orchy**

**Geophysical survey**

**Charlotte Francoz, Olly O'Grady and Gavin MacGregor – Northlight Heritage**

NN 16764 27516 and NN 1537 2785 A geophysical survey was carried out 23–24 July 2012 on two sites with a close archaeological and historical association with Clan Gregor, as part of the Clan Gregor Glen Orchy survey project. At site one, Dalmally Parish Church, a GPR survey was carried out to look for evidence of previously disturbed burials and/or earlier churches. At site two, Bothan na Dige, a combination of GPR and resistivity survey was carried out to look for traces of an alleged medieval moated enclosure, associated with Clan Gregor. A topographic survey undertaken at site two was used to place the results of the geophysical survey into its wider context.

The results at Dalmally Parish Church suggest that there may
be traces of an earlier church preserved within the footprint of the current church and that anomalies recorded at the E end may relate to earlier burials. The results at Bothan na Dige show traces of extant structures on and adjacent to the site. Some of these can be clearly related to buildings on 19th- and early 20th-century maps, but other features cannot and may be earlier in date. The results also suggest the presence of a large ditch to the N of the site, and possibly other structural remains along the main ridge which runs E-W through the site.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Clan Gregor Society

Tervine
Walkover survey
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NN 07327 25856 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken June 2012 on a parcel of land in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. The survey identified:

- NN 07536 25920 Cupmark (possible) NN 06715 26407 Structure
- NN 07555 26056 Cupmark (possible) NN 07086 26743 Bank
- NN 07628 26049 Structure NN 07065 26414 Structure
- NN 07340 26147 Wall NN 07036 26424 Track
- NN 07420 25987 Cupmark (possible) NN 07015 26310 Peat hag
- NN 07369 25984 Structure, Dun (possible) NN 06860 26326 Structure
- NN 07743 25717 Track NN 06830 26319 Structure
- NN 07196 25432 Track NN 06867 26356 Quarry
- NN 07328 25921 Cupmarks (possible) NN 07140 26268 Structure
- NN 07187 26102 Dam NN 07404 25350 Peat hag
- NN 06921 25307 Cairn NN 07320 25300 Peat hag
- NN 07117 25335 Peat hag NN 07541 25121 Structure
- NN 07692 25931 Banks NN 07741 24838 Wall
- NN 07810 25892 Track NN 07880 24814 Quarry
- NN 07207 26164 Bank NN 08099 24701 Bank
- NN 06455 26621 Crannog (possible) NN 08089 24534 Bank
- NN 06726 26664 Cupmark (possible) NN 08004 25246 Track
- NN 06930 26881 Structure NN 08304 25229 Wall
- NN 06736 26410 Structure

 Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: UPM Tilhill

Inveraray

Auchindrain
Watching brief
Roddy Regan – The Auchindrain Trust
NN 03099 03161 A watching brief was carried out January–February 2012 on work associated with the installation of drainage around several buildings in the W of the settlement. Several surfaces were recorded and the majority appeared to relate to the upstanding 19th-century buildings. The possible exceptions were a surface seen at the N end of Trench 1 and another seen at the W end of Trench 8, both of which may relate to a suite of buildings depicted on Langland’s estate map of 1789. Several former drainage systems were also recorded, mainly ceramic land drains and more recent concrete and plastic drains.

Funder: Urras Achadh an Droighinn/The Auchindrain Trust

Whitecraigs
Evaluation
Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology
NN 08908 07437 An 8% evaluation was undertaken 7–8 March 2012 on the site of proposed housing development on land SW of Whitecraigs. No significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Argyll Estates

Inverchaolain

Mid Ardyne
Survey
David Dorren and Nina Henry
NS 10212 68946 The OS 6” map (Argyllshire, Sheet CXCIV, 1869, survey 1864–65) shows a township at Mid Ardyne of which the two larger structures are roofed rectangular buildings. The long axis of the N structure is roughly E-W, and SE of it is a long building oriented roughly N-S. Presently

Mid Ardyne Cottage and Barn
at the N location is a cottage with a slated roof which may be a later structure on that site, and SE of it is a ruined dry stone barn, still partly roofed, which is probably the structure shown on the map. In the vicinity of the cottage there is evidence of earlier structures, in particular the low remains of a walled yard behind it to the N.

**The cottage** This was occupied or being worked on/improved in the early 2000s, but at the time of this survey (2012) was in a state of disrepair. The front of the cottage faces southwards (150°). It consists of two rooms separated by a hallway, with a fireplace on the outside wall of each room. An extension on the E with a slated slant roof houses the kitchen, and a rear extension the bathroom. On the W side is an outhouse. The front entrance is paved with a small porch, and there is a rear entrance into the kitchen.

The basic two-roomed cottage measures 11m E–W by 4.7m N–S externally. The kitchen extension is flush with the cottage front and its E–W width is 2.2m. Its N–S length is 6.3m, so that it extends 1.6m beyond the back cottage wall with a door into the kitchen on the W side. The bathroom extension is 3.1m N–S by 3.4m E–W. Its E wall is 5.7m from the kitchen door. Between it and the kitchen entrance is a window 0.85m wide and 1.35m high. The bathroom is reached from the entrance hall. The W room has a doorway into the hall at the bathroom end. The W outhouse is flush with the back wall of the cottage and is 2.3m E–W by 2.8m N–S. The bathroom has a N-facing window above the E barn door, an E-facing window 1.2 x 0.75m which has been blocked up on the inside with timber paneling.

The front of the cottage has a near-central door with a porch 1.9m wide extending 1.4m out from the front house wall. There is a window 0.85m wide and 1.4m high in the cottage wall on each side of the door. Most of the windows in the cottage retain their glass. The E wall of the kitchen has two windows 1.2m high. The S window is 0.65m wide and the N is 0.95m. Between them is a small exit flue for the cooker 0.32m wide and 0.45m high. The kitchen and bathroom furnishings are modern and largely in place. In the two main rooms all furnishings including the fireplaces have been stripped out. In the W room the chimney breast has collapsed.

**The barn** The dry stone barn is 12m S of the cottage. It is 20m long and 6.7m wide externally with its long axis at 150°, perpendicular to the cottage front. On the W side are two doorways. The S door is intact and is 1.10m wide. The N entrance is broken down at the S end but its N edge is intact. Between them is a central splayed window 0.6m wide and 0.55m high. A second splayed window between the S door and the S end is 0.5m wide and 0.65m high. The barn was roofed with slates; the S half of the roof survives but the N half has been destroyed. Attached to the S end is an outhouse extending S from the E barn wall 5.2m internally and bounded on the S by a 4.4m E-W wall. The W side is open. On the E side of the barn is a 1m wide doorway opposite the N gap in the W wall, and a window 0.4m wide and 0.5m high 3.6m S of it. The rest of the E wall is featureless.

**Mid Ardyne**

**Survey**

David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 10054 68984 At the base of the low Dunan hill on the W side is a rectangular concrete platform, 11.2m N–S and 4.9m E–W. There are several large boulders piled on it, probably field clearance. There was much military and naval activity in this area during WW2 and this structure may be a hut platform base from that period.

NS 10079 68891 At the S edge of the Dunan hill at is a small terrace on which are the low remains of a rectangular building, long axis E–W, where the OS 6" map (Argyllshire, Sheet CXCVI, 1869, survey 1864–65) shows a single unroofed structure. There are very low remnants of walls on part of the N side and along the complete W end, but the E and S edges cannot be clearly identified. The external N–S width is 4.3m, the length 5.6–8.0m.

NS 10052 68674 On a hilltop is a large square concrete platform, 18.3m (60 feet) on the sides, with a large H marked in the centre indicating its former function as a helicopter landing platform. It is now disused but would have served the Ardyne Point oil rig construction site in the 1970s. A track runs from the platform down the hill to the Ardyne site on the shore.

NS 10247 68623 Ardyne Park was a house shown on the same OS 6" map (above) as a roofed inverted T-shaped structure in the centre of a roughly circular wood. Little survives of the house apart from very low traces of walls at the S edge of a field bounded by a wire fence. The woods have been completely removed, but the circular bank which marked the edge of the wooded area is visible in the field N of the ruins, and to the S across the fence. All measurements are uncertain due to severe damage, probably from deliberate removal of the stones. The house is roughly S-facing (150°), with the main building the top of the "T". This has three parallel N–S walls spanning a total E–W length of c18m. The N–S width is difficult to estimate but may have been c8m. Immediately N of the "T" at the back of the house are the scant remains of the legs of the "T", i.e., possibly 8m long N–S but whose E–W width cannot now be determined.

At NS 10450 68645, on the W side of the present track to the Mid Ardyne cottage, is a dry stone wall 3m wide by 1.1m high built into an earth bank. It is set E–W and consists mainly of long thin flat stones. In the centre of its base at ground level is a gap 0.6m wide and at least 0.2m deep surmounted by a long flat lintel stone. It is suggestive of a corn kiln flue or the draw hole of a small lime kiln. On top of the bank are trees and a heavy cover of soil and vegetation, making it difficult to investigate. At the E end is a section of wall at right angles, running S for 0.8m. On the W is a gap, then a 1m section of wall aligned with the main section but disconnected from it. W of this is a section of wall running S. Alternatively, but less likely, the wall in the bank may be the back wall of a N–S structure, most of which has disappeared.

The OS 6" map (above) shows a rectangular structure, possibly a house, in this vicinity oriented roughly E–W. In the field immediately W of the walling described here is a low flat raised area with the E–W orientation of the structure on the map. It may have been the house location, though no stone is visible. An extensive coverage of nettles is suggestive of former human habitation.

**Tamhnich Burn**

**Survey**

David Dorren and Nina Henry

NS 03106 82249 and NS 03014 82059 A brief unpublished note from 1993 by the late EB Rennie indicates the presence of two slag heaps in the vicinity of the Tamhnich Burn, from 1993 by the late EB Rennie indicates the presence of two slag heaps in the vicinity of the Tamhnich Burn, c600m SSW of the Tamhnich settlement. We confirm the existence of two undisturbed bloomery mounds.

In the middle of a flat grassy area within a loop of the Tamhnich Burn on its W side, in an oak wood, is a circular grassed-over mound 3.7m in diameter and 0.8m high lying 10m W of the burn at NS 03106 82249. The vegetation cover was removed from a small section of the top, revealing iron slag within the mound.

A similar bloomery mound lies c200m to the SSW at NS 03014 82059 on the S side of the Tamhnich Burn. Near the mound the burn runs from N–S then turns to run E–W. The
mound is 7m S of the E–W stretch, also in an oak wood. It is a circular grassy mound 4m in diameter and 0.6m high. The top of the mound was investigated and iron slag found within.

**Walled Garden, Ardyne**

_Notes from: David Dorren and Nina Henry_  
_Ardyne Walled Garden_  
_Archive: RCAHMS_  
_Funder: Argyll and Bute Council_  

**Kilchoman/killarow and kilmeny**

**Islay power supply refurbishment**

Walkover survey  
_John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology_  
Walkover surveys were undertaken at various locations on Islay, 17–19 June 2012, in advance of the refurbishment of sections of the island’s power supply. The principal stretches were: Bowmore to Port Charlotte (NR 3204 6024 to NR 2470 5770); Ballinaboy to Salsal (NR 2218 6705 to NR 2100 5628); around An Sidhean (NR 2638 6655 to NR 2465 6604); and around Foreland (NR 2516 6455 to NR 2748 6358). Smaller investigations were centred on NR 1685 5200 and NR 1970 5295, near Portnahaven.

Two previously unrecorded sites were encountered. At NR 30228 62815, close to the shore and a short distance W of Blackrock, is a small area of lazy beds. At NR 24920 58051, in a pasture field on the edge of Port Charlotte is a low, circular mound. The grassed mound is c.8–9m wide and 0.4m high. Its summit is slightly dished, perhaps indicating that its interior is filled with collapsed walling, although this could not be verified.

**Kilchrenan and Dalavich/Kilmartin**

**Carraig Gheal Wind Farm / West Loch Awe**

_Watching brief_  
_Heather James – Northlight Heritage_  
NN 0355 2385 – NM 8515 0445 The known archaeological sites near the route of a forestry track and within a wind farm development area were demarcated to ensure they were avoided by work, which was carried out 3 November 2011 – 3 September 2012. A watching brief was carried out during groundworks which included peat stripping for borrow pits, wind turbine bases and hard standing areas. The deposits of peat varied from c.0.2m to >2m deep. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

_Weekly Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS SMR_  
_Funder: SSE plc_  

**Kilfinan**

**Auchenlochan**

_Cup-marked rocks_  
_George Currie_  
_NR 96754 71824 A boulder, 2 x 1.2 x 0.6m, lying 140m SE of Auchenlochan Farm bears four cup marks._

NR 96754 71824 A boulder, 2 x 1.2 x 0.6m, lying 140m SE of Auchenlochan Farm bears four cup marks.

**Auchgoyle**

_Cup-marked rock_  
_George Currie_  
_NR 96077 69543 An area of bedrock to the E of the Millhouse–Ardlamont road bears at least ten cup marks._

NR 96077 69543 An area of bedrock to the E of the Millhouse–Ardlamont road bears at least ten cup marks.

**Carry Point**

_Cup-marked rocks_  
_George Currie_  
_NR 99059 66929 A boulder, 1.6 x 0.8 x 0.3m, lying to the E of_
Ardlamont Road and 110m SSE of Carry Farmhouse bears two cup marks.

NR 99114 66967 An obvious outcrop 70m NE of the boulder bears at least four cup marks.

**Dalmu’ Neasaig**

**Cup-marked rocks**

George Currie

NR 94782 80640 A boulder, 1.5 x 1.0 x 0.6m, lying to the W of the Strone track bears two cup mark stones.

NR 94793 80504 A boulder, 0.7 x 0.6 x 0.4m, lying below the Strone track and 160m W of the desert farmstead of Dalmu’ Neasaig bears 12 cup marks.

**Rowantree House**

Watching brief

Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology

NR 97347 71168 A watching brief was carried out 14–16 March 2012 during topsoil stripping of a small house plot in the garden of Rowantree House. A possible grain drying kiln or some form of oven was discovered and fully excavated. Flint was recovered from the ash fill, indicating that the feature may have been prehistoric, although it appears more typical of a medieval drying kiln.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr and Mrs Jones

**Tom nan Cadhag**

Cup-marked rock

George Currie

NR 95080 80783 A prominent outcrop bearing at least seven cup marks.

**Kilfinichen and Kilvickeon**

**A’Mhaol, Glen Seilisdeir**

Measured survey.

Members of Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive

NM 46354 32543 A survey was carried out on 4 July 2011 of a site that lies 250m above sea level on a gently sloping SW-facing terrace of A’Mhaol. The shieling mounds are at the break of slope with a steeper rise to the next terrace and are centred close to the head waters of Allt na Teangaidh. This burn flows SSE down from A’Mhaol turning NW when it reaches the valley floor. Other streams flow down the cliffs in wet weather, separating the shieling mounds.

Shielings (GSE10.01-03) Set in the lee of a grassy slope leading up to the next terrace are two shieling mounds and one small structure. These are the most westerly of the structures.

NM 46319 32532 Shieling mound (GSE10.01) A few stones visible on a mound indicate the location of a roughly circular structure of c.4.9 x 4.1m, with a possible entrance to the S and a depression in the centre.

NM 46317 32535 Shieling mound (GSE10.02) Immediately to the E, on a substantial 1m high mound, are the scattered boulders of a dry stone structure, possibly divided into two, with an entrance to the SE. The E section is c.3.9 x 2.9m, with the lower courses of the N wall still in place. The W section measures 5.4 x 3.9m.

NM 46324 32540 Structure (GSE10.03) At the foot of a slope 3m to the N of 10.02 is a small structure, c.3.2 x 2.7m. The only remains are a turf covered N section of wall.

NM 46325 32522 Possible shieling hut (GSE10.04) On a slight mound c12m SSE of 10.02 only one stone remains visible of what may have been a c.3.5m diameter structure.

**Shielings** (GSE10.05-08) This group of four shieling mounds lies the W bank of the burn and consists of one large mound and three smaller ones.

**Shieling mound** (GSE10.05) This c.1.7m high mound lies 18.5m E of 10.04 and measures c.17 x 11m overall. There are three cells built into the mound.

NM 46345 22537 (05a) measuring 6.1 x 4.7m and roughly oval in shape, has a good deal of exposed stone tumble and an entrance to the N.

NM 46346 32534 (05b) is built into the E side of the mound and has fewer exposed stones. The entrance is to the NE. Although the sides are indistinct, it probably measured c.3.7 x 3.1m.

NM 46343 32532 (05c) is scarped into the W. side of the mound, measures 3.0 x 2.6m, has an entrance to the SW and has only one section of wall visible.

NM 46356 32524 Shieling mound (GSE10.06) The most northerly of the three smaller mounds, this one lies 3.2m S of 10.05 and is c.0.5m high. The protruding stones indicate a sub-oval shape, c.2.7 x 2.2m, with a depression in the centre.

NM 46359 32518 Shieling mound (GSE10.07) 5.6m to the SE, this small mound, c.3.4 x 3.1m, has no visible stonework, but there is a noticeable depression in the centre.

NM 46355 32507 Shieling mound (GSE10.08) 5.8m to the SE, on a slightly raised area, are tumbled stones which may have been a small cell (1.6m diameter), within a larger structure, c.3.1 x 2.6m.

**A’Mhaol Shielings – shieling mounds 06–08**

Shielings (GSE10.09–14) The remaining shieling mounds and structures are on the E side of the burn and comprise two large mounds, two smaller ones and a small structure on flat ground.

NM 46354 32543 Shieling mound (GSE10.09) This large mound is sited close to the cliff, where the burn descends as a waterfall. There is a steep fall of 2m on the S and W sides of the mound, the entrance being on the N, facing into the cliff. The structure on this mound is mostly turf covered and measures c.4.5 x 3.0m.

NM 46370 32545 Structure (GSE10.10) Adjacent to 10.09 to the SE, and scarped into a hillside is a small depression, c.2.0 x 1.7m, bounded by several turf-covered boulders.

NM 46361 32538 Shieling mound (GSE10.11) This large mound, 12.6 x 9.5m, lying to the S. of 10.09 falls steeply to the burn on the W side. The shieling hut is at the N end of the mound and much of its construction is still visible as a section has been reused as a lamb pen. The entrance is to the E, and the remaining walls sunk into the mound are 0.9m high. Three courses of stones remain in the lamb pen. On the SW slope of the mound is a small circular depression, c.1.6m diameter, at NM 46376 32519.

NM 46385 32539 Structure (GSE10.12) 11m from 10.11,
the presence of a circle of bracken indicates the turf-covered edging to a small circular structure, 2.2m in diameter.

**Shieling mound** (GSE10.13) A mound, 8.7 x 5.5m, has two separate structures, each possibly divided, though this may be due to the way in which the stone has tumbled. NM 46385 32542 (13a) This structure measures 3.8 x 3.7m and only the N. section of wall is clear. NM 46385 32549 (13b) This more clearly defined cell measures 4.9 x 4.0m.

NM 46382 32547 **Shieling mound** (GSE10.14) Lying 2.3m S of 10.13, this bracken covered mound, 3.9 x 2.9m, has a depression in its centre.

**Sponsor:** Scotland's Rural Past

**Camus Township**

**Survey**

**Members of Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive**

NM 4872 2930 The name Camus or Cambus, meaning The Bay, was given to the farm and township situated a short distance N of the Bay of Kilfinichen and to the E of Abhainn Bail’ a Mhuillinn. From as early as 1494, ‘Cammys’ and its mill had been part of the estate owned by MacLaine of Lochbuie. Various contracts of tack of these lands exist in the National Archives of Scotland. One of the requirements for the tenants was ‘...to Grind all their Grindable Corns in the Millin of saids Lands of Camis and to pay the accustomed Multures therefore and to do Services to the said Miln.’ The Rental of 1775 has The Mill of Cambis, valued at £3.3s, being listed separately from the one pennyland of Cammis and Shionall. Bail’ a Mhuillinn (the Farmstead of the Mill) continued to have a separate existence to the present day. During the first part of the 19th century, the names Camus and Balevulin were almost interchangeable. The lands for official rental were still called Camus, but the inhabitants lived at Balevulin.

In the 1840s the tenant of Killiemo (part of the Duke of Argyll’s estate) who also rented the Camus land, turned it over to sheep and the township of Camus began to lose its identity. In the 1841 Census, there were 33 persons present at Balevulin and Camus is not mentioned. The 1851 census is the last to mention a miller. Although the sheepfold in the area was not on the original Camus land, it would have been used for both Camus and Killiemo. A survey of the area was carried out 16–17 September 2012.

**Structures and enclosures** (CAM1) – The remains of the township of Camus lie to the SW of the B8035 through Glen Seilisdeir. The buildings and enclosures shown on both the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps of 1881 and 1900 that lay in the grounds of a modern bungalow and road have been removed. Those that lay in the grounds of a telephone exchange are just visible.

NM 48719 29304 **Structure** (CAM1.1) Very little remains of this NNW–SSE aligned building. It is of dry stone construction, has round corners and measures 6 x 4.2m by 0.6m high. Only three sides of the building are visible.

NM 48717 29293 **Structure** (CAM1.2) The stone footings at each corner are the only remains of this building. It measures c.6.8 x 4.4m and is aligned NE-SW. It appears on the OS maps of 1881 and 1900 as an unroofed building.

NM 48746 29292 **Structure** (CAM1.3) The only remains of this structure are a few NW–SE oriented boulders and a c.8.3 x 5m depression in the ground. It appears on the OS maps of 1881 and 1900 as an unroofed building.

NM 48765 29309 **Structure** (CAM1.4) Three sides of this structure remain as turf-covered footings. It measures 7.5 x 5.6m at the SE end, the SW side being truncated and only 3.2m long. The NW end is not visible. It appears on the OS maps of 1881 and 1900 as a three-sided building.

NM 48732 29289 **Enclosure** (CAM1.5) This enclosure, marked on the OS maps of 1881 and 1900, has been artificially levelled and measures c.20m². It is bounded on the SE side by the stream used as a mill lade. A single course of 0.9m wide stone-built dyke is visible on the NW side.

NM 48775 29247 **Enclosure** (CAM1.6) The levelled remains of this enclosure lie to the S of the stream. It measures 32.4 x 19.1m and is bounded by c.0.2m high turf wall footings.

NM 48788 29240 **Clearance cairns** (CAM1.7) A pile of stones which may have been a clearance cairn. A similar cairn was recorded at NM 48784 29230.

**Houses, structures, an enclosure and field systems** (CAM2) These lie on the NE side of the B8035 through Glen Seilisdeir. The extensive field system has mostly disappeared under the forestry plantation of the 1950s.

NM 48752 29384 **House** (CAM2.1) The present house called Balevulin is of mortared stone, post-improvement construction. It has been renovated, altered and extended over the years.

NM 48779 29358 **Balevulin Cottage** (CAM2.2) This house was built in 1890, of mortared stone construction, of 1.5-storeys under a corrugated iron roof. It had gable ends, with an open fireplace in each. There were two rooms and a closet on the ground floor and a staircase led to two bedrooms in the roof. A fire in 1953 destroyed the cottage. In 2008 debris was cleared and the walls rebuilt. It is now used as a Cottage Museum for artefacts from the local area, as part of the Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive.

NM 48798 29339 **House** (CAM2.3) 30m to the SE of Balevulin Cottage are the remains of a pre-improvement house lying just outwith the present grounds of Balevulin. It was partly demolished in 1890 and provided building stone for the construction of the cottage. The original building measured 12.9m x 4m. Of the SW end, only two very large boulders remain. The NW end was left standing and roofed with corrugated iron to provide a 5.8 x 4.2m byre. The surviving walls are 1.9m high.

NM 48744 29434 **Structure** (CAM2.4) On a small knoll 50m to the NNW of Balevulin, are the turf-covered footings of a c6 x 4m structure. It lies on the SE bank of a small burn. From its SE corner, the remains of a stone dyke follow the line of the burn for several metres before turning NW at NM 48761 29451 and running parallel to the road for c200m. Sections of another field dyke can be seen to the N of the structure. It is likely that this field system was part of the ‘Baile’ a Mhuillinn’, the Farm of the Mill.

**Road** (CAM3) Before a road was created around the cliffs at Gribun in the 1880s, the main route from Kilfinichen and Ardmeanach to Dhiseig and Knock was from Balevulin across Mam na Croise. On the 1st Edition OS map of 1881 the start of the road is shown skirting Balevulin and climbing up the steepest section of hillside. This lower stretch has been completely lost in the forestry plantation.

**Mill lade** (CAM4.1) A lade was constructed from the stream which travels SW from a small lochan on the slopes of Maol na Coille Moire and flows into the Abhainn Bail’ a Mhuillinn at the mill. From the point it flows into the field below the road, at NM 48787 29292, it has been artificially straightened and lined with stone. This stone work has mostly disappeared, though it can still be seen in one or two places downstream, where the stream is 0.5m wide.

At NM 48615 29204, where the channel was diverted to flow SSW, its way has become blocked. The water flows into a field and has created an area of boggy ground. It has been suggested that this was one of the points where the lade could be manually diverted in times of spate. The dry lade continues SW as far as NM 48581 29144, where there was possibly a mill pond, and another route into the river. Some stonework can
still be seen at the base of this dry channel. It continues to NM 48613 29105 and turns towards the river. Here the water was guided through a chute, supported by stonework, to fall into the wheel pit of the mill.

NM 48609 29097 Mill (CAM4.2) The building is aligned NW–SE and measuring 8.1m by 5.4m, was of dry stone construction, with an entrance in the SE wall and the wheel slot in the NW wall. Much of the stone has been removed, particularly at the SE end, where only turf-covered mounds show the line of the 0.6m wide walls. However, the 0.8m thick NW wall was constructed of huge stones, and more of these remain. The building was probably two-storey at this end.

At the NW end of the mill and descending from the top of the bank are the tumbled remains of two retaining walls, constructed of large boulders, which would have supported the water chute, channelling the water from the lade. An artificial mound has been built at the top of the bank, 9m from the corner of NW corner of the wall at NM 48611 29108, with 0.45m thick walls, providing a channel 0.7m wide. This channel would have carried the water as far as the NW corner of the mill, where it was tipped over the wheel into the wheel pit and then into the mill race which leads directly into the river.

From the entrance in the SE end of the mill a track led in a SE direction towards Kilfinichen Bay and the other townships of the area. This track, wide enough for a horse-drawn cart, was revetted where it neared the river bank, with a small stream being crossed by means of a stone culvert.

Archive: RCAHMS
Sponsor: Scotland’s Rural Past

Creag a’Ghaill, Ardmeanach
Measured survey in conjunction with SRP
Members of Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive
NM 44431 31746 This shieling ground, which was surveyed on 23 April 2012, is situated on the N of the Ardmeanach peninsula, on the lower W-facing slope of Beinn na h-lolaire and above the cliffs of Creag a’ Ghaill. The hut site is bisected by a small stream and lies at the edge of a wide valley formed by Alt an Ath Dheirg, which flows W from the Mam between Beinn na h-lolaire and Beinn na Srèine. The shieling ground was probably used by the farmsteads of Balmeanach.

There are 11 or 12 structures, several making use of very large boulders at their centres and most having developed into substantial mounds. These mounds are now turf covered with only a few stones visible. Several hut mounds consist of more than one cell, perhaps indicative of differing usage or different periods of occupation. Mounds 1–3 lie on the N side of the stream, the remainder on the S side.

NM 44396 31772 Shieling mound (BAL1.1) This mound is 1m high and measures c.6.3 x 5.5m. The remains of a small semi-circular wall show through the turf in the centre.

NM 44417 31805 Shieling mound (BAL1.2) 21.6m S lies the second mound, measuring 6.2 x 5.4m. This less substantial mound is almost completely turf covered with a circular depression in the centre and a possible entrance to the N.

NM 44426 31791 Shieling mound (BAL1.3) Only 9m to the N of BAL1.2, this mound is also compact in shape and turf covered, with a circular depression at the centre and a possible entrance on the S side. It measures 6.2 x 6.0m and is c.1.5m high.

NM 44444 31764 Shieling mound (BAL1.4) Mound 4 lies 15.8m S of BAL1.3. This very substantial mound is 2m high and consists of a complex of at least three cells.

BAL1.4a measures 6.0 x 2.8m externally and 2 x 1.8m internally, and appears to be the remains of a shieling hut. BAL1.4b measures 5.0 x 4.4m with 0.8m thick walls and may have been an enclosure. BAL1.4c was perhaps an earlier hut site, measuring c.4.5 x 3.3m, and is now not easily delineated.

NM 44436 13759 Structure (BAL1.5) This small structure,
4.3 x 4m, lies 5.3m E of BAL1.4 and was possibly associated with it. It is not a mound, but there are remains of walls.

NM 44436 31756 Shieling mound (BAL1.6) This small mound, 3.6 x 3.5m, is built into the hillside and may be a storage building.

NM 44411 31765 Shieling mound (BAL1.7) This is a substantial c.1.5m high mound, which was divided into several cells. BAL1.7a appears to be the latest of a series of shieling huts. BAL1.7b and 7c are possibly the sites of earlier huts.

NM 44428 31746 Shieling mound (BAL1.8) This mound, 7.5 x 7.4m and c1m high, has a large boulder at its centre, around which are suggestions of structures.

NM 44431 31741 Shieling mound (BAL1.9) This is the most substantial mound on the site and measures 8 x 8m and is 2.5m high. There are the remains of a 4 x 4m cell at its centre. Some stonework is still visible and there is a possible entrance to the NNW.

NM 44435 31737 Shieling mound (BAL1.10) This mound measures 9.2 x 8.6m by 1.5m, a large boulder is situated to the S of the mound with hut remains and another depression adjacent. These two features together measure 4.9 x 4.2m.

NM 44421 31715 Shieling mound (BAL1.11) This mound is 1m high on the W side and measures 7.5 x 5.8m overall. There are indications of former hut sites around the central boulder, the most obvious measures 4 x 2.5m.

NM 44432 31687 Possible enclosure (BAL1.12) At a distance of 38m from BAL1.11 is a large upright rock with a good deal of smaller tumbled stone at its foot. These are possibly the remains of a small enclosure.

Archive: RCAHMS
Sponsor: Scotland’s Rural Past

Goirtein Driseach or Tolls
Measured survey in conjunction with SRP
Members of Pennyghael in the Past Historical Archive

NM 47417 24620 This row of seven buildings lies just to the SE of the main A849 on land that was part of the ancient farm of Torrans. Sometime before 1700 the farm was split into three: Torranbeg, Torran Uachdarach and Torran Lochdarach (Little, Upper and Lower Torran). Tolls is on Upper Torran land. A survey of the area was carried out April–May 2012.

The earliest detailed map of the area is a Pennyghael Estate map of 1819 and no buildings are shown at Tolls. In fact, the former road appears to pass through the spot where the remains of the buildings now stand. All the buildings have been heavily robbed and all that remains now is random tumble, the outline of their foundations, and, with one exception, walls surviving no higher than one course.

By 1859, when the area was surveyed for the Admiralty, the road line had been changed, and four buildings were shown. The 6" 1st Edition OS map of 1881 shows two short rows of buildings as well as a separate one. The area is called Goirtein Driseach on maps, meaning ‘Little Brambly Enclosure’, but locally, it has been called Tolls, and its inhabitants ‘Minnitir na Tollahchan’. Its meaning is obscure, but may have something to do with the pockmarked nature of the land – the Gaelic for ‘hole’ being ‘toll’. The name Tolls was used in the census with this building indicates a small sub-rectangular structure of c.7.0 x 5.2m, round-cornered and of dry stone and rubble construction. It abuts building 3.2.3 and may have been a byre or a cottar’s one-roomed dwelling.

NM 47399 24609 House (TOR3.2.3) This house was constructed of dry stone, measures c.8.8 x 5.3m and may have been divided internally.

NM 47408 24614, NM47417 24620 and NM 47426 24629 Houses (TOR3.2.4-6) These three buildings, built as one in a short terrace, measure c10.5 x 5.0m in total, each being sub-divided internally into two almost equal sized compartments. Their robbed foundations indicate that the walls were thinner than those of the other buildings and that the corners were squared.

NM 47443 24643 House (TOR3.2.7) The remains of this building at the NE end of the site indicate a round-cornered, dry stone house measuring c8 x 5m with no internal divisions. It was set on a terrace/hollow cut into the SE bank at its back, lined on three sides by dry stone walling. The back and S corner of the building is still 1.3m high. It is suggested that there were two phases of construction, the dry stone-lined platform set into the SE bank and subsequently used as the site for a house.

Bank (TOR3.2.8) The SE bank at the back of 3.2.7 probably marks the edge of an earlier field system, as the buildings appear to respect it.

NM 47395 24594 Enclosure (TOR3.2.9) The wall of this enclosure runs from the SE corner of 3.2.1, for a distance of 29m and then turns N to end at the SE corner of building 3.2.3. It is defined by tumble of its dry stone wall.

NM 47407 24569 Possible pond (TOR3.2.10) 25m to the SE of 3.2.1 is a man-made depression, c11m in diameter, with a stream running through the NW side. Its purpose is unclear but it may have been a retting pool.

NM 47420 24596 Dyke (start point) (TOR3.2.11) Remains of a dry stone dyke terminate by the N side of the depression 3.2.9 and run in a SE direction. This is the march between Upper and Lower Torran. Very little remains of it at this level, but it continues across the hillside, where more of it is upstanding.

NM 47449 24651 Dyke (start point) (TOR3.2.12) The heavily degraded remains of this dry stone dyke, to the N of the buildings, also runs in a SE direction and appear older than the march dyke. It was probably part of a former field system and may be linked with the bank (3.2.8).

NM 47404 24624 Well (TOR3.2.13) A spring still emerges at this point and flows NW into the roadside ditch.

Archive: RCAHMS
Sponsor: Scotland’s Rural Past
**Inch Kenneth Chapel**

*Watching brief*

**Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology**

NM 4373 3544 A watching brief was carried out 14–16 May 2012 during the excavation of five trenches associated with construction to provide access to the 13th-century chapel and burial ground. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

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**Iona Abbey**

*Inventory of carved stones*

**Mary Márkus – Archetype**

NM 28683 24515 (NM22SE 5.00) The final two phases of the assessment of the abbey’s carved stone collection were completed by October 2012. The stones in phase 3 are stored in the roof space and consist mainly of stones from the abbey’s cloisters – column bases, shafts and capitals, as well as voussoirs. Although these stones are extremely weathered, traces of the original decorative carving can still be seen. It is also possible to see how the column bases and shafts were intended to be fitted together, with mortice and tenon joints visible on column bases and shafts.

The stones included in phase 4 of the collection had been removed from Iona many years earlier, and were stacked outside the Columba Centre in Fionnphort. The stones in this latter group were left over from the 1960–70s’ restoration and replacement work in the cloisters. So the stones in phase 3 would have been removed to allow their replacement with these modern versions in phase 4. Again, some of the stones were column bases, shafts and capitals, but the largest group were voussoirs. There is a deliberate differentiation in these modern versions, whereby the dog-tooth ornament is simplified to create a smoother surface profile.

Another group of stones was left over from restoration work on the night stair, forming a set of coping stones. Some of these had still legible names incised in the ends, eg Black, Thompson, Weatherup, Summers and Collins. Finally, there was one intriguing piece which appears to have been a practice stone for a cloisters capital. This has a very clear low-relief carving of a thistle on a chamfered edge, and is a simplified version of a capital now in the cloisters, which shows a similar thistle on a paired capital.

This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland’s properties in care are held by Historic Scotland’s Collections Unit. For further information please contact hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

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**Iona Abbey**

*Geophysical survey*

**Oliver JT O’Grady – OJT Heritage**

NM 2859 2453 (centred on) A series of geophysical surveys was undertaken 18–21 September 2012 at Iona Abbey in advance of the construction of a proposed new ticket booth. The surrounding area of lawn N of the Torr an Aba was also surveyed to provide information about the immediate environs.

The survey covered a 0.32ha area of lawn W of Iona Abbey, between the public road, Torr an Aba and the Road of the Dead. The SW area is level, but rises at a gradual incline toward the NE half way across. The lawn is flanked by the steep sides of the Torr an Aba to the E, a boundary wall to the W and N, and cemetery wall to the S.

This series of geophysical surveys has produced good quality data, and important potentially early medieval findings include the possible continuation of a vallum ditch across the S area of the survey. Other possible monastic
settlement remains were confined to the S half of the survey, in particular the area N of the possible ditch and the old road. Notable among these was a possible enclosure and building located by the radar at depth. This has the potential to be very significant in situ Early Christian monastic remains, which are worthy of further investigation. Several probable excavation trenches associated with Thomas’s investigation in the 1950s and 60s were also located. A programme of excavation will be necessary to resolve the character, date and significance of the archaeological remains.

**Archaeological significance were recorded.**

**Funder:** Kirkdale Archaeology on behalf of Historic Scotland

**Funder:** Historic Scotland

**Iona Abbey**

Watching brief

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NM 2871 2454 A watching brief was undertaken on 7 August 2012 during minor excavations associated with the construction of temporary stone stores at Iona Abbey. Two trenches were excavated in the NE corner of the Abbey complex, adjacent to the infirmary which now serves as a museum. The ground disturbed consisted of recent landscaping material, and there were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Iona Community Housing Ltd

**Tigh Shee**

Watching brief

Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology

NM 28063 23455 A watching brief was carried out 23–28 May 2012 on a house plot to the S of Tigh Shee. A controlled topsoil strip revealed a single, linear feature, c.0.54m wide by 0.18m deep, cut into windblown sand. The feature was interpreted as either the cut of an old field boundary drain or a cut created when windblown sand was heaped up to form a bank that now runs parallel to the road. The depth of windblown sand also necessitated a watching brief during machine excavation of the foundation trenches of the house. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

**Archive:** RCAHMS

**Funder:** Mr and Mrs Ruhemann

**Tiraghoil, Bunessan**

Watching brief

John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NM 35448 22309 to NM 35311 22381 A watching brief was carried out 23–25 January 2012 during the excavation of a trench for an underground power cable. The trench ran through mainly boggy ground a short distance from a standing stone (NM32SE 6) and the former township of Tiraghoil (NM32SE 40). Nothing of archaeological interest was recorded.

**Archive and Report:** RCAHMS and WoSAS

**Funder:** SSE plc

**Killarow and Kilmeny**

**Airigh Ghuaidhre**

Geophysical survey and excavation

Darko Maričević, Steven Mithen and Karen Wicks – University of Reading

NR 39689 62507 – NR 39954 62496 – NR 39729 62955 and NR 40014 62996 (township and enclosure) and NR 40035 63045 (mound) A third season of the survey of the remains of the 19th-century township of Airigh Ghuaidhre and surrounding prehistoric remains took place 18–22 August 2012.

The focus in 2012 was a ground penetrating radar survey of a possible burial mound at NR 40035 63045, which showed promise following the resistivity survey in 2011 (DES 2011, 44–45). Noggin Plus system was used with 500MHz antennas mounted on a SmartCart. A grid measuring 30 x 30m was surveyed over the mound with 0.5m traverse spacing and the directions of traverse perpendicular to the mound, i.e. ESE–WNW, in zig-zag mode. Additionally, seven longitudinal profiles were collected along NNE–SSW orientation. The GPR survey was successful in obtaining information from a depth exceeding the capabilities of the resistivity survey. The results showed strong reflections, equivalent to the high resistance anomalies suggestive of a possible cairn structure, but continuing much deeper than previously known and suggesting that the core of the mound could be grassed-over bedrock. A 2 x 1m trench was excavated at the SW edge of the mound to test the geophysical results. The mound proved to be natural in origin and composed of steeply rising limestone bedrock, which gave the mound such striking edge definition in the resistivity results.

Seven GPR lines at 3m intervals were collected in the S–N direction over the chapel enclosure, which was previously surveyed with the resistivity survey (DES 2010, 41). The purpose of the GPR survey was to investigate the possible presence of graves in the enclosure and obtain a lateral profile of the proposed chapel structure situated at the E end of the enclosure. In addition, two 2D lines measuring 65m and 74m were collected at the site of possible hilltop enclosure (DES 2011, 44–45). The lines were positioned across the southern extent of the possible enclosure to investigate the profiles of putative ditches and locate their eastern return. This data is currently being processed.

**Archive:** University of Southampton

**Funder:** University of Southampton and University of Reading

**East Islay Mesolithic Project (EIMP) – Storakaig**

Excavation

Karen Wicks and Steven Mithen – University of Reading

NR 3985 6270 A third field season of fieldwork at the Mesolithic site at Storakaig took place between 18 August – 4 September 2012. Previous excavation during 2010–11 (DES 2011, 45–6) had exposed a black organic-rich deposit sealed below rough pasture on a SE-facing hillside, immediately downslope of the deserted post-medieval township of Airigh Ghuidhre. The organic-rich deposit (Context 106) is believed to be an occupation surface dating to the Late Mesolithic. It was discovered following its exposure in a ditch-section cut into a field to the SE of the township to improve drainage in 2009. Excavation resumed during 2012, this extending the trench opened up in 2010–11 westwards to expose the edge of the occupation horizon, while slot trenches were dug to establish its limits to the E and S of the main trench area.
proved that the occupation surface extended across an area of c13 x 18m, containing a dense scatter of chipped stone artefacts typical of the narrow-blade industries of western Scotland, along with coarse stone artefacts and burnt material including animal bone, charcoal, hazelnut shells and fire-cracked stones. Systematic sampling across a site grid enabled the collection of a 50% sample of the occupation horizon, while the sterile levels beneath Context 106 were carefully examined for features such as stakeholes, pits and postholes, though none was found. Bulk samples underwent a process of wet sieving (3 mm) and flotation. A systematic programme of geochemical sampling of Context 106 across the site grid was also undertaken, for laboratory analysis of its black amorphous organic content. Analysis of the sorted residues and flots by our specialists is due to commence in January 2013. Several radiocarbon samples will also be submitted for dating and will be reported in due course.

Archive: Museum of Islay Life, Port Charlotte, Islay
Funder: Dunl-osit Estate, Bruichladdich Distillery and the University of Reading

Photograph looking NE across the Storakaig trench showing the exposed surface of a Mesolithic occupation horizon (Context 106), containing extensive evidence for narrow-blade industries typical of western Scotland

Kilmeny House
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NR 390 653 A watching brief was undertaken on 11 April 2012 during the construction of an access road to a new development in the grounds of Kilmeny House. The partial removal of topsoil from a 120 x 2.5m area revealed no features or finds of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr Tony Rozga

Kilmartin
Kilmartin Mining Survey
Survey
Daniel Steiniger – German Archaeological Institute, Department Rome
NM 819 002 (centred on) The overall aim of the research project is to identify prehistoric copper mining in Scotland. The survey began, 13–28 May 2012, by visiting sites where probable hammerstones have been found. Sites visited included Barhullion, Bal Craig, Kirklauchline and Wanlockhead all in Dumfries and Galloway, an area where the discovery of a copper ore (bornite) outcrop in a recent quarry at Kirklauchline was of particular interest.

Several other copper mining districts in SW and central Scotland were also visited, including the Tullich Mine at Loch Tay (Perth and Kinross), different sites in the mining district of Wanlockhead/Leadhills (Dumfries and Galloway/ South Lanarkshire), Mary’s Mine/Tonderghie (Dumfries and Galloway) and the Kilmartin Copper Mine (Argyll and Bute). Around Bridge of Allan in the Ochill Hills are several copper outcrops where the late medieval Airthrey Hill Mine spoil heaps (Stirling) are easily accessible and still contain a good quantity of copper ores. In Argyll and Bute the mining remains of Abhainn Strathain/Meall Mor, at Kilfinan (Murder Lode) and Castleton/Castletown (SE of Lochgilphead) revealed good ‘grey copper ores’, especially at Castleton where the mineralised vein outcrops are easily seen on the shore. In addition the 2012 survey discovered another ore vein along Kilmartin Glen, at the Duntroon Hillfort. The mineralisation is very interesting because of its proximity to numerous archaeological sites.

Further investigation is planned in the area and on other old mining sites in Scotland for 2013. A collection of ore samples has been stored at the National Museums of Scotland, which will hopefully be enlarged in the future to provide a reliable database for investigations, such as the comparison of trace element and lead-isotope ratios in the samples with those found in prehistoric metal objects.

Funder: German Archaeological Institute, Department Rome

Kilmichael Glassary
A’Cruch Wind Farm
Walkover survey and excavation
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NR 97150 98150 A walkover survey undertaken on 10 February 2012 around the proposed site of a new sub-station identified the remains of a large enclosure on open moorland c2.5km N of Minard on the W side of Loch Fyne. It was defined by a fragmentary stone and turf bank, 0.8m wide and up to 0.6m high and measured c200m across although its limits were difficult to determine.

On 12 March 2012 three sections were cut across the bank in order to establish its construction, which was confirmed as being of turf and boulders. No dating evidence was recovered. The feature is interpreted as a stock enclosure of probable pre-improvement age and perhaps contemporary with field systems depicted on an estate plan of 1839.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: SSE plc

Kilmodan
Coille Mhor
Survey
David Donren and Nina Henry
NS 02398 82362 (and vicinity) Local knowledge indicates that a large cattle droving stance was located N of the B836 road from Loch Riddon to Loch Striven in the vicinity of Coille Mhor wood. It was near the sheepfold shown on the current OS map at NS 022 819 but was ‘lost’ or obscured by extensive forestry
Argyll and Bute

planting on and around the site. The OS 6" map (Argyllshire, Sheet CLXXII, 1869, survey 1866) shows two large irregular-shaped enclosures SW of Coille Mhor, together with the sheepfold. Estimated from the map the larger enclosure A is c250 x 160m; B is smaller and to the SW. We investigated both to see what remains could be identified.

Enclosure A is in an area sloping upward to the N on a hillside which was forested then felled. However, a significant part of the turf and stone enclosure dyke survives and we could identify large sections of the enclosure boundary matching the changes in the direction of the dyke depicted on the 6" map. GPS positions taken on the N and S limiting dykes of enclosure A are NS 02398 82362 and NS 02263 82057 indicating a NE-SW separation of 330m. The N uphill boundary is an E-W dyke c22m long between two burns. At both ends it turns S to run down the hillside along the banks of the burns. Farther downhill, within the enclosure on its E side at NS 02433 82306, are the scant remains of a badly eroded rectangular or oval dry stone structure externally c4.1m N-S by c2.9m E-W with walls c0.5m wide, probably a shieling hut or bothy.

The S end of the enclosure is marked by an E-W dyke skirting the N base of a low hill. It was positively identified from the shape on the OS 6" map where, at its W end, it turns NW then NE. The W side farther N was not found. It may have been destroyed or eroded and obscured by vegetation.

A burn runs S through the middle of the enclosure, dividing it into two large areas. A N-S dyke runs along the E side of the burn where the bank is steep, but at the N end where the ground on each side of the burn is flatter there is no dyke. It is evidently a safeguard against animals falling down the steep bank. The E and W areas communicate at the N end of the dyke.

Enclosure B is c100m W of the sheepfold and measures c150m N-S by 200m E-W. The S section of the dyke is at the base of steeply rising ground with an entrance near its W end. Towards the N end the ground levels off. The enclosure runs from NS 01981 81986 towards the W side of the lower S dyke to NS 02052 82109 near the middle of the N dyke.

The main drovers’ stance appears likely to have been enclosure A, which is larger and on flatter, more gently sloping, ground, with B perhaps used as a subsidiary stance.

Kilmore and Kilbride

Dunstaffnage Mains

Excavation

Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology

NM 87643 33933 A programme of archaeological work was carried out 10 April – 1 June 2012 in advance of a housing development on land N of Dunstaffnage Mains. An initial evaluation was followed by topsoil stripping and excavation over a large area in which prehistoric material had been previously recorded. In addition, an area to be used as a borrow pit for the development was evaluated and subsequently a larger open area excavation took place.

Excavation within the main development area revealed the presence of six roundhouses, all with their entrance facing SE. The hearth and internal ring ditch of some of the roundhouses were vented by underground wood lined slots. Initial analysis of the roundhouses has revealed significant alterations to the design of the venting system over time. It is postulated that the internal ring ditches, which all occur on the NE side, are cold stores that would have been covered and perishable goods within protected by a wooden floor. In addition excavation revealed a burnt mound with a stone built ‘tank’, associated hearths for the heating of the stone and a simple but effective water management and purification system. Other excavated features include numerous pits, some of which yielded decorated Bronze Age pottery indicating that these are burial pits. A narrow ditch, earlier than the roundhouses was also
excavated. At the northern end of the site the foundations of buildings associated with the WW2 base were also recorded.

**Glenshellach**

*Evaluation*

**Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology**

Roundhouse under excavation

NM 8500 2845 An evaluation was undertaken 15 August – 5 November 2011 on phase six of a housing development, following an initial evaluation in 2010 (*DES* 2010, 45). Topsoil stripping was conducted over a large area in which prehistoric material had been previously recorded. In addition a series of structures belonging to a farmstead were deturfed by hand prior to excavation. The excavation revealed three well preserved roundhouses and the corner of a possible fourth; a cluster of pits filled with midden material and a large quantity of decorated and undecorated Bronze Age pottery; a couple of linear gullies and a few isolated hearths and pits. The farmstead proved to be 19th-century in date with no evidence of earlier phases. It consisted of a house of dry stone construction; a stone barn with two attached stone corn drying kilns; a possible second stone barn; and a turf-built house, store and probable barn complex. Just to the S of the main farmstead complex a further small building was discovered which had been utilised as a metal workshop. Further isolated 19th-century features included metal working hearths, pits and clearance cairns.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Funder:** West Highland Housing Association

NM 86805 31994 The stripping of topsoil from the area of a proposed car park, associated with the extension to Pennyfuir Cemetery, revealed three large pits, part of a linear feature, a couple of possible postholes and an ephemeral earthen and stone bank. An excavation was carried out of these features 11 January – 19 July 2012. One pit contained a significant quantity of ash and burnt bone and this may be the remnants of a cooking pit, or, as a human cremation was excavated during an earlier phase of excavation (*DES* 2011, 49-50), it may represent the base of a funerary pyre. Two large pits were packed with brown silt and large rounded cobbles; their function remains elusive. In addition numerous irregular features with fills rich in charcoal were excavated and proved to be the remnants of tree roots that had clearly been burnt *in situ*. The remnants of cobble and earthen banks, associated with late 18th/19th century pottery, were recorded in colluviums on the S side of the site.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Funder:** MacLeod Construction Ltd

**Kilninian and Kilmore**

*Island of Ulva,*  
**Walkover survey**

**Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services**

NM 3972 4100 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken 10 May – 12 June 2012 in advance of a woodland establishment scheme. The survey identified new sites of archaeological interest including farmsteads and ancillary buildings, shielings, enclosures, boundary walls and areas of rig and furrow cultivation. Settlement remains within planned open areas within the planting scheme were also recorded to complete the record of settlement within the Phase 3 survey area.
The survey completed three phases of archaeological survey on the island of Ulva in advance of this major tree planting scheme. The survey recorded a complex and quite densely settled area, containing a wide range of features and extensive field dykes/land divisions and areas of relict rig and furrow cultivation. The survey provides a record of a well preserved post-medieval landscape including all elements of the settlement system and evidence for a transhumance economy using shielings and their associated enclosed stock pens. 

**Kilninian**

**Standing building recording and watching brief**

Colin Martin – Morvern Maritime Centre

NM 39951 45912 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 12 August 2011 – 1 September 2012 in advance of the construction of a house. A Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken on 19th-century farmstead prior to its demolition. A watching brief was then carried out during all ground-breaking works. The demolished building was a byre which had a cobble floor and a drain which was offset to one side. Excavations to the N of the byre recorded a series of hearths, pits and postholes. The artefactual evidence which included craggan ware, hammerstones, a pallet – reused as a hearth stone, and a fragment of a rotary quern indicated that the site was a domestic settlement. A blue-green glass toggle bead was recovered from the charcoal ashes of a kiln, and the survival of a pontill mark and a portion of the rod, indicate that the bead may have been manufactured on site. The bead dates from the Late Iron Age. The site is significant as it is one of very few unenclosed Iron Age settlements to be excavated in Argyll and is also potentially the site of Iron Age bead manufacture, albeit on a small domestic scale.

**Lismore and Appin**

**Kilcheran**

**Watching brief**

John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NM 82721 38965 to NM 82699 38908 and NM 82699 38908 to NM 82459 38798 Watching briefs were undertaken on 27 February and 26 March 2012 during trenching for a new underground power cable to replace an overhead line to Kilcheran House, Isle of Lismore. The trench crossed pasture land and garden, through an area thought to be the site of an Early Christian chapel (NM83NW 17) but nothing of archaeological significance was recorded during the watching brief.

**Lochgoilhead and Kilmoreich**

**Merk Burn, Cairndow**

Walkover survey

Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology

NN 21512 16227 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out 8–9 June 2012 prior to construction of a hydro-electric scheme centred on Merk Burn. All heights are given in relation to the OD and measurements are external unless otherwise specified.

NN 21758 17083 (391m) **Caorachan** This possible structure/shieling, which is located below a collapsing outcrop of bedrock, measured c10 x 5.2m, and consisted of two irregular circles of stone. The largest measured 3.2 x 3.1m externally and 1.5 x 2.0m internally. A second possible structure, 2.1 x 2.6m, is attached to its E side. A possible entrance porch consisting of two parallel lines of stone is located on the S side. The structure was constructed from large angular boulders derived from the surrounding scree. Possibly 18th or 19th century.

NN 21512 16227 to NN 21525 16169 (300–286m) **Tom Gobhail** A set of six oval turf and stone shielings set on a S-facing knoll next to Merk Burn. Shieling A, located farthest N, is oval and measured 4.6 x 4.4m with attached structure (B), 4.0 x 3.1m. Approximately 12m S is Shieling C, c7 x 6 m, with 0.9m wide and 0.4m high walls this shieling has more
exposed stone than the others. Beyond a track is Shieling D, 4.3 x 3.6m, and c19m to the E is Shieling E, 4.5 x 3.7m, and 12m of this is Shieling F, 3.4 x 4.5m. Possibly 18th century.

NN 21067 14998 (82m) Glen Fyne This possible structure/shieling measured 4.8 x 3.8m and consisted of a discontinuous circle of angular stones, with a flat interior, and a single course high, roughly built wall on the S side. Possibly 18th/19th century.

NN 21091 15752 – NN 21038 15820 (235–263m) Merk Burn Shielings A series of 19th-century stone built shielings. The group on the S side of track, nearest to Merk Burn consists of three attached structures at NN 21091 15752 (235m). The eastern one measured 4.3 x 3.0m, the next 3.3 x 6.1m and the third 2.3 x 3.1m (A, B and C). A curvilinear wall forms a concealed entrance for the two easternmost structures and also leads into the third. The centres of the structures are sunken and the surviving walls are c0.8m wide and 1.3m high. A fourth possible structure (D) is located on the W side, 5 x 4.3m. These structures lie on the W side of a fast flowing burn that joins Merk Burn to the S. On the N side of the track and across the ford is a fifth shieling (E), which measured 4 x 4m with an adjacent L-shaped wall, 4 x 2m. This shieling and one of the others on the S side of the track are depicted on the 1st Edition OS map at NN 21098 15756 (240m). On the E side of the fast flowing burn but to the N of the track there are further shielings. The first is a double structure (F), 4 x 6m with a smaller attached structure 3 x 4m at NN 21049 15728 (233m) located next to a dry burn. Further uphill to the N is another structure (G) 5 x 5m, 0.80m high and 0.80m wide walls at NN 21626 15788 (258m) and beyond this a smaller circular structure (H) 3.4 x 3.4m, at NN 21016 15800 (263m), which has four visible courses of cailing. Roughly 20m E and across the burn is structure (I) at NN 20138 15820 (263m). This consists of a rectangular structure, 5 x 4m with a small circular structure attached by means of a short wall. The circular structure at NN 21038 15820 (263m) measured 2.1 x 2.1m. All the shielings are of dry stone construction using angular to rounded cobbles. The shielings have rounded to square corners, some have elongated entrance porches, and others smaller attached ancillary structures.

NN21303 15997 (267m) Tom Gobhoir Two structures, possibly 18th/19th-century shielings. The S one measured 4 x 4m with a flat interior base and irregular walls. The second structure 3m to the NE measured 2.8 x 3.4m but only the W section of the E wall was visible.

NN 20173 15551 and NN 20163 15588 (496–504m) Eas nam Bà A group of four possibly 18th/19th-century structures. The largest to the E side of the Eas nam Bà Burn measured 9 x 4m with 0.8m wide and 0.45m high walls. A 5.5 x 5.5m circular structure with 0.8m wide walls was attached to the S end of this building. A roughly built 4m long dry stone wall, a possible animal pen, was located across the burn near a large natural boulder. Another 5 x 3m structure was recorded to the N of the first structure, and a possible area of peat cutting to the S of the circular ancillary structure. The fifth structure, 4.8 x 3.5m, was located slightly higher and to the N of the largest structure. The N wall and N section of the E wall were not visible.

NN 19691 15484 (629m) Beinn Chas A 3m long dry stone wall, 0.8m wide and 0.6m high, possibly 18th/19th century. Archive: RCAHMS Funder: Merk Hydro Project Ltd

North Knapdale

Dun Mhuirich

Survey and excavation

Roddy Regan – Kilmartin House Museum

NR 7228 8441 The excavation and survey of Dun Mhuirich undertaken in June 2012, as part of the Connected Communities: Community Archaeology in Argyll and Ulster Project, has revealed a complex well preserved site. The site probably had its origins in the Iron Age or possibly the Early Historic period, although little beyond the structural evidence was uncovered for this period. The excavation did recover evidence of occupation from the 13th to 17th centuries, suggesting either continuous occupation or periodic use of the site. The longevity of occupation is reflected in the structural development of the site, with perhaps major reconstruction and modifications over time to the buildings and walls of the dun. The archaeological deposits within and around the structures are well preserved, which will allow the understanding and interpretation of the structural sequence, whilst the good perseveration of bone will allow investigation of diet, animal husbandry and the surrounding environment and how this may have developed from the medieval to the late medieval period. The presence of pottery in an enclosed site with several associated structures suggest a habitation of some status, that was probably associated with one of the notable families present in Knapdale from the medieval period, postulated here to be the MacNeils.

Archive: Kilmartin House Museum (intended). Report: Forestry Commission, OASIS, RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended) Funder: Connected Communities Project

Rosneath

Avenue Cottage

Watching brief

Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NS 252 831 A watching brief was undertaken 2 August 2011 – 6 March 2012 during work associated with the construction of a house on land E of Avenue Cottage in Rosneath. Topsoil was
found to be deeper in the N half of the site and local sources attributed this to earlier levelling of the site. Examination of the W section of the services trench indicated that topsoil in this area had been stripped down to a gravelly subsoil, probably during the creation of a parking area. Two unstratified sherds of medieval Redware pottery which have been dated to the 15th century were recovered.

**Rothesay Castle**

**Inventory of carved stones**

**Mary Márkus – Archetype**

NS 08781 64585 (NS06SE 3.00) This collection was assessed October – December 2011. A number of non-architectural stones are included in the collection, such as canonballs and mortars or querns. Among the architectural stones, one very elaborate stone stands out. It forms a canopy, and possibly originally came from a free standing location, probably associated with an image. Four miniature gables are worked along the lower edge, and the upper section is slightly tilted. A low-relief form on the outer face may be part of a scroll, or hunting horn. The underside of the canopy is angled and roughly finished.

There is also a pair of elaborate vault bosses in the collection, and each of these covered the junction of eight ribs, and therefore came from an elaborate vault, maybe over the great hall on the first floor of the castle. The attached vault ribs are highly eroded, but their profiles alternate between larger and smaller ribs, with the smaller ribs simply moulded with chamfers, and the larger ones with a broad axial fillet flanked on each side by a chamfer, hollow, and a short chamfer leading to the vertical side of the rib. The ends of two ribs are keyed to provide a secure junction with adjacent lengths of vault rib. The outer face of the boss is badly damaged, but would originally have had decorative carving.

This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland’s properties in care are held by Historic Scotland’s Collections Unit. For further information please contact hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

**Southend**

**Ballybrennan**

**Walkover survey**

**Clare Ellis – Argyll Archaeology**

NR 168000 613500 (centred on) A walkover survey was undertaken in September 2011 over a parcel of ground prior to tree planting. The survey identified a series of banks associated with 19th-century drainage, 18 circular shielings, 2 stone buildings and associated enclosures/platforms, an area of peat cutting and a single track. All heights given as per Ordnance Datum (OD).

NR 68282 13931 (65m) A 1–1.5m wide and 0.4m high stone and earth bank. ?19th/20th century.

NR 68235 13804 (74m) A 1m and 0.2m high stone and earth bank. ?19th/20th century.

NR 68246 13303 (93m) A 3m wide track leading from a farm. ?19th/20th century.

NR 68292 13055 (108m) A bank, 1–1.25m wide and 0.75m high. ?19th/20th century.

NR 68205 12975 (141m), NR 68113 12944 (167m), NR 68055 12908 (181m), NR 68055 12908 (181m), NR 68178 13048 (134m), NR 68155 13059 (141m), and NR 68207 13068 (126m) A set of six shielings. ?18th/19th century.

NR 68174 12979 (145m), NR 68148 12968 (151m), NR 68375 12832 (130m), NR 68371 12713 (136m) and NR 68241 12844 (155m). A series of banks associated with drainage. ?early/mid-20th century.

NR 67966 12751 (193m) and NR 67976 12756 (193m). Two shielings, 8 x 4m and 5 x 5m. ?18th/19th century.

NR 67992 12559 (188m) ?Cairn/shieling. 1.7 x 1.9m. ?18th/19th century.

NR 68003 12565 (183m) A circle of stones built into the edge of a low river cliff, N-facing. Shieling, 4 x 4m, centre filled with rubble. ?18th/19th century.

NR 68072 12635 (175m) to NR 68048 12586 (171m) Earthen bank 1–1.5m wide, oriented N-S cutting off spur of land bounded by two burns. ?20th century.

NR 68240 13342 (90m) to NR 68208 13349 (105m) to NR 68182 13509 Earthen bank, 1–1.5m wide and 1m high. ?20th century.

NR 67778 13738 (101m), NR 67809 13717 (106m), NR 67884 13786 (90m), NR 68141 13835 (69m), NR 68153 13583 (81m) and NR 67937 13727 (101m) Earthen banks 1–1.5m wide and 0.80m high, associated with drainage. ?20th century.

NR 67834 14258 (111m) Possible relict structure, 12 x 5m, substantial stone wall up to 1.5m wide. One course visible up to 0.4m high, with a pile of large stones at N end. There is a 6 x 3m pile of cleared stone 8m to the S. A 3 x 3m platform lies to the E. ?19th century.

NR 67726 14102 (125m) A field boundary consisting of a broad low bank, 0.6m wide and 0.5m high, oriented E-W. ?20th century.

NR 67662 14111 (131m) Earth and stone bank, up to 0.75m high, oriented N-S. ?20th century.

NR 67629 14196 (152m) A rectangular dry stone structure with 0.8m wide and 0.5m high walls of 4–5 courses. Two building phases were recorded, the lower layer E end measured 8 x 6m, and the earlier W end measured 6 x 6m. It had a E-facing entrance. The bank leading from the E end possibly created an enclosure. The bank ends at NR 67642 14193. ?19th century.

NR 67602 14195 (159m) An earth and stone bank, 0.75m high and 2m wide, leads to a possible enclosure, 7 x 6m. ?19th century.

NR 67668 13979 to NR 67724 13949 (98–104m) A 0.3m high and 0.75m wide wall. ?19th/20th century.

NR 67407 14047 (170m) A possible shieling consisting of a circular earth and stone bank, 5 x 5m, up to 0.3m high and 1m wide. ?19th century.

NR 67204 13603 and NR 67195 13595 (171m) Shielings measuring 6 x 6m and 4 x 5m with a possible third on W side.
Evidence of the post-medieval use of fields surrounding Dalsierf was recovered, although there was a surprising lack of finds relating to the medieval or earlier periods. At Luss
green-glazed pottery of possible medieval/post-medieval date was recovered from both the manse garden and the glebe, and a trench excavated in the back garden of the manse contained the remains of a shallow ditch, probably relating to post-medieval cultivation of the garden.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Dollar Glen**

**Excavation**

Daniel Rhodes – The National Trust for Scotland

NS 95843 99352 An excavation and survey were carried out at the National Trust of Scotland property of Dollar Glen as part of the Ochils Landscape Partnership. The excavations, 15–23 September 2012, included the participation of 26 local volunteers and Stirling Young Archaeologists Club.

Three trenches were excavated, two sited on a large bank and stone wall and the other across a rectilinear structure similar to those excavated nearby earlier in the season and in 2011 (DES 2011, 57–58 and above).

The excavations revealed that the earthen bank running N–S across the hill pre-dated the stone wall, which had been built into the W side, forming a revetment at the base of the hill. No datable material was obtained from the bank itself, but fragments of 19th- and 20th-century glass were discovered during cleaning. The turf-banked rectangular structure was surveyed and a trench excavated across the E end, with a smaller trench in the interior. The entrance was at the E end and a shallow pit containing fragments of charcoal and burnt ash was found immediately outside. Excavation revealed distinct turf lines in the construction of the walls and a series of internal deposits, although no floor layers were found. Cut into the natural deposits at the E end of the structure was a posthole c0.2m in diameter, which indicated that the structure was roofed. A small fragment of possible medieval Red Ware was recovered from the internal deposits.

Archive: NTS and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland and Ochil landscape Partnership

**Lovers’ Loan, Dollar**

**Evaluation**

Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group

NS 9656 9766 An evaluation consisting of 18 trenches, totalling 2800m², was undertaken 26–29 March 2012, prior to residential development of c3ha of agricultural land on the SE edge of Dollar. Examination of aerial photographs had identified a 45m diameter circular enclosure lying close to the centre of the proposed development (Kelly Bridge – NS99NE 17). However, the evaluation found no evidence for remains associated with this enclosure.

The foundation deposits of a former colliery railway were recorded crossing the development area, and the remains of a small early 19th-century tile works were discovered along the S boundary. A large tile waster pit associated with the tile works was also recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: MacTaggart and Mickel

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**CLACKMANNANSHIRE**

**Alloa**

**Alloa Academy, Alloa**

**Evaluation**

Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 8729 9366 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken in February 2012 prior to the construction of housing. A total of 26 trenches, with an overall length of 650m, were excavated and revealed a significant number of tile field drains. A metal detector evaluation of the trenches and fill recovered 18 ferrous objects of 19th-century or modern date.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: URS, Leeds

**The Orchard, Tullibody**

**Evaluation**

Derek Hall

NS 855 945 A 5% evaluation undertaken on 28 February 2012 of the new building footprints on the greenfield part of the development site located no archaeological features or finds.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Hadden Construction Ltd

**Dollar**

**Dollar Glen**

**Excavation**

Daniel Rhodes – The National Trust for Scotland

NS 95842 99469 An excavation and survey were carried out at the National Trust for Scotland property of Dollar Glen as part of the Thistle Camp working holiday scheme. The excavation was carried out by Daniel Rhodes, with the assistance of 12 volunteers, from 18–25 August 2012.

This was the second season at the site (first identified by TC Welsh, 1972), which is located on a small promontory on the upper slopes of Dollar Glen. The site consists of the remains of two turf-built rectangular structures, the northern one (Structure A) measuring c10m N–S by c7.5m E–W and the southern one (Structure B) measuring c12m N–S by c7.5m E–W. Both structures are visible as low rectilinear banks no higher than c0.45m. Around Structure B it is also possible to discern a low, roughly rectilinear, enclosing bank no higher than c0.5m and measuring c22m N–S by c16m E–W.

Three trenches were excavated. The first was in the centre of Structure A, the second across the E wall and low enclosing bank of Structure B, and the third across the NW corner of the enclosing bank around Structure B. All of the excavated structures were constructed of turf, and due to site formation processes, appeared as a single uniform context. No internal floor layers were encountered and no clear use for the structures could be defined from the excavated material.

Archive: NTS and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland
Anwoth

**Mossyard, Gatehouse of Fleet**

*Evaluation*

Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NX 5889 5601 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken 25–27 June 2012 on the location of a cropmark identified by aerial photography. The small trenches contained topsoil consisting of a slightly clayey silt containing a moderate amount of small stones. The subsoil consisted of a stony gravel or a slightly clayey gravelly silt. A deposit in Trench 3 appeared to have been brought in from outside the site, possibly as infill material for a wet area. No significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

*Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR*

*Funder: Mr and Mrs McConchie*

**Trusty’s Hill Fort**

*Excavation and survey*

Ronan Toolis and Christopher Bowles – Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society

NX 5889 5601 As part of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, the society launched a programme of excavation and survey of Trusty’s Hill Fort, 20 May – 15 June 2012, in order to recover for modern analysis, the environmental and dating evidence not recovered during the only previous excavation of Trusty’s Hill, undertaken by Charles Thomas in 1960. The purpose of the project was to enhance understanding of the context of the inscribed stone at Trusty’s Hill and the significance of this archaeological site within the context of early medieval Scotland.

The fieldwork consisted of a topographic survey by RCAHMS to establish a modern plan and 3D model of the entirety of Trusty’s Hill. The re-excavation of previous excavation trenches and a limited sample excavation was then undertaken by 65 volunteers in collaboration with GUARD Archaeology Ltd, in order to recover and record environmental and artefactual evidence from secure archaeological contexts. A detailed laser scan survey of the Pictish inscribed stone was then undertaken by the Centre for Digital Documentation and Visualisation LLP.

The topographic survey updated the measured sketch plan produced by Thomas and shows that the site consists of a fortified citadel around the summit of a craggy hill, with a number of lesser enclosures looping out from the summit along the lower lying terraces and crags of the hill. It therefore recognisably conforms to the definition of a nucleated fort.

Four of Thomas’s seven trenches were re-excavated. Trench 2 revealed a deep rock-cut basin on one side of the entrance to the hillfort, opposite the Pictish Inscribed Stone. This feature contained waterlogged deposits from which wood and other organic material were recovered for archaeobotanical analysis. Trench 4, on the E side of the interior summit of the site, encountered part of the vitrified rampart and associated ‘dark soil’ occupation deposits across an area of the interior. Excavation of these deposits recovered numerous animal bones, charcoal, worked stones and lithics, metalwork, metalworking debris and a rim sherd of 6th/7th AD century E Ware. Trench 5 on the W side of the interior summit of Trusty’s Hill, also encountered part of the vitrified rampart along with associated occupation deposits also containing numerous animal bones, charcoal, worked stone and lithics, metalwork, metalworking debris, an Iron Age glass bead fragment and a rim sherd of 1st/2nd century AD Samian Ware. Trench 6 revealed the sterile fill of the rock-cut ditch on the N side of the site. Radiocarbon dates taken from a variety of contexts across Trenches 2, 4 and 5 appear to demonstrate residual Iron Age occupation of the hill at c400 BC followed by a hiatus before the site was re-occupied perhaps starting in the 5th century AD, and flourishing in the 6th century AD before occupation of this hillfort ceased before the middle of the 7th century AD. The rock-cut basin opposite the Pictish Carvings, however, appeared to have continued in use beyond the late 7th to late 8th century AD.

The laser scan survey of the Pictish inscribed stone demonstrated that there is no ogham along the southern edge of the inscribed stone, nor is there a cup-mark above the ‘sea-beast’, apparent on a previous laser scan survey. The 2012 laser scan also confirmed that the z-rod and double disc symbol do not interweave as depicted previously, but intercut each other across the lower bar of the double disc. Furthermore, the horned head at the bottom of the inscribed stone clearly cuts one of the inscribed signatures, demonstrating that the horned head is not ancient, but rather another element of the 19th-century graffiti only too evident across the rest of the inscribed stone.

*Archive: RCAHMS (intended)*

*Funders: Heritage Lottery Fund, Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, RCAHMS, GUARD Archaeology Ltd, Mouswald Trust, Hunter Archaeological Trust, Strathmartine Trust, Sandeman Award, Gatehouse Development Initiative and the John Younger Trust*

**Canonbie**

*The Forge, Canonbie*

*Evaluation*

Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd

NY 39456 76606 An evaluation was undertaken on 10 October 2012 of a proposed development area (840m²). The presence of both underground and overhead services limited the work to the excavation of a single 10m long trench in the W part of the site. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

*Archive: RCAHMS (intended)*

*Funder: Lapwing Builders Ltd*
An 11th season of excavation by volunteer diggers has continued, despite being hampered by the wettest summer on record since 1908. A 12 week season was reduced to 6 weeks and excavation work suffered accordingly. Previous work has been reported in DES 2003, 44; 2005, 42; 2006, 48; 2007, 60; 2008, 51; 2009, 54–5; 2010, 52 and 2011, 59.

Three further Early Bronze Age boat-shaped burials, with the bows of the boats pointing towards the E, have been identified, but not yet excavated. A series of later palimpsest burials, tentatively dated to the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age lie on top of the boat-shaped burials. These are circular in shape, none have capstones and all exhibit more than a single cremation pit. This extension of the already existing Early Bronze Age linear cemetery is indicative of major activity c2150 BC, as shown by artefacts recovered from two of the boat-shaped burials. No cremated remains have been identified although the small individual cremation pits in which the ashes of the dead were deposited are obvious in the cobbled flooring of the larger cist-type graves. A few of these have yielded either flint, quartz or stone artefacts. Many of the original capstones were removed in antiquity. A proposed high status burial (No 59) in the shrine area of the site has yielded three separate cremation pits, each of which contained a ritual deposit of two flint tools and a shale rubber. A cobbled road leading from the ancient loch to the cairn has been further excavated and extended to the E bank of Newbarns Loch, to locate the entrance, which had a large timber post at the N and S sides. The post-pipes of this putative entrance yielded a quartz pebble (N) and a flint flake (S). The flint has been identified as being a straight stemmed arrow point blank bimarginal tool with a broken dorsal ridge. A series of postholes were set into the edge of this feature and lead into the proposed shrine area. On the S edge of this Portal Way – a portal between the living and the dead – there were six posts set at intervals of between 1.1m and 1.8m and on the N edge there were five posts set at between 1.40m and 3.2m all leading onto a paved area, which had been constructed around the burials. A further six postholes delineated the cut of the shrine area at intervals of c1m. The present hypothesis is that these timbers once supported a roof covering both the pathway and the paved area around the burials to provide either privacy or shelter. Two further possible burials with capstones have been uncovered on the S edge of the cairn and these will be excavated in 2013. On the smaller satellite cairn postholes delineated the rectangular construction mentioned in a previous report, but no datable artefacts have been recovered, other than flint and stone items from a prehistoric level under the upper cobbled floor, which has been provisionally dated to the medieval period.

NX 8812 5505 The South Cairn A geophysical survey was undertaken, to investigate the offsite aspects of the palimpsest, across a drained loch in the field to the S of the cairn. The magnetometry survey covered the entire area, whilst the electrical resistance survey targeted the drier parts of the field. Preliminary results indicate that drainage has always been an issue in this area, with evidence of drainage work from many periods from the Bronze Age onwards. The capstones overlying one segment of drain were partially...
exposed and this revealed a similar construction method to medieval samples already examined across the kerb cairn itself.

NX 8775 5515 The Standing Stone A similar survey was conducted on the site of the standing stone 0.5 miles to the N of the N cairn. However, the results recorded no additional features.

Archaeological Survey: The Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright
Funder: Hamish McCrae and Mrs Jane Elvie

Dumfries

Castledykes Park, Dumfries
Geophysical survey
Giles Carey – University of Glasgow
NX 9775 7467 A small scale community geophysical survey was carried out on 7 September 2012 by volunteers as part of a series of events by Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past, run by the University of Glasgow. The resistance survey recorded a number of anomalies across and to the immediate N of Castle Hill, the site of the former Royal Castle of Dumfries. At least some of these anomalies may relate to stone built features, although the limited nature of the survey made interpretation tentative.

Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR
Funder: The Scottish Government and The European Community, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER 2007–2013, The Crichton Foundation and The University of Glasgow

Girthon

Barwhill/Gatehouse-of-Fleet
Geophysical survey
Giles Carey – University of Glasgow
NX 59640 57131 and NX 59676 57117 A small scale community geophysical survey was carried out on 3 October 2012 by volunteers as part of a series of events by Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past, run by the University of Glasgow.

Both magnetic and resistance surveys were carried out in a field to the immediate W of Girthon Cemetery, in a field in which quarry pits for the Glenlochar to Gatehouse-of-Fleet Roman road were visible on aerial photographs, as well as enclosure ditches of possible square barrows. The quarry pits of the Roman road were strikingly visible in the results from both surveys, although the enclosure ditches of the barrow remained elusive.

Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR
Funder: The Scottish Government and The European Community, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER 2007–2013, The Crichton Foundation and The University of Glasgow

Moat Park Motte
Survey
Enda O Flaherty – Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd
NX 606 556 A detailed topographic and geophysical survey was undertaken 14–15 September 2012 of a c6000m² area centred on the summit of the mound. The topographical survey of Moat Park motte demonstrated that the site was constructed in a strategic position, utilising the topography to create a defensible earth and timber castle. Defensive earthworks such as the counter-scarp on the S and W sides, may have carried other defensive features such as a wooden palisade. The absence of this counter-scarp toward the N and E sides of the monument may indicate the position of a temporary or wooden causeway, as no earthen causeway could be identified.

