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# GLENESSLIN NITHSDALE

## An Archaeological Survey



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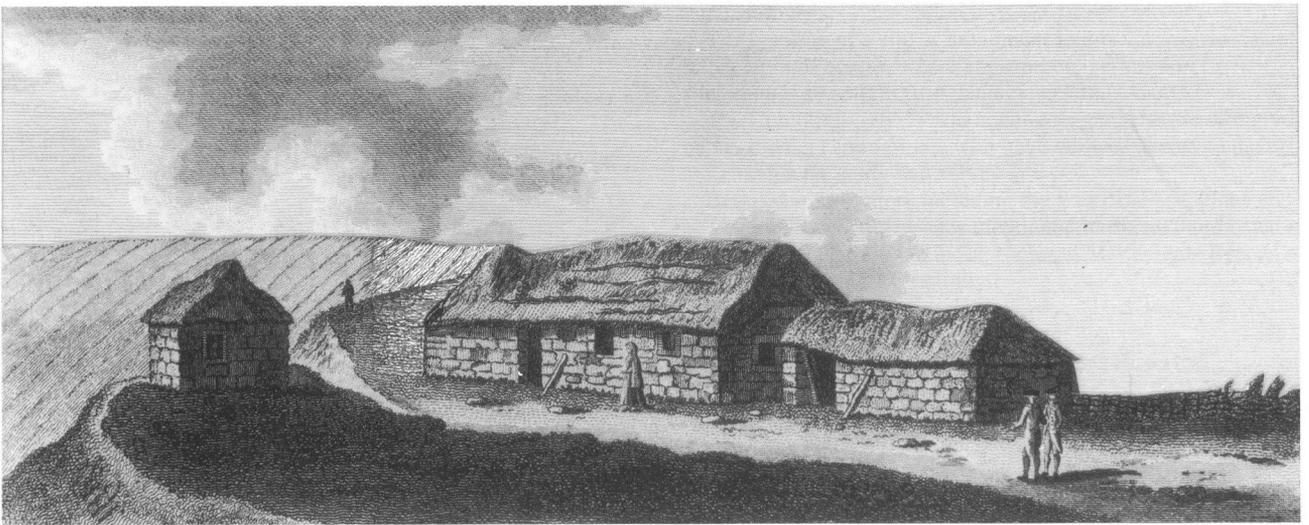
AREAS OF AFFORESTABLE LAND SURVEY



Map showing past and current areas of work of ALS

# GLENESSLIN NITHSDALE

## An Archaeological Survey



Detail of late eighteenth-century buildings in Nithsdale, from Grose's *Antiquities of Scotland* (1795)

UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH AFRICA  
Pretoria

*Cover adapted from Fig. 16 and the title page illustration*

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# **GLENESLIN, NITHSDALE, DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY REGION**

## **PREFACE**

This report was written by Mr D C Cowley and edited by Mr J B Stevenson and Mr G S Maxwell. It was based on fieldwork carried out by Messrs D C Cowley, P J Dixon, S P Halliday and J B Stevenson, with survey and drawing work by Miss G Brown, Mrs J Green, Messrs J Borland, A J Leith, K H J MacLeod, I G Parker and R Shaw. The layout of this publication was prepared by Mr J N Stevenson and Miss E R Gilfeather.

The Afforestation Land Survey was established in 1989 to carry out archaeological survey in areas where there is likely to be new planting, and it works on the basis of a rolling programme which has been the subject of consultation and agreement each year between RCAHMS and Historic Scotland, with the advice of the Forestry Commission and Regional Archaeologists.

The mention of a site or monument in this volume does not imply right of access; where appropriate, permission to visit sites should be sought from landowners and tenants.

The Commission wishes to acknowledge the assistance given by landowners and farmers who have allowed access to the monuments for study and survey.

Detailed information, including the area database, plans and photographs, describing sites mentioned in the text and listed in the Gazetteer is available in the National Monuments Record of Scotland at the address below:

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical  
Monuments of Scotland  
John Sinclair House  
16 Bernard Terrace  
Edinburgh EH8 9NX (031-662 1456)



# INTRODUCTION

The area included within this survey covers about 55 square kilometres disposed on parts of four Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 mapsheets (NX 78 SE/NE and NX 88 NW/SW) and it lies within the parishes of Dunscore and Glencairn (Fig. 1). This is the second block of ground in Dumfries and Galloway to be surveyed by the Afforestation Land Survey team, and both areas were suggested by the Regional Archaeologist in response to the threat of afforestation.

A range of monuments typical of the south-west of Scotland was recorded, including small cairns, hut-circles, an unexpectedly large number of burnt mounds, and farmsteads; in addition, the survey identified a hitherto unrecognised group of stone-walled homesteads, possibly dating to the later 1st millennium BC, which may serve to fill a lacuna in the distribution of later prehistoric settlement in western Dumfriesshire. A surprising number of peles, or small towers, were also recorded, forming an element in a wider pattern of medieval and post-medieval settlements which were abandoned as a result of agricultural improvements during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

### The Survey Area: physical background

The solid geology consists of Silurian greywackes (sandstones) which are overlain by irregular deposits of boulder clay and sands and gravels, and the effect of the glacially-derived drift on the landscape is clearly visible in the drumlin-fields along the Shillingland Burn and to the east of Loch Urr. The majority of the Glenesslin area falls within the catchment of the Cairn

Water, a tributary of the River Nith, while the remainder drains southwards from Loch Urr, along the River Urr. About half of the ground in Glenesslin is unimproved, but there are patches of improved grassland, together with some arable, in the lower-lying ground in the north and east. The Dalmacallan Forest, a relatively recent plantation, blankets an extensive tract, much of it high ground, around the head of the Skelston Burn.

### Previous Work

Although various levels of archaeological surveys had already been undertaken in the Glenesslin area, the present survey was the first application of systematic archaeological prospection. On the first edition of the OS 6-inch map (1854-60) a surprising number of small cairns are indicated, but the first specifically antiquarian activity was that of Corrie (1910), and the results of the first general survey were published by the Commission in 1920 (RCAHMS 1920). Little archaeological work was then undertaken until Scott-Elliott's research on small cairns (Scott-Elliott and Roe 1967), which was followed in the 1970's and 1980's by Yates' study of all types of cairn (Yates 1984, 1985). The Ordnance Survey map-revision programme of the 1960s and 1970s covered little more than the larger and most obvious monuments which qualified as mappable antiquities, leaving the OS Record Cards limited to a selection of unitary monuments which gave no indication of the quality of the relict landscapes that have been identified as a result of the present survey.

