

G St 605.
3/68

FIFE

CARWEE

ENCLOSURE, LINGO. An oval enclosure, measuring internally 220 ft. from NW. to SE. by 150 ft. from NE. to SW., has been formed by the construction of a bank round the base of a low knoll that lies in an undulating pasture field 700 yds. SW. of Lingo (Fig.). The bank, which is built of earth derived from an internal quarry-ditch, has been reduced by former cultivation to a height of not more than 1 ft., and is spread to a width of from 10 ft. to 16 ft., while the ditch is only a few inches deep. A gap in the bank, on the SSE. arc, presumably represents the site of the original entrance, although it has no doubt been widened by later ploughing. The interior only rises to a height of some 4 ft. above the surrounding ground and contains no trace of structures. The work has no defensive qualities and is probably nothing more than a stock-enclosure.

495087

xv SW. (unnoted).

22 April 1952.

As sent to
O.S. 5/68

FIFE

CARNBEE

EARTHWORK, LINGO BIG WOOD. A small earthwork, much reduced by former cultivation, is situated on flat and marshy ground in the SW. corner of the field that borders the E. side of Lingo Big Wood, half a mile WSW. of Lingo. Rectangular on plan with rounded corners, it consists of a bank and external ditch and measures over-all 104 ft. from E. to W. by 77 ft. from N. to S. The ditch, whose W. side incorporates part of an old watercourse, is from 10 ft. to 14 ft. in width, but is not more than 16 ins. deep at the present time; while the bank, which is now traceable only on the E. and W. sides, is less than 1 ft. high and is spread to a mean width of 15 ft. There is no definite indication of an entrance, and the interior is featureless. The shape and situation of the work, and the fact that it had a wet ditch fed by a stream, suggest that it is a mediavel homestead m^{at}(1)

(1) Cf. Bloomfield, Inventory of Roxburghshire, No. 7.

495087

xv SW. (unnoted).

2 May 1951.

As per 605
5/68

FIFE

ST. ANDREWS

EARTHWORK, KITTOCK'S DEN. The small promontory that lies in the angle formed by the junction of the sea-cliff, 100 ft. high, and the W. side of the ravine known as Kittock's Den has been fortified by the construction of a curved rampart and ditch across its neck (Fig.). Although the field in which these remains are situated, and which is locally called the "Castle Acre", has frequently been under the plough, and both works are in consequence almost obliterated, it is clear that they have been of exceptionally large size; even when a generous allowance has been made for spread, the rampart can hardly have been less than 50 ft. in thickness at the base, while the ditch has been at least 55 ft. in width. Both defences at present stop short of the edge of the summit plateau at either end, but surface indications suggest that the track round the NW. end overlies the filled-in ditch, and is therefore a secondary feature, so that the original entrance presumably skirted the defences on the SE. side. The interior of the earthwork, which slopes gently towards the NW. and contains no trace of buildings, is roughly triangular on plan and measures 285 ft. in length by 260 ft. in greatest width. A cart-track which climbs the W. face of the ravine and enters the earthwork near the apex of the promontory has obviously been in use at a fairly recent date, but it is conceivable that it represents an improved version of a track which was originally built to connect the earthwork with an anchorage on the sea-shore. Although there is no record of the existence of a castle on this site, other than the name "Castle Acre" which may well refer simply to the rampart and ditch, the massive nature of the latter suggests that they are of mediæval rather than prehistoric date.

No/ 554.152

ix SE. (unnoted).

14 June 1954.

As sent to OS
5/68

FIFE

NEWBURN

ENCLOSURE, CATHRIE (SITE). National Survey air-photographs⁽¹⁾ reveal

(1) CPE/SCOT/UK 245,5028-9.

a segment of the ditch of an enclosure as a crop-mark in a cultivated field 700 yds. WNW. of Cathrie. The enclosure, which is situated at a height of 500 ft. O.D. on the edge of a slight slope overlooking a burn, is not visible on the ground, but the photographs suggest that it was oval on plan and measured some 180 ft. by 130 ft. along the axes. A worked flint was picked up in the same field at the time of visit.

448057

xxi N.E. (unnoted.)

26th April 1951.

Fife.

FORT CLATCHARD CRAIG (INVENTORY NO. 5). There is nothing to
add to the plan and description given in the Inventory.

vi S.E.

24 April 1951.

MSS *KS*
PLAN
MAP

FORTS AND HUTS, DUNEARN HILL (INVENTORY NO.75). A plan of this site was made in 1952, and the following notes should be substituted for the description given in the Inventory.

The remains comprise three distinct works:

- (a). An Early Iron Age contour fort with double walls;
- (b). A circular, single-walled semi-broch superimposed on (a).
- (c). Three hut circles presumably of later date than the fort, but whose chronological relationship to the ^{semi-}broch is uncertain.

The major ^{axis} ~~access~~ of the hill lies E. & W., and the ground is highest near the W. end, at the point occupied by the semi-broch. The summit area is narrow and elongated, with a well-marked shoulder from which the ground falls steeply for over 100 ft. to W. & S. On the E side only a slight gully separates the hill from a neighbouring ridge, but on the N. the approach is impeded by a loch beyond which lies a parallel ridge.

The Fort. The inner wall of the fort is reduced to a rickle of stones from the point where it emerges from the plantation, round the W. shoulder of the hill. The remains are interrupted a short distance from the SW. corner of the semi-broch, but the line is continued by three contiguous outer facing stones (totalling 6 ft. in length) immediately below the semi-broch wall at this corner, and then by a rickle interspersed with occasional outer facing stones from the SE. corner of the semi-broch. Only a single ~~course~~ of facings is visible, the stones employed being large boulders measuring up to 3 ft. 3 ins. in length and 1 ft. in depth. The outer wall is first visible on the S. side opposite the centre of the semi-broch and 15 ft. below the inner wall. It takes the form of a terrace with only a few loose stones on the surface. Half way between the semi-broch and the E. end of the fort, both walls are breached by a ^{track} ~~break~~ which ascends the ~~hill~~ hill diagonally from SE. The fact that the terminals of the outer wall are slightly ^{incurved} ~~ingrooved~~ suggests that this may be an original entrance. From here to the plantation dyke, both walls show an impressive amount of stone, suggesting that they were/

were built of stone throughout. Both of them have been breached at the eastern apex, but the gaps are probably secondary. To the N. of the dyke, the inner wall is reduced to a heavy stone scree which covers the upper part of the slope of the hill, while the outer wall is represented by a rickle of stones along the edge of the loch and then by a terrace which continues as far as the return of the dyke. To the W. of the dyke, the terrace expands and then dies out opposite the W. end of the inner wall. The outer wall probably followed the edge of this terrace, returning inward round the end and terminating against a rocky scarp, but it has been robbed to provide material for the three later huts which occupy the whole extent of the expanded terrace.

