

# The Machars

## An Archaeological Survey

Charlotte Douglas, Gemma Hudson, Diana Sproat and Graeme Cavers



# The Machars

## An Archaeological Survey



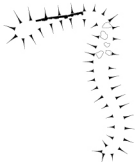








Charlotte Douglas, Gemma Hudson, Diana Sproat and Graeme Cavers



# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	1
Project Methodology	2
The Machars	2
The Archaeological Record	3
<b>Earlier Prehistory</b>	3
Neolithic Chambered Cairns and Bronze Age Burial Cairns	3
Standing Stones	7
Cup and ring marked stones	8
Burnt Mounds	10
Other Monuments	10
<b>Later Prehistory</b>	11
Defended settlements	12
Other settlements	16
<b>Iron Age and Medieval Settlement at Dowalton Loch</b>	19
<b>The Medieval and Post Medieval Period</b>	20
Ecclesiastical sites and carved stones	20
Castles	23
Mottes and moated sites	25
Post-medieval and modern archaeology	26
Historic rural settlement	26
Other Structures	29
<b>A Survey of Three Machars Churches</b>	35
Cruggleton Church	35
Kirkmaiden Old Church and Graveyard	47
Sorbie Old Church	60
<b>References</b>	75
<b>Gazetteer</b>	78

## Key to Drawing Conventions

	Slope (natural)		Earthfast stones
	Archaeological features		Displaced stones
	Rubble spread		Dyke (modern)
	Wall face		Vegetation
	Path		Bedrock outcrop
			Standing water

Historic maps produced with permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland. Ordnance Survey OpenData (C) Crown Copyright.

# Acknowledgements

The Machars Archaeology Project team would like to offer a huge thank you to so many people for their involvement in the project: to the volunteers, for donating so many hours of their time; to the landowners, for giving us permission to survey the sites on their property; to everyone at the Whithorn Trust, Winnie and George in particular, for their organisation and support; to everyone who let us dig in their back gardens during the Big Dig; and to the people of Whithorn, for showing such support and enthusiasm for the project.

We would like to offer thanks to the following volunteers in particular, who made up the core team over the six months of survey. They spent many hours – often wet, windy and cold hours – roving across the Machars with us in search of archaeology. Their eagerness and commitment never failed to amaze us, and they often taught us a thing or two about many of the sites: Mike & Helen Alexander; Chris Barratt; Peter Buxton; Maureen Kerr; Rosie and Ellen Macfarlane; Gary Martin; Jane Murray; George Pattison; Betty Remon; Kirsty Robertson; and Lynn Wheatley. Helen deserves an extra special mention for her seemingly never-ending supply of flapjacks, which perked us up no end on many a blustery tea-break spent huddled behind a gorse bush. Janet

Butterworth also deserves a mention for giving rise to the phrase “doing a Janet” – taking a step in boggy ground but leaving your boot behind – which was a great source of amusement throughout the project.

Thanks also to Stratford Halliday for his invaluable advice throughout, and to John Pickin (Stranraer Museum), Jane Brann and Andrew Nicholson (Dumfries & Galloway Council) and members of the Whithorn Trust Research Committee for their assistance and support.

We are very grateful to Dr Derek Craig of Durham University, who was kind enough to answer our queries about the form and interlacing of the cross stone at The May.

Finally, but most importantly, we would like to thank Janet Butterworth of the Whithorn Trust for her tireless commitment to the management of the MAP project, and for skillfully helping to bring it to a successful conclusion.

Financial support was gratefully received from Dumfries & Galloway LEADER and Heritage Lottery Fund, without whom the project would not have been possible.



# The Machars

## An Archaeological Survey

### Introduction

This document reports the results of the Machars Archaeology Project, a community archaeology initiative designed to record the archaeology of the Machars of Galloway, from all periods, encompassing the earliest Neolithic chambered cairns to the industrial and agricultural buildings of recent centuries. Although well known for the quality of its archaeological sites and monuments, south west Scotland remains somewhat anonymous in wider archaeological discussion, particularly in syntheses of prehistoric archaeology. The Machars are famous for the monastic settlement Whithorn, the earliest Christian establishment in Scotland, excavated in a series of phases throughout the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. However, despite a wealth of archaeology from earlier periods, archaeological research on this material has been somewhat piecemeal and even baseline surveys have been limited in number since the RCAHMS initial inventory of the area in 1912 (RCAHMS 1912).

The Machars Archaeology Project had several aims. The project was primarily a field survey, designed to compile useful data on the field monuments of the area, thereby contributing to the existing record of the archaeology of the area. As a community project however, an equally important objective was to offer members of the local community to take part in archaeological research, learning techniques of archaeological

survey, the interpretation of archaeological sites and how to compile valuable records. Over six months between October 2011 and March 2012, a group of local volunteers accompanied by surveyors from AOC Archaeology Group visited over 80 monuments across the Machars, aiming to record groups of significant sites representing a chronological 'transect' through the archaeology of the Machars.

In addition to the field survey, members of the public were invited to take part in Whithorn's 'Big Dig', a test-pit survey in the town of Whithorn designed to introduce members of the public to archaeological excavation and the identification of finds; the results of this event are reported on the project website. In addition to these practical events, a series of lectures and workshops accompanied the project, introducing participants to the archaeology of the area and the techniques of archaeological investigation.

By the time of the completion of the field survey, a core group of volunteers had been established as the survey team, familiar with the compilation of useful archaeological records and with a good familiarity with the archaeology of their local area. The following report brings together the results of their observations and surveys, aiming to contextualise these within our current understanding of the archaeology of SW Scotland.



Figure 1: Extracts from Gordon's map of the Solway (AD 1636- 1652), above, and Blaeu's Atlas (AD 1654), below (Copyright Trustees of the National Library of Scotland).

## Project Methodology

The survey work aimed first and foremost to update the existing archaeological records, and so existing entries in the Dumfries and Galloway historic environment record (HER) and the National Monuments Record (NMRS) were targeted. In the first instance, a desk-based study was carried out to locate those areas where particular concentrations of sites could be identified; these were then targeted as study areas: around Dowalton Loch, Physgill Bay to Laggan, Torhouse and Crouse to Boreland, Garheugh to Doon of May and Monreith to Fell of Barhullion. In addition to these study areas, a week of historic

building survey was carried out, recording the churches at Kirkmaiden, Cruggleton and Sorbie, with a survey of the gravestones in the burial ground at Kirkmaiden.

## The Machars

The Machars is a triangular promontory of land projecting into the Irish Sea, comprising much of the eastern portion of Wigtownshire, itself the westernmost former county of Galloway. The land is topographically varied, with much of the area comprising rolling lowland hills, broken up with characteristic spurs of greywacke outcrops. To the north, there are significant areas of upland

peatland, particularly around the distinctive peak of Knock Fell, Mochrum and Craigenveoch. The coast is mainly rocky, with a large percentage of high cliffs providing many suitable locations for the natural fortifications that were exploited throughout prehistory and history. The remainder of the area is largely agricultural land, mainly dairy pasture but with some areas of arable fields. Whithorn dominates the political geography of the area in the historic period, and is depicted as the principal centre of the Machars in both Gordon's map of the mid 17th century and Blaeu's Atlas of 1654 (Figure 1). Today, the main population centres aside from Whithorn are Wigtown and Port William.

### The archaeological record

There are over 500 entries in existing sites and monuments records for the Machars, ranging from findspots of Mesolithic flints to townhouses and churches of the last few hundred years. The sample reported here, then, should be seen as a cross-section of the many hundreds of sites of the area. This report aims to discuss some of the better known sites of the area alongside those recorded during the fieldwork. It is hoped that this survey can provide the basis for future similar community investigations into the archaeology of Wigtownshire.

### Earlier Prehistory

Earlier Prehistory is taken here to broadly encompass field monuments dating from the beginning of the Neolithic to the end of the Bronze Age, roughly from 4000 BC to 1000 BC. The Machars contain a large number of sites and monuments dating to this interval (Table 1). It may prove helpful to note that 'monuments' are

Site Class	Number
Standing stone	21
Stone circles	3
Cup and ring marked rocks	61
Cairns (all classes)	64

Table 1: Earlier prehistoric sites in the Machars



Figure 2: Volunteers surveying Sorbie Old Kirk

physical remains indicative of past human endeavours that are visible to the unaided eye at ground surface. Conversely, 'sites' are sets of remains, like soil deposits, or even structures, that are not visible to the unaided eye at ground surface.

### Neolithic Chambered Cairns and Bronze Age Burial Cairns

During the Neolithic period, roughly 4000 to 2000 BC, the principal constructional material in Scotland was wood. People built their houses from wood, which, when it decays, leaves no trace at ground surface. Thus, Neolithic settlements, which no doubt survive in the area, cannot be seen at the ground surface and these sites remain unknown to us. In contrast, the Neolithic settlers, the area's first farmers, used stone to build very monumental structures, the chambered cairns, for, amongst other things, the disposal of their dead. The



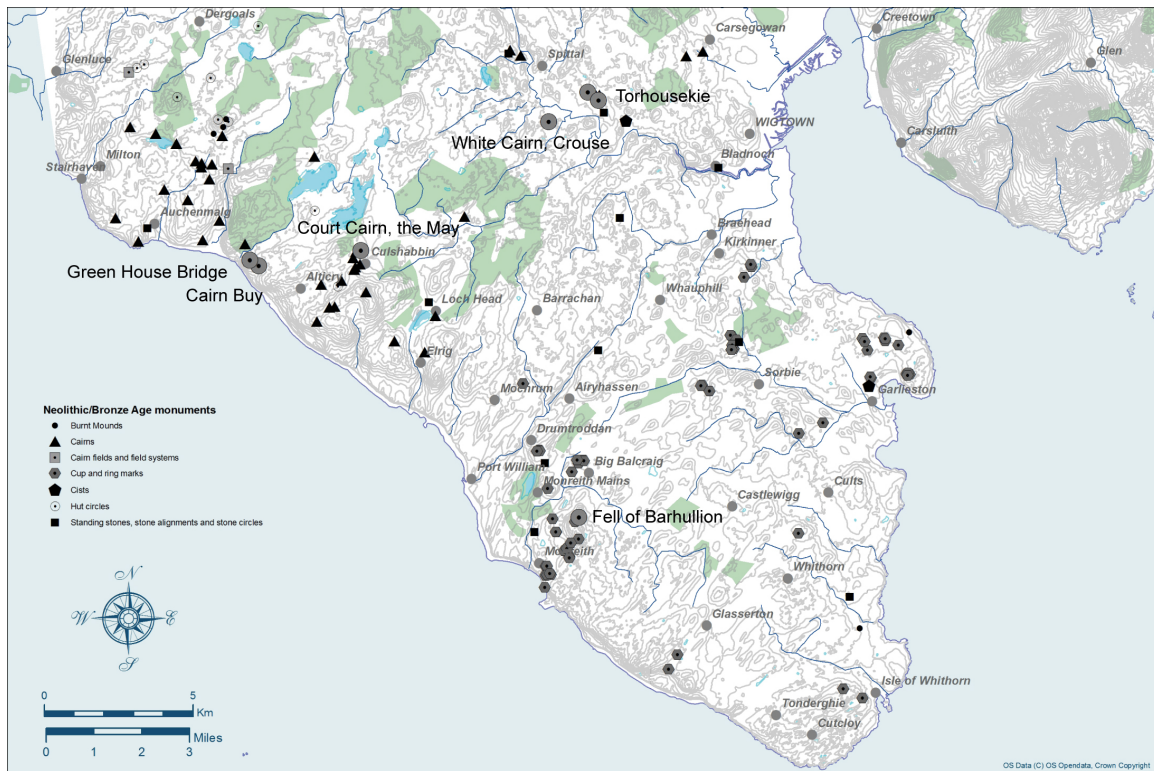


Figure 3: Map of Neolithic and Bronze Age sites in the Machars, with surveyed sites highlighted

chambered long cairn of High Gillespie is the only demonstrably ‘chambered’ cairn situated in the Machars area, less than 1km to the North-West of the study area of Garheugh. It is of the Clyde, or Clyde-Carlingford type, generally found in south-west Scotland, Ulster and the Isle of man and can be likened to at least nine others of the same class in nearby Kirkcudbrightshire and Wigtownshire (e.g. Piggott and Powell, 1951). The typical characteristics of this class are the rectangular burial chamber roofed with large slabs; or corbelled vaults. The chamber was usually set at the higher and wider end of a long trapezoidal cairn. The higher and wider end of the cairn usually faces eastwards and ends in a shallow forecourt area defined by two hornworks that project forward of the cairn’s façade. The internally divided chamber was usually reached via an entrance in the middle of a façade (Feachem, 1963: 36). Childe (1934) noted the location of the Clyde-Carlingford cairns in natural landing places such as Luce and Wigtown Bay on beach platforms and alluvial gravels which would have been much easier to clear and cultivate than the boulder clays of the heavily wooded areas. Clyde-type cairns are thought to be the earliest Neolithic monumental constructions in the area (Noble, 2005: 26). Although typical of Galloway and

South West Scotland, the group is widespread; the furthest southerly example of a Clyde-type cairn may be found amongst the small oval cairns at the Grey Mare, and Her Colts near Portesham, Dorset (Piggott, 1946), whilst in the north, the long cairns of Caithness in the north-east of Scotland are similarly attributed to this class.

Bronze Age burial cairns differ from their Neolithic predecessors in several respects. Firstly, the burial rite was changed from communal burial in a chamber to individual burials in short cists set within a relatively simple cairn. Bronze age cairns usually have kerbs of standing stones or of built dry stone walling defining the edges of the monument, although subsequent decomposition of the cairn can mask this feature. It is not unusual for Bronze Age Cairns to contain more than one cist and these are usually identified as multiple cist cairns or cemetery cairns. In addition, the absence of the constructed mass of the core-cairn of the chamber of chambered cairns gives Bronze Age cairns a rather flat and smooth profile. Although chambered cairn and burial cairn classes can be distinguished chronologically, reuse of chambered cairns was common, ranging from the deposition of Bronze Age burials within the chambers of Neolithic cairns to the insertion of cist burials

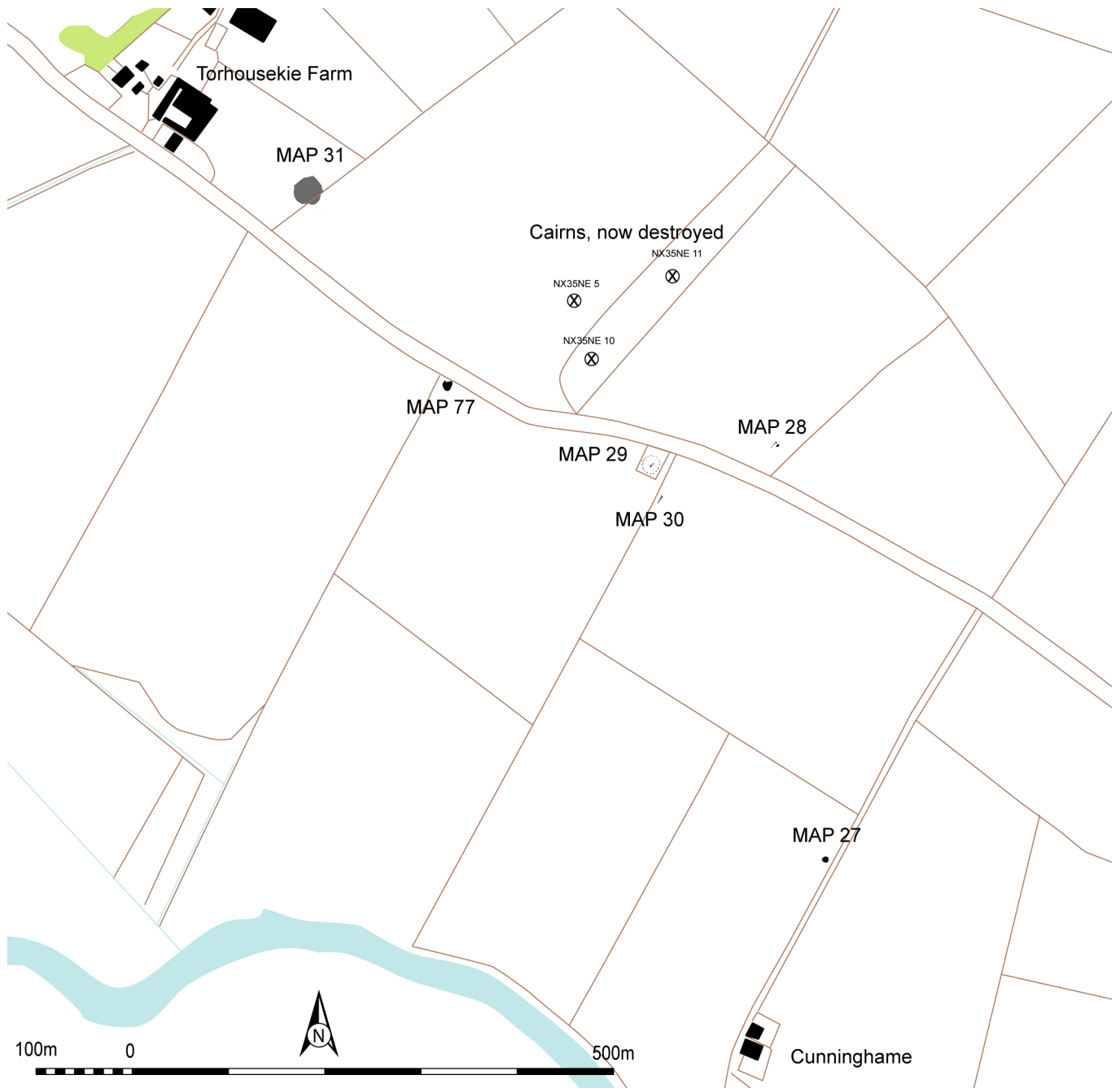


Figure 4: Cairn and standing stones in the Torhousekie area



Figure 5: The stone slab cist is nearly all that remains of site MAP 40

within the cairn body. Evidence for this reuse can be seen at Cairnholy I, in nearby Kirkcudbrightshire, where part of the burial chamber was discovered during excavation to have been used for a food-vessel interment with an inserted cup-and-ring marked stone (Piggott and Powell 1951).

Using the existing RCAHMS and HER data 18 burial cairns were identified and visited, with 14 records created and four found to no longer have any visible remains. Cairns may be encountered in clusters, as, for example in Torhousekie and Culshabben where some cairns were noted within less than 100m of

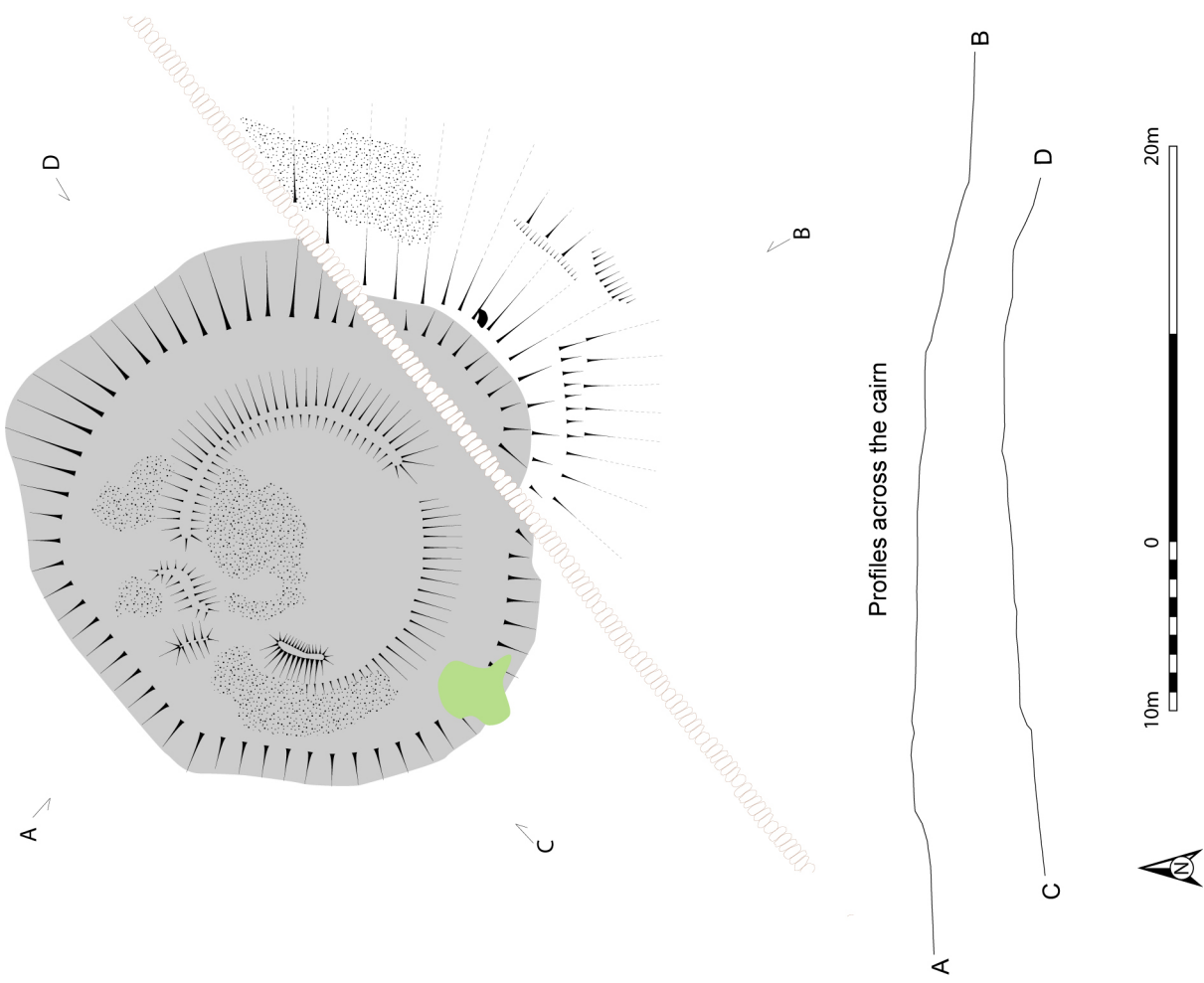
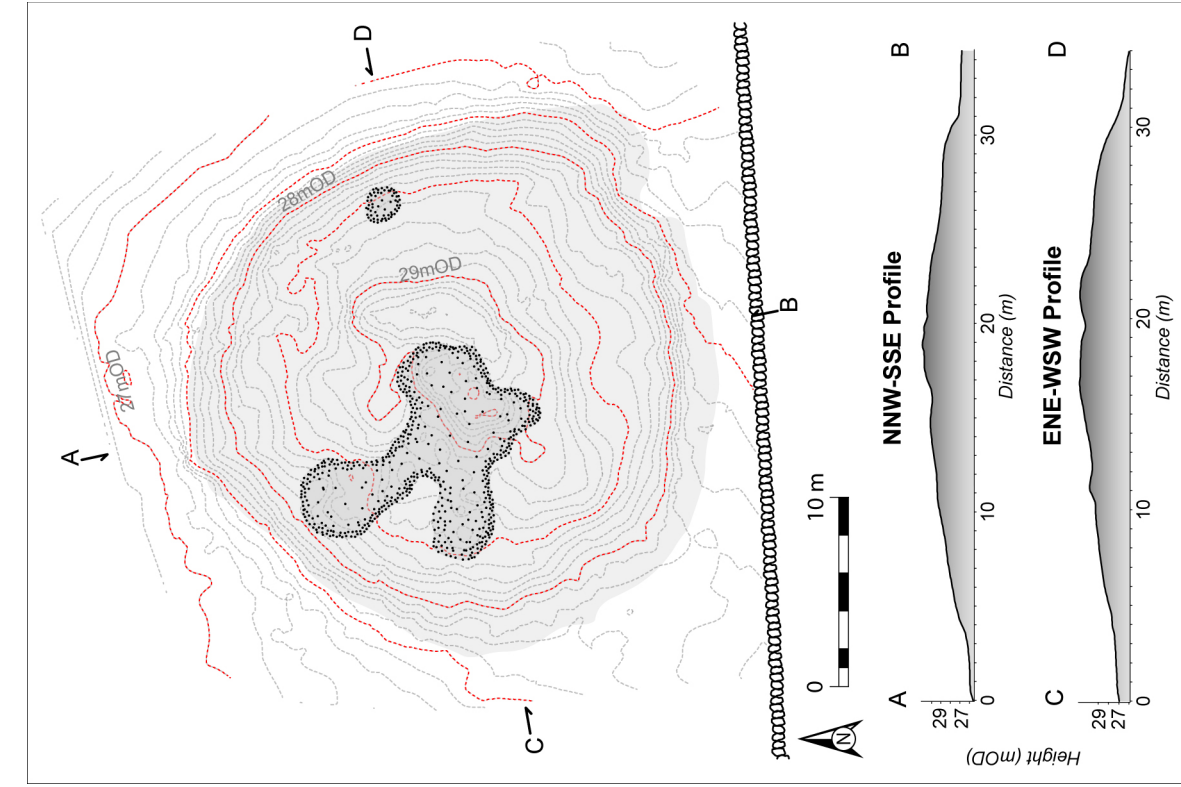


Figure 6: Some examples of the Machars cairns. Left: MAP 23 "white cairn" at Crouse. Right: MAP31 Torhousekie "bell" cairn

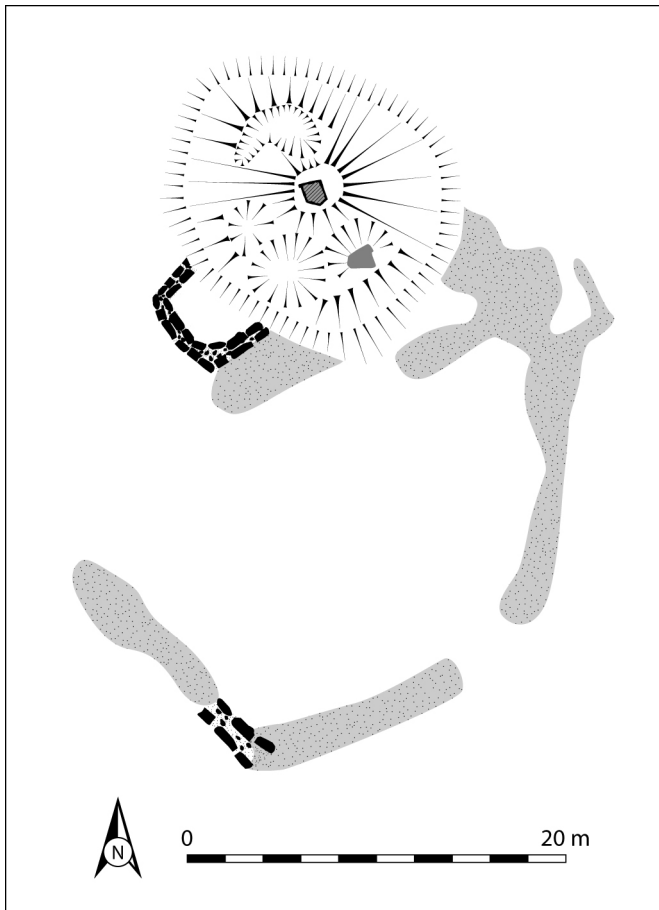


Figure 7: MAP63 Green House Bridge cairn

each other. Only one site is totally isolated from any other cairn (MAP 23), although it is situated barely 30m from the Crouse Hole Stone (MAP 24, Figure 8) which is believed by some to be contemporary with it. The majority of the surviving cairns are circular, low, but well-defined grass-covered stony mounds, between 20 m and 30 m in diameter, very often with additional field clearance rubble on top masking any surviving cairn features (e.g. MAP 18 & MAP 41).

The cairn of Brae Moor (MAP 40), situated almost 1km south of Culshabben, has been almost completely removed except for its recognisable slab-lined cist measuring 0.9m x 0.4m internally, aligned NE-SW; a few scattered kerb stones are visible on its eastern side. The two cairns situated in the Garheugh area (MAP 63 & MAP 67) approximate more closely to the standard template of a round cairn with small stones making up an almost circular stone pile less than 15m in diameter and about 3m in height. Although impressive to view in the landscape due to its even and complete profile, Cairn Buy (MAP 67) has no distinguishing cairn features, unlike Green House Bridge Cairn

(Map 63; Figure 7) which has, however, suffered from stone robbing, denoted by the many hollows, some of which have uncovered the cist on the SE side of the cairn. Green House Bridge has also, most probably, provided the stone for a later enclosure situated directly to the south and a sheep pen built onto its SW side. The relative good condition of Cairn Buy and Green House Bridge must in part be due to their location in the upland around Garheugh Fell which, although farmed into the post-medieval centuries was probably always marginal land, and was abandoned prior to large scale agricultural improvement. Robbing of both cairns appears to have provided stone for later structures and enclosures, although apparently not to an extent that would reveal any internal structures. This itself points to Bronze Age ancestry because the cists in BA cairns are subterranean whilst the built features of chambered cairns are uniformly built above the then current ground surface.

### Standing Stones

There are over 20 standing stones in the Machars, including a stone row (MAP 28) and a variant form of recumbent stone circle (MAP 29: Figure 10). Many of the sites are clustered together and in direct view of one another; the group at Torhousekie (Figure 4) clearly comprised an important ritual centre in earlier prehistory. Standing stones may be of any date from earliest Neolithic to the comparatively modern and individual examples are hard to date with confidence, even when excavated. Accepting their chronological uncertainties, it may be noted that the occurrence of a complex of standing stones at Drumtroddan and Torhouse rather supports the view that these standing stones were a feature of the earlier prehistoric landscape. Some standing stones may have been erected close to megalithic chambered cairns, or vice versa, and were erected as lone monuments. However, some, such as the Carlin Stone may originally have been part of stone circles or other composite monuments, the evidence for which has otherwise been removed (Murray 1981; Masters 1977). In contrast, Masters' excavations at the Wren's Egg concluded that the boulder itself was probably a glacial erratic, and



Figure 8: The 'Hole Stone', Crouse

not part of a stone circle as had been supposed (Masters 1977). The hole stone at Crouse (MAP 24; Figure 5) may have been contemporary with the nearby round cairn at White Cairn (MAP 23) (Figure 6), although it is thought to have been moved at least once.

Geographically, the stone circle of Torhousekie (MAP 29) is situated midway between the main concentrations of similar sites in north-east Scotland and the south-west of Ireland (Burl, 1995) and has therefore occupies an interesting position between them. It has been suggested, somewhat improbably that its location perhaps indicates a link in the spread of customs between these two areas (Burl, 1976). The stone circle is one of the most spectacular prehistoric monuments in the Machars, comprising a sub-circular arrangement of 19 stones around 21m in diameter, arranged approximately in height order. Previous surveyors have debated the possibility that the stone circle contains the remnants of a central cairn; although the evidence is inconclusive, and hampered by the addition of field clearance, the stone circle is located on a raised platform, at the centre of which, surrounding the central stones, is a further circular raised mound (Figure 10), so that the presence of a cairn or some other structure, seems at least possible. Although it is part of a complex of standing stones and alignments found north of the Bladnoch, as Murray (1981) has discussed, it seems improbable that the other settings represent the remains of further circles.

