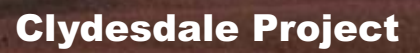


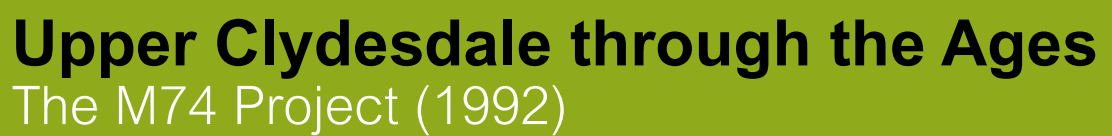
The logo for Biggar Archaeology group is a square with a white border and a dark background. It features the text "Biggar Archaeology group" in white, with "Biggar" on the top line, "Archaeology" in the middle, and "group" on the bottom line. Below the text is the tagline "Bringing the past to the present" in a smaller font.

Biggar
Archaeology
group

Bringing the past to the present

The title "Clydesdale Project" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font on a dark rectangular background in the upper right corner of the image.

Clydesdale Project

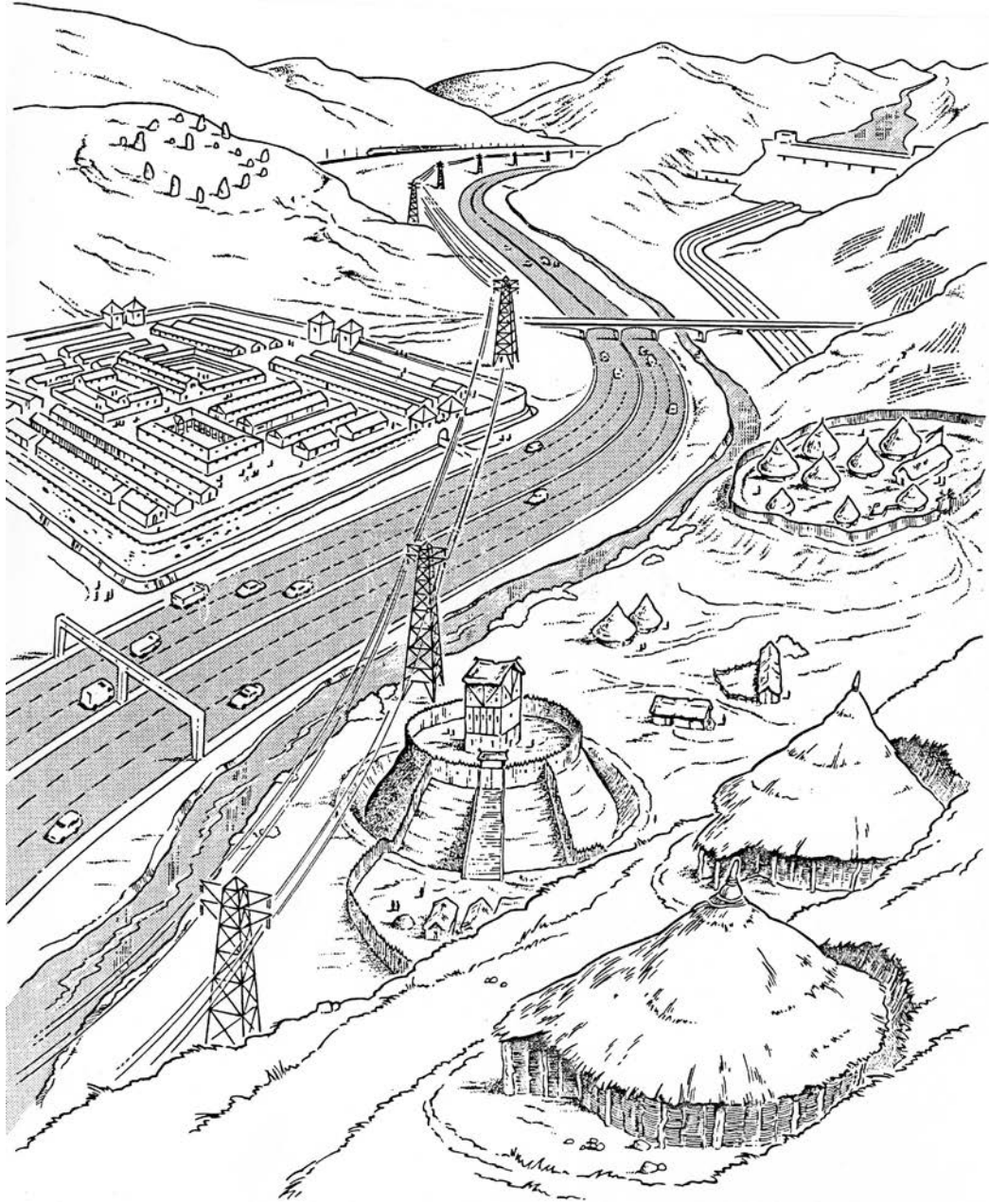
The title "Upper Clydesdale through the Ages" is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below it, the subtitle "The M74 Project (1992)" is written in a smaller, black sans-serif font.

Upper Clydesdale through the Ages
The M74 Project (1992)

by Tam Ward

UPPER CLYDESDALE

Through The Ages



Upper Clydesdale Through The Ages

The M74 Project (Archaeology)

1992 ISBN 0 9520145 0 5

[**DIGITAL FORMAT CREATED 2019**]

The out of print report by Tam Ward on the survey work by the Biggar Archaeology Group as part of the M74 upgrade in Clydesdale, now South Lanarkshire, in 1990, is now available in digitised format.

[www.biggararchaeology.org.uk].

The fully indexed report consists of one hundred and sixteen survey plans with full descriptions, three chapters describing the project, the history of the area and a discussion of the sites included. Appendices cover the following:

- I. Taped offset method of survey
- II Finds
- III Damage caused to unenclosed platform settlements
- IV Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle, possible astronomical significance
- V Identification of a burnt mound
- VI Other recent surveys in Clydesdale
- VII. Site types in Upper Clydesdale
- VIII. Footnotes and references in text
- IX. Abbreviations

Since the survey was completed a vast amount of excavation, research and further survey work has been accomplished in the Upper Clyde valley, by both BAG in a voluntary capacity, and by others especially involved in development funded archaeology.

For example; BAG have completed major projects within reservoirs, commercial forests and in arable fields since this report was produced, significantly new discoveries and research has taken place by BAG, including aspects of the Late Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. All are reported on www.biggararchaeology.org.uk. Similarly, professional work on the Clyde Windfarm and other projects has also added significant knowledge of the ancient past to the local and national data bases.

Consequently the archaeological story of the former area of Upper Clydesdale [now part of South Lanarkshire] has moved forward considerably. Nevertheless, the M74 report stands good for the comprehensive range of survey plans which remain an invaluable tool to students of the upland landscape there; it has not been updated due to the large quantity of work done in the last three decades and is merely reproduced here as a work of its time and place.

The M74 Project
(Archaeology)

THE CLYDESDALE
EXPERIENCE

By Tam Ward
BIGGAR MUSEUMS
JULY 1992

THE WILDSHAW BURN STONE CIRCLE



**Clydesdale
District
Council**



**Strathclyde
Regional
Council**

BIGGAR MUSEUM TRUST

CLYDESDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STRATHCLYDE REGIONAL COUNCIL

HISTORIC SCOTLAND

**BALFOUR BEATTY CONSTRUCTION
LTD**

**NUTTALL LEVACK
(JOINT VENTURE M74)**



**HISTORIC
SCOTLAND**

**WORKING TOGETHER
IN CLYDESDALE
FOR THE PAST
AND THE FUTURE**

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FOREWORD

The value of persistence, the rewards of voluntary effort, and the demonstration of commitment are well illustrated in the final product of the survey work contained in this report. More than that, however, it confirms what our local archaeologists have always suspected, that the Upper Clyde Valley contains a rich heritage of clues to continuous human occupation of the area over several millennia.

The concerns of the Lanark and District Archaeological Society and the Biggar Museum Trust that impending roadworks should not obliterate evidence without investigation but that they possibly represented an opportunity to carry out investigations, were considered by Clydesdale District Council who became enthused enough to turn voluntary concern into official coordinated action.

The District Council's initiative led to joint action by the District Council, Strathclyde Regional Council and Historic Scotland with a remit for archaeological heritage and tapped the goodwill and environmental awareness of the contractors on the M74 development. This coordinated action was focussed through Biggar Museum Trust in the form of a contract to provide an archaeological survey and coordination of any appropriate rescue digs, fronted by the Archaeological Project Officer - Tam Ward.

Although supervised by a steering group of professionals from various authorities, the report is indeed the product of Tam Ward's commitment and extensive knowledge of this southern part of Clydesdale.

This report is a significant development in the recognition of the importance of coordinated archaeological action in advance of large scale civil engineering works in Scotland. It will also provide a valuable source for the local community in the fields of education, conservation, tourism and the arts.

**W GRAHAM U'REN
Director of Planning & Technical Services**

CLYDESDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL AUGUST 1992

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to a great many people who have contributed towards the outcome of the M74 Clydesdale Archaeology Project.

The following funding bodies were of course of paramount importance because of their generosity:

BALFOUR BEATTY CONSTRUCTION LTD	(BB Const' Ltd)
NUTTALLEVACK (JOINT VENTURE M74)	(NL M74)
CLYDESDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL	(CDC)
STRATHCLYDE REGIONAL COUNCIL	(SRC)
HISTORIC SCOTLAND	(HS)

The Project was administered by

Alistair Hackston, Principal Planning Officer, CDC; Carol Swanson, Regional Archaeologist, SRC; Patrick Ashmore, Principal Inspector, HS; Brian Lambie, Director, Biggar Museum Trust

Their support and encouragement were essential throughout the Project.

M74 Site Managers Mr Craig Darroch (BB Const' Ltd) and Mr Jim Scott (NL M74) collaborated in all matters requested by me.

The following members of Lanark and District Archaeology Society and Biggar Museums assisted me with the fieldwalking and survey; enduring my unreasonable 'requests' during the awful winter of 1989 - 90 with remarkable good will:

Margaret and Colin Brown, Jim Ness, Richard Gillanders, Fiona Christison, Janet Ward, Patrick Ward, Michael Ward, Phil and Joan Taylor, Gregg Joyce, Jack Hoxley, Libby Grieve, Peter Lavery, Ian Jones, Ed Archer. To others from both organisations who occasionally assisted, I am also grateful. In particular I owe an additional debt of gratitude to Margaret Brown who assisted with the majority of the survey and fieldwork, usually under trying conditions, throughout the Project.

Father and son, Richard and Richard Ebdon have done preliminary research on the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle at my request. (App IV)

John McDonald organised a team from the Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists who produced a survey of a large cairn group, at my request. (App VI)

Throughout the Project access to land has been sought and freely given by owners, farmers and shepherds, much helpful information was also given by them; the fieldwork was made pleasurable by their interest.

During research, the facilities of the National Monuments Record of Scotland were used, and the friendly help of Leslie Ferguson, Rennie Nicol and Robert Mowat made visits to Edinburgh a pleasant experience. RCAHMS field officers Strat Halliday and David Cowley informed me of certain sites and introduced me to the world of burnt mounds.

Lily Linge, Deirdre Cameron, Leslie McInnes, and Sally Foster of Historic Scotland all assisted in various ways.

The production of this report has perhaps been more of an ordeal than the rigours of the fieldwork, principally because it has been produced 'in house' with the limited resources of the Biggar Museum Trust.

I am extremely grateful to Patrick Ashmore for his work and advice on editing the report text and also to Jean Sloan, Chairman of BMT for translating my vernacular into English. Robert Kerr and Jim Ness of BMT patiently guided me through word processing and the cartoon illustrations are by Steven Gibson.

Stephen Driscoll, John Terry, Alan Leslie and Iain Banks of Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division informed me of their progress during excavations.

The survey plans and District maps are my own work and any inaccuracies are therefore mine. The Ordnance Survey kindly gave permission to use certain map extracts, however the size of the eventual survey area prohibited this on the grounds of production costs, information from OS maps has been copied for maps on pages 209 - 212, and also for the survey contours and NGR points on plans.

Recent surveys in Clydesdale by others have been appended to this report by kind permission, they are acknowledged separately in App VI.

This report [original paper version] has been produced with the assistance of a grant from Historic Scotland to cover 75% of the production costs. It was copied and bound by Clydesdale District Council.

Finally I wish to record my appreciation of my wife, Janet, who has suffered and tolerated what no wife should and has sustained an archaeological zealot for the past two years.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT PART 1

The area known as Clydesdale is and always has been the heart of Southern Scotland, both in physical and metaphorical terms (fig 1). Due to its geographical location and topographical disposition, this district has been a focal point for the migration and settlement of people from the earliest times to the present day. This is reflected in the evidence from the ancient landscape, in the existence of the modern rail network which has its junction at Carstairs and the presence of the main Anglo - Scottish road artery, which is to become the M74 Motorway.

Consequently the ground has been intensively altered during the last 6000 years, and now the surface of the landscape which one sees today is entirely man made. Even the main drainage of the area has been altered to suit the needs of people ⁽¹⁾ and the underlying geology has been exploited for mineral and rock extraction in mines and quarries ⁽²⁾. Much of the vigorous activity of people can still be detected on the ground, giving an insight into particular periods of time.

Because of the restriction of land to the narrow cleft between the hills, especially at Abington in the north and the Clydesdale boundary at Nether Howcleuch in the south, all the main services have had to compete for space within an area relatively dense in archaeological sites (map – page 209).

Given the effects of forestry, pipelines and other major developments (map – page 212), which have all recently eroded the archaeology of Upper Clydesdale, the announcement in 1989 that the A74 dual carriageway would be upgraded to a six-lane motorway, with ancillary roads and service areas, meant that another blow was about to be administered to the beleaguered historic landscape (maps 210 – 211).

This led directly to the development of a local response to record and where possible save the archaeology under threat, from which has evolved the M74 Project (Archaeology).

In anticipation of the extension of the motorway from Millbank to Abington, a group of volunteers from the Lanark and District Archaeology Society (LADAS) and the Biggar Museum Trust (BMT) mustered, their self-appointed task being to inspect the landscape through which the new road was to be built. This was to ensure that no areas of significant archaeological interest would be adversely affected by the road works. The organisers were aware that the area concerned was typically favourable for prehistoric settlement and that little detailed fieldwork had taken place there.

The objectives were

To identify any site or remains on the ground east of the A74 road between Abington and Millbank near Douglas.

To establish if any sites or remains of antiquity would be threatened by the new road construction.

To survey and record any sites of interest located and notify relevant authorities.
To train a team of competent fieldworkers to complement excavation projects already being undertaken by the group.
To record any natural features of interest, such as geological aspects of the area.
To undertake archaeological investigation of any sites, should it prove expedient so to do.

The methodology adopted was to cover the route of the road (which was then only known approximately), the ground on the west, between it and the existing A74, and as much of the area to the east of the new road line as would be possible. It was considered that while the route of the M74 was of paramount importance, the outlying areas were also relevant so that any new sites discovered could be seen in context.

A search for sites on the ground before consulting available records was deemed the best way to approach such a project. As a result the temptation to omit areas of land from the search as being 'unlikely to reveal anything' was resisted. This original strategy was clearly vindicated by subsequent discoveries, most especially the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle.

The system used was for the group to traverse the ground, each person keeping within 10 - 20 metres of their neighbour. Features located at that stage were simply noted with a view to returning for detailed survey.

An area of approximately ten square miles was covered in this manner over a period of five months, between December 1989 and May 1990, the volunteers working on Sundays, nearly always in atrocious weather conditions. Numbers of walkers on each occasion varied between two and ten. With the exception of the writer, the team were initially inexperienced in archaeological fieldwalking and recording procedures.

As a supplement to the work achieved by the voluntary group some survey was undertaken by Archaeology Projects Glasgow (APG), University of Glasgow ⁽³⁾. This was funded by Historic Buildings and Monuments, Scotland (now Historic Scotland). Subsequently one threatened site was partially excavated by APG ⁽⁴⁾. The Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) made a record of threatened lime kilns ^{LunulaMilkburn5}.

By June 1990 the pace of the contractors' operations had overtaken the ability of the voluntary group to monitor events; as a result, some sites (two small cairns of a group of nineteen and a circular enclosure revealed by differential vegetation growth) were lost without adequate record being made of them.

With the aid of funding from Historic Scotland, Strathclyde Regional Council, Clydesdale District Council, Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd and Nuttal Levack (Joint Venture M74), the BMT was able to service the post of Archaeology Project Officer (APO), for a period of 18 months. The writer was appointed in October 1990 and the voluntary group continued to assist with the Project.

The Job Description for the APO was:

(1) To assess the potential archaeological impact of all works associated with the construction of the M74 extension in Clydesdale, including borrow pitting and ancillary developments such as service areas. This assessment to include:-

Checking of available documentary sources, particularly aerial photographs.

Gathering of local knowledge of potential archaeological sites.

Fieldwalking to identify and verify archaeological remains on the ground.

Accurate mapping of archaeological locations.

This work to be carried out as far in advance of the final commitment to the road line as possible.

(2) To identify the impacts on archaeological sites arising from the developments and to suggest appropriate mitigating actions. These may range from preservation by negotiation through further archaeological assessment to large scale excavation as appropriate.

Responsibility for site excavation was not included, but the APO was to identify the need for such work, with provision being made for the sites to be protected.

To identify sensitive areas where a watching brief whilst development proceeds would be desirable and effective.

To carry out watching briefs judged by Historic Scotland and the Strathclyde Regional Archaeologist to be effective and necessary.

To submit a report regularly to an informal committee of officers from the various funding and administering bodies at quarterly meetings.

To draw up a full report at the end of the project giving details of the range of archaeological works carried out over the period.

To submit copies of all archaeological data to the National Monuments Record Scotland (NMRS) and to the Strathclyde Sites and Monuments record. This remit was later widened during the Project, to allow a more comprehensive assessment of the monuments in the district, encompassing a more natural area than the arbitrary one of the road corridor. This was especially desirable for small cairn groups and Unenclosed Platform Settlements (UPS) of which Clydesdale has particularly good examples.

PART 2

The report discusses the wider remit of the APO, what has been achieved, what still has to be done and the ultimate objectives. Because of the range of implications of this unusual project, this report has been written for the benefit of a wide readership.

A diverse and rich range of archaeological sites and monuments can still be found in Clydesdale District. The reasons for this are that the District consists largely of an "upland zone of marginal land suited only for rough grazing, improved grasslands and a relatively small area capable of producing a limited range of crops⁽⁶⁾. Thus most of the ground here has not been developed to any great extent for arable purposes, at least for the last 200 years.

This has resulted in the fortuitous preservation of many sites of antiquity which survive as visible features, sometimes obvious, more often of a very scant and subtle nature, but nevertheless visible to a trained observer. In many other instances, sites can only be detected by techniques such as aerial photography showing the differential growth and ripening patterns of crops or vegetation. This differentiation results from buried features such as ancient ditches or pits retaining moisture for longer periods than the surrounding ground, thus allowing crops to continue growth in the particular area of the feature.

The opposite is the case when old building foundations or piles of stones survive below the turf, allowing those areas to drain and dry out more quickly, and causing vegetation to cease growth.

Where areas of archaeological sensitivity are suspected, for example between or adjacent to known sites, non-destructive techniques can be employed to detect otherwise invisible features. With the use of specialised equipment to measure the varying magnetic fields or resistivity of the ground, anomalies such as stony areas and buried ditches or holes can sometimes be traced beneath the ground surface. The problem then is to differentiate between natural and man-made features.

Hidden sites can also be revealed by disturbance or excavation of the ground through natural or human agencies. Natural processes include animal burrowing or scraping, and the erosive action of wind and rain. Human disruption of the ground is often caused by earth moving machinery on construction sites and by ploughing for agricultural or forestry purposes. When these activities take place on land which has been undisturbed since remote times, artefacts or other evidence of ancient people can be revealed.

If any of the above processes do reveal an archaeological site, and that place becomes threatened for any reason, then it is the duty of the archaeologist either to secure the preservation of the place or secure the information contained within the site. The first option is the more desirable one from the viewpoint of the antiquarian, as the objective is to preserve sites of archaeological significance; the very process of excavation is destructive. However, if for whatever reason, the preservation of a site is not possible, a properly conducted archaeological excavation should be allowed to retrieve all the information from the soil and have that recorded and published for posterity although, ideally, all excavation should be driven by research needs rather than threats.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS OF THE AREA

The study of ancient pre-literate societies and of the lifestyle of humbler classes of people in historic times is exceptionally difficult, because one can only attempt to interpret the material remains they have left on the landscape - if these can be found

Most, but by no means all, large spectacular monuments have been recorded in detail at some time in the past. Others have been noted but not surveyed, more have been

only partially assessed and large gaps in the landscape have never been inspected for sites.

The first major contribution in Clydesdale was made in 1864 by G V Irving, who was co-author of a magnificent effort for its time⁽⁷⁾. He dealt mainly with the hillforts in the area and also discussed the impressive Sim Collection of artefacts⁽⁸⁾, mainly found in this district during the last century.

These were mostly random finds resulting from the drainage or ploughing of new land, although a few objects did derive from excavations' in which Irving himself participated.

Christison (1890) made a valuable attempt to make sense of the hillforts and produced sketches of them⁽⁹⁾.

Much of the area was covered by the RCAHMS, for the production of their Inventory of Lanarkshire which was published in 1978⁽¹⁰⁾. This was a very selective survey in terms both of the areas to be covered and the monument types to be included. Hence mainly the obvious or well known places were recorded. Parts of certain sites, even when known, were not recorded in any detail. The medieval and later monuments were excluded. Such Inventories can easily be assumed to be the definitive record of an area. Fieldworkers should be aware that this is not necessarily so in some parts of Scotland, especially where the Inventory is an early one. These comments should not be taken as a criticism of the RCAHMS; attitudes and priorities have changed over the years. Certain classes of monument were only being discovered in the 1960s and new types are still being found. The point is that even when an area has been inspected in the past, there will often be a case for reviewing the ground for sites such as cairns and burnt mounds.

Fragmentation of the available knowledge of archaeological sites has been a fundamental problem in this District and elsewhere, when any developments are planned. If ignorance of their existence prevails, then it is inevitable that they will become threatened or damaged. Genuine ignorance is of course a legitimate excuse, however unfortunate, if a site is damaged.

The only archaeological sites which have any legal protection are the Scheduled Ancient Monuments of Scotland, under the auspices of Section 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. These come under the jurisdiction of Historic Scotland acting on behalf of the Secretary of State. Of 4500 such sites there are 43 in the area of this report. Some of the newly discovered sites are already planned to be Scheduled. This fact alone indicates the quality of the antiquity of the district. But what about the rest of the archaeological iceberg?

Many individual sites and occasional find spots have been located over the years by a variety of people. This information is, or should be, available in the National Monuments and Records of Scotland, (NMRS) which is part of the RCAHMS. Nevertheless it has been the long held view that a competent Local Archaeological

Sites and Monuments Record in Clydesdale would be an invaluable asset. Elsewhere in Britain such records have proved to be of great value to local planners, landowners, developers and other users of the landscapes especially for the purposes of leisure, recreation and education.

Such a database would also preclude the conflict of interests which can often occur when a change of use is proposed, as all available information could readily be considered.

Such a local record would not duplicate the information held by the NMRS. It would, in addition to maintaining local records and serving as a collecting and distribution point for information, provide an access point to information in the NMRS. The two collections of information; local and national, would harmonise, each strengthening the other, and between them would provide a rich public record.

It may be possible to realise such a local record for this part of Clydesdale as a result of the M74 Project. This itself will be an achievement considering the large number of sites within the area of which no satisfactory record existed prior to the Project.

THE PROJECT FIELDWORK

The map on page 209 shows how much of the District has now been looked at in some detail on the ground.

A total area of some 550 Square Km (340 Square miles) has been inspected. This covers parts of the Parishes of Douglas, Wiston, Roberton, Lamington, Crawfordjohn and Crawford; being areas of eighteen 1:10,000 OS sheets ⁽¹¹⁾ about 85% of the total area of Upper Clydesdale. It is reckoned that the remaining area of the District will reveal similar new sites when it is checked out. The higher tops of some hills in the area were omitted from the search as were large tracts of forest which now cover parts of Upper Clydesdale. The forest areas do have within them archaeological sites, detectable on early aerial photographs, but they are so densely planted that only a dedicated and systematic attempt to explore them would allow identification of previously known sites and the location of new ones. The interpretation of these places is obviously now very difficult, except for rig and furrow and some field boundaries, both of which probably date to the post medieval period. Only ground inspection could determine the true nature of possible circular enclosures and possible cairns or mounds. Ground inspection was attempted at Fall Kneesend ⁽¹²⁾ and with some difficulty a sheep stell and several impressive cairns were located. A Scheduled Ancient Monument ⁽¹³⁾ is also 'lost' in this wood.

The main aim was to locate new sites but known places have been visited and detail has been added to them. Comparisons between previous reports and those given here will show that resurvey has resulted in a better understanding of the total landscape. None of the hillforts or defensive settlement sites were resurveyed during the Project, although they were visited in the course of fieldwork. It was considered that the more elusive sites are the important ones for the purposes of the Project.

The ground was walked systematically in traverse. No areas other than those stated above were omitted. In general the vegetation conditions were favourable for finding sites and in some cases differential species growth provided a good indicator of features. High summer bracken was the main obstacle to fieldwork.

When a detailed measured survey is in production, there are always aspects noticed that were missed on the first inspection of the site. Repeated visits to places will often produce new points of detail, especially at different times of the day or season, because of the lighting effects or growth conditions of the vegetation.

Surveys were done by the Tape Offset Method (see appendix I) which is perfectly adequate for ground which is not excessively steep. The system has the advantage that plans are usually produced on site at the time of surveying. Discrepancies can be rectified, or adjustments made and therefore the surveyor can leave the site with confidence in the result. This technique needs only two people (or even one) but three are preferable. Because it is usually slower than using optical instruments, more detail of a site gets noticed, especially the vegetation and other ground conditions such as soils and stones.

Different scales were adopted as appropriate for producing the finished drawings; 1:1000 scale was used for large areas, 1:500 scale was used where greater detail was desirable, for example on most UPS sites. Where small scales were used some additional detail was recorded separately.

A colour slide photographic record was taken throughout the fieldwork. This contains mainly landscape photography but also covers the excavations which took place on some of the sites under threat. The types of monument under consideration here are notoriously difficult to photograph effectively. It was not possible to survey every site in detail for the purposes of this report. However it is the author's aspiration to accomplish this for the entire area of Upper Clydesdale to help form a comprehensive local Sites and Monuments Record.

ARTEFACTS

Although a very large area of ground was walked in detail, only a few objects were found. These were all stone artefacts, and only three were tools: a chert scraper, a chert leaf shaped arrowhead and a flint knife (see appendix II). The rest were pieces of worked chert (which is locally derived) and are the detritus of tool making in prehistoric times.

This was somewhat disappointing considering the vast expanses of ground which were opened by the road contractors through areas of known archaeology.

All the excavations and spoil dumps were inspected for chance finds. The dumps were again checked when landscaping took place - all to no avail. It was important to do this because there have been spectacular objects retrieved in the past in the vicinity of the road, such as a gold lunula, a massive silver Pictish chain, a bronze sword and

cauldron, to name but a few. Ironically, items such as these are seldom if ever found when actually looking for antiquities.

Most of the site inspections were done soon after the topsoil was stripped, and this may be a factor worth considering. It was found to be virtually hopeless to keep up with several machines on a motorway site and to check the stripped ground as well as the material being dumped at some distance away. Within minutes the ground was totally churned up; and the dumps were of the order of three metres deep. For all practical purposes it can be said that at least a couple of million cubic metres of topsoil and peat were removed without detailed scrutiny.

RESEARCH

Several lines of documentary research were followed using records housed in Edinburgh, to back up the fieldwork. The most obvious were the records and aerial photographs (AP's) held in the NMRS. Historical Maps were consulted in the Scottish Records Office, West Register House; OS and other maps were inspected at the National Library Map Room ⁽¹⁴⁾. The resources of the BMT were of course employed. Much local information is available there in different forms, but the records at BMT are not as yet comprehensive. Local information was solicited in the vicinity of the Project and proved to be very helpful.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

There are two sets of Aerial Photographs (AP's) in the NMRS; the oblique and vertical photographs. There are problems in their use. The Oblique Photographs are of better quality as they were taken specially by the RCAHMS and the Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography, under favourable conditions at relatively low altitudes and specifically for archaeological purposes. These excellent prints are therefore of great value for the assessment and survey of known sites, and are particularly good for plotting crop mark sites, with reasonable accuracy. The obvious problem is their selectivity of cover; less obvious, but an impediment to accurate plotting, is the lack of reference points identifiable both on the photographs and on maps.

The Vertical AP's (VAP) were taken in the years immediately after the last war from 1946 to the mid 1950s. Their principle advantage is that they cover virtually the entire landscape; in some cases there are even duplicate sets taken at different times. The RAF flew sorties on an East-West orientation with each print in sequence overlapping that taken before it ⁽¹⁵⁾. By viewing two prints together in a stereoscopic viewer, (available in the NMRS) often startling results are observed, especially for high relief features such as ditches and banks, rig and furrow.

Perhaps the major significance and value of these VAP's is that they were obtained before many of the post-war developments had taken place: for example, before road building, pipe laying, National Grid power lines, extensive quarrying, urban and farm development and of course the ubiquitous Sitka spruce forests. The benefit of this

record of the countryside must be obvious. From these prints the attrition and even eradication of features over a relatively short period of time can be grasped.

The disadvantages are that they were taken at varying altitudes, all above 10,000 feet (c.3330 metres) and are therefore of inharmonious scales for different flight paths⁽¹⁶⁾. Because a continuous sequence was shot, occasional clouds and other atmospheric obscure parts of the land. Mainly because of the topography and land use of Upper Clydesdale, they do not show up crop mark sites here, as is often the case elsewhere. The seasonal factor is also relevant, for usually crop marks are only detectable during very dry periods when the crop is still ripening. These images were not taken for archaeological purposes, although they are still a great resource for fieldworkers, showing the entire landscape, which is necessary for students endeavouring to understand its physiognomy.

Reliance should never be placed on aerial photographs alone to establish the nature of the land. The most important monument found during the Project is the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle; it cannot be traced on any of the available AP's although they cover the area within which it lies. Generally the writer found the VAP's more useful for corroboration purposes. Many cairns can be detected faintly on them, but they can never be interpreted with confidence from the photos alone. Similar 'smudges' appear on other prints which are shown on field inspection not to be cairns. There is no substitute for fieldwalking to establish the detail of the landscape⁽¹⁷⁾.

MAPS

The various editions of OS sheets were consulted. These give the well known sites such as the hillforts and defensive settlements as well as occasional find spots marked by an antiquity cross and short description, sometimes with a date. This latter information varies between the editions. Ordnance Survey archaeological record cards, now housed in the NMRS, should be consulted in conjunction with the maps. Settlement sites such as the unenclosed platform settlements (UPS) and ritual sites such as henges have only recently been included on OS maps. Therefore all revisions should be checked. This information is available in the NMRS and also in the National Library of Scotland Maps Department.

Historical maps are more interesting because often details on them are not available in the NMRS or the National Library. Local libraries or museums should first be consulted for these and the Scottish Records Office, at West Register House, holds the most extensive resource of such maps.

The earliest map of this area with any detail is the Timothy Pont Manuscript Map of Clydesdale, 1596⁽¹⁸⁾. This should not be confused with the published version of 1654 by Johannis Blaeu, the famous Dutch cartographer. The Manuscript is one of the few which survive from this pioneering episode of Scottish mapping. It is invaluable, illustrating the post-medieval settlement of the area, showing individual farms. Roy's map of Scotland 1747-1755 also gives good details of the land, especially farms, rig fields, early enclosures and plantations and also the earliest tracks on maps. After that

there is a series of late 18th century and 19th century maps, produced mainly as County or Estate maps for the landed gentry. Roads and the later development of communities and also emerging industries can be traced on these maps. A number of the sites located in the Project have been identified as 17th and early 18th century farms and cott houses as they are indicated on these maps ⁽¹⁹⁾.

LOCAL RESOURCES

The archive of the BMT is limited, like the historical maps, to helping with the post-medieval and early modern periods. It is however important to understand these as well as the more remote eras. There is a great gap in the knowledge of the landscape from post-Roman times up to the early medieval, and again from the 12th century (when the Parishes were formed) until the 18th century. The so called Dark Ages ⁽²⁰⁾ here, as elsewhere, are a great mystery, but they may be represented in Clydesdale by some of the defended settlement sites. With the exception of Crawford castle, which is built on a motte, and the motte and bailey at Abington, it is as though no one lived in this area after prehistoric times until the 17th century.

This problem is being redressed to some extent in Clydesdale by the information gleaned from the archaeological/historical Bastle Project, operated by the same people who initiated the M74 Project. The records and finds assemblages from the various sites are archived and displayed in the Moat Park Heritage Centre in Biggar. One new bastle house with farm buildings has been found as a result of the M74 Project; Thorril Castle near Millbank ⁽²¹⁾. This site is adjacent to the new road and was given great prominence during the early stages of the road works, lest the site be damaged. Happily this 17th century defensive farmhouse has not been touched by the motorway. In the same vicinity are several deserted farms, most likely of similar date ⁽²²⁾.

During the course of fieldwork most owners, farmers and shepherds were consulted, and some problems were solved by them, mostly interpretation of modern features like the abandoned Crawford golf course ⁽²³⁾, of which the slighted bunkers, tees and greens can be misleading. Some of the greens look like well preserved Bronze Age house platforms - and there are such sites on either side of this old golf course. Another interesting problem was why a well constructed dam should be built on a remote burn a mile away from Crawford. It was built as a water supply by the Polish Brigade during their temporary encampment there at the time of the last war. Similarly, rail tracks protruding through the surface of the road to the Camps Reservoir are the remains of a temporary railway built by German POWs for construction of the dam, during the First World War. All this information was gleaned from the local farmers.

Why are small standing stones clearly set up, in an expanse of open moorland? Just ask the shepherd - so that the sheep can give themselves a good scratch! The stones are within sight of the stone circle and could easily cause confusion, until their true purpose is confirmed by local knowledge. One mystery remains unsolved, despite advertising for an answer. Who was Lady Mantle? A huge erratic boulder overlooks

Crawford village. According to the Ordnance Survey Name Book the stone was regularly whitewashed last century. Why? and who is the Lady it commemorates?

PROJECT OUTCOME

Much has been achieved since December 1989 when the Project was born. The corpus of new sites has been enhanced significantly and, taken with reassessment of many known sites; the landscape archaeology of the area may now be better understood. New types of site such as the stone circle, stone huts, ring enclosures and burnt mounds introduce fascinating aspects to the landscape archaeology equation of this District. All this information will augment the database for future debate on the development of the area, from about 5000 to 300 years ago. Some of this will be relevant to other parts of Scotland.

Consultation with the contractors, especially with Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd, before they started earth moving operations, ensured that quarries and land fill sites did not encroach on the identified sites at that stage. Planning applications were therefore relieved of problems of that nature from the start of the M74 construction in early 1990.

It has been some satisfaction that only a few known sites have been destroyed in the Millbank to Nether Abington section of the M74 in Clydesdale without proper recording or excavation.

Much of the credit is due to the amateur group who assisted with the early fieldwork on the Project. Historic Scotland initiated some early survey which was carried out by APG on sites in the Wildshaw area. The RCAHMS made surveys of the visible remains of the lime kilns in the same area. Unfortunately the speed of operations by the contractors made it impossible to have more detailed records made of these kilns before they were destroyed.

Given the area of disturbance caused by the two new stretches of motorway construction up to 1992, which is a total of 161 Ha ⁽²⁴⁾, it is quite remarkable that only two small cairns, a possible hut circle and an area of the Wildshaw Lime Works and kilns were lost without adequate investigation.

One of the outcomes has been the detailed assessment of all the known archaeological sites in the area. This has highlighted many examples of damage being caused by numerous processes (see appendix III). Added together this amounts to a considerable erosion of the monuments. Landowners and users can now be informed about the sites which exist on their ground and be encouraged to protect them. The key to the preservation of any heritage site is an awareness of its existence and significance by those people who make use of the land.

The survey work and reports by the BMT are produced here along with supplementary information on the area.

Much new information can be added to the fieldwork by the forthcoming results from the excavations which have taken place on the M74. All this rescue excavation was carried out in advance of the inevitable destruction of the sites by the new motorway. Historic Scotland ensured that any sites which were threatened by the road were excavated and some were surveyed. This work was done by Archaeology Projects Glasgow, (now known as Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division, GUARD) Excavations of further sites are planned for the next phase of the road south of Elvanfoot.

APG (GUARD) have produced various preliminary reports on their excavations and survey with final reports in progress. One particular document (APG 29) is a desk top study of the impact of the M74 on the archaeological remains along a 500M wide corridor. This all adds to the database of the archaeology of the area and will be available at Biggar as well as in the NMRS in Edinburgh. The work by APG was funded by Historic Scotland.

This final report on the Project will also be made available on a reasonably wide basis to interested parties. The Archaeology Project Officer was keenly aware that such a Project and the sponsors of it deserved to have as much publicity as possible. To this end there have been several BBC Radio broadcasts. Numerous national and local newspaper reports have also appeared, as well as articles in several archaeology society and other news sheets. Several slide illustrated talks have been given to groups on the various aspects of the Project. The local group have been encouraged to seek more training in order to deal with fieldwork on an ongoing basis, and also to be able to respond to any emergency situation which may arise in the future. Their techniques and confidence have improved and their level of contribution to the preservation and interpretation of the heritage of this District has been considerable. BMT have taken initiatives to encourage local people, and especially young people of school age, to increase their awareness of the heritage issues in their own locality, with the aim of involving them⁽²⁵⁾. The Biggar Museums are becoming an important centre for much of this activity and the local knowledge and experience gained by the APO, during the Project, has greatly enhanced the ability of the Museum in this respect.

Clydesdale is an area where Scottish archaeology can be studied in all its aspects from initial fieldwork and excavation through to final presentation to the general public. It is commended as an ideal training area for students of the past.

The financial contributions of Clydesdale District Council, Strathclyde Regional Council, Historic Scotland and the road contractors Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd and Nuttal Levack (Joint Venture M74) are a significant investment in the preservation of the heritage of Clydesdale, without which much more would have been lost, and with which an advancement of our knowledge of the past has been made, for the benefit of all.

CHAPTER 2

HISTORY OF THE UPPER CLYDESDALE LANDSCAPE

This section is intended to put the landscape archaeology of Upper Clydesdale into a historical context.

After the major geological epochs which formed the topography of the underlying and surface landscapes, plants, animals and people arrived in a natural sequence to colonise the ground. By the time man first set foot in the area, possibly 9000 years ago, in a hunter/gathering, nomadic existence, all but the tops of the hills would be covered in mixed deciduous and possibly some pine forest. Many animals, now extinct in Britain, would roam the wooded glens here. Some animals such as brown bear, elk, wolf and boar would have been an ideal food source for the hunters, whereas some of these beasts may have seen the hunter in a similar manner. A natural landscape would exist at that time.

Using the profound and cumulative technology of the stone axe, and importantly, knowingly how to domesticate animals and grow crops, the first farmers of the Neolithic Period settled along the banks of the great rivers. Dating to between 4500 and 4000 years ago, the Class II henge monument at Crawford ⁽²⁶⁾ represents a ritual aspect of a small established agrarian society. Was this a meeting place of some sort, perhaps for ceremony and ritual, or for judiciary or trade purposes? Most likely it was an amalgam of all. Other aspects of this earliest culture may have been erased by subsequent development of the land - or may yet await discovery, as did the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle.

The landscape has been radically changed from that time by the actions of the people who have lived there.

The next breakthrough in technology was the discovery and use of metals. Many problems still exist as to the origins of the Bronze Age people. Were they a new immigrant society bringing this technology, and their customs and beliefs, with them? or was there a gradual integration of existing tribes as a result of trade? If we compare remains of 4500 years ago with those of 4000 years ago, we do see distinctive differences in practices such as burial ritual and, where they have been found, house sites.

There appears to be little of the art and design of the former cultures which is reflected in the later period, although there must have been an overlap of the 'late Neolithic' and the early Bronze Age 'beaker' peoples. Henges for instance, were built or at least used by both groups. The recent discovery on Biggar Common of a polished stone axe with a cord decorated, waisted beaker in the same burial, which was an inhumation, indicates the interface between these cultural groups ⁽²⁷⁾.

The pottery from both the groups is quite distinctive and little if any of the Bronze Age metal work seems to represent the earlier stone tools, such as arrowheads or axes. One might expect, for example, that the early bronze axes would have been a similar shape to those of the Neolithic period. No tiny bronze arrowheads have been found; they continued to be made from silicic rocks such as flint or chert, but in a different shape.

Groups of small stone cairns have been shown to contain the individual inhumation or cremation of Bronze Age people. Often included in the graves are ornate pottery and stone tools; jet beads and metal objects are also found, but more rarely. Many of the hundreds of small cairns may simply be the product of field clearance. The recent excavation at Stonyburn

cairns and those forthcoming at Fall Kneesend will greatly enhance our understanding of these small enigmatic piles.

Enclosed Cremation Cemeteries are circular enclosures within which there are one or more burial plots surrounded by a low bank. Several features in the District may fit this category of monument, although some of them may be prehistoric house sites or even stock enclosures of relatively modern date.

Within site of the M74 at Crookedstane Farm there is a standing stone ⁽²⁸⁾. These megaliths are thought to date to the Bronze Age and are usually found on arable land, as this one is. Their function remains an enigma; were they meeting places, boundary markers or ritual centres? From evidence elsewhere, grave sites tend to be ruled out. The 'cup' marks on this stone are the product of natural erosion and are not man made. The farm name of Crookedstane is traceable as early as 1479 ⁽²⁹⁾.

The hill faces overlooking the M74 for a distance of about 10 miles are covered in monuments of the Bronze Age. Groups of unenclosed platform settlements (UPS) reveal the villages of 3000 years ago. Located at heights of around 300M OD, these are the earliest known house sites in the area. Round timber huts with porches over their doors were built on circular and oval shaped platforms; these were made by quarrying the hill face and forming a levelled stance with the material, often using other rocks, possibly gathered from the fields, to make the front apron or scarp. The UPS were arranged in groups on the sides of hills forming nucleated settlement. They are a characteristic feature of Clydesdale.

We can see evidence for field systems in the form of terraces, which are broad strips of ploughed ground across the hill faces. The Project surveys clearly show for the first time that several groups of UPS, cairns and traces of field systems are in close proximity. The apparent association of these features may indicate that they are contemporary in some cases.

Judging by excavation in Argyll ⁽³⁰⁾ we might expect burials contemporary with the UPS to be under small cairns with distinctive kerbs of vertical stones, of a kind which have not yet been recognised in Upper Clydesdale. Some small stone circles, again of a kind not yet discovered in Upper Clydesdale, may also belong to at least the early part of this period.

The discovery in 1991 of a series of burnt mounds in Upper Clydesdale (see BMT surveys) will most probably further elucidate life in the later Bronze Age. Several have now been found for the first time in this area and two have been excavated ⁽³¹⁾. Often shown to date to the Bronze Age, the type does however span a long period of time. Dating is not a problem, because they always contain charcoal which can be dated by the carbon¹⁴ method. Their function is however debatable, although the consensus of opinion favours a cooking site; the alternative argument is that they are saunas! Whether these places represent stew pots or saunas, or both, remains a tantalising question. What took place is abundantly evident: water was being heated in a wooden or stone tub in a pit beside a spring or burn, by roasting rocks in a fire and putting them into the 'pot'. The result of this repeated process was a pile of heat shattered rock and charcoal from the fire.

One thing seems clear: up to about 3000 years ago there was no need for defended settlements. It is unlikely that by this time the people were still living in a totally egalitarian society because they were using sophisticated weapons of bronze in the later period up to about 700BC. Axes, spears and arrows could equally be used for hunting or working tools - but not swords!

From 1100 to 500BC there was a significant climatic deterioration with a drop in mean temperatures of a few degrees, and increased precipitation of rain. This protracted period of colder and wetter weather was the main cause for peat accumulation in the uplands and would have shortened the average growing season by several weeks. Throughout its duration there must have been a major shift of land use and settlement from the higher altitudes.

By the middle of the first millennium BC, the unenclosed platform houses had been abandoned and a new type of habitation site was being developed, still high up, indeed even higher than the UPS's in many cases. In the run up to the first century AD, defensive enclosed settlements and hillforts were making their appearance, perhaps as early as 500BC. Occupying the summits of hills which were better suited for defence, this new type of village represents the Iron Age when Celtic tribal groups were being formed. The distinct contrast between totally exposed houses on the side of a hill and the less convenient location on top of the hill tells of stress building up for some reason.

The most likely explanation is that good land was becoming scarce, because what was previously the better low lying arable ground on the river plain may have been in greater demand, over-used and therefore could have become less productive since the higher areas would in some cases not even be suitable for pasture. Several large areas, including places with groups of houses and cairns ⁽³²⁾, are now covered in peat which grew as a result of the changed climate. There seems little evidence to suggest a population increase was responsible for the change, most likely the economy shifted from a surplus to a subsistence level of food production as the higher ground became untenable. Local tension resulting from competition for land may be a factor, but a gradual conflict of interest is also probable, as a result of political tribal alliances being developed over larger territories.

On an environmental note, the evidence at this stage indicates that man's interference with the natural ecology of the land was now beginning to work against him. The destruction of practically the entire forest cover for agricultural clearance, building and fuel purposes now meant that increased rainfall would not be dissipated from a forest canopy, soil erosion of the steeper slopes would be caused by the runoff of surface water. The land on the less steep slopes became saturated, allowing the previous good brown forest soils to be inundated with sphagnum moss which had nothing to compete with it, hence its continued dominance of large tracts of Upper Clydesdale, rendering those areas of little use to man or beast even today.

The present day disasters in disturbed ecological systems throughout the world indicate the inability of the human race to learn from the past.

By the time Agricola arrived about AD80 the major hillforts such as Arbory, overlooking Abington, and Blackhill near Crawfordjohn, may have been fully developed. Defences were comprised of one or more deep V-shaped ditches, steep ramparts and sometimes massive stone walls, laced with timber. The ramparts and walls were crowned by a timber stockade and the entrances had gates, possibly with watchtowers above them. In Clydesdale the evidence suggests round timber huts were the norm within these defences.

There are the traces of defensive settlements on terraces beside or near the River Clyde. These are only evident as crop marks viewed from the air. In some cases they may post-date the Roman period but are generally thought to be earlier. This is the only evidence for people living on the flood plain of the Clyde until the modern settlements dating from the 18th century. Unremitting use of the flat ground here has obliterated any other indications of early

activity or structures, which must have existed on this area. Civilisation (according to the Roman idea) was now imposed on the country by the bloody Pax Romana. The Roman period has left a sinuous legacy of the earliest formalised road systems. The Legions also built temporary camps, forts and fortlets at regular intervals along their highways. Watchtowers were sometimes placed at strategic points beside the road. Upper Clydesdale has an excellent representation of all these types of site.

The initial incursion was in AD79/80 under Agricola, the man given the task of conquering Britain. This was the first of three major Roman campaigns in the area, the next two being in short succession in the Antonine period, from AD142 to AD165. Crawford was occupied each time; the unusually small, permanent fort was built, dismantled and rebuilt on each occasion.

One of the best surviving examples of a temporary camp can be seen at Little Clyde. Normally the ditches are all that survives of these overnight halting places, but here the earthworks and even gate positions can be seen. At the end of a day's march the soldiers would pitch leather tents for the night. Each man placed a pointed stake, which was part of his kit, in the bank of the enclosure for added security.

There is no evidence that the Romans came along the Clyde during the campaign of Emperor Septimus Severus in AD209 or any later expeditions, but there may have been occasional forays into the area by the Romans after the Antonine Period.

Although the Legionaries destroyed their own forts when they abandoned them, the country inherited the roads. They have probably continued in use throughout the subsequent centuries until the formal roads were built in the 18th century.

After the Romans had abandoned Britain, a cloud of mystery descends on the landscape. The so called Dark Ages are well named here as elsewhere. People still must have occupied the area, but where is the evidence? Probably some of the hilltop sites, perhaps the lower ones, were occupied by the native population up to the middle of the first millennium AD. The massive silver Pictish chain found last century near Crawfordjohn⁽³³⁾ indicates contact with other parts of the country at this time, but such random finds only raise more questions.

The growing influence of Christianity is suggested by several sites where early religious places may have been founded. Place names such as Glencaple, Kirkgill, Coldchapel and Nunnerie all give clues, but confirmation must wait until other evidence is located.

Constantine's church at Kirkton was probably dedicated in the 7th century to the son of a Strathclyde chieftain, and not, as one might suppose, to the great Roman Emperor of that name who legalised Christianity at York in AD312; but again uncertainty prevails.

The more documented periods of the 12th century are easier to grasp.

The motte at Crawford, with its later stone castle, and the well preserved motte and bailey at Abington are the only surviving settlement sites known from the early medieval period. Perhaps some of the rig and furrow field systems, such as those above Kirkton Farm and on the other side of the Clyde, high on the south facing slope of Castle Hill, belong to this time. However, these ancient fields have always been difficult to place into a chronological context.

It does however appear that no stone, turf or earth structures were created by the peasantry until the late 16th or early 17th centuries in Clydesdale. All previous buildings and fences must have been made with wood, which have left no surface traces.

The large expanse of land between Leadhills, Crawford and Abington was known as the Friars Muir, it was used for rearing sheep, and also for mining the precious gold and lead, by the Cistercian monks of Newbattle. Through their influence in the area, which lasted for 500 years, a chapel at the castle of Crawford was dedicated to St Thomas the Martyr. The early religious establishments were famous for their sheep rearing organisation in southern Scotland from the 12th century. This seems to have been the main agricultural economy driving the wealth of the area from that time until the 17th century, and even up to the present time.

Before the 17th century the entire population must have been connected directly to the land as farmers or labourers. Any manufactured goods other than those for home consumption must have been brought into the district, most likely by itinerant pedlars and sold or bartered at village fairs.

Where is the evidence for the daily lives of the people who must have lived here for over a thousand years after the Romans had left? Perhaps it exists in the many small rectangular buildings which are seen as low grassy banks and are to be found beside nearly all the burns which are the tributaries of the Clyde. The people must have lived in dispersed houses, certainly from the 10th or 11th centuries AD. Presumably there would have been a few houses beside the 12th century feudal motte castles, which gave birth to the modern settlements in the area, but by and large the houses of the peasantry would be scattered.

It is not until the late 16th century that farming practices in this area can be traced on the ground with any confidence.

The Bastle Project was begun in 1981⁽³⁴⁾ by the BMT. It is an ongoing research programme dealing with the history and archaeology of a series of deserted farms, which were occupied throughout the 17th century.

This period of Anglo-Scottish history is well documented for the Border areas⁽³⁵⁾ but is less adequate for Clydesdale. One interesting reference to the lawlessness of the times is in an Act of Parliament of 1587, which ratified a charter of James VI in which the Baron of Newbattle is granted the Friars Mure in Crawford, and in which the following observation of the area is given; "that part of the Kingdom that is most exposed to robbery, theft and foray"⁽³⁶⁾. After 1603 when the two countries were united under one crown by James VI, he eventually and ruthlessly solved the problem of the border raiding and the reivers by executing or deporting the perpetrators.

Current research by the BMT is showing that a new and prosperous level of society was emerging in Clydesdale by circa 1600: tenant farmers, who were improving the land and rearing comparatively large flocks of sheep and some cattle. This is somewhat earlier than most histories of Scottish rural studies show for the 'agricultural revolution'.

These farmers were wealthy enough to build themselves robust and architecturally superior houses which surpassed anything previously built, and it can be said that no further improvements were made in Scottish vernacular farmhouses until the 19th century in this area. These stone and mortar defensive farmhouses were a direct manifestation of the lawlessness of the period. They were similar in function to the bastle houses of England, but the Clydesdale examples are distinctive in architectural detail and are unique as such, as far as is known. The respective landscapes in each country are also different in as much as the emphasis in England is on arable land while that in Clydesdale is pastoral⁽³⁷⁾.

After an initial success during the 16th century, the industrial search for alluvial gold in the Glengonnar and Shortcleuch Water's declined in the 17th century. It was now the baser metal,

lead, which was to prove a metaphorical gold mine. In the glorious subsequent days of Leadhills over 2000 people lived and worked to produce the valuable grey ore.

All this newfound wealth from the land meant several things. Trade and contact were increased dramatically because the produce from both mines and farms had to be exported outwith the area. The rural economy was developing into a cash system of exchange because of the variety and increase of material wealth. These factors and the peculiar politics of the time led to the often romanticised, but in reality brutally executed, deeds of the border raiders or reivers. Instances of murder and rapine in this area are recorded in contemporary documents.

Anyone with movable goods, especially those on the hoof and cash, had to ensure his security; in some places in Clydesdale this was achieved by building a bastle house. They were occupied from the late 16th century to the end of the 17th century, when most had been abandoned for a more convenient location nearer the main thoroughfares.

These 17th century fermtouns are the principle site type of the later periods. Some may overlie earlier medieval settlements, but so far no evidence prior to the late 16th century has been found. Many of the modern farms in the area are certainly on the same spot as their predecessors. The deserted farms survive in remarkable condition, sometimes with the ruins of a stone and mortar bastle house beside the ancillary stone and turf buildings which are shown to be other houses and byres. The enclosed fields with turf dykes and patches of lazy bed complete the scene.

By the 17th century the entire landscape was virtually treeless. Peat was used as a fuel and even turf was burnt in the absence of accessible peat. Acts of Parliament ⁽³⁸⁾ were passed to discourage this wasting of the ground. Turf was still the chief building material for cott houses and other structures until the 18th century. Traces of peat and turf cutting areas are evident in many parts of Upper Clydesdale, and because of the shapes this has sometimes left on the ground, they can often give misleading impressions of past land use, making interpretation difficult.

There are several references in 19th century local history sources ⁽³⁹⁾ to "strong houses" and "defensive farmhouses", "recently removed" and in one case washed away by the Shortcleuch Water, the number of these defensive farmhouses was clearly greater than is now known. However, the history of these farms is better understood as a result of a series of excavations by the local amateur group and the historical research is slowly being undertaken with the consequence that no other area of the south of Scotland can equal the opportunity in Clydesdale of understanding this particular period of local history. The discovery of a further site beside the M74 and several deserted farms have enhanced the database of this Project.

It was the search for this particular aspect of Clydesdale archaeology that led to the awareness of the wealth of undiscovered sites and monuments in the District, and the hitherto unreported damage being inflicted on them by various processes. Parts of this rich legacy of archaeology now lie within forestry areas or below reservoirs. It is also interesting to note the juxtaposition of cairn groups, UPS, terraces and post-medieval farms. This indicates an extended use of the same land over at least 3000 years, but not necessarily continuity of use.

From the 17th century, lime was required for building purposes and for fertilizer, which was used by enterprising farmers and landowners who now realised the potential of improving the value of their land. Small quarries for hard rock and roofing slates were opened up for building stones. By the end of the 18th century, miles and miles of drystane dykes were being built as

marches over the hills and moors, replacing pits and small cairns which had to be regularly checked to avoid disputes over the boundaries. This problem was resolved by about 1800 when the more permanent stone and wire boundaries were installed. Dykes were built at Glengiech by 1806 and at Smithwood by 1809. This system of enclosure was being replaced as early as 1850 by wire fences. In the late 19th century stone was used to start building small structures on the hills which can often be very confusing especially when found in a ruinous state. They can look deceptively like tiny shieling huts. They are the shooting butts of the gentry, whose passion for the seasonal slaughter of grouse and partridge still prevails in the area. Butts are always found in lines, running up the hill flank, in heather for grouse and in grasslands for partridge. Still on the subject of recreation, one stone quarry at Craighead near Crawfordjohn was worked especially to extract a distinctive hard and attractive type of rock – Essexite - to make much sought after and prized curling stones.

Rock was also quarried all over the area for road building. Up to about 1750 there were still no proper roads through the district, only muddy or dusty tracks. The lead ore and ingots were transported in pannier bags on the backs of long strings of pack horses. This often caused sunken or hollow ways to be created as the tracks were worn or eroded. Similarly, drove roads or loans mark out the routes of regular cattle drives across the country. One of these can be seen at Thirstone near Crawfordjohn, which has been used as a convenient place to build a series of stone shooting butts. As trade increased, so did the need for better communications.

That simply meant new roads and also bridges to replace the fords which were often so dangerous that many people drowned attempting to cross the rivers under flood conditions. The original routes between the communities were more direct than they are today. Distance is less objectionable to modern vehicles than steep gradients. The reverse was the case when travel was on foot or horseback. The older tracks simply go over the hills, rather than around them. Place names like Windgate appear for the passes through the hilltops. One traveller penned his thoughts on the elevated track between Abington and Elvanfoot in the early 19 century:

"Little kens the auld wife that sits by the fire, how the wind blows in the Hurl burl swyre" ⁽⁴⁰⁾

By an Act of 1617, powers were given to the Justices of Peace to mend the highways to and from market towns.

In 1669 a Statute was passed giving the same authorities the power to command parishioners to work on the roads under penalty of a fine for refusal or absence on the appointed day. This Statute Labour method did improve what must have been a dire situation.

In many cases historical documents and contemporary travellers' accounts refer to the need for new roads and also supply interesting details about them. For example; "the roads were a disgrace except the road to Wildshaw Limeworks and Glespin Coalpits" ⁽⁴¹⁾ this statement demonstrates the importance of the emerging industrial operations in the 18th century.

The track through the Wildshaw lime quarries and kilns was built with its little pack horse bridges at Paisley Crook and Millburn, in the 18th century ⁽⁴²⁾. This road was made for the limeworks but was soon adopted as 'The Great Road between Glasgow and London'. The first Mail Coach from London to Glasgow trundled north along here, reaching Glasgow on the 7th July 1790 with great celebration in that city. This was 36 years after a similar service was available from Edinburgh to London. The journey, 'God permitting' could take between eight and sixteen days. The indemnifying clause was necessary because of the perils en route, which were mostly washed-away roads or bridges, bolting horses or being trapped in snow drifts!

Many harrowing tales are told of travelling conditions. One of local interest tells how the south bound London Mail, in 1808, was driving through a storm-lashed night and plunged 8 metres down into the swollen Evan Water. The spate had washed away half the width of the bridge there. This was the midway point between Glasgow and Carlisle where the north and south bound coaches usually passed each other. But for the screams of the only lady among the seven people on the stricken coach, who at this point was clinging for her very life to a rock in the middle of the river, the other stagecoach would have rushed over the broken bridge causing an even greater disaster. The scene must have been horrific, three of the four horses lying dead in a tangle of harness and the mangled remains of the crashed coach. Two of the passengers were killed and a third later died from his injuries, the three other men including the driver and the guard were washed down the river but escaped with minor injuries⁽⁴³⁾.

This terrible event just preceded a new system of road building in the area: the Turnpike Roads and Bridges. This Toll road system had been growing since the second half of the 18th century in Scotland. Tolls were levied on the users by a Turnpike Trust consisting of investors, who were the Trustees. Thus stretches of private roads were made and controlled by groups of separate Trusts. The practice was chaotic at times and travellers had the inconvenience of having to stop and pay at the numerous toll bars in order to proceed on the rest of their journey. For example, there were no fewer than six toll points within a mile of Elvanfoot, on the different roads there. Nevertheless this was acceptable, because roads and bridges were now made to a higher standard and, at last, wheeled traffic could become the normal mode of transport over long distances, in reasonable comfort and safety.

The great road engineer, Thomas Telford, who built many of these better quality roads and bridges, between 1814 and 1825 built a brand new Glasgow to Carlisle road, removing a total distance of eight miles from the previous route. At this point in the history of wheeled traffic, distance was equated with wear and tear. Now the journey to London was slashed to only 40 hours! (God still permitting)

Telford's road across the Red Moss between Millbank and Abington in 1820 immediately relegated the 'Great Road' on the hill above at Wildshaw to the more humble 'Old Road from Glasgow to Carlisle'. The new road had coaching inns built along its length at regular intervals for horse changes, repairs, comfort stops and accommodation for the stagecoach passengers.

The New Stables (now the Red Moss Hotel) was just such a place, where teams of horses were replaced at breakneck speeds of 45 seconds for a four horse change! This was the early equivalent of the Formula 1 racing car pit stops of today.

In 1847 the Caledonian Railway was built through the area and at a stroke the turnpike roads became obsolete. The Turnpike Trusts were ruined within a year. Stagecoaches ceased to run, and the mail was transferred to rail, as the journey from Glasgow to London could now take less than eleven hours. The daily entries for hires in the Crawford Inn Day Book⁽⁴⁴⁾ such as 'to Leadhills out of Edinburgh coach' or 'to Biggar out of Rapid Coach' became frequent entries of 'no work' or 'to Sanquhar out of train'. Another era had passed.

During the construction of the railway several Bronze Age burial sites were located around Crawford and Abington. A sad little cemetery commemorates the 37 unnamed Irish navvies who died of fever while working on the railway in the Crawford area. They are buried beside the Clyde (near the very road they were making obsolete) in ground consecrated by the Bishop of Glasgow. The place can still be seen, marked by a memorial plaque, below the red sandstone bridge at Elvanfoot. The roads started to fall into disrepair yet again, but a local

roads infrastructure was now required, and demanded.

The old Statute Labour and Turnpike roads were removed from the control of private Trusts and taken over by the Country Road Trust. An Act of 1878 conferred responsibility for roads on the new public authorities and in 1883 the last toll bar in the area was demolished. Main roads after this time have been financed by public expenditure.

Telford's roads and bridges endured until the A74 was upgraded in the 1960's to a dual carriageway. His graceful single arched bridge spanned the Clyde at Elvanfoot from 1825 until 1957; it was finally pulled down in 1957, having been neglected since 1938, at which time it was superseded by the fine red sandstone bridge sheltering the above mentioned 'Paddy's graves'. This bridge itself is already insufficient for modern requirements and will be replaced by yet another bridge under construction, to be opened in 1992.

All these early roads and tracks can still be traced on the ground or on historical and early OS maps.

The inadequacies of the roads were again highlighted by users of a new technology, the motor car. Before the start of the 20th century accidents to unwary pedestrians and horses were frequent, especially on narrow country roads. In 1896 the 'Man and Flag Act' was repealed, liberating the owners of cars to reach the dizzy speeds of 12 mph! At the start of the century the roads were again gradually bettered in all respects, especially by the use of tar products to improve the surfaces and make them smoother, finally removing the nuisance of mud and dust which had prevailed for centuries and given great discomfort to travellers.

From that point to the present constant programmes by the authorities have failed to keep pace of the ever increasing flow of road transport.

The ultimate irony is to sit on a hill in Upper Clydesdale and watch thousands of cars, buses and lorries speeding along at 70 mph (and more!) while the infrequent and often near empty trains ply their way through the dale. It would seem that the roads have again won the day, but for how long? Generations of roads and the railway have wound their way through the district, destroying parts of the ancient landscape - eventually to become part of it.

In the 20th century, new sinuous features have been deposited in increasing numbers - pipelines. The reservoir at Peden engulfed part of a post-medieval farm and a pipeline was dug into the ground, all the way to Wishaw, in 1901. Camps reservoir was completed by 1930, originally using German prisoners of war as labour before the end of the 1914-18 war. This large dam caused the flooding of an expanse of ancient farmland. In 1956, H.M. The Queen inaugurated what was then the largest reservoir in Britain - the Daer. Submerged this time was an area of 530 acres. A 16th century tower house and a large part of the medieval settlement area here is now below the water. Twin water pipes are buried all the way to Airdrie in central Scotland. Three other pipelines have been installed through the length of the District, these being for natural gases. The installation of all these pipes has caused a huge area to be irreverently deep ploughed. Only in the case of the latest pipeline in 1991 was any consideration given to the archaeological landscape, when several new monuments were consequently discovered and excavated in advance of destruction.

A National Grid Power line was installed in the early 1950's and some of the pylon towers are sited beside ancient monuments. This is soon to be replaced and although only the foundations of the new pylons should disturb the ground, great care will have to be exercised to ensure the modern heavy machinery used will not damage monuments in the line of the new cables.

Ultra-modern technology is now evident on several hilltops with the installation of t/v and radio transmitters and aircraft beacons. These are supported by power lines and are reached for maintenance purposes by the most hideous looking access roads.

The major shift from agricultural use of the uplands to forestry, since the 1960's, is the greatest potential threat to that part of the archaeological heritage which has survived after all the other developments have taken their toll. It is interesting to note that the area of extra land taken up by the new motorway from Millbank to Paddy's Rickle Bridge is 160Ha. This is equivalent to a very small plantation. Over 5000Ha of land were recently planted in the Douglas area.

By reference to the map on Page 212 the immense scale of the inundation of the land by the Sitka spruce trees can be seen. The only consolation for those concerned about sites is that there has been a temporary lull in the economic climate favourable to planting trees. This is allowing some time to gain a better assessment of the archaeology of the area, before the inevitable resumption of planting. The current Woodlands Grant Scheme should ensure that any important archaeological sites are left unplanted.

Sheep and grouse are the best protectors of archaeological sites in Clydesdale. These creatures and their management have a relatively benign effect on the hidden and upstanding features of the landscape. What should happen, if any of these two aspects of the rural economy become untenable, is of great concern. The land use would certainly change to commercial forest as there are no alternatives for the hill farmer to diversify. If, as is proposed, EEC grants for upland sheep farming are abolished, then the future for archaeological sites in this area may be bleak indeed.

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

Much of this landscape history of a part of Clydesdale District has been gleaned and compiled from available written and oral sources, records and maps. A great deal has been derived from personal observation of the landscape over a long period of time. This chapter of the report expresses a personal viewpoint, based on the above.

Progress and development should and must continue. But an awareness and appreciation of the past must be created in the minds of those who are about to alter the landscape. Provisions for identifying and considering any heritage matters should always be built into the development strategy. This should lead to sympathetic treatment of any aspects of antiquity or even of natural significance, which may be affected. Attempts to reach a happy compromise should then be made by all interested parties.

There are a great many gaps in our knowledge of the development of settlement and land use in Upper Clydesdale. It is because of the importance of answering the subtle questions of inter-relationships between cultures and also within cultures, that it is imperative that areas such as Clydesdale, where so much still survives, be given prominence now, to ensure their preservation. Many answers will be forthcoming as a result of future studies and advances in archaeological techniques.

The mysteries of the past are the ingredients which make it all interesting. The excitement of discovery and then a desire to learn of the implications resulting from it are the driving forces behind man's quest for knowledge of himself.

We will never have all the answers to man's past, chiefly because what we are dealing with is an imprecise science, made all the more complicated by the capricious nature of the subject - people.

People are what it is all about, and the legacy left by those people from the past, to the people of the future. The people in between - us - are the living custodians of it all, while creating our own bequest.

Archaeology should not be only for archaeologists; this heritage belongs to everyone and it is the duty of all archaeologists to ensure its preservation and proper recording. To this end there should be no confidentiality, but only an open giving of information to anyone who seeks it and even a seeking out of anyone who might derive benefit or understanding from receiving the knowledge.

What would the folk from the past think of our modern world? One suspects that they would be superficially impressed by it all. The farmers would be amazed by the power of machinery and possibly even more so by the huge, modern and healthy sheep on the hills. The soldiers would be saddened to see the apparent neglect of their once formidable forts and castles. They would also be astounded to learn of our ability to wage an impersonal war - by remote control! The Romans would certainly be proud of their lasting roads and be even more taken by the results achieved by Messrs Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd and Nuttal / Levack, as well as by their road building precursors. One wonders about those farmers who started it all in the dim mists of antiquity with their new technology - a stone axe. If only they could come back and speak to us, what would they say? In some ways we are still in touch with our ancestors -who, unwittingly, have left messages. The fragile surviving remains they have left in the ground can give us the clues we need to pull the past forward. Their voice is still in the ground; our problem is to understand what it is saying.

CHAPTER 3

DISCUSSION OF SITES IN THE AREA

Throughout this chapter general observations are made regarding the Clydesdale sites. For more specific information see each individual report.

HOUSES AND SETTLEMENT

There is evidence for the presence of people in the Neolithic Period in the area around Crawford, as the two earliest monuments, Normangil Henge, ⁽⁴⁵⁾ and the Wildshaw Burn stone circle; both ritual sites, date to between 3000 and 2000 BC. However no houses of this period have been identified. The recent finds from Stonyburn cairns ⁽⁴⁶⁾ provide further evidence of a human presence in the area from about 2000 BC.

The earliest known habitation sites in Upper Clydesdale are the unenclosed platform settlements which have been shown by excavation to date to the late Bronze Age that is around 1300-700 BC.

Second only to cairns, the unenclosed platform settlements are the most numerous sites in the area. Several have been discovered during the Project; others have been found since they were first recorded here by the RCAHMS in 1978 ⁽⁴⁷⁾. The platforms are scooped from the hillside. The material which was quarried out was dumped in front of the scoop to form a level, oval or circular stance which can vary from 9 to 30 metres in diameter. The front banks or aprons of the platforms survive up to 3 metres high and the quarried scoop of the rear is usually visible, making these sites quite distinctive.

They are nearly always found around the 300 metre OD contour and pay no respect to shelter or aspect, being found on hill slopes facing all points of the compass, although northern aspects are less common than others. These sites are still mostly concentrated in the Upper Clyde and Tweed valleys, while examples are being found in increasing numbers in Northumberland, Argyll, Perthshire, and other parts of upland Scotland.

Until recently, the only excavation of these sites was at Greenknowe in the Meldon Valley in Tweeddale. Feachem, in 1961, conducted the exploratory excavation on a single platform there ⁽⁴⁸⁾. This was followed in 1977-78 by the excavation of a further three examples on the same general site by Jobey ⁽⁴⁹⁾. The results showed what has been confirmed by subsequent excavations in Clydesdale ⁽⁵⁰⁾: that the construction of timber round houses of mid to late Bronze Age date is the reason for these artificial podiums. Work in Argyll on platforms is throwing some light on the problems there, where similar sites were used by charcoal burners in the 18th century for the iron smelting industry ⁽⁵⁰⁾. A site has been excavated in Perthshire ⁽⁵²⁾.

Comment here will be confined to the local groups in Tweeddale and Clydesdale which may be seen as close neighbours, if not actually part of the same system or cultural group. More than thirty individual stances can occur within a group ⁽⁵³⁾, ranged along the sides of a hill, some slightly higher or lower, but for no apparent reason. The sizes of platform vary within a group, possibly indicating a difference in function or status. Single platforms are also found, but generally within sight of others. There can be no doubt that many more have been eradicated by later cultivation and possibly by road building, especially of the A74, B7040 and the B797,

where each road has existing platforms adjacent to it. Attrition of the sites is well demonstrated at Hurl Burn/Lintshie Gutter⁽⁵⁴⁾ where the platforms at the eastern end of the largest group in Clydesdale can be seen to be severely eroded in contrast to those at the western end of the same site. This is because those to the west are lying in unimproved grassland while the others are in enclosed fields which have been under cultivation in modern times. Several platforms have been archaeologically excavated in the improved ground as a consequence of the M74 being routed through them and remarkable preservation of features has been demonstrated⁽⁵⁵⁾ - especially at the rear of platforms, where hill wash has covered and protected at least half of each site. The fronts or embanked areas of the platforms have suffered most of the erosion, as one would have expected.

The platforms are peculiar in terms of their concentrations and apparent separate groupings along the two river systems; the Clyde and Tweed. This may well be an illusory distinction as new sites have now been found towards the north at Lamington, Robertson, Tinto Hill and a possibility exists near Coulter; other sites have now been found to the west at Camps reservoir (see reports). Many sites may have been obliterated which could have joined the Clyde and Tweed groups along the Coulter and Hartree Hills in the Biggar Gap leading to Broughton; a group there⁽⁵⁶⁾ is as impressive in its disposition as its platforms are in size, being up to 20 metres in diameter. The recently discovered platforms reveal a wider distribution than was previously known and the previous gap between the Clyde and Tweed settlements is being narrowed.

Excavation of the various sites and practical reconstruction⁽⁵⁷⁾ have produced the following picture of a platform house. Upon the level plot of ground a round timber house with a porch over its entrance was built. The vertical walls probably wattle and daubed, appear to have been made to stand in ring grooves, to give stability. The conical thatched roof was supported on a ring of wooden cross pieces which were pegged onto the timber upright posts.

Features revealed by excavation have been the ring grooves, post holes for the main roof supports, smaller stake holes perhaps used for internal partitioning or secondary wall supports, hearth pits and stony paths leading from the doorways. At Lintshie Gutter, Crawford, an oven was located and there is evidence for stone walling.

Sometimes during fieldwork an entrance can be predicted by studying the shape of the front and back scarps. On one side they can often be seen to meet, while a gap exists at the other side between them. This gap has been shown by excavation to indicate the doorway of the building. New excavation evidence and some of the survey plans suggest that some platforms may have had opposing entrances. It is interesting to observe the apparent lack of easy access onto these platforms. They are usually located on quite steep hill faces. Where putative entrances can be suggested, the ground falls away slightly only for a short length. No tracks or well worn pathways have been noted leading across or down from platforms as may have been expected.

On each excavated site there has been clear evidence of separate phases of house building, three on one site at Greenknowe⁽⁵⁸⁾ and the same at Lintshie Gutter, Crawford⁽⁵⁹⁾, running repairs to the Lintshie Gutter houses were also detected in the layout of post holes. Preliminary thoughts on the excavation suggest the platforms

were not all houses but may include a byre. Through the discovery of quern stones on different sites and the oven at Crawford, it can be concluded that cereals were grown by these people. Distinctive pottery has been found on each site, but no bronze has been retrieved. Nor has there been any indication of metal working or industrial processes on the platforms excavated, which are still far too few (thirteen out of several hundred), to provide definite answers to many questions about the platforms. For example, how many people lived in a house or a settlement? Were all or most of the settlements occupied at the same time? What was the economy and trade driving these communities? Was there any local industry' or artisan class within the groups? What is the association, if any, with other surviving field monuments? Where are the ritual and funerary sites and the fields?

One of the most obvious facts about the UPS is that these are nucleated settlements of a totally non-defensive nature. There are no ditches, banks or even palisades forming an enclosure round the buildings. The roofs of buildings were probably very close to the ground at the rear, where the hut stance was dug into the hill; this would make them easily accessible. Because of this it may be assumed that the people were living in harmony with other groups both within and without their own territory. There can have been no social stress placed upon these communities and it may be judged that because of co-operation there could have been a surplus of food production, which in turn would remove any threat of economic pressures.

We know the climate was better: it was slightly warmer and drier. This would be significant in terms of agriculture, extending the growing season. The houses are all at roughly the same height on the slopes, obeying some rule, which may have been that they were placed above the good extensive agricultural land, which was downhill towards the river, and beneath the equally good pastoral hilltops. This would be an ideal situation for an agricultural community producing cereals and rearing livestock

Where the platforms are made in strings or lines along the hill, then they would have formed a barrier between the pastoral and arable lands, perhaps connected to each other by short lengths of wattle fencing? A snow line is often noted at this altitude, circa 300m OD, and it may have been slightly higher during the period of occupation of the UPS.

Given the number of settlements, it may be fair to assume that many of them were occupied contemporaneously. Some of the evidence ⁽⁶⁰⁾ suggests the prolonged use of individual sites, but continuity is at present uncertain. It is possible that communities dwindled perhaps as a result of some natural disaster or because they flitted to another hillside, to return a generation or so later and occupy the old site again. This could be the result of the local ground becoming exhausted and requiring a period of fallow.

The houses which have been excavated so far have all been from the smaller platforms, giving huts in the range of 7 to 10 metres in diameter. These could comfortably house a family unit of five or six people and even a few animals. There are in excess of 270 known platforms in Upper Clydesdale and many more may have been lost. Allowing about 50% of the existing sites to be occupied at any one time, then a total population of over 600 people is possible. This far exceeds the modern population density and is probably a conservative estimate.

Many of the Tweeddale buildings must have been twice the size of those beside the Clyde, judging by the size of the platforms there, so one could postulate larger family groups to a single platform in that district.

Relatively few artefacts have been found on UPS excavations, but the recent M74 excavations at Lintshie Gutter have produced hundreds of potsherds, querns and flint flakes. The pottery appears to be of an unsophisticated type. There have been very few status or exotic objects found. No metal has been found nor has any trace of metal working or any other manufacturing industry been detected. Artisan classes within these groups cannot be suggested at this stage. It is a sad fact that the acid soils of this area are not conducive to the preservation of organic materials; therefore much domestic information is lost to us on these sites. Stone tools are restricted to pounders and rubbers, querns, and chert tools of very inferior quality. The better flint is quite rare.

At Greenknowe a single amber bead was retrieved. This hardly points to a picture of a Utopian existence. The evidence for the material culture of the area at this period is provided by chance finds made in the past, of gold and bronze objects. These sophisticated pieces were most likely exotic items and not of local manufacture. It is however difficult to imagine that the early occupants of the land and the later Roman invaders never found the alluvial gold in the nearby burns, which was so successfully exploited in the 16th century AD.

Several prehistoric gold items have been found in Clydesdale, but their source of manufacture has not been proved. Some scholars favour Ireland as the origin of the gold lunulae from this District, which are now in the Royal Museum of Scotland ⁽⁶¹⁾.

The principal evidence for the existence of aggression in the late Bronze Age is provided by the sophisticated weapons which have been found, in particular two bronze swords, one found at Millbank and the other at Cowgill near Coulter ⁽⁶²⁾.

Trade or gift exchange must have existed outwith the local area, especially for the metalwork; no moulds, for instance, have ever been found in this district, as they have been in the north-eastern part of Scotland. It is difficult to imagine what commodities could be traded. Cereals would be unlikely due to the transport difficulties, cattle or sheep may have been the most feasible vendibles - unless gold was indeed found in the burns?

One of the long standing frustrations of Scottish prehistoric studies is that only certain aspects of the different cultures have been detected. Thus we have the earliest ritual sites but no burial or habitation of the same period in Upper Clydesdale, mid Bronze Age graves but no houses or ritual sites, later Bronze Age houses - and nothing else. Then there are the defensive settlements, but no trace of their burials. Unless, it is in fact all there, and we just cannot recognise it?

The total number of known UPS locations in Clydesdale is now 49, which includes single examples. The cairn groups must be included in any discussion of the UPS, because in at least 15 cases they are found in proximity to each other. This is still only about 30% of the UPS sites, but in the majority of places where there are no cairns

near the platforms it can be seen that the ground immediately below, and sometimes above the platforms, has been improved at some time. It is therefore reasonable to suggest that some cairns may have been removed from these areas.

In view of the above statistics it is increasingly probable that some of these cairns are contemporary with the platforms, perhaps being the result of field clearance. Several platforms are noted to have rounded stones incorporated into the front aprons. These stones are not quarried material, and this suggests a clearance activity in the area of the UPS. Furthermore at five locations there are lynchets ⁽⁶³⁾ as well as cairns. The possibility that at least some of the cairns are burials is discussed below. Only future investigations can prove the relationships, if any between these features when they are found in proximity to one another, but the refined fieldwork now poses many new questions and creates a new level of data for consideration.

There is a suggestion that platforms may exist in a somewhat modified or eroded state on the areas of terraces at Glengieth and Kirkton Rig, but this is inconclusive; it is at least worth noting that excavation of these sites may prove to be particularly informative.