Huts. The huts have themselves been robbed and only occasional facing stones, some of which are upright, are now traceable. The walls have apparently been about 3 ft. in thickness, and the interiors of the huts are slightly scooped out: no details of the entrances are preserved.

Semi-Broch. As already stated, this structure occupies the highest point of the site, and overlies the innermost wall of the fort on the N. & S. sides. Its wall has been built of stone throughout and measures some ft. in thickness. At the present time it is represented by a stony, grass-covered, mound on the ^{N & W} S. & E., on which sides one ^ucoarse of outer facings is traceable almost continuously: ^uthe facings are large boulders obviously pillaged from the fort wall. ^SAt the N. side the wall appears as a mass of debris, though two ^ucoarses are visible in ^{situ}site ~~II~~ at one point, and excavation would doubtless reveal more. On the ^WW. side the wall has been mutilated by an observation post and by another modern enclosure. A slight gap in the ^WE. side of the wall may mark the position of the original entrance but there are no visible internal features.

MSS	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REPS.	.....

BROCH, DRUMCARROW CRAIG. The ruined structure that stands on the highest point of Drumcarrow Craig, and which is described as a "supposed cairn" in the Inventory of Fife (1), is patently a broch, ~~the first to be identified in the country~~. Few brochs can have occupied a more commanding situation, for although Drumcarrow Craig only attains a height of 714 ft. O.D., it dominates the countryside for many miles around, and enjoys a particularly wide view northwards across the estuaries of the rivers Eden and Tay, and eastwards over the coastal plain from St. Andrews to Fife Ness. The broch-builders, however, have clearly been attracted to the site not only by the outlook, but also by the fact that ample supplies of suitable building material are readily available; for the rugged mass of trap ^{of} which the hill is composed outcrops on the summit in the form of parallel ridges, lying approximately E. and W., whose rock faces are fractured by ice and easily quarried.

The broch is almost a perfect circle on plan (Figs. &), and is one of the largest so far recorded, having an internal diameter of 46 ft. 6 ins. (2) For the most part the wall appears to have been about 17 ft. in thickness, although at one point it narrows to 14 ft. 6 ins. and at another point expands to 19 ft.: the latter measurement may however be due to local displacement of the lower courses when the superstructure collapsed. As the plan shows (Fig.) the outer face of the wall is traceable for the greater part of the circuit, and on the W. side, where it is encompassed by a mass of fallen masonry, some of which has been employed to build a modern cairn, it is still standing to a height of at least 3 ft. in three courses. The facings are composed of large, roughly dressed blocks up to 3 ft. in length which, in typical broch fashion, have been brought to their course by ^{plannings} ~~prunings~~ of small stones. The inner face, on the other hand, is only visible in a few places, notably on the SE. arc, and except on the N. side of the entrance, where a modern

pit has exposed two courses, only one course of stones can be seen. The interior of the structure is, however, choked with debris, and comparison of the levels inside and outside the wall suggests that underneath the present surface the inner face may be standing to a height of at least 5 ft. No signs of chambers can be seen in the thickness of the wall, but portions of both the ~~said~~^{side} walls of the entrance passage from one ~~or~~ to two courses in height are exposed on the E. arc, while a massive lintel stone, 5 ft. 9 ins. in length lies slightly askew across the passage near the inner end. The passage, which exhibits no indication of door-checks, appears to have been abnormally wide at the inner end, where it measures 5 ft. 6 ins., and to have contracted to about 3 ft. in width at the outer end, but these superficial measurements are not necessarily reliable and need to be tested by excavation.

The broch does not seem to have possessed any external defences, and the only other structural remains in its vicinity - the fragmentary and ruinous enclosure walls lettered X, Y and Z on the plan, and the semi-circular wall W, 17 ft. in radius and originally about 3 ft. in thickness, which is conceivably the remnant of a round ~~but~~^{hut} analogous to the three recently discovered on the crest of the same hill 500 yds. to the W. - are all probably later in date than the broch and built out of its ruins.

(1) No. 83.

(2) P. S. A. S., lxxxix (1946-7), 79.

458134

xiv N. E. (unnoted).

17 June 1954.

MSS.....	K.S.
PLAN.....	
MAP.....	
M.R.....	
REFS.....	

Fife.

INDETERMINATE REMAINS, MAIDEN CASTLE (INVENTORY NO. 112).

There is no trace of a fort at this point, the rectangular enclosure mentioned in the Inventory being bounded by a slight bank of comparatively recent origin. The Ordnance Survey may be referring to some older structure which has been destroyed by cultivation.

xii N.E. ("Fort, supposed") 23 April 1951

MSS	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REPS.	.....

Fife.

EARTHWORK, AGABATHA CASTLE (SITE) (INVENTORY NO. 113).

This is not the kind of site for an Early Iron Age fort and
the work was probably a motte, as suggested in the Inventory.

xii N.E.

23 April 1951 -

MSS.	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REPS.	.....

FORT, GREEN CRAIG (Inventory No. 144). As Dr. Bersu observed (Proceedings, lxxxii, 264 ff.) the Inventory account is hopelessly inadequate. A plan of the fort was accordingly made in 1952, and the follow^{ing} notes should supersede the description given in the Inventory.

The remains apprise the following elements: (a) a contour fort having two principal ramparts, not necessarily contemporary ^{with} ~~to~~ one-another; (b) a sub-oval enclosure lying within the fort and probably of later date; (c) the homestead excavated by Bersu.