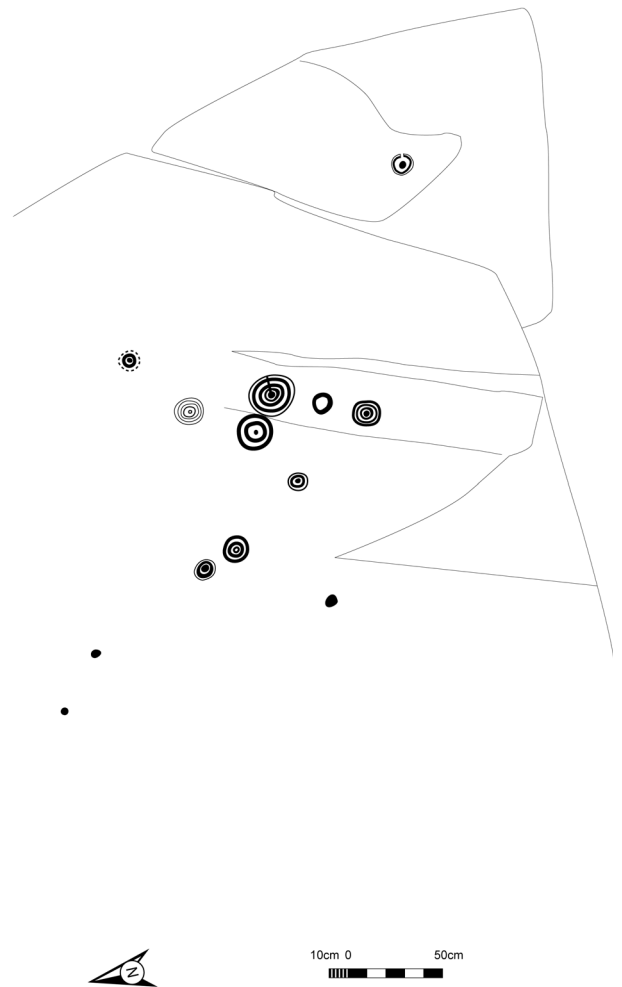
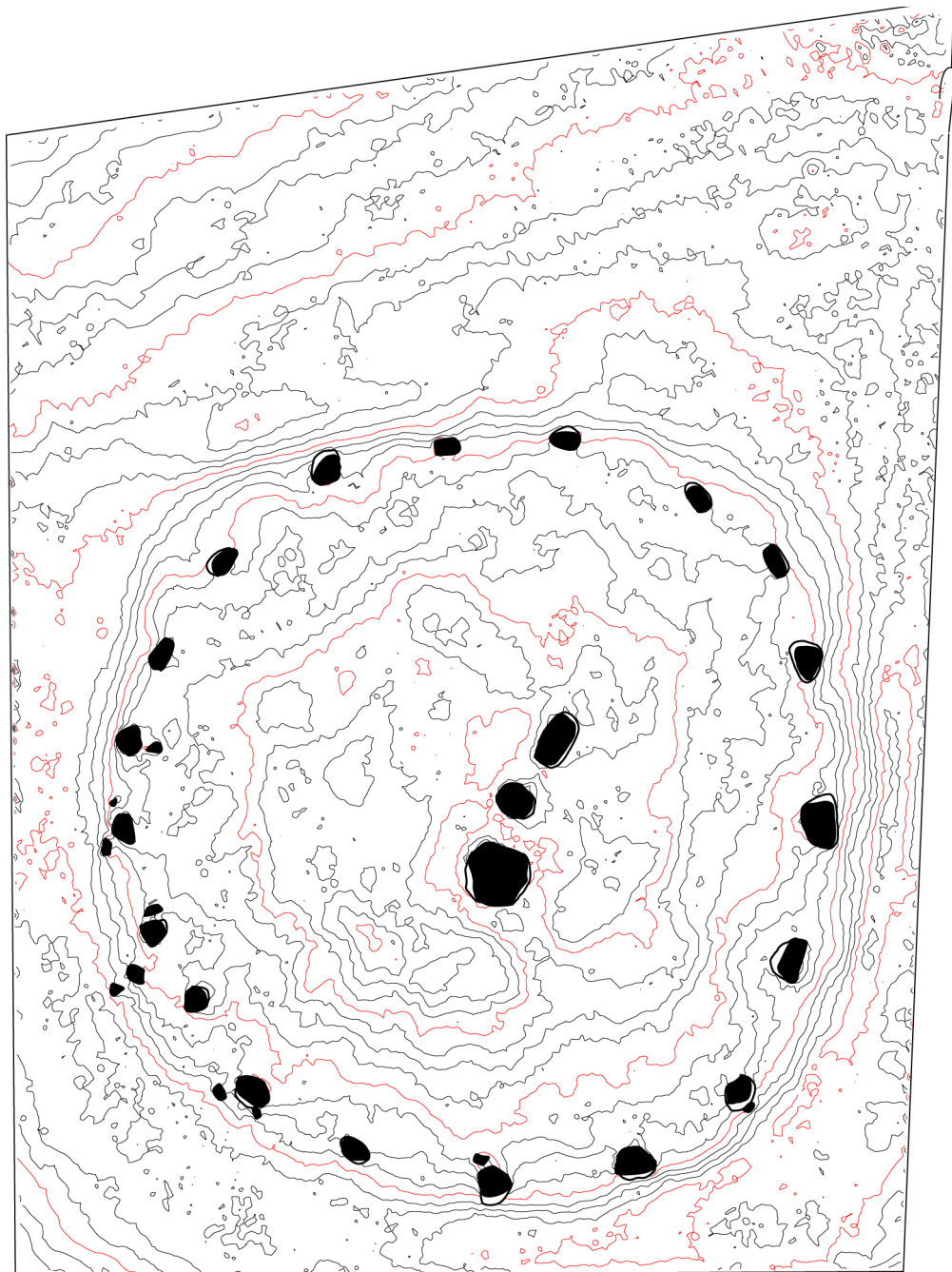


Figure 9: Cup and rings at Glasserton Mains (MAP 6).

### Cup-and-ring marked stones

Galloway rivals Argyll in the density and number of individual cup-and-ring markings (Stevenson 1997), with over 60 sites currently known in the Machars alone. The area boasts the densest concentration of spiral ring marks on rock outcrops in Britain and Ireland particular concentrations include the Eggerness peninsula, NE of Garlieston where there are large numbers of spiral cup and rings (Van Hoek & Maarten, 1986; van Hoek, 1987). The area is well documented as a result of the extensive survey carried out on the rock art of the SW of Scotland in the early 60s by Morris & Bailey (1964), though as the current survey demonstrated, the site type is particularly prone to erroneous grid references and many more examples seem likely to await discovery.



NB. contours spaced at 0.05m intervals

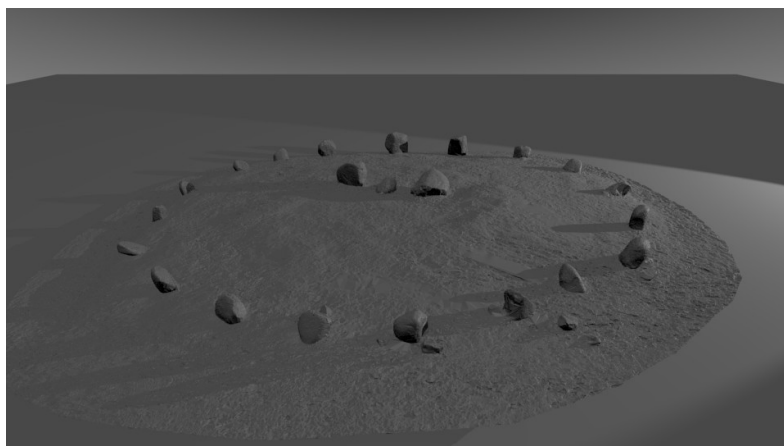


Figure 10: Torhousekie Stone Circle

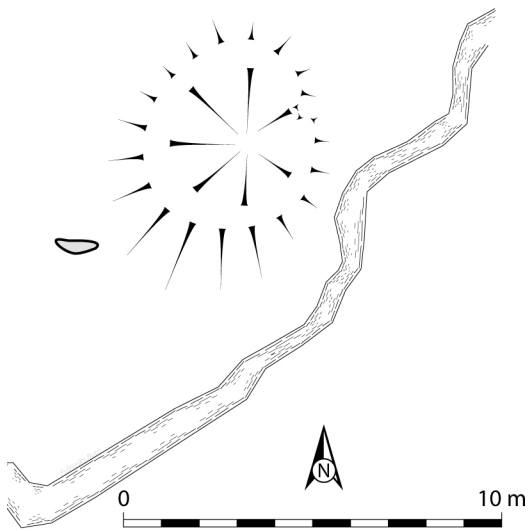


Figure 11: Burnt mound at Pulnaskey Burn

The best example of cup-and-ring marked rocks identified during the current survey is that at Glasserton Mains (MAP 6; Figure 9) with three cup-marks and ten rings, including two radial carvings, carved on an 11m by 6m outcrop of bedrock protruding 1.2m out of the ground. The other sites visited consist of only one or a few cup and ring marks (MAPs 11, 53, 74, 75) and even some of those were uncertain identifications. Although there is an abundance of sites recorded within the study area poor grid references, duplicate records and vegetation growth have combined to make the overall class record somewhat fragmentary. Of the nine sites visited during the survey only five were located and recorded.

### Burnt Mounds

Burnt mounds are diverse in date and a range of functions have been attributed to them. Neither is it clear whether their use reflects permanent or seasonal activity. However, no debate surrounds their primary function which was to heat large volumes of hot water. These distinctive crescentic mounds of heat shattered stone set in a charcoal rich soil matrix are usually sited beside a water source. Their simple diagnostics have allowed the identification of four burnt mounds during the survey, with the best example situated on the bank of the Pulnaskey Burn (MAP 68; Figure 11).

Although now both are denuded, MAP 55 and MAP 57 have relatively large dimensions of 14m by 9m and 12.1m by 8.9m respectively with a height of over 1m. At the time of survey MAP 52 was overgrown with bracken making it difficult to distinguish its much sharper V-shaped mound, at only 0.4m in height, from the rest of the surrounding area. The RCAHMS holds records for less than 25 records for burnt mounds within the Machars area, but it seems probable that many more await identification, particularly in upland areas as around Knock Fell and Garheugh. Without excavation and radiocarbon dating it is not possible to closely date burnt mounds, though based on the close similarity to those investigated during the 1978-1981 excavations on Arran (Finlay 1997), an origin in the time range c.2500-1500 BC would seem appropriate. Burnt mounds in the Machars appear to differ from the burnt mounds in the north of Scotland, where they are frequently associated with structures (e.g. Hedges 1975). This may suggest that they are mainly Bronze Age in date and possibly associated with hunting in the manner described in the Irish Book of Ballymote and elsewhere in the literature.

### Other Monuments

The Garheugh area features extensive field systems and cairnfields, only some of which were visited during the survey (e.g. MAP 46, 47, 69, 71) but many others have been recorded as part of the Scotland's Rural Past project (Pickin 2006). The Garheugh area constitutes one of a very few pockets of upland relict farming landscape, and contains evidence relating to both prehistoric and much later agriculture. Few studies have been carried out on these relict landscapes in SW Scotland; Yates' (1984) study of similar cairnfields across SW Scotland noted that many seem likely to relate to Bronze Age activity but conceded the possibility of Neolithic or medieval origins. However, all of the excavated examples of similar landscapes have shown a concentration of dates in the later half of the second millennium BC (Barber 1997; McCullagh and Tipping 1998).

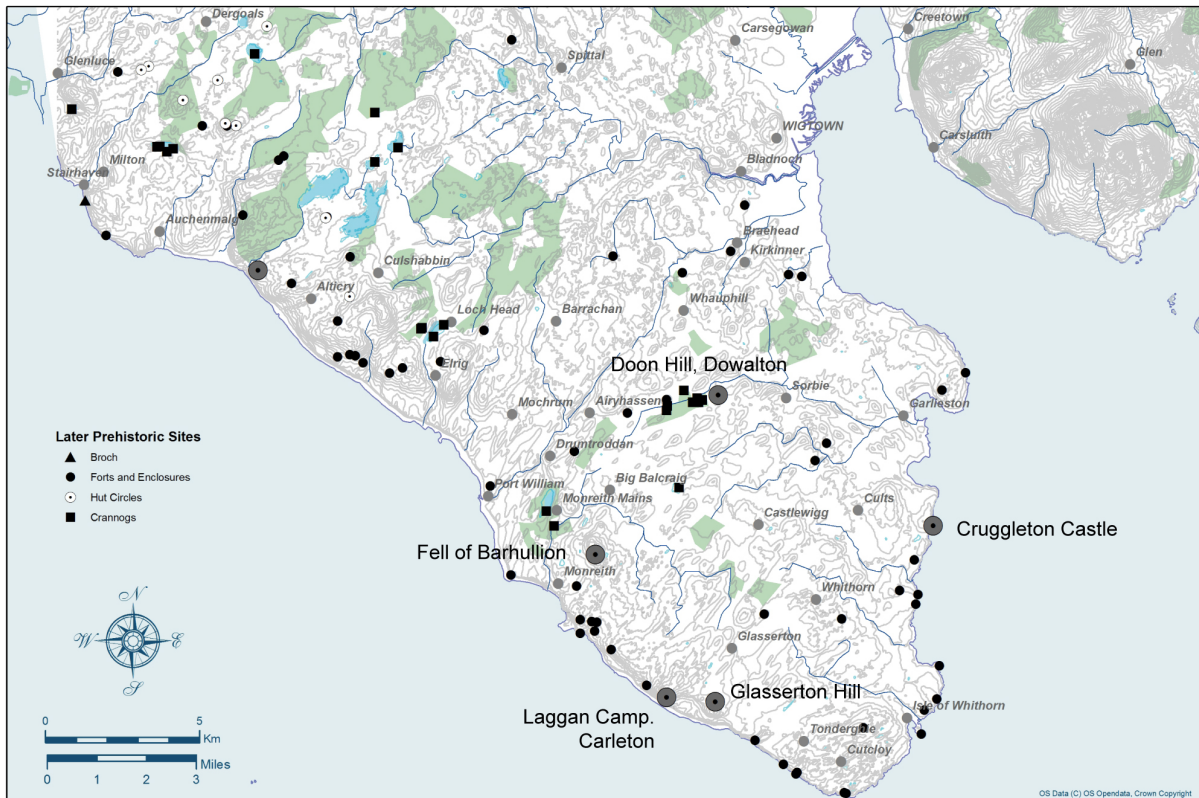


Figure 12: Map of later prehistoric sites in the Machars, with surveyed sites highlighted

## Later Prehistory

The Machars is characterised in later prehistory by the wide variety of settlement forms represented (Figure 12), and the diverse range of locations that were evidently chosen for settlement. The heterogeneity of the Iron Age record in the area has been one of the contributing factors to the neglect of Wigtownshire in regional discourse, and coupled with the general lack of field survey of a large number of sites, the area has remained understudied and little analysis of the Iron Age settlement record has been carried out. A handful of modern excavations provide the only reliable information on Machars Iron Age sites, such as at Rispaan Camp (Haggarty and Haggarty 1983), Carghidown (Toolis 2007), Cruggleton (Ewart 1985) and Whitefield Loch (Cavers et al 2011), aside from antiquarian investigations. The arrival of the Roman presence in Southern Scotland in the first century AD is indicated by a wide variety of Roman artefacts from the Machars (see Wilson 2001), and the large number of Roman imported

items from the pre-Christian contexts at Whithorn has hinted at the presence of a settlement of some importance prior to the establishment of the monastic period, although the significance of Roman artefacts in Galloway may be open to some debate (see e.g. Cavers 2008). There is nonetheless an urgent need to approach the settlement record of the Machars within a more analytical framework, and this may only be achieved through further intensive field survey. The majority of Iron Age settlement forms in the Machars are located on land that is under active agriculture- both arable and pastoral- and there are few of the very well preserved upstanding monuments that characterise upland areas of the Borders, hampering the formulation of developmental chronologies on the basis of surface survey. However, systematic survey of the various settlement forms, and analysis of their distribution in the area can be expected to produce valuable avenues of research.





Figure 13: Boreland, showing the fort at Doon Hill (MAP 21), the motte at Boreland and the White cairns; the fort has now been almost completely destroyed.

## Defended Settlements

Later prehistoric settlement forms in the Machars are diverse. Large, multivallate forts are few in number; the majority are relatively small forts and none exceed 1.5 Ha in area. Construction styles vary considerably, with large earth and stone ditches and banks employed in several of the upstanding forts (e.g. North Balfern, Doon Hill at Dowalton and Laggan Camp), though many are predominantly stone built with massive stone walls (as at Fell of Barhullion (MAP 73), Doon Hill at Capenoch and Doon of May (MAP 45), which is vitrified). Many of the defended enclosures of the Machars have been subjected to severe reduction by agriculture, and many now present only as cropmarks; this process is demonstrable through analysis of the Ordnance Survey first edition maps, which frequently depict sites such as Annat Hill (MAP 17) and Doon Hill at Boreland (MAP 21) as large upstanding forts (see figure 13), but are now greatly reduced and close to complete destruction. At the latter site, the RCAHMS record the upstanding ramparts as being around 4' in height in 1911, but by the time of the reinspection in 1976 the fort was reduced to traces; the rampart and ditch of what was a multivallate fort are now visible as slight traces on the south side of the site.



Figure 14: The chevaux-de-frise at Fell of Barhullion

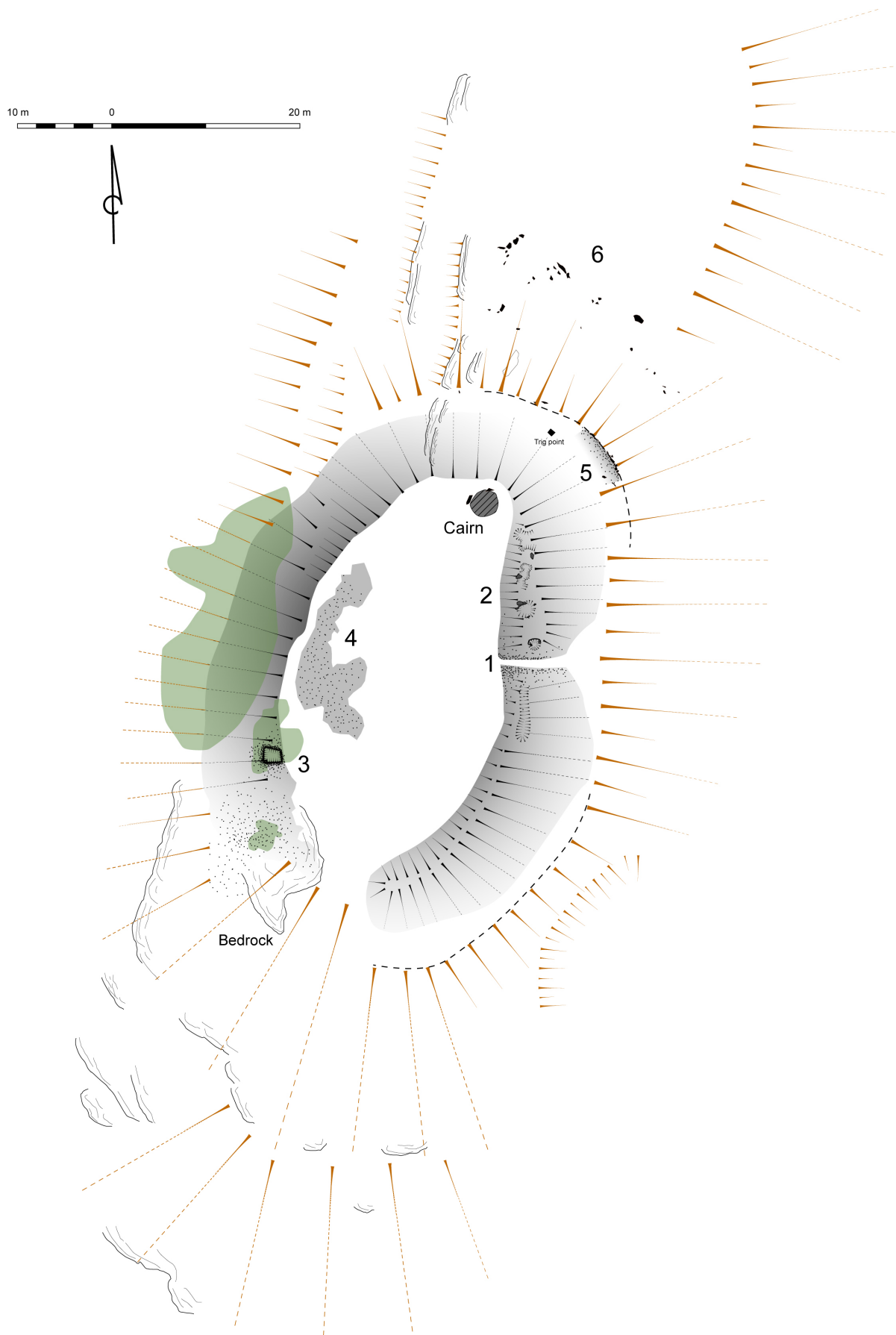


Figure 15: Fell of Barbullion (MAP 73); 1) probable entrance to second phase fort, 2) and 3): possible galleries within the phase 2 rampart, 4) rubble spread within the interior, 5) possible remains of the phase 1 fort, 6) chevaux-de-frises. (1:400)

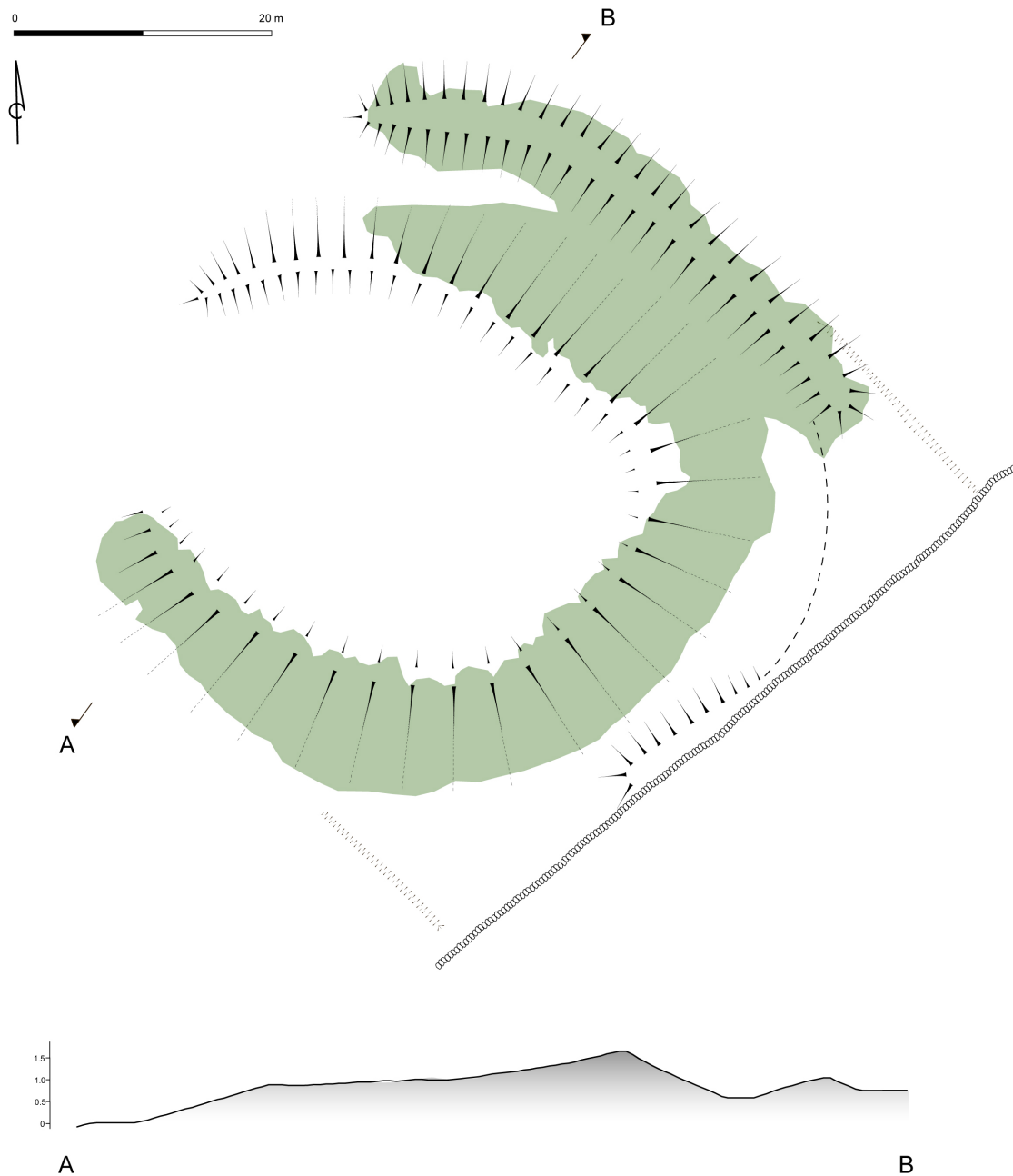


Figure 16: Doon Hill, at Dowalton (MAP 3); (1: 300)

Doon Hill at Boreland was presumably a fort of similar size and scale to Doon Hill at Dowalton (MAP 3, see figure 16), and is fairly representative of the typical later prehistoric defended settlement of Wigtownshire. In the absence of excavated evidence from the area it is difficult to comment on the constructional features of the ramparts of these small forts, and although the predominance of stone in Wigtownshire forts to a degree greater than those of the eastern Scottish Lowlands has been noted before (Coles 1893; Cowley 2000), the presence of vitrification in some would imply timber-lacing was a feature of some Machars forts.

A particularly interesting site is located at Fell of Barhullion (MAP 73, see Figure 14 & 15), where a two-phase stone fort shows evidence of cells or galleries within the rampart of the smaller, upper enclosure, particularly visible around the probable entrance in the E (Figure 15, points 1, 2 and 3), and close to the bedrock outcrop in the SW (point 3). Following his survey of the defended settlements of the south west, Feachem considered this feature to be very unusual in the local context (Feachem 1956; 1963:160), and noted the consequent implication of an affinity to the galleried duns of Argyll to the north. Given the affinity of other small enclosed sites in

Wigtownshire to the small stone forts further north, however, the possibility of complex architecture within the walls of stone enclosures in the Machars should not be ruled out. Again, little is known of the character of the interior of sites like Fell of Barhullion, but the rubble spread (visible at point 4) within the inner rampart at the site might indicate the presence of stone-walled buildings. The probable chevaux-de-frises defending the ridge beyond the ramparts (point 6) need be neither chronologically nor culturally diagnostic; there are several Scottish examples located in eastern areas (e.g. at Dreva, Christison 1887:24).

Other site enclosed settlement types in the Machars appear to be so homogeneous that it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that they must be broadly contemporary in construction and occupation. The group of small stone forts that cluster along the west coast of the Machars, originally referred to as 'homesteads' by the Ordnance Survey and now termed 'settlements' by the RCAHMS, are case in point. They are remarkably similar in form, being generally in the region of 30m in diameter, with stone walls which

are generally in the region of 3 to 5m in thickness. Their topographic locations are likewise very similar, often being built on the crests of ridges with good views, particularly over the coast. Excavations at two of these sites, Chippermore (Fiddes 1953) and Airyolland (Cavers and Geddes 2010) demonstrated the details of the construction of these sites, showing that they contained smaller stone structures within the interior, but failed to produce datable material. Several of these 'duns'



Figure 17: Carleton Fell homestead (MAP 13)

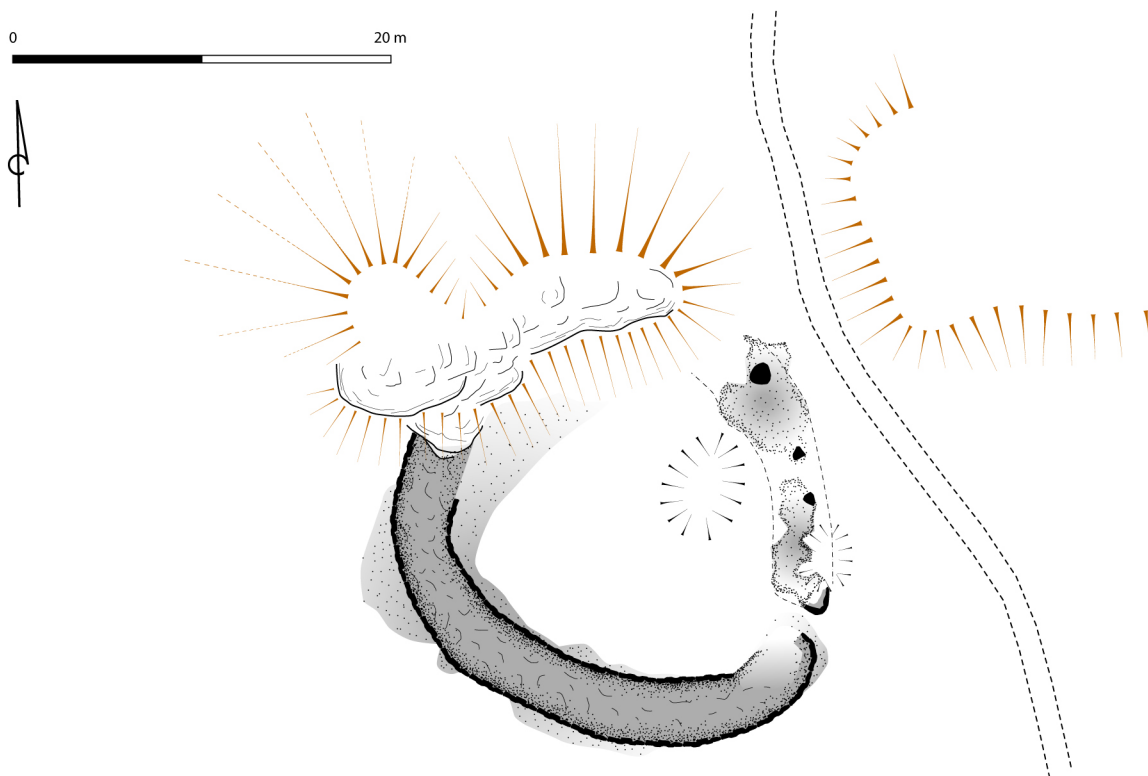


Figure 18: The homestead or stone fort at Green House Bridge (MAP 64) (1:400).



Figure 19: The stone wall of the stone fort at Green House Bridge (MAP 64).

were recorded by the current survey, including examples at Carleton (MAP 13, Figure 17), Green House Bridge (MAP 64, Figure 18) and the defended enclosure at Glasserton Hill (MAP 5). At Carleton, the stone enclosure wall is all but destroyed, although the sub-circular enclosure formed by the turf-covered stone wall—characteristically thick in proportion to the enclosure—is still visible. At Green House Bridge, the enclosure wall makes use of a rocky outcrop on its northern side (Figure 18), but the construction style, comprising a 3m thick stone wall faced with large boulders similar to that encountered at Chippermore and Airyolland, is characteristic of the type. Both sites also command spectacular views over the sea to the west, another recurrent characteristic that implies a commonality in date and function.

Other defended enclosures recorded by the survey are more typical of the southern Scottish fort tradition; Laggan Camp (MAP 14) is one of the best preserved examples in the Machars, and comprises a univallate enclosure occupying a prominent knoll overlooking good agricultural land. The earth and stone rampart defines a raised central platform, providing a prominent terrace upon which internal structures were presumably sited, this characteristic 'terraced' configuration is repeated in several sites in the Machars, as at Ring Hill, North Balfern and may be a local characteristic. Few sites show any evidence of the

nature of buildings within later prehistoric enclosures, although the cropmark record indicates the presence of timber roundhouses both within enclosures and as open settlements, as visible in cropmarks north of the Isle of Whithorn and Challochmun, where a double-entranced roundhouse characteristic of the early centuries BC/AD in SW Scotland is visible.

### Other settlements

There are a large number of crannogs, or artificial islet settlements, within the study area. The majority of these were outside the remit of the MAP survey, since they are still located within lochs, and even the drained examples are typically within very marshy ground. Crannogs nonetheless constitute a major component of the Iron Age and Early Historic settlement record, however. In particular, the complex of sites in Dowalton Loch, identified during the drainage works carried out there in the 19th century comprise a concentration of monuments representing continuity from the early Iron Age to the medieval centuries (see case study, below).