On several sites there do seem to be platforms which have never been fully developed ⁽⁶⁴⁾. Some recently found 'hut'? sites ⁽⁶⁵⁾ with stone footings are difficult to place into a context except that one ⁽⁶⁶⁾ is on a platform with a stony apron, not dissimilar to those at Hurl Burn ⁽⁶⁷⁾. Three convincing prehistoric hut circles are among the extensive group of cairns which extend from Harry Burn at Elvanfoot across the Mid Hill to Ellershie Hill near Crawford. These have stone walls and distinctive entrances ⁽⁶⁸⁾. The semi scooped sites near Robertson ⁽⁶⁹⁾ and perhaps at Lamington ⁽⁷⁰⁾ and the smaller round hut like structures at Robertson ⁽⁷¹⁾ and Greenhill ⁽⁷²⁾ all add new site types to the area which have apparent associations with other aspects of pre-history, such as cairns, UPS, burnt mounds and ring enclosures. Where these huts fit into the chronology of the area is difficult to assess from field observation alone, but they are non-defensive and may be judged to belong to the second millennium BC on that criterion. Indeed the new wealth of sites would seem to indicate that most pre-historic sites in the area, apart from defensive places, the henge and the circle, all do have a relationship with each other, which places them into the Bronze Age.

The next phase of nucleated settlement was quite distinct from the UPS. It consisted of defended enclosures which seem to have originated sometime in the first millennium BC and were occupied throughout the late Iron Age and possibly into the post Roman period.

The Upper Clydesdale forts and defended settlements have never been excavated ⁽⁷³⁾ and can only be discussed with reference to evidence from similar sites in other parts of the country. One can see in several cases that different phases of construction are involved, with the ramparts and ditches sometimes expanding and sometimes contracting the defences. Round timber houses would appear to have been built within the enclosures and for a discussion of these monuments the reader is referred to the RCAHMS Lanarkshire and Peeblesshire Inventories.

With the exception of the motte castles at Crawford and Abington, the few tower and bastle house sites and some other deserted farmhouses of 17th and 18th century date,

there has been no trace found of the habitations which must have existed during a period of over a thousand years.

RITUAL

STONE CIRCLE

Perhaps the most remarkable site in the district is the recently discovered Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle (WBSC). Several problems with it can only be resolved by further archaeological investigation. The main question is: was it ever a functional monument? It is seen either as an unfinished circle (actually an ellipse) or as one which has been demolished in antiquity, because the site is mostly covered in peat.

As with most sites of this type, function will be debatable, however a few general observations are given here to assist with the understanding of the WBSC.

It has been observed elsewhere that there is little relationship between the size of the circle and the size of the stones used. Small circles can have large stones and vice versa. It is exceptional to find the stones of a circle of uniform size or uniformly spaced, and only a few circles have stones placed on opposite ends of a diameter. Some scholars suspect that diametrically opposed stones may define a sight line, so this arrangement could be used where it was desired to determine an azimuth. Several of these points are of interest regarding the WBSC.

The size of the stones at WBSC does not appear to offer any new data, but their positions are interesting in that they do occupy evenly spaced locations of about 3 metres apart on the perimeter of the ellipse. The 23 extant stones may represent only part of an original plan which allowed for 40 stones at 3.6 metre spacing. Even with the present configuration of the stones, it can be seen that several pairs are diametrically opposite, and it naturally follows that if it could be shown that the monument had 40 stones or that it was originally intended to have that number, then the significance of this site would be greatly enhanced, because the symmetry of the monument would be complete.

It is the intention to complete a more detailed analysis of the WBSC and the possibilities of alignments when time permits, however some studies have been undertaken in this respect already and these are given in appendix iv, and in the report on the circle, BMT No20.

The WBSC lies in the largest expanse of moorland peat within the study area and, with the exception of some cairns on the higher ground and the possible ECC and hut site to the north at Wildshaw, no other features have been located which could have a prehistoric date ascribed to them. This may signify that the WBSC is isolated from contemporary sites, or that such sites lie below the peat in that vicinity.

{See Ward 2013 www.biggararchaeology.org.uk for a full appraisal of this site}

CUP MARK STONES

No cup and ring marked stones have been found in the area before or during the Project. Large erratic boulders and outcrops of rock have been checked in the course of fieldwork for such marks, and where cup marks are found, on many stones they are of natural origin, being the result of inclusions in the rocks weathering out⁽⁷⁴⁾. This is

especially true of the only known standing stone in the area, at Crookedstane Farm, although the stone may have been given prominence because of the holes in it.

RING ENCLOSURES

Circular enclosures measuring up to 30 metres in diameter are to be found in several locations throughout the area. These have a low earth bank, measuring up to 0.4 metre high with a spread of about 2 metres, sometimes with a stony content.

The interiors are generally featureless, although in some cases there can be a mound within the enclosure, as at Wildshaw ⁽⁷⁵⁾. At Auchensauch Hill there are two concentric banks ⁽⁷⁶⁾. Sometimes a shallow groove can be seen on top of the banks, which often do not appear to have a gap or break. This latter fact would seem to rule out the possibility of their being built for stock enclosure or for a house. This was recognised as early as 1887 by Christison ⁽⁷⁷⁾ and subsequently by the RCAHMS in Tweeddale where many similar sites were located; they were described there for the first time by the RCAHMS as ring enclosures.

When several were excavated there by the RCAHMS, the interiors were found to contain no features or artefacts; but the evidence from that district, in the form of a stone axe and some flint tools buried in a bank, suggest a Bronze Age date for some of these sites. It seems most probable that they served for ritual or funerary purposes. The grooves on the banks are common and they may indicate that a continuous palisade type fence was built on them. Another possible explanation for these grooves may be a double turf wall which has slumped due to lack of any interlocking of the divots in the centre.

These ring enclosures are seen in a variety of locations, single or in groups, and seldom similar in constructional detail or size even when found together. In the past they have been reckoned as being turf sheep stells which pre-date the common drystane dyke stells. This conclusion has been reached because the turf enclosures are often found close to the stone stells. The assumption may be correct, but several problems require an explanation if that is their function. Why are they so low, often only about 0.3 metre high with a bank spread of about 2 metres? Many well preserved examples have no apparent entrance. They are found in groups up to four in number. If they had a wattle fence on the low bank, then that would secure sheep within, which may explain the grooves. The lack of break in some banks does not support the animal enclosure theory, although it is possible that in some cases the slumped banks may now be obscuring an entrance.

All the farmers and shepherds currently working the ground where these enclosures are found have noted the absence of a gap, where that is the case, and where several rings are in close proximity, they have considered that the rings are not sheepfolds, the logic being that a shepherd could only work a single stell and if it fell into disrepair he would mend it rather than build a new one, especially several times. If they are sheep stells, an explanation for the groups may be for co-operation between different shepherds working adjacent hirsels. There is however no evidence for this, and a single fold would still suffice in the opinion of the modern shepherds. Many of these ring enclosures do have gaps in their banks and when found close to a stone stell the argument that they are older folds is convincing. Some stone folds are built on top of turf rings and others are found within the rings ⁽⁷⁸⁾.

Another very similar type of site is the Enclosed Cremation Cemetery (ECC) to which the excavated Wildshaw example has been tentatively ascribed, ⁽⁷⁹⁾. Two other possible examples are at Fall Hill ⁽⁸⁰⁾ and at Fall Kneesend ⁽⁸¹⁾. An ECC can really only be proved by excavation; the interior of the enclosure must be shown to include burial pits containing cremated bone and artefacts dating to the Bronze Age.

Ring enclosures and ECC seem to be a fairly common site type and the distinction between them can only be shown by excavation. The banks have never been very high and would not have impeded the access of animals or people. The continuity of the banks suggests that this was a statement of a 'no go' area enclosing a sacred or special place. They are often found in apparent isolation with good views of the surrounding landscape in certain directions.

The case for a reconsideration of these sites is strong; a series of non-destructive tests such as magnetometer and resistivity surveys may help to elucidate their nature.

BURNT MOUNDS

The other recent acquisition to the inventory of the site types of Clydesdale is the 'burnt mound'. The first two examples were noted by field investigators of the RCAHMS in 1991; coincidentally both have been excavated by APG (GUARD) because they were in the line of the M74. The function of burnt mounds has been discussed in this report. Data from the excavated mounds near Crawford ⁽⁸²⁾ will be forthcoming and conclusive dates should be obtained as well as important paleobotanical information. If both the mounds are dated to the Bronze Age then as preliminary data suggest, it may be a fair assumption that most of the rest of them are of similar age.

So far a variety of sizes shapes and locations have been noted but with no distinct pattern emerging, other than their apparent isolation from other types of site, although they are being found within a few hundred metres of cairns and UPS (see surveys). They are nearly all located beside springs, with a few adjacent to burns. Only one has been found on arable land, the rest are lying on unimproved pasture. Two locations have double (or perhaps even triple) mounds, the classic crescentic or kidney shapes are represented, of which Sweetshaw ⁽⁸³⁾ is an outstanding example, a few are undistinguished in appearance. Some of the amorphous shapes may indicate different campaigns of use as has been demonstrated elsewhere. Spring sources are the favoured locations, and this may imply the importance of the purity of the water, perhaps for practical reasons, but one suspects it may be because of superstition. The apparent isolation of the mounds strongly suggests a ritual function for them, although in most cases the proximity of an undetected house site cannot be ruled out. Dating the mounds is the simple solution to set them into a chronological context. For once, easily obtainable samples are guaranteed for this purpose because of the presence of charcoal. At the time of this publication 35 mounds have been located by RCAHMS and APO in Upper Clydesdale. Some were missed during the early phases of fieldwalking due to inexperience in recognising them. Those areas now require to be revisited to establish if other mounds are to be found there. These deposits can be extremely difficult to detect. Several examples are only traceable by surface scatters of burnt rock on molehills ⁽⁸⁴⁾, one small mound is completely buried by hill wash ⁽⁸⁵⁾; this, and other deposits were detected in the eroded face of gullies ⁽⁸⁶⁾. None of these

deposits have any surface change in the ground profile to indicate their presence (see appendix v).

{See Ward 2013 www.biggararchaeology.org.uk for a full reappraisal of these sites}

AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS

Throughout the study area there is a diverse range of early agricultural features which survive on the ground. These reflect the activities of the successive communities in this upland part of Scotland. On the ground below the 250 metre contour, for the most part only the activities of the last 200 years are traceable.

The hallmarks of the earlier times are found in the following:

Cairn groups.

Lynchets and cultivation terraces.

Rig and furrow systems, of which three types are evident; the usual broad rig, the narrower cord or corduroy rig and the small patches of lazy bed.

Field enclosures, occasionally with traces of rig and furrow, are defined by their grassy banks.

Other banked and ditched enclosures, which are interpreted as stock pounds.

Small rectangular buildings up to about 10 X 4 metres in area and made of turf are seen along the sides of many of the burns, often in association with linear banks.

In several areas the vestiges of deserted farms can be seen clearly, with various shapes of grassy banks which represent buildings and enclosures of different types.

Reference has been made elsewhere to the bastle house sites.

CAIRNS

The proliferation of small stone cairns in the area, found as single examples but more often in groups in excess of fifty in any particular location, is of fundamental importance in the study of the past here. These piles (seldom larger than 4M diameter and 1M high) often seem boring if considered as a discrete unit on the land. After all, they are everywhere (See Fig 4).

However, whether in isolation or in a group, much can be deduced about the land use of their immediate environs from the evidence of the fieldwork alone.

The basic questions are :

What was their function?

Who made them and when?

One can then move on:

Are there other features associated with them and if so are they contemporaneous?

Is there any common denominator in their location on the landscapes?

In excess of two thousand cairns, including several new groups surveyed during the Project, have been recorded in Upper Clydesdale, from the moors of Carnwath in the north to Fall Kneesend in the southern part of the District. They are often the only surface indicators of land use. They probably indicate the proximity of settlements.

There are many references to cairns being removed last century, usually to utilise the stones elsewhere. A 'hundred' or 'over two hundred cartloads were removed' are typical descriptions met with in the Old Statistical Accounts and other local references⁽⁸⁷⁾. Some of these cairns can still be detected faintly on the ground but there must be many which have been removed without any record being kept. Two factors seem to have made them worthy of a mention when this happened: the number of cartloads taken, and the discovery of objects found within the cairns. Both these aspects are important to our understanding of the piles.

It is unlikely that only the largest or most conspicuous cairns were 'stone robbed', because many of the smaller piles show evidence of having been disturbed. Road building probably took a heavy toll of the cairns, although it is rather perplexing that sometimes cairns beside the roads have apparently not been tampered with, while some in the same group but further from the roads have⁽⁸⁸⁾. The best evidence that a cairn has been robbed can be seen in those on a slope where removal of stone is all on the downhill side, leaving a resultant horseshoe shape⁽⁸⁹⁾. On flatter ground, the cairn may be seen as a bowl shape or having a depression in the centre of it. This is usually interpreted as meaning the extraction of stone, but in these cases it could have been a deliberate attempt at tomb robbing, always going for the centre of the pile, where a burial was anticipated. This was often a correct assumption but in larger diameter cairns there may be several satellite burials around the periphery. At Ellershie Hill there are several cairns near to a drystone dyke which have been robbed and others which are intact. It would appear that throughout history some people did respect the cairns even when it would suit their purpose to utilise them, in other cases they have been pillaged as a convenient source of stone or for treasure hunting.

It is suggested here that the majority of cairns would be completed originally as dome shaped piles of different sizes. Shape, size and therefore morphology are all aspects which have been subject to change over time for one reason or another.

Some cairns were built with a form; this is especially true of the larger examples, but many small piles also appear to have been carefully constructed.

Three cairns were excavated by APG in 1990 at Stonyburn, Crawford⁽⁹⁰⁾. The appearance of the largest in this group suggested that it had been centre robbed⁽⁹¹⁾ but when it was stripped of turf the true character of this pile was revealed to show that it had been deliberately made as a ring of stones with a slightly hollow area in the centre, (see BMT slides FW212-215) Sherds and features were found below this cairn but it is unclear at present whether some or any of them are contemporary with the actual cairn. The excavation also demonstrated that there was Neolithic activity on the site as well as Bronze Age, prior to the formation of the cairn.

The two smaller cairns were less significant in appearance but produced evidence which made it easier to understand their function. Each covered a small pit containing a cremation burial, both with grave goods and one with a complete 'pigmy' urn, hammer stone and faience beads. They are dated to the mid Bronze Age.

This single excavation and many others like it elsewhere have shown that small cairns in groups like these have a high probability of being burial monuments.

A dual function of burial and field clearance should not be ruled out for single cairns or cairns in groups. In the case of Stonyburn the cairns were on a small knoll; cultivation and therefore clearance was possible on this patch of ground but considered unlikely because the stones had been carried up the hill from their source. These cairns were clearly placed in a position of prominence, easily found and intentionally obvious. Very often single cairns are found in such locations, for example at Auchensauch Hill, Wildshaw Hill, Normangil Rig and of course the giant in all respects, Tinto Hill, where one of the largest cairns in Scotland stands ⁽⁹²⁾. When excavated, sites like these are usually shown to be Bronze Age burials. They are often larger than most other cairns in the neighbourhood and may well have been important territorial or boundary markers as well as being the sepulchral resting place for some dignitary.

If isolated or small groups of cairns are considered to be grave markers, then what about the larger groups?

It is unfortunate that two good opportunities were lost near Elvanfoot when groups of small cairns were ploughed up for forestry, without any attempt being made to investigate them ⁽⁹³⁾. At least this will not happen when part of the same system is to be destroyed by the next phase of the M74, at Fall Kneesend ⁽⁹⁴⁾. The threatened part of the site will be properly excavated this time, under the sponsorship of Historic Scotland. There are a variety of shapes and sizes on this site. By reference to BMT No 92, the horseshoe shapes mentioned above will be seen. There are complete or intact cairns, shapes which are interpreted as being 'strings' of individual piles merged into one another, forming linear features. Features which appear to be robbed cairns and the rectangular shapes at A and B may actually be buildings or simply the product of removing stones, causing a coincidental but distinctive form. Excavation here should clarify much of the speculation. The larger 'horseshoes' could be interpreted as hut sites and this is a possibility, although in this area such shapes are seldom found outwith cairn groups. The morphology of the oval piles here is probably the result of placing stones on a slope, the stones tending to roll downhill to the extent that the finished pile becomes pear shaped. The construction of the Roman Road ⁽⁹⁵⁾ may have accounted for some of the disturbance of these cairns, however only some have been vandalised and if we are to believe it was for the road building, then the builders have walked past some of the nearer piles to remove stone from those further up the hill. This can also be seen at Harryburn Brae near Elvanfoot, beside the B7040 road. However illogical this may appear, it does seem that these road makers or road users were responsible for disturbing the cairns at both sites, because in more isolated cairn groups there do not appear to be so many robbed piles. For example at Cakelaw Burn and Collins Burn ⁽⁹⁶⁾

It has been shown that some small cairns are funerary monuments, but what evidence is there that the larger groups are the product of field clearance?

The area of ground between the cairns is often small in relation to the overall area of the site and the space occupied by the cairns. Manoeuvring draft animals with ploughs in these small patches would be extremely difficult; for example, if Fall Kneesend is a field system, the answer may be that the fields were worked by hand cultivation or by using human traction to pull a small plough. There is seldom any apparent rationality in the grouping of the cairns, excepting when they follow the ground contour. Sizes in

groups are seldom regular.

To find a stony bank with a cairn at each end or a cairn along its length is common. These observations vary from site to site, but they do hold good for most places where cairns are found as groups. One interesting observation is that they are seldom dumped in hollows or gullies, cairns always appear to be conspicuous and, if anything, in some cases might (to the modern mind) be considered a nuisance because of their proximity to one another. If the object was simply to rid the ground of unwanted rocks, then the nearest burn, gully or boggy hole would have sufficed as a depository and larger, stone free areas could easily have been created. Chucking the rocks into a hole preferably down slope would have been the easy option but the people who made cairns seemed to have taken some care to build them into neat piles, often on the ground they appear to have been developing.

At Air Cleuch ⁽⁹⁷⁾, cairns can be seen placed along the tops of a gully (although subsequently stones have tumbled in) and at Lodge Hill there is a very neatly built cairn in a little recess of a natural terrace ⁽⁹⁸⁾. Stones were often carried uphill; this applies to groups as well as single examples. The stone therefore appears to have been seen as a commodity, perhaps an opportunist one, but nevertheless something not to be wasted. Isolated cairns on the rocky summits of hills are clearly not the chance product of a field clearing process. They are graves or possibly territorial markers.

The cairns in larger groups are most likely the result of clearing rocks from ground under cultivation, but it would seem that after that the stones were considered useful for a good purpose; to create the sepulchres for the deceased? The absence of grave goods or even a grave pit should not preclude this theory. Where neither is found, this could simply mean that everything placed below the stones was organic, an inhumed body may well have completely decayed. Chemical analysis of the ground below the cairn is therefore essential, in the hope of detecting any phosphate residues which may indicate that a body did lie under the stones. This has been done with success in some instances.

It is possible that a superstitious people had wished to 'plant' their dead among the very fields which helped to sustain the life of the community; as part of a fertility rite, or perhaps to help the deceased in the 'afterlife'; or to keep their memory close at hand? This may explain why larger areas were not cleared away to form decent sized fields. It may be that the cairns are planned to be integral with the arable land and fulfil a secondary but equally important function. The unlikely alternative is to suggest the people were either too stupid or too lazy to clear the stones away, by getting rid of them into the nearest boggy hole once and for all.

In order to know who made these small cairns, it is necessary to date them. Most of the evidence available at the present time from records and surviving artefacts of the earliest exploration of these monuments, seems to indicate a Bronze Age date for at least those shown to be burials. It is still acceptable to say that earlier burials in the Neolithic Period are usually found as massive cairns or mounds with chambers for multiple interments. We now have good evidence that Neolithic people were in this area, but few massive cairns have been recorded south of Carnwath and Tinto. The largest cairn in the study area is 26 metres in diameter and is to be found on Normangill Rig ⁽⁹⁹⁾, it is recorded that much of its stone was removed in 1855 when a

skeleton was found within the cairn.

If the cairns in Upper Clydesdale are all assumed (and this would be misleading) to be Bronze Age in date, then where is the evidence of the Neolithic people whom we accept were the first farmers in the area? Were their fields, and for that matter their houses and burials, all on the valley floor, where subsequent development has erased any traces of them? This may be plausible, as the earliest people would not require to be high up on the slopes because of the relatively low density of their population in proportion to available land. There is no evidence to suggest that the Neolithic folk were up on the hillsides.

On the other hand, there is now plenty of information available to conclude that the late Bronze Age people were living above 300 metres in their unenclosed platform houses and, as stated above, all proven burials in small cairns in this area date to about 2000 to 1000BC. Population increase and a need for fresh arable land are probably the reasons for the later Bronze Age people being on the higher slopes at this time. From this it would seem that the small cairns are field clearance and burial aspects of the Bronze Age, a period spanning about 1500 years from about 2000BC. The proximity of cairns in several cases to unenclosed platform sites strongly supports this hypothesis: for example, at Normangill Rig, Ellershie Hill, Harryburn Brae, Lodge Hill and perhaps Fall Kneesend. Cairns are associated with field systems at Ellershie and Glengieth. The low lynchets forming small rectangular patches at Ellershie Hill are quite distinctive from the broad cultivation terraces at Glengieth (and at Kirkton where there are few cairns). The Ellershie fields may have parallels at Lodge Hill and Harryburn Brae where there are field boundaries in association with unenclosed platform sites. At both Glengieth and Kirkton there is a hint that unenclosed platform sites may exist among the terraces. The few common denominators are being drawn together now, to suggest that these features may all belong to the extended period known as the Bronze Age.

To some extent then, the Bronze Age, at least in Upper Clydesdale, is definitely becoming easier to understand. The dating and refinement of the evidence for life at that time is coming about as a result of excavation, and the settlement and land use are becoming clearer through the refinement of the fieldwork. A deeper understanding can only come about if both these aspects of archaeology are pursued.

The investigation of the small cairns must be important, simply because they still exist in quantity to be studied.

FIELD SYSTEMS

Rig and furrow field systems are shown on the medieval and later map and the lynchets and cultivation terraces are shown on the prehistoric map in this report.

It is the author's opinion that these are the periods to which these systems most likely belong. There is however no proof for this one way or another and the age of field systems remain unresolved. There is a generally held view that the rig is of the later period and that the most problematic for dating purposes are the cultivation terraces. Both come in varying widths. The terraces are seen as tiers, strung across the face of a hill, as opposed to the rig which tends to run down the slope often forming wavy S bends in its length. The surviving terraces are definitely only legacies of larger

systems which have been smoothed out by later cultivation.

The terms lynchets and cultivation terrace require some explanation in order to avoid confusion. Both descriptions can often be applied to a particular feature, but for the purposes of this report they are used to explain distinctive aspects of agricultural fields.

Cultivation terrace is used to imply a large field system formed across a hill face, sometimes for over 100 metres and with scarps up to 3 metres high. These are seen as single examples, irregularly spaced groupings of differing lengths and sometimes as parallel or stepped terraces. It is generally accepted that the terraces resulted from the effects of soil creeping down slope because of ploughing along the contours. By repeated ploughing along the back of each terrace, the stepped effect is enhanced, and a series of long thin fields is created. Continuous use has therefore been established. These fields would have become more convenient for working in their final form, but whether the terraces were created intentionally or coincidentally is difficult to say. If it was deliberate, then perhaps more uniformity might be expected. Often these terraces run obliquely across the hill and are irregularly spaced. As usual there are exceptions in other nearby areas such as at Coulter and Romano Bridge ⁽¹⁰⁰⁾ where the terraces are horizontal and evenly spaced both in width and height. There is still debate as to what may be a natural terrace and what may be man made. Some of the terraces may be the product of glacial melt water channels eroding the hill face during the decline of the ice field. At Dungavel Hill the terraces on the NW side appear natural while those on the NE area may have been formed by people. It is possible that some natural terraces were adopted as fields.

Lynchets is used here to describe a low bank or scarp caused by enhancing a regular plough line boundary. These are seen to run at right angles to the hill contours as well as with them. The field system at Ellershie Hill ⁽¹⁰¹⁾ is a good example.

Many difficulties arise when dating is attempted, and it has been suggested that the terraces may have been used for an extended period from the 7th century to the 17th century AD ⁽¹⁰²⁾. The examples around Crawford are clearly not so well developed as those elsewhere and this may indicate a less intensive use of this system there, although later cultivation has eroded some terracing at Kirkton. The altitude may also be a factor here, being the very limit for this type of cultivation.

Discussion of field systems is still problematic because they tend to be dated by co-occurrence with other aspects of the land. Often they are seen in apparent isolation. Where various periods are represented on the same piece of ground the problem is exacerbated.

One area where this can be seen is at Glengieth where there are cairns, cultivation terraces and a post-medieval bastle house with its farm layout. Some of the latter may be earlier medieval. How to disentangle this landscape is the challenge.

If one works from the more easily understood features, the way may be clearer.

The stone and mortar bastle house dates to circa AD 1600 and many of the surrounding grassy banks which are buildings and field enclosures will be 17th

century in date. There are historical references to an earlier presence on this site ⁽¹⁰³⁾ but only excavation could reveal that. Certainly some of the 17th century field banks have 18th century lazy beds truncating them.

The cultivation terraces at Glengieth are usually best seen under the favourable conditions of evening sunlight or light snow cover, both of which show up the relief of the changes in contours. When viewing conditions are good, these features are very obvious. Glengieth is the only place in the area where cairns are found beside the terraces, although at Dungavel Hill there is a broad scatter of stone along and below the lower of one set of these banks, suggesting stone clearance from the fields. The cairns at Glengieth may pre-date the terraces.

At other terraces on Kirkton Rig ⁽¹⁰⁴⁾, Craighead Hill and Dungavel Hill it is worth observing that their aspects vary considerably: north facing for Glengieth and Dungavel, north east for Kirkton and west for Craighead. All are about the 360 metre contour OD. This is a general observation made elsewhere especially in nearby Tweeddale, where there are many examples. The RCAHMS in their Peeblesshire Inventory ⁽¹⁰⁵⁾ suggest the date for these terraces is most likely about the 9th century AD, being an influence of the Angles spreading from Northumberland. They also suggest that some could be as late as the 17th century and that the earliest could be early Iron Age and another Romano-British. Such are the problems of understanding when these fields were in use.

Because there was a serious climatic deterioration from about 1000 BC, crops may not have been as viable after that time at these altitudes, especially given the colder north facing aspects of some of the fields. If the climatic change was a sudden event, perhaps being established in only a few years, then the populations would not have time to adjust without some traumatic consequences. It is a fact that most rig fields in this area are found at heights of up to 360 metres OD, but it has been noted that these are seldom on north facing slopes, mostly south facing and when facing east or west they are on open aspects where they would get long periods of summer sunshine. It may be that these later field systems were gradually established on the high slopes again as a desperate subsistence for the peasant classes in the medieval period.

The common wide rig is everywhere seen in large systems which are seldom enclosed but may have boundary walls running down slope parallel with the fields. These would have prevented animals moving from fallow rig to that where the crops were. They may also indicate the divisions in individual holdings.

At a lower level than the hillforts, the prehistoric settlements at Ritchie Ferry and Coldchapel ⁽¹⁰⁶⁾ have rig around them and in the case of the former place there are two patches of rig high on Castle Hill at the 360 metre contour. It is unlikely that this rig is contemporary with these settlements. The only place where it survives on the valley floor is 0.75Km north of Crookedstane Farm, where there is an unusual type of site for this area which has been described as a medieval manor ⁽¹⁰⁷⁾. Seen as linear banks and enclosures, it is certainly a deserted farm exploiting the highest and probably best drained haugh lands. No datable evidence has been found here other than bits of 19th century crockery on the molehills. This site has been affected by the A74 road and the recently installed gas pipeline.

It may be that drainage was a critical factor, becoming more important as a result of increased precipitation when rig and furrow was used throughout the medieval period, forcing the farmers up the hill for that reason. The lower ground on the valley floor may have been very wet and the soils heavy in the absence of artificial drainage. Increased average rainfall would result in heavier spates in the River Clyde, causing major flooding of the plains. Flood banks can still be seen along the edges of the river from Biggar to Crawford. These were made in the early 19th century in order to protect the fields on the floodplain. Flooding has become a decreasing problem since all the reservoirs were built, as these have a design capacity to draw off a total of 36.5 million gallons of water per day, which is now diverted through the various pipelines and not down the river. Before the reservoirs, greater amounts of alluvial material would have been washed off the moderately steep slopes of the hills and this must have caused occasional problems to the crops below. It is easy to see why land must have become scarce in this area after the climatic deterioration.

Competition and aggression would naturally follow. The rig on the sloping ground prevailed until the 18th century, when formal enclosures and drainage of the haugh lands were undertaken; this was a result of longer tenure of the farms and the owners realising the benefits of major improvement initiatives. Land values and rentals increased, and the agricultural revolution was then under way.

The smaller patches of rig described as 'lazy bed' are easier to date by their association with 17th and 18th century deserted farms. Found on all the bastle house sites on short steep banks, ten to fifteen metres long, often beside a burn, these were the garden plots for root crops such as potatoes and also perhaps for kale and flax. They are the latest rig systems of cultivation and because of their gradients and lengths they can only have been dug by hand.

The third and least common type of rig is the cord or corduroy rig which is found on the tops of hills. Examples are at Arbory Hillfort ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾, the indeterminate prehistoric enclosure at Park Knowe ⁽¹⁰⁹⁾ near Tinto and on Pillmore Hill ⁽¹¹⁰⁾. The heights for these are 400 metres at Arbory and 325 metres for the other two. There is a view that this very narrow rig (less than a metre wide, hence the name) was formed very early in time and may be of pre-historic date. This theory is based on its relationship to other sites dated to the Iron Age in the Borders. The small patch at Pillmore Hill has little in association with it unless one counts the nearby presence of two 'shieling huts' or buchts. There is a cairn group on Backstane Hill immediately to the north, but it is a singular fact that rig is never seen within the cairn groups in this area, nor are cairns found on rig and furrow fields. The nearest exception to this is at Greens Moor, Carnwath.

BANKS AND ENCLOSURES

Linear grassy banks and irregular shaped areas enclosed by these remains of walls are a common feature in the district. One bank stretches for 1.25Km from Maidengill to Birshaw Rig. Along its length there are small enclosures attached and little rectangular huts, all made from turf. The best explanation for such features may well be that they are a result of the practice of transhumance, when animals were pastured well away from the inby crop fields. They had to be tended and sheep, goats and cows would have to be milked.

There is very good evidence in the form of small huts and enclosures in the hills that this was the case in this district. Some of the enclosures may have been for corralling animals, but the smaller ones may have been hand cultivated by the people who stayed up there with the animals. It would appear from rig which is evident in some of the larger enclosures that these were arable fields. The long banks must have been a form of stock control.

Rectangular hut-like enclosures measuring up to 12 X 5 metres are a very common type of site found on all the 16-18th century farming landscapes. They are distinctive because they are open ended at one end. Usually near them are examples of variation on the theme, this time having a gap of about 1 metre in a long wall. These structures are often on the side of a hill with the side gap on the downhill wall. Definitely not houses, they are interpreted as being sheep huts. They may have had crude roofs and been used as sheep shelters prior to the later drystane stells and folds. The examples with the side gaps were used for working with the animals. Having driven them in through the open end which often has a catchment extension, the open end may have been closed with a hurdle gate; the sheep could then be evicted one at a time through the smaller opening after smearing or clipping but most likely milking. These structures are the original buchts or bouchts⁽¹¹¹⁾ their modern equivalents being the square subdivided sheepfolds often used for dipping the animals. Milking ewes was a common practice and where the buchts are found some distance from the farms (deserted or extant) then that suggests a form of transhumance, however it seems unlikely that people lived in these huts as shielings, as was common in the north of Scotland, since few are more than a mile from the farm (see BMT No's 61, 62, 85 and 89 for examples.

Earth and turf banks were often used to enclose plantations and shelter belts, sometimes ornamental and sometimes functional. Ditched banks were used to plant broad leaved trees on; mostly it would seem for aesthetic purposes, around the properties of the landowners. This activity is traceable to the 18th century on maps such as those by Roy and Ross⁽¹¹²⁾ when landowners were intent on serious improvements. Care should be exercised when judging old ranks as plantation boundaries. One example, an enclosure at Maidengill, is seen on early editions of the OS maps as being a wooded area and that could easily be interpreted as being its original function. When traced further back to P69 on a map⁽¹¹³⁾ it is shown as a rig and furrow field. This highlights the need to follow the fieldwork through with documentary research if the records exist.

Square enclosures seen on fairly steep hill faces with no gaps in the banks seem improbable as arable fields. Known as 'the minister's acre'⁽¹¹⁴⁾ these are patches of ground which were free of tithe or tiends. Farmers normally paid a tenth of the produce of their arable land as a tax, but in these high and probably unproductive fields they cultivated some extra ground which was outwith the normal extent. Examples can be seen on Dungavel and Devonshaw Hills.

The banks discussed here usually consist entirely of earth below the grass. These were made of turf originally and were known as feal dykes. Some have stone footings and on one interesting example at Cuff Hill⁽¹¹⁵⁾ an early sod dyke has been faced on one side with drystane walling.

At least some of the small rectangular buildings found near to these enclosures may have been crude habitations. Certainly on the west face of Cuff Hill near Millbank there is a small cluster of grassy banks which does represent a house known as Side⁽¹¹⁶⁾. This interpretation is made from records, but it would be extremely difficult to reach such a conclusion on field evidence alone. Examples of very early stone buildings are found only 600 metres to the south of Side and form a small deserted farm known as Cuff Cottage⁽¹¹⁷⁾. These are all of the 17/ 18th century.

At that time 90% of the population of Scotland lived on the land. Agricultural practices varied enormously from area to area, depending on the quality and altitude of the ground.

The evidence for all these various types of farming practice is easy to recognise on the ground and yet they are still not fully understood in terms of their function or of their chronology on the landscape. They are fundamental features for our comprehension of the land use and the living conditions of the people. They may even be indicators of the prevailing climates at the time of their use. They are certainly a much neglected area in the study of man's past in the rural environment.

Upper Clydesdale is an area of Scotland where an opportunity still exists to fit together the story of particular periods of the past; especially that of the Bronze Age and the Post-Medieval. Allowing for an interface with the Bronze Age and the Iron Age, the time scale is from about 2000BC to 500BC. This considerable span of time will be better understood if all future opportunities are taken advantage of in Upper Clydesdale, when any other developments take place. It is possible that the 'complete set' of prehistoric sites does exist in the Clydesdale hills, if only they can be located and fitted into a chronological context. The existing research and excavation project run by BMT and concerning the Post-Medieval period has benefited as a result of the M74 survey.

The main contribution of the Clydesdale M74 Project (archaeology), in all its aspects, is to lay down a new level of information from which future researchers will be better able to formulate opinions and theories. The new database could now be used to further enhance our knowledge of the prehistoric period in the south of Scotland and elsewhere, if a strategy can be devised to continue research into this series of monuments.

One of the aspects of such an enquiry would have to be sample excavation of selected sites in order to fit them more securely into an overall landscape picture. Throughout this report the need for further research has been alluded to in the hope that the significance of the area can be enhanced, leading to a better case for the preservation of sites in the future.

GAZETTEER of INDIVIDUAL SITES

REPORTS and PLANS

NOTES ON SURVEYS

The original survey scale of each site is given in the descriptions. The drawings have been reduced to suit the format of this report and are mostly at 1:2000 scales. The full size drawings are available for study at the Moat Park Heritage Centre in Biggar and

they are also lodged with the NMRS and the Strathclyde Regional Archaeologist.

Features of disturbance on sites were also included to give a survey record of the deterioration of the monuments.

Surveys of all but four known Unenclosed Platform Sites in Clydesdale are included here. Three of these areas are illustrated in the RCAHMS Inventory of Lanarkshire. The UPS on the north side of Normangill Rig are yet to be planned.

See Appendix VI for other recent surveys in Clydesdale

All the survey plans and figures are given at the end of the reports list.

Site No 1 Fig 1

OS Sheet No NS83SE

Location: Parkhead Hill Surveyed scale: 1: 500

At the base of the NE flank of Parkhead Hill and at the confluence of the Byrecleuch Burn and Parkhall Burn, there is a group of ruinous stone buildings with lime mortar showing through the grassy banks which cover the site.

The approximate alignments of the walls are traceable by stones protruding from the grassy banks which vary in height from 0.5M to 2M. Three buildings can be traced, they are marked 'a', 'b' and 'c' on plan and the extrapolated plan indicates the probable layout of the site. A wall connects 'c' with 'b' which is L shaped. The E end of 'a' is missing, most likely as a result of subsidence caused by the action of Parkhall Burn which flows N at this point. The wall on the E side of 'c' may have connected with 'a' but this has also been eroded by the burn. The internal area of 'a' would have been approximately 12M X 5M. The other buildings can be judged to have been about 4M to 5M wide internally.

Apart from other information about the site (see below) the best indication for its date comes from at least seven stones found incorporated into the adjacent sheepfold to the S of the ruin. These are all 'roll moulded' shaped blocks of creamy sandstone which has come from a doorway. Squared blocks of tooled sandstone have been used to form the entrance into the sheep fold and other blocks are built into the drystone wall. The implication of this is that there is at least one building on the site which dates to the late 16th or early 17th century. Such a building can only have been a tower house or as is more likely in the context of the other buildings here, a bastle house. The main building here has had a fine entrance and the quoins have been dressed ashlar.

A track leads away from the site to the N and runs through an enclosure system of eroded turf banks.

The site is shown on Charles Ross map of the Douglas Estates and is dated 1769, the place is given as Thorril Castle. The site is omitted from all OS maps and has not been noted on any other historical maps.

Reference to the place is given in The Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, Volume II, page 146, by Irving and Murray (1864) "in Douglas, as in other remote Parishes of the Upper Ward, the farm steadings, in ancient times, were erected in the fortified form of small peels. Of these several remains still exist. The most important of them is at

Parkhall laid down on Forrest's map as a 'castle in ruins'.

Others are found at THORRIL within a few yards of Parkhead, Parrisholm, Glentaggart and Glespin".

The New Statistical Account (1841) for Douglas Parish also refers to the site as-"the vestiges of a fort near the great road to England", the writer there suggests the name is derived from Thirwall Castle. This is considered here to be mistaken. The Douglas's of Parkhead nearby were also lairds of Torthorwald Castle near Dumfries. This seems to be the more likely explanation for the name Thorril.

The place is a small defended farm and some of the buildings will be byres, as is suggested in the name Byreclench. The choice of site has not been made for convenience and suggests an element of seclusion seems to have been desired by the owner. The great road to England' which was above the site to the W certainly did not exist when Thorril was built, although all the farmlands of this place are in that area and can still be traced by the old turf field boundaries.

This site is now incorporated into the Bastle Project, an ongoing research project into the defensive farmhouses of Clydesdale, which is run by the BMT.

Refs: Ward. T 1989 'Bastle Houses of the Anglo Scottish Borders' Fortress Castles and Fortifications Quarterly, No5, 35 -43

Ward T 1988 "The Elusive Scottish Bastle House' Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group, No12, 50-61

Ward T et al 1986 'Report on the Excavations of Windgate House near Coulter Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group, No 10, 1 - 16

Site No 2 Fig 2

OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S side of Tinto Hill at Greenhill to the NE of a plantation which is W of the Bottom Burn, there are five ring enclosures and a cairn. They all lie between 345M and 370M OD.

Enclosure No 1 is nearest the plantation, it measures 15M in diameter with stony walls spreading to 2M X 0.4M high. There is a gap on the N side. The ground slopes slightly to the SE where there is an arc of rushes in the interior.

No 2 measures 24.5M in external diameter with an internal area of 12.5M. The rather large banks spread to 6M wide and are up to 2M high. There is a gap on the SE side.

No 3 is 15M in diameter with a bank spreading to 2.5M X 0.4M high. There may have been a gap on the NE side, the internal area slopes down by 1.4M to the SE.

No 4 is 12M in diameter; its bank is very neatly preserved being 1M wide X 0.3M high with a flattened top. There is no apparent gap. The internal area slopes down by 1.2M to the SE.

No5 is 10M in diameter and is a horseshoe shape with a gap on the N side. The internal area is 5M X 3M, the bank is 0.4M high.

No5 is in a bracken infested area as is the 4M diameter by 0.4M high cairn to the NW. The other four rings are on ground covered in coarse grass.

Discussion

No 1 is a stone wall and could be classed as a hut circle.

No 2 has a massive bank and would certainly have been effective as a stock enclosure without requiring a fence on top of the bank to keep animals in. Nos3 and 4 are more problematic to explain because of the slight nature of the banks and apparent lack of an entrance. The slopes of the interiors tend to rule out a habitation as the function. No 5 could be explained as a hut.

It is interesting to note that no two enclosures are alike. Whether this indicates a difference in function or of period can only be proved by other archaeological investigation.

Site No 3 Fig 3

OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S side of Tinto Hill N of March Wood (of which only the W half still exists) there are four UPS and three small cairns.

Described here from the W, No 1 measures 7M X 4M, No 2 is 14M X 5M, No3 is 10M X 5M and No 4 is 18M X 10M. Access sides are W for No 1, E for No 2, E and W? for No3 and W for No 4. Two cairns 1M in diameter are above No 4 and a 2M diameter cairn lies below No 1.

100M to the NW are several quarry like scoops which may have been platforms in the making, but never completed.

Site No 4 Fig 4

Location: Tinto Hill NS 947337 Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the S side of Tinto Hill at 380M OD and 100M E of Haw Burn there is a stone enclosure and a platform.

The features are on the end of a spur of ground with steep slopes on all sides.

The stone enclosure which is 5.5M in internal diameter with 1M thick walls has been built on a levelled area scooped from the ridge. Areas of the internal wall face are visible on the NE internal side. There is no visible entrance, but it must have been on the E side as the ground there is slightly less steep. The rear of the interior is somewhat silted up.

Immediately below there is a 4M X 2M platform with distinct front and rear - scarps.

150M to the NE are other terrace like areas which may be platforms; however they have a natural appearance.

Discussion

This is an odd site for the district. There are UPS 700M to the SWW (BMT No3) and stone circular enclosures like this are now being found in Clydesdale, (see other surveys here) it is probable that this is a prehistoric site, but its function is indeterminate from observation alone.

Site No 5 Fig 5
Location Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S side of Tinto Hill 450M N of Greenhill Farm are the remains of a deserted farm or more likely a cott town. Situated at 275M OD on the E side of Bottom burn and with a tributary on the E side, the site is poorly preserved.

At the S end of the site a building measures 9M X 4M and may have been a sheep bucht.

Another rectangular building is 12M X 7M with a subdivision giving rooms of 4M X 2.4M and 4M X 6.5M. It is joined to a bank which has formed a courtyard, but the bank is eroded in places. A small horseshoe shaped bank to the N may have been a kiln, or simply a storage area. At the N end of the site are four rather amorphous looking mounds which may have been rectangular or sub rectangular buildings. The squarer structures measure 8M X 6M and 5M X 5M. The oval pair are 12M X 7M and 9M X 6M. They are about 0.75M high. Rabbits are using the earth mounds as warrens causing much disturbance. No entrances to any of these structures can be seen.

On the W side of the burn and on the natural break of slope is the fragmentary remains of a bank. This has been the mill lade which supplied water from the burn to Greenhill Farm during the last century. Also on this side is a pile of clearance stones which pre-date the lade and are probably the result of clearing some of the extensive and well preserved rig and furrow fields, which are seen on the NW of the survey area and extend for 300M up the hill face.

The exact function of any of the buildings on this site is difficult to determine by field observation alone. Greenhill Farm was operated during the 17th century as a fermtoun; these structures may date from that period. It is possible that they date to the 16th century.

Site No 6 Fig 6
OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Dungavel Hill NS 93693107
Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the N facing slope of Dungavel hill at 335M OD there are three ring enclosures 9M apart in a line across the hill face.

No 1 is the western ring; it measures 13M on the E/W axis and 17M on the N/S axis.

The internal area is 9M in diameter. The hummocky bank is 0.3M high. The interior drops steeply from N to S by 2M.

No 2 is 19M in total diameter; the interior is 13M in diameter. The flat topped bank is 0.4M high and the interior also has a 2M drop in level.

No3 measures 15M in total diameter and has two small pits dug into it. The internal area was probably 9M in diameter. The bank is 0.9M high and has a flattened top.

There appears to be no stone in their construction and there are no gaps in the banks. They all lie on very steep ground; as a result some slight slumping of the banks has taken place on the downhill sides.

The function of these enclosures is difficult to appreciate. They are on an extremely exposed flank of the hill, sheep stells are considered unlikely because of the severity of the slope and lack of entrances.

A prehistoric funerary /ritual function is the more likely explanation.

Site No 7 Fig 7

OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Dungavel Hill Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the N flank of Dungavel hill at 330M OD there are four ring bank enclosures, they are 800M SW of Newton Farm.

No 1 measures 17M in diameter on its N/S axis. A 0.3M bank spreads to 4M. Within the enclosure which has no apparent entrance, is a mound 7M in diameter by 0.3M high, the internal diameter of the ring is 9M.

No 2 seems to have been disturbed on the NW side where there is a slight ditch 7M long by 1M wide. The bank of the C shaped enclosure is 0.3M high and spreads to 4M. The internal diameter is 14M.

No 3 is also a C shaped enclosure and most likely has been disturbed on the N side where a ditched and embanked shelter belt plantation has been created. The bank of the enclosure is 0.3M high and spreads to 4M. The internal diameter is 11M.

No 4 has been affected on its S side by the plantation boundary, but only on the external face of the bank which is 0.4M high and spreading to 3M. Within this ring is a triangular shaped mound measuring 5M X 4M X 0.2M high.

These enclosures have lain in an area of arable land predating the shelter belt which is early 19th century. Rig and furrow is evident between No 1 and No 2, this probably accounts for the erosion of the W side of No 2.

On the basis of the internal mounds and the probability that the rings pre-date the rig system, these features are interpreted as being prehistoric funerary/ritual monuments.

Modern field clearance stones have been dumped in the ditch of the plantation boundary.

Site No 8 Fig 8

OS Sheet No: NS92NW & NS93SW

Location Dungavel Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SW flank of Dungavel Hill NW of Roberton and between 350M and 370M

OD there is a group of nine UPS and a possible tenth. They lie in an NW/ SE alignment on a steep slope of unimproved pasture. Below the settlement, the ground is less steep, and the land is arable up to the head dyke. Rig and furrow are prominent in this field and it can also be seen to extend above the dyke to the S of the settlement.

The platforms are described here from the NW.

No 1 has either been severely eroded by cultivation or has never been completed. It is the poorest defined of the group, only traces of a scarp are evident.

The platforms are fairly typical; all appear to have accesses on the SE sides while No6 may also have connected on its NW side to No5. Front and back scarps are up to 4M high. The vegetation is generally consistent on and off the settlement area.

No 2 measures 20M across the top of the apron, but a 10M diameter area is formed by the arc of the rear scarp.

No 3 is 15M X 12M. Above it, a spring is active in what appears to be a small scooped area which may be man made. There is a depth of 0.5M of moss growing here.

No 4 is 20M X 9M and has a sub rectangular platform.

No 5 is 18M X 9M. The front apron is slightly disturbed probably due to the activities of sheep.

No 6 is 18M X 12M and has a short back scarp. An active spring runs through the platform from the NW to the SE, consequently the platform has a rush growth over it.

No 7 is 15M across the surviving apron. It would appear that this has been an earlier platform which has been covered by the construction of No5.

No 8 is 15M X 12M and has been affected by sheep scrapes, causing some slumping of the back scarp. This platform has a stony apron and on the NW side there is a slight bank.

No 9 is 13M X 7M.

No 10 is a long narrow platform measuring 12M X 4M. It is unlikely that this feature was a hut site.

A wavy linear scarp about 1.5M high is below No's 8 and 9, it may be an ancient plough line, but it has a natural appearance.

30M upslope and NE of No3 is a single cairn measuring 4M X 3M X 0.3m high. The view from this settlement is extremely attractive and overlooks the extensive prehistoric landscape N of Roberton village.

Site No 9 Fig 9

Location: Fallside NS 918306 Surveyed scale: 1:200

At circa NS918306, 900M E of Fallside Farm and 250M W of a mature plantation on a gentle E facing slope there is a scooped and banked enclosure. It measures 12M internally on the N/S axis by 10M internally on the E/W axis. The quarried material has been used to form a bank on the E side; the bank has two terminals with a gap of 2.5M between them. The internal cut in the W is about 0.5M high and the bank at the entrance is about 1M high on the E side.

This is probably a house site of prehistoric period. See BMT No25 for similar types which are now being located in Clydesdale.

Site No 10 Fig 10

OS Sheet No : NS93SW Location: Fallside Surveyed scale: 1:200

At NS918310 on the W side of a mature plantation 1 Km E of Fallside Farm there is a slightly elevated platform area with two mounds at the N end of it. The platform is 0.3M high and is pear shaped, the long axis of 18M is N/S and the short E axis is 13M. One mound in the NE quadrant measures 5M X 4M X 0.4M high. The faint mound in the NW quadrant is 8M X 2M X 0.2M high. A shallow narrow ditch runs along the E side of the feature on an NE/SW alignment. One earth fast stone lies between the mounds.

No explanation for this feature is offered here, but it is worth while stating that it does lie in an area of known prehistoric cairns, huts and burials.

Site No 11 Fig 11

OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Muirhead Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the summit of an unnamed hill equidistant from Muirhead on the SE and the Star Burn on the NW, there are two cairns, a mound and a ring bank enclosure. They are about 320M OD.

The enclosure measures 14M overall diameter and has a 3M wide bank up to 0.5M high. The interior is a bowl shape and there is an entrance on the NE side. The feature has had a narrow miss when a pipeline was installed beside it.

The cairn to the N is 7.5M in diameter by 0.3M high and has a pitted centre. The cairn a further 160M to the N is 5M in diameter by 0.75M high. 70M to the W of this cairn there is a mound which is 7M in diameter by 0.2M high. It appears to be an earth mound.

Site No 12 Fig 12

**OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Star Burn NS 923304
Surveyed scale: 1:200**

1.5Km SW of Fallside Farm at circa NS923304 on the steep W facing slope of an unnamed hill there is a single well preserved UPS. It is 50 M to the W of and overlooks the Star Burn. It measures 15M X 7M and the access has clearly been on the S side. The platform is surrounded by mature heather, while only grass is growing on the site.

Site No 13 Fig 13

**OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Star Burn NS 92353010
Surveyed scale: 1:500**

On the W facing slope of an unnamed hill 900M W of Muirhead and on the E side of Star Burn at 265M OD, there are the remains of five UPS.

They are described here from the S.

No 1 has a short quarry scarp 8M long; the material has been dumped to form a frontal scarp which is 5M wide at the top. There are mounds on top of the platform area.

No 2 is a small scarp 4M wide by 2M.

No 3 measures 5M across the short quarried scarp, a longer front apron has a 4M broad level area behind it.

No 4 is on a gentle slope and has a short back scarp and front apron giving a stance of

6M X 5M. Above No4 is a mound 2M X 1M which has been excavated from a ditch in its S side.

No 5 also has a short back scarp and has a platform area of 7M X 7.5M. The N end appears closed; thus the entrance is on the S side.

Below No 5 is a 15M length which may be a natural bank, or it may indicate a cultivation line.

Discussion

This group appears to be an undeveloped UPS site. No 1 especially seems to have been abandoned before completion. Because of the gentle slope here, only a small rear scarp was required to create a level platform.

Site No 14 Fig 14

OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Tinto NS 950333 Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S side of Tinto Hill 900M NW of West Millrig Farm and on the W side of the Gallow Burn, there are two ring enclosures and a rectangular building. They are in a N/S alignment at 315M OD.

The banks of these structures are all of turf construction; they spread to 2M and are up to 0.5M high. The northern ring is 12M in internal diameter and may have a gap on the SW side. The ring to the S is 8M in diameter and has no obvious gap in its circuit. Both are fairly level and have featureless interiors. SCALE 100M downstream the rectangular building measures 20M X 8M. The interior is sub divided into three areas measuring 2.5M X 5M, 6M X 5M and 4.5M X 5M. The only entrance is in the SE corner.

200M to the S and on the same side of the burn there is another structure of similar construction; it is oval and measures 5M X 3M with an open end on the N side.

All the features are in an area of course unimproved grass.

Discussion

The rectangular structures are similar to those at Greenhill to the W (BMT No 5) and may be connected to some form of stock control; the smaller enclosure (not planned) may be a hut. The ring enclosures are similar to many found in the District, their proximity to the other features may indicate that they are contemporary in this case and are sheep folds.

Site No 15 Fig 15

OS Sheet No: NS93SE Location: Shillowhead Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the summit of an unnamed hill 500M W of Shillowhead Farm and S of a recent plantation, there are two ring banks, an enclosure and a linear bank.

The ring banks measure 6M in diameter internally with the banks spreading to 2M by 0.3 M high. They have no original gaps in the banks, although the ring to the W now has a recent drain cut through on the W side.

The trapezoidal enclosure measures 30M X 30M internally and has a small bucht like feature in the SW corner. There is a gap in the 2M wide by 0.3M high bank on the NW corner.

The linear bank shown on plan is part of a longer bank which extends on each end around the summit of the hill. It has a gap in its length.

The enclosure and field bank are probably associated with 17/18th century stock control. The two ring banks may also date to this time, but their function and age are

less certain.

Site No 16 Fig 16

Location: Startup Hill NS 975300 Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the N facing slope of Startup Hill at a height of 290M OD there are two scooped sites lying 30M apart, they are located 100M NE of the corner of Douglashill Plantation and 350M SE of Burnfoot Cottage.

Both sites have been quarried into the base of a steep break in slope and lie above more gently sloping ground where the vegetation changes from grass below to heather above. The site to the E which is nearer the wood can be described as a typical UPS; it has a level area measuring 10M X 7M.

At a slightly lower level, the other site is distinctive as it has a bowl shaped interior which is 1M below the front bank which has a broad flattened top. The entrance is clearly on the SW side as the opposite end has an upcast bank closing it. Although atypical of UPS this feature is not unique in the district, other similar examples can be seen in the Robertson area (see BMT No's 8 and 9) where conventional UPS are nearby. These sites are probably contemporaneous with platforms but may have had a different function.

Within the Douglashill Plantation and about 50M from the SW corner at NS969298 (NS92NE) there is another level platform and in the same vicinity there may be another. These are not yet planned.

The above site was notified to APO by Mr D Cowley of RCAHMS.

Site No 17 Fig 17

Location: Startup Hill NS 977299 Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NW facing slope of Startup Hill at a height of 350M OD there is a burnt mound. The mound is at the head of an unnamed spring which flows past of the W side, it is 230M above a fence line. The mound lies at the base of a break in slope and the ground falls away steeply below it. There would have been no scope for a habitation site in the immediate vicinity. Measuring 10M X 7M overall the mound appears to have two distinct areas, perhaps indicating different campaigns of use. The main part measures 7M X 5M and is 2M high when measured from below and 0.4M high from the top side. It appears to be unstable as there are slump lines across the face of it, sheep may be responsible for this. To the E there is an area which gives an overall kidney shape which is only slightly raised and blends into the hill slope at the top. The entire area of the mound consists of black charcoal enriched soil and heat shattered rocks. The adjacent soil around the mound is distinctly a brown soil as noted at the time of survey in molehills. The views in all directions except the SE from the mound are extensive.

This site was notified to APO by Mr D Cowley of the RCAHMS.

Site No 18 Fig 18

OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Wildshaw Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On and around the double summit of Wildshaw Hill, between 335M and 350M OD there is a series of circular and oval shaped patches of rushes. The sizes of these peculiar clumps of rushes varies from 3M to 10M in diameter. Similar patches can be seen on several of the nearby hill tops.

These features present an interesting problem for students of the landscape. The questions are, are they natural phenomena or are they anthropogenic features of interest to the archaeologist?

The clumps are interesting for several reasons. They are found in these distinct patches, sometimes as rings of growth but with no random growth of the same plant between the clumps, except in drainage ditches. It is this fact which makes them so distinctive. They are apparently not the result of a single plant spreading out as one might assume, because they are visible on the vertical aerial photographs taken in 1946 and are clearly in the same positions as they were in at that time. The growth is therefore being contained in some feature below. Ancient frost fractures may be the answer but at the time of this report neither geologists nor botanists were able to explain these peculiar growth patterns.

Several of the clumps and rings are found on sloping ground and this may weaken any argument that they are man made. On the other hand they seem always to be near small cairns and banks. An explanation is required to either eliminate them from the archaeological enquiry or include them.

Beside the sheep fank is a modern pile of stones and a crescent shaped turf bank which spreads to about 2M and is 0.5M high.

On the N flank of the hill there are four small cairns of about 2M diameter by 0.5M high. One long cairn measures 4M X 2M X 0.5M high.

Further to the N is a rectangular building measuring 10M X 4M, stone foundations are evident and a gap in the N wall may indicate an entrance. There is no mortar showing, nor is it likely that any exists. A turf bank forming a small stock catchment area (?) is attached to the S wall of the building.

Site No 19 Fig 19

OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location Wildshaw Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the SW flank of an unnamed hill to the S of Wildshaw Hill and between 315M and 350M OD there is a random scatter of small cairns measuring 3M in diameter and up to 0.5M high.

Within the same area and interspersed among the cairns is a group of rush patches of a similar nature to those on Wildshaw Hill (BMT No 18).

In the same general area there are several small standing stones with pointed tops.

The rush patches were considered at the time of survey to be of archaeological significance. However they are more likely to be the result of some geological phenomena, perhaps frost fractures. It is possible that some of them may have an archaeological significance.

The small standing stones are noted in other locations in the district. They are set up by shepherds to allow the sheep to rub themselves. They are of no great antiquity and are usually quite slack in the ground.

Site No 20 Figs No's 20, 20a, 20b and 20c

OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Wildshaw Burn NS 88202716

Surveyed scale: 1:10

{**Note: this survey has now been superseded by another, see Ward 2013 www.biggararchaeology.org.uk }**

On a fairly level terrace on the E side of the Wildshaw Burn there is a stone circle. It lies between 285M and 290M OD. The monument is located 700M W of the Red Moss Hotel and 500M N of the point where the Wildshaw Burn flows under the A74 road at a lay-by.

The monument is almost a perfect ellipse with its 52M long axis aligned NNE/ SSW, the short axis is 42M across. These measurements are taken from the best fit, see Fig 20c.

Thirteen stones were visible on the day of discovery and a further ten were located by probing in the peat which covers the site by a depth of 0.3M to 0.5M. A maximum of 150mm of peat/turf was removed from the buried stones and now the entire twenty three are visible.

Nearly all the stones are prostrate; the largest is 1.75M long. The existing stones are located at approximately 3M intervals on the overall perimeter of the site. The gaps between the stones can be divided into similar distances. If imaginary stones were allocated to these spaces then a total of forty stones would occupy the perimeter of the site.

The stones are all Tertiary Andesitic Tholeiite and must have been gathered from an outcrop of the exposed igneous dyke 200M to the NW.

The site is on a gentle SW facing slope and has good visibility in all directions to the distant horizon, except to the N where the ground rises away from the monument. The surface of the ground within the monument slopes down to the S and W. From stone No 1 to stone No 13 there is a drop of 2.38M, and from stone No 18 to stone No 7 there is a drop of 1.41M. It is likely that this will reflect the original gradient of the ground when the monument was conceived.

Fig 20a shows the opposing stone positions, the dotted lines indicate imaginary positions around the perimeter of the ellipse where stones may either have been or may have been intended. The total circumference of the superimposed ellipse on Fig 20c is 145M; this gives an even spacing of 3.6M apart for forty positions. The fact that all the crossing points are within 2M of the centre and the existing dispositions of the stones clearly indicate that the original design was meant to be a true ellipse, regardless of the amount of stones intended for the completed monument.

Fig 20b indicates alignments of possible astronomical significance across pairs of stones.

Stones 19 and 12 align with the crossover point between Blackhill and Craighead Hill. Stones 6 and 14 align with the crossover point between Mosscastle Hill and The Beam.

These positions are reckoned to be the points where midwinter sunrise and sunset respectively can be observed, (see App' IV).

The line across stones 10 and 19 to the NW is the approximate position of midsummer sunset. So far it has not been possible to observe midsummer sunrise. Stones 7 and 19 align with a large outlying recumbent stone 260M to the WNW. As it lies on the ground, the stone is 1.75M long and 0.6M high, one end is pointed and the other is very broad, this is suggestive of a fallen standing stone. Like the stones used for the circle this one has been transported S from the igneous dyke to the N, which traverses the landscape in a W/E line. The stone is in total isolation making its position on the hill less likely as a natural erratic boulder. The horizon on this alignment is obscured by a plantation, but the crossover between Mid Rig and Wildshaw Hill must lie within a degree or two of the alignment.

Despite repeated attempts since the discovery of the circle, weather conditions have not allowed observation of the motions of the sun at the solstices.

Fig 20c is given to demonstrate the probable method used to lay out the site. If the pegs were installed at A and B and a loop of rope 82M in total length was placed over the pegs, it would reach point C. By pulling the slack of the loop tight and walking around pegs A and B for one revolution, maintaining the tension of the loop, then the perfect ellipse shown would be achieved. The diagram shows four other points of the taught loop. No theoretical knowledge of mathematics or geometry is required. By varying the distance between the pegs and the length of the loop, different combinations of shape and size of the ellipse can easily be achieved. Thus, given that the rope was at hand with some temporary marking sticks, the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle could easily have been laid set out within an hour.

The position of the complete ellipse superimposed on the plan of the stones in Fig 20c is given as a 'best fit'. Only excavation could reveal if the stones were erected in socket holes and whether the gaps ever had stones or were prepared for them. The position of the pegs in Fig 20c is hypothetical, but the 31M distance between them is correct if the loop method was used to lay out the site.

While the design method of the monument is not complicated and need not have been for the builders of it, the selection of the site is another matter. This leads directly to the question of function. The great debate regarding possible astronomical aspects for such sites is still difficult to resolve. At Wildshaw there is good evidence for the design of a symmetrical feature being conceived, if not actually built. The alignments for midwinter and midsummer solstices are convincing, but at this stage no more can be said. If the sky was now as clear, as it no doubt was around 2000BC, then perhaps more could be seen regarding calendrical observations from the site. If sight lines are relevant then the place may have been selected after a period of trial and error using timber markers until the desired position was located.

The circle may have functioned as a ceremonial and ritual place as well as a general venue for meeting and trading, especially for the purposes of trade in stone axes as has been suggested elsewhere.

The position beside the burn may have some significance, however the orientation of the ellipse and the fact that it is not on level ground seem to indicate that the location is not the result of chance but has been deliberately selected. For example, why transport the stones from the outcrop when there is similar ground in that vicinity? if only a meeting place of some sort was required.

The largest stone No 10 may have some special significance being placed on the SE side, but there is no obvious pattern regarding the majority of the stones with reference to their size, shape or relative positions on the ellipse.

The source of the stone has been shown and because of their relatively modest size then no great difficulty would have been encountered in transporting them the short distance to the circle. From what can be seen none of the stone has been shaped, it is an extremely hard rock which separates from the source along jointing planes. It would simply have been gathered from the exposure.

Accurate measurements have been taken of the horizon as seen from the site, but only actual observation of any solar events will allow bolder comment on the possible

astronomical implications of the circle. Research will continue to be refined as time permits.

The circle is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Site No 21 Fig 21

OS Sheet No NS82NE

Location White Rig Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SW slope of White Rig to the NE of a sheep stall and 700M W of Thirstone there are seventeen cairns (sixteen on plan) measuring 2M to 4M in diameter and up to 0.4M high. They are mostly ranged along the 295M contour OD.

Two larger round cairns measuring about 4M across by 0.5M high and a double ring of rushes were removed by the nearby quarry for the M74. These were to the NW of the survey. The ring of rushes may have been a natural feature, but an archaeological significance was suspected.

Site No 22 Fig 22

OS Sheet No: NS82NE

Location: Auchensauch Hill

NS 854278

Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the E face of Auchensauch Hill on a plateau between the 345M and 350M OD contours, there is a ring enclosure consisting of two concentric banks, the maximum height of which is 0.4M. On the internal bank there is a groove which almost completes the circuit. There is evidence on the outer bank for a similar groove which has been silted up. Rush growth indicates the continuance of both grooves. Neither of the banks have gaps in them. Both banks have spread, especially on the down slope side which is on the NW. The external bank may have originally been of the order of 2.5M wide and the internal one is 2M wide. The entire diameter of the monument is 30M.

Other than rushes, the vegetation on the enclosure is the same coarse grass as the surrounding area. The site has panoramic views on all directions except the W where the ground rises gently away from the enclosure.

Site No 23 Fig 23

OS Sheet No: NS82NE

Location: Auchensauch Hill NS 859273

Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the lower E flank of Auchensauch Hill on a plateau between the 300M and 305M OD lying 100M W of a sheepfold, there are the remains of a much disturbed possible ditched mound. A bank can be traced on the E side which has a stony content and a maximum height of 0.2M. The ground outside this bank falls away. There is a suggestion of a ditch on the W side; this is enhanced by the growth pattern of rushes there. The internal mound is slight and may have been disturbed.

63M S of the above site is an open ended rectangular hut measuring 7M X 5M. This is typical of many such huts in the district and is a bucht associated with shieling practices.

Site No 24 Fig 24

OS Sheet No: NS82NE

Location: Auchensauch Hill NS 856269

Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the lower SE flank of Auchensauch Hill on a gentle slope between the 290M and 295M OD contours there is a circular enclosure. It measures 30M in total diameter with a bank measuring from 3M to 4M in width and a maximum height of 0.3M. The bank, which has no stone visible in it has no gap in its circumference. There is a distinct groove running around most of the flat topped bank. The featureless interior has a gradient of 1.5M down from N to S. Surrounding the enclosure for an extended radius of about 4M to 5M is a halo of slightly lower ground. There is no variation in the vegetation on the area, coarse grasses grow over the entire area on and around the site.

The enclosure is surrounded by traces of extensive rig and furrow field systems which cover the entire length of the lower SW facing flank of Auchensauch Hill and Mid Rig to the NE. This rig is noted to appear as continuous lines within and without the enclosure. The halo effect at the side has been the deturfing area for the bank material; here the rig is not distinctive. These subtle aspects of the site are only observed under optimum conditions but can be seen on the vertical aerial photographs.

The groove on the bank top could be the result of a turf wall being built as a double sod wall without any interlocking divots, the effect being a slumped centre. Alternatively the turf wall could have been built on both sides of a palisade which is now decayed leaving only a groove.

This enclosure seems to post date the rig and furrow field system.

Site No 25 Fig 25

OS Sheet No: NS92NW

Location: Dungavel Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE slopes of Dungavel Hill on a gentle south facing slope N of Roberton Burn and W of an unclassified road is a series of scooped sites, UPS, linear banks with rig and furrow fields and a single cairn.

The scooped sites lie in a 350M long NW/SE line just above a track and between 265M and 275M OD, they are described here from the NW. No 1 is a typical UPS; it measures 14M X 10M with the access on the SE. Several sheep burials have been inserted on the level platform. Between No 1 and No 2 is a line of shooting butts. No 2 is an arced scoop 15M wide. The rear and top of the scarp forms a slight bank. In front of it and leading off to the NW for 45M is a short lynchet. A 25M length of bank lies in front of the lynchet. No 3 is an arc 13M wide formed by a bank which may have been quarried from the inner side of the arc. No 4 is a semi scooped, semi embanked enclosure measuring 21M X 13M. Two distinct gaps are created by the frontal bank which is over 1M high. No 5 is also a semi scooped, semi embanked feature, it measures 15M X 10M and has access from each side, NW and SE. No 6 is a simple scoop 5M wide with no frontal feature visible.

A single cairn measuring 6M X 5M X 0.3M high lies 120M S of No 5.

Also below No5 is an area of rig and furrow cultivation with 3M spacing. Above the scooped sites are two parallel field boundaries consisting of banks 1.5M wide by 0.4M high form a field which has been under rig and furrow cultivation, to the E of this enclosure is further rig and furrow. Note: The rig is not planned in detail. Further to the N are more field banks. The entire area lies in deep heather which may have

obscured some detail and possibly other features.

Discussion

The scooped features are all attributed to the late Bronze Age on the strength of the UPS and semi UPS (?). The lynchets and bank in front of No2 are most likely to be later in date. The area immediately in front of No2 is level and there is no indication of where the quarried material has gone. One speculates if No3 has been made from the material dug from No2. This would explain certain features noted on other sites where there is a back scarp but no front and vice versa. The large enclosure No4 is unique in Clydesdale as far as is known. It does not seem to fit the category of a house site. This feature may be the best evidence in the district for a Bronze Age stock enclosure.

The rig and field banks are normally ascribed to the medieval period; these are part of an extensive system around the farm of Kilnpotlees and Robertson village.

Site No 26 Fig 26

OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the N flank of Little Law and S of Robertson Burn, between 255M and 285M OD and spreading over a distance of u.5Km there is a group of thirty nine small cairns, a UPS and burnt mounds.

The cairns range in size from 2M to 6M in diameter and are up to 0.4M high. They are in two dispersed groups one of which is below the platform.

The platform measures 8M X 6M and has a stony apron with a slight bank around it. The rear of the platform has been mutilated by army tank ruts. The black dots on the plan are bomb craters.

550M to the NWW of the platform are three burnt mounds. They lie in a boggy area which is now cut by several drains, one of which may have truncated a single large burnt mound into the two larger mounds which exist now. One measures 16M X 10M X 1M high, the other is 12M X 8M X 1M high. The third mound is 5M x 3M X 0.4M high. They consist of burnt angular rocks in a matrix of black charcoal enriched soil. The rocks in these mounds are red sandstones and andesite which are naturally a red colour. The angular nature of the small rocks and the presence of charcoal are the factors which determine these piles as burnt mounds.

A 300M long gully leads from the area of these mounds towards a small pond which has been created by an embankment over which a track now passes. The gully is evidently a water channel, now dry, which served the pond, the function of which is unknown; possibly it was a curling pond.

At NS 92092939 at the SW corner of a plantation, pieces of worked chert were retrieved from the upcast resulting from the installation of a corner fence post. Included in the assemblage is a willow leaf arrow measuring 20mm X 15mm X 3mm and a scraper. This may indicate the site of a habitation or at least a knapping site of Neolithic date.

Site No 27 Fig 27

OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the W flank of Little Law 300M N of the plantation on BMT No27 and 500M NEE of a quarry, there is a group of at least twenty three cairns. They are nearly all N side of the boundary fence line and four are S of it. The height of the area is between 305M to 315M OD.

The cairns range in size from 2M to 6M in diameter and are up to 0.5M high.

This group may be considered as part of the same activity on the N and S face of Little Law, see BMT No's 25 and 27.

Most of this area has been rutted by army tank tracks during manoeuvres.

Site No 28 Fig 28

OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000 & 1:200

On the SE flank of Little Law, between Ladygill Burn and a plantation to the N there is a series of cairns, huts and ring enclosures. The survey area lies between 260M and 295M OD and it extends 0.5Km N/S and 0.6Km E/W.

Cairns

A main group of thirty one cairns is dispersed on a broad gentle slope to the SW of the plantation. The cairns measure from 2M to 6M in diameter and from 0.2M to 0.5M high respectively. They are mostly dome shaped and intact. Two short lengths of bank with a few stones showing are within the area of the lower cairns. These banks are faint and are only showing because they are in an area of burnt heather; they are 0.1M high with a 1.5M spread. Also within this group, lying on the end of a ridge at 'a' on plan is a hut circle. The internal area is stone free and is 5M in diameter; the stony bank is 1.5M wide by 0.3M high with an entrance on the SE. The site is covered in heather with the exception of the gap which has grass growing on it.

Thirteen other cairns are widely dispersed over the rest of the survey area. The largest is a long cairn measuring 12M X 6M X 1M high. It lies beside a linear bank which is 2M wide by up to 1.5M high; the bank stretches for a distance of 450M to the SW almost to the Ladygill Burn. A single small gap exists in its length; however a 70M stretch has been destroyed, probably by the activities of army manoeuvres (more below).

Huts

On the S side of the plantation at 'b' on plan there is another hut circle. It measures 7M in total diameter and has stone footings of a wall surviving only as a basal course, 0.2M high and 1M wide. A short length of wall face is visible on the SW side leading to the entrance which faces the W.

Two other possible hut sites are at 'c' and 'd' on plan, 'c' is a scoop of 5M internal diameter and about 0.5M deep, 'd' is a semi circular bank 1.5M wide by 0.4M high, the internal arc is 6M wide.

Ring Enclosures

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of this area are the ring enclosures. Eight have been identified but there may well have been more on the NE side of the plantation where the ground has been mauled by the action of army tank manoeuvres, about 30 - 40 years ago.

Ring No 1 is the largest of a line of four lying on a N/S alignment. It measures 40M across its E/W axis and 37M on its N/S axis. The S side is eroded due to the steepness of the ridge upon which the ring lies. The enclosing bank is up to 3M wide by 0.4M maximum height. A tank has probably been responsible for a reduction of the bank on the SW side and there is a bulged area on the N side where there are two earth fast stones. The internal circuit of the bank is visible and there appears to be no gap in it.

Centrally placed within the enclosure is a ditched mound which is reduced to 0.4M high and is 10M in diameter. The surrounding ditch is traceable for its full circuit and is 1M wide by 0.2M deep.

Ring No 2 is immediately to the N, it measures 14M X 13M overall, has a slightly stony bank 1.5M wide and only 0.15M high. The terminals of the bank are inturned on the SE side to form a gap 1.5M wide. The internal area is level with no visible features.

Ring No3, again to the N is 14M X 12M overall and appears more as a flattened circle. The bank has stone visible and is 1.5M wide by 0.2M high. A gap of 2.5M on the SE side appears to have its sides defined by stones in the bank terminals. Off set slightly to the S within the enclosure is the faint trace of another ring bank. Measuring 5M X 3M overall, the bank is 1M wide by 0.1M high and has no break in its circuit.

12M to the N is the fourth enclosure measuring 12M in overall diameter, the bank measures 1.5M wide by 0.15M high, a few earth fast stones are visible and there does not appear to be a gap, although the circuit is very faint on the SE side. The internal area is level, stone free and with no visible features.

These four enclosures lie on a broad level grassy terrace.

50M to the W and on slightly higher ground are the fragmented remains of another three ring enclosures. No 5 is an arc of a ditched site, being 1M wide by 0.2M deep.

No 6 is a banked enclosure, it has a small pile of stones within it, and also two rectangular pits have been dug into it. These are probably either sheep burials or perhaps latrine pits left by the army, who are known to have camped beside the wood at this location.

No 7 is also a banked enclosure, almost complete with a gap on the SE side. The gap may be original or be the result of erosion in this case. The diameter of these three enclosures are' 11M overall and the banks are 1.5M wide by 0.2M high. A 3M diameter cairn lies between No6 and No7.

Enclosure No 8 on plan is on a lower terrace. 50M SE of No 1. This is an 18M diameter circle of earth fast stones, set to form the inner and outer face of a wall 1M wide with smaller stones between. There is no apparent gap in the circuit of stones. Two larger stones are set together on the external N side of the circle. Their significance, if any, is unclear. The internal area is nearly level, there is only a slight rise to the NW the same as the surrounding ground, which is covered in grass, as is the circle.

300M W of the survey area at NS92032824 are two further cairns (not planned). One measures 9M in diameter by 1.0M high and the other is 6M in diameter by 0.3M

high. Both are dome shaped and lie in heather.

At NS931276 to the S of the survey area on the S bank of Ladygill Burn where it meets an unnamed tributary is a rectangular building measuring 10M X 5M having a gap in the middle of the long N wall, (not planned). The walls are of turf construction.

DISCUSSION.

The main group of cairns are on a gentle S facing slope and would appear to be the result of field clearance, by cultivating the better ground there. The ground to the E of the cairns and S of the circles is streaked in an EW line with long and steep ridges which are deposits of glacial moraine. This area would never have been of any arable potential. The hut circles are consistent in size and given the location of one among the cairns it is reasonable to suggest they are contemporaneous. With the exception of a hut circle on Tinto Hill (see BMT No 2 these are the only examples of this size and type known in Upper Clydesdale.

The ring enclosures are the main problematic aspect of the area. Considering their numbers, proximity to each other and the cairns, their slight condition and also in view of the fact that two have internal features sometimes associated with prehistoric sites, then that period for their construction and use is suggested here.

The stone enclosure is typical in size for a 19C sheep stell. However, the stones used here are not quarried rocks, neither is there any debris which one would expect, and usually observes when a sheep stell has been 'robbed' of stone to build elsewhere. The appearances of these footings are neatly preserved, which suggests they are seen 'as built'.

With the exception of the linear bank which demarcates pasture on the W from large areas of rig and furrow on the E, and the rectangular building beside the Ladygill Burn, the features in the survey area are interpreted here as being entirely prehistoric. The ring enclosures are probably funerary/ritual monuments.

Given the density of prehistoric sites surrounding this area (see BMT surveys) then this may have been a ritual centre.

Little Law was used as a training area for army manoeuvres during and after WWII. Much of the ground has been churned up and rutted by the action of tank tracks. As these ruts are now becoming smoothed out they are taking the appearance of narrow cord rig in some places and where the tanks have been turning sharply, semi circular features are now created which can be deceptive. Much of this activity shows up clearly on the vertical aerial photographs held by the NMRS.

Site No 29 Fig 29

OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Dungavel Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On a S facing gentle slope of Dungavel Hill 700M NW of Kilnpothies and between 270M and 285M OD, there are three ring bank enclosures in a N/S line which includes a sheep stell.

On a terrace with the stell, the enclosure to the S measures 17M in internal diameter. The bank is 3.5M wide by 0.3M high.

The other two enclosures above the stell are 19M in internal diameter; their banks spread from 2M to 3M and are 0.3M high.

They are all fairly level and have no apparent features within them, although deep

heather may obscure some detail. Only the northerly ring may have a gap in the bank, the other two are well defined around their circumferences. No stone is visible in the banks.

The debate about such enclosures, especially where no entrances are visible, is whether they are post medieval sheep folds or whether they may be prehistoric ritual/funerary monuments. See the main report for discussion.

Site No 30 Fig 30

OS Sheet No : NS92NW Location: Foreside Hill NS 923268

Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the E flank of Foreside Hill and on a level spur 370M W of an OS triangulation pillar, at a height of 365M OD there is a ditched mound. The monument has a hummocky appearance probably due to disturbance by animals. The ditch is clearly visible around the mound, although it now varies in width it appears to have been about 1M wide, its maximum depth is now 0.3M. The monument measures 11M X 10M but may originally have been circular. Upcast material is evident on the N, E and W sides where the ground slopes down from the site. The mound appears to consist of material excavated from the ditch and has no stone content. There are panoramic views on all sides except the W where the summit of the hill is. The site is grass covered and the surrounding area is heather.

30M to the N there is a grassy mound measuring 4M X 2M X 0.3M high. This is not a cairn and may have a natural origin.

Site No 31 Fig 31

OS Sheet No: NT02NW Location: Dun Law Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower S and SE slopes of Dun Law between 370M and 400M OD there are eleven UPS. A twelfth single platform is nearby. The main group of platforms is N of Three Grains Burn and 100M W of the track which runs alongside the Grains Burn. The platforms are generally smaller than usual, they lie on very steep ground, which is covered in heather, but grass is growing on the platforms. The ground immediately below and to the E has a gentle slope and is covered in grass.

The platforms are described here from the W:

No 1 measures 10M X 6M, it has a low secondary scarp at the rear of the platform.

No 2 measures 7M X 4M and is not level.

No 3 measures 8M X 4M. No 4 measures 7M X 4M.

No 5 measures 8M X 3M.

No 6 is poorly defined at the front and may have been 10M X 4M.

No 7 measures 8M X 3M.

No 8 is a mound which is 5M wide at the top.

No 9 measures 10M X 5M.

Where accesses can be predicted on No's 1, 3, 7 and 9; they all appear to be on the E sides.

160M to the NE are platforms No 10 and 11. Both are at the base of the hill at 370M OD.

No 10 measures 12M X 6M and No 11 measures 7M X 3M.

150M to the E of these at NS02052523 there is a single platform, No 12. It is on a steep S facing slope just above level ground.