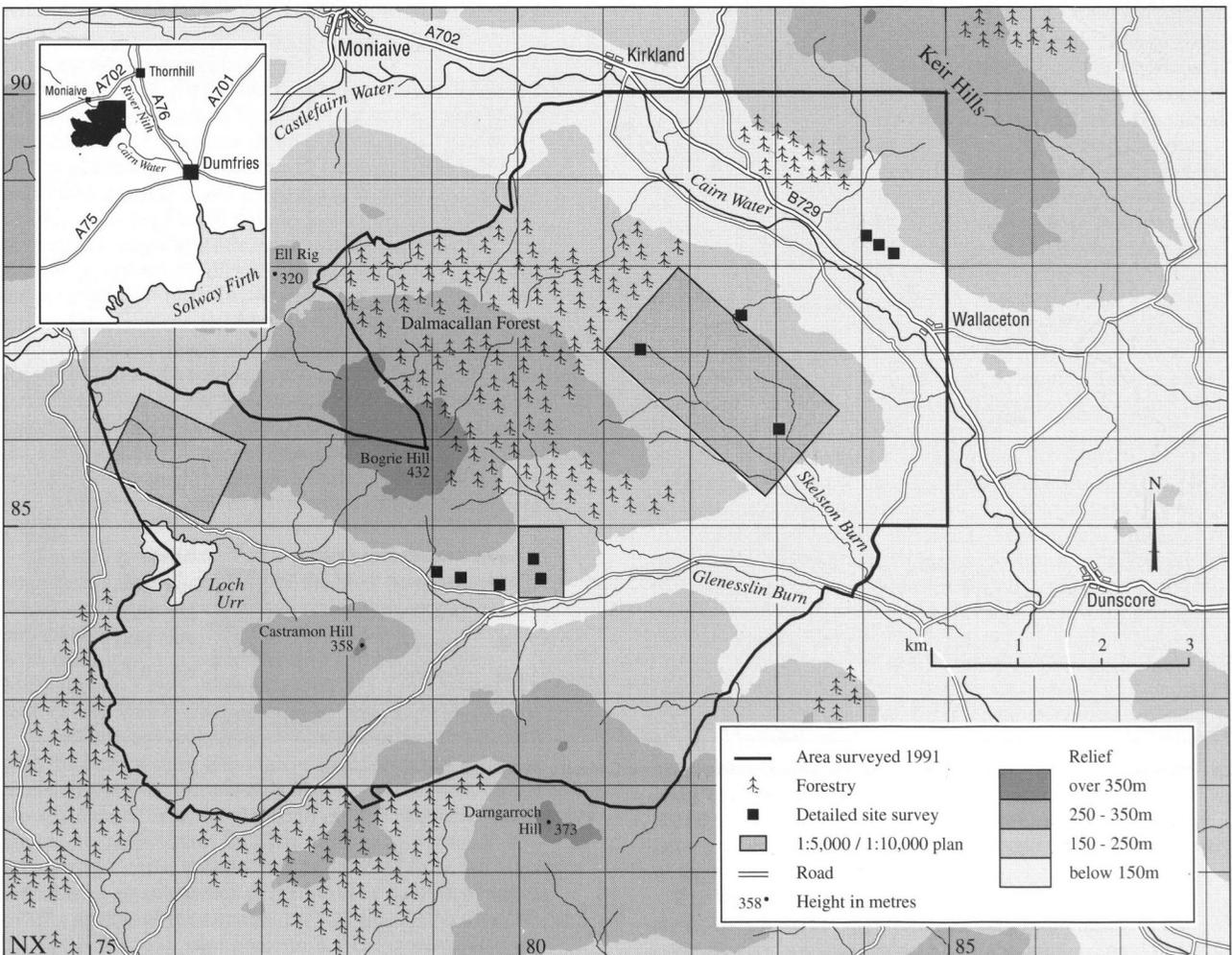


Fig. 1 Map of the Glenesslin area (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)

### RCAHMS Survey

All structures recorded in the field were registered on a proforma in a Husky Hunter portable computer, providing a database from which entries in the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) were produced. All the sites or finds discussed in the text are accompanied by a unique site reference number; a complete list of the sites surveyed is given in the Gazetteer at the end of the volume.

The survey, which was conducted between February 1991 and March 1992, has identified extensive landscapes of multi-period archaeological remains surviving in largely unimproved ground, and a selection of these are presented as case studies in this volume to illustrate the quantity and range of the remaining archaeological landscapes. Overall, a nested approach has been adopted in illustrating the monuments, producing both maps of large areas (surveyed using Electronic Distance Measuring (EDM) equipment) and detailed surveys (plane-table plans) to illustrate particular points.

The report begins with a summary of the major elements of the land-use and settlement history of the area, providing a chronological context to the following sections, which describe the individual monument types. The narrative is completed by three case studies which describe, in outline, the most significant surviving archaeological landscapes.

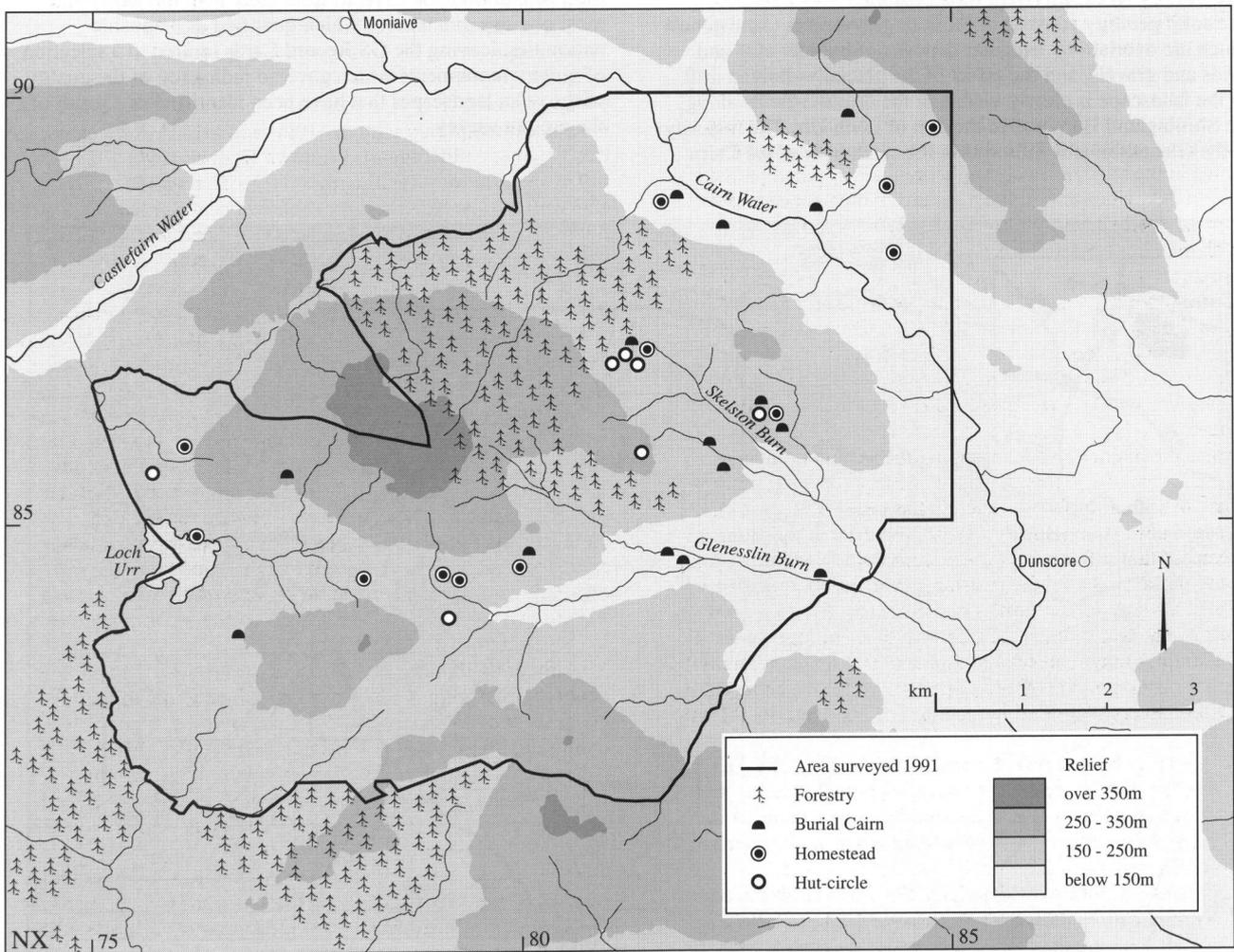


Fig. 2 Distribution map of burial cairns, homesteads and hut-circles (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)

## LAND-USE AND SETTLEMENT HISTORY

Evidence for early prehistoric settlement in Glenesslin is scanty, but a possible Mesolithic flint core from Bogrie (NX 88 SW 8) forms part of a general pattern of finds from the south-west of Scotland (Edwards *et al.* 1983) suggesting a wide-spread, if not dense, human presence, perhaps as early as 6500 BC (Innes and Shennan 1992). Evidence from pollen diagrams to the east of the survey area suggests that between about 4100 BC and 3500 BC agriculture became more important (Tipping forthcoming), marking the beginning of the Neolithic period, to which the first monuments recorded in Nithsdale belong. What may be a Neolithic long cairn was discovered during the present survey, thus adding to a scatter of Neolithic funerary and ritual monuments in the middle and upper reaches of the River Nith and the Cairn Water. Yates (1985) has drawn attention to the possible Neolithic origin of some groups of small cairns, but, in the absence of specific dating and lack of environmental evidence for early clearances on any scale in Dumfries and Galloway, a later date seems more likely.

By the beginning of the second millennium BC, there is a greater range of evidence for human occupation than in earlier prehistory, with monuments indicating settlement, farming, burial, and ritual activity (Fig. 2). The relatively few hut-circles that have been recorded in the area reflect a pattern of dispersed farmsteads which is likely to date to the 2nd and early 1st millennium BC.

The large numbers of small cairns, presumably clearance heaps associated with agriculture, are likely to have their origins in the third or second millennium BC, accompanying widespread evidence for land clearance which appears in the environmental sequences from about 2200 BC, during a period which may have been characterised by a wetter climate (Tipping forthcoming).

Burnt mounds (Fig. 3) are a common feature of the archaeology of the south-west of Scotland and, in their simplest form, they comprise a crescentic heap of fire-cracked stones set in a matrix of black soil and charcoal. Dating evidence from excavated mounds in the East Rhins, Wigtown, suggests two distinct periods of burnt mound formation; the earlier, and perhaps the major episode, spanning the second millennium BC, and a second, medieval, phase (Barber 1990, 102). The debate over their probable function has been fully presented in a recent publication (Buckley 1990), but there is now general agreement that it frequently involved heating water in a trough for the purpose of cooking, washing, or a variety of industrial purposes. Many of the burnt mounds occupy the same environmental niche as shielings, and, as with the shielings, some of the examples may represent an aspect of transhumance activity, both prehistoric and medieval, a pattern of use which has also been tentatively identified in the north of Scotland (RCAHMS 1993).