Fort. The inner rampart can be traced on the N. side, near the NW. corner of the fort, in the form of a slight rickle of stones running along the margin of the summit area of the hill. In spite of Bersu's remarks, it is reasonable to suppose that it continued eastwards at least as far as the rock outcrop underlying the enclosure (b), since the N. flank of the hill, though steep, can be climbed without much difficulty. At the NW. corner the line of the rampart is interrupted by a later hut of crescentic-scoop type but it resumes along the outer edge of a terrace between two rock outcrops. It disappears again where the rock descends to a flat triangular plateau, and scarcely any trace of it is visible along the margin of the latter feature; but it re-emerges to the S., threading its way between two adjacent outcrops, and can be followed thence along a natural shoulder to within a short distance of the N. flank of the hill. As Bersu says, it gives the impression throughout of being a stone-fronted terrace-rampart, rather than a free standing rampart: no inner facings are visible, and there is no mound - the tumble of stones being mostly on the forward slope and not on top of the terrace as would have been expected in the case of a rampart of normal ^{type} ~~time~~. On the other hand, the denudation of the site is so great that it would be unwise, in the absence of excavation, to give unqualified acceptance to the terrace-rampart theory.

The outer rampart starts at the NW. corner, on the S. side of

a hollow way which may represent a contemporary approach. The N. side of the hollow way is bounded by a rock wall, and it is reasonably certain that the rampart did not cross this wall or run along the N. face of the hill. At the present time the rampart is simply a stony spread, without any sign of facings. It follows the margin of a natural terrace to the point where the track turns inwards, making for a gap in the inner rampart, then pursues an even course somewhat arbitrarily along the face of the slope to a point where it meets a definite shoulder. It follows the margin of this shoulder southwards, and then, turns through a right angle and proceeds in an easterly direction. At this point it is in a better state of preservation, and consists of a stone core, faced on both sides with boulders and measuring 9 ft. in thickness. This sector, however, ends in confusion. It looks as though a stretch of the original rampart has been removed and re-built ^{on} ~~at~~ a ^{new} alignment, leaving an overlapping entrance at each end. The western entrance significantly opens on to the hollow way leading through the inner rampart. An alternative, but less likely, explanation is that the inner line of rampart may be original, and the overlapping ends secondary, thus forming walled approaches.

Beyond the eastern entrance the outer rampart is interrupted by a hut, and then by a terraced road. The last visible stretch is on the N. side of the road, and a prolongation of this line would effect a junction with the inner rampart. It is unlikely that the inner rampart ran along the base of the scarp.

The hollow ways at the E. & W. ends of the N. side of the fort may be original, while the hollow way leading from Bersu's homestead may belong to the later phase of occupation represented by the enclosure. The terraced roads on the other hand are probably of much more recent date, and may have been formed in the process of carting away stones from this site.

All the visible huts appear as semi-oval scoops; ^{is} one of them ~~being~~ definitely later than the inner rampart, and another later than the outer rampart. It/

It/

It seems reasonable to suppose that both ramparts are part of the same defensive scheme since the outer rampart would be useless if it was not carried round on the N. side, or protected by the inner rampart. No specific comments can be made on the miscellaneous fragments of wall shown on the plan, apart from the fact that the L-shaped piece on the N. side may belong to the enclosure now to be described.

Enclosure. The enclosure occupies a level space on the top of the hill, but does not appear to be a defensive work (as, for instance, the inner enclosure on Normans Law) since: (i) the N. side crosses the rocky boss which forms the actual summit of the hill and does not attempt to enclose it; (ii) the equally flat area to the W. is not enclosed; and (iii) the enclosure wall is only 6 ft. in thickness. The wall has been of boulder-faced rubble construction, but apart from the few facings marked on the plan (none of which is more than one course in height) it is reduced to a rickle of stones. The entrance appears to have been situated in the SW. side where there is a wide gap in the wall. The largest boulder in the wall is 2 ft. in height and there is another one 1 ft. 5 ins. in height. The interior is sub-divided by a ruined wall which cuts off the NW. quarter, but the only visible structures are a sub-rectangular hut abutting the enclosure wall on the S., and a doubtful hut in a corresponding position on the NW. side. The water-logged hollow at the foot of the rock which is inside the enclosure wall on the NE. may be an artificial cistern for water.

Homestead. For excavation of this homestead see Proceedings, lxxxii, 264 ff. Immediately to the SW. of it, there is a slightly scooped, roughly circular hollow, with a low bank ^{on} to the S. and E. sides. This looks very much like the homestead hut, and may well represent an extension of the original family. The hut measures about 25 ft. in internal diameter.

MSS.....	K7.....
PLAN.....	
MAP.....	
M.R.	323215.....
EPS.....	

Fife.

EARTHWORK, MOOR DAM (INVENTORY NO. 160). The Inventory description is adequate, but a plan of this work ^(Fig) was made in 1952. The inner scarp stands to a maximum height of 4 ft., and the medial mound to a height of 2 - 3 ft. There are no signs of an entrance or of internal structures. In view of its situation, it is better to describe the structure as an earthwork rather than a fort, leaving the question of date open.

846882

xxxvii N.E.

9 June 1952.

MSS	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REFS.	.....

Fife.

EARTHWORK, CASTLE HILL (INVENTORY NO. 161). The earthwork known as Castle Hill has been completely obscured by trees and nothing could be seen of it at the date of visit. It is doubtful whether it is a fort, as suggested in the Inventory, or some kind of mediæval earthwork.

xxxiii

9 April 1951.

MSS.	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REFS.	.....

Fife.

FORT, LADY MARY'S WOOD, (INVENTORY NO.166). An Early
Iron Age fort whose surviving remains are adequately described
in the Inventory.

xiii S.E.

23 April 1951

MSS.	ks
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REFS.	.....

FORT AND SETTLEMENT, NORMANS LAW (INVENTORY NO.193). The plan and description given in the Inventory are inadequate, and the following notes are designed to accompany the revised plan made in 1954.

The Citadel. This enclosure was not originally kidney-shaped, as it appears on the Inventory plan, but nearly oval. There is a slight inward curve on the N. side round the head of the gully, but the greater part of the wall has been destroyed by land slips at this point, leaving only the inner face.

The Citadel wall is reduced to a rickle of stones, but the amount of fallen debris, particularly on the S. side and in the gully on the N., indicate that it has been a substantial wall built of stone throughout. At the NW. end and also at the single entrance on the NE. it has been 11 - 12 ft. in thickness; the width of the entrance cannot be determined without excavation. Large boulders have been used for the facings, while the core is composed of ^{smaller} similar stones. There is no ditch.