Discussion

So far as is known this group of UPS are the nearest to the examples in Upper Tweeddale. Further work may yet narrow the apparent gap between these two groupings of UPS, which have always been considered as separate territories because of the blank space between them. UPS have now been located as far N as Tinto Hill, Lamington and perhaps even Coulter. The gap between the two Districts is becoming less.

At the Dun Law settlement there is only very limited potential for arable farming. The people who lived here may have been predominantly herdsmen and or hunters.

Site No 32 Fig 32

OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Pinnacle, Camps Reservoir.

Surveyed scale: 1:500

To the N and S of Robert Cleuch on the SE and E slopes of Pinnacle there are thirteen UPS, sheep buchts and other turf banks. The features lie between 330M and 360M OD. The area is at the N tip of the Camps reservoir and is on the W side of the catchment area near Grains.

The platforms are described here from the S.

No 1 is the smallest and measures only 6M X 2M It has a short low front apron and a fence straddles the platform.

No 2 is seen as a distinct rear scarp, the front apron is eroded, it measures 10M X 7M.

No 3 is well preserved and measures 9M X 6M.

N of No's 2 and 3 an old turf bank spreads to 2M and is 0.4M high, it runs uphill adjacent to the dyke which has replaced it. On the N side of this bank are several small hard rock quarry pits.

No 4 is seen as a pronounced rear scarp with only part of an apron surviving on the NE side. It is 11M wide.

No 5 on the other hand is well preserved and measures 9M X 4M.

No 6 measures 12M X 7M and has a large area scooped out but only a short apron survives at the front. A pronounced sheep track traverses this platform.

No 7 is a scoop measuring 8M wide.

No 8 lies on the less steep part of the hill and has shorter front and rear scarps; the platform is 10M in diameter.

No 9 is a peculiar and unusual shape. A 5M diameter platform area lies behind the offset quarried material which forms a bank on the NE side. Above it, an area of 8M X 3M has been created by turf stripping.

Facing the NE, platforms 10 and 11 measure 13M X 10M and 8M in diameter respectively. Both have suffered from turf stripping which has left short scarps on the level areas. A sheep track also cuts across them. No 10 appears to have been made on top of No 1. Access to No 10 is on the SE while the access to No 11 is on the NW side. No's 4 to 11 lie within an area of improved grass while the rest are on unimproved pasture.

No 12 faces S and is on another ridge of Pinnacle. It measures 10M X 5M with the access side on the E.

No 13 measures 10M X 7M with access probably on the S side.

The systems of buchts are typical of many in the district. They measure from 6M X 2M (above P13) to 7M X 4M internally. The banks are 0.3M high. The building at 'a' is not a bucht and may have been a habitation; it measures 8M X 2.5M internally and has an entrance on the NW long wall. A much eroded bank connects this structure to a

trapezoidal enclosure measuring 6M X 7M, it has a gap on the SE side.

Site No 33 Fig 33

OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Fairburn Rig Surveyed scale: 1:500

At the base of the S facing slope of Fairburn Rig at 335M OD there are the remains of two UPS within a mature plantation. The site is 60M E of Camps reservoir and 150M W of the cottage at Campshead.

Neither platform is well preserved, only the front aprons survive as recognisable features. Trees are growing on both sites.

The platform to the W is the better preserved of the two and measures 12M wide X 5M deep. The apron is very distinct but there is no trace of the rear scarp.

The platform to the E is about 10M wide with only a very slight level area above the apron.

These platforms have been dug into the slope of the hill only a few metres from the level ground.

Site No 34 Fig 34

OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Reeve Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the E flank of Reeve Hill and W of Camps Reservoir there are three UPS at 330M to 340M OD.

They are described here from the W.

No 1 measures 10M X 5M.

No 2 may post date No 1 as it appears to have been cut into No 1, although this may only be a repair or modification. No2 has been disturbed on the front scarp by quarrying. This has revealed the stony content of the apron. The stance is now 17M wide, but it was probably about 12M X 5M.

No 3 lies just above the reservoir road. The platform measures 8M X 3M and is silted over and it is not level.

100M to the NW there are at least three small cairns (not planned).

Site No 35 Fig 35

OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Midge Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NE facing slope of Midge Hill midway between Carle Gill and Midge Gill there are eight UPS. They are located on a very steep slope between 350M and 380M OD. The ground below them on the NE towards the Camps Reservoir is less steep.

The platforms are here described from the E.

No 1 measures 7M X 3M and appears to have been cut into the front apron of No3 above.

No 2 is 8M X 4M and appears to be built contemporaneously with No 3 which is 7M X 4M.

No 4 measures 7M X 4M and has a slight disturbance on the rear scarp. No 5 measures 10M X 3M and has a slight disturbance on the front scarp. No 6 is a very neat platform and it measures 7M X 3.5M.

No 7 is the largest at 12M X 6M. The rear of the platform is silted over. A shooting

butt has been built on the platform by excavating down 0.5M from the ground level. Any archaeological remains would have been disturbed by this. An area to the SE has been stripped to build the butt. An electricity power line pole has been installed on the front apron of this platform. No 8 measures 9M X 5M. Above it a drain is causing some erosion.

The shooting butts have been made from turf recently stripped around the platforms; a scarp has been created above No6 by this process.

Where accesses can be predicted they all appear to be on the SE sides.

The platforms have grass growing on them while the surrounding area is covered in heather.

Discussion

This is a good example of a UPS being built on an awkward steep slope immediately above the more accessible and less severely sloping ground. The implication must be that land was at a premium and convenience was not a consideration. It is possible that a defence criterion was considered by some UPS builders, but other than the inconvenient access to these sites there is no evidence that a defence strategy is the reason for the UPS being sited on steep slopes.

This is also a good example of how modern disturbance of the UPS is continually taking place due to an ignorance of their significance.

Site No 36 Fig 36

OS Sheet No NS92SE

Location: Castle Hill NS 950222

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the E facing flank of Castle Hill at 350M OD there are ten cairns and stony banks. The cairns range in size from 2.5M in diameter to 6M X 4M and they are up to 0.5M high.

They are lying in a bracken infested area in a wide sweeping gully 300M NW of a hillfort and 900M NW of Castle Farm.

Site No 37 Fig 37

OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Raggengill Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE flank of Raggengill Hill at a height of 270M to 290M OD there are six platforms ranged in a line. The two westerly examples, P1 and P2 lie within the now felled Campside Wood. They have been mutilated by erosion as a result of trees, sheep scrapes and a well trodden sheep path which cuts across the four southerly platforms.

The soil profile which is visible on the front of platform 1 has a natural appearance which suggests that little if any of it is man made. A dyke cuts across platform No 2.

The rear scarps of all the platforms are well defined.

The platforms are described here from the W.

No 1 measures 13M X 5M.

No 2 measures 11M X 5M.

No 3 measures 12M X 7M.

No 4 measures 10M X 8M.

It would seem from the shapes of the sites that No2 was accessed from the E, while

No's 3 and 4 may have had double entrances. Between No 4 and 5 there is a small scooped area which may or may not be significant.

Separated from the first four platforms by 60M, No 5 is significantly larger, it measures 18M X 8M and is very well preserved, and the access is on the N. Another 40M to the E the highest platform, No 6 measures 16M X 8M, this is also very well preserved but with no obvious indication of the access side.

Below No 5 there is a small tumulus which is possibly of natural origin. Beneath the line of platforms a ditched bank has been created, taking advantage of a natural break in slope, this traverses around the flank of the hill in a northerly course for about 500M and is likely to be an old head dyke of post medieval date.

To the NW are some small quarries and areas of turf stripping which can give a misleading impression of UPS.
Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 185, 81

500M to the E there is another single UPS on the E side of a plantation. It has been eroded by improvements to the ground and measures 12M across the well defined rear scarp. The platform is now sloping, and the front is poorly preserved.

Site 38 Fig 38
OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Crannies Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500
NS 988 227

On the lower SE flank of Crannies Hill, 200M W of the confluence of Reed Gill and Camps Water there are five UPS ranged along the 300M OD contour and just above the fence line, which is at the base of the hill.

The smallest platform is at the W end of the line; its level area measures only 8M X 3M with the access on the E side. 15M to the E is the best defined platform in the group; it measures 12M X 4M with the access also on the E side. The platform 20M further along the slope has a peculiar shape at the front, perhaps due to erosion, only half the apron appears to survive, but unusually there is a hollow way, leading off to the E, down the slope. The level area is 10M X 5M. The next platform is 60M along the hill and has a poorly defined front, the rear of the site has silted up leaving a very narrow area of 5M X 3M, there is a suggestion of an access also on the E side. The fifth platform is separated from the rest by a distance of 150M and is not visible from the others because it is round the hill on a more easterly facing slope. It is poorly defined except for the rear concave scoop.

A tumulus 40M to the S of the last platform is a natural feature.

The platforms are distinctive by their vegetation cover which is grass; the surrounding areas are heather covered.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 201, 86

Site No 39 Fig 39
OS Sheet No: NS92SE
Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location: Mossy Dod

NS 98872175

On the S side of the deep ravine of Earns Gill on the slope between Mossy Dod and Great Hill there is a single UPS. It lies at a height of 375M OD on a steep slope 60M from a boundary fence to the E and 35M from a dry gully to the W. The platform has a distinct short back scarp and a front apron, the level area measures 10M X 8M. Moss has accumulated on the platform to form a slightly raised area.

Further UPS have been noted but not yet planned 1.5Km to the W on the N facing slope of Normangill Rig.

Report only

At NS 98052164 on the N facing slope of Normangill Rig at a height of 360M OD there is a burnt deposit. It is 150mm below the turf line on the E side of an 8M deep spring gully which is a tributary of Rome Gill Burn. The deposit is only 75mm deep and lies immediately on top of boulder clay, the length of the exposure is only 0.5M. The material consists of reddened heat shattered rocks in a matrix of charcoal enriched dark soil. There is no mound or any other surface indication of this deposit.

It is likely that this is the surviving remains of a larger deposit, possibly even a burnt mound which has been eroded by the 20M wide gully. An alternative is that the deposit may spread away from the exposure towards the E. A crosscut hill drain from the E has been aligned to discharge into the gully, this has caused an accelerated rate of erosion in the gully which would in former times have been substantially smaller, serving only the spring which will be the reason for the location of this deposit.

Two semi fractured 'pot boilers' were retrieved from the debris in the exposure. They have been rounded pebbles about 150mm in diameter.

In view of the fact that this deposit may soon be eradicated and also because the charcoal flecks within it are substantial, it would be prudent to have the site excavated and dated.

Site No 40 Fig 40

OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Mossy Dod

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SW flank of Mossy Dod at a height of 300M OD there is a line of five UPS covering a distance of 270M. They are S of a small plantation and E of the road to Whelphill Farm.

No 1 is seen as a scoop forming an area 13M wide but with no distinct front scarp. The other four are conventional in appearance and measure the following: No 2 is 10M X 5m, No 3 is 11M X 4m, No 4 is 8M X 3M and No 5 is 7M X 3M.

Access to No's 1, 2 and 3 appears to be on the S side. No 4 may have had an N approach and No 5 which is the smallest has no obvious indication of an entrance.

Discussion

The narrowness of each platform in this group is not simply the result of erosion, they are reasonably well defined. This may indicate that their function was for some other purpose than dwelling places.

Site No 41 Fig 41

OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Corbury Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower NE flank of Corbury Hill there are eleven platforms and five cairns between 270M and 310M OD.

Seven platforms are stepped one upon the other across the hill face. The highest platform, No 1, measures 12M X 7M. N of this and slightly lower the next one, No 2 measures 13M X 7M. The other five are in an NE line and cut across the 300M OD contour. No 3 is 13M X 9M. No 4 is 9M X 9M. No 5 is 13M X 8M. No 6 is 13M X 7M. No 7 is the smallest and is 9M X 7M.

The five platforms in the middle have obviously been approached on their easterly sides, while the access to the two end platforms is unclear. The seven platforms are in an excellent state of preservation having distinct edges and level stances. These platforms have been quarried into a steep slope whereas the four sites below are on more gentle sloping ground.

No 8 may be an unfinished platform or may have had another function. No 10 is either incomplete or may even be natural. No 9 is well defined, measuring 8M X 8M, the access is on the E, but the front apron has been affected by sheep scrapes or by subsidence. The rectangular feature on the level area is probably a sheep burial. No 11 is long and narrow, being 18M X 6M. This appears to have had an access on both sides, but certainly on the W, which is contrary to the other platforms in the group. A motor bike track runs across it and there is a sheep scrape on the apron.

E of No 10 there is a slight stony bank which spreads to 3M and is 0.3M high, this has a short return, and at that point a smaller bank continues up the hill for 23M where it also turns in the same direction.

To the SE of the platforms are five cairns measuring 3M to 6M in diameter and 0.2M to 0.4M high. Two short lengths of a break in slope suggest lynchets; one cairn is lying on the upper bank at the point where it is angled.

The area of ground to the N and NW has been used for turf stripping and a circular feature measuring 30M in diameter has been caused by this activity which is of recent date.

With the exception of the deturfing area the rest of the features are considered to be associated.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 187, 81

Site No 42 Fig 42

OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Mossy Dod

Survey scale: 1:500

On the lower S facing slopes of Mossy Dod at a height of 310M to 330M OD there are the remains of nineteen platforms. They are E of Whelphill Farm and N of the farm road. They are arranged in three groups two of which have six platforms and the other has seven.

They are numbered and described here from west to east.

The first six straddle the drystone dyke the ground each side of which has been under cultivation since the platforms were made. Consequentially this group are severely eroded but are nevertheless traceable. No 1 still has a trace of a front apron showing a platform of 10M wide. No2 has apparently been about 15M wide but only about 5M depth of the level area now survives. No's 3, 4, 5 and 6 have better preserved rear scarps but poor preservation of their fronts. No3 has evidently been quite large, being 22M X 13M at the time of survey. No's 4, 5 and 6 appear to have been 10M wide.

Further to the E, the rest of the platforms are on steeper unimproved grasslands and have survived in better condition than those described above. Their sizes are: No 7, 13m X 9M ; No 8, 13M X 7M ; No 9, 8M X 6M ; No 10, 10M X 3M ; No 11, 13M X 7M ; No 12, 10M X 9M and No 13, 6M X 3M. The indication for accesses on the E side for No's 7, 8 and 9 are quite clear, No's 10, 11 and 12 may have been approached from the W, or perhaps from both sides. The smallest scoop, No 13, may not be a platform as there has been small scale quarrying between No's 11 and 12. A deep dry gully separates this central group.

The final group of six platforms are on an extremely steep slope. No 14 is a long platform measuring 16M X 8M. Access has been from the E. No 15 is the highest at 330M OD and measures 15M X 9M, it has a stony apron. No 16 measures 15M X 10M and has been dug back into the bedrock; there is a small cut in the centre of the otherwise distinct front apron. No 17 is 15M X 7M. No 18 appears to be somewhat eroded but would have been about 10M wide. No 19 is similarly slighted and may have been about 8M wide. The accesses are clearly seen on the E sides except for No 18 which is uncertain. The approach to No 15 leads from fairly level ground but as the platforms descend the slope the accesses must have been awkward. It is difficult to imagine why this is often the case with UPS, here platform No 14 is surrounded by steep gradients which make present day access hazardous to one's ankles.

E of No 19 is a length of earth bank which terminates on the slope at rock outcrop, the other end turns and is parallel with the track for a short distance. This is post medieval.

To the NW of platforms No's 14 - 19 are hollows in the ground which are most likely of natural origin.

250M to the N of platforms No's 1 - 6 are three mounds which are up to 1.5M high. Two are the product of active spring outwash. The third which is the largest and lower of the three is drier in appearance. This was tested to determine if it was a burnt mound. It consists of brown soil and some stones. No burnt material was observed.

Ref: Platforms RCAHMS No 202, 86

Site No 43 Fig 43

OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Whelphill Hope Survey scale: 1:500

On the lower SW flank of Midge Hill at a height of 350M OD there are three platforms and a possible fourth one. They are situated 80M N of Whelphill Hope and 400M E of Whelphill Farm.

The highest and western most platform is the only one with a distinct front and rear

scarp. The level area measures 8M X 4M. The two platforms to the SE are less distinct and may represent unfinished sites, 10M wide. Below this line is another scooped area with a short frontal bank, which may also represent an unfinished platform.

To the NE a spring emanates from the hill where drains have been cut to channel the water. This is a typical example of how a spring can cause a feature similar to a UPS, where the ground is 'eaten' back to form a concave scarp and the outwash forms a convex frontal mound. These are usually recognisable by the boggy nature of the ground.

Site 44 Fig 44
OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Coupland Hill Survey scale: 1:1000

On the SW slope of Coupland Hill between 280M and 300M OD there are fourteen small cairn measuring up to 5M in diameter by 0.5M high. With the exception of one they are situated on a natural terrace and to the N of the main group is a stony area which is scree from the slopes above.

On the lower terrace there is a circle of stones which may represent a cairn or a small hut. There is a suggestion of a gap in the S side.

To the S of the main group of cairns there is a small U shaped turf structure, this is one of a line of shooting butts on the flank of the hill.

Site No 45 Fig 45
OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Black Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SW flank of Black Hill between 270M and 310M OD there are fourteen UPS and a possible fifteenth. The main group of nine is strung in a line 200M long between the 300M and 310M OD contours. The platforms are described here from the West.

No 1 is 10M X 7M; No 2 is 15M X 10M; No 3 is 13M X 9M; No 4 is 17M X 6M; No 5 is 10M X 7M; No 6 is 10M X 5M; No 7 is 13M X 7M; No 8 is 10M X 6M and No 9 is 13M X 8M. Entrances for all but No's 1 and 6 can be predicted on the SE sides. The rear scarp of No 3 has slumped in the middle causing a mound to form at the back of the level platform. There are two small mounds in No 4 which are likely the result of erosion, and also the front apron has a small gully now formed on it. No 5 has a low mound at the rear and No 9 is being affected by rabbit burrowing which has probably caused the mounds and the slumping in the other platforms. A sheep path cuts across the rear of No 6. Despite all this, these platforms are very well preserved.

The group below are spread over a distance of 350M. No 10 lies in an arable field and has been severely eroded by cultivation. Despite this its form can be traced and a platform of 18M X 9M can be predicted, the scoop and front scarp are visible, but the platform is now silted up and is sloping.

No's 11 and 12 measure 9M X 5M and 12M X 7M respectively. Access probably was on the E sides.

No 13 is a scooped feature which is 12M wide, the ground in front is sloping and

there is no frontal feature.

No 14 has a 15M wide area behind the apron, but only an 8M X 5M level area within the back scarp. Access appears to be on each side.

No 15 measures 10M X 9M with the access on the E side.

A turf bank between platforms 10 and 11 is 1.5M wide by 0.4M high; it has been the old field boundary which predates the now ruinous dyke.

These UPS may be considered to be part of the same system as the group of six UPS 400M to the SE (BMT No 46) Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 183, 81

Site No 46 Fig 46

OS Sheet No: NS92SW

Location: Black Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SW flank of a spur which projects SE of Blackhill, there are five UPS located between 250M and 275M OD. They are on a N/S line.

Described here from the N, No 1 is the smallest, measuring 8M X 3M; No 2 is 12M X 8M, its platform area is silted at the rear. A 10M length of bank, 1M wide by 0.3M high has been made on the S side. No 3 is seen as a concave scarp 20M wide and with a level area 5M deep, the front is not distinct. No 4 is 12M X 7M and an electricity line pole has been installed on the SE side. Below this is No 5 which is 10M X 7M and the platform here is somewhat silted. The access on No's 2 and 4 are on the S side. The bank on No 2 is considered to post date the platform.

50M above these platforms are amorphous quarry scoops. They may be incomplete UPS sites.

At NS 90672355 there is a poorly preserved platform which may have been 10M wide, the rear scarp is distinct.

60M to the SE of the above platform, on a slope are two cairns measuring 6M X 5M X 0.5M high and 5M X 4M X 0.4M high.

At NS 9113260 there is another poorly preserved platform, only half the rear scarp is distinct, it measures about 10M wide

At circa NS910260 there is a 6M diameter scooped feature with front and back scarps. The internal area is bowl shaped and not level, the front scarp is 1M high. This may be a small quarry of a later date.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 183, 81

Site No 47 Fig 47

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Fagyad Hill NS 92172245
Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE slope of Fagyad Hill just above the 320M OD contour and lying on a broad terrace, there is a burnt mound measuring 8M X 7M X 0.75M high. Immediately on the N side of the dome shaped mound is another 4M diameter area of mound material which may represent a separate phase of use. The mound lies on the E side of a spring and on the end of a slight ridge which is considered to be natural.

When tested the mound was found to consist of reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil.

Site No 48 Fig 48

OS Sheet No : NS92SW Location: Drake Law NS 91452155
Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE slope of Drake Law, lying just above the 280M OD contour there is a burnt mound. It is 60M S of the B797 Abington to Leadhills Road and is on the W bank of an unnamed tributary of the Glengonnar Water. The sub oval mound measures 8M X 8M and is 1.5M high. Erosion by the burn has caused an exposure on the E side of the mound, the contents of which can be seen to be heat shattered and reddened rocks set in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil. 10M to the E and on the other side of the burn there is a concentration of charcoal flecks which was exposed by molehills. This may be indicative of the fire site of the mound.

Site No 49 Fig 49

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Drake Law NS 914216
Surveyed scale: 1:50

There is a burnt mound situated at 300M OD on the S facing slope of Drake Law near Abington. It is 75M N of the B797 Abington to Leadhills road, from which it is clearly visible. The sub oval mound measures 12M X 9M X 1.5M high and has a slight depression on top of the W end of it. It lies in a boggy patch of ground with an effusion of springs around it; consequently the area has been cut by several drains which now surround the mound. The mound is covered in short grass the same as the surrounding area except where rushes are growing in boggy ground.

When tested the mound was found to consist of reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil.

No other features of antiquity are noted in the immediate area of this mound. There are UPS groups nearby; one is 400M to the NE (1) and the other is 700M to the SW (2).

This mound is located near the source of the spring which runs to the S into the Glengonnar Water. Another burnt mound has been created on the same water course 80M to the S (see BMT No48).

Refs: 1) RCAHMS Lan No 194, 82 2) RCAHMS Lan No 190, 81

Site No 50 Fig 50

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Fagyad Hill NS 918244 – NS 919244
Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the higher SE slope of Fagyad Hill between 370M and 390M OD there is a group of nineteen small cairns which measure from 1M in diameter by 0.2M high to 5M in diameter by 0.4M high. They are located between the above NGR points and are above a bracken infested area.

A faint bank which spreads to 2M and is only 0.3 M high is traceable for 100M, leading downhill to the SE and away from a pitted cairn.

Site No 51 Fig 51

OS Sheet No NS92SW Location: Drake Law Survey scale 1:500

On the lower SE slope of Drake Law, N of the B797 Abington to Leadhills road and E of an unnamed tributary of the Glengonnar Water, there are three UPS. A burnt mound lies to the E of these and S of the road.

The platforms lie between 290M and 325M OD and the burnt mound is at 280M OD.

The platform nearest the road is No 1 on plan, it measures 10M X 8M. A small excavation has taken place beside it to install a pole for a telephone line. A sheep track crosses the apron. The small quarry at the roadside is most likely modern. On the immediate E side of the platform there are three short lengths of rig and furrow cultivation lying at right angles to the road.

Platform No 2 measures 11M X 6M and it is being affected by the activities of rabbits burrowing into the apron. An electricity pole has recently been installed on the E side of the platform.

No 3 is 10M X 8M, it has a boulder strewn front apron. Below it there is a scarp of a further possible platform about 10M wide. A level area to the E may also have some significance.

The three platforms are well defined, each having its access on the E side.

The burnt mound is 60M below the road and on the W side of a dyke. It measures 12M X 8M and is 1.7M high. It is slightly crescentic and has a shallow indent on the top. The usual reddened heat shattered rocks in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil was evident in the mound when sampled. Its location must have been to take advantage of the spring source which is now channelled by drains.

Note: The rig and furrow is probably associated with the settlement 150M to the SW, a single long building with stone footings and a patch of lazy beds (see BMT No 109).
Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 190, 81 UPS

Site No 52 Fig 52

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location Fagyad Hill Survey scale 1:100

On the lower S slope of Fagyad Hill near Abington at a height of 290M OD there is an L shaped turf building and a burnt deposit.

The building is located 650M NW of Glencaple Farm and 20M S of the B797 Abington to Leadhills road and on the E bank of a small unnamed tributary of the Glengonnar Water.

It is seen as a somewhat hummocky, grassy bank structure, comprising of three distinct internal areas; a, b and c on plan. The overall internal space measures 18M long by 10M at the widest end. The banks are highest on the SW long side, where they are 2M higher than the external ground and 1M higher than the interior at 'a'. The rest of the walls are in various states of preservation and the short wall N of area 'c' is very slight. This lack of uniformity in the walls may indicate that they have been disturbed. A gap in the N side of area 'a' is probably the entrance to the building. To the E of this there are three earth fast stones in a line which may indicate a wall face. Only a few other random stones are visible and rabbit scrapes show that this has been a predominantly turf built structure.

The three internal areas are distinct because of the difference in their levels. V is the lowest and is full of rush growth, 'a' is slightly higher and is level along its length, 'c' is the highest area. There is a difference of about 0.4M in level between 'b' and 'c'. Just to the S of the road there are two short lengths of grassy banks. There appears to be little else in the vicinity except for a burnt layer of material to be seen in a section of the S bank of the burn, 25M S of the building.

The deposit is 1.5M long by 0.3M high. This was originally thought to be a possible midden deposit associated with the building. It is now understood to be a small burnt mound. The contents are small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched dark soil. This deposit is a heap rather than a scatter of material; it has therefore been buried by the accumulation of soil until no surface indication of its existence can be seen. It is likely that this process took a protracted length of time.

The building is most likely to be of post medieval date, although its function is uncertain. A house is likely although there are no known records for a habitation here. Glencaple nearby has always been assumed to have taken its name from a chapel somewhere in the vicinity. This building is unlikely to represent a conventional church of early date.

The mound and building are unlikely to be associated and in view of the fact that this small deposit is being eroded at a speedy rate, then a small scale sampling excavation would be expedient to determine its date.

In the 12 months since the deposit was first noted, a large section of the S bank of the burn has collapsed at this point due to the force of the water acting on the corner there.

Site No 53 Fig 53

OS Sheet No: NS92SW

Location: Fagyad Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower S facing slope of Fagyad Hill and 50M N of the B797 Abington to Leadhills road there are two UPS lying on the 300M OD contour.

The platform to the W measures 15M across the top of the front scarp which is offset to the W of the back scarp. A depth of 8M can be implied, the rear of the platform is slightly silted up. Access has probably been on the E and W sides.

The platform 40M to the E is 12M X 7M and its access is on the W side.
Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 194, 82 UPS

Site No 54 Fig 54

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Fagyad Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100

There is a single UPS on the S flank of Fagyad Hill at 280M OD. The platform is sandwiched between the B797 Abington to Leadhills road and the access road to Glencaple farm. It lies about 100M W of the junction of the two roads.

The platform measures over 12M in width. The front scarp is very well preserved showing the typical curve of the apron which can be seen to be made up of small stones. The apron fans 10M down towards the farm road. Two sheep scrapes at A and modern disturbance at B reveal the stony content of the platform bank. The vegetation on the site is short grass with bracken around but not on the platform.

It is remarkable that this site is still surviving, considering the proximity of the two roads and the recent disturbance caused by the installation of a pipeline beside it.

The main road may have affected the site, but it is more likely that the road is actually protecting the rear of the platform which is level.

In 1990 the excavations for the North Western Ethylene Pipeline most probably have affected the E side of the platform. The entire area there was stripped of topsoil which was dumped onto the E side of the platform. A series of 150mm diameter fence stobs were inserted deep into the platform on a NW/SE line, at the E side, for a temporary fence. Some superficial damage was caused to the surface of the platform by a tracked vehicle during the contractors' operations; at B some turf was removed.

This platform is part of the group on the N side of the B797 road as noted below.

Refs: RCAHMS Lan No 194, 82 BMT No 53

Site No 55 Fig 55

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Kirkton Rig Survey scale 1:500

On the NE flank of Kirkton Rig and W of the Hurl Burn there is a series of lynchets which lie between 280M and 320M OD. They are streaked at a shallow angle across the contours of the hill for a distance of 400M. To the S of the survey area there are larger breaks of slope which are natural, but the rest of the shorter banks must have resulted from some method of cultivation. The lynchets vary in length between 5M and 100M and are up to 1.5M high. They are aligned N/S and are very intermittent, suggesting localised activity over a period of time. There is only one small cairn which measures 3M in diameter by 0.3M high, among these lynchets. This cairn is at the NW of the survey area. There are a few random erratic boulders in the area.

Two distinctive scarps at 'a' and '*b' on plan may be hut platforms. The area of 'b' is very stony, being exposed by the tramping of sheep which are fed on this platform.

Similar alignments of breaks of slope were noted in the arable field to the E, between the survey area and the A74 dual carriageway. These had been severely ploughed out but were still visible. This field has now been stripped of topsoil to create a temporary pipe store for the latest phase of the M74 construction. (1992)

The two tracks which converge at the NW of the survey area were the 18th century roads which connected Farmhouses, defensive to Crawford and Elvanfoot in the S.

Discussion

Debate still exists as to the origins of the features on Kirkton Rig (1). It is difficult to argue for a natural occurrence to explain the formation of these lynchets. The area has been improved at some period, but whether this was done by the plough or simply by liming is unclear. Clearance stones may have been removed from the hill for later building purposes such as the tracks or the nearby dykes, but traces of disturbed cairns are usually detectable, unless the entire pile is removed. It is noted that a few cairns (BMT No 56) between Hurl Burn and the UPS W of Lintshie Gutter are covered with a layer of good soil. Perhaps a similar layer of soil is obscuring evidence of field clearance among the lynchets here.

Ref 1): Graham A 1939 'Cultivation terraces in South-Eastern Scotland' Proc Soc Antiq Scot, LXXIII (1938-1939), 289-315: RCAHMS Lan, 28 - 29

Site No 56 Fig 56

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale 1:500

On the lower NW flank of Mid Hill between 300M and 320M OD there is a group of small cairns and other features lying in an area of improved grass.

Nineteen cairns are recorded; they measure from 2.5M to 5M in diameter and are up to 0.5M high. Some appear to have been disturbed. Two are truncated by a ploughed drain, sections of the stone piles can be seen on the S side of the drain and the stone upcast from both these wrecked cairns is lying on the N side. There is an unusually deep layer of soil and turf covering these cairns, consequently there is little stone showing on them.

A grassy bank which spreads to 3M wide and is 0.3M high leads uphill away from the drain and appears to terminate at a cairn below the lowermost track. This bank has been truncated by another track at 'a' on plan, while the remains of yet another track is shown at TV, this indicates the existence of a previously busy route (see below).

Above the two main tracks are short stony banks and a stony lynchet which has the remains of a cairn at its southerly end.

An L shaped stone patch at 'c' has the appearance of a wall, but this may be coincidental.

At 'd' on plan there is a series of amorphous gullies which are the result of outwash from the main gully above the tracks (not on plan).

Discussion

This cairn group is only 300M SW of the unenclosed platform settlement known as Hurl Burn[^]. Another group of cairns is located further uphill near the burn(2) and on the opposite side of the burn on Kirkton Rig there are a series of lynchets(3). Thus there is a continuity of upstanding features which cover a large area here and all on slopes with N facing dispositions. Whether any of the combinations of features are contemporary is uncertain.

The tracks are part of a system of through routes over the local hills and they

originally connected the dispersed settlements of the 17th and 18th centuries. They also gave access to the hilltop areas where peat and turf was cut for fuel. The tracks shown on plan were the main route between Crawford and Leadhills area and led over the 'Hurl Burl Swyre' (see main text).

The land on the N side of the fence in the survey area is now covered by a rock dump from the M74 road works.

Refs: 1) RCAHMS Lan No 196, 82

2) See App' VI, Centre Field Archaeology, University of Edinburgh.

3) BMT M74 No 55

Site No 57 Fig 57

OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

South of the A74 road and ranged along the Lower N facing slope of Mid Hill near Crawford there was an UPS consisting of fourteen platforms. The settlement stretched along the hill face on an E/W alignment for a distance of 500M. The platforms lie between the 290M and 310M OD contours. The original survey in 1990 by APO (herewith), omitted platform No 14, this is shown here as a spot only.

The area of this survey came under threat from the M74 and selected parts were excavated by APG (GUARD) on behalf of Historic Scotland in 1991(1).

These platforms are clearly part of the same group to the W on the other side of Lintshie Gutter. Thirteen platforms are planned there by the RCAHMS (2). This settlement is therefore the largest group of UPS in Clydesdale. The thirteen platforms to the W are lying in unimproved pasture and are better preserved than the examples in this survey area, where the platforms have been subjected to cultivation at some period. Consequently these platform sites have been eroded to some extent. Despite this they are readily visible although somewhat smoothed out. Only two platforms, Nos 2 and 11 are level, the rest have greater or lesser slopes on them.

The sizes of the platforms are or were as follows : No 1 was 15M X 9M; No 2 is 10M X 8M; No 3 is 9M X 5M; No 4 is 15M X 9M; No 5 was 14M X 9M; No 6 is 8M X 6M; No 7 was 12M wide; No 8 is 10M X 6M; No 9 is 8M X 4M; No 10 is 12M X 6M; No 11 is 12M X 7M; No 12 is 15M X 6M and No 13 was 12M X 5M. No 14 was not recorded. No's 13 and 14 were 200M to the E of the main group. The access sides of these platforms were difficult to predict because of the extent of the erosion. Nevertheless the interim excavation results have shown remarkable preservation of much of these sites.

To the NE of Platform 13 there was a linear feature 70M long the W end of which appeared to have a double scooped area, previously thought to be the possible remains of other platforms, excavation revealed this entire feature to be the result of the last major road improvement on the A74.

Uphill from No 12 above the dyke and on the E side of the burn there are two small scooped areas 6M wide. These may have some archaeological significance (not planned).

Refs: 1) APG 33 Lintshie Gutter UPS (1991) 2) RCAHMS Lan No 1%, 82 UPS

Site No 58 Fig 58

OS Map Sheet: NS82SE Location: Pyatshaw Brae NS 895202

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the E facing slope high on Pyatshaw Brae at 375M OD there is a single UPS measuring 10M X 8M. The rear scarp is distinct, but the frontal area is less so.

Site No 59 Fig 59

OS Sheet No: NS82SE Location: Stranleuch Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the W facing slope of Stranleuch Hill 250M E of Snar Farm there are the remains of three UPS at 310 to 320M OD.

The highest platform of the group is very well preserved and measures 16M X 7M. A dyke has been built across it in an E/W line.

The next platform down is represented by a well defined front apron and the stance measures 12M X 9M, but the rear is poorly defined.

The dyke also crosses the lowest platform in the group. Half the site on the N side of the dyke is well preserved, but the half on the S side has lost the front apron. This platform would have been about 12M X 8M.

An L shaped turf bank stretches between the top and lower platform.

Above the platforms there are several hard rock quarries of relatively recent date.

Also noted but not planned, at NS 868199, on Sheet No NS81NE; 300M to the SE and at about the same height are several eroded scoops on improved land that may have been cultivated at some time. These are possibly the remains of further UPS.

Site No 60 Fig 60

OS Sheet No: NS81NE Location: Windy Dod Survey scale 1:500

On the SE slope of Windy Dod at 400M OD and 300M NNE of the confluence of the Snar Water and an unnamed tributary, there are four UPS.

They are described here from the S:

No 1 measures 10M X 5M and is poorly preserved.

No 2 has an area of 8M X 5M with a short scarp at the rear of the platform, within the broader scoop. The front of No2 appears to impede onto No1.

No 3 is a scoop only, measuring 7M wide. There is no frontal feature.

No 4 lies 40M to the NE and is about 8M in diameter. The rear scarp is distinct but the front is less so.

Access to No's 2 and 4 appear to be on the NE.

No 61 Fig 61

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

Location: Sims Hill NS 86881930

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NE flank of Sim's Hill, 160M SW of the confluence of Strancleuch Burn and Glendorch Burn and 20M above the track to Glendorch Bastle House, there is a single UPS. It lies at 370M OD. The well preserved platform measures KM X 6M. There is a short secondary break in slope along the rear scarp.

About 100M to the NE are scoop like areas which may have some significance,

Site No 62 Fig 62

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

Location: Snar Law and Sim's Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower W facing slope of Sim's Hill and at the base of the NW flank of Snar Law there is a system of banked enclosures, buchts, lazy bed, a UPS, a cairn and a burnt mound.

The UPS at 'a' on plan measures 15M X 11M. There is a gap of 4M between the front and rear scarps on each side, this may indicate a double access. A growth of rushes forms an arc at the rear and on the E and W sides; this may indicate a feature such as a ring ditch. The front apron is very stony.

200M N of the platform there is a burnt mound at 340M OD. It is located on a steep slope 65M above a track, there is no level area nearby. The mound is near the source of a spring now cut by drains which run on each side of the deposit. The total measurement of the mound is 13M X 7M, but there is a distinct break of slope on the downhill side which may be the result of different periods of use. The upper mound is 7M X 6M. The total height when measured from below is 3M and from above it is 0.5M high.

110M S of the platform there is a single cairn 4M in diameter by 0.3M high.

The rest of the features in this area are associated with post medieval activity, although some doubt may exist regarding the ring banks at 'b' and 'c'. The enclosure at V is 14M in internal diameter with banks spreading to 3M by 0.4M high. Traces of a gap exist on the SE. There is a 4M wide halo' around the enclosure which indicates the ground that was deturfed to build the ring bank. The bank has a flat top and has an intermittent groove running around it. The sheep stell at 'c' is built on top of another ring bank which has been about 15M in internal diameter.

Seven buchts are arranged in a group on the slope below the enclosure at h' and a further one is beside the stell. Two types are represented, the open ended rectangular type and those with a side gap, which is presumably for ejecting the sheep. They range in internal size from 4M X 2M to 10M X 2M. They he parallel to the hill contour and have been partially dug into the hill giving a greater height to the banks, which are up to 1.5M high.

At the confluence of Snar Water and Glenkip Burn there are various features.

It is possible that the various enclosures and lazy beds represent a 17/18th century transhumance activity away from the bastle at Snar. However a rectangular building at 'd' may be a habitation, making this a farm in its own right, this building measures 6M X 3M internally, with a gap in the E long wall. It forms part of a rectangular enclosure measuring 30M X 15M which has traces of lazy beds running in an E/W

line.

Another enclosure at 'e' has a very impressive set of curved lazy beds which occupy the entire space. One set of fourteen strips has been created over the top of small but steep glacial ridge. Another five strips are at right angles to these. W of this and on the enclosure bank on the S side of Glenkip Burn there is a small chamber, no apparent entrance can be seen, and its function is unknown.

At 'f' on the E side of the Snar Water is a further complex of banked enclosures, presumably for stock control as nothing here resembles a habitation.

The following are noted in the general area but not planned: NS854180. At the confluence of Slough Burn and Snar Water there is a complex of buchts, ring enclosures and other rectangular buildings, all made from turf. These may represent a deserted farm or a shieling.

NS864183. On the E side of Glenkip Burn 200M SE of a sheepfold and running uphill on an E/W line there is a 50M long by 3M wide deposit of burnt material. It comprises charcoal, black glassy slag and burnt rocks, traces of galena were found. This is the site of a charcoal fired lead smelter. No structures are visible and there are no known trials for lead ore in the immediate vicinity to explain the presence of this deposit. It may be a medieval site.

NS862186. On the same side of the Glenkip Burn 300M NW of the above site are two rectangular buildings in a line. They have stony footings and measure 10M X 5M and 6M X 4M. No mortar is visible, and no other detail can be seen.

NS85471947. On a ridge N of Glenbleath Burn and S of an unnamed tributary at 370M OD there is a rather amorphous burnt mound. It measures approximately 9M X 7M X 0.6M high, but its shape is difficult to determine accurately. When tested the contents were noted to be small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of dark soil with charcoal flecks.

NS 85281850. On the SE slope of Windy Dod at a height of 390M OD there is a burnt deposit. It is located on the N bank of an unnamed spring course which runs from W to E. The deposit is exposed for a length of 8M immediately below the turf in an exposure caused by erosion in the 4M deep gully. The section consists of 150mm of turf and topsoil which overlies the burnt deposit, charcoal penetrates into the creamy coloured boulder clay for a depth of 100mm. There does not appear to be an old soil horizon, although only a small length of the exposure was trowelled. There is no mound and no other surface indication of the deposit, how far it extends to the N was not explored. A burnt but unshattered pot boiler is in the section, it measures 200mm X 150mm X 100mm. The stones here are reddened by the heating effect.

It is possible that this layer is the surviving remnants of a burnt mound which has been eroded by the gully, but it seems likely that it is an example of a scattered deposit which never accumulated into a mound. Other examples like this have been noted in the course of this survey project. See other BM surveys here.

Site No 63 Fig 63

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

Location: Sim's Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On a broad terrace on the NW slope of Sim's Hill at 290M OD there is a system of turf bank enclosures, buchts and lazy beds.

The site lies on the E side of Snar Water and SW of Snar Farm where there are the remains of a bastle house.

The banks are up to 2M high with a spread of 3M. The enclosures can be seen to have evolved to the existing system by two or three phases, the nucleus being a sub rectangular bank in the centre at 'a', subsequently banks have been added.

The two buchts at 'b' measure 15M and 12M long by 2M wide internally, they are interesting because each has an additional small chamber at the S ends, these measure about 2.5M in diameter.

None of the features here represents a habitation.

An area of turf cutting S of the enclosures at 'c' has left short scarps and shapes on the ground. By the appearance of these they are judged to represent a later activity, although some of the material used to build the enclosures may have been cut here.

Site No 64 Fig 64

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

Location: Glendowran Hill NS 888190

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE slope of Glendowran Hill, 300M NW of the confluence of Carle Gill and the Glengonnar Water there is a single well defined UPS. It measures 10M X 7M and is on the N side of the Carle Gill. Access has been on the E side.

Site No 65 Fig 65

OS Sheet No: NS91NW

Location: Rispin Cleuch

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the lower SE slopes of Broad Law and on the N side of Rispin Cleuch, immediately W of the B7040 Leadhills to Elvanfoot road, there are twenty cairns measuring from 1M in diameter by 0.3M high to 6M in diameter and 0.3M high. Seventeen are clustered above 410M OD; one is lying in a dry gully. The other three are probably all that remains of a more extensive group on the lower slopes.

Site No 65/1 Fig 65/1

OS Sheet No: NS91NW

Location: Glen Eas Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower west slope of Glen Eas Hill and 300M NE of Hass there is a burnt mound. It is at the base of the hill at 400M OD, lying 20M from the E side of the Shortcleuch Water which flows N at that point.

The mound is covered in heather and is 5.5M X 4.0M by 0.4M high on the E side. The site was probably chosen to take advantage of a spring source near the mound.

This mound was tested by the RCAHMS who located it and informed the APO (M74).

"Removal of a turf revealed the mound to be comprised of densely packed burnt, cracked stone and fragments of charcoal set in a matrix of black soil".

Site No 66 Fig 66

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Howkwood Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower E flank of Howkwood and SW of Scapcleuch Burn is an area of cairns and enclosures. The entire area is adjacent to and W of the B7040 Leadhills to Elvanfoot road.

The site is described here from the N.

There are at least eleven small cairns only 1M in diameter within the stone enclosure, the ground here and to the S as far as a dry gully is entirely covered in heather, which being short, made even slight features visible at the time of survey.

Three circular enclosures each distinctly different in form lie at the base of the slope where the cairns are. Enclosure 'a' has been dug into the hill with the spoil forming a low frontal stony apron 0.5M high. On the N and S side a slight bank survives and the 9M internal diameter area is level.

Enclosure V is slightly oval and measures 12M X 8M internally, it has a stony bank of 1M width by 0.3M high, there is a gap on the E side. The interior is also level. To the S is a 4M X 0.5M high round cairn beside a 30M length of stony footings which curve nearer the dyke. Between this stone alignment and the enclosure is another cairn.

Enclosure c' is a ring bank measuring 11M in diameter internally with the bank at 1M wide by 0.3M high. A hint of a gap exists on the S side. The interior is also level. Beside this to the NE are the stone footings of a building 7M square, no obvious gap can be seen.

To the W of the dyke there are at least twenty four cairns ranged along a terrace just above the road and below the old railway. These cairns range in size from 2M diameter by 0.4M high to 8M X 5M X 0.6M high. Several have the appearance of being disturbed, but the 'ring types' to the S may be 'as built'. The often seen arrangement of cairns at the ends of and in the middle of lynchets exists here in typical style.

The parallel lynchets at first sight appear as a track way and may have functioned as such. An enclosure has been created on the S side of the gully; the slight bank of this can still be seen.

At d' on plan there is a stone ring which has a front and rear bank of rocks. Whether this is a robbed cairn of 8M diameter, or a small hut could only be determined by excavation.

Discussion

It is difficult to attribute a function to features a, b, c and d on the basis of field observation alone. Site 'a' can hardly be described as a typical UPS although that is the form it assumes, albeit with a very short back scarp. Similar features to a, b and c

have now been noted in various locations in Clydesdale for the first time, during the M74 Project field survey, (see various plans). The probability is that these are all prehistoric structures, although their function remains uncertain, whether habitation, funerary or ritual can only be determined by other investigative techniques.

The banked enclosure may be of later date, being superimposed on an existing lynchet system with cairns; however there does appear to be a relationship at the junction of the bank with the different size lynchets to the N and S of it, to suggest that the southern short lynchet with its cairn is later than the bank.

The relatively tiny cairns among the heather have no where else in Clydesdale been seen as a group of consistently small cairns like these. One is about to be plunged into the burn ravine because the bank is eroding, others may have been removed in this way.

Site No 67 Fig 67

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Middle Wood Survey scale 1:500

On the SE flank of Middle Wood at 320M OD there are three UPS. They are located equidistant between Scapcleuch Burn and Long Cleuch, 100M above and NW of the old railway track.

The platform to the E has an offset front and back scarp and it measures 8M X 6M. 30M to the W is a double platform, both measure about 8M X 6M. An access leads off on the E side probably to connect with the entrance of the platform there. The W side of the double platform is also 'open'. The back scarp has a small quarry above it, but the stances are quite distinct.

Site No 68 Fig 68

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Peat Hill, Pin Stone

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE flank of Peat Hill and on the lower S flank of adjacent Pin Stone are UPS and cairns.

30M from the W of the Shortcleuch Burn and N of the old rail track, at a height of 335M OD, there is a platform which measures 12M X 6M, its access is on the SW side. Immediately below it there is a scooped area which may be an unfinished platform. 100M to the SW are three cairns; the largest is 5M in diameter by 0.4M high.

On the E side of the burn, also above the old railway on Craggy Brae are two other platforms at 330M OD. The one above the dyke is the better preserved of the two, it measures 10M X 7M. 60M to the SE the platform there measures 12M X 6M. The front apron has been damaged as a result of the railway construction and a small quarry which has been dug into it. Access to both these platforms is clearly on the E.

Four cairns beside the sheep stell are 5M in diameter by 0.3M high.

A 10M X 2M (internal size) sheep bucht is also in this area.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 200, 82

Site No 69 Fig 69

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Harryburn Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE slope of Harryburn Brae there is a single platform and five cairns. These are a continuation of the following survey (BMT No70).

At 340M OD, 50M E of Mirk Cleuch and 100M N of the B7040 road is a single platform measuring 15M X 8M. Access was probably on the E side. Below the platform are the cairns which measure from 3M to 10M across.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 193, 81-82

Site No 70 Fig 70

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Harryburn Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE slope of Harryburn Brae there are UPS and at least sixty four cairns. The four platforms are N of the B7040 Leadhills to Elvanfoot road and the cairns are dispersed on each side of the road for a distance of 450M.

The platforms are described here from the W.

No 1 measures 10M X 8M and has a short back scarp.

No 2 is seen as a curved mound measuring 15M across the top of the bank.

No 3 is oval shaped and measures 16M X 7M it also has a short back scarp.

No 4 is 13M X 9M and has a short back scarp slightly offset from the front.

All the platforms have stony front aprons. They range in height between 315M to 330M OD.

Some disturbance may have taken place on the W side of the front apron of No 4 where there is a rectangular building measuring 5M X 2.5M. Earth fast stones can be seen to define the internal wall face in places. The structure is apparently open on the S end and it may therefore be a sheep bucht. A stony bank up to 3M wide is between this building and platform No 4.

The cairn group is ranged E, W and S of the platforms and between them. They are nearly all at a lower level excepting a few at the W end of the survey area. They range in size from 2M to 10M in diameter and are up to 0.9M high. Many of the circular and oval piles are quite low being only about 0.2M high. Twenty four are seen as having depressions or pits in them, sometimes as a uniform hollow in the centre and in others an opening is visible on the down slope sides. The features at 'a' and 'h' are seen as circular stony banks, at 'c' there is a horseshoe shape with the gap on the lower side. They measure 6M, 9M and 7M in diameter respectively, each has a stony interior and while they are distinctive in their shape relative to the other cairns, they are considered here as being cairns. Between the road and the old rail track there is a stony bank about 30M long which is the product of clearance. To the E of this there is a dry gully.

At the E end of the survey area there is a modern road builders' quarry.

Discussion

The relative disposition of the UPS and cairns here appears to be good evidence that they are contemporaneous. The single UPS and cairns 200M to the NW (BMT No69) further enhance this hypothesis. The same relationship has now been noted in several locations during the Project (see other surveys here).

The function of the cairns is probably field clearance as they occupy the lower and less steep slopes. A funerary purpose cannot be ruled out for at least some of them. The ring types at 'a' and 'h' are particularly interesting in the light of recent excavations at nearby Stonyburn, where a similar feature was shown to be a Bronze Age cremation monument (1). It is likely that several of the cairns have had stone extracted for other purposes, for example the road building. The building of the road and railway must have completely removed some cairns and it is likely that some may have been removed from the ground to the SE of the survey area and S of the road; this ground has obviously been improved.

Refs: 1) APG (GUARD) No
RCAHMS Lan No 193, 81 -82

Site No 71 Fig 71

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Harryburn Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE slope of Harryburn Brae there are six UPS, cairns, an enclosure and a field system. The area is N of the B7040 Leadhills to Elvanfoot road.

The platforms are in a group located between 310M and 325M OD. They are described here as numbered on the plan.

No 1 is the lowest and measures 12M X 6M. It has an arc of stones showing at the rear of the platform, this and a line of rushes may indicate features. On the E side beside the platform and 25M further E there are two stony banks.

No 2 measures 13M X 9M and is bracken infested. This is a general spread of that plant from the W of the site, rather than being indicative of any underlying feature.

No 3 measures 13M X 7M.

No 4 measures 10M X 9M, there are stones visible on the front apron. No 5 measures 15M X 11M.

There appears to be a relationship between the last three, No 4 may have been built last, but most likely after No3 and before No5.

No 6 has no front scarp; a short break of slope into the platform is evident. It measures 10M X 6M.

A further scoop to the NE is most likely manmade, but the ground slopes downhill from it and there is no indication that it has been a platform. There is a distinct change of vegetation from the surrounding coarse grasses to finer grass within this scoop and around the cairns and stony bank below it. The cairns in this area and the two which lie above the gully to the S are low stony scatters.

To the E of the platforms there is a sub circular feature measuring about 14M in diameter, this is quite distinct because of the change of vegetation from coarse grasses around to finer short grass upon the area of the site. It lies on a natural terrace above the sheep steeple, which is in a similar disposition. By the general appearance of the feature (see detail) it may have been disturbed in places. Very low front and back scarps are the main visible aspects with stones showing around the perimeter. By probing it was found that the entire internal area has a layer of stone covering the ground, this is not visible. There are no indications of slumped turf or soil banks. The internal area slopes down by 0.5M from NW to SE.

It is interesting to note that the sheep stell has also got a stony layer below the grass inside it. There are no other indications that the stell may be built over an earlier feature.

The field system is evident within the triangular area below the platforms, this is bounded by the road on the S, a drainage gully on the N and the stell on the E. Grassy banks spread to 1.5M by 0.3M high.

Two parallel lynchets 0.4M high have the appearance of a track way. However when seen on plan with the banks it is more readily appreciated that they are the boundaries of cultivation fields. The short length of bank at the W end of the survey area may be associated with the gully which clearly arbitrates between the improved ground below it and the heathy grasslands above. This gully is much older than the freshly cut sheep drain which traverses part of the site from NE to SW, cutting through a field bank. Above this drain there is a larger break in slope which may be in part natural but appears to delineate cultivation patches.

Discussion

The platforms are fairly typical of their type.

The circular feature above the stell is problematic and without further investigation its age and function will remain indeterminate, no direct parallels with it have been noted in the district. The sheep stell may overlie another feature like this.

The small field system is also awkward as it may represent activity spanning from the platform period to the post medieval, or it may belong exclusively to one or the other period. The ground to the S of the road is very boggy and has not been improved; the road therefore is the boundary between the different qualities of the land. This road is known to be early 19th century; the previous route to Leadhills was on the other side of the Shortleuch Water, via the deserted farm and bastle of Glengieth. The improved patch of ground on the N side of the road may therefore post date it.

Refs: RCAHMS Lan No 192, 81

Site No 72 Fig 72

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: White Hill NS 941166

Surveyed scale: 1: 50

There is a burnt mound situated at 360M OD, on the N facing slope of White Hill near Elvanfoot. The mound is about 200M S of and uphill from a sheepfold, which is S of the B7040 Leadhills to Elvanfoot road. In apparent isolation, the mound is equidistant between Hershaw Burn, Glenochar Burn to the W and Glengieth Burn to the E.

The sub oval mound measures 8M X 6.5M X 1.5M high and has a slight depression in its summit. It lies at the NW corner of a patch of improved grassland some 100M square. The surrounding land is boggy with extensive rush growth.

A system of hill drains have been cut around the mound, one of which has eroded to a 2M deep gully.

When tested the mound was noted to consist of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks, set in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil.

No other features of antiquity were noted in the vicinity of the mound.

Site No 73 Fig 73

OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Harry Burn Brae NS 942189

Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NE flank of Harryburn Brae between 355M and 405M OD there are three burnt mounds ranged in a line 30M N of Collins Burn. The lower mound is 280M W of the confluence of the burn and its first unnamed tributary at a point where there is a ruinous dam. The mounds lie in a gully which is now cut by several drains.

It will be seen that these mounds are located between two extensive cairn groups within which are UPS and other possible prehistoric house sites. See BMT No74 and App VI.

The descriptions given here are by the RCAHMS who located these mounds.

Described from the W, No 1 is situated on the N side of the gully. It comprises of two distinct oval mounds set parallel to each other, possibly joining on the N to create a C shaped mound 0.2M high and measuring 8M from E to W by 5.3M transversely, and opening to the S. The N side of the mound merges with the natural slope and its edge is only visible as a vegetation change.

No 2 is situated on the S side of the gully and measures 3.6M from E to W by 3.1M transversely and 0.4M in height on the E. On the SW it merges with the natural slope.

No 3 is situated on the S side of the gully and measures 7.5M from E to W by 6.1M transversely and 0.5M in height on the E. It is flat topped and visible as a platform projecting into the boggy ground, the W side merges with the natural ground surface. On top of this mound there is a large flat boulder.

Site No 74 Fig 74

OS Sheet No: NS91NE & NS91NW Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S, SE and E facing slopes of Mid Hill is an extensive cairn group (I), UPS, hut site and a prehistoric enclosure. The features cover an area of about 0.6Km square.

Seventy one cairns were planned, but there are several more to the NE of the surveyed area, Five are 4m in diameter by 0.6M high and one is 6M by 0.5M high. The cairns on the plan measure from 2M to 6M in diameter and are up to 0.75M high. They are much dispersed. A group of twenty four is ranged along the S flank at 340M OD.

Nearby is a scooped area 9M wide. To the SE another group of thirteen are clustered in a boggy area now cut by drains. There is an isolated cairn beside the 35M wide pipe swathe of a pipe track which crosses the area. Cairns and other features may have been removed during the installation of the pipe. The rest of the cairns are scattered widely along the E facing slopes between 300M and 340M OD.

Facing S at 320M OD is a group of at least four UPS. Two are well defined having front and rear scarps. The western platform measures 10M X 8M and has the back scarp offset slightly to the W of the apron. Access is on the E side onto a broad level area which connects to the other distinct platform to the E. This one measures 12M X 8M and may have had a double access to it. The area between has a low scoop at the rear and may have been a building stance, it measures 20M across by 10M. Above,

and on the western side of the group is a less well defined platform which measures 12M X 6M. 20M to the N are three mounds measuring 3M in diameter by 0.5M high, these do not have a stony content, and they may be associated with turf or peat cutting. Another less distinct platform lies above and on the E side of the group; it measures 14M X 8M. A cairn lies on its front and another small cairn is at the base of the slope to the W of another scooped area. 50M to the NE of the UPS is a large terrace area measuring 50M X 25M. This may be entirely natural or to some extent modified by the hand of man. It is however likely to be an area of archaeological significance given its proximity to the other features. There are several other similar terrace like areas in the vicinity which were probably used for such activities as cultivation or as house sites. To the W of the modern sheepfold there is a circular enclosure with a gap on the SE side. The circle is 16M in total diameter and has stony walls spreading to 2M, it can be seen that the walls were originally 1M thick; they are now only 0.4M high.

110M to the SW of this is a 14M square building of turf construction. It is subdivided equally into two parts; one half being halved again forming two small chambers. A drain has cut off one side which must have originally had the entrance.

The oval enclosure lies on the summit of a knoll which is in boggy ground. The height of this knoll is 285M OD. The internal area is 61M X 49M. The features consist of a ditch measuring 3M to 5.5M in width with a bank on each side forming a double enclosure. The banks measure up to 4M thick and are 1.2M high. There are two diametrically opposed entrances; the gaps on the inner banks are 3.7M wide at each end. The interior is an even dome shape and is featureless except for a shooting butt which has been installed in the centre and is now covered in rushes. This is the first in a line of eight butts which ascend the flank of the hill. They are 5M wide circles with no gaps in the turf banks; each has a short drain cut below.

Discussion

This group of cairns should be considered part of a further random scatter of cairns to the S on the lower E flank of Harryburn Brae. These were recorded in 1991 by the University of Edinburgh (see appendix 4). The ring enclosure in the survey given here is comparable with two in the University survey where they are interpreted as hut circles. The platform group further enhance the hypothesis that the UPS are associated with cairns; however in this instance there may be another house type to be considered. The oval enclosure is regarded as a defensive site by the RCAHMS in their survey of it (2), where much of the description given here has been taken from. An alternative is proposed here for its function being of a ceremonial/ritual site. Given the slight nature of the banks, which for the most part are reasonably well preserved and the fact that there is no external ditch, the entrances are not staggered and the obvious absence of any cut features inside which may have been hut stances, then even a settlement may be ruled out. The enclosure is surrounded by a shallow peat bog, but this would hardly make the knoll a strategically secure position, one might have expected the more usual deep ditches and larger ramparts to have been in evidence, they are not. This monument has close parallels with another near Thankerton, Chester Hill (3). Could this be an aspect of Bronze Age ritual? Several burnt mounds have now been discovered on Collins Burn to the S and Ellershie Burn to the N (see reports). This project has established that the general area of Upper Clydesdale has been considerably busier in the late Bronze Age than was hitherto

thought. This enclosure is surrounded by the more southerly UPS and is reasonably central to the main concentration of them, although a more accurate centre of UPS here would be the Crawford area. Excavation coupled with a research strategy devised for the hypothesis that UPS and the majority of cairns are associated with each other, and possibly with other monument types such as the burnt mounds and ring enclosures, may answer some of the questions now being raised in the light of the new fieldwork evidence.

The shooting butts here can be very confusing if considered individually. When small hut like features are found one should immediately look for a line of them, if that is the case, then they are easily interpreted as 19th century shooting butts.

Refs: (1) RCAHMS No32, 49 Cairns
(2) RCAHMS No93, 148 Collins Burn Enclosure
(3) RCAHMS No224, 97 Chester Hill

Site No 75 Fig 75

OS Sheet No: NS9INE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100

Immediately W of an electricity pylon on an isolated glacial knoll N of the Ellershie Burn and at 285M OD there are three round grass covered cairns.

The largest cairn is 10M in diameter X 0.4M high. The centre has been disturbed by the removal of some stone. W of this are the two smaller piles 5M in diameter X 0.3M high and 4M in diameter X 0.2M high. The latter has apparently been robbed of much of its stone. On the knoll are subtle scarps caused by patches of turf cutting of relatively recent date.

Because the slopes of the knoll are fairly gentle and long, the function of these cairns could be either or a combination of funerary and field clearance. The RCAHMS describes them as "burial cairns".

Attention is drawn to the similarity in arrangement of a large cairn with two satellite cairns which existed 600M to the NE (See BMT No 77), upon excavation these were shown to be Bronze Age cremation burials.

Refs: RCAHMS Lan No 48, 52 Cairns
RCAHMS Lan No 246, 110 Field system
APG33 (1991) Stonyburn Burial Cairns

Site No 76 Fig 76

OS Sheet No: NS9INE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

Immediately E of the march dyke which climbs the SE flank of Ellershie Hill and at a height of between 270M and 310M OD there is a group of ten cairns varying in size from 3M to 4M in diameter and up to 0.5M high. Five are intact and five are apparently disturbed. All are covered in grass. The four northerly cairns lie within an area of lateral moraine, two occupying prominent positions and two lying in the valley of the moraine and the hill face. Downhill from these are four cairns which are strung along the same contour, above a track which is terminated by the Daer water supply pipeline. 30M below the track are two further cairns near some small modern rock

quarries.

This group is clearly part of the same system on the E side of the march dyke and reported by the RCAHMS.

Refs: RCAHMS Lan No 191, 81 UPS

RCAHMS Lan No246, 110 Field systems

Site No 77 Fig 77

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill NS 95971941

Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the summit of and at the S end of an isolated glacial ridge E of Ellershie Hill and W of the railway there is a circular enclosure formed by a bank which has been excavated from the interior. It is lying at 280M OD. The bank has a maximum spread of 5M and a height of 0.3M. It is irregular in size and shape and a gap on the E side may indicate an entrance. The interior is peaty and boggy.

It is difficult to ascribe a date or function to the feature, perhaps a hut site may be the most plausible.

91M to the N and at the other end of the ridge is a gravelly mound measuring 4M X 3M x 0.3M high. Between the enclosure and the mound there is clear evidence of turf cutting and also slight quarry depressions. The enclosure described above may therefore be relatively modern

Site No 78 Fig 78

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the summit of an isolated glacial knoll E of Ellershie Hill and W of the railway at about 270M OD, there were three cairns. The larger one measured 7M in diameter by 0.3M high and was apparently centre robbed. The other cairns measured 3M in diameter by 0.25M high. All three were grass covered. To the SE at the base of the gentle slope there was a bank which may have been a lynchet.

When the cairns were first recorded by APO on their discovery the possibility of their function was discussed. The bank gave some credibility that they may have been the product of field clearance, although burial cairns were not ruled out. The fact that the stones had been carried uphill and three piles were made rather than one supported a funerary function as being the reason for their construction.

As the site was to be destroyed by the M74 construction it was excavated in 1991 by APG (now Guard), University of Glasgow, on behalf of Historic Scotland. The results showed conclusively that all three were Bronze Age burials, containing cremations. The area around had also been used from the Neolithic Period as was evidenced from the finds of pottery and leaf arrowheads made from the locally derived chert.

It was interesting to note that the larger of the cairns appeared to be 'centre robbed' because of the depression in the top. It was shown in the excavation that the cairn had been deliberately built in that shape and that it was in fact undisturbed.

Ref: APG33 Stonyburn Burial Cairns (1991)

Furthermore when the bank was disturbed by the contractors it was found to consist of gathered stones up to 04m in size and forming a wall with a spread of 2m, the stones had been laid on the old ground surface and had then subsided into the sub stratum. The stones were covered in a 150mm deep layer of peaty soil and turf. See BMT colour slides FW321 and FW322. The feature is therefore considered to be of prehistoric date, the function of the wall or bank may have been for clearance of ground now occupied by the railway and to the S of the area.

Site No 79 Fig 79

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100

On the lower E slope of Ellershie Hill and W of the railway tunnel at 270M OD there is a building measuring 42M long X 5M wide. Three distinct areas are evident. Area 1 comprises half the overall site, it is divided from the rest by a bank which spreads to 1M and is 0.3M high. The remaining area is divided into two equal spaces by a bank which possibly covers a mortared wall about 0.75M thick. The site has been cut into the natural bank and the building does not appear to have had a front wall.

Discussion

It is likely that this building was associated with the adjacent railway. It may have been an open fronted workshop, timber built on soleplates laid on the banks. It may have dated to the earliest construction phase of the Caledonian Railway during 1846-1847.

Site No 80 Fig 80

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100

On the lower E slope of Ellershie Hill at 270M OD and to the W of the railway, there is a long building which comprises three rectangular rooms with a further area to the N. Room No 1 measures 10M X 5M internally, the other two rooms are 9M X 5M. Each room has an entrance about 1M wide. Flat topped banks spreading to 2M X 0.3M high form the front of the building, the rear being cut into the natural hill. Area No 4 appears to be additional and it is not so well constructed as the rest being simply a platform.

Discussion

Given the proximity of the railway and the hummocky area of ashes between the site and the railway, an industrial function is suspected for this building. The flat topped banks probably carried a wooden sill plate for a timber building. It may date to the construction of the Caledonian Railway in 1846 -1847 because it does not appear on any edition of the OS maps. An alternative function, but during the same period may be residential huts for the railway navvies. It is recorded that such huts did exist at Stonyburn. Lanark Sheriff Court records have an entry in 1848 of the case of a navvie who bit part of his brother's nose off in a fight! they lived at the Huts.

Both these sites are now destroyed by the M74 road works.

Site No 81 Fig 81
OS Sheet No: NS92SW
Surveyed scale: 1:100

Location: Ellershie Hill NS 95852000

On the lower NE flank of Ellershie Hill at 280M OD there was a burnt mound. It was situated immediately on the W bank of an unnamed spring which flows N towards the A74 road 50M below the mound. The site has been excavated (1) due to its location being in the line of the M74 motorway.

When surveyed the mound was 4.5M X 2.5M X 1M high. It consisted of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched black soil. The material had been deposited on top of a rock outcrop, giving an impression of a larger mound. The actual mound could be distinguished from the natural ground profile and was seen to be the classic kidney shaped type. There was no change in the vegetation on and off the mound, being short grass.

Immediately upslope from the mound was another elevated ground surface, much of this could be seen to be the remains of a ruinous dyke and further outcrop. Other small mounds in the vicinity were tested but found to be of natural origin. Some were the result of spring outwash, rock outcrop and glacial moraine.

The view from the mound site was very limited towards the N which was down the gully within which it lay. There was no scope for a habitation in the vicinity of the mound.

The APO is indebted to Mr D Cowley of the RCAHMS for notification of this site.
Ref; APG (GUARD) 56

The residue of this mound has been uplifted and taken to Biggar Museum for possible future research or display. The site has been destroyed by the road works.

Site No 82 Fig 82
OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Burn NS 96041927
Surveyed scales: 1:1000 & 1:100

There was a burnt mound in a field on the E bank of the Ellershie Burn. Situated at 260M1 OD the mound is just downstream from the point where the burn flows under the Glasgow to Carlisle railway and an old cart track bridge. The mound has been excavated because it in the path of the M74 motorway (1).

The burn had eroded part of the mound to reveal a section of it. This was seen as a depth 300mm of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched black soil. Below this was the natural creamy coloured sandy clay. The oval mound was 81 X 6M, the turf covering it gave a maximum height of 0.5M above the level of the water the burn. Some larger unburnt stones were lying in the burn and were not earth fast; at time of survey they were suspected of being possible kerbing.

Other small mounds to the S were tested and one proved to be natural some others were dumps of ashes which had come from the railway.

This was the first recorded burnt mound to be discovered in Clydesdale and was only found in 1991. The APO is indebted to Mr S Halliday of the RCAHMS for notification of this site.

Ref: APG (GUARD) 56

The residue of this mound has been uplifted and taken to Biggar Museums for pos future research and display. The site has been destroyed by the road works.

Site No 83 Fig 83

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Elvanfoot NS 954183 Surveyed scale: 1:200

On the S face of an isolated glacial knoll at a height of 280M OD there is a circular enclosure. The knoll which is near Elvanfoot is bounded on the W by the railway, on the SE by the A702 road and on the N by Harry Burn.

The enclosure measures 10M in internal diameter, with grassy banks spreading from 2M to 4M and with a maximum height of 0.3M. No stone is visible and by probe testing the banks it is shown that none is involved in the construction of the site. No obvious gap is evident and although the northerly half of the enclosure is covered in a thick growth of rushes, the internal circuit can be seen. The interior is fairly level and from the evidence of active rabbits and moles a black peaty soil covers the internal area.

The structure may be an early modern turf sheep stell, but the absence of a gap is peculiar, therefore another period and function cannot be ruled out for this site. 20M to the SW is a scooped area at the base of the knoll. This is probably a road construction quarry pit.

Site No 84 Fig 84

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Coupland Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S facing slope of Coupland Hill at a height of 330M OD there are four platform areas, one of which is a definite UPS. This has a front and back scarp with a level area of 12M X 7M. The access side is on the E. Above this is a shallow scarp with a low apron giving a platform area of 12M X 8M. To the W are two more but less distinct platforms measuring 10M X 8M and 10M X 6M. Below these is another small scoop measuring 8M across. 60M to the E is a cairn of 8M diameter X 0.75M high which has a pitted centre. There are also two stony scatters which appear to have been clearance piles.

These platforms have the appearance of a less well developed UPS.

NS97251985

350M to the W on the 320M OD contour there is a cairn measuring 9M X 5M X 1M high. The long axis of the cairn is parallel with the hill contour. It has a depression in the centre and a small modern cairn has been constructed on top and to one side.

Site No 85 Fig 85

OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Pagan Slop

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

80 M from the confluence of Pagan Slop and the River Clyde and S of a shepherd's cottage there is a banked enclosure and sheep buchts.

The enclosure is 120M to the S of the burn and is a double concentric bank forming a sub rectangle. The enclosure lies on a terrace above the river flood plain at a height of 265M OD. The internal area is 45M X 40M and the space between the banks is 4M. There are gaps in each bank on the SW corners and there is one on the outside bank only on the E side. An annexe on the SE was probably a complete enclosure with an entrance at the E side of the main enclosure.

The turf bucht beside the enclosure is 13M X 2M internally; the other on the S side of the burn is 9M X 2M and is on the lower ground beside the burn. The three on the N bank are on the top of the burn terrace and have been partially dug into the ground. They measure 5M X 4M, 8M X 1.5M and 10M X 2.5M internally. All the banks are turf construction having spread up to 2M and they are up to 1M high.

The following were noted but not planned:

A further bucht measuring 8M long at NS963187 beside the River Clyde. This is 1Km S of the above area.

SW of the cottage and on the E bank of the River Clyde are the disturbed remains of another building measuring 24M X 4M equally divided into two rooms. Behind the cottage are further turf banks.

600M to the W and on the E side of the sheepfold there is a rectangular building measuring 12M X 5M. Seen as a grassy bank measuring 2M X 0.4M high, no entrance is obvious. This may be a house or barn site. Adjacent to and outwith the E wall of the sheepfold is a D shaped enclosure with an internal area of 17M X 10M. The bank spreads to 3M X 1M high. The drystane fold appears to have been built on top of the W side of this turf enclosure. On the N side of Pagan Slop about 100M to the NE are some poorly preserved banks where there is an enclosure measuring 10.5M square.

All these features were associated with 17th to 18th century sheep management. The buchts were used for milking ewes and have an extended wall, presumably to facilitate catchment of the sheep.

Site No 86 Fig 86

OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Cakelaw Burn

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the W flank of Cakelaw Rig and E of the Cakelaw Burn between 290M and 320M OD, there is a system of Collins Burn, huts and an unenclosed platform.

The platform is 100M to the SE of the sheep stell and is at 320M OD. It measures 15M X 8M, with the access on the S side. 60M to the S is another level area measuring 10M X 3M which may have some significance.

The cairns vary in size from 2M diameter by 0.2M high to the largest which is 12M X 4M X 1.5M high. They appear not to have been disturbed with the exception of the largest pile on the W side of the stell. This may have been modified to form a small hut, or the stones may have been removed for the footings of the rectangular buildings nearby. The main group of cairns are closely arranged around the stell area, some are oval in shape. The ratio of cleared ground to the space occupied by the cairn is relatively low. Further upstream are three small cairns and two larger ones beside a stone bucht which may have been built from a cairn on the same spot. The area below the platform has been cleared of stone and the ground is improved grass, compared to the boggy rushes and courser grasses which are demarcated by a line of tumbled stones on the SW. Cairns stretch for a distance of 250M NW of the stell, these vary in size from 2M to 5M in diameter and lie in a boggy area of coarse grasses and sedges

On the summit of a slight knoll there is a circular enclosure measuring 12M in diameter. A bank 0.3M high, spreading to 1.5M has no apparent gap in its circuit, although the feature is so slight in places, a gap may have been eroded. There is one earth fast stone set in the NW side. The internal area has no visible features.

The burn to the S of this area seems to have been used for depositing stones along each bank.

The rectangular structures to the SE of the stell are all of similar size being 10M X 3M. One clearly has an entrance on its long E wall. To the W, two are joined and another is detached, they have no obvious entrances. The other is open ended on its N side and may be considered to be a sheep bucht.

Discussion Site No 86

This landscape has several interesting aspects worthy of comment.

It is unusual to find a UPS in close proximity to such a well developed cairn group. However, this site should perhaps be placed into context with the cairns and platforms a few hundred metres to the SW (BMT No 87). The ground below the platform is the only reasonable sized space, which is devoid of stones, having been cleared and therefore the ground is improved. It is possible that this took place in the post medieval period when the various huts were used (that is their most likely date) therefore the line of clearance stone which delineates the existing quality of the ground may not be the same age as the cairns.

It is also unusual to see stones dumped along a burn gully, especially with cairns in the vicinity. This may indicate a different period of activity from that of the cairns.

The circular enclosure is problematic; these have been discussed in the main report. Given the prehistoric landscape within which this enclosure lies, then there is a probability that it dates to that period. Only other archaeological investigation can resolve this.

The builders of the rectangular huts which have stone footings appear to have respected the surrounding cairns, and this is certainly so of the dykers who built the stell which is placed inside a triangle formed by three cairns, the large dome shaped one on the NE is intact.

Site No 87 Fig 87

OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Lodge Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the lower NW slope of Lodge Hill between 290M and 350M OD there are UPS, cairns and enclosures. They are ranged along the hill for a distance of 500M E and W of a mature plantation which is 200M E of the River Clyde.

Eleven platforms are distinctly preserved. The main group of nine he to the E of the plantation at 310M OD, the other two are just above the wood.

They are described here from the E.

No 1 measures 11M X 8M. It is on a gentle slope and has short front and rear scarps, the front apron is quite stony. 250M to the W, platform Nos2 to 9 are strung in a line.

No 2 is an unusual shape and measures 17M X 8M. It also has short scarps.

No 3 measures 12M X 8M and

No 4 is 13M X 9M. They appear to be joined and may have had accesses on each side.

No 5 measures 18M X 12M in total area but it has a secondary set of very short scarps which may indicate features of the site such as a back shelf.

No 6 measures 17M X 10M, it may have connected directly to No5 and both may have had double accesses.

No 7 may have been an earlier platform which pre-dated No6, it has no back scarp. A lynchet or bank connects from here to

No 8 which is similarly positioned below another typical platform, No9. Nos7 and 8 may not have been habitation sites.

No 9 measures 13M X 9M, it has short lynchets or banks leading off on each side from the front apron.

No's 10 and 11 are the highest at 320M OD. They are separated from the rest which are on less steep ground. These two platforms are much more prominent than the others because of the gradient upon which they are built; consequently the builders had more excavating to do to create them. No 10 measures 15M X 9M and No 11 is 16M X 9M. A crow trap has been built on top of No11 with four posts about 150mm being sunk into the platform.

There is a substantial cover of peat up to 0.5 M deep over platforms No 1 to 9, the entire area to the E of the wood is boggy. The other two platforms lie in a tapering band of ground which has been improved, this ground is now covered in short grass.

The feature marked 'a' on plan is the result of modern turf stripping.

The cairns range in size from 1.5M to 8M in diameter and from 0.1M to 0.75M high. There are three groups. Twenty three lie below the main group of platforms. Ten are to the SE of No 10. Five are in the area of features 'd' and 'e' to the W of the wood. The cairns do not all have stone visible, but it is detectable by probing. In the area at 'h' on plan there are lynchets with cairns either on the ends or in the middle of the banks. Another stony bank can be seen on the E side of the wood on the better ground there.

The group of cairns on the higher ground above the wood are mostly on rough grassland, with improved grass lying between them. At 'f' on plan there is a mound which measures 5M X 3M X 0.5M high. This was tested and it consists of small angular rocks set in a grey soil matrix, the stones are not scorched and there is no charcoal present to indicate a burnt mound. It does not appear to be the result of

spring outwash and is therefore probably man made.

SE of the largest cairn at 'e' on plan there is a short bank with an opposing scarp. These lie on the unimproved ground and by probing it was established that a depth of 0.5M of peat surrounds these features, the peat is also between the banks and the cairn, they are therefore not joined.

At 'd' on plan there is a circular enclosure measuring 10M in internal diameter with a stony bank spreading 2.5M wide by 0.3M high. Nine earth fast stones protrude from the low bank and there is a gap on the SE. This feature also has 0.5M deep peat both surrounding and within it.

A cairn just above the fence line has been truncated by a modern drain. The feature 'g' has the appearance of a track way along the upper side of the wood. This changes to a drain below the fence line and demarcates the better ground from that on which 'd' and 'e' lies. On this improved area there are two stony mounds and a curved bank. To the NW there is a dry gully and at 'c' on plan there is an enclosure which is 6.5M in total diameter. A distinct bank on the S half measures 0.6M wide by 0.1M high. The circuit has no obvious gap in it. The vegetation on this feature is the same as the ground which surrounds it, being improved grass.

No features were noted in the area of the wood, which is quite open, the trees forming a canopy over good grass. To the E of the wood there is a 40M long stony scatter running parallel with the dyke, it has no obvious function.

Discussion Site No 87

This is another UPS location where the proximity of cairns below the platforms gives some credibility to the argument that they are contemporaneous. The lynchets with cairns attached are good evidence for cultivation and clearance. The features at 'd' and 'e' pre-date the peat growth as do the platforms to the E of the plantation, this at least indicates that 'd' and 'e' are prehistoric monuments, whatever their function. The preservation of archaeological remains on this general area must be excellent because the platforms will not have been eroded to any great extent since they do not occupy a steep slope. The feature at 'c' cannot be determined from visual evidence alone, but as all the other visible features have a prehistoric connotation then this one may also date to that period.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 197, 82

Site No 88 Fig 88

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Lodge Hill NS 96421836

Surveyed scale: 1:100

On the W flank of Lodge Hill, 70M E of Shilling Cleuch Burn at 300M OD there is a single cairn. It is located in a hollow in a natural terrace and measures 8M X 6M X 2M high.

There is a slight depression on the summit and some freshly exposed rocks can be seen.

The cairn itself is of no particular interest but the choice of location and the manner in which it has been made merits some consideration.

It is clearly a well constructed cairn with a well defined edge (not a kerb or formal stone setting). Because it is sited in this hollow a gully is formed between the cairn and the natural bank.

One may have expected a clearance cairn to appear less carefully made in such a situation as this. Why not simply drop the stones into the hollow? if the reason for the stones being there was purely to get rid of them. The stones have been carefully built into a dome shaped pile.