This survey has identified a category of stone-walled homesteads (Fig. 2), which, for the most part, appear to be distributed along the valley sides at a frequency of about one per square kilometre. None of the homesteads in the area has been excavated, but what may be a comparable site, McNaughton's Fort, Nithsdale (NX 873 778), produced a radiocarbon date of 280 ± 100 BC (Scott-Elliott *et al.* 1966).

Some of the groups of small cairns may be contemporary with the homesteads, although at Brockloch and along the Skelston Burn the homesteads may have been making use of an already cleared area, recolonising ground originally occupied in the second millennium BC. The continuing attraction of previously-cleared ground may be inferred from the frequency with which small patches of medieval or post-medieval rig overlie groups of presumably prehistoric small cairns. Where present in the area, later prehistoric field-systems comprise relatively small plots, and in the two cases described in detail

below (see Case Studies: Brockloch and Lochurr) the field-banks appear to post-date small cairns. The field-systems in Glenesslin are, in general, likely to be late in the sequence of prehistoric activity, and may be roughly contemporary with the homesteads, a pattern of settlement which may have survived into the 1st millennium AD.

Without excavation it is difficult to place the only fort, at Sundaywell, in its correct context, although it probably forms an element of the later prehistoric settlement pattern (late 1st millennium BC to mid 1st millennium AD). However, excavations at two sites outside the area, Tynron Doon (Truckell 1966, Williams 1971) and Trusty's Hill (Thomas 1960), have shown that forts were occasionally re-used in the Early Medieval period, while the radiocarbon dates from the Mote of Mark (Longley 1982) indicate that on some sites defensive construction did not begin until this period.

A similar degree of uncertainty attaches to the disparate group of defensive enclosures around Loch Urr. None is securely dated and together they may occupy a span of time extending from the later 1st millennium BC to the medieval period. White Isle, a large and massively defended promontory on the south side of the loch, may be the earliest, dating to the Iron Age, followed a little later by the defended promontory at Loch Knowe, possibly a homestead, with the island of Rough Isle being a high-status medieval site.

There still remains a lacuna in the range of sites which can be ascribed with certainty to the mid to later 1st millennium AD. Some of the sites of the medieval farmsteads and peles (Fig. 4), which come on record in the 14th century, may have been occupied considerably earlier, and some of the burnt mounds may be contemporary with the 10th- and 11th-century examples excavated at Auld Taggart, Wigtown (Barber 1990, 102).

The distribution of settlements on Pont's map (Blauw 1654) suggests that the pattern of pre-Improvement farmsteads (Fig. 4) was established before the seventeenth century, and that the pattern remained stable until the late eighteenth century. The peles represent a sixteenth and seventeenth century horizon within this settlement pattern, although historical references suggest earlier origins for at least some of the sites. By the mid-nineteenth century, half of the sites on Pont's map had been abandoned — presumably during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, as the acceleration of agricultural improvements and rising rents brought about the amalgamation of farms and rural depopulation, a common feature across the Border counties (Dodgshon 1972, 122-6). A late 18th-century account of the parish of Glencairn (*Stat. Acct.*, ii, 340-42), for example, comments on the amalgamation of farms and the abundant evidence of abandoned houses and cultivation. This rural depopulation, which is linked in the account to an increase in the population of Moniaive, was still attracting comment four decades later (*NSA*, iv, 332).

Many of the farmsteads of this period are situated within a network of irregularly-shaped fields, which generally seem to be late in the sequence of land-use, in some instances post-dating rig. These field-systems (e.g. Sundaywell, Fig. 12) may be an early manifestation of the improvement of agricultural techniques preceding the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth century Improvement-period fields with their straight, drystone walls and grid pattern.

There is a scatter of shieling huts and buildings in the upper reaches of the river valleys. The buildings show a considerable range of sizes, the dimensions of the largest overlapping those of the farmstead buildings. In the absence of evidence from excavation or documentary sources, the dating of the shielings is difficult but, as there is no record of transhumance in the area during the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries, they probably belong in the pre-Improvement landscape and may be as early as the medieval period.

The trend of rural depopulation and abandonment of farmsteads from the eighteenth century (continuing to the present) may not have been an entirely uninterrupted process. The farmstead at Muttonhole, along the Shillingland Burn

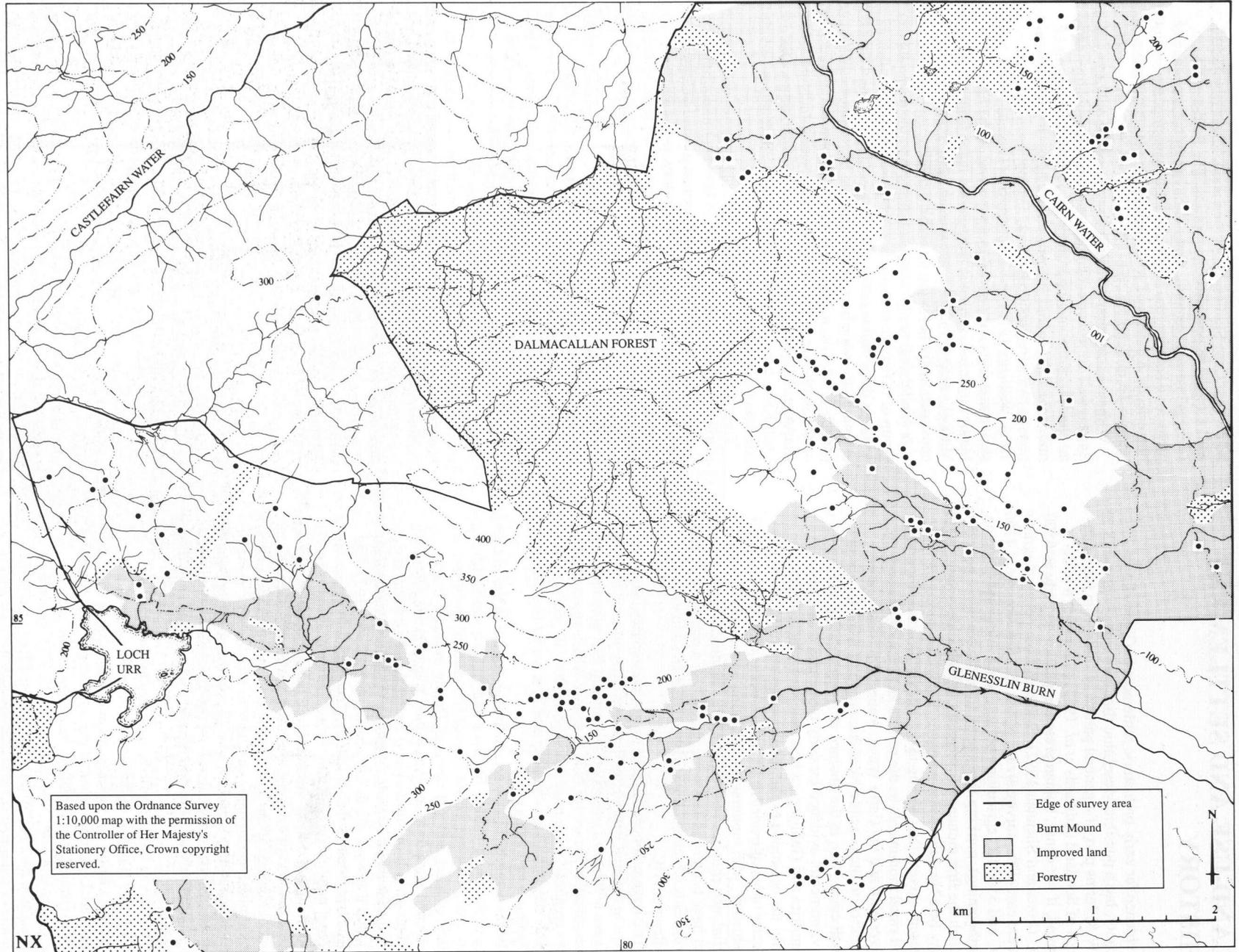


Fig. 3 Distribution map of burnt mounds (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)