Fluxgate magnetometry and electrical resistivity geophysical surveys were conducted on the summit of the mound. The results of these surveys suggested that this area may have been occupied by some structural features. Electrical resistivity survey techniques are best used for detecting the nature and extent of large features such as substantial walling and large ditches. Given that motte castles were most commonly constructed of earth and timber on a relatively small scale, it is not surprising that no substantial structures were detected on the summit of the mound by the electrical resistivity survey. However, the results of the fluxgate magnetometry survey identified sub-surface magnetic anomalies that are probably associated with human activity. These anomalies may be interpreted in a number of ways. Areas of high magnetic response may be associated with substantial structural features such as masonry walls, or substantial ditches. However, such features are not common to 12th-century motte castles, and were not detected by the electrical resistivity survey. Another explanation for these magnetic responses may be an episode of burning. The irregular form and substantial size of the area suggests that the magnetic response does not represent a hearth, and the anomaly may perhaps be associated with a single conflagration event. Given that the majority of motte mounds supported substantial timber buildings, similar in dimension to the anomaly identified during the magnetometry survey, and also the historical evidence for turbulent events during the latter part of the 12th century, the destruction of any timber buildings by fire is a plausible hypothesis. However, an excavation would be required to confirm or disprove this theory.

Funder: Historic Scotland

Inch

Innermessan, Stranraer
Geophysical survey
Giles Carey – University of Glasgow
NX 0839 6384 Two extensive community geophysical surveys were carried out 10–15 September 2012 by volunteers as part of a series of events by Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past, run by the University of Glasgow.

The magnetic survey focused on the area to the N of the base of the Motte of Innermessan (NX06SE 3), whilst the resistivity survey focused on a possible field boundary noted on aerial photographs, 350m to the N of Innermessan Farm (NX06SE 98). A number of features were visible in the resistance survey, which probably related to post-medieval
agriculture, and the use of this area in WW2, including pipes connected to an extant 1940s water tank. A number of other features, including possible building platforms may relate to earlier activity in this area. The magnetic survey failed to record any traces of features associated with a bailey, but did locate a double-ditched feature, apparently cut by the motte ditch.

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**Lochbrow**

*Geophysical survey*

*Kirsty Millican, Helen Goodchild and Dorothy Graves McEwan – RCAHMS, Universities of York and Edinburgh*

NY 09514 89350 A third season of geophysical survey was undertaken 23–29 September by the Lochbrow Landscape Project team. This work represents the continuation of surveys begun in 2010 (DES 2011, 59) with the aim of investigating the nature and extent of the sites and monuments, their wider context and topographical location, and landscape development. This year’s survey focused on the cropmark cursus, timber circles and round barrows, and began looking at the location of two cropmark palisaded enclosures recorded in the field to the S of the initial survey area. Both gradiometer and resistivity surveys on and around the location of the cropmark cursus, timber circles and barrows identified probable cursus and timber circle postholes, additional barrows not recorded as cropmarks, a general scatter of pits of unknown date, along with modern features. The gradiometer survey on a portion of the palisaded enclosures identified the palisade ditches of both enclosures known from cropmarks, and added additional detail to the recorded cropmarks.

This year, the project also worked with local volunteers from the Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past project over four days. The volunteers carried out a small area of high resolution resistance survey in the N of the study area. They were joined by pupils from Johnstonebridge Primary School and Dumfries High School. More information about the Lochbrow Landscape Project can be found on the project website at http://lochbrowlandscapeproject.wordpress.com

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**Kirkmahoe**

*Carzield, Kirkton*

*Excavation*

*Warren Bailie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd*

NX 968 818 A watching brief carried out during excavations associated with the construction of seven electricity poles recorded nothing of archaeological significance. The hand excavation of two cable trenches recorded deposits and built remains of possible Roman date. This work was undertaken 3–21 October 2011.

Trench 1 was located across the grounds of Carzield Farm and Carzield House and measured 51.2m long by 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep. The Carzield Farm area contained four linear features, including a 5m wide ditch, a stakehole along the line of the rampart and a cobbled surface inside the line of the rampart. All of the features were consistent with the orientation of the NE to SW ramparts known to define the NW side of the fort. Finds included unidentified metal objects, two sherds of Samian Ware and fragments of burnt daub and slag. A 19th- to 20th-century coach track was also uncovered leading to the courtyard of Carzield Farm (formerly the coach house of Carzield House).

Trench 2 was located in the rear garden of Glebe House and measured 23m long by 0.4m wide and 0.6m deep. This trench revealed the remains of a possible Roman cobbled surface and a possible wall footing, both of which may relate to a possible stable block, based on the projected layout of the fort. A series of 18th- to 20th-century yard surfaces and a 19th-century track were recorded overlying the possible Roman remains.

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**Kelton**

*Kelton Mains, Threave*

*Survey*

*Giles Carey – University of Glasgow*

NX 74529 62100 Two extensive community geophysical surveys and a topographic survey were carried out 8–13 October 2012 by volunteers as part of a series of events by Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past, run by the University of Glasgow. Both magnetic and resistance surveys were carried out over a site identified on aerial photographs as a fort, or defended settlement, of probable later prehistoric date (NX76SW 22), on top of Meikle Wood Hill. Whilst the field was magnetically quiet, the survey highlighted a number of features interpreted as pits both within and outside the enclosure, which showed up strikingly on the resistivity survey. A topographic survey placed the site within its landscape context.
Dumfries and Galloway

Middlebie

Birrens Roman forts and environs
Geophysical survey
Richard Jones – Glasgow University
NY 21900 75180 The 3.5ha magnetic survey of the field to the immediate W of the extant Roman fort undertaken 2–7 July 2012 recorded the detail of what is probably a substantial part of an earlier phase fort. To its W are a triple ditched enclosure and a probable annexe. The results confirm and amplify extend the aerial photographic evidence. Electrical survey to the N of the extant fort in the field by Birrens Lodge indicated some high resistance anomalies, but these are unlikely to be Roman in origin.

The survey, which arose as a result of the former Solway Hinterland Archaeological Remote Sensing Project’s interest in Roman sites in Dumfriesshire, was a collaboration between Glasgow University and staff and volunteers of the Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past project.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mouswald Trust and Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society

Kirklebridge Pumping Station
Watching brief
Rowena Thomson – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NY 224744 A watching brief was carried out 19 March – 4 September 2012 to the W of a possible Roman fortlet (SAM 2613) and E of pits (NY27SW 37; NY27SW 38). One further pit was found filled by clay and charcoal-rich layers.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Water

Moffat

Corehead, Moffat
Geophysical survey
Giles Carey – University of Glasgow
NT 0722 1245 A small scale community geophysical survey was carried out 18–22 September 2012 by volunteers as part of a series of events by Discovering Dumfries and Galloway’s Past, run by the University of Glasgow. The resistance survey recorded a concentration of anomalies to the immediate N of Corehead Farmhouse, all of which probably related to post-medieval agricultural activity. A number of these anomalies could be directly correlated to a sheep pen and field boundaries marked on 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps.

Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR
Funder: The Scottish Government and The European Community, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER 2007–2013, The Crichton Foundation and The University of Glasgow

Grey Mare’s Tail
Excavation
Daniel Rhodes – The National Trust for Scotland
NT 17898 15372 A test excavation was carried out as part of a National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp. The excavation was carried out 4–11 August 2012, by Daniel Rhodes (NTS Regional Archaeologist) with the assistance of 12 volunteers.

Excavation concentrated upon the remains of a stone built structure thought to be that of a 19th-century crofter’s cottage on the banks of the Tail Burn. Following on from last year’s investigations (DES 2011, 60–61), this year’s work concentrated on the excavation of the byre and the main central room of the ruin.

A well preserved cobbled floor and central drain were uncovered and recorded in the byre and the remnants of a...
hearth were recorded in the central room. This hearth was overlain with a clay deposit (circular in plan), which was interpreted as the tumbled remains of the sealant used in the interface between the roof and hanging lumb.

Archive: NTS and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Mouswald

Townhead
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NY 06 73 A truncated conical lead weight with a slight hollow on the underside and a crudely scratched inscription ‘VIII’ on the upper surface. The form and inscription suggest it is a Roman weight, although the inscription does not correlate with the weight (which is 12, not 8 Roman ounces), and it may have been mis-inscribed. D 46mm, H 23mm, m 333.41g.
Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 82/11), allocated to Dumfries Museum

New Abbey

Sweetheart Abbey
Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NX 9645 6624 A watching brief was undertaken on 21 March 2012 during the excavation of a small trench for a new sign close to the entrance of Sweetheart Abbey. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Rerrick

Dundrennan Abbey
Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NX 7489 4752 A watching brief was carried out on 30 March 2012 during the excavation for a trench for a new sign. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Terregles

Barnhill
Evaluation
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NX 95077 76819 (centred on) A 5% evaluation was undertaken 13–15 November 2012 on a 22000m² greenfield site on the N side of Terregles Road, Barnhill prior to residential development. Special attention was paid to two oval cropmarks, recorded on aerial photographs, located in the NW and NE quadrants of the site. Evaluation trenches across the cropmarks failed to find any structural evidence of occupation, but this may have been removed by deep ploughing. Evidence of 19th- to 20th-century cultivation was found in the form of the bottom of slots with
dark fills and oval cuts made into the deposits of natural silty clay.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Persimmon Homes Ltd

**Twyholm**

**Merse Road, Kirkcudbright**

Desk-based assessment and standing building recording
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NX 683 514 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken September – October 2012 at the former creamery, Merse Road prior to its demolition. The creamery was opened by the Stewartry Dairy Association in October 1921 and by 1931 was the largest co-operative creamery in Scotland. The Scottish Milk Marketing Board bought the creamery in 1933 and in 1934 the Scottish Milk Powder Company set up a drying plant next to the creamery. In 1961 the Scottish Milk Marketing Board took over the management of both operations. The powdered milk unit closed in 1978 but operations at the creamery continued to be run by Scottish Pride (1986–1997), Express Dairies (1997–2002) and Milk Link (2002–2010).

The original building consisted of a long two-storey rectangular structure, aligned SE–NW, with a further one-storey building attached to the rear, aligned NE–SW. Small extensions were made to this building in the mid 1930s with the construction of a drying plant and house. Further additions were then made to both buildings in the 1950s/1960s, the largest of which were the areas associated with the production of UHT milk. Buildings and extensions continued to be added until 2008, with many of the areas/buildings changing their function over the years.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Dumfries and Galloway SMR
Funder: Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership Ltd

**Westerkirk**

**Billholm**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2790 9202 The fort is crossed by the B709 and between the road and the river cliff are foundations 11 x 7m, part of one SW, and a wall for 17m E to another corner. N of the road on the E side of the entrance, through defences at NY 2792 9206, is a platform built out from the slope, the top of which measures 15 x 7m, similar to that at NY29SE 14 (Shiel Burn). This evidence suggests medieval reuse of fort.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Crooks**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2982 9242 On knoll E of a settlement there is a rock-cut hollow, measuring 6 x 5m internally, enclosed by wall footings, with an entry near the SW corner, and additional walling on terraces falling W, together with a possible fragment of the settlement enclosure bank.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Glendinning**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 3008 9703 An 8m² foundation within 3m wall thickness and associated walling is located on a spur N of a track to an antimony mine. The crest of the back scarp of a scooped occupation terrace, within an enclosing wall, lies 5m SW, the floor is up to 21m N–S by up to 15m deep. A gap between banks near the NW corner leads to the enclosing wall of a lower scooped terrace, and a platform 8 x 4m projects from the upper alongside this. The lower terrace is c20m across. At NY 3004 9701, the remains of the antimony processing works have cut into the W edge of this terrace, and some encroached building foundations along this edge may be older than the antimony works.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Green Hill**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2665 9218 A longhouse, 18 x 5m, is partly cut into knoll on N, raised platform to S.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Shiel Burn**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2871 9177 There is a near concentric outwork on W between 27 and 30m from the main rampart consisting of a 6m broad bank and 3m outer ditch. The bank is offset either side of the entrance, which is 50m NW of the entrance gap in the main rampart. Within the main enclosure, on the crest of the escarpment, there is a stone building 15 x 13m over 3m wall remains. This evidence suggests medieval reuse of the settlement.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Shiel Burn**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2862 9187 At the foot of the steep slope below NY29SE 13, a part scooped platform for a building foundation, measuring 18 x 7m, lying across the contour.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Shiel Burn**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2873 9191 On a channel across a former meander there are building remains, measuring 7 x 5m and other walls, possibly indicating a mill recorded as far back as 1610 (Reg. Mag. Sig 1609–1620, 214, 1284; Retours 103).

Archive: RCAHMS

**Shiel Hill**

Fieldwork
Tom Welsh

NY 2837 9190 On a 40m long artificial terrace on the 190m contour are four banked round ‘rooms’ and a sunken area shielded by a bank nearly midway. A solitary hut noted on the summit in area of NY 283 922, and on S end of summit (NY 2826 9199 and NY 2838 9199) a number of scoops and pits explained locally as clamps for processing bracken for potash.

Archive: RCAHMS

**Westerkirk Mains**

Fieldwork

NY 2837 9190 On a 40m long artificial terrace on the 190m contour are four banked round ‘rooms’ and a sunken area shielded by a bank nearly midway. A solitary hut noted on the summit in area of NY 283 922, and on S end of summit (NY 2826 9199 and NY 2838 9199) a number of scoops and pits explained locally as clamps for processing bracken for potash.

Archive: RCAHMS
surveys were carried out at several sites, with volunteers In addition to the production of a site gazetteer, detailed of the existing RCAHMS records for a wide range of site types. areas in Wigtownshire and included updates and verifications 2012 by volunteers and professional archaeologists in several survey work was undertaken 1 September 2011 – 30 March archaeological sites and monuments in the Machars. The was a community survey, which aimed to create a record of NX 445 402 (centred on) The Machars Archaeology Project volunteers surveying at Sorbie Old Kirk during the Machars Archaeology Project Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group

Westker Rig
Fieldwork
Tom Welsh
NY 2910 9267 In an arc N, E and S of circular sheepfold at NY 2908 9271 are at least nine smaller enclosures. The sheepfold overlies one which measures 12m in diameter over a 3m bank, and 5m S of this is the first of three in a NW-SE line, measuring 16m, 16m and 18m in diameter. Two enclosures each measuring 15m lie 15m S of this group. Two oval embanked pits, one with a rectangular foundation against its S edge lie 25m NE of the sheepfold. A sub-circular enclosure measuring 35m in diameter and containing an off-centre 20m diameter sub-circle, is located 50m NE of the sheepfold.

Whithorn

Machars Archaeological Project
Survey and test pitting
Graeme Cavers, Charlotte Douglas, Gemma Hudson and Diana Sprout – AOC Archaeology Group

Dundee

Dundee Steeple Church
Evaluation and excavation
Ross Cameron – Addyman Archaeology
NO 40136 30121 Steeple Church occupies the nave area of the 12th-century medieval burgh church. The oldest fragments of the current structure date to c1462 and the majority of the building is of more recent construction. The excavation of two engineering test pits was undertaken without archaeological supervision, prior to development. The second test pit was found to contain two articulated skeletons, and work undertaken in the area of the boiler room revealed a large quantity of human bones. These bones were collected, the area of the boiler room assessed and the remaining ground-breaking works undertaken, 12 September 2011 – 8 March 2012, by Addyman Archaeology.

Two areas were identified for excavation. The first in the area occupied by offices to the E of the sanctuary was excavated prior to the insertion of a lift shaft, and whilst archaeological features and human bone were encountered, no inhumations were disturbed. However, excavation of a large, N-S aligned foundation trench across the E end of the sanctuary uncovered parts of 15 in situ inhumations, all of which were recorded and reburied as close to their point of origin as possible.

As expected from inhumations within such a historic church, analysis of the skeletal material indicated these to be of comparatively high status with a greater than average height, relatively unworn teeth, and a predominance of male burials over female. One pair of ex situ femurs uncovered in the boiler room area displayed the signs of congenital dwarfism while a redeposited skull within a grave displayed clear signs of African ancestry. In addition an undated long cross penny and an architectural fragment of possible 12th/13th-date were recovered.

The scope of the project was severely restricted by the ecclesiastical exemption the site enjoys and it was fortunate that it was possible to make an adequate, if limited and basic
record of the site.
Archive and Report: Dundee City Council and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Dundee Steeple Church for The Church of Scotland

East Marketgait/East Whale Lane
Evaluation, rescue excavation and watching brief
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NO 40734 30625 (centred on) A programme of archaeological work was undertaken on the site of a proposed new leisure pool, multi-storey car park and ground-level car park. A 2% evaluation, consisting of four trenches each measuring 10x2m, was undertaken on 19–20 April 2010. The trenches contained deposits consisting of 18th- and 19th-century made ground, which had been dumped to reclaim the land from the sea. One of these deposits, at the N end of the site, contained redeposited medieval pottery, suggesting that medieval remains had been disturbed during the land reclamation. Trench 01 uncovered a cobbled yard surface, probably part of Stewart’s Court, which seems to date to the first part of the 19th century. A square stone with a central slot found set into the cobbles may have been for a post connected to a stall for stable horses. Trench 02 revealed two walls relating to the 19th-century warehouses that used to cover the site prior to redevelopment in the early 1990s. The most significant find during the evaluation was the discovery of the redundant 1793 sea wall, which was found in Trench 04. This wall, which measured >1m wide at the top, survived to a height of 1.8m and was composed of large squared blocks of roughly mortared whinstone. The construction trench of this wall had truncated an earlier 18th-century building which may have originally been built right up against the shoreline.

The location of the rescue excavation undertaken on 11 November 2010 was based upon the results of the evaluation, mainly Trench 04, where it was believed that a small section of the 1793 shoreline wall had been located. The NW part of the development site was located within the medieval burgh boundary, while the NE part was outside the burgh boundary. The N part of the site was considered to be archaeologically sensitive as it contained the presumed line of the medieval and post-medieval defences extending S from the Wishart Arch or Cowgate Port and the Seagate Port. It also contained previous shorelines dating from the 15th to 18th century mainly running E–W across the site. The area of excavation was located on the reclaimed 16th- to 18th-century shorelines adjacent to the site of 18th-century whale fishing warehouses.

The excavation revealed early infill deposits with medieval pottery and animal bone in the former West Whale Lane at the N end of the site. Animal bone remains included some fragments of whale bone. Later infill deposits had been cut by 18th-, 19th-century walls for warehouses. One wall was an 18th-century revetting wall close to the former shoreline. Of interest were some sherds of 18th-century industrial pottery found in infilling deposits. These sherds were unusual in that they were from vessels used in sugar refining and were thought to have come from the Dundee Sugarhouse located nearby in Sugarhouse Wynd.

A watching brief was subsequently undertaken on 25 July 2012 during construction work at the N end of the site and monitored the area of the 16th-century shore. The 16th-century shore adjacent to the Seagate revealed deeply buried infill deposits with a substantial assemblage of medieval pottery sherds, with the earliest dating from the 12th century. A late or post-medieval wall was found as well as a garden soil and the foundations and floor remains of 18th-, to 19th-century warehouses to the E and W of the site of West Whale Lane.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Dundee City Council

Liff and Benvie
Dundee West
Evaluation
Iria Arabaolaza and Maureen Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NO 336 314 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out 21 November 2011 – 5 January 2012 on a proposed development area at Dundee West and an associated SUDS outfall area near Denhead of Gray. The trial trench evaluation examined 5% of the 20.96ha development areas. Five shallow pits, several furrows, two series of linear oriented postholes and a stone wall and drain were recorded, but no significant artefacts or environmental evidence were apparent in any of the features. Two flint artefacts, including a fragment of an Early Bronze Age flint knife were recovered from topsoil, along with a half penny dated to 1907.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Bett Homes Ltd

East Ayrshire
Auchinleck
Dalfad Surface Mine, Muirkirk
Survey and evaluation
Jurgen van Wessel and Scott Timpany – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 62585 22385 A survey was undertaken in April 2011 prior to works at Dalfad surface coal mine. Previous surveys had established the existence of a number of agricultural and industrial sites within the development area, primarily relating to 19th-century limestone and coal extraction. The work in 2011 aimed to create a measured and photographic record of two coal pits and a substantial linear limestone quarry (along with associated spoil heaps and railway branches), and a small area of rig and furrow with an associated bank or dyke.

Though weathered and altered in places by more recent development, the industrial remains still bore considerable detail, especially with regards to the alignments of the railway branches serving the works. The rig and furrow was no longer visible, though a small spread of stones may represent the remains of the bank/dyke.

An area of peat, Dalfad Moss, was examined to establish the nature and depth of the peat sediments. The depth of peat was assessed using a gouge auger and samples from the deepest and shallowest locations taken using a Russian corer. The peat varied in depth between 0.4 to 6m. A generalised sediment sequence across the peat showed raised mire monocotyledon peat with wood fragments towards the base, underlain by a peaty clay layer, which in turn was underlain by glacial deposits. Radiocarbon dates from the peat show that it began to form in the Late Mesolithic between 6650–6480 cal BC (SUERC-34418; 7745±35 BP) and 4990–4790 cal BC (SUERC-34417; 6000±30 BP).
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Resource Group

Dumfries House
Evaluation
Iria Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 541 213 An evaluation was carried out 11–13 June 2012 prior to a proposed development next to Dumfries House. The excavation of 12 trenches, equivalent to 8% of the 6000m² development area recorded the basal walls, foundations and floors of the WW2 Temple POW camp.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Hope Homes
Dumfries House – Walled Garden
Surveys and evaluation
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 533 208 A phased programme of work was undertaken November 2011 – January 2012 at Dumfries House. A desk-based assessment, topographic survey and structural appraisal were carried out to establish the history, context and formal layout of the walled garden. The geophysical survey recorded several linear anomalies that appeared to correspond to features mapped in the 18th- and 19th-century. A programme of trial trenching was then carried out to verify the presence of these paths and tracks. Nine trenches were excavated using a mechanical digger, and the presence of six paths or tracks was established. Gravel paths to the E and W of the exterior walls were mapped in the 1st Edition OS plan and that the main buildings of Creelsheugh Farmstead were part of the E side of the roadway to the steading at the W end of Trench 01. A subsequent watching brief 27–28 February 2012 recorded two parallel walls or alignments of field stones with road metalling on the western side. The stone walls appeared to represent the sides of an open drain channel forming the E side of the road entering Creelsheugh from the N. Pottery found in association with the drain was mainly late 18th and 19th century, although three conjoining sherds of residual late medieval pottery were recovered. It was concluded that the roadway recorded during the watching brief is shown on the 1st Edition OS plan and that the main buildings of Creelsheugh Farmstead were located further to the S and will not be affected by the development.

Fenwick
East Pokelly Farm, Stewartson
Watching brief
Leigh A Garst – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 4431 4565 A watching brief was carried out on 5 September 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the erection of a wind turbine. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Skernieland Road, Fenwick
Evaluation and watching brief
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NS 4659 4375 (centred on) An 8% evaluation was undertaken of a 2.488ha greenfield development area on 16–19 January 2012. No significant archaeology was recorded in any of the 21 trenches; however the work did provide an interesting history of the site in the form of rig and furrow remains and an intricate system of field drainage. The drainage system had examples of the earliest cobble drains, through to a range of later ceramic drains and into the latest plastic ‘mole drains’. The sherds of pottery mainly found in the topsoil were modern in date. The only trace of the Creelshaugh Farmstead was part of the E side of the roadway to the stead ing at the W end of Trench 01. A subsequent watching brief 27–28 February 2012 recorded two parallel walls or alignments of field stones with road metalling on the western side. The stone walls appeared to represent the sides of an open drain channel forming the E side of the road entering Creelsheugh from the N. Pottery found in association with the drain was mainly late 18th and 19th century, although three conjoining sherds of residual late medieval pottery were recovered. It was concluded that the roadway recorded during the watching brief is shown on the 1st Edition OS plan and that the main buildings of Creelsheugh Farmstead were located further to the S and will not be affected by the development.

Kilmarnock
Kilmarnock Academy Playing Fields
Watching brief
Peter Klemen and Claire Williamson – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 43860 36718 A watching brief was undertaken 7 June 2011 – 10 May 2012 during work associated with the development of new sports facilities. No significant archaeological features were recorded and all finds, including ceramics, glass and metal, related to 19th, and 20th-century activity.

Portland Street, Kilmarnock
Watching brief
Louise Turner – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 42863 38296 A watching brief was undertaken on 23 March 2012 during renewal work to the historic building at 96–108 Portland Street. The work revealed that the foundation of the new house and the installation of a septic tank. No significant archaeological deposits were recorded and all finds, such as modern white glaze pottery, related to 19th- or 20th-century use of the site.

The hot house, as shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1860. A W of the site appears to be the same path found to the S of Jacob Thomson’s 1832 painting of the garden. A path at the E of the hot house is part of the Dung Gate, and a clay band that may be the foundation of a path was uncovered on the lower terrace.
rear wall of the building extended to a depth of at least 1.15m, suggesting an area of made ground had been created to form a level platform for the structure.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Mr Hannah

New Cumnock

Greenburn Opencast Mine – Dalgig Farm
Standing building recording and evaluation
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 5577 1295 A programme of archaeological work was carried out, February 2011 – February 2012, at Dalgig Farm prior to work associated with the Greenburn opencast mine.

A Level 1 standing building survey of Dalgig Bridge (built c1870) showed it to be substantially built of quarry-faced ashlar blocks with a voussoir-supported arch and ashlar parapets. The outer bank of the watercourse passing under the bridge had been reinforced by a substantial retaining wall.

A Level 1–3 standing building survey was carried out of Dalgig Farm and ancillary buildings. No formal date for the establishment for the farm could be ascertained, but cartographic evidence suggests an early 19th-century date. Its initial primary use was probably as a mill, and the mill (Building 4) would appear to be among the earliest buildings on the site. The cottage (Building 3) which abuts it to the NW post-dates it. The phasing of the outbuildings (Building 2) and the house is uncertain. The farmhouse appears to be of later build but this may be due to the more formal building style. All of the buildings forming the main farm quadrangle appear on the 1st Edition OS map. The initial use of the farm as a mill is attested by the backfilled lade which runs along the NE side of the mill (Building 4); the lade is also shown on the 1st Edition OS map. Although the lade appears to run around the cottage (Building 3) this was probably a later modification, as the cottage would not have existed while the mill was active; it obscures the pitching window. The shift to dairy farming during the 1840s is represented by the disappearance of flour handlers from the census records and the appearance of dairy maids and cattle handlers. The remains of the ceramic milking stools within the byre provide further evidence of this change.

A trial trenching evaluation of 2710m² of land in the fields around the farm in February 2011 recorded a single linear ditch, probably relating to 19th-century drainage, and the footing of an insubstantial decorative garden wall. A further evaluation was undertaken in February 2012 following the farm’s demolition. The excavation of 21 trenches, amounting to 815m², resulted in the identification of an enclosure wall and a number of cobble/brick surfaces. The enclosure wall appeared to be of the same sandstone and mortar construction as the farmstead and was probably a garden or yard wall dating to the same period as the farmstead. The surfaces identified either respected the existing buildings or were constructed on top of recent made ground, indicating that they also were contemporary with the farm buildings.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Kier Mining Ltd

Greenburn OCCS

Evaluation, watching brief and standing building recording
Stuart Mitchell and Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 5720 1310 (centred on) Phased trial trench evaluations and watching briefs were carried out during excavations associated with watercourse realignment and flood plain creation works on the River Nith in July 2011, January–February 2012 and May 2012, around Dalricket and Braehead. In total, 384 trenches (34546m²) were excavated. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance, other than those already known were identified. Three sites identified within an earlier assessment were evaluated.

NS 5830 1240 Miners’ cottages (Site 12) consisted of a row of demolished miners’ cottages measuring 58m N–S by 12.3m E–W, with five small annexes along the E wall, each measuring 6m N–S by 3m E–W. The row appears to have consisted of 10 conjoined cottages, with each cottage being a mirror image of the adjoining one. The foundations were constructed from blocks of rough dressed sandstone, which sat directly on top of the natural subsoil and stood 0.65m high. The stone foundations supported the remains of brick built walls. These stood two courses high and were constructed from bricks produced at the local Lanemark brickworks. The fragments of concrete floors were recorded along the edges of the foundations. The annexes along the E edge of the row were less substantial, with foundations consisting of a single course of sandstone topped by six courses of brick. The concrete floors of the annexes were largely intact, and supported brick built walls. A brick structure with an elliptical front, which may have been the remains of a fireplace, was recorded in a corner against the back wall in each annexe.

NS 5624 1249 Building foundation (Site 6) consisted of the remains of a building measuring 15.3m N–S by 6.8m E–W. The foundations consisted of a single course of rough sandstone blocks. The exposed foundations on the E and W side of the building sat directly on the natural subsoil. However, on the S upslope side they sat in a 0.15m deep foundation cut. The remains of the rough dressed sandstone walls overlying the foundations were 0.6m high and the interior contained concrete, brick and slab floors. The remains, a single course high and wide, of a number of interior brick walls were also recorded.

NS 5649 1241 Shiel (Site 5A) This rectilinear two compartment stone built structure with a combination of mortar and cobbled floor surfaces is identified on the 1860 1st Edition OS map as a shiel. One end of the building was probably used to house livestock, while the other end may have been a domestic dwelling. A 19th-century date is supported by the pottery, glass and metal artefacts recovered during the evaluation.

NS 5811 1311 Rigfoot Farm A Level 1–2 standing building survey was carried out of Rigfoot Farm prior to its demolition to allow the start of open cast mining. The farm consisted of a three-sided enclosed farmyard with a farmhouse, an attached E range, a detached N range and a W range. The farmhouse was late 19th-century in date with later 20th-century additions. The E range was originally a byre which was later converted into a milking parlour with a series of milking stalls. The N range had been extensively altered in the 20th century and little remained of the original fabric. The height of the W range had been raised twice at some point in the late 19th century and an arched entrance on the N gable blocked. A small extension is shown on the W side of the W range on the 1860 OS map but there was no evidence of this feature. A late 19th-century detached building to the S of the farmhouse had been significantly altered but evidence of a fireplace and window suggested the building was possibly used as a bothy.

The area of the farmstead was subject to evaluation in July 2012 following its demolition. The 13 trenches were placed on areas of the farmstead where early settlement remains were likely to have survived. All of the features identified related to the demolished farmstead. A horseshoe drain that ran beneath the farmstead may have predated it, or simply been installed immediately prior to its construction.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Kier Mining Ltd
Sorn

Catrine Weir
Standing building recording
Louise Turner – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 5353 2618 A programme of work was undertaken 12 January – 13 March 2012, in support of emergency repairs to the scheduled ancient monument of Catrine Weir. The work consisted of recording fabric revealed during the removal of intrusive sands and gravels from three major voids in the weir’s fabric. The findings largely supported observations made by Murdoch in 2006 during previous work on the monument. However, some additional structural elements of the spillway were identified, in particular a basal platform composed of abutting timber planks, laid flat and apparently occurring only in those areas where the spillway was steeply angled. It is thought that this might reflect a stepped profile to the base of the structure in this location, creating a robust and level platform upon which the sandstone setts could be laid to form the surface of the spillway.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: HS and WoSAS
Funder: Catrine Community Trust

Reinstated Trench 1 at Catrine Weir

Galston/Avondale

Bankend Rig Wind Farm
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 6119 3457 A watching brief was undertaken 23 January – 6 April 2012 during the construction of a new wind farm. No features of archaeological significance were recorded during ground reduction works associated with the construction of an access road and infrastructure for the wind farm. Advice was provided regarding the correct placement of fencing to ensure the preservation of known archaeological sites in the development area.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Wilson Renewables LLP

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Cadder

Southbank Road, Kirkintilloch
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 648 732 A watching brief was undertaken 14–20 August 2012 during site investigation works prior to a proposed recreational development on the site of a former nickel works. A total of 12 test pits were excavated. Some features that possibly related to the nickel works were recorded in the pits in the western half of the site. A large brick-built drain or culvert and some sandstone walls survive under the later concrete surfaces. The eastern half of site appears to have been reduced significantly, with modern made ground recorded to a depth of 3.5m. No features relating to previous occupation of the site were found or are likely to have survived.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: CRPG Ltd

Westerhill Park

Evaluation
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 6238 7115 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken 19–21 November 2012 in advance of a proposed mixed use development. A total of 36 trenches, covering 5% of the area excluding previous remediation zones and areas where peat depth was >0.3–0.5m, were excavated. No significant archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Cooper Cromar Ltd

Kirkintilloch

Glen Shiva Road, Twechar
Evaluation
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 6970 7560 An evaluation was undertaken 25–28 September 2012 prior to a proposed housing development to the S of Glen Shiva Road (Twechar Coal Board Site Phase 1). Trenches covering a 10% sample of a 30m wide strip of land to the N of the development, in the area closest to the Antonine Wall, and a 3% sample across the remainder of the Phase 1 area were excavated. No significant archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Cooper Cromar Ltd

New Kilpatrick

Douglas Park Golf Club
Watching brief
Rowena Thomson – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 5594 7242 A watching brief was undertaken 3 October – 15 November 2011 during drainage work on the 13th and 15th greens at the Douglas Park Golf Club. Both greens are within the scheduled area for the Antonine Wall (SAM 7342) and partially overlie the line of the wall. No archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Douglas Park Golf Club

16 Roman Road, Bearsden
Watching brief
Alastair Becket – Northlight Heritage
NS 5463 7203 A watching brief was undertaken 17 January – 11 April 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a new nursing home. The area was considered sensitive as it lies within the annexe of the Bearsden Roman fort. Deposits relating to the construction and demolition of a Victorian house that previously occupied the site were recorded. Two fragments of pottery, of probable Roman date, were recovered from the topsoil, but any in situ archaeological remains appear to have been destroyed during
the construction of the Victorian house.
Archive: RCHAMS (intended)
Funder: Antonine Care Ltd

EAST LOTHIAN

Maritime

Sicar Rock
Underwater survey
John McCarthy – WA Heritage
NT 7026 7998 An assessment was undertaken 25 September – 25 October 2012 of the reported findspot of a number of carved stone artefacts off the coast of Dunbar. The artefacts consisted of around eight possible stone anchors of unknown date, approximately half of which had been removed and placed with a local museum. Although the survey failed to locate any in situ material, the baseline research carried out helped to enhance knowledge of this challenging site. A number of related artefacts from the site and other previously unknown sites were also reported to members of the survey team by local divers.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland

Athelstaneford

Garleton Castle – SW Lodge
Standing building recording and test pits
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy
NT 50943 76697 A standing building survey was undertaken December 2011 – March 2012 of the SW Lodge of Garleton Castle. The original structure dates to the late 16th century and was three-storied high, excluding possible attic accommodation. The building was reduced in height and converted to workers’ cottages in the 18th century, with further phases of remodelling in the late 19th and mid-20th century.
Excluding the major works involved in removing the upper storey, alterations have related to the blocking and insertion of windows, and the creation of two doorways on the first floor, which were accessed via stairs and a large rubble built platform on the N elevation.

The excavation of two test pits within the building indicated that the ground floor level had been raised by up to 0.75m with rubble infill. The floor of the E vaulted chamber is also 0.6m lower than the W vaulted chamber, which has a rough flagstone floor. The exterior ground surface has also been raised, as an examination of the late 19th-century illustration of the site by MacGibbon and Ross shows a lower surface level. A full programme of historical research instituted with Louise Yeoman and Roger McCarthy has outlined a site history stretching from the early 13th to the 19th century.
Archive: Connolly Heritage Consultancy
Funder: Wemyss and March Estate

The Chesters
Geophysical survey
Ian Armit, Chris Gaffney, Tom Sparrow and Finn Pope-Carter – University of Bradford
NT 504 782 - NT 506 784 (approx) The Chesters, Drem (SAM 90072) is one of the best preserved Iron Age hillforts in Scotland and is protected both by scheduling and as a PIC. However, the upstanding remains form just one element of an extensive Iron Age landscape evidenced by cropmarks identified through many years of aerial survey. Most notably, these comprise an extensive series of pit alignments which appear to reflect a cohesive system of land division potentially extending up to 5km², and reaching as far as neighbouring hillforts at Kae Heughs (NT57NW 23) and Hanging Craig (NT57NW 89). Our project involves geophysical evaluation of these landscapes using a range of integrated and complementary techniques including standard fluxgate gradiometry and earth resistance survey. We also trialled two novel techniques currently under development and not previously used to any extent in Scotland: electrical resistivity tomography and electromagnetic survey. Gradiometry was used as the baseline technique to recover broad scale information and give wide coverage across the sites, with other techniques being used in targeted areas based on initial results and detailed field inspection.

Results from work in September 2012 were generally positive and identified the cropmark features in most areas. Several new features have been identified, including at least one probable barrow, but more significant perhaps is the new data retrieved relating to the micro-topography of the pit alignment systems and the detailed relationships between these archaeological features and the local geology.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

The Chesters Season 3
Survey
David Connolly and Murray Cook – Rampart Scotland
NT 50760 78260 As part of ongoing research into East Lothian hillforts further topographic and erosion survey was undertaken between September and November 2012.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Rampart Scotland

Dirlleton

Castle Mains Farm, Dirlleton
Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 51829 83497 (centred on) and NT 51772 83863 A desk-based assessment and watching brief were undertaken in April 2012 prior to and during the construction of four wind turbines. A single turbine was located close to the farm and in close proximity to Dirlleton Castle, the other turbines were located in a field to the S of the farm. A considerable number of field drains, associated with a programme of the 19th-century agricultural improvements were recorded during topsoil stripping.
Archive: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Ross of Mull Wind Turbine Installations
Dirleton Castle
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 5162 8396 A watching brief was maintained 23–24 May 2012 during the excavation of three trenches. The trenches were being dug to establish the composition of the deposits between the slab floor of the Great Hall of the Haliburton Range and the vault crown of the underlying cellars. A significant effort seems to have been made to try and consolidate the floor, probably in the early to mid-20th century, and this work involved the removal of the original infill deposits.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Dirleton Green
Geophysical survey
Ian Hawkins and Donald Matthews – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NT 51504 84041 (Green) and NT 51366 83992 (Paddock) In advance of a Scottish Archaeology Month event organised by the Gullane and Dirleton History Society a ground resistance survey of the village green and an adjacent paddock was undertaken, on 11 August 2012, to define earthworks on the green and to locate possible structures to the N of the Old Manse in the paddock. The earthworks on the green are thought to be the remains of a chapel associated with Dirleton Castle. The survey recorded linear low resistance traces of a rectangular structure around 22 x 10m with slightly rounded corners and a two cell rectangular structure of 14 x 11.5m to the N. These could be robbed out foundation trenches. The results in the paddock were inconclusive, probably due to tree roots drying out the subsoil although slight linear low resistance anomalies were noted.
Archive: RCAHMS and East Lothian Council SMR (intended)
Funder: East Lothian Council, Gullane and Dirleton History Society and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

Dirleton Green
Survey
Stephanie Leith – East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
NT 5149 8403 A survey was undertaken on 14 September 2012 of earthworks on Dirleton Green. The work was carried out by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service and Gullane and Dirleton History Society as part of a training workshop during East Lothian Archaeology and Local History Fortnight. This work followed a geophysical survey of the site undertaken by EAFS (see above).

The plane table survey recorded the outline of two buildings at the E end of the green, which showed clearly as hollows, presumably where walls had been robbed. The first building was rectangular, aligned E-W and measured c22 x 11m. The second structure was less well defined, and showed as a low U-shaped mound, c13 x 11m. These results complement the geophysical survey which showed the clear outline of the two buildings.

Historical research undertaken by Gullane and Dirleton History Society suggests that these buildings could have been the site of a chapel or of a domestic or agricultural building. Nothing is shown on this site on Roy’s map of 1750, the first reasonably detailed map of this area, or on any subsequent map, suggesting that any buildings had gone out of use by that time. There are documentary references to two chapels in Dirleton, yet to be located, that existed in the medieval period but went out of use around the time of the Reformation. The plots around the green were feued in the 1630s. It is possible that the buildings were of a domestic/agricultural nature and did not fit the plan for the new plots.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Renaissance Golf Club, Archerfield
Evaluation
Erland Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 4999 8514 An evaluation was undertaken 8 February 2012 in advance of the construction of new residential lodges, associated access and gardens. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Renaissance Golf Club

West Fenton Farm South
Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 4978 8088 A desk-based assessment and watching brief were undertaken on 27 March 2012 in advance of the construction of a single wind turbine. No significant archaeological finds or deposits were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Report: East Lothian SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: W Courtenay Morrison and Co

Dunbar
Doon Hill
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 6867 7551 and NT 6871 7558 A watching brief was undertaken on 25 May 2012 during the excavation of two small trenches for information boards. No significant archaeological finds or deposits were recorded. However, as the pits and slots associated with the various configurations of halls and boundaries are relatively close to the present ground surface future work should be considered as sensitive.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Dunbar Parish Church
Watching brief
Elizabeth Jones – East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
NT 6816 7857 The presence of an archaeologist was required on the 24 July 2012 when the excavation of a pit for a lift shaft inside the W end of the church uncovered human remains. The disarticulated bones lay in a shallow depression against the W wall of the church. Finds from the soil included an iron nail, oyster shells and window glass, suggesting that the bones were reinterred during the present construction works. In addition, a small trench against the S wall revealed the sandstone vaulted roof of the crypt below.
Archive: East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
Funder: East Lothian Council

Garvald and Bara
White Castle Season 3
Survey and excavation
Murray Cook and David Connolly – Rampart Scotland
NT 6135 6860 The third season of a four season research excavation was carried out by volunteers and professionals during July 2012. The work consisted of further topographic, geophysical, vegetation and erosion surveys, plus seven trenches.

The excavation expanded upon three of the 2011 trenches (12, 13 and 18) to confirm the nature of Hut-Platform 08 and
the putative palisade identified in Trenches 12, 13 and 18. The presence and nature of the palisade was confirmed and it was clear that it had been cut into underlying midden material. In addition, Hut Platform 08 overlay it and was itself covered by rubble spread from an upslope hut platform.

Other trenches examined Hut Platform 04 and two of the SE gaps in the ramparts, to establish if they were breaches or entrances. The gaps were confirmed as entrances, although they had been subsequently eroded. Hut Platform 04 consisted of a substantial terrace cut into bedrock, with a foundation of larger rocks into which were cut a slot and a series of postholes. The slot feature may represent a drain.

Finally, a single 1 x 1m trench was dug over a molehill to determine what if any impact they have on the underlying archaeological deposits. No impact was discovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Rampart Scotland

Gladsmuir

West Bank Steading, Macmerry
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 43588 71806 A standing building survey was undertaken on 14 June 2012 of the abandoned and ruined West Bank Steading. There has been an established settlement at West Bank since the mid-18th century, and the steading appears to have existed from an early date. A cart shed was constructed in the late 19th-century to the S of the main steading.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Durham and Edinburgh Property

Haddington

Amisfield Walled Garden
Evaluation and standing building recording
David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

Sub-surface foundation openings for vine growth – 1780s glasshouse construction at Amisfield

NT 53314 74192 A second season of work was undertaken in September 2012 at Amisfield. The garden has an area of 3.24ha and is enclosed by 5m high walls of dressed Garvald freestone to the N and rough masonry on the other three sides. Continuing investigations on the glasshouses on the N wall revealed the stonework from the 1783 building. This was intact and contained a cast iron pipe heating system, which was also seen in the central Pineapple House, built by the Wemyss Estate. The glasshouse was earth floored and brick pillars would have supported raised beds and potting shelves. Vines were grown and the foundations had large gaps to allow roots to grow beyond the building. The rear wall was heated and metal fittings would have held a framework for espaliered trees, in this case peach trees.

A survey of the NE pavilion, one of the four corner pavilions located in the walled garden, was carried out as part of a training day. Further work is required to complete the investigation of this and the two flanking glasshouses.

Archive: Connolly Heritage Consultancy and RCAHMS
Funder: Connolly Heritage Consultancy and Amisfield Preservation Trust

John Gray Centre, High Street, Haddington
Standing building recording, evaluation and watching brief
Mike Cressey and Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 51449 73871 – NT 51483 73868 A programme of works was carried out October 2009 – August 2011 prior to and during alterations at 52-54 High Street, including several phases of historic building recording, an evaluation and watching briefs. The building complex is situated at the E end of the High Street and contains Category B and C listed structures dating to between the early and late 19th century. The study area consisted of a former grain store, a seed merchant’s office, an adjoining office and a former City Bank building. All four buildings were last used as offices and the interiors have been refurbished during the recent past.

The three-storey grain store is the largest building and its external elevations show clear evidence that its M-shaped roof was raised to accommodate a new second floor. The building has cast-iron pillars on all floors and is well lit by sash-and-case windows. The adjoining Sinclair McGill office building was built during the second half of the 19th century against the E gable of the grain store. Another office connects with the former City Bank building at the E end of the complex. This building also dates to the late 19th century and is an ornate building in Renaissance style with ashlar moulded cornices and string courses. The least altered interior is the City Bank which contains egg and dart cornices and ceiling roses.

Cartographic evidence shows that a linear building block occupied the site from the first half of the 18th century. Significant alterations occurred in the early 19th century with the construction of the former grain store building and adjoining offices and bank. All four buildings are superimposed on a 19th-century core block. Elements from these buildings were probably incorporated in the later 19th-century buildings.

Pre-construction engineering and archaeological test pits revealed walls and cobbled surfaces. Internal monitoring during construction revealed further elements of the historic building fabric, including domestic fireplaces predating the use of the structure as a grain store. A pit and a well were recorded. External monitoring recorded the truncated walls of a building which were associated with 18th- to 19th-century ceramics and which may underlie the grain store.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and East Lothian Council SMR
Funder: East Lothian Council

Innerwick

Thurston Manor
Post-exavcation analysis
Martin Railton – Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd
NT 7106 7443 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken, 3 October–11 November 2011, on land to the N of Thurston Manor prior to the proposed extension of Thurston Holiday Home Park (DES 2011, 65). The potential
for prehistoric remains was realised with the discovery of a possible disturbed burial in the SW corner of the site and the discovery of the bases of two fragmented Bronze Age cremation vessels in a single pit nearby. Specialist analysis of the Bronze Age pottery revealed that the sherds from the disturbed burial may have been part of a Collared Urn, although not enough survived to confirm its identity. Two joining sherds appeared to be from around the vessel’s girth and bear a horizontal row of carefully made impressions formed by twisting a pointed stick into the surface, while the vessel was still green hard. The two vessels from the pit also appear to have been urns, which contained cremated bone. Both comprised the base and lower part of the wall of flat bottomed vessels measuring 140mm in diameter at the base. Vessel 1 had a maximum surviving height of 75mm, whilst Vessel 2 had a maximum surviving height of 90mm, each 1–1.5mm thick. Both contained carbonised accretions on the inner surface. A sample of the carbonised accretion from Vessel 2 produced a radiocarbon date of 1417 cal BC indicating a probable Middle Bronze Age date. Given the uncertainty surrounding the identity of the vessel fragments from the disturbed burial it would appear that the cemetery might extend from the Early Bronze Age into the Middle Bronze Age, although it is perhaps more likely that it was contained within the Middle Bronze Age.

A narrow range of wild plant remains were recovered from the environmental samples from these features. The general picture that emerges from this site is of an open landscape, although the preservation was very poor for desiccated remains. The macro-plant remains recovered from the samples from the site were largely limited to charcoal, which is consistent with previous research from Bronze Age funerary sites, and probably due to the intense heat which would be generated by a funerary pyre.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)
**Funder:** Verdant Leisure Ltd

**Inveresk**

**Eskmills, Musselburgh**

**Evaluation and watching brief**

*Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group*

NT 3394 7230 A watching brief was undertaken 20 June – 7 September 2012 during work associated with the construction of a house next to Inveravon Terrace. The monitored topsoil stripping was carried out on most of the E of the building footprint, close to a waster pit found during an earlier evaluation. A watching brief covered the rest of the building footprint and all other ground-breaking work in the development area. Two ditch terminals of possible prehistoric or Roman field boundaries and a large pit of a similar date were recorded.

**Archive:** RCAHMS
**Funder:** Hackland and Dore Architects Ltd

**Newhailes Glasshouses**

**Standing building recording**

*Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group*

NT 32688 72505 A Level 3 standing building survey was undertaken on 1 May 2012 of the glasshouses at Newhailes prior to possible conservation and restoration work. The glasshouse complex to the SW of Newhailes House is located within the historic kitchen garden and consists of five glasshouses and one lean-to building. Four of the glasshouses were designed by Mackenzie and Moncur in the 1890s and are a fairly typical example of their work. The lean-to building is contemporary with them, although it is of simpler construction. A later lean-to glasshouse to the N was built in the mid-20th century. One of the glasshouses has almost collapsed, another has the N end missing and all are in a poor state of preservation.

A photographic, written and drawn record was produced, including measured elevations, floor plans and sections, with additional drawn detail of the ironwork and mechanisms for ventilation, most of which was still largely extant.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)
**Funder:** The National Trust for Scotland

**North Berwick**

**Former Coastguard Station, Victoria Road**

**Watching brief**

*Alison McCaig – CFA Archaeology Ltd*

NT 55395 85542 A watching brief was carried out in March 2012 during ground-breaking work associated with the conversion of a former coastguard station. The excavation of a service trench, adjacent to the 12th-century St Andrew’s Chapel, revealed chancel. This was reburied at the base of the trench.

**Archive:** East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS
**Funder:** No.12 Quality Street

**North Berwick Law**

**Watching brief**
Leigh Garst – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 55357 84004 A watching brief was carried out February – March 2012 during topsoil stripping associated with the upgrading of the lower section of the main access path to the summit of North Berwick Law. The only finds were a piece of possibly worked quartz and occasional small fragments of animal bones and teeth, all recovered from topsoil.
Archive: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: East Lothian Council

North Berwick Law
Excavation
Andrew Robertson – East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
NT 55461 83963 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 5 September – 11 November 2012 on the midden on the S face of North Berwick Law. The midden deposits relate to an area of Iron Age settlement which has eroded and spread down a modern quarry face. The dry sieving of spoil from the midden was undertaken with assistance from over 100 children from the local primary school (Law Primary School). Further work was undertaken with the East Lothian and Edinburgh Young Archaeologists Clubs.
A number of finds including pottery, shell and animal bone (worked and unworked) were recovered. These will be amalgamated with antiquarian and casual finds, to provide information that will help in the formation of a management plan for the site. A topographical survey of the midden is planned to complement surveys undertaken in 1954 and 2000, and to quantify erosion rates. A programme of coring, designed to examine the potential survival of environmental remains, is also planned.
Archive: East Lothian Council Archaeology Service and RCAHMS
Funder: East Lothian Council Archaeology Service

Oldhamstocks

Dunglass Collegiate Church
Inventory

This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland’s properties in care are held by Historic Scotland’s Collections Unit. For further information please contact hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Prestonkirk

Orchardfield, East Linton
Excavation
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

Three ring ditches at Orchardfield
NT 588 771 A programme of excavations was carried out, October–November 2011, on two concentrations of archaeological features identified during an evaluation carried out by CFA in 2009. One concentration consisted of three ring ditches and a number of associated pits and postholes. The other consisted of a meandering ditch feature and two pits. The three ring ditches had external diameters of between 5.2–8.4m, internal diameters of between 2.7–5.0m, ditch widths of between 1.05–1.70m and ditch depths of between 0.55–0.80m. A ring of possible postholes around ring ditch 004 and a partial ring of possible postholes around ring ditch 008 suggest that there may have been timber uprights surrounding these features. A pit containing a cremation burial was recorded towards the centre of ring ditch 004. Further cremation burials were recovered from within all three ring ditch fills. The presence of cremation burials suggests that the ring ditches represent the remains of ploughed out Bronze Age burial barrows. Sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered in association with cremated remains in ring ditches 004 and 008. A possible pyre pit immediately to the N of the ring ditches suggests that the cremation process may have taken place on site. An 80m length of the meandering ditch was also recorded. It changed direction four times, turning through 45° on three occasions, and once through 90°. The ditch measured between 0.65–1.20m wide and 0.20–0.35m deep. The only find was a single sherd of medieval pottery. However, its location towards the surface of the ditch cannot be regarded as a secure context and consequently the date and purpose of this ditch remain unknown.

Archive: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Miller Homes

**Prestonpans**

**High Street**

*Desk-based assessment and evaluation*

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 39200 74950 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken in February 2012 prior to development. The archival research indicated that the majority of the site lay within an inter-tidal zone until the 1930s when the area was reclaimed, probably using material from the nearby Preston Links Colliery. Further made ground was created in the late 1950s and an office building, for the adjacent Fowlers Brewery, constructed. After Fowlers closed in 1962 the building was used by Aviamac Ltd before being demolished in 2009. An evaluation of a 182m² area recorded 2–2.5m deep made ground but no significant archaeological finds or deposits.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: East Lothian Council SMR
Funder: Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd

**Stenton**

**Main Street, Stenton**

*Desk-based assessment and evaluation*

Magnus Kirby and Luke Aspland – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 62094 74093 A desk-based assessment and evaluation were undertaken in July 2012 in advance of the construction of a house on land off Main Street. There were no indications of previous development on the site and the excavation of a trial trench recorded a single stone box drain. Material recovered from the fill of the drain suggests that it was 19th-century in date.

Archive: East Lothian Council Archaeology Service and RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Jed Pemberton

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**Tranent**

**Seton Sands Holiday Village**

*Evaluation*

Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 4094 7524 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken 24–25 September 2012 prior to phase one of a planned extension to the Seton Sands Holiday Village. The 13 trenches, extending for 480m, were sited between the existing caravan park to the N and a golf course to the S. Previous work prior to the construction of the golf course had revealed a number of features including a cluster of pits and two ditches, ranging in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period. The 2012 evaluation recorded two tile field drains, beneath 0.5m deep topsoil, to the N end of the development area.

Report: East Lothian Council SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Bourne Leisure Ltd

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**Whittingehame**

**Luggate Steading, East Linton**

*Standing building survey*

Tim Holden – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 59587 74684 A standing building survey was undertaken in January 2012 of Luggate Steading, one of the many mixed economy steadings built during the mid-19th century. Detailed estate plans exist for both the original steading, built in the 1840s, and extensions built in the 1870s. As a mixed farm it managed cattle and the processing and storage of cereals. The steading was constructed around a single courtyard divided into four cattle enclosures, each with an adjacent byre accessed via an arched double door. The S range was designed to house horses and carts. The W range was used for cereal processing and provided easy access between the steam-powered threshing and other machines and the stack yard. The complex was considerably extended in the 1870s with the addition of sheds and covered feeding areas, built to accommodate increasing mechanisation and changing agricultural practices.

The complex is simple and solid in appearance and ornamentation, such as the pyramidal capping to gate piers, is kept to a minimum. However, the architect was careful to preserve symmetry, particularly along the long external facades through the use of blind windows and other features. Modifications in the 1870s were on a grand scale with the new turnip house and cattle sheds utilising massive stone corbels and timber work that were almost baronial in scale. Many of the post 1870s modifications were less sympathetic to the character of the building and largely designed to allow access by tractors and other machinery to assist with mucking out, feeding and cereal processing.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Wilke Construction Ltd

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**Moorcock Hall**

*Watching brief*

David Connolly – Connolly Heritage Consultancy

NT 61581 70042 A watching brief was undertaken on 5 December 2011 during the excavation of a linear cable trench connecting Moorcock Hall cottage to a wind turbine. No archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: CHC and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr C Blair

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**Nine Stones**

*Evaluation and reinstatement*

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 6254 6549 A programme of archaeological works was
undertaken 3–5 July 2012 following disturbance, including the displacement of a stone, at the scheduled ancient monument of Nine Stone Rig during unauthorised groundworks. The work aimed to assess the extent and significance of the damage and to restore the site to its original condition.

A single evaluation trench was placed over the area of disturbance, through the central area of the monument. The trench measured 2.8 x 2.5m and was 0.25m deep. The excavation revealed 0.25m of redeposited peat and turf and established that the monument had been built into natural gravel. The central area of the stone circle was found to be archaeologically sterile. The probable socket for the displaced stone was located and the stone replaced.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Funder:** Black Mountain Farms  

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**Mearns**

**Ayr Road, Newton Mearns**

**Evaluation and excavation**

*Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd*

NS 53098 55136 An evaluation consisting of the excavation of 36 trenches, equivalent to 8% of the 2698m² area, was undertaken 25 January – 4 April 2012. The work identified several features and an additional 225m² area was excavated to investigate them. No artefacts or further features were recorded.

**Archive:** RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)  
**Funder:** Stewart Milne Homes

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**Barrance Farm, Kirkhill Road, Newton Mearns**

**Desk-based assessment and evaluation**

*Ian Sudaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd*

NS 5615 5550 A desk-based assessment and trial trenching evaluation were carried out in August 2012 in advance of development. Barrance is shown on maps from the 16th century, and Roy’s map of 1745–55 indicates three enclosures and between one and three buildings. The assessment work concluded that the sites shown by Roy lie to the N of the Barrance Farm development.

The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 17 trenches covering an area of 766m² (12% of the site). A number of service trenches, drains, walls built of brick, breeze-block and sandstone, tarmac surfaces, and modern made ground were recorded, none of which pre-dated the 19th century. A single cultivation furrow was also recorded. All of the structural remains and surfaces located can be related to buildings shown on the 1856, 1897, 1913 and 1946 OS maps and on the current site plan.

**Archive:** RCAHMS and WoSAS  
**Funder:** Westpoint Homes
Humbie Road, Newton Mearns
Evaluation
Diane Gorman and Calum Henderson – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 54369 54737 An evaluation undertaken 14–23 May 2012 at Humbie Road commenced with the examination of 5% of the 5.86ha development site. Subsequently two trenches were extended to enable the examination of features and an additional four trenches were excavated to confirm the alignment and character of another feature.
A fragment of stone and brick surface was located at the site of the former 19th-century Eastfield Farm on the western margin of the site. Three linear ditch features were also located. Two were considered to be fragments of 19th-century furrows, while the third, a 98m stretch of shallow ditch, could be related to open arable fields from the mid-18th century. In their current condition none of the features was assessed to be significant.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: A2 Environmental

Middleton Wind Farm
Watching brief
Andrew Morrison – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 4869 5305 A watching brief was carried out May–August 2012 during construction work, and the site of a scheduled hut circle (NS45SE 9) was demarcated to prevent accidental damage. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded during the ground-breaking works. A single linear earth and stone bank, probably a field bank, was recorded on the southern flank of William’s Hill.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: Scottish Power Renewables

Neilston

Neilston Community Wind Farm
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 45528 54089 A watching brief was undertaken 26 March – 20 April 2012 during the excavation of soft sediments associated with the development of a new wind farm. The area had been heavily disturbed by activities relating to the area’s use as a landfill site (Drumgrain) during the mid- to late 20th century. The nature of the exposed geology indicated that the development covers mostly archaeologically sterile land.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Neilston Community Wind Farm LLP

EDINBURGH

Currie

Blinkbonny Steading, Currie
Evaluation and standing building recording
Kevin Paton and Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 189 678 An evaluation and survey were undertaken in June 2012 on the site of a small housing development. The work was undertaken as part of an enforcement case, as the early 19th-century steading had been removed, leaving a single (later phase) barn. A 5% trial trenching evaluation amounting to 54m² was carried out and a Level 2 survey undertaken of the only remaining building, a small late 19th-century barn. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded and no known records exist for the steading, apart from a few photographs taken as part of a 2008 appraisal by AOC on the nearby cottages, which have also been removed.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Buckleby Building Ltd

Buteland Farm, Balerno
Walkover survey and desk-based assessment
Tamlin Barton and David Perry – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NT 123 629 A walkover survey was carried out on 17 April 2012 in advance of tree planting in an area 1.5km SW of Buteland Farm. The survey recorded a field boundary and a possible peat cutting, both of unknown date. The area was also covered with rig and furrow. A basic distribution map of this pre-improvement period arable landscape was created from aerial photographs.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Eamon Wall

Currie Kirk
Watching brief
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 18301 67655 A watching brief was undertaken on 18 October 2011 during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of an extension to Currie Kirk. The work found three burials (left in situ), and the remains of a large wall probably associated with an earlier phase of the church.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Currie Kirk

Dalmeny

Dundas Castle
Watching brief
Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 11835 67614 A watching brief was undertaken in July 2012 during the excavation of a 245m long and 0.9m deep cable trench to the S of the castle. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Enviko Ltd

Edinburgh

Abbeyhill
Desk-based assessment and standing building survey
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 26823 74124 A desk-based assessment and a Level 2 standing building survey were carried out in July 2012 at 51 Abbeyhill prior to alteration work. The building appears on Kirkwood’s plan of 1817 and on OS Town Plans from 1852 as part of the Abbeyhill Foundry complex. The building is two-storey with a pitched slate roof. It has a trapezoidal angled front which faces the street. The front has a central door, windows and chamfered quoins on the corner of the side elevation which faces S. The original interior features have been mostly removed, although traces of a later loft floor and a plinth for a stove were recorded. The roof truss has been renewed and covered with reused or original slates.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS
Funder: Dr Geoffrey Platt

Abbey Strand
Desk-based assessment and standing building survey
Gordon Ewart and Dennis Gallagher – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 2679 7393 A programme of work was carried out 10 August – 18 November 2011 on the adjoining buildings on the N side
of Abbey Strand between the foot of the Canongate and the precincts of the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Period 1 (1490–1570) Abbey Strand lies in the triangular space at the foot of the Canongate. Here the High Street led both to the palace and to the Watergate, the principal entry to the city from the E. The building lay in the precinct of Holyrood and its sanctuary but outside the main ceremonial gate of the abbey. The main block consisting of a three-storey building plus a probable attic space, 23.3m long by 7.5m wide, was built during this period. The principal N-S partition running through the building, currently denoted at ground level by the W wall of the pend, making two units, the E slightly larger than the W. Both units had a turnpike stair in their NE corner. The E one partially survives but the W one no longer exists. The surviving elaborate first floor door faces N. An arch in the room below may have supported a stair. There appears to be a blocked door on the ground floor opening from the internal E stair.

Period 2 (1570–c1630) During this period the medieval building was completely transformed for use as a high status house for courtiers. This building and the adjacent abbey gatehouse would have formed the dominant group of buildings before the entry to the palace. The entry to upper floors was from the garden to the N, which was adjacent to the royal privy garden.

Period 3 (c1630–1700) This was a period of prosperity and expansion during which the building continued to be used as a high status dwelling. The main block and the pend were extended c3.4m N. The SW–NE angle of the W wall of the extension suggests that it was constructed against an adjacent structure or boundary. The turnpike stairs continued to be used, with their N-facing doors providing access to the first floor of the N extension.

Period 4 (c1700–1916) An extra storey was added to both the main block and the N extension. The W turnpike stair was removed and the N stair built. The door from the turnpike stair was reused as the front door for the new stair. The NE jamb was added and the alteration of windows to doors at the E end of the N face of the N extension allowed access. The building was mainly used for accommodation and service activity during this period, beginning with the provision of housing for some of the respectable, though comparatively impoverished, gentry that sought refuge from imprisonment for debt in the Holyrood sanctuary. The area then declined following the construction of the New Town in the late 18th century, as the Old Town was abandoned by respectable society. The area became increasingly industrialised and Abbey Strand was subdivided to provide cheap accommodation for workers. The ground floor had a number of taverns.

Period 5 (1916–35) The building was renovated by the architect William Ross and the first clear internal plan of the building produced. The exterior was restored, the density of occupation in the tenement reduced and the ground floor public houses closed. The top floor of the main block and N extension were also removed and the size of the attic reduced. A small number of windows were altered, with those on the third floor converted to dormers.

Period 6 (1935–63) The building was declared unfit for human habitation, internal partitions were removed and the NE jamb demolished. Major renovations were also carried out on the buildings to the E of the main block, including the replacement of stonework around windows and doors, and work on the roof over the kitchen, shop and N extension. Most of the Period 3 roof beams were retained but the sarking and slates were replaced.

Acheson House
Excavation
Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2647 7375 An area of ground within Acheson House was excavated to a depth of 0.6m below the current ground surface on 25 November 2011. A large area of garden soil that predated the house was recorded. A cut and clay fill through this may represent the line of an earlier wall. The remaining areas had been disturbed by 19th- and 20th-century features.

Advocates Close
Watching brief and excavation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 25700 73671 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 13 August – 6 September 2012 during ground reduction associated with the development of land along the W frontage of Advocates Close. The work revealed a series of stratified deposits and structures relating to the 16th-century tenements that formerly occupied the site. A series of midden and sealing deposits were recorded to the NW of the former tenements and these provided an uninterupted sequential stratigraphy from the buildings' initial construction in the late 16th century to their demolition in the late 19th century. An early natural cut post-medieval open sewer ditch was recorded together with several inter-cutting pits. A 16th/17th-century boundary wall abutting the tenements was also revealed. A number of structural elements relating to the former buildings were recognised including a turnpike stairwell, vaulted ceiling and various floor levels. Large stratified assemblages of bone and ceramics were recovered together with other finds including glass, clay pipe and metal objects.

Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street
Standing building survey and watching brief
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 25248 73959 A Level 1–2 standing building survey and additional watching briefs were carried out January–March 2012 at the Category A listed Assembly Rooms prior to and during refurbishment work. A series of stone-built drainage culverts were recorded on the ground floor in the E and W Lanes running between George Street and Rose Street. A culvert was also recorded in the interior of the Edinburgh Suite. The bulk of the refurbishment work was confined to the Music Hall on the first floor. The removal of the stage revealed that it consisted of four massive wooden trusses with various iron braces and tie plates. The arched trusses of an alcove in the Edinburgh Suite were recorded beneath the stage. The iron braces and tie plates. The arched trusses of an alcove in the Edinburgh Suite were recorded beneath the stage. The replacement of the Music Hall floor revealed steelwork that dated to the 1920s refurbishment, when large steel girders had been fixed to the existing floor timbers to lend additional support. The steelwork below the Lower Gallery was also exposed and recorded. The creation of a new doorway in the Music Hall/kitchen wall revealed a blocked window, which had faced out onto Rose Street and formed part of the original building design.

Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street
Standing building survey and watching brief
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 25248 73959 A Level 1–2 standing building survey and additional watching briefs were carried out January–March 2012 at the Category A listed Assembly Rooms prior to and during refurbishment work. A series of stone-built drainage culverts were recorded on the ground floor in the E and W Lanes running between George Street and Rose Street. A culvert was also recorded in the interior of the Edinburgh Suite. The bulk of the refurbishment work was confined to the Music Hall on the first floor. The removal of the stage revealed that it consisted of four massive wooden trusses with various iron braces and tie plates. The arched trusses of an alcove in the Edinburgh Suite were recorded beneath the stage. The replacement of the Music Hall floor revealed steelwork that dated to the 1920s refurbishment, when large steel girders had been fixed to the existing floor timbers to lend additional support. The steelwork below the Lower Gallery was also exposed and recorded. The creation of a new doorway in the Music Hall/kitchen wall revealed a blocked window, which had faced out onto Rose Street and formed part of the original building design.

Baberton Golf Club
Evaluation
Jamie Humble – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 1956 6880 A well discovered during construction work
was recorded on 10 May 2012. The well was of dry stone construction and had been infilled in the 20th century. A mill stone had been used to the cap the well.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: McCarthy and Stone

**Braid Church, Morningside**

**Photographic survey**

Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 24610 71070 A Level 1 photographic survey was conducted of the Category B church at 1 Nile Grove in March 2012 prior to its conversion into a performing arts centre and restaurant. This Church of Scotland church was designed by George Washington Brown in 1886. The octagonal church is constructed of squared and snecked red sandstone with a Renaissance style pedimented ashlar front with semi-circular portico with flanking red sandstone Roman Ionic columns. Rising to either side of the pediment are two large bellcotes with pyramidal stone roofs which flank the main elevation. The church auditorium is surrounded by a taller gallery on square wooden columns. The clerestory windows are framed by plain cornices. The auditorium is well lit and contains a ramped floor with three isles of pews. The vestibule is compartmentalised with a barrel vault. The Statutory List also includes the boundary wall which is rubble-built with plain cast-iron railings and gates, which have a small thistle, dove and fish motif.

The two halls on the N side of the church were also surveyed. The halls are rectangular and share the same mansard-shaped ceiling. Other rooms within the hall complex include a Session Room, Kitchen and toilet block. Architecturally, the small hall is more interesting with its ashlar built SW-facing elevation.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: G1 Architects

**Charlotte Square**

**Evaluation**

Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2463 7375 A watching brief was undertaken 27 February – 4 April 2012 at 26–31 Charlotte Square during the excavation of a 16.4 x 5.5m area within the backyards of the 19th-century buildings. The only feature of archaeological significance was a cellar building that had been identified during previous archaeological work.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Morgan McDonnell Architecture Ltd

**Corstorphine Primary School, Manse Street**

**Watching brief**

James Lewis – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 19782 72741 A watching brief was carried out 24 July – 1 August 2012 during ground reduction work associated with construction of a new extension. A wall footing and a number of pits, of probable 19th- and 20th-century date were recorded.

Archive: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: The City of Edinburgh Council

**Cowgate Fire Site**

**Standing building recording**

Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2597 7343 The final stages of a programme of work, which commenced in June 2008, was undertaken at the fire damaged site of 233 Cowgate, the adjacent Hastie’s Close, 1–2 Chambers Street and South Bridge in August 2012. Stage 1 consisted of the production of detailed measured, written and photographic survey of the wall stubs remaining after the main demolition of the rest of the fire damaged buildings. The survey identified a number of original doorways and blocked openings together with some fireplaces, which formed the last remnants of the early 19th-century buildings. Stage 2 consisted of the recording of the interior of the remaining building at 1–2 Chambers Street to the S of the site. This building was originally constructed in the 1870s as a department store, and underwent renovations by new owners in the 1920s and 1930s. Stage 3 consisted of a watching brief in the Chambers Street building and additional recording work at Hastie’s Close.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Sweett UK Ltd

**Cowgate Fire Site**

**Excavation**

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2586 7346 An excavation was carried out, 23 July – 11 August 2012, of the site frontage and the newly acquired Hastie’s Close and Annex building to the immediate W of Hastie’s Close. The excavation recorded two earlier frontages to the Cowgate along with various associated walls, drains and pits. A large mixed assemblage of finds included animal bone, pottery, glass, metal objects, worked bone objects and coins.
A large stone well was uncovered outside the excavation area during demolition work. The features recorded may date as far back as the 16th century.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** McAleer and Rushe Group

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**Croft-an-Righ House**

**Standing building recording**

**Gordon Ewart and Thorsten Hanke – Kirkdale Archaeology**

NT 2696 7407 Two short programmes of standing building recording were completed at Croft-an-Righ House, which lies NE of the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The work was completed as part of a programme of repair and conservation that focused primarily on the plaster ceiling at first floor level in the N range and the room immediately above. The work consisted of the detailed recording of newly exposed timber features, primarily a sequence of floor joists and fragmentary panelling in the N range at second floor level. The work was completed in two stages. The first on 4 November 2011 focused on the floor joists and the second on 14 June 2012 on a fragment of painted panelling. The results of the work suggest the sequence of building and repair at Croft-an-Righ consists of six main phases.

**Phase 1: Purchase by the Earl of Airth** The acquisition of Croft-an-Righ House happened around the second decade of the 17th century after the marriage of the Earl of Airth (c1591–1661) to Agnes Gray in 1612. The house was habitable by this time, but may not have had its current footprint.

**Phase 2: Extension** The Earl spent considerable expense on the extension to the house and commissioned masons, quarriers, slaters, wrights, smiths, glaziers, painters and plasterers. It is probable that the footprint of the current house emerged during this building campaign.

**Phase 3: Rebuilding** The house was destroyed in a fire shortly after the completion of Phase 2. However, as Gordon of Rothiemay’s view of Edinburgh (1647) shows an intact building with a turreted two-storey W range and a one-storey N range, the house was rebuilt between c1620 and 1647. The plaster ceiling over the first floor of the N range was probably created during rebuilding and it is possible that the space above the plaster ceiling was not used for any residential purpose.

**Phase 4: The second floor of the N range** The N range must have acquired its current profile after Gordon of Rothiemay had completed his view of Edinburgh. As the extant chimney disposition on the W range differs from that visible on Rothiemay’s view, it appears that the entire upper floor of the house was altered after completion of Phase 3. Phase 4 saw the introduction of dormer windows, fireplaces and decorated wooden wall panelling to the second floor of the N range. The panelling is characterised by the rhythmic arrangement of stiles, rails and panels, and expresses classical architectural ideas rather than the typical appearance of Scottish pre-Civil War wooden wall and ceiling decoration. It is not clear whether the panelling received its painted decoration immediately after the installation of the wooden walls. The style of the marble imitating decoration appears to be 18th-century in character rather than 17th-century, although the panels could have been repainted during the 18th century.

**Phase 5: Restructuring** The second floor of the N range shows evidence for significant restructuring that must have been completed before c1892. This building campaign saw the installation of three separate rooms, a wall cupboard and a lath and plaster ceiling. It also included the reinforcement of the 17th-century ceiling joists, in an attempt to relieve the load bearing ceiling timbers from vertical load. This operation coincided with the creation of a new substructure for a new set of floorboards and may also have involved concealing the decorated wooden panelling with wallpaper and fabrics.

**Phase 6: Remodelling the second floor** All but one of the partitions were removed after the publication of Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland in 1892. This operation saw the installation of grooved-and-tongued floorboards and industrial plasterboard. Plasterboard was invented in the USA by the late 19th century and appeared in Europe no earlier than WW1, suggesting that this work took place in the second quarter of the 20th century.

**Deaconess House**

**Historic building recording**

**Diana Sprat – AOC Archaeology Group**

NT 26330 73113 A Level 3 historic building survey was carried out on 19 April 2012 of the former Deaconess House on the Pleasance prior to demolition and redevelopment work. The hospital was built in the 1890s and major development...
work in the 1930s saw expansion along the Pleasance and to the rear of the complex. The hospital was taken over by the NHS in 1948 and remained in operation until the 1990s. The building had retained its Edwardian frontage but only minimal structural detail and window panelling remained of its original interior.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mace

Devon Place
Evaluation

Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 23577 73101 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken January–February 2012 prior to residential development. A total of 10 trenches, covering 7.8% (398m²) of the development area were excavated. The remains of a possible masonry wall foundation in Trench 5 and brick wall foundations in Trenches 2 and 3 may relate to 19th- and 20th-century buildings associated with the South Coates Cabinet Works.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: City of Edinburgh Council SMR
Funder: Taylor Wimpey

Edinburgh Castle
Watching brief

Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 2515 7351 A record was produced for a 5 x 1.9m area of deposits revealed during the removal of a series of stone steps near Mons Meg on 19 March 2012. The steps provided access to the E side of the battery presently occupied by the late medieval gun. The removal of the steps revealed aspects of the 1894 programme of landscaping (in terms of the residual evidence of the steps), by which time the northern part of the inner curtain wall had been demolished leaving a grassy slope above the cliff. However, a truncated platform may be considerably older. The platform (as depicted on an early 18th-century plan) may have been created by simply truncating and/or levelling the upper surface of an earlier earthwork, already in situ.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Edinburgh Castle
Watching brief

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 2513 7351 A watching brief carried out on 25 May 2012 during a small excavation for a flagpole on the N side of the upper Citadel of the castle recorded a surprising depth of deposits below the modern paving. The presence of handmade brick fragments in the upper deposits suggests that these were probably 18th-century or later in date. Prior to the 19th-century restoration of St Margaret’s Chapel the area was used as a gunner’s store and drawings exist which show an apparent slope above the cliff. However, a truncated platform may be considerably older. The platform (as depicted on an early 18th-century plan) may have been created by simply truncating and/or levelling the upper surface of an earlier earthwork, already in situ.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Edinburgh Gas Mains Replacement
Watching brief

Gordon Ewart and David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 2551 7353 (centred on) A watching brief was maintained 27 January – 16 March 2012 on work associated with the replacement of a main gas pipe in Edinburgh’s Old Town. The work consisted of the excavation of a series of trenches along Johnston Terrace, the S side of the Castle Rock and the Lawnmarket at the top of the High Street.

A range of deposits and features were recorded, with the clearest distinction existing between the deposits on Johnston Terrace and the High Street or Upper Bow. The survival of archaeological remains was significantly better along Johnston Terrace than the High Street. The construction of this surprisingly broad road in 1827, curving up the S side of the Castle Rock, involved a significant amount of landscaping. All the trenches were dug on the S (donslope) side of the road and all contained similar deep deposits of material, presumably part of the 19th-century landscaping. As the trenches moved up Johnston Terrace progressively more deposits rich in mortar and sandstone fragments were seen. These are interpreted as debris from the buildings demolished to make way for Johnston Terrace.

To the E of the line of Castle Wynd the trenches produced deposits thought to predate the building of Johnston Terrace. These were often buried at a significant depth below the modern road surface, up to 1.65m. Many of these trenches produced evidence for good quality soils, up to 1.5m deep, often brown in colour and frequently very rich in charcoal. These have been interpreted as probable midden-enhanced, cultivated soils, reflecting backland activity. While some may represent vegetable plots others may be more formal gardens, especially to the W, where they should lie in the Duke of Gordon’s property (NT27SE 636).

Five of the trenches on Johnston Terrace produced evidence of structural remains, although these were difficult to interpret. One trench produced evidence for a wall and a drain, both dug down through the midden-enhanced soils. Its position could correspond to the back (W) wall of the Duke of Gordon’s property, on the line of Castle Wynd. The drain aligns well with the close at the end of Columbia’s Church (NT27SE 735). The most dramatic feature recorded was a partly filled cellar. This was a thin structure oriented SW–NE, reflecting the alignment of houses fronting onto Upper Bow. Evidence for further building on its SE side was noted, with some features suggesting a further structure(s) continuing along this line. The 1.2m of rubble that overlay this feature was probably derived from the demolition of the buildings.

Immediately to the NE, in the area of Upper Bow, probable natural soils were recorded only 0.65m below the current road surface. This would seem to indicate that the cellar found nearby and the structural evidence noted to the NW must have been dug into the subsoil. Further down Johnston Terrace deposits have been well sealed by the construction of the road. While the buildings have been torn down, below ground deposits are probably well preserved. Although (as noted above) this may only relate to a narrow strip along the S side of the Street. A small area of cobbled at the top of Upper Bow probably represents the road surface prior to the construction of Johnston Terrace. Little archaeology survived in the area of the High Street that was probably lowered by up to 1m in the late 18th or early 19th century. A deep cut was identified which may relate to the earliest foundations of the Weigh House (NT27SE 3).