The W. half of the interior slopes down moderately steeply from W. to E., while the eastern half is level. The only visible internal structure is a roughly circular hut consisting of a 3 ft. thick wall now reduced to ~~the~~ foundation level: traces of stone paving appear through the turf inside the hut, and adjacent to it on the E. there is a broad stone-paved area, possibly a courtyard. Against the back of the Citadel wall on the SE. there is a ragged hollow measuring about 12 ft. x 6 ft. which is now choked with stones: its purpose is obscure.

Rampart II. This rampart appears to be contemporary with the Citadel, although it is impossible to tell whether it abuts the Citadel wall on the W., where the two unite, or whether it is bonded into it; while erosion has destroyed the complementary junction on the E. However, for what it is worth, the Citadel entrance is practically opposite the entrance through the dividing wall of Rampart II, and there is no other apparent entrance into the W. enclosure bounded by/

by this rampart, other than that facing the Citadel gateway.

Western Enclosure. The dividing wall has been of stone, and appears to be similar in character to Rampart II. It leaves Rampart II at right-angles on the N. side, and runs along the crest of a natural scarp in the hill slope which gets progressively longer and steeper from the N. (where it is about 11 ft. below the level of the E. end of the Citadel) to the S. At the S. end the dividing wall is 12 ft. thick, while the debris shows that it was built of stone throughout in the manner of the Citadel wall.

Rampart II on the W. & S. sides of the Western Enclosure is of the same character as the dividing wall. Occasional facing stones remain in ^{silt} Site II to give a width of about 12 ft., but otherwise it is reduced to a low mound of stones which follows a natural crest line. There are no signs of structures in the Western Enclosure, but along the S. and W. sides of Rampart II, immediately behind the rampart, there are several thick deposits of occupation material, now covered with nettles, from one of which (precisely at pin F.) a fragment of a lignite armlet was found in a rabbit scrape at the date of visit.

Eastern Enclosure. Rampart II is as already described. The entrance at the SW. corner is 13 ft. wide and must be original for lack of alternatives. A winding hollow track, possibly engineered for chariots, leads up to it from the entrance in Rampart III. At the NE. end Rampart II cannot have stopped where it stops now, but must have returned round the N. side of the terrace where it is last seen, to die out against the rock face; while there may have been a branch running E. along the crest from the NE. corner of the Western Enclosure. It is clear, however, that the Western Enclosure constituted the inner defence (with or without the Citadel) and that the Eastern Enclosure, situated at a lower elevation and less defensible by nature, served as an outwork.

The remains inside this enclosure - two hut platforms and a group of three circular and two rectangular structures - are in poor shape. The structures in the latter group are indicated merely by slightly scooped floors bordered by occasional boulders. There are, nevertheless/

nevertheless, nettle beds behind the rampart, as in the Western Enclosure, and the original dwellings may have stood there.

The fragment of outer rampart (IIB) at the NE. end has been drawn across an easy line of approach. It is in a ruinous condition, consisting merely of a rickle of stones with no measurable thickness, but must have returned at the N. end to unite with Rampart II. Its S. end seems to have abutted the rock face.

Rampart III. This has been similar in construction to Ramparts I and II, but has been heavily robbed in places in the later phase of occupation, represented by the circular huts adjacent to it on both sides. The largest group of 7 - 8 huts and assorted enclosures lies on a shelf below the rock face on the SE. All the walls are stone built and about 3 ft. in thickness; the largest hut is 32 ft. in diameter. The entrance through Rampart III at the W. end of this group is original, and 9 ft. in width, but the outer works here are all secondary. Overlooking the gate there are two rectangular platforms which have been terraced out of the rocky slope. They are presumably stances for rectangular buildings, and the uppermost is bordered with stones. The remaining structures can be described from the plan, but a special note should be made of the marshy hollow in the gully to the SW. of Rampart II which presumably served as the water supply: it is now choked with reeds but water was present just below the surface on the date of visit. The cross-walls in this gully are ^{all} of minor structures, presumably connected with the secondary occupation, and the group of huts to the S. of the marshy hollow are superficially identical with those already described. Note that Rampart III can be traced further to the NW. than is shown in the Inventory plan, and it is possible that it was continuous - its course along the N. side being marked by the present terrace. Some form of defence is certainly required on this site, since the slopes, though steep, are broken by rocky outcrops and easily scaled: without such defence there would be direct access into the E. enclosure.

Conclusion. There is no evidence that the Citadel is different in date from Ramparts II and III. On the contrary, all the walls are/

are similar in construction and the various elements produce a coherent plan. The dwellings of this phase are probably to be found against the inner faces of the ramparts. A secondary occupation of the site is, however, clearly represented by the settlement built out of the ruined ramparts, and presumably of Romano-British date.

305202

vii N.W.

17 June 1954.

MSS	KS	.....
PLAN		.....
MAP		.....
M.R.		.....
REFS.		.....

Fife

FORT, CASTLE CRAIGS, CRAIGIUSCAR HILL (INVENTORY NO. 207).
Superficial examination of the remains adds nothing to the
account given in the Inventory, but the fort has been excavated
since that account was prepared and a report is given in
Proceedings (vol. lxxxv, 165-70).

xxxiii S.E.

10 April 1951

MSS *KS*
PLAN
MAP
M.R.
REPS.

Fife.

EARTHWORK, MAIDEN CASTLE (INVENTORY NO. 242). The plan and description given in the Inventory are adequate, except that the so-called terraces on the N. and S. sides are the remains of inner ramparts which have otherwise been eroded away. The date of the work is quite uncertain.

~~ix~~^{xix} N. W.

19 April 1951

MSS.	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REPS.	.....

Fife.

EARTHWORK, DUNSHELT PLANTATION, (INVENTORY NO. 243). This work is certainly not an Early Iron Age fort, and would appear to be some kind of rath. It is highly desirable that it should be protected by scheduling in view of its unique character.

xii S. E.

18 April 1951.

MSS.	K.S.	.....
PLAN		.....
MAP		.....
M.R.		.....
REPS.		.....

Fife.

FORT, EAST LOMOND (INVENTORY NO. 244). There is nothing to
add to the plan and description given in the Inventory.

xix N.E.

19 April 1951'

MSS.	KS	.....
PLAN		.....
MAP		.....
M.R.		.....
REPS.		.....