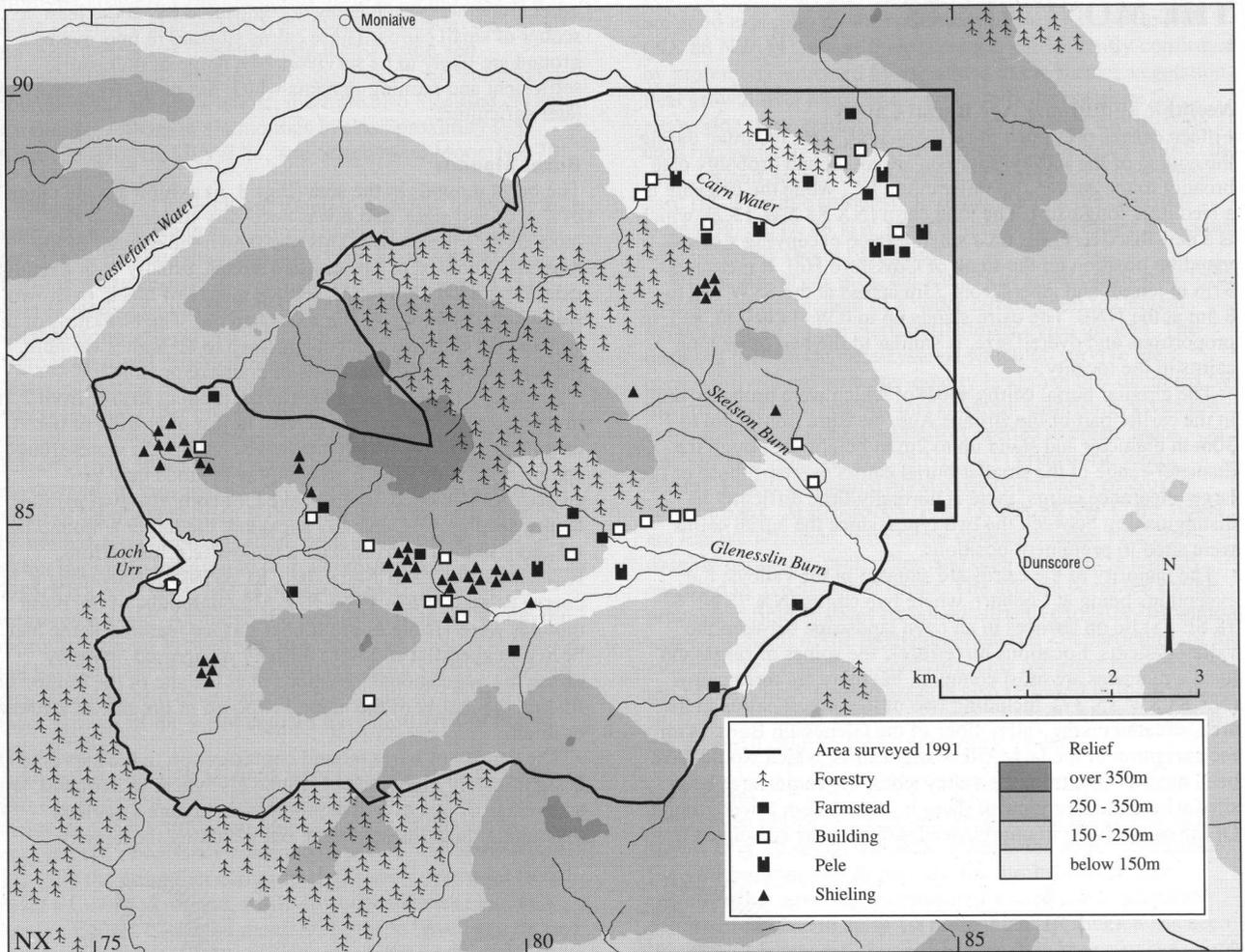


Fig. 4 Distribution map of farmsteads, buildings, peles, and shielings (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)



Fig. 5 Muttonhole, farmstead and field-system (NX 78 SE 39), aerial view

(Fig. 5; NX 78 SE 39), may represent a short-lived attempt in the early nineteenth century to colonise waste ground; it lies within partially cleared fields which are defined by straight drystone walls typical of later Improvement-period fields. A pattern of dispersed cottages, depicted as roofed on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (1860), may point to a nineteenth-

century rural population dependent on the contemporary farms, possibly composed of former tenant farmers forced out by increasing rents. These cottages were generally abandoned by the date of the 2nd edition of the 6-inch OS map (1899-1900), probably as a result of the general decline of agriculture at the end of the nineteenth century.

# THE MONUMENTS

## Neolithic and Bronze Age Burial Cairns

Fifteen cairns, presumed to be sepulchral, were recorded during the course of the survey; fourteen are round and probably date broadly to the earlier 2nd millennium BC, while the fifteenth is a Neolithic long cairn. The long cairn (NX 88 NW 15.2), which is a new discovery, sits on a small terrace occupying a commanding position on the flank of Crossford Hill. It measures 37m in length and tapers from 23m across at the SSW end to 8.5m at the NNE. The cairn stands up to 0.9m in height, and, in proportions and overall size, is similar to the two other long cairns in the locality.

The circular burial cairns, most of which were probably built in the earlier part of the Bronze Age, measure from 8.3m to 30m in diameter and stand up to 2m in height. Although the diameter-range of the smaller burial cairns overlaps those of the larger clearance cairns, there is normally little difficulty in distinguishing between the two types, since the burial cairns were sited in prominent positions.

The majority of the cairns are situated in the valleys; the exceptions being at Lochurr, where two cairns (NX 78 NE 6, 78 SE 15) lie on terraces in an open landscape between the valley systems. Locations on terraces, the spines of ridges and local eminences are most common, but there are three cairns (NX 88 SW 35, 37), including two of the largest cairns in the area, situated on the valley floor of the Glenesslin Burn. With the exception of the large Glenesslin cairns, which would have been most visible from the valley sides, the cairns have been sited where the best view of them is gained from lower ground. Of the cairns lying in unimproved ground none is isolated from

other monuments each being accompanied by, at the least, a scatter of small cairns. Those cairns situated in improved ground are likely to be survivors of a range of prehistoric settlement and farming remains which has been swept away by later agriculture.

## Burnt Mounds

The burnt mounds in the area (Figs 3, 6) exhibit a wide range of shapes and sizes, and it was necessary to verify all the mounds by lifting a sod. This has shown the content of the mounds to consist of fire-cracked stones, usually with a reddish exterior and a dark interior, set in a matrix of black, or brown, soil which occasionally contains charcoal. The blackness of the soil and the charcoal content appeared to be highly variable, perhaps due to local variations in drainage or soils.

Some 235 mounds were identified, ranging in size from 2.7m in diameter to 26m by 12m across. In just over 81% of the examples a hollow, which may have contained a water-trough, can be clearly identified; on plan, the mounds may be crescentic, U-shaped, multi-peaked, or comprise two parallel banks, see Fig. 6). Generally speaking, the larger a mound is, the more likely it is to enclose a hollow (e.g. East Rhins, RCAHMS 1987, and Annandale, RCAHMS forthcoming a, *contra* Russell-White 1990, 87). Although most of the burnt mounds were visible as prominent surface features, some had been ploughed flat and were initially recognised either by observing vegetational variations over the site of the mound or finding the matrix of the mound exposed in the side of a stream or drain.

The density of burnt mound concentration in the survey area is significantly higher than is found elsewhere in Scotland, with an average of just over five mounds per square kilometre (excluding the afforested land, but including the heavily

