FORT LAGGAN LOCH, (Inventory No. 5). This is a pear-shaped fort (not circular as stated in the Inventory) defended by double ramparts and a medial ditch, all of which are drawn round the flanks of a hill. The ramparts were probably earthworks, but for the most part they are reduced to terraces. The entrance is on the W. side. The top of the hill has a well-defined margin which might be expected to have carried an inner rampart, but there is no trace of one at the present time. The fort is worth planning but does not appear to be in any immediate danger.

397373

xxxv NW. ("Camp") 1st September 1951.

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PROMONTORY FORT, BACK BAY, (Inventory No. 6). A plan of this fort was made at date of visit. There is nothing of substance to add to the Inventory description, although it is possible that the 8 ft. thick stone wall, and the foundations of in the interior, represent secondary occupation of the site - perhaps even in medieval times.

369394

xxiv NE. 27 June 1955.

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FORT, FELL OF BARHULLION (Inventory No. 7). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit. Oval in shape the fort is defended by two stone walls. The widths of these walls cannot be determined without excavation, but the inner one has been a massive affair, the debris forming a great belt of scree on the W. side. There are surface indications of a possible gallery in the thickness of the inner wall on the W. side of the S. entrance. A pit, 4 ft. deep, towards the N. end of this gallery, seems, however, to be stone-lined on all sides so that the existence of the gallery needs to be checked by excavation. The outer wall has been thinner, its width probably being not more than 8 ft. An unusual feature of the site is a number of stones set on end, and with pointed tops, which form an outer defence round the work. Although the majority are now only about 1 ft. in height, it is difficult to regard them as anything else than a chevaux de frise. There are some slight indications of what may be a filled-in ditch running across the rocky tip of the site at the Send. Of the two gaps in the defences, that at the S. end almost certainly represents an original entrance, while the one in the E. side may be original or secondary. The fort may possibly be a galleried dun, but excavation is needed to determine this.

FORT, FELL OF BARHULLION (Inventory No. 7). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit. Oval in shape the fort is defended by two stone walls. The widths of these walls cannot be determined without excavation, but the inner one has been a massive affair, the debris forming a great belt of scree on the W. side. There are surface indications of a possible gallery (indications of a possible gallery should be indicated by a broken line on the plan) in the thickness of the inner wall on the W. side of the S. entrance. A pit, 4 ft. deep, towards the N. end of this gallery, seems, however, to be stone-lined on all sides so that the existence of the gallery needs to be checked by excavation. The outer wall has been thinner, its width probably being not more than 8 ft. An unusual feature of the site is a number of stones set on end, and with pointed tops, which form an outer defence Although The majority are now only about 1 ft. in height, and round the work. it is difficult to regard them as anything else than a chevaux de frise.

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The level terrace, which crosses the rocky tip of the site at the S. end, Of the two gapes in the defences, that at the S end almost looks suspiciously artificial and may be a filled in ditch. There are two gaps in the defences, at the E. and S. sides respectively, either of the E. Sept may be original or secondary. which may be an original entrance. The fort may possibly be a galleried dun, but excavation is needed to determine this.

374419

xxxi SW.

CALLE

27 June 1955.

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MOTTE AND BAILEY, APPLEBY. Some slight remains of a motte and bailey can still be seen on flat ground at the base of Castle Hill, 1100 yds. due W. of Appleby, at the point where the Inventory of Wigtown1,

1. No. 24.

following the O.S. map, merely records the site of a "castle". Although the field in which the remains are situated is at present in rough pasture it has previously been under cultivation, and the only surviving portion of the bailey defences consists of a segment of a ditch, 18 ft. in width but only a few inches in depth, facing to the SE.; vegetation marks on National Survey air-photographs² however reveal the complete

circuit of this ditch together with traces of a rampart on its inner side, demonstrating that the bailey was oval on plan with internal measurements of approximately 180 ft. from NE. to SW. by 110 ft. transversely. The motte, which stands in the SW. half of the bailey, is

an oval, grassy knoll measuring 52 ft. by 45 ft. along the axes and 5 ft. 6 in. in height. Round the base there are some slight indications of a ditch 10 ft. wide.

NX/402408 xxxi S.W. ("Castle, site of").

2. 106G/SCOT/UK 43, 4061-2.

28 September 1953.

MSS KS
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? BROCH, TEROY, (Inventory No. 28). There is nothing to add to the Inventory description of this structure. The wall is 13 ft. in thickness, and of broch-like construction, but the absence of cells, other than a guard-chamber, and stairs makes it a doubtful broch at the best. It could conceivably be a stonewalled homestead like the Ayrshire group. The site is much as Curle left it and it would be worth clearing out the rest of the interior.

099641

xii NW. 10 July 1953.



? DUN, CRAIGOCH (Inventory No. 71). From the Inventory description it seems probable that this structure was a dun rather than a fort. The site was however completely obscured by a dense growth of gorse and bracken at the date of visit and no details were visible.

01169

x NW. ("Fort"). 22 June 1955.

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ENCLOSURE, JAMIESON'S POINT, (Inventory No. 72). In its present condition this is simply a circular heap of stones, none of any great size, measuring about 60 ft. in diameter. It is correct to describe it as an enclosure, but there is no need to regard it, as the Inventory does, as a defensive work of any kind. No facing stones are visible, but the spread of the core suggests that the thickness of 7 ft. given for the wall in the Inventory is an underestimate (the account of the site in the Archaeological Collections of Ayrshire and Galloway, Vol. v, p. 65, A thickness of only 4 ft. 6 ins., but this is patently absurd). There is a remote possibility that the enclosure may even have been a broch, assuming that all the large stones have been robbed, but on the whole this is not thought to be likely. The kiln is still visible, but the huts referred to in the A. & G. Collections are doubtful.

032711

x NW. (Fort).

15 July 1953.

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INDETERMINATE REMAINS, CASTLE BAN (Inventory No. 73). structure is more like a motte or the site of a dun than a promontory fort. The huts shown on the plan in the Ayrshire and Galloway Collections, v, 69 are imaginary and the walls which extend from the lower rampart-terrace down the opposite sides of the knoll are later in date than the earthwork. Otherwise the plan is adequate.