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scotland Gas Networks

Eyre Terrace
Standing building recording

Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 25243 74792 A Level 2 standing building survey was undertaken on 22 May 2012 of 11–13 Eyre Terrace prior to the demolition of two buildings. The brick buildings were constructed 1894–1908 on a site which was previously occupied in the late 19th century by the Royal Patent Gymnasium of
Edinburgh. Number 11 was a single storey house and Number 13 a laundry. The laundry remained in use until the 1950s when it was taken over by Wilson’s Bakery.

**Gorgie Road**

*Evaluation*

Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2248 7214 An evaluation was undertaken 1–4 November 2011 at 396–410 Gorgie Road, prior to the proposed development of student accommodation. A total of five trenches were excavated, two of which were placed on the supposed site of Gorgie House. This was dated to the 17th century by the RCAHMS during a site visit prior to its demolition in 1937. These trenches contained the remains of a block of buildings present on the 1855 OS 1st Edition map and possibly associated with the 19th-century industrial buildings to the S and W. No trace of a medieval or early post-medieval structure was located and it is possible that Gorgie House was sited to the NE, outside the development area. The remaining trenches uncovered the remains of a recently demolished early 19th-century building and an associated wooden structure.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

**Great Junction Street**

*Excavation*

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2675 7606 An excavation was undertaken April – May 2012 on the site of a proposed housing development at 72–92 Great Junction Street. The works identified evidence for the medieval and post-medieval occupation of Leith. The main feature identified consisted of a NW–SE aligned ditch, which represents the remaining fragment of the 16th-century defences of Leith. The ditch was identified across the entire development. A series of features post-dating the ditch were also identified and comprise large rubbish pits. Subsequent development on the site consisted of the infilling of the ditches and the construction of a wall in the 18th century. Finds included 16th- to 18th-century ceramics.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Port of Leith Housing Association

**Gateway Theatre, Elm Row**

*Standing building recording and watching brief*

Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2679 7469 A standing building survey and monitoring of demolition work was undertaken May – August 2012 at 40–44 Elm Row. The survey revealed that the majority of the upstanding outer walls of the theatre represented the remains of the original 19th-century veterinary college. The college had been designed in 1882 and operated until 1899. The property subsequently changed hands on a number of occasions becoming an ice rink, cinema, theatre, television studio and finally reverting to a theatre. These frequent changes saw major alterations to the internal design of the building, including the construction of a steel roof over the courtyard and a large stage area to the building’s W end.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Edinburgh City Council

**Greendykes Primary School**

*Watching brief*

RobEngl – AOC Archaeology Group

NT 2974 7131 A watching brief was carried out 13–27 September 2012 during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of a new housing development on the site of a former school. The removal of up to 0.7m of topsoil did not reveal any finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: J Smart and Co

**Hart Street Lane**

*Watching Brief*

Andrew Morrison – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 25918 74529 A watching brief was carried out 14–16 August 2012 on Hart Street Lane, 17m NW of 10 Forth Street, prior to the construction of a house. The only archaeological remains recorded were probably Georgian/Victorian in date and associated with the construction of the New Town in the early 19th century. They consisted of levelling deposits and features
associated with the construction of tenements, and included a stone box drain and a well.
Archive: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Richard Murphy Architects

**Henderson Street, Leith**

*Watching brief*

Jake Stratefield-James - AOC Archaeology Group

NT 26884 76133 A watching brief was undertaken 6 May – 8 June 2012 during the removal, underpinning and reinstatement of the cobbled surface of Henderson Street. Archaeological deposits were recorded within a single amorphous cut feature. This contained three discrete fills that related to the post-medieval occupation of Leith. Small finds included four sherds of Scottish post-medieval reduced ware, mammal bone and marine shell.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

**Inglis Green Road, Longstone**

*Evaluation*

Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 2192 7083 An evaluation was carried out May–August 2012 at 10–12 Inglis Green Road. A total of 34 trenches were excavated in three phases. The foundations of Graysmill Farm, depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (1855) and surviving until at least 1984, were identified in three trenches. The remains of 19th- and 20th-century industrial buildings, which had formed part of the Inglisgreen Bleachfield (later Inglis Green Dye Works and Tweed Mills) and the Everlasta Dye Works, were identified during the watching brief. The survey established that the garden wall had undergone several modifications.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

**Lamb's House, Leith**

*Desk-based assessment and standing building recording*

Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2710 7636 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken September 2010 – May 2012 at Lamb’s House, 19 Water Street. Although there is reference to a building on the site in 1561, dendrochronological dating indicates that the current building was constructed after 1609. The shell of the building appears to have retained its basic form although there have been numerous minor alterations through the years and some significant changes have been made at attic level, primarily with the addition of three wall-head chimney gables. The building has seen many changes of ownership and on at least one occasion was very close to demolition due to its poor state of repair. Built as a rich merchant’s house in the 17th century, by the end of the 20th century it was occupied by at least eight families and had become derelict by the early 1930s. The building was then purchased and repaired by the 4th Marquess of Bute, although it remained empty until it was taken over by the National Trust for Scotland, who converted it into a day care centre in 1961.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Groves-Raines Architects

**Merchiston Campus, Napier University**

*Watching brief and evaluation*

Jürgen van Wessel and Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 24245 71822 A watching brief and evaluation were undertaken 28 March – 8 August 2012 during groundwork on the Merchiston Campus. Two trenches were excavated in the northern courtyard, just N of the 15th-century Merchiston Tower, which has been retained as a centrepiece for the campus. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded during the evaluation or subsequent watching brief.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: CECAS and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Edinburgh Napier University

**Newhaven Road**

*Watching brief and evaluation*

Alistair Robertson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 2602 7581 A watching brief and trial trenching evaluation were carried out 7–12 June at 9 Newhaven Road in advance of development. This work aimed to locate any remains relating to the 18th-century Stewartfield House; however, it was determined that development activity throughout the 20th century had led to the removal of all potential sub-surface archaeological deposits.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS
Funder: Barratt East Scotland

**Old Mill Lane**

*Evaluation*

Alistair Robertson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NT 27333 70780 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken on 30 March 2012 on the site of a 1950s house, which had been destroyed by fire, prior to the construction of a new house. The site was considered sensitive as it lies immediately NE of the settlement of Nether Liberton, which was established in the late 14th century. A total of four trenches were excavated. A single cut, identified as a probable 1950s rubbish pit, was recorded to the S of the building and a section of boundary wall to the SE, which may be early 20th century or possibly earlier, was photographically recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CECAS and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Archicentre on behalf of Mrs Jean Ghaznawi

**Palace of Holyroodhouse (Gardens)**

*Watching brief*

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NT 2694 7404 A watching brief was carried out 16–24 May 2012 on a small excavation for a tree in the N garden. The area mostly contained deposits of dumped material, which had been used for levelling and landscaping. A substantial amount of bone, some of it human, was recorded, along with a large amount of mortar and some sandstone rubble. Late medieval pottery and 19th-century finds were also recorded. It is possible that material was dumped in this area during landscaping of the ruined E end of the abbey in the early 19th century, and probable that the source of the bone was the abbey cemetery, which lies to the N of the abbey.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

**Portobello to Sandport Cycleway: Leith Links to Seafield Street**

*Watching brief*
The discovery of the well in the basement of 10–15 Princes Street

Ground reduction in the interior of the site revealed the well preserved remains of a well beneath the level of the cellar floor. The well was circular in plan and lined with neatly cut dry laid blocks of sandstone. An examination of part of the well excavation shaft established that the space between the excavated shaft and the well lining had been packed with large cobbles in a clayey matrix. The depth of the well was not ascertained and, following part-reduction of its upper section, it was backfilled and sealed. The well had probably been originally located in a yard area behind one of the original houses.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Barclays Nominees [George Yard] Ltd and Ogilvie Construction Ltd

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Grandstand Works

Watching brief and excavation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 2530 7350 (centred on) A series of Scheduled Monument Consents (SMCs A–E) were granted, December 2009 – September 2011, for work associated with the design of new temporary stand foundations. These works revealed part of the Spur, a triangular artillery fortification built in the 1540s and demolished in 1650. Part of a second boundary-type wall was revealed to the NE of the Spur and this overlay an infilled ditch. The corner of a building was revealed at the E end of the Esplanade. All of these remains may be shown on an Edinburgh plan drawn by Gordon of Rothiemay in 1647. At the top of Castle Wynd Steps, a massively built stone plinth may have been a part of the Esplanade wall which was demolished prior to 1780.

SMC B: The Scottish Horse Monument was dismantled and rebuilt on a new abutment projecting from the North Esplanade Wall. A photographic survey of the wall was carried out.
SMC C: This covered the erection of the new stands and had no archaeological significance.

SMC D: The statue of Earl Haig and its stone plinth were moved from the Esplanade to Hospital Square. Excavations in Hospital Square revealed the wall of the 1748–54 powder magazine and the blast wall to the E.

SMC E: Work to relocate utilities serving the castle took place in Princes Street Gardens, in the Moat Vault, in the Coal Yard and on the steep grass slope between the South Esplanade Wall and Johnston Terrace. Walls were recorded prior to the placement of pipes/ducts. No archaeological remains were recorded in Princes Street Gardens. In the Moat Vault, plinths associated with former arched vaults were recorded. In the Coal Yard, a buried wall was recorded. Between the South Esplanade Wall and Johnston Terrace, a stone revetment was recorded.

Additional non-SMC work took place in Castlehill, Ramsay Lane and Mound Place. In Ramsay Lane, the foundations of what may be tenement buildings were recorded and to the N, part of a culvert drain was recorded.

Archive: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Sir Robert McAlpine on behalf of Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Ltd

Salamander Place, Leith
Erlend Hindmarch – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 276 762 A programme of work was carried out on 27 February – 18 May 2012 on land adjacent to Salamander Place prior to a proposed residential development. The evaluation recorded the remains of 19th-century structures relating to a former rope works and other buildings, particularly in the N part of the site fronting onto Salamander Road. The rope works remains consisted of intermittently surviving sections of long stone-built walls which could be traced across a number of the evaluation trenches. Elsewhere evidence of former buildings consisted of stone and brick walls and floor surfaces.

Following completion of the evaluation an open area excavation was undertaken to further investigate the remains. The excavation exposed additional areas of the rope works’ walls along with a limited number of internal structures. The excavation of the N part of the site revealed a large 19th-century multi-phased industrial complex consisting of a furnace, flues, chimney bases and other brick and stone built structures. These remains were sealed below a dump of late 19th-century rubbish consisting of large quantities of ceramic fragments. In addition a number of large inter-cutting rubbish pits, one of which was entirely filled by stoneware bottles, and two barrel-lined pits were also located.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Teague Developments Ltd

St Martin’s Church, Magdalene Drive
Standing building recording
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3050 7260 A Level 1 photographic survey was conducted in April 2012 of the church prior to its demolition to make way for modern housing and a new church facility. St Martin’s was built in 1957 and consisted of a brick and steel-framed building, its chancel at the E end lit by large windows. The exterior walls were covered with pebble dash render and a bellcote was located on its N-facing elevation. The survey included the two halls on the S side of the church. The exterior walls were covered with pebble dash render and a bellcote was located on its N-facing elevation. The survey included the two halls on the S side of the church. The large hall was built in 1957 and was steel-framed with a stage at its S end. The small hall was built in 1990 along with the vestry, disabled toilet and kitchen.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Cruden Homes (East)
Sugarhouse Close, 160 Canongate
Standing building recording, excavation and watching brief
Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2657 7374 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 10 December 2011 – 12 June 2012 prior to and during redevelopment of the site, and recorded six phases of activity. The earliest phase consisted of multiple layers of garden soils and a large well cut into the bedrock, possibly associated with medieval and post-medieval activity on the site. The remains of two walls, which may have related to a sugar refinery that occupied the site 1765–1850, represent the only upstanding features from Phase 2. A layer of pottery-rich loam recorded above the garden soils provided additional evidence of the sugar refinery. The pottery included large quantities of sugar cone and syrup jar fragments. Further excavation across the upper terrace of the site recorded various walls, floors, flues and culverts and discreet features associated with buildings linked to Phase 3 of the site. All these features were inside buildings first depicted in the 1852 OS map and seem to reflect industrial activity.

The standing building recording revealed that although the main fabric of the original brewery survived, much of the internal fixtures had been modified or completely removed. Four main phases (Phases 3–6) associated with the present buildings were identified. The first (Phase 3) saw the construction of the tenement located to the N side of the site. This was followed by the construction of the brewery (Phase 4) in 1868. A third phase (Phase 5) saw a reconstruction of the front entrance to the site in the 1940s along with a number of other superficial alterations. The final phase, commencing in the 1960s saw the demolition of a number of smaller buildings to the N of the main brewery complex and the subsequent construction a laboratory in the 1980s.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: Watkin-Jones Group

The Mound
Watching brief
Jake Streetfield James – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2535 7363 A watching brief was undertaken on 24 April 2012 during the excavation of a 200mm deep foundation trench for the Olympic Rings on the Mound. No significant archaeological features were recorded and all finds related modern use of the site.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service

Towerbank Primary School, Figgate Bank, Portobello
Watching brief
Philip Karsgaard and James Lewis – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3061 7409 A watching brief was carried out 9 July – 3 August 2012 during construction work in the grounds of the school. The work revealed two domestic water wells, which were probably associated with the 19th-century houses that had existed on the site prior to the construction of the school. The remains of a series of walls, floor deposits and associated structures such as outhouses and a fireplace were recorded in the NE part of the site. These features related to buildings on Wilson’s Park as shown on a late 19th-century town plan.

Archives: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: The City of Edinburgh Council

West Bowling Green Street
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 2640 76128 A Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken on 9 September 2012 on industrial units at 2–8, 5–13, 15–19 West Bowling Green Street and 26 Anderson Place prior to their demolition. Industrial buildings had existed on the site since the middle of the 19th century, although what remained prior to demolition had been subject to considerable earlier demolition, alteration and rebuilding work. The buildings had once formed an animal feed mill and manufactured oil cake and fertiliser (numbers 2–8).

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: J Smart and Co (Contractors) PLC

Woodhall Terrace, Juniper Green
Standing building recording and evaluation
Stuart Mitchell and Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 19680 68750 A Level 2 standing building survey and evaluation were undertaken May – August 2012 prior to development work at the Juniper Green Primary School, 1A Woodhall Terrace. The school consists of a complex of Victorian buildings dating from 1874 to 1910. It has a Z-shaped layout, two main storeys, plus a third storey contained in a stairwell. The lower half of the school is built mainly of sneck-bonded red sandstone with ashlars quoins at corners, windows and doors. The upper half is harled. The interior contains classrooms, a large main hall and offices and cupboards. Original roof trusses are visible in two of the rooms. A total of four trial trenches covering 162m² (10%) of the development area were excavated. The only features recorded were wall foundations and drains relating to the current buildings.

Archives: RCAHMS. Report: City of Edinburgh Council SMR
Funder: Justin Lamb Associates

Yardheads and Cables Wynd
Watching brief
Jamie Humble – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 2679 7623 A watching brief was undertaken 11 July – 20 October 2011 during ground-breaking work associated with the installation of a new gas main. The work recorded the structural remains of the Lochend Distillery, established on the site in 1825. Pre-modern features were limited to deposits of garden or backland soils preserved below the wall footings of the distillery.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: City of Edinburgh Council

Kirkliston
Ingliston Mains Farm
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 1392 7273 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 30 January 2012 during the stripping of topsoil from the footprint for a new building at the Scottish Agricultural and Rural Development Centre (SARD). The SARD occupies the Category C listed Ingliston Mains Farm (NT17SW 50). The site first appears as Westfield Farm in 1539, and reflects the division of the original medieval Inglinton Farm (Harris S, Place Names of Edinburgh). No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the 5.5 x 4m area of hard standing between two existing buildings.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Purvis Group

Pathbrae Distillery
Standing building recording and watching brief
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 12313 74254 A Level 3 standing building survey was carried out January – February 2012 on a Category C listed former double-kiln maltling building prior to its demolition.
A watching brief was also carried out to record the building as it was taken down. The building occupied a rectangular 21.5 x 11.5m footprint. The principal features on the ground floor were a pair of brick-built kilns that supplied heat and smoke to the second floor via smoke hoods. The first floor contained baffles above the kiln for diffusing heat and smoke to the hoods which in turn vented the malting floor. The drying malt was turned by an electric rotating plough that traversed the length of the building on a steel rack. The original rubble-built walls date to the late 19th century. The building was refitted during the early 20th century to accommodate the structural composite steelwork that carried the roof and the smoke hoods. Historical records show the building was constructed during the late 19th century and that it was part of a much larger range of distillery buildings.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: City of Edinburgh Council SMR
Funder: Turley Associates

**EDINBURGH/MIDLOTHIAN**

**Edinburgh/Glencorse/Lasswade**

**Edinburgh Drinking Water Project**

Watching brief, metal detector survey, building recording and excavation

*Magnus Kirby and Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd*

A programme of archaeological work was undertaken March 2009 – July 2011 during work associated with the Edinburgh Drinking Water Project.

NT 23614 62680 – NT 27350 69086 Glencorse to Alnwickhill

A watching brief was carried out during soil stripping associated with a water pipeline, including operations overlying the possible Roman fortlet at Glencorse. A photographic record was produced of any field boundaries within the designed landscape associated with Mortonhall House prior to their demolition. Three sites considered to be of archaeological potential were identified.

NT 25194 64192 Site 1 consisted of the remains of a head dyke and associated rig and furrow. The wavelength of the
furrows was >6m fitting the pattern for Broad Rig, which suggests they represent a pre-improvement (pre-1800) field system and may date from any time from the medieval period.

NT 25259 66783 Site 2 consisted of a single pit containing fire-cracked stone and a single flint flake. It was probably a prehistoric cooking pit.

NT 26147 68746 Site 3 consisted of a ditch with a 90° turn. Pottery and glass recovered from the base of this ditch suggests that it was modern in date. It may have been associated with the Mortonhall House designed landscape, or a military feature excavated during military training by troops who were stationed at Mortonhall during WW2.

NT 2585 6808 An excavation was carried out February – March 2010 on part of the former Mortonhall Army Camp. The camp was built for the 16th Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry who were stationed there in July 1940, and was later used by the Royal Signal Corps, being finally dismantled around 1950. Three hut bases and two building complexes were excavated. The floor surfaces and walls appearing to represent the foundations for Nissen huts and possibly concrete structures. Part of the camp road and several drainage systems were also identified.

NT 25772 68179 – NT 26133 68749 A metal detecting survey was undertaken in March 2010 and May 2011 in advance of topsoil stripping associated with a water pipeline at Mortonhall, close the site of a possible Cromwellian army encampment. The survey recovered 344 objects, including brass, iron, lead and aluminium. The majority of the finds were modern. A small group of finds could date to the 17th century and were broadly of a similar date to the camp. A large number of 303 bullet casings, all date stamped from the 1940s were probably associated with a live firing range used by troops stationed at the Mortonhall Camp and at Mortonhall House.

NT 2718 6915 A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out in March 2011 on the N boundary wall of the Alnwickhill Waterworks prior to its removal. The boundary wall formed part of the Category B listed waterworks and was built in c1888. Two 20m long sections of wall were recorded near 67 Alnwickhill Road and 50 Liberton Gardens. The wall was constructed of coursed sandstone blocks bonded with near 67 Alnwickhill Road and 50 Liberton Gardens. The wall was built.

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Archive: City of Edinburgh Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Commissioned by ERM on behalf of Black and Veatch

FALKIRK

Bo’ness and Carriden

Blackness Castle
Watching brief
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 0550 8019 A watching brief was carried out on 6 December 2011 during the excavation of a small trench for a display board, adjacent to the Barrack Block of 1870–74, to the S of the main castle complex. The excavation indicated that the ground to the immediate W of the Barrack Block had been recently disturbed. Due to the small size of the trench it remained unclear if this represented localised disturbance, caused by the laying of a nearby drain, or was more widespread, perhaps representing make-up material introduced to create the car park.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Blackness Castle
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 0550 8020 A watching brief was carried out 15–17 February 2012 during the excavation of a series of eight trenches designed to hold collapsible bollards. The 0.3m deep trenches, aligned cNW-SE across the access road within the gateway at Blackness Castle, contained no features of archaeological significance. Traffic and successive dumps of aggregate have created a very solid surface over a shallow demolition horizon. The latter derives from a stone and brick structure, which lay between the present shop and the parapet wall. This structure was demolished in the late 20th century to allow car parking and easier visitor access. A flooring deposit of laid bricks from the building was found and it is likely that more of the building footprint extends across the present access road.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Falkirk

Aldi Store, Redbrae Road, Camelon
Evaluation
Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 866 806 An evaluation was undertaken 6–7 June 2012 prior to proposed development work. The site was considered sensitive due to its proximity to known Roman and prehistoric remains. A total of seven trenches, equivalent to >6% of the 0.89ha site, were excavated. No significant archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Aldi Stores Ltd

Castlecary

Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NS 79 77 Metal detecting c200m S of Castlecary Roman fort produced a fine copper-alloy lion-headed mount and a damaged enamelled lunate cavalry harness pendant. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT141/11), allocated to Falkirk Museum

Elgin Place, Falkirk
Geophysical survey
Susan Ovenden – Rose Geophysical Consultants
NS 8903 7961 A ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey was undertaken on 16 September 2012 at Elgin Place prior to development. OS maps indicate that the projected line of the Antonine Wall ditch just clips the NE limit of the development. However, excavations by Geoff Bailey (DES 2010, 74) indicate that the ditch runs through is level with the top of the sea wall, a feature that appears quite recent. This area of grass was doubtless landscaped when the wall was built.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

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Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland
apparent within the GPR survey data. However, ephemeral responses were recorded that appear to indicate the ditch and support the excavation evidence. The data suggests that there is not a great deal of contrast between the fill of the ditch and the surrounding material. However, while the general alignment and the eastern limit of the postulated ditch appear to correspond with Bailey’s excavation evidence, the ditch appears to turn further to the N than projected.

Archive: Rose Geophysical Consultants
Funder: Andrew Craig Construction

The Helix Canal Hub Access Road
Watching brief
Rowena Thomson and Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 905 816 A watching brief was undertaken 2 November – 7 December 2011 during the construction of an access road within the scheduled area for the Forth and Clyde Canal between Falkirk and Grangemouth. The work recorded only made ground, modern service trenches and modern artefacts.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The Helix Trust

FALKIRK/NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Denny/Cadder

M80 extension (Stepps to Haggs)
Watching brief
Alistair Robertson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 657 693 to NS 793 798 A watching brief was undertaken 13 February – 24 March 2011 during construction work associated with the M80 motorway improvement scheme. Few archaeological features were recorded, and the results were comparable to those of the evaluation carried out by Headland in 2007.

Monitoring of areas immediately adjacent to the M80 revealed that there had been significant landscaping during road construction in the 1960s, which probably removed much of the archaeology at these locations. No features were recorded in the areas where peat had developed. At other locations more suitable for habitation, such as on higher and better draining ground, some evidence for agricultural activity dating from the medieval period onwards was recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland on behalf of Transport Scotland

FIFE

Aberdour

Cullaloe Wood
Excavation
Matt Ritchie – Forestry Commission Scotland
NT 184 887 A Bronze Age urned cremation burial was uncovered within the root bole of an uprooted tree at Cullaloe Woods, Fife. The lower portion of an Enlarged Food Vessel and associated cremated human bone remained in situ in the ground. Further bone and sherds from the upper portion of the urn were detached and had become tangled in the rootball of the uprooted tree.

The subsequent rescue excavation of the burial on 16 April 2012 by Douglas Speirs (Fife Council Archaeologist) recovered a substantial portion of the urn, and soils and bone were retained for specialist analysis by AOC Archaeology. Analysis of the cremated human bone has enabled identification of an individual of adult age (>18 years). There was no evidence for pathological changes. A sample of bone submitted for AMS radiocarbon dating returned a date of 1886–1745 cal BC at 2-sigma.

Archive: Fife Council HER

The full reconstruction of the Cullaloe Urn, drawn by Alan Braby

Carnbee

Kellie Castle
Standing building recording
David Bowler – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NO 5200 0522 A programme of building recording and analysis was carried out 4 February – 3 March 2011 during structural repairs on a doorway within Kellie Castle. The work exposed a disused fireplace, with its hearth slab, lintel, relieving arch and flue, two plaster-lined presses back-to-back in the thickness of the wall, and different schemes of painted wooden panelling on either side of the wall, with details of joinery, reuse of timbers, and successive paint schemes including simulated wood grain and marble, and trompe l’oeil effects. The panelling was generally of softwood, rough sawn behind and planed on the front, fixed with handmade iron nails. There were also oak dooks set in the wall, perhaps surviving from an earlier scheme now lost.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Ceres

Ceres Primary School
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NO 4022 1152 A monitoring programme was carried out 21–29 July 2011, during ground reduction works associated with the creation of foundation and service trenches, prior to the construction of an extension to Ceres Primary School. The construction area was found to contain extensive areas of made ground and elements of 19th-, 20th-, and 21st-century structures. The 19th-century structures were associated with the original school building constructed in 1836, and the later
Culross Palace

**Standing building recording**

*Tanja Romankiewicz and Kenneth Macfadyen – Addyman Archaeology*

NS 9851 85951 A building survey was undertaken March – October 2012 in advance of re-harling of the N, W and E elevations of the N range, and of the N wall and E gable of the lower extension to E. A full drawn stone-by-stone survey was undertaken of the three elevations that were stripped of their harling. The survey included small-scale roof investigations; however, no evidence of earlier roofing materials or eaves and verge details survived.

Construction breaks and the remains of quoins indicated the survival of an earlier structure, incorporated and enlarged by Sir George Bruce’s remodelling of the N range in 1611. The earlier building generally corresponds with the footprint of the existing structure, but was smaller in its S extent. MacGibbon and Ross recognised similar evidence in the 1880s, which they interpreted as an earlier stable.

The survey also identified the remains of a cross wall and sill stones that suggest the previous existence of a stair tower at the rear. This would have provided access to the hall at attic level in a more elegant manner than the extant internal turnpike stair within the W room on first floor. A rear stair tower would also mirror the arrangement of the W range, remodelled by Bruce only 15 years earlier.

Evidence for reset quoins, inserted flues and apparently blocked fireplaces combine to suggest a now lost W extension; this apparently was of similar height to the extant N range. Historic photographs underpin the evidence for a pre-existing W extension as the W gable of the extant N range is shown without crow-steps. This implies that the roof had at some point continued further W, with the present crow-steps being rebuilt with reused stones, probably after the NTS acquired the building in 1932. Some of the stones used to block flues and the fireplace serving the W extension retained internal plaster and paint on their underside. These represent a possible resource for paint analysis, as they were probably reused from a demolished building on site, perhaps even from the demolished W extension. Further details such as the removal and rebuilding of the E dormer at rear, the reduction in height of the loading door to the E extension loft and the complete reroofing in pantiles all combine to reveal that Culross Palace’s N range has a far richer building history than the overall presentation of a homogenous structure might suggest at first glance.

Archivo: NTS and RCAHMS

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Sandhaven West, Culross

**Standing building recording**

*Kenneth Macfadyen and Tom Addyman – Addyman Archaeology*

NS 98511 85902 A building survey was undertaken 3–21 September 2012 in advance of re-harling works at the Category A listed building at Sandport West. A complete drawn record of the W gable was produced following the removal of defective harling. The majority of the exposed gable walling proved to be of a single phase, probably 17th-century in date. Newly revealed features included the original crow-stepped wall head of the southern pitch. This indicated the building had originally been 2.5-storeys as opposed to the existing three-storeys and that the roof had been steeper in pitch. The S frontage evidently rose to the level of the existing third floor window sills. The sills may be *in situ* remnants of original ones with subsequent renovations and additions to the later school building.

Archivo: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

**Bishop Leighton’s House**

**Standing building recording**

*Kenneth Macfadyen and Tom Addyman – Addyman Archaeology*

NS 98660 85915 A historic building survey was undertaken 2–3 August 2012 in advance of re-harling work at the Category A listed Bishop Leighton’s House (7 Mid Causeway), Culross. The survey included a full drawn record of the S gable of the building (following removal of cement harling) and a basic survey of the harled E and W frontages. A brief assessment was also undertaken of the visible early features in the building, including the roof space.

The masonry of the S gable had been constructed largely in one phase, with subsequent minor modification. The numerous modifications to the stonework visible at the current openings in the E and W elevations shows they are structurally complex. A notable feature was the skew-put to the street frontage at the SW angle, upon which a previously unrecorded date and initials – 1565. DP – are apparent. This is the earliest recorded date upon a building in Culross. A timber stair, which rises from the first floor to the former attic rooms, now redundant, was recorded in the roof space.

The assessment of building concluded there were a number of major construction phases; the original 16th-century construction, a remodelling perhaps in the later 17th century, and a possible further episode of refurbishment. This is represented by a series of detailed panelled interiors, fireplaces, etc. Later occupation saw the subdivision and decline of the property before a further refurbishment under Ian G Lindsay for the NTS in 1953 and 1970–1. Much historic fabric is now obscured by later finishes and linings associated with these later works.

Archivo: RCAHMS

Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

**Culross Palace**

**Standing building recording**

*Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology*

NS 9851 85956 Further to work carried out in 2006 (DES 8, 96–97) a programme of standing building recording was undertaken on 9 March 2012 specifically targeting the N-facing external elevation of the N range of Culross Palace.
dormer windows, subsequently reused. In about 1800 the building was raised by half a storey, work that also involved the formation of new coped gable heads, an eaves cornice at the S frontage and new chimneys. The gable head was part dismantled and was re-erected towards the end of the 19th century. Later repairs were undertaken by Ian G Lindsay for the NT5 and included rebuilding the chimney.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Funder:** The National Trust for Scotland

### Culross/Torryburn

**Vallefield**  
**Standing building recording**  
Louise Turner – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd  
NT 00400 87300  A photographic and drawn survey was produced of five structures at Vallefield in advance of restoration works. Built at the behest of Sir Robert Preston of Vallefield in the early 1800s, these constitute the surviving remnants of the only Repton designed landscape in Scotland.

The structures consisted of two ornamental staircases in the walled Flower Garden, a rusticated arch to the NW of the Flower Garden, and two rusticated bridges. The bridges were located on the drive through the valley of the Bluther Burn, which once led to the now demolished mansion of Vallefield.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Report:** Fife Council Archaeology Service  
**Funder:** Fife Council

### Dalgety/Inverkeithing

**Muir Dean OCCS, Annfield Extension**  
**Evaluation**  
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd  
NT 14924 86586  A trial trenching evaluation was carried out February – March 2012 in advance of an extension to the Muir Dean surface mine. The trial trenches were placed to investigate five sites, four separate buildings with associated enclosures and a fifth distinct enclosure, associated with earlier mining activities. The sites were shown on the 1756 estate plan and one site (Damleys) was also shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The probable site of Damleys was subject to a more intensive programme of trial trenching.

The evaluation work led to the identification of a series of possible foundation trenches associated with Damleys. The foundation trenches had been backfilled with demolition debris. There was no evidence of the other sites shown on the estate plan.

Other features identified during the evaluation consisted of post-improvement field drains and drainage features, mineshafts relating to earlier mining activity, vestigial traces of pre-improvement rig and furrow cultivation and a late 19th-century well associated with Annfield Farm.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)  
**Report:** Fife SMR and RCAHMS  
**Funder:** ATH Resources PLC

### Dunfermline

**Canmore Linen Works**  
**Watching brief and evaluation**  
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group  
NT 08971 87731  A watching brief was undertaken 9 November 2011 – 2 April 2012 during site preparation works associated with a supermarket development on the site of the former linen works. The area had undergone a substantial number of changes due to industrial development in the post-medieval and modern periods. Originally the site of a mill dam with some small mill buildings nearby, the dam was later filled and large industrial buildings were built on top. A small number of archaeologically significant features and structures relating to the industrial use of the area were revealed and recorded. These included walls, drains, foundations and a well. The majority of the features survived to the S of the mill dam area, but had been heavily truncated by modern activity.

**Archive:** RCAHMS  
**Funder:** Barr Limited

**Dunfermline Abbey Church**  
**Watching brief**  
David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology  
NT 0897 8731 A watching brief was carried out, 23–30 July 2012, during the lifting of slumped floor slabs within the church. Two trenches were excavated to discover the cause of the subsidence. One trench contained a layer of sand over concrete. The second contained a limited amount of fine sand immediately below the paving. Below the sand was a deposit of fine silt which contained a noticeable area of collapse. The E–W orientation and size of the area, 1.95 x 1.35m, probably reflects the presence of a burial. The bone noted within this area is likely to be human, but perhaps belongs to earlier burials disturbed by the collapsing one.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)  
**Funder:** Historic Scotland

**Dunfermline Carnegie Library**  
**Watching brief**  
Douglas Gordon and Thomas Rees – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd  
NT 09097 87324  A watching brief was carried out 21–22 February 2012 during the hand excavation of nine test pits associated with a proposed library extension. No in situ remains were recorded, but medieval pottery was recovered and information obtained regarding possible patterns of on-site survival.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)  
**Report:** Fife Council Archaeology Service  
**Funder:** Fife Council

**Halbeath, Dunfermline**  
**Evaluation**  
Bob Will – GUARD Archaeology Ltd  
NT 13622 88926  An evaluation was carried out 20–23 August 2012 prior to a proposed development at Halbeath. The excavation of 41 trial trenches, equivalent to over 5% of the 78371m² development area recorded two isolated features, consisting of a circular rubble feature and a concentration of stones probably field clearance, neither of which were deemed archaeologically significant.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)  
**Funder:** Fife Council
Kirkcaldy and Dysart

Ravenscraig Castle
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 2905 9248 A watching brief was carried out 13 March – 17 July 2012 at Ravenscraig Castle. A ledge running along the top of the cliff adjoining the W side of the W tower may be accessed from the ditch to its N by a series of crude rock-cut steps, and is further defined by a low wall on its W side and a more substantial one along its S end. The aim of the work was to investigate the archaeological deposits on this ledge, and assess the possibility of inserting a barrier along the cliff edge. There was little in the way of significant archaeological features, with most of the area covered by very shallow deposits. However, footings were seen projecting up to 0.45m E of the main line of the W wall. Surface traces indicated that these broad footings continued to the N out of the excavated area, while no further part of this feature was visible to the S.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Markinch

Mackie’s Mill, Earlseat Opencast Coal Mine, East Wemyss
Evaluation
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 3076 9791 A trial trenching evaluation was carried out February – March 2012 in advance of an extension to the opencast mine. The work identified a large isolated pit, which was fully excavated but yielded no information as to its date or purpose; three small pits, two of which contained sherds of prehistoric pottery, and two boundary ditches. Vestigial remains of rig and furrow were also observed in the S part of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Fife SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Hall Construction Ltd

St Andrews and St Leonards

Abbey Walk
Watching brief
James Lewis – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 5125 1626 A watching brief was carried out 18–20 June 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with a new development at Abbey Walk. The area had been heavily disturbed during the construction of a tennis court and landscaping. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: Fife Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: McCarthy and Stone Retirement Lifestyles Ltd

Market Street, St Andrews
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NO 50910 16735 A watching brief was undertaken 22 September 2010 – 1 November 2011 during work to reduce and repave areas of road and pavements at Market Street. The excavation of service trenches, manholes and pits for tree planting were also monitored.
Several significant archaeological features were uncovered and recorded during the course of the development work. These features related to the use of Market Street as a main street of the burgh over long periods of time and included surviving elements of the Tolbooth, Market Cross and Tron. While it was possible to suggest a historical origin for some of the archaeological features exposed, the extent of investigation was constrained by the limits of the excavation work required for the redevelopment work.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Fife Council Archaeology Service
Funder: T and N Gilmartin (Contractors) Ltd

St Andrew’s School, The Pends
Evaluation and recording
Gary Savory – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 51509 16476 A programme of evaluation and recording was undertaken in May 2012 on the remains of a wall and well, which had been discovered during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of an extension. The well appeared to be in the approximate location of a draw well depicted on the 1854 OS Town Plan. The draw well lay in the SE corner of a trapezoidal plot of land with a path running around its interior, to the E of the Abbey Mill. This feature is annotated as a pump on the 1893 Town Plan. The function of the trapezoidal plot of land is unclear from the mapping. The wall recorded to the E of the well is possibly the boundary wall of this plot of land.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Fife Council SMR
Funder: Morris and Steedman Associates

GLASGOW

Carmunnock

Cathkin Braes, Carmunnock
Evaluation
Ross Murray – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 6131 5823 An evaluation was undertaken 28–29 March 2012 on the site of a proposed wind turbine and meteorological mast. The work recorded 0.2–0.5m of topsoil overlying bedrock or, in places, orange brown clay. No archaeological features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy Renewables

Glasgow

Duke Street, Glasgow
Watching brief
Diane Gorman and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 60034 65313 A phased watching brief was undertaken...
6 March – 12 June 2012 during excavation work prior to construction relating to a residential development. No significant archaeological remains were recorded and all of the material recorded related to late 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century use of the site.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Cruden Estates Ltd

239 Gallowgate, Glasgow
Standing building recording, survey, evaluation, watching brief and excavation
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 602 649 A programme of archaeological works was undertaken 20 April – 24 October 2011 prior to a supermarket development. The work consisted of an evaluation of the most archaeologically sensitive area of the site, followed by a watching brief to oversee all ground-breaking works, with subsequent excavations taking place where significant archaeology was encountered. A historic building survey was also conducted, which focused on the remains of the 18th-century wall that encircled the development area.

A number of archaeologically significant features and structures relating to the 18th-century military barracks and the 17th-/18th-century pottery works and other early industries were revealed and excavated.

Features relating to the military barracks consisted of the truncated remains of the barrack canteen cellar, the eastern barracks privy, a couple of unroofed barrack buildings, and the upstanding remains of the armory foundations and two other buildings adjacent to it. The majority of finds from this period came from the drainage channels where brass buttons and ceramic pipe stems were prevalent. The soldiers’ privy also provided a number of ceramic and glass artefacts.

Some structures relating to the ‘Pighoose’ Pottery, which predated the barracks were also recorded. The NW corner of the 1720s pottery building was discovered as well as parts of the flue system and the edges of at least two kilns. The flue and furnace of another small industry predating the barracks were also recorded. The NW corner of the pottery building was discovered as well as parts of the flue system and the edges of at least two kilns. The flue and furnace of another small industry predating the barracks were also recorded. The NW corner of the pottery building was discovered as well as parts of the flue system and the edges of at least two kilns. The flue and furnace of another small industry predating the barracks were also recorded. The NW corner of the pottery building was discovered as well as parts of the flue system and the edges of at least two kilns.

Finally, a WW2 rifle range consisting of a series of brick walls/Foundations with sand pits dug out of the concrete floor behind the walls was located in the South Tunnel.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: MacDonald Estates

Ruchill Hospital, 520 Bilsland Drive
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 58385 68292 A historic building survey was undertaken 4–5 July 2012 of the former infectious diseases hospital complex of Ruchill Hospital, prior to their demolition (bar the Category A listed water tower).

The hospital complex was completed in 1900 and consisted of a number of ward pavilions, administration and other ancillary blocks. It was expanded in the early 20th century to include additional ward pavilions to the S of the site. The hospital was amalgamated into the National Health Service in 1948 and some of the ward pavilions to the E were demolished to make way for a new laundry building. The NHS moved out of the site in 1998 and since that time the buildings have lain empty. They were not made watertight and consequently have suffered from water damage so extensive that it is no longer possible to access the interior of the buildings. A photographic and written record was made of the exterior of the 12 buildings.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Colliers International on behalf of Scottish Enterprise

Sandbank Street, Maryhill
Watching brief
Jamie Lewis – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 5671 6691 A watching brief was carried out in September 2012 during site investigation works at Sandbank Street. The work was instigated by Scottish Canals in response to cartographic evidence indicating that a former line of the Forth and Clyde Canal ran through the site. No structural features associated with the canal were identified, but the presence of a deep infilled area on the projected line of the canal was located.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Canals

Sun Foundry, 280 Kennedy Street
Standing building recording
David Sneddon and Ingrid Shearer – Northlight Heritage
NS 59687 66008 A Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken on 23 August 2012 of two rooms in the Fyfe and McGrouther building at 280 Kennedy Street. The rooms were surveyed in response to the discovery of unusual cast iron cornicing during demolition work. The cast iron sections that were being used as cornicing, dated to the original phase of the building’s life as the purpose built Sun Foundry, which was constructed in 1871. Further research has discovered that the sections of relief decorated cast iron were originally designed and cast for a Sun Foundry bandstand design known as ‘Bandstand Number 1’. A recently restored bandstand of this design and cast by the Sun Foundry exists in Hamilton, Bermuda. The iron work was recovered and part has been retained by Glasgow Museums.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Glasgow Museums

Govan
Water Row, Govan
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 55489 65815 A programme of inspection visits was undertaken 24 November 2011 – 2 February 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the maintenance and renewal of sewer and other pipe work at Water Row. The site is situated within an archaeologically significant part of Govan with Govan Old Parish Church and associated burial ground c50m W of the development area. Furthermore, a medieval assembly point or moot hill, Doomster Hill, was believed to have been located to the immediate E of the development area. The groundworks revealed a small section of a cobbled surface that may relate to late post-medieval or earlier use of the site. No datable material was recovered and, due to the limited extent of this feature (as exposed by the groundworks), it was considered of minor archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Glasgow Museums

HIGHLAND
Abernethy and Kincardine
Castle Roy
Survey, watching brief and excavation
Justin Garner-Lahire – FAS Heritage
NJ 0065 2192 A programme of archaeological work was carried out 31 October – 2 November 2012 prior to conservation work at Castle Roy. The work consisted of:
A photographic and measured survey (phase 1).

The excavation of two sondages through the mound to the exterior of the castle, to assess its composition and assess the condition of the castle’s foundations (phase 2–3). The first measured 3.3 x 0.6 x 1.2m deep and was positioned against the NE curtain wall. The second measured 2.75 x 0.6 x 1.1m deep and was positioned against the NW curtain wall.

The excavation of a trench along the N exterior elevation of the square tower (phase 4).

The excavation of a trench close to the exterior NW corner of the castle, to define the layout of a putative garderobe turret thought to project from the curtain wall (phase 5).

A watching brief during the excavation of the pits through the mound recorded subsoil at 0.6–0.8m below the current ground surface, overlain by topsoil. This evidence suggests that the castle had been constructed on a natural glacial hill, rather than a man-made mound.

The foundations of the curtain walls were found to be fairly shallow and were built on a topsoil deposit rather than natural subsoil. The NE wall foundation consisted of three courses of unboned angular masonry, splayed to form a 50° chamfer. The foundation of the NW wall consisted of a single course, projecting 0.2m from the face of the castle. The difference in the construction technique used for the NE and NW curtain walls is noteworthy. While it is possible that these differences in the foundations may represent a chronological sequence in the development of the castle, it may simply have been a result of the relative importance of the NE wall being the principal face of the castle containing a substantial and fairly impressive door opening.

Various structural features were noted, which hint at the form of the now vanished internal buildings of the castle. The mural chamber in the W corner of the castle includes a short length of vaulting projecting from the external elevation of the NW curtain wall. Adjacent to this projection, the remains of a garderobe chute issuing from the level above also survive. The presence of a first floor level in this corner of the castle is also indicated by the remains of one side of a window opening. These features suggest that this corner of the castle contained a two-storey building lit at first floor level by at least one window, and served by a mural garderobe chamber on each floor. The vaulting projecting out of the castle strongly suggests that the mural garderobe chambers would have formed a turret projecting from the elevation of the curtain wall.

The presence of the large arched window opening at the E end of the NW curtain wall indicates that this putative two-storey internal building did not extend along the full length of the curtain wall. The height of this window suggests that the internal building in this area was single storey, and may have been a hall with a two-storey solar range to the SW. If this is the case, the two-storey tower at the N corner of the castle would have been accessed at ground-floor level from the hall.

The SE curtain wall survives to a greater height than the opposing long wall of the castle. While this elevation does not include any obvious window openings, it does contain a substantial horizontal recess set at a fairly high level. Although this recess was filled suggesting a later phase of adaptation, the stone and mortar fill has partially collapsed revealing the original feature. This recess appears to be too substantial to represent a roof scar, and has been interpreted as a wall plate recess which would indicate the presence of a fairly high first-floor level within an internal building running the full length of the curtain wall. The lack of window openings and garderobe features suggests that this building may have been a service range and/or stables with storage above.

The lack of evidence for internal buildings at the NE and SW ends of the castle should not be taken as proof that internal buildings did not exist in these areas. It should also be noted that the remains of external castle buildings may well exist in the immediate environs of the standing building. Funder: Castle Roy Trust

Rychallich, Tulloch

Desk-based assessment, standing building recording and walkover survey

Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd

NH 97916 14845 (centred on) A community survey project was undertaken as part of the Explore Abernethy Project. The settlements at Tulloch are associated with many local tales and stories, as often they were only abandoned in the 20th century. Rychallich is one such settlement and is crofted by local historian Marina Dennis. The settlement was of interest as it was known to have been occupied from the 16th to 20th centuries, when latterly it was used by Gordonstoun School as a bothy, and afterwards into the 1980s, as a general hill walkers shelter. In 1772 Rychallich became locally famous for the murder of one of its occupants, John Grant, by neighbour John Cumming of Easter Tulloch. Research carried out prior to this project on documents held in the National Archives of Scotland, largely contemporary witness statements, have allowed the identification of a possible location for the fatal shooting on the hills behind Rychallich.

The main part of the survey, 15–16 October 2011, consisted of detailed building recording, which provided a record of the main standing structures; a roofed house c1890s, an 1840s building, an 1880s building and a milkhouse. The survey also recorded in plan the footings of two earlier 18th-century structures, one of them contemporary with the murder. This fieldwork illuminated the possible functions of rooms, many internal details of structures and how the buildings developed over time. On 17 October 2011 a walkover survey was carried out on the surrounding landscape. This threw light on many agricultural remains including various tracks, enclosures, clearance cairns, boundaries and the remains of a reaper. The most significant find was the discovery of building footings away from the main centre of the settlement, which correspond with buildings shown on the 1773 estate plan.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Explore Abernethy

Abernethy and Kincardine/Kilmorack

Canadian Timber Camps

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Rebecca Shaw and Ben Edwards – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

Canadian Timber Camps were introduced into Great Britain in 1916 when, at the request of Britain, Canada was asked to send over lumbermen to harvest timber for the war effort. The Canadians formed a unit for this purpose called the Canadian Forestry Corps (CFC), which operated from 1916 to 1920 (and was reformed from 1940 to 1945 for WW2).

A desk-based assessment and walkover survey was carried out November 2011 – June 2012 to investigate four camp sites and their associated features. Documentary sources record that 110 Company operated at Aviemore and Nethy Bridge and 121 Company operated at Loch Morlich. No information relating to the Company at Glen Cannich was located. The war diaries (Library and Archives Canada) record that the first deployment of CFC, 110 Company, arrived in Glenmore in November 1916 with 121 Company arriving in July 1917.

NH 959 097 Loch Morlich 1 The war diaries document...
that there was a fairly large camp with a Canadian sawmill at Loch Morlich. However, as most of the structures were built with wood, very few visible remains survive. Two concrete structures and a number of sunken areas were noted during the survey. The concrete structures could be the remains of a sawmill with the presumption that a large saw would need a substantial/solid base. One of the features (Feature 1) contained a slot where a vertical blade could have been sited. Feature 3 also consisted of substantial concrete remains (like Feature 1) and may have been the location of some form of machinery. The function of many of the other features could not be established, although they probably represent structures relating to the camp, such as a kitchen, cookhouse, blacksmith shop, sleeping huts, a wet and dry canteen and a hospital.

NH 978 093 Loch Morlich 2 The visible concrete remains at this site indicate a fairly long structure such as a sawmill. The slots, which are visible in some of the upright features, possibly reflect the position of a track to move the logs towards the saw. A gap visible between features (H) and (J) could be where a vertical blade was located. These features could differ as this could have been a Scotch Mill and the one at Loch Morlich 1 was a Canadian Mill.

When Company 110 first arrived they stayed at Glenmore Lodge (next to Loch Morlich 2) for a number of months while they built a permanent camp at Sluggan. It is therefore possible that they built the mill at Loch Morlich 2 whilst staying at the lodge and there was no requirement for ancillary buildings at this site.

NH 946 121 Sluggan The war diaries document that a large camp was built on this site, but the only remains recorded were slight concrete features and possible railway sleepers. However, when a camp was relocated it was standard procedure for it be dismantled, including buildings and equipment, then reassembled, and the lack of remains may be attributed to the movement of 110 Company from Sluggan to their new camp at Nethy Bridge.

NH 283 332 Cannich The most visible remains at the site in Glen Cannich were a donkey engine and a brick-built structure. A donkey engine worked by a horse dragging a cable out to a cut log, the cable would then be attached and the steam valve on the boiler opened engaging the clutch and causing the drum to rotate and drag the log. The main body of the donkey engine survives as do the two drums, one drum is still on the body and the other is sited close by. The hole for the boiler was located but there was no evidence of the large cylindrical boiler. The brick-built structure has features which indicate it was probably used for heating water and was therefore some form of boiler house or furnace. A channel located to the NNW, which is directly linked to the river, may have provided water to the boiler house/furnace.

During the course of the works the remains of a number of railway routes were also recorded. These included visible embankments, trestles and in situ sleepers. It is known that the CFC returned to Scotland during WW2 and it is possible that some of the recorded remains may date to this period.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Applecross

Allt na Moine and Tasabhaig Hydro-electric Schemes
Walkover survey
Catherine Dagg
NG 69247 47158 A walkover survey was carried out 22 February – 21 April 2012 along the route of proposed hydro-electric schemes on the Applecross Estate. A group of five shieling huts were located on the N side of the Allt Tasabhaig at NG 69076 47210, and the dry stone walls of a small rectangular building, which has been tentatively interpreted as an illicit still site, were recorded tucked into the S bank of the stream at NG 69247 47158. Shieling sites on the Applecross peninsula are late mostly unrecorded.

Archive: HCAU
Funder: ASH design + assessment

Applecross Excavation
Mary Peteranna and Lynn Fraser – Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme
NG 7118 4433 Two test trenching excavations took place on 19 May and 17 June 2012 as part of a series of weekend community archaeology events planned under the Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme (ALPS), aimed at engaging the community and its visitors with the heritage of Applecross and for providing training in archaeological techniques.

The first investigation targeted an area of high resistance recorded to the NW of Applecross Broch during a 2005 geophysical survey conducted by Wessex Archaeology. One trench revealed no archaeological features or finds, a second trench revealed the remains of the footing of a ruinous boundary wall and the cut for a modern, but unrecorded, test pit and the third trench revealed a pit or ditch containing stone cobbles. The area around the third trench was extended, but not fully excavated. The results suggested that the circular area of high resistance was probably of geological origin.

The second investigation targeted areas of interest identified during the 2006–2010 excavations of Applecross Broch. Trench 1 targeted an upright, earthfast stone standing above the turf level. This had been identified during the broch fieldwork and appeared similar to another prominent pillar stone excavated during the 2006-2010 project which was found to be lining the side of a ditch and possibly marking a cist structure. Trench 2 targeted the potential continuation of the ditch.

Trench 1 revealed two features. The pillar stone with an associated pit/ditch lined with upright slabs and one side of a linear cut for a possible ditch. Trench 2 revealed a sequence of stone and boulder deposits which continued below the trench depth of 0.8m. A section excavated at the ESE end of Trench 2 uncovered a large, recumbent sandstone slab, measuring at least 0.9m across and 0.1m deep. It extended beyond the trench and section edges and was loosely interpreted as a lintel stone, possibly covering a ditch. Both trenches contained...
numerous fragments of iron slag and other metalworking debris, two possible hammerstones and one iron dagger fragment. The finds provided evidence of the continued spread of archaeological material from the broch site, and are similar in type to those recovered from the area excavated in 2010 NW of the broch, only 6–8m E of the 2012 investigation.

Archive: Applecross Heritage Centre and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme

Appleglass
Survey
Catherine Dagg
NG 7125 4435 The Appleglass Community Archaeology Project, which commenced in 2011, continued with further fieldwork from 16 March – 28 September 2012. Work included an investigation into the mining history of Appleglass parish, including the short lived iron mines at Kishorn. Abandoned iron ore was recovered, and it is hoped that an iron smelting experiment will take place at a future date.

A plane table survey training day completed a ground plan of some mysterious building footings within the coniferous forestry S of Appleglass Broch. Previously unclear, the planned footings revealed themselves to be a standard pattern rectangular sheep fank and small cottage. Although these are common in the sheep farming areas of the Highlands, there are very few on the Appleglass peninsula. This one probably dates to the early 19th century and was deliberately demolished around 1870.

In April the group carried out a building survey at the steading of Appleglass Home Farm. This is a very early designed farmstead, c1840, which has undergone many modifications as farming practices changed, leaving in some cases only small changes in stonework to indicate the original design.

An exhibition showing the results of the training project was set up in Applecross Heritage Centre in October 2012.
Archive: Applecross Heritage Centre and HCAU
Funder: Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme

Araid, Loch Torridon
Survey
Catherine Dagg
NG 79312 58920 A survey was carried out on 26 March 2012 on the small settlement of Araid on the N side of Loch Torridon, which is recorded on modern OS maps as ‘shielings’. The measured survey undertaken in advance of development identified different phases and types of settlement and land use, including buildings predating the reorganisations of Gairloch estate lands in 1846, two improved croft houses occupied until the 1960s, and evidence for seasonal fishing, in the form of a substantial harbour wall built to accommodate herring fishing fleets in the early 19th century and reuse of abandoned buildings, possibly by late 19th to early 20th century fishing crews or lobster men.

Archive: HCAU
Funder: Mrs Irene Macpherson

Clachan, Applecross
Watching brief
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NG 71316 45789 A watching brief was carried out 28–29 November 2011 during the excavation of trenches for a new underground power supply between Clachan Church and the old manse on the N side of Applecross Bay. The 35m long trench cut across a grassy area, an access track and disturbed ground between the track and the scheduled area where the parish church and the remains of a 7th-century monastery are located. No features of archaeological significance were recorded and
no finds predating the 19th century were recovered.

**Archive and Report:** Highland HER and RCAHMS

**Funder:** SSE plc

### Kinloch, Shieldaig

**Desk-based assessment and walkover survey**

Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services

NC 8761 5231 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 15 November – 20 December 2011 prior to ground works associated with a new water treatment plant and associated developments 120m SE of Kinloch. The site was considered sensitive as it is located in an area of known prehistoric sites, including a stone working site dating to c2500 BC, although the discovery of lithic artefacts including narrow blade microliths and a tanged point indicated a much earlier date for the occupation of the site.

The fieldwork, which included the excavation of 33 test pits, revealed the survival and extent of in situ archaeological deposits, and a lithics assemblage including narrow-blade microliths, cores, scrapers, blades, flakes and debitage. The test pits, along with Walker’s earlier excavations in 1973, have proved the existence of an important early prehistoric site with later activity extending into the Bronze Age. The analysis of the lithic material from the earlier excavations by Bjarke-Ballin and Saville, have supported this analysis, although indicators for an earlier presence were identified (possible Upper Palaeolithic).

Unfortunately, the site has suffered considerably due to various phases of commercial development in the past, all of which were conducted without any archaeological input. This started with the excavation of the quarry for road building material in 1971, which undoubtedly removed a major part of the lithic scatter site. This was followed by the installation of a wooden electricity pole and water treatment works, and more recently by the excavation of a trench for the temporary electricity supply to the new water treatment works. The test pit evaluations have proved that a small area of the original archaeological site survives on a small knoll, measuring c5 x 4m.

The lithic assemblage recovered, analysed by Torben Bjarke-Ballin, is characterised by much debitage, but it also includes flake cores, cores for the production of small flakes and blades, as well as preparation flakes from the preparation of microblade cores. The tools include mainly microliths and scrapers, and the character and size of the microliths suggest a date c7000 BP. In terms of size, typology and applied technology, the assemblage corresponds to the Late Mesolithic collection provided by Walker’s 1973 excavation, but it does not include any finds datable to earlier or later periods. As the 2011 trench was located only a few metres from Walker’s main trench, it is highly likely that the two assemblages were recovered from parts of the same settlement site.

The lithic scatter site at Shieldaig, although now severely denuded, is of national and international significance. The small area of in situ deposits located on top of the exposed knoll appears to contain well preserved archaeological deposits including large numbers of microliths.

**Archive:** Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended) and WCAS

**Funder:** Scottish Water Solutions

### Lub Dubh Aird

**Survey**

Karen Hardy, Jonathan Benjamin, Andrew Bicket, John McCarthy, Torben Ballin – ICREA at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (KH), Wessex Archaeology (JB, AB, JM) and Lithic Research (TB) NG 8723 5505 Lub Dubh Aird is a low lying bedrock promontory on the S shore of Upper Loch Torridon. The E-facing coastline has three bays, two of these lie at the landward end of the peninsula, the third bay is near the tip of the peninsula. Lub Dubh Aird was brought to our attention by two local residents, one who has been collecting lithics in the intertidal zone here for several years and a second who had also found a nearby rock shelter containing a shell midden.

The area was surveyed 6 April – 25 May 2012. A total of four different locations, including the three bays and the rock shelter produced lithics, though LDA 1 (NG 8723 5505) was by far the most prolific. The rock shelter appears to be the result of a major collapse from higher cliffs. The current rock shelter is a huge void c6m deep and 1m high in the rock tumble. The archaeological deposits, which have some evidence of inversion, are found in and around this void. A walkover survey of the intertidal zone confirmed the presence of lithics across the beach. A total of nine pits were excavated near the upper limit of the beach, only three produced lithics. All lithics were found in a small beach gravel deposit which was found across the beach and continued under the peat for a short distance. Lithics analysis suggests an early prehistoric date and confirmed a range of raw materials including flint nodules which occur naturally on the beach. Most of the finds are bipolar flakes and waste. The strongly bipolar nature of the technology is unusual, though it may be related to the very small nature of the flint nodules. The lithics have a sharp, unrolled appearance which suggests they were deposited without significant water rolling, perhaps soon after production. The high concentration of artefacts found at the upper part of the beach near and in test pit 1 suggests this may be the source though, it has most probably now largely eroded away. Some material was also found below the rock shelter in the rocks just above the high water mark, and had clearly fallen ultimately into the water here also, though whether surviving deposits survive underwater is not known.

**Archive:** RCAHMS

**Funder:** Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain and Wessex Archaeology

### Achagour, Ardclach

**Survey**

Stuart Farrell

NH 9367 4661 (centred on) A walkover survey was conducted on 3 December 2011 prior to the construction of a proposed clubhouse and storage shed at Achagour. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Report:** Highland HER and RCAHMS

**Funder:** Inverness Field Archery Club

### Ardersier

**Fort George**

**Excavation**

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

NH 7647 5680 A small excavation was carried out on 20 March 2012 near the entrance to Fort George prior to the installation of a scale model to aid visitor orientation. Four sondages were dug to look for evidence of surfaces or hard standing relating to the ramp leading to the ramparts to the NE of the trench. This large grassed over slope seemed likely to have been used to carry artillery up to the ramparts summit, and it seemed possible that this would have required such a feature. No evidence was found for any such ground preparation.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Historic Scotland
Ardgour

Glensanda Quarry
Walkover survey
Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NM 81500 49500 A walkover survey was carried out on 24 November 2011 of a c138ha area around Glensanda Quarry prior to its extension. The quarry is 400–600m above the NW shore of Loch Linnie and the surveyed area consisted of steep and rocky grass covered terrain. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Aggregate Industries

Ardnamurchan

Ardnamurchan Transitions Project
Research Field School
Hannah Cobb, Hélêna Gray, Oliver Harris and Phil Richardson – Manchester University and Leicester University
NM 54200 70500 Excavations in Ardnamurchan by the Ardnamurchan Transitions Project began in 2006 and the project has excavated sites from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and post-medieval periods as part of our attempts to characterise the changing forms of occupation within Swordle Bay on the peninsula’s northern coast. The main area of excavation, which ran 6–26 August centred on three sites: the probable Iron Age area of activity on top of the natural promontory of Dun Murchaidh (DES 2011, 94–95); the probable pre-clearance Swordle Township of Swordle Huel; and a possible Bronze Age cremation and associated feature identified in previous season’s work through fieldwalking and geophysics (site known as the BAFO).

Dun Murchaidh
Five trenches were opened across the promontory to further investigate findings from the previous season of work. The trenches revealed the remains of two small sub-rectangular dry stone walled structures, one positioned at the entrance to the summit of the promontory, and the second further to the N, which appeared to have been cut into the natural slope, with a poorly preserved exterior crudely cobbled surface. Both structures made use of the local topography and outcrops of bedrock. Several worked stones were recovered from the soil deposits associated with these structures, including burnishing stones and a hammerstone. Further evidence of the laid surface or paving found during 2011 was identified, although no further information was recovered to ascertain the function of the paving. A single posthole abutting a bedrock outcrop running along the W side of the promontory was also identified, together with a small hearth or area of burnt material cut into natural soil overlying sloping bedrock and opposite the posthole.

Swordle Huel
Three trenches were excavated over the turf-covered remains of two structures believed to be the remains of the former Swordle township of Swordle Huel. Trenches were excavated to reveal the first archaeological horizon together with the outlines of walls/structural remains only. The southern most structure was found to have originally been a rounded-corner/hipped roofed building that had later been altered from within with the addition of gable ends and chimneys. A possible rubble drain was identified running from the E end of this building. The northern structure was heavily disturbed. The small trench revealed the remains of a double-skinned outer wall and possible flooring which had been later cut by a modern cow burial.

BAFO
Three trenches were excavated in an area of ploughed land to the S of Swordle Huel. The trenches were located to investigate a ring-like geophysical anomaly and the remains of two Bronze Age cremation burials first identified through fieldwalking. The trenches revealed a ditch (likely to be the feature represented by the geophysical anomaly), that had been deliberately backfilled and at least one post subsequently inserted. Three other postholes, outside the projected line of the ditch were also identified, together with the remains of one in situ Bronze Age cremation burial, heavily truncated, and containing a burnt flint thumbnail scraper. Several small fragments of burnt bone and probable Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the sieved topsoil removed from the trenches.

Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Ardnamurchan Estate, Manchester University, Leicester University, Prehistoric Society, Royal Archaeological Institute and CFA Archaeology Ltd

Bourblaige
Walkover survey
JE Kirby and PJ Madden – Garbh Chriochan a’ Deas Lost Place Names Survey/Sunart Oakwoods Research Group
NM 5403 6240 An area of rich grazing has been enclosed by a stone and turf dyke, and low profile lazy beds show that the area has been cultivated. The area is dissected by a burn, to the E of which is a low turf shieling mound c5 x 5m, with rounded corners. Charcoal was noted in a mole heap immediately below the structure, and 9m to the S is a pit 2 x 1.5 x 0.2m deep. Some 40m to the NNW and across the burn is another turf shieling mound c4 x 4m with rounded corners.

A short distance to the W at NM 5398 6240 is a peat bank, and a low turf mound on the S edge was interpreted as the eroded remains of a peat stack. A track from the stack runs through the field system and down the burnside to the settlement of Bourblaige, which was depopulated by 1827.

Funder: Garbh Chriochan a’ Deas Lost Place Names Survey per HLF

Glenbeg, Acharacle
Evaluation
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NM 588 624 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out 24–28 September 2012 on an area 50m SE of Glenbeg, following the discovery of a small collection of flints during recent road improvements. The work consisted of the hand excavation of 36 pits in 4 separate areas within the proposed development area. The majority of the pits contained a clay subsoil with fairly poor drainage. The only structural remains were in Pit 3, Area 4 where large stones set within the subsoil possibly delineated the edge of a track. No finds predating the 19th century were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: Adelphi Distillery

Rubha an Fhaing Dhuibh
Survey
John McCarthy – WA Heritage
NM 8130 7185 A survey was carried out over three days in April 2012 of Rubha an Fhaing Dhuibh, located on the S bank of Loch Shiel. The survey used a Total Station and incorporated over 2000 digital photographs. The photographs were combined using VisualSFM to generate a point cloud of over 40 million points. This was then used to generate a highly accurate series of plans and elevations. A textured mesh of the central structure was generated using a separate set of photographs processed using Autodesk’s 123D Catch, another automated photogrammetry software package.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland
Stallachan Dubha
Walkover survey
PJ Madden, M Vanden and JE Kirby – Garbh Chriochan a’ Deas Lost Place Names Survey/Sunart Oakwoods Research Group
NM 5363 6262 In the corrie between Stallachan Dubha and Ben Hiant, and forming part of the township of Bourbaig, is a group of four turf shieling huts occupying the summits of dry knolls. Three are circular, ranging from 4–6m in diameter, while the fourth is oval and c.4 x 3m. A second group centred on NM 5353 6252 has one circular foundation 4.5m in diameter and a rectangular one measuring 4.0 x 2.5m.
NM 5350 6219 In the lea of Stallachan Dubha is an oval dry stone structure 5.0 x 2.5m containing a lamb fostering pen, and with a small stock (?) enclosure on the W side. On the ridge above in a jumble of rocks is a sub-rectangular structure 5.0 x 3.0m, which appears to have been extended or modified in antiquity. This structure is too exposed to have been a shieling, but with extensive views W to the Isle of Coll could have been a post for observing vessels entering the Sound of Mull from the N.
Funder: Garbh Chriochan a’ Deas Lost Place Names Survey per HLF

Arisaig and Moidart
Arisary, Loch Ailort
Survey
Ken Bowker and Jean Bowker
NM 73987 79626 On the SW shore of Loch Ailort at Arisary, is a boat naust in a small sheltered bay. The site which was visited in April 2010 is not easily visible from the nearby main road, and the naust is more obvious when the summer vegetation is not present. It lies aligned cN-S, with the bow end to the S. Overgrown with short grass, it lies in a shallow, grass covered gully, with 10m of boggy machair separating the entrance of the naust from the stony foreshore. The gully is flanked on both sides by 3m high ridges of bedrock, forming a very protected spot off an already sheltered bay. Immediately inland are very old cultivation rigs, and the ruins of Arisary village, shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1873 as roofless, are c400m to the E.
The naust is 9m long from the stem to the machair, although it is likely to have been a metre or so longer before any erosion, and it could have accommodated a boat of considerable width. The visible width is 2.5m but this would probably have contained only the lower chines of a boat. The depth of the naust at the two deepest points is 0.65m and 0.45m respectively. The stem of the keel would have been some 0.75m above high tide level and the stern at sea level.
Report: Highland HER, Lochaber Archive and RCAHMS

Brunery Hydro-electric Scheme
Walkover survey
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NM 7290 7377 to NM 7250 7197 A walkover survey was undertaken on 21 September 2012 along the proposed route of a new hydro-electric scheme on the N side of the River Moidart. It will take water from Loch nam Paitean, at NM 7290 7377, to a turbine house on the Allt a Choire, at NM 7313 7212. The survey also included the course of an access road from the turbine house to Brunery, at NM 7250 7197. No sites of archaeological significance were recorded.
Funder: Moidart Hydro LLP

Camas na Gualinn
Survey
Ken Bowker and Jean Bowker
NM 723 787 A broken-up wreck, which lies partly buried on the foreshore of the beach at Camas na Gualinn on the
E shore of Loch Ailort, was visited September – December 2010. The wreck is that of the paddle steamer Cygnet, owned by David MacBrayne, which stranded in Loch Ailort on 18 September 1882. A record relating to the incident is held by the RCAHMS (NM77NW 8001) and indicates that she was carrying equipment and materials for sheep-smearing.

A drying reef in the middle of the bay at NM 726 791, c500m NE of the wreck is known locally as Cygnet Rock and is said to be the site of the stranding. An 1883 painting by the water-colourist Jemima Blackburn, who lived on the surrounding Roshven estate, shows a diver preparing to visit the wreck. The wreck was subsequently brought ashore at Camas na Gualainn for salvage (pers. comm. Alan Blackburn, August 2010).

The wreckage consists partly of curved gunwales of steel, one of which is at least 10m long, with hardwood inwales, still in good condition, attached in places. Other wreckage, including substantial riveted plates, is scattered nearby. The plates are encrusted in places with coal slack and pieces of coal are present in the wreck. Metal detection indicated a substantial amount of buried metal under the surrounding area of sand and pebbles, and trial trenches revealed rusted plates. The wreckage is not always visible, being subject to shifting sand, but the gunwale parts can be 0.3m or more proud of the beach on occasions.

The base of a broken glass bottle found in the wreckage during a walkover carries an embossed stag emblem within the words ‘Trade Mark’, and, below, ‘Oban, Established 1846’. On its back is the manufacturer’s name, ‘Carrington Shaw and Co Ltd, St. Helens’. This has been identified (BBR Auctions) (Powys County Records) as coming from Alex Robertson, a chemist’s business in Oban, which later became the Argyle Chemical Company and specialised in sheep-dip chemicals. Report: Highland HER, Lochaber Archive and RCAHMS

Lochailort
Metal detector survey
Christina Hills and Sue Anderson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NM 767 817 A metal detector survey was carried out 28–31 August 2011 prior to development of land to the E of the inn at Lochailort. The area was used as a military training camp during WW2.

The largest single group of objects recovered were empty 20th-century bullet casings associated with use of the area as a military camp. The firearms-related material was examined by Jonathan Ferguson (Royal Armouries) and found to include largely rifle and pistol ammunition. The assemblage was not concentrated in any meaningful pattern, which might have indicated the position of a formal rifle range. Many of the other finds also related to the military use of the site, including machinery (eg washers, wheel spokes), whilst others related to agricultural use (such as horseshoes). A few domestic objects such as light fittings, door knobs and latches could be related to the camp.

Only a few items predated the military camp. A possible medieval lead weight or gaming piece, a fragment of a Victorian silver brooch, a pistol side-plate of mid-18th-century date, and a late 18th-/mid-19th-century lead musket ball.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Assynt
Stronchrubie Burnt Mound
Excavation
Graeme Cavers, Gordon Sleigh, Jake Streatfeild-James, Charlotte Douglas and Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group
NC 24902 18699 As part of the Assynt Fire and Water
Festival, an excavation was undertaken, 1–11 October 2012, to investigate the burnt mound at Stronechrubie (NC21NW 3) near Inchnadamp. The excavation was accompanied by a series of experiments to test the effectiveness of boiling water using local stone. The mound was found to occupy a small mound of fluvioglacial clay situated next to a relict streambed. The mound of burnt stone was a maximum of 1m deep, penannular in plan surrounding a central pit. The pit was sub-triangular with 2m long sides and a small channel running in the direction of the stream bed. This channel was found to be roughly level with the streambed, suggesting that it could have been used to fill the pit. The central pit was partially lined with flat slabs of quartzite. A single small find was recovered from the burnt mound material – a fragment of possibly worked quartz. All deposits in the mound contained charcoal, which was sampled and will be submitted for radiocarbon dating.

Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund and Robert Kiln Charitable Trust

**Boleskine and Abertarff**

**Culachy Hydro-electric Scheme**

*Walkover survey*

*John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology*

NH 37117 05327 to NH 37762 06826 A walkover survey was carried out on 22 November 2011 along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme at Culachy, near Fort Augustus. The only feature of archaeological significance was the remnants of an earlier hydro-electric scheme.

Archive and Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Funder: Green Highland Renewables Ltd

**Garrogie Hydro-electric Schemes**

*Walkover survey*

*John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology*

NH 54177 10782 to NH 53274 11064, NH 53385 11617 to NH 52665 11484, NH 50395 10877 to NH 50515 81261 Walkover surveys were undertaken on 14 June 2012 along the routes of three proposed hydro-electric schemes on the Garrogie Estate, c15km W of Fort Augustus. Two previously unrecorded sites were identified. At NH 53187 11554, on the right bank of the Allt Laith-Bhaid, are the remains of a dry stone, rubble-built structure, 7m square, perhaps a shieling hut. Near the proposed site of the power house on the Allt Mor, at NH 50536 12589, are the scant remains of an enclosure measuring 12 x 9m.

Archive and Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Funder: Green Highland Renewables Ltd

**Inchnacardoch Forest Block, South Loch Ness**

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

*Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services*

NH 38320 10910 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey was carried out on 17, 22 and 27 February 2012 in advance of proposed tree felling along the A82 trunk road. The work aimed to establish the extent and condition of any archaeological sites and will be used in future management planning. The survey identified 22 previously unrecorded sites, including post-medieval boundary walls and prehistoric hut circles and clearance cairns.

Archive: RoCAS. Report: Highland HER

Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

**Bracadale**

*Amer, Glen Bracadale*

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

*Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services*

NG 38535 39900 (centred on) A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 8–20 February 2012 in
advance of a woodland creation scheme. The survey identified 84 new archaeological sites including six prehistoric hut circles and fragments of contemporary boulder walls, and later settlement remains including townships, farmsteads, pens, sheltered enclosures and a complex of turf and stone dykes, probably of post-medieval date. A total of 29 areas of relict rig and furrow cultivation were also recorded, which complements the settlement remains. Most of the hut circles were found to be poorly preserved and were overlain by later sheltering structures, while some of the huts located in marginal upland environments are partially covered by peat growth.

The desk-based sources do not generally provide any additional detail to assist our interpretation of the post-medieval settlement sites. Indeed, most of the settlements recorded, whether individual farmsteads or townships are not depicted on early cartographic sources. It is possible that a complex of houses, byres and associated structures located S of the survey area formed a part of the Glen Bracadale Township. The township of Ach’ an Locha is represented by several farmsteads recorded in the W of the survey area. Archive: FCS, Highland HER, NOSAS and RCAHMS. Funder: Scottish Woodlands

**Glen Ullinish, Skye**

*Desk-based assessment and walkover survey*

Meryl Marshall – NOSAS

NH 46208 56290 (SE end) to NH 45083 57848 (NW end) A generally well preserved lade was recorded in February 2012. The lade which is 1–1.5m wide and 0.5m deep starts at an unnamed burn 2km NNW of the village of Contin. It then passes through a rock-cut defile, 10m long by 2.5m wide and 2m deep, before going around the hill to the N of Contin, making a gradual winding descent from NW–SE. Its destination is the site of a threshing mill at Mains of Coul.

The direct distance from start to end is 2km; however the route of the lade is probably 3km. The first half of the lade is in commercial forestry, it then passes through a natural oak wood before entering open fields. It has been truncated in places by forest roads and agricultural activity. In the SE part it has been ploughed out but it reappears in a young plantation and runs for 200m before entering a stone-lined box culvert. It then runs underground for the remainder of its course, first around the E side of Coul House Hotel and then turning SW towards the W side of the main farm building at Mains of Coul where there is evidence of a wheel slot, which is now filled with concrete. The lade is marked on the 1st Edition OS survey map of 1872. Archive: FCS, Highland HER, NOSAS and RCAHMS. Funder: SCAPE

**Coul House**

*Survey*

Meryl Marshall – NOSAS

NH 46208 56290 (SE end) to NH 45083 57848 (NW end) A generally well preserved lade was recorded in February 2012. The lade which is 1–1.5m wide and 0.5m deep starts at an unnamed burn 2km NNW of the village of Contin. It then passes through a rock-cut defile, 10m long by 2.5m wide and 2m deep, before going around the hill to the N of Contin, making a gradual winding descent from NW–SE. Its destination is the site of a threshing mill at Mains of Coul.

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The direct distance from start to end is 2km; however the route of the lade is probably 3km. The first half of the lade is in commercial forestry, it then passes through a natural oak wood before entering open fields. It has been truncated in places by forest roads and agricultural activity. In the SE part it has been ploughed out but it reappears in a young plantation and runs for 200m before entering a stone-lined box culvert. It then runs underground for the remainder of its course, first around the E side of Coul House Hotel and then turning SW towards the W side of the main farm building at Mains of Coul where there is evidence of a wheel slot, which is now filled with concrete. The lade is marked on the 1st Edition OS survey map of 1872. Archive: FCS, Highland HER, NOSAS and RCAHMS. Funder: SCAPE

**Lochluichart**

*Watching brief*

Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services

NH 46208 56290 (centre on) A watching brief was carried out in February 2012 in a field to the NW of Coul House, where there are at least two grassy platforms, both measuring c25 x 9m. The one at NH 46021 56693 was aligned NW–SE. The one at NH 45959 56662 was aligned E–W. The other humps and bumps may be significant but could not be clearly identified. Archive: FCS, Highland HER, NOSAS and RCAHMS.