This may be entirely coincidental, but it does seem unlikely. This cairn therefore has a high probability of being a burial site and not just the product of field clearance.

About 150M to 200M S of and upslope from the above cairn there are five small cairns measuring 2M to 3M in diameter by 0.3M high. There are also two mounds 2M in diameter by 0.3M high. These are all on an area of natural terraces. (They are not planned)

Site No 89 Fig 89

OS Sheet No: NS91NE & NS91NW

Location: Watchman Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the N facing slopes of Watchman Hill on an area named Reeve Gair and on the NE flank of the same hill on an area named Bucht Knowe, there is a series of cairns, terraces and lynchets, burnt mounds and buchts.

Terraces

To the W of the survey area are three prominent terraces with frontal scarps up to 3M high, located at 310M to 340M OD, they follow the contours of the hill. The spaces between them are up to 25M broad and they are not level, but have a gentler slope than the hill above or to the E. At 'a' on plan there may be a hut stance as there is a concave area on the bank and a scarp on the NE forming a level area. A 5M length of stony wall runs off the scarp, at the base of the slope another scarp forms a wavy line. This is a natural feature but the terrace above it may have been used for cultivation as there are two stony piles deposited on the scarp at the NW end of it. The ground on the E is extremely boggy, being now cut by numerous drains. A water supply cistern has been installed here.

Cairns

Further to the E the ground is dry with good grass growing. This reflects the activity which has taken place here. This area and the ground extending S and uphill is covered with cairns and lynchets. Thirty two cairns are recorded; they measure from 1.5M in diameter up to a pile which is 10M X 5M. The conventional small round cairns are up to 0.75M high and the larger cairns are over 1M high. Cairns can be seen on the lynchets and at the ends of them. An earth bank appears to demarcate the cultivated ground from the boggy area to the W. The nearby pipe track, which is one of three, has been landscaped to include two ridges, these may well represent lynchets

that were destroyed and have been faithfully replaced. Certainly some features must have been removed by the two main pipelines which pass through here.

At 'b' on plan a 5M X 2M bucht has been made on top of a convex scarp, this scarp may be an earlier platform, although there is no rear concave feature which is normally associated with platforms.

A 15M long stony scatter to the SE of the survey area at 'c' is probably natural, resulting from the scree above.

Burnt mounds

At 370M OD on a very steep part of the hill there is an oval burnt mound measuring 10M X 8M, it is 2M high if measured from below and 0.5M high when measured from above. The mound consists of reddened heat shattered rocks in a matrix of black soil with charcoal flecks. It is situated at the source of an active spring. 15M below is a relatively level area but the mound is surrounded on all sides by extremely steep ground.

The other burnt mound is on the E facing slope of Bucht Knowe at 325M OD. It measures 10M X 6M and is a similar height and shape to the one described above. The location is also at the source of a spring, although here the ground is not so steep. The contents of this mound are also similar to the other one.

Buchts

To the N and NNW of the burnt mound there is a series of structures from which this promontory of Watchman Hill derives its name. Eight buchts have been constructed here. Two are positioned on the brink of the precipitous E face of the hill and are connected by a short scarp which may have been significant as a boundary. The largest bucht is on the summit of the Knowe. They range in size from 4M X 2M to 12M X 2M and are fairly typical of buchts elsewhere.

Discussion

There is debate whether the broad terraces at the W end of the survey area are natural in origin or are the work of man. It is possible that they have resulted from glacial melt water channels forming parallel ridges. If this is so it is still possible that they were adopted as ready made field systems, there is however no evidence for stone clearance on the three upper ridges other than the one isolated cairn to the SW and perhaps the stony wall at 'a'. The area to the E has without doubt been cultivated and cleared of stones giving rise to better quality vegetation than the surrounding ground. Some of the lynchets here are considered to be man made on the strength of the cairns which are associated with them. The boundary bank also supports this theory. Here then is a prehistoric field system on a hill side facing directly N.

The burnt mounds are interesting because both of them have been formed at the sources of springs. In the case of the Reeve Gair mound, a more convenient location for any activity was ignored; the mound was formed on the steep slope where it is difficult to imagine having a fire or any type of working area. The significance of the spring source overrides any other consideration in the siting of several burnt mounds in Clydesdale. The purity of the water or perhaps some other spiritual concept was

fundamentally important to the creators of these mounds.

The two buchts which are built among the cairns and those on Bucht Knowe are the huts for milking ewes in the summer months. These are associated with the deserted farm and bastle house of Glengieth 200M to the NW of the survey area.

The buchts are therefore of 17th to 18th century in date. The prominent system of earthworks and enclosures of the farm have previously been surveyed by the RCAHMS at the request of BMT, as part of their Bastle Project. (See Appendix VI, No 7)

Site No 90 Fig 90

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SW flank of Annanshaw Brae there are five UPS. Four are located immediately below the Roman Road (I) the construction of which has unaffected the platforms.

At 320M OD and aligned SE/NW they are described here from the S.

No 1 measures 8M X 8M, the rear scarp is affected by erosion, but the back of the platform is distinct, access has been on the NE side.

No 2 appears to have been built next in succession as its front apron forms part of No 1. measuring 13M X 10M the access to No 2 leads from platform 3 which is level with No 2.

No 3 measures 15M X 10M and its approach was on the NE side.

No 4 is the smallest and highest, it measures 8M X 7M and appears to encroach on the NE side of No 3. Access here has also been on the NE. These four platforms are extremely well preserved, and the aprons contain stone which may actually be revetment as there are slabs of rock showing on them.

30M below is another platform, No5 which measures 12M X 7M, access is on the NE. It is about 305M OD. SW of it is a small rock quarry. Slight terraced areas to the S may also have been platforms.

This area was surveyed by the Association for Certificated Field Archaeologists at the request of BMT, their survey includes other features including the extensive cairn group to the NW. (see appendix vi) Roman Road

Refs: RCAHMS Lan No 264,141 -144 Roman road RCAHMS Lan No 182, 81 Platforms ACFA Air Cleuch survey

Site No 91 Fig 91

OS Sheets No's: NS91NE & NS91SE Location: Crookedstane Farm Surveyed scale: 1:500

To the SE of Crookedstane Farm there is a concentrated system of unenclosed platform settlements (UPS), cairns, circular and other enclosures and a post medieval farm. The survey area straddles the Crookedstane Burn for a distance of 0.75Km and is 0.6Km in width.

UPS

Four separate groupings of UPS consist of eight, six, two and a single platform. With the exception of the single example, they are all on the N side of the burn. The platform to the S, No 17 on plan is on the N facing flank of Crookedstane Rig at a height of 315M OD. It has well defined front and rear scarps and a level area of 8M X 6M. Beside it are relatively modern rock quarries.

At 335M OD the two platforms No's 15 and 16 lie near the boundary fence of the plantation to the SE of the survey area. No 16 has a short back scarp but a greater expanse is taken up with the front apron. The level stance is sub oval and measures 14M X 7M. A hill drain has been cut across the front and back of this platform. No 15 has its quarried material offset to the NW and has a level area of 10M X 8M. Access to both sites has been on the SE side, the NW ends are closed by the junction of the scarps. There is a stony content in both of the aprons and a small cairn lies between them. There may be further platforms within the densely planted forest to the SE; a stony bank at the edge of the forest at 'a' on plan has the appearance of a UPS front apron.

250M to the N, the group of six are ranged between 310M and 340M OD. No 14 is at the base of the steeper sloping ground and is a distinct scoop into the hill. There is no frontal aspect to this feature. The reverse is the case at No 13 where a well defined front apron survives but the rear of the platform scarp is indistinct; the level area is 11M X 6M. At No's 11 and 12 the rear scarps are clear, and both indicate that the access sides were on the S. The quarried materials are eroded but the platform areas are both 10M X 7M. No 10 is the smallest in the group and is seen as a typical site type with clearly defined front and rear scarps. The level area is only 8M X 4M and access is also on the S side. This is the highest in the group at 340M OD. The largest platform, No 9 is 13M X 17M, but there are no distinct quarry or dump lines associated with this platform, the hollow shape at the rear and the level area suggest this is a UPS, this is supported by its proximity to the others.

100M to the NW and ranged closely around a bend on the hill between 300M and 310M OD, is a group of eight UPS, all clearly defined. Arranged in two tiers they are fairly uniform in the size of their areas, being respectively from No 1: 12M X 7M, 10M X 4M, 12M X 7M, 10M X 9M, 10M X 7M, 11M x 5M, 12M X 7M and 12M X 7M. No 1 may have had a double access; the shapes of No's 2, 3, 4 and perhaps No 7 indicate their accesses on the S. No 5 appears to have an approach on the N which connects with No 4, while No 8 has no clear indication of access, the ground on each side falls away immediately. No 6 must have been reached from the N side as its apron on the S drops into platform No 7. There is good evidence for phasing some of the platforms here as it will be seen that No 1 appears to overlie the rear of No 2. Indeed there may have been a further platform on the level space adjacent to No 2 and below No's 1 and 4. This area has a thick growth of rushes covering it. Similarly, at No 3 the area seems to have been impeded on from above. Platforms No's 3, 4 and 5 have been affected by later small quarries and a pit has been dug between No 6 and No 7. Two narrow dry gullies run down the steep slope, one to the S of No 1 and the other on the S edge of No 7, these gullies are clearly not contemporary with the platforms.

CAIRNS

The cairns occur in two main concentrations at the S and SE of the survey area. One group lying on each side of the burn.

Four small cairns and a stony bank forming an arc are spread to the N of platform 17. These range in size from 2M to 5M in diameter by 0.4M high.

On the opposite side of the burn beside the angle in the fence and 30M from P14 are three cairns measuring 4M, 5M and 6M in diameter, all are 0.4M high. The pile nearest to P14 is a mound with little stone content; it measures 4M by 3M and is 1M high.

At circa NS96751540, south of a gate and east of the farm road there are the remains of at least two cairns about 3M in diameter (not on the plan).

The group of cairns to the SW of the burn are varied in size, shape and also in their states of preservation. Several have apparently been disturbed. They range in size from 2.5M in diameter by 0.3M high to the largest which is 10M X 6M X 1M high. Two cairns have low stony banks or tails leading off in a N/S and NE/SW alignment. To the W of this group is a massive erratic and a scatter of large boulders which may have some significance, but no meaningful feature could be determined other than a line of boulders 8M long on the low ground there. The disposition of this cairn group is from the base of the hill slope extending up the gentle face of the hill. They are both within and outwith a banked enclosure, those lying on the outside are now in very boggy ground.

A further 2M diameter pitted cairn is off the survey area to the S of this group, it lies higher up the hill on one of several scoop like terraces which are probably of natural origin.

The cairns on the opposite side of the burn are more diverse in their appearance. The conventional oval mounds vary in size from 2M diameter to 9M X 7M and up to 0.7M in height. A horseshoe' type can be seen beside the forest and probably represents a robbed cairn. 70M to the NW at 'b' on plan there is a crescentic shaped scarp forming an arc 20M wide. The bank of this feature is very stony and may represent stone clearance; the function of the scarp is indeterminate but may be a prehistoric house stance.

At 'c' on plan a similar scoop is stone free but has a Y shaped stony bank within the arc. Surrounding this are three rather amorphous stony patches. The one to the W is diamond shaped with a stony bank forming an enclosure (?). The largest pile to the SE appears as a large disturbed cairn and measures 13M X 11M. To the NE of 'c' are two stony banks running down from the fence, the southern one is beside the third stony pile which has a small cairn on top of it.

RING ENCLOSURES

To the S W of C there is a circular enclosure measuring 12M in total diameter. The circuit has earth fast stone footings 1M wide X 0.3M high, there is a gap 2.5M wide on the S side and there is a single earth fast stone in the middle of this gap. In the NE

quadrant of the enclosure is a neat cairn measuring 3M in diameter X 0.2M high.

For a distance of 200M N of the above enclosure and on the W side of the burn, the ground is very boggy. No archaeological features were noted in this area which is crosscut by numerous drains, having displaced boulders and stones now forming confusing lines. The ground which is now entirely afforested to the SE of the surveyed area is strewn with boulders, indicating that no clearance has taken place there.

40M SW of the 19th century drystone sheep stall, is a 22M diameter ring bank with a possible gap on the SW of the circuit, the enclosure is covered in rushes and its bank spreads to 3M X 0.4M in maximum height.

A similar sized ring bank is visible within the trapezium shaped enclosure beside the farm. This ring is visible mainly by the heavy growth of rushes on its nearly flattened bank, which is about 0.3M high; there is a possible gap on the NW side.

0.6Km to the SW of the survey area at Blakehouse Burn is another drystone sheep stall, and in the same area are four other ring banks, (these will eventually be surveyed and assessed) See main text of the M74 Report for discussion of these site types.

ENCLOSURE BANKS

By reference to the plan some phasing of this otherwise complicated system of banks can be achieved. Working from the N of the area, the only complete enclosure is the trapezium shaped one which includes the ring bank already alluded to.

The three buchts attached to the N wall of this enclosure are clearly contemporary. The gap in the W which was probably the original and only access to the internal area which is about 1.5 acres. The gap in the SE corner has been made to give access to a small hard rock quarry (1). N of the trapezium a low bank leads off and joins another at right angles. Any other relationships between banks in this area apart from the one parallel with the road and which overlies a broad ridge at right angles is speculative.

A low lynchet leading off from the eastern bucht may be the result of plough encroachment from the E. On the E side of the trapezium and above it on a natural break of slope is a much eroded bank which stretches from the modern track at the S end to another small rock quarry towards the N. This may have been an early head dyke, possibly part of the system which runs for 450M south, to form three other main areas of enclosure on the E side of the burn. Several drains have cut gaps through the banks and these are obvious. Where other gaps occur they are likely to have been original design features, except along the natural burn terrace where erosion has taken place.

The dislocated stretches of banks are more difficult to understand, these are generally less substantial than the enclosing banks, which do themselves vary in size considerably over the entire survey area, being up to 2M high and with a spread of up to 5M.

On the W side of the burn are two main enclosed areas. The one immediately S of the stall is clearly the earliest, because the wall of the other enclosure to the E is abutted a

short distance from the SE corner of the former. The secondary enclosure has been subdivided into three equal areas by two banks running down the slope; two of these spaces have access gaps to the hill through the perimeter bank. The SE corner of this enclosure has been made to form a peculiar small area, possibly a little hut. In the same corner an area has been later delineated by a low bank.

Three buildings can be seen between the burn and a natural break of slope which is an old river terrace. Bi measures 13M X 7M overall and has a subdivision almost halving the internal area. The burn flows 3M below the eroded stony walls. NW of Bi is an elevated area of ground which may have been a garden plot. Bii is a stone structure which has been built into the slightly higher ground; it measures 8M X 4M and lies within a hollow way which runs through the complex. Biii is 11M X 7M overall and lies between two areas of elevated ground which may also have been garden plots. No entrances can be seen on any of these buildings, but these can be inferred as leading onto the through road. 14M NW of the three buildings is a curvilinear stone wall measuring 0.4M high and spreading to 1.5M.

50m E of P13 there is a levelled area measuring 30m X 10m, its function is unknown, but it is probably a building stance or a working area. A small keyhole shaped depression in the front bank may be a kiln site. Similarly, near the farm and W of the road there is another depression which may be a kiln.

At NS 967150 there is an extensive turf cutting area and this may account for the three banks in that area, in other words these banks may be the balks left after the turf removal and therefore are not functional aspects of the area.

DISCUSSION

There are three main elements within the survey area:

1. UPS
2. Cairns
3. Enclosures and buildings of probable post medieval date.

The UPS are becoming better understood as a result of recent fieldwork and also excavations. The examples here are fairly typical of the Clydesdale series. At Crookedstane they are well preserved and have suffered only from some small scale quarrying and the usual natural erosion of the sloping ground on which they lie. The accesses to the UPS can often be predicted by the shapes of the platforms, occasionally there appears to be no convenient approach onto some of the stances.

The group of eight are interesting in that neither end of the site is intervisible. P5 is the limit of visibility from both P1 and P7, this is because they are built on the bend of a very steep slope, the ground on each side and above would appear to have been more suitable if the entire group had originally been planned to be built. For this reason and the fact that some platforms seem to have been built on top of others (see above), it can be inferred that the group was developed and modified over an indeterminate period of time. As with some other sites where the UPS are joined, relationships between them can be better understood. The range of size, location and condition of preservation may have much to infer, such as the function, status within a group and perhaps if a site has ever been fully developed for its intended use or modified. This site is also typical where more easily accessible ground is available

above the platforms, between the broadly spaced hill contours, or, immediately below on the flatter ground at the base of the hill, yet a great deal of effort has been expended to sculpture the platforms from the steepest part of the hill. The reason for this practice still remains a most tantalising question regarding the UPS (see main text M74 report for discussion).

The circular enclosure with the cairn within it is problematic and could fall anywhere into the time expanse from a prehistoric ritual/funerary monument - to a post medieval sheep stell. The writer favours the former explanation on the evidence of the cairn, which surely would have been removed and used to build a sheepfold. Only excavation could unravel the obvious and variable hypothesis which could be put forward to explain these accompanying features.

The proximity of the cairns to the UPS appears as good evidence for contemporaneity, as no other prehistoric hut types are noted in the area. It is possible that cairns have been eradicated especially to the N and W of the main group of UPS, where the ground has been intensively developed during later periods. The twenty three cairns scattered about the enclosure S of the stell appear not to be related with it, similarly the cairns and banks on the other side of the burn show no clear relationship with each other, perhaps excepting the two stony banks on the fence line, placing them with the cairns. More archaeological features probably exist within the plantation area and a search will eventually be made to determine if this is so.

The three buildings Bi, Bii and Biii constitute a deserted farm dating somewhere between the late 16th to early 18th centuries. A few pieces of clay pipe stems were found on molehills to assist with the above dates. This could easily be confirmed by small scale excavation which would also indicate the function of the buildings. It is likely that another post medieval (PM) settlement lies somewhere below the modern farm buildings as there appears to be too many features in the survey area to be associated with the one small farm, which is situated at the southern extremity of its associated landscape. There are further banks and features adjacent to the modern farm but are outwith the survey area given here.

The various systems of irregular shaped enclosures, seemingly isolated banks and small lynchets are most likely to be associated with PM farming practices, although a prehistoric date for some of the banks cannot be ruled out. No trace of cultivation has been noted within any of the enclosures or the immediate surrounding areas. Lines running down the W flank of the glacial knoll on the SW bank of the burn are drains and not, as they can appear from a distance, rig and furrow (2).

A comparable system of banks has been surveyed recently (3) these are located 0.8Km N of Crookedstane Farm.

If the features suggested as kilns, are such, then the com would have been derived from the expanse of good arable land to the W of the modern farm and upon which the Standing Stone is located.

The two larger ring enclosures may be interpreted as early sheepfolds. The example within the trapezium shaped enclosure appears by its slighted nature to be earlier than the trapezium, judging by the respective states of preservation.

CONCLUSION

It would appear that the remains at Crookedstane consist of house platforms and cairns of the late Bronze Age. An extended period of use is indicated by the disposition of the platforms while the function of the cairns remains speculative, a combination of field clearance and funerary purposes are most likely. A possible ritual enclosure of the same period is also suspected. The standing stone from which the place takes its name is generally considered to be of a similar date, the function of these megaliths is still the subject of debate, but a ritual activity is the most popular view of their use.

Continuity of land use cannot be shown from the above period, circa 1000BC, until the mid 16th century AD, when the rest of the features in the survey area are dated from, however it is assumed that some occupation of the area would have taken place in the interim period of about 2600 years. Any structures built during that time must have been entirely of timber and consequently have left no trace on the surface of the landscape.

The PM landscape in Clydesdale is also becoming much better understood as a result of survey and excavation, the above conclusion is reached on the basis of evidence from the entire district.

Footnotes:

- (1) This quarry has apparently been represented on the 1987 edition of the 1:10,000 OS map as a platform.
- (2) There is a patch of rig and furrow cultivation 500M NNW of Crookedstane Farm on the haugh land at NS964156.
- (3) Centre for Field Archaeology, University of Edinburgh (see Appendix VI, No 7).

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 188, 81

Site No 92 Fig 92

OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Fall Kneesend Surveyed scale: 1:250

On the lower SW slope of Fall Kneesend between 300M and 320M OD there are over fifty cairns and other features including a Roman Road(1). The area is 230M X 100M and is bounded on three sides by a plantation and on the SW by the access road to Little Clyde Farm. The site has an open aspect to the S and W.

The cairns range in size from 2M in diameter by 0.2M high to 10M X 8M X 1M high. Groups of cairns tend to overlap each other in places. They are all covered in grass and moss and nearly all have stone visible. They vary in size, shape and condition. About twenty of the cairns are apparently undisturbed and are seen as dome shaped piles, the rest appear to have been affected by the removal of stones and this has left some distinctive shapes. The cairns which are most affected indicate that the stones have been taken from the down slope edges of the piles leaving indents on those sides. 'Horseshoe' shapes are the result in some instances, but the majority are round and oval. It is probable that the oval piles assumed that shape as a result of the stones being dumped on a slope.

Near the tree line on the W side are two stony banks, these are not considered to be lynchets although they may indicate the position of a cultivated area. The westerly bank has a small robbed (?) cairn at each end and the easterly bank also has a cairn on its W end. The long narrow pile of stones NW of the sheep stell and a scatter of stone on the E side is probably associated with the construction of the stell.

Two oval platform areas indicated at 'a' and 'b' on plan may have some significance as hut sites. The ground on the NW of 'a' rises steeply and the feature has a short front scarp. At *b' the platform is more typical of a UPS with front and rear scarps.

The stony areas 'c' and 'd' on plan may be buildings rather than disturbed cairns. 'd' is the more convincing as it is a rectangular shape which measures 4M X 2M internally. There is no apparent gap to indicate an entrance and the internal area has a sunken appearance. These shapes may be coincidental.

The Roman Road at 'e' is within the survey area. It continues to the NW for a distance of 1.5Km through the plantation but it has been obliterated by the construction of the farm access road on the SE. The 4M wide track is embanked on the SW side and there is a bank running parallel on the NE side of it, this bank has one gap in its length.

In a wavy line 10M - 20M to the NE of the bank there is a short break in slope, this appears to be the result of quarrying and is probably associated with the road, either during its original construction or possibly during repairs.

There are several larger cairns within the plantation to the NW of the surveyed area; some have been truncated by the forestry plough.

Several exploratory pits and boreholes were recently made in the area in connection with the M74 road building, the new road works will affect part of the site on the SW, and the affected areas will be excavated archaeologically with the sponsorship of Historic Scotland.

Discussion

This is a good example where substantial cairns have been closely grouped (2) and apparently built at random, possibly over an extended period as is indicated by the overlapping cairns. The cairn group lies on a gentle slope at the base of the steeper hill on the NE. A dedicated search within the plantation there may reveal platform sites, the indication that these may exist is at 'a' on plan.

If the cairns are the result of clearance for cultivation then it can be seen that relatively small areas of ground could only have been utilized effectively. A funerary function for some of them cannot be ruled out (see main text for discussion of cairns).

The apparent disturbance of many of these piles is easily explained by the proximity of the Roman Road. It is likely that some stone was used to make the road and because of the access that the road gave to the area, other stones may have been carried off to be used elsewhere.

1.5Km to the NW there is an unenclosed platform settlement (3) on the S flank of Bodsberry Hill (which also has a hillfort on its summit (4)) the afforested area

between the UPS and the cairns at Fall Kneesend also includes a possible enclosed cremation cemetery (5) and there are certainly other cairns. It may be that this S facing area between the two surveyed locations is a continuous prehistoric landscape of the Bronze Age.

References

- 1) RCAHMS Lan No 263, 140-141
- 2) See BMT M74 No 86 Cairns at Cakelaw Burn.
- 3) RCAHMS Lan No 184, 81
APG 15/18 Excavation and survey of UPS at Bodsberry
- 4) RCAHMS Lan No 218, 95
- 5) RCAHMS Lan No 56, 54 Cairns and possible ECC.

Site No 93 Fig 93

OS Sheet No: NS91SE Location: Brown Knees Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NW flank of Brown Knees and E of an isolated fenced enclosure there are six small cairns and two burnt mounds.

The cairns are up to 4M in diameter by 0.4M high and lie in an area of improved grass between 345M and 355M OD.

The burnt mounds are about 355M OD and lie within a boggy hollow on the slope from which active springs have been drained.

The higher mound, BMi measures 9M X 6M and is 1.2M high. The NE end is dome shaped and at the SW side there is a lower area.

BMii measures 10M X 7M in total and is also 1.2M high. It is dome shaped and at the SE end there is a lower area measuring 3m X 2M.

The mounds are 4M apart and the ground between them has been cut by a drain.

Both piles were tested and found to consist of small reddened angular heat shattered rocks in a matrix of black charcoal enriched soil.

There are some earth fast boulders down slope from the mounds which may have some significance. Different campaigns of burning may be represented in these mounds.

Site No 94 Fig 94

OS Sheet No : NS91SE Location: White Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S side of a track leading over the ridge of White Hill in an E/W line there are eight cairns, a mound and a circular enclosure. The area lies between the 340M and 350M contours OD. The cairns are 2M to 4M in diameter by 0.3M high. Some appear to have been disturbed.

The mound is nearest to the road and may be the result of turf or peat cutting which has taken place in the area; it was possibly a small stack.

The enclosure is slightly oval, measuring 15M X 12M overall. The bank spreads to 2M and is 0.4M high. It has a stony content around its circuit. There is a gap on the SW side where there is a stony patch outside measuring 3M square. In the NE quadrant there is a circular area with a 2.5M diameter space within. From its appearance it seems to be contemporary with the external bank. There is no gap in the circuit of the smaller circle.

The arrangement of stones outwith this enclosure is similar to that found at Wildshaw. See APG No 10, 3

Site No 95 Fig 95

OS Sheet No: NS91SE Location: Wintercleuch Fell Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the NW slope of Wintercleuch Fell between 380M and 410M OD there is a group of twenty one cairns. They range in size from 2M in diameter by 0.3M high to 5M diameter by 0.6M high. One cairn measures 7M X 6M X 0.3M high and is apparently robbed.

To the N and NW of the group the ground is strewn with boulders among tussock grass, better grass is growing where the cairns are lying. However, the ground here is steep compared to more gentle slopes to the S, beyond a gully, where there is only one cairn and no stones lying around.

These cairns have an unusually high proportion of larger stones in them, this fact, and the situation of the cairns on the steep ground beside the stony area to the N may indicate that these are not simply the product of field clearance.

Site No 96 Fig 96

OS Sheet No: NS91SE Location: Lion Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the SW slope of Lion Hill between 320M and 340M OD there is a group of nineteen cairns.

They are 0.8Km E of Daer primary school (now unused) and to the W of a small rock quarry and a track.

They range in size from 2M in diameter by 0.2M high to 7M X 4M X 0.3M high. The cairn on the E side of the track is 6M in diameter and is centre pitted. Further cairns may have been removed when the pipe track which traverses the area was installed.

Site No 97 Fig 97

OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE flank of Annanshaw Brae immediately N of a square sheepfold there are the remains of seven unenclosed platforms and three cairns. The platforms are ranged along the 310M OD contour. They are described here from the west.

No 1 is poorly defined and may have been about 8M wide.

No 2 is poorly preserved at the rear, it measures 12M X 8M and the access on the E is distinct.

No 3 is about the same level as No 1, it is badly eroded and may have been about 8m across.

60M to the E N04 is the best preserved in the group, it measures 12M X 7M, but a drain has been cut across its surface.

No 4 is also in relatively good condition, measuring 7M X 5M, it appears to have an access on the E.

No 6 is a levelled area measuring 10M X 5M with an apparent access on the NE side.

No 7 measures 7M X 4M with its entrance on the NE.

A small quarry N of the last platform may be contemporary with the settlement.

Below the sheepfold on the level there are three cairns which measure 4M in diameter by 0.4M high, 2M diameter by 0.3M high and 4M diameter by 0.3M high.

Site No 98 Fig 98

OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the SE flank of Annanshaw Brae, 250M N of Glenochar Burn and 250M SW of a square sheepfold there are two unenclosed platforms, just above the 300M OD contour. Despite a drain and a sheep track cutting across the rear of the lower platform it is extremely well preserved, measuring 15M X 9M. The access to it has been on the E side. Adjacent and N, the second platform has not survived so well. The drain has formed a small gully across the rear and a pipeline excavation has clipped the front of this platform, which may have been about 8M wide.

Site No 99 Fig 99

OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Great Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower S facing slope of Great Hill between 310M and 330M OD there is a group of twenty eight cairns. They are located to the W of a field enclosed by a drystone dyke, and they are N of Glenochar Burn. The cairns range in size from 1M in diameter by 0.2M high to 7M X 6M X 1M high. Fifteen cairns on the E side of the site are dispersed across a gentle sloping area of coarse grass. The rest are clustered at the base of a scarp. A stony bank, 1.5M wide by 0.4M high connects the two largest cairns and another smaller pile is located between them.

A further cairn, 4M in diameter by 0.2M high is located 150M to the W, lying on a track there.

Site No 100 Fig 100

OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Doddin Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE slope of Doddin there are seven platforms and the remains of twenty five cairns situated NW of the A702 road and Pedengill Cottage.

Four of the platforms are aligned along the 310M contour OD the other three are higher at 320M. No 1 measures 15M X 11M, the rear scarp has slumped in the centre causing the back of the stance to be silted up. The access was on the NE. No 2 is adjacent to No 1 and is 8M X 4M. Below these, No's 3 and 4 are only seen as rear

scarps. No 5 is well defined but somewhat unusual, having a stony bank on the NE side and a small offset front apron. It measures 13M X 10M internally. Access was obviously on the S side. No 6 is 10M X 8M, the front and rear scarps being offset, the access here must have been on the NE side. No 7 is 13M X 6M and is well defined despite a drain being cut across the rear of it. The approach was on the NE and a cairn lies near the entrance.

20M to the NE is a scoop measuring 7M wide. Below this is a 25M length of bank.

As is usual the platforms are located on a steep slope, the cairns are lying on the more gently sloping ground below and on the level ground near the road. They measure up to 7M in diameter and are up to 0.6M high. Several appear to be centre robbed, but this may be the original shape of the cairns.

70M NE of the cottage there is a scooped area measuring 6M in diameter by 0.5M deep. This may be a road builders' quarry.

There is no indication of any other structures which could be associated with the supposed site of a chapel, as given on the OS maps with Gothic script.

Ref: RCAHMS Lan No 189, 81

Site 101 Fig 101
OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Doddin Surveyed scale: 1.500

On the lower SW and SE slopes of Doddin between 280M and 330M OD there is a system of UPS and cairns.

The eight UPS are ranged along the 310M to 320M contours OD. They are described here from the SE:

No's 1 and 2 measure 7M X 4M and 6M X 4M respectively, they face directly S.

No 3 is 6M wide and has an eroded front.

No 4 measures 10M X 5M, its access being on the N side.

No 5 is much eroded, the rear scarp suggests a small platform.

No 6 and No 7 have eroded fronts but distinct back scarps, both measure 8M X 5M. the ground above No 7 is scree and a sheep track has caused half the rear scarp to be removed. A mound to the NE of platform No 7 is natural.

100M to the W of the sheepfold are two circular enclosures, both affected by erosion of their lower sides. Enclosure 'a' is a shallow scoop with a slight bank on the E side; it is 10M in internal diameter. Enclosure V is a stony bank 1.5M wide by 0.4M high. It also is 10M in internal diameter.

80M to the NE is a small crescent shaped scarp measuring 6M internally.

Fifteen cairns are dispersed around enclosures 'a' and V, the largest being 5M diameter by 0.5M high. On the S facing slope there are a further twenty cairns scattered above and below the fence. Three cairns are lying on the S side of a gully, while a smaller cairn is built inside it.

N of platform No3 a thirty five metre length of stony bank cuts across the hill obliquely.

A linear turf bank cuts through the fence line NW of the reservoir and continues towards the sheepfold NW of the survey area (see inset).

The following have been noted but not planned:

Several sheep buchts and other turf enclosures on both sides of the Peden Burn to the NW of the reservoir.

On the SE flank of Kneesend at circa NS931131 there is a rectangular building, 7M X 3M. Beside it is a length of curved bank and above that is two tumuli which have the appearance of the front aprons of platforms.

At NS92651276, 80M NE of a square sheepfold are six cairns measuring from 1.5M to 6M in diameter by up to 0.3M high. These are interesting as they appear to have been made with stones gathered from below them. 300M to the E of these cairns are a further four measuring 3M diameter by 0.3M high. All these cairns are N of the Peden Burn.

At NS 938125 there is a large mound on the S side of the Peden Burn where it enters the reservoir. This was tested to determine if it was a burnt mound. It was found to be a glacial deposit of sands and gravel.

The cairn high on the S flank of Doddin Hill at NS94151275 is a modern cairn built from an outcrop beside it.

Discussion

The platforms and cairns are part of a series of such sites stretching for 7Km from Elvanfoot to Fingland. It is likely that the two circular enclosures represent two prehistoric house sites, or they may be of a ritual nature. The long turf dyke nearer the reservoir is part of the post medieval farming landscape that was Peden in the 16th and 17th centuries as depicted on the Timothy Pont map of 1596. Much of this deserted farm is now below the reservoir.

Site No 102 Fig 102

Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Faugh

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the NE flank of Faugh Hill there are at least twenty four small cairns distributed between 300M and 360M OD. They measure from 2M in diameter to 6M X 4M and they are up to 0.4M high.

Site No 103 Fig 103

OS Sheet No: NS91SW

Location: Faugh

Surveyed scale: 1:250

On a terrace on the E flank of Faugh Hill, 120M N of Little Peden Burn and 500M S of Peden Reservoir at a height of 370M OD, there is a single platform and three other

semi circular features.

The platform is distinctive because of its construction and also for the extraordinary height at which it is located. This is the highest undefended prehistoric house site known in Clydesdale.

The site has been quarried from the hill and has a rear scarp with much stone showing. The internal area measures 11M in diameter and is slightly sunken. The front apron is 2M high measured from below and there is a slight bank on the E side on top of the stony apron. The bank gives a height of 0.5M on the inside. The access would appear to have been on the S side. There are rushes growing in an arc at the back of the platform and also at the front of the apron. Probing showed that peat covers the internal area to a depth of 0.5M on the E, W and N sides, this may indicate a ring groove on these sides. The peat is 0.25M in the centre and on the S side.

50M to the NNE there is a C shaped enclosure measuring 10M in diameter, the rear wall is stony and a bank on the N spreads to almost 2M. The interior has a 0.4M depth of peat covering it.

Adjacent and to the NNE is a scooped area 10M wide. On one large stone there is a natural cup mark.

15M to the N of this is a circular enclosure traceable for most of its circuit either by a low scarp at the rear or earth fast stones. A little scoop has been created at the back which may be subsequent. The central area of this feature is boggy.

The NGR for the platform is given as NS 93941180.

Site No 104 Fig 104

OS Sheet No: NS91SW

Location: Potrenick Burn Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the lower SE flank of Shortcleuch Hill and near the confluence of the Potrenick Burn and its first tributary, the Short Cleuch there are two burnt mounds.

BMi is located immediately on the W side of the Short Cleuch, 140M from the confluence of the burns and at a height 320M OD. It measures 9M X 7M and is 0.75M high. There are three exposures on the E side of it caused by sheep scrapes, in these the composition of the mound can be seen to consist of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks within a matrix of charcoal enriched dark soil. On the N side there is a clump of rushes 5M in diameter which may indicate the location of a trough area.

40M downstream on the same side of the burn is a pile of gathered stones; it measures 8M X 4M.

BMii is located on the N side of the Potrenick Burn at a height of 310M OD, it is situated 5M from the burn edge and is beside a boggy area. This mound measures 9M X 6M and is 1.25M high. A fence straddles the mound and there is an exposure on the S side. This mound consists of a dark soil with an abundant charcoal content, but only a few scorched rocks were noted in the sample. Drains have been cut around the

mound on three sides.

Discussion

These two mounds are located on burns of differing sizes. It is likely that the water source for BMi was the Short Cleuch, which is 0.5M wide, But the source of water for BMii may well have been from a spring beside it and not from the fast flowing Potrenick Burn which is 4M wide at that point.

Site No 105 Fig 105

OS Sheet No: NS90NE

Location: Sweetshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S facing slope of Sweetshaw Brae at Sweetshaw Farm there are seven cairns and a burnt mound.

The mound is located 30M S of the farm buildings on a terrace at the NE side of the Daer Reservoir, and at a height of 350M OD. It is a classic kidney shaped type and measures 12M overall by 5M wide at the E end, the curving tail at the W end reduces gradually in width. The mound is 1.5M high and has a slightly flattened top. It is covered in good grass, as is the surrounding area.

On the N side there is an active spring which bubbles from the ground. This must be the original source of water for the mound. Drains have been cut along the side of the mound.

When tested the mound was found to consist of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched dark soil.

To the E of the farm on improved ground there are seven cairns ranging in size from 3M X 0.2M high to 5M X 0.5M high. These are likely to be part of the cairn group to the E (BMT No 106).

Immediately above the farm there are various turf banks and rectangular buildings, also features which may have been scooped sites for hut platforms. These have not yet been planned.

Site No 106 Fig 106

OS Sheet No: NS90NE

Location: Sweetshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the S facing slope of Sweetshaw Brae there are at least forty cairns, thirty eight of which are planned. The cairns range in size from 3M in diameter by 0.3M high to 6M in diameter by 0.6M high. There are a variety of shapes among the group and one stony bank. A horseshoe' type can be seen at the W end on the survey area. The grass covered cairns are ranged along the hill between 365M and 390M OD, below a line of electricity supply poles. Two outliers lie 100M to the NE, they measure 3M X 1M X 0.3M high and 6M X 2M X 0.4M high. The cairns appear to be undisturbed domes for the most part.

At 'a' there is a rectangular building measuring 8M X 3.5M internally, the stony footings of the walls are 0.9M thick by 0.3M high. There is no mortar in its

construction.

To the S at 'b' there is an irregular shaped turf bank enclosure on a ridge near the confluence of the two burns.

200M W of this at 'c' and S of Sweetshaw Burn there is a range of four stone buildings in a ruinous condition, but with the rooms and entrances well defined. They are described here from the W. The first measures 11M X 3M internally with a small room 3.5M long. The next and middle building appears to be contemporary with the above. The choked interior measures 6M X 2M.

The third building in line is less substantial and is a later structure judging by its wall thickness. The two rooms here measure 7M X 3M and 6.5M X 3.5M.

Separated from the three is a fourth building with walls which are comparable in appearance to the first two described above. It measures 9M X 3.5M internally. There is a stone bank enclosure at the W end of these structures. No mortar is visible on any of these walls which are seen as stony grass covered banks up to 0.5M high.

Discussion

Buildings of this nature are rare in Clydesdale. They probably date to the late 17th and early 18th centuries, before mortar came into general use and after the 17th century practice in Clydesdale of using turf almost exclusively for building material.

The following are noted but not planned:

NS98650835. On the W facing slope of Beld Knowe at 350M OD there are four small cairns. They are located 50M W of a D shaped sheepfold and about 40M from the E bank of the Daer Reservoir. Three measure 3M in diameter by 0.4M high and the other is 6M in diameter by 0.4M high. The latter has a pitted appearance on top.

NS98780798. 400M to the SSE is another cairn measuring 9M X 8M X 0.6M high. This cairn is 25M W of a square sheepfold and has a pitted centre which appears to be the result of fairly recent activity, perhaps the stones have been disturbed by the builders of the fold.

Site No 107 Fig 107

OS Sheet No: NS90NE

Location: Watchmans Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

Near the base of the SW face of Watchmans Brae at 370M OD there is a burnt mound. It is located immediately on the W side of the road, beside a telephone line pole and 90M N of the road junction to Crookburn Farm.

The mound measures 10M X 9M overall. The E side has a circular dome 5m in diameter by 0.75M high. The W side of the mound has a curved bank which steps down slightly on an arc. This may indicate different campaigns of use. The mound has been made beside a spring which is now cut by drains.

When tested the contents were observed to be small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched dark sod.

This mound is on an open hill face and has extensive views.

Site No 108 Fig 108

OS Sheet No: NS90SE

Location: Howe Cleuch NS 963044

Surveyed scale: 1:500

In the Howe Cleuch between Ewe Gair and Little Hill, 1.3Km N of Daerhead there is a burnt mound at 400M OD. It is located on the N bank of the Howe Cleuch burn on a terrace and is 35M W of the bridge over the burn.

The mound measures 8M X 5M X 0.6M high. Some earth fast rocks are around the S side and a small pile of stones lies beside it.

When tested the mound was found to consist of small angular reddened heat shattered rocks set in a matrix of charcoal enriched dark sod.

This mound is in a deep gully and the outlook is limited to a narrow view down the burn.

Site 109 Fig 109

OS Sheet No: NS91NW

Location: Craggy Brae NS 934176

Surveyed scale: 1:1000

On the S facing slope of Craggy Brae at 330M OD there is a cairn and a settlement.

The features are immediately S of the B7040 Elvanfoot to Leadhills road at the point where the road and the old railway line cross over.

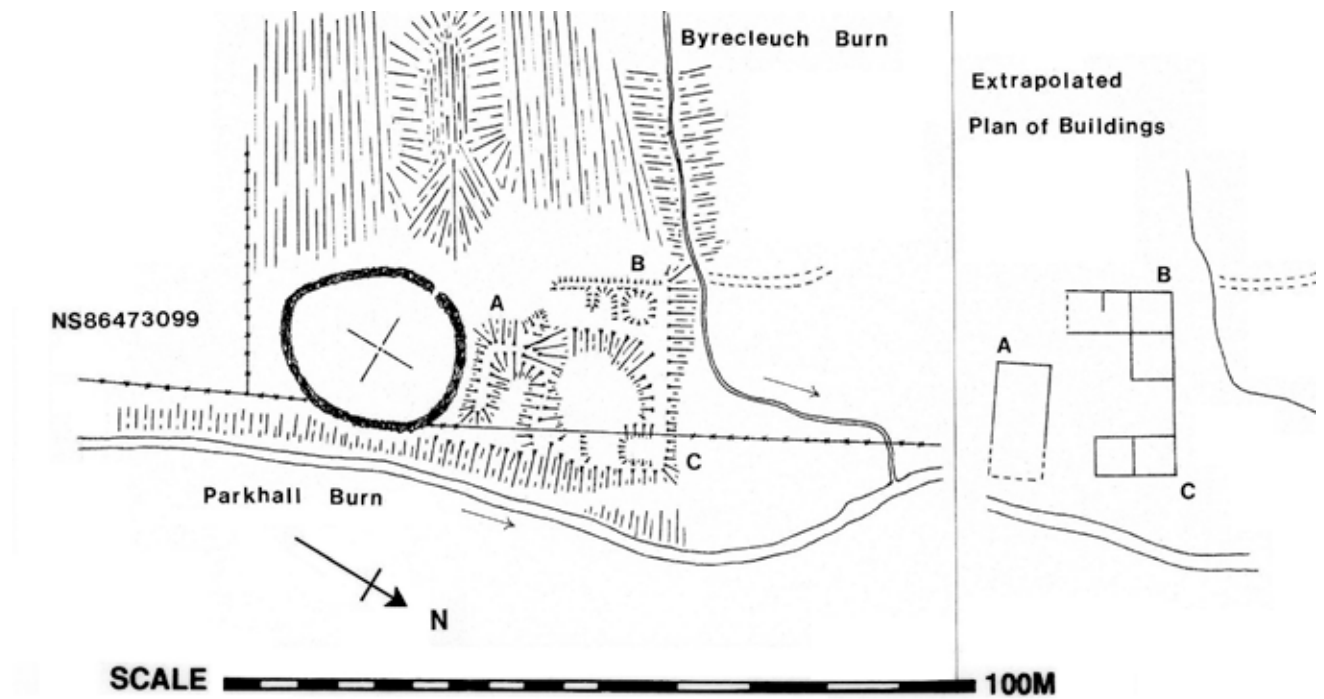
The cairn is beside the road and measures 6M in diameter by 0.5M high. This may be a surviving outlier of the system of cairns to the E, see BMT M74 No's 69 and 70.

The turf and stone footings of a building measuring 10M X 3M internally are in line with a broken bank of a similar nature, which spreads to 1.5M and is 0.3M high.

A patch of lazy beds is enclosed by the bank and this is being eroded by Mirk Cleuch on the E and by the Elvan Water on the S. The beds are up to 3M wide.

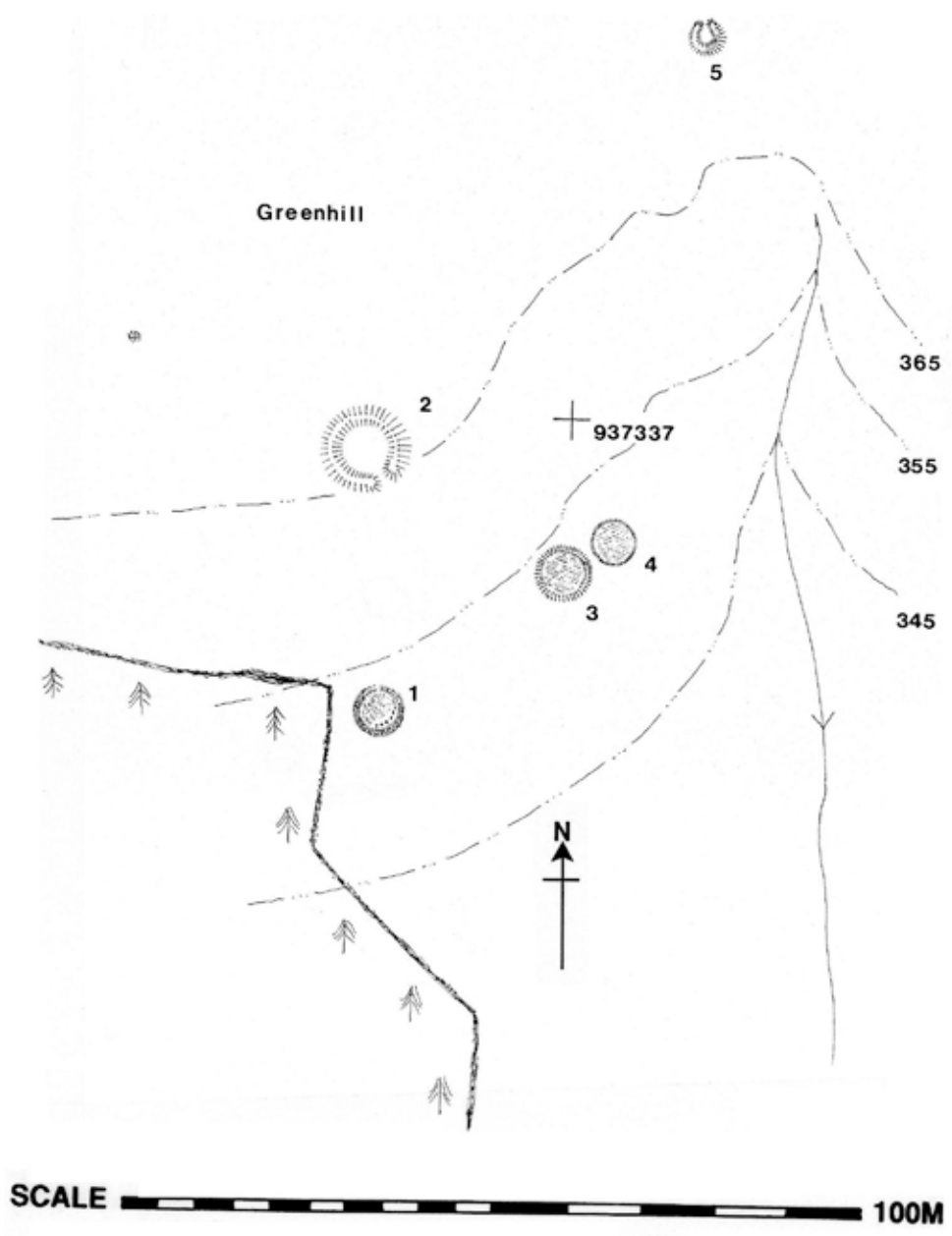
The building is probably a house of late 17th or early 18th century date, and the site represents one of several of the same type which is known to have been in use between Leadhills and Elvanfoot.

FOLLOWS THE M74 SURVEY PLANS.

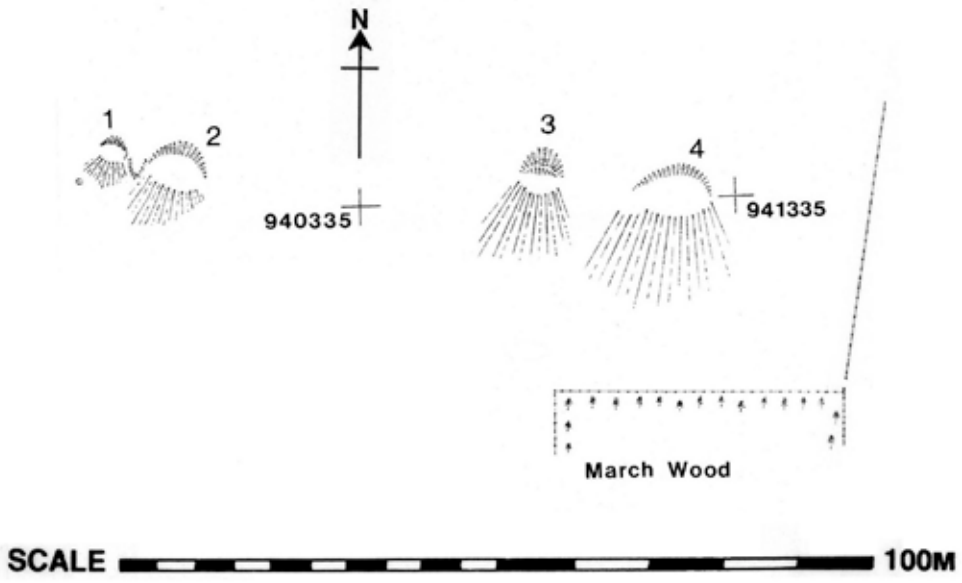


Site No 1 Fig 1
OS Sheet No NS83SE

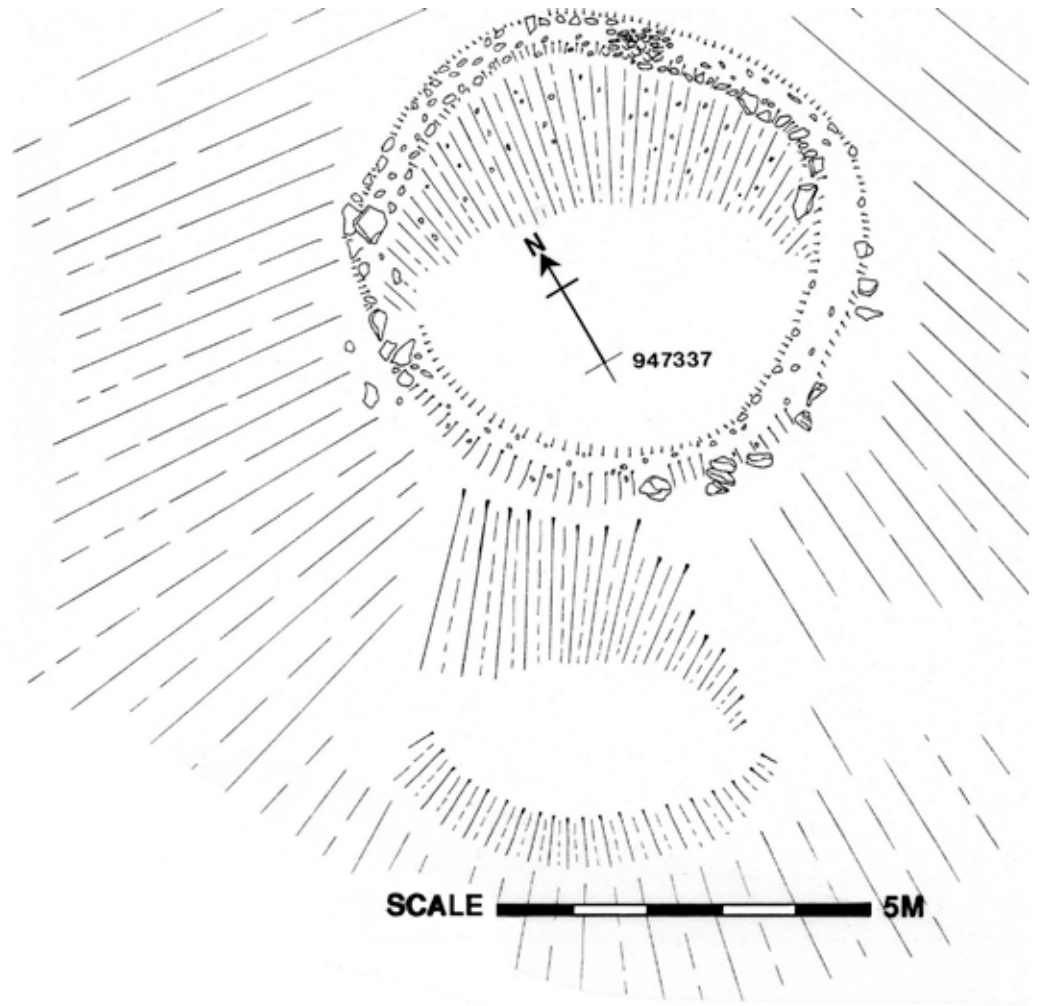
Location: Parkhead Hill Surveyed scale: 1: 500



Site No 2 Fig 2
 OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

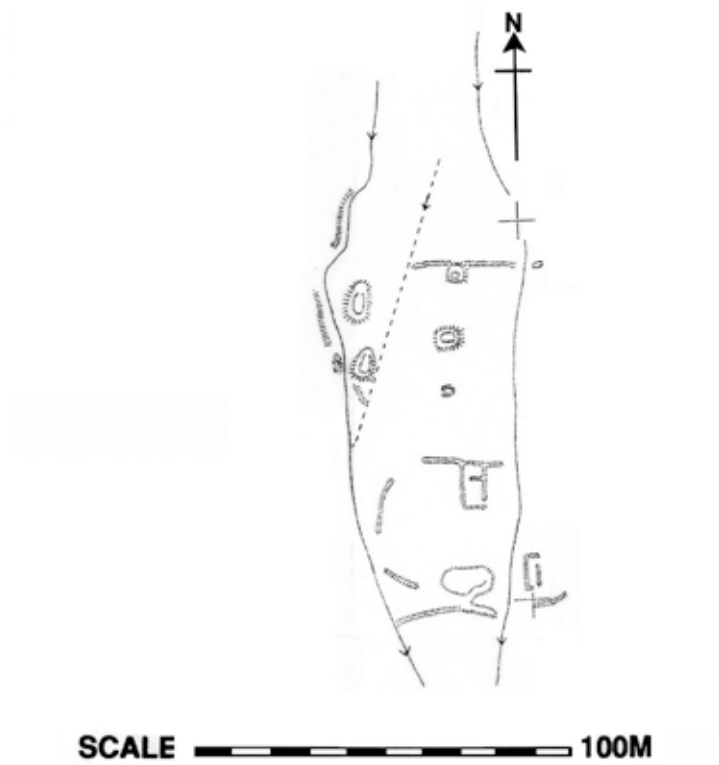


Site No 3 Fig 3
 OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

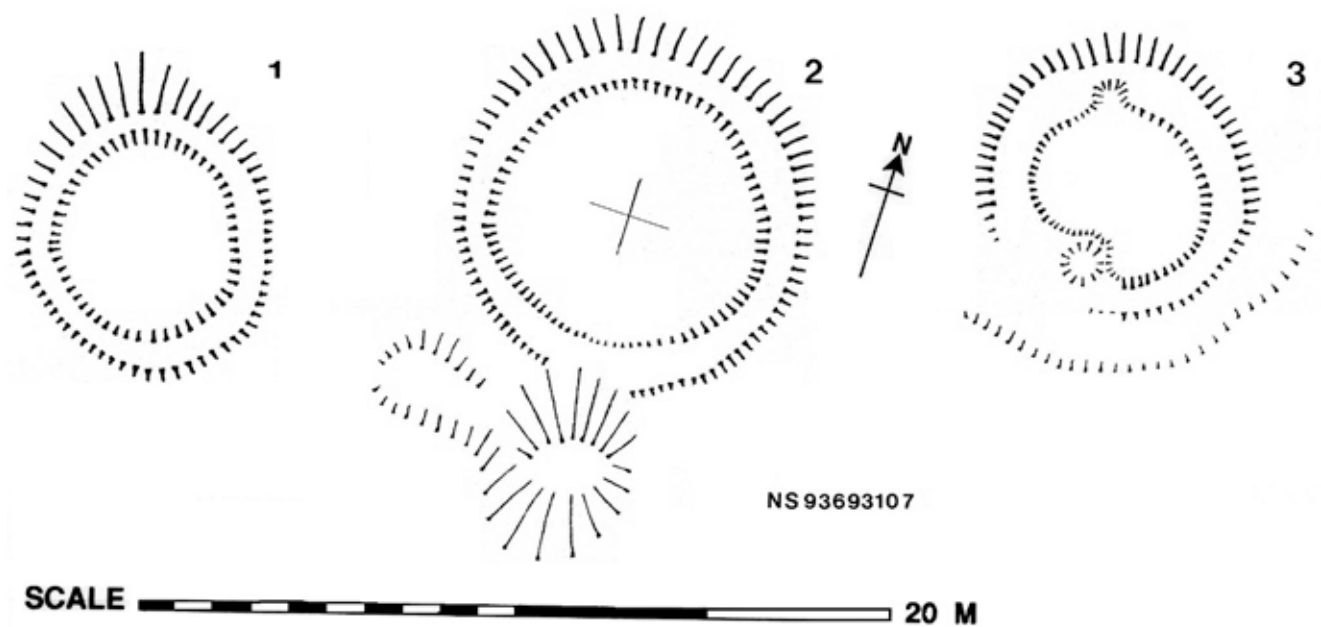


Site No 4 Fig 4
Location: Tinto Hill

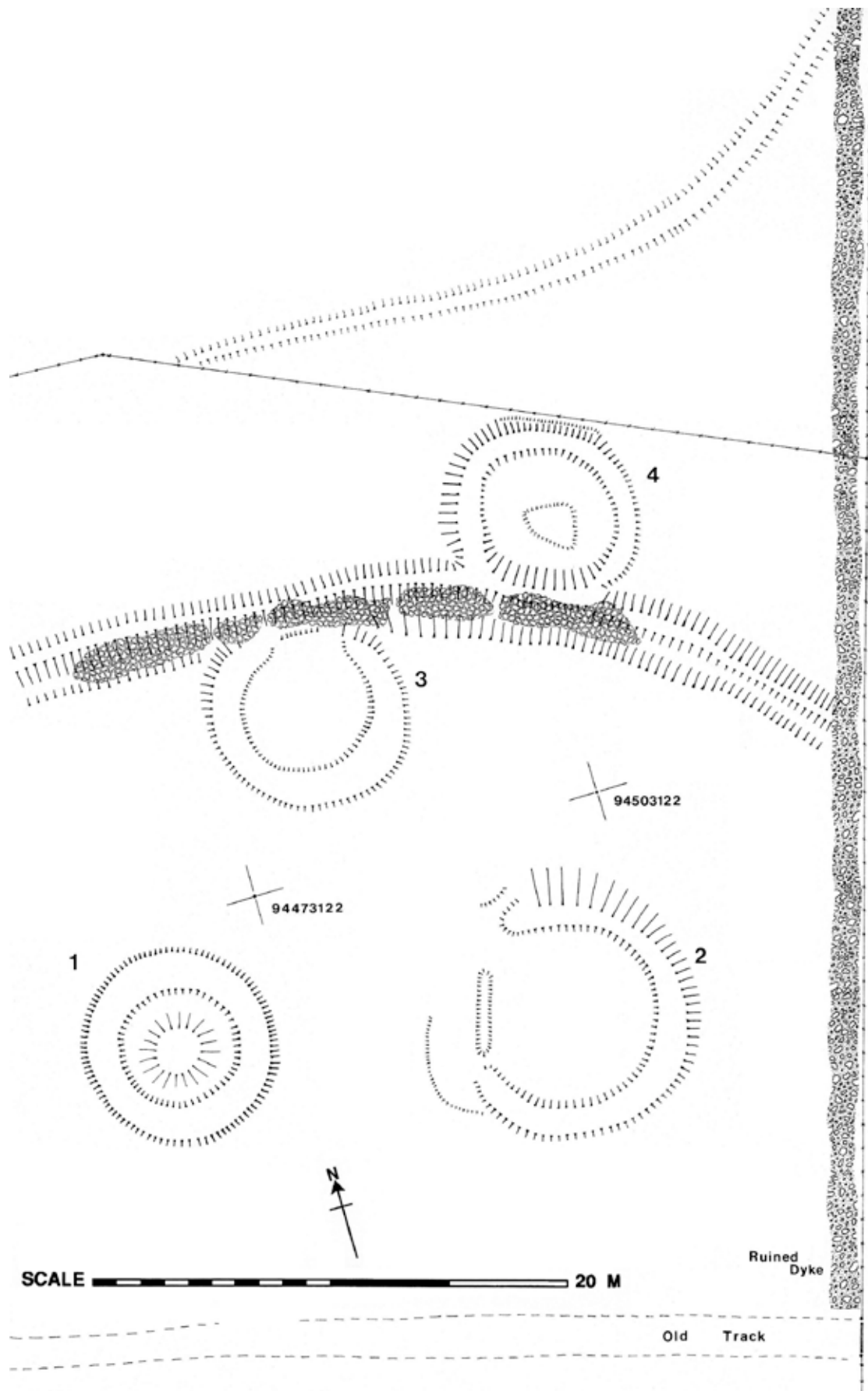
NS 947337 Surveyed scale: 1:200



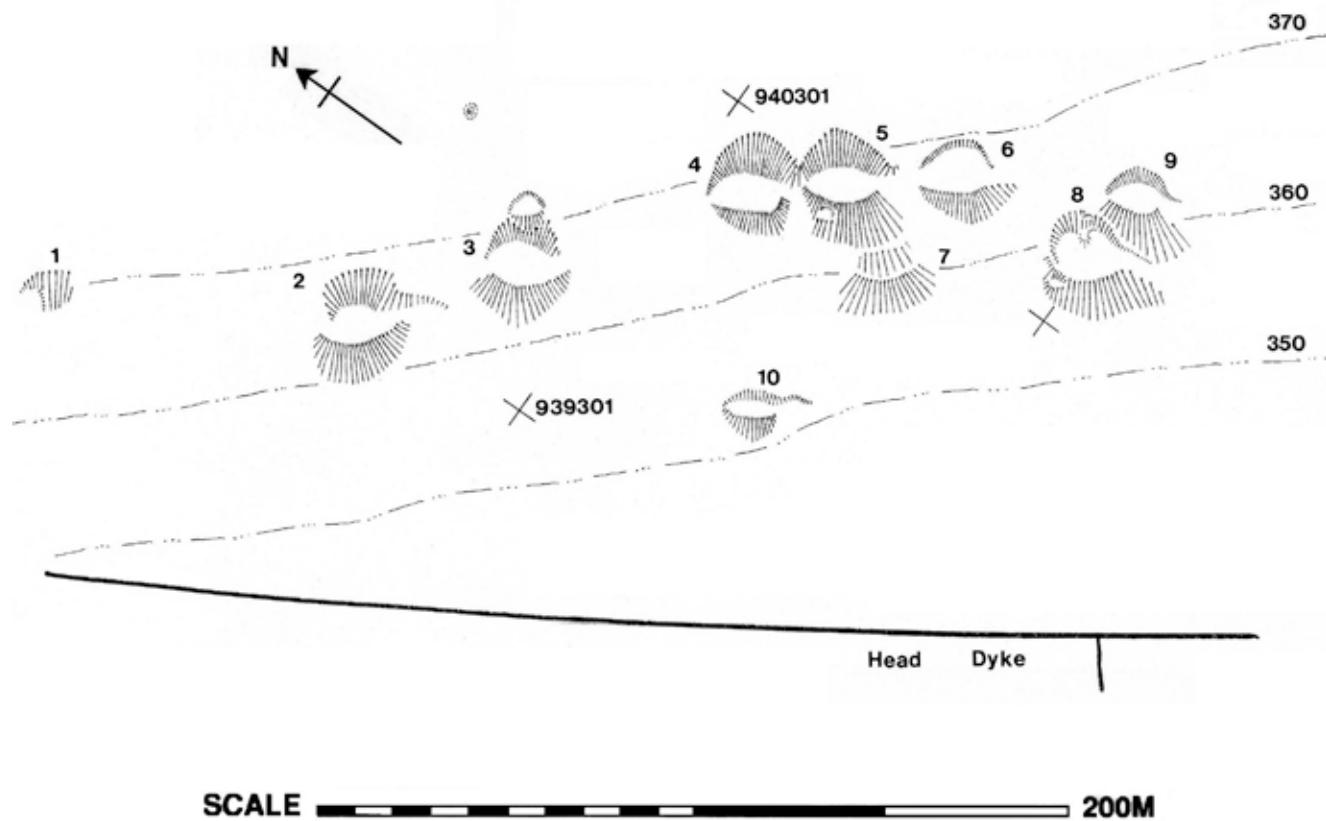
Site No 5 Fig 5
 Location Tinto Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 6 Fig 6
 OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Dungavel Hill NS 93693107
 Surveyed scale: 1:200

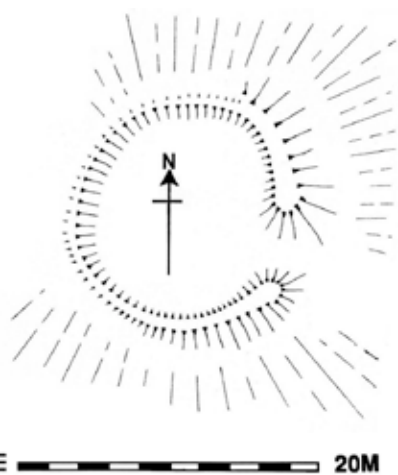


Site No 7 Fig 7
 OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Dungavel Hill Surveyed scale: 1:200



Site No 8 Fig 8
 OS Sheet No: NS92NW & NS93SW
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location Dungavel Hill



Site No 9 Fig 9
 Location: Fallside NS 918306 Surveyed scale: 1:200



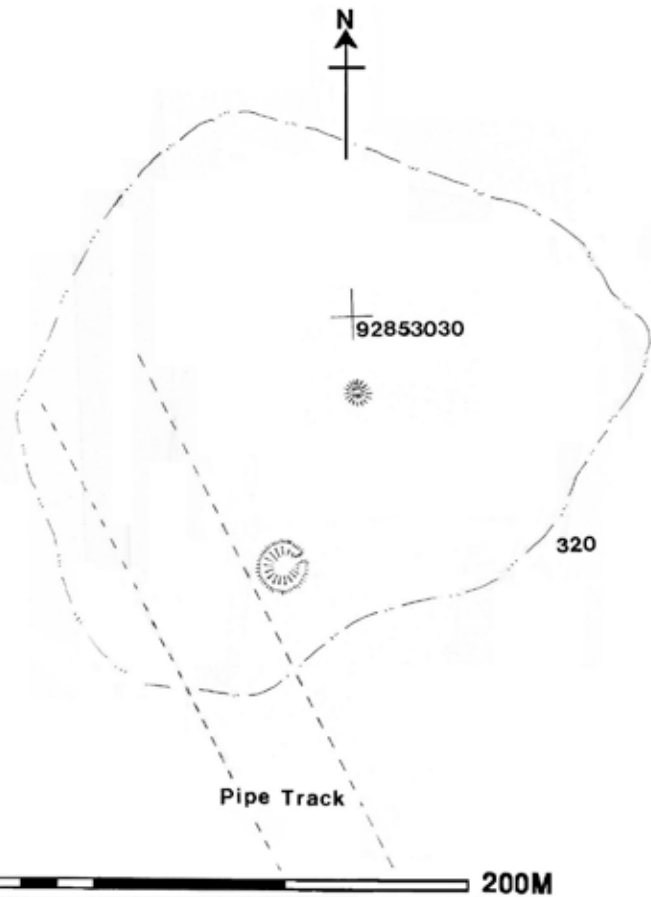
SCALE  20M

Site No 10 Fig 10

OS Sheet No : NS93SW

Location: Fallside

Surveyed scale: 1:200



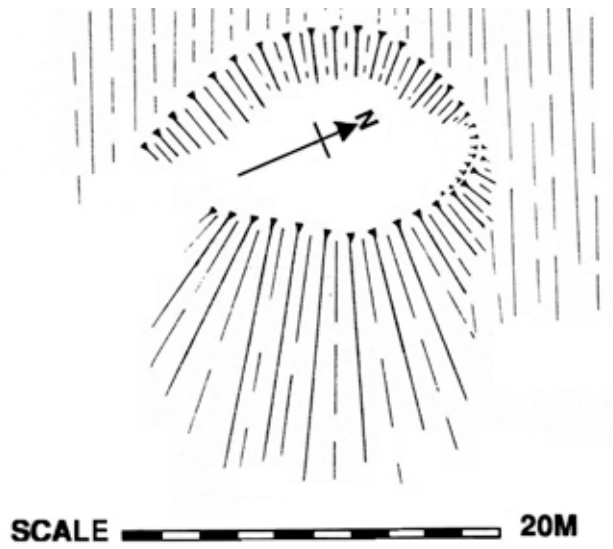
SCALE  200M

Site No 11 Fig 11

OS Sheet No: NS93SW

Location: Muirhead

Surveyed scale: 1:500

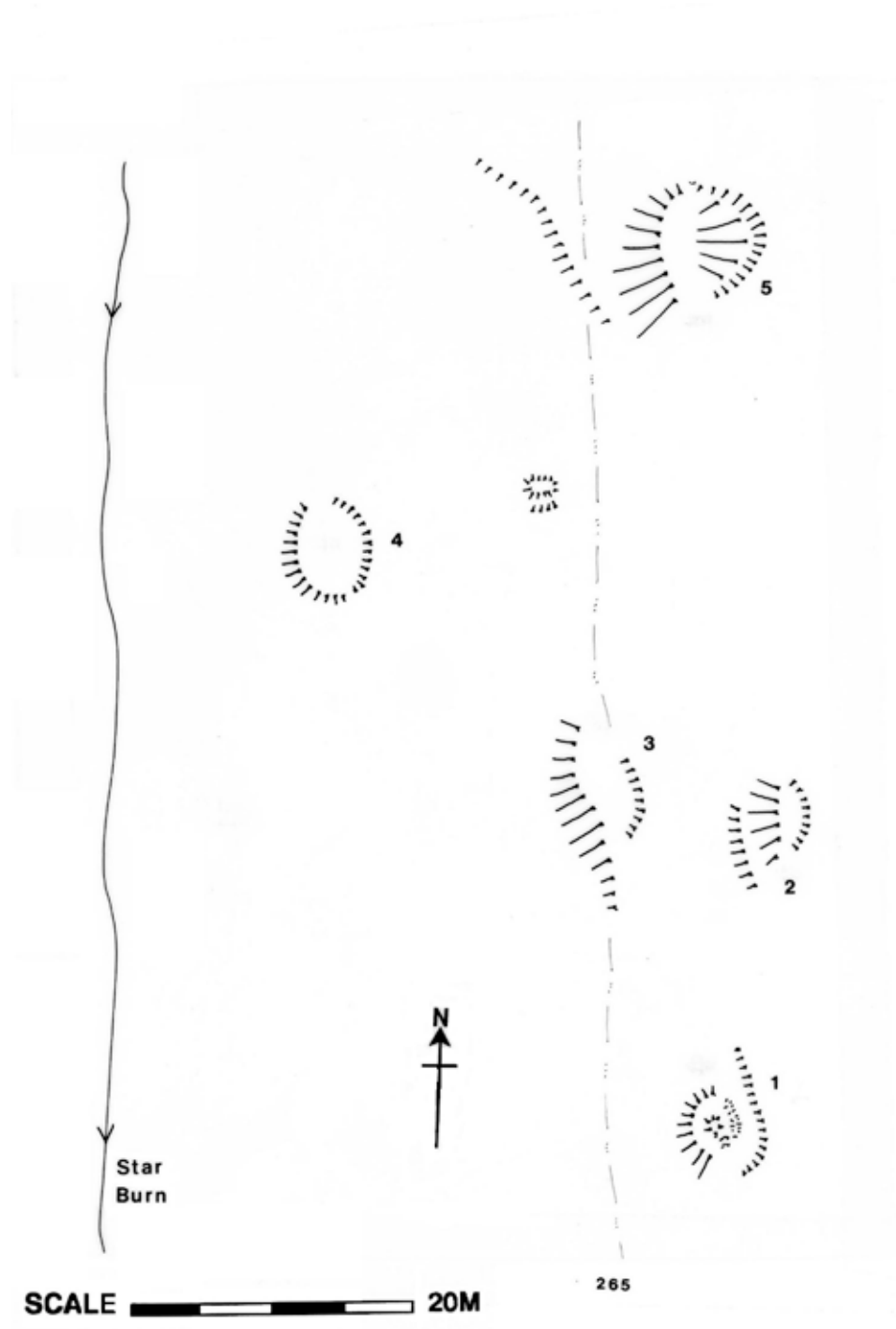


Site No 12 Fig 12

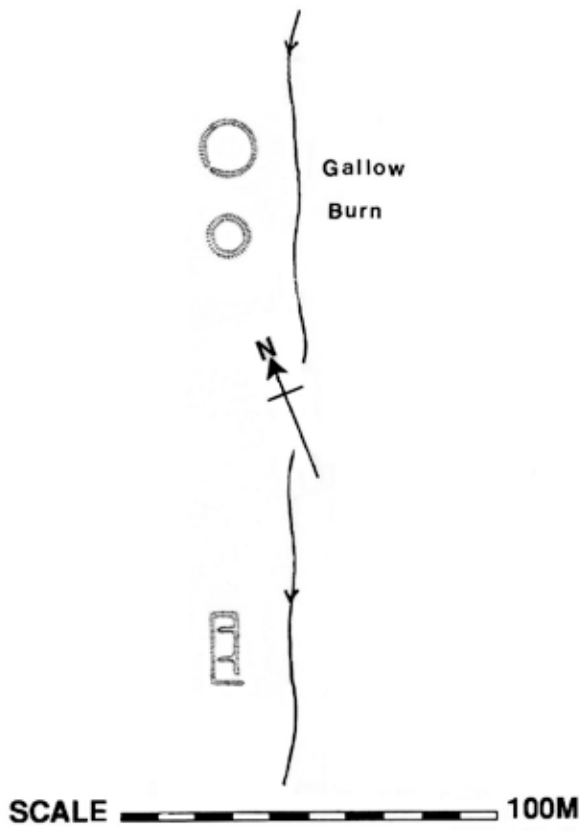
OS Sheet No: NS93SW

Location: Star Burn NS 923304

Surveyed scale: 1:200



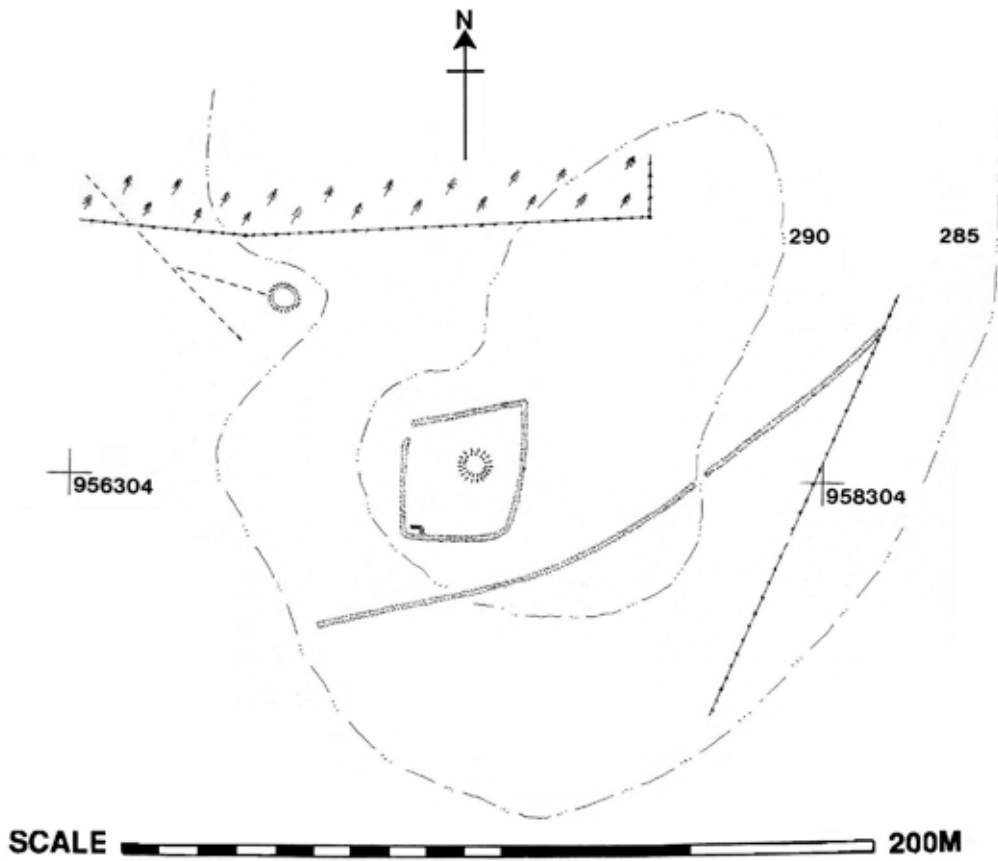
Site No 13 Fig 13
OS Sheet No: NS93SW Location: Star Burn NS 92353010
Surveyed scale: 1:500



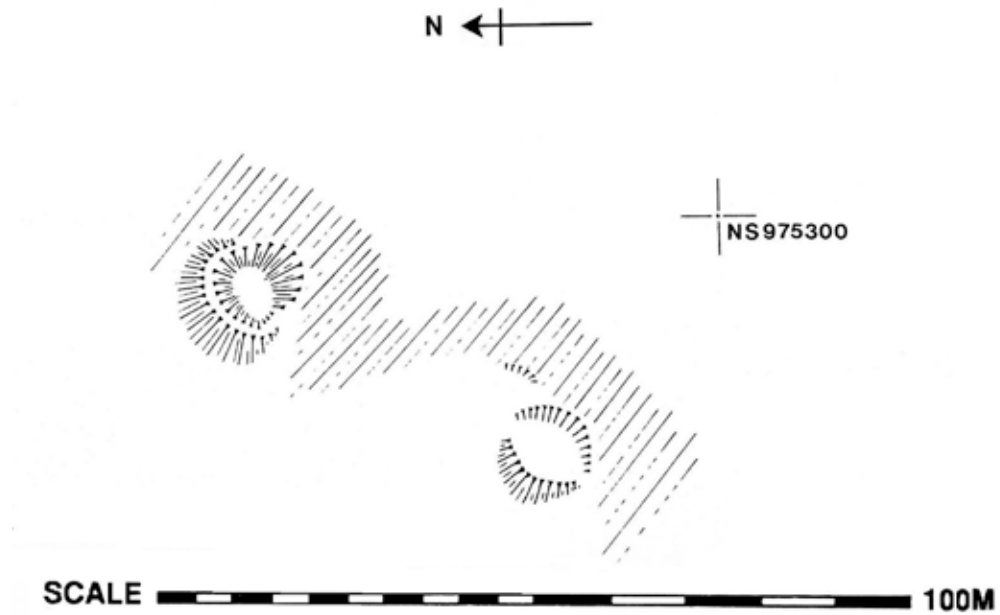
Site No 14 Fig 14

OS Sheet No: NS93SW

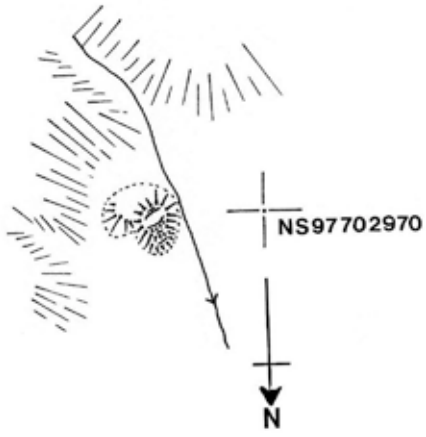
Location: Tinto NS 950333 Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 15 Fig 15
 OS Sheet No: NS93SE Location: Shillohead Surveyed scale: 1:1000