965678

iv SE. ("Fort"). 14 July 1953.

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PROMONTORY FORT, DALLY (Inventory No. 74). This fort has not been revisited since the Inventory description was written.

968688

lv SE.

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PROMONTORY FORT, DUNSKIRLOCH (INVENTORY NO. 75).

This fort has not been revisited since the Inventory description was written.

982727

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PROMONTORY FORT, CASPIAN, (Inventory No. 76). There is nothing to add to the Inventory description of this fort.

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15 July 1953.

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FORT, RING HILL (Inventory 118). This is undoubtedly an Early Iron Age fort. The Inventory description and plan are correct, although the site had suffered some deterioration since 1912. Both the ramparts have been stone walls, but no signs of vitrifaction could be seen on the date of visit.

436509

xxvi NE. ("Camp"). 27 September 1953.

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EARTHWORK, CROWS, (Inventory No. 119). This is not a fort, but a medieval homestead moat or castle. There is nothing to add to the Inventory description of the remains.

368557

xx SE. ("Fort") 25 June 1955.

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DUN, DOON HILL, (Inventory No. 120). This is not a fort but a dun. The ditch referred to in the Inventory is undoubtedly artificial and the debris of a heavy wall can be traced round the rim of the summit area, but no facings are visible, and the site is so much overgrown that a plan could only be made in winter.

380515

xx vi NW. ("Fox"). 25 June 1955.

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? HOMSTEAD MOAT, ANNAT HILL (Inventory No. 133). The situation of this structure, and the plan given in the Ayrshire & Galloway Collections (Vol. v.106), suggest that it was a homestead moat and not a fort. There is nothing to see at the present time except a flattish area on the N. side of the dyke.

384465

xxxi NW. ("Fort, site of"). 26 September 1953.

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DUN, "THE DOUNNAN", PORTANKILL (Inventory No. 140).

The Inventory description is adequate. The structure is a typical Ayrshire dun, consisting of an almost circular enclosure situated on the tip of a promontory and defended by ditches drawn across the neck. The rampart is formed of peet, earth and gravel and may have been faced with stone, since there are a few large stones scattered around the rim of the promontory: it was presumably continuous, although at present it only survives on the landward side. There is no trace of any internal structures.

142343

xxxvii NE.

24 September 1953.

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FORT CORE HILL, (Inventory No. 141). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit. Since the Inventory description was written, the site has seriously deteriorated owing to the dumping of refuse in the ditches and the grubbing of pigs amongst the ramparts. The ramparts seem to have had cores of earth and stone but may have been faced with dry walling as the innermost rampart exhibits two lengths of possible facings. All four ramparts, presumably extending originally round the E. and N. sides of the fort and some slight traces of a second rampart are visible at the NW. corner as shown on the plan. The position of the entrance is uncertain and there are no signs of interior structures. The ramparts are now not more than 2 ft. in height. The date of the work is quite uncertain.

124369

xxxiii SW.

25 June 1955.

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PROMONTORY FORT, DUNIEHINNIE, (Inventory No. 142). There is nothing to add to the Inventory description except that the rampart has been faced or curbed externally with stone, a few of these stones being still visible on the left of the entrance.

075426

xxviii S.E. 12 July 1953.

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? BROCH, CRUMMAG HEAD (INVENTORY NO. 143). Since the Inventory description was written, a lighthouse and its appurtenances have been built on the site in spite of the fact that the fort was included in the list of monuments deemed most worthy of preservation. and outer bank are still unaffected but the E. half of the stone structure has been destroyed by the construction of a water-tank and storehouses. The masonry is very large and broch-like, but the thickness of the wall cannot be precisely determined since the inner face is nowhere visible. On the W. half the surviving outer face stands 5-6 ft. below the centre of the enclosure; the foundations of the inner face were presumably at a higher level and have been removed, It seems possible that the wall was about 15 ft. thick all round (the so-called overlap on the NE. does not exist: all that has happened is that some facing stones have fallen outwards) and I would not dismiss the possibility that the structure is a broch. Excavation is still possible in the W. half of the walled enclosure and it would be valuable to obtain the thickness of the wall here,

088341

xxvii NW.

25 September 1953.

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FORT, DUNMAN (INVENTORY NO. 144). The Inventory description is adequate, and no plan is called for at this juncture since the fort does not appear to be in any danger of destruction. The main wall, which had a stone core faced both inside and out, was probably not less than 12 ft. in thickness on both the landward sides, but it is in a dilapadated condition. It follows a natural crest line, like the walls of Barstobrick and The Moyle, so that the enclosure is irregular in shape. The ground in the interior is very broken and shows no trace of structures. The so-called outer rampart at en the W. angle is not convincing and no sign of it can be seen elsewhere. Except as a stock fence, it would be pointless, since it lies at the foot of a scarp. The so-called wall, at the bottom of the great natural ditch on the E. and S. sides, is apparently nothing more than tumbled material from the main rampart. The fort could be either Iron Age or Dark Age in date.

096335

xxxvii NW.

25 September 1953.

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FORT, DUNORROCH (INVENTORY NO. 145). This fort has not been revisited since the Inventory account was written.

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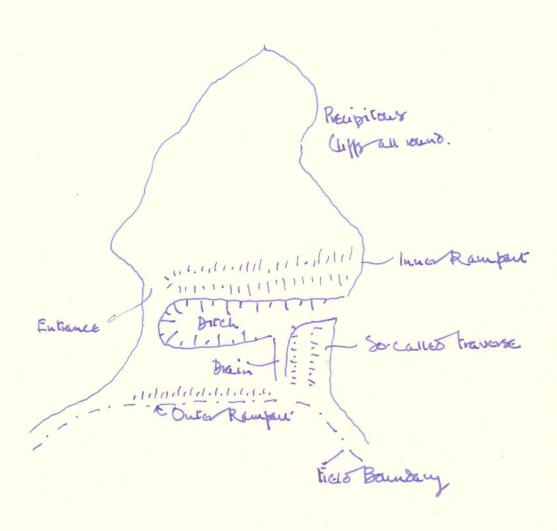
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PROMONTORY FORT, CARRICKAMRIE (INVENTORY NO. 146). following sketch of this fort was made at the date of visit, but there is nothing to add to the Inventory description.