A further cogent group of monuments are the promontory forts which are located at regular

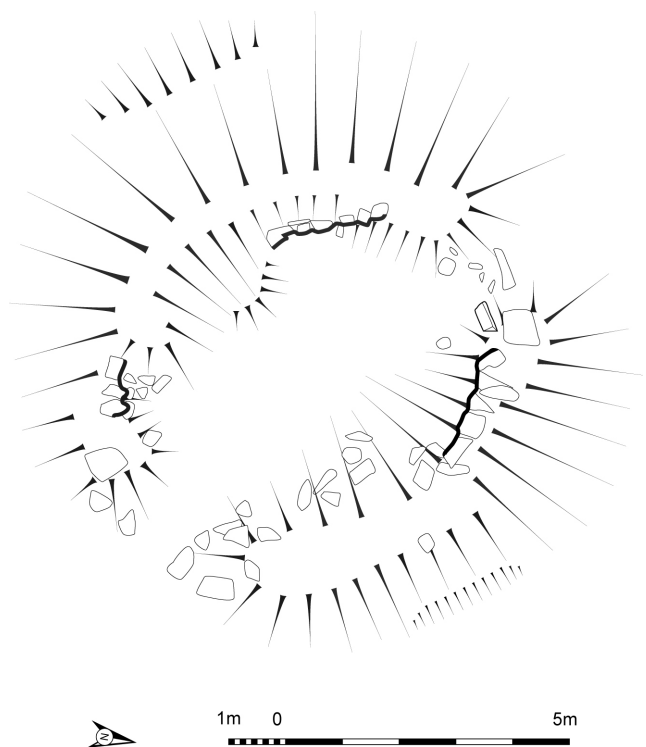


Figure 20: Hut-circle at Pulnaskey Burn, Garbeugh.

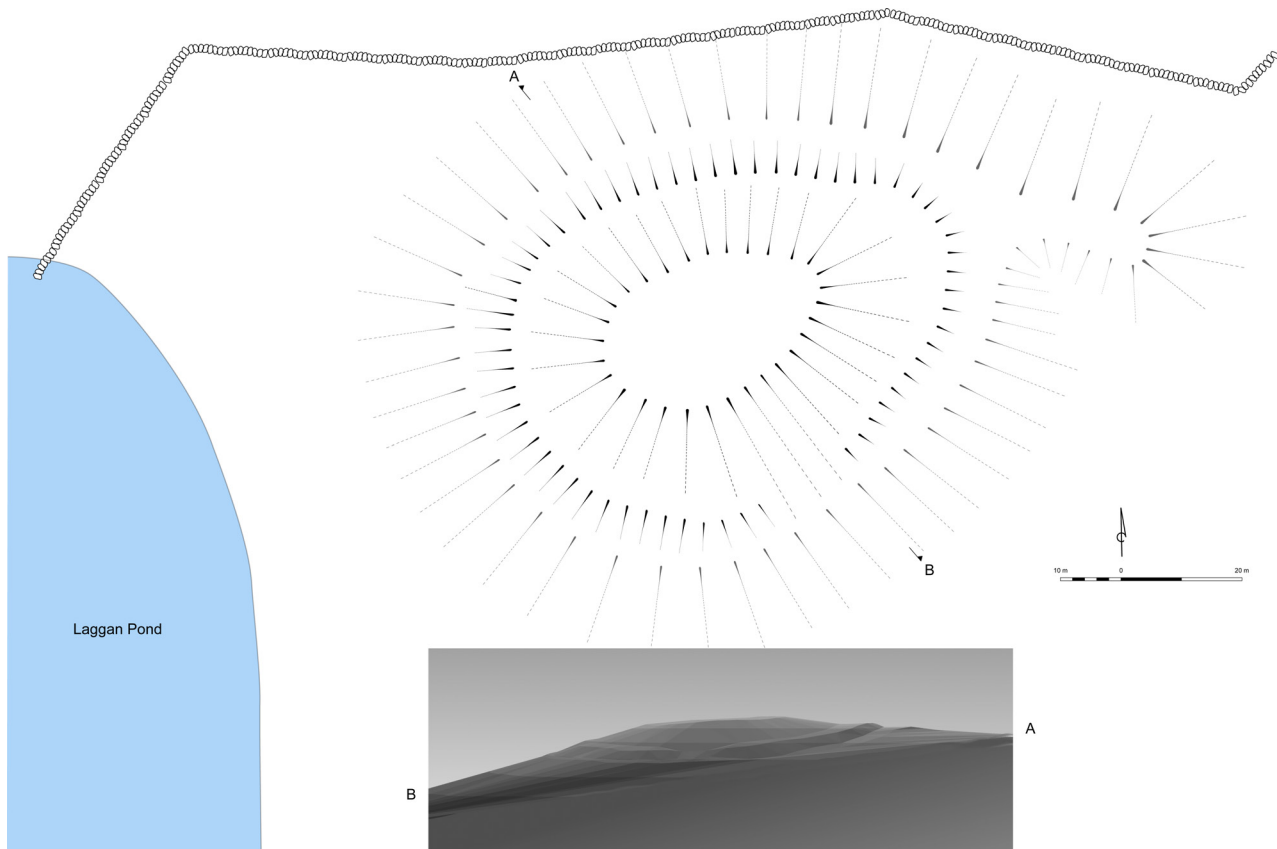


Figure 21: Laggan Camp (MAP 14).

points around the coast of the Machars. The majority of these were surveyed during a condition assessment by Toolis (2003), although several were omitted from that survey (e.g. Cairnhead Motte), and could repay further detailed examination. A recurrent theme in the Machars promontory forts is the subsequent reuse of the sites as castles (e.g. Castle Feather and Craggleton, MAP 72), while the Early Historic settlement on the Isle of Whithorn fort was probably a reoccupation of an earlier Iron Age fortification (Raleigh Radford 1957; McCarthy et al 2010). The ditch enclosing the promontory at Craggleton Castle (Figure 28) seems likely to relate to the Iron Age foundation of that site, although excavation would be required to prove this. Radiocarbon dates from the fragmentary roundhouse discovered beneath the medieval castle place this Iron Age occupation around the turn of the first millennium; the site continued to be occupied in a variety of forms through the Early Historic period and medieval centuries (Ewart 1985).

Upland relict landscapes relating to later prehistoric activity are not widespread in the

Machars, although significant extensive field systems and hut-circle clusters have been recorded around Garheugh, Corwall, Mains of Dervaird (Strachan 2000) and, less certainly, around Knock Fell (Wilson 1899) and Gargrie (Pickin 2006). Partially surviving examples of hut-circle groups have also been recorded at Drumcharnachan, while several other examples as at Craigenveoch Fell and Machermore have probably been destroyed by modern forestry plantation. It seems probable that prospective survey would greatly increase the number of hut-circle settlements and associated field systems and enclosures, and even in improved areas fragmentary remains of such site may still survive; a possible denuded hut-circle was recorded on the north shore of Dowalton Loch during the current survey (MAP 15).

Garheugh Fell constitutes one of the best-preserved upland relict landscapes in the study area, where a large number of hut-circles and field systems are present. Later agricultural activity has largely left these remains intact, although settlements like that at Green House Bridge may have made use of stone from earlier prehistoric

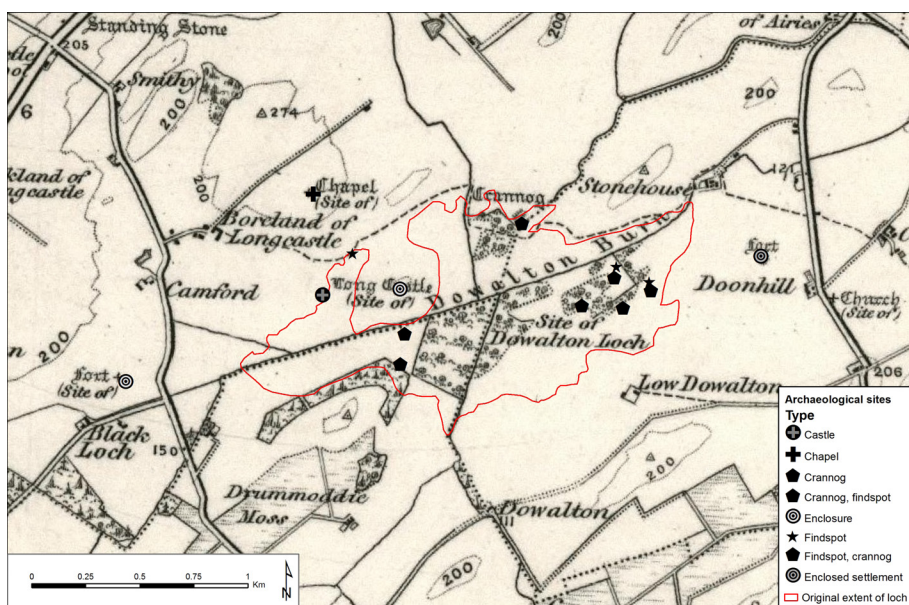
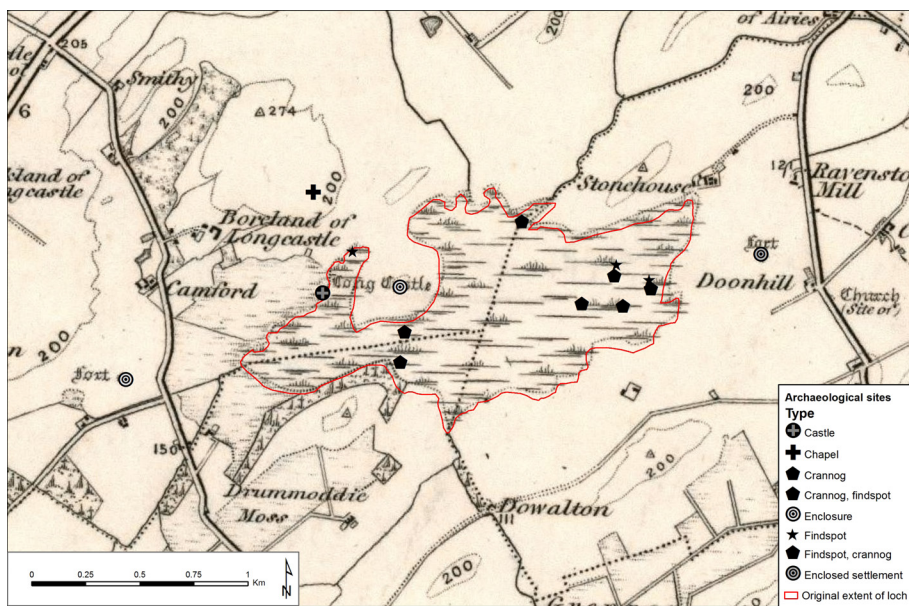
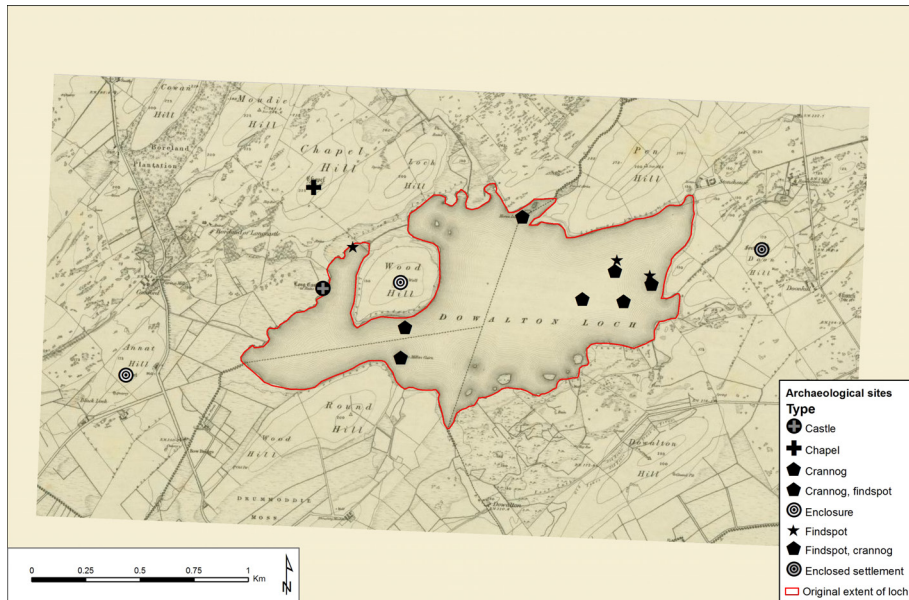


Figure 22: Dowalton Loch, depicted on the Ordnance survey first edition map (1848, top); by 1897 the loch was being drained and is depicted as marshy land (centre); by 1905 the loch was gone (bottom). The crannogs were investigated in the 1880s.



Figure 23: The crannog at Stonehouse, Dowalton, now dry.

structures, including Cairn Buy (see above).

### Iron Age and Medieval Settlement at Dowalton Loch

Dowalton Loch is a key site in the study of later prehistoric and medieval archaeology in the Machars. Drained in the early 1860s, a large number of archaeological features were identified as the loch bed became exposed, including at least five crannog structures, a range of wooden vessels and stone cairns. The disappearance of the loch can be plotted through the revision of the Ordnance survey map for the area (see Figure 22); at the time of the first edition 6-inch to the mile sheet in 1848 the loch was full, by the time of the 1897 revision of the 1-inch to the mile sheet the ground was marsh and by the 1905 revision the loch was gone, replaced by plantation.

The loch is well known in the archaeological literature as the findspot of a range of artefacts dating to the late Bronze Age, Iron Age and medieval periods (Stuart 1866), including most spectacularly a fine Roman bronze patera, Samian pottery and examples of native metalwork (Hunter 1994). Dowalton was clearly an important centre through the Roman Iron Age and Early Historic centuries, and classification of the finds in relation to the sites in and around the loch indicates continuity of settlement over much of the first millennium AD (see Cavers 2010:102-6). Classification of the finds into chronological horizons suggests that crannogs 2 and 3 were probably occupied in the Roman Iron Age, while sites 2 and possibly 1 were perhaps in use between

the 7th and 10th centuries AD. Although the majority of these sites are now located in inaccessible marsh, Heron Isle at Stonehouse (MAP 16) is still accessible from the shore and visible as a large stone mound, with the possible remains of a building on top (see Figure 23). Heron Isle may be an example of a prehistoric crannog re-occupied in the historic centuries; several such examples have been recorded in the Machars, including in White Loch of Ravenstone (Lowe and Dalland 2002), Castle Loch (Raleigh Radford 1966) and Dorman's Island, Whitefield Loch (Cavers et al 2011).

Settlement around Dowalton continued beyond the Early Historic centuries with the establishment of the castle at Boreland of Longcastle (MAP 1), probably by the early 14th century, when it is mentioned as the stronghold of the MacDowells (McKerlie 1870:356). After the loch was drained, Longcastle was described by the RCAHMS as an artificial island, composed of large stone blocks forming the foundation for the castle. The character of the promontory upon which the site is located is not easy to establish, but if the site is not entirely artificial it appears to have been enhanced and levelled with additional material surrounding the castle site. It is possible that this medieval fortification, making use of the natural defence offered by the surrounding marshy ground, represents a continuation of the island dwelling tradition of the preceding Iron Age and early historic centuries. The settlement at Boreland of Longcastle developed into one of the most noteworthy settlements to be marked on Gordon and Blaeu's maps of the mid-17th century, if not perhaps of the importance of Myrton Castle to the west (Figure 1, above).

Map regression also gives an indication of the level of destruction of terrestrial monuments through agricultural improvements: Annat Hill and Doon Hill are both marked as substantial upstanding forts, while Woodhill is depicted with a circular 'Old Wall' and the annotation of the Boreland of Longcastle chapel suggests that these remains were visible at that time. Later editions of the Ordnance Survey map leave off these features, and today the Annat Hill fort is virtually reduced to ground level.



Survey at Chapel Hill and Inner Wood Hill, including geophysical survey over the site of the possible enclosure at the latter, did not detect any archaeological features. It is likely that excavation would be required to identify these features.

## The Medieval and post-Medieval Period

Medieval archaeology is well represented in the Machars, even leaving aside the inevitably dominating influence of Whithorn. Again, the range of site types is wide, with high status settlements such as castles, mottes and towers as well as chapels, churches and other ecclesiastical sites. Early Christian carved stones are widespread, and several examples have been incorporated into later structures. Comparatively little remains of lower status settlements and agricultural landscapes demonstrably of medieval date; as in much of Scotland the continuity of many settlements into the post-medieval centuries is presumed to have erased most traces of medieval rural settlement.

### Ecclesiastical sites and carved stones

Ecclesiastical sites dominate the medieval archaeology of the study area, with numerous chapel sites, churches and carved stone finds indicating activity peripheral to the major monastic settlement at Whithorn. Notable among these are the early Christian satellite chapels excavated at Barhobble (Cormack 1995) and Chapel Finian (Raleigh Radford 1951), which date to the 12th/13th and 10th/11th centuries respectively. Other small chapels include the proprietary chapel at Myrton and the small enclosed chapel at Crouse (MAP 26). The majority of the others are ruinous (as at Crailloch), completely dismantled (Chapel Outon) or no trace survives (Chapel Hill, Boreland of Longcastle, Killfillan Hill, Culderry). The best preserved chapels are the 12th century chapel at Cruggleton, which was restored by the Marquis of Bute in around 1890 and the chapel at Kirkmadrine. At the former site much of the

original fabric has been used in the restoration, and many of the architectural features can be considered original. Similarly, the chapel on the Isle of Whithorn was restored by the Marquis of Bute, and surface traces remain of the surrounding enclosure on the site. Several other churches and chapels in the study area, including Kirkinner and St Machute's Church in Wigtown were apparently built on the footprints of much earlier chapels, but no traces survive. The majority of cemeteries associated with surviving churches and chapels relate to the most recent centuries, but gravestones in the cemetery of Penninghame church date as far back as AD 1550.

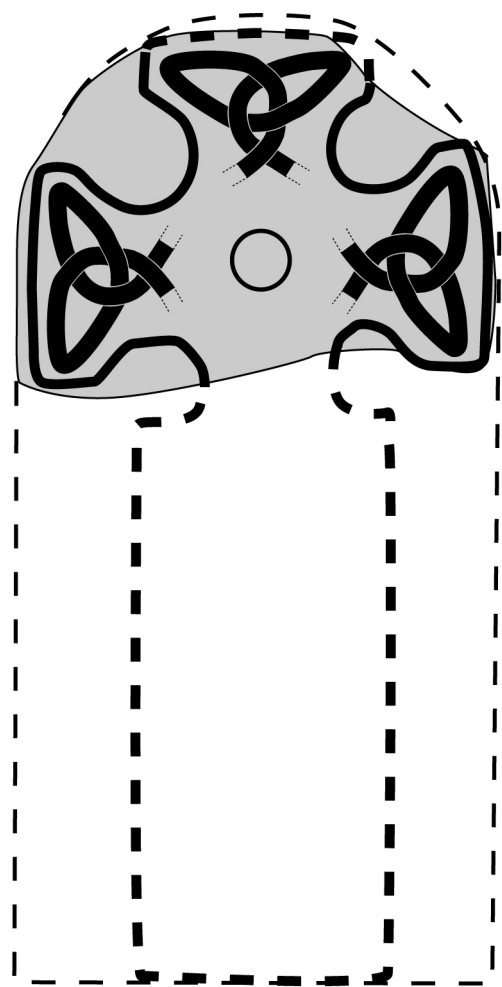


Figure 24: Reconstruction of the May cross stone (MAP 43). Based on the fragment that survives (shaded grey), we can deduce the probable form of the stone (dashed), with the ornate interlacing carved in relief. Craig identifies 'two interlocking loops of interlace in each of the arms, with the strands also twisted around the boss head at the centre of the cross' (pers. com.).

Aside from the early churches at Kirkmaiden, Crugleton and Sorbie recorded in detail below, other more ephemeral structures likely to relate to early Christian period were recorded by the current survey. At Crouse (MAP 26, Figure 27), a chapel is said to have stood in its burying-ground on a small patch of elevated ground in 'Chapel Meadow'. The site is enclosed by the remains of a low bank or wall and almost surrounded by marshy ground. Bones were uncovered in the removal of some earth about 1810; the Old Name Book derives the name Dalreagle (on which farm the site lies) from 'Dailraigle' - 'Plain of the Cemetery'. The feature known as 'Chapel Well' is a spring at the W end of the enclosure.

Medieval cross fragments have been located widely across the Machars, several within or near later structures. Many crosses and fragments have been

moved to new locations, so that the current locations of the fragments may not correlate to their original positions. Several have been moved to shelter inside the churches where they were found, as at Glasserton, while some have been taken to the National Museum, Dumfries, Stranraer and Whithorn. One fine example (MAP 43, Figure 24) was surveyed as part of the Machars Archaeology Project. It is no longer in the location described by previous surveyors as that building had fallen down over a decade previously; the cross has now been incorporated into a different farm building. Only the upper part of the cross is visible, the lower part of the stone no longer remaining. The design is carved in relief on a slab with a rounded top. A central boss measuring c. 4cm in diameter is surrounded by knots which Craig (1992) attributes to Complete Pattern E classification. Based on this interlacing, Craig

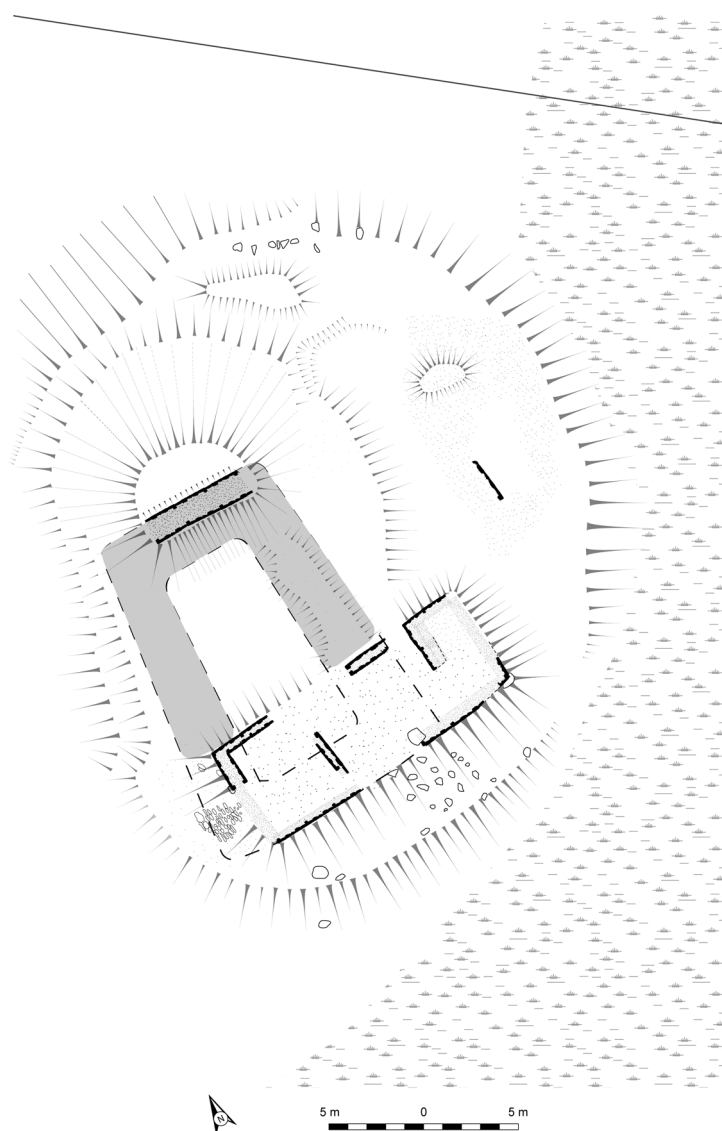


Figure 25: The castle site at Boreland of Longcastle (left); above, top: the site seen from the south; above, bottom: detail of the later structure.

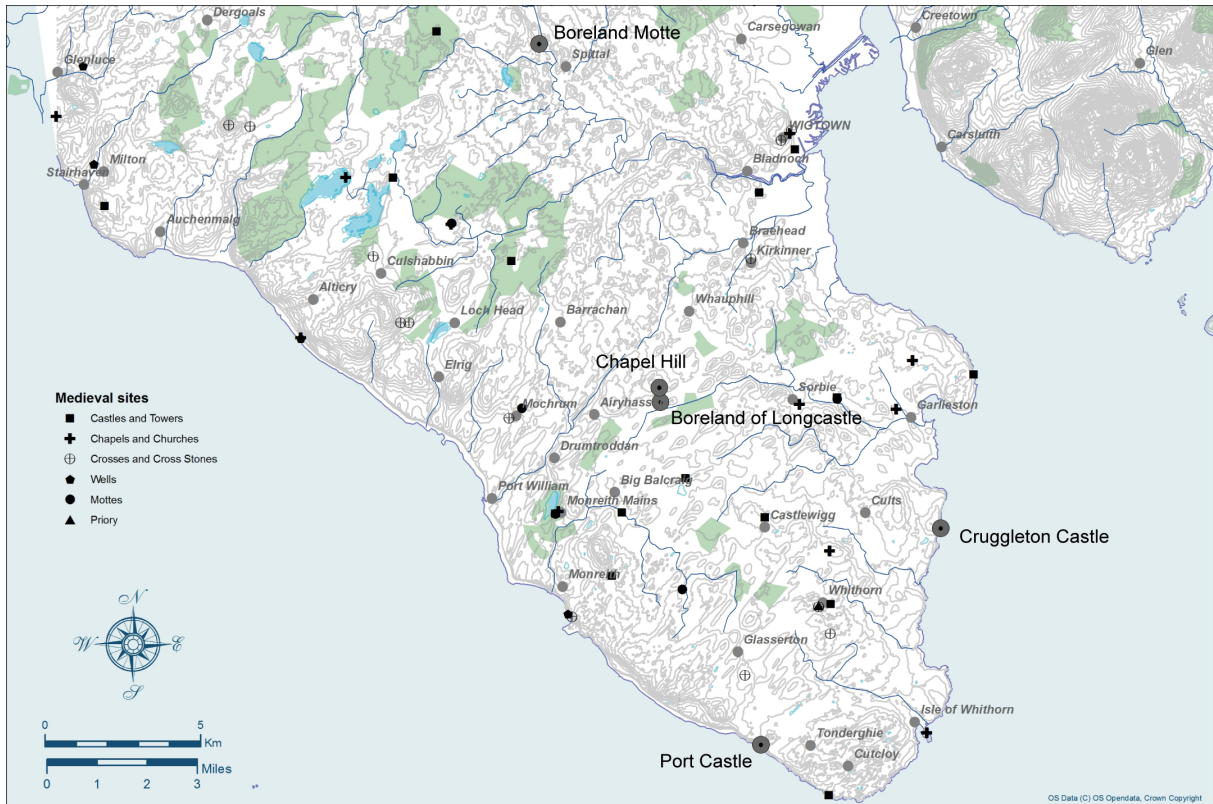


Figure 26: Distribution of medieval sites in the Machars, with surveyed sites highlighted.

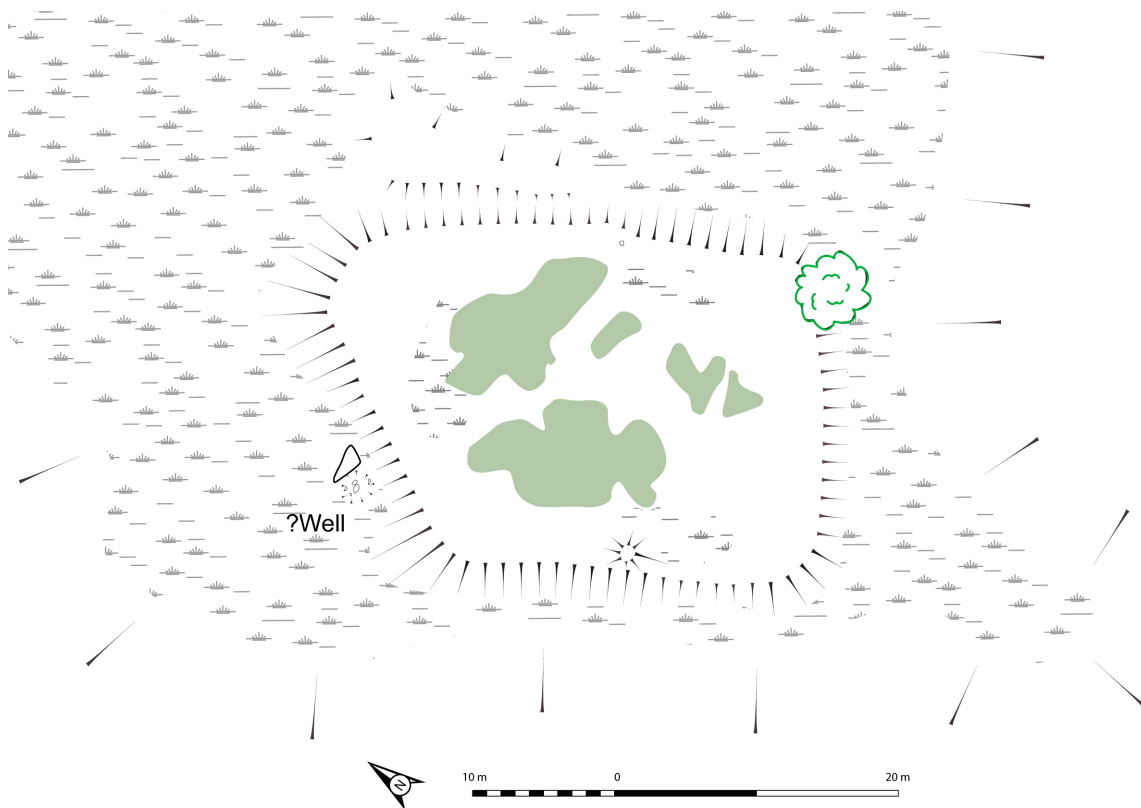


Figure 27: The possible enclosed chapel and well at Crouse (MAP 26).

classes The May cross stone as forming part of a local group including cross stone fragments from Airylick, Mochrum, Knock and Kirkmaiden; these stones are distinct from the Whithorn School crosses, which feature plaited interlacing.

## Castles

There are 11 castles within the study area, of varying dates, although few remain in good condition. Of these, Cruggleton Castle has been excavated and was shown to be a middle Iron Age promontory fort reoccupied in the 8th century, and thereafter in the 13th to 17th centuries (Ewart 1985). This continuity in settlement from preceding early medieval and Iron Age origins may be common in the Machars, and several castles and mottes are located in close proximity to earlier forts and defended enclosures. Castle Sinniness partially survives as an angle of masonry standing to 13m in height, with the majority of the stonework having been removed. Similarly, Mindork, Barmeal and Baldoon castles survive only as fragmentary remains, in the case of the latter two sites only as stonework incorporated into later structures. More remains of Myrton Castle, of which structural remains of the 16th century keep are still visible on top of the surviving motte. Mindork survives only as a ruinous stone pile, although significant upstanding remains survive at Long Castle at Dowalton, which documentary evidence shows was in the possession of the MacDowells in 1330. Moure Castle survives as ruinous enclosure standing to 1.6m in height; McKerlie states that it was in the possession of the Maxwells until 1683 (1870:518). The precise character of this site is unclear, however, and would repay further investigation. Wigtown Castle was one of the more significant strongholds in the Machars in the 13th and 14th centuries, although the site is now destroyed and visible only as a circular ditch, denoting the path of the encircling moat.