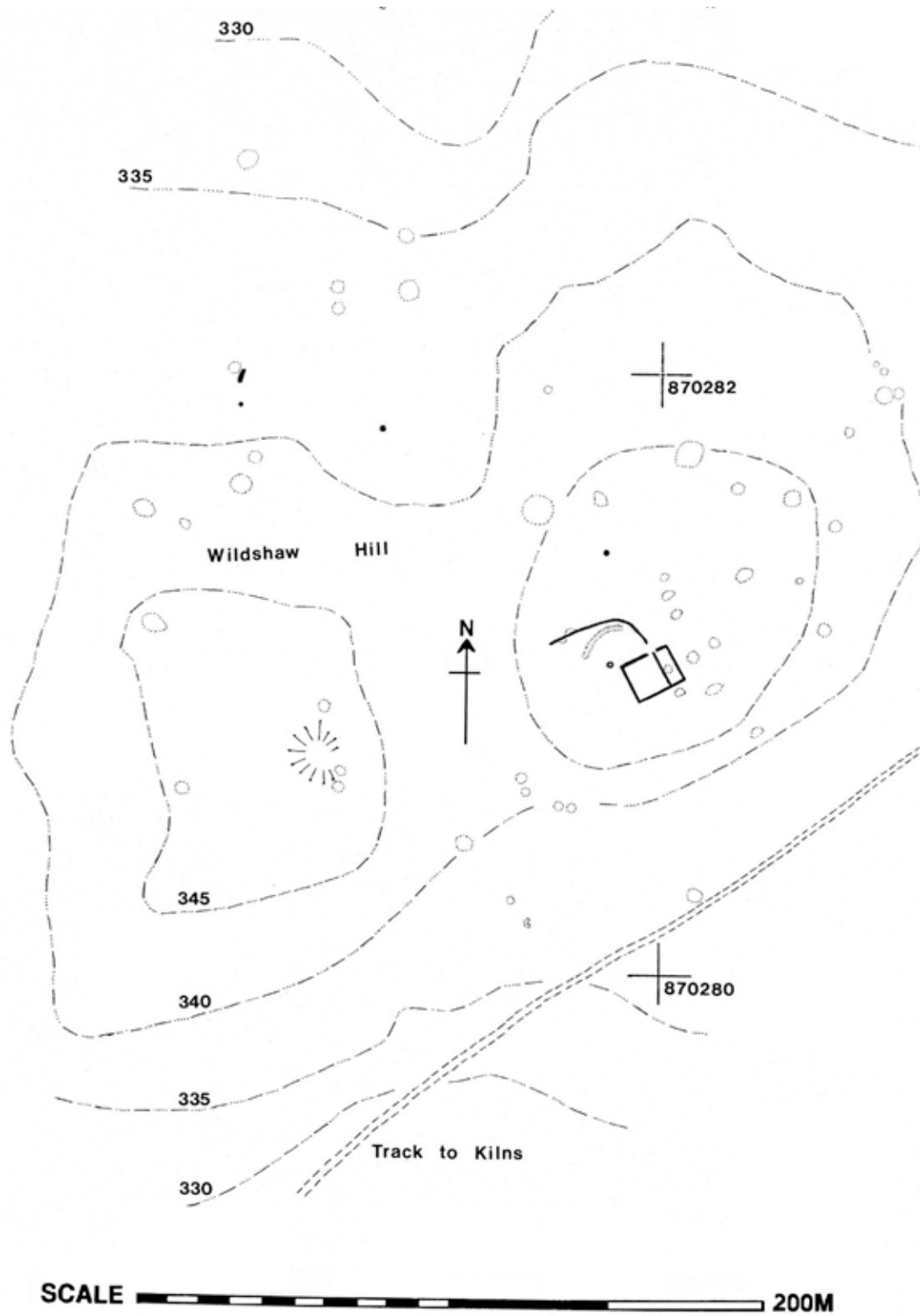


Site No 16 Fig 16
 Location: Startup Hill NS 975300 Surveyed scale: 1:500

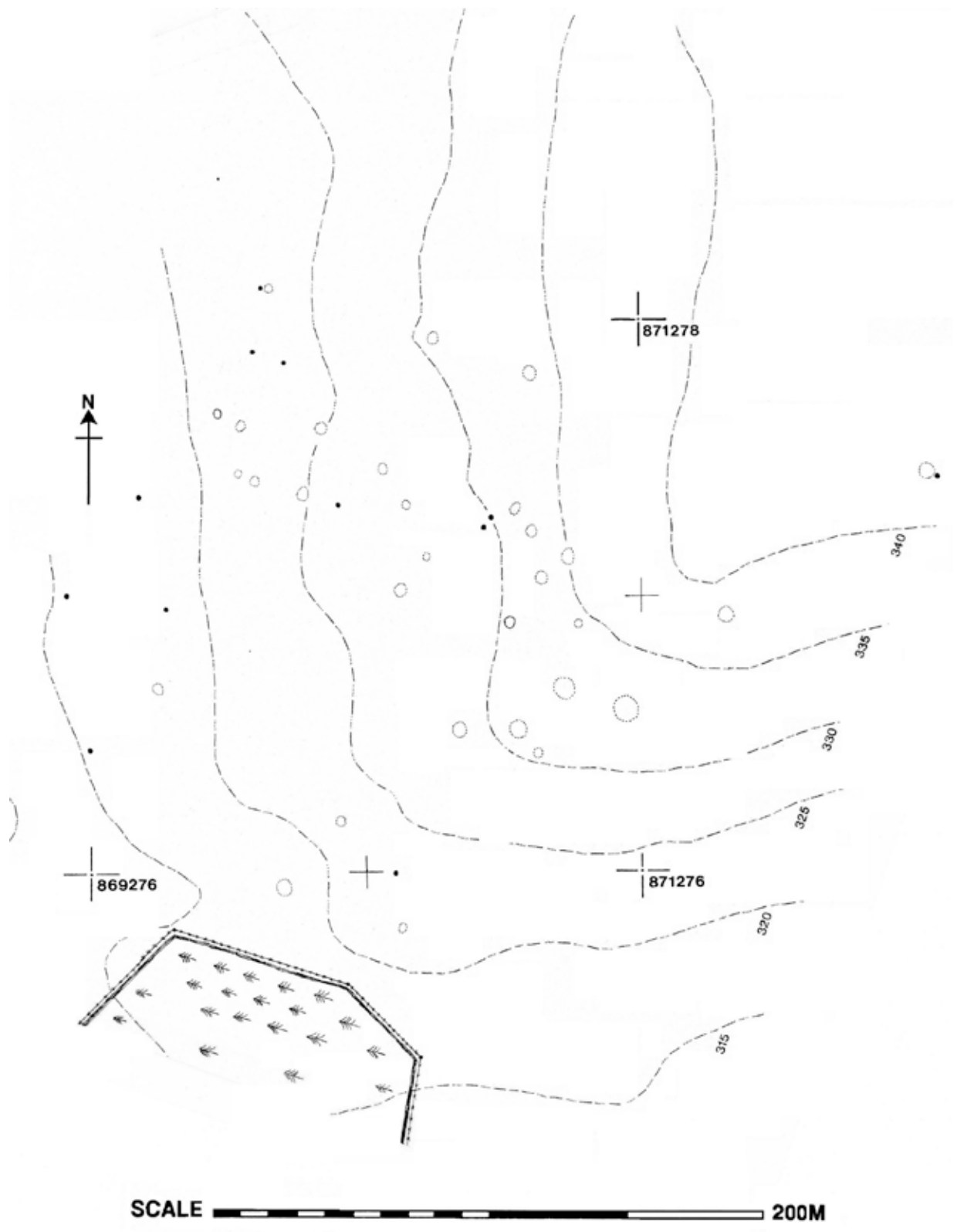


SCALE  **50M**

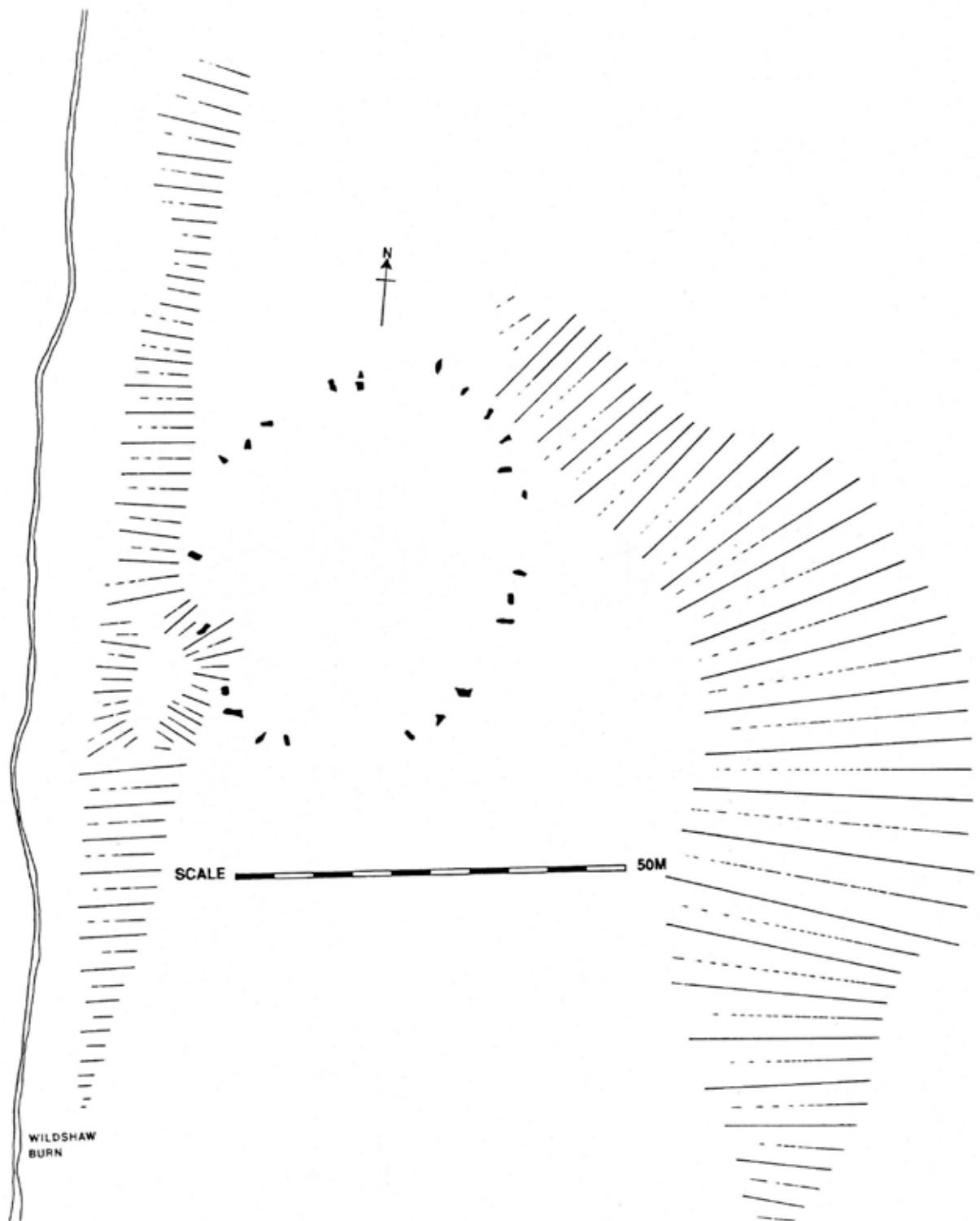
Site No 17 Fig 17
Location: Startup Hill NS 977299 Surveyed scale: 1:500



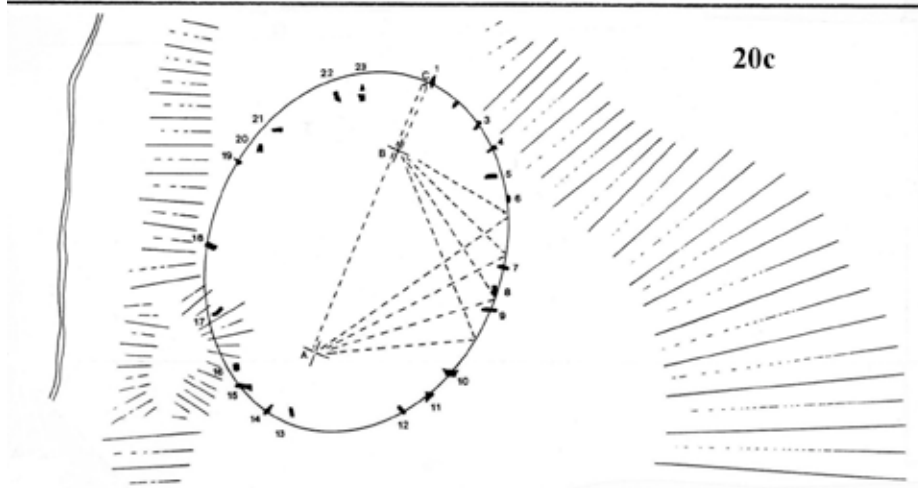
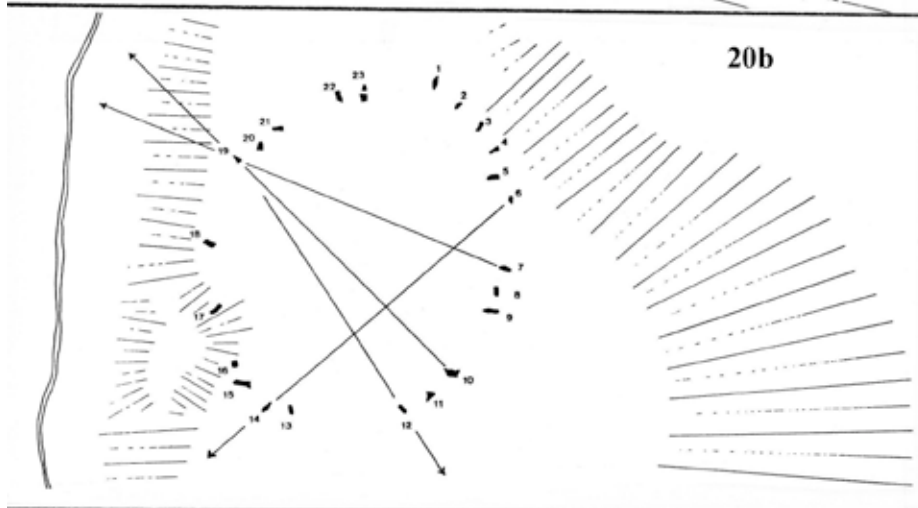
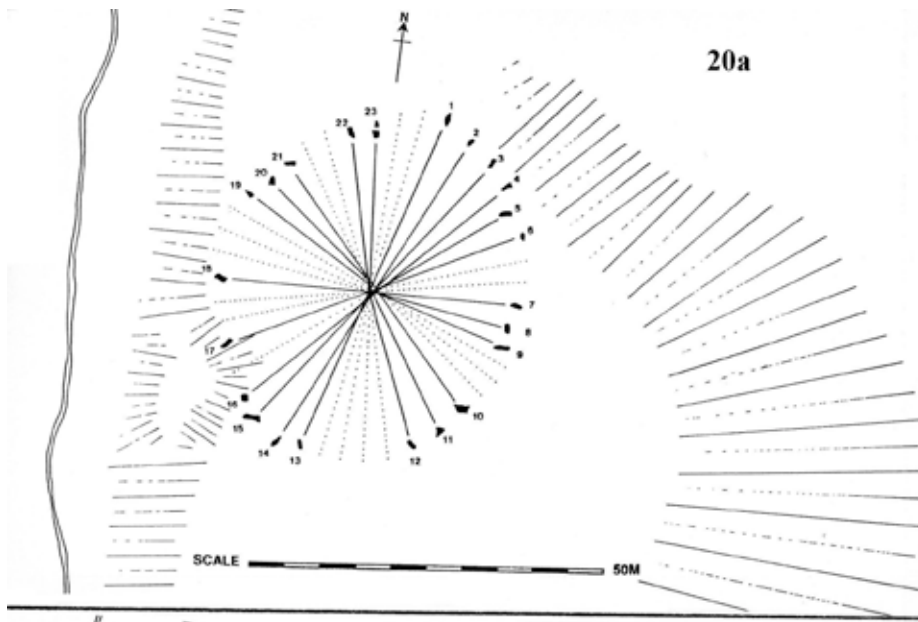
Site No 18 Fig 18
 OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Wildshaw Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000



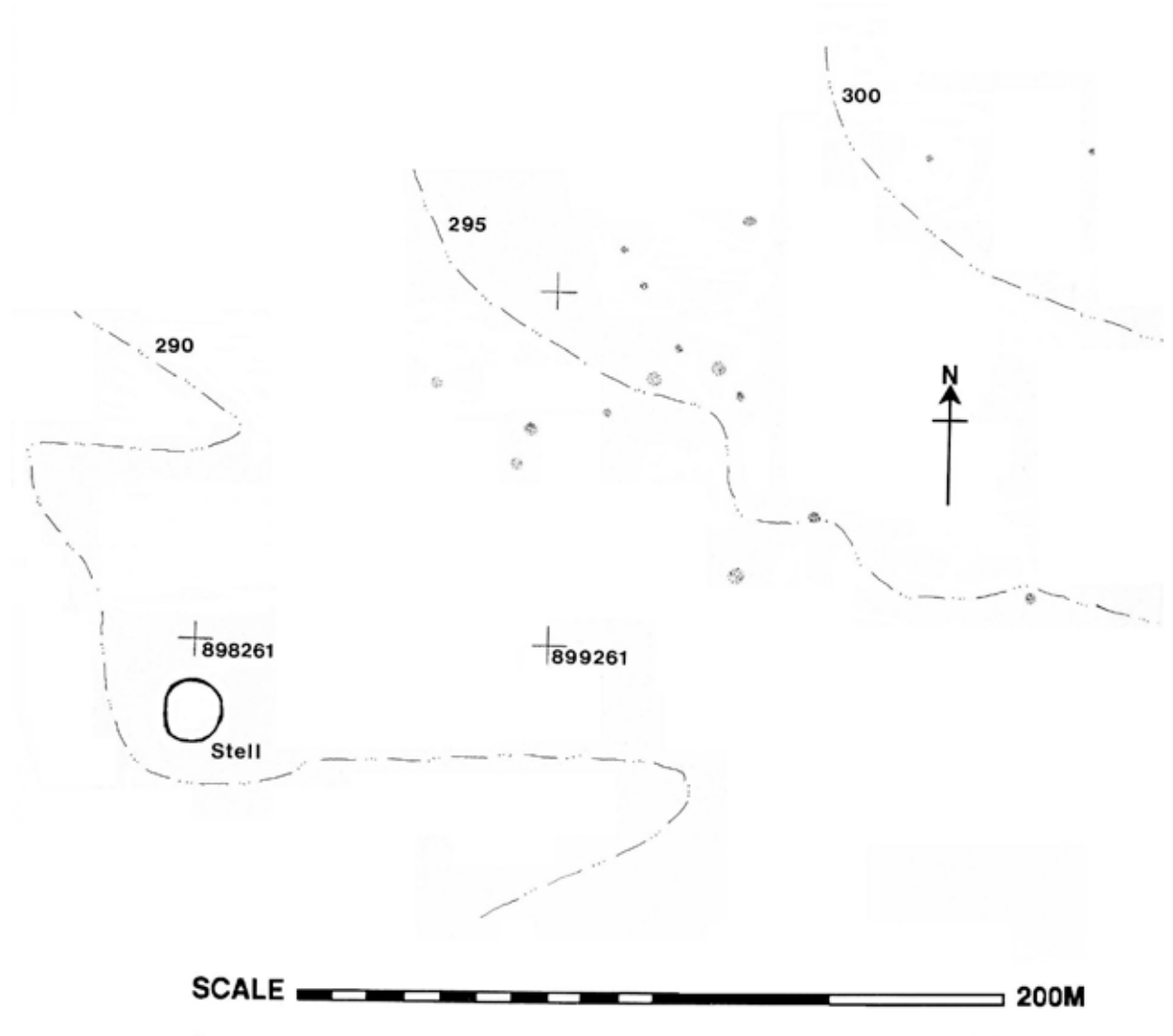
Site No 19 Fig 19
 OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location Wildshaw Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000



Site No 20 Figs No's 20, 20a, 20b and 20c
OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Wildshaw Burn NS 88202716
Surveyed scale: 1:10

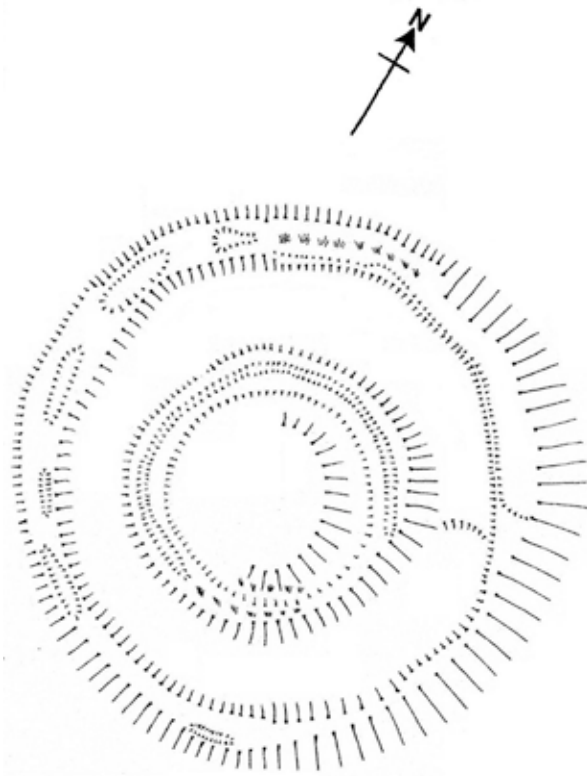


Site No 20 Figs No's 20, 20a, 20b and 20c
OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Wildshaw Burn NS 88202716
Surveyed scale: 1:10



Site No 21 Fig 21
 OS Sheet No NS82NE

Location White Rig Surveyed scale: 1:500

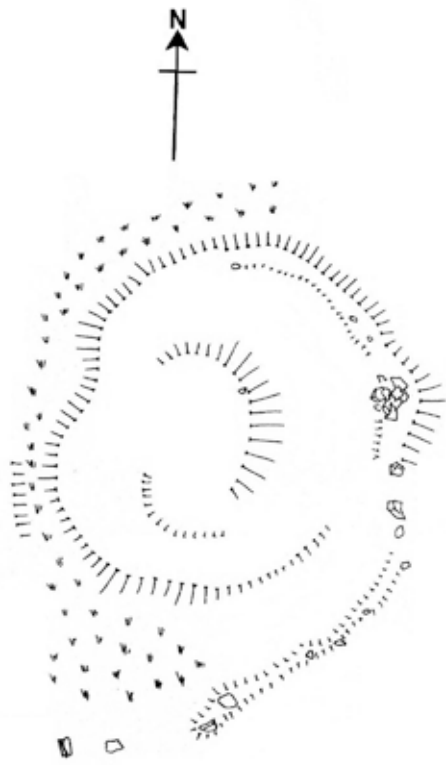


SCALE  **20M**

Site No 22 Fig 22
OS Sheet No: NS82NE
Surveyed scale: 1:200

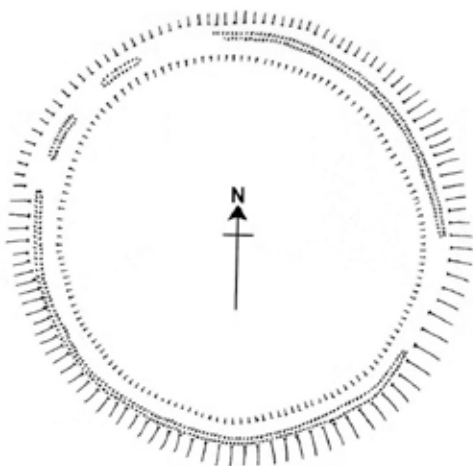
Location: Auchensauch Hill

NS 854278



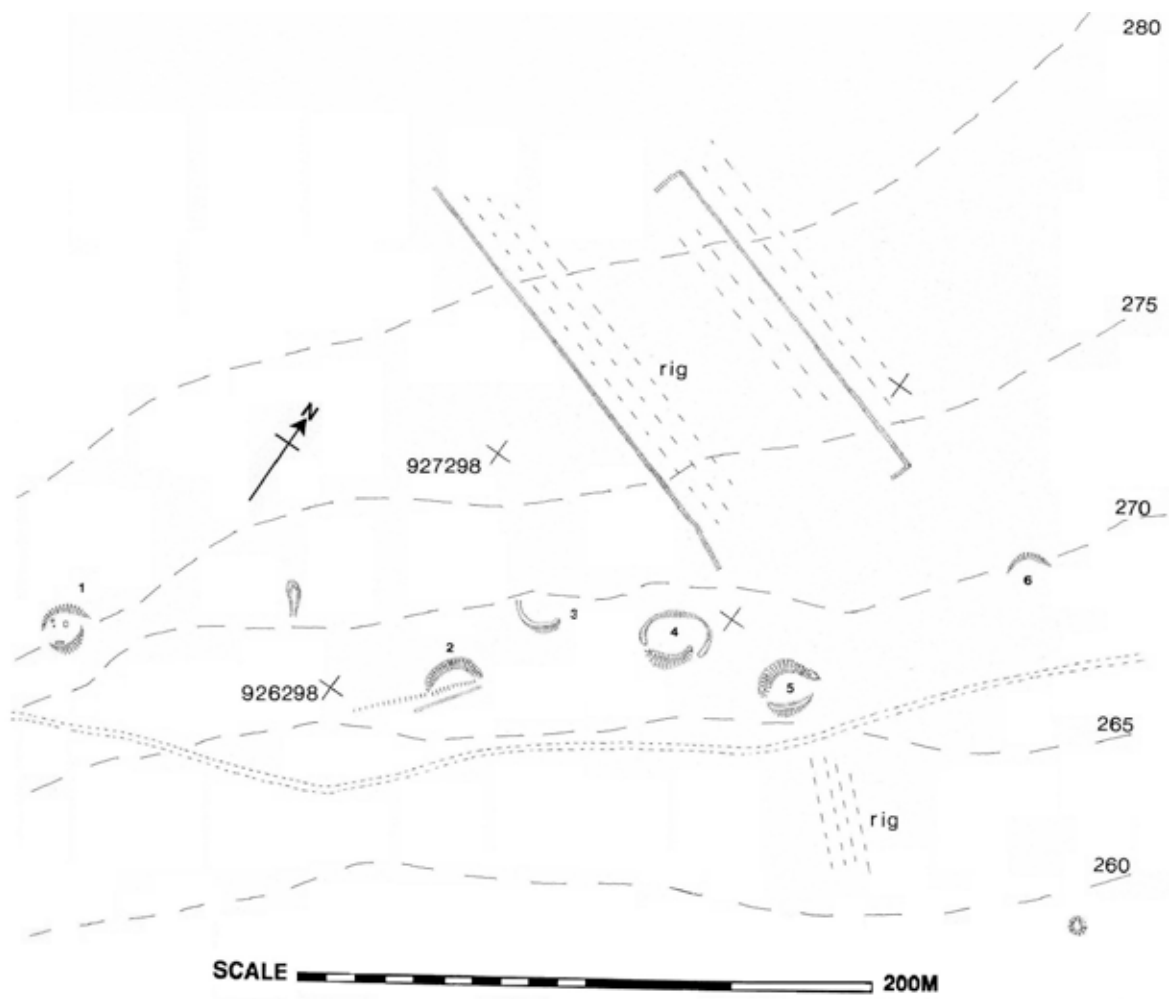
SCALE  20M

Site No 23 Fig 23
 OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Auchensauch Hill NS 859273
 Surveyed scale: 1:200



SCALE  20M

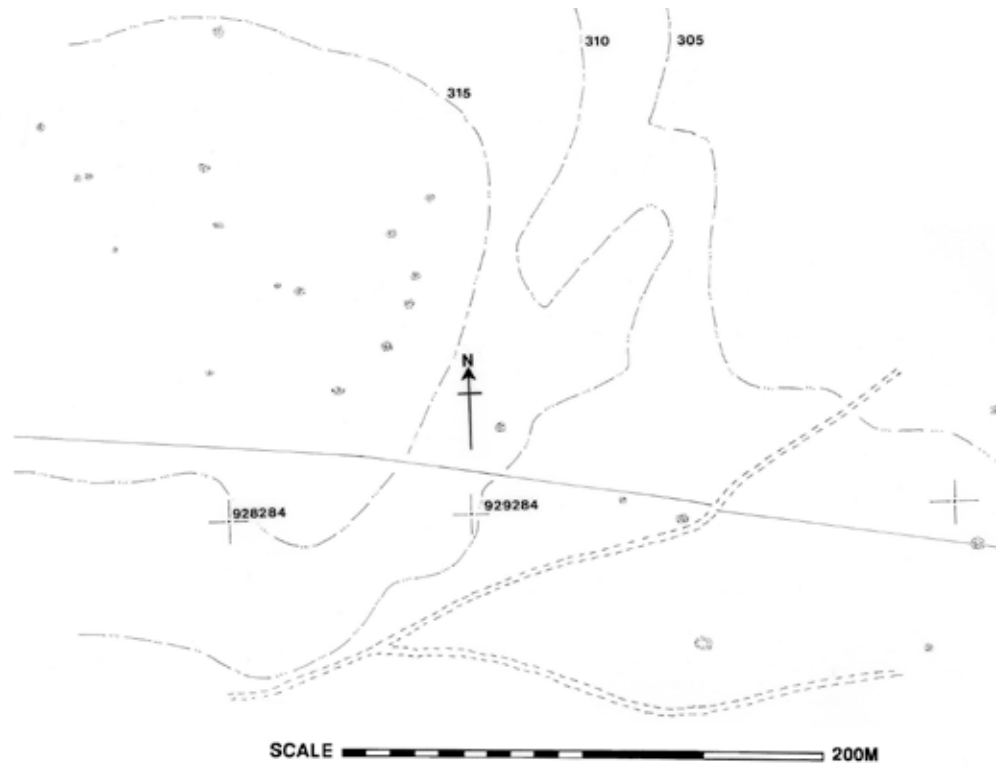
Site No 24 Fig 24
 OS Sheet No: NS82NE Location: Auchensauch Hill NS 856269
 Surveyed scale: 1:200



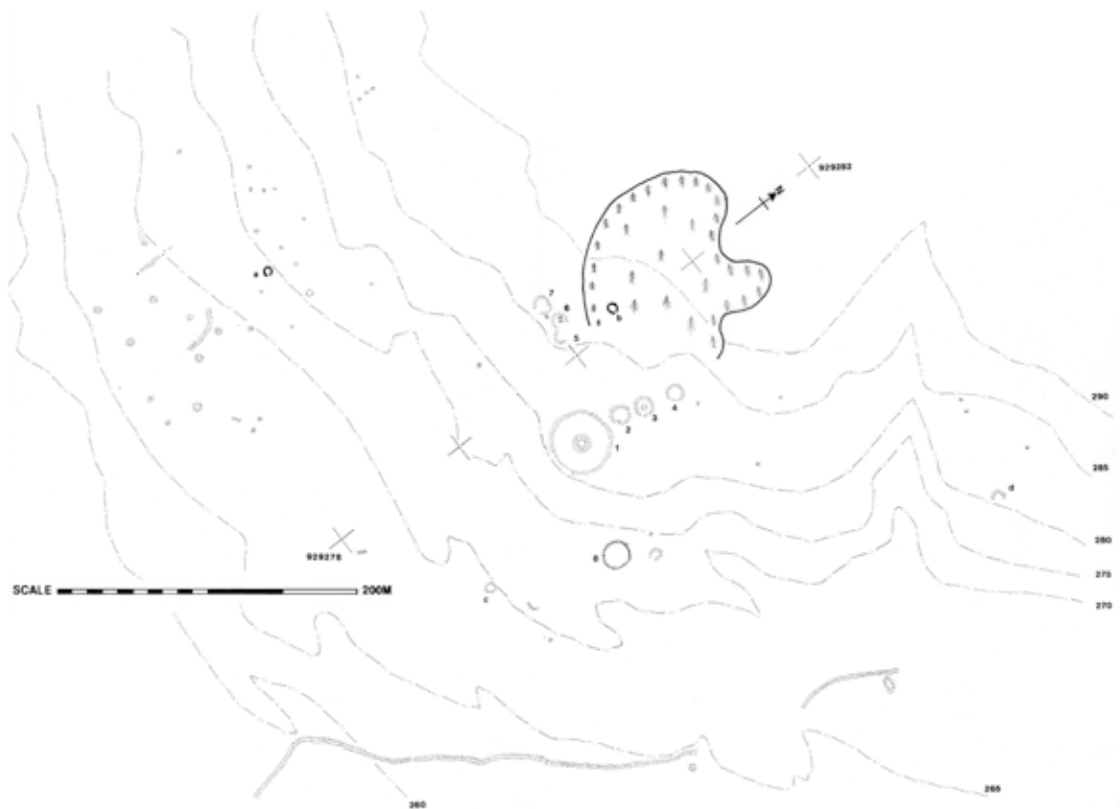
Site No 25 Fig 25
 OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Dungavel Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



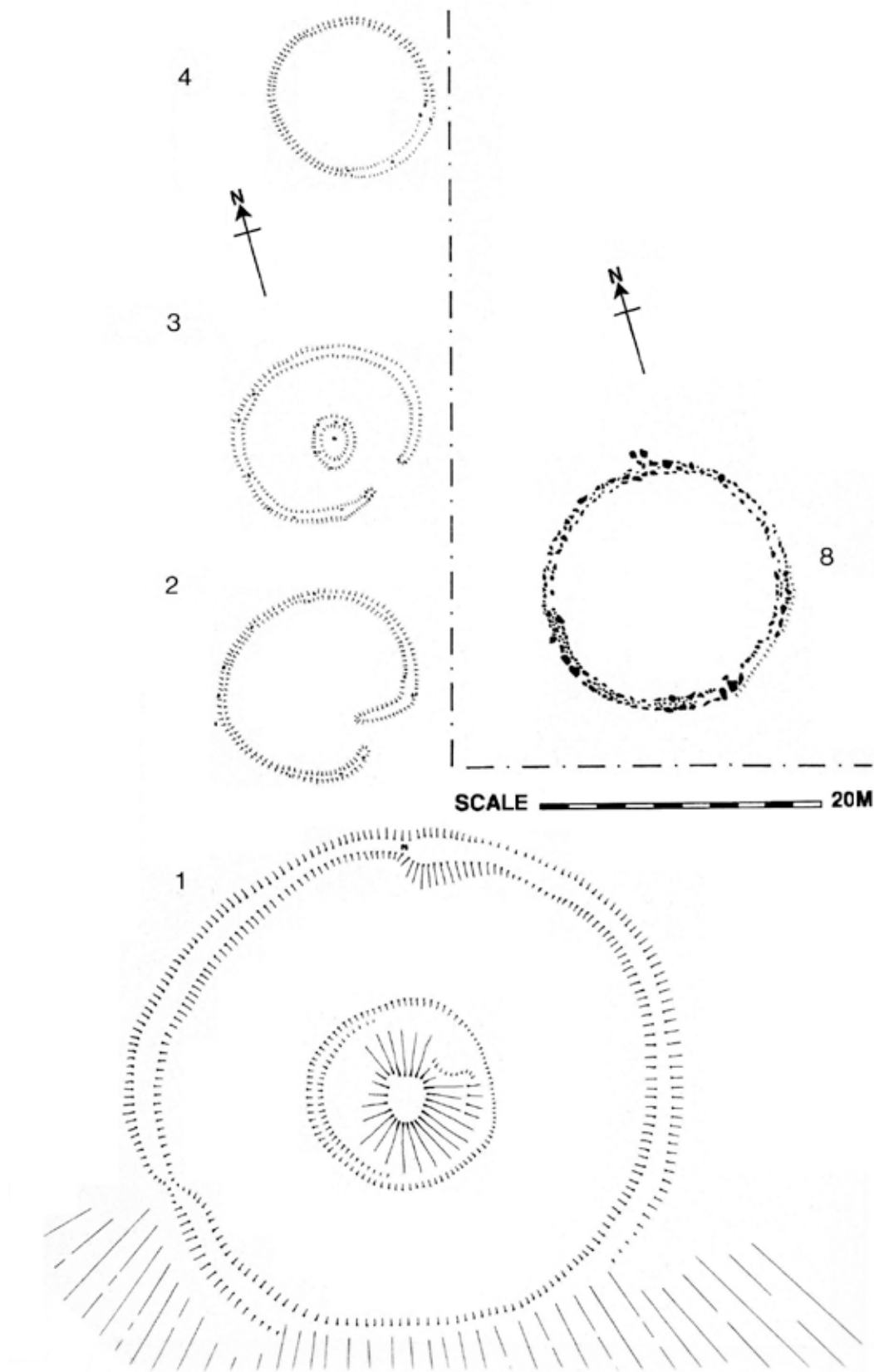
Site No 26 Fig 26
OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000



Site No 27 Fig 27
OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000

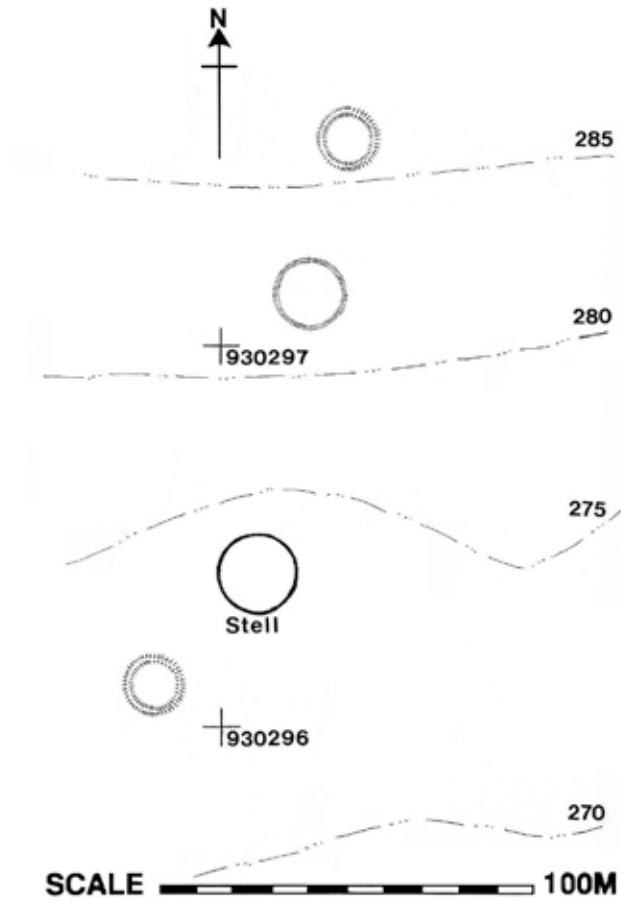


Site No 28 Fig 28
OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000 & 1:200

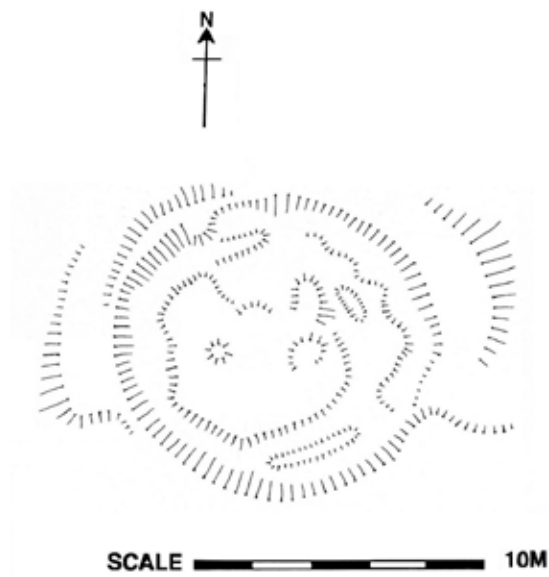


Site No 28 Fig 28a
 OS Sheet No: NS92NW

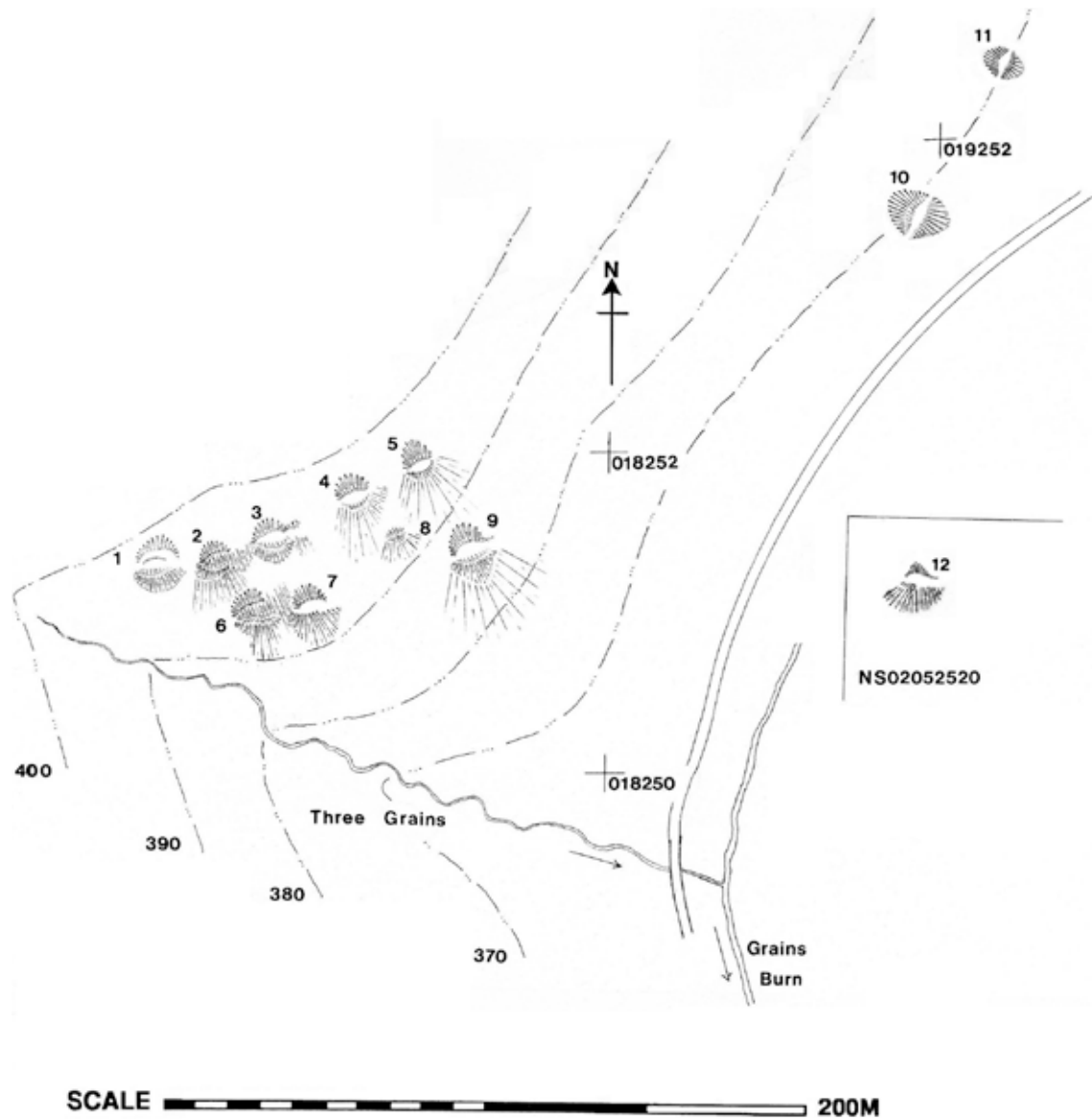
Location: Little Law Surveyed scale: 1:1000 & 1:200



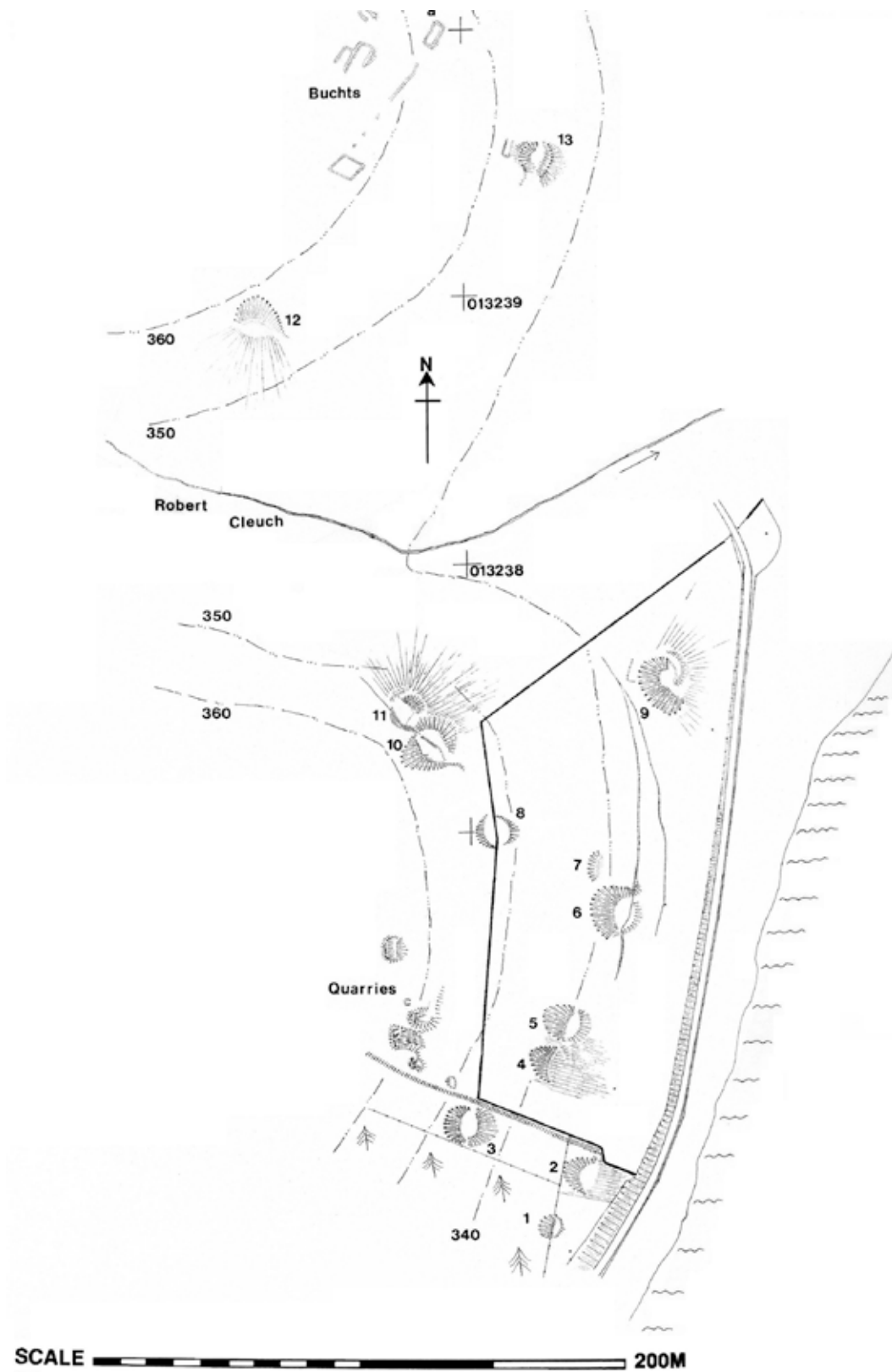
Site No 29 Fig 29
OS Sheet No: NS92NW Location: Dungavel Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 30 Fig 30
OS Sheet No : NS92NW Location: Foreside Hill NS 923268
Surveyed scale: 1:200

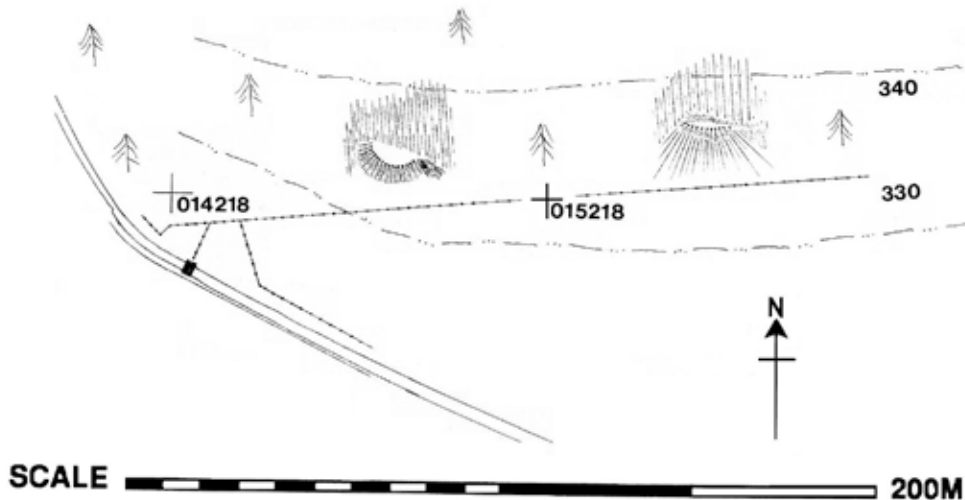


Site No 31 Fig 31
 OS Sheet No: NT02NW Location: Dun Law Surveyed scale: 1:500

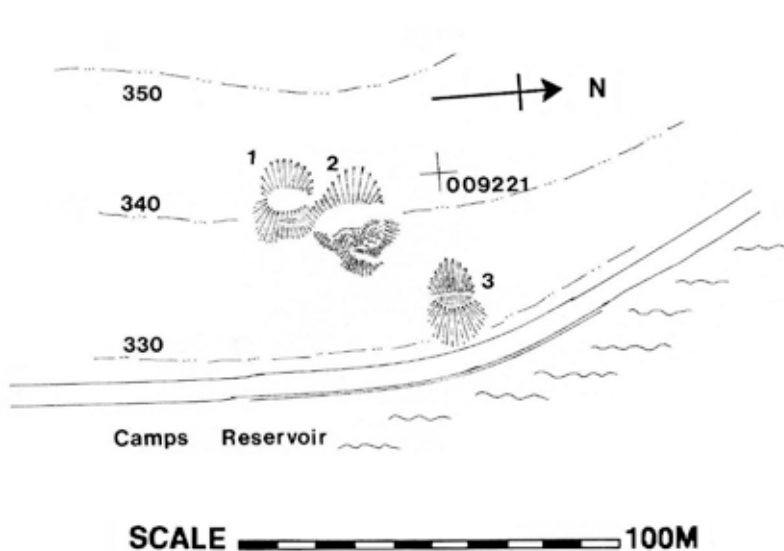


Site No 32 Fig 32
 OS Sheet No: NT02SW
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location: Pinnacle, Camps Reservoir.



Site No 33 Fig 33
OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Fairburn Rig Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 34 Fig 34
OS Sheet No: NT02SW Location: Reeve Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

On the E flank of Reeve Hill and W of Camps Reservoir there are three UPS at 330M to 340M OD.

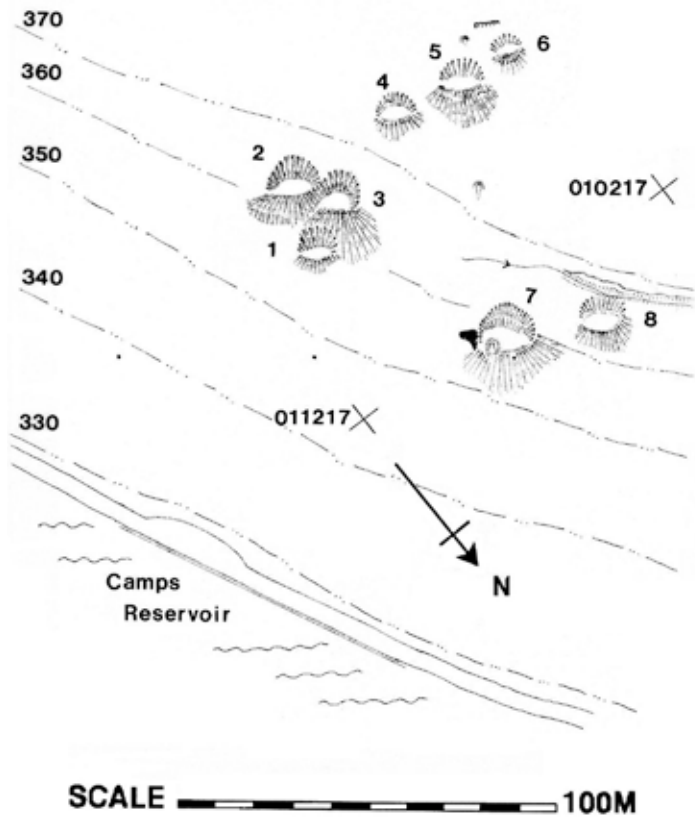
They are described here from the W.

No 1 measures 10M X 5M.

No 2 may postdate No 1 as it appears to have been cut into No 1, although this may only be a repair or modification. No2 has been disturbed on the front scarp by quarrying. This has revealed the stony content of the apron. The stance is now 17M wide, but it was probably about 12M X 5M.

No 3 lies just above the reservoir road. The platform measures 8M X 3M and is silted over and it is not level.

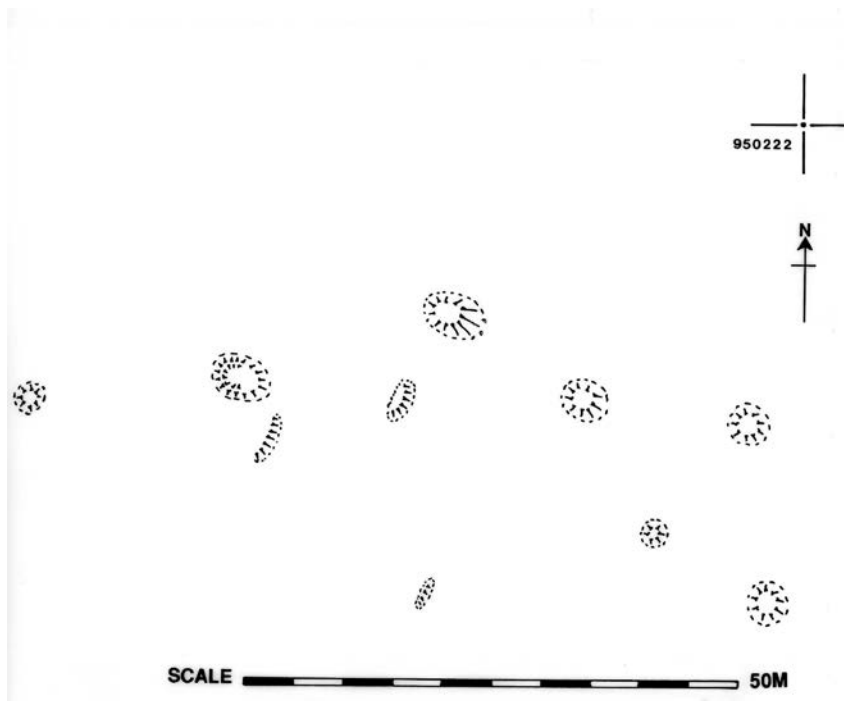
100M to the NW there are at least three small cairns (not planned).



Site No 35 Fig 35
OS Sheet No: NT02SW

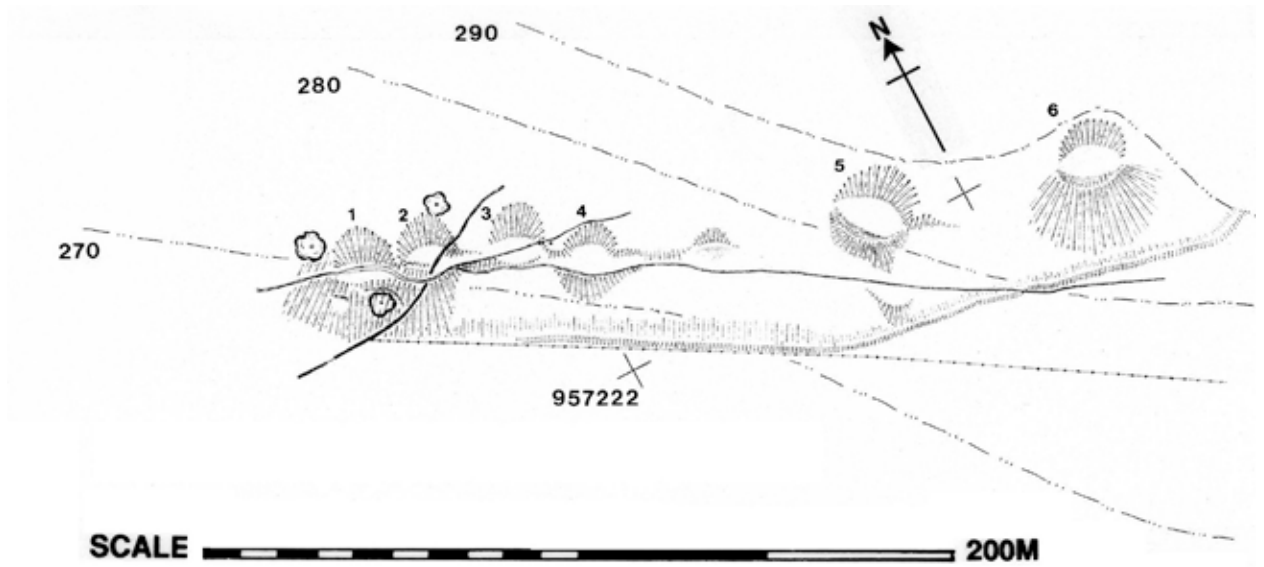
Location: Midge Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500

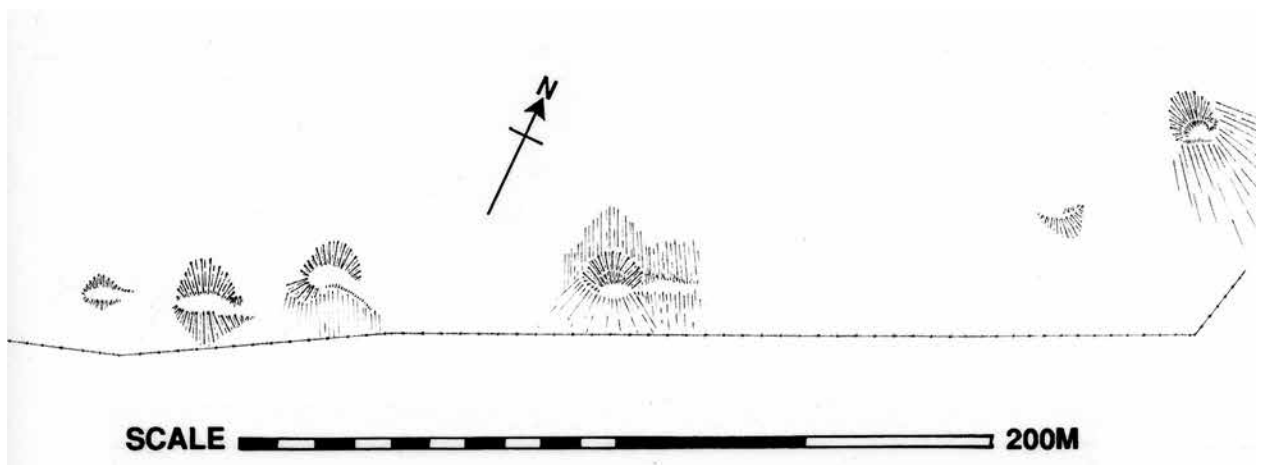


Site No 36 Fig 36
OS Sheet No NS92SE
Surveyed scale: 1:500

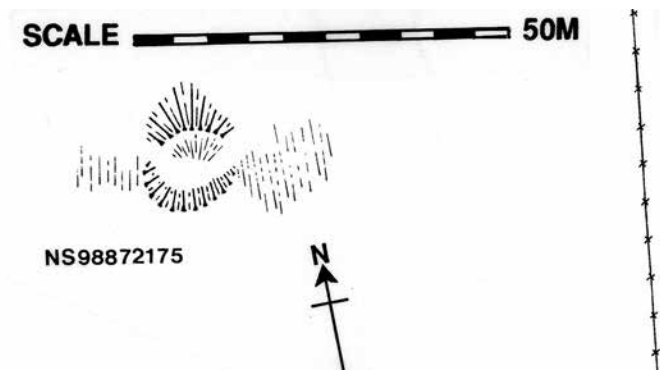
Location: Castle Hill NS 950222



Site No 37 Fig 37
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Raggengill Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



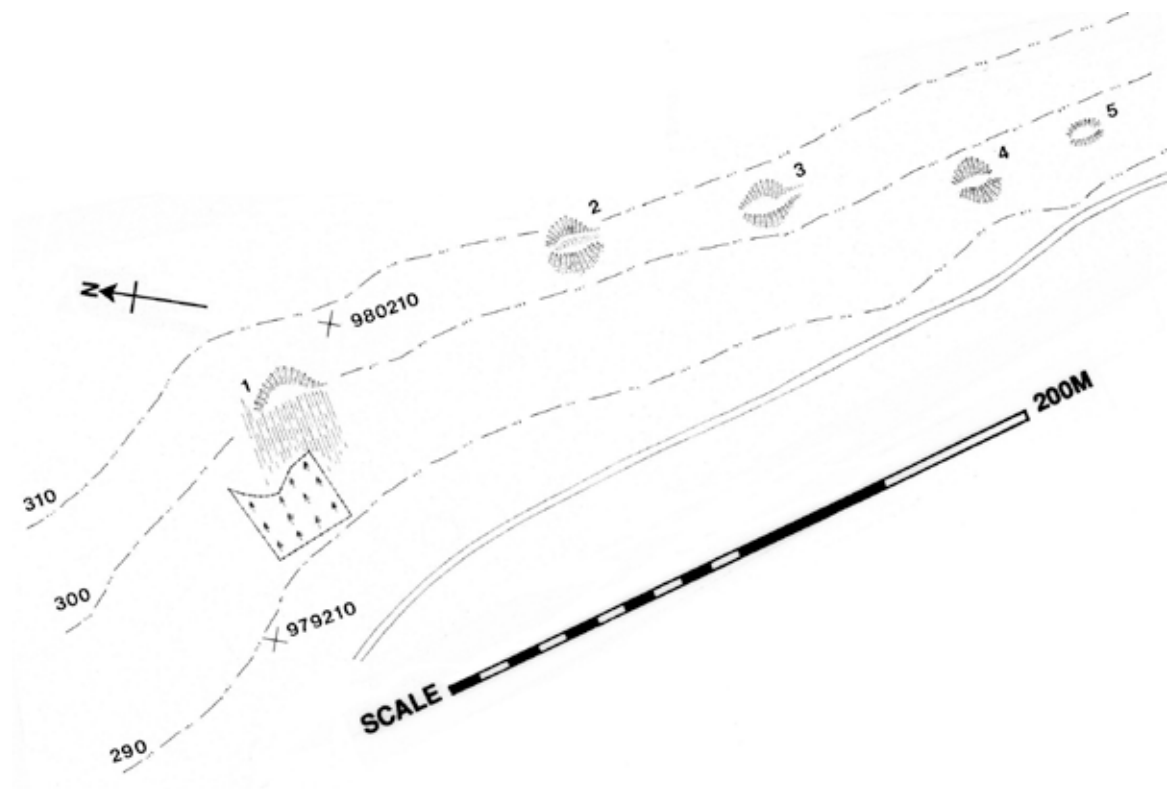
Site 38 Fig 38
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Crannies Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500
 NS 988227



Site No 39 Fig 39
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location: Mossy Dod

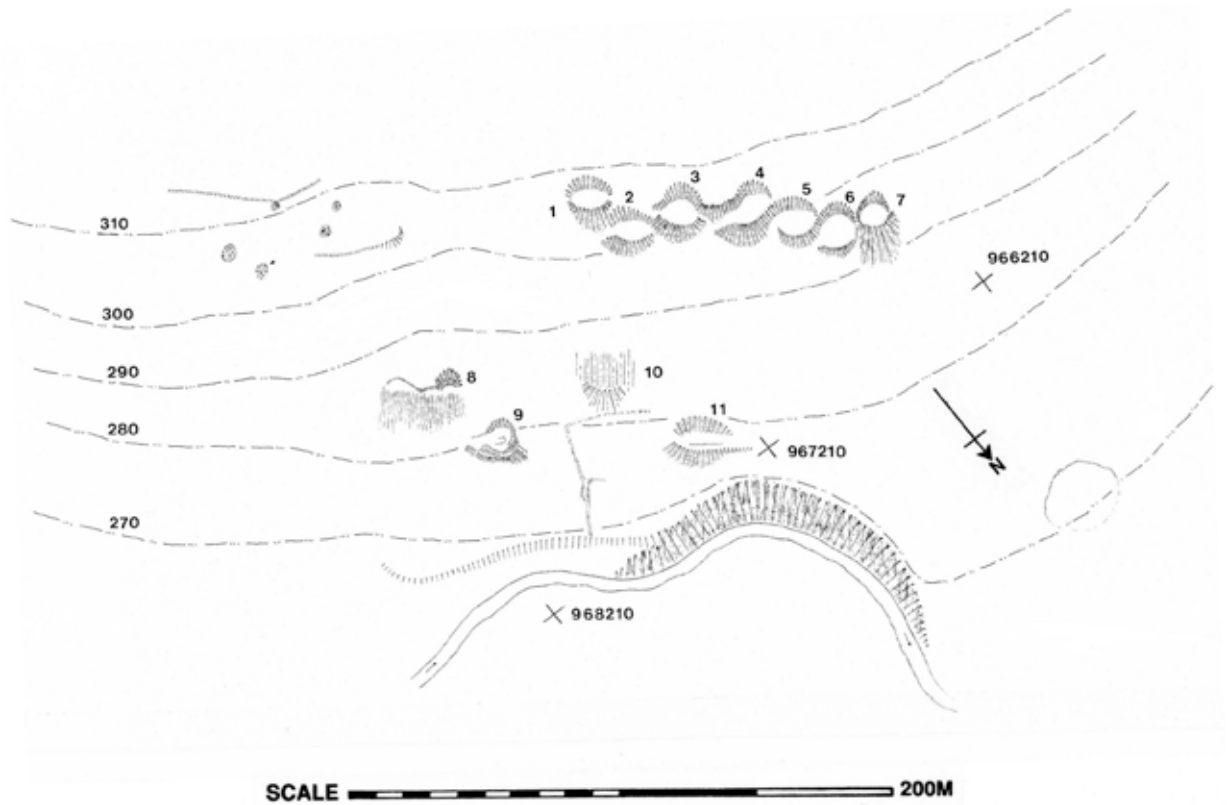
NS 98872175



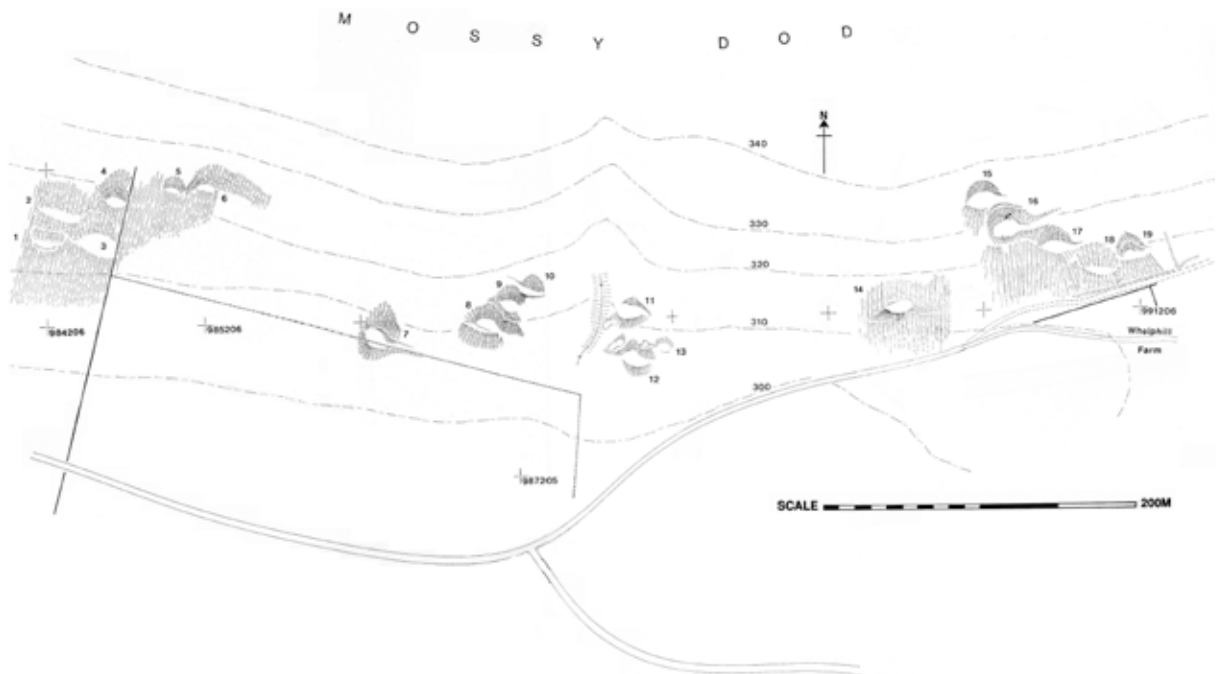
Site No 40 Fig 40
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Mossy Dod

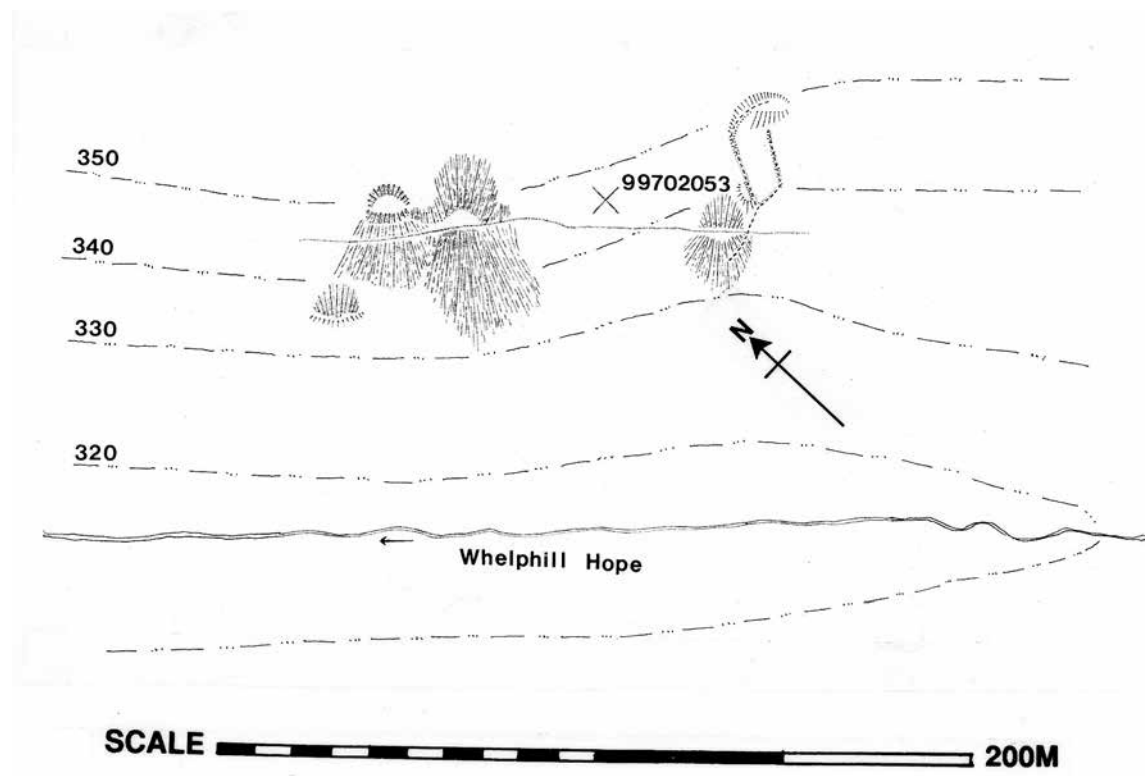
Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 41 Fig 41
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Corbury Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500

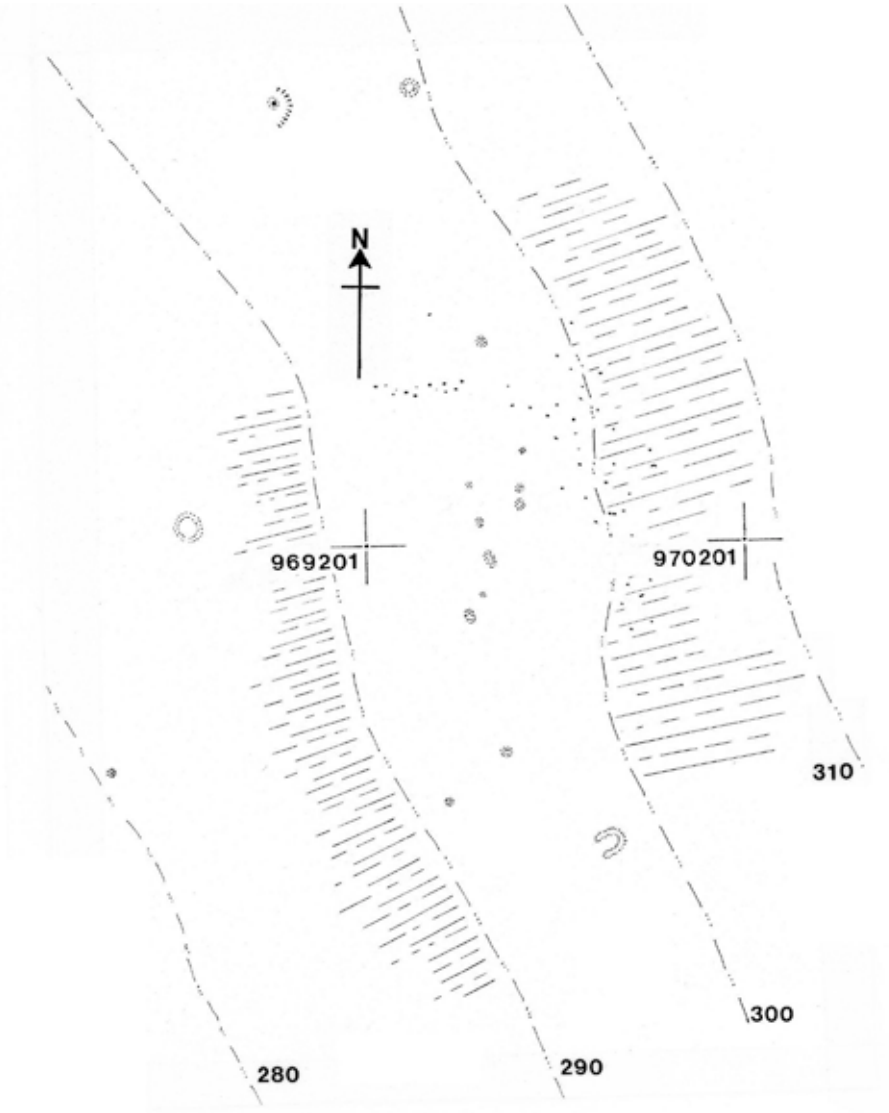


Site No 42 Fig 42
 OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Mossy Dod Survey scale: 1:500



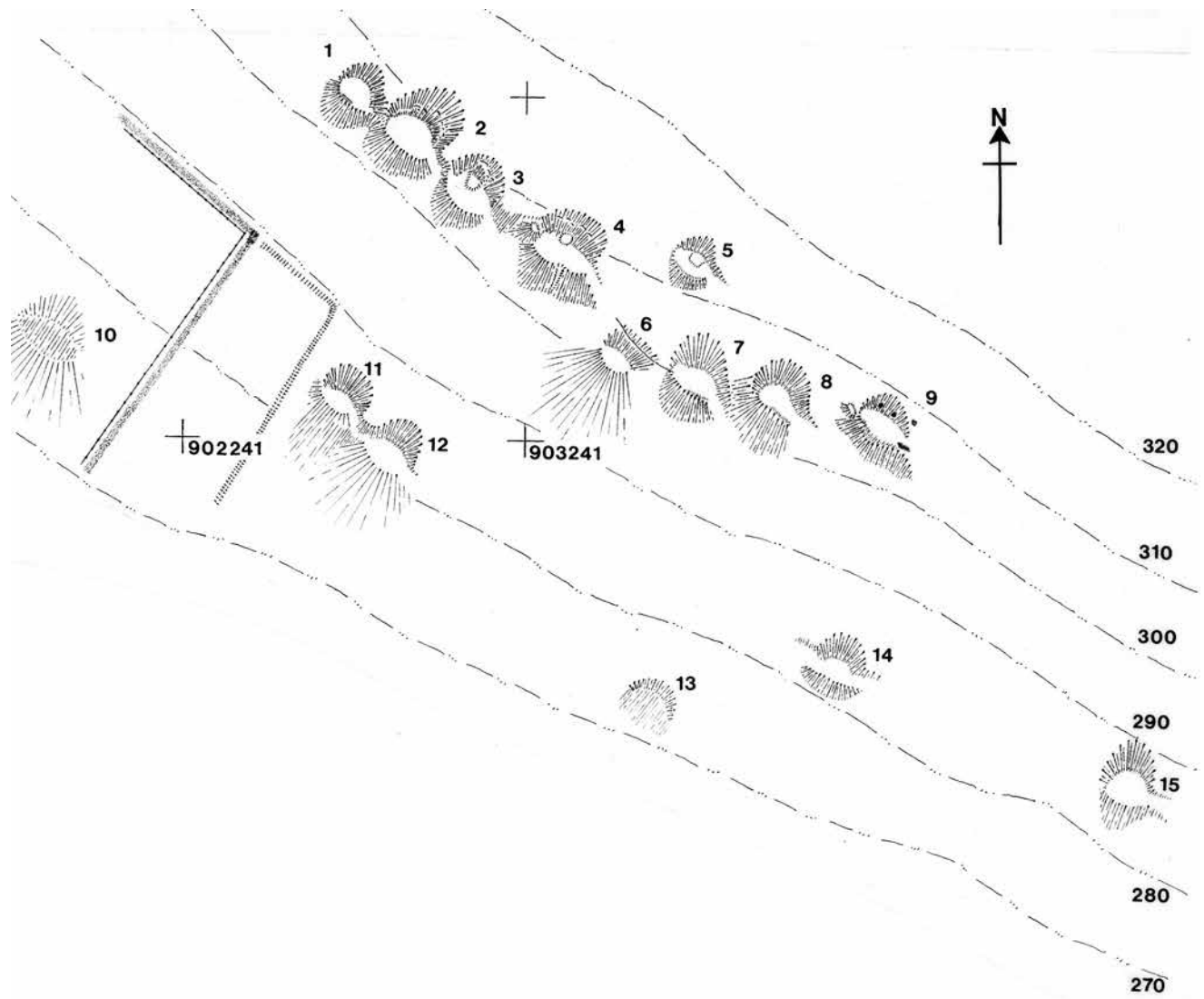
Site No 43 Fig 43
OS Sheet No: NS92SE

Location: Whelphill Hope Survey scale: 1:500

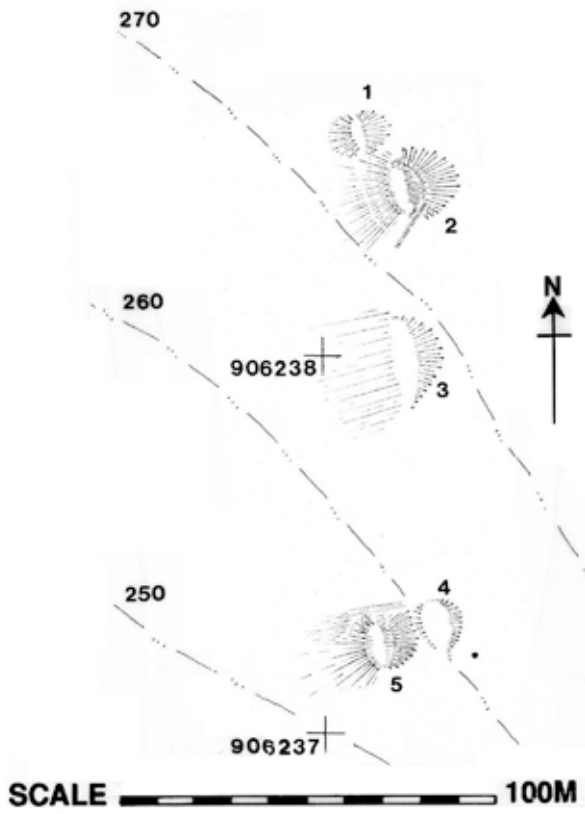


SCALE  **100M**

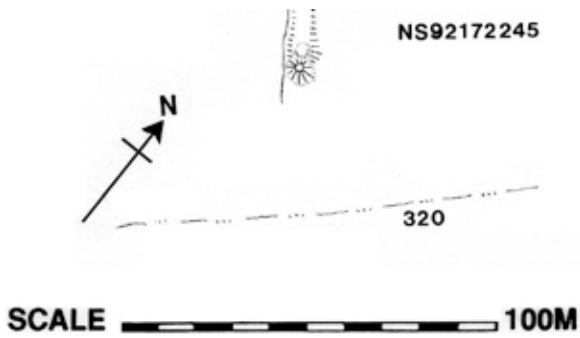
Site 44 Fig 44
OS Sheet No: NS92SE Location: Coupland Hill Survey scale: 1:1000