130311

xxxvii SE. 25 September 1953.



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HOMESTEAD, MULL GLEN (INVENTORY NO. 147). This is not a fort but a homestead. There is nothing to add to the Inventory description, except that the hollow in the rampart, 35 ft. along the E. side, is no longer visible, and in any case cannot have been a hut. There is, however, no doubt about the existence of the hut indicated on the Inventory plan.

138310

xxxvii SE. 25 September 1953.

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ENTRENCHMENTS, MULL OF GALLOWAY, (Inventory No. 148). A plan of these works was made at the date of visit.

A. The Northernmost Earthwork

This consists of a single rampart (ell wall) without any apparent ditch. To the E. of the road, where it is best preserved, it takes the form of a natural ridge which has been steeply scarped on the N. side and capped with a mound or wall. The maximum height of the scarp is 11 ft. 6 ins. In a sheep-rub near the top of the outer face there is a single line of boulders, each about 1 ft. in length, lying horizontally and embedded in rock rubble, which may be the remains of a wall. Otherwise, the work is turf-covered and shows no sign of facings.

To the W. of the road the rampart underlies a dyke and is at most 3 ft. in height. The outer face is well-defined on the N. side of the dyke but the inner one is vague owing to later disturbance. The two mounds mentioned in the Inventory seem to be connected with the earthwork, and are probably nothing more than upcast mounds from a drainage ditch which issues from the lowest part of a cultivated field. The earthwork should have ended a short distance E. of this drain, on the actual neck of the isthmus, but there is no sign of its termination at present.

B. The Southernmost Earthwork

To the E. of the road, this starts on the cliff edge as a stone-face earthern or turf wall, 3-4 ft. in width and up to 3 ft. in height, with an internal quarry-trench on the S. side. Here it is merely a boundary wall. After a short distance the wall increases to a thickness of 6 ft. but its construction remains the same, and it is flanked on both sides by quarry-trenches. Near the road it reaches a maximum thickness of 11 ft. and rises to a height of 5 ft. 6 ins. externally: the narrow trench at the bottom of the rear quarry trench is probably a later drainage ditch, upcast from which appears sporadically on the crest.

To the W. of the road, the earthwork resumes its course on a slightly different/

different line, so that the road was presumably already there when it was constructed. The outer mound and ditch, which were traceable at one point to the E. of the road, are now a continuous feature but the mound is not more than 18 ins. in height and the ditch is of slight proportions. The wall is best preserved at pin C where it measures 11 ft. in height externally and 5 ft. 6 ins. in height above the bottom of the inner ditch, the latter being 4 ft. deep. The external height is however probably somewhat exaggerated here by the inclusion of a natural slope: normally the wall averages about 6 ft. in height. The facing stones of the wall are mostly obscured in this sector, but occasional ones survive and demonstrate that the construction of the work tallies with the sector to the E. of the road. The present stage ends with a wide gap in the outer mound and ditch, and with a reduction in the width of the wall facing the gap.

At pin D there is the inner mound, measuring 1 ft. in height above the interior and 5 ft. 6 ins. in height above the ditch. The wall is 3 ft. above the inner ditch and 5 ft. 6 ins. above the outer ditch, while the outer mound is not more than 18 ins. high. These measurements are more or less standard for the various elements throughout this sector which ends at another gap at the outer mound and ditch. Here there is a similar reduction in the width of the main wall to the one observed above.

In the final sector the outer mound loses its ditch, and the wall is seen to be a thin and late topping-up with the earlier mound which diverges from the main work en the W. end. The narrow stone wall visible in the gaps clearly also belongs to the late re-build as does the enclosure at the W. end, which is probably contemporary with the narrow wall.

At pin E the inner ditch is 12 ins. deep internally and 1 ft. 9 ins. deep below the crest of the wall. The wall is 5 ft. 6 ins. above the outer ditch but only 6 ins. high internally. The outer bank similarly is only 6 ins. in height.

Conclusion

I very much doubt whether either of these so-called entrenchments is defensive or of any great antiquity.

The northern one is easily out-flanked, and is of modest size, although it has been made slightly more formidable to the E. of the road by basing it on a natural ridge. The S. entrenchment is more complex but

- (1) it is not older than the road which now leads to the lighthouse;
- (2) the outer mound, which seems from its alignment to

 be an integral part of the work, is of trifling

 proportions; while the stone-wall is merely a boundary

 to the

 wall, E. of the road and also in the gaps W. of it.

1431

xxxvii SE.

29 June 1955.

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PROMONTORY FORT, KEMP'S WALK (Inventory No. 174). The
Inventory description and plan are substantially accurate, but the
following corrections should be noted:-

- (1) The "ledge" that continues the terrace at the S. end of the fort is merely a sheep-walk, as is the similar ledge "lower down the scarp on the W. side.
- (2) The hillock has not been enclosed by the defences and there is nothing whatsoever to indicate that there has been a hut on the summit.
- (3) The defences appear to be unfinished, since it is otherwise difficult to explain why there is no suspicion of a mound on the edge of the broad terrace. Furthermore, the ramparts on the W. side of the entrance are much more substantial than those on the E. side.

A sheep-rub shows that the medial rampart on the W. side is composed of earth with a capping of gravel.

974598

xvi NE.

14th July 1953.

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FORT, "KEMP'S" GRAVES (INVENTORY NO. 175). Despite its odd triple appearance on the plan, this has been a promontory fort with treble defences on the N. side. The plantation has recently been felled, but owing to a dense growth of rhododenron, and fallen trees, the area between the outermost and middle ramparts was obscured on the date of visit, and nothing could be seen of the gap in the outer rampart or of the return of the rampart terminal on the W. side of that gap. It is clear from the plan, however, that this entrance is secondary.

007635

xi SW.