## Cruggleton Castle

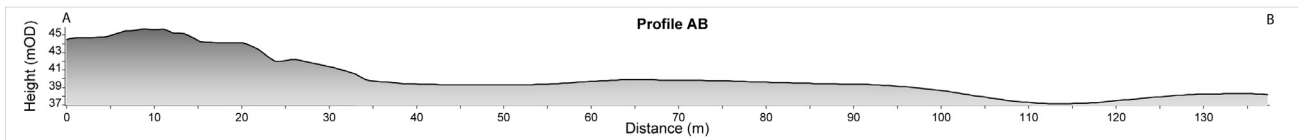
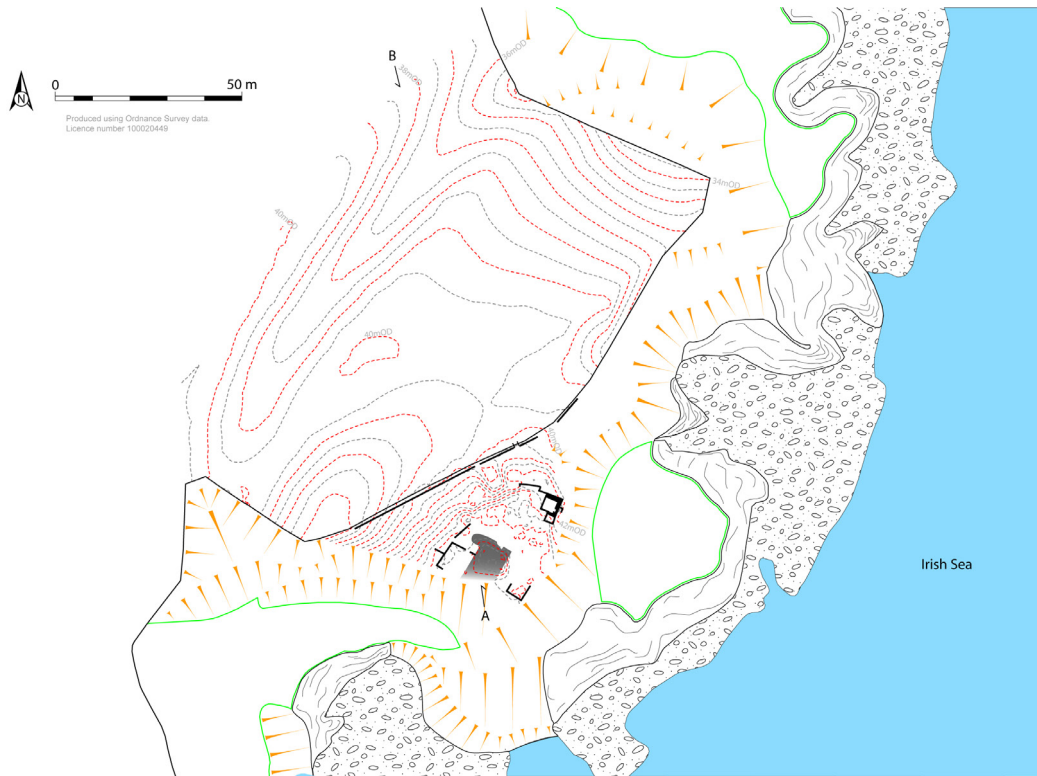
Cruggleton Castle is one of the most complex sites surveyed as part of the Machars Archaeology Project (Figure 28). The site was excavated by Ewart in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and the results reveal evidence of periods of occupation spanning much of the past 2000 years. The clearest visible remains today comprise a stone and mortar arch, (reconstructed recently), earthen defences and stone-built walls and structures. The complex remains still visible are a testament to the “successive use of an eminently suitable defensive site over a very extended period”(Ewart 1985:55).

**Phase 1:** Ewart attributes the first phase of occupation to the late Iron Age, the evidence comprising “the partial remains of a complex hut circle, lying towards the NE corner of the natural outcrop” (Ewart 1985:12). The outline of the hut circle can still be traced in the rock-cut features including shallow gullies, post settings and stakeholes.

**Phase 2:** Evidence from the early Medieval period, represents the mid-8th to late 12th centuries, and comprises the remains of a “small timber rectilinear hall-like structure with an associated palisade wall” (Ewart 1985:16). Again, rock-cut features demarcate these structures. Ewart suggests that the timber-built structure consisted of timber posts with planks or wattles forming the walls, and that the palisade was constructed of “earth, turf or stone”.

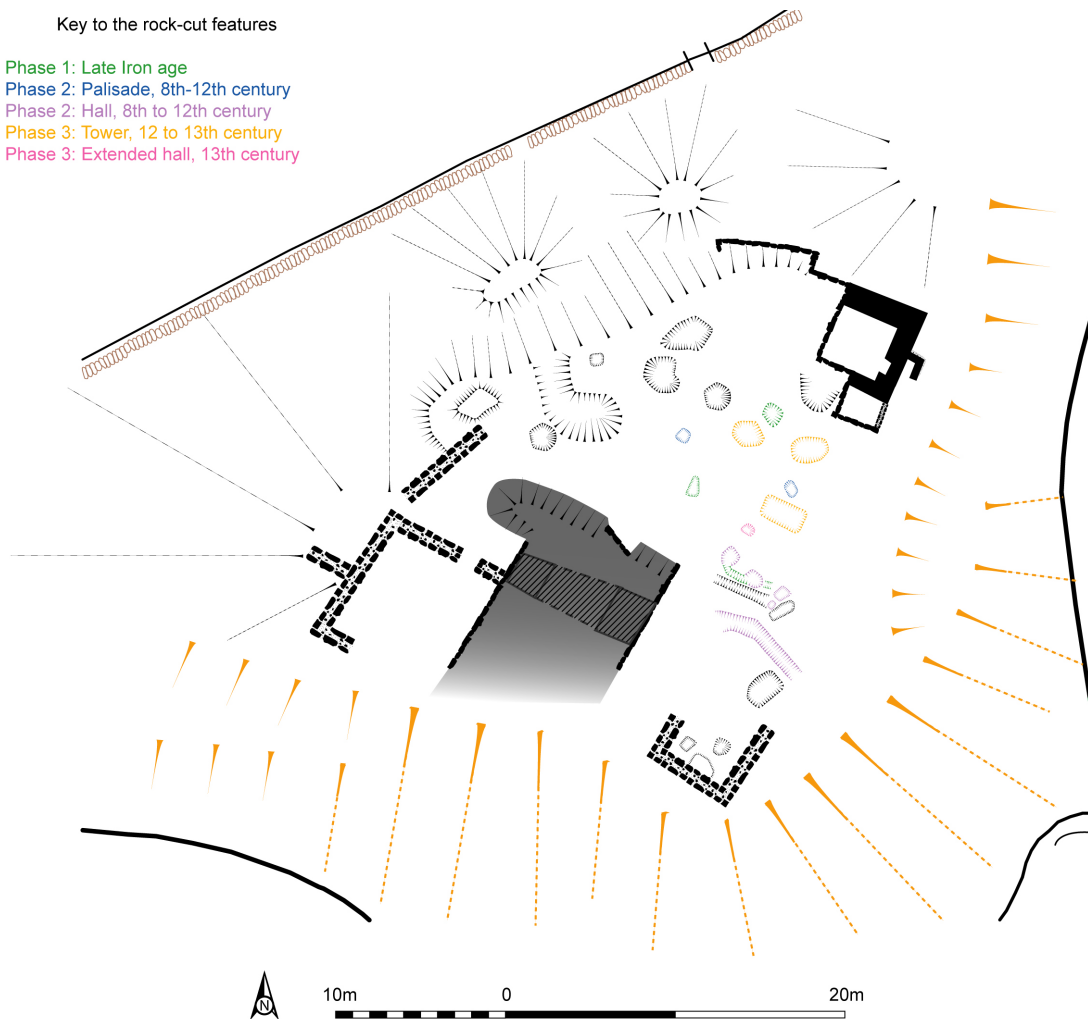
**Phase 3:** In the late 12th to late 13th century, the raised rock outcrop was enhanced and levelled through the deposition of clay and shale to form a flat, raised area. A timber tower measuring c. 4m square was constructed on its N end. The large rock-cut pits for the timber uprights at each corner of the tower are still visible. The palisade was removed in this period but the timber hall was retained and later extended.

*Figure 28 (overleaf): Cruggleton Castle, showing the location of the castle within the defended promontory (top) and the visible buildings of the medieval occupation (below).*



Key to the rock-cut features

- Phase 1: Late Iron age
- Phase 2: Palisade, 8th-12th century
- Phase 2: Hall, 8th to 12th century
- Phase 3: Tower, 12 to 13th century
- Phase 3: Extended hall, 13th century



**Phase 4:** From the late 13th to mid 15th century, the site's defences were enhanced by the construction of a stone curtain wall and tower (Ewart 1985:22-32). The remains of the curtain wall are clearly visible, stretching from the N round to the W. A stone tower measuring 15.4m x 8.7m externally was constructed in the area of the existing arch. Associated with this period is an oven (Ewart 1985:33-34); horse-shoe shaped in plan, it probably had a domed roof. A gap of 0.68m permitted the access into the oven. Associated charcoal deposits reflected the process of lighting such an oven: chaff, twigs and faggots were used to light the fire, with larger hazel timbers serving as fuel.

**Phases 5 & 6:** During the mid 15th to early 17th centuries, the tower was rebuilt on a smaller scale. Ewart suggests that "the reconstruction of the tower coincides with the general improvement of the site under the auspices of the Priors of Whithorn and its adaptation to a less military role" (Ewart 1985:36). This structure measured 9.4m x 8.6m externally. The arch that has come to represent Craggleton Castle is in fact the remains of the barrel-vaulted ceiling of the basement level of the tower.

In the NE corner of the site are the remains of a rectilinear corner tower and adjacent garderobe. Both feature chutes in their E, sea-ward walls, in the tower for "cleaning out the tower basement, waste water being channelled out" and in the garderobe, to allow waste to be "sluiced out over the cliff" (Ewart 1985:50).

To the E of the existing arch, the remains of three walls in a squared arc represent the remains of a probable kitchen, with a large open hearth visible as a raised rectangular area at the S end.

During the survey, the chance find of a large piece of late Medieval pottery perhaps relating to the Phase 5 or 6 occupation of the castle. The large sherd of redware dating to the late 15th or early 16th century has a smooth green glaze, and would have formed the terminal of a jug handle.

## Mottes and moated sites

In the late 19th century, Christison described the distribution of motes or mottes, noting that they exist predominantly in the south of the country, and here they are "thickly clustered in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbrugh... [thinning] out rapidly to the east and north, and more slowly to the west" (Christison 1898:17). Mottes in Wigtownshire are typically steep-sided mounds, upon which stood a tower or other defensive structure surrounded by a fence or palisade. There are seven motte sites in the study area. For the most part, these generally comprise mounds around 20m in diameter and 5m in height; the well preserved example at Druchtag stands to nearly 7m. A single motte was surveyed as part of the Machars Archaeology Project. Lying just a few meters from the modern B733, on the western bank of the Mochrum, is Boreland Motte (MAP 22, Figure 29), comprising a steep-sided mound overlooking the Bladnoch river. The site is in good condition, although erosion has caused the destruction of parts of the eastern side of the site, including the remains of an outer bank surrounding the perimeter ditch.

Little invasive work has been undertaken on the Machars mottes, although limited excavation of the example at Sorbie retrieved evidence for activity ranging from the 12th to 16th centuries (Talbot 1983). At Craighdu, the associated bailey is also visible, although this site has been reduced by agricultural activity.

Although its precise character is unclear, the 'homestead moat' or moated settlement at Crouse (MAP 25) is somewhat unusual in the study area. The site has been completely destroyed by agricultural activity but may have comprised a moated settlement; the close proximity to the possible chapel at Crouse, however may suggest an association existed between the two sites.

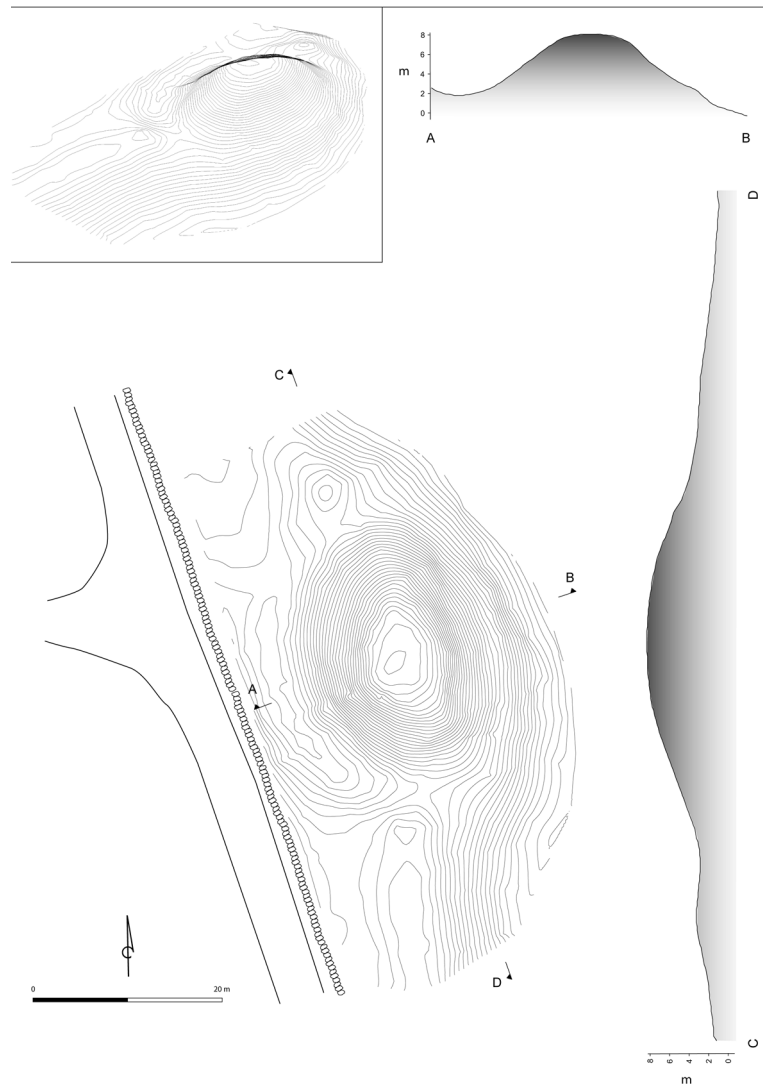


Figure 29: Boreland motte (MAP 22)

## Post-medieval and modern archaeology

There are a large number of sites relating to the post-medieval centuries in the study area. These range from farmsteads and associated field systems to fish traps, mills and other industrial sites. The surveys for the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map of Wigtownshire were among the earliest carried out in Scotland, between 1843 and 1847, meaning that many of the small farmsteads in upland and marginal areas were sufficiently complete at the time of the survey to be mapped accurately (RCAHMS 2002:67). Most farmsteads are small, rarely comprising more than three or four buildings, and many have been incorporated into the outbuildings of modern farms. Extensive field systems are not as common as further north in upland Galloway, but significant agricultural

remains survive in the less intensively farmed areas, as particularly in the north Machars in areas such as Garheugh, Barnsallie and Dervaird. Better preserved settlements are at Clays of Airyolland, comprising an extensive farmstead and associated agricultural remains, enclosures and at least one corn drying kiln, and Dounan, near Crouse.

## Historic rural settlement

The Machars are scattered with evidence of the area's rich rural and agricultural past. A survey of all of the post-medieval farming evidence across the Machars would be a significant undertaking; for the purposes of this project, certain discrete areas were targeted around Garheugh and Slate Heugh at Physgill.

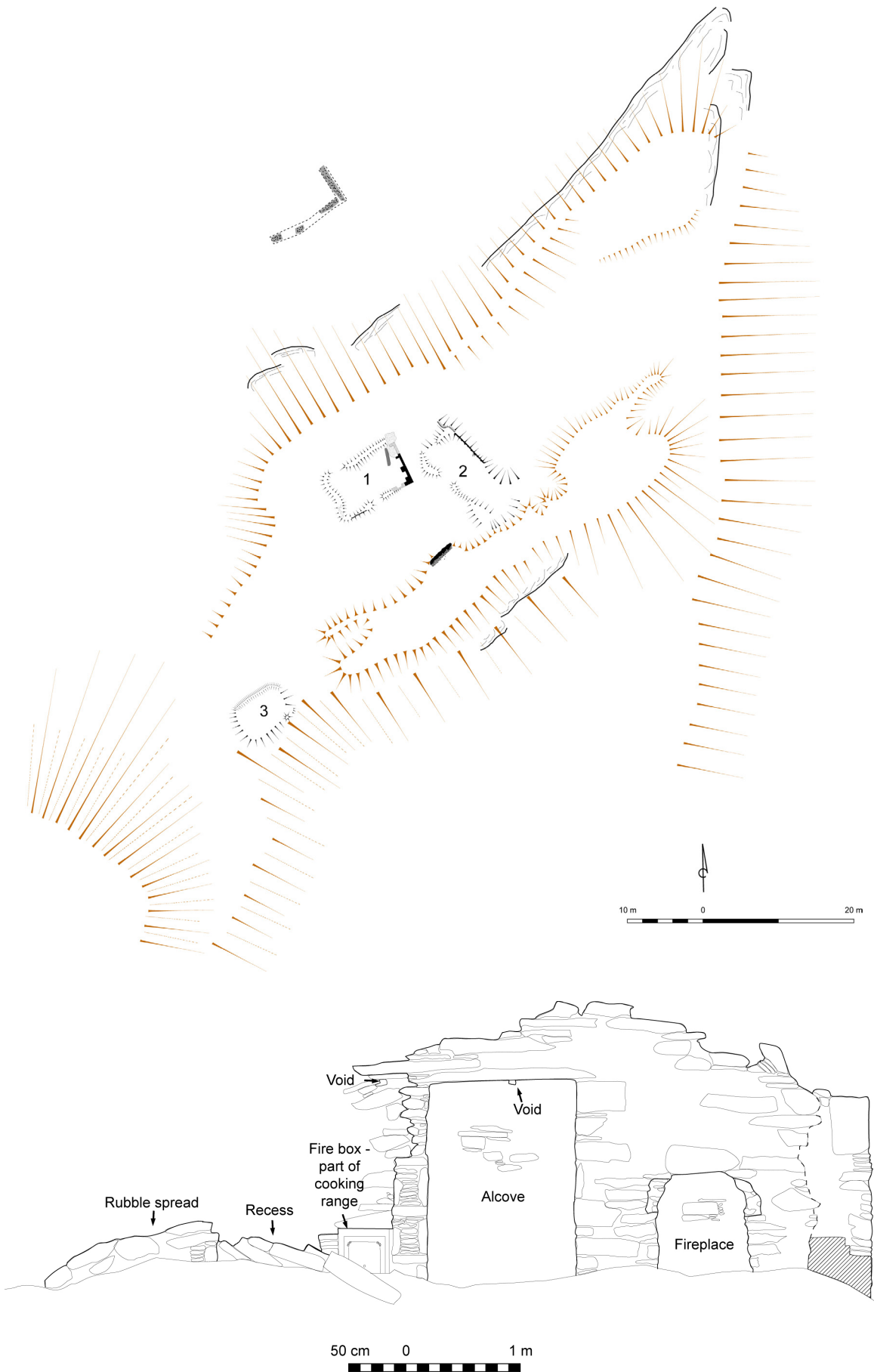


Figure 30: Slate Hough farmstead plan (above), and elevation of building 1 (below).



The remains of an abandoned farmstead at Slate Heugh were surveyed (MAP 7, Figure 30). Visible now as little more than a gable end and faint traces of walls, the six-inch first edition OS map of shows two buildings set close together, almost forming an L, still roofed at the time of the OS survey. A track is marked from the road between Glasserton and Low Craiglemine leading to the farmstead, but the site is otherwise quite remote, with no other dwellings in the immediate vicinity. The NE gable end of the house remains to almost its full height, with a fireplace and an alcove surviving in the E half of the structure. In the W, the remains of an iron range or stove are visible, along with the remains of another possible fireplace. As the apex of the E side of the structure is roughly mid-way between the fireplace and alcove, the W side of the building may have been a later addition or a lean-to. Traces of up to three more buildings are visible, the clearest area of walling running parallel with the NE end of the house.

The settlement remains at recorded at Garheugh are almost certainly considerably older in date. Three structures and a field system marked just to the W of Garheugh Fell on the first edition OS map were surveyed. The buildings were marked as being already unroofed at the time of survey, suggesting that the settlement had been abandoned some time before the 1840s. Today they exist as a collection of much-denuded walls; a few pens and structures are visible.

Of different character, and unique among the structures encountered on Gargeugh Fell was the building at Pulnasky Burn (MAP 62). Situated on the edge of a quarried channel carrying Pulnasky Burn down towards the sea are the remains of a long, rectangular building (over 15m externally) constructed of much larger stone than any of the others encountered during this survey. The slabs are particularly massive around the possible entrance at the W end, measuring at most 1.2m by 1.45m by 0.25m. The lack of comparative sites makes this building very difficult to categorise. Long, rectangular, stone-built structures of this type are a feature of Scottish historic settlement from the mid-1st millennium AD, and dating based on surface inspection is necessarily imprecise. The



Figure 31: Carleton Fell millstone quarry.

location of the building on the edge of a possibly diverted watercourse, raises the possibility that it could be the remains of a mill.

### Carleton Fell Millstone Quarry

In an upland coastal pasture is a partially carved millstone, known as the Machermore's Millstone in situ in a rocky outcrop, facing roughly NW (Figure 31). The millstone is about 1m in diameter, and was being cut out of the rock in one piece, making it a 'monolithic' millstone (as opposed to the French burr style, in which millstones were made up of composite parts, (Tucker 1984)). Donnachie (1971: 225-6) refers to this 'old millstone quarry' as disused before the mid-19th century. The late 17th and early 18th centuries saw Galloway experience "expansion in arable production, [which was] essentially a response to population growth in and beyond the region and the exploitation of external markets to the south" (Donnachie 1971:34). Donnachie states that the number of mills in Galloway doubled to reach about 140 between 1750 and 1850, so it seems incongruous that the millstone quarry of the millstone in question was abandoned before this time, particularly as "Galloway became an important grain-exporting district, with its main markets in Cumberland, Lancashire, Ireland and the West of Scotland". One of the oldest mills in Galloway is located in the Machars; Milldriggan Mill at Kirkinner is marked on Timothy Pont's Gallovidia map of the 1680s. The mill was

reconstructed in the early 19th century and was in use until the 1960s.

The normal size of millstones in the 18th and 19th centuries was from c 1.1 to 1.4 m in diameter, by c 0-3 m thick when new. This suggests that the Machermore's Millstone was small by comparison. Fisher (1976) refers to the making of millstones here and to a complaint made in 1584 that millstones were being cut "too small for the city mills; the size was thereupon fixed at 5½ ft diameter" suggesting that this millstone was perhaps for a local, or at least rural, mill. Millstones were used for grinding many other materials in addition to grain, e.g. minerals and bone for meal. Monolithic stones were often used as edge-runners in these applications, an edge-runners being an upright millstone running around a larger, horizontal millstone, with the effect of pulverising the milled substance.

## Other structures

### Glasserton Dovecot

A fine example of an 18th century dovecot was recorded at Glasserton (Figure 32). The building is square in plan with a small doorway in the W side at about 0.75m above the current ground level. The interior has suffered a significant amount of damage, but many intact nest holes remain. Originally there may have been between 400 and 500, constructed of slate shelves set into the brick-built walls. Cooke states that most dovecots were designed to hold between 200 and 500 pairs, which suggests that the dovecot at Glasserton was quite large by comparative standards. The birds entered and exited the building through a series of flight entrances on the SE and NE sides of the building, and a projecting ledge known as a string course, encircling the structure, provided the birds with somewhere to "parade and preen". Pigeons were bred predominantly for their meat in the days before intensive farming was introduced: until then pigeons were the only reliable fresh meat source during the winter and early spring months, and thousands upon thousands were reared for and by the aristocracy in these grand dovecotes scattered

about the land. Until the introduction of the root crops there simply was not enough feed to carry livestock through the winter months and nearly all had to be slaughtered and salted for preservation. The young (squabs) were collected "at about four weeks, before they started to fly as flight toughened the meat" (Cooke 1920) by a person climbing a ladder within the dovecot and removing the birds from their nests. Cooke also suggests that older birds were caught by placing nets over the flightholes, trapping them as they left the dovecot.

A large dovecot such as that at Glasserton was certainly not a luxury every household could afford, nor indeed was permitted. A statute dating to the early 17th century "limited the right of building and maintaining a dovecot to those persons who held "lands or teinds of a yearly rental amounting to ten chalders of victual"; the chalders being equivalent to sixteen "bolls" of one and a quarter hundred weight each (Cooke 1920). Moreover, the location of such dovecots was controlled to try to prevent one landowner's birds destroying another landowner's crops.



Figure 32: Glasserton Dovecot.

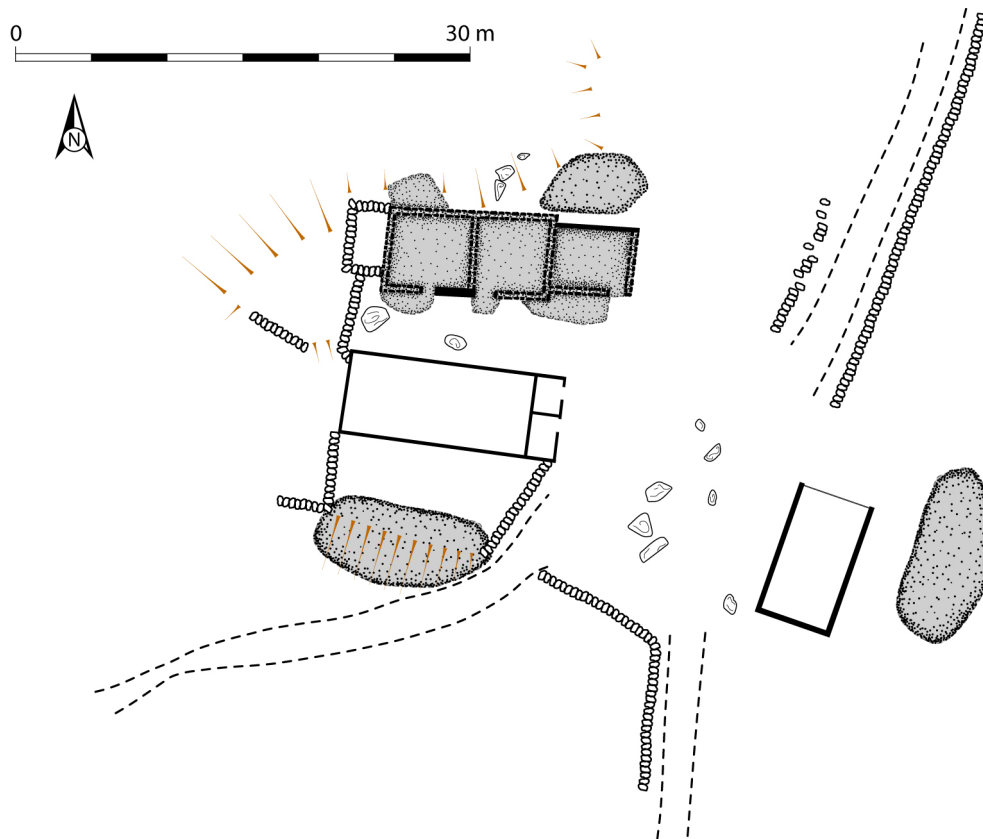


Figure 33: Plan of Hillvien, Torhousemuir.

### Torhousemuir Crofts

There are now only three buildings that still have upstanding remains belonging to the range of crofting settlements of Torhousemuir located within the former Torhousemuir Estate.

The area which the Torhousemuir crofts stand originates from an estate held by Hugh de Turfhouse in the mid 13th century (Whiteford 2001). It fell into the hands of the MacDowell family in the 15th century whereupon it was divided up with the names of the divided lands taken from the spouses or tenants of the heiress Affrica MacDowell; in the case of the Torhousemuir lands, from the Wigtown family of Mure (ibid). By the 18th century, Torhousemuir was owned by the Gordon family, and by the 1830s, it is recorded that there were two major farms and 38 smallholdings. 100 years later, the number of smallholdings had been reduced to 12 (ibid). It was Major McHaffie, who brought the Estate in 1827, that instigated the division of the land into crofting settlements (Shankland 2003). A drainage system was first built, as the land was poorly drained before that, and the farming was mostly arable due to the 1815 Corn

Laws prohibiting the import of cheap grain. The Laws, however, were repealed in 1847 and to diverse, many of the crofters turned to dairy production as well, adapting some of their buildings and creating new sheds and ancillary buildings. It appears, in the records, that McHaffie was a particularly good landlord and paid for some of the modernization of the crofts (ibid). The 1850 Ordnance Survey map shows the extent of the crofts at Torhousemuir, and the crofting layout is shown (Figure 38). Whiteford's excellent record of the crofting life at Torhousemuir also identifies the names of the farms, the three of Hillvien. Windy Gap and Mossend being the only three that survive today.

But by the early 20th century, improvements in farming techniques encouraged more large-scale farming and the crofters were forced to eventually abandon their way of life by the 1960s.

There is no vehicular access to the crofts today, although the trackway leading to the crofts still exists, peppered with the remains of former crofts, some boundary walls and foundations still visible. A small measured survey of one of the

houses and its surrounding walls and remains was undertaken, as well as a brief written record of all three remaining cottages.

### **Hillview**

The first and southernmost of the surviving crofts consists of a linear single-storey cottage to the west of the main lane with small sheds adjacent to the north (Figure 33; Figure 34). A larger, much later modern shed is located to the east of the lane. The house is largely built of stone rubble with a clear brick extension to the east end, with two large rectangular entrances. On the north elevation is another small door, the main entrance into the living quarters, with a top-opening timber-framed casement window adjacent. Another inserted window is located to the west of this, bricks used to fill in the gaps once it was knocked through. The end western elevation was a plain gable with a brick chimney and a small high-set window or loading door with timber planking (Figure 35). The small ancillary buildings next to these are little more than ruins and consist of three separate buildings in stone rubble and brick additions with doors accessed opposite the house.

No access was possible to the interior as the building was nailed shut and the roof dangerous. However, looking through the windows confirmed that small fireplaces still remain in the main living spaces.

### **Windy Gap**

Windy Gap is the most ruinous of the three cottages and consists of a linear stone rubble building with the western gable about 80% intact, as is the north wall of the living area. The south wall, however, has collapsed. There is an attached byre at the east end of the house which has also collapsed, only its eastern gable partially standing (Figure 36). It is constructed of local stone rubble with granite lintels and at the western end are three large windows and one small window with timber frame on the north elevation. The main entrance is to the south elevation, where there are still remains

of the timber door frame. To the east of this are the remains of two walls denoting former outbuildings. Internally there is evidence that there was at least two – possibly three – fireplaces.

The landscape around the building is one of collapsed rubble and there does appear to be a dyke partially surrounding the building and evidence of a hedged garden area to the west.

### **Mossend**

Mossend is the northernmost surviving croft and consisted of a linear east/west stone rubble building with a brick attachment to the east side. It is now a roofless ruin, and the remains of any outbuildings have been ploughed away and heaps of stone rubble are seen further away from the site. The main living area is to the east side with a door in the south elevation with adjacent splayed windows. Another small window (converted from a doorway) and a larger inserted window is located to the north elevation (Figure 37).

To the interior, on the east wall, is the remains of a small hearth (Figure 39) and a fireplace on the west wall (Figure 40 and 41). To the west of this is another small living area with an entrance to the south wall and an original door in the north wall later converted to a window, as mentioned above. A pump is located along the east wall. The far west side of the house contains a former byre, still with the concrete drain in the centre and troughs against the north wall. The brick extension to the east side is a small room with a pitched slate roof and a small fireplace in the west wall.

Joe Whiteford, who lived and worked at Mossend in the 1930s and '40s gives a thorough portrayal of life on the croft and the layout of the buildings in his account 'Torhousemuir: Memories of a Wigtownshire Crofter 1935 – 1945' published in 2003. Rather than add to this detailed account, here we can simply identify the layout of the building, a modest living accommodation for a large family. Whiteford describes that the house was originally whitewashed with a main room and two bedrooms, one of which was a brick addition



*Figure 34: Cottage, Hillview*



*Figure 35: South elevation, Hillview*



*Figure 36: Windy Gap, general view*

– the addition we see to the east. The main door led into a tiled lobby area with timber paneling with a small scullery between the main living space and the main bedroom. The kitchen and lobby also would have once had white clay tiles. The open fire to the living room, which we can see is located to the west of the main entrance, was plastered (straight onto the stonework). Now all the outbuildings have been pulled down, but they would have included a dairy, churnery, stables, cart shed, henhouse, pigsty and stackyard.



Figure 37: Modified window, Mossend



Figure 38: Torhouse depicted on the 1850 Ordnance Survey map.

*Figure 39: East wall, interior, Mossend*



*Figure 40: West wall, interior, Mossend*



*Figure 41: Fireplace in the west wall, Mossend*



# A Survey of Three Machars Churches

As part of the historic buildings component of the MAP survey, three churches were surveyed.