**Contin/Dornoch/Farr/Lairg/Latheron/Logie Easter/Tain/Ross and Cromarty**

**North Highland Forest District**

*Desk-based assessment and survey*

Steven Birch, Lynn Fraser and Mary Peteranna – West Coast Archaeological Services and Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services

A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 20 July – 30 August 2012 on 29 sites in the North Highland Forest District. The work was undertaken in order to update existing monument management plans with new detailed site descriptions, condition reports, fixed point photography and plans (RCAHMS Level 4) of 25 scheduled monuments and one unscheduled monument. Three additional scheduled monuments were surveyed in greater...
Recommendations were also made for the conservation management of the sites. The sites visited and surveyed were:

- NH 728 784 (SAM 4760) Provost’s Well homestead and enclosure
- NC 688 348 (SAM 2513) Noc na h’Iolaire hut circles and clearance cairns
- NC 557 027 (SAM 1784) Ruim Baile Fuir stone circle, cairns, hut circles and enclosure
- NC 679 390 (SAM 1779) Lach an Righ stone circle
- NC 600 149 (SAM 5401) Loch Beag na Fuaralachd prehistoric settlement
- NC 623 139 (SAM 5084) Achadh nan Eun shielings
- NC 597 149 (SAM 5081) Loch Beag na Fuaralachd cairn and shielings
- ND 212 372 (SAM 573) Rumster Broch
- NH 786 942 (SAM 5484) Glen Cottage long cairn
- ND 205 374 (SAM 550) Golsary Broch
- NC 602 146 (SAM 5159) Loch Beag na Fuaralachd shielings
- NH 730 798 (SAM 4752) Carn Liath long cairn
- NH 731 786 (SAM 4743) Provost’s Well hut circles and field system
- NC 689 392 (SAM 2517) Meall a Choire Bhuidhe hut circles
- NH 772 926 (SAM 5573) Proncy hut circle
- NC 696 334 (SAM 2519) Cnoc Airigh an Leathaid hut circles
- NH 681 942 (SAM 4505) Creagan Reamhan farmstead, kiln and fields
- NH 728 767 (SAM 2916) Scotsburn Wood cairn
- NH 747 780 (SAM 3129) Lamington Park cairn
- NH 734 834 (SAM 4763) Redburn Cottage long cairn
- NH 396 628 (SAM 2720) Little Garve Bridge
- NC 604 124 (SAM 5161) Meall Meadhonach sheepfold
- NC 608 112 (SAM 4560) Meall Meadhonach hut circles, field system and shielings
- NC 687 370 (SAM 2514) Cnoc na Gammha hut circles, burnt mound and clearance cairns
- NC 619 124 (SAM 5093) Meall Meadhonach settlement and shielings
- NH 782 944 (SAM 1885) Skelbo Wood Broch
- NC 591 103 (SAM 1829) Altbreck Broch
- NC 592 102 (SAM 5563) Altbreck homestead
- NC 571 067 Ferry Wood Broch

Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Mary Peteranna and John Wombell – West Coast Archaeological Services
NH 3918 6274 to NH 4868 5751 A watching brief was carried out 11 August – 10 October 2011 during work associated with the construction of a new water main. A desk-based assessment and walkover survey had been undertaken in 2010 (DES 2010, 91); however, last minute changes to the planned construction required adjustments to the mitigation measures and rescue recording of a recently identified portion of 18th-century Caulfeild military road.

A walkover survey was carried out on a 1.4km stretch of the military road SE of the forest gate near Strathgarve Lodge, finishing at NH 41315 60008. A total of 20 actual and probable water crossings were identified, 7 of which were stone box culverts (Features 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 14, 15). Due to time restrictions only two culverts were partially excavated and sectioned, and only one complete road section, at NH 41030 60254, was excavated.

The military road surface consisted of several layers of compacted stony clay moraine with revetment boulders forming a downslope edge. The section showed how the road was constructed using the white stony moraine, known in the Highlands as ‘mountain clay’, which formed a solid and durable road providing good drainage. This section of Caulfeild military road demonstrated the quality of this natural road building material.

Additionally, at the Strathpeffer end of the pipeline, two boundary features located in Blackmuir Wood, an earth bank with ditch and a dry stone wall, were recorded. The other boundary features in Strath Garve that were crossed with the mole plough left no visible sections to record.

Funder: Scottish Water Solutions
Scatwell Lodge
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 3992 5618 to NH 3846 5494 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out in advance of the construction of a hydro-electric scheme for Scatwell Lodge. The construction work consisted of the renovation of Loch a’Mhullinn dam, construction of a powerhouse, construction of a pipeline beneath the existing vehicle track to the powerhouse and outfall, and a diversion to Allt nam Ballach. Although no new archaeological sites were recorded during the survey on 6 August 2012, two known sites were recorded: the Victorian Loch a’Mhullinn dam (NH 3992 5618) and the old kennels at Scatwell Lodge.
Funder: Green Cat Renewables

Denvot and Dunlichity
Gorthleck Route Diversion, Dores
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services
NH 55484 19603 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 9–22 July 2012 in advance of the construction of a water main between Newlands (NH 56832 22848) and Wester Abercalder (NH 55484 19603) to the S of Dores. The desk-based assessment identified a wide range of sites in the landscape surrounding the development, including a crannog, farmsteads and townships. Post-medieval settlement remains relating to some of these sites were identified and recorded during the survey. The survey identified several new sites including four bridges, an enclosure, turf and stone-built structures, a standing complex, boundary dykes and a track. The four bridges are probably associated with the access track leading past Farraline House to the settlements at Farraline, Balnoe and Ballindalloch. Two of the bridges now carry the metalled road to Farraline House and may have been modified for this purpose, but it appears that the track originally took a route closer to the loch shore and two of the bridges are still located on this former access route.
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Cromarty

Navity Cottages, Newton Farm
Watching brief
Alison McCaig – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NH 77449 65020 A watching brief was carried out in November 2011 during groundwork associated with the construction of two wind turbines and a control room on land to the W of Navity Cottages. No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.
Funder: Green Cat Renewables

Croy and Dalcross

Culloden
Metal detector survey and watching brief
Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NH 744 458 (centred on) A metal detector survey and watching brief were carried out 21 May – 11 October 2012 prior to the construction of footpaths to the Culloden Battlefield. The areas investigated were inside the inventory boundary for the Battle of Culloden or on its periphery (N area of Footpath 1 and W area of Footpath 4).
Footpath 1, which crosses a field, is bounded by the Edgemoor Park Road to its E, by fields to its W and S and houses to its N. Footpath 2, which is in two sections (A and B), is located to the SE of Footpath 1, and is bounded by fields and wood to its S and E, by Edgemoor Park Road to its W and Braehill Farm to its N. Area A is a pasture field and Area B is coniferous woodland. Footpath 3, a road verge, is located around Cumberland’s Stone just S of the B9006 road. Footpath 4 is defined by the Westhill Farm to its S, by the B9006 to its N, Bayview Farm to its E and a farm track to its W. Some of this area is currently under pasture and the rest is a road verge. Footpath 5, a road verge, is located on the E side of the access road to the Culloden Visitor Centre.
The survey covered an area of 5735m2 in 2m wide transects. Although a number of objects were recovered, all were modern. A watching brief carried out during the construction of a drain next to Old Leanach Cottage recorded no finds or features of archaeological significance.
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Loch a’Mhullinn dam W face, facing SE

Keas Cottage, Spinningdale
Excavation
Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NH 6754 8934 A rescue excavation was carried out 28 September – 2 October 2011 under the Historic Scotland human remains call-out contract. While constructing a septic tank the cottage owner and the digger driver discovered an undisturbed short cist. The excavation revealed a complete crouched skeleton and a ceramic vessel.
Funder: Historic Scotland

Crich
Daviot and Dunlichity/Dores

Aberarder Estate
Survey Stuart Farrell
A desktop and walkover survey was undertaken in September 2012 on a number of proposed areas of forestry. The work recorded the following unrecorded sites:

- NH 62793 24518 A wall aligned E–W built of large boulders runs to NH 62842 24572; thereafter it continues with no sign of stone and ends NW at NH 62777 24563. It has a natural gully/former burn on its S side, possibly a former field boundary.
- NH 62926 24514 A possible platform.
- NH 62894 24492 A possible structure.
- NH 62905 24482 A possible clearance cairn.
- NH 60123 25922 A possible cairn, 5.6 x 4.5m x 1m high.
- NH 60088 25788 A building measuring 11.2 x 4.5m with walls 0.8m thick and 0.6m high. A second structure to S of main building at NH 60096 25772 is aligned NNW–SSE and measures 5 x 2.5m with walls up to 0.9m wide and 0.2m high.
- NH 60245 25593 A possible rectangular structure, highly denuded, aligned NNW–SSE and measuring 6.4 x 3.6m. A possible length of field wall runs to NW for c10m.
- NH 60149 25741 A possible very denuded wall, aligned NNW–SSE, up to 0.3m high and built of large boulders ends at NW at NH 60130 25820.
- NH 60564 25087 to NH 60575 25094 ending at NH 60587 25095 A wall of large boulders in area of former river course may be a field boundary at the edge of wet ground. Another stretch of denuded wall built of very large boulders runs NH 6546 25095 to NH 60528 25132.
- NH 60736 24495 A rectangular house aligned NNE–SSW with part of an enclosing wall to W. It measures 8.5 x 5.5m with walls up to 0.6m wide and 0.2m high, with no sign of an entrance.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS Funder: Fountains Forestry Ltd for Aberarder Estate

Dingwall

Cromartie Memorial Car Park – Dingwall Thing Project
Excavation and survey Oliver JT O’Grady – OJT Heritage
NH 54981 58916 A trial excavation was undertaken 11–17 September 2012 in the car park on the N side of Dingwall town centre. The work was carried out as part of a collaborative community dissemination event supported by Highland Council. This contributed to the Thing Project Northern Periphery Programme and Dingwall Thing Project.

Prior to 1947 the site was the location of a large earth mound, known from at least the 16th century as the Moothill (‘hill of assembly’), and subsequently adapted as a burial memorial for the First Earl of Cromartie in 1714. The excavation aimed to test the veracity of a radar survey undertaken in 2011 (DES 2011, 103). Cathy MacIver and RoCAS were also commissioned to undertake a topographic survey and GPS recording of the excavation.

A 20 x 2m trench was dug across the N side of the car park, extending from a centrally located memorial wall to the car park boundary. A possible ditch was identified as an estuary inlet which contained successive layers of mud and sand >2m deep. This suggested that the mound was originally located on a small natural promontory or island. The mound had been truncated by levelling for the car park in the 20th century. Exposure of the mound’s core showed it to be composed of natural clays cut by the wall of an adjacent memorial garden. At the N edge of the mound a series of truncated silt and clay layers confirmed that the monument was partially man-made. These deposits were cut by the foundations of a mortared sandstone wall. The wall was the remains of a rectangular enclosure and probably part of a mausoleum constructed on the mound in 1714. Medieval pottery and iron objects were recovered from the outer slope of the mound’s edge. A flint core and fragment of wood were recovered from the lower deposits of the estuarine mud. Several charcoal deposits were taken for radiocarbon dating of the mound, as were bulk soil and micromorphology samples. Volunteers participated in the excavation and guided tours were provided for local school pupils.

Archive: Highland Council and RCAHMS (intended) Funder: Dingwall History Society, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Hunter Archaeological Trust, Strathmartine Trust, The Highland Council and Thing Project

Volunteers help out with excavation at Dingwall

Dores

Easterton of Duntelchaig
Survey Stuart Farrell
NH 63725 32650 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were carried out in January 2012 prior to the proposed construction of a workshop/garage on an area NW of a cairn field (NH63SW 42 and 43). The work recorded a single clearance cairn at NH 63716 32673, to the NW of the development, in an area of former grazing. The area had been studied previously in 2005 (DES 2005, 79) by the author for a new road.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS Funder: Mrs F Berry

Easterton of Duntelchaig
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 63823 32729 A desk-based assessment and walkover
Highland

survey were carried out on 21 February 2012 on land E of Braewood at Easterton of Duntelchaig, in advance of the construction of wind turbines and other future development. The work aimed to establish the nature, extent and condition of any archaeological remains and to make recommendations for their protection and management. The survey identified 27 sites, 8 previously unrecorded, including post-medieval buildings and boundary walls, and prehistoric clearance cairns.

Archive: RoCAS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: Experience 4x4

West Torbreck
Excavation
Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NH 64149 40441 A rescue excavation was undertaken 19–23 March 2012 under the terms of the Historic Scotland human remains call-off contract. The site consisted of a recently discovered prehistoric burial cist, which contained human remains and several artefacts, including a ceramic vessel and lithic fragments.

Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Whitefield
Walkover survey
Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 5553 2870 A walkover survey was carried out on 10 January 2012 at Whitefield on a small area to the S of Loch Ness in advance of tree felling work. The work was instigated after an unrecorded stone-built dyke was noted by Forestry Commission workers. The survey recorded a house, a bothy/bye, a track and two boundary dykes.

Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Edderton/Kilmorack/Kiltarlity and Convinth

Beauly to Denny 400kv Overhead Line and Western Isles Converter Station
Evaluation
Heather James – Northlight Heritage
A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 19–26 June 2012 as part of Scottish and Southern Energy’s Western Isles Connection programme.

NH 5050 4470 Beauty Converter Station (4004161) A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken at Balblair Wood, near Beauly on the site of a proposed converter station. The work focused on six features identified during a walkover survey. The features were broadly similar in appearance to other cairn and hut circle features seen in Balblair Wood. No direct dating evidence was recovered but the features are thought to reflect some form of prehistoric occupation of the site. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in trenches opened in the areas between and around the visible features.

NH 4862 4313 Tower BF7 (4011161) A watching brief during topsoil stripping at Fanellan, near Beauly, identified the remains of a circular structure, consisting of an outer ditch and an inner ring of postholes, along with associated features, including a central hearth and two pits containing a large amount of burnt bone. All of the features were fully excavated and sampled, finds of pottery and lithics were also recovered.

NN 6462 8619 Tower FT119 (4020161) An evaluation was undertaken at a tower compound on a mound SW of the proposed tower. The mound had been identified during a walkover survey on 13–14 March 2012. The hand excavation of an 18m² trench established that the mound was a natural feature consisting of a silty sand with frequent sub-rounded stones.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy Ltd/Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc

Farr

Cracknie Souterrain
Survey
Graeme Cavers and Gemma Hudson – AOC Archaeology Group
NC 6655 5092 A 3D survey of the souterrain at Cracknie, near Tongue, was carried out on 21 February 2012 using laser scanning. Detailed stone-by-stone elevations, a reflected capstone plan and cross sections were produced.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Farr, Bettyhill
Excavation
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NC 71797 62344 A rescue excavation was carried out 11–12 October 2012 under the provisions of the Historic Scotland human remains call-off contract. Disarticulated remains had been buried in a sand dune that had collapsed due to burrowing and wind erosion. The incomplete skeletal remains recovered appear to represent a single inhumation, although no archaeological contexts associated with the burial could be discerned.

Archive: Highland Council HER and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Gob Mor
Walkover survey
Catherine Dagg

NH 4829 4278 Tower BF8 (4010161) The excavations in this area recorded a number of negative features but no artefacts. A scatter of pits and a possible structure/shelter in the W part of the area were all fully excavated and sampled.

Gob Mor, eastern set stone with the township of Grummore in the background
NC 60313 36551 and NC 58199 36272 A walkover survey was carried out 10–11 July 2012 in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. The survey located two set stones to the W of the important pre-clearance settlement of Grummore in Strathnaver. The first stone (NC 60313 36551) is adjacent to a group of prehistoric field clearance mounds. The stone which measured 1.1m high by 160mm wide and 80mm thick is set into the N side of a low mound which may be field clearance. Three large packing stones are visible. The second stone (NC 58199 36272) which measured 0.95m high is located on high ground fairly close to prehistoric hut circles and field systems. The parent rock outcrop from which this stone is likely to have been prised is located 8m to the NW. The function of these two stones is unclear, but they are presumed to be some form of land boundary or ownership markers.

Archive: HCAU
Funder: Bowlt’s, Barnhill, Pluscarden

Farr/Halkirk

North Sutherland Woods

Survey
Stuart Farrell

A desktop survey was conducted as part of a management plan for a c8000ha area of existing forestry in North Sutherland and West Caithness. The following unrecorded archaeological sites were noted:

NC 8055 5168 Sheepfold
NC 8197 5897 Cairn
NC 8253 5924 Field system (possible)
NC 7935 4896 Farmstead
NC 7983 5004 Sheepfold
NC 8261 6027 Farmstead
NC 93865 47557 Sheepfold

Report: RCAHMS
Funder: Fountains Forestry Ltd

Gairloch

Loch Maree
Watching brief
Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NG 8614 7909 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out 5–31 October 2011 on work associated with the replacement of a mains water pipe. There was no disturbance to known archaeological sites and no new finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Report: Highland HER
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Glenelg

Airor, Knoydart

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services
NG 72000 05500 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 5–10 September 2012 in advance of a new native woodland planting scheme in the vicinity of Airor on the central W coast of the Knoydart Peninsula. The assessment established that there are significant post-medieval settlement remains associated with the settlements at Airor and Allt Croit an T-Saoir, along with other post-medieval structures identified during a previous survey along Airor Burn. The 2012 survey recorded a significant number of new sites including settlement remains in the form of townships and farmsteads, shielings, enclosures, field dykes and areas of rig and furrow cultivation.

Archive: Highland HER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: Knoydart Foundation

Dun Troddan

Survey
Tanja Romankiewicz and Ian Ralston – University of Edinburgh
NG 83400 17244 In 1920 AO Curle discovered what he described as the first clear evidence for an internal poststring within a broch

Profile of the broch interior and entrance passage as recorded in 2012, superimposed onto Curle’s section published in 1921
(We are grateful to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for permission to reproduce AO Curle’s section, 1921, Fig 3)
Inverness during Phase 4 of work. A total of 64 features were excavated, all of which appeared to be related to past agricultural activity. A total of 54 field drains, the remains of shallow plough marks, one amorphous pit/ditch and two isolated pits were recorded in the site compound area and a third isolated pit was excavated at the E end of the channel. A dry stone dyke bordering the NE side of the main area was partially removed prior to the watching brief and an earth/stone bank and ditch, which was dismantled during the evaluation, was also recorded.

The field drains consisted of two main types. Soil/stone filled trenches, c.0.3m wide, containing 0.1m diameter ceramic pipes, and stone-filled trenches, 0.6-1.1m wide, most 0.9-1.0m wide. The majority of the field drains were oriented NW–SE. The amorphous pit and three isolated pits were excavated but they proved to be shallow and their function remains unclear. A selection of glass and pottery fragments was recovered from the topsoil.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: RJ Macleod

Knocknagael Farm
Photographic survey and evaluation
Stuart Mitchell and Leigh A Garst – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NN 6591 4077 A survey and evaluation were carried out in November 2011 at Knocknagael Farm prior to development work. A photographic survey was undertaken of the existing standing buildings on the farmstead. A trial trenching evaluation covering 693m², 7% of the available development area, recorded an isolated shallow pit c.0.68m in diameter and 0.16m deep, filled with black silt which contained several fire-cracked stones.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS
Funder: The Scottish Government

Kilmonivaig
Corrour Old Lodge
Survey
Hugh P Dinwoodie – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society (EAFS)
NN 4080 6480 Five members of EAFS made further measurements at Corrour Old Lodge on 9 May 2012.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)

Blar Mhor, Banavie
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NN 2122 7764 A watching brief was undertaken 29 August – 10 October 2012 during topsoil stripping from a large area of peat on the site of a new police headquarters. Topsoil stripping of the areas for a haulage road and borrow pits to the N of the site was also monitored. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Northern Constabulary

Inverlochy Castle
Desk-based assessment and metal detector survey
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NN 118 752 (centred on) A desk-based assessment and metal detector survey were carried out, 25–28 June 2012, along the route of a power line through battlefield sites by Inverlochy Castle. The work was carried out in advance of the construction of a new substation at Inverlochy substation and the laying of a cable at Blar Mhor, and aimed to assess their potential impact upon the sites of two battles (1431 and 1645). A c.50m long by 5m wide corridor was surveyed across the battlefield. A range of modern finds was recovered, including cans, coins and fragments that were probably from farm machinery and cars.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: SSE
Keppoch, Roybridge
Metal detector survey and watching brief
Alan Duffy and Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NN 2265 7831 – NN 2279 7821 and NN 2274 7828 A metal detector survey and watching brief were carried out 7–28 February 2012 during ground-breaking work associated with the construction of a hydro-electric scheme and associated infrastructure at Coillie Diobhain, Keppoch. The area was considered sensitive due to its proximity to the site of the Battle of Mulroy (1688). No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Green Highland Renewables

Kilmorack

Beauly Priory
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
NH 5271 4646 A watching brief was carried out on 30 May 2012 during the excavation of a trench for a new information board. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

Kilmuir
to Kilmaluag water main and treatment works
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services
NG 39625 68668 to NG 42954 72901 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out in advance of the construction of a new water treatment works at Kilmuir and along the proposed line of a new water main between Kilmuir and Kilmaluag. The assessment identified a wide range of sites within the immediate landscape surrounding the proposed works, including a prehistoric hut circle, souterrain and post-medieval settlement remains. The survey identified a significant number of new sites including a prehistoric hut circle, a small prehistoric kerbed cairn, a possible souterrain, farmsteads, shielings, turf and stone dykes, and a track.
The new sites of prehistoric age add to similar, contemporary sites within the wider landscapes of the Trotternish Peninsula, indicating that this was an important area for settlement during this time. However, many of the sites recorded relate to post-medieval settlement and transhumance activities, including the associated field boundaries, enclosures and areas of relic rig and furrow cultivation.
Archive: Highland HER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

Kiltarlity and Convinth

Belladrum
Excavation
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NH 517 421 A scatter of Roman and medieval silver coins was discovered by Eric Soane during metal detecting in 2009. A magnetometry survey of the area was undertaken in November 2010 by Tessa Poller of Glasgow University, but proved unproductive due to modern metal debris in the soil. An excavation undertaken 11–18 October 2012 by NMS has recovered the remainder of the coins and provided some context for them. The coins represent two separate hoards, separated by 1200 years but buried a few metres from one another. A medieval hoard of twenty 14th-century coins, and a hoard of 36 Roman denarii, the latest coins of mid-2nd-century date. Both had been disturbed by later activity and...
scattered by cultivation. A field wall and traces of an abutting sub-rectangular structure, as yet undated, were found in the area of the Roman coins, and what may be a vestigial cobbled surface near the medieval ones. Evaluation trenching on slightly higher ground just S of the hoards revealed a cobbled surface with a spread of cultural material over it, including later prehistoric pottery and iron working slag. This suggests the Roman hoard is connected to an Iron Age settlement site. Funders: Inverness Field Club and National Museums Scotland

**Glebe Farm, Kiltarlity**

**Evaluation**

*Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd*

NH 50902 41620 A 10% evaluation was carried out in May 2012 on a proposed housing development at Glebe Farm. Although remains of Neolithic date have been recorded nearby, this work only recorded ditches and furrows relating to post-medieval/modern agricultural activity. Archive: RCAHMS  
Funder: Lifestyle Properties

**Kiltearn**

**Delve into the Past**

**Excavation**

Lisa Brown, Lynne McKeggie and Lachlan McKeggie – Archaeology for Communities in the Highlands

NH 5888 6393 The mound at Foulis was originally selected for excavation during the Road through Ross-shire and Pathways into the Past Projects, which have been investigating possible early routeways through Easter Ross and potential associated sites (*DES* 2010, 81 and *DES* 2011, 92–93 and 108). A programme of survey and excavation undertaken in July 2011 on the possible motte at Foulis and a nearby field (*DES* 2011, 110), recorded a series of stony spreads that possibly related to a structure and a ditch fill.

A geophysical survey of the area was carried out in June 2012 by Tessa Poller of Glasgow University, and the data used to target the 2012 excavations on specific features on the mound and in the area of the possible early routeway.

Trench 3 was situated over a large positive anomaly on the mound. The excavation recorded a layer of angular stones, c80–100mm in size, which also contained flecks of charcoal. This was underlain by a very dark, organic, charcoal-rich deposit containing animal bone (including large mandible fragments) and larger lumps of charcoal. This deposit was the probable source of the positive reading on the geophysical survey. Samples were collected but no further excavation took place. Notable finds from this trench included slag and a fragment of redeposited pottery of uncertain date. Radiocarbon dates have been obtained from three charcoal samples in the charcoal spread giving a date range of: 1906 ± 29 (AD 15–73); 1900 ± 26 (AD 24–76); and 1890 ± 29 (AD 31–89). Two samples of bone provided a date range of: 1874 ± 29 (AD 47–105) and 1832 ± 29 (AD 89–145). This sets the deposit on the mound firmly in the Iron Age.

Trench 4 was located in a field to the SW of Trench 3 and positioned to examine the ‘Old Coach Road’ identified on the geophysical survey. The excavation provided evidence of the road surface, which was c2.9m wide, and for associated ditches. The ditch to the W of the road was slightly wider and deeper, c1.0–1.2m wide by 0.3m deep, than the E ditch, which measured c1m wide by c0.2m deep. Notable finds included glass and glazed pottery and a 18th/19th-century copper alloy button.

Trench 1 from the 2011 season was reopened and a further investigation was carried out on the stone dump. The excavation found that the stones did not sit in a cut and were therefore unlikely to be defensive or part of a drainage ditch. It is considered likely that this single dump of stones is related to landscaping of the mound.

One of the main aims of the Delve Projects was to provide archaeological excavation and post-exavigation training experience for people in the Highlands. The 2012 season was no exception with excavation, survey and recording work undertaken by local community volunteers. Archive: ARCH, Highland HER and RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund and European Community Highland LEADER

**Sworddale Hill, Evanton**

**Survey**

*Douglas Scott*

NH 577 661 (centred on) On Swordale Hill near Evanton in Easter-Ross are the positions of six known cup-marked stones, (1, 2, 8, 17, and 28). There is also an Orkney-Cromarty cairn on the hill, and another Orkney-Cromarty cairn 1 km to the NE. Both cairns are described in Henshall and Ritchie (2001). In 1986 the author and the late Bob Gourlay, then Highland Regional Archaeologist, found and photographed a further 14 cup-marked stones on the hill, which were later scheduled. The farmer, Mr Campbell, found a large cup-marked slab while ploughing in c1985, and said that he had seen another in the rough ground on the fields northern fence line. This area was searched but nothing was found. In 2011, the author found nine other cup-marked stones on the hill; bringing the total to 28. A c40m wide ditched henge with a SE entrance was also found to the W of the cup-marked area. Near the henge’s centre there is a cup-marked boulder next to a small standing stone. In the field below the henge there is a c2.5m long stone which has two grooves next to a deep, stone axe shaped depression. It is possible that this is a fallen standing stone. From the cup marks, there are wide views out over the...
Cromarty Firth, the Black Isle. The locations of the cup marks are listed below.

NH 57436 65904 Stone 1 has 12 cup marks on its S side and is likely to have been moved. This stone is easy to find among the trees just above the first bend in the road leading up to the top of Druim Mor.

NH 57644 65943 Stone 2 has been built into the base of a field wall on the lower part of the ridge.

NH 5753 6615 Stone 3 is a boulder lying at the base of the small standing stone at the centre of the henge. It is carved with c12 cup marks and has a deep hole on its upper surface. There is also a flat axe shape on the boulder, but it is not known if this is artificial.

The largest group of cup-marked rocks, Stones 4-27, are located within a 100 x 200m area, and while grid references are shown, the cup marks can be found by following the approximate distance and true N bearing from each stone in turn. From the corner of the wall to the left of the field gate, Stone 4 at NH 5719 66160, is 50m away at c86°. This c1m roundish flat stone has a faint shallow cup mark at its centre and there may be two worn cup marks on its S side.

NH 57119 66160 Stone 5 is 21m away at 95°, and it is a rough gritty c2m wide slab with c30 cup marks on its flat top. Some of the cup marks form rows which are aligned NW-SE.

From Stone 5, Stones 6 and 7 might be natural and are easy to find as they are in a line c5m to the NW of each other. Stone 6 is a small rounded stone and has a possible cup mark on its top. Stone 7 is a small boulder and also has a possible shallow cup mark on its top.

NH 57708 66189 Stone 8 is about 5m to the N of Stone 7. It is partially grass covered and it has five cup marks, two of which are faint.

NH 57765 66159 Stone 9 is 48m away at 90°. It is a large white stone located on a low mound and has a shallow cup mark on its top. When found the author expressed doubts that it was a cup mark, but Bob was sure that it was genuine.

NH 57768 66245 Stone 10 lies outside the scheduled area, but is easy to find across the fence 53m away to the N and a short distance W of some large boulders. It is a large flattish grass covered boulder and it has three large cup marks on its flat exposed top. To find Stone 11, go back to Stone 9.

NH 57765 66180 Stone 11 is located 12m away from Stone 9 at 140°. It is a 1.25m long E-W aligned stone and is carved with one shallow cup mark. From Stone 11, Stones 12 and 13 are located 12m away at c80° a few metres N-S of each other and they are covered with grass.

NH 57788 66190 Stone 12 has 12 worn cup marks one of which is perhaps surrounded by a faint ring.

NH 57788 66190 Stone 13 has three cup marks, which seem to mimic the triangular shape of the stone.

NH 57782 66189 Stone 14 is 11m away at 60° and it has seven cup marks. There are also some angled grooves on its N edge, but these are probably natural.

NH 57791 66197 Stone 15 is situated c11m away at 40°, and it has c11 worn cup marks. Three cup marks can also be seen on the longer of two natural cross-shaped cracks which are aligned NW and SE. It is possible that these cup marks were deliberately placed on the ‘cross’ because of its distinct shape.

NH 57781 66189 Stone 16 is 25m away at 104° and is a c2.5m sandstone slab carved with 32 faint ringed cup marks, some of which in low angle light can be seen to have radial grooves which connect to a long lower crack. From Stone 16 the remains of the Orkney-Cromarty passage cairn are 67m away at 140°, NH 578 661.

Plan showing the location of the Swordale cup-marked stones
NH 57860 66138 Stone 17 is located 20m to the SW of the passage cairn at 218°. It has ten cup marks on its top with six of these forming an arc open to the SW.

NH 57823 66143 Stone 18 is located 37m away at 278° and appears to have two faint cup marks on its top. However, it is possible that these are natural. The stone lies on a low linear mound 4m from the E end of a ruined farmstead and it might have been moved.

NH 57763 66130 Stone 19 is a large boulder located 56m away at 252° and there are nine cup marks on its flat E edge.

NH 57777 66122 Stone 20 is located 14m away, a short distance downhill amongst some boulders at 122°. It has one cup mark on its upper side and it is likely that it and the boulders are field clearance.

NH 57758 66101 Stone 21 is a 1m squared boulder located 18m away at 223° and its flat top is carved with three faint cup marks.

NH 57777 66102 Stone 22 and 23 are 27m downhill at 144°. Stone 22 has a line of seven cup marks, one of which is very faint and appears to have been broken off, suggesting that the outer part of the rock has sheared away.

NH 57777 66093 Stone 23 is a few metres downhill from Stone 22 and appears to have about ten worn cup marks along its edge. To find Stone 24 go back uphill to Stone 21.

NH 57739 66102 Stone 24 is 20m away at 264° and has three cup marks one of which is very worn.

NH 57711 66100 Stone 25 is 25m away at 262° and while it is almost flush with the ground it can be seen from Stone 24. It has four faint cup marks, one of which has a faint ring and radial groove, which is generally aligned to the SE. Stones 26 and 27 are situated a short distance uphill.

NH 57709 66107 Stone 26 has two deep cup marks. The N one has a faint curved radial groove and may be surrounded by worn rings, but these could be natural.

NH 57702 66107 Stone 27 has four cup marks on its upper part.

The finding of up to 28 cup-marked rocks on Swordale Hill makes this the largest concentration of cup-marked stones so far found in the N of Scotland. This, along with the location of two Orkney-Cromarty passage cairns and a possible henge, also suggests that this was one of the most important ritual sites in the area during the Neolithic or Bronze Age.

I would like to thank, Mr John Campbell of Drumore Farm, Mr Ian Collier of Swordale, and Mr Alpen MacDonald of Swordale Farm for their information in this survey. My special thanks to my late friends, Bob Gourlay and Dr Andrew Turnbull for their help and comments and to Roslyn Pieroni for her assistance in recording the cup marks on Swordale Hill.

A comprehensive photographic survey of these cup marks has been lodged with the RCAHMS and Highland HER and can be obtained from the author.

Kingussie and Insh

Keeper’s House, Pitmain Estate
Standing building recording
Stuart Farrell

NH 74873 02940 A standing building survey was undertaken in January 2012 on the Keeper’s Lodge (NH70SW 2) prior to its redevelopment. The lodge had been built in 1913 to an odd design of brick with a rounded corrugated iron roof with a lattice wooden frame. However, due to major alterations over the course of its lifetime, few original features remained.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS
Funder: Smiths Gore Ltd

Manse Road, Kingussie
Evaluation
Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 76135 00720 A trial trenching evaluation was carried out 16–25 January 2012 in advance of the construction of four houses on land next to Manse Road. The area was considered sensitive due to its proximity to St Columba’s Church. A total of seven trenches were excavated, covering 15% of the area, and three features recorded: a post-medieval, truncated pit; a stone wall-footing from an experimental vernacular building constructed by the Kingussie Folk Museum in the early 1980s; and a stone spread of indeterminate function.

Archive: RoCAS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: The Highland Council

Kintail

Camusluinie
Survey
Stuart Farrell

NG 941 287 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were undertaken in September 2012 on an area above Camusluinie Township. Work revealed the following unrecorded sites:

NG 94313 29201 Hut circle
NG 9442 2892 Pens
NG 94441 28556 Structure
NG 9477 2837 Byre (NG92NW 2)

The following sites were noted within the township head dyke:
NG 94478 28453 Rectangular house with later lamb pens to W corner and another possible one to SE corner
NG 94487 28463 Possible rectangular structure
NG 94534 28526 U-shaped wall with later large clearance cairn atop and maybe overlying an enclosure with a 12m long by 0.5m high and wide wall
NG 94535 28558 Clearance cairn
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Laggan

Glenshero Estate, Laggan
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services
NN 56009 95007 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out 13–25 April 2012 in advance of a woodland establishment scheme. The work was undertaken to assess the nature and extent of any archaeology likely to be affected by the scheme and to inform recommendations for the protection and management of any sites. The survey identified 19 new and unrecorded sites, including enclosures, farmsteads, turf and stone dykes and tracks relating to post-medieval settlement in the area. This is consistent with the evidence from Roy’s Military Map showing the ground above the N bank of the Spey to be well settled and cultivated.
Archive: Highland HER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: Glenshero Estate and Bidwells

Latheron

Braemore Diamond Jubilee Woods
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
ND 0705 3012 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were carried out, on 22 July 2012, in advance of a new native woodland planting scheme at Braemore. The survey recorded a significant number of new archaeological sites including a prehistoric hut circle, post-medieval buildings, boundary dykes, burn crossings and clearance cairns. The assessment indicated that the majority of the poorly preserved post-medieval settlement structures identified during the survey had not been previously recorded. The prehistoric site, a probable hut circle, formed part of the wider landscape of prehistoric settlement in the area and was overlain by later post-medieval structures.
Funder: Crosscut Forestry

Site 8 – collapsed stone slab-built bridge across a small burn on the S side of Berriedale Water

Upper Smerral, Latheron
Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
ND 1636 3415 A desk-based assessment, followed by a walkover survey on 17 October 2012, were undertaken in advance of the installation of three wind turbines at Upper Smerral. The assessment identified a substantial number of prehistoric and post-medieval monuments and settlement sites, including scheduled monuments, in the surrounding landscape. One new archaeological site was recorded: a small cairn that is unlikely to be directly affected by the development.
Funder: Green Cat Renewables

Lochbroom

Allt Airigh nan Coimheach
Survey
Meryl Marshall
NH 2565 7626 (centred on) A programme of survey and recording was carried out July – August 2012. This site has previously been recorded and described as a shieling site of up to 11 structures. A total of 17 structures were identified on this occasion.
Shielings The remains of nine, possibly ten shielings, are visible on the E side of the burn 400m to the NNE of Lochdrum Farmstead. The main group of eight are close together on a natural platform; at least one and possibly two shielings (previously unrecorded) are 400m to the N. All are seen as grassy mounds or platforms. Most have shallow dished centres and are 6–9m long and 4–6m wide overall.
Buildings/possible illicit stills Close to the above shielings two small stone-built rectangular structures are situated one on either side of the burn. Both are tucked under a steep slope within 3m of the burn.
Buildings/possible shielings or byres The stone footings of five buildings are visible to the E of the main shieling site, at a lower level and on the S side of a small burn. All are rectangular and on a SE–NW alignment, roughly 8 x 4–5m overall. They are all stone-built, three have squared corners and the eastern two have rounded corners.
Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS
Funder: Crosscut Forestry

Langwell

Survey
Stuart Farrell
NC 168 021 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were undertaken on 27 November 2011 for a 30ha area of proposed birch woodland to the E of the dun of An Dun (NC10SE 1). The work revealed a number of unrecorded features including:
NC 1666 0200 (centred on) a field system with five separate clearance cairns and a small section of field wall
NC 16774 01964 Two possible clearance cairns
NC 16838 02031 Pen
There was no evidence to indicate if these sites relate to the dun or the later post-medieval settlement that lies adjacent to the dun to the west.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS
Funder: McGlade Forestry Ltd

Moine Thorranach
Survey
Meryl Marshall
NH 2590 7572 (centred on) This site, which has been previously recorded as a farmstead consisting of two buildings and a wall enclosing improved ground, was surveyed in July – August 2012. The site is located on a S-facing slope 600m ENE of Lochdrum Farmstead and the two stone-built
buildings and wall to the N were in the locations previously noted. The remains of two additional buildings were recorded 100m to the W. These stone-built buildings were at a lower level and in a sheltered position on the W side of a small burn.

Archive: Highland HER and RCAHMS

Morvern

Drimnin House

Survey

Colin Martin and Paula Martin – Morvern Maritime Centre

NM 5478 5478 (boathouse) and NM 5479 5479 (cottage) A survey was undertaken on 1 May 2012 of the boat-landing facilities associated with Drimnin House. A natural creek, with the boathouse at its head, had been enhanced with a rubble-built quay. (The boathouse has been restored since our survey in 2002). This work formed part of a project examining the maritime landscape of North Argyll.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Morvern Maritime Centre

Moy and Dalarassie

Moy Estate

Walkover survey

Diane Gorman and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NH 77169 34271 A walkover survey was carried out 30 April – 3 May 2012 prior to the construction of a new wind farm on the Moy Estate. The survey identified 16 potential sites, 5 of which have been assessed and found to be natural features. The remaining 11 all appear to relate to farming or estate activities from the 19th and 20th centuries. Only two ruinous dwellings were considered to be archaeologically significant. However, neither of these sites will be affected by the construction work.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER

Funder: Carbon Free Moy Ltd

Portree

An Teampuill, Isle of Rona

Survey

Wendy Raine – ACFA

NG 61641 54357 A survey was carried out 29 September – 2 October 2012 on a small unroofed unicameral stone and shell mortared chapel. The terrace surrounding the chapel is uneven and contains several large stones, possibly grave markers. The modern graveyard to the NW contains a single gravestone. There is some evidence of a rough slipway on the rocky shore below, but no sign of the track up from the shore which is shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps. A plan and elevations were produced of the site.

Archive: RCAHMS

Dun Borodale

Survey

Graeme Cavers – AOC Archaeology Group

NG 55476 36337 A detailed survey was carried out 6–7 March 2012 on the galleried dun of Dun Borodale. Laser scanning was employed to create a detailed 3D model of the site, and traditional plans and sections were also produced.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Reay

Baillie Hill

LIDAR survey

Graeme Cavers, Andy Heald and John Barber – AOC Archaeology Group

ND 0138 6585 (centred on) A LIDAR survey was carried out in September 2011 of 85sqkm surrounding Baillie Hill. Analysis of the dataset has identified c300 unrecorded structures, including over 80 possible hut circles, over 50 ruined buildings and a large number of agricultural remains of all periods. The results of the project are being prepared for public presentation on a dedicated website.

Funder: Baillie Wind Farm Ltd

Baillie Hill

Watching brief

Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group

ND 0302 6532 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out 10 August – 26 October 2011 during groundwork associated with the construction of the Baillie Hill Wind Farm, including the bases of turbines 4, 5, 10, 18 and 21. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Baillie Wind Farm Ltd.
Dounreay Substation
Watching brief
Gary Savory – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NC 98190 66574 A watching brief was carried out October – November 2011 during soil stripping associated with the construction of a new substation. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: ASH Design + Assessment

Reay/Wick

Burn of Whilk
LiDAR survey
Graeme Cavers, Andy Heald and John Barber – AOC Archaeology Group

A palimpsest of prehistoric and historic agriculture and settlement recorded by LiDAR survey at Broubster, Caithness

High resolution terrain model of Garrywhin hillfort, produced from the Burn of Whilk LiDAR survey, showing the encircling rampart and hut-circles and cairns surrounding the site

ND 31023 41886 (centred on) A LiDAR survey of 32sqkm surrounding the Burn of Whilk Wind Farm was undertaken in February 2012. High resolution terrain models were produced from the data, and analytical hillshades produced for the identification of unrecorded archaeological sites. A total of 79 possible new sites were identified, including hut circles, burnt mounds, field enclosures and ruined buildings. A programme of ground survey is ongoing, and the results are being prepared for public release online.
Funder: RWE NPower Renewables

Rogart

Achelidh Common Grazings
Survey
Stuart Farrell
NC 633 020 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were undertaken in September 2012 for an area of proposed forestry. The work revealed the following unrecorded sites:

- NC 62273 02232 Rectangular structure
- NC 63104 01569 Enclosure
- NC 63035 01587 Structure
- NC 63234 02340 Large clearance cairn
- NC 63220 02340 Clearance cairn
- NC 63218 02364 Clearance cairn
- NC 63194 02587 Clearance cairns, lynchet (possible)

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Highland HER and RCAHMS
Funder: McGlade Forestry

Rosemarkie

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Waterworks
Watching brief and excavation
Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 73121 57093 A watching brief and excavation were carried
out 6 June – 26 July 2012 during the upgrade of the Fortrose and Rosemarkie Waterworks on land W of Greenside Farm. A total of 37 features were recorded, the majority of which were prehistoric, with some evidence of medieval activity. A Bronze Age cremation cemetery yielded an inverted urn and an upright urn, both of which contained cremated material. A copper or bronze pin was found beneath the inverted urn. Three un-urned cremation deposits were also recorded.

A large pit, 4 x 3m and 1.5m deep, was located close to the cremation cemetery. At the base of the pit was a fire pit from which a piece of possible Neolithic pottery was recovered. There are several later burning events within the pit and pottery and burnt grain were recovered. Other shallow pits contained a combination of burnt hazelnut shell, pottery and lithics. Four large circular pits were interpreted as medieval or later.

A’Chill

A’Chill, Canna prayer stone
Kilmory Burial Ground, Rum
Desk-based assessment and survey
Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NG 3613 0366 The stone dyke surrounding the burial ground at Kilmory is deteriorating and SNH plan to carry out restoration work and install steps into the burial ground. A desk-based assessment and survey were carried out on 21 July 2012 to identify known archaeological sites within the scheduled area and to prepare a detailed plan of the Kilmory settlement. The survey also assessed the current state of preservation of the wall enclosing the burial ground and any related features. The survey has provided baseline data on the preservation of the sites and has highlighted where further archaeological work may be required during the restoration.
Archive: RoCAS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: Scottish Natural Heritage

Snizort
Glen Hinnisdal
Walkover survey
David Lynn
A walkover survey was carried out in June 2012 over the area of a possible wind farm site on the un-named W-facing ridge slope of the hill c5km S of Uig and overlooking the A87 Portree–Uig route, and which forms the N side of the entry eastwards into Glen Hinnisdal.
This is an area of geological scarps separated by pockets of badly draining peaty moorland and has various recorded abandoned crofting complexes on its lower slopes. The survey area lies above this former crofting zone (c80–110m OD) and extensive traces were found for substantial higher level field systems, two isolated crofts and two minor structures below a quarried scarp edge.
The field systems were defined within the sporadic inter-scarp pockets as amorphous patches of heavily improved but long abandoned grassy pasture. Above and beyond these several curving wall outlines criss-cross the terrain, with suggestions of several superimposed patterns and a mixture of domestic scale enclosures and more extensive land boundaries. Unravelling the full system, or systems, would require extensive surveying, but could prove a productive area of investigation.
NG 39330 58233 The first of two croft sites recorded, Structure A, consists of a croft base which lies within a large cultivated pocket, sub-ovoid in outline. The structure has been removed down to foundation level and the sub-rectangular building base measures 11m N–S and 6m W–E, with possible internal wall divisions. A maximum of ten pieces of masonry, none more than 0.3m high, are visible. There are slight traces of external features to the N, including a slight pit c1.25m diameter, which may have contained a kiln.
NG 39814 57884 The second croft site, Structure B, which is located near the convergence of some field walls and in the lee of a scarp cliff, is better preserved and has standing walls of up to 1.5m high by 1.0m wide. It consists of a sub-rectangular main building, 11m W–E and 6m N–S, with doorways in the W and E short walls. The W door leads into an 8m diameter sub-circular kitchen garden outlined by a low wall. The E door gives access to an additional room, 5m W–E, with another door in its S wall to a third room and a probable kiln. These additions are less substantially built with a probable lean-to format, and give a reversed L-plan for the full cluster which measured 16m W–E and 10m N–S. This seems to be a much more recent croft than Structure A and is likely to have been associated with the township at NG 397 756, c200m to the S.
Two minor features were noted at the base of a quarried
scarp slope overlooking a grassed pocket. Structure C at NG 39270 58159 was built against the cliff and extends out from it 6m W and measures 5m N–S. It has 1m high by 1.5m wide (including tumulus) walls and a doorway in the WSW corner. This probable shed/shelter is now partly buried by cliff tumble. Structure D at NG 39267 58167 lies immediately N of a cleft in the cliff face and is a very roughly built boulder walled pen c1.5m across. It is thought that this was a croft, designed to contain a ewe and a rejected lamb overnight. Structure C may date to a similar period as Structure B, but Structure D is likely to be a fairly recent ad hoc feature. None of features A–D would be affected by the wind farm proposals, and all lie well away from any constructional elements. They do suggest consistent use of these peripheral higher level hill slopes during the major crofting eras. Today the A87 provides an approximate boundary, with minimal proposals, and all lie well away from any constructional improvements, while the backfill deposits in general varied significantly over the length and depth of the souterrain. Several coarse pebble tools and isolated fragments of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of the souterrain while a more concentrated assemblage of Iron Age ceramics was recovered from a blocking fill at the scooped entrance to the structure. A general spread of cereal grain and other plant remains, weed seeds and nutshell were recovered from several deposits within the souterrain including possible floor levels and backfill deposits. There is no direct evidence for in situ burning within the souterrain itself and the charred debris is probably material that had either been brought into the structure via trampling during its day-to-day use, washed in, or represents low level inclusions in the backfill material dumped into the structure post-abandonment. This distribution pattern is similar to other excavated souterrains, for example at Shanzie and Ardownie, where the burnt remains do not relate to the function of the souterrain nor to any activities taking place in their interiors, but instead are probably burnt domestic debris originating from nearby features. The primary floor deposits in the souterrain have been dated to between 374 and 162calBC, while the almost complete remains of a ceramic vessel recovered from a later floor horizon possibly dates to between the 4th and 6th centuries AD.The excavation of the prehistoric features, which ended in November 2012, produced organic residues, sediment samples and small finds including ceramics and stone tools that have been subject to specialist analysis. The post-exavcation analysis of these materials is ongoing and these results will be included in a final publication.

**Stone-lined grave/cist (Feature 24)** The stone-lined grave was aligned NE–SW and consisted of a series of interlocking slabs and capping stones. The slabs forming the capping to the grave had subsided and collapsed into the chamber, allowing a sterile gravel deposit to fill the resulting voids. However, it also appeared that a capstone had been reset over the grave, overlying this infill material. The collapsed capstones had crushed two beakers (the only grave goods found in the feature), both of which had most likely been placed upright in the grave. An AOC Beaker with a pedestalled base was found at the NE end of the grave, in a roughly central position; while a second, much degraded S-shaped beaker was located at the WNW edge of the grave. The combination of the two beakers, the style of beakers, and the morphology of the cist, suggested to Alison Sheridan that this grave would be amongst the earliest of its kind in Scotland, falling between 2400–2200BC. Radiocarbon dated samples from the grave have provided dates falling between 2496 and 2281calBC. It is possible that other Early Bronze Age burials had been disturbed at the Broadford site by later prehistoric activity, as individual beaker sherds and a few fragments of cremated human bone were recovered from later Iron Age features on the site.

**Stone-lined souterrain (Feature 25)** The stone-lined souterrain, which measured 10.5m long and was aligned NW–SE, had been backfilled/closed during prehistory. The upper deposits in the structure may relate to when the lintels were robbed and removed, possibly during agricultural improvements, while the backfill deposits in general varied significantly over the length and depth of the souterrain. Several coarse pebble tools and isolated fragments of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of the souterrain while a more concentrated assemblage of Iron Age ceramics was recovered from a blocking fill at the scooped entrance to the structure.

A general spread of cereal grain and other plant remains, weed seeds and nutshell were recovered from several deposits within the souterrain including possible floor levels and backfill deposits. There is no direct evidence for in situ burning within the souterrain itself and the charred debris is probably material that had either been brought into the structure via trampling during its day-to-day use, washed in, or represents low level inclusions in the backfill material dumped into the structure post-abandonment. This distribution pattern is similar to other excavated souterrains, for example at Shanzie and Ardownie, where the burnt remains do not relate to the function of the souterrain nor to any activities taking place in their interiors, but instead are probably burnt domestic debris originating from nearby features. The primary floor deposits in the souterrain have been dated to between 374 and 162calBC, while the almost complete remains of a ceramic vessel recovered from a later floor horizon possibly dates to between the 4th and 6th centuries AD.

**Grain-drying kiln and storage pit** Samples taken from deposits associated with at least three phases of a grain-drying kiln excavated at the site contained large concentrations of charred cereal grains and some weed seeds and chaff. The grain was, as with the rest of the site, dominated by hulled barley, and there does not appear to be any significant difference in the cereal assemblages recovered from the different phases of the kiln.

Of the storage pits uncovered on the site, four (Features 26, 35, 39 and 41) were found to contain extremely large concentrations of cereal grains and other carbonised plant remains. During excavation two of these, Features 26 and 35, were observed to contain a thick compacted layer of burnt grain at the base of each pit and have been interpreted as the remains of grain storage pits. Grain storage pits are commonly discovered on Iron Age settlement sites of southern Britain and northern France, yet are very rarely uncovered on Scottish sites. The storage pits at the Broadford site contained large quantities of hulled barley with lesser quantities of wheat and oat. Only a small proportion of the plant assemblage consisted of weed seeds or chaff remains and it is likely that the grain had been fully cleaned. Cereal grains were found throughout the fills of the pits, the bulk of the charred grain from Feature 35 was recovered from the basal fills of the structure and possibly relates specifically to the use of the pit for grain storage, while the majority of grain present in Feature 26 was recovered from the upper fills and may have been dumped into the pit once it passed out of use. A thin layer of burnt grain and other burnt organic material was, however, identified at the base of this pit and this may be the remnants of the outer layer of corn-seed that had been fired to sterilise the pit.

Two other pits excavated stand out due to the concentration of cereal grain recovered from their fills. Feature 39, a shallow pit, contained thousands of carbonised cereal grains and the largest proportion of cereal chaff recovered from anywhere on the site. Given the proportion of chaff recovered it is possible that the grain was still on the ear when it was burnt. The large
quantity of grain recovered from the pit suggests that it is probably the result of one incident, possibly the debris from the destruction of a storage context or processing facility by fire, and the ruined grain had been discarded into the pit. It may be the remains of corn that has been stored in sheaves ready for further processing, such as threshing, and destined either for the corn-drying kiln or for one of the storage pits.

Feature 41, a shallow pit, contained a high concentration of barley grain, along with some oat grain. The function of this pit is unknown, yet the material in the pit is similar in composition to that recovered from the kiln complex and, although the exact origin of the material cannot be confirmed, it is possible that the assemblage may be the dumped remains of burnt grain, possibly from a conflagration event, from the corn-drying kiln. The use of the grain-drying kiln complex and the storage pits have been radiocarbon dated to between 260calBC and 40calBC.

The features discovered at this site, some of which are unique to the Scottish archaeological record, have allowed us a rare glimpse of prehistoric life and death on the island of Skye, enhancing our wider understanding of funerary, ritual and agricultural practices through time. A full report of the excavations and post-excavation analysis relating to the site will be published in 2013.

Archive: Highland HER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: NHS Highland

High Pasture Cave and Environs Project
Post-excavation analysis
Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services
NG 59400 19700 (centred on) In the 2010 entry for the High Pasture Cave site in DES (2010, 104), it was stated that we had found what we thought was the wooden remains of a bridge from a musical instrument. Specialists Graeme Lawson and John Purser have now studied the object in some detail, consulted with colleagues, and have confirmed that this is indeed the bridge from a musical instrument; the earliest yet found in Europe.

The bridge was uncovered in layers of deep ash and charcoal associated with a slab-built hearth outside the entrance to Uamh an Ard Achadh (High Pasture Cave), during excavations at the site in August 2010. A detailed examination indicated that the object had been finely crafted and warranted further research. Other charred wooden objects were recovered from the deposits in which the bridge was found, along with partially burnt human skull fragments (possibly relating to a young man), a glass bead and a clay mould.

With notches cut along the top to carry the strings, the bridge is the part of the instrument that would have transmitted the vibration of the strings to the hollow sound-box, to make it ring. Ancient music historians are particularly interested in bridges. Of all the small parts of an instrument, it is the bridge that has the most to tell us about how the player played and how the music sounded. It shows exactly how the strings lay under his or her hand. It is delicately worked from oak (Quercus sp.) and incorporates several subtle adaptations which show its orientation and position on the instrument.

The High Pasture Cave bridge would have belonged to an instrument of a type now extinct in the British Isles, which we call a lyre. Once found all over Europe and parts of Asia and Africa, lyres have always been used to accompany song. Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon determinations by Derek Hamilton at SUERC indicates deposition at the site in the second half of the 4th century calBC; almost a thousand years before the earliest known lyre-burials of SE England and the near Continent.

The excavations carried out at the site have produced evidence for a wide variety of domestic and industrial forms of activity including metalworking; while feasting, the deposition of human and animal remains, and evidence for votive deposition of domestic everyday items, questions our interpretations of such sites within the wider prehistoric landscapes of Atlantic Scotland.

Thousands of objects have been recovered and catalogued from the site during our excavations, including several rare and important finds. However, with the discovery and subsequent positive identification of the bridge from the musical instrument, we instantly knew that something quite special had been found. As the project now moves into the post-excavation and final reporting phase, we have to bring together the large corpus of information we have retrieved from the site and set the finds, including the bridge piece, into their wider context.

Archive: Highland HER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland, Highland Council, Skye and Lochalsh LEADER+, Highland 2007 Fund and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Urray

Windhill, Beauly
Evaluation
Lynn Fraser – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services
NH 5300 4813 A trial trenching evaluation was carried out on 19 September 2012 in advance of the construction of three houses on the site of a former sandpit at Windhill. The area was considered sensitive as there are a number of prehistoric sites in the vicinity and a cist was discovered adjacent to the site in 1934. A total of nine trenches, totalling 79.4m² were excavated in the areas where there was a possibility that the ground had been undisturbed by quarrying and dumping activity. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RoCAS. Report: Highland HER
Funder: Mr and Mrs Aburrow

Tarradale
Fieldwalking, survey and evaluation
Eric Grant – Tarradale Archaeological Project
NH 54 48, NH 54 49, NH 55 48 and NH 55 49 The Tarradale Archaeological Project (an approved NOSAS project) aims to investigate, record and interpret the multi-period archaeological landscape of the Tarradale area and to identify the main periods
of settlement and resource utilisation. Tarradale was formerly a parish itself, covering about 750ha of land at the W end of the Black Isle and immediately E of Muir of Ord. The area currently being studied consists of raised estuarine beaches underlying flat, high quality, agricultural land. Apart from the medieval Gilchrist Chapel and a small area of irregular mounds, few standing or surface archaeological monuments survive in an area that is intensively ploughed, although aerial photographs show cropmarks that can be interpreted as ring ditches, pits and enclosures, with one concentration of ring and square ditches suggesting the presence of a Late Iron Age/Early Historic barrow cemetery. This contrasts with the more upland pastoral and wooded landscape where there are standing monuments including chambered cairns, one of which is the Tarradale chambered cairn.

Fieldwalking in the fields to the E and W of Tarradale House early in 2012 produced 237 lithic finds, mainly flint and many of them of microlithic size. The density of finds in relation to the area covered is low and most of the lithic finds are very small and difficult to see in a soil that is derived from coarse sand and pebbles. It appears that quartz and quartzite were also being used for artefact manufacture, probably due to the shortage of flint which does not occur naturally in the area. The project steering group decided that intensive fieldwalking should be undertaken by parallel traverses spaced 1m apart, with individual lithic, early pottery and metalwork find sites plotted using GPS. This essentially meant that all the surface area was being visually scanned for artefact survival.

The majority of the lithic finds can be classified as debitage, but there are a number of reworked flakes, end scrapers and side scrapers. An analysis of their distribution has led to the preliminary identification of a number of potential ‘hot spots’. Lithic finds also included a few larger flakes as well as a tanged and barbed arrowhead, and a number of stone spindle whorls. The lithic finds have not yet undergone detailed analysis. Supervised metal detecting of the ploughsoil revealed the broken off cutting edge of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe and a lead spindle whorl.

Fieldwalking and controlled metal detecting has also provided a picture of a general background noise of medieval pottery and a few medieval coins (for example a silver short cross penny of King Henry III of England, issued 1216–47). However, fieldwalking finds from part of one field (centred on NH 554 487) showed a well defined concentration of degraded pottery sherds, animal bone food waste and iron nails which may indicate the lost location of the former medieval Tarradale Castle that was destroyed by Robert Bruce in 1308. Supervised metal detecting of the ploughsoil in the supposed castle area produced a Henry III long cross penny and a medieval heraldic horse pendant.

Ploughing by the tenant farmer in November 2011 in the field immediately W of Tarradale House (centred on NH 548 487) brought to the surface a dense spread of marine shells, including whole oyster, cockle, mussel, whelk and periwinkle shells, as well as a mass of crushed shells. Two smaller surface spreads of shells were noted close by in an adjacent field. Given that harrowing would destroy the surface evidence, test pitting was carried out in November 2011 to attempt to assess the nature and extent and possible age of these deposits. The test pits provided incontrovertible evidence that there was good preservation of an extensive shell layer below the ploughsoil, though suffering continual degradation due to ploughing. A series of small augur boreholes was sunk to try and delimit the shell layer which was found potentially to cover 500m² and in places is up to 400mm thick and contains many millions of shells. Analysis of a sample of these shells (all of which can be found in the Beauty Firth today) shows a considerable size variation, particularly for periwinkles, with the presence of some tiny periwinkles suggesting that these molluscs were collected by bulk methods. Some of the test pits also produced pieces of antler and bone as well as spreads of charcoal within the shell layer, suggesting that it is a humanly created shell midden rather than a natural deposit of shells. The project is actively seeking funding for radiocarbon dating of these organic deposits to provide an initial chronological parameter for the site.

Archive: Highland HER, local library and RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: NOSAS – in kind

### Urquhart and Glenmoriston

#### Urquhart Castle

**Watching brief**  
*David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology*

NH 5306 2858 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 14 November 2011 during the excavation of 16 small trenches for a series of permanent survey markers. Some of the locations involved drilling pins into bedrock or masonry, and these were not monitored. All the trenches measured c300 x 300mm and were 150mm deep. Some of the small holes revealed structural remains, but most disturbed only soil.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Historic Scotland

#### Urquhart and Logie Wester

**Braes of Conon, Conon Bridge**  
**Excavation**  
*Jamie Humbie and Jürgen van Wessel – Headland Archaeology Ltd*

NH 54727 55175 A watching brief and excavation were undertaken 9 January – 23 April 2012 on a proposed residential development site. This work followed previous phases of evaluation (DES 2011, 118). The excavation produced possible evidence for prehistoric settlement of the area, with the most important remains being that of a wood-lined trough filled with burnt mound material, and lying adjacent to the remnants of a substantial palaeochannel running across the site. Away from this feature the heavily truncated remains of a post-built roundhouse were identified. Further features consisted of isolated undated pits spread across the site.

Archive: RCAHMS  
Funder: Cameron and Patterson Homes

#### Carn Mor Dun, Culbokie

**Survey**  
*Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services*

NH 625 595  
**Plan of Carn Mor Dun**

Legend
- Spread of rampart
- Single cell structure
- Main hutpath
- Deated tracks
- Deer tracks

RoCAS

**RoCAS**  
*Plan of Carn Mor Dun*
NH 6033 5859 A measured survey carried out, 24–25 February 2012, of Carn Mor Dun, aimed to record the dun ramparts and the condition of the monument. The dun consisted of three concentric ramparts with a SW-facing entrance, and measured 56.5m in diameter NW–SE from the bases of the outermost ramparts. The NW quadrant of the site appeared to be the best preserved, although it may be that the walling for the intermediate and outer ramparts was never continuous on all sides.

**Croft House, Brae of Kinkell, Conon Bridge**

**Evaluation**

*Mary Peteranna – Ross and Cromarty Archaeological Services*

NH 57871 55255 A desk-based assessment and trial trenching evaluation were undertaken, 26–27 January 2012 on land 100m S of the Croft House in advance of the construction of four houses on pastoral land at Brae of Kinkell. The 19 trenches excavated contained 15 features. The remains of an unknown structure, one pit of unknown use, a clay pigeon shooting stance, one field drain, three groups of plough marks, four clearance cairns and four modern service trenches. The previously unrecorded remains of a post-medieval farmstead located on the NW edge of the development site were also rapidly recorded during the evaluation.

The remains of a possible structure, Feature 7, consisting of a slight setting of cobbles and small slabs associated with 19th- to 20th-century glass and pottery sherds, was recorded adjacent to an amorphous pit, Feature 8, which contained no visible archaeological material. The use and significance of both features remains undetermined. The clay pigeon shooting stance had been in use during the previous decade by the local shooting club and the clearance cairns are the remains of modern site clearance. The plough marks appear to predate modern ploughing techniques and probably date to the post-medieval period, although one grouping of narrower and less symmetrical marks may be earlier, possibly prehistoric.

The farmstead had been previously noted on the Highland HER (MHG20786) as recorded on the 1st Edition OS map. It consisted of the ruinous remains of a stone-built farmstead comprising two individual units and measuring 13m long overall. The NE side of the structure had been later used as a small sheep pen and another later pen was attached at the same end.

**INVERCLYDE**

**Port Glasgow**

**Newark Castle**

**Watching brief**

*Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology*

NS 3280 7450 A watching brief was undertaken on 16 August 2012 during the excavation of a trench for a new sign inside the modern gateway to the SW of the castle. The trench was located on the E side of a path that runs N from the gateway. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

**Wathegar**

**Watching brief**

*Gary Savory – CFA Archaeology Ltd*

ND 27804 51105 A watching brief was carried out 29 June – 22 August 2012 during construction work associated with Wathegar Wind Farm. A number of ceramic field drains were noted in stripped areas. A clearance heap (Site 6) was demarcated to prevent its accidental damage.

**Cross Keys Hotel, 182 High Street, Dalkeith**

**Standing building recording**

*E.ON*

NT 3804 6115 A watching brief was undertaken on 17 January 2012 during the excavation of two 0.4m deep test trenches, to assess the composition of the approach road, within the scheduled area of Crichton Castle ahead of proposed resurfacing works. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance, but archaeological deposits may exist below 0.4m.

**Crichton**

**Crichton Castle**

**Watching brief**

*Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology*

NT 3804 6115 A watching brief was undertaken on 17 January 2012 during the excavation of two 0.4m deep test trenches, to assess the composition of the approach road, within the scheduled area of Crichton Castle ahead of proposed resurfacing works. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance, but archaeological deposits may exist below 0.4m.

**Dalkeith**

**Cross Keys Hotel, 182 High Street, Dalkeith**

**Standing building recording**

*E.ON*

NT 3326 67437 A historic building assessment was undertaken of the Category B listed Cross Keys Hotel on 14 June 2012 prior to redevelopment. The hotel was constructed c1804 and was originally known as Davidson’s Inn prior to its acquisition by...
the Duke of Buccleuch in the 1830/40s. The three-storey with attic building constructed in stone rubble and ashlar stands as one of the earliest surviving buildings in Dalkeith. Following the appraisal a small amount of additional photographic recording was undertaken on the exposed NE gable and SE elevation, prior to the application of render.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Yeoman McAllister Architects

Ironmills Road, Dalkeith
Evaluation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 3275 6738 A watching brief was undertaken, 10 July – 6 August 2012, during the grubbing up of the foundations of the former SQA buildings on Ironmills Road. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Cala Homes (East) Ltd

Newbattle Abbey
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 3337 6602 A watching brief was undertaken 5–20 April 2012 during excavations to locate a broken water drainage pipe. The excavation revealed evidence of post-monastic building programme(s), drainage and garden construction, along with further evidence of modern drainage installation and associated disturbance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Historic Buildings Trust

Southfield Farm, Dalkeith
Watching brief
Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NT 33814 66757 A watching brief was undertaken 2012 during excavations for a wind turbine base and cable trench. The area was considered sensitive as it is located in the vicinity of a number of known early to post-medieval sites. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded in the area of the 6 x 6m turbine footing, where excavation reached limestone bedrock, or in the 0.9m deep by 265m long cable trench.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scaled Energy

Penicuik House
Standing building recording and ruin clearance
Jenni Morrison – Addyman Archaeology
NT 21726 59208 A programme of archaeological monitoring, recording and excavation has been ongoing in 2012 as part of a long term project to stabilise and conserve Penicuik House. The measured survey of the interior elevations of the principal reception rooms, in the central block of the house was completed at the end of 2011. This work, which examined the entrance hall and the Ossian Salon at the S end of the house, provided a greater understanding of the build up of wall linings and integrated decoration. The elaborate set of three arch-headed, plastered niches positioned centrally on the E and W walls were of particular interest. The curve of the niches was formed by bedding broken pantile into a thick layer of course lime mortar. Several layers of successively finer plaster were then applied to form a very smooth finish. A double line of timber dooks visible on all four elevations indicated where the cornice would have been in the ground floor room. Along the E wall the width of the skirting was visible as a red band along the masonry.

Although contemporary illustrations of the Ossian Salon survive, the survey added new details, including an opening to the right of the fireplace at the E end of the room. The walls are covered with timber dook holes which would have supported timber batons for the lath and plaster. The lines of dooks indicate the height of the cornice and possibly a dado. The complete timber facings on the S-facing windows survive with traces of white or cream paint. Each of the three S-facing windows had undergone alterations, and evidence in the masonry suggests that they had been raised.

Excavations within the house continue to uncover surviving flagged floors, together with evidence of how the heating system in the house operated. The extensive vaulted cellars to the S of the house were investigated and recorded for the first time this season. They are accessed from a gated doorway below the entrance ramp, and extend for a total of 23m to the S, where a second entrance opens onto a terraced walk. Each of the rooms without a window had a light shaft from the grassed area above, which would presumably have had a grill covering. They are now topped with slates and turf has grown over them. The main part of the cellar is divided into seven rooms. Two further small rooms can only be entered from outside, on either side of the main cellar entrance. Each of these rooms is lit by a large barred window.

The ongoing process of clearing the rubble at the E end of the main house has made it possible to begin examination of what would have been the external E wall of the house before the addition of the wings designed by David Bryce. The wall has been significantly altered and the N end reduced in width to accommodate an additional staircase.

Clearing and excavations in the E Bryce wing of the house revealed a floor structure that parallels the one recorded in the W Bryce wing, but differs from the floor structure in the original part of the building. The extensive areas of thin flagstones that survive in the E wing are supported on a network of crudely built dwarf walls interspaced with cavities, whilst the slabs in the older part of the house had been placed directly upon brown sand.

Comparatively little of significance was recovered during rubble clearance in the E part of the house. A collection of iron and other metal fixtures and fittings was recovered, and accumulations of melted lead provided further evidence of the fire that destroyed the building.

In addition to the building recording a geophysical survey was carried out by members of EAFS. Cartographic evidence suggested that Newbiggin House, which was demolished to allow the construction of Penicuik House, was located largely beneath the footprint of the upstanding building, with a small part extending onto to the lawn. EAFS expressed an interest in carrying out a geophysical survey in order to determine if any remains were detectable buried beneath the lawns. The results of this survey are presented below.

Archive: Project ongoing
Funder: Penicuik House Preservation Trust

Penicuik House
Geophysical survey
Ian Hawkins and Donald Matthews – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
NT 2176 5925 (centred on) A ground resistance survey was carried out on 21 November 2011 and 22 April 2012. The survey covered a 120 x 60m area in front of Penicuik House, which was severely damaged by fire in 1899. The area surveyed was bounded by the house remains to the S, the estate ha-ha
and wooded area to the N and E and the boundary fence of the stable block to the W. The surveyed area also included the access road and turning circle to the N of the house. The work aimed to locate any evidence of the former Newbiggin House which was demolished in 1761. A band of higher resistance recorded to the N probably represented made ground of redeposited material, but linear anomalies to the S and E might represent service trenches or structures associated with the earlier house or garden.

Archive: Midlothian SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Penicuik House Preservation Trust, Penicuik Estate and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

MIDLOTHIAN/MORAY

MORAY

Alves
Monaughty

Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 1247 5770 Heldon Wood An ovoid or sub-rectangular building measuring c13 x 5m aligned cE–W. It adjoins a linear dyke (see below) and appears to be associated with the dyke and the extensive clearance remains.

NJ 1247 5781 – NJ 1254 5766 Heldon Wood A curvilinear bank probably associated with the building above and possibly with the clearance cairns in the vicinity.

NJ 1317 5794 Heldon Wood A ring cairn measuring c9m between bank heads. It sits close to the ridge top with panoramic views to the N. It possibly pre-dates the cairn field in which it sits and may be the feature previously identified as a possible hut circle.

NJ 1298 5781 – NJ 1290 5771 Heldon Wood A curvilinear bank which forms a hollow-way with a similar feature noted below.

NJ 1289 5779 – NJ 1269 5768 Heldon Wood A curvilinear bank probably related to the feature noted above with which it forms a short stretch of hollow-way. A further length of parallel bank possibly forming a trackway or extension to the hollow-way lies to the S. The track would be c5m wide.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Bellie

Deer Park
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 3902 5755 – NJ 3904 5763 and NJ 3902 5772 – NJ 3904 5777 Aulrothie Burn A narrow lynchett track appears to roughly follow the course of the Aulrothie Burn. At NJ 3903 5760 it crosses a steep cut and must have been bridged at this point as the banks are far too steep to have permitted fording. The course of the track is lost but recovered further to the N, where it sweeps round to cross a further shallow burn, which seems to have been forded. At this point the trackway is embanked. It is lost to sight further to the N.

NJ 3744 6040 Ordiga A sub-circular enclosure measuring c30m in diameter and open with a 25m gap on its NE side and banks which appear to have been built by scraping out the interior. It might be possible that these enclosures relate to the management of deer. The enclosure falls within the enclosed area shown on an 18th-century estate plan.

NJ 3651 6068 Deer Park A small quarry possibly used by the pre-improvement fermton of Baudfour.

NJ 3653 6072 – NJ 3651 6075 Deer Park An earthen bank appears to be one of the pre-modern field boundaries shown on an 19th-century estate plan as belonging to the fermton of Baudfour.

NJ 3705 6104 – NJ 3696 6103 – NJ 3687 6094 – NJ 3694 6089 – NJ 3709 6098 (polygon) Beldorney The complete circuit of a plantation enclosure noted on an 18th-century estate plan can be traced, except where it is cut by a modern road at its E end. At this end there is a semi-circular ‘scoop’ curving inward from the modern road, which does not appear to be modern.


NJ 3645 6070 Deer Park A stone-lined culvert leading beneath a massive bank and presumably feeding into a very deep field drain on the other side. It was presumably built during the laying out of the improved field to the W in the late 18th or early 19th century.

NJ 3647 6075 Deer Park A building platform that may relate to the settlement of Baudfour shown on an 18th-century estate plan. The stone remains may be disturbed foundations. The platform sits on the S side of a track which may appear on the same plan.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Deer Park Wood
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 3757 5639 Aulthash Building foundations shown on 1st Edition OS map. The building measures c11 x 4m (internally) and is possibly composed of two cells. There is a slight enclosure bank which runs just below the present track (and possible course of the military road) for c40m NW of the building.

NJ 3712 5676 Dramlach A series of enclosures with earth banks occur in the area of a farmstead noted on the 1st Edition OS map. The only evidence of buildings is a scatter of stones amongst two of the enclosures.

NJ 3730 5699 – NJ 3819 5789 Whiteash Hill Lengths of earthen linear features which may mark the limits of the lands
pertaining to Gordon Castle, formerly Boggs of Gight. The perimeter appears on a 1770 estate plan, though this section appears in a different location on the plan.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Gordon Castle
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NJ 34884 59148 (centred on) A standing building survey was undertaken on 19 September 2010 on the walled garden at Gordon Castle. The garden overlies the village of Fochabers which was moved in the late 18th century to accommodate more land and gardens for the castle and estate. The outbuildings associated with the garden are later in date and include a late 19th-century Mackenzie and Moncur glasshouse and a number of timber workshops and stores.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: GC Gordon Lennox Estates Co

Botriphnie
Rosarie
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 3660 4772 Gateside The substantial footings of a small farmstead, measuring 12 x 5.5m externally and aligned due N are shown on the 1st Edition OS map. An associated enclosure was not visible.

NJ 3658 4789 Gateside The extensive remains of a substantial farm complex consisting of a number of separate structures as shown on the 1st Edition OS map. There is a gear housing pit for a mill on the W side of the range. A track to the S survives and there are possibly more extensive field remains than are shown on the OS map.

NJ 3625 4833 Cabbachs The substantial footings of a small farmstead measuring c10 x 5m externally, with a 4 x 2m outshot at the SE end. The farmstead is shown on the 1st Edition OS map. An associated enclosure was not visible.

NJ 3635 4841 Cabbachs A substantial range measuring c24 x 5m externally, with additional outshots at either end as shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The outshot at the N end measures 4 x 3.5m externally, whilst that at the S end measures 3 x 2.5m externally. A large pile of stones/structure lies c9m E of the S outshot measures 5 x 3m. It sits on the N corner of an enclosure which is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map, though the structure is not shown. This structure is located next to an entrance to the enclosure.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Towie Hill
Watching brief
Gary Savory and Fraser MacRae – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NJ 35027 45761 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken March 2010 – September 2011 on the site of Towie Hill Wind Farm. Three known sites were demarcated to prevent any accidental damage during the construction of the wind farm. These were Rosarie Forest Buildings (NJ34NE 0019), Rosarie Forest Enclosure, Farmsteads, Ladies and Ponds (NJ34NE 00193), and a boundary marker (NJ34NE 0026). These sites were revisited following construction and there was no change to their baseline condition.

A watching brief was also maintained on the construction of access tracks and turbine bases in the vicinity of the administrative boundary marker. No features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: RES UK and Ireland Ltd

Cabrach/Mortlach
Glenfiddich
Historic landscape survey
Colin Shepherd
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

NJ 3542 3031 Horseward A short section of very damaged dyke divides the area of Horseward from the haughland to the W. It runs from a scarp to a rock outcrop to the waterside. It is not shown on the 1st Edition OS map and may be pre 19th century in date.

NJ 3560 3038 – NJ 3559 3036 Shenwell A curving linear bank probably part of Shenwell’s pre-improvement field system.

NJ 3376 3515 Burn of Brakerae The 1st Edition OS map shows a sheepfold; however, this is a post-medieval four cell farmstead range and enclosures, which was probably reused as a sheepfold in the 19th century. The range is quite substantial and the third cell from the N may have been gabled. The small northern cell appears to have gone out of use before the others There is a gateway into the complex at the SW corner of the large enclosure, and the fields show evidence of having been reorganised in the 19th century. The denuded remains of another structure lie a few metres to the N.

NJ 3350 3511 – NJ 3359 3502 Burn of Brakerae Three broad lyncheted banks run parallel to each other c15m apart and follow the contours of the hill. They do not conform to the rectilinear field system and are presumably earlier in date.

NJ 3371 3464 – NJ 3377 3462 – NJ 3381 3471 – NJ 3374 3471 (polygon) Brakerae A field system that is greater in extent than previously recorded. The two SE fields contain structural features. There is a gap in the middle of the dyke that divides the two fields. A circular or sub-circular earthwork is located in the NE corner of the S field.

NJ 3407 3529 Burn of Brakerae An ovoid hut, measuring c2 x 3m internally with a NNW facing entrance sits beside a pretty pool surrounded by primroses.

Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

Dallas
Brokentore
Casual find
Dawn McLaren and Fraser Hunter – AOC Archaeology Group / National Museums Scotland

NJ 182 550 Three fragments of an incomplete, slightly irregular bun-shaped upper rotary quern stone (diameter 360mm, thickness 75.5mm) had been built into a field wall at Brokentore. Much of the edge had been damaged but original portions suggest the quern was not perfectly circular in plan. The surviving edges either reflect the naturally smooth surfaces of the original boulder or have been gently rounded by pecking. It has a central biconical feeder pipe (D min 41mm, max 72mm), and a small, shallow, conical vertical handle socket (D 33mm depth 17–18 mm) on the broken edge. The
grinding surface is heat affected and sooted; perhaps burnt deliberately to fragment the stone. The form and size suggest an Iron Age date. The quern fragments were presumably cleared from the field during ploughing.