8 July 1953.



FORT, TOR OF CRAIGOCH, (Inventory No. 176). The defences of this fort are almost completely obscured by rhododendron bushes but slight traces of three or four ramparts can be seen on the SW. side. The innermost of these has almost entirely gone, but the cores of the others contain a good deal of stone and they may in fact have been stone walls. Vitrifaction might be expected, but none could be seen at the time of visit. The fort is not worth planning in its present condition.

008647

xi NW.

8 July 1953.

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PROMONTORY FORT, SALITPANS BAY (INVENTORY NO. 180).

This fort has not been revisited since the Inventory description was written,

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VITRIFIED FORT, DOON OF MAY, (Inventory No. 187). An excellent example of a vitrified fort. It appears to consist of only a single rampart, without horn-works, and nothing can be seen at the present time of any internal buildings.

295515

xxv NW. 2 September 1950.

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ENCLOSURE, GARHEUGH, (Inventory No. 189). This is not a fort but an enclosure, similar to the one at Chang. It is bounded by a 7 ft. thick wall consisting of a core of small stones faced with large boulders. No internal features are visible.

275506

xxiv NE. ("Fort") 2 September 1951.

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ENCLOSURE, CHANG, (Inventory No. 190). This structure is not a fort, but simply an enclosure bounded by a thick stone wall, similar to those which surround the homesteads at Crock Cleuch, Roxburghshire. The only internal features visible, namely the two cairns referred to in the Inventory, are simply piles of stones gathered together during cultivation of the interior in former times. A plan of the remains would be useless in the absence of excavation, but a fragment of a quern was found amongst the wall core at the date of visit.

299481

xxv SW. ("fort"). 12 October 1955.

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ENCLOSURE, ELDRIG (INVENTORY NO. 197). This is not a fort, but a comparable structure to the enclosures at Chang and Chippermore. The Inventory description is ganeral, except that it is impossible to tell, in the absence of facing stones, whether the enclosure was curvilinear or rectilinear internally. It does, however, appear to be rectilinear externally. The mounds at the corners are of no significance, being probably the result of ploughing, and the supposed hut in the SE. angle is very dubious.

324482

xxv SW. ("Fort") 27 September 1953.

MSS KS
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FORT, BARSALIOCH POINT, (Inventory No. 199). A plan of this fort was made at the time of visit, but the Inventory description is adequate. Both the ramparts appear to be earthworks, since they exhibit no trace of stone facings. The ditch has been under cultivation, as has the interior of the fort, and the entrance has been widened by the plough. The date of the fort is quite uncertain. It is not a dun or a contour fort, and could well be either Dark Age or medieval.

347413

XXX SE.

10 October 1955.

MSS KS
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mote is correct, but it is impossible to follow the account of the walls. Such walls as there are, are much later in date than the mote, although they are now ruinous. The mote may not be a motte in view of its low elevation (it is only 5 ft. 6 ins. high on the S. side), and the existence of a wall round the top, although the latter feature may be secondary. The structure is in effect simply a rock ridge which has topped been dressed to form a circular flat-top knoll with a small rock-cut ditch around the base. It might conceivably be a dun.

326526

XXV NW.

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FORT CRUISE BACK FELL (INVENTORY NO. 244). stone fort consisting of an oval citadel with a rectangular annexe, each element being enclosed by a massive stone wall now reduced to a heap of debris. There is no definite evidence of the existence of chambers in these walls, but otherwise the plan and description given in the Inventory are adequate.

179623

xii SE. 29 September 1953.

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Wigton,

FORT BENNAN OF GARVILLAND (INVENTORY NO. 245). This is a stone wallofort obviously allied to the one on Knock Fell. The Inventory plan is inaccurate in detail but shows the main features. There is, however, no reliable evidence for the existence of chambers in the walls. The treatment of the rock out-crops in the interior is good and might be taken as a model for other drawings where similar out-crops have to be represented. There are no signs of internal structures.

215627

xiii SW. 29 September 1953.

MSS KS
PLAN
MAP
M.R
REFS

FORT, KNOCK FELL (INVENTORY NO. 305). A pear-shaped stone fort, subdivided by a cross-wall into a citadel and amnexe and with an outer horn-work on the NW. The walls appear to have been deliberately thrown down. There is no sign of internal structures and the huts marked on the O.S. map outside the SW. entrance, are illusory, being merely scattered boulders. There is no immediate need for a plan.

255557

xix SE. 29th September 1953.

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PROMONTORY FORT, LAIGH SINNINESS (INVENTORY NO. 306). There is nothing to add to the Inventory description. The chief interest of this fort is the association of a massive dry-stone inner wall (probably about 15 ft. in thickness) with an outer earthen rampart.

215522

xxiv NW. 28 September 1953.

MSS KS
PLAN
MAP
M.R.
REFS.

ENCLOSURE, "BLACK CAIRN" (INVENTORY NO. 307). This is not a defensive work, but simply an enclosure, probably of no great age. The wall, some 7 ft. in thickness, shows a few stones on the outer face, but the core has been of earth and rubble derived from an internal quarry-trench 6 ft. in width. In view of the footnote in the Inventory, it should be omitted from the O.S. Map.

247527

xxiv NE. 28 September 1953.

MSS KS
PLAN
MAP
M.R.
REFS

PROMONTORY FORT, WORF KILFILLAN POINT (INVENTORY NO. 308). The Inventory description is adequate. The numerous blocks of stone lying in the hollow are certainly derived from a heavy dry-stone wall which has cut off the rocky point, but the rock itself affords such limited space for occupation that it could only have been a single family residence and a term fort is somewhat too grandiloquent. It is difficult, however, to think of a more suitable classification.

201542

XXIX SW (Unnoted) 28 September 1953.

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CAIRN AIRY HEMMING (Inventory No. 309). This is not a fort or defensive structure of any kind but a ruined circular cairn about 80ft. in diameter. It has been plundered for stone, but still exhibits some large slabs embedded in the ground which may be the remains of cists or chambers. The "ear-like" lobe on the W. is a quasi-rectangular structure no doubt associated with the but - and-ben whose foundations lie 30 yds. further W. again. There is another ruined but- and-ben 50 yds. to the N.