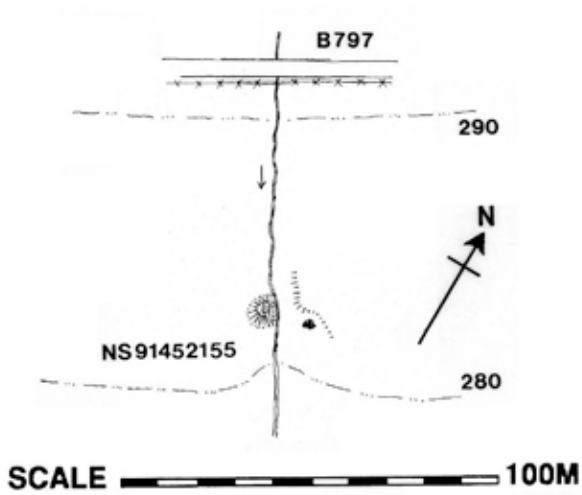
Site No 45 Fig 45
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Black Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



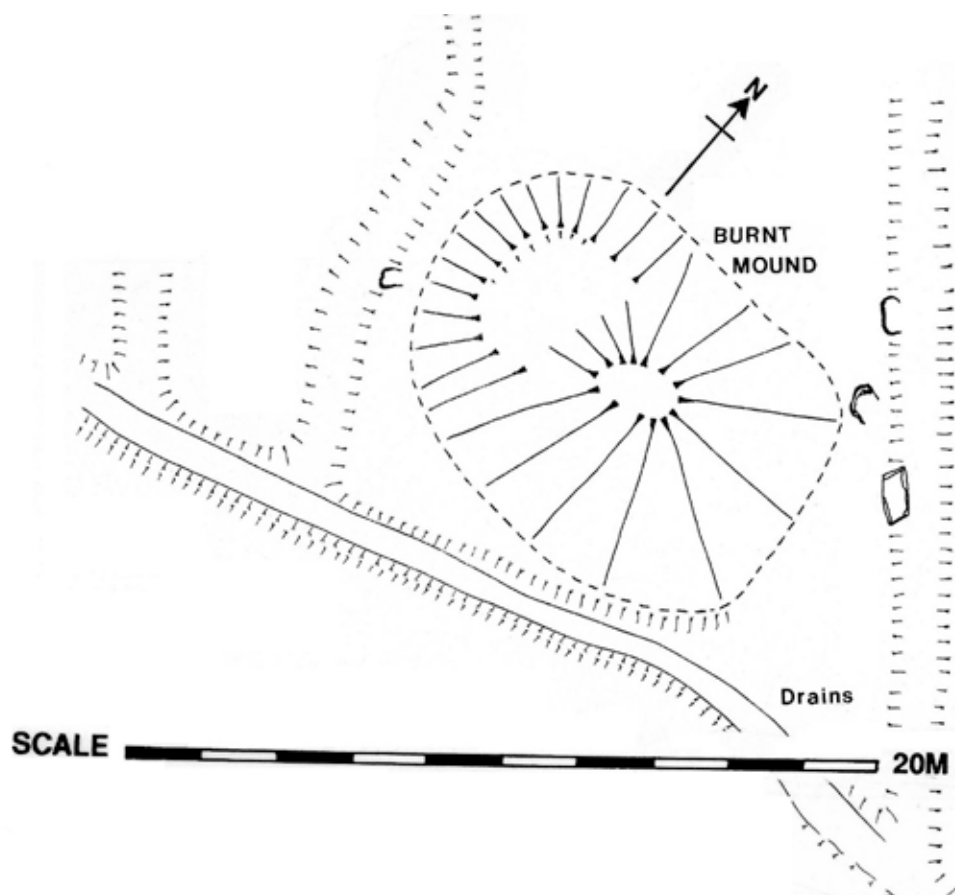
Site No 46 Fig 46
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Black Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



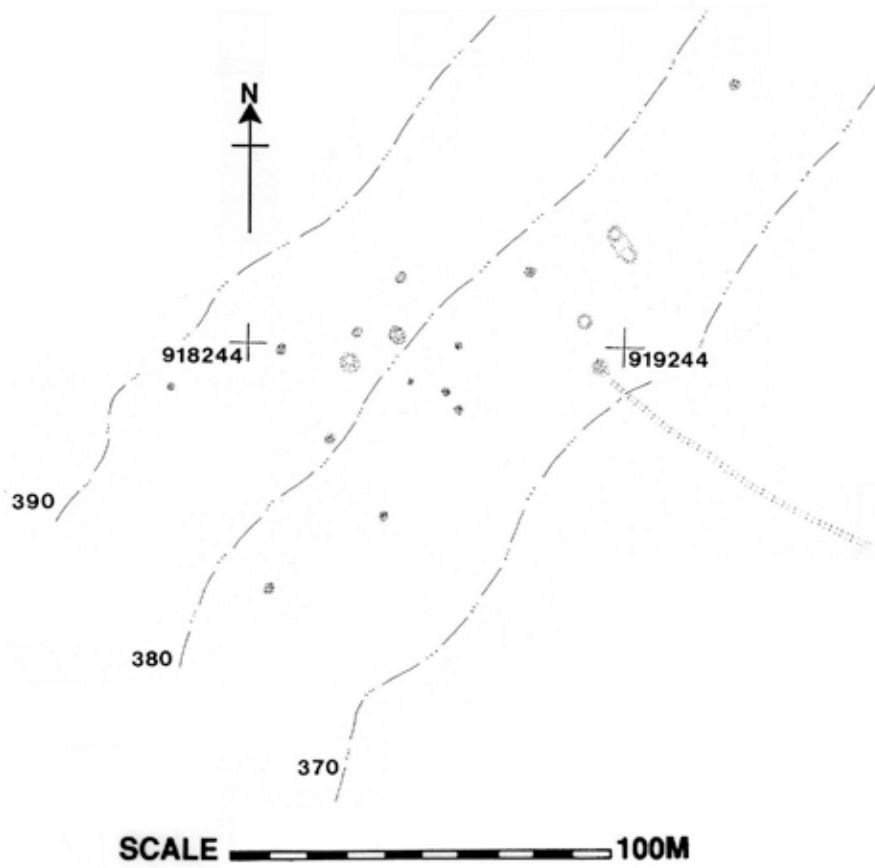
Site No 47 Fig 47
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Fagyad Hill NS 92172245
 Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 48 Fig 48
 OS Sheet No : NS92SW Location: Drake Law NS 91452155
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

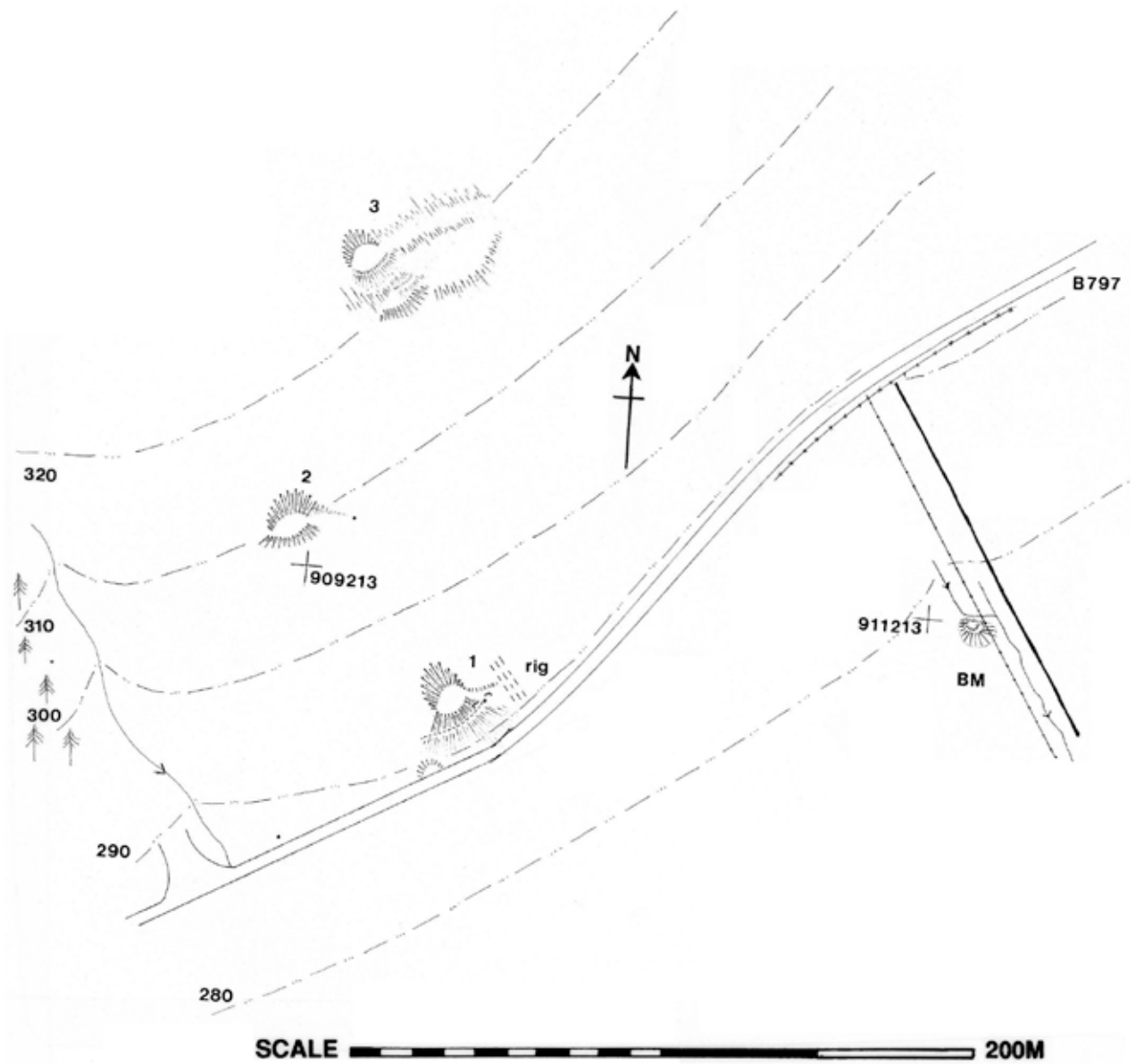


Site No 49 Fig 49
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Drake Law NS 914216
 Surveyed scale: 1:50



Site No 50 Fig 50
OS Sheet No: NS92SW
Surveyed scale: 1:500

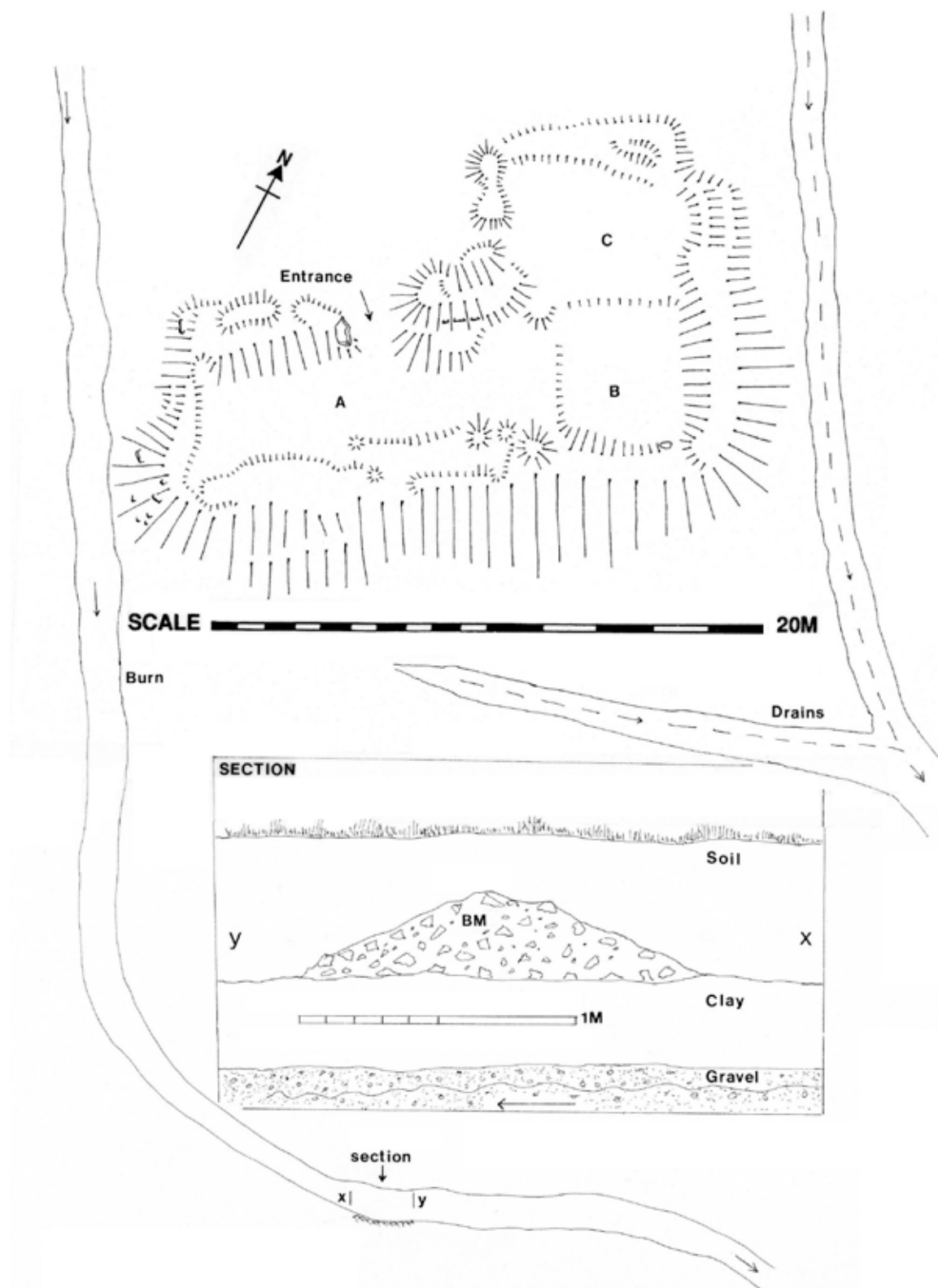
Location: Fagyad Hill NS 918244 – NS 919244



Site No 51 Fig 51
 OS Sheet No NS92SW

Location: Drake Law

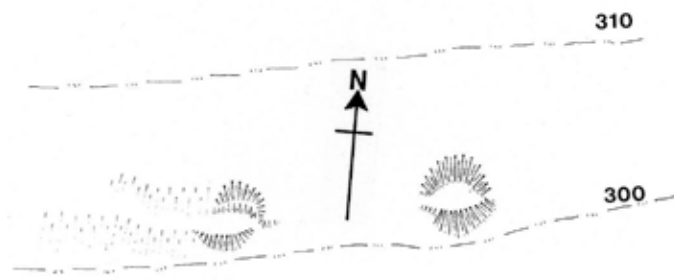
Survey scale 1:500



Site No 52 Fig 52
OS Sheet No: NS92SW

Location Fagyad Hill

Survey scale 1:100



—————
B797

SCALE  **100M**

Site No 53 Fig 53

OS Sheet No: NS92SW

Location: Fagyad Hill

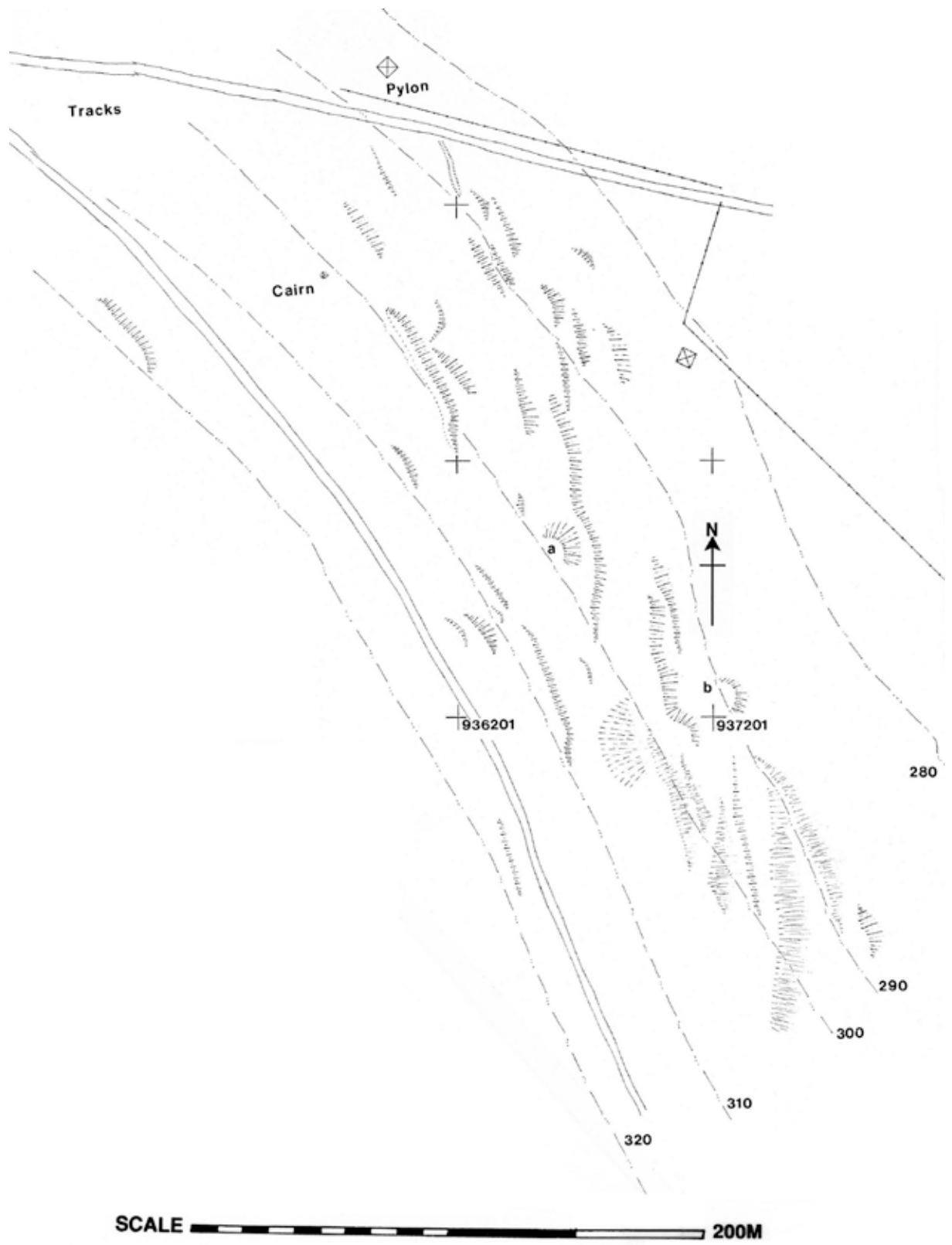
Surveyed scale: 1:500



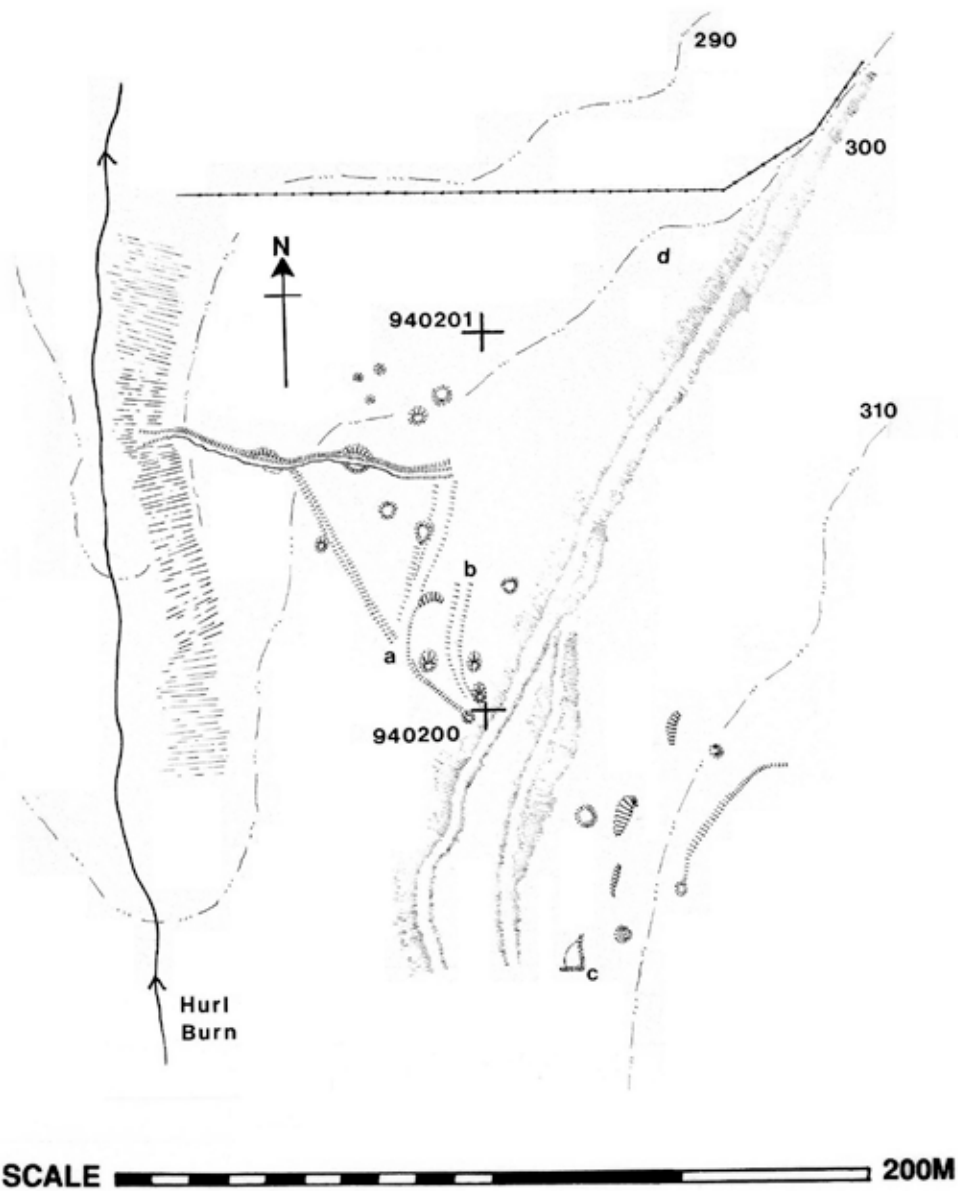
Site No 54 Fig 54
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW

Location: Fagyad Hill

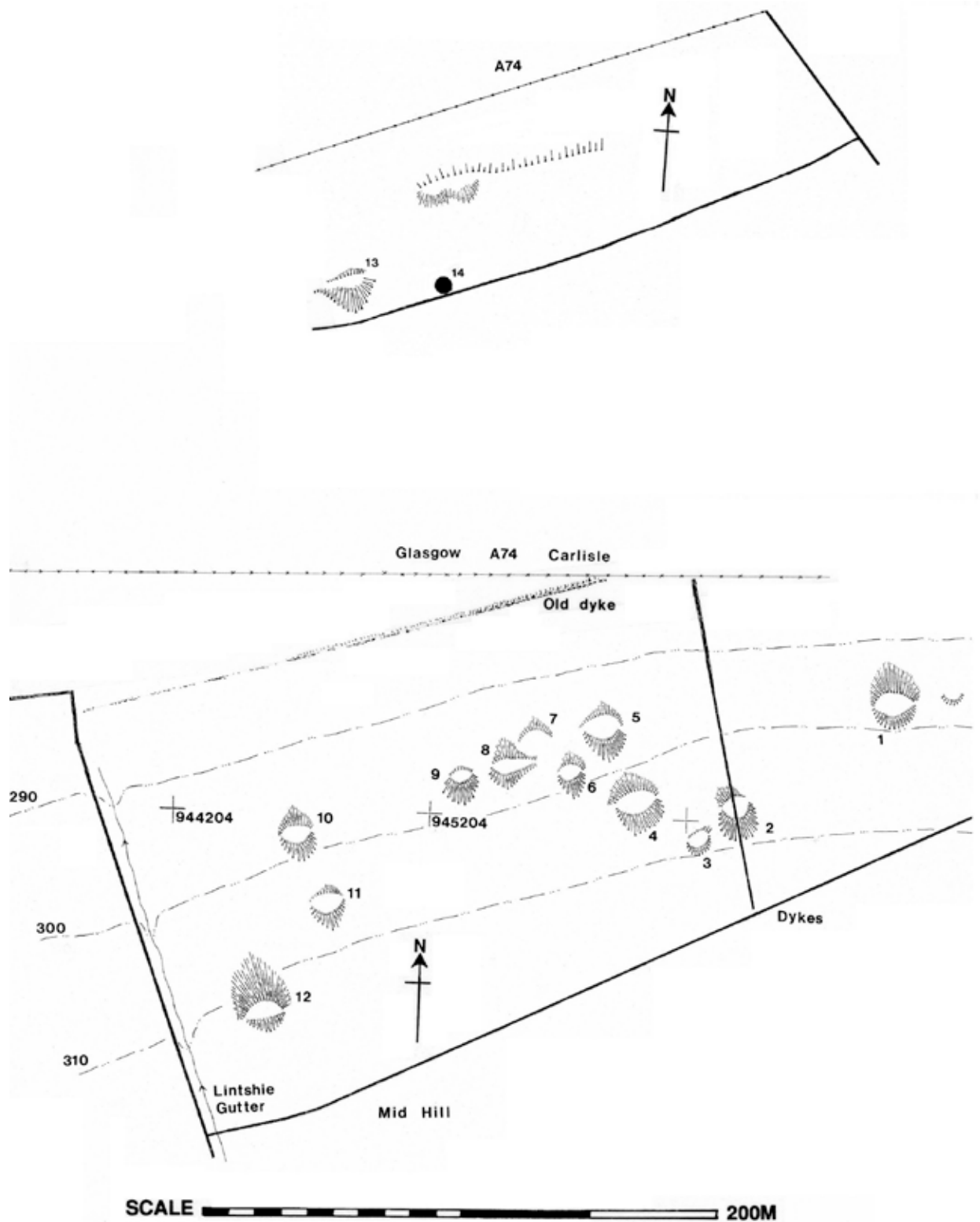
Surveyed scale: 1:100



Site No 55 Fig 55
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Kirkton Rig Survey scale 1:500

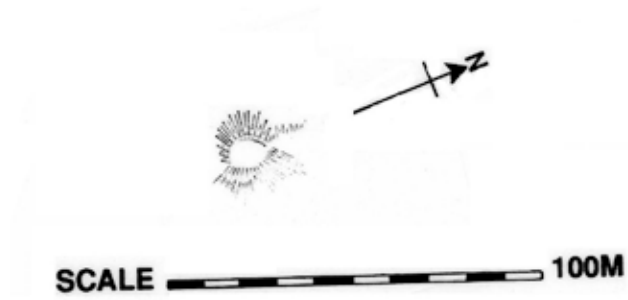


Site No 56 Fig 56
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale 1:500

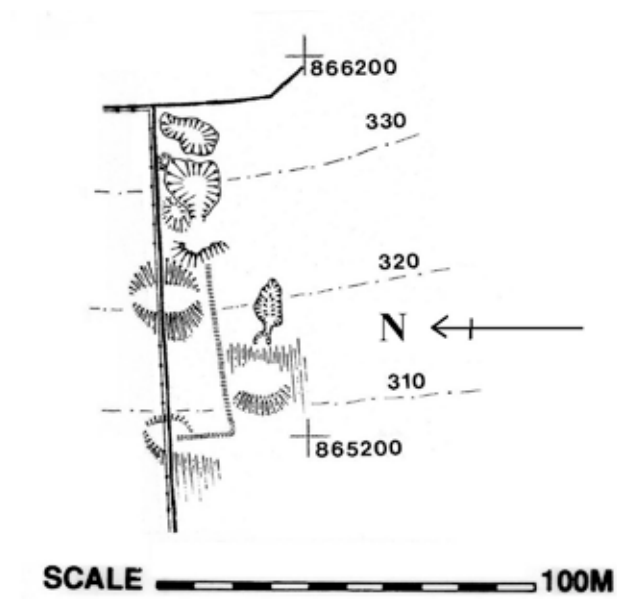


Site No 57 Fig 57
 OS Sheet No: NS92SW

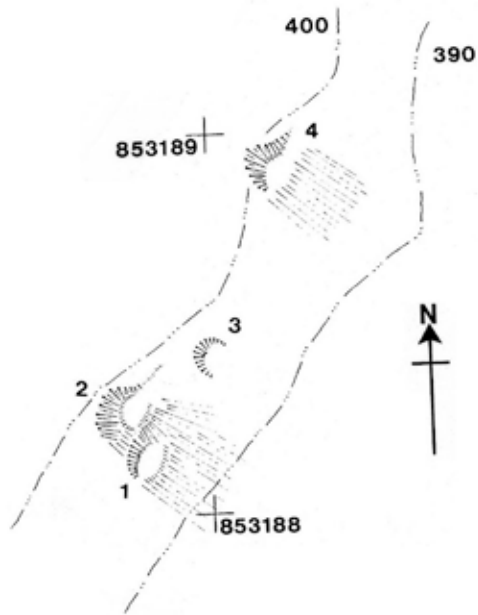
Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 58 Fig 58
OS Map Sheet: NS82SE Location: Pyatshaw Brae NS 895202
Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 59 Fig 59
OS Sheet No: NS82SE Location: Stranleuch Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



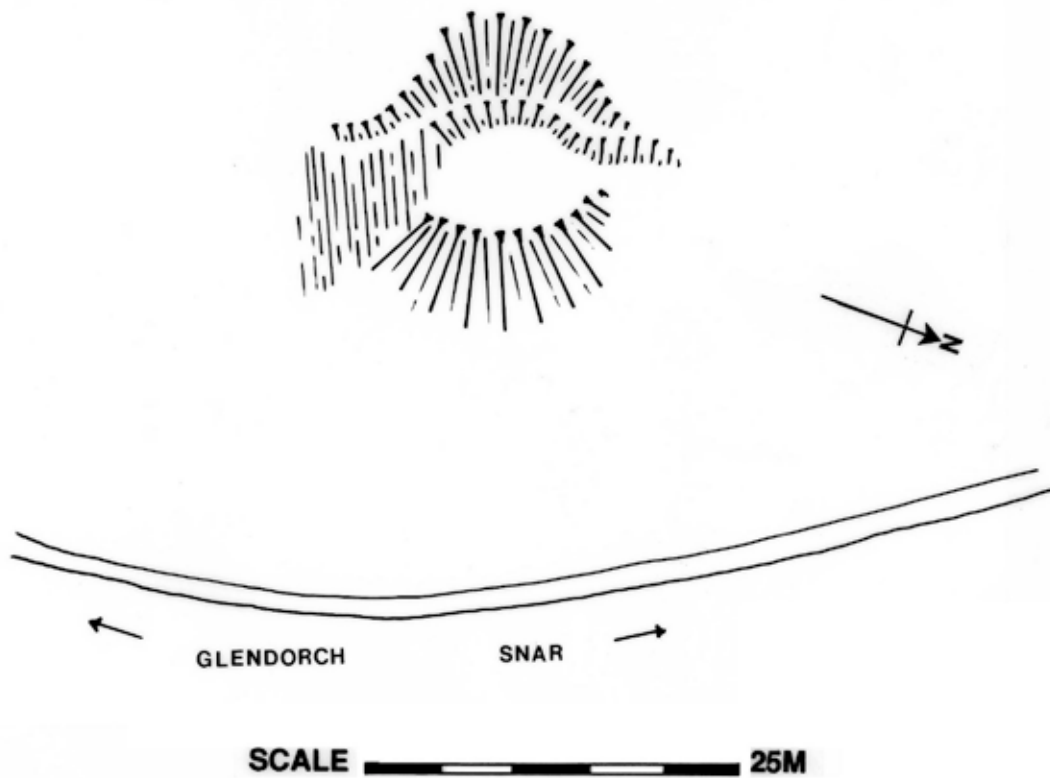
SCALE  **100M**

Site No 60 Fig 60

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

Location: Windy Dod

Survey scale 1:500



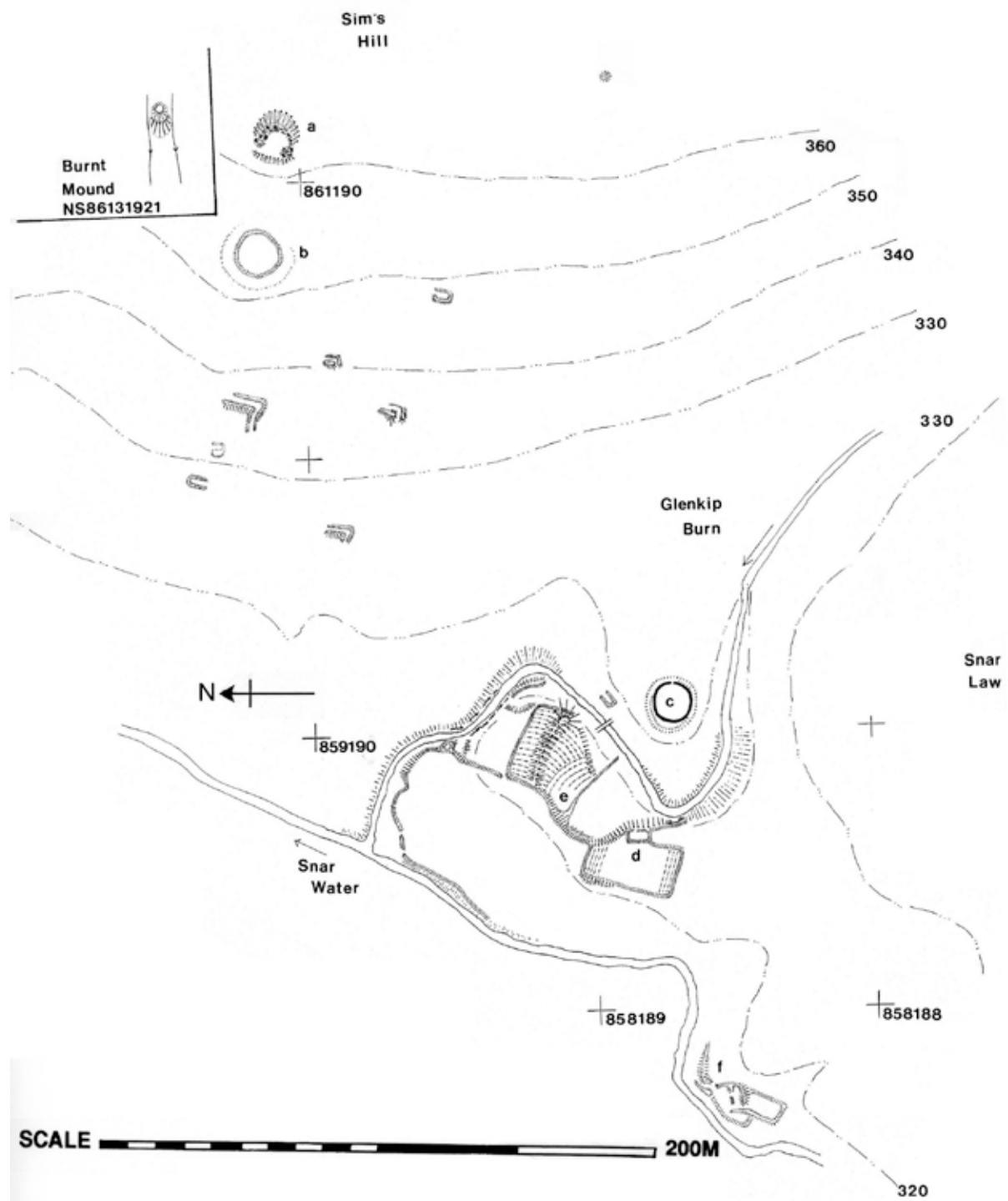
SCALE  **25M**

Site No 61 Fig 61

OS Sheet No: NS81NE

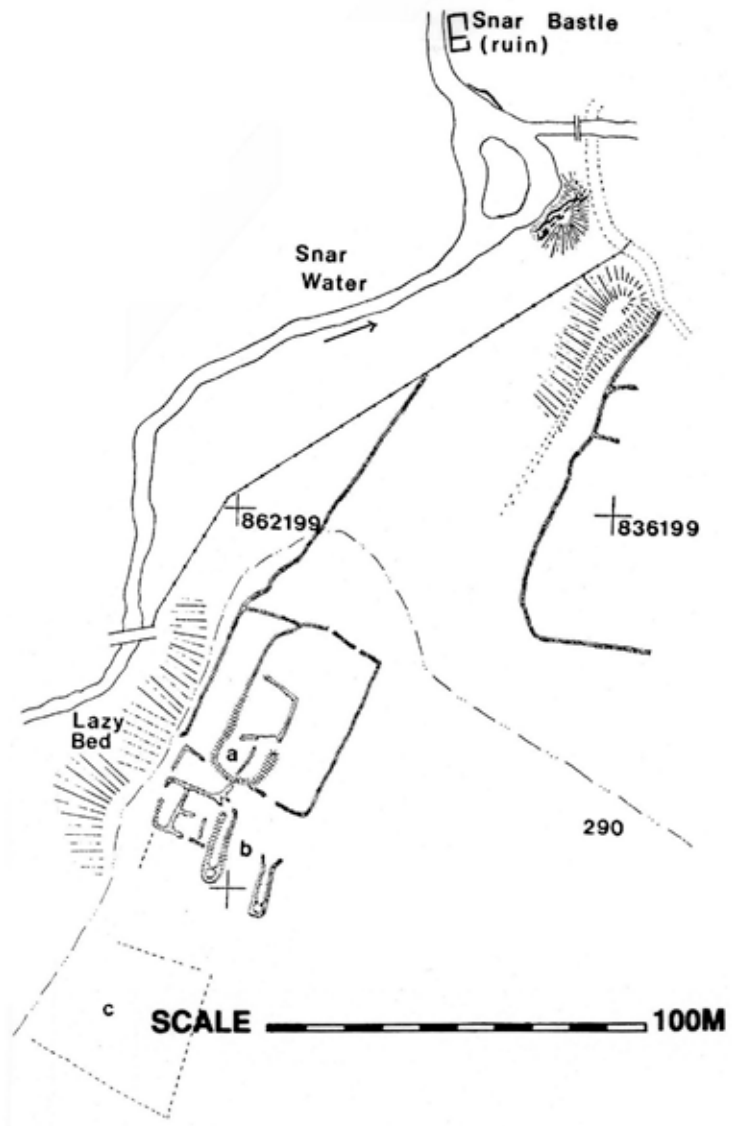
Location: Sims Hill NS 86881930

Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 62 Fig 62
 OS Sheet No: NS81NE
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location: Snar Law and Sim's Hill

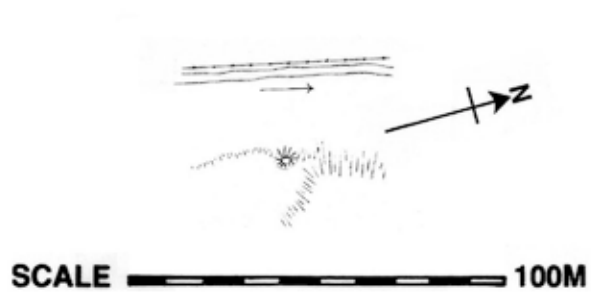


Site No 63 Fig 63
 OS Sheet No: NS81NE

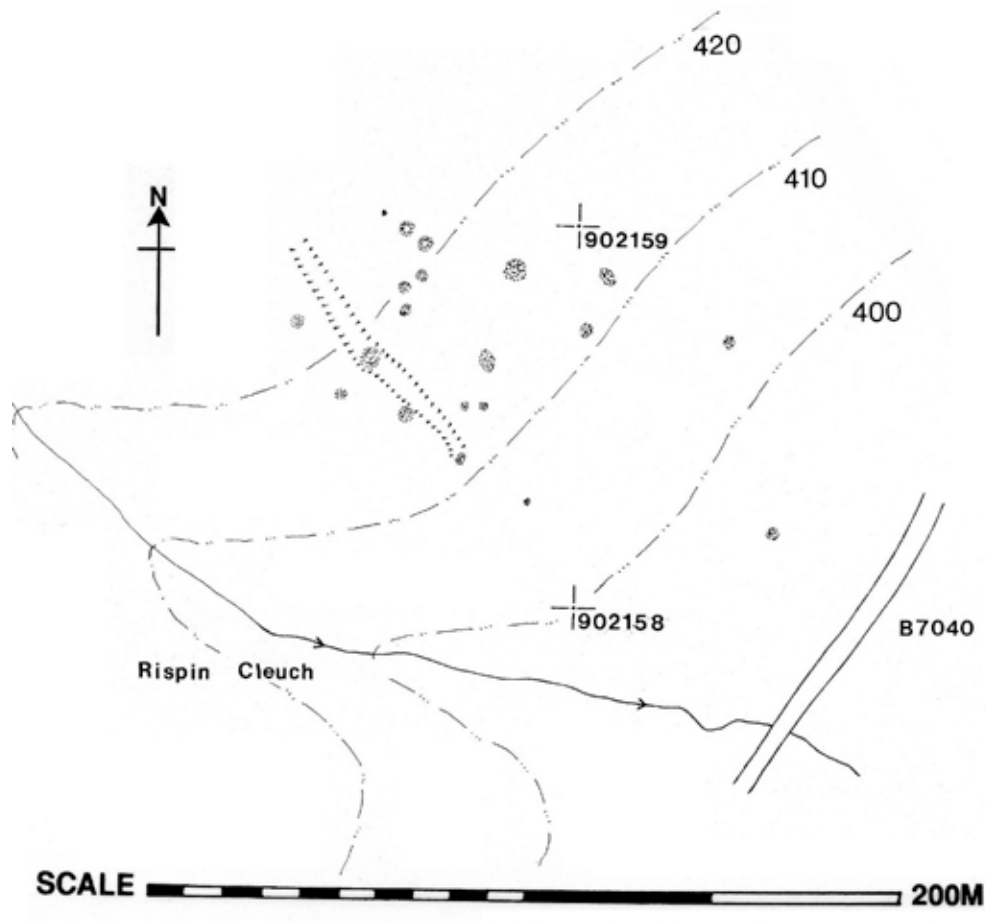
Location: Sim's Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



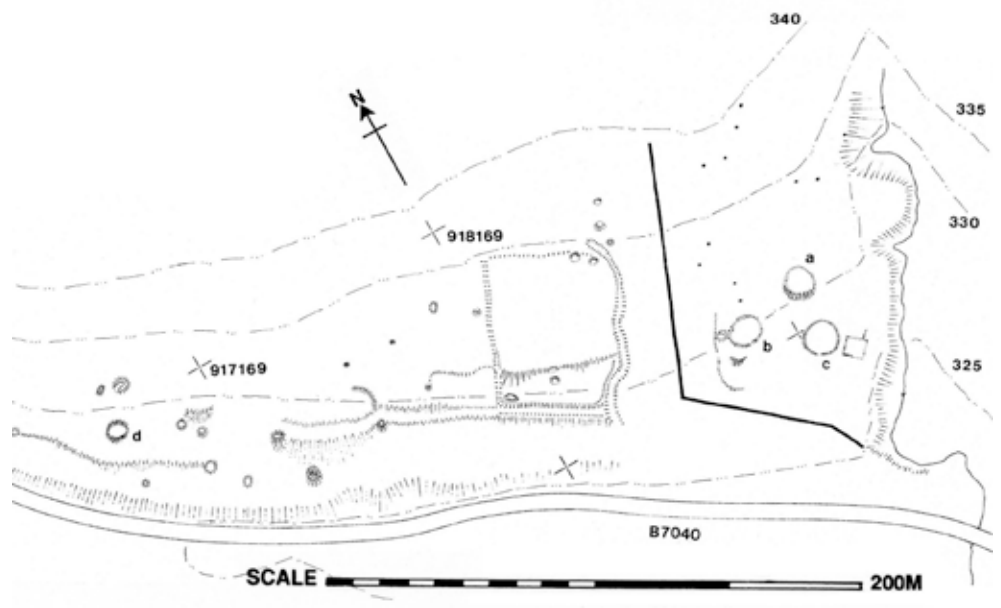
Site No 64 Fig 64
 OS Sheet No: NS81NE Location: Glendowran Hill NS 888190
 Surveyed scale: 1:500



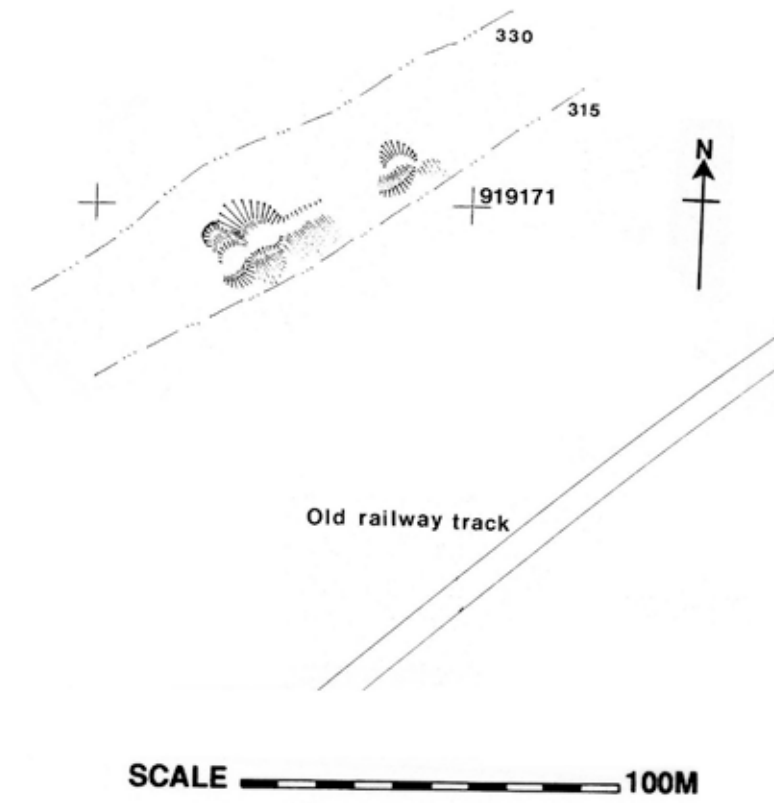
Site No 65 Fig 65
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Rispin Cleuch Surveyed scale: 1:1000



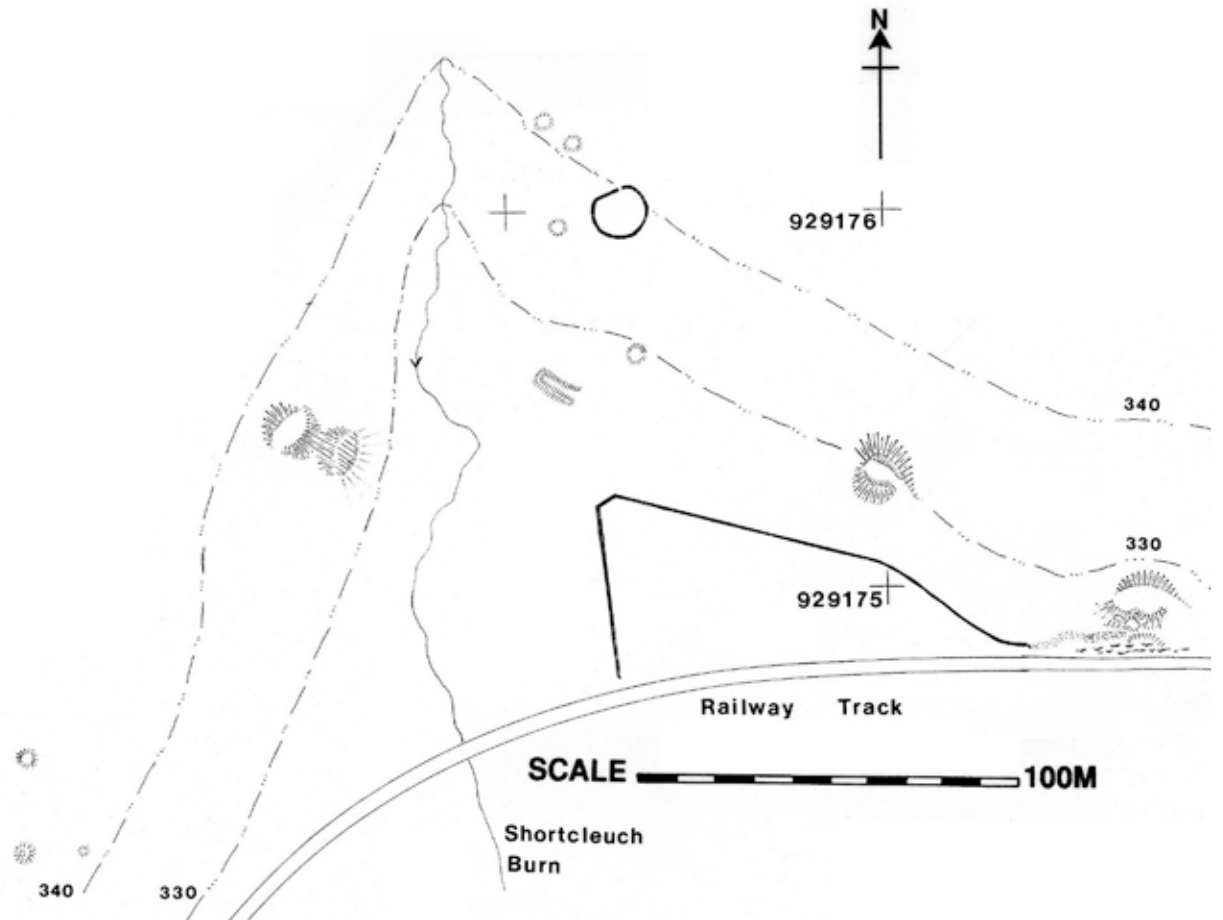
Site No 65/1 Fig 65/1
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Glen Eas Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 66 Fig 66
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Howwood Surveyed scale: 1:500

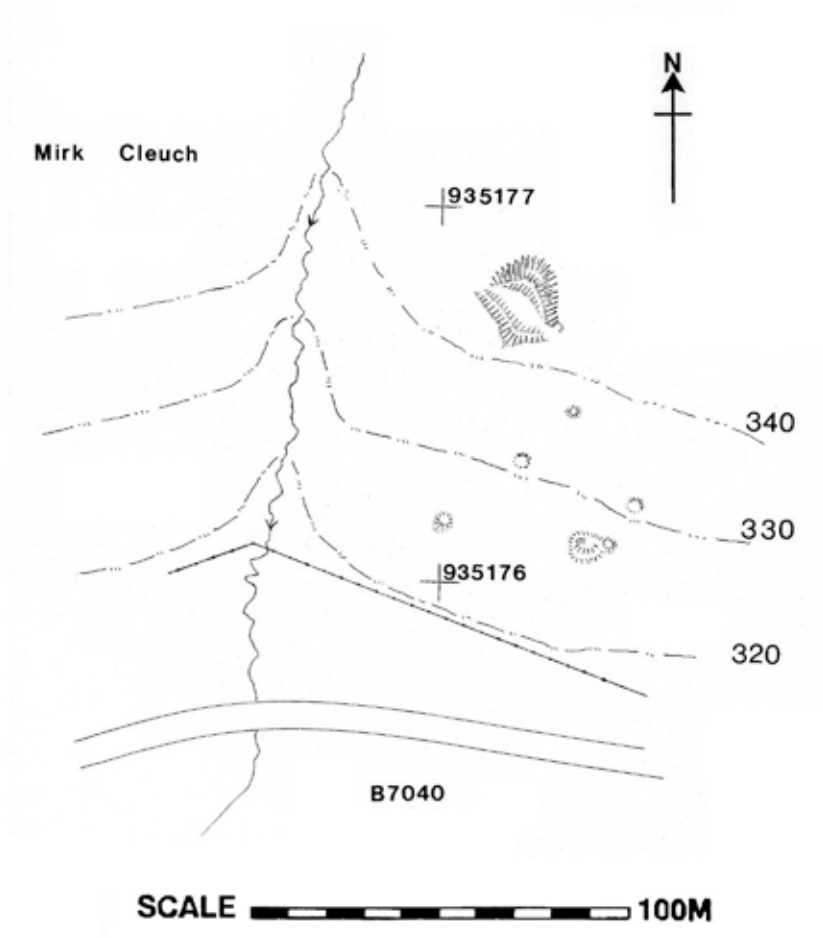


Site No 67 Fig 67
OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Middle Wood Survey scale 1:500



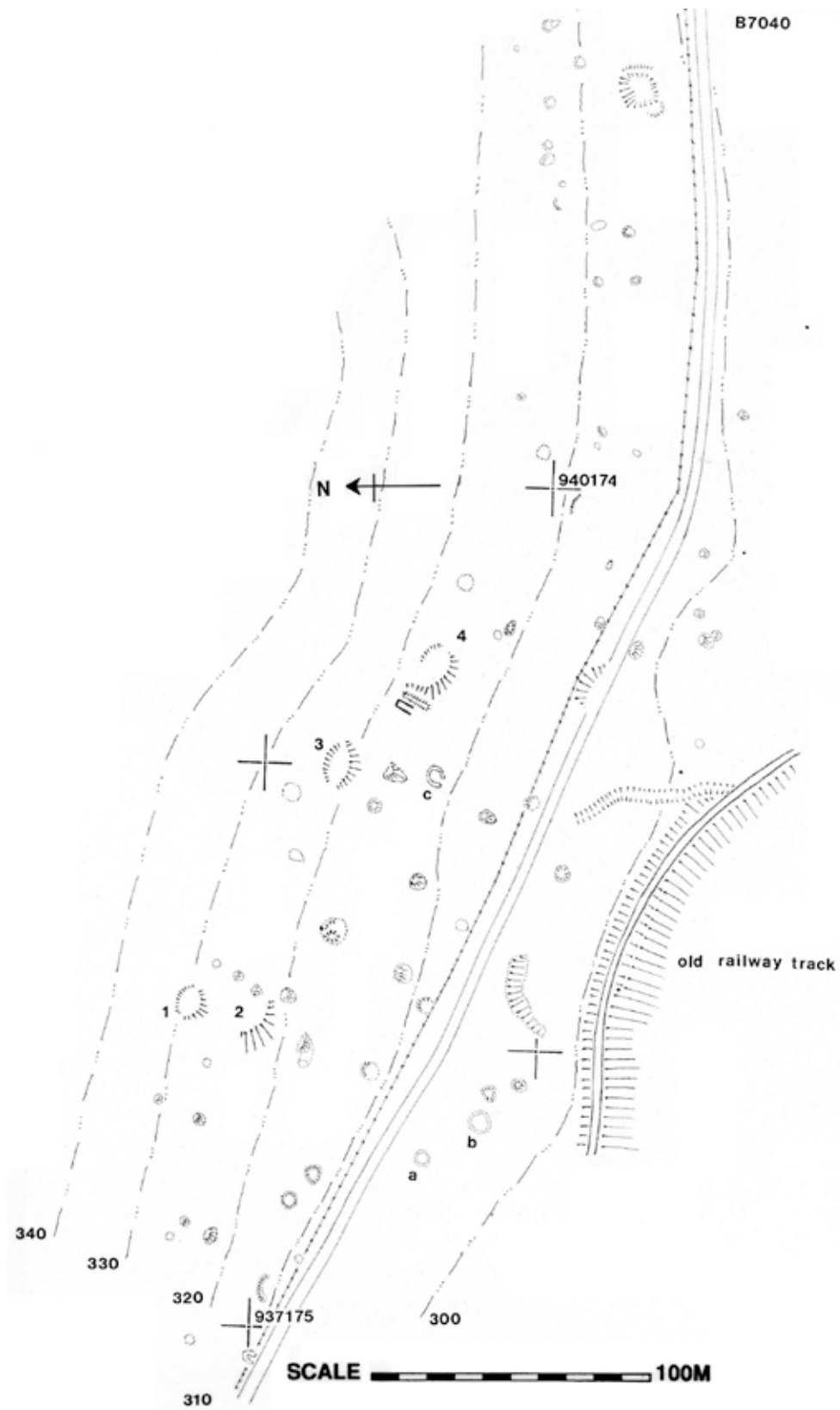
Site No 68 Fig 68
OS Sheet No: NS91NW
Surveyed scale: 1:500

Location: Peat Hill, Pin Stone



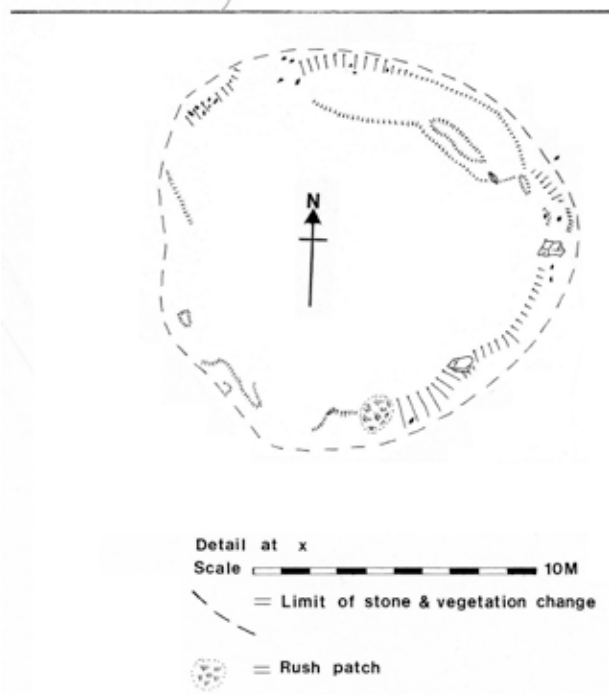
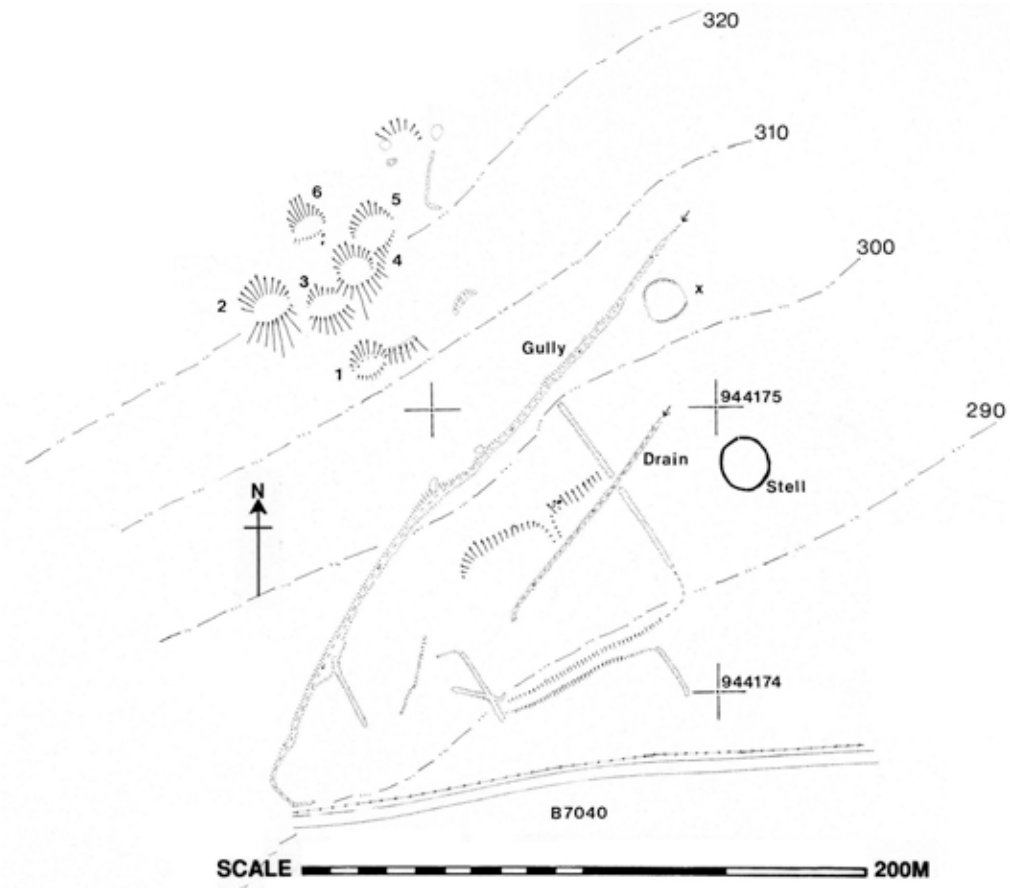
Site No 69 Fig 69
OS Sheet No: NS91NW

Location: Harryburn Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

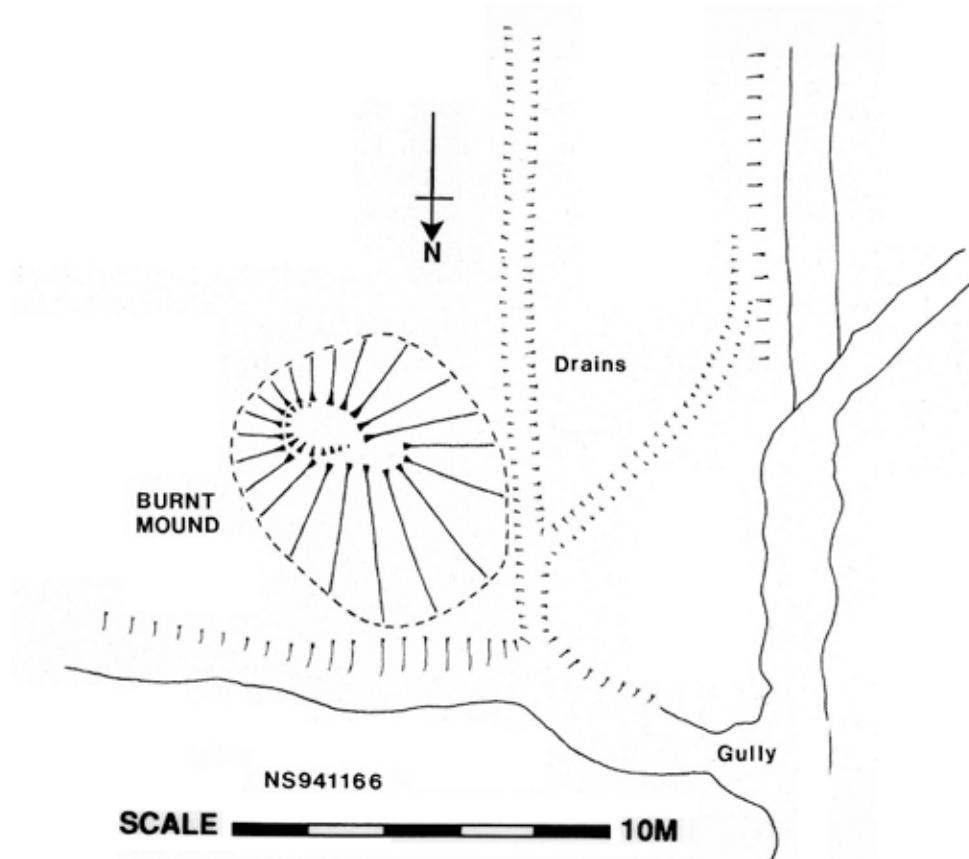


Site No 70 Fig 70
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW
 Surveyed Scale 1 : 500

Location: Harryburn Brae

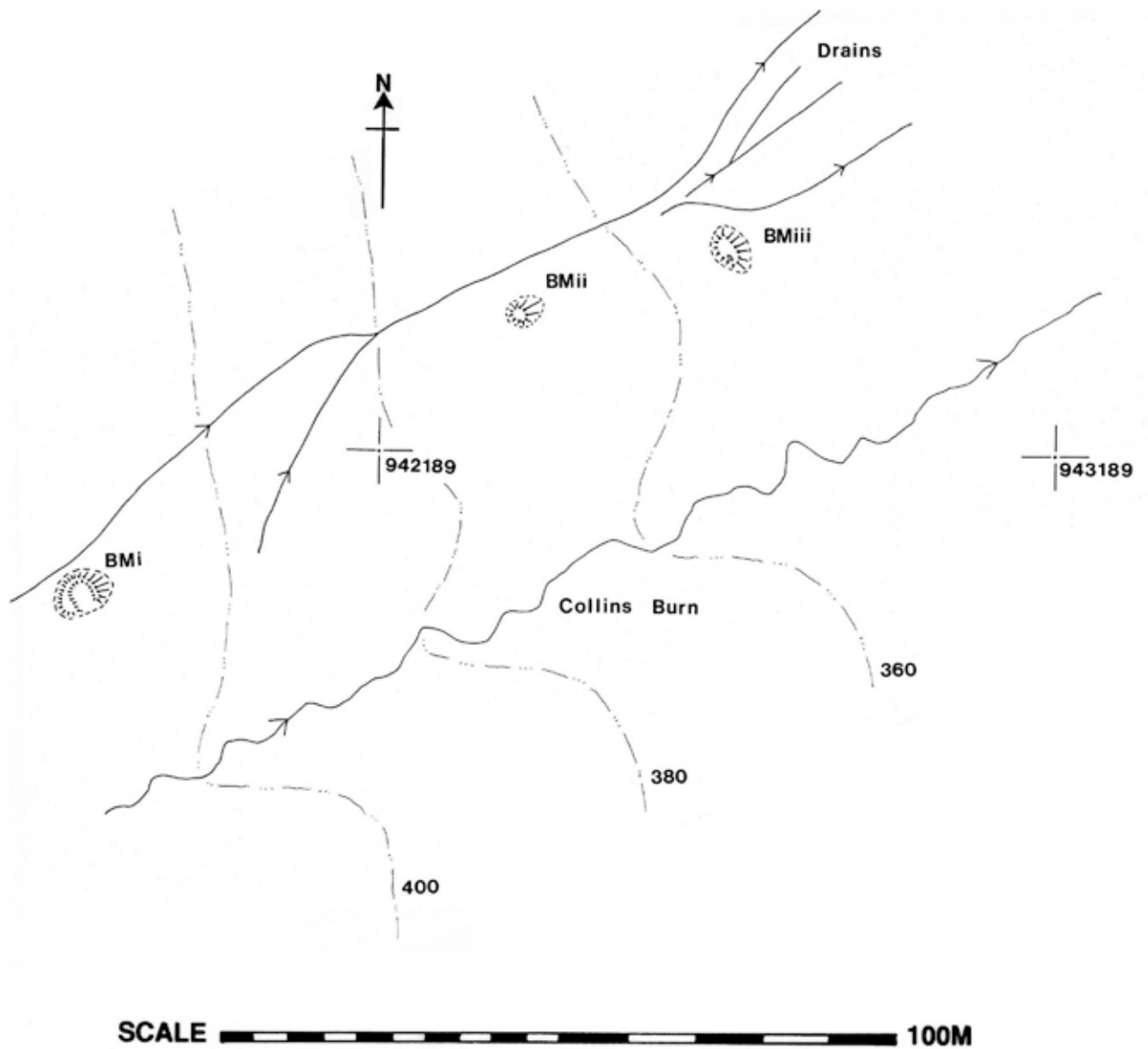


Site No 71 Fig 71
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW Location: Harryburn Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 72 Fig 72
OS Sheet No: NS91NW
Surveyed scale: 1: 50

Location: White Hill NS 941166

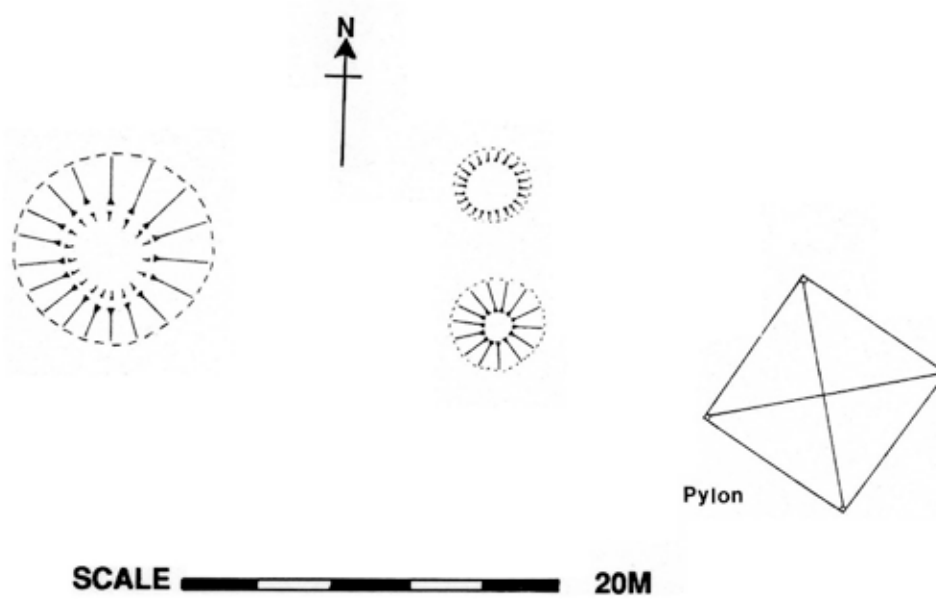


Site No 73 Fig 73
 OS Sheet No: NS91NW
 Surveyed scale: 1:500

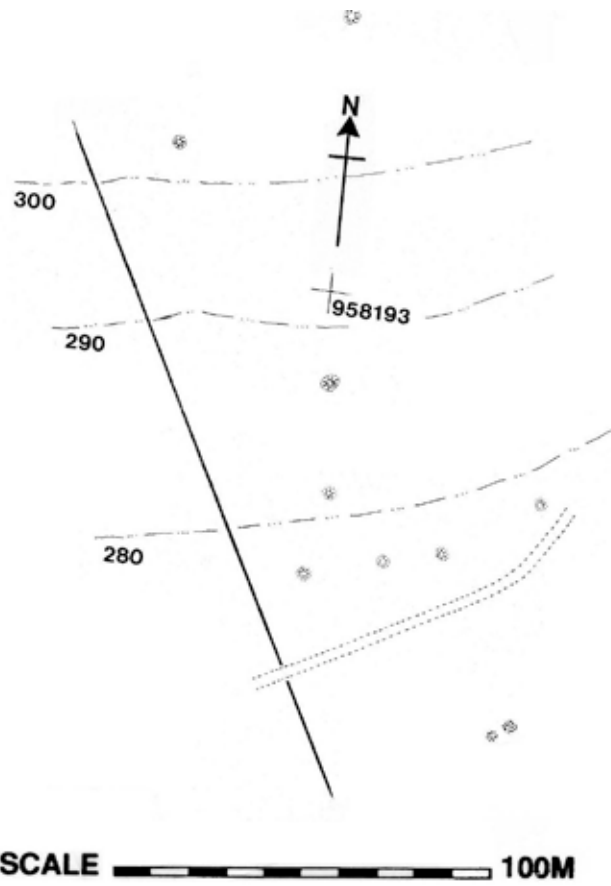
Location: Harry burn Brae NS 942189



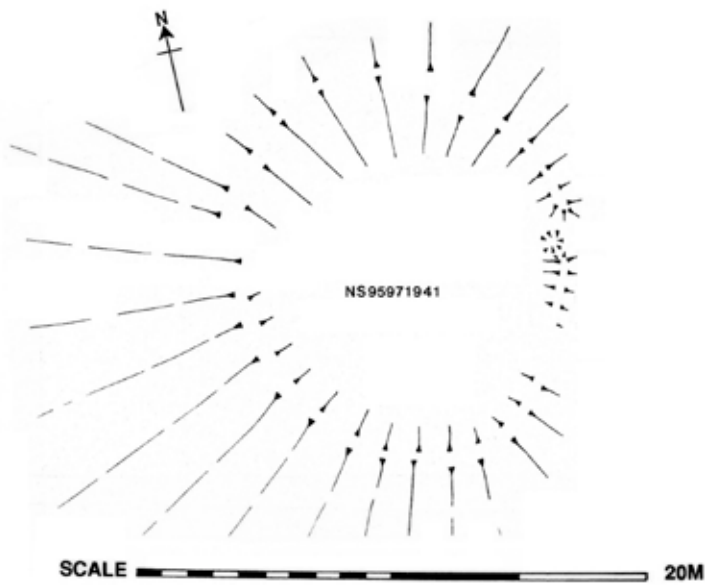
Site No 74 Fig 74
OS Sheet No: NS91NE & NS91NW Location: Mid Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



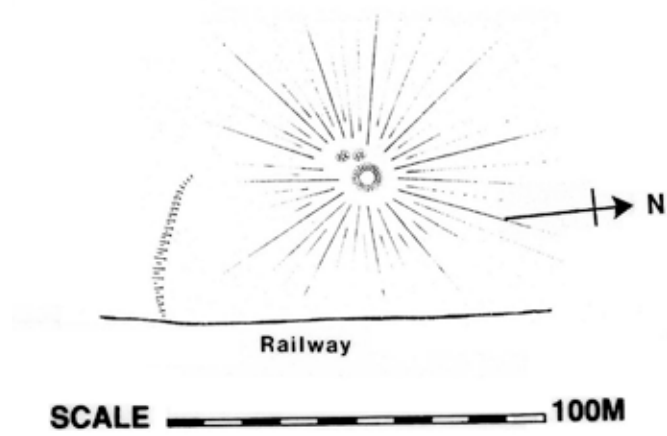
Site No 75 Fig 75
OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100



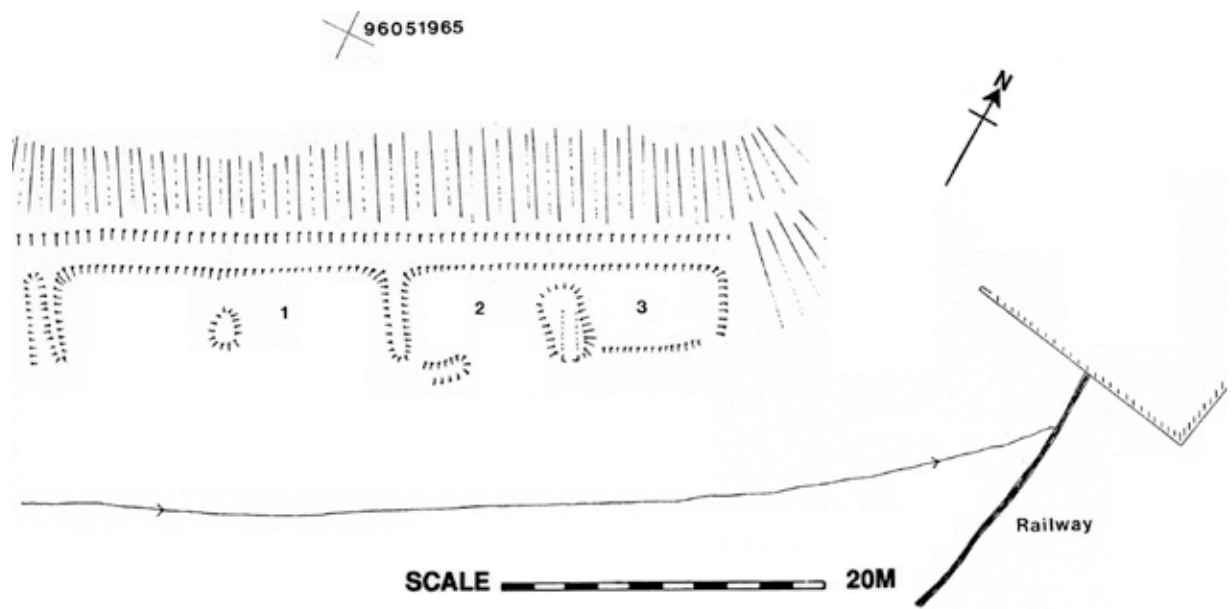
Site No 76 Fig 76
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 77 Fig 77
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill NS 95971941
 Surveyed scale: 1:200

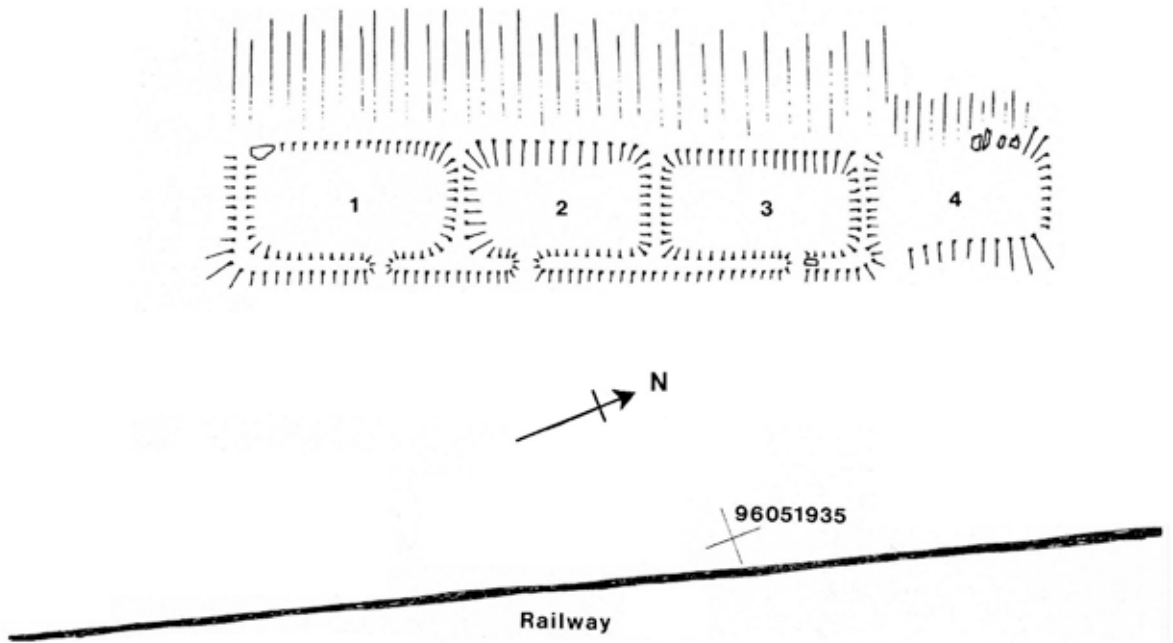


Site No 78 Fig 78
OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 79 Fig 79
OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Hill Surveyed scale: 1:100