Quern stone from Brokentore, drawn by Alan Braby

**Duffus**

**Burghead Pictish Fort**  
*Watching brief*  
*Stuart Farrell*  
NJ 10839 69178 A watching brief was undertaken May – August 2012 at Burghead Pictish Fort and Visitor Centre (former coastguard station) during work associated with a toilet extension and associated services. Work to the E edge of the coastguard station revealed part of the retaining wall of the rampart and a small section of wall of unknown function. Monitoring of services revealed little or no archaeological deposits. The area had been heavily disturbed during the building of the coastguard housing and lay in an area previously excavated by Alan Small in 1966.  
Archive and Report: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Burghead Headland Trust

**Clarkly Hill**  
*Watching brief*  
*Stuart Farrell*  
NJ 1295 6819 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken in October 2012 prior to the creation of a 0.5ha quarry. The only features recorded were some infilled hollows relating to agricultural improvement.  
Report: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and RCAHMS  
Funder: Mr D Ralph

**Clarkly Hill**  
*Excavation*  
*Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland*  
NJ 131 675 Work continued, 1–22 July 2012, on the extensive later prehistoric and early medieval settlement site at Clarkly Hill. The three trenches examined in 2011 were reopened (*DES 2011, 124*) and an additional trench was also excavated.  
In Trench A an area of preserved old ploughsoil covered a series of stone structures. Further work revealed one of these was the stone foundations of a small rectangular building (c7 x 4m). To the NW this trench was expanded into Trench D, where the original find of Roman coins was concentrated. More coins were found scattered through the old ploughsoil, confirming that the hoard had been disturbed in antiquity. Cut into the natural was the post-ring of a roundhouse c10m in diameter. Over this was the erosion hollow from a small sub-oval

The excavation in progress at Clarkly Hill
building with a single structural post towards one end and remains of a wattled wall. An adjacent amorphous scoop may be a further building. These fragile buildings are likely to be early medieval in date; further examples were recorded in Trench A, again overlaid by a roundhouse. Excavation here revealed more of the ring ditch house examined in 2011. Immediately after its abandonment a curving line of orthostats was constructed over it. Four stone settings were revealed in the excavated area. Only the stumps survived of two; the other two had been removed from their stoneholes. Both these holes were excavated, and produced evidence of deliberate deposits. In one, a human skull buried face down in the base of the pit, in the other a cache of artefacts including two reworked decorated sherds of Samian pottery, a silver finger ring and an iron knife. The nature of the original stones is unclear – it is tempting to speculate they may have been symbol stones. Dark soil formed around these stones, with a series of objects placed in it, apparently as offerings (see DES 2011, 124). Over this were more settlement remains: around the rectangular stone platform (5.6 x 4.4mm) excavated in 2011 were cobbled areas interpreted as the bases for turf walls. These defined oval buildings c4-6m across; a section of one revealed charcoal and ash rich deposits within them.

These trenches were all sealed by the remains of a ploughsoil which in turn was sealed by post-medieval sand-blown deposits and then partially truncated when the area was improved by digging down into the sand in the 19th century. Trench E, to the W of the site, revealed much deeper deposits of ploughsoil, up to 1m thick, with the ditches between the rigs filled with wind-blown sand. The rigs were 5-6m wide. Trial trenching under this revealed a large ring ditch house indicated by geophysics. It was c18m across, with a single phase of postholes; evidence of support posts indicates repair. There was no hearth or cooking pit; finds (Roman glass, Iron Age bronze strap fitting, Guido type 13 glass bead) point to a Roman Iron Age date. The substantial ring ditch had stone slabs placed in its base. The house had been built up against an older (Neolithic or Bronze Age?) standing stone, which was deliberately incorporated into its wall.

Trench C exposed more of the industrial area. The sequence was an extended one. At its base was a large pit which once held an iron-smelting furnace, the dismantled remains of which were found along with substantial amounts of iron slag and bog ore. Some of this had been used along with cobbles to form a wall along one edge of the pit. After the slag heap was levelled, a series of hearths was built, although no convincing associated structure was located. This was sealed by the old ploughsoil, which in turn was cut by a ditch. Finds included extensive slag, some crucible fragments from non-ferrous metalworking, a fragment of a steatite bowl, lots of cobbled construction with horizontal beams is located on the line of a burnt out charcoal, which may have been part of an iron-smelting furnace.

A badly denuded trapezoidal enclosure measuring c15 x 3.5m internally. The doors face E, one is 5m from the end wall, a second 9m and a third is in the NE corner with a possible fourth door opposite it. There is a cupboard but no sign of a fireplace or chimney. The E wall and S end wall appear to stand to their original heights of c5 feet and there would have been a gently sloping (c25°) roof.

A dry stone bridge of simple pier construction with horizontal beams is located on the line of a track noted on the 1st Edition OS map and sits in an area of clearance carns straddling the modern track.

A stone-lined and wooden-lintelled well standing on the uphill side of a trackway running down from the farmstead site of Bogawood.

A well-made ford on the line of a track noted on the 1st Edition OS map running from Bogawood farmstead.

A stone-lined and wooden-lintelled well standing on the uphill side of a trackway running down from the farmstead site of Bogawood.

A farmhouse measuring c15 x 12 x 6m with the 12m end nearest to the burn. The enclosure appears on the 1st Edition OS map and sits in an area of clearance carns straddling the modern track.

A stone-lined and wooden-lintelled well standing on the uphill side of a trackway running down from the farmstead site of Bogawood.
during the excavation of a trench to house a new information board. The trench was located on the E side of the path running N from the door of the ticket office on an area of made ground. A burial ground flanks both sides of the path. The trench contained made ground and pieces of disarticulated human bone including part of a skull were recovered and subsequently reburied. The results indicate that some recycling of interments and building demolition debris has occurred in this area of the Cathedral grounds.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

**Ladyhill, Elgin**

*Geophysical survey*

Susan Ovenden – Rose Geophysical Consultants

NJ 2118 6281 A geophysical survey was undertaken 5–7 April 2012 prior to the construction of a public footpath. The work was considered sensitive as it was in the vicinity of the Castle of Elgin, which became a royal fortress in the 12th century and is thought to have been a ruin since the 15th century, and has few surviving extant features.

The data from the gradiometer and resistance surveys was interpreted with caution as modern activity, including the construction of the Duke of Gordon Monument and an observatory, quarrying for building material and the suspected burial of rubbish, is known to have taken place. This activity was reflected in the gradiometer results which show a high level of background noise. The resistance survey detected a complex of rectilinear high resistance anomalies suggestive of a potential structure with enclosing walls and associated structures. A possible enclosing ditch may have been identified in the data. While the location and alignment of these responses is not consistent with the expected location of the castle, they may indicate possible ancillary structures within a bailey. However, given the past use of the site a modern origin cannot be dismissed.

Archive: Rose Geophysical Consultants
Funder: Ashley Bartlam Partnership

**North College, Elgin**

*Evaluation*

Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 2209 6315 A watching brief was undertaken on 6 June 2012 during site preparation works for a proposed extension to buildings at North College. A single 1 x 0.5m test pit excavated at the W end of a current building did not record any finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Nigel Robinson

**Forres**

*Greshop Farm*

Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group

NJ 0212 5844 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 2 April – 25 May 2012 at Greshop Farm cropmark site (NJ05NW 35) prior to work associated with the Forres Flood Alleviation Scheme. A 3.2ha area of topsoil was stripped, including a 12m strip through a scheduled monument (4020), and this was followed by 1250m² of evaluation trenching. Neither the topsoil stripping across the scheduled monument nor the trial trenching revealed any features of archaeological significance. However, removal of topsoil from an area to the E of the scheduled area, which contained a number of possible cropmarks, revealed a number of natural features and a group of three square barrows. These were excavated and were found to have been somewhat plough damaged.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Royal Haskoning
Greshop House  
**Evaluation**  
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group  
NJ 0223 5877 An evaluation was undertaken on 23 October 2012 near Greshop House as part of work associated with the Forres Flood Alleviation Scheme. Two trenches were excavated across the cropmark of a possible ring ditch (NJ05NW 121). The 43m of trenches had a combined area of 86m². No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.  
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Royal Haskoning

**Keith**

**Balloch**  
*Historic landscape survey*  
Colin Shepherd  
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.  
NJ 4156 4749 **Cairds Wood** A medium sized quarry with smaller ‘robber holes’ extending N on the same elevation. The quarry may have been dug for limestone extraction.  
NJ 4462 4954 **Dunnedydd** A curvilinear bank and ditch conforms to the present field system which lies outside the wood. It might be related to this field system or represent a former boundary for the 19th-century plantation.  
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire  
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Edintore**  
**Evaluation**  
Alan Duffy – AOC Archaeology Group  
NJ 42270 46485 A watching brief was undertaken 19–22 November 2012 during the excavation of 50 site investigation test pits across a proposed wind farm site. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.  
Archive: RCAHMS  
Funder: Vento Ludens Ltd

**Knockando**

**Elchies**  
*Historic landscape survey*  
Colin Shepherd  
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.  
NJ 2387 4517 **Elchies** The tumbled and ploughed remains of a farmstead conform to the layout shown on the 1st Edition OS map. Sections of enclosure dyke still survive and other enclosure boundaries are followed by modern drains. The boundaries probably defined 19th-century field boundaries.  
NJ 2385 4534 **Elchies** A small turf-built structure, c.2.5 x 3.5m internally, with a doorway on its short E side. A pool which appears to have been drained by a deep V-shaped ditch is located c.6m from the structure. Both may be shown on the 1st Edition OS map, but it is not clear if the structure and water management feature are related.  
NJ 2435 4499 – NJ 2431 4502 – NJ 2430 4494 **Elchies** A stone dyke with a couple of old trees runs NW along the line of a major drain shown on the 1st Edition OS map. A curvilinear bank heads S from the end of the dyke, roughly along the line of a boundary shown on the 1st Edition OS map. Its construction and imprecise course suggest it was built prior to the late 18th century.  
NJ 2300 4529 **Wood of Archiestown** A small peat moss and workings are located at the end of a trackway leading from Archiestown. These are noted on the 1st Edition OS map.  
NJ 2156 4462 **Lynes** A small clearance cairn.  
Archive: Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire  
Funder: Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

**Scootmore**  
*Historic landscape survey*  
Colin Shepherd  
This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.  
NJ 1548 3782 **Croftintaggart** An early modern farmstead with some interesting features. The platform of a horse mill located at the W end of the house is remarkably well preserved with parts of the gearing in situ. A porch appears to have been added to the SE of the house and a raised revetted area runs along the side of the house. The lowest end cell in this building is very narrow and has a rounded end with a twin aperture in the wall. This is unlikely to have been a window and it may have housed a small kiln.  
NJ 1589 3830 – NJ 1590 3837 **Ailt a’ Ghéallaidh** A linear revetment appears to protect a raised area of land, which is shown as a field on the 1st Edition OS map. An area of clearance stands along the line of the revetment at NJ 1589 3836.  
NJ 1709 3768 **Dalnapot** A short length of dyke appears to finish or corner at its SW end. A slight platform behind it may be a small structure.  
NJ 1614 3910 – NJ 1638 3917 **Tom an Gnashick** A hollow-way runs up onto an area of moss as shown on the 1st Edition OS map. Forestry ploughing has removed most of its course through the woodland. A branch separates from the main course at NJ 1631 3914.  
NJ 1675 3921 – NJ 1681 3924 **Scootmore** A short stretch of track which may relate to that noted above.  
NJ 1649 3923 **Tom an Gnashick** A peat working area, c.30m wide by 0.7–1.0m deep.  
NJ 1603 3854, NJ 1614 3859, NJ 1615 3850 and NJ 1604 3850 (polygon) **Ailt a’ Ghéallaidh** A farmstead/small fermtoun with an enclosure, as noted on the 1st Edition OS map. The damaged remains of a probable house stand between a forest track and an enclosure to the S. At least two buildings are located in the SE corner of the enclosure. The site is obscured by vegetation.  
NJ 1585 3839 – NJ 1574 3846 – NJ 1580 3862 – NJ 1587 3867 – NJ 1602 3853 – NJ 1600 3848 **Ailt a’ Ghéallaidh** A large irregular enclosure which is shown on the 1st Edition OS map and probably relates to the settlement noted above.  
NJ 1579 3887, NJ 1581 3889, NJ 1584 3886 and NJ 1582 3884 (polygon) **Ailt a’ Ghéallaidh** Two sub-rectangular and incomplete enclosures with a possible small unroofed building are shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The lower enclosure is complete and a shelter has been built inside it. A damaged dyke exists N of the enclosure wall. The remains of a wall were recorded at the W end of the dyke.  
NJ 1578 3887, NJ 1581 3889, NJ 1584 3886 and NJ 1582 3884 (polygon) **Tom an Gnashick** A well preserved sub-divided trapezoidal enclosure and associated unroofed building shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The building consists of four cells spanning the width of the enclosure. The gate to
the enclosure appears to have been located at the W end, and a lean-to building stands inside the enclosure against the building next to the gate. The remains of slight earthworks reflect the presence of fifth cell, which was removed prior to the date of the map, at the E end beyond the enclosure. A badly damaged dyke loops from near the SE corner of the fifth cell in a SW direction.

**Archive:** Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

**Funder:** Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

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**Rathven**

**Hill of Maud**

*Historic landscape survey*

*Colin Shepherd*

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

- NJ 4510 6318 **Hilton Wood** A dense concentration of stones, covering c10 x 30m, suggest the presence of settlement remains. An outlying clearance cairn lies SE of the main concentration.
- NJ 4477 6333 **Hilton Wood** A farmstead noted on the 1st Edition OS map was not located; however, a scatter of mid-19th-century pottery and china was recovered and settlement remains may have been obscured by dense vegetation. A former pond was recorded at NJ 4473 6336.
- NJ 4472 6338 **Hilton Wood** A small well preserved circular pit of unknown purpose, measuring c3m wide by 1.5m deep.
- NJ 4488 6362 **Court Hillock** A modern drain follows the natural drainage route determined by the local topography. To the SE is a two-part lade. The upper lade takes a high course along the hillside before plunging down to meet the modern drain. Such a course might suggest the former presence of a mill at the point where the plunge occurs. The second lade runs between the first and the modern drain and joins the modern drain before the plunging channel.
- NJ 4718 6329 – NJ 4716 6339 **Hill of Maud** A hollow-way runs N from NJ 4718 6329 and joins a hollow-way running around the hill in a SW–NE curve at NJ 4716 6339.

**Archive:** Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

**Funder:** Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

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**Rothes**

**Teindland**

*Historic landscape survey*

*Colin Shepherd*

This project is part of the Forestry Commission’s management strategy as described under Kirkhill, Aberdeen City. The following features were recorded during fieldwork.

- NJ 3110 5331 **Orton Face** A complete upper quern stone was found during forestry work. Examination of the pits revealed a number of articulated stone concentrations, which may be the remains of dykes or enclosure features.
- NJ 3110 5339, NJ 3108 5329 and NJ 3107 5331 **Orton Face** The locations of the stone concentrations noted above.
- NJ 3095 5351 – NJ 3111 5344 **Orton Face** A substantial bank and ditch as shown on the 1st Edition OS map. The W part is straight and probably 19th-century, the other part is less straight and may be following the course of an earlier feature.

**Archive:** Aberdeenshire Council SMR and Forestry Commission, Aberdeenshire

**Funder:** Moray and Aberdeenshire Forestry Commission

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**Urquhart**

**Innesmill**

*Metal detector find*

*Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland*

NJ 28 63 A Romano-British headstud brooch was found during metal detecting. The arms have reserved lozenges surrounded by red triangles; the bow has a central strip of mid-blue lozenges flanked by opaque red triangles. An integrally-cast cylinder holds the copper-alloy axis which once retained the lost hinged pin. The location is close to the point where the plunge occurs. The trench in the central area of the henge did not contain any archaeological remains. Several pieces of flint debitage were recovered from under the N bank of the henge. All the targeted areas recorded root penetration into the subsoil, which had caused varying degrees of disturbance. The walkers’ path through the monument was found to have caused erosion to a depth of 200mm.

**Archive:** RCAHMS. Report: HS and Moray Council SMR

**Funder:** Forestry Commission Scotland
Romano-British headstudd brooch, Innesmill, drawn by Alan Braby

NORTH AYRSHIRE

Ardrossan

Ardrossan Castle
Watching brief
Calum Henderson – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 23237 42290 A watching brief was undertaken 8–20 June 2012 during the excavation of postholes for a new fence around Ardrossan Castle. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded and all finds, such as glass, plastic and general waster, were of 19th- and 20th-century date.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Renfrewshire Council
Funder: North Ayrshire Council

Location of excavated fence post within ruins of Ardrossan Castle

Kilmarnock to Irvine pipeline
Watching brief
Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 318 390 A watching brief was undertaken 5 May – 31 October 2012 during the construction of a pipeline for the Kilmarnock to Irvine storm relief sewer. A single sherd of green glaze pottery was recovered from topsoil during trenching at Long Green Road in Irvine.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: MBV Joint Venture

Seagate Castle, Irvine
Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NS 319 391 A watching brief was undertaken 7 March – 11 April 2012 during repair and conservation of the building fabric of Seagate Castle and removal of vegetation. The stump removal works indicated that all the trees had been rooted in a mid-brown silty deposit. A single test pit excavated in the SE corner of Chamber A established that the silty deposit was 300mm deep and that it overlay a 100mm deep mortar-likedeposit. The mortar-like deposit lay directly above the vaulted ceiling of the underlying pend. A single sherd of late 15th- to 16th-century medieval green glaze pottery was located adjacent to a small flight of stone steps uncovered in Chamber B.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Historic Scotland and WoSAS
Funder: Robert Potter and Partners LLP on behalf of North Ayrshire Council

Trinity Church, Irvine
Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NS 320 388 A watching brief was undertaken on 14 February 2012 during conservation and enhancement works to Trinity Church and Hall. The removal of the upper chipboard and wooden floorboards in the hall revealed a solum consisting of wooden beams supported on two dwarf walls. A small area of possible cobbleding was visible in the general debris towards the...
E/SE corner of the solum floor. The discovery of asbestos in the church meant works in this area were not monitored.

**Kilbride**

**Balmichael WTW**

**Walking brief**

Thomas Rees – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NR 9191 3252 A walking brief was carried out 11–12 January 2011 during site investigation work relating to an extension of the existing Balmichael WTW. The area had been extensively disturbed during the construction of the existing WTW in 1999 and no significant archaeological features or finds were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: Scottish Water Shared Services

**Lamlash Community Hall**

**Watching brief**

Douglas Gordon and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 02158 30841 An evaluation was undertaken 20–21 February 2012 on a proposed residential development area at Benlister. The evaluation consisted of a series of trial trenches, which investigated 8% of the c1.5ha area. No significant archaeological features were recorded and all finds related to modern use of the site.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: John Thomson Construction Ltd

**Montrose House, Brodick**

**Evaluation**

Claire Williamson and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 00690 36050 An evaluation was undertaken on 12 March 2012 at Montrose House prior to proposed development work. No significant archaeological features were recorded and all finds related to modern agricultural activity.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

Funder: North Ayrshire Council

**Sannox Quarry**

**Excavation**

Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd

NS 015 455 A rescue excavation was carried out on 28 March – 5 April 2012 under the Historic Scotland human remains call-out contract. The excavation was prompted by the discovery of cremated human remains and two short cists in the disused quarry by the estate owner. The excavation recorded a short cist that contained a deposit of cremated bone, a Bronze Age Food Vessel and a flint dagger. The second cist located beside the first was empty. Other linear features discovered nearby seemed to be associated with an old train track.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Historic Scotland

**Kilwinning**

**Lady Jane's Cottage, Eglinton Park**

**Evaluation**

Thomas Rees and Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 31277 42086 An evaluation was undertaken 26–31 July 2012 at Lady Jane's Cottage to clarify the nature, age and extent of any archaeological deposits associated with the cottage. Kilwinning Heritage volunteers assisted Rathmell Archaeology staff, with support from the landowner North Ayrshire Council. The works were scheduled so that Guides from the International Guides Camp at Eglinton (Ayrwaves 2012) could visit the site, discover more about the estate and its archaeology, as well as take part in some practical exercises.

The evaluation consisted of the hand excavation of three trenches located in the S portion of the field that now overlies the site of the cottage, adjacent to the Lugton Water River. The work successfully established the location of the remains of...
the cottage, which proved to be consistent with depictions shown on cartographic sources. The location and orientation of the W, S and E walls of the cottage were established, as were the remains of an adjacent footpath and the supports for a nearby footbridge, also depicted on the cartographic material. Once located, the exposed remains of the monument were recorded and left in situ.

Funder: Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

Largs

Stevenson Institute, Lade Street
Watching brief
Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 20281 59484 A watching brief was carried out 8–13 March 2012 during the removal of foundations during the demolition of the Stevenson Institute. No significant archaeological deposits were recorded and all finds recovered, including ceramics, glass and metal, were 19th- and 20th-century in date.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Burnfield Demolition

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Maritime

Scapa Flow
Geophysical survey
John McCarthy – WA Heritage
HY 32215 01762 A survey programme was carried out 1 February – 29 September 2012 to provide high resolution multibeam bathymetry data on a number of wreck sites in Scapa Flow. The list of targets was provided by Historic Scotland, ordered by priority, based on the importance of the wreck and the lack of prior survey at each site. A total of 18 wrecks were surveyed and assessed over the course this project and 16 have been identified. The two remaining unidentified wrecks are both located in Burra Sound and are isolated pieces of wreck material, which may be associated with recorded losses in the area.

Funder: Historic Scotland

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Cumbernauld

Arches Business Park, Napier Road
Evaluation
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 7714 7712 (centred on) a trial trenching evaluation was undertaken, April – May 2012, prior to development of the Arches Business Park. The deposits in the trenches suggested that the area had been extensively landscaped. The S end of the site had been built-up with a considerable depth of made ground, whilst deposits at the N end were truncated. The landscaping was probably undertaken during the construction of the OKI factory and surrounding industrial units. A number of 19th- and 20th-century field drains associated with agricultural improvements were also recorded.

Archive: North Lanarkshire SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Gladman Developments Ltd
Birsay and Harray

Lynnside
Samuel Voke – ORCA
Watching brief
HY 32256 18284 A watching brief was carried out 13 April – 3 May 2012 during ground-breaking work associated with the construction of two wind turbine bases and two N–S oriented cables in a field and garden. The site was considered sensitive as it was located close to a series of cists at Werne (HY31NW 56). No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Archive: ORCA
Funder: Ewan Penny

Nether Corston Farm
Watching brief
Dave McNicol – ORCA
HY 32131 19695 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out 6–9 September 2012 during the excavation of a 550m long pipeline, running NE from Nether Corston Farm at HY 31837 19233 to a proposed wind turbine at HY 32135 19690. The site was located in arable farmland close to two mounds which are scheduled ancient monuments. An undated linear boundary ditch and a single post-medieval pit were recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mint Energy on behalf of Colin Paterson

Cross and Burness

Spurness, Sanday
Watching brief
Dave McNicol – ORCA
HY 60358 34738 A watching brief was undertaken 6 February – 22 May 2012 on groundwork associated with the further development of Spurness Wind Farm. A concentration of features consisting of two pits and postholes, a shell midden and boundary wall, a stone surface and boundary wall, and a stone wall indicate the location of a probable prehistoric settlement. However, as the development did not impact on the features, they were recorded, sealed and left in situ.
Archive: Orkney Museum
Funder: SSE Renewables

Eday

Green
Excavation
Mick Miles – BEVARS
HY 56971 28987 A sixth season of work at this Neolithic settlement site took place 21 July – 1 September 2012. The main aims were to carry out further work on the interior of Structure 1, an Early Neolithic building, and to complete the excavation of the hearths and associated cut features in the floor of the building; to investigate its relationship with the adjacent Structure 3 with which it appears conjoined; to further investigate the interior of Structure 2.

In Structure 1 most of the remaining features were excavated down to the natural boulder clay. Final work on the SW hearth confirmed the interpretation from 2011 (DES 2012, 131–132) that it had been constructed in and around a sub-circular bowl-shaped pit between 0.75–0.80m across. Firmly set in the base of this pit were the two stones of the V-shaped channel running under the hearth. When lifted they were found to consist of one single sandstone slab that had been split laterally before being set in place.

Further scoops and runnels were also noted inside Structure 1. One of these runnels came out of Structure 3 and ran down through Structure 1 to where it joined other runnels, some of which still had stone covers. This runnel was truncated from above by a large shallow pit that contained several flat sandstone flags. Originally interpreted as flooring it is now known that this pit cut down through the demolition material overlying much of Structure 1, and it is now thought to be a probable paved pathway leading out from a narrow doorway in Structure 3.

That Structure 3 was in use after Structure 1 was demolished is now clear. The presence of stone holes seen lying on the projected line of Structure 1 has been noted within Structure 3 and this would seem to indicate that Structure 3 was probably constructed later. What is not clear however is whether the two buildings were ever contemporaneous with each other or whether Structure 3 replaced the earlier building. The presence of the covered runnel leading from one to the other would suggest that this might be the case, but further work next year will seek to answer this question.

One other feature of note was a posthole in Structure 1 close to the possible doorway to Structure 3. Measuring c0.5m in diameter this was adjacent to a similarly sized shallow pit noted in 2011 that had contained a deliberately placed hammerstone on a platform at the centre of its base. The posthole however was c0.35m much deeper than the pit and judging from the positioning of the packing stones had contained a circular c0.25m diameter post. It is not clear whether the post had rotted in situ or been removed or cut down. The posthole was then covered by a sandstone flag that eventually collapsed into a void below. Finds from this feature included an orange quartzite polisher and several sherds of unabraded pottery.

In Structure 2 the excavation of the pit in the entrance was completed. The three slabs in the pit were removed revealing only boulder clay. The surface of the clay was found to be covered by finger marks which led us to excavate a little further, however nothing further was found and the finger marks would appear to have derived from people dragging wet clay up from the base to line the sides of the pit before the slabs and linear cairn were placed in it. It is difficult to assign function to this feature. The placement of the slabs in a pit could be interpreted as a paved entrance to Structure 2, however the presence of a cairn on top of the paving would suggest otherwise, unless the two events were separated in time.

The excavation of the interior of Structure 2 was begun. The floor is bumpy, not flat and would not have functioned as a usable surface in a working building. This would concur with previous observations that the structure was too flimsy to have been a building and is more likely to have been an enclosure. Within the structure at least three cut features have been noted thus far, one of which, a pit, has been excavated, but which contained nothing of significance. A linear cut feature has been noted which runs under the large sandstone slab at the centre of Structure 2, but this remains to be excavated.

The soils within Structure 2 were slightly lighter and sandier than the midden deposits outside, but these have also proved to be rich in artefacts. These include the usual range of coarse stone tools, flints and pottery that have previously been associated with the site and include the most significant find of the season, a red sandstone roughly triangular polissoir up to 0.40m long. Both sides are deeply bowled and each has two deep parallel grooves ground into their surfaces. Although further research is required, it very much resembles the type of polissoir normally associated with the polishing of stone axes. If so it would add to the repertoire of stone working
Evie and Rendall

**Burn of Ennisgeo**

*Survey*
David Lynn
HY 33274 26213 A hummocky and grassy section of the W bank of the Burn of Ennisgeo contrasts with the surrounding moorland vegetation and contains a rectangular, turf-covered wall foundation on the flat raised area within a stream bend. The wall outline survives up to 0.7m high and measures 3m W-E by 7m N-S. A possible doorway 0.7m wide is contained in the W wall at the NW corner. The centre of the structure contains little apparent rubble, though some potential interior features are suspected. No stonework is exposed, no associated external features are visible, and no finds were made. In its current state the site gives little clue to its purpose but its rectangular outline suggests a historic period date. Diagnosis as a chapel or house or even a mill base are all plausible. A ruined chapel site exists at Kirk of Etherigeo (HY 3245 2586), in a comparable topographic situation on the next stream further W.

**Varme Dale, Gorn**

*Field visit*
David Lynn
HY 40715 18796 In June 2012 brief visits were made to several scheduled sites on the S-facing slope of Enyas Hill to test their value as viewpoints for wind farm planning assessments. Varme Dale is a dispersed scheduled collection of six mounds and barrows and the visit focused on an unscheduled outlier mound at HY 40716 18792 added to the group from a 1981 account (HY41NW 2), and the highest altitude mound at 49m OD. A second smaller outlier mound, c.3.5m wide by 0.3m high was noted c.18m W of the first at HY 40699 18786.

The various clusters of monuments are almost certainly parts of general Bronze Age activity planned to exploit the extensive panoramic outlooks across the Bay of Firth. The modern nomenclature and protective zoning tends to artificially divide the traces into segments which underplay the full spread. At a detailed level, there are differences in recognisable size, the probable content of contained cists and maybe variations in construction, but the overall pattern is a series of low earth burial mounds, 5–15m in diameter and 0.3–2.0m high. The RCAHMS records suggest Verme Dale has at least seven recognisable mounds, whilst nearby Knowes of Euro has two mounds, and West Puldrite four mounds. This gives a total of at least 13 surviving mounds, and has increased significance when the full group is viewed as a single landscape phenomenon, which may originally have contained many more elements within its zonal spread.

The various hillslopes around the Bay of Firth have a very high distribution of Bronze Age mounds and tumuli and this specific Enyas hillslope gives an unexpected sightline beyond the encircling horizons to the hills of Hoy through the Finstown gap. It seems very probable that this view was a selection factor for their location, as this landscape window is only available from a restricted portion of the hillside.

**Firth**

**Burness Firth**

*Watching brief*
Samuel Voke – ORCA
HY 38820 15866 A watching brief was undertaken on 31 May 2012 during the excavation of a short 20m long cable trench associated with the construction of a wind turbine. A recent geophysical survey had identified a potential archaeological feature but no finds or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

*Archive:* Orkney Museum
*Funder:* GR Stevenson

**Damsay**

*Fieldwork*
David Lynn

This account describes various monuments located at or near the NW corner of this small uninhabited island in the Bay of Firth, including known sites recorded in various databases. A brief visit was made in June 2012 and photographic and written records produced of the sites. Aerial photographs of the island, survey accounts not available via databases, and other sources such as the personal research provided by Sarah Jane Grieve (now Gibbon) provided useful additional information and suggest the presence of considerable archaeology across the island that has not been formally identified.

The aim of the visit was to take viewpoint photographs from the islands only Scheduled Ancient Monument (St Mary’s chapel) for a proposed nearby wind farm development. The chapel is in danger of imminent destruction from coastal erosion and reports have been made to both Historic Scotland and Orkney Isles Council to alert them of the situation.

Sites 1–3 are clustered on Damsay’s NW tip, with the chapel mound lying slightly W of a complex of other structures, including a post-medieval house which has been modified for use as a sheep pen and was built on top of and partly into an extensive but low structural mound with very high rubble content. This may well represent a levelled broch site, a Norse ‘castle’ and/or drinking hall recorded in Norse sagas as a key event location, or probably a combination of these elements. This area is the focal point for the island’s major archaeological structures and may contain a sequence that reflects over two millennia of activity. Other structures on the island, seen in aerial photographs, appear to be comparatively minor features and probably subservient to this NW cluster.

A key feature of this area is a freshwater lagoon, which is retained behind thin strips of storm beach material topped by

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turf on its W and N boundaries. The N boundary may overlie a slight W–E oriented bedrock ridge. The chapel mound sits towards the NW tip of this northern strip. The standing chapel remains appear to be a remnant of the S end wall of a structure that extended N but has been mostly lost to erosion. Slight structural footings appear to extend below the turf line to the N.

There is a wide scatter of rig and furrow patches over the N part of the island HY 3901 1406 (HY31SE 83), which are mostly clearly seen in aerial photographs. Structures A–C lie in a slightly dispersed group located further down Damsay’s W side, close to the shoreline above low cliffs and about 150–200m from the main cluster in open pasture.

HY 38953 14209 (centred on) St Mary’s Chapel The general character and dimensions of this eroding chapel are relatively unaltered from a 1966 account (HY31SE 21), but the site is subject to continuing erosion. The mound which is almost entirely grassed is c16m long W–E, 6m wide N–S and up to 2m high above the exposed beach. There are suggestions that a small rectangular cell may be incorporated into the slope on the S-facing side below the outline of a W–E running wall. There are three small areas of exposure at beach level on the N side. The furthest W of these may contain two structural phases, with a single course of a N–S wall overlying a possible wall/plinth base dug into the beach clay.

There are faint traces of slight single course wall features running N–S visible in parallel pairs at 16m and 13m from the W end of the mound and 16m and 12m from its E end. A S wall may connect the W pair to create a three sided structure open to the N. The offshore reef slightly NE of the E wall pair may have been altered to create an enhanced landing area.

The mound probably contains intact structural elements and deposits that warrant a coherent investigation. However, the erosion of the site means that a critical threshold is rapidly being approached and urgent action is needed if meaningful evidence is to be recovered.

HY 39030 14160 (HY31SE 77) A possible broch and post-medieval house structure This grass covered mound covers an extensive area and is c2–3m high. The visible rubble has been levelled but the level of stone content seems unusually high. A number of walls and minor structural elements have been built on the mound during the historic period. The evidence for a broch and settlement are circumstantial. The size of the mound is the most obvious indicator and its position is also very plausible, as it is placed close to the only obvious landing and anchorage points. A broch on the NW tip of Damsay would have potentially been an extremely imposing monument dominating the seascape.

This shell of a two-storey rectangular building does not seem to have been previously recorded and a brief photographic and written record was produced. The house is partially dug into the mound along its S and E walls. The building is aligned W–E, with central doorways in its N and S long walls and windows to either side of each door at ground floor level. There are three windows equidistantly placed on the first floor of the S wall, and a single one on the N wall. There are single windows at both levels in the W and E end walls. Each level has hearths which feed into an end wall chimney flue. The house has been cleared and two transverse girders have been inserted at first floor level to provide stability, and it is now used as a sheep station. An external free-standing shed base sits to slightly to the NW and a substantially built wall creates a stockade along the N wall, with several other wall features in other directions. While these may have originally been associated with the house they have been adapted in the modern period. The building was probably a reasonably prosperous small farmhouse dating to the medieval or post-medieval period. There are traces of a kitchen garden to the
There is a wealth of references to Damsay in the Norse sagas, folklore and legend, with a strong tradition as a holy island. Given that the mound and the chapel are the main surviving remains on the island, it is very likely that they contain Norse elements in addition to any broch period and medieval content. The name Damsay has been variously explained as either a Celtic derivation for a twinned island (with the Holm of Grimbister) or Norse derivations for ‘pond island’ or from St Adamnan. There are also traditions of a tidal causeway/skerry route from either Burness or the island export.

Every possible castle locations Sarah Jane Gibbon’s research examined early 20th-century claims by Storer Clouston that the mound was specifically the Norse castle site within an architectural definition of the term, while also highlighting a previously ignored ground feature at HY 3898 1389 on the island’s highest point. This 8 x 8m outline resembles the robbed out base of a substantially built structure, and presents a convincing case for having once been a castle, on the basis of the ground plan and its position of defensibility, vantage and commanding prominence. However a magnetometer survey of the site produced a nil return for any hearth, pits or deep ditches, which was an unexpected outcome.

The mound could contain the Norse drinking hall to match the mound contained the castle, with several demolished wall outlines shown around the mound and within its E end. The mound contained the Norse drinking hall to match Storer Clouston’s observations with the summit site being a separate castle in the true sense of the word. The complete removal of its standing elements is interesting as local stone was readily abundant so suggesting the removal was for off-island export.

There are a cluster of three features (A, B and C), each of which appears to be self contained and that may or may not be contemporaneous, just S of a slight headland. The features may be entirely separate or could equally be a related set of elements, with A as a house and B and C minor domestic working areas of some sort.

HY 38758 13915 Structure C This area of small assorted features was noted in a 1990s grey literature survey as a set of earthworks with protruding orthostats, and it was suggested that it might be a possible prehistoric burial or settlement mound. The 2012 visit identified a jumble of ground disturbance features over a 15 x 15m area and it may have been nothing more than a working area, located conveniently close to Structure B. The use of the term Structure for this site’s title is a convenience rather than a statement. Both A and B are located within a scatter of small hollows that may have been kelp pits.

It may be concluded that Damsay has a subtle but complex archaeological legacy which deserves a greater degree of recognition. It is very clear that a key element, the eroding remnant mound of St Mary’s chapel, is unlikely to survive beyond the short term, and if this not investigated soon key ingredients of the overall archaeological picture will be irretrievably lost.

Report: RCAHMS and Orkney SMR

Firth/Stenness

Rising Tide

Landscape survey including subsea CR Wickham-Jones, S Dawson, R Bates, M Bates, D Huws – University of Aberdeen, University of Dundee, University of St Andrews, University of Wales, Trinity St David and University of Bangor

HY 387 141 and HY 294 131 (centred on) Work on Holocene sea level change in Orkney indicates that relative sea levels only reached their present position some 4000 years ago. This project which was set up in 2005 aims to:

- construct a sea level curve to provide detail of former changes in relative sea level around Orkney
- investigate the possibility that remains of past human settlement might be preserved on the seabed.

The project combines different strands of work including sediment coring, remote sensing, seismic survey, diving, intertidal survey, palaeoenvironmental analysis on land, in the intertidal zone and from submerged surfaces, aerial photography, archive searches, and ethnarchaeology.

In March – December 2012 work focused on coring in the
Bay of Firth with the aim of investigating organic deposits below the present seabed, perhaps indicative of a lake or lagoon prior to inundation by the sea. Preliminary analysis of the core sediments shows a clear transgression, evident in both microfossils and molluscs, from fresh water to saline. Particle size suggests a lower energy environment after inundation. Dates from this core should help to identify the date of inundation.

In the Loch of Stenness a number of anomalies were identified in 2011, in particular a long mound to the N of the Seatter embayment, and an annular feature offshore to the S of the Ring of Brodgar. Seismic survey was undertaken across these anomalies and suggested that they may be anthropogenic (archaeological) in origin. Other work focused on modelling the pre-submerged landscape of Orkney and this will continue in 2013.

Archive: Contributors (currently)
Funder: Historic Scotland, Society of Antiquaries of London, Royal Archaeological Institute and Leverhulme Trust

Hoy and South Walls Landscape Project

Measured, walkover and geophysical survey
Daniel Lee – ORCA
HY 2200 0450 and ND 3330 8900 Two phases of fieldwork were undertaken in 2012. Walkover, measured and geophysical surveys were carried out in May in the area around Groups, Braebuster, Hoy (centred on HY 2200 0450). This built on the survey undertaken in 2010 around an Iron Age/Pictish square barrow cemetery (DES 2011, 138). Geophysical survey (magnetometry and resistivity) targeted some of the main walkover sites. Walkover and measured surveys were carried out in September in the Cantick area (ND 3330 8900 centred on). Additional measured survey was also undertaken in the Groups area. The project aimed to investigate these rich multi-period landscapes, focusing on the interplay of prehistoric and later remains, and provide community training.

The main sites of interest are:

Braebuster: A total of 71 sites were recorded (G1–71) including:
- HY 21820 04330 (centred on) A square barrow cemetery (west). A total of 12 barrows consisting of low rectangular earthworks platforms (c5–9m x 3–6m and 0.2–0.5m high), two enclosed with segmented banks (14m wide externally). Other associated features (G1–20).
- HY 22130 04270 (centred on) A square barrow cemetery (east). A total of 4 rectangular barrow platforms (G39–41, 55), c6.5 x 4.5m wide, one enclosed (11.4m wide).
- HY 21608 04633 A possible Bronze Age house (G64). A low ‘figure-of-eight’ earthwork 22 x 16 x 0.7m containing stone.
- HY 21792 04369 (G13), HY 22126 04369 (G44) and HY 22176 04247 (G54) Possible burnt mounds.
- HY 2249 04357 – HY 21327 04512 (G43, 49, 50) Head dyke.
- HY 21689 04418 (G33) Farmstead with enclosure and platforms.
- HY 21744 04506 (G51) Earlier farmstead at Groups.

Geophysical survey A magnetometer survey was carried out at: G1–20 and G39–41 areas, G33, G51 and G64. A resistivity survey was carried out at: G33, G51 and G64. The results are pending.

Cantick: A total of 14 additional sites were recorded (SWC40–53) including:
- ND 33378 88848 (SWC52) A prehistoric barrow 6.5m in diameter and 0.4m high.
- ND 33228 88971 (SWC49) A mound (prehistoric?) 9m wide by 0.4m high.
- ND 33324 89024, ND 33279 88985 and ND 33209 88897 (SWC47, 48, 50 and 51) Farmhouses/structures, all c19th century.
- ND 33216 88825 (SWC53) Rig and furrow.

Archive: ORCA
Funder: Orkney Islands Council, Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership Scheme (HLF) and ORCA

Kirkwall and St Ola

Car Ness Battery

Watching brief
Andrew Hollinsmae – ORCA
HY 4667 1450 A watching brief was carried out 28 February – 2 March 2012 during topsoil stripping within the scheduled ancient monument of Car Ness Battery. The soil was removed from two areas measuring c50 x 50m and c100 x 5m. The only remains recorded were a truncated cable and shallow trench which appeared to be of WW2 date and probably associated with the nearby coastal battery.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water

Kirkwall Sheriff Court

Watching brief
Gavin Lindsay – ORCA
HY 44945 10770 A watching brief was carried out 20–22 February 2012 during work associated with the construction of a disabled access ramp. Garden soils (19th century) were recorded at a depth of 0.15m in the N end of the area. Two segments of a medieval mortared wall associated with the Earl’s Palace were recorded in the centre of the area, with four courses of the E section and three of the W section surviving to at least 0.36m high. The construction cut of the wall was also seen. Stone from the wall had been removed, probably during construction of a footpath and stone steps in the late 19th or early 20th century. Features associated with the N-facing wall of the Earl’s Palace Brewhouse were recorded, covered with Terram and sand and left in situ.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Kirkwall Scottish Court Service

Lady

Elsness Farm

Evaluation
Cath Parker and Ruth Peace
HY 6717 3874 (HV63NE 17) An evaluation was carried out in March 2012 on a mound at the site of a proposed wind turbine at Elness Farm. A 5 x 5m trench excavated on the mound located vestiges of stone structures or surfaces immediately below the ploughsoil. The further excavation of a sondage demonstrated the depth of the deposits and recovered a prehistoric pot sherd. The proposed turbine site has been relocated.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: RJF and JM Seatter

Makabuster

Fieldwalking
Catherine Parker and Tony Lee Poole
HY 7572 4466 Fieldwalking was undertaken 12–13 November 2011 in the field known locally as Makabuster following ploughing. A prominent mound, currently recorded as a natural feature, was the approximate findspot for part of a steatite cinerary urn found in the 1800s. A cairn is reported as having been located in the field, but had subsequently
Rousay and Egilsay

Nears Farm
Evaluation
Dave Reay – ORCA
HY 42023 27494 An evaluation to investigate a mound was carried out 17–18 April 2012 on land to the NE of Nears Farm. No finds or features or archaeological significance were recorded in any of the five trenches.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Robert Mainland

Rinyo and Bigland Long
Walkover and geophysical survey, paleoenvironmental work and community outreach
Jane Downes, Ingrid Mainland, Mark Edmonds, Ian Simpson, Alison Keir and Patricia Edwards – Orkney College UHI, University of York and University of Stirling
HY 4398 3224 A small scale programme of work was carried out 20 June – 7 July 2012 on the Neolithic settlement of Rinyo (HY43SW 2) and its wider landscape in Sourin, Rousay. The work focused on the area within the Bigland valley and was run as part of the ‘Orkney – Gateway to the Atlantic Project’, in collaboration with Bradford University. The work aimed to take a landscape approach to place the Neolithic remains in their spatial and temporal context and to engage the community with the archaeological work.

A gradiometer and resistance survey was carried out in two areas of the Bigland valley. An earlier survey had been undertaken at Rinyo in 2010 (DES 2010, 121). In 2012 a gradiometer survey was carried out over a c.1.2ha area adjacent to the site of Rinyo. Responses suggestive of possible ancient field systems and ridge and furrow were identified. A 0.5ha of resistance survey undertaken directly over the site of Rinyo identified a cluster of three circular structures, linear features suggestive of walled and, perhaps, representing further houses and boundaries.

Gradiometer and resistance surveys were also undertaken on a c.1ha area over a Neolithic stalled cairn (Bigland Long) and two adjacent indeterminate mounds immediately to the N of this site (HY43SW 12). A defined area of increased magnetic response was visible to the E end of the cairn and a rectilinear response of high resistance was evident directly over the cairn. Survey results from the smaller mound beside Bigland Long indicated that this mound is of archaeological origin and may represent a further small cairn or barrow.

A walkover survey in Bigland Valley covering c28800m² identified several new sites including bank/dyke features, cairns, a possible prehistoric settlement and a complex, abandoned settlement which may be early medieval.

A community outreach programme was developed in association with the archaeological investigations in Bigland Valley and at the Knowe of Swandro excavation that involved the local community and schools. The Summer Archaeology Club website can be viewed at https://sites.google.com/site/summerarchaeologyclubrousay

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Orkney Islands Council and private donation

Saviskaill Loch
Geophysical survey
Patricia Edwards – Orkney College UHI
HY 39859 33484 A geophysical survey was undertaken on 23 June 2012 over a sub-rectangular cropmark identified in 2009 by the RCAHMS. An area of 3200m² of gradiometer survey was undertaken directly over the feature. The results showed that the background level of response across the site was very low. However, there was a sub-rectangular area of increased magnetic response, c50m (NNW–SSE) by 15m, although only marginally stronger than the background levels. A line of increased magnetic response (NNE–SSW) divided the feature in half. The shape of the feature and the similarity to the cropmark suggest the enhancement probably represents a structure. The low level of magnetic enhancement may indicate that the feature has been heavily plough truncated. However, the ephemeral nature of the response and the limited survey area (the responses appear to continue to the SSE) makes interpretation tentative.

Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: ORCA and Orkney College UHI

The Knowe of Swandro
Evaluation
SJ Dockrill, JM Bond, J Downes, IL Mainland and R Maher – University of Bradford and Orkney College
HY 3753 2966 (Swandro) A team from the University of Bradford, Orkney College (UHI), William Paterson University and City University New York cleaned, recorded and sampled the site at Swandro, 20 June – 19 July 2012, as part of the ‘Orkney – Gateway to the Atlantic Project’. The project aims to investigate and record coastal sites in Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre which are threatened by rising sea levels and coastal erosion.

The Beach: The investigation of odd stones just visible among the pebbles on the beach below the eroding site has completely changed our understanding of this enigmatic mound. Initial clearance of the overlying beach material revealed the remains of an Iron Age structure. This was confirmed by an AMS radiocarbon date of 25BC–AD130 at 95% confidence for carbonised barley from a midden which sealed flagging in one of the compartments. Work in 2011 (DES 2011, 136–7) enabled the nature of the erosion to be more fully understood together with an indication of archaeological survival and potential. The sea had created terraces or steps within the archaeological mound, with each of these eroded scars being covered by redeposited beach material.

In 2011, on the NW western side of the cleared archaeological surface, the remains of a substantial outer wall forming the arc of a large circular building seemed to form the continuation of a crescent shaped ridge at the top of the mound, and it was thought to be the outer wall of a large roundhouse of broch proportions.

A Chambered Cairn? In 2012 this substantial wall was
investigated more fully; clearance of the overlying beach material revealed a circular structure. This was formed by a number of concentric outer wall faces. Each arc of wall was backed by a stone and midden core. Rather than the expected broch, the structure of this monument more closely parallels the construction of a Neolithic chambered tomb. A wall running eastwards is suggestive of an outer-work leading into an entrance passage. Cutting into and sealing the top of this enigmatic monument were further Iron Age buildings represented by truncated flag floors and orthostats.

Despite aggressive erosion, shown by the worn outer faces of the walls which have been battered by the sea and the constant movement of the boulder beach, this probable chambered cairn still remains intact, and has great archaeological potential. The excavation of the seaward outer rings proved difficult, as the sea would cover these at high tide and work had to be timed to coincide with low tides, after substantial amounts of bailing. Bone from the Iron Age middens and between the concentric walls of the cairn survives well even in areas truncated by the sea. This means that the potential for in situ human remains within the tomb is high and in consequence this is an extremely important site. Re-evaluation of existing tomb assemblages are currently challenging previously held interpretations. This site offers the rare opportunity to excavate using modern methods and techniques, a tomb which in a few years time will be completely lost to the Atlantic.

Work to the SE in 2012 saw the continuation of Late Iron Age walling on the foreshore under the boulder beach and now indicates that the Norse Hall overlies earlier settlement material.

This year’s excavations have demonstrated that the deposits at Swandro are more extensive and the deeper deposits are much earlier than initially suspected.

Archive and Report: Orkney SMR and RCAHMS (intended). Digital records: ADS
Funder: Orkney Islands Council, University of Bradford, Orkney College, City University of New York and William Patterson University

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**Sandwich**

**Quoyloo Cottage**
Watching brief
Dave Reay – ORCA
HY 24799 21528 and HY 24863 21577 A watching brief was carried out on 26 October 2012 during the excavation of two 3 x 3m wind turbine bases on land near Quoyloo Cottage. Trench 1 at the S turbine base was 0.15m deep and Trench 2 at the N base was 1.2m deep. The topsoil was 0.1m deep in each trench and overlay bedrock. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: ORCA
Funder: Peter Moss Energy

**Twatt Airfield**
Watching brief
Giles Carey – ORCA
HY 2659 2165 (A) and HY 2645 2244 (B) A watching brief was undertaken 5–16 March 2012 during excavation of two stretches of water pipeline. A 250m trench was excavated to the S of Linklater Road (A) and a 890m trench to the N of Bryameadow Road (B). No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water

**Shapinsay**

**Lady’s Kirk, Shapinsay**
Excavation
Dave Reay – ORCA
HY 47025 16421 (centred on) An excavation was undertaken 4–6 June 2012 of human remains and associated features identified during a watching brief on the installation of a water conduit. The features and burials disturbed by the route of the pipeline and associated sump were excavated and revealed the probable graveyard and boundary ditch of Lady’s Kirk Chapel. No structural remains were recorded but the chapel
is probably close by, perhaps to the N of the excavation area. The only pre-cemetery feature was an undated, N–S aligned gully. The gully was overlain by a buried soil horizon, which is likely to be a deposit of buried topsoil, which was overlain by the pebble surface of the cemetery. The buried soil horizon seems to predate the medieval use of the site as a cemetery and probably represents a former land surface, as it is cut by the graves and enclosure ditch. The cemetery was bounded to the S by a WNW–ESE oriented ditch. This ditch probably formed an enclosure which delineated the extent of the consecrated ground associated with the chapel. No archaeological remains were present to the S of this feature.

A total of ten burials were excavated. Two of the graves probably represent multiple inhumations, both of which contained an adult and a neonatal/infant burial interred together. Ten further burials were identified and left in situ, and a further six probable grave cuts were identified. All of the burials (except one neonatal individual) were aligned broadly W–E, with the head at the W end of the grave, and were supine. The burials were intercut and densely packed, which could suggest that the burial ground was in use for a reasonable duration. The bone preservation was relatively good and none of the burials had grave goods. There was no evidence of coffins in the graves, but a significant proportion of the inhumations had associated structural features. The alignment of the skeletons, lack of grave goods, typological dating and archaeological evidence for the site strongly suggests that these inhumations are Christian, and date to the medieval period.

Archive: Orkney Museum and Orkney SMR
Funder: Scottish Water Ltd

Shapinsay Portable Water Scheme
Watching brief
Dave McNicol and Samuel Voke – ORCA
HY 47114 16481, HY 47179 16556 and HY 47948 16627 A watching brief was carried out 9 March – 18 June 2012 during the excavation of a water pipeline and associated pits on the Balfour Castle Estate and Elwick Bay. The work consisted of a 150m stretch of pipeline running NE from the shore line (HY 47114 16481), two test pits (HY 47179 16556 and HY 47152 16523), two trenches (HY 4721 1661 and HY 4718 1652), and an 80m stretch of pipeline running along the SW coastline (HY 47948 16627). The work uncovered evidence of a graveyard (see entry above).

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water

South Ronaldsay

The Cairns, Windwick Bay
Excavation
Martin Carruthers – Orkney College, UHI
ND 4542 8688 Excavation work continued 18 June – 13 July 2012 as part of ongoing research on the Orcadian Iron Age. The main open area trench, c25 x 25m, was the focus of work with small extensions on the SE and W sides. The principal aims were to extend understanding of a massive Atlantic roundhouse or broch-like building (Structure A) that makes up a large part of the mound, and to continue to investigate the later Iron Age settlement (Structural areas B, C, D and E) that surmounts and intrudes into the building fabric of Structure A.

Structure A, a monumental thick-walled roundhouse, c22m in diameter, was further defined and explored both internally and externally. A trench extension on the W side was dug to characterise the outer wall face and the nature of deposits abutting it. This revealed that the broch walling was very substantial. It was composed of massive blocks in this sector, possibly a measure taken to strengthen the wall, since this section is adjacent to an intramural staircase. The wall had been placed directly onto the natural glacial clay as seen previously in a section against the N wall face of the broch and indicates that whatever old ground surface, topsoil and deposits lay there were scalped away in preparation of the broch foundation. Significantly, the level at which the broch foundations were present and at which the surface of the natural occurred in the W section was within a few centimetres of the same in the N section. This was despite the differential heights at which the two sections were made relative to each other and to the steep hillslope on which the site sits. This means that substantial earthmoving (terracing) was probably undertaken to provide a level platform for the broch on the break of slope.

Approximately two thirds of the rubble fill of the interior of
Structure A was excavated, on its E side. This revealed extensive well preserved occupation deposits across the excavated area and substantial in situ stone orthostatic fixtures and fittings demarcating the internal layout of the building, at least in its latter stages of occupation. The occupation material will be excavated in 2013. The preliminary indications are that there is an extensive artefact rich and deep set of deposits representing a potentially long period of use in the building. The uppermost surface of the deposits is 0.5m above the floor level reached in the adjacent broch entrance, which itself is not necessarily the earliest floor.

The ongoing investigations into post broch activity on the site work focused on defining the stratigraphic relationship between the souterrains (Structure F) and a nearby Late Iron Age building (Structure E). The souterrain, a 3m long curving passage that reused the remains of the entrance passage of the broch, was found to predate Structure E and relates to a contemporary above ground building, thought to be a roundhouse, Structure G. The exploration of a quarter of this putative roundhouse revealed a well constructed hearth and some internal divisions or kerbing. The souterrain would have been entered from the N part of the above ground building close to its inner wall face, in a position and manner seen in other Orcadian souterrains/earthhouses.

The possible roundhouse was found to have been deliberately infilled with midden, presumably derived from Structure E immediately to the NW, and this infill also seems to have sealed the entrance to the souterrain at the same time. This midden was dated to the 7th century AD by the presence of characteristic ‘hipped pins’, and this fits well with the previously obtained archaeomagnetic date for a hearth in Structure E that indicated it was last heated between AD645 and AD795.

A clay cap was excavated from over the surface of the stone roof lintels of the souterrain and a series of rotary quern fragments were found to have been installed in a specially made stone setting or kerb, laid out on the roof. It may be significant that the central hole of the uppermost rotary quern was positioned over a gap between two of the souterrain roof lintels, encouraging the idea that it was intentionally set to allow some form of communication, either of the verbal variety or of materials, such as libations, from above to below. The full excavation of the floor deposits inside the souterrain is scheduled for 2013.

Work also continued on the later post-broch suite of buildings and activity areas in the N area of the main trench. Attention was focused on Structure C ‘the workshop’, and ‘Room 1’ of Structure B, a complex multi-phase arrangement of rectilinear and cellular wall lines, features and adjoining rooms or, more probably, entire buildings.

Structure C, a relatively large sub-circular building, had previously been found to have been constructed into the ruins of Structure A on its NE side. The identification of Structure C as a workshop was further strengthened by the presence of more heat-affected surfaces and features probably relating to metalworking, as well as a fairly substantial assemblage of items relating to metalwork production, including moulds of clay and stone and specimens of bog ore. More steatite finds, a vessel fragment and a spindle-whorl, may support the possibility that there is Late Iron Age/Viking interface present in this building. On the E edge of the building, a newly uncovered L-shaped portion of walling represents the remains of another structure, which post-dates the workshop and partially truncates it. Further excavation will be required to establish whether this building fragment is part of a Viking period structure.
Work in Structure B ‘Room 1’ revealed a large and elaborate long hearth c.2.6m in length, which adjoins another hearth previously recorded in this room. The form and proportions of the hearth could indicate that it is an early Viking feature and this raises the possibility of a Late Iron Age/Viking interface within this building also. Samples taken from the hearth for archaeomagnetic and radiocarbon dating will hopefully elucidate this possible early Viking presence on site.

In summary, there is now confirmation of a Middle Iron Age period broch and associated extramural structures, followed by an immediately post-broch episode, involving the souterrain and putative contemporary roundhouse, itself succeeded by the extensive Late Iron Age settlement strung out across the remains of the broch. Finally, this may itself have been the subject of Viking interest possibly in the late 8th or early 9th century AD.

**Archive:** Orkney Museums Service and Orkney SMR (intended)

**Funder:** Orkney Islands Council, Orkney College UHI and ORCA

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**Stenness**

**Happy Valley, Stenness**

**Standing building survey**

Daniel Lee – ORCA

HY 32689 10583 A Level 3 standing building survey was carried out 24–28 October 2011 prior to roof repairs. The house, formerly known as New House and Bankburn, is a typical Orcadian elongated stone-built farmhouse dating to the later 19th century. The house had been occupied for the last 50 years by Mr Edwin Harrold (1948–2002) who had developed the gardens, planted woodland and used a homemade hydroelectric generator to power the house with a 12 volt system. This was a rare opportunity to investigate an un-modernised late 19th-century farmhouse.

**Archive:** ORCA

**Funder:** Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership Scheme (HLF)

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**Ness of Brodgar**

**Excavation**

Nick Card – ORCA and Orkney College UHI

HY 303 129 Further investigation of the large Late Neolithic complex on the Ness of Brodgar was undertaken 16 July – 24 August 2012 in order to characterise more of the structures and activity on the site. Overall a more fluid, organic development of the site was revealed with potentially several of the other major structures remaining in use after Structure 10 was built.

The central hearth and surrounding occupation deposits of the secondary major remodelling of Structure 1 were exposed. Dumps of mixed charcoal-rich ash clay were excavated from the S and W recesses exposing internal stone settings. A box-like structure, bound by a low upright slab to the N and a snapped orthostat on the E side, was exposed in the S recess. The top of a wall facing W was exposed in the W recess. Levelling deposits were removed from the northern bays either side of a central orthostat. This exposed additional stone settings, including a snapped orthostat, and a second central hearth. This hearth is surmounted by the main wall that forms the N side of the secondary major remodelling of the Structure 1 building. The large dividing orthostat was cut into the second hearth. The use of the internal area then focused upon the southern central hearth to the S. This was surrounded by a series of interleaving clay floor deposits and thin occupation spreads. The southern central hearth was used throughout the majority of the life of the building, until it was sealed by a semi-circular structure (excavated last season). The occupation and floor layers remain unexcavated.

The full extent of the intra-mural passage that runs along the E side of Structure 1 was exposed. The passage is c.8m long and originated as a passage between Structure 19 and Structure 1. Structure 11 may have been added to the S end, extending the passage around to the southern entrance of Structure 1; however, the relationship between Structures 11 and 19 is as yet unclear. The passage still partly functioned with the later construction of Structure 7 above Structure 19. The internal passage flagstone surface continued to the N where it rises up and respects a secondary phase wall of Structure 1. The S end of the passage contained numerous examples of decorated stones.

Excavation continued in the internal area of Structure 7 around the central hearth. The final patches of clay floor and ashy midden spreads were removed exposing a substantial levelling layer. This abutted the central hearth stones, which were found to overlie an earlier hearth, perhaps from Structure 19. The levelling layer also continued below the outer wall of Structure 7 confirming the late position of this building in the sequence. The levelling layer was excavated in quadrants around the central hearth exposing a lower ashy surface/levelling. The N and E walls of Structure 19 remained elusive and appear to have been extensively robbed.

A rectangular flue feature to the S of Structure 7 was fully excavated. This had upright stones demarcating a central area full of burnt stone with a smaller rake-out area to the S full of charcoal-rich layers. The burnt stones did not appear to have been burnt in situ and were likely to have been deposited in this condition. The structure may have been used as an oven.

Structure 21 was discovered to the W of Structure 1. A short length of curvilinear stone built wall was exposed that represents the corner of a substantial building, perhaps similar in size to Structure 1, but that had been substantially robbed of stone. The foundation stones of the wall were found to overlay a layer of clay that abutted the foundation stones of the neighbouring Structure 1 wall. Therefore, Structure 21 was slightly later (similar to Structure 14), but broadly contemporary. The building continues out with the excavation trench. Later activity over the remains of Structure 21 was represented by an area of paving and insubstantial wall lines.

The main trench was extended to reveal the full extent of Structure 14 that was first revealed on 2011. Although its northern side was badly robbed a full plan was revealed, c.10.6 x 9.2m overall. The interior of the building was sub-rectangular and roughly symmetrical along its W-E long axis. Each side of the structure had a small corner niche to the W, and two large recesses defined by piers and a corner buttress. The W wall had two small piers defining a shallow recess where a secondary dresser possibly stood, while the corner buttresses to the E defined an opposed end recess. The interior
The arrangement of corner niches and side recesses is directly paralleled in Structures 8 and 12, and the bowed sides are also paralleled with the former. Entrances were revealed in both the middle of the S side and in the E end of the structure. The latter entrance had been blocked. The occupation deposits and various orthostatic fittings, including two hearths, within Structure 14 were revealed in plan but not excavated. Three special deposits had been left on the surface of the latest occupation horizons comprising a polished igneous stone tool placed on an incised slab, an exceptionally fine polished gneiss axehead and a complete Grooved Ware vessel. Several related drains were revealed outwith Structure 14 as paved areas and a later small building, Structure 22.

The upper mass fill layers within Structure 12 were further investigated, with the majority of these layers fully removed, and the four stone robbing cuts along the inner face of the E wall were fully excavated. The WNW outer walls of the annexe were further investigated, with a short length of later wall abutting the annexe completely removed.

Upon the removal of the last major midden infill deposit a number of more discreet midden dumps, along with a shallow pit, some possible structural features and potential floor layers were uncovered. The top of a number of possible associated stone furniture features were revealed during this season, however none of these were fully uncovered, and their full extent and nature remains to be seen. These include wall lines, orthostats and a stone box.

The blocked up, original entranceway located in the WNW corner of Structure 12, was revealed to a height of 0.7m. A door jamb associated with this entranceway, and incorporated into the NNE side of the adjacent pier was also uncovered. In the S end wall a shallow but full height recess was uncovered directly in line with the narrow entrance in the N wall.

Very limited excavation was carried out in Structure 8 this season, as it was deemed necessary to bring the SSW half of the structure into phase, before the previously exposed floor deposits can be excavated. However, one of the hearths was half sectioned and the floor deposits were sampled using a portable XRF machine at 0.5m intervals.

In the SSW end of Structure 8 the depositional sequence was characterised as thick midden, or midden enhanced soil backfill deposits, which overlay layers of demolition rubble, interspersed with further deposits of midden. At the end of the season, a probable secondary occupation horizon was revealed, which appears to overlie further deposits of demolition rubble. Further structural features were exposed, which form the SSW continuation of the WNW wall of Structure 8, along with two piers and orthostatic divisions within the interior of this structure. The structural remains in this area were heavily truncated by later activity, associated with Structures 10 and 7, and the flue-like structure (see above).

The stratigraphic sequence in this key area of the site was also clarified. Deposits were interrelated across the area, to examine the phasing between the various structures. Cut features relating to the robbing of the masonry of the outer wall, and deposits which overlie the outer passageway of Structure 10 were excavated to refine the stratigraphic sequence. These included the excavation of the animal bone-rich layer, encountered elsewhere within the upper fill of the outer passage of Structure 10.

Limited excavation was undertaken in the Central Midden Area, between Structures 1, 8 and 12. In this area, large concentrations of Grooved Ware pottery were present within the midden deposits. Significantly, a deposit of trample was identified which overlay a clay surface. These layers lead from the outer annexe of Structure 12, to an orthostatic setting, proving the contemporaneity of these structures.

Work within Structure 10 concentrated on further exploring...
its interior and sequence. Features and deposits relating to the secondary cruciform shaped central chamber were investigated, including slots for several robbed out orthostatic arrangements. The N and W dressers, and the NW pier were dismantled. A polished stone unperforated macehead/pestle was discovered in the eastern recess to the S of the entrance passage, with a polished stone axehead revealed under the western dresser. The floor of this secondary use sat on a thick, very mixed rubble and clay deposit that is presumed to seal the primary deposits that relate to its original square plan with rounded corners. Confirmation of the primary wall was revealed by the robber trench in the NE corner. This perfectly preserved trench had removed all the upper stonework but had left in place the original massive stepped foundation slabs.

Samples for archaeomagnetic dating were taken from hearths in Structures 1, 7 and 8. If proved usable more hearths will be sampled in 2013.

To accompany the large catalogue of Neolithic art already discovered several other examples were revealed this season. A large assemblage of typical Late Neolithic cultural material was also uncovered including several more polished stone artefacts, two more blades of pitchstone, and large quantities of Grooved Ware some exhibiting the use of different coloured clays, slips and applied coloured pigments.

**Ness of Brodgar**

**Evaluation and watching brief**

Daniel Lee, Dave Reay, Giles Carey and Dave McNicol – ORCA

HY 303 128 A programme of work was carried out 12 March – 11 July 2012 in advance of the construction of a footpath and adjacent water pipeline trench along part of the SW shore of the Loch of Harray. The development is adjacent to Brodgar Farm and the Neolithic complex at the Ness of Brodgar.

The work, which consisted of the excavation of four test pits and an intermittent watching brief during all groundwork, identified four distinct concentrations of archaeological features. The features uncovered in Areas 2 and 4 reflected a probable continuation of the Neolithic activity uncovered at the Ness of Brodgar to the SE. However, as the groundwork did not impact upon these features they were recorded, sealed, and left in situ. The remaining features were either undated or related to the post-medieval use of the area.

**Stromness**

**Copland’s Dock, Stromness**

**Evaluation**

Dave Reay – ORCA

HY 25958 09205 A evaluation was undertaken 27 February – 28 March 2012 in advance of the construction of a pier, access road and work area on land to the W and S of Garson Farm. A total 10 trenches were machine excavated across a series of geophysical anomalies identified in a recent walkover survey. The majority of the anomalies were found to reflect natural features; however, two areas containing evidence relating to agricultural activity were located. In Area 1, two furrow bases, a ditch, and a linear feature associated with two stone lined drains were recorded in Trench 1, and a shallow ditch/furrow base, a pit or posthole and a wall in Trench 10. A single ditch terminus or pit was recorded in Trench 8, Area 2.

**Ness Battery, Stromness**

**Standing building recording**

Mark Littlewood – ORCA

HY 2670 1234 A resistance, gradiometer and topographic survey was carried out 21 November – 10 December 2011 during research for a MA in archaeological practice. The area had been previously fieldwalked by Colin Richards in the 1980s. On the basis of the artefacts recovered and the results from a subsequent magnetic susceptibility survey Richards had suggested that the site may represent an Early Neolithic settlement, possibly of timber construction. A gradiometer survey, followed by a targeted resistance survey recorded a number of anomalies of possible archaeological origin, which were suggestive of settlement activity to the N of the survey area. A subsequent topographic survey provided data on the post-depositional context of the site.

**Deepdale Farm**

**Geophysical and topographic survey**

Giles Carey – Orkney College UHI

HY 24866 07926 A laser scan survey of the Ness Battery was carried out 8 May – 11 December 2012. Scans were taken of the interior and exterior of the two 6” gun emplacements, their associated gun crew accommodation and the entrance stairwell, corridor and rooms of their associated magazines.

**Ring of Brodgar**

**Evaluation**

David Murray – Kirkdale Archaeology

HY 294 133 (centred on) A series of 17 trenches was excavated, 28 August – 2 September 2012, to establish the depth of added soil around the eastern half of the Ring of Brodgar. A coherent sequence of deposits, showing variable depths of added soil was recorded in all of the trenches. Most of the trenches contained silty clay dumped on the underlying peat. Two trenches contained gravel laid over black plastic sheeting, while others contained plastic netting or bedding sand directly below the topsoil. The depth of the introduced deposits varied both within and between trenches, but they were on average 100–150mm thick and 2m wide. The deposits often seemed to fill hollows in the underlying peat, suggesting a complicated sequence of repair, carried out where and when it was needed.

**Westray**

**Links of Noltland**

**Excavation**

Hazel Moore and Graeme Wilson – EASE Archaeology

HY 4280 4530 A further large scale excavation was carried out at Links of Noltland during February – September 2012. The main focus was Structure 18, a subterranean building partially excavated by the NMS 1978–81. The building consists of two c.1m high rooms joined by passages. Significant finds from the building included two carved stone figurines, large quantities of articulated animal bone as well as Grooved Ware potteries, flint, worked bone, bone, stone tools and decorated stones. Closing deposits in the passage between Rooms 1 and 3 were found to contain c18 cattle skulls laid on the floor, together with c6 sheep skulls.
Excavation continued on Area 5, a complex of buildings associated with an enclosure wall. Work here included the excavation of more midden deposits and two buildings, Structures 10 and 19. A carved stone ball was recovered from infill within Structure 10. Work on the Bronze Age settlement included further excavation of a structural complex (Structure 13) together with surrounding and underlying middens.

**Abernethy**

**Kirk of St Bride**
Watching brief
Derek Hall
NO 1890 1640 A watching brief was carried out on 17 September 2012 during the excavation of cable trenches for three lights adjacent to and in the graveyard of the Kirk of St Bride. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

**Alyth**

**Haughend Farm**
Evaluation
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NO 2875 4705 An evaluation carried out in March 2011 targeted cropmarks visible on 1998 RCAHMS aerial photographs. The cropmarks were shown to be natural features resulting from deeper soil accumulations in natural hollows. A number of pits were identified across the area, one of which contained prehistoric pottery. No function or date could be ascribed to the others. A series of unlinked ditches of unknown date and function was recorded across the centre and W side of the site.

**Auchterarder**

**Castle Craig: SERF**
Excavation
Heather James – University of Glasgow and Northlight Heritage
NN 97604 12714 Targeted excavations at Castle Craig continued 7–26 August 2012 as part of the University of Glasgow SERF Project. Four trenches were excavated.

The Broch The outer wall of the broch was 2.2m high on the W side but only 0.7m high on the N. The broch walls were >5m thick with some evidence for intermediate walling. Internal and external paving or cobbled surfaces were found, but there was no evidence for external structures either predating or contemporary with the broch. The finds included Roman trade goods, such as a trumpet brooch and a single sherd of Samian ware, which are of 1st- and 2nd-century AD date, as well as local domestic material including a substantial tankard handle.

Outwork A geophysical anomaly had initially drawn attention to an area outside the broch which proved on excavation to be a substantial wall, similar in construction to the broch. The finds from the demolition above this wall were also similar to those from the demolished broch and included iron tools and Roman glass.

The Enclosure The low earth and stone bank, c28m in diameter, was built upon the deliberately infilled broch. Further postholes and evidence for timber were found within the bank. Finds from an occupation phase included iron...
objects and a blue bead.

Archive: University of Glasgow and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland and University of Glasgow

**Blair Atholl**

**Na Clachan Aoraidh**
Survey
Graeme Cavers – AOC Archaeology Group
NN 8386 6200 A geophysical and laser scan survey of this four poster stone circle was undertaken on 17 January 2012. The resistivity and magnetometer surveys indicated that significant buried archaeology extends beyond the visible surface remains, including possible structures and burials. The results of the 3D laser survey were integrated with geophysical results to produce a 3D visualisation of all elements of the site.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

**Blair Atholl/Dull/Fowlis Wester**

**Beauty to Denny Overhead Line**
Evaluation and survey
Alastair Becket – Northlight Heritage
NN 7589 5908 *Tummel Bridge Substation* A standing building survey was carried out in April 2011 on the remains of a building and the partial remains of additional structures. Although no definitive evidence was found it is likely that they relate to the construction of an electricity substation in the 1930s.

NN 6416 7412 *Wade’s Road* An evaluation was undertaken 17 October 2011 – 8 March 2012 on the line of two proposed access tracks (26 and 29) which lay on the route of General Wade’s Military Road between Dalwhinnie and Dalnacardoch. A total of 16 trenches were hand excavated which exposed the surface of the road and construction techniques. A series of well preserved stone culverts were recorded which probably date to the original construction of the road in the 18th century. The surface of the road was generally composed of gravels and pebbles and could not be categorically dated to the 18th century and may reflect 19th-century resurfacing. A series of roadside quarries were also recorded.

NN 7165 7046 *Dalnacardoch, Dalwhinnie* An excavation was carried out 30 April – 14 June 2012 on the site of a proposed construction compound. A series of trenches were hand excavated through two post-medieval structures and their surroundings. The c18 x 5m structures were subsequently fully excavated and a number of artefacts consistent with a post-medieval date recovered. These included ceramics, roof tiles and iron objects such as tools and branding irons.

NN 9034 3210 *Tower TD91* An evaluation was undertaken 20–24 February 2012 on the proposed site of a tower compound at Lurg Burn near the Sma’ Glen. Two standing stones were uncovered but a lack of datable remains means that the date of the stones is currently unknown. The stones will be preserved in situ.

NN 7567 5934 *Tummel Bridge* An evaluation was undertaken 19 March – 4 April and 21–23 August 2012 on the site of a proposed construction compound. A total of nine trenches were hand dug through a series of clearance cairns but no significant archaeological finds or features were recorded. A single whetstone of probable post-medieval date was recovered.

NN 8638 3835 *Easter Turrerich, Glen Quaich* An evaluation was undertaken 28 September – 3 October 2012 on the site of a proposed construction compound, and a watching brief during the construction of an access track on 16 October 2012. The evaluation focused on a revetted wall of probable post-medieval date. Trial trenches on both the platform to the N and the slope to the S of the wall recorded no significant archaeological finds or features.

NN 8730 3753 *Easter Turrerich, Glen Quaich* An evaluation was undertaken 17–27 September and a watching brief 9–11 October 2012 at a post-medieval farmstead, named as Weston Kinloch on the 1st Edition OS map (1867), prior to construction of an access track. A series of hand excavated trial trenches uncovered a cobbled surface to the S of the farmstead, as well as a reasonably well preserved culvert. The remains of a dry stone boundary wall and two relatively modern clearance cairns were recorded to the E of the farmstead.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc

**Caputh**

**Coin Hill**
Geophysical survey
Oliver JT O’Grady – OJT Heritage
NO 1794 3920 A flux-gate gradiometer survey was undertaken 22–23 February 2012 at Hallhole Farm in advance of proposed development work. The survey crossed the scheduled ancient monument of Coin Hill, a concentration of prehistoric settlement remains identified as cropmarks, including souterrains and ring ditches. At total of 1.53ha was surveyed along the southern boundary of an arable field using a sampling density of 0.25 x 1m. Key discoveries included a possible souterrain with associated roundhouse(s) within the scheduled area and a potential pit-defined enclosure outside the scheduled area. Several possible pits, sections of ditches and undefined cut features were also noted. A small number of worked flints were retrieved from the surface of the ploughsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS and PKHT (intended)
Funder: Alder Archaeology Ltd and Meikleour Trust
Cargill

The Smithy, Cargill
Standing building recording
Derek Hall
NO 1530 3670 A photographic survey was carried out on 6 February 2012 of the 19th-century rural smithy at Cargill. Blocked windows, doorways and evidence for different phases of the building’s construction were recorded on supplied architects elevation drawings.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Keith Miller

Cargill/Coupar Angus

Keithick Mills
Watching brief and standing building recording
Tamlin Barton and Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NO 20309 38242 (centred on) A staged watching brief was undertaken 12 July – 11 September 2012 during the construction of a small hydro-electric scheme at Keithick Mills, along the Coupar Burn (NO 20352 38248 – NO 20166 38225). A number of 18th- or 19th-century remains, associated with the mills were recorded. These included a 19th-century pump house containing a waterwheel, several stone culverts and a rock-cut lade. The remains of a sluice and an overflow channel were recorded at the E end of the lade.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Highland Eco-Design Ltd

Comrie

Dalginross Roman fort
Geophysical survey

Dalginross Roman Fort, resistance and magnetic surveys

DJ Woolliscroft – The Roman Gask Project
NN 7720 2100 Resistance and magnetic surveys were conducted in a pony paddock on the fort’s NE corner, which had previously been known only faintly from the air. A clear image of the rampart and double ditched defences of the inner fort was obtained. The single ditch of the outer enclosure also showed well, with signs of what is probably the start of the turn into its NE corner. Inside the inner fort defences, a series of small circular features, which probably represent rampart ovens, was detected, along with a linear feature that may be a ring drain. No signs of internal buildings or other structures were found in the outer enclosure, however, and decades of aerial survey have also failed to find such structures. The fact that the inner fort shows normal internal buildings from the air might suggest that this absence is real, and not just an artefact of the data.

Outside the fort, faint signs of a narrower linear feature have been seen from the air, roughly parallel to the outer enclosure ditch, and which might have been seen as a second fort ditch. The survey confirmed the existence of this feature, but proved it to follow a more divergent course than had been thought, and a resistance pseudo-section suggested that it is extremely shallow and so probably not Roman in origin.

Archive: The Roman Gask Project
Funder: The Roman Gask Project

Penfilan, Dalginross
Excavation
Derek Hall
NN 7732 2104 Three trenches were opened across the line of the ditch of the outer enclosure around the Roman fort at Dalginross, 14–21 August 2012, on the site of a proposed new house and garage. The line of the ditch was located in all three trenches and the feature was bottomed in two of them. Good
evidence was located for rampart demolition and backfilling of the feature, which appeared to be a single episode as there was no sign of any recuts to the ditch. The line of an 'ankle-breaker' in the very base of the ditch was recorded. No finds were retrieved from the backfill. In Trench 3 a contemporary drainage feature was recorded and half sectioned.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Catherine Hendry

**Coupar Angus**

**Bankhead of Kinloch Farm**

**Evaluation and excavation**

Martin Cook – AOC Archaeology Group

NO 258 438 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 2 February – 8 March 2012 prior to a proposed agricultural development. An evaluation consisting of the machine excavation of 26 linear trenches, totalling 1750m², across the development area identified round and square barrows, and led to a secondary excavation. A total of five Early Historic barrows, consisting of two round barrows, a square barrow and a double square barrow were recorded. Skeletal material was recovered from four of the five burials. In addition five isolated pits were excavated. The features were generally sterile of artefacts, although flint and ceramic were

**Coupar Angus**

**Metal detector find**

Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MH) and NMS (SC)

NO 228 400 Two finds were recovered at Coupar Angus during metal detecting. The first find consisted of one half of a papal bulla, which had broken along the central space, where iron wire would have been used to attach it to a document. Due to the fragmentary nature of the bulla and the idiosyncratic nature of the lettering identification to a particular Pope is problematic. Bulla were an essential instrument of ecclesiastical bureaucracy for the medieval church, being used as an imprimatur for both administrative documents and indulgences granted to individuals. It is likely that this bulla reached Coupar Angus attached to a document meant for Coupar Angus Abbey. A second life as an amulet may have seen it reach its damaged condition.