174599

xviii NE. ("Fort"). 25 June 1955.

MSS. KS
PLAN.
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? BROCH, STAIRHAVEN, (Inventory No. 310). Shortly before the date of visit, Mr. de Bear Nichol uncovered the entrance of this structure on the NW. (seaward) side together with the outer face eastwards for a distance of 25 ft. from the N. side of the entrance. The outer face was found to be standing to a height of 3 ft. in seven courses, the stone consisting of a mixture of natural boulders and quarried blocks. The entrance narrows from front to back, and exhibits no sign of door-checks. The width of the wall varies, being only 8 ft. 6 ins. on one side of the entrance and 12 ft. 6 ins. on the other, so that, if uniform thickness of the wall is a criterion, the work is not a broch but a dun.

At a distance of 4 ft. from the inner corner on the N. side of the entrance, a wall face which has been exposed/returns obliquely from the inner face of the structure for 3 ft. 6 ins. into the thickness of the wall. This suggests the possibility of a chamber at this point. A proper survey should be undertaken as soon as Nichol has completed his exploration.

208534

xxiv NW. 28 September 1953.

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FORT, CAIRN PAT, (Inventory No. 413). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit. The defences comprise two parallel walls, both of which are now heavily ruined. The inner one has been about 10 ft. thick, the outer one 6-8 ft. thick. The solid stone cores of both walls are visible in a few places, but for the most part they are only traceable by a rickle of stones or by a low stony mound. Traces of additional outer works can be seen on the W., namely a segmental rampart, with an outer ditch (now very faint), and a marginal mound and ditch. The rampart is not more than 12 ins. in height. The mound and ditches are practically levelled. There is an original entrance in the W. side, where the two main walls return and unite on either side of the passage, but it is impossible to tell whether the other gaps in the walls are primary or secondary.

044564

xvii SE.

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EARTHWORK, KILDONAN, (Inventory No. 429). A plan of this structure was made at the date of visit. The Inventory account omits notice of the ditch, which is faintly visible on three sides, and also the entrance which has a distinct causeway. The work could be either a homestead moat or a Roman fortlet, but is presumably the former.

058523

xxii NE.

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PROMONTORY FORT, KENMUIR GRAVES, (Inventory No. 430). A plan of this fort was made at date of visit. The Inventory description is adequate, although some slight modifications have been noted on the plan.

065468

xxviii NE. 24 June 1955.



PROMONTORY FORT, KIRKLAUCHLANE, (Inventory No. 431). A plan of this structure was made at the date of visit. The Inventory account is satisfactory, except that the "fereastwork", some 30 ft. below the summit on the W. flank, is a natural feature and has therefore been omitted from the plan. The two low mounds on either side of the entrance through the outer ditch may be the remains of an outer rampart, which has otherwise been destroyed by the ploughings which extends to the lip of the ditch. The ramparts contain both earth and stones, but whether they were originally a dump; construction, or walls with cores of earth and rubble, it is impossible to say without excavation. There is however no trace of facings at the present time, the whole site being covered with grass and bracken.

035506

xxii SW.

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PROMONTORY FORT, GRENNAN POINT (Inventory No. 132). This fort has not been revisited since the Inventory account was written.

076438

xxviii SE.

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MOTTE, BALGREGGAN, (Inventory No. 134). The top of this motte has been wrecked by the construction of an observation post on it during the second World War. Part of the material for the post has been obtained by digging a large pit in the centre of the motte, thereby destroying the inner enclosure shown on the Inventory plan. The work is unquestionably a motte.

095505

xxiii SW. 9 July 1953.

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	REFS

BROCH, ARDWELL, (Inventory No. 433). A plan of this structure was made at the date of visit. By removing loose stones, it was possible to show that the broch was circular on plan and had two entrances, i.e. a normal broch entrance on the seaward side, and a larger entrance, also equipped with door-checks, on the landward side. Only the uppermost surviving courses were cleared, so that it is not certain whether both entrances are carried right down to the foundations of the broch. In considering these entrances it is important to note that the broch occupies the full width of the promontory - the W. side being supported on a foundationwall built along the edge of the cliff and still surviving to a height of seven courses at the S. end - so that it is conceivable that the broch builders only used the sea-entrance, the landwardentrance being secondary. Some support for this suggestion is derived from a continuous line of foundations of an enclosure wall, lying across the landward approach, and the fact that the ditch also appears to have been originally continuous - the causeway being a later insertion and possibly contemporary with the landward entrance. But this is all speculation and requires to be checked by excavation.

The outer defence of the broch has largely vanished, but a stony scree continues the line of the foundations further westwards, while a southern extension is represented by a low mound which terminates just N. of the broch. No defences are visible to the S. of the broch, and would hardly be needed here owing to the steep rocky slopes on this side of the promontory.

066466

xxviii S.E. and N.E.

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Stoneykirk

BROCH, ARDWELL. A re-examination of the mined stone structure, known as "Doon Castle", which stands astride a narrow rocky peninsular on the S. side of Ardwell Point, disclosed several features which are not mentioned in the description of the site given in the <u>Inventory</u> of Wigtownshire¹. The following revised account has therefore been 1. No. 433.

prepared, together with the accompanying plans (Figs. 1 - 3).

The general plan of the site (Fig. 1) shows that the only easy approach is from the N. along the narrow neck of land that links the peninsular to the mainland. About half-way along its length, this neck is traversed by a trench, 20 ft. in width, which is not indubitably a natural feature, as is stated in the Inventory, but may well be wholly or partly artificial. The trench has been bridged by the insertion of a built causeway, 7 ft. in width, revetted on either side with dry walling; the top of the causeway, however, is not level with the ground at either end but is some 3 ft. lower. At 12 ft. from the S. lip of the trench, traces of an outer wall, indicated in part by a line of outer facing stones and in part by tumbled masonry, can be seen extending across the promontory at a point where it expands to a width of 55 ft.; while a low bank attests the continuation of the same wall southwards for at least 50 ft. along the E. margin of the summit area, its thickness in this sector being approximately 10 ft. It is reasonable to assume that the wall formerly returned in a similar manner along the W. edge of the promontory, but no traces of such a return can be seen at the present time.