Cruggleton Church originated in the 12th century, although was largely rebuilt in the late 19th century. The ruined Kirkmaiden Old Church also originated in the 12th century and now stands as a ruin. The Chancel of the church, however, was re-roofed in the late 19th century and a new archway on the south wall added. Finally, Old Sorbie Church, also a ruin, was constructed in the 18th century, abandoned by the mid 19th century.

## Cruggleton Church

Cruggleton Church is located in the parish of Sorbie and is accessed to the east side of the B7063 between Sorbie village and Whithorn, centred on NGR: NX 47798 42811. The Church was most likely built in the 12th century for Fergus, Lord of Galloway and was built as a two-cell rectangular church with a Nave to the west and slightly smaller Chancel to the east, a fine chancel arch separating the two. However, the Church we see today is a rebuild of the ruined original completed in the 1890s at the behest of the Third Marquis of Bute by William B Galloway. Galloway, born in 1831, practiced as an architect in Wigtown, but also had a keen interest in antiquary, providing many drawings for MacGibbon and Ross's *Castellated and Domestic Architecture for Scotland and Ecclesiastical Series*.

There are areas clearly visible in the build today of the original church's construction, and Galloway separated out these two phases by placing horizontal red tiles in the walling. However, the Chancel Arch to the interior is supposed to be original, with moulded shafts and cushioned capitals, although there is evidence that at least one of them may have been a reproduction, as can be

seen by the relative neatness of the carving.

It is outside the scope of this reporting to identify a very detailed history of the original church, but we do know that it was likely built in the latter half of the 12th century and was granted to Whithorn Priory in 1424 (RCAHMS 1912; Radford 1951). It appears on General William Roy's Military Map of Scotland (ca. 1747 – 55) in its present layout (although the scale is small), curiously with two smaller buildings depicted behind it to the east (Figure 42). The 1850 Ordnance Survey map shows the church in more detail (clearly before the rebuilding) and the burial enclosure to the south of the Chancel that we can see today is also present (Figure 43). The Church had long been in ruins by this time.

The work undertaken was threefold:

- Detailed written description of the church and church grounds and all the features within, including context recording of each feature.
- Hand-drawn scaled plan of the kirk.
- 3D laser scan of the exterior and interior of the church.



Figure 42: Extract from Roy's map (1745-55), Copyright Trustees of the National Library of Scotland





Figure 43: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map, 1850; Copyright Trustees of the National Library of Scotland

The church today stands, as it has always done, in an isolated field with a small burial enclosure to the south side of the Chancel (Figure 46). The whole is bound by a low dressed stone rubble boundary wall with crenellated cope and an entrance to the west side with a style (Figure 47). The entrance has red sandstone gate piers and in front of the church is a series of four large stone markers (Figure 48).

The written record was greatly enhanced by a series of sketches of the exterior elevations and also the context recording of the building, which gave each 'feature' within the building (window, door, phase line, grave marker, etc) a unique reference number and was described in detail using AOC pro forma recording sheets (Table 2). The numbers have been cross-referenced with the on-site record which is best seen in conjunction with the floor plan which identifies the position of each feature (Figure 44).

The main survey undertaken at Cruggleton was a 3D laser scan survey of the exterior of the church to create a 3D flythrough of the building of the exterior as well as some excellent oblique and overhead angles of the building (Figure 45).

The south elevation features the main entrances into both the nave and chancel. The nave to the west is three bays, constructed of stone rubble with pronounced sandstone quoins with a greywacke foundation stone still visible (see Figure 46). To the westernmost bay is the main entrance to the nave, a large round-headed door with two orders of flat voussoirs flanked by stone columns with moulded capitals, behind which is a stone surround (Figure 54). The two remaining bays have small round-headed windows with stone surrounds and metal grills. There are no tiles on this side of the elevation to identify the earlier build, although an area of slightly different stone rubble construction to the west of the doorway may indicate the remains of the original building. To the east side is the smaller more discrete entrance to the chancel, with another small round-headed window adjacent. The small doorway is a much thinner version of the nave door, with sandstone surround and voussoirs (Figure 51 and 56).

The north elevation to the nave (west) side has another doorway, identical to that on the south elevation although the surround is much plainer,

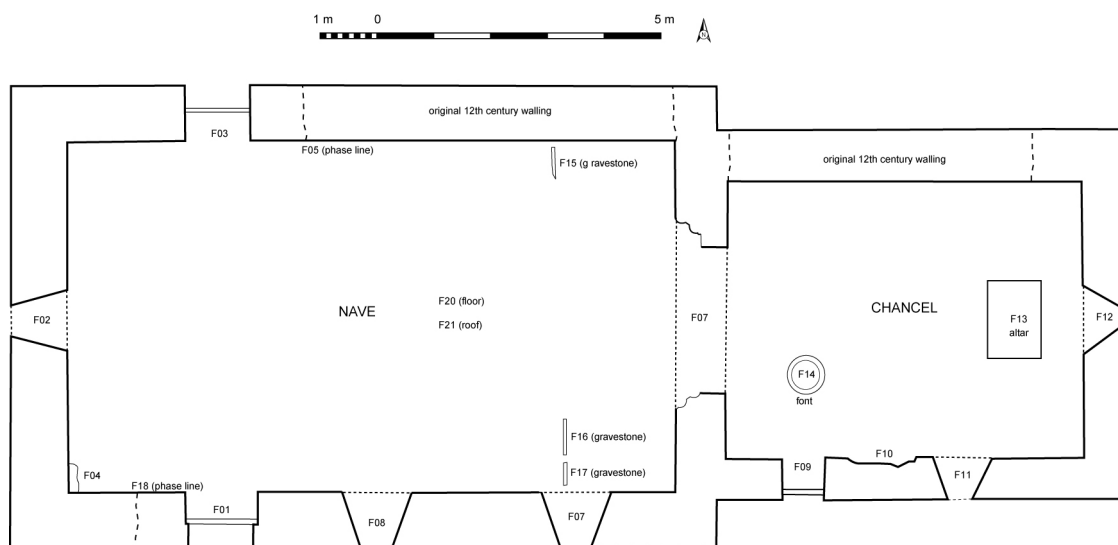


Figure 44: Floor plan of Cruggleton Church (1 to 75).

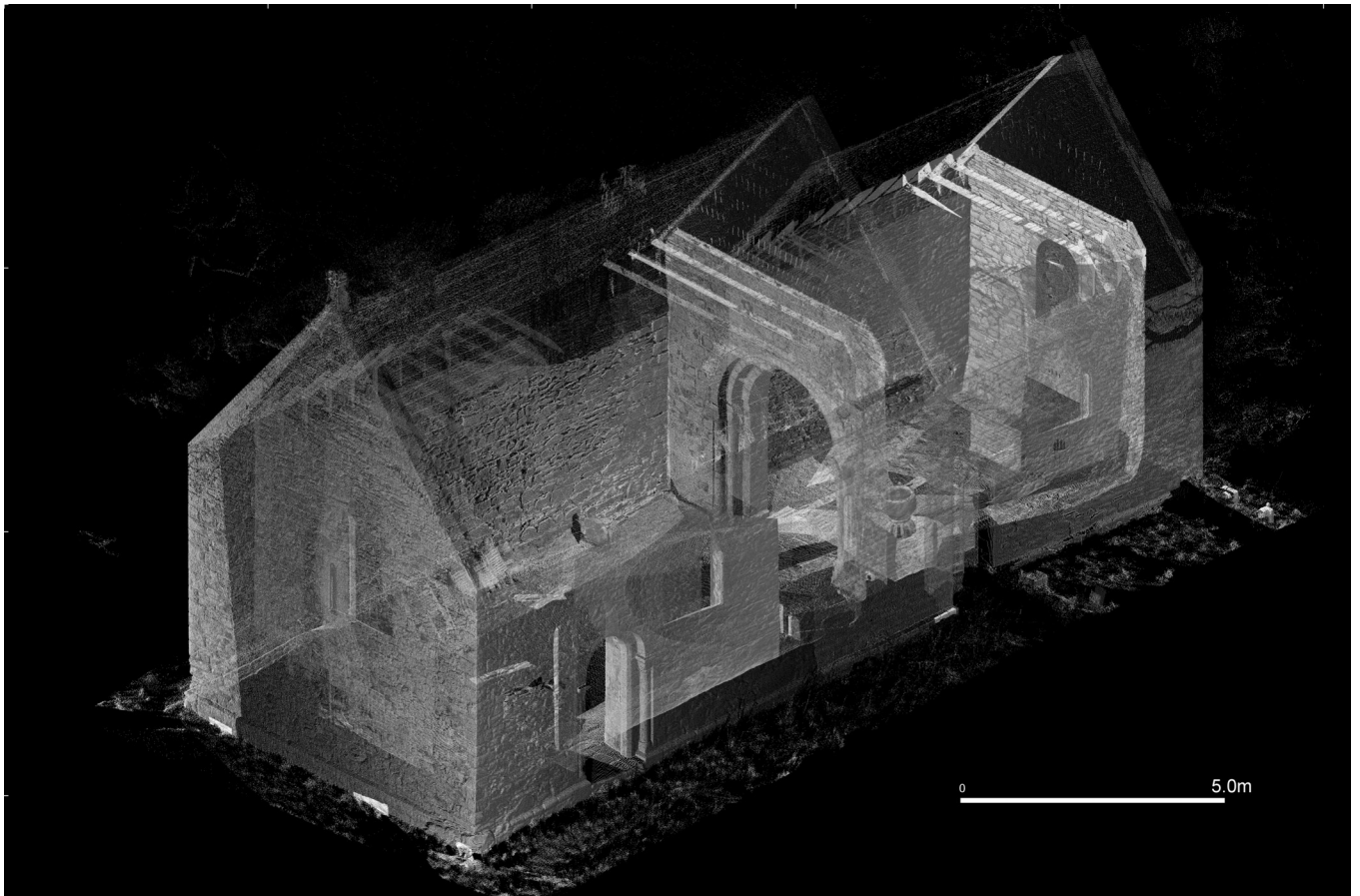


Figure 45: Laser scan images of Cruggleton Church; (above) isometric view from SW, (below), S elevation.

being simply chamfered (Figure 52 and 53). To the east side, the chancel is a plain stone rubble wall with no features and sandstone quoins.

The west elevation of the nave is a tall pitched gable with sandstone quoins, raised skews rising to a carved cross finial (Figure 55). The base of the elevation has a projecting footing with another different phase of construction to the bottom right (south), identifying once again parts of the original building. A single round-headed window is set high in the wall.

The east elevation to the chancel is very similar, with raised skews and another round-headed window set at the same height (Figure 57). To the base of the elevation shows Galloway's red tiles depicting the original build of the church below.

The interior of the church is accessed today through door F01 in the south wall of the nave (see Figure 44 – floor plan), which measures 6.2m in width, 10.75m in length with a stone-flagged floor and plain stone rubble walls. In 12th century churches, apart from the Chancel Arch, the most likely area of architectural decoration would have been to the main doors, and the 1890s reconstruction of the Church emulated this. The door itself is probably from the 1890s, comprising vertical planks with metal studs with decorative metalwork (Figure 59 to 61). Another door (F03) is located opposite this on the north wall and is now boarded-up and barred to the interior, with graffiti on the boards to the inside of the door (Figures 62 and 63). The south-west corner of the nave also shows evidence of the original build with a clear phase line to the far west side of the south wall (F18). A large boulder (F04), possibly a foundation stone for the original church, is also located to the south-west corner, 0.56m above the floor level. The windows described to the exterior are widely splayed inside, with additional light coming in from the wide downward sloping sills (Figures 64 and 65). In the north wall, even more of the original build of the church is clearly visible with the older build apparently comprising larger blocks of rubble in the stonework. Three gravestones (F15, F16 & F17) are located to the east side of the nave dating to the late 18th century (Figures 66 and 67).

One of the stones, F16, is dedicated to Helen McCreadie, and has a very elaborate rear face, with three stags and a flower border (Figure 68). The Chancel Arch is wider to the nave (west) side as is to be expected with three orders of columns with cushioned capitals and stepped footings (Figures 69, 71 and 72). On the upper northern soffit of the arch is some neatly inscribed graffiti reading 'Mary Rennie'.

The chancel measures 6.35m in length (east/west) by 4.9m in width (north/south) and is a plain rectangular room with a rectangular altar with slate top (F13), which looks to be a later addition. A font (F14) is located to the south-west side of the room (Figure 70). The main entrance into the chancel is a slim doorway to the west side of the south wall (F09) a much slimmer and plainer version of the Nave door, F01 (Figure 72). Adjacent to this is a recessed area, F10, its exact purpose unclear, although may represent the position of an original window, which has now been altered. There is another widely splayed round-headed window (F11) adjacent to it to the east of this feature (Figure 74). Another window (F12) features in the east wall. Once again, the original wall of the church appears to the north wall, clearly visible with a diagonal/rugged re-build line (Figure 75).

The roof of the Church dates to the 1890s reconstruction and is a plain roof of treated pine beams supporting floorboards to a small attic space (Figure 73).



Figure 46: Cruggleton Church, general view from the SE.



Figure 47: Cruggleton Church, general view from the SE.



Figure 48: general view of burial enclosure to the east of the Chancel on the south side, from the south-east .



Figure 49: detail of the capital to the east side of the to the Nave (F01) to the west side of the south elevation



Figure 50: Detail of the door to the Nave (F01) to the west side of the south elevation SE.



Figure 51: general view to the east side of the south elevation



Figure 52: general view from the north-west



Figure 53: general view from the north-east .



Figure 55: general view of the west gable from the south-west



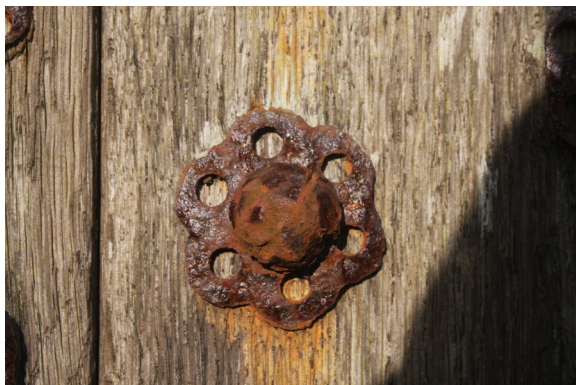
Figure 56: detail of the door to the Chancel (F09) to the east side of the south elevation



*Figure 57: general view of the east gable from the south-east*



*Figure 58: general view of the west gable from the south-west*



*Figure 61: stud detail from door F01*



*Figure 59: hinge detail from door F01*



*Figure 60: detail of the door F01 in the south wall of the Nave, from the north-east*



Figure 62: detail of door F03 in the north elevation of the Nave, from the south

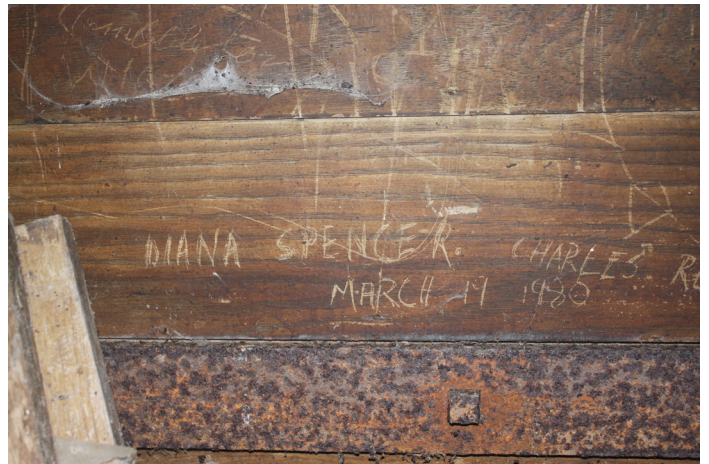


Figure 63: detail of graffiti on door F03



Figure 64: general view of the Nave from the east



Figure 65: general view of the nave from the north-west



*Figure 66: detail of gravestone F15 in the east side of the Nave*



*Figure 67: detail of gravestone F17 in the east side of the Nave*



*Figure 68: detail of gravestone F16, showing decorative carvings, from the west*





*Figure 69: detail of the columns of the Chancel Arch on the south side, from the north-west*



*Figure 71: detail of the capital to the columns of the Chancel Arch on the south side, from the north-west*



*Figure 70: detail of the font (F14) from the SE*



*Figure 72: detail of door F09 in the south wall of the Chancel, from the north-west*



*Figure 73: general view of the roof, from the west*



*Figure 74: detail of recessed/ blocked feature F10 in the south wall of the Chancel*



*Figure 75: general view of the north wall, showing the phase line between the original and rebuilt wall, from the south*

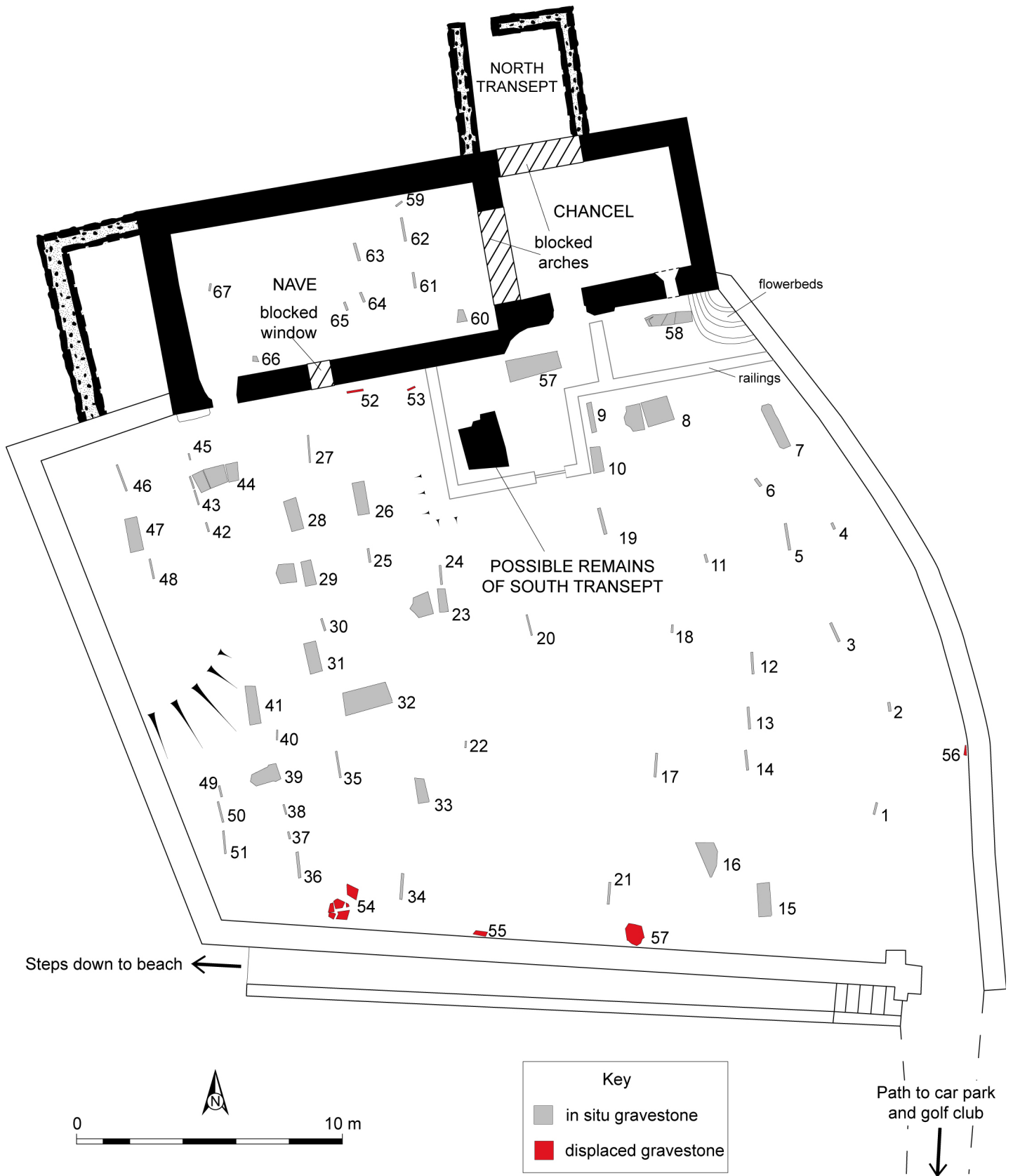


Figure 76: Plan of Kirkmaiden Old Church and graveyard (1:200)

## **Kirkmaiden Old Church and Graveyard**

The main objective of the work undertaken at Kirkmaiden Old Church and Graveyard was to create a detailed and thorough record of the graveyard, as well as examine what remained of the Old Church with a view to establishing its basic history and development through time.

Kirkmaiden Old Church is situated on the west coast of Galloway immediately to the south of the small town of Monreith in the parish of Glasserton. It is accessed from the St Medan Golf Club car park and is centred on NGR: NX 36577 39968.

### **Historical Background and the Development of the Church**

The origins of the Kirk are thought to go back to the 12th century, where it started life as a two-cell Norman Kirk dedicated to St Medina (Watson 1926). MacGibbon & Ross (1896, 383) also put the origins of the Kirk to the 12th century, although this theory appears to be based on the plan form of the Kirk being of typical Norman dimensions, layout and size. The architectural features are too scant (according to the RCAHMS) to be dated accurately. The first cartographic depiction of the kirk is on Bleau's map of 1654 where it is annotated as 'Kirck maiden o' The Sea' (Figure 77).

General William Roy's Military Map of Scotland (ca. 1747 – 55) also depicts the kirk (Figure 78) as does John Ainslie's 1821 map (Figure 79) although neither show the layout of the church in detail, although Roy's map does show an enclosure around it.

The 1850 Ordnance Survey map shows the church in a little more detail, identifying it to be much as it is today, with a nave to the west and a slightly smaller chancel to the east (Figure 80). The Graveyard is annotated here, as is the 'Thurot's Grave'. Thurot was a French Admiral or Commodore. The French fleet he commanded

became involved in a battle between Luce Bay and the Isle of Man in 1760 and Francois Thurot's body was washed up on the beach, sewn up in a fine carpet (the story goes that he was hit in the chest with a cannonball). Under the orders of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Thurot had a funeral at Kirkmaiden and he is thought to be buried somewhere within the churchyard. No sign today could be seen of such a grave (although some stones are unreadable or have no inscription) although in the early 1800s, accounts state that the grave was '...scarcely distinguishable from the mounds around it...' (Cuninghame *ud*). There is a plaque on the wall of the kirk which was erected by the Order of Coldin in 1960 - Thurot introduced the Order into Sweden, which is the only country still to have members of the Order. Something of Thurot's life can be found in a small pamphlet entitled *Genuine and Curious Memoirs of the Famous Captain Thurot* (Durand 1760) and it appears he was relatively young to be in command of a French vessel of war (supposedly in his late 20s when he died) and the battle between him and Captain Elliot in 1760 is well documented. It seems he was much feared by the English and his defeat was cause for much celebration. More can be found of the battle and Thurot's life in the *Manx Society Volume 21, Mona Miscellany* (Harrison 1873) and other contemporary articles (Durand 1760; Kimber *et al* 1760).

It is not the intention to go through the history of the Maxwell family, although their interest and involvement with the church is strong, being one of the main burial vaults/memorials for the family. In the late 19th century, the Maxwell family converted the original chancel into a memorial aisle, rebuilding the roof, rendering the walls and placing a number of memorial plaques on the walls.

### **The Kirk and Graveyard – an architectural description**

The Kirk stands near the coast on a sloping area of land which is very overgrown, especially to the rear of the church and where the ground sharply rises



Figure 77: Extract from Bleau's map, 1654



Figure 78: Extract from Roy's map, ca. 1747 - 55



Figure 79: Extract from Ainslie's map, 1821



Figure 80: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1850

above it to the north and east. The graveyard, however, has been reasonably well maintained, although a number of the gravestones are very weathered and illegible, with some cracked and fallen (Figures 81 and 82).

The church itself is a two cell kirk with a roofless nave to the west and a smaller (restored) chancel to the east, renovated in 1878, as explained above, for the Maxwell family. The south elevation is a plain façade to the nave with an inserted door to the west side (it does not appear on an 1870s photograph of the kirk). The door has relatively neatly executed chamfered grey sandstone surround stones and voussoirs. The small memorial to Thurot features to the west side, high up on the end of the wall. Another curious feature is a small stone bench set low in the wall to the west of the doorway, its exact function unknown. The doorway is situated relatively low to the ground and, to the immediate east, the ground slopes upwards as if landscaped. The east side of the south elevation consists of the restored chancel, its main feature being the large Romanesque style arch (albeit completed in the late 19th century) to the west side. The archway is disproportionately grand for the size and scale of the kirk, cut with red sandstone with three orders, including a plain inner order, then an order of Romanesque chevron design (no doubt to emulate the supposed Norman origins of the kirk, although an original Romanesque arch does not exist) then a final outer order with 17 voussoirs with fine carvings which alternate between a Celtic design and the Maxwell coat of arms (Figures 84 and 85). The archway is then finished with a dogtooth design on the outer order. The arch rests upon two columns to each side with cushion capitals, the inner order with intricately carved foliage (Figure 86). Between the arch and the capitals is a plain band course with raised lettering. The rest of the wall consists of projecting chamfered band course above the arch.

Moving to the rear of the church to the north elevation, the most obvious feature is what remains of a north transept, which has clearly been robbed out, only the footings of which now remain (Figures 87 and 88). The ground slopes sharply

down from the east side of the chancel on this side to the footings of the transept, and to the east side, a large stone-blocked archway is clearly visible, identical in style to the Chancel Arch (described below). The west end of the north elevation belongs to the nave and has no discernible features, although the wall is heavily overgrown with ivy, as is the west elevation, which is not readily accessible.

The interior of the kirk consists of a large roofless nave and a (restored) covered chancel with a pitched timber-framed and slate roof to the east. The nave, entered through the inserted doorway to the west of the south wall, has a number of features only visible from the interior (Figures 89 and 90). The aforementioned doorway has a plain surround to the interior with an outer door jamb; the rest of the south interior wall has a blocked window, a memorial plaque and another possible blocked feature. The window is stone-blocked and is not visible to the exterior because of ivy coverage, although looks to have originally (as one would expect) been splayed and round-headed (Figure 91). The memorial plaque to the centre of the wall is very weathered and barely legible (Figure 94). The fine sandstone face has come

away, exposing the bottom iron bolt with which it has been fixed to the wall. To the east end of the south wall is another blocked opening, this time rectangular, implying it may possibly be a former recess which held a memorial plaque. The east wall is a gable and would have once been open to the chancel, now blocked up, likely at the time of the renovations completed by the Maxwell family in the 19th century (Figure 96). It contains a wide Chancel Arch with plain rubble voussoirs (identical to that seen on the north wall to the rear of the kirk mentioned above). Much of the upper level of the gable is obscured by ivy and there is a small memorial plaque set within the stone-blocking. The west and north elevations are mostly covered in ivy and therefore no features are evident (Figure 92). There are grave markers and at least one inscribed gravestone in the nave, and these will be discussed below together with the rest of the graveyard recording results.

The interior of the chancel, or memorial aisle as it is now, forms a partial rebuild and re-roofing of the original ruined building and has now been completely rendered over with a number of memorial plaques on the wall (Figure 93). There is also a small round-headed splayed window to the



*Figure 81: Kirkmaiden Old Church and Graveyard, general view from the SSE*

east of the south wall. The timber roof consists of four chamfered cross-beams resting over moulded timber supports with rafters and batons supporting sarking boards below the slate roof, thankfully keeping this area of the kirk at least wind and watertight for the moment (Figure 95). The memorial plaques all belong to the Maxwell family with three plaques on the north wall (Figures 97 and 98). The westernmost plaque reads: 'IN MEMORY OF AYMER EDWARD MAXWELL YOUNGER OF MONREITH CAPTAIN GRENADIER GUARDS AND LIETENANT COLONEL ROYAL NAVY DIVISION KILLED IN ACTION AT ANTWERP 8TH OCTOBER 1914 AGED 36 YEARS'. Inscription is in raised relief and bears the phrase 'REVERSO ESPERANCE' beneath the two shields of the Maxwell family. The centre plaque is inscribed within a moulded stone scroll with egg-and-dart detail with the family shield to the west and reads: 'DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM ELDEST SON OF ... HERBERT MAXWELL BARONET OF MONREITH AND ... HIS WIFE ... 1897'. The easternmost plaque is marble and dedicated to the remains of Edward Maxwell, which are said to have been interred in the Chancel itself (this may relate to the tomb found outside of the Chancel). It is said that he acquired the barony of Monreith in 1481 and then goes on to provide a memorial to the restoration, carried out by Herbert Eustace Maxwell and by his wife Dame Mary Fletcher-Campbell of the House of Salton in 1878.

Another memorial plaque features to the south wall (Figure 98), reading 'IN MEMORY OF GENERAL EDWARD HERBERT MAXWELL SONE OF SIR WILLIAM 5TH BARONET OF MONREITH, WHO WAS BORN 30TH JULY 1832 DIED 24TH FEBRUARY 1885 AND WAS BURIED AT WARRISTON. HE SERVED FOR 33 YEARS IN THE 88TH CONNAUGHT RANGERS DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF IN THE CRIMEAN AND INDIAN MUTINY CAMPAIGNS AND COMMANDED THE REGIMENT FOR 9 YEARS. HIS WIFE AGNES, DAUGHTER OF REAR ADMIRAL JAMES HAY OF BELTON PLACES THIS MEMORIAL IN THE SURE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION.'

Immediately to the south of the chancel/memorial aisle, a small area has been fenced off and there are two grave slabs present which may have originally been located within the building (Figures 99 and 100). To the west side is a simple slab with a cross in a circle motif forming the hilt of a sword; to east is a grave tomb with Latin inscriptions which may be the original Maxwell tomb mentioned in the memorial plaque inside.

Also of note is a small area of ivy-covered walling, the exact purpose or origin unknown. It may form part of an original south transept, as it is located further to the west of the Chancel, seemingly opposite the nave.

The graveyard itself then covers an area 150m<sup>2</sup> to the south of the Kirk and is on a noticeable slope from east down to west. As will be discussed in more detail below, the stones are mostly 19th century in date, although there are some from the 17th century and a few dating to the very early 20th century. Whilst the some of the 19th century burials have tried to follow a system of rows, the layout is quite uneven, with earlier stones, many of which are unscribed grave markers, seemingly at odd angles. There are also at least six stones that have been removed from their original position and now lie against the boundary walls of the graveyard or against the nave wall.

### **Kirkmaiden Graveyard: A Survey**

The Graveyard Survey included three main elements:

- Measured survey of the graveyard
- Graveyard recording sheet
- A gravestone recording sheet for each gravestone

Each gravestone or slab was given a unique identifying number (KM01, KM02, etc) which can be cross-referenced with the plan of the graveyard

(see Figure 76). Each stone was then allocated a separate recording sheet based on those established by the Council for Scottish Archaeology. These forms cover several aspects to the recording of the gravestone, including:

- Situation
- Material & Design
- Memorial Inscription

Not all gravestones had inscriptions and of those that did, many were illegible because of weathering. A comprehensive study of the condition was not undertaken due to time constraints, although many of the gravestones have a significant lean, or are covered in moss or lichen growth, hence such a study may be helpful in the future to ensure that the gravestones continue to survive.

Table 3 gives a précis the results of the recording exercise. In total there were 67 gravestones, upright stones or slabs, six of which were not in situ, of which 32 did not look as if they ever had an inscription (ie, unmarked grave markers) or were completely illegible. The rest of the gravestones were fully or partially readable.