The second find is an unusual survival of a patron, a metalworker’s master pattern, which was used to impress clay moulds either to produce one-off objects or a repeating pattern on a larger object. This patron takes the form of a distinctive trefoil, commonly associated with 16th-century metalwork (it can for example, be seen on Dutch bronzes of the period). The appearance and style of this example suggests it would be used to impress the cope of larger moulds for objects such as bells and mortars, to make a continuous banded frieze upon the cast object. As such, it is an unusual survival of early modern founding techniques, but one not unexpected in relation to a major monastic institution such as Coupar Angus Abbey.

Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG
Funder: Perth Museum and Art Gallery

**Crieff**

**Broich Road**

**Evaluation and excavation**

Gary Savory and Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NN 8652 2095 An evaluation was carried out in September 2012 in advance of construction of a new primary school, and covered 2380m² (c5.9%) of the development area. Three pits were identified in Trench 12, one of which contained a cremation burial within an inverted Cordonned Urn, dating to the Early Bronze Age (c2000–1500 BC). The other two pits, which were left in situ, also probably contained cremations, as there were pottery fragments and cremated bone visible on their surfaces.

An excavation was subsequently undertaken and a 20 x 21m trench opened over the previously located features. The excavation recorded two further urn burials; three pits containing cremations, two of which contained a copper alloy object, and the third containing five barbed and tanged arrowheads; two postholes; and 13 other pit features of unknown date and function. It is possible that at least some of this activity relates to the nearby partly scheduled Broich Cursus to the E of the excavated remains.

Archive: Perth and Kinross SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Perth and Kinross Council

**Drumalbyn, Crieff**

**Watching brief**

Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd

NN 8838 1997 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 22 March 2012 during groundworks associated with the construction of a house in a field on the W side of Drumalbyn. The area was considered sensitive due to its proximity to multiple prehistoric sites. The removal of 0.3–0.5m deep turf and topsoil from the footprint of the house and driveway revealed natural silt and fine gravel. The only features were some modern plough marks cut into the natural subsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: David Torgerson

**Meallneveron**

**Fieldwork**

George Currie

NN 85746 27752 (centred on) A possible hut circle was identified on the lower S slopes of Meallneveron. It measured 5.2m E–W by 4.7m N–S, with 0.5m high footings and entrance at S. Two rectangular enclosures were also recorded. The first measured 5.5m E–W by 4.7m N–S, with 0.5m high footings and entrance at S. The second enclosure measured 5m E–W by 5m N–S with 0.6m high footings.

**Monzie**

**Standing building recording**

Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd

NN 8787 2496 A standing building survey was carried out...
on 26 April 2012 on a dilapidated group of buildings known locally as the Old Manse Stables at Monzie. The buildings were covered in dense ivy and their roofs had already collapsed or were collapsing. Five main phases of construction were recorded reflecting alterations made between the late 18th and 19th centuries. The buildings included barns, cart sheds, stores, haylofts and stables. However, there was no conclusive evidence for cattle byres or that the buildings had ever been occupied by people. The windows and doors of the main range had been improved in the 19th century. These alterations probably coincided with the rebuilding of the church and possibly the Manse in the 1830s by William Stirling. The last major alteration was the construction of a new stable for horses and the conversion of one of the old rooms to house ponies. The interiors of both these stables were fitted out with high quality carpentry.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Helen Dunkley

### Dull

**Calliachar**

**Survey**

*Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd*

NN 85 43 A walkover survey carried out 17–30 January 2012 along the proposed cable route from the Calliachar Wind Farm to the Griffin substation identified archaeological sites at two locations. Four cairns were recorded immediately to the NE of scheduled area of Scotston, c600m NW of the substation. A man-made hollow cut into a natural ridge, possibly a shooting butt, was recorded near the W end of the cable corridor.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Calliachar Wind Farm Ltd

**Craig Kynachan**

**Cup-marked rock**

*George Currie*

NN 753 595 56508 A flat rock 550m NNE of Braes of Foss Farm bears at least 16 small cup marks with at least 4 combined to form dumb bells. At the western edge two grooves form a V pointing to the SW.

**Croftmoraig**

**Excavation**

*Richard Bradley – Reading University*

NN 797 54726 The aim of the excavation undertaken July – August 2012 was to check details of the site sequence at Croftmoraig and to obtain samples for AMS dating. As 90% of the site had been excavated in 1965 the 2012 excavation focused on the unexcavated balks between some of the trenches, and on contexts where the presence of charcoal had been recorded by Piggott and Simpson. The new work involved four small trenches. The first sectioned the rubble perimeter of the monument which is interpreted as the foundation for a wall. The second examined the site of a ‘hearth’ recorded by the previous excavators in the centre of the monument. The third investigated small areas of surviving stratigraphy in a penannular gully discovered during the earlier project, whilst the fourth excavated part of a shallow pit extending beneath a displaced block belonging to the perimeter wall. Charcoal samples were recovered from all four areas and are currently being identified. It is hoped that they will be suitable to resolve current uncertainties about the structural sequence on the site and its absolute chronology.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Reading University

### Dull Farm

**Evaluation**

*John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology*

**Survey, excavation and watching brief**

*Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services Ltd*

NN 8234 5717 (intake) to NN 8262 5886 (powerhouse) A programme of archaeological work was carried out 31 January – 24 May 2012 on a 100m wide corridor along the E side of Dull Farm in advance of work associated with a hydro-electric scheme. A walkover survey was undertaken and sites identified during a previous survey by SUAT in 2005 demarcated. A total of 21 sites had been recorded by the original survey, 2 recorded as shielings (Site 16 at NN 824 5773 and 21 at NN 825 574) were found to be natural river terrace features, a corn-drying kiln (Site 20 at NN 828 586) was a clearance cairn.

A total of 67 new sites were recorded including clearance cairns; a possible corn-drying kiln (Site 25); possible burial mounds (Site 22 at NN 82760 58837, Site 25 at NN 82790 58646); a dyke representing the head dyke of Lick farmstead (Site 57 NN 82904 58456 to NN 83021 58490) which joins Site 7 recorded by SUAT; outfield cultivation remains above the head dyke (Site 26 NN 8281 5797 to NN 82720 57700), and two groups of shieling huts. One group of six shieling huts (Sites 29–33 and 88) centred on NN 825 572 and a large group of 30 huts (Sites 34–52, 61–62, 79–87) centred on NN 825 573 and NN 826 573. These sites have been recorded in detail and preserved in situ.

Two possible buildings had been recorded by SUAT as Site 3A and 3B at NN 826 588. This area was a palimpsest of glacial moraine and clearance features with some distinct clearance features (Sites 3C–K) and large areas of stony spreads. Excavation was undertaken in advance of work for the powerhouse and access tracks, and a watching brief maintained. Although Site 3 was revealed to be field clearance, a corn-drying kiln was located at NN 32627 58872 ± 7m (Site 3G). All archaeological features, apart from the clearance stones at Site 3 and cuttings through boundaries and a track across cultivation remains at Site 26, were avoided by the development.

**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Hydroplan UK Ltd

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**Funder: Reading University**

**Archive and Report:** PKHT and RCAHMS

**Funder:** Mr Peter Campbell

**French Burn**

**Survey, excavation and watching brief**

*Fiona Baker – Firat Archaeological Services Ltd*

NN 8234 5717 (intake) to NN 8262 5886 (powerhouse) A programme of archaeological work was carried out 31 January – 24 May 2012 on a 100m wide corridor along the E side of French Burn in advance of work associated with a hydro-electric scheme. A walkover survey was undertaken and sites identified during a previous survey by SUAT in 2005 demarcated. A total of 21 sites had been recorded by the original survey, 2 recorded as shielings (Site 16 at NN 824 5773 and 21 at NN 825 574) were found to be natural river terrace features, a corn-drying kiln (Site 20 at NN 828 586) was a clearance cairn.

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**Archive:** RCAHMS (intended)

**Funder:** Hydroplan UK Ltd
**Glengoulandie**
*Walkover survey*
Derek Hall
NN 780 526 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out on 18 January 2012 in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. Known sites were visited and recommendations made regarding those that should be excluded from the plantation. A line of 13 stone and turf built grouse butts were recorded on the slopes of Meall Dubh Mor.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Torso Ltd

**Loch Tummel, Tay Forest District**
*Survey*
John McCarthy – WA Heritage
NN 7856 5801 A detailed measured survey was undertaken 18-20 April 2012 of nine ringforts and associated features around Toch Tummel. The sites surveyed were Tom Chaiseil, Tom Donn nan Eun (W), Tom Donn nan Eun (E), Ceann na Coille, Borenich (W), Borenich (E), Queen’s View, Allan Cottages and Black Castle. The survey was undertaken using a combination of EDM and dGPS equipment. The work produced detailed measured and site plans, contour surveys, and written and photographic records, which will be used to update the HER and inform future best practice in managing the sites.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

**Tullichuill**
*Cup- and ring-marked rock*
George Currie
NN 80985 47385 A prominent 1.2m high rock 150m NE of Tullichuill Cottage bears at least seven cup marks, one of which is ringed.

**Turrerich (TU 10)**
*Cup-marked rock*
George Currie
NN 85268 39926 On a terrace on the 400m contour below Creag Choille a rock flush with the ground bears at least 15 cup marks and 1 dumbbell.

**Dull/Fortingall**
*East Schiehallion*
*Survey*
Clare Thomas
NN 7471 5451 (centred on) A plane table survey was carried out in March 2009 of a group of small, poorly defined circular shieling huts, situated in dense bracken in a corrie near the base of the E ridge of Schiehallion. Two circular enclosures and four field clearance cairns were also recorded.

Archive: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and RCAHMS (intended)

**Dull/Kenmore**
*Lady M’Curry’s House*
*Excavation and watching brief*
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NN 7770 4525 A c1400m² area was stripped of topsll, 28 March – 2 April 2012, in advance of the construction of a contractor’s compound towards the SW corner of the castle grounds. A few interesting features were uncovered. At NN 77675 45256 there was a sub-rectangular pit, 2.2 x 0.8m by 0.3m deep and filled with highly burnt material. Although it had no stone or clay floor, this feature was probably a kiln. At the N end of the trench, at NN 77692 45288, there was a post pit, 1m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with a few large stones, probably disturbed packers. Nearby, at NN 77704 45290, there was a smaller post pit and, at NN 77695 45284 there was what appeared to be a hearth. Other, related features may be uncovered when the trench is extended for the construction of an equestrian centre.

NN 77693 45479, NN 79079 46634 and NN 78377 45722 On 25 May 2012 watching briefs were kept during excavations for three new electricity sub-stations. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded in any of these trenches.

NN 78291 46667 – NN 78432 46543 On 28–29 May 2012 a watching brief was kept during the excavation of a c200m long service trench from near the ‘Chinese Bridge’ to the rear of the castle. Nothing of significance was recorded in the trench.

Archive and Report: PKHT and RCAHMS

**Dunkeld and Dowally**
*Dunkeld*
*Metal detector find*
Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (IMH) and NMS (SC)
NO 023 428 A significant piece of ecclesiastical metalwork and several buckles were recovered during metal detecting at Dunkeld. The former is a substantial cast copper alloy figure (or ‘corpus’) of Christ from a processional or altar cross. The figure is crowned and clothed in a knee length perizoma (or ‘loincloth’) knotted centrally at the waist. Though the figure is generally worn smooth, the detailing of the cloth around the waistband and down the sides is sharp, as is the modelling of the ribs. The figure is solid at the feet and from the head mid-way down the back, with the rest of the back and the legs hollow-cast. On stylistic grounds the clothing and appearance of the figure would suggest a mid-12th-century date, with similar examples known from Scandinavia and Germany, although there is no reason the figure could not be locally made in this wider regional style. In that sense this figure is a product of a wider northern Romanesque style and such crosses appear to have vied with the products of Limoges for a place on the altars of European churches. The distortion of the arms suggests that the figure has been wrenched from the cross to which it was originally attached. This, and the findspot, which is close by the Cathedral of Dunkeld, raise the question of whether such finds are the result of iconoclastic activity or...
merely the disposal of discarded church metalwork. In the case of Dunkeld we have to think of not only the Reformation but the Covenanting burning of the town in the 17th century and the periods of lawlessness in the 15th and 16th century that saw the Bishops of Dunkeld take temporary refuge in Perth.

In addition to the corpus, eight late medieval and post-medieval buckle fragments were recovered from the same general area. Such scatters are usually taken as indicative of middening activity but in the case of Dunkeld may be a further reflection of the Covenanter destruction of the town.

**Dunkeld**

**Metal detector find**

*Mark A Hall and Nick Holmes – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MH) and NMS (NH)*

NO 023 428 A medieval silver penny cut to serve as a half-penny was found in Dunkeld. It is the first known example of its type and was probably issued during the reign of King Malcolm IV (1153–65). Although the inscription is not legible, the identification was confirmed by the obverse presence of a facing crowned bust with cross-topped sceptre, a feature known at this period only on a single issue of Malcolm IV, itself known only from a handful of surviving specimens. The reverse design consists of a short cross fleury with a spike projecting from the middle of the cross into each angle. One of the spikes on this coin has a pellet at its extremity. This design has not previously been recorded for Malcolm IV. It is similar to that found on a rare type of sterling of David I, so the coin may be either an entirely new issue of Malcolm’s or one that reused a reverse die (making it a ‘mule’) of his father and predecessor, David I.

Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

**Dunkeld Cathedral: Culdee Archaeology Project**

*Geophysical survey*  
*Oliver JT O’Grady – OJT Heritage*

NO 02393 42595 Geophysical surveys were undertaken, 25 October – 9 November 2012, in the grounds of Dunkeld Cathedral as part of a pilot research project investigating early medieval monasteries in Perth and Kinross. The cathedral grounds were surveyed with resistance and gradiometer, and a total station survey was also completed. High resistance readings indicative of building remains were recorded SW and SE of the Cathedral. The W group were a series of linear readings interpreted as remains of the late medieval Bishop’s Palace and Chanonry. East of this a prominent area of disturbance correlates with the site of St Adamnan’s Cottage; a demolished 19th-century mansion and designed landscape. Curvilinear anomalies indicated potential early medieval monastic remains in a level area at the SW of the grounds.

Local volunteers assisted with the survey.

Archive: RCAHMS and PKHT  
Funder: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

**Dunning**

**Dunning Village: SERF**

*Excavation*  
*Adrián Maldonado – University of Glasgow*

NO 0191 1453 and NO 0187 1457 A 10 x 5m trench (SS12.01) was excavated, 6–26 August 2012, against the N exterior churchyard wall of St Serf’s Parish Church on Kirk Wynd. This was placed to assess the origins of the curvilinear enclosure of the churchyard specifically, and the nature of surviving medieval deposits in general. The area was found to be severely disturbed by modern settlement, including dumping of demolition debris as levelling for the road. The foundations of a 20th-century roadworkers’ shed built with reused railway sleeper beams was revealed in plan. Discrete spreads of coal and sand were also associated with this structure and later use of this area as storage yards for the adjacent builders who currently own this strip of land. No certain trace of the roofed structure depicted in this position on the 1st Edition OS map was found, and the shallow stratigraphy of irregular pits dug into the natural gravel indicates severe truncation of archaeological deposits in this area since the 19th century. Patches of potentially undisturbed ground revealed two large pits, >1m deep, were filled with alternating layers of a loose silty clay, one with a long, thin stone slab placed upright along the N side. These may relate to their use in the weaving industry which was associated with this area of the village. A medieval/
A post-medieval stone spindle whorl was found here which supports this interpretation.

Trench SS12.02 was opened 11m to the E along the churchyard wall, revealing a unmortarted stone wall surviving up to two courses, with sterile ground to the W and pits full of charcoal and modern midden material to the E. These remains were all covered by a layer of dumped stone and clay levelling material, from which a small fragment of early medieval cross slab bearing a distinct key pattern, similar to that found on stones at nearby Forteviot, was recovered. This is the second known piece of early medieval sculpture from Dunning.

Trench SS12.03 was located 65m N of St Serf’s Church in the back garden of Castle Cottage. This open area is adjacent to Dunning Primary School (NO01SW 88) where excavations in 2007 revealed a possible monastic vallum ditch dated to the 8th/9th century. Trench 03, a 2 x 3m test pit, was placed on the line of this enclosure. A cobbled surface and possible drain were recorded at a depth of 0.75m, indicating potential surviving medieval deposits in this area.

Leadketty: SERF
Excavation
K Brophy, A Gould, G Noble, D Wright and R Younger – University of Glasgow and University of Aberdeen
NO 0193 1586 As part of Phase 2 of the SERF Project an exploratory excavation was undertaken 6–26 August 2012 in three locations within the Leadketty cropmark complex. The cropmarks at Leadketty were initially recorded in 1970 by CUCAP, and regular repeat flying since 1976 by RCAHMS has revealed a remarkable complex of cropmarks across two large fields 1km to the N of the village of Dunning. Cropmarks indicate that this was the location of a substantial Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age ceremonial centre, including a massive palisaded enclosure, several hengiform enclosures, a four-poster setting, multiple barrows, ring ditches and pits, and a range of sub-circular enclosures of unknown date, one of which may be a causewayed enclosure. Leadketty is comparable to the prehistoric cropmark complex at Forteviot, 4km to the E, which was the focus of SERF excavations between 2007 and 2010 (DES 2008, 145–6 and DES 2009, 150 etc). The 2012 excavations were preceded by a targeted geophysical survey in Spring 2012 (see entry above). The three areas excavated were chosen to establish the survival of the archaeological traces, to provide comparative data to Forteviot and to assess the geophysics results.
Trench 1 focused on one of the features recorded within the palisaded enclosure, a square setting of four features suspected to be of later Neolithic date and thus perhaps contemporary with the use of the palisaded enclosure itself. This site was interpreted in the NMRS as a four-poster stone circle, but we felt that it was more likely that this was a timber setting, and this was confirmed by our excavation. The four-post setting was identified in the E half of the trench and consisted of four large postholes. These formed a square with each post c3m apart (measured from the approximate centre of the postholes). Two further postholes sat just to the NE of the square setting forming a ‘porch-like’ setting. These postholes were all c0.5m deep and no more than 1m in diameter, with clear post-pipes. Significant quantities of pottery were found in these features, some of which was Grooved Ware. Carbonised material was also found in these postholes, as were a few worked lithics. A series of other features were identified in this trench, some of which may be related to the four-post setting. These included a group of small postholes which seem to have formed a circular setting. These were 5–8m from the centre of the four-post setting with the majority lying on the circumference of 7–8m diameter circular setting. Some of these postholes showed signs of burning, notably in the N half of the setting. A series of pits, some intercutting, were located to the W of the four-poster; however, their relationship to this structure is unknown. Other features found within the trench included a series of slots, some of which may have once held wicker fences. The Leadketty four-poster is part of an increasingly recognised Late Neolithic tradition of architecture that extended across large areas of Britain and Ireland – timber structures defined by central square post settings with encircling timber circles or wall lines. These structures appear to encompass sites interpreted as both domestic sites and ceremonial monuments dating to the period 3000–2500 cal BC.

Trench 2 focused on a small henge-like enclosure within the palisaded enclosure. The mini-henge was defined by a wide but shallow ditch; the ditch was investigated through three slot trenches, and was 3–4m wide and up to 0.7m deep. At least one re-cut of the ditch was recognised, and in one location the ditch may have cut an earlier pit or postholes. The henge interior was a relatively small area, no more than 8m across while entrance to the henge was via a narrow causeway; no evidence for an external bank was found. A substantial cut feature was found towards the W half of the henge interior. This feature was c2.45m in diameter and up to 1.5m deep. The identification of a possible post-pipe and substantial stonework found towards the base and near the edges of this feature suggests that this pit once held a massive post. The relationship between post and mini-henge is unclear. The size and form of this henge suggests that it may be Bronze Age in date.

Trench 3 was located to investigate the N side of the huge palisaded enclosure near the single entrance avenue. Cropmarks suggest that this enclosure measures c400m E–W, and 250m N–S, with the S being an escarpment and river. The boundary itself consisted, as our excavations revealed, of timber posts, arranged c2–3m apart. Two entrance postholes, and seven boundary posts were excavated. The avenue postholes were large, and showed evidence for intensive burning of the posts. Sherds of Grooved Ware and worked lithics were recovered from these features. The boundary posts were less substantial, alternating between large and smaller postholes. No features were found between these postholes. Four palisaded enclosures of this nature have been recorded as cropmarks in Scotland, and excavations at the other three – Forteviot, Dunragit and Meldon Bridge suggest a Late Neolithic date.

The excavations suggest that this monument complex differs in key aspects to the Forteviot complex, in terms of the nature of the palisaded enclosure, the types of activities and structures within the enclosure, and depositional practices. Post-exavagation analysis and radiocarbon dating will allow us to make more meaningful comparisons with Forteviot in the near future.

Rossie Law: SERF

Exavcation
Tessa Poller – University of Glasgow
Funder: Historic Scotland and University of Glasgow

Archaeology and 3D laser scanning
Tessa Poller – University of Glasgow and Northlight Heritage
NN 99771 12416 A geophysical survey was carried out 7–9 and 17 March 2012 on Rossie Law in advance of excavation. The gradiometry survey covered c10000m² across the summit of the E end of the hill, up to and including the summit of the bank. The underlying volcanic geology dominated the results of the gradiometry survey on the summit of the hill and therefore any potential subtle magnetic archaeological features could not be detected. However, lower down the slope, along the inner edge of the enclosing bank, possible traces of an internal ditch were noted. Opposite the entrance several potential archaeologically significant anomalies were also detected. A small area of resistivity on the summit highlighted the edge and centre of a circular hollow as an area of higher resistance.

A 3D laser scan was also produced of the hill including the bank of the fort. This work was undertaken by Charlotte Francoz of Northlight Heritage in conjunction with the University of Glasgow.

The Linn

Survey and standing building recording
Louise Turner – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NO 035 089 A programme of survey and Level 2 standing building recording was carried out September – December 2011 on two deserted post-medieval farmsteads at Linhill and Lategreen. The site plans were compiled using a Leica Total Station. The survey of the upstanding fabric of the E building at Lategreen produced detailed drawings of all four external elevations, each of which featured surviving in situ features of archaeological interest. The condition of the buildings was assessed with the aim of identifying areas where the archaeology is threatened by environmental factors.

Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Findo Gask

Clathy
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MH) and NMS (SC)
NN 992 197 A fine, post-medieval (c1700) silver brooch, was recovered during metal detecting at Clathy. It is a heart-shaped type of brooch, once common both in Scotland and the rest of N Europe. This example is unusual in having a Dublin assay mark on its reverse. Such items were worn in Ireland (usually, from the 17th century, as an expression of Catholic belief) but not made in export quantities. The assay mark is very unusual and suggests an interesting story of a Scottish visitor to Dublin commissioning the piece or perhaps receiving it as a gift.
Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG
Funder: PMAG

Forgandenny

Kirkton of Mailer
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Trevor Cowie – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MH) and NMS (TC)
NO 108 198 A small Middle Bronze Age flanged axehead was found during metal detecting. Its size is partly due to its casting size but it has also been considerably reduced in length presumably as a result of heavy use and repeated reworking of the blade. Axeheads with short flanges beginning some distance above the blade are the characteristic axe of the Middle Bronze Age in Scotland and Northern England. The extent of the reworking of this blade leaves the original form of the axehead uncertain. That said, the form of the butt end and the shape and the relative height of the flanges suggest an axehead of the so-called Ulrome type (named after the site of a find from Yorkshire). In Scotland, the type has a widespread distribution rather than any strongly regional concentration and this specimen adds to a scatter of this and other contemporary axe types across east/central Scotland. In the near absence of datable associated finds, it is only possible to suggest a broad date range from c1400–1200 BC.
While not ruling out the possibility of deliberate deposition (for one still has to account for the disposal of potentially valuable recyclable metal), the heavily worn/reworked condition of this axehead would be more consistent with the casual loss or discard of an artefact that had reached the end of its functional life (though this in itself could have been seen as a fit reason for votive deposition). L 89mm, W (blade) 33.6mm, H 33.5mm, Weight 170.5g.
Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

The Roundel: SERF
Geophysical survey
Tessa Poller – University of Glasgow
NO 1147 2010 A c21200m² gradiometric survey was conducted, on 21 September 2012, across agricultural fields surrounding a wooded outcrop. The survey confirmed the presence of ditches initially identified by aerial photography in 1975. At least five, perhaps six, ditches were recorded to the NW of the Roundel. Towards the SE the line of these ditches became less clear within a zone dominated by the underlying igneous geology. The geophysical data suggest the three innermost ditches are different in character to the outer ones. Other features detected in the field related to the underlying geology and a well noted on the OS 1st Edition map of 1866.

Archive: University of Glasgow and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland and University of Glasgow

Fordingall

White Bridge Rationalisation Scheme
Watching brief
Jake Smetfield-James – AOC Archaeology Group
NN 4892 4905 A watching brief was carried out 4–11 November 2011 at Glengoulandie and Tirinie during the removal of three lengths of dry stone dyke, components of a system of land improvements. A stone lined cundie was recorded during topsoil stripping for a pipeline at Tirinie. This feature, which was known to the landowner and diverts a small stream under a cropped field, also formed part of land improvements carried out in the late 18th to early 19th century.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Perth & Kinross Council

Fortingall

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Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Perth & Kinross Council

Fossoway

Crook Moss
Casual find
Mark A Hall – Perth Museum and Art Gallery
NT 0389 9998 A Neolithic polished stone axehead, slim and elegant in shape, with a high polish. It is grey-green in colour and probably made of jasper/chert. Its narrow blade tapers to a pointed butt, with some old damage to the blade on one side and on the butt. It is asymmetrical in form in that one face is convex whilst the other is almost flat. It was found by Mr Marshall of Crook of Devon, at least 10 years (probably considerably more) ago whilst walking across Crook Moss, and was sticking out of the face of a peat hagg. L 184mm, W (max.) 53.9mm, T 28.6mm, Weight 446g
Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

The highly polished Neolithic axehead from Crook of Devon (Copyright PMAG)

Fossoway/Muckhart

Rumbling Bridge
Walkover survey
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NO 0315 0013 – NT 0275 9990 A walkover survey was undertaken on 12 April 2012 along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme between Crook of Devon and Rumbling Bridge. In a level field at NT 02432 99809 is a large mound measuring c27m N–S at its base and 7-8m on its flat summit. There are no similar features nearby and this mound may well be a burial site.

Archive and Report: PKHT and RCAHMS
Funder: Green Highland Renewables Ltd

Fowls Wester

Connachan
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 88130 27054 A rock, 1.9 x 1.6 x 0.8m sloping to the SE and located 300m W of NN82NE 8 bears at least 30 cup marks and 2 wide arcs at the lowest SE point.

Shaggie Burn
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 87773 28205 Approximately 40m W of the Connachan to Meall Tarsuinn track a 1 x 0.6 x 0.5m boulder bears a single large cup mark measuring 70 x 25mm.

Kenmore

Balnasuim
Cup- and ring-marked rocks and cross incised stone
George Currie

NN 67334 38677 A boulder measuring 1.8 x 1.1 x 0.4m located 450m E of Balnasuim Farm bears at least 35 cup marks 3 of which have single rings. Two cup marks have grooves. A Greek cross with arms 65mm long and aligned cardinally is engraved in the centre of the stone. A rock, 2.3 x 1.5 x 1.5m, 15m to the SE (NN 67348 38675) bears eight cup marks.
Tombreck (TB 8)
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 63974 38558 At a height of 330m OD and 150m W of the Allt na Cairnich a boulder 0.8 x 0.7 x 0.1m bears 13 cup marks, the largest measuring 70 x 30mm.

Kenmore Hotel
Standing building recording
Sam Scott – Scotia Archaeology
NN 7734 4552 A standing building survey was undertaken in January 2012 on four buildings surrounding a courtyard to the immediate E of the Kenmore Hotel. The buildings were all of different age and construction. The E range is the oldest and may be contemporary with the earliest inn, around 1752, while the S range was probably built shortly after the planned village of Kenmore was constructed in 1755.

Kenmore Hotel
Evaluation
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology
NN 7721 4548 On 2 February 2012 six trenches were opened on a grassy bank between the Kenmore Hotel and the bridge that spans the River Tay as it flows out of Loch Tay. Trenching was undertaken in advance of the construction of new holiday accommodation for the hotel. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered, only large rubble presumably from the demolition of a substantial building of which no other trace was uncovered.

Kettins
Holdings, Lintrose
Evaluation
Derek Hall
NO 222 374 A watching brief was carried out on 8 August 2012 during topsoil stripping of the footprint of a new house at 30 Holdings. An homogenous deposit of dark brown silt varying between 0.15–0.70m deep was recorded, but there were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Kilspindie
Pitroddie (Nether Durdie)
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Fraser Hunter – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MAH) and NMS (FH)
NO 215 244 A crudely-cast dumbbell toggle with near hemispherical terminals and a stalk 4–6mm in length between them to take a strap or thong. These are a typical and widespread Iron Age fastener, for clothing or straps. Their date range is uncertain; it probably starts in the late first millennium BC and runs into the Roman period. The findspot is immediately adjacent to an extensive later prehistoric settlement site known from cropmarks (NO22SW 44 and 68). The area is also close to the findspot of a 1st/2nd-century AD button loop fastener. L 15.8mm, W (max) 11mm, Weight 5.27g
Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

Rait
Standing building recording and evaluation
Tamlin Barton and Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd

A standing building survey and evaluation were carried out 17–19 July 2012 prior to development. The survey focused on three properties, Shelling Cottage (NO 22632 26800), The Smithy (NO 22631 26834) and Smithy House (NO 22645 26843), which are located in the centre of Rait to either side of the main burn which runs through the village. The Shelling Cottage had clay bonded rubble walls and was constructed in two phases, a small structure to the W being later extended to the E. The building was altered several times during the 19th century and the original thatched roof replaced with slate. A number of elements in this building hinted at a possible original late 18th-century date. The Smithy consisted of a rectangular mortar-bonded rubble building probably built in the first half of the 19th century as part of the central farm of Rait dating to the improvements. The building’s roof, originally covered by pantiles with vents and glass skylights was replaced and the walls raised in the late 19th century. This appears to have been part of a 19th-century reorganisation of the farm. Smithy House, a large well built house was constructed as part of this development and replaced an earlier range of farm buildings.

An evaluation consisting of the excavation of two trenches was carried out at NO 2261 6284 to the W of the Smithy. Post-medieval pottery, modern pottery and wine bottle fragments were recovered. Fill or makeup deposits were found in Trench 1, which seemed to represent a post-medieval or early modern horticultural feature or a roadside ditch. In Trench 2 a ditch feature was recorded, which probably related to post-medieval or early modern drainage.

Archives and Reports: PKHT and RCAHMS
Funder: Morgan Homes Scotland Ltd

Kinross
Goudierannet, Kinross
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Trevor Cowie – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MAH) and NMS (TC)
NO 1185 0084 A complete but heavily worn Early Bronze Age flanged axehead with traces of ornament surviving on one face. The main features of this once fine axehead – particularly with its long flanges, its near parallel-sided form, deeply curved blade and traces of ornament – all point to comparison with the types of axehead which were current during the Early Bronze Age at the point of transition between developed flat
axes and true flanged axes. Detailed classification is uncertain owing to the present corroded state of the axehead but the closest comparison can be made with Bandon type axeheads, probably dating to c1700 BC.

The condition of the axehead certainly belies the original quality of the artefact and possibly also its condition at the time of the deposition. As in the case of a decorated Early Bronze Age axehead found by Jim Crombie at Kinnesswood, the discovery of an intact decorated axe seems best explained in terms of special deposits around the margin of Loch Leven, the shoreline of which would have been considerably closer to the findspot (Goudierannet) in prehistoric times than at the present day. This is the second bronze axehead to have been found in this immediate area, a Middle Bronze Age flanged axehead having been found in this area in the 1930s and presented to the national collection. In the next field and some 300m from the findspot, there is the cropmark of an enclosure (NO10SW 39). Although presently undated, this at least provides a further hint of early settlement around the W margin of the loch.

Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

**Lethangie Ice House**

Watching brief

Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NO 11997 03545 A watching brief was carried out in July 2012 during the excavation of a gravity sewer trench to the N of the Kinross to Lethangie road, where it passes a feature shown on an 1896 map. An arched tunnel/culvert that is open at the S end passes under the road at this point.

The upper portion of a flight of steps was recorded, the location of which conforms to that of the tunnel. The rectangular feature shown on the 1896 map contains horizontal lines which may now be interpreted as the representation of steps. The cartographic evidence suggests this feature was infilled between 1896 and 1915. The entrance to a possible ice house was recorded adjacent to the S end of the tunnel.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Perth and Kinross SMR

Funder: Scottish Water Solutions

**Kirkmichael**

**Lair**

Geophysical survey

Peter Morris – Blairgowrie Geoscience

NO 1390 6370 A magnetic survey was carried out, 16 December 2011 – 5 November 2012, to provide a broad context for the excavations at Lair being conducted by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. The area has been occupied repeatedly, possibly from as early as the Neolithic. An area of c3ha has been covered so far but much of the site is in deep heather and progress is slow. A wide variety of magnetic features have been mapped.

Archive: Perth and Kinross SMR and RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, Drumderg Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, Cairngorms National Park, Aviva and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

**Lair: Glenshee Archaeology Project**

Survey and excavation

David Strachan and David Sneddon – Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust / Northlight Heritage

NO 1387 6376 The Glenshee Archaeology Project was initiated with the aim of exploring and researching the prehistoric and early medieval archaeology of Glenshee for the benefit of both residents and visitors to the area.

The 18–30 June 2012 season focused on the excavation of three trenches across a potential medieval Pitcarmick type building and the area immediately outside it. The building was one of two similar SE-NW oriented rectangular structures defined by turf banks previously identified by the RCAHMS. They lay end to end and were next to and aligned with a prehistoric ring cairn. Further visible archaeology including prehistoric roundhouses and another Pitcarmick type building are located next to the excavated area.

The excavation trenches were located at either end of the building located furthest to the SE. The NW trench revealed the remains of collapsed turf banks that would have formed the rounded end of the building. This end of the building, constructed on a slight slope, contained no sign of stone footings for the turf wall although the frequent stone mixed in with the slumped turf material may indicate a former footing, which has been incorporated into the bank material as it decomposed and worked its way downslope.

The SE trench revealed similar collapsed turf walls with no evidence for stone footings, although areas of well preserved turf banking were noted. A probable entrance and a pit, that may represent the location of a supporting timber was recorded inside the SE end of the structure. A cE-W running linear depression containing evidence in situ burning at its base was recorded beneath the E of the structure and appeared to immediately predate the construction of the turf walls of the main structure.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, Drumderg Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, Cairngorms National Park, Aviva and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

A bird's eye view of the site with Mount Blain in the distance (Copyright George Logan/Cairngorms National Park)
of Whitefield Castle bears a rosette of six cup marks with a further three cups 1m to the S and a single cup 1m to the N.

**Little Dunkeld**

**Ballinloan**

*Desk-based assessment and walkover survey*

John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NN 9658 4250 to NN 9670 4114 and NN 9414 4303 to NN 9670 4114 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey, the latter on 17 February 2012, were conducted along the proposed route of a new hydro-electric scheme around Ballinloan. The route runs close to several 18th- to 19th-century farmsteads and through the remains of the pre-improvement township of Salachill, a scheduled ancient monument. No new archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive and Report: PKHT and RCAHMS

Funder: MNV Consulting Ltd

**Griffin Wind Farm**

*Survey*

Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NN 96 74 (centred on) A survey was carried out August 2010 – January 2012 of the two abandoned townships of Blairnabuiag and Riebeg, located in the eastern part of a development area. The area was planted for commercial forestry in the 1980s. The core of the township at Blairnabuiag, although bisected by a forestry track, was preserved within a large clearing. A large part of its head dyke, the internal dykes, and enclosures have also been preserved in rides or between plough furrows. The township at Riebeg was less well preserved, possibly due to robbing of its stone for the construction of a nearby mid-19th-century sheep fold and dykes. Documentary evidence indicates that the townships originated as shielings, probably in the 17th century, that were subsequently developed as permanent settlements during the third quarter of the 18th century. However, the settlements were short lived and were abandoned in the early 19th century when intensive sheep farming commenced.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Griffin Wind Farm Ltd

**Longforgan**

**Market Knowe, Longforgan**

*Excavation*

Derek Hall

NO 312 305 The two long cists located in the earlier phases of site evaluation (DES 2011, 154) were hand excavated 4–5 July 2011. Cist 1 was in good condition with its cap stones still in place. However, on excavation of the soil fill there were no surviving remains of an inhumation. A charcoal sample from behind the western end slab of the cist produced a radiocarbon date of 1545 +/- 30 BP (calibrated date of AD 420–590 at 95.4% probability). Cist 2 was very badly damaged and only a single base stone survived, again there were no surviving traces of an inhumation.

Archive: RCAHMS

Funder: Mr and Mrs Todd

**Newton Bridge, Trochry**

*Casual find*

Mark A Hall – Perth Museum and Art Gallery

NN 9790 4055 While carrying out an engineering bridge inspection at Newton Bridge, over the river Braan in 2006 Mr D Kennedy spotted this object lying in the river. He brought it into PMAG for identification in 2011. It is a prehistoric macehead, made from black basalt, vesicular in character and with a smooth, water worn appearance. It is well balanced, has an asymmetric blade and a flattened butt. There are two chip-scars on the butt. It has a centrally placed, irregular hourglass perforation. Weight 887g, L 142.5mm, W 91mm, T 40mm, D 18 x 19mm.

Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG
**Madderty**

**Madderty**  
**Metal detector find**  
Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MAH) and NMS (SC)  
NN 95232 21136 A 17th-century nesting weight outer-cup was found during metal detecting at Madderty. It is in good condition and probably dates to c1650 AD. It is marked with a maker’s mark indicating manufacture in Nuremberg, Germany. It is also stamped with the troy ounce calibration mark, suitable for weighing precious metals. Such nesting weights were frequently referred to as packman’s weights, the common possession of travelling salesmen, merchants and tinkers. Their greater prevalence in the 17th century is indicative of an increasing trade with the continent. Locally, within Perth and Kinross, such weights have a pattern of association with monastic sites, with examples known from both Coupar Angus and, like this example Inchaffray. Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG.

**Meigle**

**Meigle Churchyard**  
**Watching brief**  
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd  
NO 2871 4457 (centred on) A watching brief was carried out on 30 January 2012 during the excavation of 0.15m deep and 1.20m wide track associated with the construction of a new disabled access route from Meigle parish church, through the graveyard to the museum S of the church. The foundation remains of the former graveyard wall were uncovered in an area where it had been demolished in the 19th century to create an opening. A large deposit of disarticulated human bone was found close to the surface in the graveyard, which was then reburied at a deeper level. It was established that the bones had been collected and reburied close to the surface when a field drain had been inserted through the graveyard in the 19th century. Some structural remains (brick and stone) from disturbed 19th-century grave markers and a small amount of 19th–20th-century pottery were recovered.  
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust

**Meigle Museum**  
**Watching brief**  
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology  
NO 2871 4455 A watching brief was carried out 29 February – 1 March 2012 during 0.15m deep excavations associated with the extension of an existing path into the yard in front of the museum, to connect it to a ramp to allow disabled access to the building. A single sherd of medieval/post-medieval pottery, with a greenish-yellow glaze, was recovered. The presence of pottery in the backfill of the drain/manhole trench suggests that where sufficient depth can be achieved, intact archaeological horizons may be sealed by the later imported material that was used to level the area.  
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Historic Scotland

**Moneydie**

**Coldrochie**  
**Standing building recording**  
Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd  
NO 07610 29030 (centred on) A photographic survey was carried out on 6 March 2012 of the farm at Coldrochie. The farm is mentioned, along with a mill, in various papers relating to the Maxtone Graham family of Cultoquhey and dates to at least the early 17th century. By the mid-19th century the farm consisted of a group of five buildings arranged in a square around a central yard with two further buildings to the N and E, both mills. The survey focused on the remaining five buildings, a byre, a barn, a cart shed, a mill and a dairy. The buildings to the E and S of the yard (possibly a farmhouse and a stable) were found to have been recently demolished on arrival at the site. The earliest feature was found to be the rear wall of the cart shed attached to the barn. The barn itself was roughly built with uneven cornerstones and reveals, and appeared to be of late 18th- or early 19th-century date, as was possibly the mill. The byre, which dates to the early to mid-19th century, is of much higher quality with regular well tooled door and window reveals. The latest building was the dairy, which was built inside the yard directly in front of the byre. Constructed from highly regular well tooled blocks of sandstone this building was built in the latter part of the 19th century.  
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)  
Funder: Auchnafree Estate

**Monzievaird and Strowan**

**Carroglen**  
**Cup-marked rocks**  
George Currie  
NN 76267 26205 A prominent boulder, 6.2 x 3.2 x 0.8m, located 500m W of Carroglen Farm on the slopes of Cowden Knowe, bears at least 40 cup marks. A granite rock, 0.5 x 0.6m, located at NN 76064 26368 on the slopes of Cowden Knowe bears a single possible cup mark. A pink granite dyke which slopes to the S at NN 76132 26396 on the slopes of Cowden Knowe bears a single cup mark.

**Larichfraskhan**  
**Walkover survey**  
John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology  
NN 81336 32580 to NN 81528 33104 A walkover survey was carried out on 12 June 2012 along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme on the Larichfraskhan Burn, Glen Almond. One previously unrecorded structure, at NN 81470 32966, comprised the remains of a small building, possibly a shieling hut, on the right bank of the burn, a short distance from the extant house at Larichfraskhan.  
Archive and Report: PKHT and RCAHMS  
Funder: Auchnafree Estate
Moulin

Clachan an Diridh
Survey and test pitting
Gemma Hudson – AOC Archaeology Group

NN 9251 5574 A geophysical and laser scan survey of this four-poster stone circle was undertaken 2–3 October 2012. The resistivity and magnetometer surveys indicated that significant buried archaeology extends beyond the visible surface remains. The results of the 3D laser survey were integrated with geophysical results to produce a 3D visualisation of all elements of the site.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

Muthill

Lindores, Muthill
Evaluation
Derek Hall

NN 86723 17154 An evaluation was carried out on 26 January 2012 prior to the proposed construction of three houses to the N of Muthill Old Church. A total of six trenches, covering 6% of the area, were excavated. A sequence of black silty clay topsoil overlying natural orange clay and broken sandstone was recorded in all six trenches. Nothing of archaeological interest was recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: McDermott Group

Portmoak

Kinnesswood
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MH) and NMS (SC)

NO 175 025 Approximately half of a copper alloy annular brooch. It is decorated with two raised collets which are set between a raised knop and surrounded by a ‘brambled’ collar (a common decorative feature on medieval metalwork). The collets are set for glass beads, one of which still retain the fixing paste. The short, wrap-over pin is still in place. Complete, the brooch would have had six or eight knops and collets interspersed symmetrically. A similar, silver brooch was hidden in 1320 as part of the Dumfries hoard. Copper alloy annular brooches are uncommon finds in comparison to the wider range of medieval dress accessories (including their precious metal counterparts). As with this example, the majority are broken, suggesting their deliberate disposal rather than accidental loss. Although this is a solitary find it comes from an area where medieval objects have previously been recovered, including other brooches. D 31mm, H (max) 7.2mm. Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

St Serf’s Priory: Culdee Archaeology Project
Excavation and geophysical survey
Oliver J T O’Grady – OJT Heritage

NO 16156 00260 The final season of the Culdee Archaeology Project involved further geophysical survey and trial excavation, 1–15 August 2012, at St Serf’s Priory. The work formed part of a pilot research and community project, which aimed to reveal more about the layout and function of early medieval monasteries in Perth and Kinross.

Trench B which had been opened in 2011 (DES 2011, 156) to investigate the line of a large enclosure identified by geophysical survey was reopened in 2012. The remains of a ditch and bank, a possible posthole and pit were excavated to natural. These appear to represent partial settlement remains within what may be a monastic vallum. Medieval pottery sherds and fragmentary copper-alloy artefacts were recovered from the ditch fills. A Neolithic tanged flint arrowhead was recovered during sieving of the spoil heap. Further post-excavation analysis will help to establish the sequence of the ditch and settlement remains.

The resistance survey was expanded SE of the priory remains and recorded the continuation of the possible vallum enclosure. Low altitude aerial photography was taken of the excavation and priory remains. An online digital tour of the site has been developed based on this imagery. On request, the Scottish Glider Centre recorded new oblique aerial photographs of the island.

Archive: PKHT and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland and Living Lomonds Landscape Partnership

Rattray

Glenara, Westerlea, Alyth Road
Evaluation
Derek Hall

NO 1926 4551 An evaluation was undertaken 2–3 August 2012 on the site of a proposed housing development. A total of four trenches, representing a 5% sample of the site, were machine excavated. The demolished remains of buildings relating to the Strathmore Hospital which formerly stood on the site were located in two of the trenches. Nothing associated with the ‘Haer’ burial cairn which formerly stood in the vicinity was found.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs R McWilliam

Rhynd

Elcho Castle
Watching brief
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology

NO 1642 2103 A watching brief was undertaken on 25 May 2012 during the excavation of a trench for a new information board. The trench was located at the NE end of the visitor car park. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland
Scone

Whinniemuir
Metal detector find
Mark A Hall and Stuart Campbell – Perth Museum and Art Gallery (MAH) and NMS (SC)
NO 127 251 A bent silver pin or dress fitting with symmetrical apertures at each end and stamped with the maker’s mark ‘IC’. Although an unusual object the distinctive slots and piercings on each end can be compared to a wider class of Dutch dress accessories in use in the 16th and 17th centuries. These were variously used to lace and fasten clothing or as hair ornaments, the slot being used to hold a securing ribbon. This example is unusual in having these distinctive fittings at both ends instead of one and is most likely intended to fix one of the distinctive lace headdresses worn by some women in the early 17th century. Such seeming departures from the norm are not uncommon with post-medieval dress accessories and this find may be either an import, like the majority of Dutch bodkins, or an unusual local adaptation. Whatever the case, this is an unusual survival of small, personal silverware of a type which metal detecting has proved adept at recovering. L (unbent) 88.2mm, W 4.6mm, T 1.8mm, Weight 5.11g. Claimed as Treasure Trove, allocated to PMAG

Tibbermore

Low’s Work
Standing building recording and watching brief
Jonathan Millar – Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd
NO 06987 25682 A programme of work was undertaken, 30 April – 7 June 2012, on Low’s Work, a Category B listed weir on the River Almond near Almondbank, which had partially failed. A full 3D record was made of the weir using a combination of GPS and Total Station survey, a photographic record was also produced prior to the start of repair work. A watching brief was undertaken during all groundwork.
A number of large sandstone blocks and an associated wooden beam were immediately below a layer of modern concrete in the entrance to the Town Lade. The construction and position of this structure suggest it related to the c1622–24 rebuild of the weir. The timber beam was retained and sampled for possible dendrochronological dating. The possible differential surface erosion noted between the E and W portions of the weir may indicate the weir was constructed in two phases; however, this could not be verified on the basis of the available evidence. No further work is recommended in relation to this project.
Archive and Report: RCAHMS. Report: Renfrewshire Council
Funder: Mr and Mrs Graham

Ruthvenfield

Evaluation
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NO 0817 2551 (centred on) An evaluation was undertaken 17–20 September 2012. The underlying geology is riverine, consisting of undulating gravel beds with silted channels overlying clay. There was no evidence to support the theory that part of the Roman road running between Bertha and Strageith passes through the site. All finds and features related to 18th, and 19th-century activity and included cobble, rubble and red ceramic field drains, pits with rubble, a trench with ash and clay and some made up ground. A modern small bore iron water pipe was also recorded.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: John Bryden

Weem

Lurgan Farm
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 87833 52586 A 1.5 x 1.4 x 1.1m boulder 5m W of the track to Lurgan Farm, after the junction to Blackhill, bears 13 cup marks.

RENFREWSHIRE

Erskine

Drumcross Cottage
Watching brief
Peter Klemen – Rathwell Archaeology Ltd
NS 44791 71332 A watching brief was undertaken on 7 March 2012 prior to the construction of new buildings. No significant archaeological deposits were recorded during the removal of foundations from previous buildings or in the areas of new foundations, and all finds related to 19th, or 20th-century use of the site.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Renfrewshire Council
Funder: Mr and Mrs Graham

Houston and Killellan

Sewn Castle
Castle (alleged)
Stuart Nisbet and Alan Steel
NS 3976 6816 This site is recorded on the 1st Edition OS and an estate plan of Houston dated c1770 held by the National Library of Scotland, as ‘Sewn Castle’, and elsewhere as ‘Castle Swin’. It is a dun-like crag of striated basalt on the boundary of Wellees and Cleaves Farms, on the Peter’s Burn, above a drained pond. What could be an entrance at the NW corner and a tumble of shaped stone on the S slope are probably natural. The personal name ‘Swine’ (Suibhne, Sveinn) occurs in two other local place names and appears to be a folk name.
Funder: Stuart Nisbet and Alan Steel

Inchinnan

Palace of Inchinnan
Palace
Stuart Nisbet and Alan Steel
NS 4815 6977 Crawford’s History of Renfrewshire (1710) noted some considerable remains of the old palace of Inchinnan but, by Semple’s day (1782), it was demolished. The OS located the
palace at NS 4819 6965. This location, ‘south of Garnieland Farm’ was taken from Crawford and Semple’s histories, but in the intervening years the farm had been demolished and rebuilt to the S, within the outer wall of the palace. The recently rediscovered large scale survey of John Watt (c1730), held by Birmingham City Archives, shows the palace as a substantial U-shaped building within an enclosure, at NS 4815 6977.

**Paisley**

**Barrhead Road, Paisley**

**Evaluation**

Ross Cameron – Addyman Archaeology

NS 49051 63111 An evaluation was undertaken 12–16 March 2012 of an area of grassland and a car park prior to development. The area is overlooked from the E by Blackhall House, a 16th-century Category B listed building. A chapel associated with Blackhall or an earlier building is purported to have lain to the N and W of the development area and it was considered likely that further structures may have existed between or around Blackhall and the chapel. Cartographic evidence indicates that while the site may have been occupied in the medieval period, it remained mostly undeveloped in the period following production of the 1st Edition OS map. A large care home (Castle House) was erected in the 1970s, but it was unclear how extensive and intrusive its foundations were, and significant areas of the site appeared to have survived free from modern development.

The evaluation, which consisted of 16 trenches covering 6% (603.36m²) of the development site, revealed that large areas of the site contained deep deposits of industrial made ground, and that the construction and subsequent demolition of Castle House had caused significant disruption across much of the site. No artefacts of pre-19th-century date were recovered, although a number of walls of structures and boundaries were revealed.

Archae and Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)

Funder: Anderson Bell Christie Architects for Renfrewshire Council

**Paisley Abbey – Place of Paisley**

**Standing building recording and evaluation**

Tom Addyman – Addyman Archaeology

NS 48559 63954 The proposed erection of a new visitor facility and associated refurbishment of the Place of Paisley (the buildings on the S side of the abbey church) necessitated a series of historical, analytical and archaeological involvements towards the writing of a conservation plan for the Place of Paisley and towards assessing the below ground implications of new work at the site. This programme of work was undertaken March 2010 – November 2012.

**Assessment of the standing buildings**

The Place of Paisley occupies the site of the S and E ranges bounding the monastic cloister. To the S of the St Mirren chapel (S transept of the abbey church) the E range incorporates parts of the monastic chapter house including most of its N wall and fragments of its S wall. Also surviving are parts of the W wall of the southwards-running dorter range (the existing E wall of the S range); part of the arched entry to the night stair can still be seen internally. Elsewhere ex situ carved monastic fragments were incorporated into the later Place of Paisley buildings – indeed its entire masonry content is of recycled monastic stone.

Much of the existing Place of Paisley is of post-Reformation date. The main walls of the S range, on the site of the monastic refectory, were wholly rebuilt and fronted with ashlar on the S elevation. The space occupied by the existing 1st and 2nd floor chambers constituted a single hall interior beneath an oak barrel-vaulted roof structure that still survives. The roof was assessed and judged likely to be a monastic period structure, perhaps the actual refectory roof that was taken down and re-erected. A substantial box-section oak, it has few surviving Scottish parallels, parts of the roofs of Glasgow Cathedral being a particular exception and of comparable form and, perhaps, date. The first floor hall seems to have been entered from its W end. Here a surviving broad ground floor arched opening facing into the cloister walk may have given into a stairwell; at first floor level there survives part of an entrance within the existing gable wall, this perhaps at the head of the stair. At the E end of the hall interior there survives part of a substantial arched feature, possibly a proscenium framing the high table, or defining a substantial window opening at that point. These works are likely attributable to Lord Claud Hamilton, who received the Lordship of Paisley and its holdings, and who seems to have refashioned the former claustral buildings into a palatial residence.

Following the sale of the Abbey to the Cochrane Earls of Dundonald in the mid-17th century the Place was re-fashioned. The hall in the S range was remodelled – a floor inserted and suites of rooms created at 1st and 2nd floor levels. Closet towers were added at either end of the S frontage (the SE tower survives, the former existence of the SW tower was confirmed archaeologically), part of the creation of a southwards looking architectural set-piece that doubtless overlooked formal gardens and the river beyond. A view of 1776 shows the former presence of an external balustraded terrace at the E end of the S range, supported by an open arcade and with a stair running down to the S – a viewing platform and direct access from the first floor rooms to the gardens below. The elaborate 2nd floor plastered ceiling within the SE closet tower, some panelled interior linings at 1st floor level, and a series of fireplaces within the inserted cross walls are all that survive to witness the opulence of the interiors at this phase. The principal rooms at 1st floor level were arranged as a formal baroque sequence that had clearly extended into the W range. Linking the three ranges of the Place of Paisley was a two-storey gallery structure erected upon the site of the S walk of the cloister.

The Place of Paisley had evidently ceased to function as an aristocratic residence by the third quarter of the 18th century. From the early 1760s onwards the monastic precinct was successively feued out and redeveloped. By the first half of the 19th century the Place had seen extensive subdivision and occupation by multiple tenancies that included domestic occupants, a public house and two chapels (upper floor of the W range); the latter each accessed by an external masonry stair.

**Assessment of the historical evidence for the demolished W range**

The range bounding the W side of the cloister survived intact until its demolition in early 1874 in order to facilitate the widening of Abbey Close. Evidence for the former appearance of the superstructure include its surviving silhouette against the S side of the abbey church, the representation of its 1st floor arrangements on the OS town plan of 1858, a number of early engraved views, a series of exterior photographic views taken in 1873–4 for the 3rd Marquis of Bute (who objected to the demolition), and a detailed written account by the antiquarian David Semple made during the dismantling of the structure, with associated photographs taken during the process. The former appearance, precise dimensions and much of its structural history was thus deducible. In contrast to the existing Place of Paisley buildings it is apparent that the range was mostly composed of surviving monastic fabric, although vaulted cellarege and upper level window openings were certainly subsequent interventions. There had been a tower-like projection, of probable early post-Reformation
that the underlying natural topography of the site slopes down to the White Cart Water both to the W and to the S. In these directions the extent of archaeological survival increases markedly, as confirmed by archaeological excavations that have been conducted in recent years in closer proximity to the river. Natural subsoil deposits rise close to the surface within the northern parts of the site, but the area of former cloister and within the area of the cloister. More deeply stratified archaeological levels were present in the southern part of the W range and along the S side of the S range.

• It was established that the road widening scheme of the 1870s along the E side of Abbey Close had dramatically affected the survival of buried archaeological remains. Deposits to the W of a diagonal line running from the SW corner of the abbey church to the existing SW corner of the S range had been scoured away to c.0.8–1.0m deeper than the areas to the E of the line.

• The evaluation determined that major masonry remains of the footings of the medieval W range still survived in most areas examined. In the western zone only scant remains of the very base of the footings survived further N; however, more substantial remains were encountered continuing S, revealed at a depth of c.1.0m below the modern day surface. In this zone, except to the S, the surviving remains were all features that had been deeply cut into the underlying natural subsoil.

• In the eastern part of the evaluation area, where not affected by the road formation, archaeological remains of the W range were far better preserved, their upper parts lying less than 0.20m below the present surface in some areas. Much of the lower part of the E wall of the medieval range clearly survives as upstanding masonry, this still faced with cubical ashlar blocks in the area where it was revealed. Further E the footing of the cloister walk wall was encountered. It appeared that occupation deposits had largely been removed down to the existing surface of underlying natural subsoil in most areas. The medieval floor levels on both sides of the wall probably lay only just below level of the existing grassed surface.

• To the W of the line of the E wall of the range it is clear that there survive substantial remains of internal cross walls. Further to the S occupation deposits also seem likely to survive.

In addition to the remaining medieval fabric there may well survive some physical evidence for later activity, and particularly in relation to the installation of vaulted cellars within the range when its internal planning was altered and new cross walls inserted. Features cut down into natural are the most likely to survive generally.

A trench excavated against the S wall foot of the S range confirmed the position of the E wall of the missing closet tower; a mass of medieval masonry was also revealed within the trench although its characteristics and alignment were not determined within the limited area of exposure.

**Gazetteer of carved stones** A considerable collection of loose carved stones kept at the abbey, principally miscellaneous architectural fragments, but also including an important group of foliated cross-slab grave covers and some sculpted pieces, was catalogued. A number of fragments clearly represent elements of the earliest building campaigns at the abbey – of the later 12th and early 13th centuries.

*Archive: RCAHMS (intended)*

*Funder: The Minister and Kirk Session of Paisley Abbey*

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS**

**Ancrum**

**The Archaeology of Ancrum: Mantle Walls Project**

**Excavation**

Adrián Maldonado – University of Glasgow

NT 6320 2464 An excavation was undertaken 1–5 October 2012 of magnetic anomalies discovered during a geophysical survey at Mantle Walls, Ancrum (DES 12, 160). A number of local metal detector users and volunteer excavators took part in the week long excavation.

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Excavating in situ chamfered ashlar masonry which may be from a medieval bishop's palace at Ancrum (Photograph by Joss Durnan)

Trench A was opened over an anomaly at the foot of the hill which was thought to indicate the presence of a small outbuilding but, upon excavation it contained only ephemeral traces of heavily disturbed walling.

Two trenches, 2.5 x 5m, were opened on the summit of the hill where the survey had indicated the presence of the foundations of a masonry structure. Trench B contained a complex sequence of demolition and backfill events, including the remains of a robber trench containing 12th- to 13th-century medieval ceramic fine wares and fragments of painted wall plaster, at 0.7m below the plough soil.

Trench C revealed *in situ* mortared masonry walls starting at 0.2m below the current ground surface. A N-S running wall was partially robbed out, but one section survived up to 1m in height. This wall was built of coursed sandstone rubble with a chamfered ashlar jamb suggesting a blocked-up doorway, with a later, roughly mortared W–E cross wall abutting it. The features in this trench suggest the presence of...
a large medieval masonry structure of some pretension. This evidence goes some way to confirming reports of a palace of the medieval bishops of Glasgow in this area, described as a ruin in the 18th century. Neither trenches were bottomed out and the results indicate that deeply stratified medieval deposits do survive at the summit of the hill, although they are under direct threat from ploughing. Unstratified finds included medieval to modern ironwork, melted lead fragments and a small collection of post-medieval coins. Two intact lead musket balls were found along with evidence these were being manufactured on site.

Archive: Historic Scotland, RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Historic Scotland

**Ashkirk**

**Synton**

*Metal detector find*

*Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland*

NT 48 21 A scattered hoard of *denarii* was found by Jim Middleton on 27 August 2011 during metal detecting near Synton. Excavation by an NMS team located the pit where the hoard had originally been buried; there was no trace of a container. No other archaeological features were noted in the 15 x 15m trench, but Iron Age sites nearby provide a likely context. Conservation and study is still ongoing, but the hoard seems to comprise 225 coins with a date range provisionally ending in the early AD 180s.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 25/12), allocated to Scottish Borders Museums
Funder: National Museums Scotland

**Bowden**

**Kippilaw**

*Metal detector find*

*Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland*

NT 556 292 A scatter of Roman coins was discovered by Bill Slight and Ian McGeorge during metal detecting on 6–7 July 2010 in a field which had been ploughed for the first time in living memory. Subsequent excavation by a NMS team recovered a scattered *denarius* hoard buried on the edge of a small stream valley, disturbed by improvement period drainage works. The hoard comprises 79 *denarii* and a single *dupondius*. The bulk of the coins are Severan, including die-linked issues, which strongly suggests this has come from a military pay chest; the latest coin is of AD 207.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 144/11), allocated to NMS
Funder: National Museums Scotland

**Bunkle and Preston**

**East Cleugh Cottage, Duns**

*Evaluation*

*Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group*

NT 8025 5805 A trial trenching evaluation was undertaken on 31 May 2012 prior to the construction of a house near East Cleugh Cottage. The evaluation covered 20% of the site and consisted of 265m of trenches. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Atken Turnbull Architects Ltd

**Fala Hill Farm**

*Evaluation*

*Jake Streatfeild-James – AOC Archaeology Group*

NT 8224 6126 An evaluation was undertaken on 1 June 2012 of an area of agricultural land on the E slope of Fala Hill prior to the construction of a six turbine wind farm. A total of 12 trenches, 2 per turbine base, were excavated covering an area of 240m². No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: NRG Applications (North) Ltd

**Channelkirk**

**Airhouse Farm, Oxton**

*Watching brief*

*Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group*

NT 482 536 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 12 January 2012 during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of single house (Plot 3) at Airhouse Farm. The work covered the 19 x 15m house plot, a 7 x 7m turning area, and a 30 x 3m driveway. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Martin and Carol Houghton

**Carfrae**

*Metal detector find*

*Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland*

Roman flagon-shaped plate brooch, Carfrae, drawn by Alan Braby

NT 50 55 An unusual enamelled plate brooch in the form of a flagon, damaged around the edges was found during metal detecting. It has a flat rounded leaf-shaped body with central reserved enamelled ring; tapers to a tip (representing the lid) with a knob and collar moulding. The spout springs from one side of the body. Much enamel is lost, but the large outer field was orange, the central dot turquoise. On the rear, two lugs held the lost hinged pin on a solid copper alloy axis. 40 x 21 x 6mm. It probably dates to the later 2nd/early 3rd century AD. The findspot lay just E of Dere Street and some 450m from the Roman fortlet at Oxton.

Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 148/11), allocated to Scottish Borders Museums
Cockburnspath

Fulfordlees
Evaluation and watching brief
Gary Savory and Alison McCall – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 76684 70426 – NT 75247 68672 A programme of work was carried out February – May 2012 in advance of the creation of a new sand and gravel quarry. The evaluation consisted of 96 trenches covering an area of 8626m². The work found that archaeological remains were dispersed across the site, with extensive remains in three areas, Trenches 6–8, Trench 64 and Trench 85.

The group of features in Trenches 6–8 were initially suspected to be prehistoric; however, the finds indicated that they were post-medieval. General Roy’s Military Survey of this area (1752–55) names the Heriot Water as the Peevwanton Burn and depicts two unnamed settlements to the N of the burn between Fulfordlees and Shields. The remains discovered in Trenches 6–8 may relate to one of these sites.

The pits located in Trench 64 may be prehistoric in date. However, this proposal is based on a single pottery sherd, which could be residual. The pits were located on the S extent of a plateau on which two potentially Bronze Age sites are known to exist (NT76NW 1 and NT76NE 36).

The group of features located in Trench 85 are currently of uncertain date, function and origin. No finds were recovered but the nature of the remains is suggestive of a prehistoric date. Isolated features were recorded in the adjacent Trenches 90 and 95.

A number of pits were identified and excavated during a watching brief undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of an access road and topsoil stripping. One pit contained pottery from an Early Neolithic Carinated Bowl. Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: AMS Associates (on behalf of Kinegar Quarries Ltd)

Coldingham

Brockholes, Grantshouse
Watching brief and evaluation
Jamie Lewis and Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 81458 63282 (centred on) and NT 86494 61206 to NT 83190 62174 A watching brief was undertaken January–September 2012 during groundworks associated with the construction of a wind farm. An evaluation was undertaken in February 2012 on the locations for 11 electricity cable poles prior to construction work. No features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were recorded. Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Eye Valley Energy

Drone Hill
Watching brief and standing building survey
Gary Savory and Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 84426 67862 (centred on) A programme of archaeological work was carried out in October 2011 at Drone Hill Wind Farm. The ground-breaking works revealed archaeological remains indicative of prehistoric activity. Several small pits produced a small quantity of pottery of Early Bronze Age date and flint. The presence of rig and furrow and plough scores provided evidence of past agricultural activity. The site of a known cairn was demarcated to prevent accidental damage.

NT 843 679 A historic buildings appraisal was carried out on Moor House, located close to Drone Hill. The house consisted of a converted farm cottage with an adjoining barn. Three phases of construction were identified. The earliest phase related to the construction of the house, followed by the barn that abuts the W gable. The third phase related to the raising of the roof and the construction of extensions to convert the farmhouse into a modern dwelling. Much of the original fabric and character of the barn remains. Cartographic evidence indicates an early to mid-19th-century date of construction, although the presence of similar place names on maps dating to the mid-17th century suggest that a possibly associated farmstead existed in the area prior to the building of Moor House.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Natural Power

Kirk Hill, St Abb's Head
Geophysical survey
Genevieve Shaw – WA Heritage
NT 9161 6874 A detailed gradiometer and earth resistance survey was conducted over the site of Kirk Hill on 13–14 December 2011. The site has previously been identified as the location of an enclosed medieval church and a larger ‘C’-shaped bank incorporates the church, its enclosure and a number of possible structures. The combined survey area was 1.75ha and demonstrated the presence of extensive archaeological features within the C-shaped enclosure.

The medieval church and its accompanying rectangular enclosure were identified in both the earth resistance and gradiometer data. A rectangular stone building was identified to the W of the church and another possible structure was identified to its N in the gradiometer data. A number of linear anomalies were identified in the S portion of the gradiometer survey area; putatively identified as boundaries with two possible structures constructed against them. The earth resistance survey identified several anomalies of archaeological interest.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland and Scottish Borders Council

St Abb's Harbour
Standing building survey and watching brief
Gary Savory and Fraser MacRae – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 920 672 A standing building survey was undertaken, April–October 2011, at St Abb’s Harbour to record all buildings prior to alteration or demolition for the new Marine Research Station. The structures recorded included a complex of buildings consisting of a corrugated iron clad toilet, a former Fish House, Rosecroft Cottage and Fisherman’s Sheds (1–8). These buildings had all been built against the Category B listed harbour wall, and Rosecroft Cottage was the only surviving building from the late 19th century. Four other 20th century fisherman’s sheds and a garage were also recorded. A watching brief carried out during groundworks associated with construction work did not record any finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: St Abb’s Marine Station

Cranshaws/Ladykirk

Ladykirk and Ellemford Haugh
Geophysical survey
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NT 89036 47682 (Ladykirk) and NT 72729 60029 (Ellemford) A geophysical survey was carried out 3–24 May 2012 at two locations associated with the Battle of Flodden. The survey of portions of three fields at Ladykirk recorded four possible artillery emplacements, a possible prehistoric ring ditch and...
the remains of three buildings. The survey at Ellemford Haugh recorded a possible earthwork and areas of burning that may be associated with the muster of the Scottish army.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Flodden 500 Project/Heritage Lottery Fund

## Duns

### Duns Law Farm, near Duns

**Watching brief**

Bruce Glendinning – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 788 546 A watching brief was carried out in June 2012 during topsoil stripping for the laying of a new water main. A large pit was identified which, upon excavation, was found to contain a stone setting in a stone filled pit. The pit contained the cremated remains of a number of individuals along with a quantity of Beaker pottery (including parts of at least seven different vessels), some worked flint and what appears to be a reworked stone axe.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: Scottish Borders SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Scottish Water Shared Services

## Edrom

### Blackadder West Cottages, near Allanton

**Standing building recording and watching brief**

Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NT 84281 52277 A Level 2 standing building survey was carried out in June 2012 on a derelict row of agricultural workers’ cottages constructed in 1836 (date stone). Four cottages are contained in a single block constructed on whinstone rubble with droved sandstone ashlar dressings. Nine bays form the fenestration on the principal S-facing elevation. The attics were formerly lit by brick-built dormer windows. These were a later 19th-century addition that required the walls to be raised by c.0.5m. The interior of the building had been stripped of its wall linings but the fireplaces, constructed of cast iron grates with cooking sways, were in situ.

The interior reduction of the ground floor was monitored, and this work revealed that the cottages sit on a wide foundation course of unbonded rubble within a foundation trench.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Mr Ian Gaston

### Blackadder West Farm

**Watching brief**

Ross Cameron – Addyman Archaeology

NT 84399 52311 A watching brief was maintained on 26 July 2012 on the site of a proposed residential development. The area was considered as the settlement of Blackadder and an associated chapel are recorded on early maps. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR (intended)
Funder: Alistair and Niki Kinghorn

## Foulden

### Foulden Tithe Barn

**Inventory of carved stones**

Mary Márkus – Archetype

NT 93105 55804 (NT95NW 9) This small 25 piece collection of 15th- to 19th-century stones, which is stored on the ground floor of the barn, was assessed during September–October 2011. A large part of it consists of chimney stack stones which were apparently cut in the 19th century, presumably to replace an existing stack. There is no sign that the new chimney was ever used, since there is no smoke or heat staining. A report associated with the listing of the barn in June 1971 describes the large group of chimney fragments, and mentions a photograph of 1967 which shows the chimney in situ. It seems likely that the chimney was later removed as its very large size would have rendered the barn’s roof structure unstable.

Another stone in the collection is 15th-century in date. It is worked in the round and has unfortunately been broken in two. Each side is decorated and one side is clearly worked with a sundial, and the other has the remains of a date, 14--, above a panel which probably had lettering, eg initials, incised in it.
SCOTTISH BORDERS

From its relatively small size, it may once have topped a gate or door post. This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland’s properties in care are held by Historic Scotland’s Collections Unit. For further information please contact hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Hobkirk

Hartshaugh Mill, Hobkirk
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 58732 10809 A Level 2 standing building survey was undertaken on 27 September 2012 in advance of renovation of the building. The building consisted of a two-storey mill with a grain mill attached to the S and workshops to the N. The mill had been heavily modified throughout the 20th century, and the date at which the mill ceased operation and became a storage area is unknown. No machinery had been retained, although a number of early features such as the bearing boxes had survived.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr E Tennant

Innerleithen

Nether Horsburgh Farm
Standing building recording
Diana Sproat – AOC Archaeology Group
NT 30442 39582 A historic building survey was carried out on 6 August 2012 of three barns at Nether Horsburgh Farm prior to their redevelopment as housing. The farm dates to the late 18th century and has long been associated with a number of prominent families in the area, with the ruin of a 16th-century peel tower to the N of the complex. It began life as an 18th-century corn mill and one of the buildings was the original mill building, although only scant remains reflect its original purpose. One of the other buildings was possibly contemporary with this mill, although the third was definitely a later addition in the centre of the original courtyard to the steadings.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr P Robb

Jedburgh

Orchard Cottage, Lanton
Watching brief
Helena Gray – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 62091 21839 A watching brief was carried out 24–25 January 2012 during groundworks associated with the construction of a house in the garden immediately NW of Orchard Cottage. The remains of a shallow linear feature, a small square pit/posthole and a single line of disturbed edge-set stones within a topsoil-like deposit were identified in the SE corner of the development area, and probably represent the remains of a small 19th/20th-century garden plot.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Douglas Page

Kelso

Horsemarket Gap Site, Kelso
Watching brief
Claire Shaw and Ronan Toolis – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NT 7282 3399 A watching brief was undertaken 7–14 February 2012 during the excavation of test pits, trenches and boreholes. The two areas under investigation were located to the NW and SE of the public toilets between Horsemarket and Woodmarket. The test pits reached 1m deep on the NW site and 0.5m on the SE site. The borehole on the SE site reached 5m and the two boreholes on the NW site reached 2m deep. The excavations recorded only modern made ground and natural subsoil.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Roger G Dodd and Co

St Andrew’s Church, Kelso
Watching brief
Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NT 72768 33737 A watching brief was undertaken on 30 July 2012 during exploratory excavation on the site of a proposed extension to the S side of St Andrew’s Church. The majority of the excavated material consisted of topsoil deposits and made ground associated with the construction of a modern pathway. However, several small disarticulated fragments of human bone were recorded and these probably relate to burials associated with the 1769 church, which occupied the site prior to the construction of the present church in 1868.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: St Andrews Church

Langton

West Gavinton
Desk-based assessment and evaluation
Martin Railton – Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd
NT 76400 51780 A desk-based assessment and evaluation was undertaken in 2012 prior to a proposed housing development adjacent to and W of the Gavinton conservation area and S of the 19th-century Gavinton Church and graveyard. The area was considered sensitive due to its position in an area containing evidence of significant prehistoric activity, including a scheduled ancient monument, an undesignated cropmark site and a burial cairn located to the N of Gavinton Church. Gavinton is a relatively new settlement having been established as a planned estate village in 1759 by local landowner, David Gavin.
A total of five trenches were excavated, each 50m long by 1.8m wide, which recorded a number of infilled post-medieval tile, pipe and cobble drains. No archaeological remains were recorded in the northern part of the study area and the possible cropmarks identified during the desk-based assessment probably reflected variances in the natural substrate.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr David Seed

Makerstoun

Makerstoun Church
Watching brief
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 6684 3314 A watching brief was carried out in June 2012 during the excavation of foundations for an annex to Makerstoun Church. A single linear ditch was identified, measuring 0.5m wide and deep. It had a U-shaped profile and was filled with orange sandy silt which contained fragments of coal, mortar and sherds of 19th- and 20th-century pottery. It was probably part of a drainage system associated with the 19th-century church.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Reports: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Scottish Borders Council
Melrose

Commendator’s House Museum, Melrose Abbey
Inventory of carved stones
Mary Márkus – Archetype
NT 54767 34168 (NT53SW 117) This group of stones was accessed in November 2012 and consists of the remaining items not catalogued in 2011 (DES 2011, 164). Many are displayed at high levels on the museum walls, and were accessed by means of a scaffolding tower. Among these stones are a canopy and a large capital, as well as a highly decorative and well preserved group of vault bosses, and many details were visible during the cataloguing process which are difficult or impossible to see from ground level.

Two large stones, a canopy and a column capital, are related. Both are set high up on the W wall of the museum and are 15th-century in date. The canopy is semi-octagonal in plan, with small-scale crennelations running around the outer edge, and rows of crocketing carved along the angles, from the lower edge to the apex. The crocketing is formed by low-relief, and rather seaweed-like leaves. The crennelations are decorated with numerous small holes drilled in the outer faces. Similarly, the lower edge of the capital has also been drilled with small holes. The capital comes from the top of a wall-shaft, and has square flower and foliage motifs set at intervals around the lower edge, and these would have had a row of miniature crennelations above, although these are mostly broken away.

The impressive collection of vault bosses includes one rather fearsome example, which covers the junction of four ribs, two longitudinal and two diagonal. The outer face of the boss is carved with a human head, with the mouth half-open and the teeth showing. Leech-like creatures are shown feeding at the eyes and mouth, and on each side of the head, a tiny pair of human hands are visible. The bodies of the leeches are rather leaf-like, being flattened and veined, and with undulating and seaweed-like edges which encroach onto the vault ribs. They resemble the carving of foliage or scallop shells on other bosses in the museum.