By carefully removing the fallen debris at intervals round the perimeter and exposing the upper courses of the undisturbed masonry, it was found that the main structure was a broch, as had been supposed, measuring 30 ft. in internal diameter and from 56 ft. to 60 ft. in external diameter (Fig. 2). On both the E. and W. sides, the broch wall, which is built of large roughly square blocks of stone packed with thin angular fragments, slightly oversails the edges of the promontory, and on the W. side the builders had consequently found it necessary to underpin the foundations with a straight length of walling which still survives to a height of seven courses at the S. end. At the present time there are

EARTHWORK (? HOMESTEAD MOAT), RISPAIN (INVENTORY NO. 495). This is obviously a medieval earthwork of some kind, and possibly a Castle site rather than a homestead moat in view of the defensive nature of the ditch.

429399

xxxv NE. ("Camp") 28 September 1953.

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FROMONTORY FORT, CASTLE FEATHER, (Inventory No. 496). This two is undoubtedly a second period site, as the Inventory account suggests, a promontory fort having subsequently been utilised for a medieval castle. The medieval features comprise only the internal structures shown on the plan (the largest of which has walls about 4 ft. in thickness and is presumably the tower-house, while the others are ancillary buildings) and the revetting of the scarp of the inner(in stone. To the promontory fort belong all the ramparts and ditches, which have however been heavily mutilated in the succeeding phase of occupation, or at a more recent date. These defences seem to have comprised five ramparts and ditches on the N. side, and three on the S., but the central area is so disturbed that the relationship of these ramparts to one-another is quite uncertain. All the ramparts appear to be simply earthworks. The circular hollow in the interior, mentioned in the Inventory, is a quarry no doubt contemporary with the castle.

448343

XXXV SE.



PROMONTORY FORT, BURROW HEAD NO. 1, (Inventory No. 497). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit to supersede the plan in the Inventory. This fort is still a most impressive structure, as the section shows. The main features are the double ramparts and ditches on the W. side, while an additional rampart and ditch have been interpolated on the E. on the other side of the causeway. The innermost rampart is best preserved on the W. side of the entrance where it measures 5 ft. 6 ins. in height internally; on the E. side of the entrance it has been reduced to a fragmentary condition. inner ditch is also best preserved on the W. side of the causeway where it measures 5 ft. deep, but the medial rampart shows to greatest advantage on the E. side where it measures 5 ft. 6 ins. in height on both sides. The outer rampart and ditch are best preserved at the point where the section was taken. Both ramparts are turf-covered, but the profile of the outer one is so steep that it almost certainly possesses a stone core, if not stone facings; while the inner rampart may likewise have been of stone. The entrance on the E. side is presumably secondary, and the interior is featureless. It is not possible to determine the chronological relationship between this fort and Burrow Head No. 3 without excavation, since the point of junction between their respective ditches is obscured by the causeway.

454341

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FORT, BURROW HEAD No.3. The O.S. map marks two coastal forts close to Burrow Head, one on either side of the promontory, and descriptions of both are given in the Inventory of Wigtown 1. In the description of the western-

1. Nos. 497 and 498. By a slip the latter fort is said to lie on the western side of the promontory instead of on the eastern side.

most fort (Inventory No.497) it is stated that the site is "cut off from the adjacent headland by a natural depression debouching on the face of the cliff, and which has probably been deepened". When the place was re-visited by the Commission's officers in 1954 it was observed that the depression referred to was actually the outer defence of another fort whose defences, in contrast to those of the adjacent fort, consisted simply of a single rampart and ditch. As the Inventory plan of the known fort was not found to be entirely satisfactory, a comprehensive survey of both works was made in the following year and a new plan produced (Fig. 1): on this plan the known fort has been numbered 1 and the recently discovered fort 3 - number 2 being reserved for the other known fort on the E. side of Burrow Head. Fort No. 3. can be briefly described. As the plan shows, the principal feature at the present time is the ditch which extends in a curve across the neck of the small headland leaving only a single opening for an entrance, 12 ft. wide, at the E. end: the ditch ranges from 35 ft. to 50 ft. in width and measures 6 ft. in depth externally and 13 ft. in depth internally. The rampart, on the other hand, which is separated from the ditch by a gently inclined benn, has been reduced to a low ragged bank about 10 ft. in thickness whose only distinguishing feature is a slight in-turn at the E. end where it flanks the entrance. The interior is disproportionately narrow (30 ft.) in relation to its length (170 ft.) but has probably been reduced in width by erosion since the fort was built. It is covered with grass and shows no trace of structures.

455341 xxxv S.E. (unnoted).

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PROMONTORY FORT, DINNANS, (Inventory No. 500). A plan of this fort was made at date of visit. There is nothing to add to the Inventory description except that the interior is now under cultivation, and it seems probable that there was originally only a single entrance at the S. end. A curious feature of this fort, which differentiates it sharply from the neighbouring one, (Inventory No. 501), is that the grassy slope on the N. side, and the rocky tip on the E., are low and easily climbed. The S. side is longer and steeper measuring about 50 ft. in height as against the 20 ft. on the N. side. The rampart appears to be constructed of earth and rubble, but one or two boulders are embedded in the outer face near the top and suggests that it may have been capped by a wall. Even if this wall exists, however, it may well have been secondary.

479405

xxxii SW. 12 October 1955.

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PROMONTORY FORT, "THE OLD FORT", DINNANS (Inventory No. 501). It is obvious from the plan that a large part of this fort has been destroyed by erosion. The slight innermost bank on the edge of the cliff at the extreme S. end of the fort has a weapon-pit in it, and may be nothing more than a War-time breastwork. The structure in the interior is an observation post also built during the 1939-45 War. The inner mound at the entrance may have been dug out for a house-stance but there are no foundations to prove it, and the other hut mentioned in the description is an even more doubtful case. The so-called terraces must be natural. The ramparts are apparently of dumpconstruction, and are very massive while the ditches are wide and deep.