From the information gleaned from the survey, we can ascertain some interesting facts as to the local community, including:

- Surnames/families in the local community
- Dates of death/when the graveyard was used
- Age of death
- Style and decoration of headstones

### **Surnames/families in the local community**

There is a wide range of surnames on the stones at Kirkmaiden associated with the families of the local community, mostly throughout the 19th century. Of the gravestones/slabs where names were legible, these included:

*McGill*  
*Gibson (as noted as the wife of McGill)*  
*Gifford (noted as grand-daughter of McGill and also Schoolmaster)*  
*McCurrin*  
*Neilson*  
*Dalziel*  
*Heron*  
*McCredie (associated at one time with the Heron family)*  
*Brown*  
*Turner*  
*Broadfoot*  
*Caillie (this family I swell represented throughout the 19th century)*  
*McGowan*  
*Gilch*  
*Stewart (also associated with the Kelly family)*  
*Ker*  
*Hopkins (only one grave of this name, date of death 1910)*  
*Bernie (associated with Heron family)*  
*McDowell*  
*Crawford (associated with the MacDowell family)*  
*Bryan (associated with the Burnie family)*  
*Wilson*  
*?Bruther*  
*Webster*  
*Morrison (associated with the Webster family)*  
*Lauderdale (associated with the Webster family)*  
*Kelly*  
*McKie*  
*Murray (associated with the McKie family)*  
*Burns*  
*Gilkison*  
*Mickin (associated with the Gilkison family)*  
*Conning (represented on a single stone, not in situ)*  
*Fleming*  
*Dowal (on a stone in the Nave, associated with the McCulloch family)*  
*McCulloch (on a stone in the Nave)*



## Dates of death/when the graveyard was used

It is clear that the majority of gravestones were erected in the 19th century and it was most recently used in the early 20th century. It is also clear that some of the stones have been erected in retrospect, in memory of earlier relatives, perhaps not interred there. However, by looking at the dates of death on the gravestones we can ascertain a clearer idea of the time at which the use of the graveyard was at its height (Table 4).

Of the 77 discernible 'year of death' inscriptions that are visible, it is clear that the majority of burials here at Kirkmaiden were interred in the 19th century, with the significant period between the 1810s and the 1890s.

## Age of death

In some ways, a study of the age of death cannot be a complete study as not all the data was discernible. However, from the 73 occasions where date of death is marked, we can make the following analysis (Table 5).

It is interesting to note that in the majority of cases, the interred were either very young (17, or 23.29% being under 20 years old) or very old (15 or 20.55% being over 81 at the time of death).

## Style of and decoration of headstones

The first few upright stones to the north-east of the graveyard (KM1, 2, 4 & 5) are mostly unmarked grave markers. Whether they would have originally had some kind of inscription or symbol marked on them is unsure, but nothing is legible today (Figures 101 and 102). However, to the north-west corner there is a flat slab featuring an hour glass and skull dating to 1721, one of the earliest stones in the graveyard (Figure 103). This is one of a few gravestones that are dated to the late 17th and 18th centuries that contain some interesting symbolism. The most interesting stone of this period (and indeed in the graveyard) is KM24, which features a number of symbols such as a winged skull above an egg-and-dart framed

winged hourglass above a coffin and skull and cross bones on the west face (Figures 104 and 105). Another interesting stone appears to the south-west of the graveyard as a slab, now broken into three pieces, below an apparently uninscribed grave marker to the west side (Figures 108-110). It dates from 1692 and includes the inscription 'HL. ?PM AMIM VM RM'. At the bottom of the slab, adjacent to the date, is an hourglass and hand motif. Another early stone, KM53, dates to 1738 and is now no longer in situ, leaning against the nave wall, a plain slab. Another early slab (KM56) – dating to 1719 – is also lying against the north boundary wall of the graveyard, possibly belonging to or erected by someone in the Findlay family (Figure 114).

Most of the headstones, being 19th century in date, have a fairly plain and modest design and decoration with a squared-off round-headed shape, such as grave KM20 (Figures 107 and 112). An appreciation of the moss and lichen growth that is present on many of the stones can also be seen on this photograph. However, there were also variations on this theme, some stones with plinths, such as KM10 to the west of the graveyard, which features a footing and curved pediment (Figure 113). One of the many recurring decorative elements to the 19th century stones is also a rose motif, often featured at the top of the stone surrounding the 'erected by' inscription. There is also one table tomb – KM32 – in the graveyard. It does not have any discernible inscription but probably dates to the 19th century given its condition and position (Figure 111).



Figure 82: Kirkmaiden, general view of graveyard from the NNE



Figure 83: detail of the inserted doorway in the south elevation of the Nave, from the south



Figure 85: Kirkmaiden, general view of Maxwell Arch from the south-west



Figure 84: detail of Celtic design on the Maxwell Arch



Figure 86: detail of capital of Maxwell Arch to the east side



*Figure 87: Kirkmaiden, general view from the north-west*



*Figure 88: detail of the north elevation of the Chancel showing the blocked arch, from the north*



*Figure 89: Kirkmaiden, general view of Maxwell Arch from the south-west*



*Figure 90: general view of the south wall (interior) from the north-west*

*Figure 91: detail of the stone-blocked window in the south wall (interior) of the Nave*





Figure 92: general view of the west wall (interior) from the east



Figure 93: general view of the north wall (interior) of the Chancel, from the south-west



Figure 94: detail of the memorial plaque in the south wall (interior) of the Nave



Figure 95: general view of the roof from the west

Figure 96: general view of the east gable (interior) showing the Chancel Arch, from the west





Figure 97: detail of memorial plaque on north wall (interior) of the Nave



Figure 98: detail of memorial plaque on north wall (interior) of the Nave



Figure 99: Grave KM58, grave slab to the front of the Chancel on the east side



Figure 100: Grave KM57, grave tomb to the front of the Chancel on the west side



Figure 101: Grave KM01, general view from the east



Figure 102: Grave KM04, general view from the west



Figure 103: Grave KM07, detail of inscription on the upper face of the grave slab



Figure 104: Grave KM24, general view from the west



Figure 105: Grave KM44, detail of skull and crossbones to the base of the stone from the west



Figure 106: Grave KM44, general view from the east



Figure 107: Grave KM20, general view from the east



Figure 108: Grave KM44, detail of top stone from the east



Figure 109: Grave KM44, detail of centre stone from the east



Figure 110: Grave KM44, detail of bottom stone from the east



Figure 111: Grave KM32, general view from the west



Figure 112: Grave KM20, general view from the west



Figure 113: Grave KM10, general view from the east



Figure 114: Grave KM56, general view from the east



## Sorbie Old Church

Sorbie Old Church was built in the 1750s, although there were also major repairs to the church in the 1760s and 1820s. In the 1870s, a new church was built for Sorbie parish and it fell out of use. It is now a roofless ruin set amongst a large and crowded graveyard and is located at NGR: NX 43881 46789.

Sorbie is an amalgamation of a number of parishes dating from the medieval period, which includes Sorbie, Kilmadrine and Cruggleton. By the 18th century it had become a prosperous farming area (McCreath, ud). The 18th century 'Old' Sorbie Kirk was an apparent replacement for an earlier church which stood on the same site.

The graveyard at Sorbie is extensive and has already been studied in detail by J E Birchman, information for which can be found at the Ewart Library in Dumfries and the results published by the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society (<http://www.dgfhs.org.uk/publications.asp>). Hence the time spent recording at Sorbie concentrated on the Church itself, with some basic elevation recording (to the west gable) accompanied by an examination of the fabric to discern the style of architecture, form and layout of the church and identify any evidence for phasing.

We know that there was a previous church on the site as it is shown in detail on General Roy's Military Map of Scotland (ca 1747 – 55) (Figure 117). Here we can see a simple rectangular building surrounded by an enclosure. The first map to depict the present church is Ainslie's 1782 map (Figure 118). It does not depict any layout, and even shows a tower to the east side, although this is likely to be a schematic church annotation; the Church did not have a tower, as far as the author can ascertain. It is the Ordnance Survey map of 1850 that shows the layout when the church was in use and a simple rectangular church with a north transept is shown, as is a porch to each end (Figure 119). A neat path is shown to the east side of the

Church which also leads to a burial vault belonging to the Earls of Galloway (McCreath, ud).

The work undertaken at Sorbie included a detailed floor plan of the Church, together with a measured survey of the interior and exterior west gable.

The floor plan was undertaken by hand at a scale of 1:50 and was a ground plan, noting all wall lines, windows, doors, phase lines and blocked openings and the position of memorial slabs. (Figure 112). The plan shows a simple rectangular layout, an open nave, a very typical design for an 18th century church, the north transept positioned in the centre of the north wall, also another typical feature of the day. This would have housed a 'laird's loft' or private family gallery for prominent members of the community, at first floor level. Indeed, as we will see later, this was even furnished with its own fireplace.

The church is a four by one bay double-height building and is constructed of greywacke stone rubble with granite dressings to the openings and quoins (Figure 115). The east elevation is the gable end and has two doorways at each floor level (Figure 120). The ground floor doorway has large granite surround stones and a large lintel forming the 'sill' stone of the upper opening, which has the remains of a carved stone surround visible to the south side. Holes can still be seen within the surround identifying that there were originally bars in place here. The gable itself has raised skewers with a moulded skew block still in place.

The south elevation consists of a simple four-bay wall with a large round-headed to each bay, all with granite dressings and voussoirs (Figure 121).

The west elevation, the west gable end of the nave, also has two openings to each floor as with the east, although the floor division between them has now fallen in (Figure 116). There are granite surround stones to the ground floor door, and a concrete lintel has been installed to the upper floor opening, possible to strengthen the gable to prevent collapse. As with the east gable, there are raised skewers, and the base to a small bellcote has



*Figure 115: Sorbie Old Church, general view from the south-east*

survived. Some of the old render has also survived near the top of the wall. To the south of the first floor entrance is also a stone-blocked doorway with a fine moulded surround, clearly forming some kind of access to the gallery areas.

The north elevation is divided to the east and west sections interrupted by the north transept (described below) (Figure 123). To the east side is a small ground floor window with granite surround with iron hooks to the east side indicating the presence of iron bars (Figure 124). To the west side is another small rectangular window, although this part of the wall is heavily covered with vegetation.

The north transept consists of a single bay with a north, east and west face. The most interesting elevation is the north wall (Figure 125). A ground floor doorway has a granite surround and lintel stone above which is a recessed panel with egg-and-dart moulding. Above this are the remains of a small chimney breast. The east and west facing sides of the transept have tall round-headed windows to each side, the grey stone surrounds contrasting sharply with the redder stone of the main build.

Internally, the church is now an open space, all evidence of internal galleries and plasterwork gone (Figure 126). The features described externally are present here – the round-headed windows on the south wall and the openings to the east and west walls (Figures 127 and 128). On the east and west sides are the remains of beam slots above ground floor level depicting the position of the first floor galleries (Figure 130).

The most recent use of the north transept has been as a memorial aisle with a number of memorial plaques placed on the walls (Figures 131 to 133). Another large gravestone – with a small canopy built over it attached to the wall above – can also be seen in the east wall of the main church. The north wall of the transept, the remains of a small fireplace can be seen to the east side of the laird's loft with a chimney over (Figure 129).

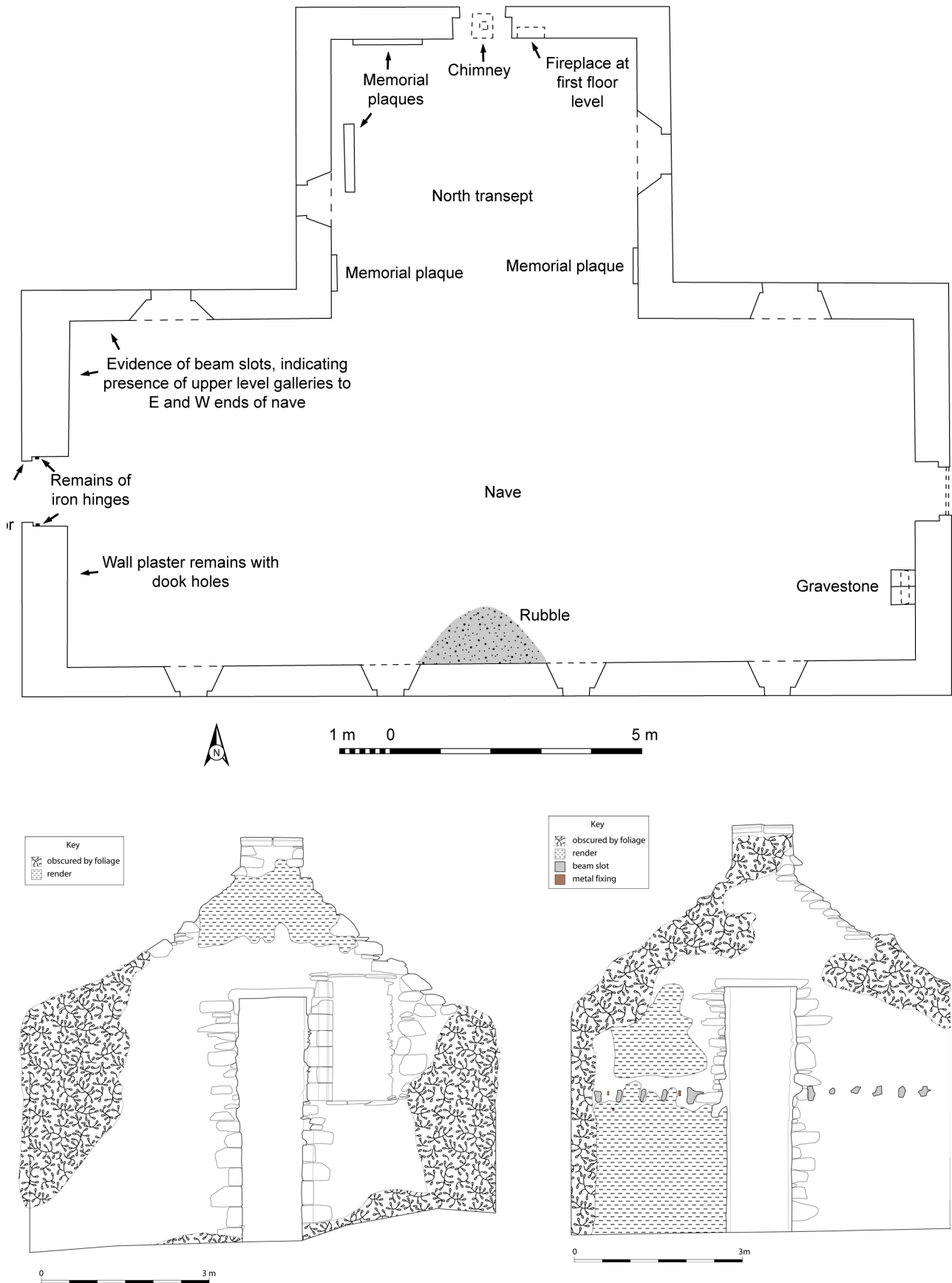


Figure 116: (Above) Plan of Sorbie Old Kirk; (below left) external W elevation; (below right) internal W elevation



Figure 117: Extract from General Roy's Military Map of Scotland, ca. 1747 – 55



Figure 118: Extract from Ainslie's map, 1782



Figure 119: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1850



*Figure 120: Sorbie: the east gable from the south-east*



*Figure 121: detail of round-headed window on the south elevation, from the south*



*Figure 122: general view of the west gable from the west*



*Figure 123: general view showing the north elevation, from*



Figure 124: detail of the window to the east of the north elevation, from the north



Figure 126: detail of round-headed window on the south wall (interior) from the north



Figure 125: general view of the north elevation of the north transept from the north



Figure 127: general view of the (interior) west gable form the east



Figure 128: detail of beam slots to the south side of the west gable (interior) from the east



Figure 129: remains of a small fireplace can be seen to the east side of the laird's loft



Figure 130: detail of the memorial plaque/gravestone on the west wall of the north transept



Figure 132: detail of the memorial plaque on the east wall of the north transept (to the north side)



Figure 131: detail of the memorial plaque on the north wall of the north transept (to the west side)



Figure 133: detail of the memorial plaque on the east wall of the north transept (to the south side)

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Quick Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>F01</b>	Door	Nave, S Wall	Main entrance to Nave, chamfered surround to interior, sandstone column to exterior with cushioned capital. Door within consists of ten timber vertical panels/planks with decorative metal studs; elaborate hinges and metal stud decoration; iron slot within soffit of door to take large iron bolt. Interior side of door is relatively plain and consists of horizontal panels; door lock has been replaced; handle does not appear to be contemporary with the rest of the door (?); badly weathered in general and many of the decorative studs are now missing.
<b>F02</b>	Window	Nave, W Wall	Splayed window 1.06m in width to the interior. The sill is also splayed downwards to the interior of the building. No glass, metal grill. Sandstone surround and voussoirs to both exterior and interior.
<b>F03</b>	Door	Nave, N Wall	Door to W end of the N wall, no longer in use, 1.15m in width, round-headed; as with door F01 opposite, door is higher to exterior than interior, the rest of the space filled with stone rubble. Door to exterior is also similar to F01, consisting of horizontal planks with metal stud and decorative hinges. Internally, two horizontal metal bars have been put across the interior of the door, the interior side of which consists of horizontal planks. There is an amount of graffiti on the inside of the door.
<b>F04</b>	?Foundation Stone	Nave, SW corner	Large boulder, possibly one of the main foundation stones for the original building.
<b>F05</b>	Phase Line	Nave, S Wall	
<b>F06</b>	Chancel Arch	Between Nave & Chancel	Large chancel arch linking the Chancel and Nave, width to Chancel side 2.60m, widening out to a width of 3.40m to the Nave side. On Nave side, two orders of carved columns with cushion capitals and square base mouldings of three orders. Although the Arch is thought to be a survival of the original build, the outer capital on the north side may be a reproduction from the 1890s due to the less weathered and crisp design of it. The initials 'J M' are carved on the centre column on the south side; to the upper north side soffit, set high up, is carved 'MARY RENNIE' deeply carved in fine 'handwriting'-style script.
<b>F07</b>	Window	Nave, S Wall	Splayed window 1.22m in width to the interior. The sill is also splayed downwards to the interior of the building.



			No glass, metal grill. Sandstone surround and voussoirs to both exterior and interior.
<b>F08</b>	Window	Nave, S Wall	Splayed window 1.22m in width to the interior. The sill is also splayed downwards to the interior of the building. No glass, metal grill. Sandstone surround and voussoirs to both exterior and interior.
<b>F09</b>	Door	Chancel, S Wall	Narrow round-headed opening 0.75m in width and 2.72m in height to the interior, although the opening on the exterior wall containing the door is only 2.29m in height. The exterior door, as with F01 & F03, is a vertically planked door with metal studs and a decorative hinge; the interior is made up of horizontal planks.
<b>F10</b>	Recess	Chancel, S Wall	Narrow round-headed opening with thin metal grill set in wide round-headed bay of heavily mortared stone, finely dressed red sandstone surround and voussoirs; sill slopes downwards. Possibly an original window?
<b>F11</b>	Window	Chancel, S Wall	
<b>F12</b>	Window	Chancel, E Wall	Chancel window set high up (2.18m from floor), deeply splayed, 1.20m in width to the interior. No glass, metal grill in place.
<b>F13</b>	Altar	Chancel	Located below the east window F12 on the east side of the Chancel, replacement rectangular altar 0.90m in height, 1.35m in length and 0.84m in width. The stone build consists of long horizontal stone rubble blocks and is topped by a large overhanging slab of slate. No decoration.
<b>F14</b>	Font	Chancel	Octagonal font with a shell base (probably later than the main font).
<b>F15</b>	Gravestone	Nave	Inscription on west side reads: 'lays the corpse of Mary Kerlie spouse to Willm Broadfoot in Cruggleton who departed this life April 26 <sup>th</sup> 1776 aged 66 years.' The stone has been broken at some point and has been cemented back together marked by a diagonal line across the inscribed face.
<b>F16</b>	Gravestone	Nave	Inscription on west side reads: 'Here lyes the corps of Helen McCreddie spouse to James Hanna Tenant in Low Cult. She died April 28 <sup>th</sup> 1796 aged 74 years she fed the hungry and clad the poor and never let the needy go

empty from her door'. Rear of the headstone is elaborately decorated with a flower border and three deer. Below the border is a cross design.

<b>F17</b>	Gravestone	Nave	Only inscription on this stone is on west side and reads 'IH 1794'.
<b>F18</b>	Phase Line	Nave, S Wall	Phase line on the south wall of the Nave identifying the original build below the reconstructed wall.
<b>F19</b>	Slate Sconces	Nave & Chancel	Small slate sconces wedged into the stonework throughout the church, probably belonging to a much later intervention; designed for the placement of candles. There are three on the north wall of the Nave (to the east side), one on the south wall of the Nave (again to the east side) and one to the south wall of the Chancel to the immediate east of door F09.
<b>F20</b>	Floor	Throughout interior	Stone-flagged floor, probably dating to 1890s, varying sized, some with crude concrete repair.
<b>F21</b>	Roof	Throughout interior	The roof, belonging to the 1890s, is a pine timber roof with plain rafters and cross beams, floorboards resting on the beams to create upper attic area.

Table 2: Cruggleton Church: Architectural Context Record

Ref No	Name(s) and age of death if noted	Dates	Additional information
<b>KM01</b>	-	-	-
<b>KM02</b>	-	-	-
<b>KM03</b>	Not discernible/covered in moss	-	-
<b>KM04</b>	-	-	-
<b>KM05</b>	-	-	-
<b>KM06</b>	-	-	-
<b>KM07</b>	?	1721	-
<b>KM08</b>	Not discernible/stone lying face down	-	-
<b>KM09</b>	Andrew McGill - 81 Anne Gibson (his wife) - 57 Catherine Gifford (their granddaughter) - 1	1856 1813 18??	-
<b>KM10</b>	James Gifford – 58 Mary Ann Gifford (his daughter) – 40 Jane McGill (his wife) - 84	1858 1870 1879	Schoolmaster of Glasserton Died at Whithorn
<b>KM11</b>	Only inscription is 'AD'	-	-
<b>KM12</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM13</b>	?David	1830	-
<b>KM14</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM15</b>	Thomas McCurrin	?	



	John Neilson McGowan – 62	189?	
	?Stewart	?	
	?Another daughter?	?	
<b>KM28</b>	Erected by William Caillie: James Caillie (?) - 66	18??	
	William Callie (his grandfather) – 75	1829	
	Elizabeth (his grandmother) – 83	1829	
	Elizabeth Callie (his sister)	?	
	Elizabeth (his mother) – 76	186?	
	William (the erector)	?	
	2 more indiscernible names – one of these possibly William’s brother		
<b>KM29</b>	Erected by Margaret Caillie: Andrew McCulloch (her husband) – 37	1865	
	Margaret Callie (the erector) – 80	1912	
	? – (her daughter) – 78	19??	Their eldest daughter
	Georgina (her daughter)	1944	Their youngest daughter
<b>KM30</b>	Robert Ker - 9	1755	
<b>KM31</b>	Martin Hopkins – 82	1910	Died at Monreith – member of the 88 <sup>th</sup> Connaught Rangers for 5 years in Ayr; present throughout the Crimean War 1851 – 1855; more of his wartime history is on the stone, but it is mostly illegible.
<b>KM32</b>	Not discernible	-	The western vertical support rests on two separate plinths which do not appear to be present on the east side support.
<b>KM33</b>	John Heron - 78	1883	
	Louisa Stewart (his granddaughter) – 17	1891	Described as the ‘only child of ‘Captain Robert and Catherine Johnston’
	Louise Bernie (his wife) - 90	?	
<b>KM34</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM35</b>	Erected by John McDowell: Andrew McDowell (his son)– 22	1811	
	Jane Parker (his mother) – 81	1810	
	Martha Crawford (his sister) – 76	1867	
	Charles McDowell (his son) – 36	1867	
	John McDowell (the erector) - ?	?	
	Isabella McDowell (his daughter) - 70	1899	
<b>KM36</b>	Erected by Hugh Burnie: Helen Burnie (his daughter) – 19	18?66	
	Catherine Burnie (?) – 6	1846	
	His Mother - not discernible	?	
	His Father – not discernible	?	
	Hugh Burnie (the erector) – 82	1858	
	His Wife – not discernible – 81	1862	

	Stewart Bryan (his daughter)	1906	
	William Bryan (his son-in-law, Stewart's husband)	1915	
<b>KM37</b>	Unmarked slab	-	-
<b>KM38</b>	Unmarked slab	-	-
<b>KM39</b>			Latin inscription over top of stone: 'CONTICIT NOBIS VIVO SICONE MORI'
	John Wilson	1865	
	Wh?hena McBurnie (his wife)	1883	
	Stuart A Bruther	1878	
	John Wilson Jnr (?his son)	1865	Marked at the bottom as being erected by John Junr in 1906
<b>KM40</b>	Pat Davison	?	
<b>KM41</b>	Erected by David Webster:		
	John Webster (his father) - ?	1853	
	Char(?lotte) Morrison (his mother) - ?	?	
	1 indiscernible name	?	
	David Webster (the erector) – 65	1888	
	Robert Lauderdale (his brother) - ?	1889	
<b>KM42</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM43</b>	Alex Blair	?	
<b>KM44</b>	? Latin: HL PM?? AMIM VM RM	1693	
<b>KM45</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM46</b>	James Kelly - ?	1810	Farmer in Stelloch
	Jane Stewart (his wife) – 57	1818	
	Charles Kelly (his son) – 8 months	1811	
	Grace Kelly (his daughter) - 1?	1826	
	Peter Kelly (his son) – not mentioned	not	
	Marion Kelly (his daughter) - 75	mentioned 1891	Last three lines in a more modern, clearly incised script
<b>KM47</b>	Erected by John McKie		
	John McKie (his grandfather) – 75	17??	
	Alexander McKie (his brother) – 1?	?	
	Alexander ? (his father) – 65	1820	
	James McKie (his brother) – 29	1826	
	? (his brother) – 20	18??	
	Jane Murray (his wife or wife of brother above) – 65	18?? ?	
	John McKie (the erector) – 67	?	
	Peter McKie (his brother) - 78		?of Newfoundland? – he dies at Clarksburn
<b>KM48</b>	Erected by Patrick Burns:		
	Catherine Burns (his wife) - ?	19??	
	Peter Burns (his son) – 18 or 18 months	1849	
	Rose Burns (his mother) – 88	?	
	(?W)illiam Burns (relationship unclear/?son) – 18 months	?	

<b>KM49</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM50</b>	Erected by Alexander Gilkison: Jane McCormick (his wife) – 27 Alexander Gilkison (the erector) – 60	1834 1843	Joiner in Monreith
<b>KM51</b>	Erected by Alexander Gilkison:  John Gilkison (his father) – 70 Samuel Gilkison (his brother) – 34 Janet Mickin (his mother) - 72	18?0  1830 184?	Same man who erected KM50
<b>KM52</b>	No inscription	-	Leaning against the Chancel wall
<b>KM53</b>	Janet Conning – 50  Alexr ? Jean and Barbara (?her children)	1738	Leaning against the Chancel wall; Janet is described as the 'spouse to Ja. ?Fullerton in Garrarie
<b>KM54</b>	Not discernible	-	-
<b>KM55</b>	?L C M T	-	Indiscernible letters
<b>KM56</b>	James ?and John Findl. - 4	?1719	Name W Findlay is inscribed at the top (?the erector of the stone)
<b>KM57</b>	No inscription – carved grave slab	?	Located within the fenced-off enclosure at the front of the Chancel entrance
<b>KM58</b>	Latin inscription, largely covered in moss; grave tomb.		Located within the fenced-off enclosure at the front of the Chancel entrance
<b>KM59</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM60</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM61</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM62</b>	East Face: Erected by ?: ? Dowal - ? ?McCulloch – 84 West Face: Sir Godfrey McCulloch  Agnes McCulloch - 84 Her brothers David, Andrew and Alexander	1815 1859  1697  1858	Laird of Myrton Estate – decapitated for murder in Edinburgh!*
<b>KM63</b>	No inscription		
<b>KM64</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM65</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM66</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM67</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave
<b>KM68</b>	No inscription		Located within the Nave

Table 3: Précis of the main results of the graveyard survey, Kirkmaiden

Decade	Number of deaths in that decade
1690s	2
1710s	1
1720s	1
1730s	1
1750s	1
1790s	1
1800s	1
1810s	9
1820s	8
1830s	3
1840s	6
1850s	6
1860s	11
1870s	4
1880s	5
1890s	7
1900s	2
1910s	5
1920s	1

Table 4: Number of deaths per decade where discernible, Kirkmaiden graveyard

Age	Number
0 – 10 yrs (and ‘infancy’)	14
11 - 20 yrs	3
21 – 30 yrs	6
31 – 40 yrs	5
41 – 50 yrs	2
51 – 60 yrs	8
61 – 70 yrs	8
71 – 80 yrs	12
81 – 90 yrs	15

Table 5: Date of death on discernible headstones and slabs, Kirkmaiden graveyard

## References

- Allen, J R & Anderson, J (1903) *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland: A Classified Illustrated Descriptive List of the Monuments With an Analysis of Their Symbolism and Ornamentation*. Edinburgh
- Barber, J. (ed.) (1997) *The Archaeological Investigation of a Prehistoric Landscape: Excavations on Arran 1978-81*; AOC Archaeology Group; STAR Monograph 2
- Burl, A. (1976) *The stone circles of the British Isles*, Yale University Press
- Burl, A. (1995) *A guide to the stone circles of Britain, Ireland and Brittany*, Yale University Press
- Cavers, M.G. (2008) 'The later prehistory of 'black holes': regionality and the South West Scottish Iron Age', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 138, pp. 13-26
- Cavers, M.G. (2010) *Crannogs and Later Prehistoric Settlement in Western Scotland*, British Archaeological Reports 510, Oxford
- Cavers, M.G. and Geddes, G.F. (2010) 'Homesteads in west Galloway, and excavations at Airyolland I', *Trans. Dumf. Gall Nat Hist Antiq Soc*. Vol. 84, pp.19-42
- Cavers, M.G., Crone, B.A., Engl, R., Fouracre, L., Hunter, F., Robertson, J., Thoms, J. (2011) 'Refining Chronological Resolution in Iron Age Scotland: Excavations at Dorman's Island Crannog, Dumfries and Galloway', *Journ. Wetland Arch*. Vol.10, pp.72-108
- Childe, V. G. (1934) 'Neolithic Settlement in the West of Scotland', *Scottish Geog. Magazine*, vol. I, pp. 18-25
- Christison, D (1887) 'The prehistoric forts of Peebleshire', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol.21, pp.:22-5
- Christison, D. (1898) *Early Fortifications in Scotland: motes, camps and forts*, Edinburgh: Blackwood and Sons
- Coles, F. R. (1893), 'The motes, forts and doons in the East and West divisions of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* pp. 92-182.
- Collingwood, W G (1925) 'The Early Crosses of Galloway', in *Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, Volume 10, pp. 224 – 226
- Cooke, A. O. (1920) *A book of dovecotes*, [Online], Available: <http://www.pigeoncote.com/dovecote/dovecote.html#contents>
- Cormack, W F (1995) 'Barhobble, Mochrum - Excavation of a Forgotten Church Site in Galloway', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, vol.70, pp.: 5-106
- Cowley, D. (2000), 'Site morphology and regional variation in the later prehistoric settlement of south west Scotland,' in *Northern Pasts: Interpretations of the later prehistory of Northern England and Southern Scotland*, J. Harding & R. Johnston, eds., BAR, Oxford, pp. 167-176.
- Craig, D. J. (1992) *The distribution of pre-Norman sculpture in south-west Scotland: provenance, ornament and regional groups*, unpub. PhD thesis
- Cuninghame, G C (ud) *Notice Respecting Francois Thurot, A French Naval Officer, Buried at Kirkmaiden, Wigtonshire in the Year 1760*. [http://ads.abds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-352-1/dissemination/pdf/vol\\_005/5\\_364\\_368.pdf](http://ads.abds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-352-1/dissemination/pdf/vol_005/5_364_368.pdf), Accessed 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- Donnachie, I (1971) *Industrial archaeology of Galloway*, Newton Abbot: David and Charles
- Durand, J F (1760) *Genuine and Curious Memoirs of the Famous Captain Thurot*. London
- Ewart, G. (1985) *Cruggleton Castle: Report of Excavations 1978-1981*, Dumfries: Dumfries & Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society
- Feachem, R. (1963) *Guide to Prehistoric Scotland*, London:Batsford Ltd
- Feachem, R. W. 1956, 'Iron age and early medieval monuments in Galloway and



- Dumfriesshire', *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, vol. 33, pp.58-69
- Fiddes, J. 1953, 'A 'Fort' in Mochrum parish', *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, vol. 30, pp. 143-155.
- Finlay, N. (1997) 'Burnt Mounds' in Barber, J. (ed.) 1997
- Gifford, J (1996) *Dumfries and Galloway, Buildings of Scotland Series*. Penguin: London, p 204
- Haggarty, A. & Haggarty, G. (1983) 'Excavations at Rispaig Camp, Whithorn, 1978-81', *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, vol. 58, pp. 21-51.
- Harrison, W (1873) *Mona Miscellany*.  
<http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/manxsoc/msvol21/p066.htm>, Accessed 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- Hedges, J. (1975) 'Excavation of two Orcadian burnt mounds at Liddle and Beauquoy' *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 106, pp. 39-98
- Hunter, F. 1994, 'Dowalton Loch Reconsidered', *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society* no. 68, pp. 53-71
- Kimber, I & Kimber, E (1760) 'Death of Thurot', in *The London Magazine*, Volume 29, p. 150
- Lowe, C. & Dalland, M. 2002, *Archaeological Survey of White Loch Crannog, Ravenstone, Wigtownshire, Dumfries and Galloway*, Headland Archaeology; Unpublished Report for Historic Scotland, Edinburgh
- MacGibbon, D. & Ross, T. (1896) *The Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland*, Volume 1, pp. 383
- Mackenzie, W *The History of Galloway From the Earliest Period to the Present Time*.
- Masters, L (1976-7a) 'Excavations at the Wren's Egg, Port William, Wigtown District', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3rd, vol.52, pp.28-43
- McCarthy, M., Armit, I., Gaffney, C. & Friel, B. (2010). The Isle of Whithorn: towards a reassessment. *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society* 84, 43-55.
- McCullach, R.P.J. & Tipping, R. (eds.) (1998) *The Lairg Project 1988-96: The evolution of an archaeological landscape in Northern Scotland*, Edinburgh: Scottish Trust for Archaeological Research
- McKerlie, P H. (1871) *History of the Lands and their Owners in Galloway*; Edinburgh
- Morris, R W B & Bailey, D C. (1964) 'The cup-and-ring marks and similar sculptures of SW Scotland: a survey' *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 98, pp. 150-72
- Murray, J (1981) 'The stone circles of Wigtownshire', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3rd, vol.56; pp.: 20-1
- Noble, G (2005) 'Ancestry, farming and the changing architecture of the Clyde cairns of south-west Scotland' in Cummings, V. & Pannett, A. (eds.) *Set in Stone: New Approaches to Neolithic Monuments in Scotland*, Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Pickin, J. 2006 'Gargie' *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, Archaeology Scotland/Ling, p.52
- Piggott and Powell, S and T G E (1951) 'The excavation of three Neolithic chambered cairns in Galloway, 1949', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol.83, pp.103-61
- Piggott, S (1946) 'The chambered cairn of The Grey Mare and Colts' *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society* vol. LXVII, pp. 30-33.
- Radford, C A R (1951) 'Crugleton Church', in *Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, Volume 28, pp. 92 – 95
- Radford, C A R (1951a) 'Castle Loch, Mochrum', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3rd, vol.28 pp.: 41-63
- Radford, C A R (1951b) 'The excavations at Chapel Finnian, Mochrum', *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3rd, vol.28; pp.: 28-40
- Radford, C A R (1957) *Whithorn and Kirkmadrine, Wigtownshire*, Edinburgh: HMSO
- RCAHMS (1912) *The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions*

*of Scotland. Fourth Report and Inventory of Monuments and Constructions in Galloway, 1, County of Wigtown.* RCAHMS: Edinburgh

Stevenson, J. B. (1997) 'The Prehistoric Rock Carvings of Argyll' in Ritchie, G. (ed.) *The Archaeology of Argyll*, Edinburgh University

Shankland, A 2003 (no title), article in *Galloway Gazette*, Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> 2003.