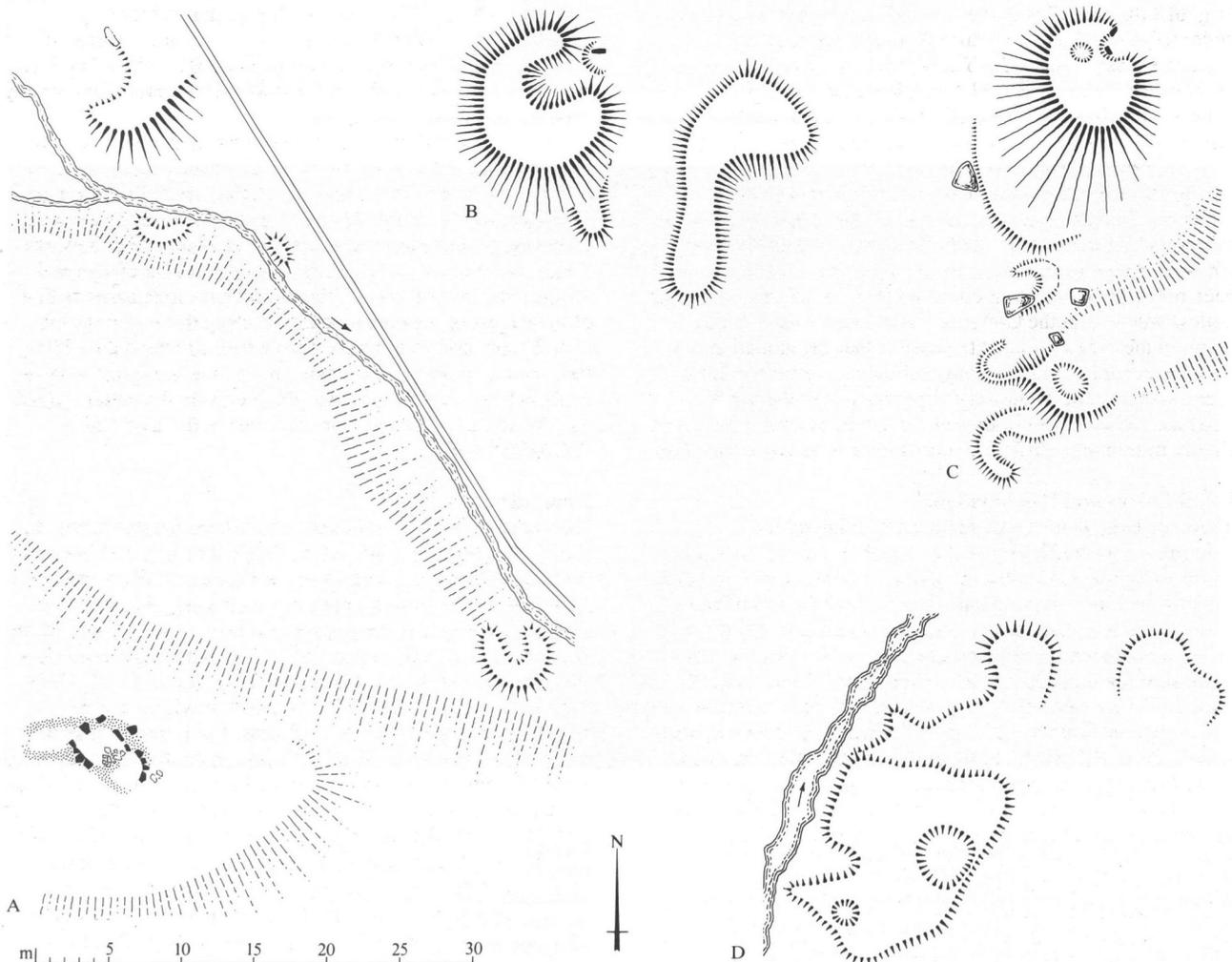


Fig. 6 Burnt mounds: A, Sundaywell Moor (NX 78 SE 42); B, Slatehouse Hill (NX 88 NW 14.33); C, Auchenfedrick (NX 88 NW 50); D, Slatehouse Hill (NX 88 NW 85)

improved ground). Concentrations of up to 25 mounds in a single kilometre grid square were found on Sundaywell Moor, and there are further clusters along the Skelston and Shillingland Burns. In addition to the overall concentration of mounds in the area as a whole, there are also localised clusters of mounds, with up to six mounds in close proximity (e.g. Black Cleugh, NX 88 SW 21, and Sundaywell Moor, NX 78 SE 42, see Fig. 6A).

Although burnt mounds are found in a variety of locations, a nearby source of water is common to all. A supply of stones from the stream bed may also have been a consideration in choosing a stream-side location, for in an uncleared or peat-covered landscape the abundance or adequate supply of portable stone will generally be available only in water courses. There is no direct relationship between burnt mounds and other classes of monument, but they mostly lie in the same zone of preservation as other prehistoric sites and shielings. A small number are found in relatively isolated positions or at high altitudes (over 300m OD), which may represent some transhumant or seasonal activity. Perhaps the most surprising aspect of their distribution is the survival of mounds outwith the normal zone of preservation, both in unimproved pockets within the improved ground (e.g. Drumshangan, NX 88 SW 28 and NX 88 NW 100), and as ploughed-down examples in improved ground. Although the density of mounds within the improved ground is relatively low, there are enough to suggest that the distribution continued into the major valleys, and that agricultural improvement and the increasing dynamism of the lower reaches of the water courses have destroyed or buried many of them.

All but the smallest mounds were probably used on more than one occasion, some indeed showing distinct separate phases of mound formation, indicating use of the site over a long, but not necessarily continuous, period. On Slatehouse Hill (Fig. 6B) the arm of an earlier mound clearly protrudes from under a C-shaped mound, while at Auchenedrick (Fig. 6C) three conjoined C-shaped mounds appear to have been formed in sequence, and a large oval example on the north-east side of Slatehouse Hill shows two distinct phases of mound formation visible with five hollows disposed around its edge (Fig. 6D).

In addition to the complex nature of some of the mounds, functional differences may be deduced from morphological variations, in particular from the size of the hollow area within the mound. In most cases, the hollow area is relatively small, but in a number of instances, much larger enclosed spaces have been noted, for example at Pointfoot (NX 78 NE 26), where the hollow area within the C-shaped mound measures 4.2m by 3.4m. In these cases it is quite possible that the mound may enclose, in addition to the trough, structures similar to those found within some of the very large mounds in the north of Scotland. Whether or not this points to a functional, rather than simply a structural, difference needs to be tested by excavation.

### Small Cairns and Field-systems

There are large numbers of small cairns lying on the unimproved ground within the survey area, most of which probably belong to the second millennium BC. They comprise roughly circular heaps of stone ranging from less than 2m to more than 8m in diameter by up to 0.5m in height. Stone clearance associated with crop-growing is the probable origin of most of the mounds, but others may result from clearing stone as a means of improving pasture. Although burials have been found in a number of small cairns in the Border counties (Jobey 1968; RCAHMS 1978, 8-10), most of the cairns and stone rickles (linear clearance heaps) are probably agricultural remains, which represent what may be a low level of activity, and contrast with the more formal field-systems, where greater emphasis was placed on establishing well-defined field boundaries (see Lochurr Case Study).

The small cairns occur in clusters, ranging from a handful of mounds to several hundred, generally visible along terraces and ridges of drier, relatively peat-free ground. Cairns on peat-

covered ground are inevitably more difficult to locate, but there are good examples on the south-east side of Slatehouse Hill (NX 88 NW 14), where their presence, subsequently confirmed by probing, is indicated by variations in the surface vegetation. Peat growth over much of the area limits the potential for recovering more ephemeral cultivation remains, for example cord rig, which is found in the grass-covered Border hills to the east. A small area of closely-spaced grooves, which resemble cord rig, is visible amongst the remains along the Skelston Burn (Fig. 8, NX 88 NW 14), but it may be a feature associated with relatively recent ploughing.

Within the survey area, the scatters of small cairns may form a peripheral component of a wider farming and settlement system centred on the more fertile lower-lying ground. The enclosed prehistoric field-systems which do survive are consistently found on better-quality land than that occupied by the groups of small cairns; this is hardly surprising, given the extra investment in time and effort needed to create them. On Lochurr Hill (Fig. 16, NX 78 NE 34.1) prehistoric fields occupy a piece of ground divided by two phases of cross-contour bank. At Brockloch (Fig. 13, NX 88 SW 1) the fields are less well-defined, with linear clearance heaps running roughly parallel to each other, and only one field is entirely enclosed by lynchets and banks. The ground occupied by the prehistoric field-systems remained attractive to later cultivation, to the detriment of the prehistoric material - in particular, of the evidence for tillage (e.g. cord rig). This recurrent pattern of re-use of previously cleared areas is also reflected in the scatter of shieling huts found amongst groups of small cairns (although not all small cairns need be prehistoric in date).

### Hut-circles

Only seven hut-circles were recorded during the course of the survey (Fig. 2), all of which lie towards the upper altitudinal limit for buildings of all periods. It is probable that they represent the surviving fragments of a once more extensive pattern of the 2nd to early 1st millennium BC, which has been destroyed by later activity in the lower-lying parts of the survey area.

Five of the buildings are circular, ranging from 6m to 11m in diameter, while the other two are oval, measuring up to 8.2m by 6.8m internally. In the two hut-circles where the entrances are clearly visible, they both lie on the SSE. There is a considerable range in the internal areas: one at 28sqm, four between 36sqm and 44sqm, and two buildings measuring 60sqm and 95sqm. The internal area of the largest hut-circle exceeds that of the largest of the post-medieval rectangular buildings by over 20sqm, and would have been a very substantial building. Few structural details are visible, but at one hut-circle a baffle wall encloses a subrectangular porch outside the entrance (NX 88 NW 14.03), a feature more common in the East Rhins (RCAHMS 1987).

### Homesteads

Twelve stone-walled homesteads have been located within the survey area (Fig. 2). The distribution, with relative concentrations along the upper reaches of the Glenesslin Burn and in the north-east of the area, suggests a possible original density of about one homestead per square kilometre. The majority of the homesteads are oval, and on four of the better-preserved sites the inner face of the bank is faceted (Fig. 7C, E, F, G). They range from 15m to about 30m in diameter within a stone revetted bank up to 4.3m in thickness. The internal areas of those sites that can be measured with reasonable accuracy range from 157sqm to 730sqm, with three loose size clusters: 157sqm to 250sqm (four sites), 363sqm to 424sqm (three sites), 694sqm and 730sqm (two sites); a further site, on Slatehouse Hill (NX 88 NW 14.32), now heavily robbed, may have measured about 25m in diameter, giving an internal area of about 490sqm.