478403

xxxii SW. 12 October 1955.

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PROMONTORY FORT, CAIRN HEAD (INVENTORY NO. 502).

The Inventory account seems satisfactory, but a proper inspection of the fort was impossible on the date of visit owing to a dense growth of blackthorn and bramble. The work is clearly not a motte "(Givehed Mole"
as the name might be thought to imply.

486383

xxxvi NW. 26 September 1953.

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PROMONTORY FORT, STEINHEAD (Inventory No. 503). A plan of this fort was made at the date of visit. The Inventory description is satisfactory except for the following points:-

- (1) The entrance was situated near the north end of the defences and led obliquely through the two ramparts. The gap in the ditch at the S. end of the defences has been caused by former cultivation.
- (2) Two boulders in the scarp of the outermost rampart where it sweeps round the N. side of the geo, suggests that the ramparts may originally have been faced with stone externally at least.
- (3) No indications of any stone structure can now be seen in the interior.
- (4) The trenches in the interior, mentioned in the Inventory, are probably plough-rigs, since cultivation has impinged upon the ramparts, destroying the N. part of the medial rampart and mutilating the others.

485372

xxxvi NW.

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FORT, ISLE OF WHITHORN, (Inventory No. 504). The Inventory account is satisfactory. Both the inner ramparts have been stone walls.

480360 xxxvi SW. 1 September 1951.

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INDETERMINATE STRUCTURE, TORHOUSEKIE, (Inventory No. 527). A plan of this structure was made at the date of visit. It stands on level ground in a pasture field and is bounded on the E. and S. sides by a shallow gully which has no defensive value. The remains consist of two concentric dry-stone walls, heavily robbed and turfcovered. Apart from a few inner facings which are still in situ in the outer rampart, all the facing stones have either been removed, or are obscured, so that the precise widths of the walls are uncertain. The surviving facings are large boulders and the core of the walls has consisted of small stones tightly packed together without earth. On the E. side the crest of the outer wall is 4 ft. above the floor of the gully, and the crest of the inner wall is 2 ft. 6 ins. above that of the outer one. There is no indication of the position of the entrance, and the interior, which is covered with field-gathered stones, shows no structures. The nature and date of the work are impossible to diagnose without excavation.

378568

xxi NW. ("Fort"). 2 June 1955.

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Stoneykirk

PROMONTORY FORT, PORTOBELLO. On the coast, about 200 yds. SW.

of the deserted cottage formerly known as Portobello, there is a narrow
promontory flanked by steep cliffs which rise to a height of about 60 ft.

above the sea. The promontory has been fortified by drawing a rampart

and ditch across the landward end, leaving only a gap, 16 ft. wide, at

SE. end to serve as an entrance (Fig.). Although it is at present
in pasture, the site has previously been under cultivation and in
consequence the defences are in a poor state of preservation; the

rampart, about 12 ft. thick at the base, is only 6 in. high, while the
ditch, from 10 ft. to 13 ft. in width, is not more than 18 in. deep.

The interior, measuring 200 ft. in length by 100 ft. in maximum width,
shows no sign of structures.

961664 x N.E. (unnoted).

MSS KS
PLAN
MAP
M. R
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Stoneykirk

Dounan that lies between Monoch Bay and Port of Spittal Bay has been fortified by drawing a rampart and ditch in a slight curve across the landward end (Fig.). The site has long been under cultivation and in consequence the rampart is merely a faint swelling in the ground, some 23 ft. in thickness, while the ditch is only perceptible near the S. margin of the promontory where it measures about 15 ft. in width. There are two gaps in the rampart, one near the centre and the other at the N. end, either of which may mark the position of the original entrance. The interior, which is bounded on the NW. and S. sides by precipitous cliffs 200 ft. in height, measures only 110 ft. in length by 105 ft. in breadth; apart from a modern turf dyke along the NW. side it shows no trace of structures.

019523 xxii N.W. (unnoted).

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Stoneykirk

FORT, DOVE CAVE HEAD. At the extreme southern end of Dove Cave Head, a projecting point of land on the N. side of Float Bay, a small fort has been formed by drawing double ramparts and ditches from edge to edge of the converging cliffs which here fall abruptly for 150 ft. to the shore (Fig.). At the present time the ramparts are simply turfcovered banks which show no trace of stone revetting on either scarp or counterscarp; both of them measure some 15 ft. in thickness at the base and still stand up to 3 ft. in height, but the outer rampart, of which only a fragment survives, presumably once occupied the full width (20 ft.) of the level space between the ditches. The ditches each have an effective width of about 20 ft. and range from 18 in. to 2 ft. 6 in. in depth. The entrance to the interior is situated near the E. edge of the promontory, the gaps that now exist at the W. ends of the two ramparts and the outer ditch being presumably caused by later traffic. Excluding a rocky spine at the S. end, the interior measures 90 ft. in length by 60 ft. in breadth. The inner rampart does not appear to have been carried round the other three sides, and there is no sign of internal buildings.

059473 xxviii N.E. (unnoted).

MSSS.
PLAN
MAP
M. R
REFS

Penninghame

FORT, BARNKIRK HILL. On the summit of Barnkirk Hill, one mile W.

of Newton Stewart, there are the last vestiges of a fort which has been
wrecked by cultivation (Fig.). The fort has been oval on plan, with
maximum internal dimensions of 300 ft. from NW. to SE. by 190 ft.

transversely, and has been defended by two boulder-faced walls about 60 ft.

apart. Both walls are now reduced to low crest lines although
occasional widely-spaced facing stones still remain in situ as shown
on the plan; the outer wall, which has completely disappeared on the

NE. side, is some 12 ft. thick at the SE. apex, but the inner wall is
nowhere precisely measurable. There are some slight traces of what
may have been an original entrance at the NW. end. The interior
is featureless.

394665 ix S.W. (unnoted).