Strachan, R (2000b) 'Wood of Dervaid, Glenluce, Dumfries and Galloway (Old Luce parish), pre-afforestation survey', *Discovery Excav Scot*, vol.1, p. 22

Stuart, J. 1865, 'Notice of a group of artificial islands in the loch of Dowalton, Wigtownshire, and of other artificial islands, or 'crannogs', throughout Scotland', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* pp. 114-183.

Talbot, E (1983) 'Sorbie (Sorbie p), motte', *Discovery Excav Scot*, p.4

Thomas, C. (1971) *The Early Christian Archaeology of North Britain: the Hunter Marshall Lectures Delivered at the University of Glasgow in January and February 1968*. London

Toolis, R. et al (2007) Intermittent occupation and forced abandonment: excavation of an Iron Age promontory fort at Carghidown, Dumfries and Galloway, *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol, 137, pp. 265-317

Tucker, D. G. (1984) 'Millstone making in Scotland', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 114, pp. 539-556

Van Hoek, M A M (1987) 'Further notes on the prehistoric rock art of Galloway', *Trans Dum Gal Nat Hist Antiq Soc*, 3<sup>rd</sup> series, vol.62 pp. 9-21

Van Hoek, M A M and Maarten, A. M. (1986) 'The Prehistoric Rock Art of Galloway', *Trans Dum Gal Nat Hist Antiq Soc*, 3<sup>rd</sup> series, vol.61, pp. 20-40

Watson, W J (1926) *The History of the Celtic Place-names of Scotland: Being the Rhind Lectures on Archaeology (expanded) delivered in 1916*. Edinburgh

Whiteford, J 2001 *Torbousemuir: Memories of a Wigtownshire Crofter 1935 – 1945*. Dumfries and Galloway Council

Wilson, A. (2001), 'The Novantae and Romanisation in Galloway', *Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society* no. 75, pp. 73-131.

Wilson, G. (1899), 'List of the Antiquities of Glenluce, with descriptive notes', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* vol.33, pp. 171-185

Yates, M. J. (1984) 'Groups of small cairns in northern Britain ' a view from SW Scotland', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, vol. 114, pp. 217-234

Yorke, T (2010) *Gravestones, Tombs and Memorials: Symbols, Styles & Epitaphs*. Countryside Books.

# Gazetteer

The following gazetteer collates the information and observations collected by participants in the project. Original entries from the NMRS and Dumfries and Galloway HER were checked on site, and additional information added where appropriate. Locations were verified using hand-held GPS; the grid references cited here are those collected on site. Full entries for each site, including sketch plans, can be found in the project archive.

**Site name:** Long Castle

**MAP no:** 1

**Grid reference:** NX 39410 46860

**Site types:** Buildings

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

## Description:

The ruinous remains of at least two buildings are visible on a knoll surrounded by marshy land, which is in turn surrounded by grazing for a dairy farm. The knoll sits on an area of rough mossy grass which overlies large, angular stones. The highest point is on the north of the site, where stone walling can be seen around the sites and on the top of a mound c. 3m x 3m. On the south side of the site is a rectangular drystone building, surviving to a height of approx. 0.5m, measuring approx. 30m by 7m. It is divided into two sections, the western section measuring approx. 7m by 10m, the eastern 7m by 30m. The ground drops steeply away to the south of this building, and is largely flat between this and the higher building. Between these two structures the faint outlines of two possible walls connecting the structures can be made out, surviving only as rubble spreads covered by rough grass; it is possible that these represent the walls of the castle keep, underlying the later rectangular buildings.

**Survey date:** 18/10/2011

**Site name:** Inner Wood Hill

**MAP no:** 2

**Grid reference:** NX 39760 46910

**Site types:** Enclosure

**Condition:** Very poorly preserved

## Description:

There are no visible archaeological remains at the site of this cropmark, which can be identified on aerial photos. A resistivity survey was conducted over an area of 20m squared in the relevant area, but the results were inconclusive.

**Survey date:** 26/10/2011



**MAP 1:** *Boreland of Longcastle, Dowalron*

**Site name: Doon Hill**

**MAP no:** 3

**Grid reference:** NX 41446 47041

**Site types:** Enclosure; fort

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

An irregular horseshoe shaped enclosure measuring at most 65m in diameter is situated at the top of a long rise surrounded by open farmland. The outer rampart from the W to S sections has no inner or outer ditch visible, but from E to N, the outer ditch and second outer rampart rise from ground level to the NE corner of the horseshoe. The space between the two ramparts is very wide and merges into surrounding farmland due to ploughing. The interior of the enclosure is featureless and rises slightly to the E corner. To the E side there is a small raised feature, 3m from the main rampart and 15m in length. It is possible that the W side incorporates this feature, as a possible bank which has become flattened by agriculture.

**Site name: Water storage tank**

**MAP no:** 4

**Grid reference:** NX 41485 36980

**Site types:** Building

**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

Stone and mortar building orientated E-W/NS, red sandstone, grey wackeand granite. Tank top is granite render. Large granite blocks in the tank. Varying stone size from flat slabs of less than 10cm long to large blocks 0.5 x 0.5m. Stone quoin corner stones including one dressed quoin at top corner on SW corner of building. One entrance in centre of N wall. No obvious signs of re-use or phasing. Slates and timbers present in collapse in middle and surrounding suggest it was roofed. Also, corrugated metal present and loose bricks. Thought to be a water storage building due to large tank in middle with pipes to S entering/exiting tank. Large lead pipe running almost up to building from N, cannot see where it leads.

**Survey date:** 15/11/2011

**Site name: Glasserton Hill**

**MAP no:** 5

**Grid reference:** NX 41315 37098

**Site types:** Settlement

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The site is at the N end of a ridge running N-S. Laggan Camp visible from Glasserton Hill. South side is in pasture, north side in woodland, trees approx. 5m apart. Pasture to south side is undulating, largely covered with gorse. The north side of the settlement is built on a natural ridge while the south through south east has a ditch with outer bank. Earth and stone enclosure built upon and around a natural ridge. The outer bank appears to comprise upcast from the excavated ditch. There is a possible entrance to south where ditch disappears. West side has 2m wide terrace half way up bank. No obvious signs of re-use or phasing.

**Survey date:** 15/11/2011

**Site name: Glasserton Mains**

**MAP no:** 6

**Grid reference:** NX 40608 37374

**Site types:** Cup and ring marked rock

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

Cup and ring marks carved into greywacke stone. Close by are large boulders of the same stone, almost in a line. It is close to the sea in open farmland. There are ten cupmarks and 23 rings. The cup marks are set on top of stone.

**Survey date:** 16/11/2011

**Site name: Slateheugh**

**MAP no:** 7

**Grid reference:** NX 40250 38150

**Site types:** Farmstead

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The farmstead sits on a ridge in an area of rough, rocky grazing with gorse. The ground drops steeply away to the W and E and slopes more gently to the S. Upstanding remains in the form of



**MAP 6:** *Cup and ring marks, Glasserton Hill*

what seems to have been a house. The northern gable end survives to 2.2m at the apex; the other three walls survive to c. 5m closest to the surviving gable, and as grassy mounds elsewhere. There are a number of flat areas that may indicate entrances. The building measures 10m by 6m. A possible lintel lies in the northern corner of the interior: a large stone, 2.35m long, with a small perforation close to one end. A small fireplace and an alcove remain in the eastern half of the gable, and the remains of a range and perhaps another fireplace in the western half. There is a small hole, perhaps for a pipe, at the top centre of the alcove. Traces of perhaps three other rectangular stone-built structures are visible; two to the S/SE and one to the N of the structure above. These measure up to 5m in length.

There is some possible evidence of quarrying visible in the bedrock in the gully to the W of the site.

**Survey date:** 16/11/2011

**Site name:** Port Castle

**MAP no:** 8

**Grid reference:** NX 42551 35915

**Site types:** Enclosure

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

This enclosure sits on a high coastal promontory just S of St Ninian'scave; there are steep cliffs to S, E and W, falling to a pebble beach. Rough pasture slopes up to the N from the site. Access is from the NE via a rough footpath. The dry stone enclosure, measuring c. 25m x 15m, is overgrown with thorn, ivy and bracken. A possible entrance is visible in the NE. The enclosure is divided in two by an apparently more modern wall running SW-NE. This wall has an abutting cell at its W end. There is another possible square feature in the E corner of the enclosure, although it is much obscured by bracken. The highest section of wall, probably over 2m, is at the NW corner, although it is very overgrown with ivy.

**Survey date:** 15/11/2011

**Site name:** Glasserton Church

**MAP no:** 9

**Grid reference:** NX 42121 83087

**Site types:** Church

**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

The church sits in roughly flat farmland bounded by a 4m high wall to the south, a drystone dyke and open farmland to the north and east and fencing and woodland to the west. The boundary wall on the southside, which forms part of a walled garden, is built of local stone and has a



**MAP 8:** *Building remains at Port Castle*

blocked up doorway towards the western end, and evidence of lean-to structures at the eastern end. The church is T shaped with the tower at the bottom of the T; it is situated just south of the centre of the plot. Adjacent to the NE corner of the church is a roofless burial aisle which has no means of access, or the doorway (possibly in W wall) has been sealed with a heraldic panel with date 159?. The churchyard has been extended to the E to accommodate further burials. The N churchyard wall curves around to abut a straight section at 90 degrees. At this point, considerable alterations have taken place including the construction of two brick sections in the otherwise dry stone wall.

Set into the corner point of these walls is a much damaged table grave which has had the sides blocked with stone. Situated 3m to the E of the entrance gate, 3m from the N wall, is a large open-roofed rectangular mausoleum built of local stone with entrance in the W wall. At the W end of the N boundary is a partly unroofed rectangular building, accessed by a door in the E side and with a window in the W side. The E end of the older building retains its roof and has a door in the N side but no windows. The church has two exterior staircases: to the W of the N wing; and to the W of the N wing. Entrances to the church are S and N of the main tower.

**Survey date:** 15/11/2011

**Site name:** Glasserton Dovecot

**MAP no:** 10

**Grid reference:** NX 41568 38010

**Site types:** Dovecot

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

#### **Description:**

The dovecot sits west of Glasserton Mains, in rough overgrown land in the corner of an arable field. It is constructed of granite and sandstone with brick and slate breeding cubicles inside, and exterior harling. The dressed sandstone doorway is on the NW side at about 0.75m above ground level, with no access steps. Access for birds is via flight entrances on NE and SE sides, close to the top of the building. There is evidence of significant damage to the interior, including fire damage and the growth of a tree. There is a vaulted



**MAP 9:** *Glasserton Church*

basement beneath, c. 1.5m at highest point.

A single storey ruinous brick building measuring 7m x 5m abuts the W side of the dovecot.

In the drystone wall running SE from the dovecot are two windows and a doorway, all now blocked, suggesting that a further building may once have been constructed there.

**Survey date:** 16/11/2011

**Site name:** Blairbuy

**MAP no:** 11

**Grid reference:** NX 37597 41750

**Site types:** Cup and ring marked rock

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

#### **Description:**

A cup and ring mark is visible on a rock on the hillside SE of Barhullion Fort. The ring is 18cm in diameter, encircling a cup 7cm in diameter. Not previously recorded is a small possible cup mark on the S face at the bottom of the rock, c. 10cm from current ground level. This possible cup mark measures 4cm in diameter. It is not clear if the cup and ring mark described here is the same as that recorded as NX34SE 27. While the locations seem to correspond, the dimensions are significantly different, and previous records do not mention the possible cup mark.

**Survey date:** 15/03/2012  
**Site name:** Carleton Fell  
**MAP no:** 12  
**Grid reference:** NX 39301 37659  
**Site types:** Millstone  
**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

In a prominent position on a coastal hillside, at an elevation of c. 100m, is a partially carved millstone is visible in situ in a rocky outcrop, facing roughly NW. The outer edge is fully carved all the way round to create a disc c. 20cm thick, except for at the bottom right hand quadrant, where only a groove has been created. In the centre is a circular indentation 5cm in diameter, 1cm deep.

**Survey date:** 19/11/2011



**MAP 11:** *Cup and ring marks, Blairbui*

**Site name:** Carleton  
**MAP no:** 13  
**Grid reference:** NX 39024 37689  
**Site types:** Settlement  
**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The enclosure lies at the end of a natural rocky ridge in a coastal setting; the hillside drops steeply away towards the sea to the W and S of the site, and the ground rises higher still to the E. A modern drystone wall running SE to NW cuts across the enclosure, meaning that around a third of the enclosure extends towards the sea beyond the dyke. This area has suffered from substantial erosion, probably due to animal and farm vehicle



**MAP 12:** *Millstone quarry, Carleton*

traffic. This W end of the enclosure appears to be constructed on a natural rocky outcrop, of which there are many in the vicinity. The enclosure survives more completely on the NE side of the wall, where it is defined by a bank 3.5m - 4m wide and up to 1m tall at most. The banks are entirely turfed over but some stone is visible, especially in the E of the site, where some stones and the flattening of the bank possibly indicate an entranceway. The NE end makes use of the natural ridge and is constructed up against this feature.

**Survey date:** 19/11/2011

**Site name:** Laggan Camp  
**MAP no:** 14  
**Grid reference:** NX 39757 37252  
**Site types:** Fort  
**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The site occupies a prominent position NE of the coast. Laggan Pond is to the SW, and a smaller area of water to the E. Open farmland to the E and SE, Carleton Fell to the N and NW, rough farmland to the NE, views out to sea to the SE through to W. The fort is roughly pear-shaped: the narrower end to the NE is higher, sloping down to a wider, more bulbous end to the SW. There are at two concentric ramparts with a medial ditch; these defences are clearest to the N and NW. There is a possible entrance to the NW. The fort measures c. 22m NW-SE and 26m SW-NE.

**Site name:** Dowalton

**MAP no:** 15

**Grid reference:** NX 40200 47300

**Site types:** Enclosure (possible)

**Condition:**

**Description:**

The partial remains of a possible enclosure were identified during the survey, visible as a low grassy bank, semi-circular in shape, extending to the south of a dry stone dyke. The dyke runs roughly NNW to ESE. In the NNW of the feature is a ridged area with erratic stones, and further odd stones are visible around the feature. There is one low mounded area at the ESE end, with several internal depressions. The bank measures x. 1.9m wide. The diameter of the feature, measured along the dyke, is c. 11.5m .

**Survey date:** 20/10/2011

**Site name:** Stonehouse

**MAP no:** 16

**Grid reference:** NX 40359 47226

**Site types:** Crannog

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A crannog, now dry. The site is surrounded by a mixture of high ground, thicket and marsh. The crannog is exposed, forming a large rectangular mound littered with boulders. The crannog rises to 1.2m in height, running c. 34m NE-SW, and is c. 15m wide.



**MAP 15:** Possible hut circle or enclosure, Dowalton

The remains of large rectangular building sit at the S end of the crannog, measuring 9.8m W-E x N-S 3.5m. These remains sit within a wall reduced to a stony bank up to 2m wide and 0.3m high. Traces of a second building c. 5.2m x 2.3m are visible in the northern corner of the crannog, .

**Site name:** Annat Hill

**MAP no:** 17

**Grid reference:** NX 38500 46460

**Site types:** Enclosure; fort (possible)

**Condition:** Very poorly preserved

**Description:**

The site is on the top of hill with a modern fence cutting across it SW-NE. Stones, many squarish in shape, lie along the bottom of fence cutting the site. Traces of a low, grassy, semi-circular bank c.30m in diameter extend to the N of the modern fence line; little evidence of the site remains S of the fence as this field is currently cultivated. There is no sign of an entrance.

**Survey date:** 20/11/2011

**Site name:** Boreland Cairn

**MAP no:** 18

**Grid reference:** NX 35641 58002

**Site types:** Cairn

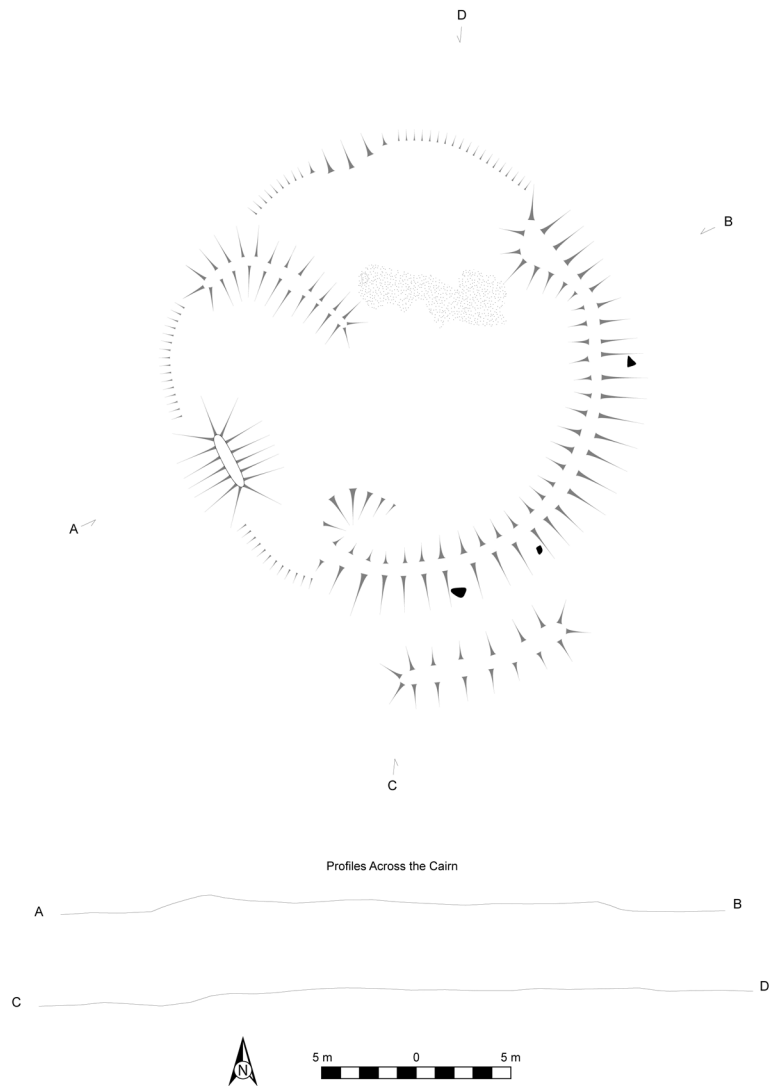
**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

On flat ground at the foot of a hill are the remains of a cairn c. 24m in diameter; at the top of the hill, c. 400m to the NW, are White Cairn NX35NE2 and standing stones NX35NE3. A number of kerb stones are visible around the circumference of the cairn. Loose stones in the eastern area of the interior are probably the result of modern field clearance; there are also grassed over mounds in the NE, NW and W. There is a possible entrance in NE. The cairn edge is very indistinct in the NW. C. 1.5m to the S are of the cairn are the faint traces of an exterior ditch.

**Survey date:** 12/12/2011





MAP 18: *Boreland Cairn*

**Site name: Boreland Standing stones**

**MAP no:** 19

**Grid reference:** NX 35224 58080

**Site types:** Standing stones

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

There are two stones, the N stone standing, the S lying on its side, in a flat area in undulating pasture, fenced off in a 10m square. There is a stone dyke 20m to the west which contains some unusually large stones which may have once been part of the standing stones. Upright stone: 0.75m x 0.57m x 1.15m Stone lying on its side: 1.65m x 0.76m x 0.66m

**Survey date:** 12/12/2011

**Site name: White Cairn, Boreland**

**MAP no:** 20

**Grid reference:** NX 35280 58193

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A round cairn, measuring c. 36m in diameter, is mostly grassed over, with a well-defined, unbroken edge. The interior is cratered by clearance, with piles of stone, rubble and farming rubbish added. Stones are generally 10-20cm in diameter but includes field clearance boulders up to 1m long.



**MAP 22:** *The motte at Boreland*

Some of these have evidence of quarrying. Nearby bedrock to N and NW. There is no evidence that internal structures or features have been disturbed. The cairn is c. 150m from standing stones NX35NE 3.

**Survey date:** 13/12/2011

**Site name: Doon Hill, Boreland**

**MAP no:** 21

**Grid reference:** NX 34726 58526

**Site types:** Fort

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

A much denuded fort site occupies the top of a hill to the E of Boreland Farm. On the S side of the hilltop, the visible remains comprise the traces of two outer ramparts: the inner one measures up to 1m high and is more easily identifiable than the outer, which measures c. 0.1m in height. The inner rampart is c. 6m wide and the outer c. 5.5m wide; the ditch between is c. 5.5m wide. The fort is oval in shape, running N-S. Internal dimensions are 66m N-S, 52m E-W.

**Survey date:** 12/12/2011

**Site name: Boreland Mote**

**MAP no:** 22

**Grid reference:** NX 35500 58390

**Site types:** Motte

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

This site stands in an area of mature deciduous trees on the W bank of the River Bladnoch. It consists of an oval mound measuring approx. 30m by 19m and a ditch approx. 1-2m wide encloses the site on the N, S and W sides. The ground drops steeply away to the river on the E. The E and W sides of the motte are steepest, with the N and S ends sloping more gently to the summit, which stands about 6m above the ditch. The E side has suffered a good deal of erosion towards the top, perhaps partly as a result of evident animal burrowing activity. There are three distinct concentric narrow terraces on the S through E to NE sides; they are irregular in width and may be sheep tracks. The top of the mound is oval measuring c. 9m by 6m. It is quite densely covered

in bracken and there are no discernible features except for further holes that may due to animal activity.

**Survey date:** 12/12/2011

**Site name:** White Cairn, Crouse

**MAP no:** 23

**Grid reference:** NX 36589 55778

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A partially preserved cairn measuring approx. 23m in diameter sits on high ground c. 100m E of the B7052. Some of the larger stones on top were probably placed there due to modern field clearance. No obvious entrance or outer edge is visible.

**Survey date:** 13/12/2011



**MAP 24:** *The Hole Stone, Crouse*

**Site name:** Crouse, Broom Hill, Hole Stone

**MAP no:** 24

**Grid reference:** NX 36576 55724

**Site types:** Stone

**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

The hole stone sits c. 30m S of the cairn known as White Cairn, in the adjacent field. The visible extent of the stone measures c. 1m x 0.75m at ground level, tapering towards the top, reaching a height of 1.5m. The hole is formed by the creation of a bowl-shaped perforation on either side of the stone which meet in the centre. Each depression has an external diameter of c. 20cm, the round, central hole being c. 10cm in diameter. Numerous smaller stones lie on the ground around the base of the stone.

**Survey date:** 14/12/2011

**Site name:** Crouse chapel

**MAP no:** 26

**Grid reference:** NX 37056 55702

**Site types:** Burial ground, chapel, well

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The site lie in low marshy ground to the S of the River Bladnoch, surrounded by low hills. There are good views over the river and to the E.

A rectangular enclosure is visible, with earth banks approx. 0.8m high and up to 3m wide. A possible ditch is discernible around the S and W side. The enclosure wall has spurs extending from

both corners at the N end. Large gorse bushes are growing in the interior, and a thorn tree in NE corner of the bank. The interior is uneven, with various mounds and depressions, with a possible ditch/channel running just within the bank. Close to the S end of the site at the foot of the bank is the supposed well site, comprising a cluster of large stones lying in a depression. The extent of the feature is unclear due to grass and moss cover, but the largest stone, lying flat, measures 0.75 x 0.45m x 0.2m.

**Survey date:** 13/12/2011

**Site name: Cunningham Standing Stone**

**MAP no:** 27

**Grid reference:** NX 38434 56086

**Site types:** Standing stone

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

This stone, measuring 1.35m x 1.2m x 0.6m, is now lying on its side, aligned WNW to ESE. Granite with two indentations on upper surface.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name: Torhousekie Stone Row**

**MAP no:** 28

**Grid reference:** NX 38383 56508

**Site types:** Stone row

**Condition:** Well preserved

**Description:**

Three standing stones broadly aligned NE-SW, on a low mound in undulating pasture just N of the B733, approx. 100m NE of the Torhousekie stone circle. The largest, southern-most stone measures 1.04m x 0.46m x 1m. The next largest is the middle stone, NE of the one just described, and measures 1m x 0.46m x 0.8m. The third, most northerly

stone, is the smallest at 0.8m x 0.68m x 0.53m.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name: Torhousekie Stone Circle**

**MAP no:** 29

**Grid reference:** NX 38257 56494

**Site types:** Stone circle

**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

In gently undulating pasture in NW corner of a large dykedfield on the south side of the B733, c.0.6km N of the River Bladnoch 19 granite boulders arranged in a circle 19m in diameter. The three largest stones are at the E, ESE and SE positions. Three further boulders sit in the centre, in a row aligned SW-NE. The whole site is slightly elevated with a few irregular stony mounds near the central stones.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name: Torhouse standing stones**

**MAP no:** 30

**Grid reference:** NX 38266 56453

**Site types:** Stone row

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**



**MAP 28:** *Stone alignment, Torhousekie*

Situated >50m SSE of Torhousekiestone circle, in the NW corner of the adjacent field. A series of 12 stones lie in an irregular row aligned SSW-NNE; the northernmost boulder is the largest at 1.2m x 1.3m; the southernmost stone is smaller at 1m x 0.8m. The ten stones between are smaller and more angular, and are probably the result of field clearance.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name:** Torhousekie Cairn

**MAP no:** 31

**Grid reference:** NX 37882 56692

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A cairn, 28m in diameter, with a maximum height of 1.8m from the lowest point on outer bank (at the E of the site) to highest point on the inner bank. This much disturbed cairn occupies a ridge of higher ground in cultivated fields with restricted views to the north, and good views to the S, E and W. A drystone dyke and fence crosses the cairn, running SW to NE, leaving approx. 2.5m of the cairn on the E side of the barrier. The ground drops steeply away from the cairn around the E half. The cairn consists of two concentric rings, the outer containing large kerbstones. Numerous piles of field clearance cairns have been placed on top of the cairn, particularly on the flat surface of the outer ring. The stone structure mentioned by previous surveyors exists now only as a horse-shoe shaped area of stones with a rubble spread extending to the NE. The inner ring is well preserved around the N and W sides, rising 0.2m above the interior, which is almost filled with small field stones, mostly under 0.2m in diameter. The inner ring is most degraded on the S and SW sides, and is almost non-existent for a distance of 6m on the SW. The inner ring rises approx. 0.4m above the outer ring, and c. 0.7m higher on the E. There is no evidence of an entrance.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name:** Lang Riggs

**MAP no:** 41

**Grid reference:** NX 30007 51195

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The cairn sits on fairly level ground in a pasture which rises to the W. The broadly circular cairn is about 20m in diameter, with a fairly well defined perimeter although no kerbstones are visible. Very large boulders as well as smaller stones have been placed on top of the cairn, particularly on the S and W sides, making its original form very difficult to define. The largest of these boulders measures 2.7m x 1.2m x 1.2m. There is a depression 4m x 1.5m running from the centre of the cairn towards the E edge, now filled with loose stone, perhaps related to the excavation mentioned in previous records.

**Survey date:** 13/02/2012



**MAP 43:** *Cross stone at the May*

**Site name: May Farm**

**MAP no:** 42

**Grid reference:** NX 30093 -93197

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The cairn sits about 100m SW of The May Farmhouse, in level ground in a field bounded by drystone dykes. Its location permits good views to the S, E and W in particular, including towards MochrumFell. The cairn is broadly circular, measuring 17m E-W x 15m N-S, with a generally flat, grassed-over surface. There are intermittent kerbstones measuring up to 1m long by 0.5m high, especially in the S/SE. The visible stones are of greywacke. There is a slight hollow measuring 3m x 2m x 0.3m to the SW of the centre, and another on the southernmost part, measuring 1m x 1.5m x 0.2m.

**Survey date:** 13/02/2012

**Site name: The May**

**MAP no:** 43

**Grid reference:** NX 30174 51533

**Site types:** Cross stone

**Condition:** Very well preserved

**Description:**

A partial stone cross slab is set into a NE-facing mortared stone wall at the NE corner of an outbuilding to the W of The May Farmhouse. The cross stone sits approximately 1.7m from the ground, around 0.1m from the corner of the structure. The northern end of the outbuilding is built of breezeblocks, and the farmer reported that he had repaired the building about 10 years ago (so early 2000s). At this time, he placed the cross stone and the adjacent date stone into said wall, with Historic Scotland's permission, as the building of into which the cross stone was previously set had fallen down. Ruined outbuildings remain to the N of the current farmyard. The cross is carved of a pale grey stone. Only the head of the cross remains, showing carved interlacing and blading with a central boss. The boss and beading are carved to a depth of up to 1cm. Set into the same wall 0.75m below the cross is an **inscribed stone**

which reads "1848", and below, the letter J, ornately carved, followed by the letter A. In the bottom right corner is the word "WILSON" - these letters are irregular in size and alignment, and are much less neatly covered than the date and "JA" as above.