Fife.

EARTHWORK, LINKS WOOD (INVENTORY NO. 269) The plan and description given in the Inventory are adequate, and the structure is probably ~~of~~ Early Iron Age. A medieval date cannot, however, be entirely ruled out.

iv N.W.

25 April 1951

MSS	KS	.....
PLAN		.....
MAP		.....
M.R.		.....
REFS.		.....

Fife.

FORT, BOWDEN HILL (SITE). (INVENTORY NO. 302) As the
Inventory says, this work has been completely obliterated by
cultivation. It could perfectly well have been an Early
Iron Age fort to judge from the indications given on the O. S.
map.

xx N.W.

MSS	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REPS.	.....

Fife.

FORT, DOWN LAW (Inventory No. 303). This is a genuine Early Iron Age fort, heavily reduced by former cultivation. The absence of any signs of defences on the N. side at the present time is no doubt attributable to the effects of cultivation, and it is not necessary to assume that the defences on this side took the form of stockading.

xx N.E.

23 April 1951.

MSS	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REFS.	.....

FIFE

439

NEWBURGH

BLACK
FORT, ~~BLACK~~ CAIRN HILL. Now that the plantation has been cut down, the fort formerly known as "The Ring" which stands on the summit of Black Cairn Hill (750 ft. O.D.), half-a-mile S. of Newburgh (1), is seen to have consisted of an oval enclosure, bounded by a single stone wall, and measuring internally 405 ft. in length by 320 ft. in greatest breadth (Fig.). For a distance of 160 ft. on the N. side, where it skirted the base of a rock outcrop, the wall has completely vanished, and elsewhere it is reduced to a mere rickle of stones; a few facing-stones which are still in position at the NE. end indicate, however, that it was about 10 ft. wide at the base. Two gaps in the wall, on the NW. and SE. sides respectively, may represent original entrances, but the interior shows no signs of structures.

(1) Inventory of Fife, No. 439.

234172

vi S. W. (unnoted).

22 June 1954.

MSS	Kf
PLAN	
MAP	
M.R.	
REFS.	

Fife.

EARTHWORK, COWSTRANDBURN (Inventory No. 488). Although they have been almost entirely levelled by cultivation, traces of two banks, not indicated on the Inventory plan, can still be seen here on the inner sides of the 2 ditches. The work is certainly not an Early Iron Age fort, and is presumably *some* sort of Dark Age or medieval earthwork.

xxxiii S.W.

10 April 1951.

MSS.	KS	.....
PLAN		.....
MAP		.....
M.R.		.....
SEPS.		.....

Fife.

EARTHWORK, WESTER PITLOUR (SITE). (Inventory No. 500). The slight remains of this structure mentioned in the Inventory were completely obscured by felled trees at the date of visit.

xii S. W.

18 April 1951.

MSS.	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REMS.	.....

FORT, DENORK CRAIG. Denork Craig (1), three-quarters of a mile W. of Denhead, is a small isolated hill girt by steep rocky slopes which steadily increase in height from 15 ft. at the E. end of the hill to over 50 ft. at the W. end. Both the ends of the hill have been partly quarried away in former times while a reservoir has recently been constructed in the low ground at the base on the SW. The whole of the available space on the top of the hill has been enclosed by a stone wall, 12 ft. in thickness, to form a quasi-elliptical fort measuring 465 ft. in length by 135 ft. in breadth at the centre (Fig.). For the greater part of the circuit the wall has been entirely destroyed by stone-rubbing or by the erosion of the lip of the crags on which it stood, but outer facing stones can still be seen in a few places, notably just below the present margin of the hill-top in the centre of the S. side, while the stone cove also survives intermittently as a low, usually turf-covered, bank. The best preserved ^{ie} piece of wall occurs at the W. end of the hill where, for a short distance, both faces are present and the outer face, which is bedded directly on the rock and is composed of large blocks of stone up to 2 ft. 6 ins. in length, still stands three courses (3 ft. 6 ins.) in height. A rock-cut passage which traverses the steep slope on the S. side of the fort presumably represents an original entrance, and another similar passage at the W. end of the hill, which now carries a modern flight of steps, may likewise be original. The interior of the fort, ~~which~~ consists of a number of rock outcrops with level grassy spaces between them, ^{and} ~~shows~~ no signs of structures.

(1) For the name cf. Watson, History of the Celtic Place-Names of Scotland, p. 30.

455137

xiv N.E. (unnoted).

MSS.....	KS.....
PLAN.....	
MAP.....	
M.R.	
REFS.....	

23 April 1952.

FIFE

CAMERON

HUTS, DRUMCARROW CRAIG. The remains of three circular huts can be seen on the crest of the W. portion of Drumcarrow Craig, 500 yds. W. of the summit and 400 yds. NNE. of Drumcarrow farm. The best preserved hut measures from 24 ft. to 27 ft. in diameter ^{within} ~~with~~ a ruined boulder-faced rubble wall about 4ft. in thickness, and has an entrance 6ft. wide in the E. side; many of the large facing stones of the wall are still in situ and measure up to 3 ft. in length. The second hut lies 40 ft. E. of the first, and the third hut 20 ft. NE. of the second. Both of these have been similar in construction to the first, but in each case all that now remains is a slightly hollowed circular area about 20 ft. in diameter with a few isolated boulders round the perimeter.

Wof 454133

xiv N.E. (unnoted).

17 June 1954.

MSS.	KS
PLAN	.....
MAP	.....
M.R.	.....
REFS.	.....

PIPE

NEWBURN

ENCLOSURE, CATHRIE (SITE). National Survey air-photographs⁽¹⁾ reveal a segment of the ditch of an enclosure as a crop-mark in a cultivated field 700 yds. ~~W.N.W.~~^{WNW.} of Cathrie. The enclosure, which is situated at a height of 500 ft. O.D. on the edge of a slight slope overlooking a burn, is not visible on the ground, but the photographs suggest that it was oval on plan and measured some 180 ft. by 130 ft. along the axes. A worked flint was picked up in the same field at the time of visit.

(1) ~~Serie~~^u CPE/SCOT/AK 245, 5028-9.

448057

xxi N.E. (unnoted).

26 April 1951.

MSS.....	KAS
PLAN.....	
MAP.....	
N.S.....	
REFS.....	