The position of the entrances appears to have been largely determined by the local topography, but none points to the north. At two of the sites the terminals of the bank expand on

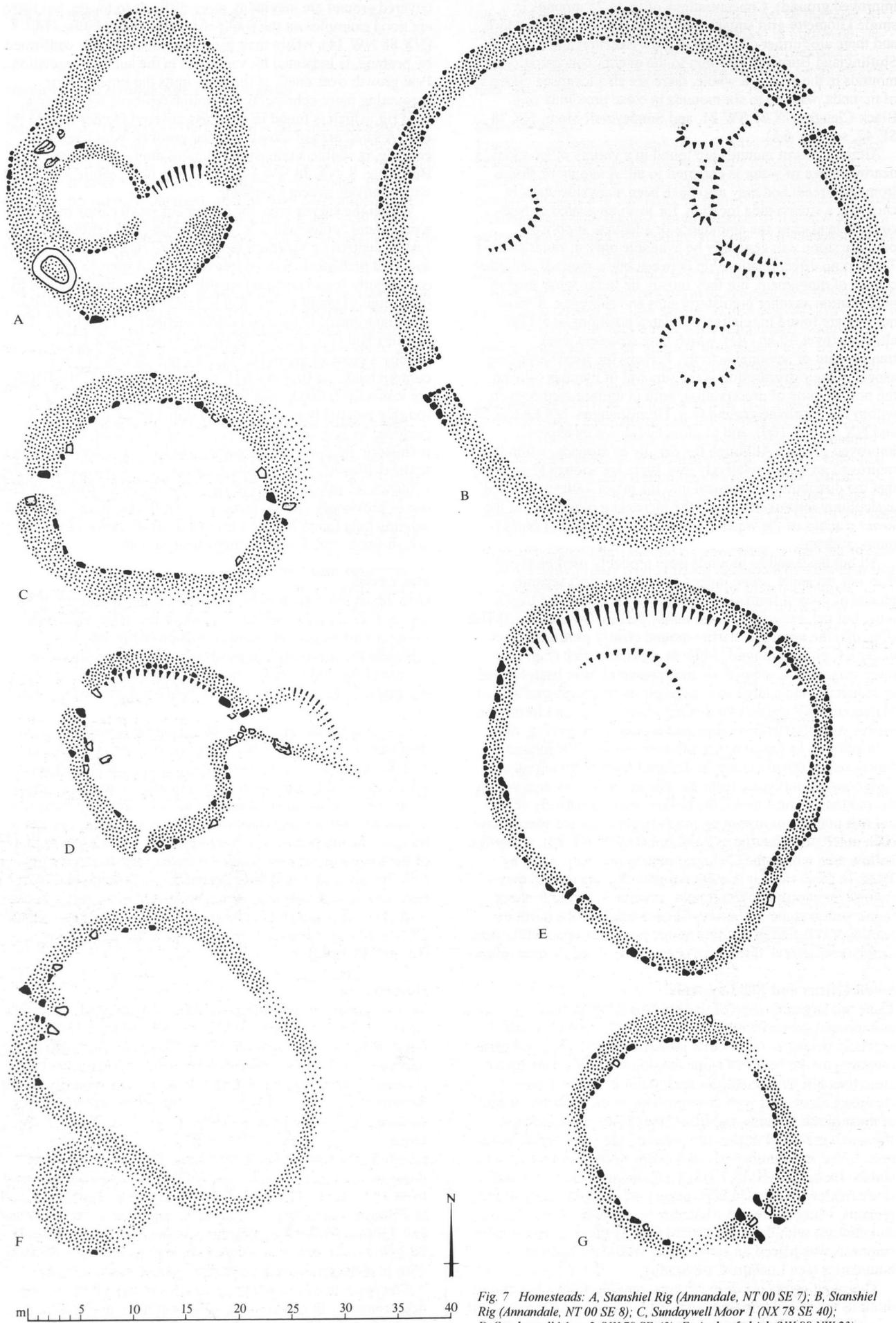


Fig. 7 Homesteads: A, Stanshiel Rig (Amundale, NT 00 SE 7); B, Stanshiel Rig (Amundale, NT 00 SE 8); C, Sundaywell Moor 1 (NX 78 SE 40); D, Sundaywell Moor 2 (NX 78 SE 43); E, Auchenfedrick (NX 88 NW 23); F, Skelston Burn (NX 88 NW 14.01); G, Brockloch (NX 88 SW 1.03)

either side of the entrance, the passages being lined with large boulders (Fig. 7F, G). Two of the homesteads (Fig. 7B, C) have opposed entrances, but it is not clear if they were both in use at the same time. Traces of buildings are visible in at least two of the enclosures: at Auchenfedrick there is a circular platform about 9m in diameter, which probably supported a timber house, and on Castramon Hill up to three possible hut-circles can be seen. All the others would have been able to accommodate at least one timber house (an average diameter of about 9m might be expected). The Skelston Burn homestead overlies a stone-walled hut-circle (Figs 7F, 8) and, although this is the only site where there is a stratigraphic relationship with a hut-circle, it seems likely that, as a group, the homesteads postdate the unenclosed hut-circles.

The homesteads are situated in a variety of positions; terraces with a reasonable, if not commanding, prospect are the most common. Defence does not appear to have been a primary consideration, as a number of the sites are immediately overlooked. The provision of a reasonably strong wall, at least 1.8m in thickness, however, is common to all, but, at Old Crawfordton (NX 88 NW 2), the wall is supplemented by a ditch, while the neck of the promontory on which the enclosure at Loch Knowe (NW 78 SE 62) is situated is cut off by a ditch 9m broad.

There is relatively little evidence for the later prehistoric settlement of the south-west of Scotland, and to the west of the Esk and Annan there is a dearth of sites which might be ascribed to the late 1st millennium BC or early 1st millennium AD. McNaughton's Fort, which lies about 10km to the south-east of the centre of the survey area, may be broadly comparable with the homesteads described above and it provides a remarkably close parallel for Old Crawfordton. When excavated (Scott-Elliot *et al.* 1966), McNaughton's Fort proved to have a substantial palisade-slot around the inside of the wall, from which the dated sample ( $280 \pm 100$  BC) came, and an elaborate entrance, with bedding trenches running out at right angles from the palisade trench to either side of the entrance passage, and possibly continuing across the butt-ends of the ditch. The stone-faced entrance-passage of some of the examples in the survey area may be a similar feature, but here formed of stone rather than timber. McNaughton's Fort forms part of a scatter of small enclosures measuring no more than 40m in diameter which have been recorded in the catchments of

the Nith and Ken, with sites of a similar size also known further to the east (Jobey 1971; see also Fig. 7A/B for examples outside the area), although whether all fall into the same structural category and date-range is not clear.

### Peles

The six peles, or small towers which were recorded during the present survey (Fig. 4) comprise the earliest identifiable element in the medieval and post-medieval settlement pattern. The peles, which are now largely ruinous, are invariably associated with a cluster of farm buildings but can be distinguished from the other structures by their proportions (Figs 9, 10, 11). The ratio of their breadth to length ranges from 1:1.125 (Brockloch, NX 88 SW 1.01) to 1:1.7 (Auchenfedrick, NX 88 NW 51) in contrast with the other buildings, very few of which have a breadth/length ratio of less than 1:2. In addition, the pele walls are generally more substantial and better built, measuring between 1m and 2m in thickness. Only at Old Crawfordton (Fig. 9) is there a vaulted under-croft, and, although none of the other sites survive to a sufficient height to have preserved traces of vaulting, the lack of considerable quantities of rubble at these sites suggests that, as was commonly the case in the Border counties, they were not vaulted (RCAHMS 1956, 1967, forthcoming b).

There are other respects in which Old Crawfordton is a more architecturally sophisticated building than the other peles in the survey area, suggesting that it may be more akin to a tower-house. The entrance, on the north, gave access to two vaulted cellars and a wheel stair.

### Farmsteads and Buildings

The pre-Improvement farmsteads are of a form common to Galloway and Ayrshire, and generally comprise at least two buildings, usually lying parallel to each other, mostly with attendant enclosures, and some with kiln-barns (Fig. 11). Where there are parallel buildings, at least one normally measures more than 10m in length internally, with an average width of 3m to 4m, the other measuring about 7m or 8m in length. The houses are usually of one compartment but two or more are occasionally found in longer buildings. In the pre-Improvement sites the walls are clay-bonded and built of roughly coursed boulders, in contrast to the mortared and better-built post-Improvement buildings (e.g., Rowantreehall,



Fig. 8 Skelston Burn, aerial view of the homestead, B on Fig. 15, small cairns, and cultivation remains (NX 88 NW 14.01)