Set into the base of the wall below these two carved stones is what appears to be part of a millstone measuring c. 0.4m high and 0.6m long.

**Survey date:** 13/02/2012

**Site name: Court Cairn**

**MAP no:** 44

**Grid reference:** NX 351442 -269744

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

100m E of May Farmhouse, Court cairn sits on a prominent mound above a steep scarp which drops on the SE. The mound is c. 12m in diameter and is topped by a square dry stone shepherd's cairn. The mound is earth and turf covered with little indication of stone content. The site is founded on a natural rocky outcrop. The shepherd's cairn measures 1.1m x 1.1m x 0.6m.

**Survey date:** 13/02/2012

**Site name: Doon of May**

**MAP no:** 45

**Grid reference:** NX 29505 51518

**Site types:** Fort, vitrified

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The fort sits on the summit of a steep-sided rocky outcrop at the edge of a pine plantation, with good views to the SW towards the sea. The oval summit, measuring c. 50m W-E x 30m wide N-S, is partly covered with vegetation but rock is also exposed, slightly lower at each end of the summit. The outcrop is sheer sided with access easiest from either end, particularly the E. Defenses are discernible: a flattish terrace some 2m wide tops a bank running around the site about 3m below the summit. This is clearest around the E/NE end of

the fort. Patches of vitrified stone are particularly visible around the E end.

**Survey date:** 13/02/2012

**Site name:** Garheugh Fell

**MAP no:** 46

**Grid reference:** NX 27900 51669

**Site types:** Cairnfield, shelter

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

Several small cairns lie in open moorland with blanket peat cover and rocky outcrops. The cairns, of which around 11 were noted, are generally piled onto bedrock, and range from 3m to 5m in diameter, and stand up to 0.5m high. A possible circular structure is indicated by a stony peat-covered bank with an internal diameter of 4m, internally 2.5m. The bank stands c. 0.2m high.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Garheugh Fell

**MAP no:** 47

**Grid reference:** NX 27696 51502

**Site types:** Cairnfield, enclosure, shelter

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous



**MAP 47:** *Enclosure, Garheugh*

**Description:**

A number of drystone structures exist in this area, including a rectangular enclosure, two pens and a number of cairns. Three walls of the rectangular enclosure survive, standing to three courses. The fourth, E, side of the structure is bounded by a bedrock face standing to c. 1m high, with some stone on top. The grassy interior is bracken-filled with faint traces of possible rig, 1m broad, running N-S. The interior slopes down from E-W. 6m S of the NW corner is an entrance c. 2m wide. The NW and SW corners are damaged, perhaps by the creation of the modern track.

Also, a rectangular pen is visible, 67m NW of the structure described above. The pen measures 4.9 x 3.4m. A further rectangular pen stands a little over 200m NW of the structure first described. This pen stands just below a sheer rocky face, and consists of drystone walls standing 0.5m high. The pen measures 4.4m x 5m. The cairnfield is made up of c. 8 small cairns running along a ridge. The cairns are from 90m to 150m W of the first enclosure described above. They are much overgrown with peat.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 48

**Grid reference:** NX 27861 51375

**Site types:** Enclosed settlement

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The site lies in a moorland area scattered with stone and old drystone walls. The enclosure is defined by a broad stony bank, up to 3.5m wide, levelled into the slope. The bank is up to 1.4m high at the N end. The grassy interior is bracken-covered at the N end, with some heather.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Garheugh Farm

**MAP no:** 49

**Grid reference:** NX 27238 50320

**Site types:** Shepherd's cairn

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

A square, drystone pillar of stones stands on high rocky ground c. 150m WSW of Garheugh Farmhouse. The pillar, standing 3m tall and measuring c. 1.5m square at the base, slants slightly to the S and narrows towards the top. The corners of the pillar are roughly orientated with the cardinal compass points. Marked as "Cairn (shepherd's)" on the OS 1st edition map (Wigtownshire 1850, sheet 24).

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Garheugh

**MAP no:** 50

**Grid reference:** NX 27296 50302

**Site types:** Field system

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The field system lies on a south facing hillside, c. 100m SW of Garheugh farmhouse. It appears to have consisted of a series of small enclosed, terraced fields on the hillside, with a larger, flatter area at the top of the rise (now partially covered by modern concreted sheep pens). The area is littered with grey stone and more recent stone dykes. There may be evidence of two small square stone-built structures in the E area of the site, each measuring up to 3m square and surviving as low turf-covered banks with stones visible.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Garheugh

**MAP no:** 51

**Grid reference:** NX 27146 50402

**Site types:** Field system

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The site is close to the top of a steeply rising ground overlooking the sea. It consists of two flattish terraced areas, one above/to the east of the other, bounded to the west by revetted dry-stone walls, and to the east by the more modern farmhead wall. The walls are bisected by the stony

farm track but can be traced faintly to the north of it. To the north-west of the field system, 10m NW of the farm track, are the footings of a semi-circular building, terminated on the NW tip by a clearance cairn. There are two possible internal walls demarcating the SE quadrant. The whole area is scattered with the traces of stone walls and clearance cairns.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Crouse

**MAP no:** 51

**Grid reference:** NX 27146 50402

**Site types:** Stone

**Condition:** Well preserved

**Description:**

A rounded boulder sits close to the W end of a low grassy ridge running SW-NE, c. 250m E of White Cairn. The stone measures c.1m x 0.8m, and stands c. 0.7m high.

**Site name:** Rocks of Garheugh

**MAP no:** 52

**Grid reference:** NX 26967 50659

**Site types:** Burnt mound

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A roughly V-shaped mound sits on the south side of a burn. Each end of the mound curves slightly inwards as it reaches the ground, and the mound is lower at the point of the V, perhaps due to animal traffic.

**Survey date:** 14/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 54

**Grid reference:** NX 27832 51234

**Site types:** Burial cairn, enclosure, rig and furrow

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**



On a reasonably level site, bounded by Pulnasky Burn on the N/NW, is a line of boulders perhaps representing a field boundary. Rig and furrow is visible in across the whole area; the curved rigs

run NE-SE at the NW end of the site, and NW-SE at the SE end of the site. The site is in a hollow with a rocky outcrop to the W and Garheugh Farmhouse to the NE.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 55

**Grid reference:** NX 27772 51147

**Site types:** Burnt mound

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

Two grassy mounds are situated in the lea of a stone outcrop to the NW and a marshy area to the SE. The N mound measures 9m x 5m, standing to c. 1m in height. The S mound measure 9m x 6.5m and stands to 1.5m in height. Small stone chippings with possible evidence of burning are visible in both mounds.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Humphry

**MAP no:** 56

**Grid reference:** NX 27644 51276

**Site types:** Farmstead

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

This farmstead sits within an enclosure marked by rig and furrow. There is a large clearance cairn to the SE and a possible earlier enclosure to the E corner. The farmstead, measuring 20.5m x 5.6 m externally, lies on a NW-SE alignment, and displays three phases of construction. There are three enclosures within the farmstead: in the NW, an enclosure measuring 3.7m x 5.6m is visible; in the centre, a structure measuring 5m x 5.6m survives up to 1.2m in height, with evidence of a rough gable surviving to 1.6m at the NE end; and in the SE, a structure measuring 11.8m x 5.6m survives to



**MAP 56:** *Humphry farmstead*

0.5m in height. These structures are all aligned centrally or in the NW range.

A further building is situated in the SSW; it measures 7.5m x 3.5m, surviving to 0.7m in height. The entrance is slightly W of the midpoint in the S wall.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 57

**Grid reference:** NX 27585 51008

**Site types:** Burnt mound

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

A crescentic double mound sits close to Pulnasky burn, with an abutting stone outcrop on the W. The mound measures 12.1m W-E x 8.9. N-S, and survives to a height of 1.2m, and has a depression on the NW slope.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 58

**Grid reference:** NX 27190 51029

**Site types:** Building, enclosed settlement, hut circle, pen

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**



**MAP 62:** *Building, Punaskey Burn*

On the NW side of an enclosed field 110m x 40m are several small pens, perhaps built with stone robbed from the field wall. There is a possible small burnt mound on the edge of the gully at NX 27445 51171.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Rocks of Garheugh

**MAP no:** 59

**Grid reference:** NX 26904 50513

**Site types:** Hut circle

**Condition:** Very poorly preserved

**Description:**

The hillside consists of rocky outcrops and loose stone, with rough grass, bracken and heather. This very ruined stone banked circle is levelled into the slope to the E side, Loose stone has been piled on to the SE wall. The entrance is in the ESE. The stones are mostly small but some larger are use around the external NW area.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2011

**Site name:** Rocks of Garheugh

**MAP no:** 60

**Grid reference:** NX 26919 50491

**Site types:** Structure

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

20m SE of possible hut circle (at NX 26945 5435) are the footings of a rectangular structure measuring 7.5m x 6.3m x 0.6m externally. It is defined externally by boulders on the E side and a curving bank on the S and W, littered with loose stone. There is no clear entrance. Two large outcrops of bedrock extrude in the interior.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Rocks of Garheugh

**MAP no:** 61

**Grid reference:** NX 26938 50430

**Site types:** Hut circle (possible)

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

The very ruinous remains of a banked stone circle measuring c. 8m x 6m x 0.4m are revetted into the slope on the east side. Loose, small stone has been piled onto the wall in the SE. The entrance is in

the ESE. Some larger stones around the outer NW side.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Pulnasky Burn

**MAP no:** 62

**Grid reference:** NX 27269 50687

**Site types:** Building

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

Situated on the north bank of Pulnasky Burn are the footings of a drystone, rectangular building measuring 15.5m x 6.5m externally, aligned roughly SW-NE. The walls are generally 2m wide and are constructed of rubble mostly less than 0.4m in length and 0.2m wide, but range to over 1m. Rough, quarried stone has been used and all the stones are very angular. The walls are continuous around the structure but no coursing is visible. The building is sheltered to the north by a 2m natural rise. There is a possible entrance on the SW end, with upstanding stones either side measuring up to 1.2m x 1.45m x 0.25m; possible threshold stones also present. The SE corner is covered in bracken but stone is present underneath. The walls average 0.4m high but reach up to 0.7m in places. The SW wall lies along the edge of a c. 1.2m sheer drop to Pulnasky Burn.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Green House Bridge

**MAP no:** 63

**Grid reference:** NX 26480 51057

**Site types:** Enclosure

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

Approximately 150m NE of the Green House Bridge cairn is an enclosure, roughly circular in plan, measuring 17m NW-SE by 18m transversely within a wall up to 2.5m in width and up to 0.7m high. The structure is best preserved in the SW. On the NW the outer face of the wall mounts a rough outcrop up to 4m high, while the inner face runs along the foot of the outcrop. Elsewhere the wall is heavily robbed, reduced on the SE to little more



**MAP 63:** *Chambered cairn, Green House Bridge*

than rows of inner and outer facing stones, and

on the NE to little more than a robbed trench. On the SW up to four courses of the outer wallface remain in place, though they are leaning back into the wall core. The position of the entrance is uncertain, but almost certainly lies in the robbed section of the wall, where in the ESE there are possible traces of a gap marked by large stones.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name:** Green House Bridge

**MAP no:** 63

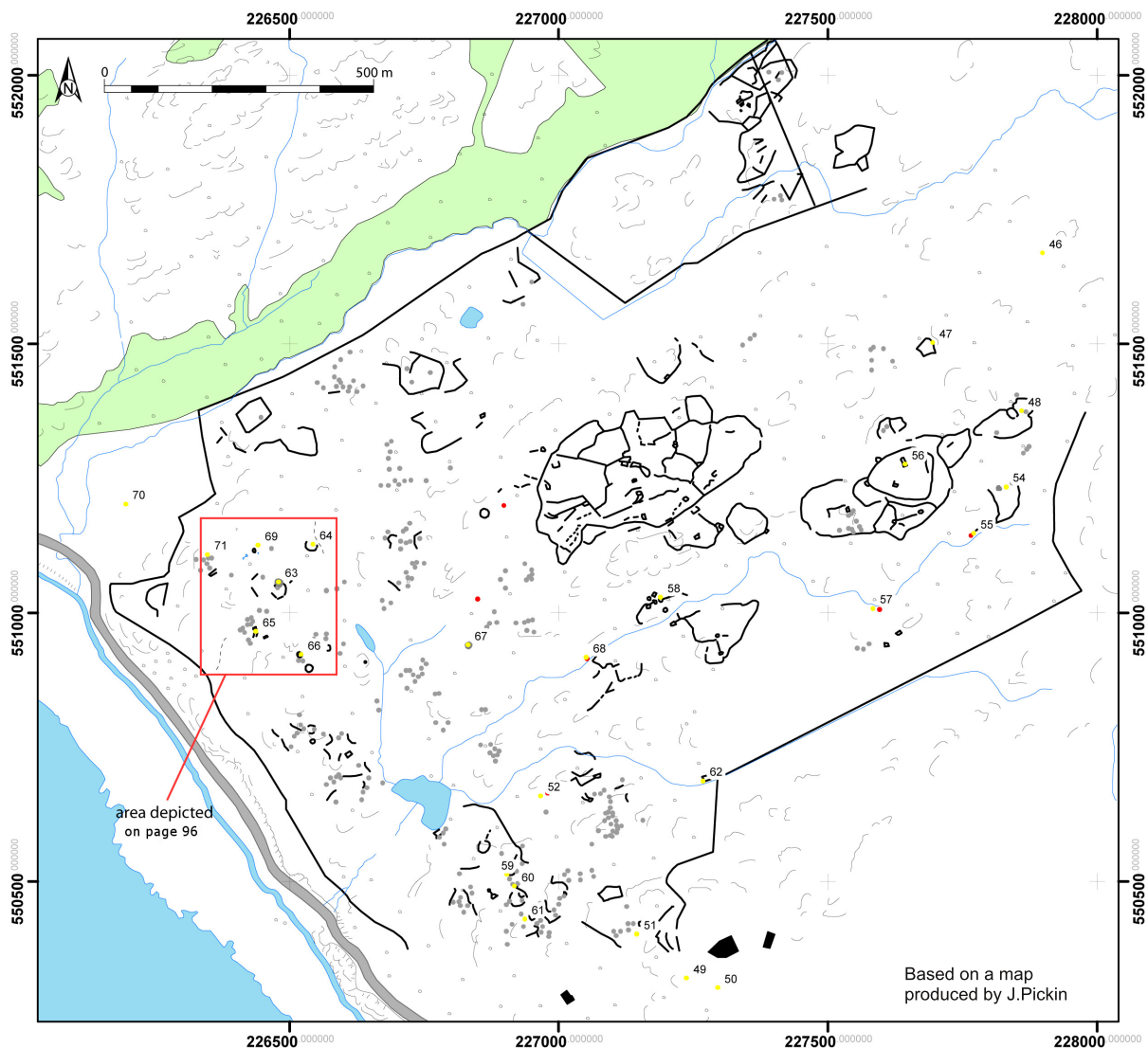
**Grid reference:** NX 26480 51057

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The cairn sits on high rough ground on the western edge of GarheughFell, with good views in all directions, especially to the east and south, and west out to sea. The cairn is built of stones generally 0.15m-0.30m in diameter, with a few larger slabs up to 0.8m x 0.5m. The cairn has been badly robbed in places, with a large hollow on the SW side measuring 3.5m x 2m, and lesser hollows on the W and NW sides. On the south side is an exposed cist with a large capstone. The capstone measures 1.3m N-S x 1.6m E-W x 0.35m thick at



N end, tapering to a point at the S end. The cist measures 1.25m x 0.67m internally; internal depth is difficult to determine, particularly as some rubble has entered the cist at the E end, where there is the biggest opening, but is approximately 0.7m to current base of cist. There are two chockstones between the slab on the southern side and the capstone. Slab on S side: 1.4m long x 0.65m high x 0.1m thick; slab on N side: 0.15m long x 0.65m high x 0.2m thick; slab on W end: 0.7m long x 0.65m high x 0.2m thick; slab on E end: not possible to record dimensions.

On the top of the cairn sit the remains of a low structure c. 1.5m square with a flattish top, probably a later addition.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Green House Bridge

**MAP no:** 65

**Grid reference:** NX 26438 50965

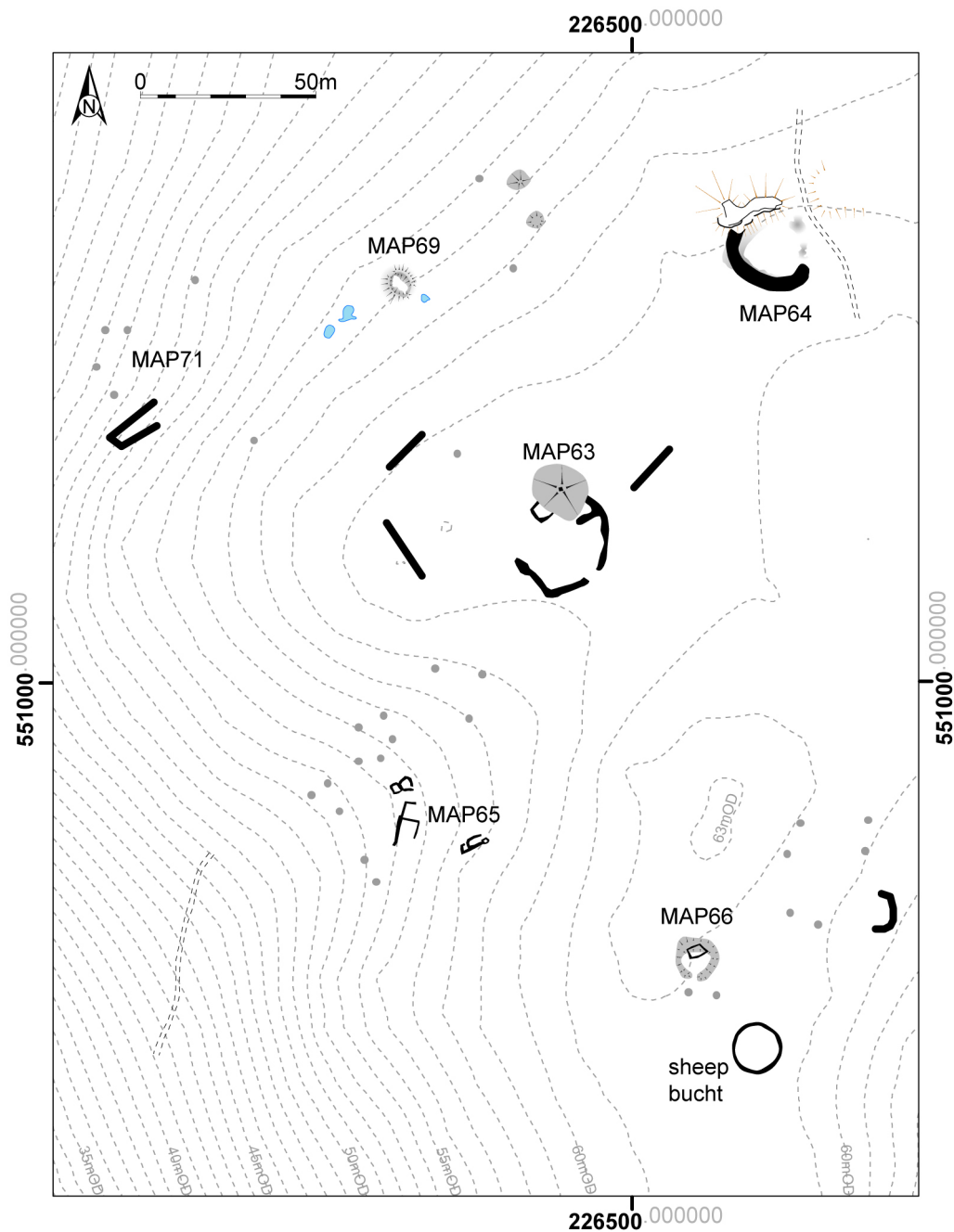
**Site types:** Cairnfield, sheepfold

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

65 A: two small contiguous pens are situated amongst the cairns of a small cairnfield to the SW of Green House Bridge Cairn. The larger of the contiguous enclosures is c. 2.3m across within a rickle of stones no more than 0.9m thick. The smaller pen, in the SW, is about 1.8m across internally. 3m to the SE there are traces of a possible enclosure. This measures about 3.5m in diameter within a low bank, no more than 0.1m in height. Several boulders protrude through the heather which marks its course, but it appears to be open sided on the NE. The cairns are much as described by previous surveyors but there are traces of a hollow trackway climbing the slope to the SW.

65 B: Tucked into the foot of the outcrop marking



the SE limit of the cairnfield is a small enclosure with two small lambing pens. The main pen measures 3m NE-SW by 1.8m transversely within a tumbled dry stone wall 0.7m thick and up to 0.5m in height. The first lambing pen abuts the SW end and its wall still stands to 0.5m high. The second at the NE end is about 0.6m high.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name:** Green House Bridge

**MAP no:** 66

**Grid reference:** NX 26522 50922

**Site types:** Hut circle

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

#### **Description:**

This hut circle is situated in a broad heather and bracken grown terrace. The structure is 8.6m in diameter within a wall reduced to a stony bank spread up to 2.3m in thickness by 0.4m high. The interior is scooped into the slope on the NW, where the bank forms a stony scarp 0.5m high. A

small, sub-rectangular pen is set into the back of the hut circle to the N, 3.3m x 1.8m internally.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name: Cairn Buy**

**MAP no:** 67

**Grid reference:** NX 26832 50940

**Site types:** Cairn

**Condition:**

**Description:**

Remains of a large burial cairn situated on a local eminence. No evidence of internal architecture or external features are visible, although a shallow depression in the top of the mound may indicate stone robbing. Cairn is 14.2m in diameter and 3.1m high.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name: Pulnasky Burn**

**MAP no:** 68

**Grid reference:** NX 27052 50917

**Site types:** Burnt mound

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

A burnt mound is situated on the N side of Pulnasky Burn, in the mouth of a shallow gully in open moorland. Crescentic in plan, it measures 6.6m N-S, 5.8m transversely E-W and stands to a max. height of 0.6m on the SW. The hollow on the NE side measures about 1.7m across and is closed off from the burn by a low bank of burnt mound material.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name: Green House Bridge**

**MAP no:** 69

**Grid reference:** NX 26442 51125

**Site types:** Clearance cairn, hut circle

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The hut circle comprises heather-covered banks with areas of exposed stone. The site measures c. 6m x 4m in diameter, with a possible doorway at the SE. The previous record suggests a second possible entrance in the NW; this area is rocky but very wet, with water channelling through the structure's wall, which may explain the lack of

heather growth and soil/peat build-up in this area. In the interior, revetted upright stones measuring c. 0.25m-0.40m are visible for 1.5m on the W, and a clear arc of stones running for 2m is visible in the NE. The banks around the W and SW are up to 4.5m wide. There are two small possible cairns approx. 40m to the northeast of the hut circle, both 5-6m in diameter and approx. 0.6m high, 20m apart.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name: Craignarget Burn Farmstead**

**MAP no:** 70

**Grid reference:** NX 26196 51202

**Site types:** Farmstead

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

On the E side of Craignarget Burn a rocky ridge forms a promontory above the 25m contour. All except the W (seaward) end is surrounded by the remains of a drystone dyke. The surface is very uneven with rock outcropping and many large boulders lying around. Smaller stone has been piled into heaps. The ground around the promontory to the S and W has been improved to good grazing.

In the SE area are several small rectangular enclosures. Another rectangular enclosure at the NW corner measures 7m E-W x 4.5m N-S with a lunky hole in the E end, possibly also in the W end. Several small rectangular enclosures, perhaps pens, lie in the lower ground in the SE corner of the site, measuring from 4-8m on each side. There are also heaps of stone and large boulders in this area. Ruined stone dykes run across the site at various angles. The function of the structures is not clear, and none of the structures is identifiable as a dwelling although some are probable pens or enclosures.

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name: Garheugh**

**MAP no:** 71

**Grid reference:** NX 26348 51108

**Site types:** cairnfield, clearance cairn(s), pen

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The cairnfield sits in a hollow at the western edge of Garheugh Fell, looking out to sea to the W and SW; partial views to the N and NW but restricted views to the E, S, NE and SE due to the surrounding banks of the hollow. There are at least 6 cairns, possibly clearance cairns. All are between 2m and 4m in diameter except for one long, linear spread of stone measuring c. 7m x 3m, running N-S. Also, numerous possible pens and enclosures: one semi-circular possible sheepbucht c. 3.5m in diameter; three roughly square, c. 2m x 2m x 0.4m; one linear possible sheep ree, 20m x 2m, aligned roughly east to west, with a narrower channel, possibly an entrance race, running for 5m

**Survey date:** 16/02/2012

**Site name:** Rocks of Garheugh

**MAP no:** 71

**Grid reference:** NX 26348 51108

**Site types:** Hut circle (possible)

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

This site, tentatively identified as a hut circle, consists of a stretch of walling c. 1.5m long forming the E side of a possible building. The N side remains only as a rubble pile, no sign of W or S sides. There is no clear form to the possible structure and most of the stone is very overgrown with bracken.

**Survey date:** 15/02/2012

**Site name:** Cruggleton Castle

**MAP no:** 72

**Grid reference:** NX 48430 42826

**Site types:** Castle

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

Set high on a coastal promontory with sheer rocky cliffs are the ruinous remains of Cruggleton Castle, bounded by arable farmland to the W through to the N and sheer cliffs dropping to the sea from the NE through to the SW. Traces of a wide ditch

cross the field about 50m from the remains, running SW-NE.

A recently reconstructed archway standing to about 3m with square footings of 1-2m stands on a base 9m by 9m and 1.5m high. A building abuts this square base to the W, measuring approx. 7m square, walls stand to 0.5m-1m tall. There is an entrance 1m wide in the NE-facing wall of this building, c. 1.5m from the wall of the square structure on which the arch sits. To the W of the low-walled building, all is covered in ivy/creepers making identification of further structures difficult, but a wall certainly extends to the W.

3m to the SE of the archway are the remains of three sides of a second building: all three walls are roughly 3.5m long and survive to a height of 0.7m. To the N of this structure are at least seven rock-cut depressions and channels/ditches as excavated by Ewart (1985). Beyond these, in the NE corner of the summit of the promontory, are the remains of a rectilinear structure, c. 3.3m x 3.5m. Walls are 1.25m wide and survive to up to max. 1.75m tall. A window ledge 0.75m wide survives in its SE wall, with a channel 0.3m x 0.2m extending right through the wall at ground level below. This channel leads out to an external feature - an L shaped wall extending E from the building's E corner and running parallel with the SE wall for 2.5m. It was not considered safe to ascertain further dimensions of this feature. Access to the building seems to have been via an indistinct gap the NW wall.

To the S of this building and abutting it is a smaller rectilinear cell, 2.3m x 1.5m, walls surviving to 2m in the westernmost corner. The outer, NE wall of this structure survives only to max. 0.5m. A channel, perhaps akin to the channel in the abutting structure, runs through the outer wall, measuring 0.25m wide and 0.2m high. There appears to be a further stone-built feature beyond this wall, but its form is indistinct. All of the above features are bounded by a bank running from NE to SW, approx. 4m high, enclosing the site on the promontory.

**Survey date:** 12/03/2012

**Site name:** Fell of Barhullion



MAP 72: *Cruggleteon Castle*

**MAP no:** 73

**Grid reference:** NX 37456 42332

**Site types:** Fort; Chevaux de frise

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

On the summit of Fell of Barhullion, about 1.75km from the coast, are the remains of a fortified site comprising two concentric rings of defences with a chevaux de frise at the northern end. The site is ovoid in shape, aligned NNE-SSW, and measures c. 50m x 25m. A modern trig point sits between the chevaux de frise and the defences at the northern end, and 9m to the S of the trig point, on the summit, is a cairn/shepherd's pile. This beehive-shaped cairn is 2m tall and 3.3m in diameter and contains two engraved stones in the SW side, one reading "The MorleysDumfries 1944" and the other indecipherable. The inner ring of defences comprises an earth-covered bank along the E side, and piles of stone/rubble about 5m wide along the W. Possible entrances are to the S and E. Also on the W side is a revetted drystone cell measuring 1.4m square and 1.1m deep. The ground drops away most steeply on the W side,

where all is covered with large areas of rubble/stone and thorn. No banks/defences are evident here.

On the E side are a series of five hollows/depressions with drystone sides, revetted into the top of the bank. Some of these features have a clear V-shaped form. The largest measures 1.9m x 1.5m x 0.4m, the smallest 1.8m x 1.5m x 0.3m. In the largest of these features, five courses of stonework are visible and stone edgings are visible in all. The lower, outer ring of defences is visible in the form of a flattish platform about 5m wide around the N, E and S of the summit, dropping down to the natural hillside. All is grassed over. The chevaux de frise at the N/NE end of the site takes the form of a number of earth-fast stones, up to 0.75m in height and up to 1.5m long, protruding outwards. Numerous mossy bumps may conceal yet more stones. At the base of the bank in the NE and SE of the site are stretches of earth-fast stones, perhaps representing the wall described by previous surveyors.

At the N end of the site are two natural rocky ridges 6m apart, the W, lower ridge measuring 10m



long and the upper, E ridge 25m; the chevaux de frise continues between the two outcrops. At the S end of the site is a natural gully 5m wide and 20m long running E to W.

**Survey date:** 14/03/2012

**Site name:** Blairbuy

**MAP no:** 74

**Grid reference:** NX 37468 42333

**Site types:** Cup and ring marked rock

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

The carvings sit towards the E end of a long rocky ridge in a hollow N of Fell of Barhullion. Around 14m from the point formed by two dykes, on the flattish top surface of the rock, is a cup mark 5cm in diameter which is surrounded by five concentric circles, the the largest of which measures 33cm in diameter. A partial sixth concentric ring can be seen on the SW side of the carving, and adjacent to the E side of the cup and rings are three wavy parallel grooves, 40cm long, collectively measuring 10cm in breadth.

The entire rock outcrop is overgrown with thick moss, gorse and general vegetation so other markings (including further linear grooves as mentioned by van Hoek) may be concealed.

Three further possible cup marks are visible to the N/NW of the cup and rings, and three further depressions 2m SW of the cup and rings.

**Survey date:** 16/03/2012

**Site name:** Fell of Barhullion

**MAP no:** 75

**Grid reference:** NX 37604 42483

**Site types:** Cup and ring marked rock

**Condition:** Partially preserved

**Description:**

The southernmost dyke around Fell of Barhullion farmstead runs along the top of a rocky outcrop which runs W-E and is exposed on the S side of the dyke. A cup and ring mark (previously recorded as a cup mark) lies on the top surface of the outcrop, 2.25m from its W end, 0.5m from the dyke. The possible ring measures 10cm in diameter and the cup 6cm in diameter. On the vertical face

of the outcrop, about 2m E of the cup and ring mark, c. 1m above ground level, are two pairs of parallel linear grooves, 25cm long, forming a vaguely pear-shaped marking (not previously recorded).

**Survey date:** 15/03/2012

**Site name:** Torhousekie

**MAP no:** 77

**Grid reference:** NX 38046 56577

**Site types:** Standing stones

**Condition:** Mostly ruinous

**Description:**

C. 200m WNW of the Torhouse stone circle, in the NW corner of the same field, lies a boulder measuring up to 1.3m in diameter and 0.7m in height. A substantial rubble spread with no discernible form or features lies to the S/SE of this stone, measuring up to 11m across.

**Survey date:** 15/12/2011

**Site name:** Crouse Stone

**MAP no:** 78

**Grid reference:** NX 36841 55795

**Site types:** Standing stone

**Condition:** Well preserved in places

**Description:**

A large single boulder, c. 0.75m by 0.5m by 0.75m high; possible duplication of NX35NE 16.

**Survey date:** 13/12/2011



**MAP 74:** *Cup and ring marked rock, Blairbuy*