PIPE

CUPAR

HOMESTEAD, WENYSS HALL HILL. On the W. end of the summit of Wenys Hall Hill, 40 yds. ^{WNW.} ~~W.N.W.~~ of Trigonometrical Station 692.9, there are some slight remains of an enclosure containing a single, oval hut (Fig.). The enclosure measures internally 100 ft. from E. to W. by 80 ft. from N. to S., and has been surrounded by a bank, about 6 ft. thick, which is now in the last stages of decay. On the N. and S. sides, where it is best preserved, the bank is not more than 1 foot high, and elsewhere it is only recognizable either by a crest-line or by a slight difference in the growth of vegetation upon it. A single boulder at the ^{SE.} ~~S.E.~~ corner may be the last survivor of an external stone facing. Of the two gaps which exist in the bank at the present time, that on the ^{NE.} ~~N.E.~~ side is almost certainly original since it is in a direct line with the entrance to the hut, while the other, in the S. side, may be either original or ^{ru.} ~~intensive~~. The hut measures 48 ft. by 40 ft. within a ruined boulder-faced earthen wall 5 ft. thick. The entrance, on the ^{NE.} ~~N.E.~~ side, is 5 ft. wide, and the floor has been slightly excavated below the level of the surrounding courtyard. The work closely corresponds on plan to the homestead at Scotstarvit Covert, a mile to the S.W., which was excavated by Dr. Bersu in 1946. (1)

(1947-8), 241-63 and Fig. 1.

(1) P.S.A.S., ~~(xiii N.E. (unnoted))~~

23 April 1952.

374121

xiii N.E. (unnoted).

MSE	KAS
PL	
M	
M.R.	
REFS.	

FIFE

SCOONIE

EARTHWORK, BANBEATH (SITE). The triple concentric ditches of a circular earthwork are revealed by crop-marks on National Survey air-photographs⁽¹⁾ in a cultivated field half a mile W. of Banbeath farmhouse. The earthwork is situated on a round hummock, rising to a height of just over 100 ft. O.D., at the S. end of a slight spur which projects into a belt of flat and formerly marshy ground. The inner ditch, which encloses the top of the hummock, is some 210 ft. in diameter; the medial ditch 270 ft. in diameter; and the outer ditch, which encircles the base of the hummock, is 380 ft. in diameter. These are no definite signs of an entrance or of any internal structures.

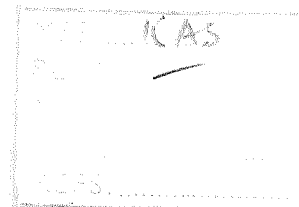
WK 305.

(1) CPE/SCOT/~~5230~~, 5230-1

359014

xxviii N.E. (unnoted).

24 April 1951.



FIFE

MONIMAIL

EARTHWORK, PARBROATH CASTLE (SITE). The ditches of a roughly triangular bailey that has enclosed Parbroath Castle ⁽¹⁾ is revealed by a crop-mark on National Survey air-photographs. ⁽²⁾ The earthwork, one corner of which lies on the S. side of the main road from Newburgh to Cupar, measures 600 ft. in length by 400 ft. in maximum breadth.

- Inventory of Fife*
(1) ~~Fife Inventory~~, No. 142.
(2) ~~Serie~~ 541/A/474, 4010-11.

322176

vii S.W.

25 April 1951.

KAS

Glenduckie
Hill

INDETERMINATE REMAINS, GLENDUCKIE HILL. On a level terrace at the foot
of the ^{SW.} S.W. end of the ridge on which stand the fort and ~~Glenduckie Hill~~
homestead No. , there are two contiguous enclosures lying E. and W., both
of which are bounded by boulder-faced rubble walls from 5 ft. to 6 ft. in
thickness (Fig.). The W. enclosure is circular and measures 45 ft. in
internal diameter, while the other, which appears to be subsidiary, covers
about the same area. No entrances into either enclosure could be detected
at the time of visit, but the walls are in a very ruinous condition, and the
site is thickly overgrown with bracken. It is uncertain whether the
structures represent a hut with an attached courtyard, or a sheep-fold.

281192

vi N.E. (unnoted).

1 May 1952.

MCS	KAS
PLAN	
NOT	
M.R.	
REFS	

FORT AND HOMESTEAD, GLENDUCKIE HILL. Glenduckie Hill is a large volcanic outcrop, the summit of which has been heavily scored by ice. It has thus been divided into a series of knolls and ridges which extend, roughly in a quarter-circle, from N. to W., and are separated by deep rifts. The highest of these features (714 ft. O.D.), in the centre of the chain, shows no trace of structures, but on a slightly lower ridge, 150 yds. to the ~~S.W.~~^{SW.}, there are the remains of a fort, presumably of Early Iron Age date, and of a later homestead (Fig.). The ridge in question lies with its main axis ~~N.E.~~^{NE.} and ~~S.W.~~^{SW.} and is narrow and elongated: from the crest the ground falls away very steeply to the ~~N.W.~~^{NW.} and ~~S.W.~~^{SW.}, and moderately steeply to a broad rift on the ~~N.E.~~^{NE.}, but the ~~S.E.~~^{SE.} flank is only gently inclined. Although it has been severely mutilated by planting and by subsequent removal of the timber, the fort appears to have been defended by a single rampart and ditch and to have measured internally about 420 ft. in length by 130 ft. in maximum breadth. At the ~~N.E.~~^{NE.} end the ditch can be traced running from the edge of the cliff for a distance of 40 ft. across the narrow neck of the ridge. At this point there is an entrance-causeway, 8 ft. wide, on the ~~S.E.~~^{SE.} side of which the ditch returns in a south-westerly direction and is visible, with one interruption, for a further 130 ft. Thereafter it has been entirely obliterated, but the course of the levelled rampart is indicated by a scarp along the remainder of the ~~S.E.~~^{SE.} side of the fort, and also at the ~~S.W.~~^{SW.} end. No trace of any defences survives, however, on the ~~N.W.~~^{NW.} margin of the ridge. In addition to the entrance at the ~~N.E.~~^{NE.} end, a second original entrance may be represented by a gap in the scarp at the opposite end of the fort, but the track that leads obliquely through this scarp in the centre of the ~~S.E.~~^{SE.} side has probably been made in the course of the timber operations referred to above. The interior of the fort exhibits no sign of contemporary dwellings.