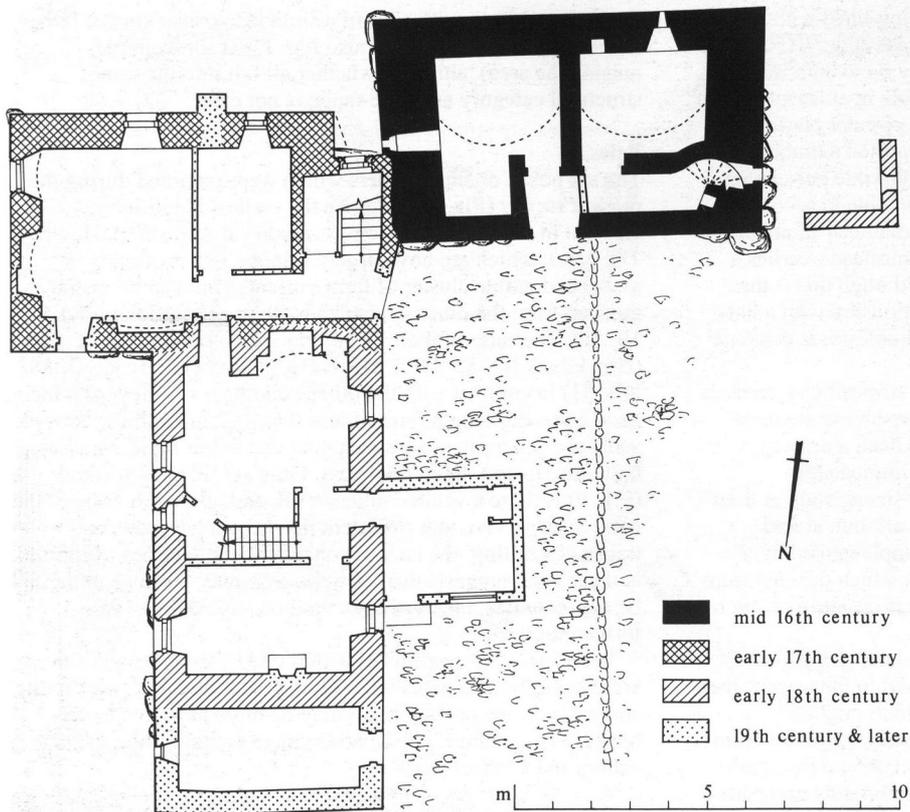


Fig. 9 Old Crawfordton, (ground-floor plan) a sixteenth century tower-house with an early seventeenth century chamber-wing, converted to a farmhouse in the eighteenth century following demolition of the tower.

NX 88 NW 75). It is possible that some of the buildings (and perhaps partitions) would have been of clay or turf (Stell 1972, 42), which, apart from the stone footings, would have left little archaeological trace; clay cottages of this type were noted by Dorothy Wordsworth during her journey through Nithsdale in 1803 (Wordsworth 1874, 7-8, 11). Thatch was the common roofing material, with slate and flags becoming more popular during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century (*Stat. Acct.*, ii, 343).

Five of the seventeen farmsteads recorded were associated with a kiln, four of which had an attached barn. Three (Brockloch, Old Shillingland and Crossford Hill) are built on a terrace edge, with the rear of the kiln dug into the slope and the flue on the downslope side; the barn is attached to the upslope side, on a level with the top of the bowl. Free-standing kilns were noted at Auchenfedrick, and possibly at Cleughside. The kilns are generally funnel-shaped in cross-section, measuring up to 3.8m in diameter at the top and are typical of those found elsewhere in the south-west, for example at Polmaddy (Yates 1978).

A number of nineteenth-century cottages were recorded in the survey; they could be distinguished by the use of mortar and generally measure more than 4m in breadth internally. They are situated apart from the nineteenth-century farmsteads, and were presumably occupied by farmworkers or sub-tenants.

#### Medieval and Later Cultivation Remains

The surviving remains of medieval and later cultivation are difficult to date closely; nevertheless, it is possible to distinguish the major types of activity. Three categories of plough-rig can be identified - broad and sinuous, curving and low, and narrow and straight. It can be demonstrated that the narrow and straight rig belongs to the post-Improvement period and that it is later than both the other types. The chronological relationship between the remaining types is uncertain; there are broad morphological similarities with forms identified in south-east Scotland (Parry 1976, 6) and, although a wholesale extension of Parry's dating scheme for rig abandonment to Nithsdale would be unwise without further investigation, there is a general correspondence with his rig typology.

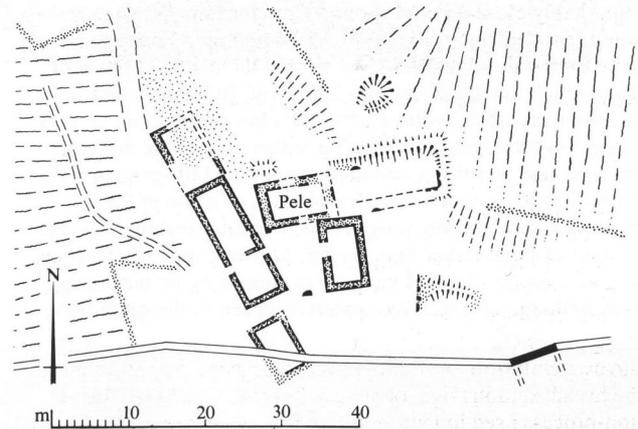


Fig. 10 Auchenfedrick, farmstead, and pele-house overlying the W end of a hall-house (NX 88 NW 51)

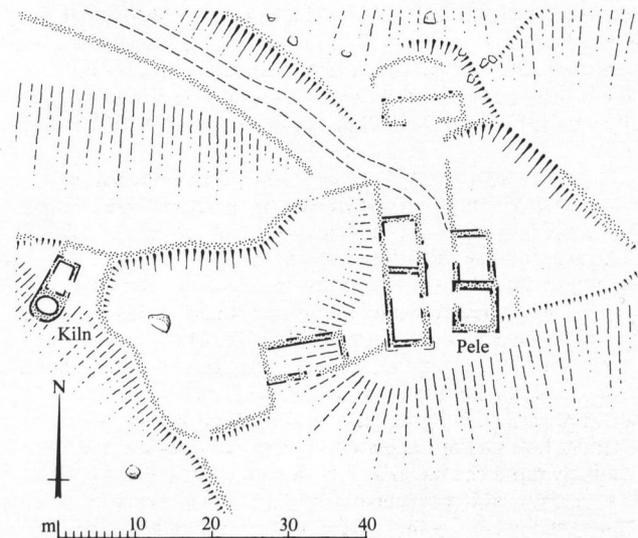


Fig. 11 Brockloch, farmstead and pele (NX 88 SW 1.01)



Fig. 12 Sundaywell Moor, field-system (NX 88 SW 1), aerial view

The narrow, straight rig, comprising straight ridges, separated by furrows 2m to 4m apart, was probably formed by the improved ploughs introduced in the late eighteenth century. The earlier rig comprises broad, sinuous ridges, 5m to 8m across, frequently surviving within large, irregular fields which predate the Improvement-period enclosure walls. The third type of rig, for which there is no Parry equivalent in the east, is largely unenclosed and measures 3m to 4m between vestigial furrows with little or no ridge. Whether these are earlier than the broad, sinuous rigs, or simply indicate a different formation-process used in temporary intakes of land (e.g., outfield) is not clear. In some instances the broad, sinuous rigs have been split and are overlain by slighter and straighter furrows. Examples of a fourth type of cultivation remains have been noted. To the south-east of Brockloch there is a small patch of spade-dug lazy-beds about 20m in length, of unknown date, but characterised by sharp-sided ridges with level tops; further lazy-beds have been noted lying within small enclosures on Lochurr Hill (NX 78 NE 17) and at Browhead (NX 88 NW 102).

The surviving pre-Improvement agriculture in the survey area normally comprises unenclosed rig; when enclosed fields are found, they are, in general, relatively late in the agricultural sequence, and may represent improvements in farming techniques introduced in the eighteenth century. The field-systems are characterised by irregularly-shaped fields enclosing both ridged and unridged ground (Fig. 12). The superimposition of some of the regular, grid-patterned Improvement-period fields on to parts of the irregular field-systems may have occurred very early in the nineteenth century, giving the irregular fields a limited period of existence during a time of relatively rapid change in agricultural practice; but at Bogrie and Sundaywell Roy's map may indicate the presence of regular enclosures by the middle of the eighteenth century. In addition to the regular fields, the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries saw the formalisation of farm boundaries

and the enclosure of relatively large areas of rough grazing, e.g. the sides of Slatehouse Hill and the Skelston Burn (Fig. 15).

### Shielings

The shielings are generally scattered along the upper reaches of the side valleys, usually comprising clusters of up to six huts, and, with one exception (see below), they lie above the upper altitudinal limit for farmsteads. As well as huts measuring no more than 4m by 3m overall, they may include substantial buildings up to 11m in length and 3m in breadth (e.g. Castramon Moor, NX 78 SE 57), which are of similar proportions to the farmstead buildings, and, like them, they were either of turf with the addition of stone, or entirely of turf.

There are five areas where the situation of shieling huts and associated buildings and enclosures is particularly significant: they are especially densely grouped in the upper part of the valley of the Shillingland Burn and on Sundaywell Moor; outwith the confines of the valleys there are groupings on the side of Lochurr Hill, Slatehouse Hill and on Black Mark; at Muttonhole (Fig. 5, NX 78 SE 39), the shifting relationship between shielings and permanent settlement is highlighted by the development, in the early nineteenth century, of a farmstead within a former shieling ground.