This and other inventories of carved stones at Historic Scotland’s properties in care are held by Historic Scotland’s Collections Unit. For further information please contact hs.collections@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Leaderfoot

Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NT 57 34 The base of a small terret was found during metal detecting. Most of the ring is lost and thus the type is uncertain; wear patterns indicate it broke from use. It has a rectangular-sectioned attachment bar between two pronounced collars; oval-sectioned tapering ring. L 42.5mm, H 23mm, T 11.5mm. The findspot lies immediately N of the Roman fort of Newstead and was probably linked to activity there. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 147/1), allocated to the Trimontium Trust

Newstead

Casual find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NT 567 340 Stray find of a biconical lead weight with broken copper-alloy attachment loops at both ends. A near vertical line of three irregularly-spaced dots with a worn fourth dot to the left of the central one is an inscription denoting four unciæ, 109.15g; the recorded weight is 107.08g. L 35mm, D 30mm. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 146/11), allocated to the Trimontium Trust

Polwarth

Polwarth Steading
Standing building recording
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 74519 50199 A Level 2 standing building survey was carried out in January 2012 on a derelict barn prior to its conversion into a house. The barn was rectangular in plan and constructed of coursed sandstone rubble with droved ashlar dressings. Two pigsties were located against the S gable. The main entrances were on the W-facing elevation where a double M-shaped roof arrangement was carried on a central wall to form two covered cattle courts. These were connected to a feed store. This arrangement is typical of 19th-century farmsteads where cattle were overwintered to provide better living conditions whilst maintaining a good supply of manure for the arable fields.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR
Funder: Sir John McEwan

Roberton

Roberton
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NT 44 12 A heavily-corroded Romano-British trumpet brooch was found near Roberton. It is an uncommon form, as the head has cast Celtic-style decoration, with a central dot and two flanking coiled spirals. Full acanthus moulding on the bow; the foot and hinged pin are lost (L 40mm, W 20mm, H 17mm). It is a stray find in an area where there is extensive Iron Age activity, but no known Roman sites. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 47/11), allocated to NMS
Selkirk

Howden Hill
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland

NT 45 26 An enamelled Romano-British headstud brooch was found during metal detecting. Cast-in decoration of three steps on each wing and integrally cast boss-and-ring forming the headstud, rather worn from use. Thirteen rectangular cells on the bow were once enamelled. Triple-bar moulding between bow and foot. Slightly humped profile; underside of head hollowed. Iron axis fits through integrally-cast cylinder to hold lost hinged pin. L 45.5mm, W 19mm, H 15.5mm. Stray find; no known sites in the immediate area. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT 150/11), allocated to Scottish Borders Museum Service

Philiphaugh
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland

NT 45 27 An enamelled rectangular seal box lid was found during metal detecting, with remains of projecting lug for hinge on short end; hollowed underneath to fit over lost lower part. The front bears a champlevé enamelled ‘swash-N’ design derived from Celtic art, in mid or pale blue with two orange dots on the central axis where the points of the design meet, and four sub-triangular opaque red cells around the edges. 20 x 15 x 5mm. Other Roman finds are known from the area – a gold finger ring and a sherd of samian recorded in recent fieldwork (C Bowles, pers comm). The most likely context is in terms of indigenous rather than Roman military activity in the area (the cropmark record shows no signs of military features), although seal boxes are very unusual finds in an indigenous context. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT151/11), allocated to Scottish Borders Museums

Smallholm

Smallholm Tower
Watching brief
Gordon Ewart – Kirkdale Archaeology
NT 6377 3466 An inspection was carried out on 4 April 2012 on a series of shallow foundation trenches for new steps leading to the main entrance through the barmkin at the W end of the site. The excavation of a bedding trench revealed natural soil overlying bedrock. The route into the barmkin enclosure may lie slightly further to the E, near a rough alignment of large rocks, which may well define the edge of an informal approach road. Archive: RCAHMS (intended) Funder: Historic Scotland

Stow

Cortleferry
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NT 43 51 A fragmentary Iron Age strap fastener, the surface rather worn, was found during metal detecting. The surviving portion comprises a teardrop and boss attached to a rectangular plate, with traces of red enamelling. On its underside are the stubs of a broken loop for a strap c8mm wide. L 35mm, W 17mm, H 8mm. The form is relatively unusual, but the style is typical of the later Iron Age in southern Scotland. Claimed as Treasure Trove (TT78/11), allocated to NMS

Yarrow

Shootinglee
Survey and excavation
Joyce Durham – Peeblesshire Archaeological Society
NT 3160 3140 (centred on) A programme of archaeological work was begun at Shootinglee in March 2012. The work included a survey carried out by EAFS, a plane table plan and a trial trench from which medieval pottery was retrieved. Archival sources name Shootinglee as a forest stead within the Ettrick Forest. Archive: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR (intended) Funder: Peeblesshire Archaeological Society

Shootinglee
Geophysical survey
Ian Hawkins and Donald Matthews – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society (EAFS)
NT 3156 3136 (centred on) A ground resistance survey was carried out on 9 June 2012 on a former hunting lodge and farm owned by the Earls of Traquair. The farm was last occupied in 1848. Survey results revealed a series of interlinking higher resistance linear anomalies which could represent wall foundations of a set of N–S aligned features c110m in length. The survey area was truncated by a dry stone boundary wall to the E, beyond which is now forest. To the N of the survey area and on the forest side of the boundary wall there were visible remains of structures which aligned with the survey results. Archive: RCAHMS and Scottish Borders SMR (intended) Funder: Peeblesshire Archaeological Society and EAFS
SHEETLAND ISLANDS

Delting
Laggan-Tormore
Survey and excavation
Rick Barton – ORCA
HU 43960 73624 An evaluation was undertaken 8 November 2011 – 13 January 2012 of geophysical anomalies and landscape features in Firths Voe, prior to work associated with Total’s Laggan-Tormore development.

The survey area covered the S of the Voe, which is a steep N-facing hillside of rough grazing, with marshland in the valley bottom. A total of ten trenches were excavated across four geophysical anomalies and five earthworks/structures. The excavation of the largest anomaly (number 21) recorded a dry stone dyke, which may be prehistoric and a cultivated soil deposit. The wall and soil deposit, which had been disturbed by two later drains, were left in situ and covered with a geotextile membrane prior to backfilling. Additional trenches investigated a small enclosure or cruck, a compacted earth platform and a two curved platforms built of angular cobbles. All of the features probably dated to the early to mid-20th century.

The excavation trench over Mound 105 was extended to the N to investigate the full extent of a series of stone-lined drains and ditch features. The feature represented a component of a natural/geological responses relating to the underlying drift of construction could be attributed to almost any date, their stratigraphy suggested they were post-medieval.

A further three geophysical anomalies were shown to be natural/geological responses relating to the underlying drift geology (glacial till) and granodiorite bedrock.

Archive: ORCA (currently), Shetland Museum and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Alseas UK Ltd

New Brae Hotel
Walkover survey, evaluation and watching brief
Rick Barton – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy
HU 3600 6870 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 1 May – 5 October 2012 prior to and during the construction of a new hotel on a greenfield site to the E of the B9076. A desk-based assessment indicated the presence of prehistoric features in close proximity to the development. A walkover survey recorded three mounds of unknown archaeological potential, two of which would potentially be directly affected by the development. The mounds were evaluated and found to be of negligible archaeological importance, relating to relict peat banks and a 20th-century peat stack. A watching brief undertaken during ground-breaking works recorded no finds or features of archaeological significance.

Archive: Shetland Museum and RCAHMS (intended), Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: BDL Management Ltd and McAleer and Rushe Group Ltd

Lerwick
Fort Charlotte
Excavation and evaluation
Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology
HU 4752 4152 Following test trenching in 2011 (DES 2011, 172), to examine structural cracks and voids that had been noted within the N and W walls of the bastion, a further programme of test trenches and standing building recording was completed over four main stages from November 2011 to April 2012 while consolidation of the walls was completed.

Previous excavations in the E bastion showed that shrinkage of the 17th-century earthwork and the resultant void between it and the 18th-century masonry walls had caused structural instability, severe cracking and partial collapse of the wall. The test trenches in the W bastion showed that although a partial, but largely negligible, void existed in places between the masonry wall and the earthwork, the present structural issues originated in the later addition of poorly bonded masonry. While the W bastion is being compressed, due to the failure of parts of the masonry structure, the buried earthwork seems to provide it with a reasonably solid structural backing.

The problems of structural cracking at the fort stem from two main sources. Firstly, the creation of a thickened coped topped cap around the fort walls, which may have been added for safety or perhaps to improve the security of the fort. Evidence in the W bastion indicates that this process started from the S and moved N. To the S, the added face bonds into the battered rear face of the scarp wall and is seated on bedrock. Secondly, the bedrock falls away rapidly to the N, leading to a decision to simply dig into the peat bank and apply a foundation, onto which the added wall face could sit, rather than take the added wall face down to bedrock. Whether it was a question of speed, cost, time or availability of materials, it resulted in the thickened wall top being carried on a wall which was voided to the rear and was in turn carried by a bonded foundation based on a truncated peat bank. The slippage of the foundations and the lack of a bond to the existing battered rear wall led to the structural failures.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Historic Scotland

North Hoo Field, Gremista
Watching brief
Rick Barton – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy
HU 45255 42750 A watching brief was undertaken 20–21 June 2012 during the construction of an access track for a wind turbine on a greenfield site to the S of the A970 and NW of Lerwick. This area of improved grazing, which is cut by numerous land drains and occasional natural gullies, was considered sensitive as a walkover survey by Headland Archaeology had indicated the presence of possible prehistoric cairns within 95–105m of the development area.

The excavations for the access track recorded natural deposits sealed by subsoil deposits that showed evidence of significant modern disturbance. Any features or deposits of archaeological interest in these layers are likely to have been destroyed. The deposits of silty peat preserved within hollows and gullies appear to represent typical post-glacial peat formation.

Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: North Fish (Shetland) Ltd

Northmaven
North Roe
Survey and evaluation
Torben Bjarke Ballin and Vin Davis – Lithic Research/University of Bradford (TBB) and the Implement Petrology Group (VD)
HU 326 900 (Beorgs of Uyea) and HU 316 848 (Midfield) As part of ongoing preparations for a future research project – Neolithic Felsite Quarrying in North Roe – selected areas of North Roe were inspected during May 2012. The purpose of this future work should be to shed light on: 1) felsite quarrying technology and organisation; 2) felsite blank, preform and tool technology and organisation; 3) felsite exchange within North Roe/Shetland, and beyond; 4) dating the prehistoric exploitation of felsite; and 5) cosmology.

The purpose of this year’s visit was to gather evidence for
the manufacture of stone tools using rock quarried from a suite of felsite and other dykes, particularly in the Borgr of Uyea and Midfield areas. The particular focus was to set petrographic evidence in a framework of geomorphological, geological and archaeological evidence in the field, in order to evaluate the potential for differentiation between products from archaeological sites and geological outcrops.

The work had two sets of results: 1) providing answers to the questions defined prior to the survey (above), and 2) as a by-product of the geological work, finding and defining new archaeological locations in the Midfield area. Following geological characterization of the inspected felsite outcrops and the collected hand samples, it was possible to preliminarily conclude that it should be possible to link individual felsite artefacts to specific geological outcrops or, at least, limited suites of dykes. This is of great importance to future discussions of the distribution of felsite artefacts across Shetland (felsite was probably not 'exported' out of the Shetland archipelago), felsite exchange, and social organisation within the island group.

As mentioned in DES 2011 (173) two clusters of felsite workshops are known on Midfield’s eastern flank, both associated with groups of quarry pits. This year, another group of quarry pits was located, this time on the northern flanks of Midfield, towards Ronas Hill. This site (Midfield 3) needs further attention before it to say anything about specific activities, workshops, or the type of artefacts produced. To access the Midfield sites, it was necessary to cross Uyea Scord from Collafirth Hill. When crossing this plateau, two small concentrations of artefacts were noticed, and the finds collected. The composition of one assemblage was 1:1 quartz to felsite flakes, whereas the other had the opposite composition. The important points regarding these two collections are: 1) that there is generally no quartz near the quarries themselves, and 2) that the recovered felsite flakes are small and fine, possibly relating to what Vemming Hansen the quarry workshops. This possible spatial separation of the production of rough-outs and preforms, which took place at and Madsen (1983) termed final shaping, in contrast to the excavation.

Two collections are: 1) that there is generally no quartz near the quarries themselves, and 2) that the recovered felsite flakes are small and fine, possibly relating to what Vemming Hansen. This possible spatial separation of the production of rough-outs and preforms, which took place at and Madsen (1983) termed final shaping, in contrast to the excavation. The excavations revealed a well preserved section of dry stone wall, which was probably part of a dyke or enclosure. Although no datable material was recovered its stratigraphic position indicated that it was possibly prehistoric in date. There were no deposits associated with the stonework that might have indicated domestic activity, occupation or soil enhancement.

Fieldwork in the Midfield area is planned for Spring/Summer 2013. The principal investigator of this work is Professor Gabriel Cooney, University College Dublin. Archive: RCAHMS and/or Shetland Amenity Trust (intended).

Standsting

Bixter Cemetery
Survey and evaluation
Graeme Wilson – EASE Archaeology

HU 3210 5270 A programme of archaeological work consisting of a survey and trial trenching was carried out in 2012 prior to works relating to the extension of Bixter Cemetery. The survey noted several features of possible interest in the wider area but nothing of archaeological significance was recorded in the test pits excavated in the development area. Archive: Report: Shetland Amenity Trust Funder: Shetland Islands Council

Tingwall

Strand, Tingwall
Watching brief
Graeme Wilson – EASE Archaeology

HU 4330 4560 A watching brief was carried out in 2012 during the machine excavation of drainage ditches at Strand, prior to the construction of a house. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: Hjaltland Housing/E and H Building Contractors

Trondra
Desk-based assessment and watching brief
Rick Barton – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy

HU 40214 38179 A watching brief was undertaken 11-15 June 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the installation of a wall main. The site is located on an E-facing hillside with very thin topsoil and subsoil layers overlying frequent outcrops of bedrock. The work was considered sensitive due to its proximity to known archaeological sites, including the site of human remains discovered in the 1930s (Shetland SMR 2417). The only feature recorded was a N-S oriented 20th-century track overlain by turf.

Archive: RCAHMS and Shetland Museum (intended). Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: Ross-shire Engineering Ltd

Unst

Norwick, Unst
Watching brief
Rick Barton – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy

HP 65120 14100 A watching brief was undertaken 12-15 September 2011 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of an agricultural shed. The site was considered sensitive due to its close proximity to the scheduled remains of a Romanesque church (HP61SE 1) and a mound thought to be the site of a broch. Viking remains were also discovered during a salvage excavation in 2003 c50m to the E of the proposed development.

The excavations revealed a well preserved section of dry stone wall, which was probably part of a dyke or enclosure. Although no datable material was recovered its stratigraphic position indicated that it was possibly prehistoric in date. There were no deposits associated with the stonework that might have indicated domestic activity, occupation or soil enhancement.

Archive: RCAHMS and Shetland Museum (intended). Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: Mr David Laurenson

Walling, Unst
Desk assessment
Rick Barton – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy

HP 57280 04625 An evaluation of possible archaeological features was undertaken on 13 January 2013 prior to the construction of a house close to the remains of an Iron Age broch at Underhoul (HP50SE 12). Two features of potential interest were identified; a linear arrangement of stones and an amorphous, turf covered mound. Intrusive investigation of these features established that the linear stone feature was the poorly preserved remains of a field boundary. The mound was found to be a natural feature consisting of peat overlying glacial till.

Archive: RCAHMS and Shetland Museum (intended). Report: Shetland Amenity Trust
Funder: Mr Stephane Kefferstein

Walls and Sandness

Norby, Sandness
Watching brief and excavation
Rick Barton and Zoe Outram – Rick Barton Archaeological Consultancy
A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 2–7 April 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a house on agricultural land at Norby. The site was considered sensitive due to its proximity to a number of known archaeological sites including a possible souterrain (SMR 225) and the site of a 13th-century Romish chapel and burial ground dedicated to St Ninian (SMR 225). An evaluation of the proposed footprint of the house by EASE Archaeology had also identified the remains of a substantial dry stone structure and cut feature on the E of the site, and a possible sunken feature. The site of the house was altered to avoid these features and a watching brief was undertaken during ground-breaking works. This resulted in the identification and investigation of a number of features.

Feature 1: A dry stone structure with internal partitions was identified during excavation of the NE corner of the site. The feature was not fully investigated as it extended beyond the development area to the E and N. A fragment of prehistoric pottery, possibly Iron Age, was recovered from the stony infill of the structure. The remains were left in situ and the area back filled with sandbags.

Feature 2: A negative feature consisting of a steep-sided pit, c1m wide x 0.6m deep, filled with stony deposits of reddish brown silty clay. A fragment of prehistoric pottery, possibly Iron Age, was recovered from the upper (secondary) fill of this feature.

Features 3–6: A series of pits or postholes, measuring 0.3–0.6m wide by 0.4m deep, were identified to the NE of Feature 2. They were uniformly steep-sided and filled by single deposits of reddish brown silty clay with very frequent inclusions of sub-angular stones. Finds of prehistoric pottery, possibly Iron Age, were recovered from Features 3, 4 and 5. A hammerstone or pounder was also recovered from the fill of Feature 5.

Features 7–9: A group of features consisting of a large shallow sub-rectangular pit, 2.2m wide E-W by 4.2m long N-S and between 0.1–0.4m deep, filled with a very stony silt deposit and large rubble. The edges of the pit were truncated by four postholes, one located roughly in each corner of the sub-rectangular feature. Finds from this feature consisted of pumice and prehistoric, possibly Iron Age, pottery.

The excavations also identified the foundation course of a N-S running 19th-century dry stone dyke (Feature 10), which was partially demolished during excavations. It appears that a large area in the centre of the site had been levelled during the construction of the dyke, which may have led to some truncation or disturbance of Features 2–9. A quern stone and a hammerstone were recovered from the dyke wall, indicating that elements of earlier prehistoric features may have been incorporated into it. Further disturbance caused by the construction of a road, which lies directly to the W of the site and a pair of modern sheds had also affected the preservation of the possible sunken feature identified by EASE.

The pit feature and associated postholes may be the remnants of some form of structure, though its uneven base and the absence of any evidence for an occupation surface suggest that it may not have been a domestic building. The stratigraphic relationships between the negative features, the similarities in the composition of their fills and the uniform nature of the pottery recovered from the different contexts suggests a contemporary possibly Iron Age date. Further work would be required to establish if they were related to the partial remains of the sunken feature to the S of the postholes and the structural remains to the N identified by EASE.

Assessment of the plant remains recovered through the flotation of bulk soil samples from the negative features and associated deposits showed that the remains were relatively rich in charred plant remains. These mainly represented items frequently used as a fuel source (peat, heather and charcoal), and wild taxa indicative of heathland/marsh environments. A number of barley grains were also recovered from the samples, mainly from pit Feature 2.

Report: Shetland SMR
Funder: Raymond Garrick

Plan of features at Norby, Sandness

**SOUTH AYRSHIRE**

**Ayr**

**Alloway Kirk**

**Watching brief**

Douglas Gordon and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 3319 1805 A watching brief was carried out 18 June – 24 July 2012 during the installation of lighting at Alloway Kirk. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
during the hand excavation of trenches for cables and light fittings.
Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Corton
Evaluation
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 351 181 An evaluation was undertaken 6–10 August 2012 prior to development of agricultural land at Corton (South East Ayr Phase 1: Corton Areas B and E). A total of 52 trenches covering 9492m² of the c14.4ha area were excavated. Generally, the area was sterile with no archaeological features surviving. However, two features were identified and fully excavated.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: LxB retail

Colmonell
Blair Farm, Barrhill
Survey
Stuart Farrell
NX 24290 82067 (centred on) A desktop and walkover survey were undertaken in August 2012 prior to the construction of a proposed wind turbine above Blair Farm. Clearance cairns were recorded at NX 24304 82115 and NX 24462 81815 and a water tank at NX 2441 8174.
Archive: RCAHMS, Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: Waterman Engineers

Knockdolian
Casual find
A Dene Wright – University of Glasgow
NX 12122 85088 A flint short convex flared scraper was found in the upcast of a molehill on a plateau at c100m OD, E of the summit of Knockdolian overlooking the River Stinchar to Knockdolian Castle beyond. Scrapers are common in prehistory and it is difficult to assign them to a specific archaeological period, although this form would not be out of place in a Late Mesolithic assemblage from South Ayrshire. The scraper has been retained by the contributor and was found by Joss Durnan, an archaeology undergraduate at the University of Glasgow.

Dundonald
Barassie, Troon
Excavation
Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 338 325 An excavation was undertaken 30 January – 21 March 2012 of archaeological remains located during an evaluation in 2008. The excavation recorded a number of structures and features including a ditch defined roundhouse, one post-ring roundhouse, a possible post-ring roundhouse and two linear ditches as well as pits, postholes, cultivation furrows and linear drains. Prehistoric ceramic and lithics found in some of the pits have been provisionally dated to the Late Mesolithic to Late Neolithic.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Stewart Milne Homes and Lynch Home

Kirkoswald
Culzean Castle
Casual find
Derek Alexander and Christine McPherson – The National Trust for Scotland
NS 2327 0991 During the replacement of a drainage pipe along the SE side of Silver Avenue on the 18 May 2012, the grounds staff found a broken bowl-shaped stone, which may have been a knocking stone. The stone would originally have been c0.6m in diameter by 0.35m high. The hollow would have been c0.3m in diameter and was 0.2m deep. There may have been a hole in the side of the stone leading into the base of the bowl.
Archive: NTS, RCAHMS and South Ayrshire SMR
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Culzean Castle – Scipio’s House (site of)
Excavation
Derek Alexander and Christine McPherson – The National Trust for Scotland
NS 23180 09977 Further to work undertaken in 2007 to try to locate the house foundations of the freed slave, Scipio Kennedy, a series of test pits and trial trenches were excavated, 9–14 September 2012, as part of a National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp. A total of eight 1 x 1m test pits were excavated around the position of the previous trenches on the E side of the road junction down to the Dolphin House. No major deposits of mortar or rubble were recorded although a number of sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered. In the woodland on the NW side of the road (NS 23170 09986) a 1–2m deep by c20m long whinstone quarry was recorded. Two longer trial trenches were excavated by a mini-digger across the base of the quarry. While this quickly revealed bedrock it also located a couple of areas where mortar deposits adhered to bedrock. In addition, quantities of worked sandstone blocks and fragments, bricks and slates were found. It is possible that these were dumped into the quarry at a later date, but it is also possible that they represent the remains of a demolished structure close by. At the end of one trench close to the road the bedrock steps down and sherds of 18th-century pottery were found along with fragments from the base of an iron footed cooking pot that appears to have contained coal.
Archive: NTS, RCAHMS and South Ayrshire SMR (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Culzean Castle – Walled garden
Excavation
Derek Alexander and Christine McPherson – The National Trust for Scotland
NS 23169 09929 A single 2 x 1m trench was excavated against the inner face of the NE wall of the main walled garden, 9–14 September 2012, by volunteers taking part in National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp. At the base of the wall, below 0.5m of garden soil, a series of worked sandstone blocks were set out in a semi-circle pattern, estimated at 1.6–1.7m in diameter.
This feature would have prevented the roots of small trees, perhaps fig trees, from penetrating down into the wet clay below.

Archive: NTS, RCAHMS and South Ayrshire SMR
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Kirkoswald Mains Rehabilitation
Watching brief
Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 27354 08379 A watching brief was undertaken 3 July – 7 August 2012 during mains rehabilitation works. The work was considered sensitive due to its proximity to Crossraguel Abbey. The area had been heavily disturbed during the construction of a number of modern road surfaces and no significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Scottish Water Shared Services Delivery

Souter Johnnie’s Cottage
Watching brief
Claire Williamson – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 2401 0753 A watching brief was carried out 15–17 October 2012 during the renewal of drainage at Souter Johnnie’s. No archaeological features were recorded in the drainage trench. The presence of 19th- and possible 20th-century artefacts in the deposit underlying the current ground surface suggests the area has been disturbed at some point since the construction of the cottage in 1785.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: NTS and WoSAS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Maybole

Greenan, Ayr
Evaluation
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 3140 1877 (centred on) A further phase of evaluation (DES 2011, 174) was undertaken 8–17 May 2012 on the site of a proposed residential development. The evaluation consisted of topsoil stripping of two areas amounting c4ha of the Phase 1 area (8.4ha). The areas incorporated the archaeological features revealed in the 2010 evaluation.

The evaluation recorded a further 31 archaeological features. These were largely isolated pits and postholes of probable prehistoric date. The pits included fire pits and stone filled examples. A single structure in the form of a large pit with an associated superstructure of six surrounding postholes was also recorded. Lithics and decorated pottery sherds of probable Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date were recovered from the structure. Two linear boundary ditch remnants were also identified.

The works were conducted over known lithic scatters of probable Mesolithic/Neolithic date and a further 35 lithics were retrieved from both stratified and unstratified contexts. These included a Neolithic Langdale Axe fragment and two hammerstones.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mactaggart and Mickel Ltd

Monkton and Prestwick

Main Street, Monkton
Excavation
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 3567 2814 An excavation was undertaken 31 October – 25 November 2011 of archaeological remains uncovered during topsoil stripping at a site on the W side of Main Street. The excavation recorded 29 pits, 43 postholes, 14 stakeholes and a ditch-defined roundhouse, as well as post-medieval cultivation furrows and linear drains. Prehistoric ceramics found in some of the pits have been provisionally dated to the Late Neolithic period, and sherds of green glaze ceramic recovered from the cultivation furrows have been dated to the 14th/15th century.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: David Wilson Homes Scotland

Tarbolton

Moss Landfill, Tarbolton
Evaluation
Claire Williamson – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 42838 28904 (centred on) An evaluation was undertaken 25 October – 1 November 2012 prior to the construction of a new waste recycling and treatment facility. The only features recorded were field drains and the truncated remains of furrows, which indicate the area was previously used for agriculture.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Tarbolton Landfill Ltd

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Avondale

Snabe Quarry
Evaluation and watching brief
Maureen C Kilpatrick and Alan Hunter Blair – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 65625 39655 (centred on) and NS 65293 39131 (centred on) A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 22 August – 19 September 2012 prior to expansion of an existing sand and gravel quarry. A 5% evaluation consisting of the excavation of 19 trenches (1648m2) and a subsequent watching brief during topsoil stripping was undertaken at NS 65625 39655. A watching brief was also undertaken at NS 65293 39131. Several features including pits, linear and curvilinear features and a possible enclosure of unknown date and function were recorded. Finds included fragments of burnt flint.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Tarmac Northern Ltd
Blantyre

Redlees Quarry
Watching brief and standing building recording
Warren Bailie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 6818 5985 A watching brief was undertaken 26 March – 21 May 2012 at the site of a WW2 anti-aircraft battery, prior to development of a public park on the site of Redlees Quarry. The clearance of the interior of the battery revealed the metal footings and fixtures for the anti-aircraft guns. The removal of shrubs and trees from across the site and structures, the removal of earth banks and the shaping of the immediate area surrounding the battery was also monitored. All buildings remain in situ. Archive: ADS Funder: South Lanarkshire Council

Carlisle

Belstane Town Farm
Watching brief
Kevin Paton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 849 517 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 13 March 2012 during topsoil stripping associated with the construction of a wind turbine base and cable track. The area was considered sensitive as a Roman road (NS85SW 20) may have crossed the area to the N and a ‘silver medal’ of the empress Faustina was found at Belstane (NS 850 515) in c1834. The only features recorded were a small irregularly shaped pit and a rubble drain, both in the area of the turbine base. Archive: RCAHMS (intended) Funder: VG Energy

Carstairs

Carstairs Arms Hotel
Watching brief
Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 9382 4608 A watching brief was undertaken on 8 March 2012 during the demolition of a former hotel and the construction of three houses. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded. Archive: RCAHMS, Report: WoSAS Funder: Mr John Bale

Crawford

Clyde Wind Farm
Watching brief and excavation
Stuart Mitchell, Magnus Kirby, Graeme Carruthers and Bruce Glendinning – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 9658 1891 to NS 9886 2017 A watching brief was undertaken June 2010 – December 2011 during the laying of cables from wind farm substations to the main electrical grid in 2010. The cable route passed over a farmstead and field system (NS 9690 1614 – Site 65 – NS91NE 8), the proposed line of the Torwood–Dalswinton–Crawford Roman road (at NS 9552 1698 – Site 20 – NS91NE 31), and the proposed line of the Border–Crawford–Inveresk Roman road (at NS 9632 1864 – Site 11 – NS91NE 30). An excavation was carried out on features associated with the post-medieval farmstead and field system of Over Newtown at Crookedstane (Site 65), which cartographic records date to the late 16th to mid-18th century. Four features that were to be directly affected by the cabling were excavated. These consisted of the S bank of the NE inner enclosure (Bank 1). A length of denuded banking (Bank 2) which ran from the SE corner of the NE inner enclosure along the edge of a farm road before curving towards quarry Site 72. The outer enclosing flood bank (Bank 3), and a length of possible bank lying to the W of the outer enclosing bank (Bank 4). Three worked chert artefacts (two flakes and a blade) of Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date were recovered from beneath Bank 1. These worked lithics add to the assemblage previously found at the site. An evaluation at Site 20 did not identify any remains relating to the Roman road. However, an excavation was carried out on the section of Roman road at Site 11. The road consisted of a foundation of large cobbles and sub-rounded stones set directly onto the ground surface, with the voids packed with angular coarse gravel. It was surfaced with small grained coarse gravel. A large spread of stones located close to the road was excavated and interpreted as a stockpile for road builders or menders. A shallow pit and a nearby mound of upcast were also recorded. The pit contained a large in situ boulder and was interpreted as a quarry pit for the road. A small sub-circular pit (139) measuring 0.7 x 0.65 x 0.2m deep with almost vertical sides and a flat base was found 10m from a small burn. A sample of the fill produced a single sherd of abraded prehistoric pottery, possibly Middle or Late Neolithic in date, and 25 chert lithics including a microlith and an unfinished bifacial leaf point, of Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date. A small quantity of cereal grain and charcoal was also recovered from the sample, and paired samples of hazel and birch charcoal returned radiocarbon dates of 2458–2152 cal BC and 2461–2208 cal BC at 2 sigma. The chert artefacts may therefore be residual.

A section of Roman road near Crawford
of remains constitutes an upland settlement or township of considerable concentration during a previous recent survey of the area. The structures may represent medieval or early post-medieval settlement. A large cairn was also recorded immediately S of an area of run-rig cultivation, and a large number of field clearance cairns were recorded in the vicinity. This considerable concentration of remains constitutes an upland settlement or township of some significance and appears to be archaeologically well preserved.

Crawfordjohn

Thristone Quarry

Evaluation
Douglas Gordon and Peter Klemen – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 8953 2656 (centred on) A 5% evaluation was undertaken 10–11 January 2012 of a proposed extension to a sand and gravel quarry. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded in any of the trenches excavated.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Loudounhill Contracts Ltd

Culter

Glengonnar, Birthwood Road, Coulter

Watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services
NT 026 335 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken 9 January – 5 June 2012 during ground reduction work associated with the construction of a house, access road and related services. The site was considered sensitive as an area of scheduled cultivation terraces is adjacent to its E edge. The area contained natural clay deposits to the E and gravel deposits towards the W edge. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Mr John Clark

Dalsel

Larkhall Academys

Evaluation and excavation
Stuart Mitchell – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 7570 5050 An evaluation and subsequent excavation were carried out November 2011 – January 2012 in advance of the construction of a supermarket. The evaluation identified part of a 19th-century track, cultivation furrows, a stone box drain, field system ditches, the remains of a former plant nursery, and several pits including two which contained Neolithic pottery. The area surrounding the Neolithic pits was excavated more fully and further pits were identified but none contained finds.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: RPS Ltd on behalf of Muse Developments Ltd

Douglas

Douglas West

Walkover survey
Ross Cameron – Addyman Archaeology
NS 82141 32286 A walkover survey was undertaken 20–21 June 2012 in advance of a proposed development at Douglas West. A desk-based assessment was undertaken prior to the field survey.

A series of rectilinear structures had been identified on aerial photographs and these features, which were indicative of an extensive settlement, were located during the survey. These features do not appear on any maps and were not identified during a previous recent survey of the area. The structures may represent medieval or early post-medieval settlement. A large cairn was also recorded immediately S of an area of run-rig cultivation, and a large number of field clearance cairns were recorded in the vicinity. This considerable concentration of remains constitutes an upland settlement or township of some significance and appears to be archaeologically well preserved.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Community Windpower Ltd

Hamilton

Ferniegair, Allanton

Evaluation
Iraia Arabaoolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 747 542 A trial trenching evaluation was carried out 24 July – 3 August 2012 prior to proposed development at Ferniegair. The area was considered sensitive due to its proximity to Bronze Age burial cists. A total of 70 trenches representing >8% of the 8.7ha development area were excavated. Two isolated features consisting of a small posthole and a shallow pit were recorded but not considered archaeologically significant. A possible prehistoric flint scraper and a rim sherd of a medieval white gritty jug were recovered from topsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Bett Homes

Lanark

Five Jays, Cleghorn

Watching brief
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 911 459 A watching brief was undertaken 28–29 May 2012 during the hand excavation of three test pits in the scheduled area of the Roman camp of Camp Wood, and during work to determine the extent of sub-surface disturbance within the area of a proposed house. No topsoil existed in the two areas assessed within the property at Five Jays and the sub-surface deposits within the scheduled area had been disturbed.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr J Frame

17 Friar’s Lane, Lanark

Watching brief
Maureen C Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 8792 4353 A watching brief was undertaken 3 February – 22 June 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a house extension and garage. The sandstone foundation of the previous house, which was partly demolished in the 1960s, were recorded in the area of the extension. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the area of the garage.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr and Mrs K Graham

Hyndford Quarry

Watching brief
Kevin Patton – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 891 408 A watching brief was undertaken 14–23 May 2012 during the first phase of topsoil stripping associated with the Renewal of Old Mineral Permission (ROMP) at Hyndford Quarry. The site is located in undulating open farmland immediately to the S of the existing quarry face. A natural pond containing several species of nesting birds restricted the stripped area to a small triangle of c4000m². Three small pits containing Bronze Age beaker pottery were recorded at the base of a small hollow to the N of the pond and only 2m S of the current quarry face.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Cemex UK Materials Ltd
Lesmahagow

**Broken Cross North Extension**

*Evaluation*

Christine Rennie and Maureen Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd

NS 840 386 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out 27 February – 20 June 2012 in advance of the proposed extension to open cast mining to the S of Mains Farm and Moat Farm (Phase 3 and 4). The 5% evaluation of the 21.38ha area consisted of the excavation of 76 trenches in a cross pattern. The work recorded elements of a field drainage system relating to 19th- and 20th-century agricultural improvements and a probably modern posthole.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

**Craignethan Castle**

*Watching brief*

Paul Fox – Kirkdale Archaeology

NS 8164 4635 A watching brief was undertaken 14 – 16 March 2012 during the excavation of trenches for a new fence and shrubs. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

NS 8148 4633 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 14 March 2012 during the excavation of trenches for new signs. The deposits recorded in most of the trenches indicated that the area W of the castle had been heavily landscaped in the modern period. There was some indication that older landscaping features may underlie these deposits and a surface of laid stone recorded in one trench may merit further investigation.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Dillar Hill, Dillars, Brocketsbrae

*Watching brief*

Alison McCaig – CFA Archaeology Ltd

NS 831 418 A watching brief was carried out in January 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of two wind turbines. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Tanhill Farm

*Watching brief*

Donald Wilson – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 767 443 A watching brief was undertaken in August 2012 during excavations associated with the construction of two wind turbine base and access track. The area was considered sensitive as it is located in the vicinity of a number of archaeological sites, including a Roman road. Deposits of natural clay were reached in all areas and no significant archaeological finds or features were recorded in either the 20 x 20m area excavated for the turbine base or along the 212m access track.

Archive: RCAHMS

Rutherglen

**2 Richmond Drive, Rutherglen**

*Watching brief*

Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 6255 6141 A watching brief was undertaken on 15 June 2012 during topsoil stripping along the line of a driveway and within the footprint for a garage. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

**Walston**

**Lammerlaw Farm, Elsrickle**

*Watching brief*

Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NT 057 443 A watching brief was undertaken on 23 July 2012 during ground reduction works associated with the construction of a turbine, cable trench and road. The excavations revealed an archaeologically sterile area consisting of shallow gravelly topsoil overlying a clayey stony subsoil.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

**South Melbourne Farm, Dolphinton**

*Evaluation*

Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NT 086 441 (centred on) An evaluation consisting of the excavation of three trenches was undertaken on 1 November 2011 prior to development work. Four features were uncovered in Trench (A), two were natural undulations in the subsoil and two reflected modern disturbance. Trench (B) mostly contained infill material used to build up the ground level after it had been cleared down to the natural prior to an area of hard standing being laid. Trench (C) was fairly shallow and undisturbed with the only anomaly being a natural ditch-like dip.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS

**STIRLING**

**Balquhidder**

**Ballimore Hydro Scheme**

*Walkover survey*

John Lewis – Scotia Archaeology

NN 5354 1924 – NN 5290 1750 A walkover survey was undertaken on 4 April 2012 along the proposed route of a new underground power line to connect with the Ballimore hydro scheme. The survey identified the remnants of the former settlements of Bailemeanoch (NN51NW 11) and Clachglas (NN51NW 9), and the scant remains of three previously unrecorded buildings towards the N end of the survey area. Each survives as little more than one course of rubble walls covered with vegetation.

NN 53463 19103 – Structure, c.8 x 4m

NN 53434 19213 – Structure, c.17 x 6m

NN 53454 19252 – Structure, c.14 x 5m

Archive and Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS

**Glen Ogle**

*Cup- and ring-marked rock*

George Currie

NN 58727 24527 In improved pasture 50m E of the Ogle Burn is a boulder 2.1 x 0.9 x 0.5m, which bears 21 cup marks, 2 of which have single rings.

**Buchanan**

**Coldrach Farm, Drymen**

*Standing building recording*
Warren Bailie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 46917 89978 A Level 2 standing building survey was undertaken of this mid-18th-century farmhouse on 28 June 2012 prior to renovation work. There were regular quoin stones on each of the corners of the main building and diagonal incised detailing existed along the base of the front, S elevation, window surrounds. The majority of the exterior lime harl render was intact. The interior of the building had undergone refurbishment in the early 20th century and it retained art deco fireplaces, an early 20th-century kitchen range and early to mid-20th-century bathroom and electrical fittings. The presence of charred wooden fixings for former laths provided evidence of a fire over the upper two floors.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Whyte Development Management

Sput Ban, Ben Lomond
Survey and excavation
Derek Alexander and Mareike Ahlers – The National Trust for Scotland
NN 3627 0005 A survey and excavation was undertaken on 22 March 2012 of a possible illicit whisky still located in a steep sided gully on the W slopes of Ben Lomond at the base of the Sput Ban (white spout) waterfall. The site consists of a small level platform, 3m long by 2m wide, recessed into the slope. There is a short length of 0.7m high dry stone retaining wall at its upper end. A 2 x 1m trench was excavated out from the dry stone wall. The top 0.3m of deposits consisted of in-washed stones and there were no finds or indications of fire settings.

Archive: NTS, RCAHMS and Stirling SMR (intended)
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Stronachlachar Water Treatment Plant
Watching brief and excavation
Christine Rennie and Kevin Mooney – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NN 390 097 A watching brief was undertaken 14 May – 31 July 2012 during the construction of a new water treatment plant. The site was considered sensitive as early OS maps indicate that it may the site of a pre-19th-century farmstead. A small section of brick wall with an OS bench mark was recorded to the W of the development, and this may be the location of the farmstead. The investigation of a stone field dyke revealed a linear feature cut by a stone structure. No finds were recovered during the excavation.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Water

Comrie

Ardveich 4
Cup-marked rock
George Currie
NN 62081 24532 At the NW edge of the deserted settlement of Ardveich an outcrop bears a single cup mark measuring 75 x 40mm.

Dunblane and Lecropt

Wester Cambushinnie Farm, Cromlix
Watching brief
Stuart Farrell
NN 78255 07466 A watching brief was undertaken in November 2011 during work associated with the construction of the base for a single wind turbine to the NW of Wester Cambushinnie Farm. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS

Kenmore

Creag Ard
Burnt mound (possible)
George Currie
NN 62890 34181 On a terrace at 265m OD a penannular enclosure
c.5.5 m E–W, 6 m N–S, eastern bank 2.5 x 1.5 m, western bank 2.0 x 0.6 m, northern bank 2.2 x 1 m, entrance at S.

The possible burnt mound at Creag Ard

**Killearn**

**Auchineden, Blanefield**

*Walkover survey*

Maureen Kilpatrick – GUARD Archaeology Ltd

NS 501 815 A walkover survey of 150–200 ha was carried out on 15 February 2012 in advance of a proposed woodland creation scheme. Two known sites were identified: a possible hut circle and a possible burnt mound. A stone bridge with a central archway was also noted.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: RTS Ltd

**Birch Road, Killearn**

*Evaluation*

Ray Cachart and Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd

NS 52260 85907 (centred on) An evaluation was undertaken on 23 August 2012 prior to the construction of six new houses next to 22 Birch Road. A total of three trenches were excavated covering 5% (100 m²) of the development area. Special attention was paid for any possible remains associated with settlement around the nearby Killearn Old Parish Church. Nothing of archaeological significance was located in any of the trenches and the only finds were 19th- to 20th-century pottery sherds, which may possibly reflect horticultural activity. Bedrock was located close to the surface in all the trenches and the slope of the land may have deterred any prior building activity.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)

Funder: Stirling Council

**Mount Farm**

*Desk-based assessment and walkover survey*

Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 56932 86424 (centred on) A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were undertaken 13–18 June 2012 on a number of parcels of land in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. The areas were located to the S and SE of Ballinkrain Castle and covered a portion of the Balglass Burn on the N slopes of Ballikinrain Muir.

A total of 35 potential heritage sites were identified during the assessment. Twenty lie within the proposed planting area, and recommendations have been made regarding their in situ preservation.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: Stirling SMR

Funder: Scottish Woodlands

**Place of Killearn**

*Walkover survey and evaluation*

Murray Cook – Stirling Council

NS 52170 85380 A community research programme was undertaken in conjunction with Northlight Heritage on 8–10 June 2012. The work consisted of a walkover survey and excavation of test pits at the Place of Killearn, a 17th-century laird’s house set within a designed landscape.

The work confirmed the presence of the house, which had been extensively robbed out. It also identified a formal stairway connecting the house to a water feature – the Ladies Lynn. The burn to either side of the Ladies Lynn had been canalised to create specific views. A series of hollow-ways and coppiced oaks, alders and sycamores were recorded in the surrounding woodland. The remains of a substantial ornamental gateway to the estate were also identified.

Archive: Stirling SMR

Funder: Stirling Council and Northlight Heritage

**Killin**

**Upper Glen Lochay**

*Field survey*

Dugald MacInnes – Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists (ACFA)

Further survey work was carried out on Corrycharmaig (NN 527 358), Duncroisk (NN 530 363), Easter Tullich (NN 526 367) and Tirai (NN 529 367). Of greatest significance over the past year was the discovery, during archival research, of three 17th-century references to a Croftravie or Croftrevie, listed between Innischoarach (NN 493 367) and Corrycharmaig Farms. In 1634–35 Jon and Donald McInnes, the latter a
shepherd, lived there, but by 1688, two McGrigors, Jon and Duncan, were in residence. No other references to Croftravie have been found to date.

Intensive fieldwork, carried out on Corrycharmaig from March to May 2012, discovered the presence, in the oak woods bounding the S banks of the River Lochay, of a small cluster of dry stone structures including a house and outbuildings (NN 5122 3661). It is a possibility that these remains are those of Croftravie. The other findings from the survey comprise shieling-type huts, field systems and several dry stone buildings, one of which is extant to 2.9m high (NN 5141 3649). On Duncroisk, a survey of a small group of shieling huts above the old head dyke was undertaken (NN 5381 3654). An area of improved ground (NN 5359 3756) immediately below an improvement dyke was also surveyed, including several dry stone and turf buildings and the remains of activities from the Breadalbane Hydro-electric Project of the 1950s.

An update on ACFA’s initial survey in Glen Lochay on Tirail and Easter Tullich is under way. Archaeological features that were noted above an improvement dyke in the early 1990s have been drawn and fieldwalking above the old head dyke is nearing completion. Here, a small group of five shieling huts were recorded in October (NN 5297 3734).

Three ACFA Occasional Papers have been published this year: Tomochrocher, Batavaime and Tuerichan, the latter a former farm now subsumed within Corrycharmaig.

Inverardoch, Doune

Evaluation
Derek Hall
NN 731 008 A 5% evaluation of the site of a proposed new house was carried out on 11 May 2012. The work located laid gravel and construction surfaces associated with the former Inverardoch House which was built in 1859 and demolished in the 1950s.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Robin Clifford and Dr Vicki Clifford

Logie

Abbey Craig
Walkover survey and evaluation
Murray Cook – Stirling Council
NS 80940 95650 A community research programme was undertaken in conjunction with Stirling Council’s Archaeology and Ranger Service 7–10 September 2012. The work consisted of a walkover survey and excavation of test pits at one of the quarries used to construct the National Wallace Monument and putative rampart identified in 2011.

The work in the quarry recovered a variety of Victorian and Edwardian rubbish from the nearby tea room including fragments of commemorative pottery saying ‘A present from the National Wallace Monument Stirling’. A series of spoil heaps derived from the dressing of the quarried blocks were identified. Further excavation around the putative rampart identified a terminal and reused piece of vitrified stone, indicating that the rampart may relate to a refortification of the hillfort after its vitrification.

Archive: Stirling SMR
Funder: Stirling Council

Alexander Court Student Residences, Stirling University

Evaluation, photographic and metal detector survey
Rob Engl – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 8152 9672 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken on 29 May 2012 prior to the construction of new student halls of residence on a 4300m² area of managed grounds within the grounds of Stirling University. Limited photographic and metal detector surveys were carried out, and a total of 11 trenches, equating to 215m², were excavated. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded in an area that had been significantly disturbed during the construction of the existing student accommodation.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Faithful and Gould

Haugh Road, Stirling

Metal detector survey and evaluation
Derek Hall
NS 797 949 A metal detector survey and evaluation were undertaken 29 February – 1 March 2012 prior to development of land to the rear of 1 and 2 Haugh Road. A metal detector survey of the entire site and a 5% evaluation of two new house plots located no finds or features relating to the Battle of Stirling Bridge (1297).

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Albert Stewart

Kilmadock

Argaty House, Doune

Standing building survey, evaluation and watching brief
Alan Hunter Blair – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NN 73702 03128 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 12 March – 13 November 2012 prior to the proposed redevelopment of Argaty House, which was recently destroyed by fire. A desk-based assessment and Level 2 standing building survey were undertaken of the house. A trial trench evaluation recorded a number of buried features in the building footprint. These consisted of mortar and flagstone floor surfaces and truncated walls associated with two earlier structures on the site. Wall footings, a stone conduit and modern services were also recorded. A watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of test pits dug to establish the depth and nature of the buildings foundations.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Mr and Mrs William Sinclair

Castle Farm by Doune Castle

Watching brief
Ray Cachart – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NN 7290 0116 (centred on) A watching brief was undertaken on 15 May 2012 during the excavation of a trench for an electricity cable and associated pole and stay. The site was considered sensitive due to its proximity to the 14th-century Doune Castle and a Roman fort. Some fragments of leather were found below the topsoil in the pit for the stay. The examination of spoil from the excavation with a metal detector recovered a fragment of medieval spur.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Scottish and Southern Energy

Deanston, Doune

Evaluation
Christine Rennie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NN 709 016 A 5% evaluation was undertaken 6–7 March 2012 of a 3.73ha development site. A total of ten trenches were excavated but no finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: CALA Homes (West) Ltd
Port of Menteith

Gartmore Village Hall
Watching brief
Iraia Arabaolaza – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 523 972 A watching brief was undertaken on 22 August 2012 during the construction of an extension. The foundations of a dry stone wall, possibly a boundary wall were recorded. The OS 6" map (Perthshire, Sheet CXXX, 1866) has a possible boundary in this location.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Gartmore Community Trust Ltd

Hill Cottage, Aberfoyle
Evaluation
Derek Hall
NS 544 967 An assessment on 7 March 2012 of the stripped footprint of a proposed new livery barn, on land 140m to the E of Hill Cottage, located no archaeological features or finds.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Ms Alice MacFarlane

Main St, Hopeton
Evaluation
Alan Hunter Blair – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NN 61590 00995 An evaluation was carried out on 25 October 2012 prior to the proposed development of two houses and associated services and landscaping. A total of seven trenches were excavated across the footprints for the houses and access roads. No archaeological finds or features were recorded in the trenches. A relict stock enclosure was visible to the SW of one of the house plots.
Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: James MacDougall

Stirling

Battle of Stirling Bridge
Excavation and metal detector survey
Murray Cook – Stirling Council
NS 79818 94579 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken on 27 February and 29 June – 2 July 2012 at two locations within the site of the Battle of Stirling Bridge, 1297 (Bridgehaugh and Stirling County Rugby Pitch). A series of hand dug test-pits were excavated by local volunteers under the supervision of Stirling Council Archaeology Service in association with GUARD Archaeology Ltd and Glasgow University’s Centre for Battlefield Archaeology. A metal detector survey of the area was also undertaken by the Scottish Artefact Recovery Group. The work identified medieval, post-medieval and Victorian finds. The most significant find was the discovery of medieval pottery putatively identified as dating to the 13/14th century.
Archive: Stirling SMR
Funder: Stirling Council, GUARD Archaeology Ltd, Centre for Battlefield Archaeology and SARG

Bannockburn 700 – Bolfornought Enclosure
Survey and excavation
Warren Bailie – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 8259 9383 A geophysical survey and evaluation were carried out 26–28 March 2012 on a possible sub-rectangular enclosure (NS89SW 154), noted on aerial photographs taken on 5 August 2008. The resistivity and gradiometry surveys covered 1ha and identified several anomalies, some of which corresponded to linear features observed on the photographs. The evaluation trenches targeted these anomalies and key areas of the possible enclosure based on the aerial photographs.

The evaluation trenches revealed that there is no formal enclosure in this location, but instead a series of historic perpendicular ditches, rigs and furrows have defined the sub-rectangular form visible in the aerial photographs. Three dark-green glazed pottery sherds of 15th- to 16th-century date were recovered from two of the five ditch features, suggesting the long term use of this land for agricultural purposes. There and a community excavation is proposed for 2013.

St Ninian’s Old Parish Church, Stirling
Standing building recording
Tim Holden – Headland Archaeology Ltd
NS 79564 91677 A standing building survey was undertaken 18–23 March 2010 of St Ninian’s Old Parish Church. The survey recorded the damage to one wall of the standing structure and produced a photographic catalogue of the fallen stones with decorative details.
Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: McEachern MacDuff Architects
were numerous red-brick and ceramic pipe drains across the area and this may account for some of the anomalies from the geophysical survey, especially where these were observed close to the ground surface.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: BBC Scotland

Barns Knowe, Old Sauchie
Evaluation
Derek Hall
NS 779 884 A 5% evaluation was undertaken on 3 May 2012 on the site of a proposed new house and parking area. The only feature located was the course of a former water pipe.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr and Mrs Allan MacPherson

Carbrook Mains
Metal detector find
Fraser Hunter – National Museums Scotland
NS 84 86 A Romano-British trumpet brooch was found during metal detecting near Carbrook Mains. It has a full acanthus moulding flanked by notched collars, and an integral loop to hold a lost sprung pin.

Archives: RCAHMS

Drumshogle Burn near Murrayshall Farm
Walkover survey
Tamlin Barton and Ray Cachar – Alder Archaeology Ltd
NS 74700 90264 (centred on) A walkover survey was carried out on 31 January 2012 in advance of tree planting along the Drumshogle Burn. An area of gullies created by quarrying, and a track, which may have been used to remove rock, were recorded at the E end of the site. The two low banks recorded to the SW may represent the remains of pre-improvement period field boundaries. Two areas of rig and furrow, with rigs running at 90° to each other, were recorded on a flattish area N of the burn at the NE end of the survey area. These arable fields were probably infieldis cultivated by the people who lived at the farmsteads of Shielbrae or Glenside.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Eamonn Wall and Co

Kildean, Stirling
Evaluation
Lindsay Dunbar – AOC Archaeology Group
NS 7801 9529 An evaluation was undertaken on 31 August 2012 prior to commercial development of a greenfield site at Kildean. A single 62m long, E-W aligned trench was excavated across the widest part of the development area in order to determine the presence of a suspected Roman road. No trace was found of the road and no significant finds or features were recorded.

Archives: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Valad Europe

Monument Hill, Bannockburn
Metal detector and geophysical survey and evaluation
Warren Bailey – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 79539 90641 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 18–27 July 2012 as part of ongoing work leading up to the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn in 2014. A metal detector survey of 13200m² resulted in the retention of 79 finds, an estimated 20% of the total number discovered. The discard included post imperial coinage, agricultural machinery debris and modern picnic refuse. The retained finds included 18 coins ranging from mid-18th-century to mid- to late 20th-century date, with one potentially earlier coin of unknown date. Two iron cannon balls were recovered in relatively close proximity to a small lead pistol-shot. Other items of potential interest were six iron objects that are tapered to a point or edge. One of these was readily identifiable as a 102mm long iron knife blade, with no handle. Another of the finds appears to be an iron axe or wedge for dividing planks of wood; there is some evidence for percussion on the side opposite the cutting edge. One sherd of medieval White Gritty Ware pottery was also recovered during the metal detecting. Other finds included equestrian fittings, belt buckles and buttons.

The 9200m² geophysical survey identified ten archaeological anomalies. A series of targeted hand excavated trenches, covering 58m² and machine excavated evaluation trenches, covering 108m², were used to further investigate the site. Unfortunately none of the nine trenches targeting the anomalies identified features that could be directly related to the Battlefield of Bannockburn, 1314. However, three features of potentially prehistoric date were recorded. A trench positioned at the base of the Monument Hill SW-facing slope near Halbert’s Bog recorded 1.09m of overburden, showing the accumulated levels of colluvium and alluvium in the lower areas of the site.

A trench placed across the Borestone Brae did reveal a potentially earlier surface set on subsoil, underlying the present tarmac and hardcore levels. However, the limited size of the trench and time constraints meant that it was not possible to confirm if this possible surface represents pre-construction levelling for the present road, or the remnants of an earlier approach to the Borestone area.

A community excavation was carried out, 27–30 July 2012 by Stirling Council Archaeology and Ranger Service, on the N lodge of Plean Country House which was built in the early 19th century and demolished in the mid-20th century. The exposed building foundations were recorded and it was established that the building had gone through a modification that included the construction of extensions and a raised floor, which involved blocking an existing fireplace and switching the orientation of the rooms.

Archives: Stirling SMR
Funder: Stirling Council

Strathblane
Duntreath
Desk-based assessment and survey
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 53965 80087 (Duntreath North) and NS 54877 79676 (Duntreath South) A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were undertaken in June 2012 on a number of parcels of mostly open land around Killearn and Strathblane, in advance of a proposed woodland planting scheme. A total of 44 potential heritage sites were identified during the assessment, 36 lie within the proposed planting area, and recommendations have been made regarding their in situ preservation.

Archives: RCAHMS. Report: Stirling SMR
Funder: Scottish Woodlands

Milndavie Road, Strathblane
Evaluation
Derek Hall
NS 5600 7890 A 5% evaluation was undertaken on 7 February 2012 on the proposed site of a new house, garage and parking area. The only feature recorded was the course of a former field drain of Victorian or Early Modern date.

Archive: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr Alastair Pickard

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Bonhill

Alexandria Health and Care Centre, Vale of Leven Hospital
Excavation
Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 3880 8062 Following an evaluation in July 2011, two phases of excavation were carried out on the site of the new Alexandria Health and Care Centre in October–November 2011 and May 2012. A total of 106 pits were excavated, including fire pits and pits containing structured deposits of prehistoric pottery, the majority of which appeared to be Late Neolithic Grooved Ware. A number of lithics crafted from quartz, flint and pitchstone were also recovered. Two of the pits contained significant deposits of Grooved Ware in association with lithics.

Two palaeochannels crossed the development site and the fills from both channels contained Grooved Ware pottery. An apparently in situ deposit of Late Neolithic material in one of the palaeochannels sealed what appeared to be ard marks.

The remains of a ring-groove structure, 10.5m in diameter, of likely later prehistoric date was also excavated, along with a U-shaped ditch overlain by a deposit of stone and which contained two central pits. This latter feature did not produce any artefacts and its date and function remain unclear.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: Laing O’Rourke PLC on behalf of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Old Kilpatrick

Davie Cooper Centre, Great Western Road, Clydebank
Evaluation
Ross Cameron – Addyman Archaeology
NS 50463 71464 An evaluation was undertaken 4–6 June 2012 prior to the development of a day care and respite centre. The site was considered sensitive due to its proximity to the Bronze Age site of Knappers and the Antonine Wall.

A total of 21 linear trenches, covering 679m² (5.6%) of the development area, were excavated. The area available for evaluation was limited by the presence of woodland and no features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded. The SE area of the site contained very deep deposits of 20th century made ground, whilst the rest of the site had shallow deposits of topsoil. The vestigial remnants of plough scars indicated cultivation had occurred at some point.

Archive and Report: RCAHMS and WoSAS (intended)
Funder: Perpetual Legacy Ltd and the Davie Cooper Centre

Gavinburn

Desk-based assessment and survey
Katie Sludden – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 46987 76438 (centred on) A programme of assessment and survey was undertaken in June 2012 on a series of land parcels in the Kilpatrick Hills in advance of woodland planting. The work was undertaken to assess the nature and extent of any archaeology likely to be affected by the woodland and to inform recommendations for the protection and management of any sites. A total of 47 potential cultural heritage sites were identified, and 27 were considered of probable local or regional significance. The nature of land use in the area suggests that these 27 sites are likely to survive in reasonably good condition and recommendations have been made for their in situ preservation.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

The enigmatic U-shaped feature at Alexandria Hospital after excavation
Roman Road, Duntocher
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NS 49305 72653 A watching brief was carried out, 29 May – 10 August 2012, during the excavation of pipe trenches and construction of manholes for a new section of sewer pipe. The area was considered sensitive due to its proximity to the line of the Antonine Wall.

The work revealed extensive areas of made ground and elements of 19th- and 20th-century structures to the S of Duntocher Burn. Additional walls were located to the N of the burn, and the short sections exposed during excavation suggest they may have been built prior to the 19th century.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: Scottish Water

**WEST LOTHIAN**

Abercorn

The Mill Weir Bridge and General Tam's Smokehouse, House of the Binns
Standing building recording
Mike Cressey – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 05709 77875 Mill Weir Bridge A Level 3 standing building and condition survey was carried out in October 2012. The bridge carried the estate’s former E Drive and has lain abandoned since the drive went out of use in the 1960s. The bridge consists of a single segmented arch with abutments built of ashlar. A box culvert has been built into the superstructure on the S side of the bridge. A stone laid overflow weir runs below the bridge. The bridge has no parapet but its deck is bordered by a line of kerb stones.

NT 05229 78564 General Tam's Smokehouse A Level 3 standing building and condition survey was carried out in October 2012 of this roofless stone-built folly or grotto located close to the House of the Binns Tower. The precise construction date is not known but it probably dates to the early 19th century. The building consists of a simple stone-built wall constructed of whinstone with a segmented arch above the small doorway. The doorway is surrounded by rough-dressed blocks of whinstone. The wall encloses a small cleft in the outcropping bedrock.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: RCAHMS
Funder: The National Trust for Scotland

Bathgate

68 Majorbanks St, Bathgate
Watching brief
Rowena Thomson – GUARD Archaeology Ltd
NS 978 687 A watching brief was undertaken on 25 May 2012 during ground-breaking works associated with the construction of a house extension. The area was considered sensitive as it is adjacent to a Reformation date chapel and well. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Stephen Fowler

Trees Farm, Armadale
Standing building survey; evaluation and excavation
Stuart Mitchell and Ian Suddaby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NS 9400 6720 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken April – November 2011 within the Armadale Masterplan Development Area. The first phase of trial trenching evaluation, which covered 8% (6442m²) of Areas 1–3, recorded no significant archaeological finds or features. The second phase of trial trenching covered 8% (5231m²) of each of the Areas 4–7. Features recorded included the remains of a building, a curving ditch, and a large pit. The remains of rig and furrow were identified in the better drained areas of land during both phases of evaluation.

A total of eight trenches were excavated to further investigate the identified features. Three examined agricultural features, concentrating on changes in furrow alignments and intersections. One trench fully excavated a large post-medieval pit. One trench fully exposed a deposit of broken stone and a curvilinear ditch. This deposit was natural and the ditch cut a second ditch which contained post-medieval pottery. An 18th-to 19th-century building, apparently roofed until the 1970s, was fully excavated. A feature on the 1st Edition OS map was located and recorded and a draw well was also recorded.

A Level 1 standing building survey was undertaken of Trees Farm prior to its demolition. The farm buildings consisted of a two-storey house and a steading to the rear. The house had modern extensions and had been badly damaged by fire. The steading consisted of three joined ranges which, together with the house, surrounded a small yard. Once demolished, an evaluation of the footprint and surrounding area aimed to ascertain the presence of any underlying structures, as a settlement is shown in this location on General Roy’s map of 1745–55. Agricultural furrows were recorded under the buildings. A stretch of wall was also recorded but no buildings were identified.

Archive and report RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: EMA Architecture + Design Ltd per EWP Investments

Kirklinton

Glendevon
Evaluation
Melanie Johnson – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NT 0790 7500 (centred on) An evaluation was undertaken in June 2012 in two areas of the Winchburgh Masterplan Area (the Topsoil Stockpile Area, Block K and SUDS Area). A total of 63 trenches were excavated, representing 5% of the areas. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified in the Block K and SUDS Area, although the remains of rig and furrow were identified across parts of the development site.

In the Topsoil Stockpile Area, features identified included extensive quarrying in the form of large cut features filled with made ground; a range of linear cut features; three circular pits of unknown age and function; remains of rig and furrow; and a range of modern cut features containing 20th-century debris. The presence of redeposited clay and shale in the quarry and linear fills indicates these were probably associated with shale mining works. The linear features possibly represented trial trenches to test the local geology or drainage features.

Old quarries are recorded in the vicinity, but not in the development area, on the 1st Edition OS map of 1856. The 2nd Edition OS map of 1897 shows the Glendevon Shale Mine Number 6 to the SW of the development area. It seems highly likely that all of the features recorded were associated with these shale mining works and date to the first half of the 20th century.

Archive: RCAHMS and WoSAS
Funder: Sigma Capital Group Ltd

Kirkliston

Ainville Farm
Watching brief
Diane Gorman – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
NT 10266 63086 A watching brief was undertaken on 20
Linlithgow

Hamilton's Land, Linlithgow

Standing building recording
Tamlin Barton – Alder Archaeology Ltd

NT 00398 77131 (centred on) A survey was undertaken, 3 October – 1 November 2011, of the roof at 42–44 High Street, which is part of the 16th-century group of buildings known as Hamilton’s Land, during essential repairs.

The sarking was found to consist of pit-sawn Scots pine planks of a variety of lengths and widths. Stone slates had been attached to it using large headed hand forged wrought iron clout type nails. These nails were also used to nail the sarking to the rafters. The roof was found to be of common rafter form with most of the original rafters surviving, though a few had been reinforced or replaced in the 19th or 20th century. All original timbers were found to be adze trimmed softwood, probably Scots pine, and most were whole though some were halved and a few quartered. Rafter pairs were connected at the apex with pegged mortise and tenon joints.

On the N roof of the property (aligned E–W) most of the rafters were mortise and tenoned into original sole plates and ashlar posts. The sole plates on the N side rested on the external stone wall of the property, but those on the S side rested on brick walls that had been constructed on two steel I-beams. These beams had been inserted when a major internal wall in the floor below was removed in the 19th or early 20th century. Nine of the 11 rafter pairs on the N roof were connected to original Collins by nailed lap joints with no dovetailing. The S roof (aligned N–S) had been attached to it using large headed hand forged wrought iron clout type nails. These nails were also used to nail the sarking to the rafters. The roof was found to be of common rafter form with most of the original rafters surviving, though a few had been reinforced or replaced in the 19th or 20th century. All original timbers were found to be adze trimmed softwood, probably Scots pine, and most were whole though some were halved and a few quartered. Rafter pairs were connected at the apex with pegged mortise and tenon joints.

On the N-facing side of the N roof at either side were two sets of vertical grooves in the original rafters marking the possible location of two ‘cat slide’ type windows. A pair of cat slides was also found on either side of the S roof. Two adze trimmed bracing beams in the S roof pointed to the former existence of two dormers, one which blocked a cat slide.

Kettilstoun Mains, Linlithgow

Metal detector survey and evaluation
Magnar Dallland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

NS 984 763 A metal detector survey and evaluation were carried out 9–21 December 2012 in advance of a proposed development. The site lies within the boundaries of the Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) but the relatively small number of metal finds recovered during the survey were all modern.

The evaluation identified two areas of prehistoric activity. A group of six pits and postholes were discovered near the N edge of the site. Fragments of Middle Neolithic pottery were recovered from three of these features. The second prehistoric site was located c.190m to the SE. It consisted of two cremation pits <7m apart, both contained pot fragments dating to the Early Bronze Age. The two pits sat on a low mound and are probably part of a small cremation cemetery.

Aerial photographs of the site taken in 1981 show a circular cropmark located on the N edge of the development area. Six trenches were excavated across the circular cropmark and two trenches were excavated inside it. No trace of a ditch or any associated features were encountered. Given the shallow nature of the topsoil in some of the trenches it is possible that the feature has been ploughed out during the 30s years since the photograph was taken.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: West Lothian Council

16 Lyon Well Wynd, Linlithgow

Standing building recording and watching brief
Rebecca Shaw – Rebecca Shaw Archaeological Services

NS 999 769 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken 2–15 March 2012 during work associated with a house extension. An underground water cistern and associated features were recorded and ground reduction work monitored.

A rectangular wash house containing a brick built circular boiler, a wringer and a hand pump, was attached to the N gable of the main house. The top of the underground cistern was located 450mm below the current ground surface. The cistern consisted of a red brick arched structure, aligned C–S, measuring 1.7m long and fed by a downpipe attached to the house. The wash house was probably constructed at the end of the 19th century and was in use until roughly the mid-20th century.

The ground reduction works mainly revealed a dirty infill containing 19th- and early 20th-century features. A circular stone well with an upper more modern red brick chamber was also recorded, along with the remains of two sandstone walls.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: Ellen Townend

1a Union Road, Linlithgow

Watching brief
Stuart Farrell – Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd

NS 99872 76963 A watching brief was conducted in September 2012 during the construction of a new garage on an elevated area to the S of the High Street. No significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

Archives: RCAHMS
Funder: Mr G Cairns

Mid Calder

Castle Greg

Geophysical survey
Ian Hawkins and Donald Matthews – Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

NT 05020 59250 A ground resistance survey was carried out in advance of a proposed development October – 1 November 2011, of the roof at 42–44 High Street, which is part of the 16th-century group of buildings known as Hamilton’s Land, during essential repairs.
out 24–25 March 2012 over the fort platform and defences of Castle Greg Roman fortlet. The site is located in Camilty Forest and has been dated to the 1st century AD on the basis of the incurved ‘parrot’s beak’ ditch terminal at the E gate. Excavations in 1830 and 1851 found coins, a well and the stone base of a flagstaff.

The survey clearly recorded the lines of the rampart, double ditches and upcast and revealed some internal anomalies, including internal roadways and high resistance ‘blobs’ which may be ovens built into the inner part of the rampart. Additional interpretation of the results identified a continuation of ditch lines, which might be associated with a possible annex, and this may be the subject of further survey.

Archive: RCAHMS, West Lothian Council Local History Library and WoSAS
Funder: Historic Scotland, Forestry Commission Scotland and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society
were probably constructed in the 1890s and belonged to the nearby Woodmuir Colliery, which existed from the 1890s until the early 1960s. The coke ovens are associated with a wider landscape of features including a large bank to the S, evidence of rail lines and railway sidings, and another bank of coke ovens to the NE. These have collapsed although there is still a large and noticeable mound. A written, photographic and 3D laser scan survey was used to produce a detailed plan of the ovens with a variety of sections identifying their general shape. A general topographic plan of the other features in the area was also produced.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Forestry Commission Scotland

**Woodmuir Primary School**

**Evaluation**

Diane Gorman and Douglas Gordon – Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

NS 9661 6074 An evaluation was undertaken 24–26 January 2012 prior to the proposed construction of a new primary school at Breich. No significant archaeological features were recorded and all finds related to modern activity.

Archive: RCAHMS. Report: WoSAS
Funder: West Lothian Council

**COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR/ WESTERN ISLES**

**Barra**

**Gob Sgùrbhal**

Walkover survey and evaluation

Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology

NF 69508 09458 (centred on) An evaluation was carried out March – April 2011 in advance of the construction of a wind farm. A total of 17 trenches were excavated, 14 by machine in 2 areas of deep peat, NF 69719 09413 – NF 69869 09377, and 3 by hand at known archaeological features – a rock shelter (Site 02), and a possible structure/enclosure (Site 03).

No deposits of archaeological significance were recorded in the areas of deep peat, and Site 03 was found to be a natural accumulation of boulders. The rock shelter was built beneath a S-facing overhang at the base of an outcrop of rock near the summit of Gob Sgùrbhal. The shelter is on the edge of a c15 x 25m peat filled basin, which is surrounded by low outcrops on three sides. The area has been cultivated and lazy beds lie immediately S of the shelter. The interior of the shelter is c1m high and upright slabs have been used to mark out a 0.4m high rectangular space on the floor.

The rock shelter prior to excavation (facing north)

An evaluation of the site revealed that a low platform of cobbles was created in front of the shelter, the curb was then laid to demarcate the interior of the structure, and deposits containing artefacts and flecks of charcoal then accumulated over the platform. The presence of charcoal suggests that a hearth may be located beyond the limits of the evaluation. The paucity of finds indicated that the shelter was probably used temporarily and intermittently. There was no evidence of midden deposits resulting from more prolonged occupation. Finds included three pieces of worked flint. A thin irregular flake, 12mm across; an elongated piece, 29mm long, with a triangular cross-section, showing evidence of having been reworked; and a flake, 29mm long, with evidence of retouching or wear along one edge. Other finds included a scraper, fashioned out of an angular, wedge-shaped piece of quartz, 54mm across, formed by retouching one edge; and a piece of ochrous material. This consisted of an irregular flake of fine-grained reddish brown mineral, 36mm in length. The dorsal surface is convex and smooth, while the ventral surface is concave and shows a bulb of percussion, suggesting that it had been struck from a larger piece.

It was recommended that the route of the access track be amended to avoid the rock shelter and a buffer zone established around the area during construction work.

Funder: Barra and Vatersay Wind Energy Ltd

**Port an Lodain**

Desk-based assessment, walkover survey and evaluation

Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology

NF 70163 09310 – NF 70040 09353 A programme of archaeological work was undertaken July 2011 – February 2012 in advance of the construction of a beach landing and access road for a wind turbine.

The desk-based research found that there is evidence of significant prehistoric activity on the Éolaidgearraidh peninsula. An undated settlement, consisting of at least one stone structure and associated midden deposits, is also known to lie on the shore at NF 70178 09353. The walkover survey identified two sites. A bank, which probably relates to modern land use, and an eroding settlement identified during the desk-based assessment. A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated, covering c10% of the development corridor associated with the proposed access route. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

Funder: Barra and Vatersay Wind Energy Ltd

**Barvas**

**Barvas Overhead Line**

Desk-based assessment and walkover survey

Steven Birch – West Coast Archaeological Services

NB 37000 51000 (centred on) Work was conducted 23–30 May 2012 prior to the construction of a new power line between Barvas and Ballantrushal. The desk-based assessment identified a wide range of sites in the area surrounding the N end of the survey area including prehistoric and historic period structures and features. The walkover survey identified six new sites including a possible shieling, turf and stone dykes and access tracks relating to the use of the area during the post-medieval period.

Archive: HHER, RCAHMS and WCAS (intended)
Funder: Scottish Hydro Electric Power

**North Rona**

**Excavation**

Jill Harden

HW 8091 3231 (centred on) Two small trenches were excavated close to the main settlement area on North Rona in June 2012. The first 1m² trench was on the W side of the enclosure around the Early Christian oratory. It was located against the external face of the enclosure to avoid any disturbance to the protected nesting Leach’s Storm Petrels. The aim of the work
was to retrieve material suitable for dating from beneath the foundations of the broad stone-revetted wall. A 0.7m deep deposit of soil was excavated and samples taken from the layer below the base of the wall. The second 2 x 3m trench was located 30m S of the enclosure, and spanned the boundary between an area of lazy beds (N) and an area where there were no obvious raised beds (S). Samples were taken from the 0.6m (N) and 0.4m (S) deep agricultural soils.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: Part grant-aided by the Hunter Archaeological Trust

Shawbost Mill and Kiln
Watching brief
James Crawford
NB 24450 46325 A watching brief was undertaken in 2012 during works to alleviate drainage problems in the kiln. The kiln was built in 1996 to demonstrate the corn drying and milling process, and during the construction process a fragment of wall was exposed. The excavation of the drain from the kiln door to the stream revealed further walling. This was identified as the undercroft of a horizontal mill predating the existing mill, which was built in the 19th century. A full record of the masonry was produced.
Funder: Norse Mill Society

Harris
Rubh’ an Teampaill
Standing building recording
Carol Knott and Mark Thacker
NF 97000 91341 Following consolidation work (DES 2011, 187) an assessment was undertaken on 7 December 2011 of the interior floor area of the chapel prior to possible access work. The chapel provides a rare and important example of a surviving altar setting. The altar was constructed using lime mortar, is 2-3 courses high and stands to a maximum of 260mm above the interior ground surface. It abuts the fragmentary plaster layer which survives on the internal wall of the E elevation, and is secondary to it. Although the form of the altar is unknown it is probable that it was lime plastered and built of lime bonded stone masonry.

A stone revetment occupies the internal W end of the chapel and encroaches slightly upon the entrance doorway. This feature is a double-skinned L-shaped unmortared stone-built enclosure of up to 2 surviving courses, the outer eastern face of which runs across the full width of the chapel, enclosing a 2.2 x 1.1m soil filled area in the NW corner of the building. The structure is secondary to the primary chapel walls and plaster which it abuts. This structure is now re-interpreted as a probable secondary burial enclosure, possibly extending use of the site (which is not surrounded by the usual 18th- and 19th-century headstones) for burial into the post-medieval period, probably when the chapel was roofless. This evidence also allows the western corbelled loft a more viable medieval use, as before the putative burial enclosures construction this would be comfortably above head height. The disturbed and fragmentary remains of a possibly similar unmortared stone structure also abut the N internal elevation of the chapel. This feature also encroaches upon the entrance doorway.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland

Holasmul
Survey
James Crawford
NG 06430 91630 A survey was undertaken after the North Harris Trust Ranger reported a site of interest at a remote location on the side of Holasmul. The site consists of series of cairns (c92) at an altitude of 200m which stretch for c200m between three lochs. The series of very early upright slabs that appear to be ensconced in stone plinth bases were considered to be of particular interest. These are very similar to those found on the island of Sula Sgeir off the Butt of Lewis. Several of these types were found to have been incorporated in much later cairns. Groups of these later cairns were built along a general line which meanders SSE–NNW. General knowledge of the site is scanty and it does not appear on any early maps or any OS surveys. Plans (1:500 and 1:1000) have been produced and a further evaluation of this possibly early medieval site is being undertaken with the local historian John MacAulay.

Upright slabs recorded during the survey of Holasmul

Horgabost
Watching brief
Carol Knott
NG 0445 9704 A watching brief was carried out on 13 November 2012 in advance of possible development of a sand extraction pit. Clean windblown dune sand of >3m was deposited over most of the site. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.
Report: CNES SMR (intended)
Funder: John MacKay and Sons Ltd

Possible rectangular stone setting
Fieldwork
MR Curtis
NB 168 049 There appears to be a rectangular stone setting 1.9–2.0m N-S and 2.2m or possibly 3.8m E-W on bedrock at c210m altitude overlooking the pass between Sròn Carsaclett and Bac a’ Ghaill. The pass is at the summit (c180m) of the route which runs up from Ardhasaig on W Loch Tarbert
down to Maaruig on Loch Seaforth. The W end is formed from five irregularly shaped stones about 0.4m in size. The S side is formed from two similarly sized stones and at least four smaller stones. It abuts an E-W shelf of rock which slopes down gently to the E and is 80mm higher than the bedrock under the setting, which drains to the N, S and W. The N side is formed from smaller stones. The W end of the setting is filled with some stones, heather, moss and grass. The lower E end is not well defined and is filled with small stones lying in water on rock.

Archival material: Field notebook 106 p11. Photographs: Film 2011 5

**Temple Bay**

**Excavation**

MU Church, RR Bishop, E Blake, C Nesbitt, A Perri, S Piper, PA Rowley-Convry, and L Snape-Kennedy – Durham University

NF 9734 9132 During fieldwork in 2011, a suspected Mesolithic buried land surface and midden deposits were identified eroding from a coastal erosion section at Temple Bay, below 8m of machair (DES 2011, 187). Hazelnut shell fragments were recovered from bulk samples taken from the site and submitted for radiocarbon dating. The results indicated occupation of the site ranged between 5715–5386 cal BC (SUERC-38832: 6750±30 and SUERC-38834: 6525±30 calibrated using OxCal 4.1), confirming the site as the third identified Mesolithic site in the Western Isles.

Further sampling of the eroding section was conducted 4–7 September 2012. The eroding section was cleaned back to expose a 5m stretch of deposits that were photographed, drawn and geo-referenced using GPS. Bulk samples were taken of all excavated material. In addition, multiple spot, column and Kubiéna samples were taken for geoarchaeological analysis.

The site consisted of a buried land surface, a scoop feature and associated midden deposits. The scoop cut into the old ground surface and associated midden deposits and this feature was filled with an ash spread and a shell-rich midden deposit. The Mesolithic remains were overlain by a substantial machair dune. Processing of the bulk samples recovered thousands of burnt and unburned shellfish, fish and animal bones, charred hazelnut shells and charcoal. Worked flint and quartz flakes were also retrieved. The site continues to be threatened by erosion, and the exposed section was reinstated with stones and turf.

Archive: To be decided
Funder: National Science Foundation of America, Historic Scotland and Durham University

**Uamh nam Ban**

**Survey**

James Crawford

NG 06763 91344 During the cairns survey (see Holasmul entry), a general survey of the area was conducted and a rock shelter was observed on the right side of Glenn Uamh nam Ban (Cave of the Women) which would appear to be the site the Glenn is named after. The site shows some remains of use and local tradition has a Norse association to it. The site is probably early medieval.

**North Uist**

**Cearadh Ruadh, Baile Sear**

**Excavation**

Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology

NF 77630 61590 An excavation was undertaken 6–18 January 2012 of a possible cremation urn, which had been discovered in eroding sand dunes. The ongoing erosion has created 4m high W-facing dunes and the urn was exposed near the base of a sequence of midden deposits. The midden extends c40m to the N, 10m to the S and is c1.5m deep.

The pot had been deliberately deposited above a layer of midden material. Although the base of the pot was intact the vessel was not complete and only one side of the pot, which had collapsed, was in situ. The pot is an undecorated, straight-sided, bucket-shaped vessel, and has a straight rim with a slightly bevelled interior. The pot contained nine quartz pebbles within loose dark brown sand. There was no evidence that the pot had contained cremated material. However, a thin black residue was visible on the inner surface of the pot. The contents of the pot were recovered for further analysis.