A second phase in the occupation of the site is, however, represented by the somewhat better-preserved remains of a small homestead situated on the spine of the ridge in the ~~S.W.~~^{SW.} half of the fort. This consists of a nearly circular enclosure, ^{from} 100 ft. ^{to} 115 ft. in external diameter, within which there

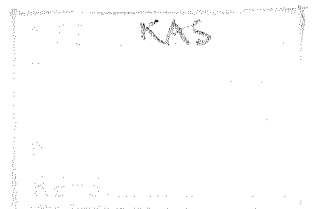
is a single round hut 65 ft. in external diameter. The enclosure wall, about 9 ft. thick, is faced on the outside with boulders and has an entrance, 5 ft. wide, in the S. side; while the hut wall, 6 ft. thick, is stone-faced both inside and out, and has an entrance, 6 ft. wide, almost opposite that of the enclosure. Both walls have been destroyed on the ~~NE.~~^{NW.} side by erosion of the edge of the cliff, and elsewhere are not more than 1 ft. high. The interior of the hut, which slopes from N. to S., consists partly of bare rock and partly of a thin covering of turf. A ^{superficially} similar homestead, at Scotstarvit Covert, was excavated by Dr. Bersu in 1946,⁽¹⁾ and another has recently been discovered on Wemyss Hall Hill (No.). The only other feature of the site, a boulder-faced rubble wall, 10 ft. thick, fronted by a ditch, which cuts off the ~~NE.~~^{NE.} end of the fort, appears to be later than the fort defences, but there is no evidence to show whether or not it is contemporary with the homestead.

(1) F.S.A.S., Excavations (1947-8), pp. 241-63 and Fig. 1.

281194

vi N.E. (unnoted).

1 May 1952.



FIFE

DUNFERMLINE

CROFTS, CRAIGLUSCAR HILL. On Craigluscar Hill, 200 yds. E. of Castle Craigs fort⁽¹⁾ and at a height of 700 ft. O.D., there are the foundations of a group of a dozen primitive structures probably dating to mediaeval times. All the structures are rectangular on plan with rounded corners, and have turf or clay walls, 3 ft. to 4 ft. thick at the base, in some cases surrounded by a slight drainage ditch. Several double-roomed examples, measuring 32 ft. by 14 ft. over the walls, are presumably houses; while the rest, all of which have only a single room, may be either houses or byres. A small, square, turf-walled enclosure on the N. side of the group may be contemporary. About 200 yds. ~~N.E.~~^{NE.} of this group there is a second group of eight similar structures.

(1) Inventory of Fife, No. 207.

062910

xxxiii S.E. (unnoted).

10 April 1951.

MSS	KAS
PL.	
M.A.F.	
M.R.	
REFS.	

FIFE

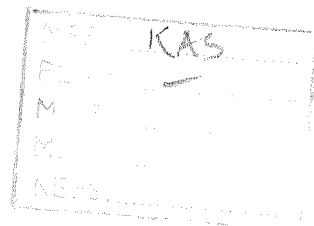
BALLINGRY

HUT CIRCLE, CLUNE CRAIG. On the S. slope of Clune Craig, 100 yds. due S. of the ruined farmhouse of Clune and overlooking the Lochfitty Burn, there are the stone foundations of a circular hut measuring 12 ft. 6 in. in diameter within a wall 2 ft. 6 in. thick.

172951

xxxiv N.E. (unnoted).

12 April 1951.



FIFE

SALINE

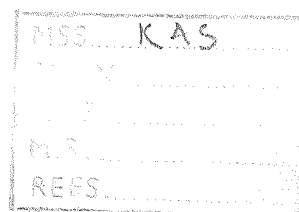
EARTHWORK, SALINE HILL. Easter Cairn, the easternmost of the triple summits of Saline Hill, terminates in a small knoll whose S. and E. sides face level ground, and are only 22 ft. high, but whose other two sides merge with the main slopes of the hill and are steeply inclined - the W. side being rocky and virtually precipitous. This knoll has been surrounded by a single bank to form a sub-oval enclosure measuring 200 ft. from E. to W. by 120 ft. from N. to S. (Fig.). The bank, which has been constructed by terracing into the hill-slope and by piling the upcast on the outer margin, is still visible in a wasted condition on the E. and S. sides where it stands about 6 ft. above the base of the knoll. On the N. side, however, ^{it} the ~~bank~~ has been completely eroded, and only the quarry-terrace survives; while on the W. landslips have destroyed both features. The entrance is situated at the E. apex, and there are slight indications of a track (which may be of comparatively recent date) leading thence to the flat top of the knoll. Otherwise the interior is featureless. The work is presumably the 'camp' on Saline Hill referred to in the Statistical Account.⁽¹⁾

(1) X, footnote p. 312.

04.3934

xxxiii N.W. (unnoted).

7 May 1952.



FORT, CULT HILL. The northernmost of the twin summits of Cult Hill (800 ft. O.D.) consists of a rocky knoll roughly circular on plan with a flattish top measuring 220 ft. from N. to S. by 200 ft. from E. to W. Except towards the N., the flanks of the hill present fairly steep continuous slopes ranging in height from 25 ft. on the S. to 45 ft. on the NW.; the N. face, 40 ft. in height, is broken by two successive natural terraces, but immediately beyond the lowest terrace the ground falls precipitously for 45 ft., and then more gradually for some 300 ft. to the main road from Dumfermline to Rumblingbridge. This knoll is, therefore, admirably designed by nature for defence, and it has, in fact, been fortified by enclosing the top within a triple series of ramparts, the innermost of which was drawn continuously round the margin of the summit area, and the second and third respectively round the flank and base of the knoll on all sides except the N. where the precipice rendered outworks unnecessary. Their ^sramparts have been almost entirely eroded away, but their ^{tracks}paths are marked in places by the artificial terraces, on which ^{they}each ^{were} was erected. Thus the inner rampart (Fig. A) is represented by three broken and ragged fragments of a turf-covered bank, not more than 18 ins. high, on the S.; by a single fragment of a similar bank on the W.; and by a terrace with a well-defined scarp at the back on the E. The medial and outer ramparts are in an even worse state, the former (B) merely showing as a terrace on the S. flank and as a crest-line along the NE. flank, while all that remains of the latter (C), whose decay has been accelerated by ploughing at the base of the knoll, is a short length of terrace and bank ^{on} of the S., and fragments of the rampart terrace on the SW. and NE. The track which climbs obliquely up the flank of the knoll from the SE. appears to be of fairly recent date, and the original entrance to the fort is probably indicated by a gap in the defences in the centre of the E. side. Apart from the foundations of a secondary structure situated at the point where the modern track breasts the shoulder of the knoll, the interior is featureless.