SCALE  20M

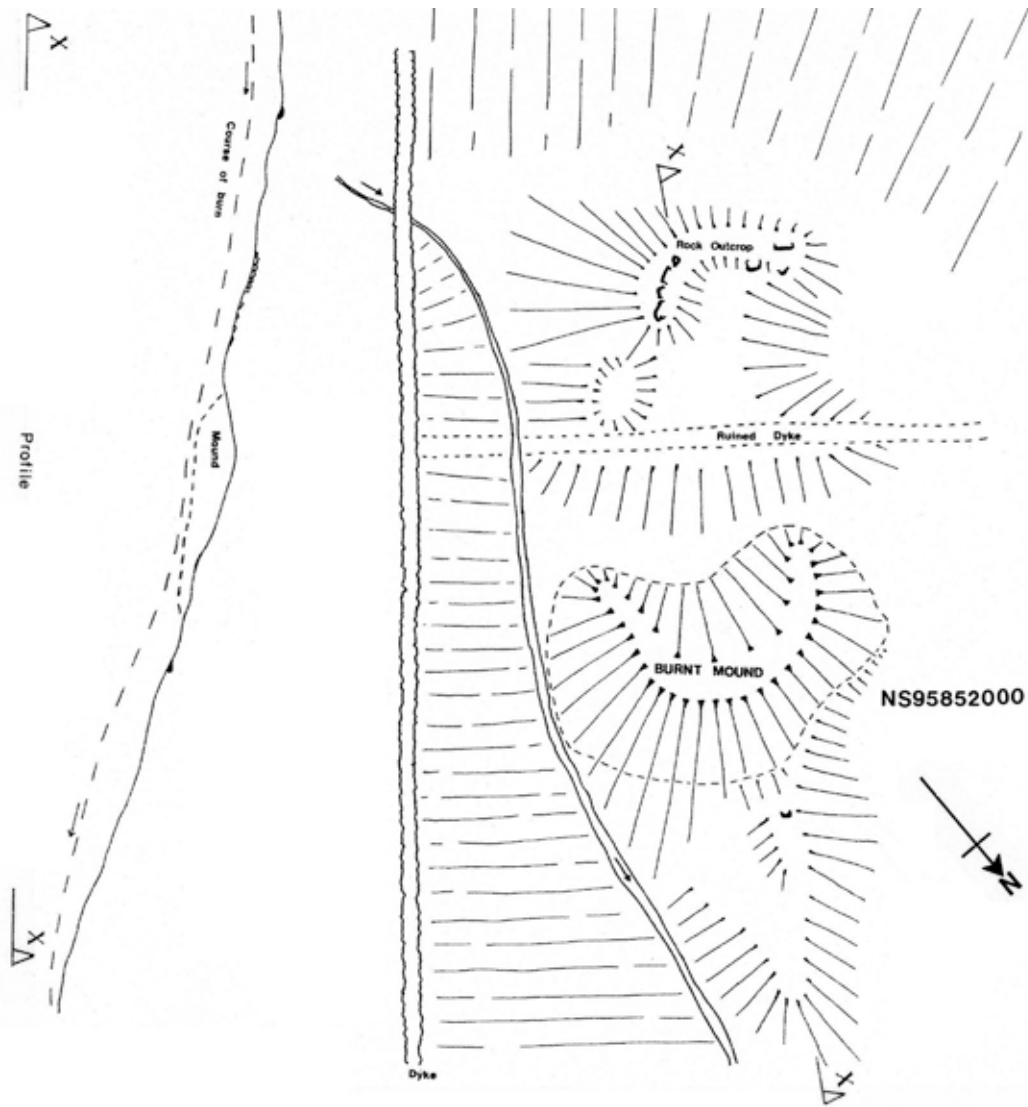


Site No 80 Fig 80

OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Ellersie Hill

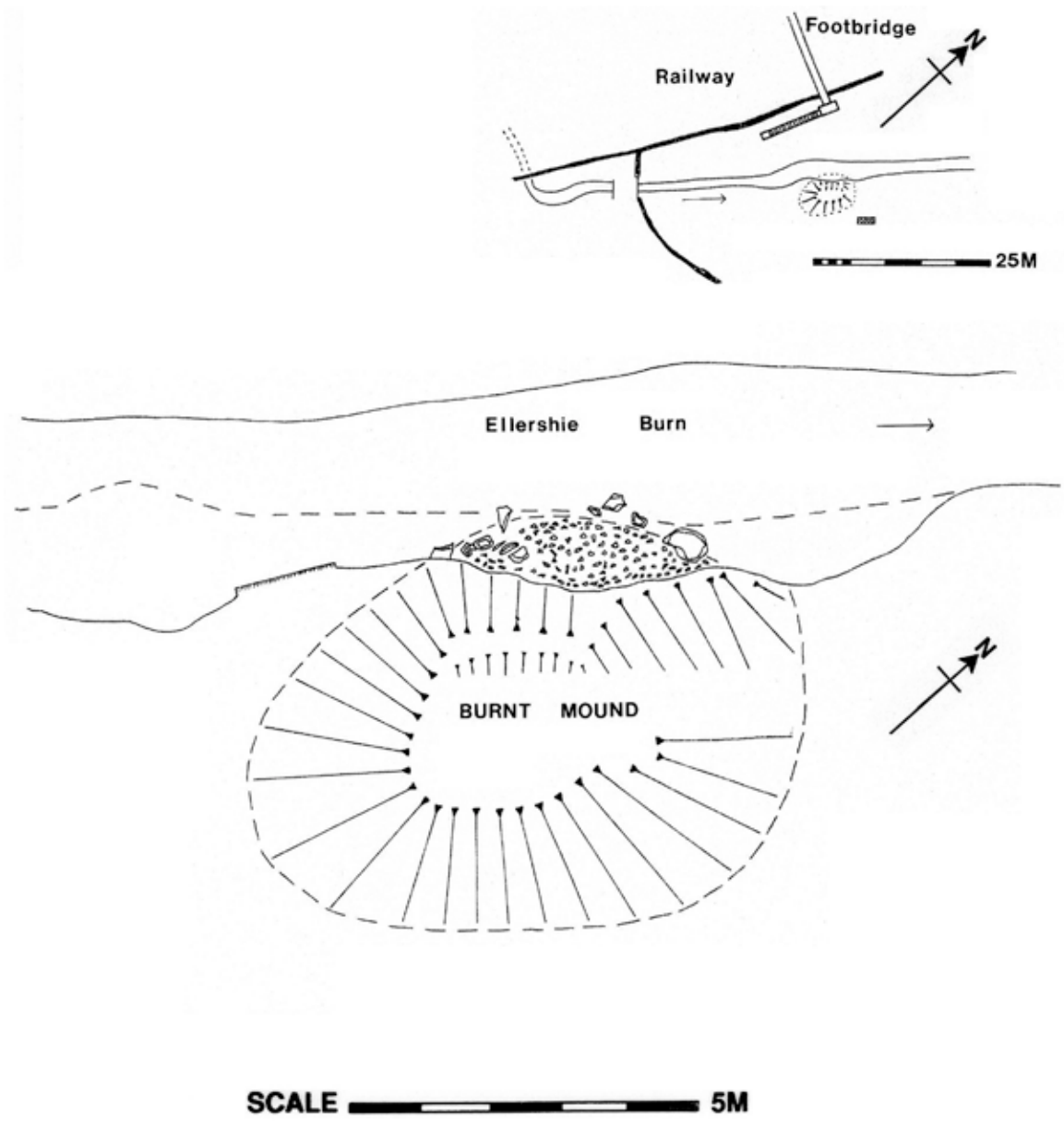
Surveyed scale: 1:100



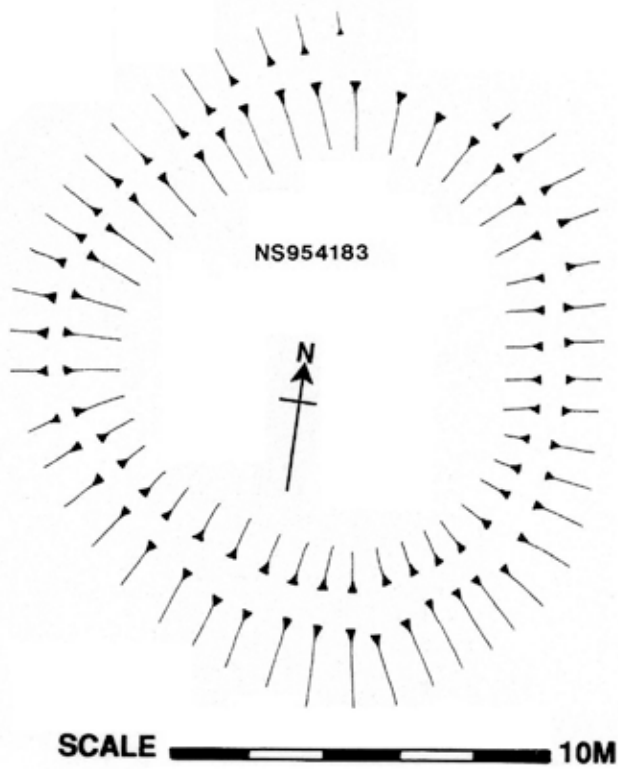
SCALE  **5M**

Site No 81 Fig 81
OS Sheet No: NS92SW
Surveyed scale: 1:100

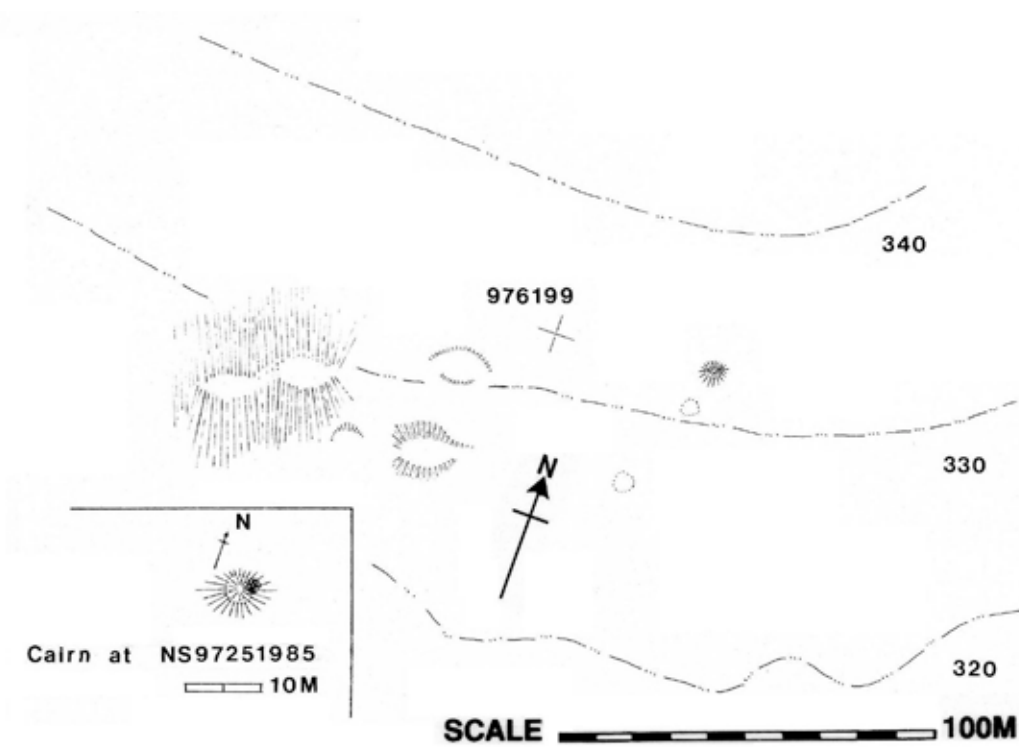
Location: Ellershie Hill NS 95852000



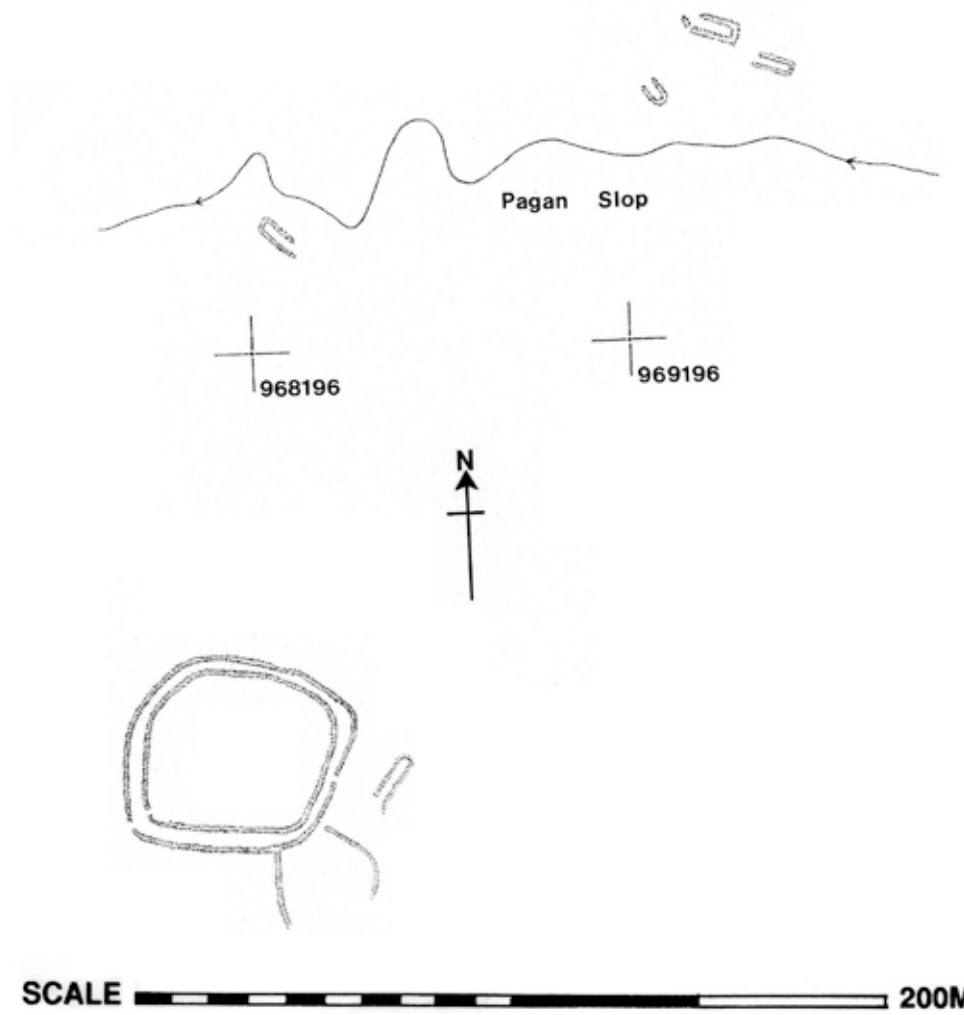
Site No 82 Fig 82
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Ellershie Burn NS 96041927
 Surveyed scales: 1:1000 & 1:100



Site No 83 Fig 83
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Elvanfoot NS 954183 Surveyed scale: 1:200



Site No 84 Fig 84
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Cowgill Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 85 Fig 85
OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Pagan Slop

Surveyed scale: 1:1000



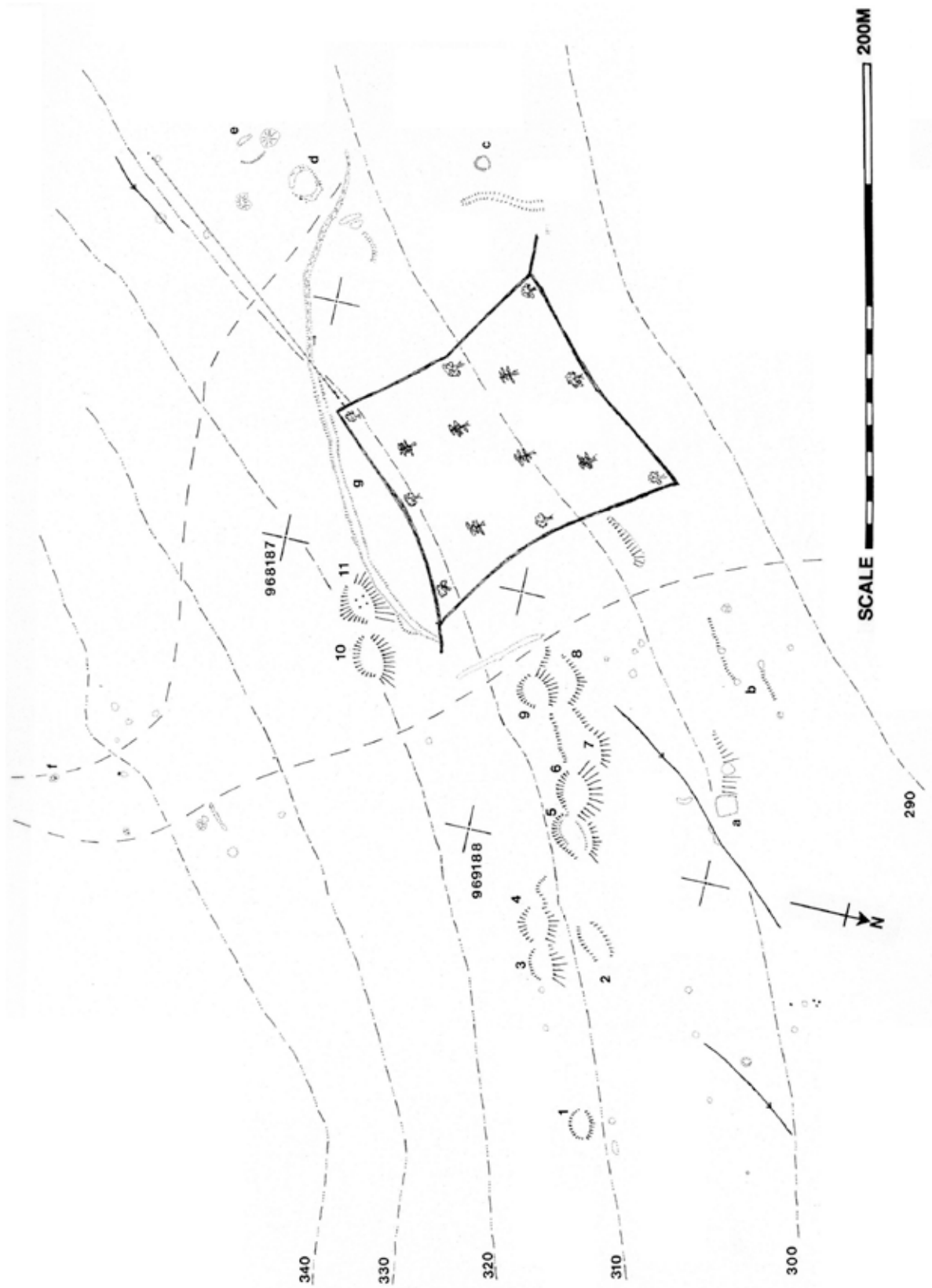
Cakelaw Burn

Site No 86 Fig 86

OS Sheet No: NS91NE

Location: Cakelaw Burn

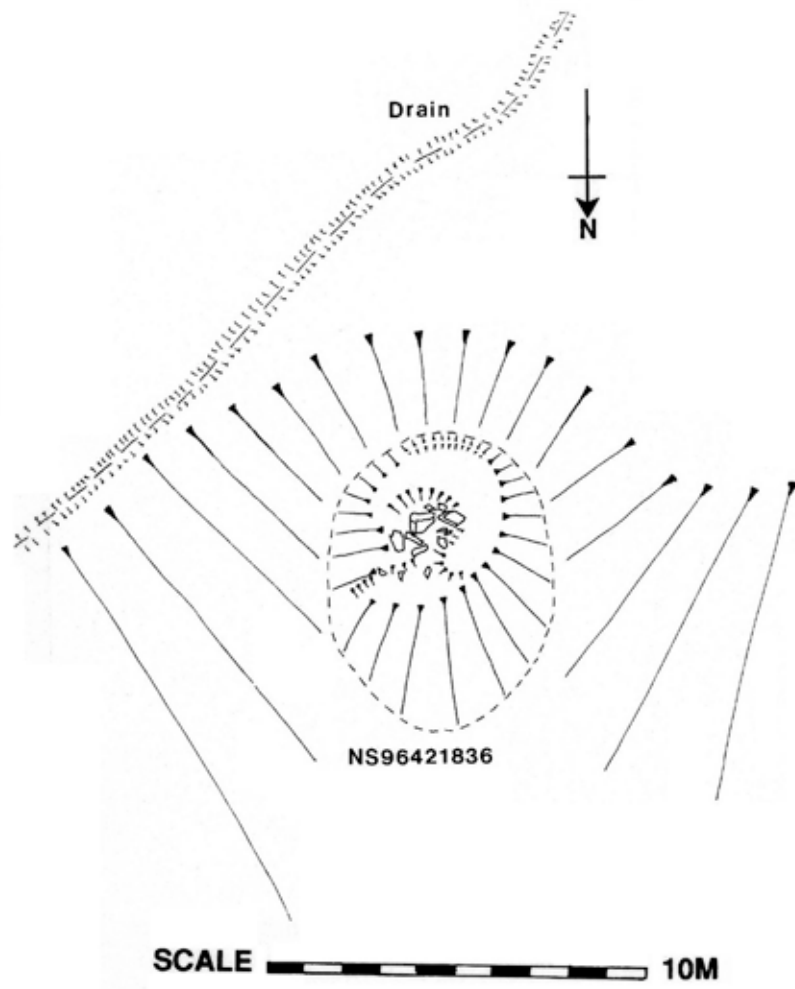
Surveyed scale: 1:1000



Site No 87 Fig 87
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE

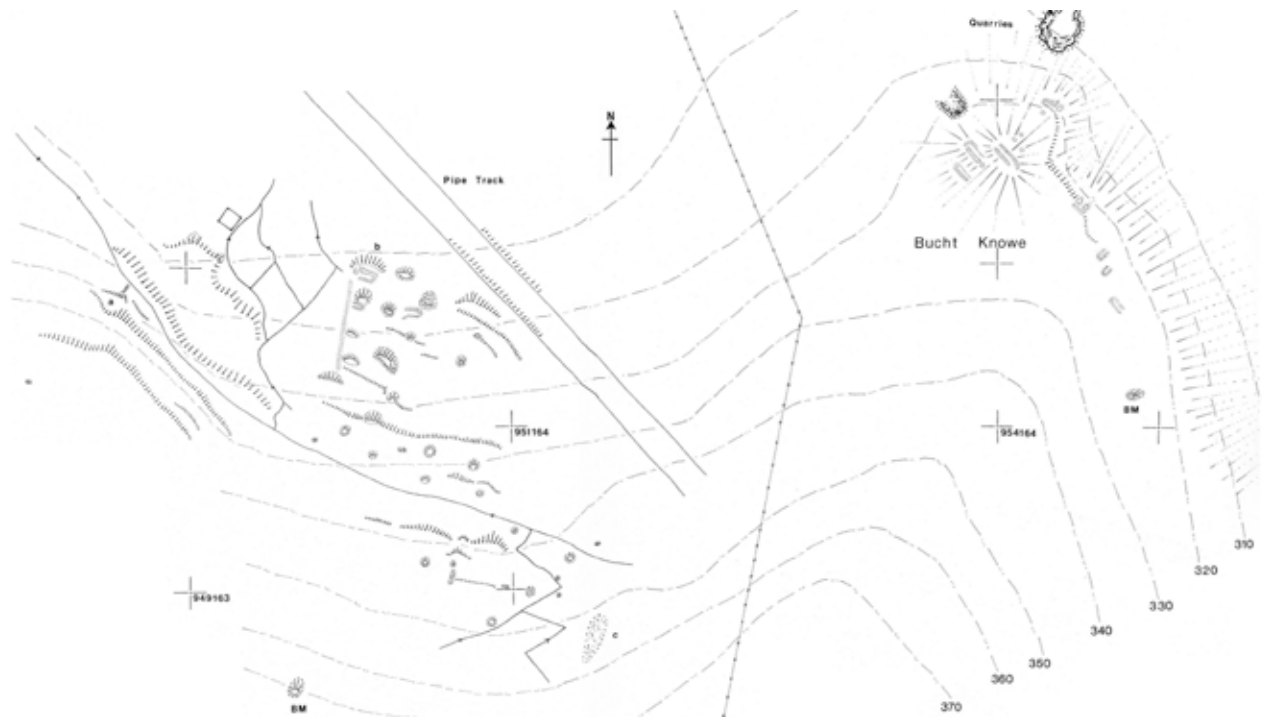
Location: Lodge Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:1000



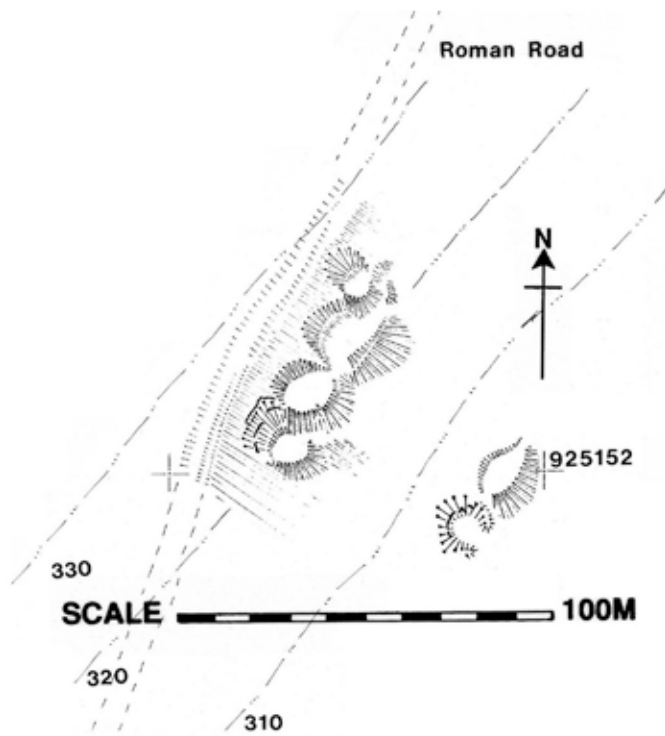
Site No 88 Fig 88
OS Sheet No: NS91NE
Surveyed scale: 1:100

Location: Lodge Hill NS 96421836



Site No 89 Fig 89
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE & NS91NW
 Surveyed scale: 1:1000

Location: Watchman Hill

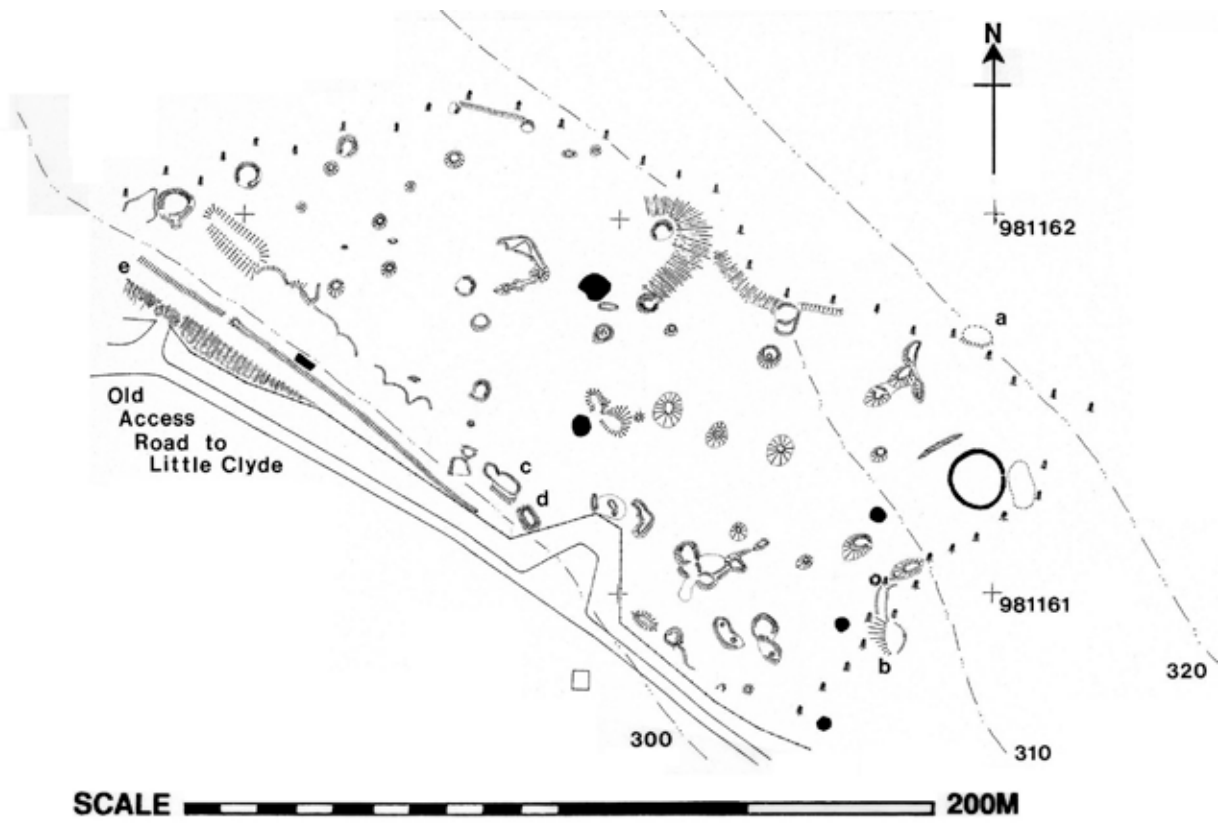


Site No 90 Fig 90
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE

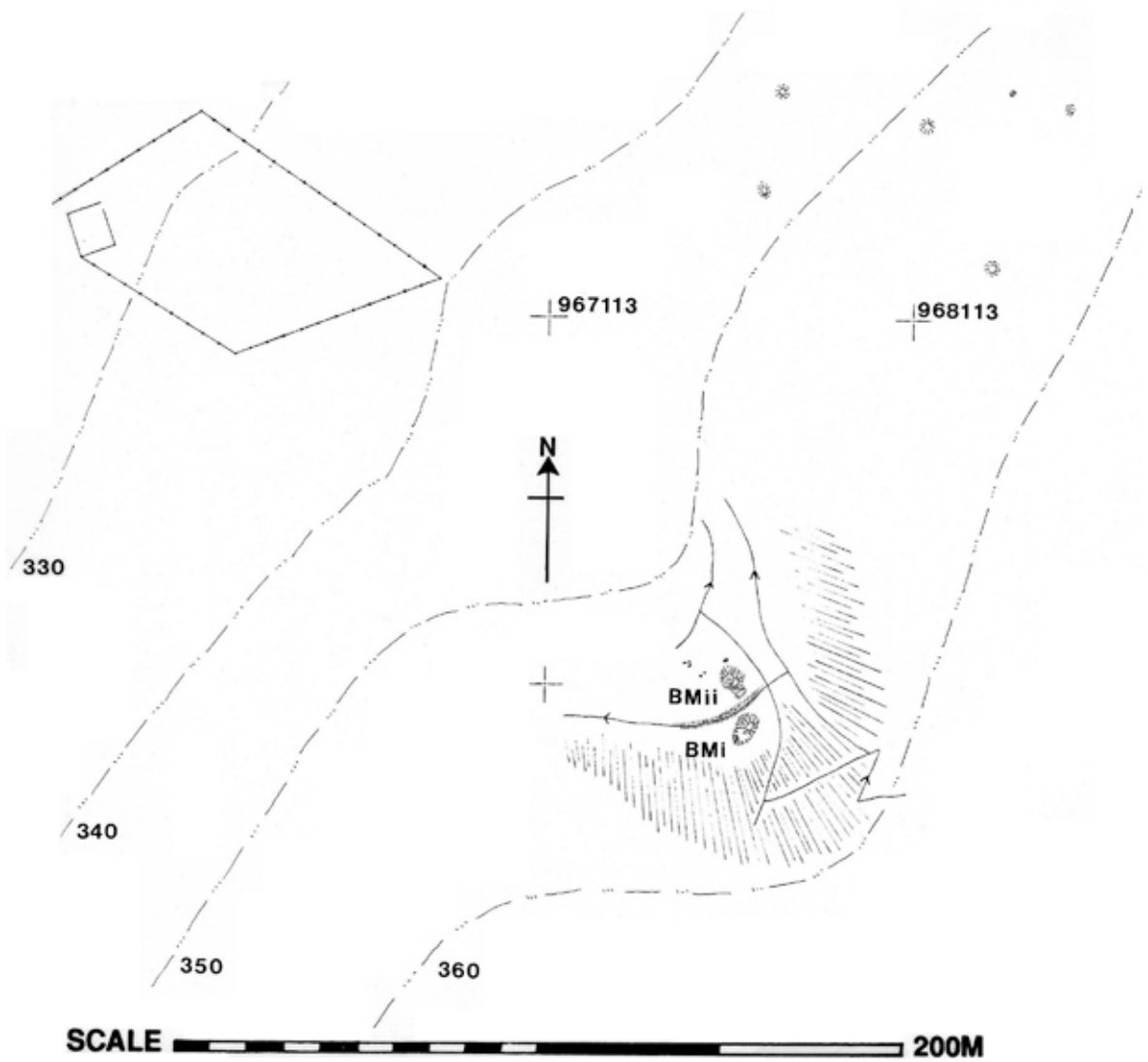
Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 91 Fig 91
OS Sheets No's: NS91NE & NS91SE Location: Crookedstane Farm
Surveyed scale: 1:500



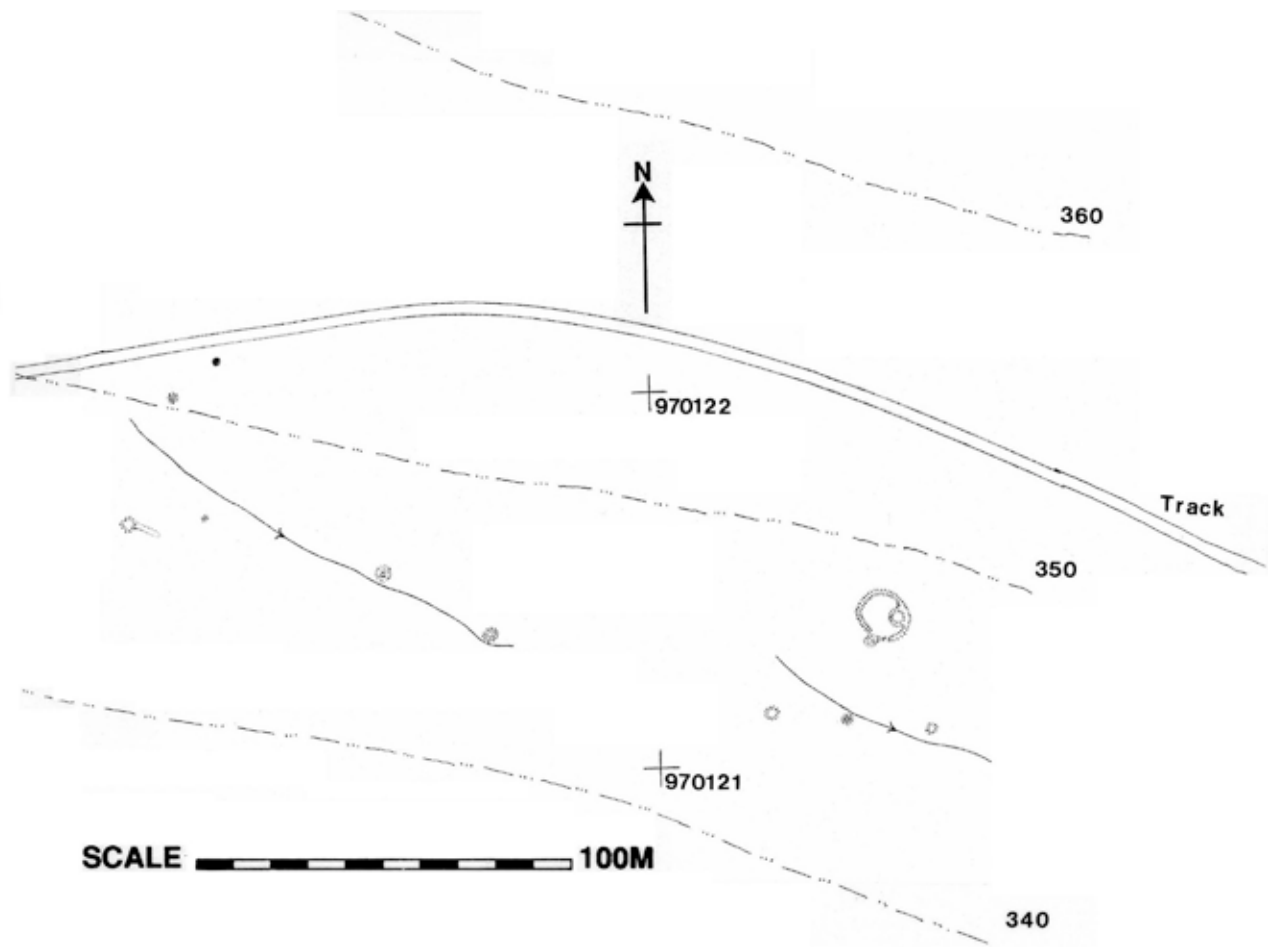
Site No 92 Fig 92
 OS Sheet No: NS91NE Location: Fall Kneesend Surveyed scale: 1:250



Site No 93 Fig 93
 OS Sheet No: NS91SE

Location: Brown Knees

Surveyed scale: 1:500

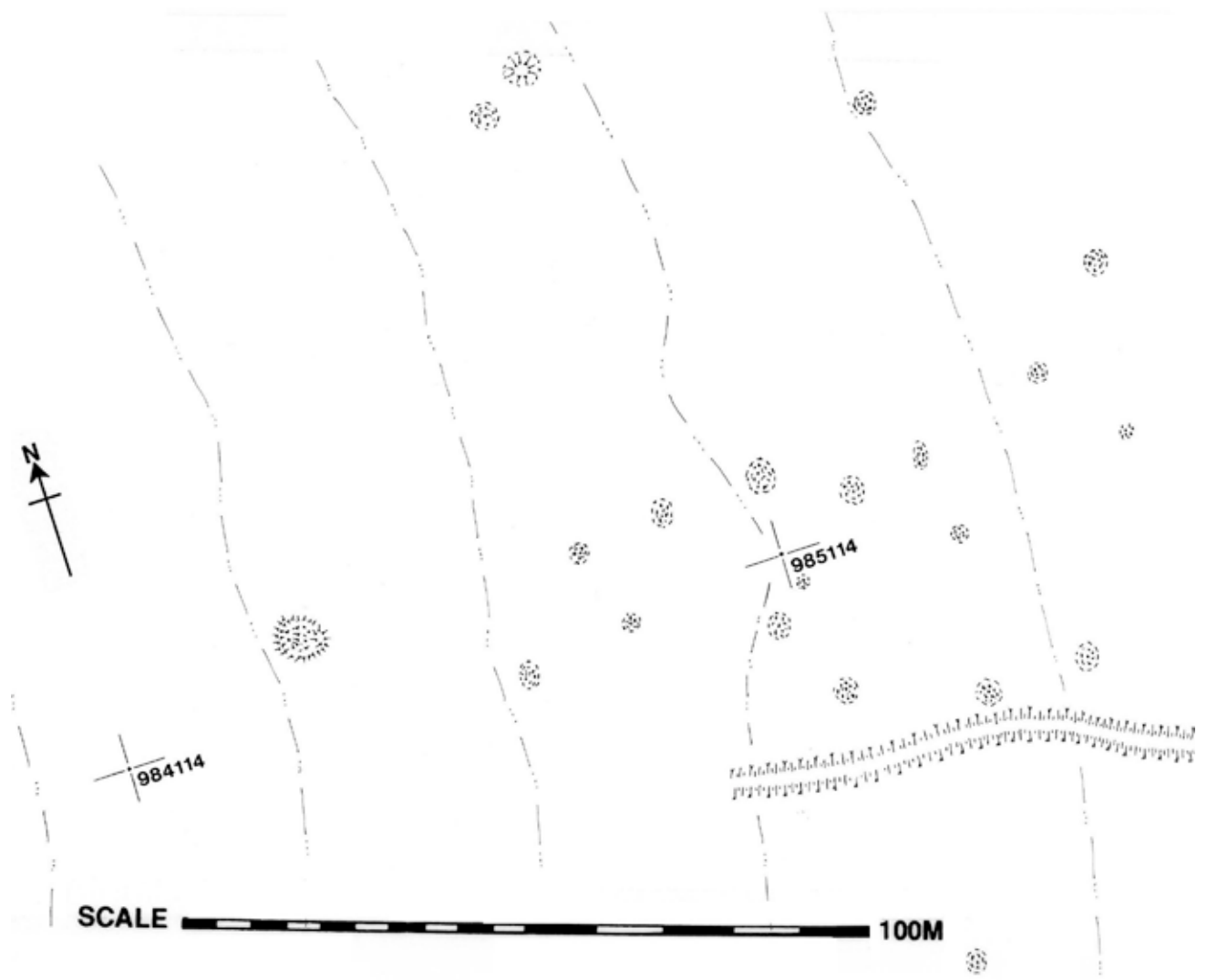


Site No 94 Fig 94

OS Sheet No : NS91SE

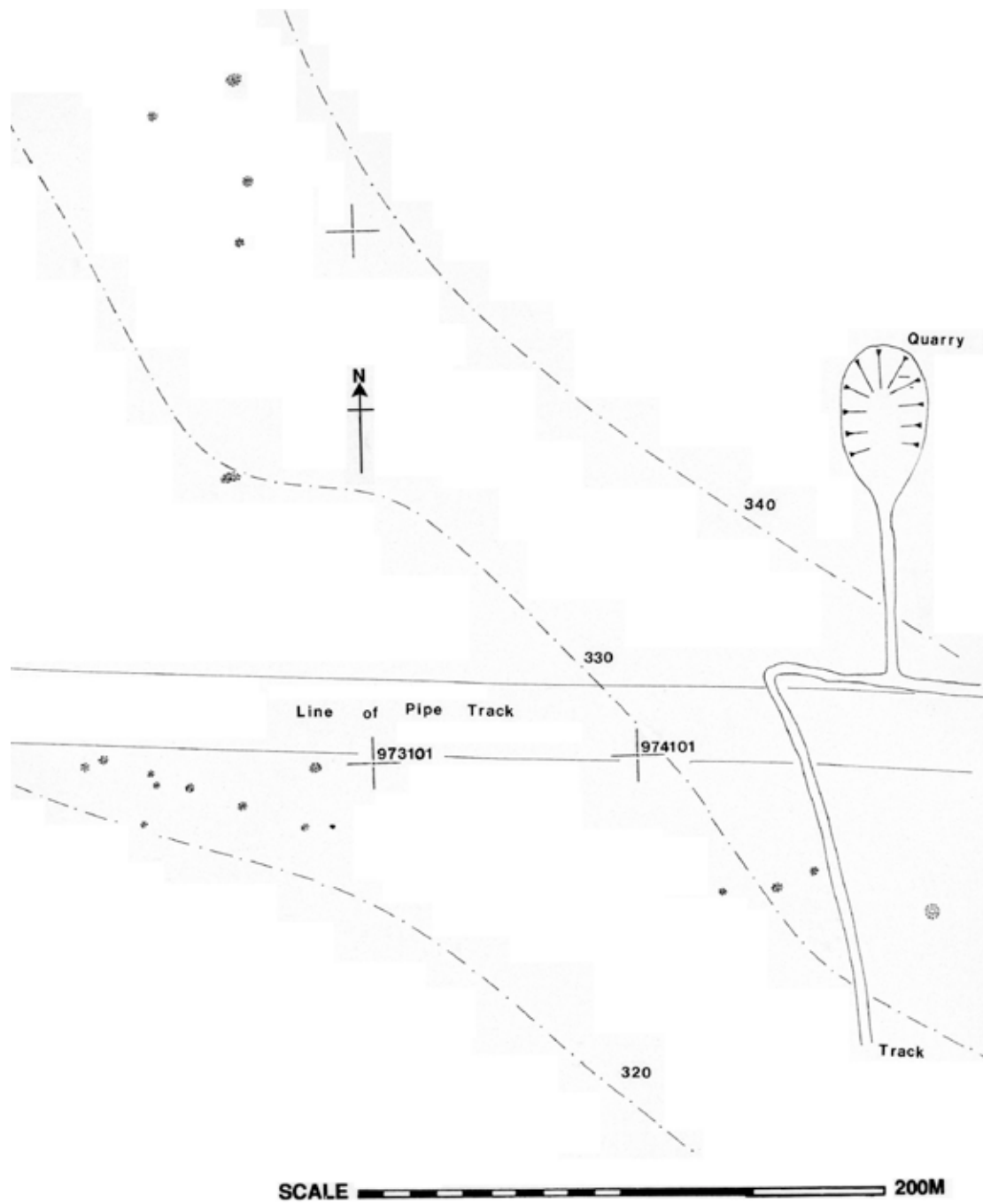
Location: White Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500



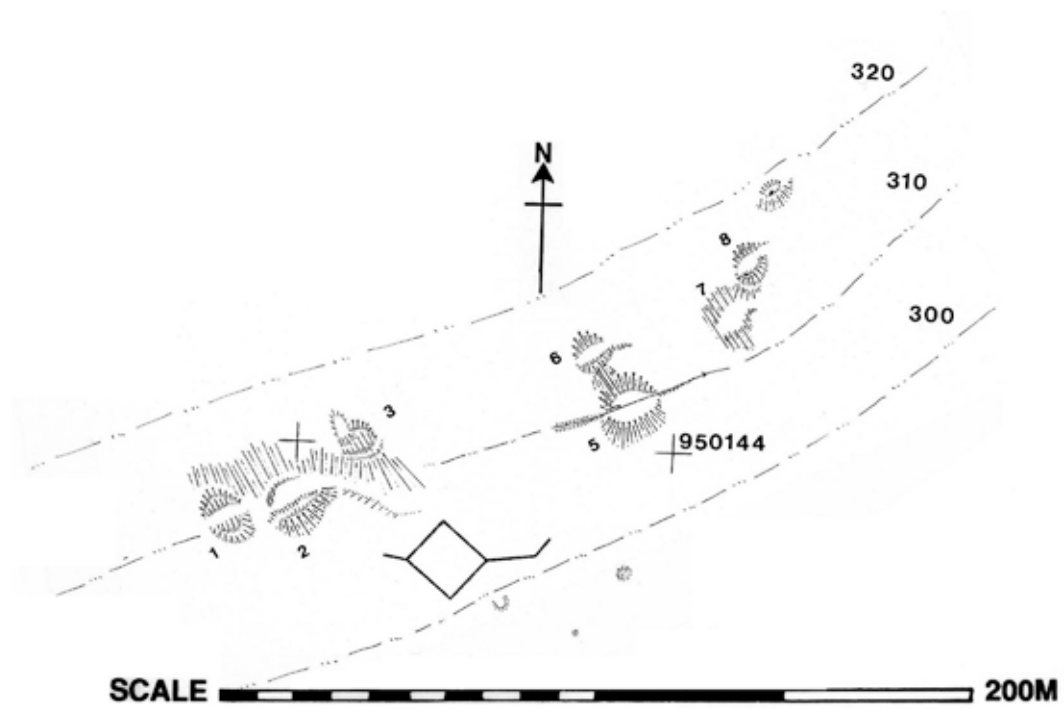
Site No 95 Fig 95
OS Sheet No: NS91SE

Location: Wintercleuch Fell Surveyed scale: 1:500

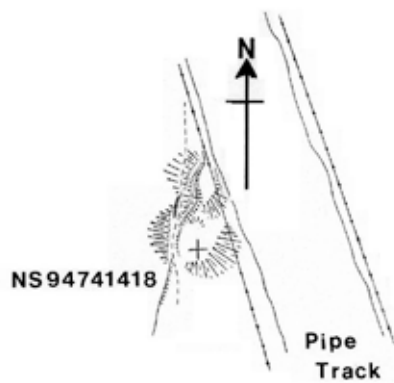


Site No 96 Fig 96
 OS Sheet No: NS91SE

Location: Lion Hill Surveyed scale: 1:1000

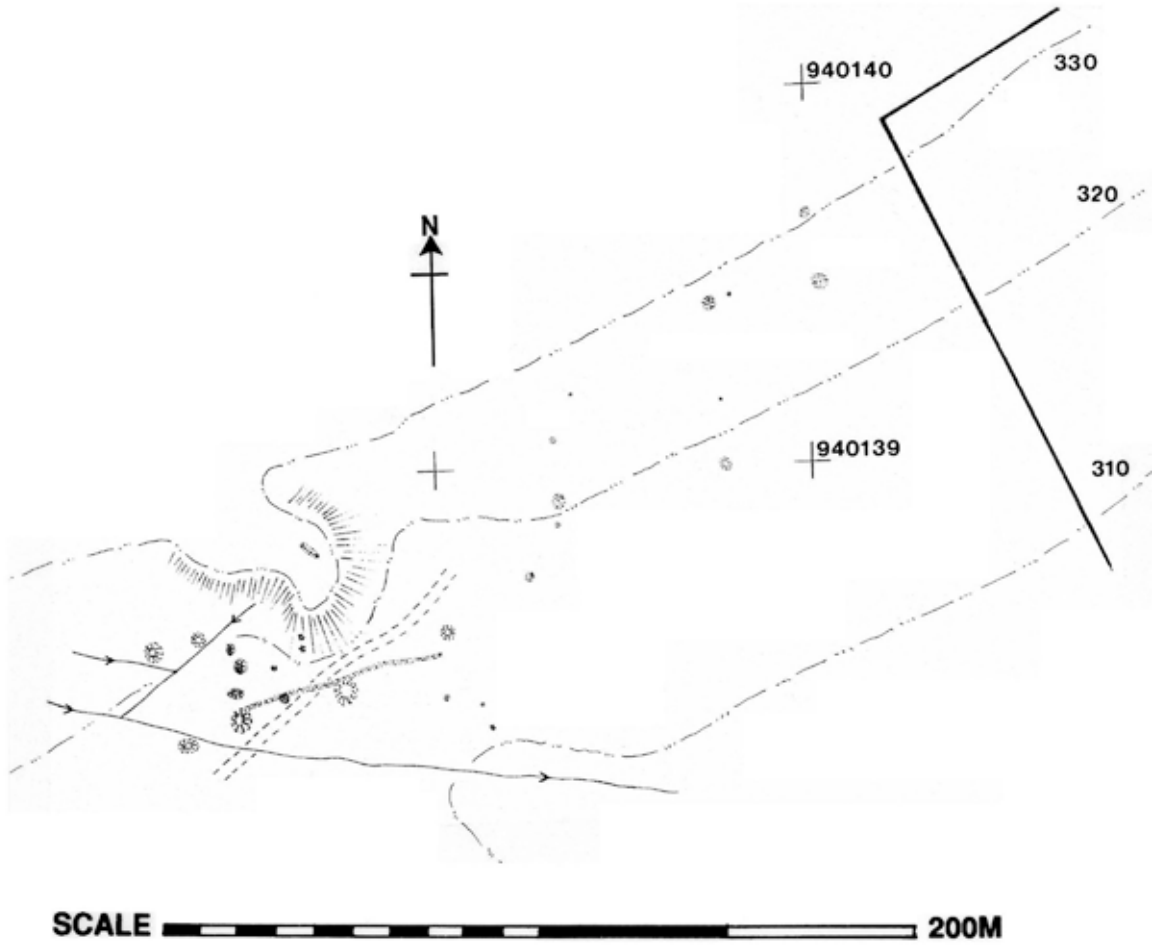


Site No 97 Fig 97
 OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500



SCALE  100M

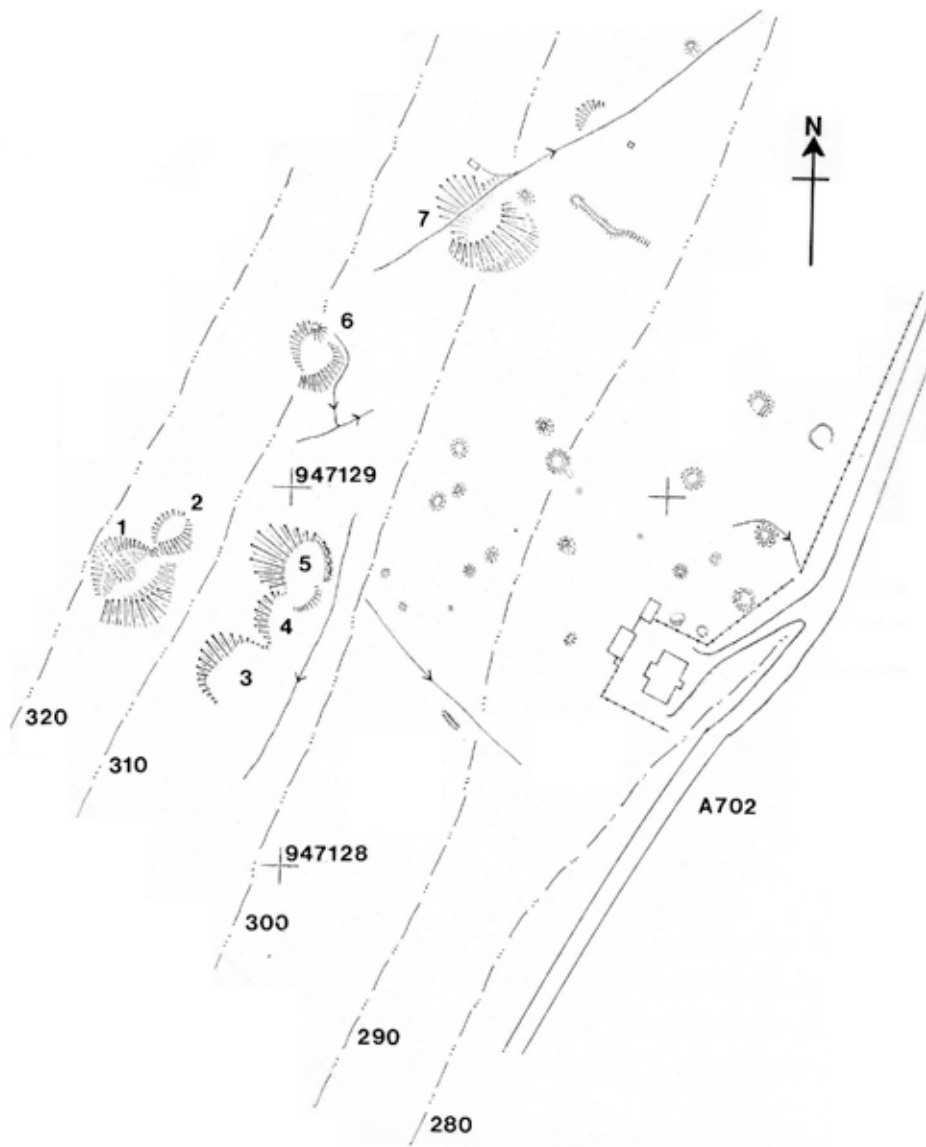
Site No 98 Fig 98
 OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Annanshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 99 Fig 99
OS Sheet No: NS91SW

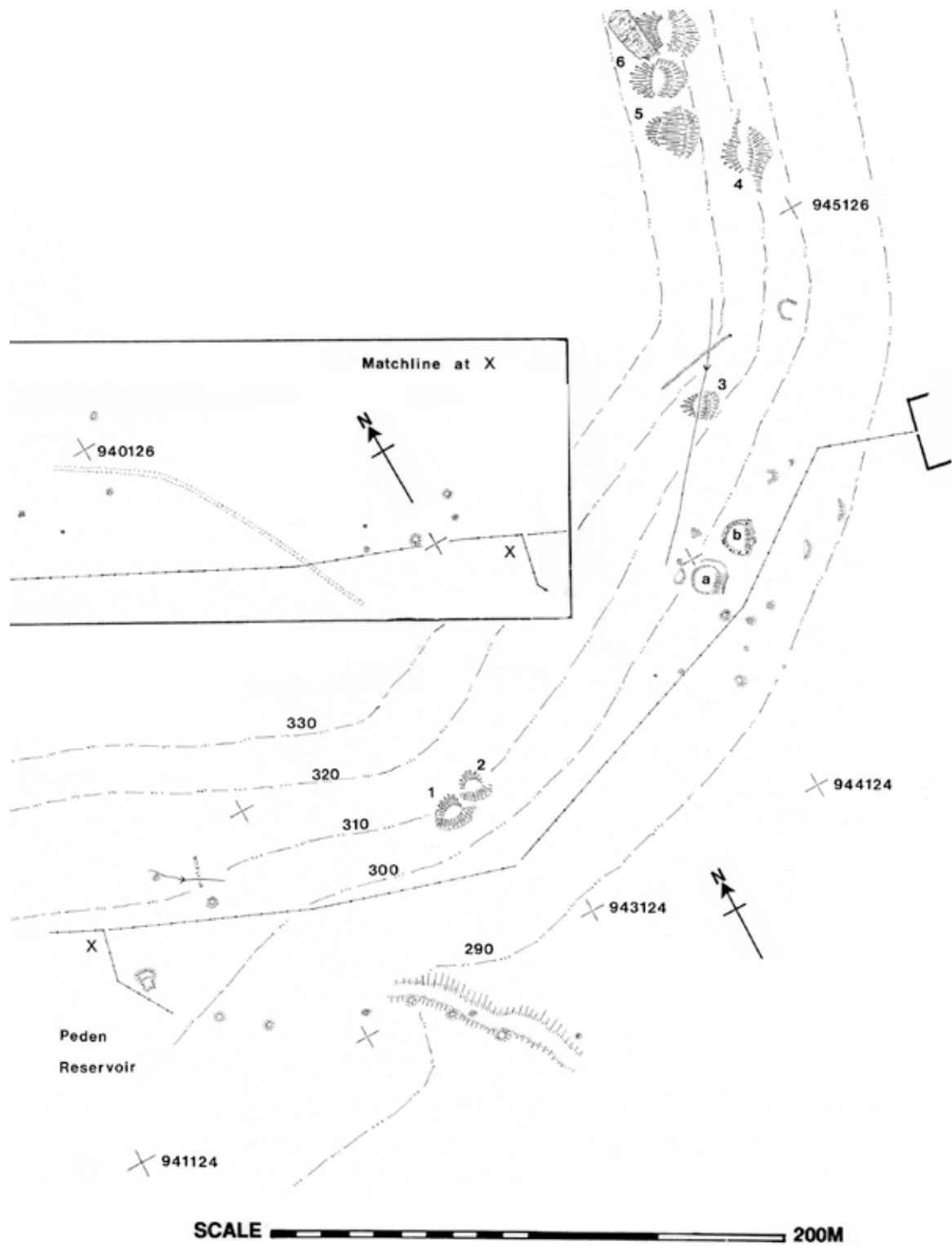
Location: Great Hill

Surveyed scale: 1:500



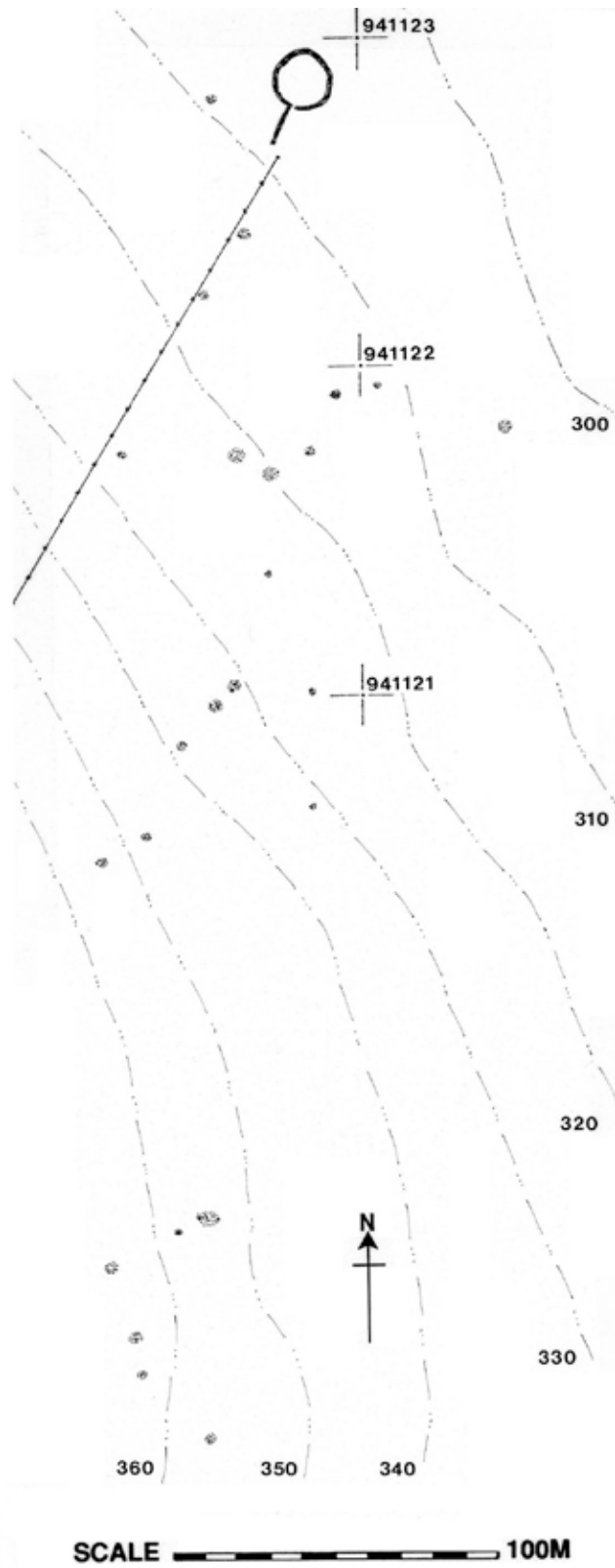
Site No 100 Fig 100
 OS Sheet No: NS91SW

Location: Doddin Surveyed scale: 1:500



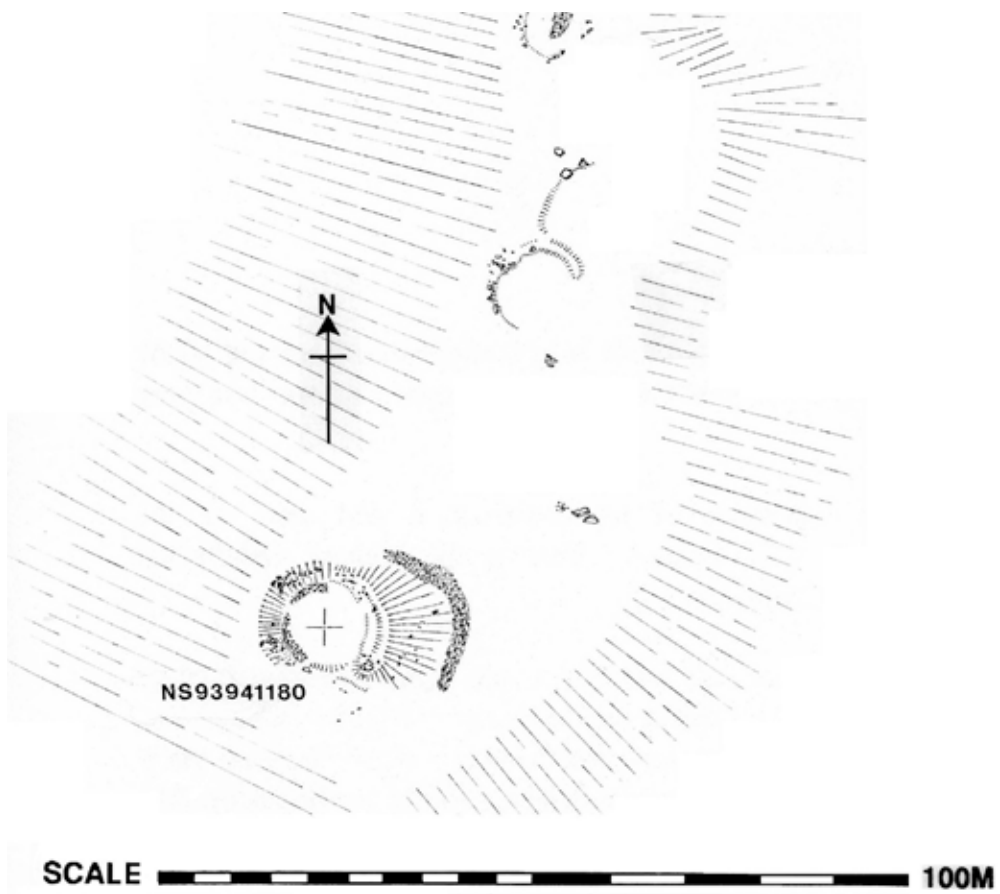
Site 101 Fig 101
 OS Sheet No: NS91SW

Location: Doddin Surveyed scale: 1.500



Site No 102 Fig 102
Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Faugh

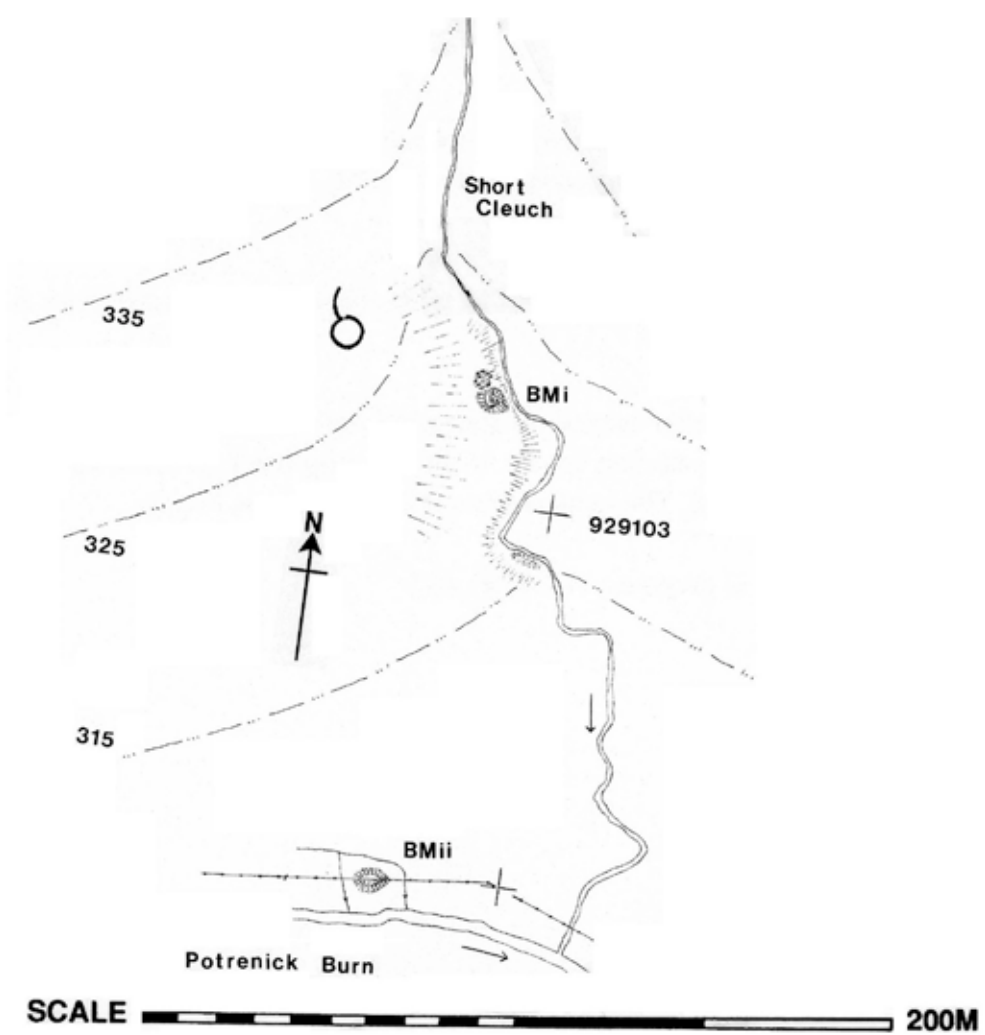
Surveyed scale: 1:1000



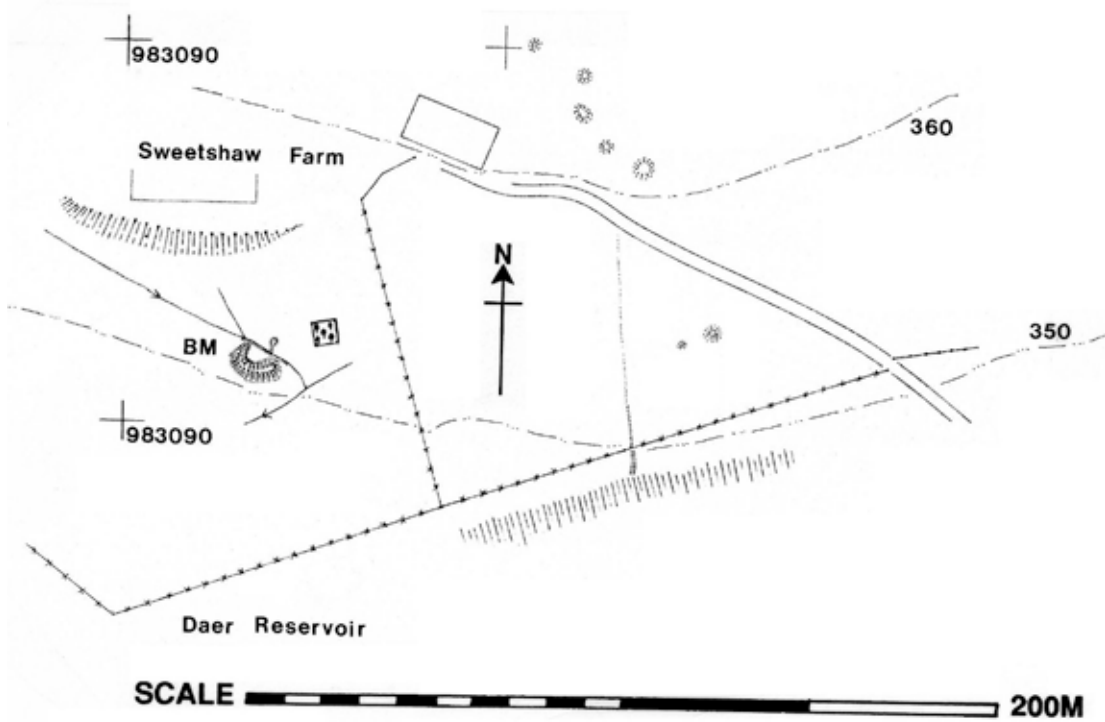
Site No 103 Fig 103
OS Sheet No: NS91SW

Location: Faugh

Surveyed scale: 1:250

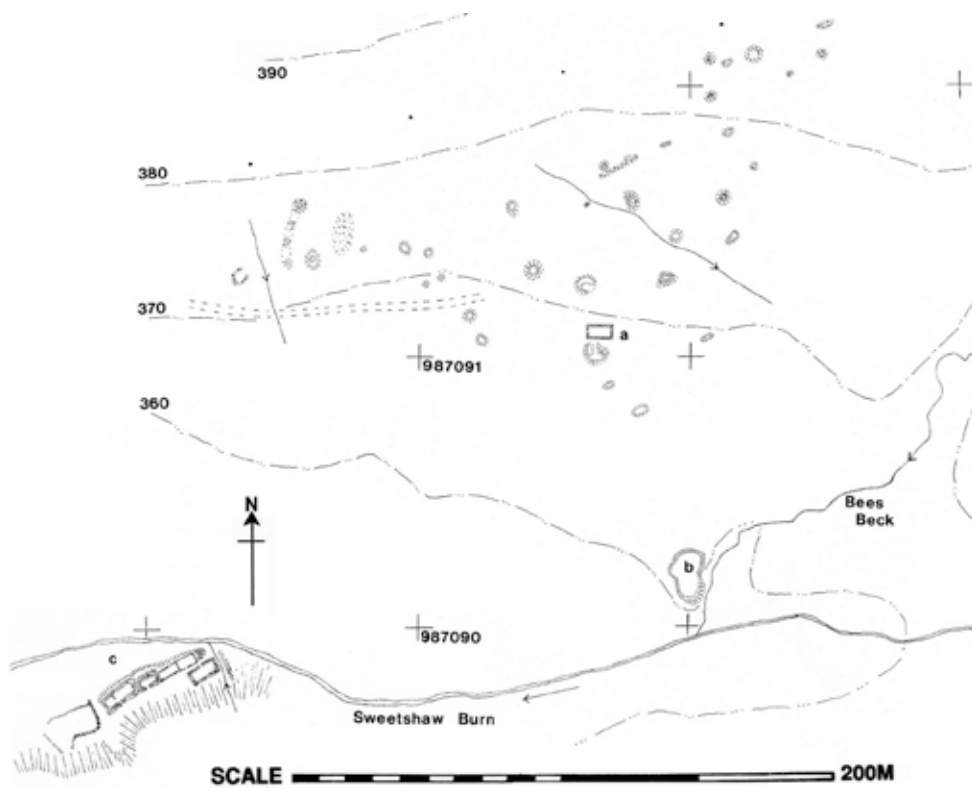


Site No 104 Fig 104
 OS Sheet No: NS91SW Location: Potrenick Burn Surveyed scale: 1:500



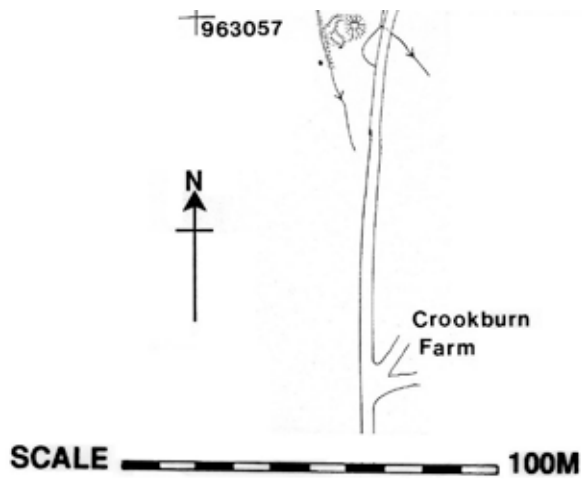
Site No 105 Fig 105
OS Sheet No: NS90NE

Location: Sweetshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

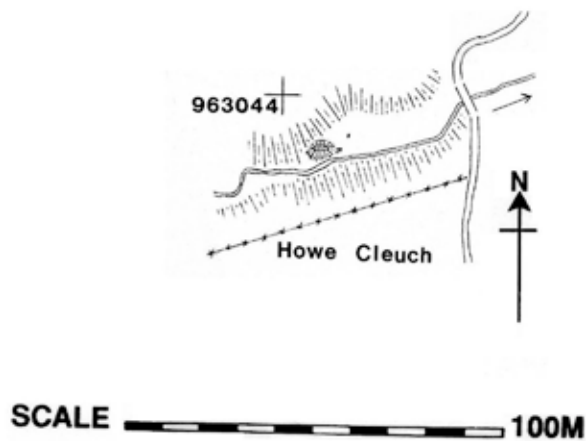


Site No 106 Fig 106
OS Sheet No: NS90NE

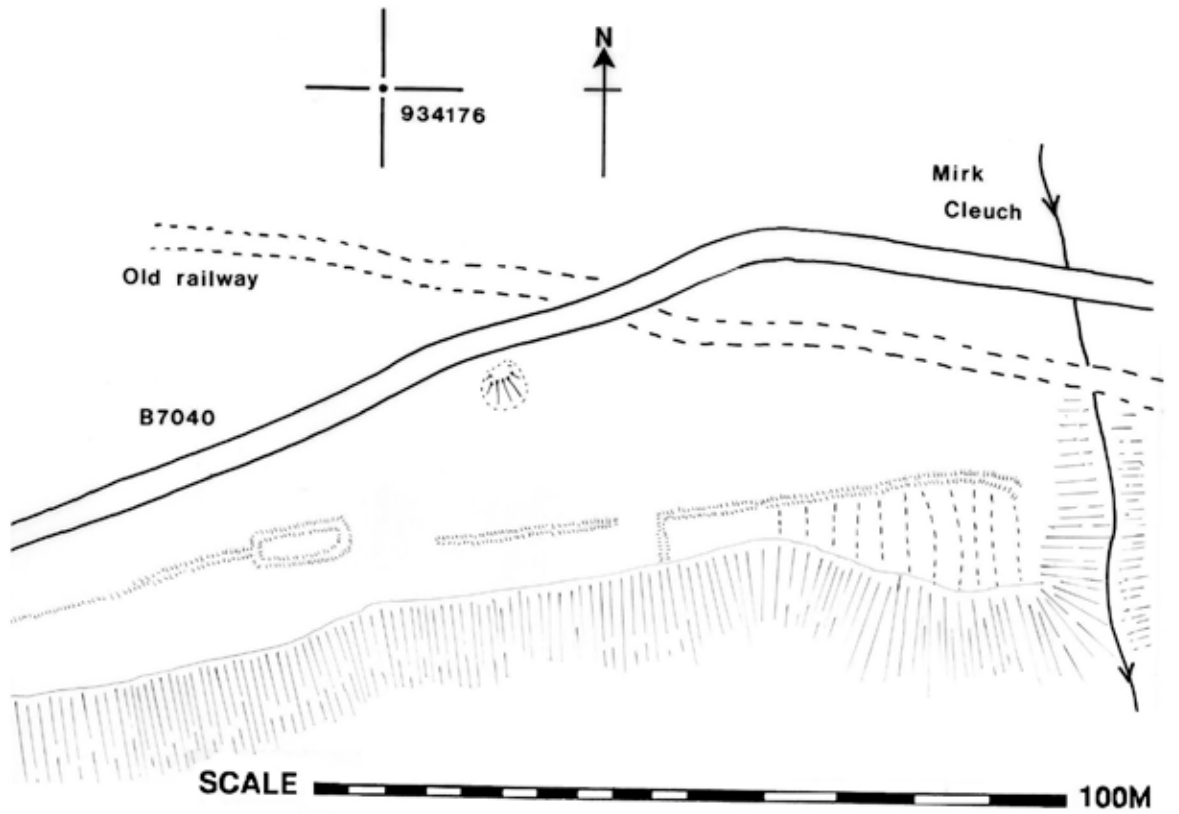
Location: Sweetshaw Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500



Site No 107 Fig 107
OS Sheet No: NS90NE Location: Watchmans Brae Surveyed scale: 1:500