The pot was covered by further midden deposits. A setting of five, irregular shaped stones which had been set within one of the upper deposits may have been placed to mark the pot’s location. Further midden deposits had accumulated above the stone marked layer, one of which contained several pieces of plain pottery, a bone point and unworked bone.

A large amount of archaeological material has been recorded at Cearadh Ruadh over the last century, and the progressive and ongoing erosion has revealed a complex sequence of Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age activity, as well as a number of burials. It is probable that the pot and midden form part of this prehistoric settlement complex.

Funder: Historic Scotland

![Collapsed pot containing quartz pebbles](image)

**Criongrabhal**

**Desk-based assessment and walkover survey**

Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology

NF 81391 65058 (centred on) A desk-based assessment and walkover survey were undertaken 17 August 2011 – 13 April 2012 in advance of the proposed construction of two wind turbines. The walkover survey identified two possible Early Neolithic sites within the boundaries of the development.

NF 81568 64639 (centred on) Site 201/CGL11 consists of a linear mound, 24m long, with an alignment of upright stones to the W, where the mound has been truncated. The site is probably the damaged remains of a chambered cairn.

NF 81568 64639 (centred on) Site 202/CGL11 consists of a sub-circular, grass covered mound c11 x 10m, with a number of large irregular shaped stone boulders measuring c1 x 2 x 0.5m. Towards the E edge of the mound there is an alignment of upright stone boulders, including two parallel stones, measuring up to 2.5 x 1.0 x 0.4m, which appear to form an entrance passage. A modern cairn has been built on top of the mound at its NW edge and two later shielings are located in the middle of the mound. The site has previously been recorded as a chambered cairn and as a circular dwelling (NF86SW 21). While the nature and date of the site remain uncertain, it is possible that the remains represent a Neolithic chambered cairn later remodelled as an Iron Age dwelling.

The work established that the development is located within an important early prehistoric landscape that includes...
a number of Neolithic sites, several of which are scheduled monuments of national importance.

Funder: North Uist Partnership

**Teampull na Trionaid, Cairinis**
*Survey, watching brief and excavation*  
*Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd*

NF 81625 60285 Teampull na Trionaid (Trinity Church) is a medieval monastery and college founded and built in the 14th century and reconstructed in the 16th century. The chapel is reputed to have been enlarged in the late 14th century and remained in use until the early 18th century. The burial ground is enclosed by a curvilinear 18th-century wall. Repairs to the church building were carried out in the 19th and 20th centuries.

A topographical and standing building survey, a watching brief during the removal of fallen masonry, and the excavation of three trial trenches, were carried out June–July 2011 in association with a wider programme of conservation work.

A Level 3 standing building survey established that the structural remains consist of two chapels. A large rectangular structure aligned E–W, with a smaller rectangular chapel on its N side. The two chapels are c.15m apart and connected by a barrel-vaulted passage which is bonded to both buildings. On the S side of the main chapel there is an adjoining structure, which indicate that it had been infilled by the early 19th century. The buildings were laser scanned and elevation drawings and a photographic record produced.

The topographic survey established that the church is located on the 11m OD contour and ground levels are higher inside the church and chapel, reflecting the impact of over 700 years of interments. All of the graves were aligned N–S. Scaled drawings were produced of the complex in relation to the graveyard boundary wall and 5m beyond the wall. An examination of late 19th-century photographs indicates that the site has deteriorated considerably due to stone robbing and continued erosion by the elements, despite stabilisation work carried out in 1994–5.

The watching brief led to the recovery of 42 pieces of moulded stone. A human skull was also recovered and retained for future reburial. Two of the trial trenches (Trenches 1 and 3) excavated next to the main church building identified good quality wall foundations suitable for the intended stabilisation works. Trench 2 excavated next to the S wall of the enclosure on the S side of the main church identified poor quality foundation walls, which had sunk into soft ground, causing the outward collapse of the wall. The excavation of Trench 2 was terminated on the discovery of articulated human skeletons.

The finds recovered were mainly of 19th-century date or a mix of animal and human bone. Apart from 23 fragments, all human remains were either left *in situ* or reburied in Trench 2. A small group of sherds of probable Middle Iron Age pottery were also recovered. The location of the site on a small natural knoll with good views over the surrounding landscape would have represented an ideal site for early settlement. It is considered probable that the remains of Iron Age settlement are preserved somewhere in the immediate vicinity, although they are very likely to have been significantly disturbed by the later activity.

Archive: CNES SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Teampull na Trionaid Conservation Trust

**South Uist**

**Cille Bhrighde**
*Excavation*  
*Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology*

NF 76192 14047 An excavation was carried out 9–14 January 2012, to investigate a stone-lined channel identified in 2011 (DES 2011, 189), in advance of coastal protection works. A single trench covering c.192m² was excavated across the beach. The excavation recorded a 6–8m wide by 3m deep stone-lined channel. The walls were constructed of blocks of local stone, up to 1m across, backed by sub-angular cobbles, and were battered at an angle of 15° from the vertical. The channel was open to the sea in the S and extended beyond the limits of the development in the N, where it ran beneath the coastal road before entering Loch a’ Bhruga.

No datable artefacts were recovered; however, historic maps provide a terminus ante quem for the abandonment of the structure, which indicate that it had been infilled by the early 19th century. It is likely that the loch was used as a harbour and historical sources suggest that it may have been associated with a commercial ling fishery, operated by MacDonald of Boisdale, who built Kilbride House close to the site of the harbour in the 18th century.

Funder: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

![The stone-lined channel, water-logged by the high tide (facing south)](image)

**Loch Carnan**
*Evaluation*  
*Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology*

NF 8052 4406 – NF 8207 4203 An evaluation was carried out 9–13 January 2012 in advance of groundworks associated with the construction of three wind turbines, crane stand, substation building and a 3km access road. A total of 36 evaluation trenches, covering 12–16% of the development area were excavated. A possible cairn (NF54SW 240) was found to be a natural feature. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded in this area of deep peat.

Funder: Stòras Uibhist

**Stornoway**

**Eaglais na h-Aoidhe**
*Watching brief*  
*Carol Knott*

NB 4846 3226 An intermittent watching brief was maintained November 2011 – June 2012 on ground disturbance associated with conservation work on the standing walls of the roofless church of Eaglais na h-Aoidhe (St Columba’s). Some minor additional details mostly relating to the interior E end of the church were added to a previous survey (DES 2011, 198). The dwarf cross wall abutting the chancel walls, apparently defining a post-medieval burial enclosure, was found to be of clay- and earth-bonded construction, as was the latest infill of the adjacent arched wall recess. A sequence
of thin gravels immediately overlying grave-earth containing dispersed fragments of human bone was also recorded in this area.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Historic Scotland, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Point Community Council and LEADER

Pentland Road
Watching brief
Kate MacDonald and Rebecca Rennell – Uist Archaeology
NB 35370 35949 A watching brief was undertaken 22 May – 18 August 2012 during peat removal associated with the construction of an access road to a six turbine wind farm c3km NW of Stornoway. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded. A known shieling at NB 36391 35514 (NB33NE 3) was located close to the route of the road but was not affected by the work.

Funder: MacIver Consultancy Services

Pentland Road
Watching brief
Carol Knott
NB 40051 32763 – NB 39828 33136 A watching brief was carried out 8–9 November 2011 on the site of the Lewis Chemical Works prior to the laying of an underground cable. The plant cut and dried peat (1857–75), which was then transported by canal and tramway to a factory for processing into commercial products such as paraffin, tar and candle wax. Work was monitored at one point where the cable crossed the line of the canal and two where it crossed the tramway.

NB 40051 32763 Canal The canal consisted of a c3m wide and >1.5m deep cutting that ran parallel to the slope between 50–60m OD. No evidence of a stone, clay or brick lining was recorded. The sides of the canal and adjacent low banks were packed with cut dried peat. In response to the relocation of the chemical works slightly to the S of its original position, the line of the canal immediately to the E of NB 40051 32763 was changed. The original straight canal was backfilled and a new curving line constructed. A semi-circular quayside or loading bay surrounded by a turf and peat bank was noted to the W of the cable trench. Upstream, the canal is filled with flowing water but becomes progressively clogged to the E. The canal was built in two unconnected sections with a 0.45m difference in water level, separated by a hard circular mound, which may have housed a mechanism for transferring peat between barges.

NB 40051 32763 Southern tramway Machine trenching showed that the line of this tramway had been cleared down to bedrock. There was no evidence of the metal rails or their wooden runners. However, small partly rock-cut gullies were recorded along both sides the tramway, as where the partial remains of two low peat banks.

NB 39828 33136 Northern tramway This section of tramway had been created through a combination of embankments and very shallow cuttings. The section covered by the watching brief had been constructed on a base of existing peat with, in places, at least 0.7m of dried peat blocks in a redeposited peat matrix. At this point groundwater passes through a 9m wide gap in the embankment, and it is possible that the tramway was carried over this gap on a wooden trestle. No direct evidence of any structural details was recovered.

Archive: RCAHMS (intended). Report: CNES SMR and RCAHMS (intended)
Funder: SSE

St Columba’s Chapel
Watching brief and evaluation
Magnus Kirby – CFA Archaeology Ltd
NB 48469 32260 A programme of archaeological work was carried out in August 2012 during conservation work which required the lifting of two upstanding stone slabs and five recumbent stone slabs. No features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were found in association with any of the stones, but a small quantity of disarticulated human bone was recovered and reinterred at or close to its original location. A piece of cranium visible in the section left by Stone 4 was left in situ and reburied. A trial trench excavated in the NW corner of the main chapel identified numerous rounded to sub-angular stones immediately below the surface. The purpose of these stones is unclear, but there was no indication that they served any structural function.

Archive: CNES SMR and RCAHMS
Funder: Nicolas Boyes Stone Conservation on behalf of Urras Eaglais na h-Aoidhe

One of the stones recorded during the survey at Fuaidh Beag
Uig

Fuaidh Beag Quarry
Survey
James Crawford

NB 12502 33575 The construction of a crofters’ memorial cairn at Reef, to commemorate their land raid of 1913, led to stone slabs being sourced from the island of Fuaidh Beag, West Loch Roa. The site is at the MLWM and covered in dense kelp. Three stones, whose appearance did not appear to reflect the natural environment, were recorded and photographed prior to their removal. The clearance of the kelp and removal of stones 4, 5 and 6 (measuring 3.53 x 0.30 x 0.70m, 1.70 x 0.86 x 0.23m and 2.75 x 0.78 x 0.30m respectively), revealed a rough stone revetment which formed a ramp leading seaward. A further survey was carried out following the removal of these stones and stone 2 (measuring 2.01 x 0.30 x 0.25m). A further stone, number 3 (measuring 3.32 x 0.80 x 0.80m) was found partly submerged in association with a completely submerged stone, number 1 (measuring 2.3 x 0.8 x 0.2m). All of the stones were of gneiss, some with granite intrusions. It is possible that natural steps in the bedrock may have been used to gain access to the area, and several sections show possible revetment. A 1:200 plan was made of this Bronze Age site.

Pile of stones: Field clearance cairn and possible stone setting
Fieldwork
MR Curtis

NB 2148 3516 On Malcolm Macaulay’s croft, 19B Breasclete, is a pile of stones about 6.0m N–S x 4.5m E–W and up to 2.0m high. The stones vary in size from 0.10–0.15m to c0.60m. Soil has built up on the uphill side. The croft rises from the A858 with peat and rushes for c100m then becomes grassy land. There is a short steeper slope, then the land continues to rise gently to a ridge further N up the croft. The old village was built on this ridge. The pile of stones is in the centre of the croft on the short steeper slope. Field clearance stones may have been added to an earlier stone setting, as at stone settings D1 and D2 on croft 12, Callanish (DES 2011, 191). It lies due N of site, extending the due N–S line from the cairn on Cnoc an Tursa, the viewing stance, the S row through the circle and site XVI.

Traditional source of stone slabs, possible megalith, rock with hornblende inclusions, possible source of some standing stones for Callanish
Fieldwork
GR Curtis, MR Curtis and Donald Macleod

NB 214 360 To the W of Cnoc Buaille Dhonnachaid and between it and Cnoc Leathann to the N are areas of rocky hillside traditionally known as a source for lintels used in houses etc. When the upper Breasclete crofts were built 1849–50, a space was left between crofts 31 and 32. A stream and partly stone-paved track lie along this gap which runs to the NNE to common grazing. At the N end the track widens to form a triangular area c90m N–S and up to 60m E–W, which encloses a low rocky hillock at NB 2127 3588. There is much evidence of stone quarrying on and around the hillock, including the prising of thick slabs from rock for use as door or window lintels, trimming of slabs, and drilling holes for explosives. To the N of Upper Breasclete crofts and SW of Cnoc Leathann is a rocky hillock which rises from 60–70m. Near the top of this hillock in May 2005, Ron Curtis discovered at NB 214 360, a large slab 3.20m long x 1.25m wide x 0.25m thick lying partly on bedrock and partly supported on a stone block 0.30 x 0.40 x 0.40m and several smaller rounded stones. One end, (its base?) is diamond shaped 0.50 x 0.60m. There are no stone trimmings around this slab. Close by are seven stones from 0.20 x 0.30m up to 0.50 x 0.80m in size, which may have acted as/or been intended as packing stones for this putative megalith. There are at least four or five locations within 50m of this slab where spreads of sharp stone trimmings mark where a stone was dressed and removed for use in houses or in the wall which lies c100m to the S and which contains c0.3m sized slabs.

The stone slabs in this area are probably a natural feature deposited by glacial action. Are they also the remains of a prehistoric standing stone setting recycled by crofters, or all three? The area lies at about 178–181° of azimuth N of the Callanish stones and about 100–250m W of the kerb cairn at NB 2165 3595, (DES 1991, 76). There are places low on the hill where slabs have been prised out of the rock (NB 2135 3593). A smaller slab about 2.0m long x 1.5m x 0.75m lies some 140m E of the large slab at NB 2154 3601, on a different rocky hill at c70m. The stone wall which forms a boundary along the N of the crofts includes flat slabs laid horizontally or vertically, stone chippings filling the wall where it is double, and stones gathered from the vicinity. It is noticeable that the lower slopes of the hill have been cleared of loose stones. Close to the wall and low on the rocky hill is an area with clumps of hornblende (NB 2145 3595). Some have been ripped out by glacial action leaving hollows in the bedrock. Glaciers moving uphill would have deposited stony debris at the top of the hill. Given evidence that stones have been taken away from higher on this hill, it may be that some of them included clumps of hornblende and now form part of the Callanish stones site 1, where they function in a lunar extrapolation device, for example avenue stones 2 and 3 and tall stone 29 in the circle. (Callanish Stones, Moon and Sacred Landscape 2009 Extrapolation Ron and Margaret Curtis).
Lisa Snape-Kennedy holds the modified, perforated oyster shell immediately after lifting of the object (Photograph by Peter Rowley-Conwy)

Tràigh na Beirigh

Excavation

MJ Church, RR Bishop, E Blake, C Nesbitt, A Perri, S Piper, PA Rowley-Conwy, L Snape-Kennedy and J Walker – Durham University

NB 1002 3628 A full coastal erosion assessment, undertaken in 2011 at Tràigh na Beirigh to establish the extent of the remaining midden, highlighted the imminent destruction of the site by coastal and wind erosion (DES 2011, 194–5). Therefore, full excavation of this late Mesolithic shell midden was deemed necessary and work commenced, 10–20 September 2012, with the opening of two small trenches.

The first trench measured 1.8 x 1.5m and targeted the northern extent of the shell midden. The midden deposits in this trench graded out towards the N edge of the excavation, on to a rock outcrop. Underlying the main body of the shell midden was an old ground surface, overlying a basal layer that consisted of inorganic sandy silt. Cut into this sand was a small scoop (c.0.2 x 0.2m in plan and c.0.1m deep), filled by a shell-rich, silty sand deposit containing burnt shell.

The second trench measured 2 x 1.1m and contained a more substantial deposit of the main shell midden (c.0.15m deep). This overlay an old ground surface and an inorganic sand, mirroring the sequence in the first trench. A scoop (c.0.7 x 0.3m in plan and c.0.1m deep) was cut into the basal sand and filled with a dark organic sandy-silt containing numerous shells and carbonised macrofossils. This feature in turn truncated a smaller pit. A third, circular negative feature (c.0.13 x 0.10m and c.0.03m deep) was also identified cutting into the sand at the eastern extent of the trench, which was interpreted as a stakehole. Following the excavation of the old ground surface, a small oval depression (c.0.13 x 0.10m and c.0.03m deep) was observed in the bedrock to the S of the trench. The depression was smooth and appeared to have been pecked, thus making it likely to be of anthropogenic origin. Once the site was excavated, the exposed sterile basal layers in the sections were reinstated using stones, sand and turf.

A worked oyster shell was discovered lying flat on top of the old ground surface and immediately under the main body of the shell midden. The shell had been modified around the edges to make it circular in plan with a diameter of c.0.1m, and a circular hole c.0.03m in diameter was made in the centre. There is no apparent functional use for such an object as it was very thin and fragile. It is suggested that it may be decorative, perhaps as an adornment on clothing. It was flat on top of the old ground surface and its positioning suggested that it may have been deliberately placed as a possible votive offering, prior to the deposition of the main body of the shell midden.

All of the excavated archaeological remains were 100% bulk sampled. In addition, multiple spot, column and kubiëna samples were taken for geoarchaeological analysis. Initial processing of the samples has yielded thousands of shellfish, crustacean, fish and animal bones. Worked flint and quartz flakes were also recovered, in addition to charred hazelnut shells and charcoal.

Archive: To be decided

Funder: National Science Foundation of America, Historic Scotland and Durham University

Tràigh na Beirigh

Excavation

MJ Church, RR Bishop, E Blake, C Nesbitt, A Perri, S Piper, PA Rowley-Conwy, L Snape-Kennedy and J Walker – Durham University

NB 1003 3633 On 21 September 2012, bulk samples were taken from an unidentified shell midden eroding from the machair covered headland, immediately W of Tràigh na Beirigh. The site was exposed as a result of renewed coastal erosion and identified following survey 50m along the coast from the excavation of a Late Mesolithic, open-area shell midden at Tràigh na Beirigh (DES 2011,194–5). The site was sampled as the basal deposits of the midden grade into an early to mid-Holocene soil, a stratigraphic sequence comparable to Tràigh na Beirigh. A 1.3m section was cleaned to expose the deposits along the eroding edge, however it was evident the deposits continue for a significant stretch along the headland, potentially over 10m in section and over 0.4m in depth. The site was comprised of an old ground surface overlain by a shell-rich midden deposit. The midden was covered by a layer of stones that seemed to be deliberately laid and subsequently infilled by interface deposits with the substantial machair sequence covering the site. The lowest deposits were heavily concreted by post-depositional carbonate deposits, as a result of groundwater outflow under the machair. It is suggested that the site represents an eroding part of a Late Mesolithic landscape, containing both this site and the adjacent shell midden, which is overlain by the machair on the E slopes of the headland.

The section was drawn, photographed and geo-referenced using GPS, before bulk samples were taken for laboratory analysis. Initial processing of the samples has indicated the deposits contain struck quartz, burnt and unburned fish and mammal bones, shellfish, crustacean, charred hazelnut shells and charcoal. Three small fragments of heavily-abraded pottery were recovered from the upper interface deposits with the overlying machair. Radiocarbon dates will be obtained following the submission of suitable dating material to establish the chronology of the site.

Archive: To be decided

Funder: National Science Foundation of America, Historic Scotland and Durham University
HISTORIC SCOTLAND’S DESIGNATION TEAMS – PROTECTING ANCIENT MONUMENTS, HISTORIC WRECKS, HISTORIC BATTLEFIELDS, HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES

An update from the Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields Team

Historic Scotland's Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields Team is responsible for protecting monuments under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 on behalf of Scottish Ministers. This involves compiling a Schedule (a list) of nationally important monuments. The team is also responsible for the selection and designation of Historic Marine Protected Areas (Historic MPAs) under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. During the past year responsibility for the selection and designation of nationally important historic fields of conflict, through the Inventory of Historic Battlefields, has also come into the team.

Work over the past year has focused on improving the quality of the Schedule. Two area programmes were undertaken, in Argyll and in parts of eastern Scotland, in addition to a small number of one-off high priority cases requiring review.

Area based-work

In May 2012 the scheduling team completed a programme of work in Argyll, including revisiting the rich complex of ritual and funerary monuments in the Kilmartin Glen. Before fieldwork, the team assessed the existing Schedule of 787 monuments in Argyll and Bute and identified 120 scheduled sites requiring amendment to ensure adequate protection. In addition, 17 high priority sites were assessed for scheduling for the first time. These included the spectacular promontory fort of Dun Athad on the Mull of Oa, Islay, and the unusual remains of Beinn a’ Chaisteil, a fort and possible settlement on the NW tip of Islay, which includes the remains of several small cellular dry stone buildings of unknown date and function.

The team visited a wide range of monument types and dates whilst in Argyll: from the impressive remains of Carn Ban chambered cairn on the Moss of Achnacree, to Skipness Castle and medieval chapel, Kintyre. Our work focused on several areas where clusters of high priority reschedulings had been identified, namely, North Connell, Oban and Lismore, Kilmartin, Islay, South Knapdale and South Kintyre. As a result 114 sites are now being rescheduled and 15 are being scheduled for the first time.

In the autumn the team undertook a smaller project in parts of eastern Scotland, visiting monuments in the Lothians, Fife, Dundee and the Scottish Borders. A total of 74 monuments were visited, including several sites which will be scheduled for the first time. The impressive remains of the tower house at Cockburnspath in the Scottish Borders is a notable new addition, comprising a 15th-century keep with associated outbuildings and earthworks.

The key aim of this project was to support the development planning process in these areas, by ensuring that the designations are fit for purpose and that nationally important archaeological sites are adequately protected. Cropmark sites in Fife and East Lothian were a particular focus; the schedules for a number of these are now being amended to ensure they are accurately mapped and to bring the documentation up to date.

Our fieldwork programme in 2013 will include Orkney in the spring and Angus in the autumn.
Schedule Enhancement Programme
In addition to the area projects, a further 18 cases were completed as part of the Schedule Enhancement Programme. The majority were high-priority reschedulings of properties in care, which previously had no legal scheduling documentation.

Another focus of this year’s work has been a pilot reviewing dual designations (sites which are both listed and scheduled). A joint project with Listing and Designed Landscapes Team saw about 140 dual-designated sites in Argyll assessed to determine the most appropriate designation in each case. We are now de-listing or de-scheduling sites accordingly, to ensure that the site is appropriately protected and can be managed effectively.

Marine sites
In April 2012, the team published guidelines and strategy for implementing a new designation: Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPAs). Work has begun to prepare documentation for the first tranche of Historic MPAs, involving review of Scotland’s eight historic wrecks designated under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. Diving assessments have been undertaken on two undesignated sites; one in the Firth of Forth, the other off the Sutherland coast. High resolution geophysical surveys have been undertaken in Scapa Flow to record a number of wreck sites relating to this important naval anchorage, including the blockships of Burra Sound, the remains of UB116 and HMS Strathgarry (Hoxa Sound); F2 and YC21 barge (Gutter Sound).

Battlefields
This year has seen the successful completion of the initial development of the Inventory of Historic Battlefields. The Inventory, established as part of Scottish Historic Environment Policy in 2009, has been under intensive development for the last three years.

A total of 50 battlefield sites across Scotland have now been evaluated and assessed against the published criteria for national importance. Of these, 39 of the researched sites were found to meet the criteria, including some of the nation’s most significant and well-known fields of conflict, such as Bannockburn and Culloden, together with lesser-known sites like Blair na Léine and Fyvie.

Each of the sites on the Inventory is now a material consideration in the planning process, allowing local planning authorities and other public bodies to take account of their presence, and to ensure any proposed changes minimise adverse impacts and avoid unnecessary damage.

Although the initial development of the Inventory is now complete, it will continue to be actively managed. The team will continue to enhance and update existing site records as new research takes place or evidence comes to light, and new sites will be considered for inclusion.

Education and outreach
Outreach forms a key part of our fieldwork projects. It is an opportunity for us to meet with owners, occupiers and managers of scheduled monuments and discuss the sites, raise awareness of their significance and offer information and advice on their care and maintenance. This year has seen an even greater focus of effort to meet with owners on site visits, or following the visit. During our fieldwork in Argyll we also held three community talks (in Oban, Islay and Kilmartin) to raise awareness of our project, inform people of the work we do and offer the local community the chance to ask questions. We also regularly attend conferences and events to raise awareness of our designations work.

Over the past year much of our education and outreach efforts have been focused on the issue of metal detecting. We have revised and reprinted our guidance booklet, Metal Detecting: Yes or No? Metal Detecting, Scheduled Monuments and the Law, and have been working closely with the Treasure Trove Unit to promote good practice, including attending a metal detecting rally near Methven to raise awareness of the laws relating to metal detecting.

This year we also published an updated version of our core booklet, Scheduled Monuments: A Guide for Owners, Occupiers and Managers, and a new booklet, Historic Marine Protected Areas: A guide for visitors, investigators and managers. This replaces the previous guidance booklet on historic shipwrecks and provides information and advice on this new designation.

In support of Historic Scotland’s Gaelic Language Plan, all of these publications are also available in Gaelic on our website.

All of our publications are available to download from our website. Hard copies can also be provided free on request.

An update from the Listing and Designed Landscapes Team

The Listing and Designed Landscapes Team continues to address a wide variety of building and designed landscape types and cases, and is forging ahead with new and exciting thematic projects.

As part of our programme to simplify the system for protecting and managing the historic environment, Historic Scotland removed the S (meaning statutory) from C(S) category listings in September 2012. The categories of listing are now referred to as A, B and C.

In 2008 Historic Scotland completed a review of all non-statutory C-listed buildings and added them to the statutory list where they were found to meet the criteria as buildings of special or architectural interest. As there are no longer non-statutory C listings, there is no longer a need to distinguish category C(S) listings with an S. The list descriptions have been revised accordingly and our website has also been updated. As the change is not statutory this will have no bearing on legislative or policy matters.

Listing programmes
As part of our ongoing listing programme, the team has been busy working with stakeholders to review their buildings. We consider approximately 450 buildings or structures every year as part of this work, which is always wide-ranging and covers the length and breadth of Scotland. Included in these structures was the review of over 100 sites which were both designated as scheduled monuments and listed buildings in the Argyle and Bute Council area.

Historic Scotland is committed to removing the overlap where possible between listing and scheduling. We chose Argyll and Bute as our first council area to review, because it was the subject of the 2012 area review of scheduled monuments. Working in conjunction with our colleagues in the Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields Team we have proposed the removal of over 60 listings of monuments which are also currently scheduled in Argyll and Bute. The removal of the dual designation will help to reduce confusion about designation and assist with the future management of these structures.

Review of railway signal boxes
Working with Network Rail, we are carrying out a review of over 100 signal boxes across Scotland’s rail network this year. A similar review is also taking place south of the border by English Heritage. In 2011, Network Rail announced it would
be modernising signalling infrastructure across the UK, with 80% of the remaining mechanical signal boxes on the network becoming redundant over the next 15 years. The review aims to ensure that all listings are reviewed and new candidates for designation are identified.

Railway signal boxes evoke a bygone age of rail travel. In Scotland alone, their number has reduced steadily from over 1,500 boxes in 1940 to fewer than 120 today, mainly due to line closures and advances in signalling technology.

More than 30 signal boxes are presently listed in Scotland, either individually or as part of wider station groups. These include, for example, a number of the shallow-roofed, square-plan signal boxes on the West Highland Line that were designed to echo the Swiss-style station buildings by renowned architect, James Miller. They add to the individual character and identity of that particular line, which is recognised as one of the greatest railway journeys in the world.

Glenfinnan Signal Box: one of the most northern sites reviewed for the Listing and Designed Landscapes thematic study. This particular box is on the West Highland Extension of the North British Railway network (Crown copyright Historic Scotland)

Sporting buildings thematic study
In early 2012, we began a new study exploring the rich architectural heritage of Scotland by considering some of the wide variety of high quality sporting buildings across the country. This survey is one of the largest ever undertaken by the team in terms of the sheer number of buildings to be assessed. The focus of the study will be sporting buildings available for public use.

This review is aligned with the wider events being organised around the 2014 Commonwealth Games, hosted by the City of Glasgow, and will result in the production of a book to be published in 2014. There are around 120 currently listed sporting buildings some fine examples include Tarlair Swimming Pool, Penilee Sports Pavilion and the Falkland Palace Royal Tennis Court.

Gardens and designed landscapes
The team continues to enhance and update the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland. With the full implementation of the Historic Environment (Amendment) Scotland Act in 2011, the compilation and maintenance of the Inventory is now a statutory duty. It has also made it possible to amend the Inventory without the need for legislative change, thus making the Inventory a more dynamic resource.

In 2012, we focused on a number of external proposals. As a result, we have updated a number of Inventory site records in order to incorporate new research and to reflect changes on the ground. We have also published two new additions to the Inventory, bringing the total number of Inventory sites to 391. Cowane's Hospital in Stirling comprises the garden of an early 17th-century civic charitable institution, while Linn Botanic Gardens in Argyll and Bute is a rare example of a small, privately-owned garden which nevertheless meets internationally-agreed standards for a botanic garden collection.

During 2012, we also published a revised version of our guidance booklet, The Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland: A Guide for Owners, Occupiers and Managers.

Dictionary of Scottish Architects
The Dictionary of Scottish Architects project celebrated its 10th anniversary this past autumn. Ten years ago, in October 2002, Professor David Walker and his two researchers began the long process of compiling biographies and entering into a specially designed database the mass of material that Professor Walker had accumulated over many years of research. It was not until 2006 that the dictionary became available online. Today the database has increased hugely from its early beginnings. Indeed, it is so comprehensive that many users may be unaware that several hundred images, mainly of architects, have been added to the database over the last two years. Over the next few months users of the dictionary should begin to see more images appearing, which we hope will serve as a useful reference tool.

For more information about scheduling, or to find out what is already scheduled, see www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/searchmonuments

To access the online Schedule, including GIS maps and .pdf versions of the legal scheduling documents, visit http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk

For more information about Historic Marine Protected Areas, see www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/wrecksites

For more information about the Inventory of Historic Battlefields, see http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/battlefields.htm

For more information about listed buildings, or to obtain copies of publications, see www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/historicandlistedbuildings

For more information about the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, see http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/gardens.htm

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND

Introduction
The format of this report continues that of previous years, with summary accounts of RCAHMS field and aerial survey programmes, plus details of educational and outreach activities and a brief overview of accessions to the collection. Fuller details of RCAHMS activities and the annual list of accessions can be found on the RCAHMS’s website (www.rcahms.gov.uk) which also provides access to Canmore, the RCAHMS database.

SURVEY AND RECORDING

Summary
RCAHMS fieldwork in 2012 focused on two 12-day trips to North Uist, while several special surveys were undertaken and the programme of community engagement in the Cairngorms National Park, begun in 2011, continued. Last year was again very poor one for cropmark photography and the aerial survey programme instead directed its resources to recording maritime and coastal landscapes, other landscape-scale features and architectural sites.

Aerial Survey
RCAHMS aerial reconnaissance continued its recent focus on the west coast, filling in gaps in coverage and, using a twin-engine aircraft, enhancing the record for both St Kilda and Shetland. The partnership with Dr Colin Martin of the Morvern Maritime Centre and Dr Jonathan Benjamin of Wessex Archaeology Coastal and Marine has been maintained for the survey of maritime and coastal landscapes on the west coast. Unfortunately, the cropmark season was a washout due to the record wet year, although previously unknown sites were recorded on Islay and in Aberdeenshire. Non-archaeological recording focused on landscapes and buildings, predominately in central Scotland.

Canmore Mapping
RCAHMS has implemented the Defining Scotland’s Places methodology to add information on the geographical extent of sites and monuments for records in Canmore. The digital shapes created in GIS (polygons) are either ‘known site extents’, based on the physical evidence provided by mapping, aerial photography or other means, or ‘discovery areas’ which simply define an area within which a Canmore entry has been recorded. The RCAHMS archaeological survey teams now routinely map the extent of sites and monuments for all new records added to Canmore, as well as those which have been revised. In the past year, the Commission has also been working in partnership with Forestry Commission Scotland to polygonise all Canmore records for sites on the national forest estate.

The Canmore Mapping project has also seen pre-existing RCAHMS digital mapping pooled into the new map. Currently this data is available only on request but plans are in place to offer it as an online web service.

Carved Stone Programme
With the exception of those stones housed in the NMS, the surveys of Angus, Moray, Caithness and Sutherland are all now complete. Good progress was made with the 2012 survey area of Inverness-shire and Nairnshire, which should be completed in the spring of 2013.

Scotland’s Community Heritage Conference
Community Heritage projects across the country were celebrated at a one-day conference in Birnam in November, jointly hosted by RCAHMS, Archaeology Scotland, Northlight Heritage, Historic Scotland, and other partners. Over 140 people attended the event, which was modelled on conferences hosted by Scotland’s Rural Past and provided an opportunity for community groups, volunteers and professional archaeologists to meet and exchange ideas and news. The next conference is planned for Birnam in November 2013.

Historic Land-use Assessment
The Historic Land-use Assessment project (HLA), jointly funded by Historic Scotland and RCAHMS, continued work across Scotland during 2012 with the intention of creating an entire dataset for the whole country by 2015. The western, northern and southern Scottish Borders areas were completed, while data gathering and editing for Perthshire is ongoing. A download of the HLA data is available online using HLAmap (http://hla.rcahms.gov.uk/) or it may be obtained from RCAHMS as a GIS dataset for use under licence.

Marine Enhancement (Project Adair)

Project Adair – Iron objects recovered from the wreck of the Adelaar, a Dutch East-Indianman wrecked off Barra in 1728; scale in centimetres and inches. Just one of 150 digital images relating to marine archaeology donated to the RCAHMS Collection in 2012 by Drs Colin and Paula Martin. (SC1312952: Crown Copyright RCAHMS)

Project Adair is a Historic Scotland-funded project based at RCAHMS, which began in July 2011, supporting the information base for the marine historic environment work of central and local government. The project has been collating different recent datasets in one place for the first time, with an emphasis on enhancing and promoting information on the marine historic environment. Three datasets were added to Canmore in late 2012/early 2013: the entire United Kingdom Hydrographic Office dataset for wrecks and obstructions within the Scottish Fisheries Limit (5252 records); the Whittaker database of recorded ‘losses’ in Scottish waters (18,554 records); and the results of the Historic Scotland-sponsored
desk-based project undertaken by Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology (ORCA) for Orkney Waters and the Pentland Firth (577 records). In addition, an agreement has been reached with Drs Colin and Paula Martin over the incorporation of their archive into the RCAHMS Collection (begun with the Adelaar), the upgrade of the records for all designated sites, and the provision of all recent reports in digital format.

**RCAHMS Community Engagement**

In 2012, this work again focused on the Kingussie and Aviemore areas, where the Cairngorms Communities Heritage Project – a partnership venture with the Cairngorms National Park Authority - entered its second year. Archaeological activities comprised the prospective survey of parts of Alvie estate (where sites recorded included a group of hut-circles and several 18th and 19th century farmsteads) and the detailed surveys of a chambered cairn at Kincraig (discovered in 2011) and of a motte at Mains of Garten. In May, a one-day course in woodland heritage (undertaken in partnership with Dr Coralie Mills and Peter Quelch) resulted in the discovery of previously unrecognised ancient alder trees on the edge of Aviemore. In Kingussie, a series of events organised by the RCAHMS but with the enthusiastic support of the Community Council included an oral history project, a course in recording standing buildings, and lectures and guided walks exploring the burgh’s heritage.

**Shetland**

The writing up of the RCAHMS’s survey in Shetland in 2010 continued throughout 2012 with the total number of new or revised site descriptions entered into Canmore now exceeding 1400.

**Special Surveys**

In March, RCAHMS undertook a 1:500 survey of the monastery and church complex at St Blane’s at the south end of the Isle of Bute. Undertaken in partnership with the Discover Bute Landscape Partnership Scheme (DBLPS) and with the co-operation and permission of Historic Scotland who manage the site, the survey sought to record all the features within the scheduled area prior to proposed excavation. In addition to recording a number of previously unrecorded features, including buildings, enclosures, quarries and cultivation remains, the survey brought to light several issues concerning existing interpretation. A summary report on the survey is available as a pdf attached to the Canmore records for the site.

**Lewis shielings** – Beehive structures, characterised by their corbelled roof construction and the incorporation of aumbries within the thickness of their walls, are a well-documented feature of the archaeology of the Western Isles. Although some may originate in the medieval period, or even earlier, others are known to have been built in the late 19th century. Those that are best preserved tend to stand in isolated locations where they have not suffered robbing to build field walls and roads. (SC1323357: Crown Copyright RCAHMS)

Also in March, a survey was started to upgrade the record of King Edward Castle, a little-known 13th century fortress of the Comyns in Aberdeenshire. Built on a 28m high rocky promontory on the north bank of the King Edward Burn, the site is not a motte as previously described, but a courtyard castle that makes use of strong natural defences. It is defended by a ditch 24m broad and 8m deep on the NW and by steep natural drops on all the other sides, creating a level area some 55m by 40m in extent. The lime-mortared curtain wall on the NW has been heavily robbed, but surviving features include fragments of an external talus at the base of the wall, a drawbar slot at the ruinous entrance, and a north corner tower which stands in part to second floor height. The buildings of the castle were arranged around a courtyard that narrows towards the SE, and include a great hall on the NE (probably on the first floor), two other buildings (on the SE and SW respectively) and possibly a large tower block on the NW, robbed for the most part to its foundations. Although nothing was identified during the survey to suggest occupation of the
site later than the 14th century, a reused, quirked roll-molding was found in the walls of a small mill building beside the old bridge immediately to the E.

In April, a survey of the small fort on Trusty’s Hill, Gatehouse of Fleet, was carried out in advance of excavation there by the RCAHMS project partners, the Galloway Picts Project. The survey produced two outcomes: a 3D terrain model of the hill with the fort on its summit, and a traditional hachure plan of the fort that reflect the interpretation of the archaeological remains in their topographical setting.

In the autumn, survey was undertaken on Lewis to map and to make a detailed plan and section drawings of a well-preserved example of a beehive shieling-hut at Airigh A’Sgur. Analysis of the structure has shown that the corbelled roof was constructed with locally-derived schist slabs above a thick basal wall, and that the roof also once supported an outer turf layer, with a central aperture allowing smoke to escape the interior. The entrance comprises a low lintelled opening through which people were obliged to crawl to gain entry to an interior characterised by a number of aumbries set into the thickness of the wall.

Uists

In 2012 the RCAHMS Landscape Survey team undertook two field trips to North Uist, the first in the spring to survey a 40 km² block of landscape on the NW coast and the second in the autumn to carry out detailed survey of selected monuments. The first trip was designed to visit all the previously recorded sites with a view to upgrading their existing records, including, when necessary, revising classification, description and location, and to locate previously unrecorded sites. In total, over 300 sites were visited and recorded, of which a high proportion were new discoveries, including chambered cairns, standing stones, later prehistoric round-houses, cultivation remains, farmsteads and huts. The second trip saw the survey in detail of 11 monuments that range in date from the Neolithic (one of the two well-known chambered cairns on Clettraval, and a newly discovered one on the Hill of Rachel’s House, Hogha Gearraidh) to Iron Age island duns and an abandoned tacksmen’s dwelling at Balranald House.

The project was undertaken in partnership with the local authority (Comhairle nan Eilean Sair) archaeologist and provided opportunities for community engagement that included training in detailed site survey methods for members of the Access Archaeology Group. The third and final part of the project will see the team visit South Uist in the spring of 2013.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Skills for the Future

Last year’s DES report highlighted the launch of ‘Building Curatorial and Learning Skills for the Heritage Sector’, a major skills development project at RCAHMS funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of their national ‘Skills for the Future’ project. Initially supported by £17 million of funding, this national programme focuses on creating paid training opportunities to build skills amongst people seeking employment in the heritage sector.

The RCAHMS Skills project is now about to complete its second year. Our trainees have followed one of two work-based learning programmes, developing the documentation and dissemination skills, which will allow them to catalogue
and manage archive material, or the communication and interpretation skills necessary to engage audiences, develop online learning materials and deliver educational activities. The trainees have also undertaken a range of placements. Education trainees have spent three months engaging with audiences at a variety of sites including Stirling Castle with the education team at Historic Scotland and both the Georgian House and Newhailes with education teams from the National Trust for Scotland. Curatorial trainees have had the opportunity to undertake placements with archives in both the private and public sector, including Hawick Heritage Hub, University of Dundee Archives, Royal Bank of Scotland, Callendar House near Falkirk and Perth and Kinross Council Archives.

Skills trainee Mira Knoche with school pupils visiting the Georgian House, Edinburgh (Crown Copyright RCAHMS)

Two undergraduate level distance-learning modules in the management and preservation of archives, and in archive promotion were developed for the project by the Centre for Archive and Information Studies at the University of Dundee; these form part of the work programme and all of our trainees have successfully completed the modules to date.

All seven trainees have now completed the work programme and their work has once again made a real contribution to the curatorial and education work of both RCAHMS and its partner organisations. The Education trainees have worked with Scran and produced over 80 resources including Pathfinder Packs and audio clips. They contributed around eight Image Galleries and three YouTube Clips on Scotland’s Industrial Heritage and Recording team, the trainees undertook an oral history fieldtrip and developed the material into a presentation which they gave at the Community Heritage Conference in Dunkeld in November. They also worked across departments within the organisation to research, develop and help design exhibition panels explaining RCAHMS work on marine archaeology, landscape survey and designed gardens research, which have been displayed in the RCAHMS foyer. During their placements they devised and delivered site-based education activities for a variety of schools and community audiences, with one trainee producing a short film relating to heritage and social inclusion.

The Curatorial trainees have contributed significantly to the work of the RCAHMS Collections team, having undertaken accessioning, identification and cataloguing of over 2,500 items at batch level to ISAD(G) standards and 20,000 at item level and over 150 at group level for collections management purposes. They have taken part in section meetings and helping with retrievals and work on the RCAHMS Search Room desk. Two of the trainees were encouraged to write articles which were accepted into architectural magazines.

The work programme concludes with two integration projects, which allow Education and Curatorial trainees to work together to accession, catalogue and make available specific groups of material. Projects this year have made new material available from the Whytock & Reid, and Cullen, Lochead and Brown collections, and have involved trainees in creating online web galleries and organising an ‘Open Archive’ event to bring in members of the community to raise awareness of the range of material that RCAHMS holds for both collections. As the programme comes to its conclusion, two trainees have already gained employment in the heritage sector, with the others currently applying for jobs and being successful in gaining interviews.

This year, extra HLF Skills for the Future funding became available and we successfully applied for an extension to our original programme. This has allowed us to add on another year of skills training to the three-year term we originally agreed, and to increase the number of trainees we will host each year from 7 to 10. The programme will now run through to the beginning of 2015, and the extra funding means that we will now be able to train a total of 34 aspiring heritage employees from a variety of different backgrounds.

CBA and IfA traineeships

Our involvement in the second year of the CBA Community Archaeology Placement Programme has enabled RCAHMS to maintain an active engagement with community heritage groups across Scotland, including many of the volunteers who were recruited into archaeological activities through Scotland’s Rural Past, which came to an end in 2011. Our trainee in the first year of the scheme, Amy Gillespie, was succeeded in April 2012 by Kevin Grant, who has interrupted his postgraduate studies at the University of Glasgow in order to spend 12 months with us. Kevin has played an important role in ensuring the continued flow of survey information from heritage groups into Canmore, and has been central to our community engagement work in the Cairngorms, run in partnership with the Cairngorms National Park Authority, where he has been involved in archaeological and architectural survey as well as an oral history project. He has benefited from thorough training from RCAHMS staff in a wide range of skills, and there have also been opportunities for further broadening his experience by working with other bodies, especially the University of Glasgow’s SERF project. Kevin was also responsible for much of the organisation of our Community Heritage Conference, held in Birnam in November in partnership with Archaeology Scotland, Historic Scotland and Northlight Heritage.

The IfA bursary holder within the RCAHMS Architecture and Industry department this year has been Mari McKee. Mari has specialised in measured survey and illustration of buildings, working between the Threatened Building, Industrial and Urban survey programmes on a work programme designed to offer a wide range of measured survey experiences. These have included the production of measured survey drawings of Delgatie Castle, Castlemilk Parish Church, Markinch Parish Church and Kay’s Curling Stone Factory in Ayrshire. Mari gained valuable experience through participating in all aspects of the RCAHMS measured survey process and has developed a range of new skills including using an alidade at Dalgetie Castle, GPS mapping of a medieval farmstead at Boonslie and photography at Kings Park Parish Church. By the end of the placement (which continues to October 2013) Mari will have built up a considerable range of sector-relevant experience and developed a portfolio of survey drawings and illustrations.
Britain from Above Project

This community heritage project was launched on 25 June 2012 and uses RCAHMS online expertise and innovation to engage communities with a fascinating collection of aerial photography.

Britain from Above is a Heritage Lottery funded project to conserve, catalogue and make accessible historic aerial photographs from the Aerofilms Collection, a unique air photographs archive of international importance. The complete collection includes 1.26 million negatives and more than 2,000 photograph albums of images taken by the pioneering firm Aerofilms Ltd between 1919 and 2006. Its breadth covers almost every British settlement, industry and natural environment and presents the changing face of Britain’s urban, suburban and rural landscapes from the end of the First World War to the beginning of the 21st century. The images give a detailed and compelling record of reconstruction following both World Wars, the Depression of the 1930s, sweeping agricultural development in the 1940s, industrialisation, suburbanisation and radical change to international transport infrastructure across England, Scotland and Wales. It includes striking images of national events and landmarks and provides valuable evidence for understanding our recent past and managing the built and natural environments.

RCAHMS is working in partnership on the project with English Heritage and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, with the aim of conserving 95,000 of the oldest and most valuable photographs in the Aerofilms collection, (including over 4000 images of Scotland). These images, dating from 1919 to 1953, will be scanned into digital format and made available for everyone to see through the project website at www.britainfromabove.org.uk. This gives users the opportunity to share and record their memories of the places shown, enhancing the images by adding the important personal stories and recollections which help interpret and improve our understanding of the history of these places. Approximately 23,000 people registered as users of the website within the first six months and contributed 52,000 submissions about places shown in the Aerofilms images.

The project is also making the collection widely accessible by undertaking projects with communities across Scotland, developing educational resources for schools, launching a touring programme of exhibitions and producing a publication telling the Aerofilms story.

Four community-based projects will take place across Scotland, using a range of different techniques to engage groups from varying backgrounds. The Govan Reminiscence Group and the Fairfield Heritage Project, for example, will focus on digital storytelling. Working with Britain from Above the group will use the Aerofilms imagery as inspiration to create audio visual presentations that illustrate personal stories about life in Govan, both past and present. The Govan Reminiscence Group celebrates its 25th anniversary during 2013, and the project will contribute towards the celebrations. In Aberdeenshire the Britain from Above project is working with the 1st Stonehaven Cowie Air Scouts to create a smartphone based trail to interpret the built heritage of Stonehaven. This will involve the Scouts undertaking their own research in community archives and interviewing older people. Their findings will be used to create video, sound, photographs and text which can be assembled into a geo-locating application using online mapping software. An additional two projects are also in preparation, one in Dumfries and Galloway in partnership with the Solway Centre and another in northern Scotland.

The Britain from Above project is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project started in February 2011 and will run until November 2014. For more information please contact the Britain from Above Activity Officer for Scotland, Brian Wilkinson: brian.wilkinson@rcahms.gov.uk.

ScotlandsPlaces

The ScotlandsPlaces website at http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/ continues to grow, with a number of new developments released over the last year.

Recognising that more and more users are coming to online resources via mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets, a mobile version of the site has been developed which provides...
a more cut down, image focused interface, with specific attention given to enabling spatial searching based on a user’s current location.

In August 2012, the website also launched a subscription system offering access to historical tax rolls including male and female servants’ tax, hearth tax, and land tax as well as to the Ordnance Survey Name Books by county, with an initial release of seven counties. A total of 15 county Name Books are now available; more historical tax rolls (including cart tax, carriage tax, and window tax) and the remaining Name Book counties will continue to be added to the site in groups every three months and are automatically available to subscribers. Details are available at http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/subs/index.php.

The team is currently working on a transcriptions system which is due to be released in spring 2013. This system allows members of the public to transcribe handwritten resources available as images on the site, thereby improving accessibility and allowing more information to be queried (and therefore discoverable) on the website. An outreach officer will be working with community volunteers to train and support them in this transcription.

The 2013–2014 year will see the inclusion of more resources as well as new developments as ScotlandPlaces grows as a resource for local history and genealogical researchers.

**COLLECTIONS**

This year has seen a broad range of archaeological material accessioned into the RCAHMS National Collection, with archives from projects ranging from excavation and watching briefs, to surveys and historic building recording. Archives have been received from numerous units and individuals, including Aberdeen City Archaeology Unit, AOC Archaeology Group, Cameron Archaeology, CFA Archaeology, Headland Archaeology, Stuart Farrell and Beverley Ballin Smith.

Among the principal accessions this year are two collections of glass lantern slides relating to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Rhind Lecture series, including Christison’s lectures on hillforts. Another important collection comprises glass plate negative copies of rubbings of early medieval sculpture, made by J Romilly Allen in the course of fieldwork for The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland (1903). Project archives include those from excavations at Kildonnan, Eigg, by Professor J R Hunter, 2012 (DP149836: Copyright Professor JR Hunter).

A major project is the redevelopment and redesign of the Collections area of the database which will improve access to and increase information about what we hold for users. The new system has adopted a hierarchical structure which meets international standards and allows more flexible interrogation of the data. At present this facility is only available in-house, but will become available through Canmore shortly. Together, these developments will mean that much more information regarding RCAHMS Collections will appear over the coming months, and that new accessions will appear much more quickly. An expanded digitisation programme will also give greater direct access to more images and information online.

Another project is the progressive upgrade of all RCAHMS records of early medieval sculpture. This will see the standardisation of site records for all stones, upgrade of catalogue entries for all associated archive material, and increased availability of digital imagery on Canmore.

Material is added to the National Collection in both traditional paper form and as digital media. RCAHMS continues to play a lead role in the development of policies and guidelines on standards of archival creation and preservation, to ensure that this media continues to be accessible for the future.

Copies of guidelines for the creation of paper and digital archives are available online, through the Freedom of Information section of the RCAHMS website www.rcahms.gov.uk. For further information and advice, please contact Iain Fraser or Emily Nimmo.

The RCAHMS public search room is open for consultation from Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 to 17.00. As noted above, as many of our collections are now stored away from John Sinclair House, to ensure that material is available, it is advisable to arrange an appointment prior to visiting the search room.

Address: John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9NX

Telephone: 0131 662 1456 Fax: 0131 662 1477/1499

E-mail: info@rcahms.gov.uk Website: www.rcahms.gov.uk
This year saw an eclectic mixture of material being dated for, or through, National Museums Scotland (NMS). This reflects not only the wide range of research undertaken by staff in the Department of Archaeology (renamed Scottish History and Archaeology following a merger with the formerly-named Department of Scotland and Europe in February 2012), but also the breadth of its collaborative research activities with outside bodies. With the exception of the Dun Bhoreraig material (which is yet to pass through the Treasure Trove system), all the dated material is in the NMS collections.

Research by MG and AB, as part of the Glenmorangie-funded NMS project on Early Medieval Scotland (Clarke et al 2012), lay behind the dating of four leather shoes, while serendipity – in the form of the chance recognition, by Sonia O’Connor of the University of Bradford during a visit to NMS, that one bead from Skara Brae had been made from a domestic horse tooth – led to the dating of both this tooth and an unworked horse tooth from Northton, Harris. This was designed to test whether domestic horse had been present in Britain as early as the Late Neolithic (as the Skara Brae findspot might lead one to assume), and also to check whether the Northton tooth was indeed associated with Beaker use at that site, as had previously been claimed (Simpson et al 2006, 148).

The Dun Bhoreraig date, on cremated human bone, was undertaken following small-scale fieldwork near this Iron Age site on Islay by AM and DHC, as part of AM’s investigation of native-Viking interaction in the area.

Many of the dates undertaken this year were commissioned by outside researchers, and NMS staff have been delighted to collaborate in these initiatives. The set of dates for material from Bute were commissioned by Paul Duffy for the Discovering Bute Landscape Partnership Scheme (Duffy 2013), while the antler macehead from Watnall, Nottinghamshire, was commissioned by Alex Gibson as part of his and Roy Loveday’s programme of dating this class of Neolithic artefact (Loveday et al 2007). The dating of Shetland material came about thanks to a major research initiative by the Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen, called ‘Northern Worlds’ (Mahler 2012; Sheridan 2012, http://nordligeverdener.natmus.dk/en/about-northern-worlds/), in which NMS has been a partner. Finally, the dates on human remains from Quoyness and Isbister were commissioned by MR as part of a major, Canadian-funded University of British Columbia/Max Planck Institute project investigating Mesolithic and Neolithic diet in Europe through isotopic data.

Not listed in this report are the numerous dates obtained for material from Broxmouth, East Lothian, as part of the University of Bradford’s project to bring the results of Peter Hill’s 1977–78 excavations at this site to publication. Those dates will be published elsewhere by the Bradford University team.

Dates in the pipeline at the time of submission of this report comprise two for human remains from Galson, Lewis (to replace earlier ‘reject’ dates obtained by Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit between 2000 and 2002) and several for cattle and sheep teeth from Northton, Harris undertaken by SUERC to investigate differences obtained between dates for tooth enamel and dentine. These will be reported on in the next NMS radiocarbon report in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland.

As ever, the assistance of SUERC is gratefully acknowledged, as is the generosity of the external sponsors. Rod McCullagh’s assistance with the Historic Scotland-funded dates was invaluable. Trevor Cowie is thanked for having ferreted out information leading to the provenancing of the NMS H.TA 12 shoe.

Calibration of all the dates has been undertaken using OxCal 4.1, with the results being rounded out to the nearest decade, in line with recommended practice (Mook 1986). Thus, for example, a ‘raw’ calibrated date of 4443–4333 cal BC has been rounded leading to the provenancing of the NMS H.TA 12 shoe.

Leather shoes dated for the Glenmorangie Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ13C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shoe, near Callander (NMS H.TA 7)</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>SUERC-37988 (GU26023)</td>
<td>-23.5</td>
<td>1810±35</td>
<td>130 cal BC–cal AD 250 (95.4%) 120 cal BC–cal AD 330 (68.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe, fine, decorated, from a bog in Ireland (NMS H.TA 12)</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>SUERC-37989 (GU26024)</td>
<td>-24.0</td>
<td>1595±35</td>
<td>cal AD 420–540 (95.4%) cal AD 390–550 (68.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe, no location but probably found in Scotland (NMS H.TA 14)</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>SUERC-37991 (GU26026)</td>
<td>-23.8</td>
<td>1495±35</td>
<td>cal AD 540–610 (95.4%) cal AD 430–650 (68.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe, no location but probably found in Scotland (NMS H.TA 13)</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>SUERC-37990 (GU26025)</td>
<td>-24.3</td>
<td>715±50</td>
<td>cal AD 1250–1390 (95.4%) cal AD 1210–1400 (68.2%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: The Roman date for the shoe from near Callander is in line with expectations, as it is of a type well known from Roman contexts. The date for NMS H.TA 13 also accords with expectations, given what is known about medieval shoe styles. The other dated shoes join the small number of demonstrably early medieval shoes from Scotland and Ireland. Others include a fragment of a fine decorated shoe, comparable with NMS H.TA 12, from Dowalton Loch, Dumfries and Galloway, that had previously been radiocarbon dated for NMS (1440±40 BP, OxA-6804, cal AD 590–650 at 68.2% probability, cal AD 560–650 at 95.4% probability), and a pair of rivlin-like shoes (unprovenanced, NMS H.TA 10–11), also dated for NMS (1350±100 BP, GrA-821, cal AD 590–770 at 68.2% probability, cal AD 440–930 at 95.4% probability; illustrated in Clarke et al 2012, fig 1.9). See also Crone and Campbell 2000, 73–76 on other early medieval shoes from Scotland.
### Dates on domestic horse teeth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ¹³C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enamel from horse tooth bead, Skara Brae, Orkney; bead found during Gordon Childe's excavations, so context uncertain (NMS X.HA 524, part of)</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>SUERC-40339 (GU27339)</td>
<td>-10.7</td>
<td>2060±30</td>
<td>160–40 cal BC 170 cal BC–cal AD 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentine from domestic horse tooth, Beaker II midden, Northton, Isle of Harris (NMS unreg.)</td>
<td>SUERC</td>
<td>SUERC-41065 (GU28042)</td>
<td>-22.5</td>
<td>815±35</td>
<td>cal AD 1200–1270 cal AD 1160–1280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enamel from same Northton horse tooth</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>SUERC-40094 (GU27008)</td>
<td>-12.8</td>
<td>540±30</td>
<td>cal AD 1320–1430 cal AD 1310–1440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: The Skara Brae date indicates that the horse tooth bead is not Late Neolithic, but is instead of Iron Age date. There is a small amount of other Iron Age material from the site. The two dates from the Northton tooth demonstrate that it is not of Early Bronze Age date, but must be an intrusive medieval tooth. (The possibility that these dates had been affected by the mystery contamination that had previously affected some of the Northton radiocarbon dates can be ruled out: Gordon Cook, pers. comm.) The discrepancy between the dates obtained from the enamel and dentine of the same tooth is a phenomenon noted elsewhere, and is currently being investigated by SUERC using additional samples of Northton teeth, from cattle and sheep. The dentine date is believed to be the more reliable (and so, by analogy, the true date of the Skara Brae bead may be slightly earlier than the enamel date suggests – although still within the Iron Age). The earliest dated remains of domestic horse in Britain and Ireland appear to belong to the second half of the second millennium BC and not earlier as had previously been assumed.

### Date on cremated human bone from Dun Bhoreraig (Bhoreraic), Skye

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ¹³C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cremated human bone (tibia) from unusual structure on the slope of a hill, at some distance from the Dun; calcined animal bone also present</td>
<td>NMS</td>
<td>SUERC-38001 (GU26035)</td>
<td>-23.4</td>
<td>2140 ± 35</td>
<td>350–110 360–50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: While it was initially suspected that this may be an unusual Viking funerary deposit, the confirmation that it is of Iron Age date provides a welcome addition to the corpus of Iron Age human remains in the Hebrides. The unusual nature of the structure is noteworthy; it does not appear to be a formal grave.

### Dates for finds from a chamber tomb and Early Bronze Age graves on Bute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ¹³C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unburnt mammal bone from midden under Glecknabae chamber tomb (NMS X.EO 290, part of)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-37992 (GU26027)</td>
<td>-21.8</td>
<td>5515 ± 35</td>
<td>4450–4330 4460–4270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unburnt human bone (pelvis), Glecknabae chamber tomb (chamber 2, north-west chamber) (NMS X.EO 290, part of)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-37998 (GU26031)</td>
<td>-20.4</td>
<td>3915±35</td>
<td>2470–2340 2490–2290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremated bone (lower limb, adult) from cist under round cairn, Scalpsie (NMS X.EO 300)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-37704 (GU23930)</td>
<td>-25.0</td>
<td>3730±30</td>
<td>2200–2040 2270–2030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremated human bone (long bone), Glecknabae chamber tomb (chamber 2, north-west chamber) (NMS X.EO 290, part of)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-37999 (GU26032)</td>
<td>-23.0</td>
<td>3720±35</td>
<td>2200–2030 2280–1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unburnt human bone (tibia) from Auchantirrie cist 1 (NMS X.EO 305)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-37996 (GU26028)</td>
<td>-21.4</td>
<td>3625±35</td>
<td>2040–1940 2130–1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unburnt human bone (long bone) from Auchantirrie cist 2 (NMS X.EO 360)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-38000 (GU26033)</td>
<td>-23.4</td>
<td>3620±35</td>
<td>2030–1930 2130–1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremated human bone (skull) from Kerrycrusach (Kerrycrusock); under small cairn but not in cist or pit (NMS X.EO 308)</td>
<td>DBLPS</td>
<td>SUERC-38079 (GU26034)</td>
<td>-23.5</td>
<td>3535±35</td>
<td>1930–1770 1960–1750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: As discussed in Sheridan 2013, these make a significant addition to the radiocarbon dating of Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age funerary traditions on Bute. The date for animal bone from the midden underlying the Glecknabae chamber tomb, when compared with the dates already obtained for Neolithic human remains from within the tomb (Rick Schulting pers comm), demonstrates that the midden pre-dated the (dated Neolithic phase of) tomb use by almost 1500 years, giving the lie to the claim for continuity between Mesolithic and Neolithic activity at this site.

### The antler mace head from Watnall, Nottinghamshire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ¹³C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red deer antler macehead from cleft in rock, Watnall, Nottinghamshire (NMS X.AI 13)</td>
<td>Alex Gibson</td>
<td>SUERC-40112 (GU26029)</td>
<td>-22.0</td>
<td>4395±30</td>
<td>3090–2920 3100–2910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: This is a welcome addition to the dates obtained by The Antler Macehead Dating Project (Loveday et al 2007), and is in line with the dates obtained for that project.
Material from Shetland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
<th>δ¹³C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charcoal from small roundwood, <em>maloideae</em> sp., Modesty (NMS X.AC 513 Frag 1)</td>
<td>Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen</td>
<td>SUERC-37997 (GU26030)</td>
<td>-26.5</td>
<td>4580±35</td>
<td>3500–3130 (3500–3100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbonised grain of hulled barley from cache in wall, Ness of Gruting (NMS X.HD 1068, part of)</td>
<td>Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen</td>
<td>AAR-15646</td>
<td>-20.8±0.6</td>
<td>3736±35</td>
<td>2200–2040 (2280–2030)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbonised grain of hulled barley from cache in wall, Ness of Gruting (NMS X.HD 1068, part of)</td>
<td>Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen</td>
<td>AAR-15647</td>
<td>-21.6±0.6</td>
<td>3668±35</td>
<td>2140–1980 (2190–1940)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone point, midden III, Jarlshof (bird or small mammal; NMS X.HSA 3006)</td>
<td>Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen</td>
<td>SUERC-43683 (GU29029)</td>
<td>-21.5</td>
<td>4496±29</td>
<td>3340–3100 (3350–3090)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone point, midden II, Jarlshof (probably small mammal, possibly sheep; NMS X.HSA 3022)</td>
<td>Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen</td>
<td>SUERC-43684 (GU29030)</td>
<td>-21.9</td>
<td>2830±27</td>
<td>1020–930 (1070–900)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: The significance of the Modesty and Ness of Gruting dates is discussed in Sheridan 2012. The Modesty sample comes from what may have been a burnt timber house, associated with felsite axeheads and knives, pots and potter’s clay and a quern stone; it constitutes the earliest date relating to the use of felsite in Shetland. The Ness of Gruting dates join two previously-obtained dates for the same barley cache and confirm its date, and that of the construction of the house in which it had been deposited, as falling within the Early Bronze Age. The Jarlshof Midden III date provides a date for the undecorated, grass-tempered Neolithic pottery from the same midden (Hamilton 1956, fig 6) and the Midden II date relates to Late Bronze Age activity at the site.

Human remains from Orcadian chamber tombs (all from unburnt bone)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object, context, label</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
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<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quoyness, rib (= sample QUO 1; NMS unreg)</td>
<td>UBC MAMS-14921 (S-EVA 24027)</td>
<td>-19.921</td>
<td>4487±18</td>
<td>3330–3100 (3340–3090)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isbister, rib (= ISB 1, NMS unreg)</td>
<td>UBC MAMS-14922 (S-EVA 24028)</td>
<td>-19.151</td>
<td>4517±18</td>
<td>3350–3110 (3360–3100)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isbister, long bone (= ISB 2, NMS unreg)</td>
<td>UBC MAMS-14923 (S-EVA 24029)</td>
<td>-20.124</td>
<td>4427±19</td>
<td>3100–3020 (3110–2930)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isbister, femur (=ISB 3, NMS unreg)</td>
<td>UBC MAMS-14924 (S-EVA 24030)</td>
<td>-19.683</td>
<td>4483±19</td>
<td>3330–3100 (3340–3090)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isbister, tarsal or carpal (=ISB 4, NMS unreg)</td>
<td>UBC MAMS-14925 (S-EVA 24031)</td>
<td>-20.192</td>
<td>4490±18</td>
<td>3330–3100 (3340–3090)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: These dates complement those obtained by David Lawrence and Julia Lee-Thorp on other human bones from the Isbister chamber tomb, which are reported on separately in this volume; and they also complement other dates previously obtained on material from Isbister, including those for the famous eagle bones (as reported by JAS in DES 6, 182). While these newly-obtained dates might, prima facie, appear to indicate that the Maes Howe-type passage tomb at Quoyness was in contemporary use with the complex stalled cairn at Isbister, this is not necessarily the case. Rather, it could be a product of the radiocarbon calibration curve plateau between c3400 BC and c3100 BC, which makes dates that fall within that bracket hard to differentiate from each other, due to their wide spread of values.

References
Duffy, P (ed) 2013 *One Island, Many Voices: Bute, Archaeology and the Discover Bute Landscape Partnership Scheme*. Donnington: Shaun Tyas
Hamilton, JRC 1956 *Excavations at Jarlshof, Shetland*. Edinburgh: Her Majesty’s Stationery Office
Simpson, DDA, Murphy, EM and Gregory, RA 2006 *Excavations at Northton, Isle of Harris*. Oxford: Archaeopress (British Archaeological Reports, British Series 408)
NEW RADIOCARBON DATES FROM ISBISTER, ORKNEY

David Lawrence (DL) and Julia Lee-Thorp

Eight crania from the chamber tomb at Isbister, Orkney (Hedges 1983) were radiocarbon dated as part of DL’s doctoral research, following a detailed reappraisal of the human remains from this tomb (Lawrence 2006). Samples were selected to represent all areas of the tomb and all demographic groups, and to investigate particular taphonomic, palaeopathological and stable isotope features. The dating was funded by a NERC-AHRC National Radiocarbon Facility grant (NF/2010/2/6) for which the authors express their gratitude. The dates have been calibrated using OxCal v4.1.7, with atmospheric data from Reimer et al (2009); the results have been rounded out to the nearest decade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cranium sampled</th>
<th>Lab code</th>
<th>δ13C‰</th>
<th>Date BP</th>
<th>Calibrated date at 68.2% and 95.4% probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IS(1958)</td>
<td>OxA-25578</td>
<td>-20.5</td>
<td>4416 ± 32</td>
<td>3100–2930, 3330–2910</td>
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<tr>
<td>IS(1972)</td>
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<td>IS(2642)</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</table>

Details of the skulls that were dated, along with the dietary isotope data, are presented below.

Locational data within the tomb follow the labelling scheme used in Hedges (1983).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>C:N</th>
<th>%N</th>
<th>%Col.</th>
<th>δ13C‰</th>
<th>δ15N‰</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<td>-20.8</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
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<td>N. Hor ‘cist’</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>Young Adult</td>
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</table>

Discussion

The range and distribution of radiocarbon dates from these samples closely reflects those previously published for the site (Renfrew et al 1983) – mostly late 4th millennium BC, with two later outliers. In this instance, however, each date was derived from a different individual for which age, sex, stable isotope and pathological data were available. (See also the dates newly obtained by Mike Richards, in Sheridan et al, this volume; they were obtained from four individuals, whose stable isotope data have been determined.)

The mid-third and the mid-second millennium dates attest to secondary use of the chamber tomb for the deposition of human remains. The former is comparable to Hedges’ dated sample [105] and potentially consistent with his [108], and is also broadly contemporary with the dated eagle bones from this tomb (Sheridan 2005). The skull that produced this mid-third millennium date (IS2642) has an unusual thickened appearance, and is an outlier in the stable light isotopic distribution, having the highest δ15N value of the dated skulls; it reportedly comes from the north end of the chamber. The skull dated to the Bronze Age (IS1972) is an extreme outlier isotopically, and it suggests that the Orcadian Bronze Age diet was distinct from that of the Neolithic. This individual also exhibits perimortem blunt force trauma; this was also noted in several of the Neolithic skulls (and in others that were not radiocarbon dated). The Bronze Age skull was found as part of an incomplete extra-mural deposit of human remains.
RADIOCARBON DATES

There is an identical C14 date from a humerus supposedly from this deposit (Hedges’ sample [110]).

References

RADIOCARBON DATES FOR SKARA BRAE, ORKNEY

Alison Sheridan, David Clarke (DVC) and Alexandra Shepherd

In 2006, Historic Scotland funded a suite of 74 radiocarbon dates, all on single cattle bones, from DVC’s 1970s excavations at Skara Brae. These span the whole of the stratigraphic sequence from DVC’s 1972–3 Trenches I and II and the 1977 Trenches III and IV; contexts starting with ‘1’ are from Trench 1, those with ‘2’ from Trench 2 and the few starting with ‘3’ and ‘4’ are from the 1977 Trenches III and IV.) Discussion of the results will be provided in the excavation publication, due 2015. The dates have been calibrated using OxCal v.4.1.7, using the INTCAL09 dataset (*Radiocarbon* 51(4), 2009, 1111–50), and are rounded out to the nearest decade. Historic Scotland is thanked for funding these dates.

<table>
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<th>Bone type</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Lab no</th>
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<th>Date BP</th>
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The Treasure Trove Annual report is published to cover the 12 months ending 31 March 2013 and is available after this date on the Treasure Trove website (www.treasuretrovescotland.co.uk). The entries below represent selected objects from 2012.

136/12 Medieval heraldic plaque, Kirkcudbright, Dumfries and Galloway. Allocated to Dumfries and Galloway Museums

A copper alloy shield-shaped mount showing the Royal Arms of England as used between 1198–1340; Gules, three lions passant guardant. The familiar three lions are shown against a field of red enamel and although now damaged it is clear that this is a high quality piece of work. The fittings and size of the piece suggest it was mounted on a casket or similar item. Although it is tempting to interpret such finds within the context of the Wars of Independence objects of this type are far more likely to reflect the diplomatic and cultural contacts between the English and Scots kingdoms and that of the Lords of Galloway.

21/12 Early Historic (8th to 9th century) mount, Whamphray, Dumfries and Galloway. Allocated to Dumfries and Galloway Museums

Insular early medieval cast copper-alloy mount decorated with chip-carved interlace. Originally gilt but only traces of gilding survive. Like many similar mounts this example has been re-used, with the original lugs and fittings removed. Similar mounts have been recovered from Viking graves. However, they are not Viking objects, and it has been suggested that their original function was different. When fitted together the mounts are rigid and would not have been suitable for use as fittings on flexible leather items. It has been suggested that they may originally have been used to decorate wooden caskets or shrines.

143/11 Medieval (c1300) finger ring, Ballinbreich, Fife. Allocated to Fife Museums

A substantial silver gilt ring, the bezel consisting of a pair of clasped hands. Such rings are known as fede rings and were given as gifts of betrothal or loyalty. This example is unusual in having a (now empty) setting for a stone on the bezel. The hoop of the ring is decorated with the inscription ‘IHSUN’ in Lombardic script. This is a contraction ‘Ihesus Nazarenus Rex Ioderum’ (or ‘Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews’) which was believed to protect the wearer from violent death.

142/12 Medieval (c1300) silver brooch, Kirkcaldy, Fife. Allocated to Fife Museums

Silver heart shaped brooch, with trefoil foliate decoration on the shoulders and tip; this is an unusually early appearance of a heart shaped form as the majority date to the late 14th or 15th century. The rear of the frame is engraved with the inscription ‘+ ihesus nazaren’ in Lombardic lettering. This is a contraction of ‘IHSUS NAZARENUS REX IUDEORUM’ (or, Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews) commonly found on jewellery from c1300.
Zoomorphic buckles of this type are a small but distinctive subset of the wider class of medieval buckles. This buckle is also strikingly identical to examples from the Perth area, and it is likely that they were made in the same workshop. This is one example of the manner in which sought after everyday goods could travel long distances and can be paralleled by a similar case of identical buckles being discovered in Moray and Sussex.

Enamelled rectangular seal box lid with remains of projecting lug for hinge on short end; hollowed underneath to fit over lost lower part. Front bears a champlané enamelled design derived from Celtic art – a so-called ‘swash-N’ motif in mid or pale blue, with two orange dots on the central axis where the points of the design meet, and four sub-triangular opaque red cells around the edges. This is a well-known style of Romano-British sealbox of late 1st–2nd century AD date. Its style shows the link between Celtic and Roman art, in this case with an earlier motif applied directly to a very Roman style of object. It is the first Scottish example of this specific type.
### CURRENT POST-GRADUATE SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE UK

This is not necessarily an exhaustive list. The university departments providing courses in archaeology listed in the 2000 CBA Guide to Archaeology in Higher Education were asked to give details of their current post-graduate research involving Scottish sites or materials. The information below is that provided by the institutions who responded. Archaeology Scotland encourages any readers engaged in continuing research to submit details (as set out below) for publication in the volume for 2013.

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
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<th>Research</th>
<th>End date</th>
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<td>Univ Aberdeen</td>
<td>Michael Bumstead</td>
<td>Material meanings of the North American fur trade in Britain</td>
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<td>Univ Aberdeen</td>
<td>Emma Philip</td>
<td>Symbolism, subsistence and the significance of landscape: from Mesolithic to Neolithic in North East Scotland</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>Univ Bradford</td>
<td>Lindsey Büster</td>
<td>Inhabiting Broxmouth: domestic buildings and everyday life in the Scottish Iron Age</td>
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<td>Univ Bradford</td>
<td>Ceilidh Lerwick</td>
<td>Vikings, Picts and Scots: Biocultural identity in medieval Scotland</td>
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<td>Univ Bradford</td>
<td>Mhairi Maxwell</td>
<td>Out of the ordinary: The materiality of the East Lothian Iron Age</td>
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<td>Univ Bradford</td>
<td>Rachael Reader</td>
<td>Over the ditch and far away: Investigating Broxmouth and the later prehistoric landscape of South East Scotland</td>
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<td>Ben Cartwright</td>
<td>Weaving the world: Can ‘communities of practice’ created by spinning and weaving highlight the intangible nature of identity construction in Viking Age Atlantic Scotland</td>
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<td>Silver and the political economy of Viking Age Scotland</td>
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<td>Univ Cambridge</td>
<td>Tessa de Roo</td>
<td>The Viking sea from A to B: Charting the nautical routes from Scandinavia to the British Isles in the Early Viking period</td>
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<td>Univ Cambridge</td>
<td>Russell Ó Riagáin</td>
<td>Colonialism, continuity and change: The settlement pattern in the medieval Irish sea zone</td>
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<td>Rosie Bishop</td>
<td>Plant gatherers, plant managers or agriculturalists? The importance of wild and domestic plants in Mesolithic and Neolithic Scotland</td>
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<td>Univ Durham</td>
<td>Emily Blake</td>
<td>Mesolithic fishing and shellfishing across the North East Atlantic seaboard of Europe, with detailed case studies from the Western Isles of Scotland and western Norway</td>
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<td>Univ Durham</td>
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<td>Univ Durham</td>
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<td>The Iron age in west central Scotland: Architecture and material identities</td>
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<td>Darrell Rohl</td>
<td>More than a Roman monument: A new chorography of the Antonine Wall. Place, landscape and historiography from the Iron Age to World Heritage Site inscription</td>
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<td>Iron in the Iron Age: a long-term case study from Scotland</td>
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<td>Perceptions of landscape in the Scottish Highlands in the 'period of transition' c.16th to 19th century</td>
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<td>Tom Horne</td>
<td>A journey to the Western Isles of Scotland: defining a Hebridean-Norse sub-region in the Viking world</td>
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<td>Univ Highlands and Islands Orkney College</td>
<td>Siobhan Cooke</td>
<td>Animal remains and animal artefacts in burial and settlement as a means of religious expression in Late Iron Age and Viking Scotland</td>
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<td>Coastal change and archaeological heritage in Northern Scotland</td>
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<td>Inscription as social practice: Understanding Orkney's rock-art and graffiti</td>
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<td>Univ Hull</td>
<td>Chelsea Budd</td>
<td>Marginality, metaphor and meaning: stable isotope studies of diet and subsistence aimed at understanding the adoption of agriculture during the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods in the Orkney Islands</td>
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<td>Univ Liverpool</td>
<td>Shirley Curtis</td>
<td>Monasticism and the body: a skeletal and stable isotope study on medieval inhabitants from Tarbat, North East Scotland and Norton Priory, England</td>
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<td>Univ York</td>
<td>Jenny Clarke</td>
<td>A comparative archaeological study of regimental memorials of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland erected pre-World War One with a view to assessing each country's relationship with 'The British Empire'</td>
<td>2013</td>
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LOCAL AUTHORITY ADVISORS

LOCAL AUTHORITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORS AND THEIR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Many of the projects described in *Discovery and excavation in Scotland* include an input by the archaeological advisors to local authorities. Amongst their core activities, these advisors have a responsibility to monitor planning applications and other proposed developments in their area, and to ensure that adequate provision is made for archaeological recording if such developments are to go ahead. This responsibility may include writing the specification for work to be undertaken by archaeological contractors, and monitoring that work to ensure that appropriate standards are being achieved.

The following list gives details of local authority archaeological advisors, and indicates their areas of responsibility.

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<td>COOPER, KC</td>
<td>Golf Road, Ballater, Aberdeenshire AB35 5RU</td>
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(TOOLIS, R: See ORCA
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YOUNGER, R: c/o K Brophy
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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**Note:** Unless otherwise specified the map references shown in brackets in the archaeological contributions section of DES refer to the associated site on CANMORE, the RCAHMS on-line database (www.rcahms.gov.uk).
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Compiled by Susan Vaughan

Page numbers in italics indicate that the reference is, or includes, an illustration.