024966

xxv S.W. (unnoted).

MSS.....KS.....
PLAN.....
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REFS.....

6 May 1952.

FIFE

KILCONQUHAR

EARTHWORK, RIRES CASTLE (SITE). Rires Castle has been completely destroyed, but the double ditches of an enclosing circular earthwork are plainly visible as crop-markings on National Survey air-photographs. (1)
The inner ditch is about 200 ft. in external diameter, and the outer ditch, which is not quite concentric with the first, is about 350 ft. in external diameter. Both ditches appear to be some 30 ft. in width.

(1) ~~Sortie~~ 106 G/SCOT/UK 5, 3062-3.

464047

xxi S.E.

2 May 1951.

KAS

FIFE

CARNBEE

EARTHWORK, LINGO BIG WOOD. A small earthwork, much reduced by former cultivation, is situated on flat and marshy ground in the ^{SW.} S.W. corner of the field that borders the E. side of Lingo Big Wood, half a mile ^{WSW.} W.S.W. of Lingo. Rectangular on plan with rounded corners, it consists of a bank and external ditch and measures over-all 104 ft. from E. to W. by 77 ft. from N. to S. The ditch, whose W. side incorporates part of an old watercourse, is from 10 ft. to 14 ft. in width, but is not more than 18 ins. deep at the present time; while the bank, which is now traceable only on the E. and W. sides, is less than ^{1 ft.} ~~42 ins.~~ high and is spread to a mean width of 15 ft. There is no definite indication of an entrance, and the interior is featureless. The shape and situation of the work, and the fact that it had a wet ditch fed by a stream, suggest that it is a mediaeval homestead moat. (1)

Inventory of Roxburghshire, No. 7.

(1) Cf. Bloomfield, Roxburghshire Inventory.

495087

xv S.W. (unnoted).

2 May 1951.

MSS.	KAS
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M.R.	
REFS.	

PILE

CARNBEE

ENCLOSURE, LINGO. An oval enclosure, measuring internally 220 ft. from ~~N.W.~~ ^{N.W.} to ~~S.E.~~ ^{SE.} by 150 ft. from ~~N.E.~~ ^{NE.} to ~~S.W.~~ ^{SW.}, has been formed by the construction of a bank round the base of a low knoll that lies in an undulating pasture field 700 yds. ~~S.W.~~ ^{SW.} of Lingo (Fig.). The bank, which is built of earth derived from an internal quarry-ditch, has been reduced by former cultivation to a height of not more than 1 ft., and is spread to a width of from 10 ft. to 16 ft., while the ditch is only a few inches deep. A gap in the bank, on the ~~S.S.W.~~ ^{SSE.} arc, presumably represents the site of the original entrance, although it has no doubt been widened by later ploughing. The interior only rises to a height of some 4 ft. above the surrounding ground and contains no trace of structures. The work has no defensive qualities and is probably nothing more than a stock-enclosure.

⁵
49A087

xv S.W. (unnoted).

22 April 1952.

MSS	KAS
PLAN	
MAP	
M.R.	
REFS.	

FIFE

ELIE

ENCLOSURE, ELIE HOUSE (SITE). The ditch of a circular enclosure, about 80 ft. in internal diameter, can be seen as a crop-mark on National Survey air-photographs⁽¹⁾ in the grounds of Elie House, 180 yds. ~~N.W.~~ ^{NNE.} of the "Monument" marked on the O.S. map.

^{UK 245,}
(1) CPE/SCOT/~~UK 245~~, 5179-80.

496005

xxx N.W. (unnoted).

26 April 1951.

KAS
—
REF

EARTHWORK, KITTOCK'S DEN. The small promontory that lies in the angle formed by the junction of the sea-cliff, 100 ft. high, and the W. side of the ravine known as Kittock's Den has been fortified by the construction of a curved rampart and ditch across its neck (Fig.). Although the field in which these remains are situated, and which is locally called the "Castle Acre", has frequently been under the plough, and both works are in consequence almost obliterated, it is clear that they have been of exceptionally large size; even when a generous allowance has been made for spread, the rampart can hardly have been less than 50 ft. in thickness at the base, while the ditch has been at least 55 ft. in width. Both defences at present stop short of the edge of the summit plateau at either end, but surface indications suggest that the track round the NW. end overlies the filled-in ditch, and is therefore a secondary feature, so that the original entrance presumably skirted the defences on the SE. side. The interior of the earthwork, which slopes gently towards the NW. and contains no trace of buildings, is roughly triangular on plan and measures 285 ft. in length by 260 ft. in greatest width. A cart-track which climbs the W. face of the ravine and enters the earthwork near the apex of the promontory has obviously been in use at a fairly recent date, but it is conceivable that it represents an improved version of a track which was originally built to connect the earthwork with an anchorage on the sea-shore. Although there is no record of the existence of a castle on this site, other than the name "Castle Acre" which may well refer simply to the rampart and ditch, the massive nature of the latter suggests that they are of mediaeval rather than prehistoric date.

no/ 554152

ix S.E. (unnoted).

14 June 1954.

MSS.....	Ks
PLAN.....	
MAP.....	
M.R.....	
REFS.....	

FIFE

KILDRENNY

FORT, BARNS MILL (SITE). National Survey air-photographs⁽¹⁾ reveal the crop-marks of three or four concentric ditches extending westwards in an arc from the cliff edge above Barns Mill, across the corner of a cultivated field. Owing to unsuitable crop conditions, the ditches are not visible in the adjacent field to the W., but it seems probable that they continued on the same curve and cut off the small headland that lies behind the Coves. This headland is 30 ft. high, measures about 500 ft. along the base, and projects 150 ft. beyond the line of the main cliff.

(1) ~~Serie~~ CPE/SCOT/UK 245, 5003-4.

600059

xciii N.E. and N.E. (unnoted).

2 May 1951.