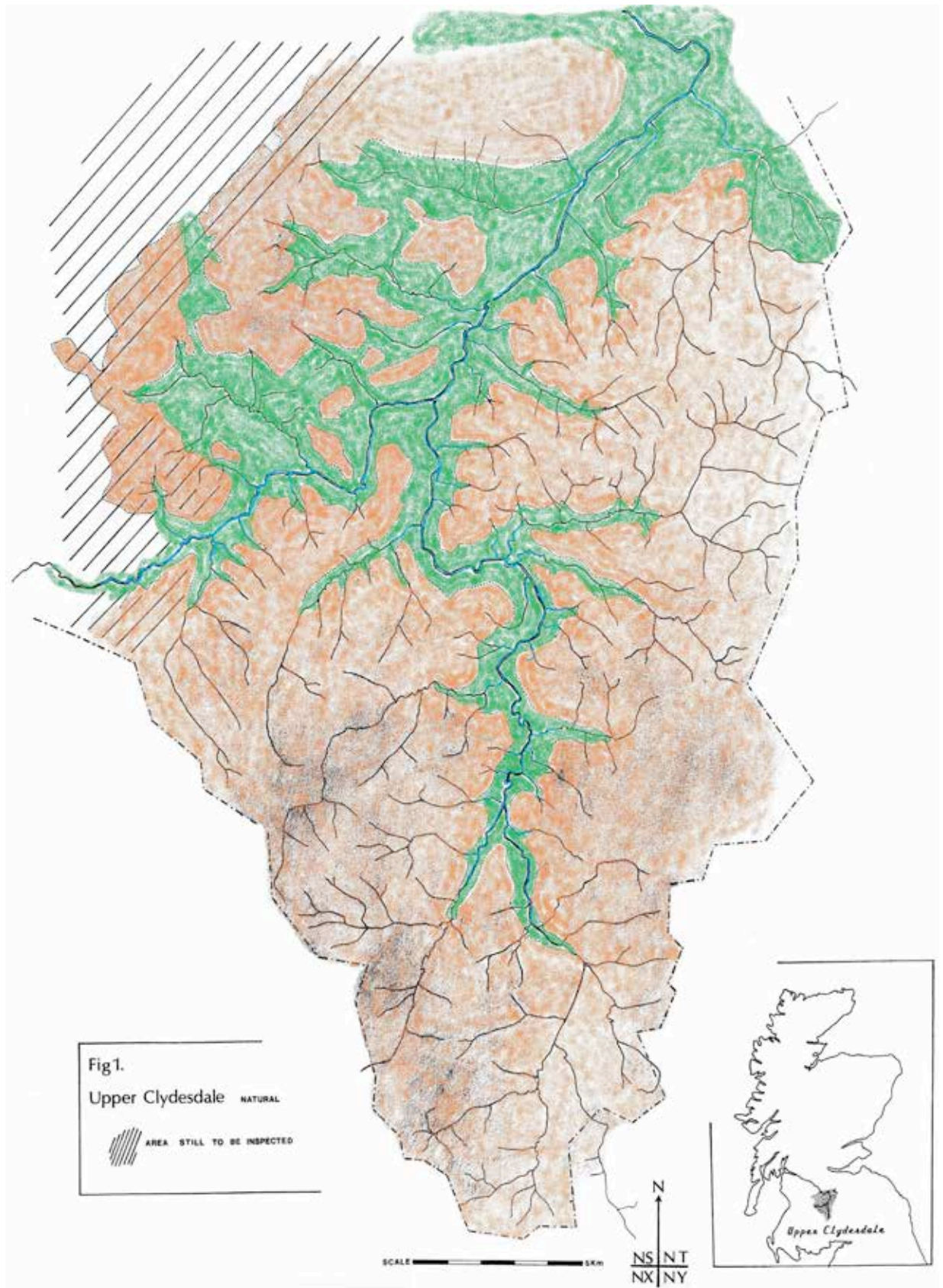


Site No 108 Fig 108
OS Sheet No: NS90SE Location: Howe Cleuch NS 963044
Surveyed scale: 1:500

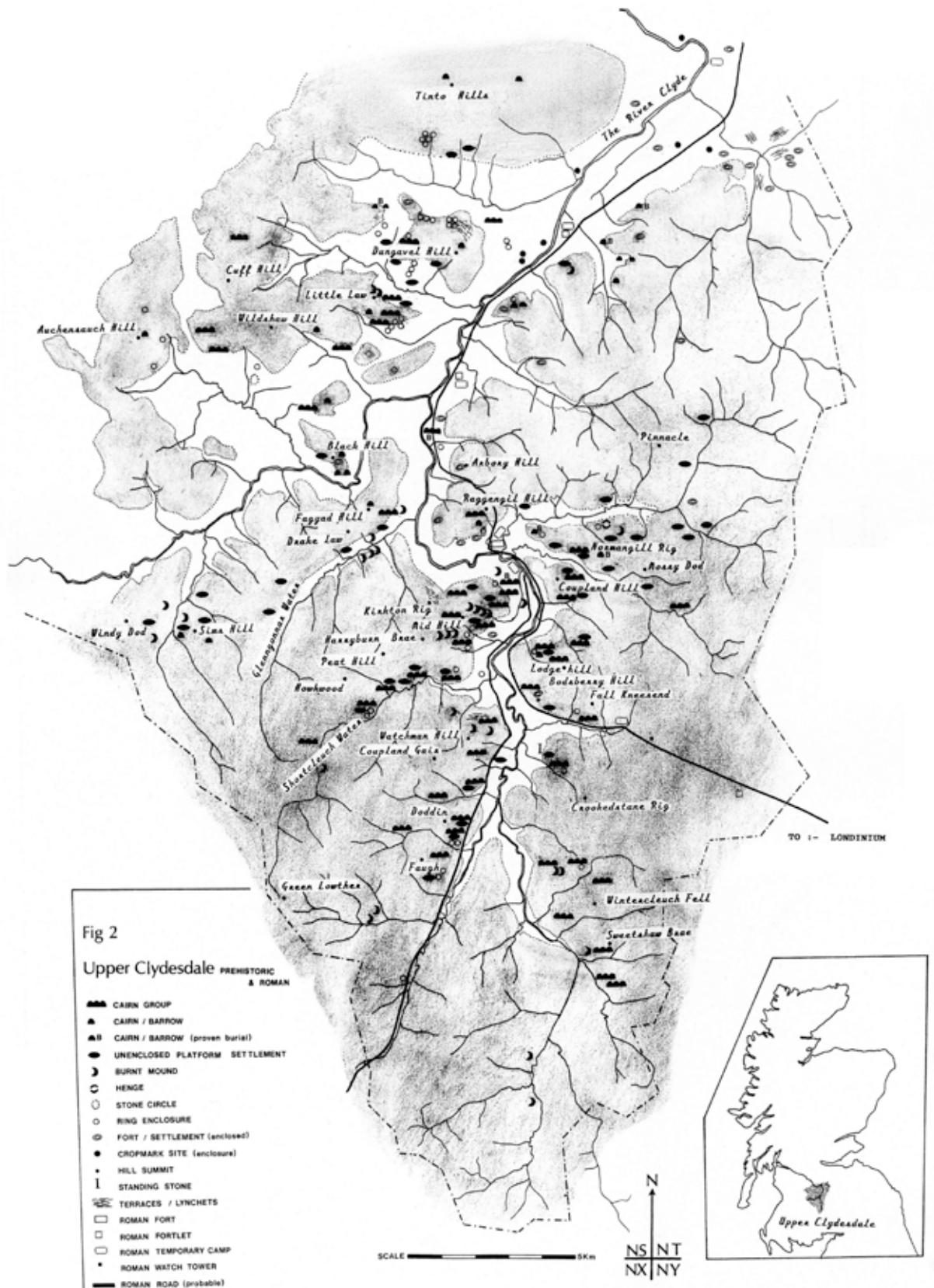


Site 109 **Fig 109**
OS Sheet No: NS91NW
Surveyed scale: 1:1000

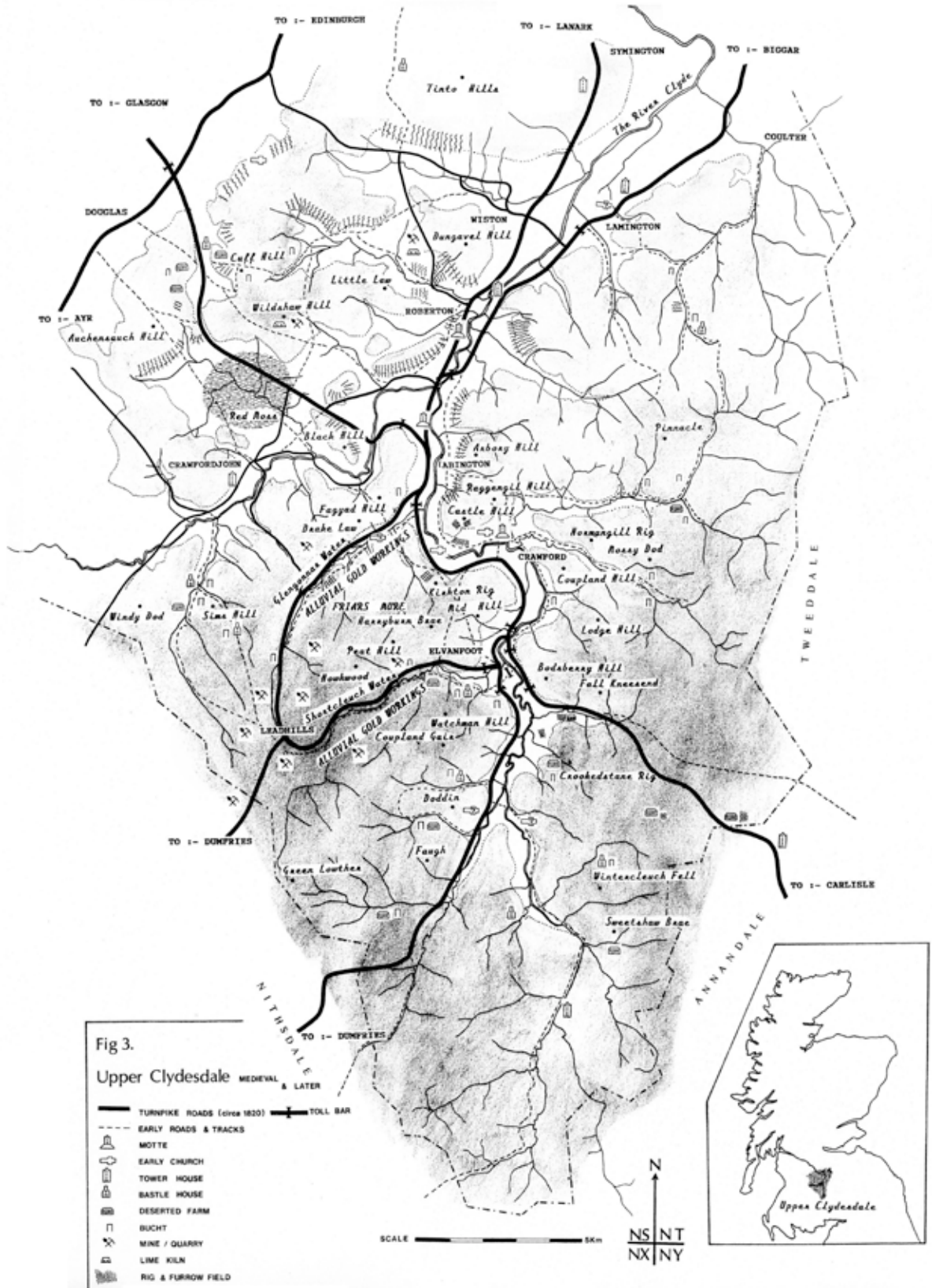
Location: Craggy Brae NS 934176



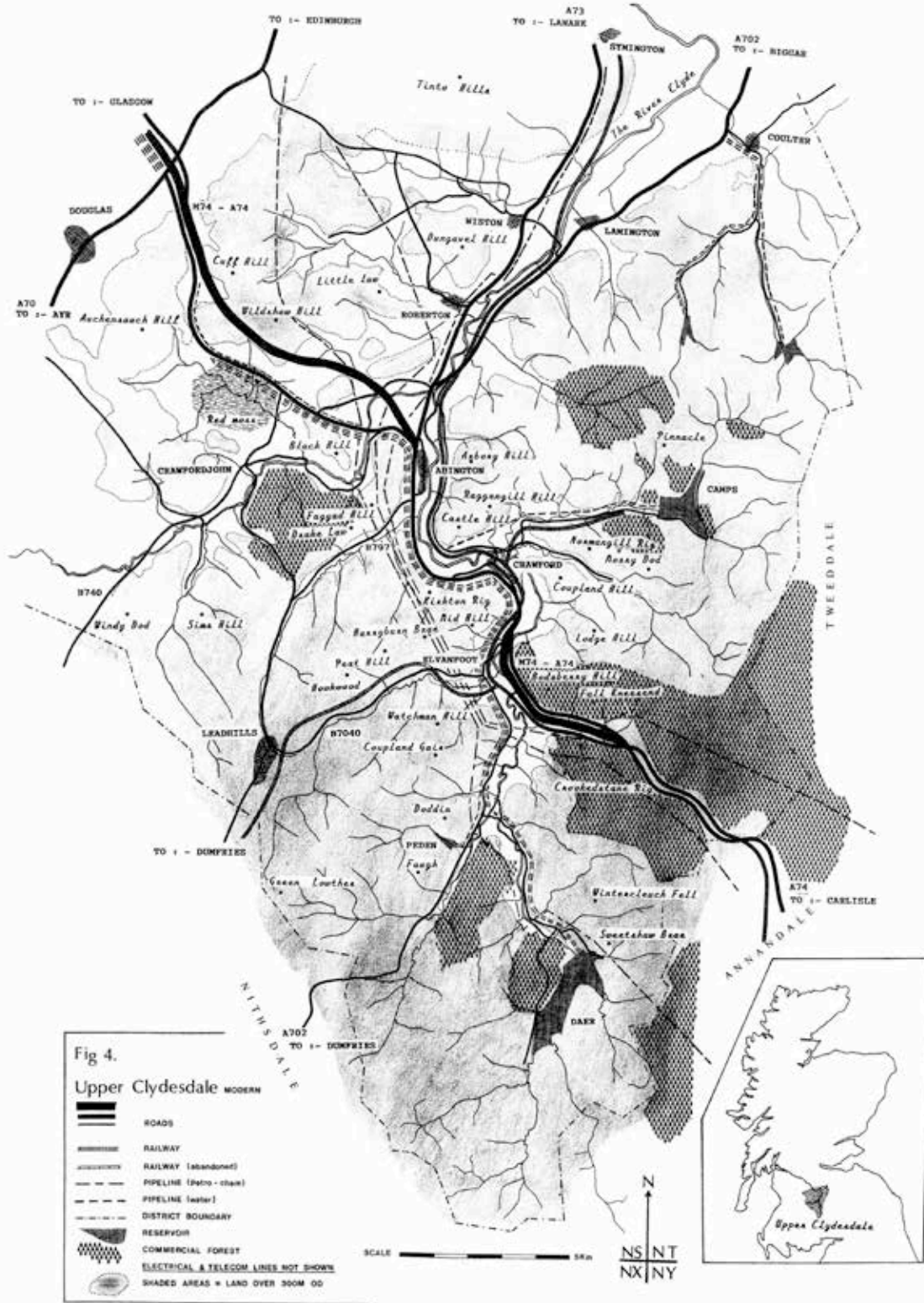
Natural Upper Clydesdale. Land above 300m OD shown as brown.



Prehistoric Upper Clydesdale.



Medieval Upper Clydesdale.



Modern Upper Clydesdale.

APPENDIX I

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SURVEY USING THE TAPED-OFFSET METHOD

By kind permission, the following information is extracted from teaching handouts issued by the University of Glasgow, Department of Adult and Continuing Education. This is the technique which is taught by the University as part of their Certificate of Field Archaeology Course. The surveys produced by BMT M74 were all accomplished by this method.

The basic aims of any archaeological field survey should be to record, as accurately as possible within the constraints imposed by differing scales, those features which are thought to be of archaeological significance; to relate such features to basic scale OS maps, and to offer an interpretation of the features as evidence of human past activity. There are many different methods of survey, such as those employing (in decreasing order of expense) equipment including tellurometers, electronic distance meters, theodolites, self-reducing alidades, plane table and pacing.

The method of taped-offset outline here was the one generally employed by the former Archaeology Division of the Ordnance Survey. It combines relative cheapness of equipment with speed of survey in the field and has considerable scope for adaption in large area field survey. The equipment used consists of:

- 1) minimum of two metric tapes (30M and 50M; 100M if available)
- 2) optical prism (used for setting right-angles from a base line)
- 3) prismatic compass (for taking bearings and measuring angles)
- 4) ranging poles (or bamboo canes) and surveying arrows
- 5) record sheets and drawing boards

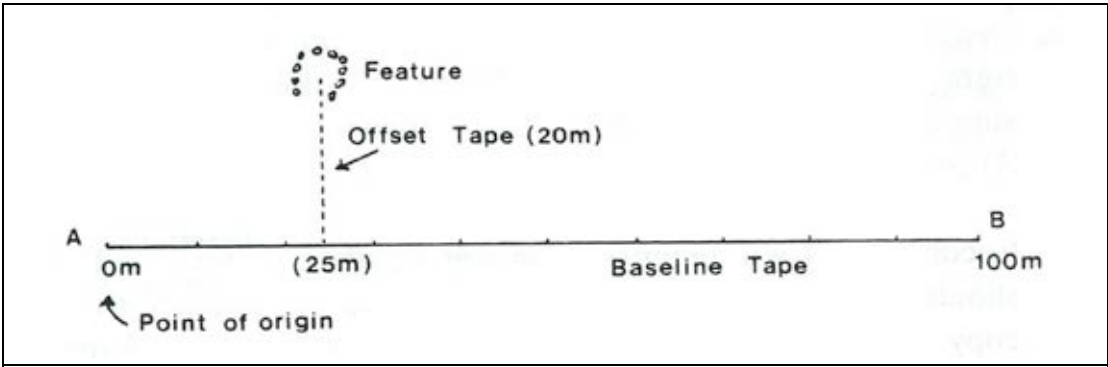
A plan can be produced from the survey simply from the recorded measurements, but it is always more desirable if a drawn plan can be produced in the field at the same time as the measurements are taken, the combination of recording and planning provides a greater check on the progress of the survey, the elimination of errors and, with the plan produced on site, it is possible to indicate the subtle variations in archaeological features which might not be apparent from a series of measurements.

The basic techniques of taped-offset are not particularly difficult. The comparative cheapness of the equipment, coupled with the fact that a plan can be produced by a single person (although it is certainly quicker with a team of two or three), makes this method of survey particularly suitable for both amateur and professional field archaeologists.

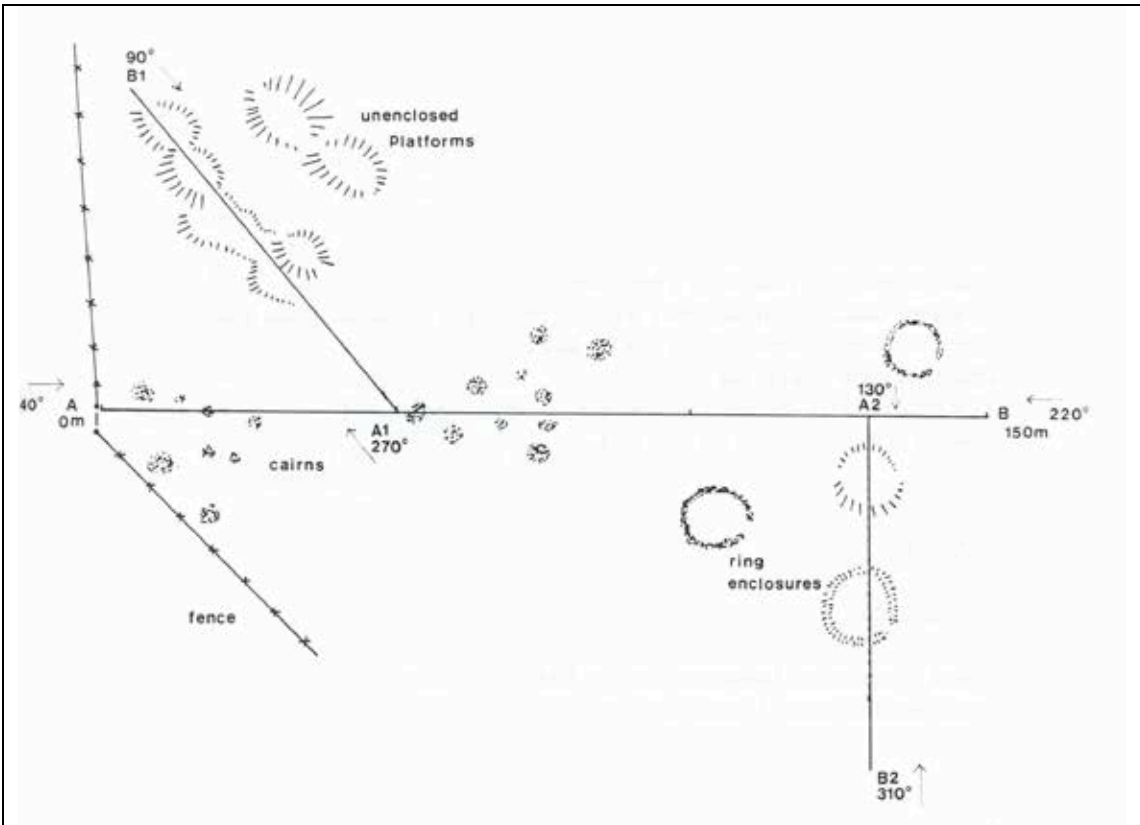
METHOD OF OPERATION

1) Base Lines

Taped-offset works by determining a straight line through the area or monument to be surveyed. This is marked out on the ground by ranging poles. Whenever possible, either or both ends of the base line should be directly related to physical features recorded on OS maps (normally 1:10,000 or 1:25,000 scales for rural survey).



Tape offset method of survey



Tape offset method of survey

Features on maps can include corners of fields, buildings, roads etc. Base lines will be lettered A-B; C-D; E-F to Y-Z. Determination of the direction of the base line will be done by magnetic bearing using a prismatic compass, and the bearings should be 180° apart. A tape is then laid out on the ground along the base line. Commencing at zero on the measuring tape (at the point of origin), measurements are taken in metres along the base line and, using the optical prism to set a right angle to the feature to be recorded, a measurement is taken to it. In the example given here, the feature would be recorded as 25M along the base line (from A) and offset 10M to the centre of the feature. When all features are recorded to right and left of the base line tape, the tape can be advanced to the next section and the process repeated until the end of the line is reached

Great care should be taken to note the number of times the base tape has been advanced, when the tape is moved along each time ensure that the additional

measurement is added to the record. On a long base line, where the tape has been advanced several times, a 'missed' tape movement will cause havoc in a survey!

2) Supplementary Base Lines

It will sometimes be necessary to add one or more supplementary base lines to the original base line, in order to reach groups of features at distances of over 40M (which is about the limit for any offset right angle using the optical prism), and where it is not desirable to lay out a new base line. The designation of supplementary base lines takes the form of adding a number to the base line letters. Thus in the illustration here the supplementary base lines are designated A1-B1 and A2-B2. The same rules for magnetic bearings and point of origin as for base lines should be observed with, in this case, the point of origin being the distance along the base line tape. Note also that supplementary base lines need not be at right angles to the base line.

3) Record Sheets

The record sheets are designed to enable the distance along the base line and the offset measurements to be recorded. The basic information at the top of the record sheet should be entered first. Remember that the first letter of the base line code should be used as the zero point for the base line and should be recorded at the top of the base line column on the record sheet with the magnetic bearing for that end. Measurements along the base line and the offsets to the features can then be recorded in the appropriate columns. To ensure consistency the recorder should always face towards the point of origin in order to determine left and right. The feature columns should be used for a brief description and supplementary measurements (e.g. dimensions of a cairn or width of a bank). Abbreviations may be used as appropriate.

Record sheets will deteriorate in wet weather. If this should happen, every effort should be made to transfer the information to another sheet and record it as a copy.

The individual features and the entire surrounding area should be described giving details of location, height, topography and vegetation and an interpretation of the features. Models for these descriptions and drawing conventions and symbols can be had by comparing other surveys such as those published by the RCAHMS in their Inventories.

4) Determination of scale

Appropriate scales should be adopted according to the detail which is required. Generally it will be found that for basic survey of both large and small archaeological features over a large area, a scale of 1:1000 will be most practical. With monuments which require a more detailed plan such as hillforts or settlements, then scales of 1:500 or 1:200 may be more appropriate. For smaller monuments where detail may be important, scales of 1:100 or 1:50 should be used. It should be remembered that the accuracy to which a plan can be drawn depends on the scale adopted. For example, at a scale of 1:1000 even a sharp pencil will cover an actual distance of 0.5M. At such a scale measurements should be rounded up or down to the nearest metre. The record sheets can however show the accurate dimensions of features such as the width of a doorway.

5) Field Plans

Drawings will usually be done on waterproof drafting film, which is expensive, but has the great advantage of not distorting in wet weather. Using masking tape, the film is mounted over metric graph paper on a drawing board of a size appropriate to the

area being surveyed. The graph paper provides a visual scale in conjunction with a scale ruler. Very large areas will require separate drawings which will have to be matched together for the finished plan. Matchlines or points must be included so that a proper fit between drawings can be made. It is advisable to draw the base lines onto the field plans and annotate the plans with magnetic bearings, and perhaps other local information such as topography or vegetation.

Finally a finished plan should be made in ink using mapping pens. It is important to indicate true north which can be calculated from the magnetic bearings on the field drawings using a protractor (check OS maps for the difference between magnetic north and true north). A scale bar should be included in case the finished plan is later reduced or enlarged

APPENDIX II

FINDS RESULTING FROM FIELDWALKING

NS82NE NS852291

Found on a molehill in the area of a deserted farm of 17th century date.

A double sided flint knife, pointed at both ends, both edges serrated by pressure flaking, light creamy colour. Size 67mm X 28mm X 10mm.

NS92NW NS921294

Found in the upcast soil from a fence post.

Blue/grey chert leaf arrow, finely wrought piece. Size 21mm X 15mm X 4mm.

Blue/grey chert 'thumb nail' scraper, broken edge. Blue/grey chert flakes, 3of.

This material may represent a knapping site of the Neolithic. There are no visible features in the vicinity of the find spot.

NS92SW NS90252420

Found on unenclosed platform No 1, see BMT M74 No45. Small abraded sherd of Bronze Age pot.

NS92SW NS943203

Found in the area of the unenclosed platforms at Hurl Burn, Crawford. Blue/grey chert 'thumb nail' scraper. Blue/grey chert flakes.

APPENDIX III

TYPES OF DAMAGE NOTED ON CLYDESDALE UPS

Throughout the survey, instances of damage have been noted on many of the archaeological sites. Unenclosed platforms have survived remarkably well in many places. However a considerable amount of them have been affected by the various processes listed here. Taken as a whole this represents a significant erosion of these sites. Much of the damage is the result of relatively modern activities.

NATURAL EROSION QUARRYING

CULTIVATION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO PASTURE

TREES, 19th CENTURY PLANTATIONS & RECENT PLANTATIONS
RABBIT BURROWS
SHEEP SCRAPES & SHEEP PADS (TRACKS) SHEEP BURIALS
STOCK FEEDING AREA FOR CATTLE AND SHEEP
DRAINS
TURF CUTTING
GROUSE BUTTS
CROW TRAPS
FENCES AND DYKES
ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE LINE POLES TRAFFIC BY FARM
VEHICLES TRAFFIC BY CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES ROADMAKING
PIPELINE INSTALLATION

APPENDIX IV

WILDSHAW BURN STONE CIRCLE POSSIBLE ASTRONOMICAL
ALIGNMENTS

Note: Further works has been done at Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle since its initial discovery, see Ward 2013 for latest research www.biggarchaeology.org.uk .

The attached diagrams show separate silhouettes of the horizon as seen from the stone circle at NS88252717.

The two diagrams show the paths of the rising and setting sun as would be seen from the circle at midwinter's day about 2000BC. The three lines on the diagram represent the uppermost, lowermost and central points of the sun. The direction of the sun's movement is indicated by the arrows.

The outlines of the hills seen in the diagrams have been extrapolated from the OS 1:50,000 Map Sheet, No72. Any subtleties of the horizon are not shown. Either of the two hills may be slightly higher or lower in the region of the intersection, making the cross over slightly higher or lower.

In each diagram a point can be seen where the two hills cross over. The actual point of intersection (observed with a theodolite) is indicated by a vertical chain line. If estimates are made of the positions of where the recumbent stones of the circle stood, two stones appear to have been in alignment with the intersection shown in diagram 1, and two more line up with the intersection in diagram 2.

In diagram 2, the angle at which the two hills cross is fairly steep and therefore any small change in the height of the cross over will not change its position on the horizon by a significant amount. The second diagram can therefore be considered to be a reliable representation of that section of the horizon.

Conversely, in diagram 1 the angle at which the two hills cross is shallow; thus a small change in the height of the cross over will change its position on the horizon appreciably. Therefore the first diagram cannot be seen as a very reliable representation of the horizon. The position of the very first flash of sunlight on the

winter solstice as taken from diagram 1 differs from the cross over of the two hills as taken from diagram 1 by about 0.1 degree in height and by about 0.4 degree in horizon.

On the winter solstice the sun rises and sets at its most southerly. An observer standing at the stone circle in 2000BC a few weeks before the solstice would see the sun rise and set further north (to the left of diagram 1 and to the right of diagram 2) than is indicated in the diagrams. As the days passed, the sun would appear to rise closer and closer to the area of the cross over in diagram 1 and set further down Mosscastle Hill (diagram 2). On the solstice itself, just before setting, the sun would be seen to stand on the point where The Beam and Mosscastle Hill cross.

In the days that followed the solstice, the sun would rise and set further and further to the north, away from the cross over in diagram 1 and further up Mosscastle Hill. The winter solstice could thus have been determined by observation from this stone circle in 2000BC.

Some of the arranged stones that form the recently discovered stone circle have been shown to be aligned with two natural features of the irregular horizon. These are approximately to the SE and SW of the circle and coincide with the directions of sunrise and sunset on Midwinter's Day. The stone circle appears to have been built to mark the passage of the year. There may have been markers to the NE and NW that have been removed or not yet located.

It is difficult to believe that the sites for this and other stone circles that have their stones aligned significantly with natural features on the distant horizon can have been chosen by chance. To have sought sites by trying to match solar event directions to the skyline without a system based on careful observation of the sun's apparent movement and sound reasoning would have been impracticable.

The criteria for the choice of sites are simple and prospective regions could have been found by exploration. The detail siting would have been difficult. Consideration of the annual variations in the directions of sunrise and sunset has suggested a method by which people could have established the event directions in places with featureless horizons and transferred them elsewhere.

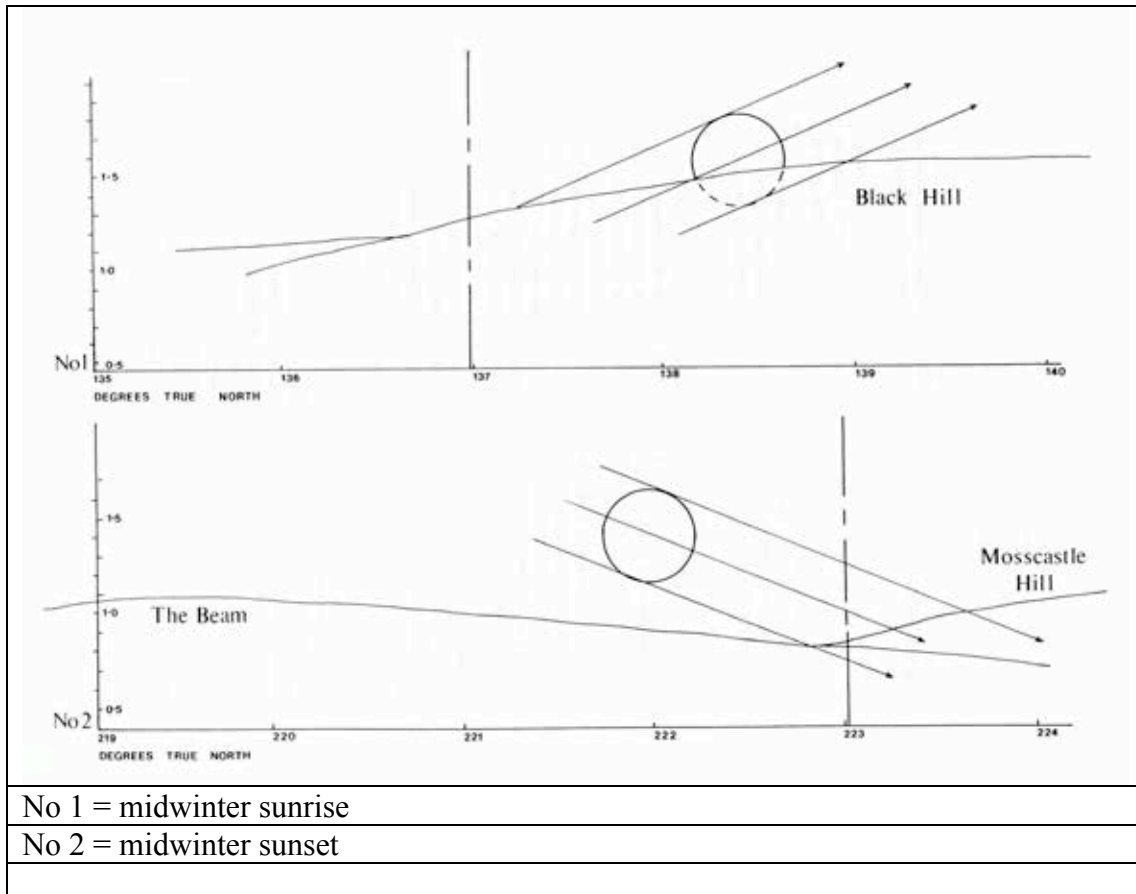
The method might now be used with modern tools to hunt systematically for sites where circles might be found. Even the simple criteria would indicate likely regions that could be searched by field walking.

Note:

On behalf of the Biggar Museum Trust, this preliminary study of the possible astronomical implications of the Wildshaw Burn Stone Circle has been undertaken by;

Richard Ebdon 60 Oxhill Road Dumbarton G82 4DG

Correspondence and enquiries specifically regarding astronomical matters in this respect would be better communicated to Mr Ebdon direct.



APPENDIX V

IDENTIFICATION OF A BURNT MOUND

Experience in Clydesdale has highlighted several of the problems associated with the recognition of a burnt mound, (BM)

The most obvious problem is a lack of familiarity with these relatively new site types. They are not prominent in the archaeological literature and are given no prominence as a place to visit. Consequently they are seen only by a few active fieldworkers, few of whom one suspects would declare themselves experts in locating BM.

It has been shown in this report and elsewhere that BM can be identical in outward appearance to naturally occurring mounds of sands and gravels, which have resulted from glacial or alluvium processes.

Some burnt deposits which are buried by hill wash or soil creep are only fortuitously discovered as a result of stream erosion or animal burrowing or scraping, exposing the materials of the feature.

The starting point in the search for BM is the fundamental requirement for a water source. The area of examination can therefore be limited to stream courses and perhaps more importantly to spring sources and their outfalls. For this reason a systematic search can more easily be planned than for most fieldwork projects. The 1:10,000 series of OS maps should be consulted for river tributaries as an initial

guide. The NMRS should of course also be consulted as a planning stage; this will give a better understanding of the antiquity of the area to be searched.

BM are found in a variety of locations. In Clydesdale they are located in open arable land, beside relatively large burns as well as very small ones, on open hillsides at spring sources and further down from the spring outfall, often on very steep slopes with no obvious working space beside them, they have also been made in gullies where the view from the mound is extremely limited and at the side of similar gullies where one can see for miles.

The simple method of search is to follow river tributaries to their source; this will often be high on a hill face where the spring actually makes its appearance. Many mounds will be encountered along such a route, but the majority will not be BM. The eventual discovery of the 'real thing' will compensate for the false specimens and, when the first BM is located in an area, then others are sure to be found.

Far from being boring, these enigmatic mounds offer a great challenge to experienced and apprentice fieldworkers alike. The former have the task of placing the mounds into the known archaeological context, while the latter have an opportunity to contribute to the database of known sites. Many areas will yet await the discovery of the 'first burnt mound', no doubt leading on to a distribution map of them. A new dimension will then be added to the antiquity model of the district. Most areas, especially in marginal upland zones will now require to be reviewed for BM.

Every suspect mound should be tested by opening an area of 200mm square on the top or side, by carefully removing a turf. The recognition of scorched rock is conclusive, and this is often backed up by a black or dark brown charcoal enriched soil. Sometimes from the small sample (and it should only be a small sample) charcoal is not seen, however provided the stones are heat shattered, no further excavating is required or is desirable. The material and the divot should be carefully replaced and tramped down, perhaps retaining a sample of the rock and soil for verification and analytical purposes.

When a BM is identified its location and description should be notified to the NMRS, preferably with a survey plan.

Knowledge of the local geology is a great advantage, and this can easily be obtained from geological maps which are available for the whole of Scotland (2).

Much of Clydesdale lies within the Southern uplands of Scotland. Here the underlying geology is almost exclusively sedimentary greywacke and as its name implies, it is a distinctive grey colour when found in the natural state. Three main processes can affect this rock causing discoloration towards brown, red and orange hues. This could easily cause confusion to the BM seeker in areas of greywacke.

When the stone is exposed to the weather through the effects of rain and frost it can become brown on the surface. If the rock is broken then the fresh grey colour will be exposed showing only a few millimetres of surface penetration of the discolouration. If the rock is exposed to rich concentrations of iron in the form of leached iron pan, for example on a lull with an old brown forest soil, then a bright orange colour is the

result. Again, if the stone is broken to expose a fresh surface the penetration of the iron will be seen to be minimal. Should the rock be severely scorched, then the change of colour will be towards pink and red. When these rocks are broken, a gradation of colour from the surface extends deep into the stone and depending on its size and the severity of the heat, the entire specimen may be converted to a bright red colour.

The different colouring effects are the result of iron being oxidised by the various processes described.

An easy comparison test can be made with BM rock and the adjacent stream bed stones, the distinction will readily be appreciated.

The northern part of Clydesdale lies within the Midland Valley of Scotland. The rocks here are often of volcanic origin and are naturally purple. Sandstones interbedded with these igneous rocks can be imbibed with a reddish colour. In such cases the identification of heat shattered rock is more difficult. In such circumstances the presence of a charcoal enriched soil may be the concluding factor in determining the nature of a mound. Such an example was found near Robertson (3). An understanding of the local geology is therefore a great advantage and will enhance the ability to identify BM.

Numerous natural mounds will be encountered, and these will mostly consist of sands and gravels, consequently the stones will be rounded, rather than angular as in BM. Mounds of angular rock can be found at the base of steep slopes where there is scree. Rock outcrop often protruding into a burn and covered in turf can be deceptive as will mounds caused by spring effusion. The latter are normally very boggy and soft contrary to the appearance of most BM which, by their composition are compacted and well drained and are often recognised by the nature of the vegetation growth, mostly short grasses, although deep heather has also been noted.

All should be tested, and it would be an advantage to future fieldworkers if negative tests are also recorded.

Notes:

- 1) The most recent publication on Burnt Mounds is BURNT OFFERINGS International Contributions To Burnt Mound Archaeology (1990) Buckley, V Wordwell Ltd, 9 Herbert Lane, Dublin 2.
- 2) Geological Survey of Great Britain, 1:10,000 OS maps, Solid Geology Institute of Geological Sciences, Murchison House, Edinburgh.
- 3) BMT M74 No 26 Little Law

APPENDIX VI

OTHER RECENT SURVEYS IN CLYDESDALE

Acknowledgement

Permission to produce the following surveys in Clydesdale has kindly been granted by Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division per Historic Scotland No 1, Unenclosed Platform Settlement at Bodsberry Hill, south of Elvanfoot. Excavation report forthcoming.

Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists per Biggar Museum Trust No 2, Unenclosed Platform Settlement, cairns, enclosures and Roman road at Air Cleuch, south of Elvanfoot.

See Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1991, 62 - 64

University of Edinburgh, Centre for Field Archaeology per Scottish Power PLC

No 3, Cairns at Hurl Burn near Crawford

No 4, Cairns and hut circles at Mid Hill near Crawford

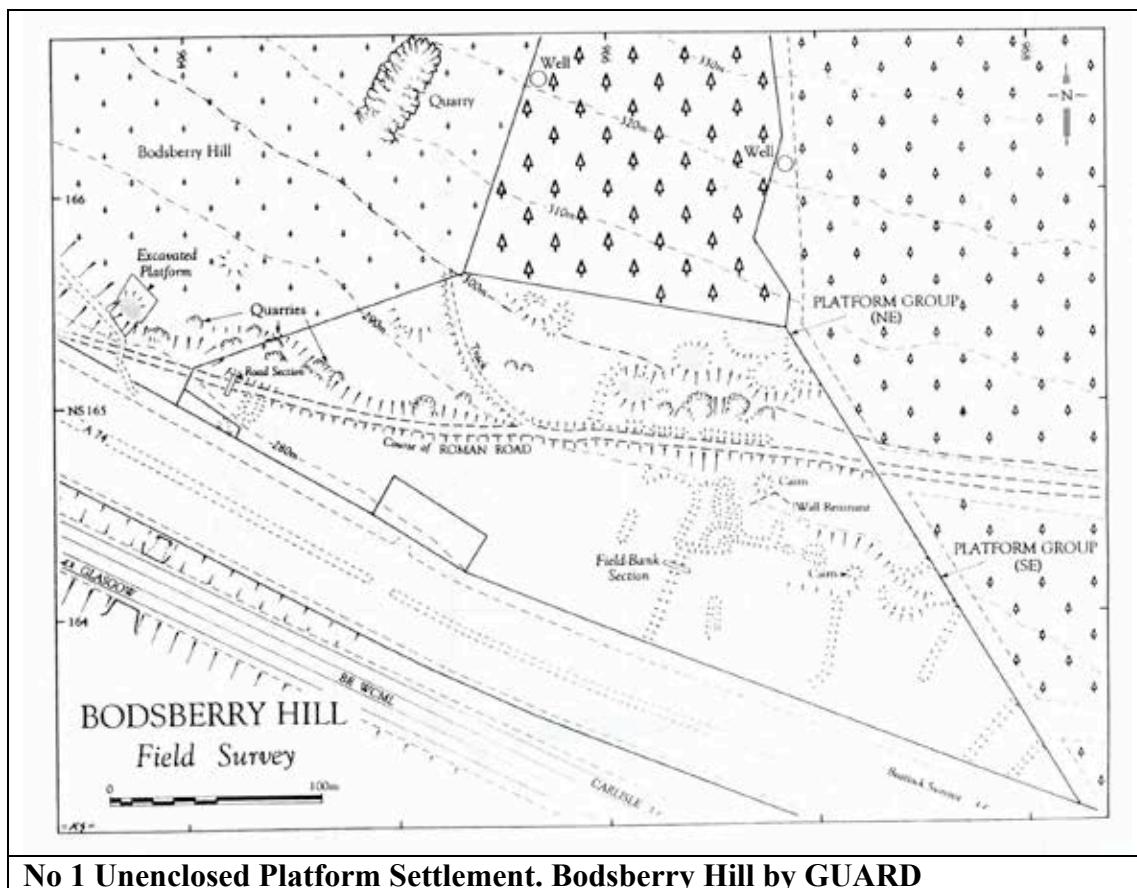
No 5, Deserted farm at Crookedstane, south of Elvanfoot.

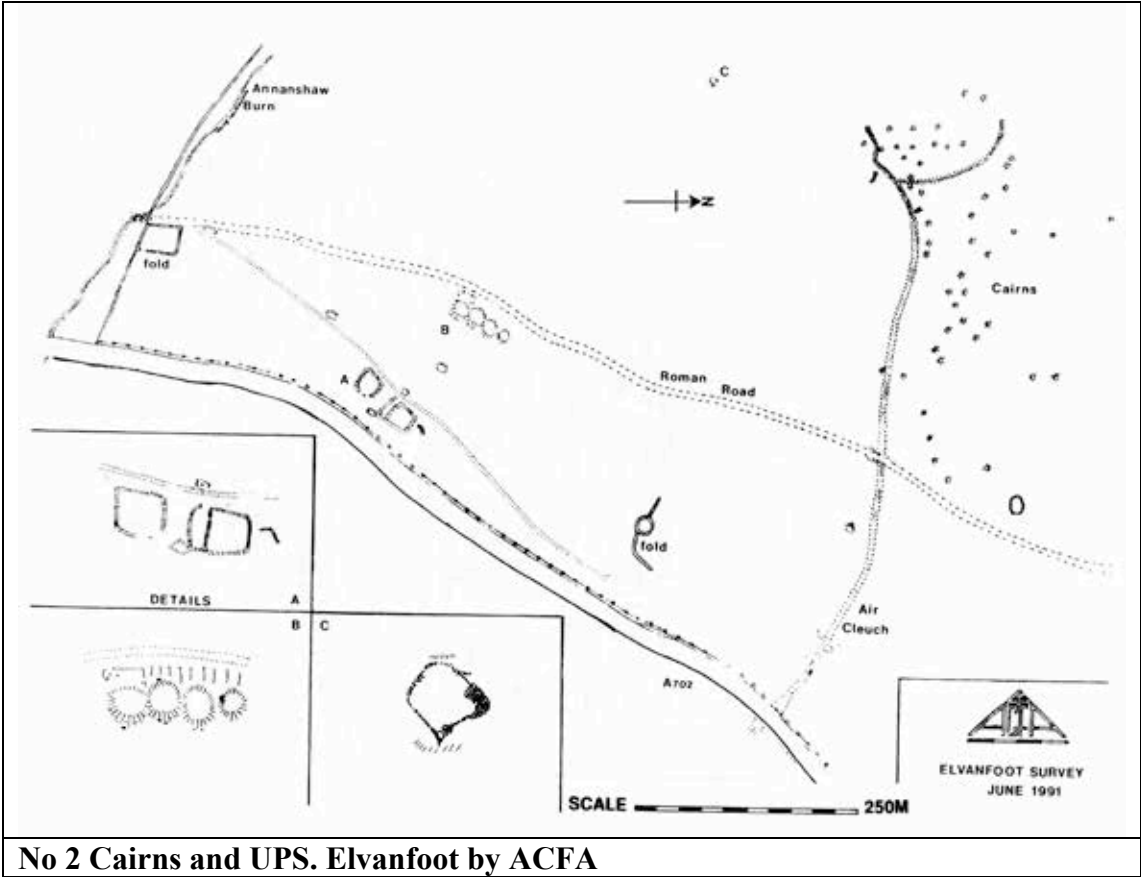
For No 5 see Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1991, 64

Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland per Biggar Museums

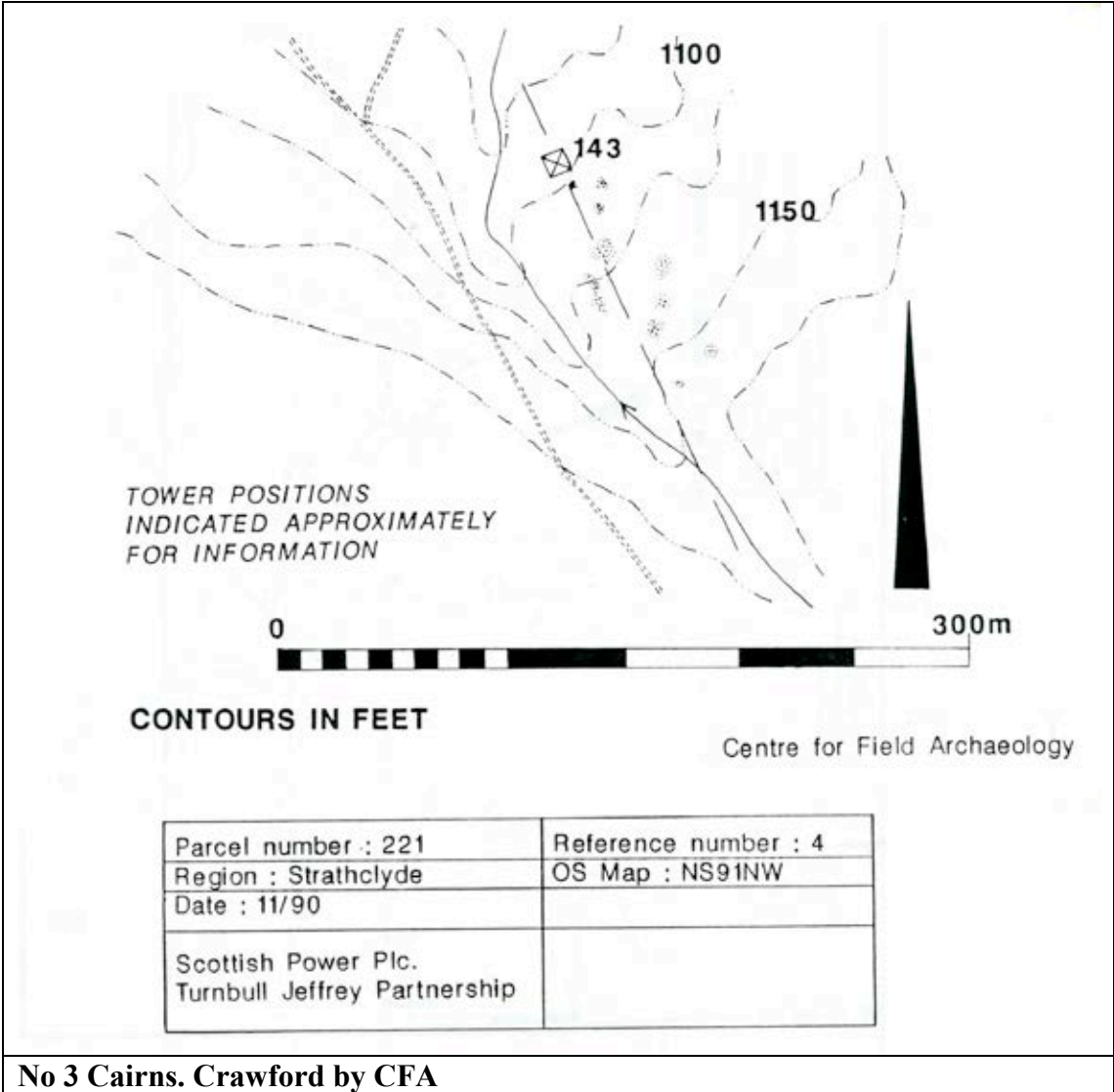
No 6, Glenochar bastle and deserted fermtoun, south of Elvanfoot.

No 7, Glengieith bastle and deserted fermtoun at Elvanfoot. See Discovery and Excavation in Scotland 1981 - 1991

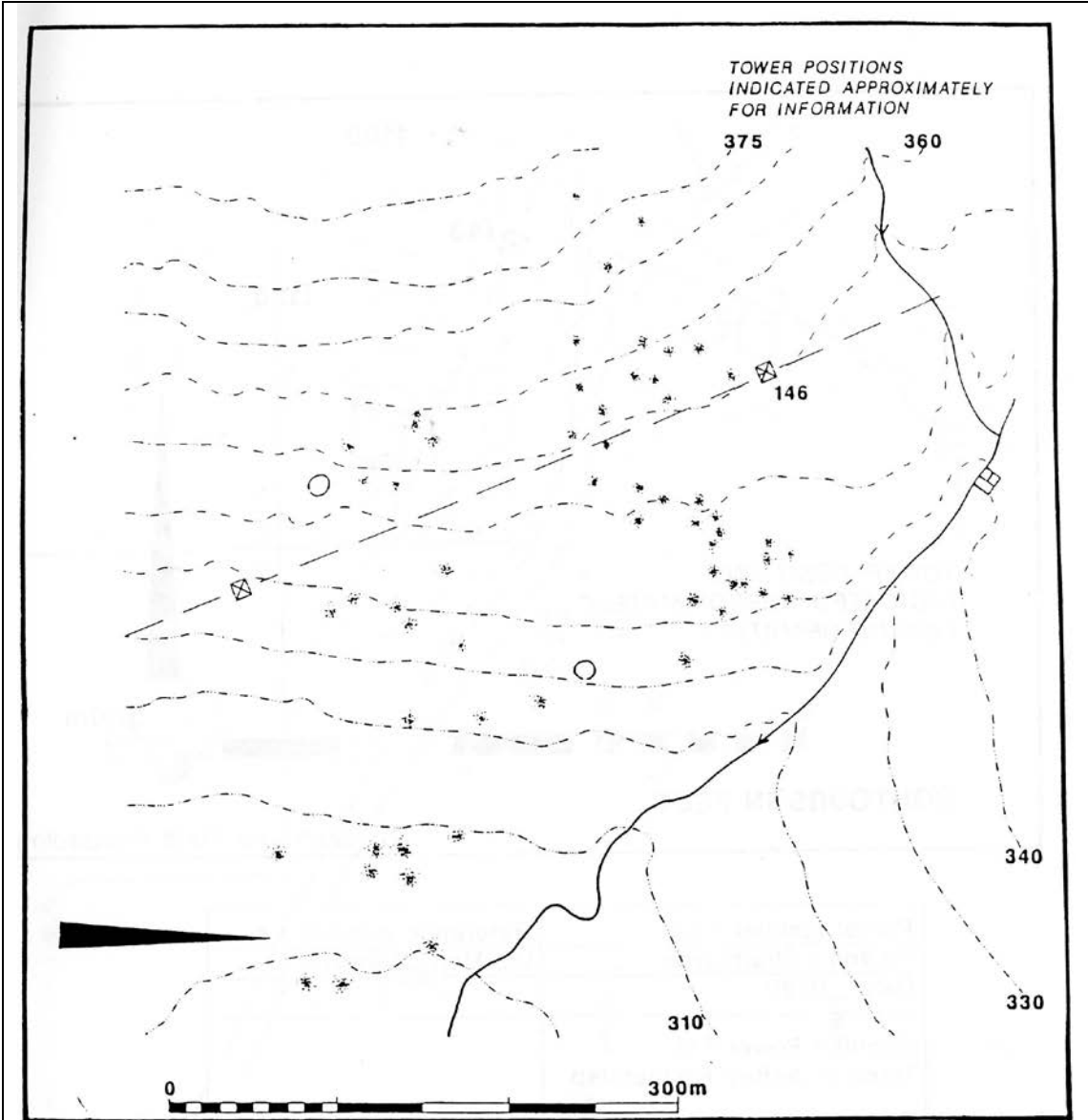




No 2 Cairns and UPS. Elvanfoot by ACFA

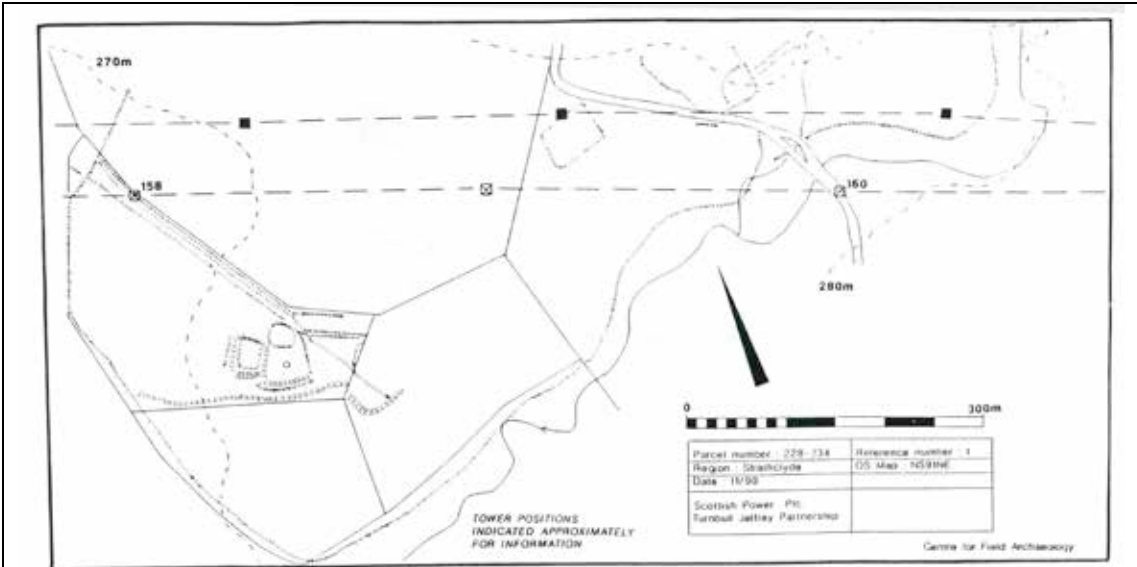


No 3 Cairns. Crawford by CFA

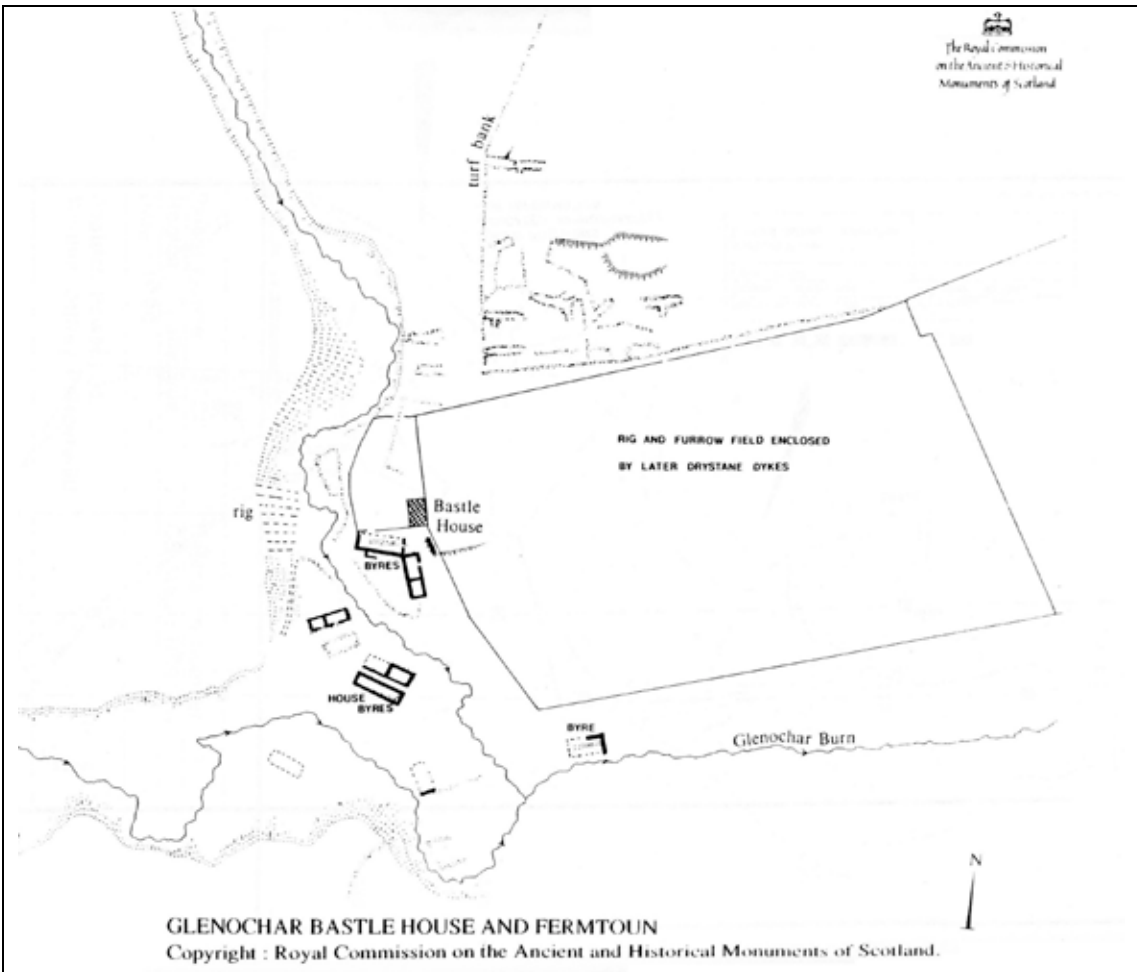


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Region : Strathclyde	OS Map : NS91NW
Date : 11/90	
Scottish Power Plc. Turnbull Jeffrey Partnership	

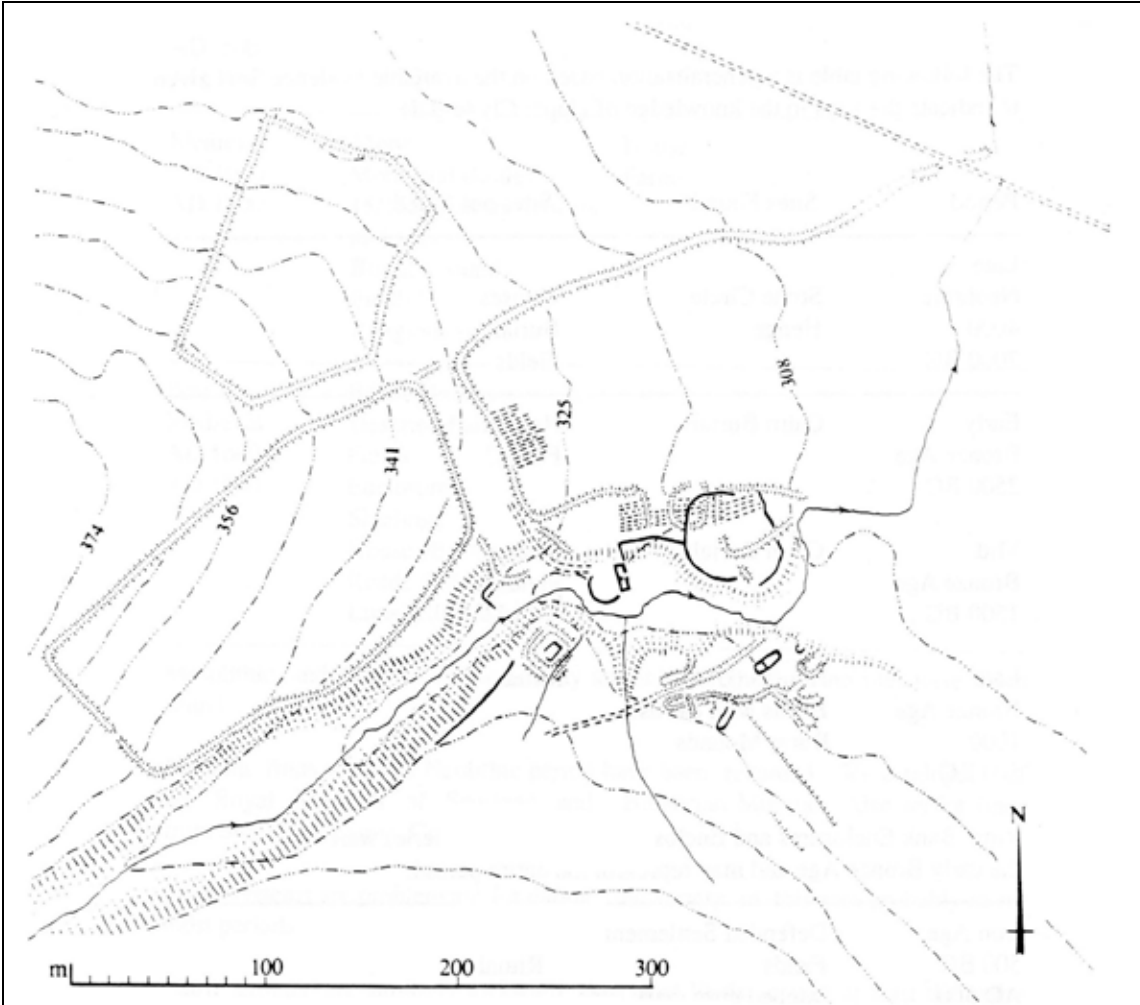
No 4 Cairns. Crawford by CFA



No 5 Deserted Farm, Crookedstane near Elvanfoot by CFA



No 6 Glenochar bastle and fermtoun by RCAHMS



GLENGIETH BASTLE HOUSE AND FERMTOUN
 Copyright : Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland.

No 7 Glengieith Bastle and fermtoun by RCAHMS

APPENDIX VII

SITE TYPES TO BE FOUND IN THE AREA AND PROBABLE PERIODS OF USE

The following table is a generalisation based on the available evidence. It is given to indicate the gaps in the knowledge of Upper Clydesdale.

Period	Sites Found	Sites not found
Late Neolithic 4000 2000 BC	Stone Circle Henge	Houses Burials Fields
Early Bronze Age 2500 BC	Cairn Burials	Houses Fields?
Mid Bronze Age 1500 BC	Cairn Burials	Houses? Fields? Ritual?
Late Bronze Age 1000 500 BC	Houses (UPS) Fields with cairns? Burnt Mounds	
Ritual		
Ring Bank Enclosures and Enclosed Cremation Cemeteries start in the Early Bronze Age and may represent the entire period.		
Iron Age 500 BC AD 500		
Defended Settlement Burial Fields Ritual Ditched crop mark sites		
Roman 1 & 2 C AD	Fort Fortlet Temporary Camps Signal Station Roads Crop mark sites of above	Burial Ritual/religious Bath house
Dark Ages AD 500 AD 1000	Defended Settlement? Fields?	Burial Ritual/religious

Early Christian AD 500 AD 1000	Chapel sites? Fields?	Houses Burial
Medieval AD 1000 AD 1600	Motte Motte and Bailey 15/16th century Towers and sites Burial Ground Fields? Religious sites?	Houses Farms
Post Medieval AD 1600 AD 1800	Bastle Houses Deserted Farms Fields Enclosures Shielings Houses/Buildings Roads & Bridges Lime Kilns & Lead Mines	

Mesolithic and Early Neolithic activity are only assumed as no sites have been found.

Random finds from the Neolithic period have been recorded. See catalogues of the Royal Museum of Scotland and Hunterian Museum. Also recent finds from Stonyburn cairns, Crawford.

Field systems are problematic for dating, the variety in this area probably cover most periods.

Cairn groups are similarly awkward, but most likely cover at least the entire Bronze Age.

APPENDIX VIII

FOOTNOTES AND REFERENCES IN TEXT

1. The Clyde has been diverted by the M74.
2. Especially in the Leadhills area for lead and gold. Other places for building stone, sand and gravels.
3. Banks, I & Leslie, A 1991 M74 Survey phase II, APG10.
4. Leslie, A 1991 Excavation of a possible enclosed cremation cemetery at Wildshaw, APG 10.3
5. Limekilns at Wildshaw, NS878283.
6. Macaulay Institute for Soil Research, Land Capability for Agriculture. 1:50,000 sheet No72.
7. Irving and Murray 1864 County History The Upper Ward of Lanarkshire Vol I, 1-28.

8. Ibid, 29-49 Some of the collection was donated to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland by Adam Sim of Coultermains, much of the remainder was presented to the Society after his death in 1868. The collection is now in the National Museums.
9. Christison, D 1890 'Forts, Camps and Motes in Lanarkshire', Proc Soc Antiq Scot (1899-1890), 281-352.
10. RCAHMS 1978 Inventory of Monuments in Lanarkshire. (RCAHMS Lan)
- 11 NS83SE,NS93SW,NS93SE,NS92NE,NS82NE,NS92NW,NT02NW,NT02SW, NS92SE,NS92SW,NS82SE,NS81NE,NS91NW,NS91NE,NS91SE,NS91SW, NS90NE,NS90SE.
12. BMT M74 Project No 92.
13. RCAHMS Lan, No 56, 54 Enclosed Cremation Cemetery at Fall Kneesend.
14. All these records are available to the public.
15. Occasionally there is a gap instead of an overlap.
16. However each print has the altitude at which it was taken, scales can therefore be calculated with reasonable accuracy.
17. Preferably under favourable conditions, which usually means during the winter months when vegetation has died back and is flattened, low angle lighting is the norm and a light dusting of snow is an advantage. Masochistic tendencies are clearly an advantage!
18. Pont, Timothy 1596 manuscript map of Clydesdale, in the National Library of Scotland.
19. For example; Thorril Castle BMT No 1 and deserted farm remains in the same vicinity.
20. The Dark Ages are generally accepted to be the period after the Romans had finally left the area, until documentation again appears, in this area about the 12th century.
21. BMT M74 Project No 1.
22. Judged by the voluntary group as a result of their local knowledge of the 17th century landscape in the area.
23. See BMT colour slide FW122. Crawford golf course was last used in 1939-40.
24. New ground for road area = 100 Ha. Statistics supplied by contractors.
 Borrow pit area = 26Ha.
 Tips area = 26Ha.
 Flood plain area = 9Ha.
 Existing roads area = 9Ha.
25. BMT now runs a Young Museum Group which incorporates a Young Archaeology Club. *[Biggar YAC ceased after 20 years continuous operation]*.
26. RCAHMS Lan N0I68, 77.
27. Archaeology Operations and Conservation per Historic Scotland. Excavations on Biggar Common (forthcoming).
28. RCAHMS Lan No 176, 80.
29. Wilson. J A 1937 Contribution to the History of Lanarkshire Vol II. 258.
30. Ritchie, J L G Et Al 1975 Small cairns in Argyll, Proc Soc Antiq Scot 106 (1974-75).15-3.
31. Banks, I 1992 Crawford Burnt Mounds GUARD 56.
32. For example at Midlock, Crawford see BMT No 87.
33. Found by a local shepherd in a drain in 1869. 46 links plus terminal ring, weight 1 75Kg now in the National Museums NMS FC150.

34. Ward, T 1981-1992 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland annual reports
 Ward, T Gillanders, R & Christison, F 1987 Windgate House excavation report Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group No 11,
 Ward, T 1988 The Elusive Scottish Bastle House, Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group No 12, 50-61.
 Ward, T 1990 Bastle Houses of the Anglo-Scottish Border, Fortress No5, 35 - 43.
35. For further reading on this period see The Steel Bonnets by Fraser, G McD 1986.
36. Irving & Murray Ibid Vol I, 78.
37. In general the English bastles are found amid areas of good arable land in a more open landscape than the narrow glens of Clydesdale.
38. Scottish Acts of Parliament 17th century.
39. Old Statistical Accounts for Scotland, New Statistical Accounts for Scotland, Irving & Murray Ibid.
40. The Hurl Burn at Crawford Lines by Sir Walter Scott. Burl = a swirling wind
 Swyre = a mountain pass.
41. Irving & Murray Ibid.
42. Both these bridges and much of the track were destroyed by the M74, see BMT Slides FW47, 102, and 187.
43. Mitchell, J O 1905 Old Glasgow Essays 230-233.
44. Scott, S 1983 Horses for Hire. Fascinating details of daily life at the Crawford Coaching Inn from 1831-1855. (for BMT)
45. RCAHMS Lan No 169, 77.
46. Banks, I 1991 APG 33.
47. The survey at that time was not comprehensive, the most significant monuments and areas were recorded Only.
48. Feacham, R W 1961 Unenclosed Platform Settlements, Proc Soc Antiq Scot 94 (1960-61), 78-85.
49. Jobey, G 1978 Greenknowe Unenclosed Platform Settlements, Proc Soc Antiq Scot 110 (1978-80), 72-95.
50. Terry, J 1991 Excavations of UPS at Bodsberry and Lintshie Gutter. APG 15 and APG33 also forthcoming.
51. Rennie, E Discovery & Excavation in Scotland annual reports
52. Rideout, J S Cam Dubh, Unenclosed Settlement CEU and AM of Scotland Annual Report 1987, 14-27.
53. RCAHMS Lanarkshire & Peeblesshire Inventories.
54. RCAHMS Lan No 196, 82.
55. Terry, J 1991 Lintshie Gutter excavation update APG 33.
56. RCAHMS Peeblesshire Inventory Vol I No 181, 73.
57. BMT Coulter Iron Age Project. Full scale reconstruction of a UPS house.
58. Jobey, G Ibid.
59. Terry, J Ibid.
60. Feachem, R W Ibid, Jobey, G Ibid, Terry, J Ibid.
61. Two were found together near Coulter and one was found at Glentaggart near Douglas.
62. The Cowgill sword is in the National Museums: NMA FE 75.
63. BMT M74 Project No 40, 70, 87 & 91 RCAHMS Lan No 246, 110.

64. BMT M74 Project No's 12 & 84.
65. BMT M74 Project No's 3, 9, 28, 74, 101 & 103.
66. BMT M74 Project No 103.
67. RCAHMS Lan No 196, 82.
68. BMT M74 Project No74.
69. Ibid No's 9&25.
70. Ibid No 16.
71. Ibid No 28.
72. Ibid No 4.
73. Except Bodsberry in the 1850's when Irving excavated a well pit which is described and illustrated by him. Irving & Murray Ibid Plate III.
74. The solid geology of Upper Clydesdale comprises of Greywacke, which is an Ordovician sedimentary rock, laid down about 450 million years ago in a deep ocean environment. The concretions which become eroded from erratic boulders probably occurred as a result of organic material attracting calcium carbonate and forming a nodule. The calcium carbonate is dissolved by exposure to weathering leaving the distinctive cup marks on the boulders. These boulders are to be found in several locations, especially at Crookedstane, Peden and Daer.
75. APG 10.3
76. BMT M74 Project No 22.
77. Christison, D 1887 Ancient Remains in Manor Parish Proc Soc Antiq Scot (1887-88), 192-207.
78. BMT M74 Project No 62 and at Glenochar NS93501375.
79. APG 10.3
80. RCAHMS Lan No 55, 53-54.
81. Ibid No 168, 77.
82. GUARD 56 (1992).
83. BMT M74 Project No 105.
84. Ibid No 62.
85. Ibid No 50.
86. Ibid No's 62&39.
87. Old Statistical Accounts for Lanarkshire, New Statistical Accounts for Lanarkshire, Upper Ward of Lanarkshire (Irving & Murray) Ibid.
88. BMT M74 Project No 92.
89. Ibid No 71, 92 & 106.
90. APG 33.
91. BMT M74 Project No 78.
92. RCAHMS Lan No 4, 44 No 1 17, 69.
No 95, 63 No 107, 66.
93. Ibid No 15, 46 Bodsberry.
94. BMT M74 Project No 92.
95. RCAHMS Lan No 263, 140.
96. BMT M74 Project No 86, Ibid No 74.
97. Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists Survey of Cairns and UPS at Air Cleuch. See App' VI.
RCAHMS Lan No 3, 44.
98. BMT M74 Project No 88 RCAHMS Lan No 79, 62.
99. Ibid No 95, 63.

100. Graham, A 1939 Cultivation terraces in SE Scotland Proc Soc Antiq Scot (1938-39), 289-315.
RCAHMS Peeblesshire Vol I No 358, 179.
101. RCAHMS Lan No 246, 110.
102. RCAHMS Peeblesshire Vol I, 36-38.
103. Register of the Great Seal of Scotland (various entries).
104. BMT M74 Project No 55.
105. RCAHMS Peeblesshire Vol I 36-38.
106. RCAHMS Lan No 209, 88, Ibid No's 205, 86.
107. National Monuments Records of Scotland.
108. RCAHMS Lan No 213, 90.
109. Ibid No 314, 153.
110. NGR: NS91652715.
111. See Scottish National Dictionary entry 'Boucht.'
112. Roy, Gen' W 1747-55 The Military Survey of Scotland. Ross, C 1769 Plan of Douglasdale.
113. Ross, C Ibid.
114. Information from Mr Plenderlieth, Shilowhead Farm, Robertson.
15. NGR: NS870314
116. Depicted on Charles Ross map 1769 (see above).
117. Depicted on Charles Ross map 1769 (see above).
Centre for Field Archaeology, University of Edinburgh 1991, and Cuff Cottage Survey Parcel No 192, Ref 4 Anglo-Scottish Interconnector Reinforcement.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACFA	Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists
AP	Aerial Photograph
APG	Archaeology Projects Glasgow (now GUARD)
BMT	Biggar Museum Trust
CDC	Clydesdale District Council
CFA	Centre for Field Archaeology (Edinburgh University)
GUARD	Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division (formerly APG)
HB & MS	Historic Buildings & Monuments of Scotland (now HS)
HS	Historic Scotland
LADAS	Lanark and District Archaeology Society
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMRS	National Monuments Record of Scotland
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
PSAS	Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
RCAHMS	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
SSMR	Strathclyde Sites and Monuments Record
SRC	Strathclyde Regional Council
UPS	Unenclosed Platform Settlement
VAP	Vertical Aerial Photograph

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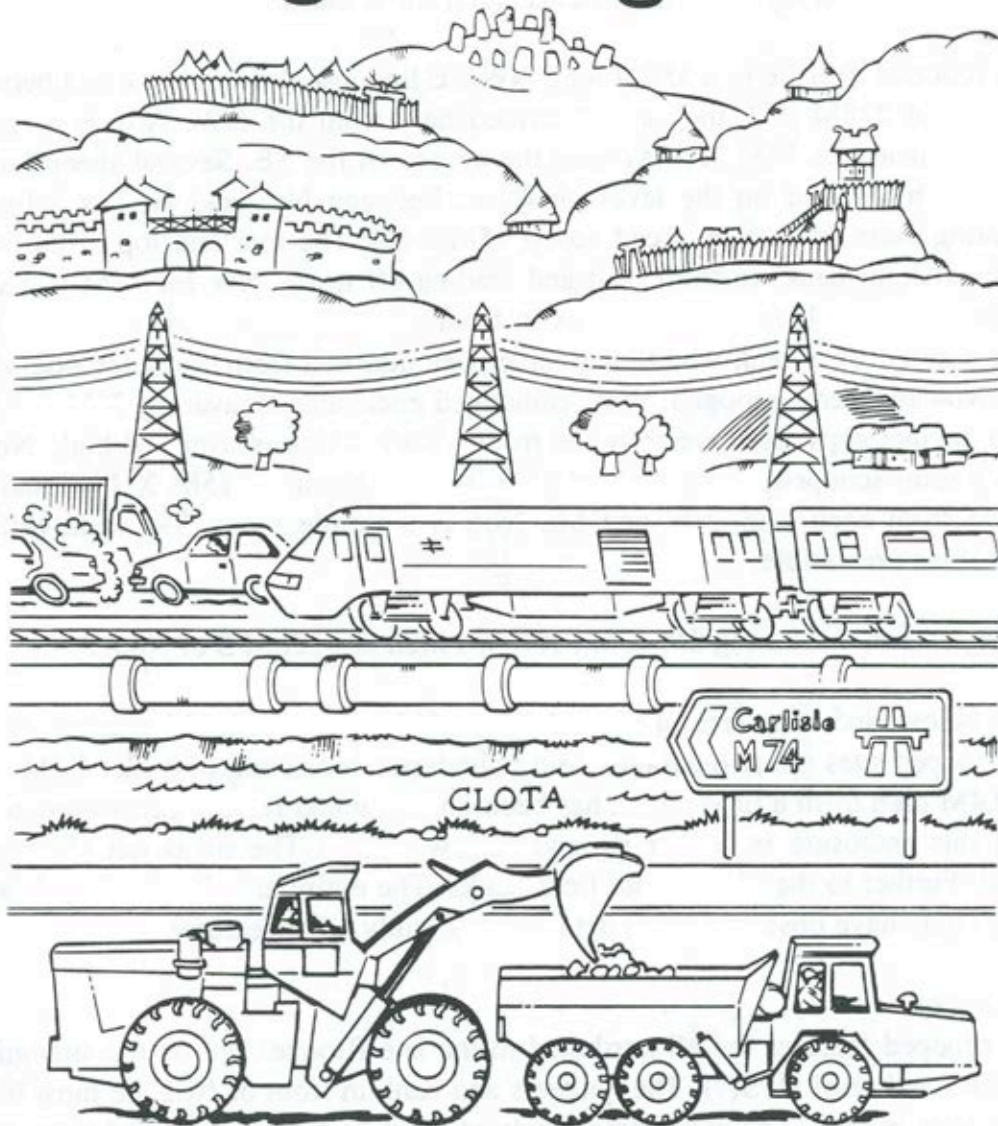
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UPPER CLYDESDALE through the Ages



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