MSS	KS
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Old Luce

EARTHWORK, MOTE HILL, GLENLUCE. The Mote Hill, situated between the main road and the railway on the western outskirts of Glenluce, is a natural hill which presents steep slopes, from 12 ft. to 50 ft. in height, in all directions except the E. where it is linked by a narrow ridge to slightly higher ground. Although the top of the hill has been intensively cultivated in former times, vestiges of two ramparts can still be seen at the E. end (Fig.); the innermost of these was no doubt once continuous round the margin of the summit area, enclosing an oval space measuring about 270 ft. in length by 150 ft. in width, while the outer rampart was probably only a detached segment affording additional protection at the most vulnerable part of the circuit. At the present time the ramparts are not more than 18 in. high, but they have evidently been of substantial proportions, each of them measuring at least 20 ft. in thickness at the base. A gap, 15 ft. wide, in the centre of the surviving segment of the inner rampart may mark the position of the original entrance. The interior is featureless. plan and situation of this work suggest that it is likely to be mediaeval rather than prehistoric.

193574 xix N.W. (unnoted).

The following buried features are visible as crop-markings on National Survey air-photographs:

- 1. ENCLOSURE, KILEREEN (Stoneykirk). The ditch of an oval enclosure about 100 ft. in length by 70 ft. in greatest width on the E. flank of Moor Hill 200 yds. S. of Kilbreen farm-steading. Traces of what may have been a second ditch, parallel to the first and some 40 ft. outside it, can be seen a round the W. half of the enclosure 1.
 - 1. 106G/SCOT/UK 42, 3133-4; 106/G/UK 987, 4039-40.

NX/067544 xxii N.E. (unnoted).

8 July 1953.

- 2. ENCLOSURE, CASS BURN (Kirkmaiden). The 8 ft. to 10 ft. wide ditch of a circular enclosure, 100 ft. in diameter, on the W. side of the Cass Burn 600 yds. NE. of Cairngarroch. At the time of visit, when the site was in pasture, the greater part of the circuit of the ditch was revealed by a belt of clover growing in the filling¹.
 - 1. 106G/SCOT/UK 89, 3115-6.

NX/143359 xxxiii S.E. (unnoted).

9 July 1953.

MSS KS
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M. R.
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Inch

MOUND, BIG PLANTATION, CULHORN MAINS. Close to the E. side of the road that runs from NW. to SE. through the middle of Big Plantation, half a mile NW. of Culhorn Mains and 150 yds. S. of the old gravel pit marked on the O.S. map, there is a circular mound 80 ft. in diameter and 11 ft. in height which has an artificial appearance and may be the remains of a motte. A modern drainage-trench which has been dug round the base of the mound has obscured any traces there may have been of an original ditch. The site has recently been replanted with conifers.

NX/078594 xvii N.E. (unnoted).

11 July 1953.

River says this is a Gazelo or Prospect Mount. Art. 19.x1.63.

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

Kirkmaiden.

THE "AULD KILNS" AUCHNEIGHT MOOR. On Auchneight Moor there are two shapeless mounds, 60 yds. apart and each about 3 ft. in height, which are described in Gothic type as the "Auld Kilns" on the O.S. map. They are not mentioned in the <u>Inventory of Wigtown</u>. Although they are covered with bracken and no structural features are visible on the surface in either case, both mounds are evidently artificial and it seems likely that they are, in fact, the remains of old kilns.

NX/103332 xxxvii N.W.

MSS K
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Kirkmaiden

STANDING STONE, MULL GLEN. In the NW. corner of the field that lies on the W. side of Mull Glen, 100 yds. from the W. wall of the field and 58 yds. from the N. wall, there is a standing stone embedded in the ground at an angle of 30° and measuring 5 ft. 4 in. in length, 1 ft. 10 in. by 1 ft. at the base, and 1 ft. by 2 in. at the top. The stone may be the sole surviving member of a stone circle or of the façade of a long cairn since the initial section of the modern wall running S. from the NW. corner of the field is built of similar large stones, some twenty in number.

NX/133313 xxxvii S.E. (unnoted).

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WICTOWN

Kirkmaiden

CAIRN, MULL OF GALLOWAY. By an oversight, the cairn which is marked on the O.S. map 30 yds. N. of the lighthouse at the E. end of the Mull of Galloway was omitted from the <u>Inventory of Wigtown</u>. Today, it consists of a circular, turf-covered mound 50 ft. in diameter which stands to a height of 3 ft. on the S. side and 6 ft. on the N. side. The top has been flattened to take a flag-pole.

NX/156304 xxxvii S.E.

MSS	KS.	
PLAN		
MAP		
M.R		
REFS.		

Mochium

EARTHWORK, MONREITH MAINS. On the N. end of the slight ridge that runs from N. to S. across Cow Park, 600 yds. N. of Monreith Mains, there are some faint traces of an earthwork which has almost certainly been a mediaeval homestead moat. The work has been nearly square on plan (Fig.) and has consisted of a ditch, about 20 ft. wide, with upcast banks on either lip. Owing however to cultivation of the site over a long period, the banks are reduced and spread to such an extent that they cannot be planned, while the ditch, which is nowhere more than one foot deep, has been almost completely obliterated on the N. half of the E. side. The area enclosed by the ditch alone measures approximately 150 ft. along either axis, and the entrance appears to have lain in the centre of the E. side. The interior shows no sign of structures.

3644.38 xxx N.E. (unnoted).

MSS
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MAP
M. R
REFS

Glasserton

ENCLOSURE, CAIRNDOON. In the W. corner of the square field that lies 700 yds. NW. of Cairndoon there is an oval enclosure bounded by a heavily ruined boulder-faced wall, 4 ft. to 5 ft. in thickness, and measuring 84 ft. in length by 70 ft. in breadth. An entrance in the W. side is probably original, but has been enlarged by later cultivation of the site. The interior is featureless.

NX/374394 xxxv N.W. (unnoted).

MSS KS
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M. R.
REFS.

Penninghame

MOUND, MERTON HALL. On the top of a slight knoll, 350 yds.

N. of Merton Hall and at a height of 150 ft. O.D., there is a roughly circular stony mound enclosed within a relatively modern turf dyke. The mound measures about 60 ft. in diameter by 2 ft. in height and may be a prehistoric cairn.

383643 xv N.W. (unnoted).

MSS KS
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