There are no references to transhumance in the *Statistical Accounts*, and the use of shielings must have died out before the eighteenth century, presumably as part of wider changes in land-use and agricultural practice. The relationship of shieling-grounds to farm units and estates is not clear in the survey area, which may be too small for significant patterns to be observed. However, the shielings on Sundaywell Moor and along the Shillingland Burn may have been attached to settlements such as Brockloch and Sundaywell, given their proximity. A similar relationship may have existed along the Skelston Burn (Fig. 15), but such an obvious arrangement need not always have been the case.

## CASE STUDIES

### Introduction

The three case studies presented below demonstrate the range of archaeological landscapes preserved within the area. The differing archaeological landscapes illustrated in part reflect the topographical contrasts of the valley-dominated landscape of this part of Nithsdale. Although each is unique, they nevertheless represent aspects of the general patterns of land-use and settlement discussed above. Brockloch, which is situated in the valley of the Glenesslin Burn, incorporates a palimpsest of landscapes ranging in date from the prehistoric period to the present day. In contrast, the archaeological remains along the upper reaches of the Skelston Burn are mostly prehistoric in date and, with the exception of some shieling huts, patches of rig and some Improvement-period fields, they have not been disturbed by medieval and later land-use. Lochurr, on the other hand, may always have been a relatively marginal area, perhaps with episodic permanent settlement and seasonal use producing a thinly scattered archaeological record, with little masking of remains by subsequent activity.

### Brockloch

The area here described as Brockloch (Figs 13, 14) forms a transect across the north side of the valley of the Glenesslin

Burn, extending from a little above the public road in the floor of the valley (about 150m OD) to the crest of the east flank of Knockoure (about 240m OD). The land-use and vegetation range from improved pasture on the valley floor, to rough pasture protected by a shelter belt on the intermediate slopes, with heather moorland beyond.

The upper part of the site is dominated by the prehistoric material which, for the greater part, lies on a terrace to the S of a shelter belt. Two broadly distinct chronological horizons can be distinguished in the prehistoric remains: an earlier phase, which may have its origins in, or before, the second millennium BC, is represented by a field-system, a number of small cairns, a possible burial cairn (A on Fig. 13), and two burnt mounds (B); and a later prehistoric horizon, comprising a single homestead (C and Fig. 7G), perhaps dating to the late first millennium BC, which was presumably exploiting the areas cleared for the earlier fields. The larger portion of the terrace is covered by rig, which overlies and partly destroys the prehistoric cairns and banks.

The upper wall of the Improvement-period fields, which runs roughly E-W, marks the lower boundary for the surviving prehistoric remains. At the core of the medieval and later remains is the farmstead of Brockloch (D), which incorporates a small pele of medieval date (Fig. 11), and was already derelict by the date of the first edition of the OS 6-inch map (1860). The farmstead is surrounded by a network of fields enclosed by banks and substantial lynchets up to 2m in height.

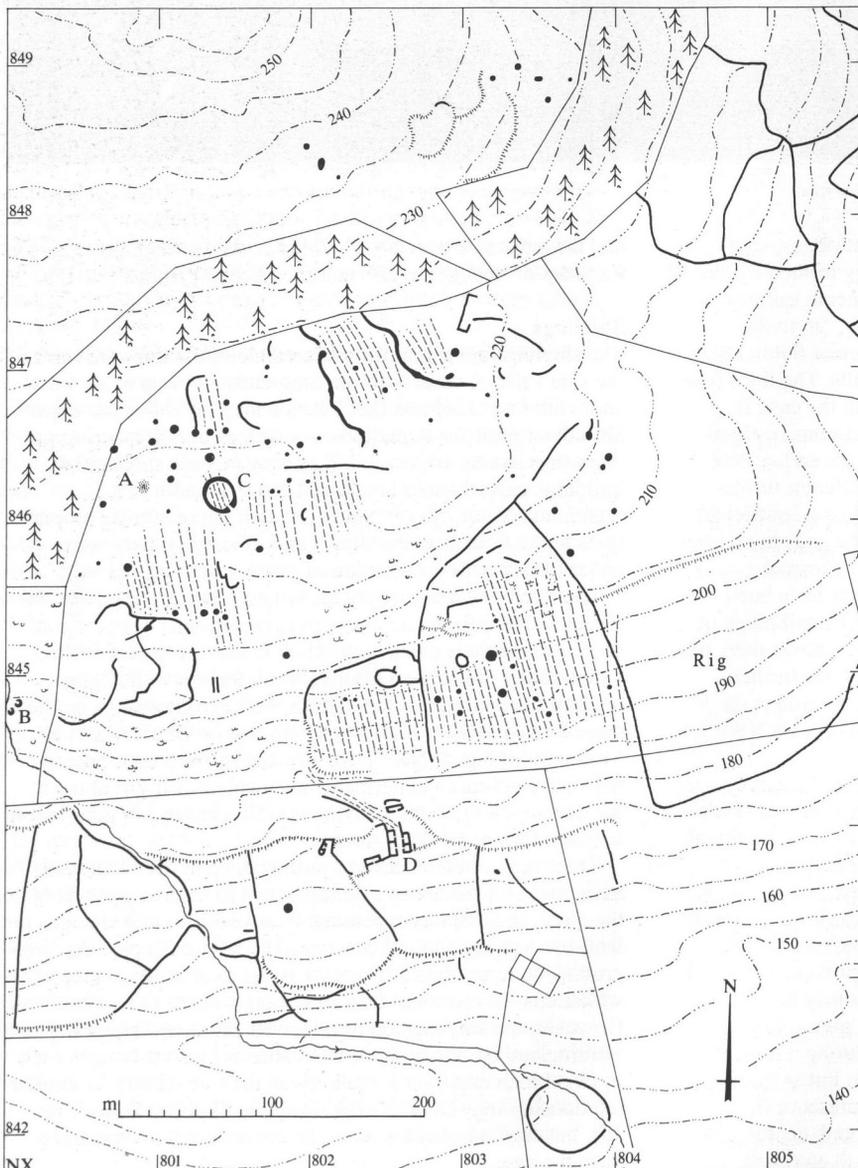


Fig. 13 Brockloch, archaeological landscape (NX 88 SW 1), 1:5000 (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)



Fig. 14 Brockloch, aerial view

More recent agriculture has levelled the rigs within these fields, but they are visible on aerial photographs and, in low light, they can still be seen on the ground.

The rig at Brockloch illustrates the three types identified in the survey area (see above). Straight rig of post-Improvement date, with furrows 2m to 4m apart, truncates or overlies broader (5m to 8m), sinuous rigs, which, in some cases, have been split into two. Unenclosed patches of curving rigs 3m to 4m across which overlie the prehistoric material on the upper slopes they may either be relatively early in the sequence of medieval agriculture or reflect a different technique employed in tilling outfields or temporary intakes of more marginal ground.

The enclosure of the hill ground by drystone walls and the pattern of regular fields on the valley sides are a product of the agricultural improvements of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The high level of masking of earlier phases of activity by later remains is due to a location at the very edges of the relatively densely settled Glenesslin, which must have formed a focus for medieval settlement, and was certainly the case by the date of Pont's map (late 16th century).

#### **Skelston Burn**

The Skelston Burn, which is a tributary of the Glenesslin Burn, drains a relatively shallow valley bounded, on the north, by Slatehouse Hill, and on the south, by Skelston Hill (Figs 8, 15). The particular archaeological interest of the valley lies in the number and concentration of monuments which have been identified, as well as the contrasting pattern of survival and

destruction of the material on the opposing sides of the valley. To the north and around the head of the Skelston Burn, the valley has seen little agricultural exploitation in the post-prehistoric period and it still displays a wealth of prehistoric remains; however, to the south-west, where the valley has been extensively tilled in relatively recent times and is now divided into a series of post-Improvement drystone-walled fields interspersed with tree plantation rings, comparatively few monuments can now be seen.

As at Brockloch, the prehistoric remains appear to belong to two principal periods, with the burial cairns, hut-circles, small cairns and burnt mounds representing the 3rd and 2nd millennia BC and the homestead the 1st millennium BC. There is a symmetry to the distribution of the burial cairns along the valley (Fig. 2) with a single cairn towards the head of the valley and two pairs of cairns on opposite sides of the valley where it starts to open out. There are large numbers of burnt mounds, many occurring in loose groups, with up to six strung out along the bank of a stream. Three hut-circles were identified, one of which appears to lie under the wall of a homestead (A on Fig. 15), and another has a subrectangular baffle-wall around its entrance (B).

Again, as at Brockloch, there is a homestead (A and Fig. 7F) situated within the previously cleared ground, perhaps indicating occupation on a somewhat reduced scale by the first millennium BC. What may be a second homestead (C) is overlain by a sheepfold on the southern flank of Slatehouse Hill. The only evidence for later activity comes from a few

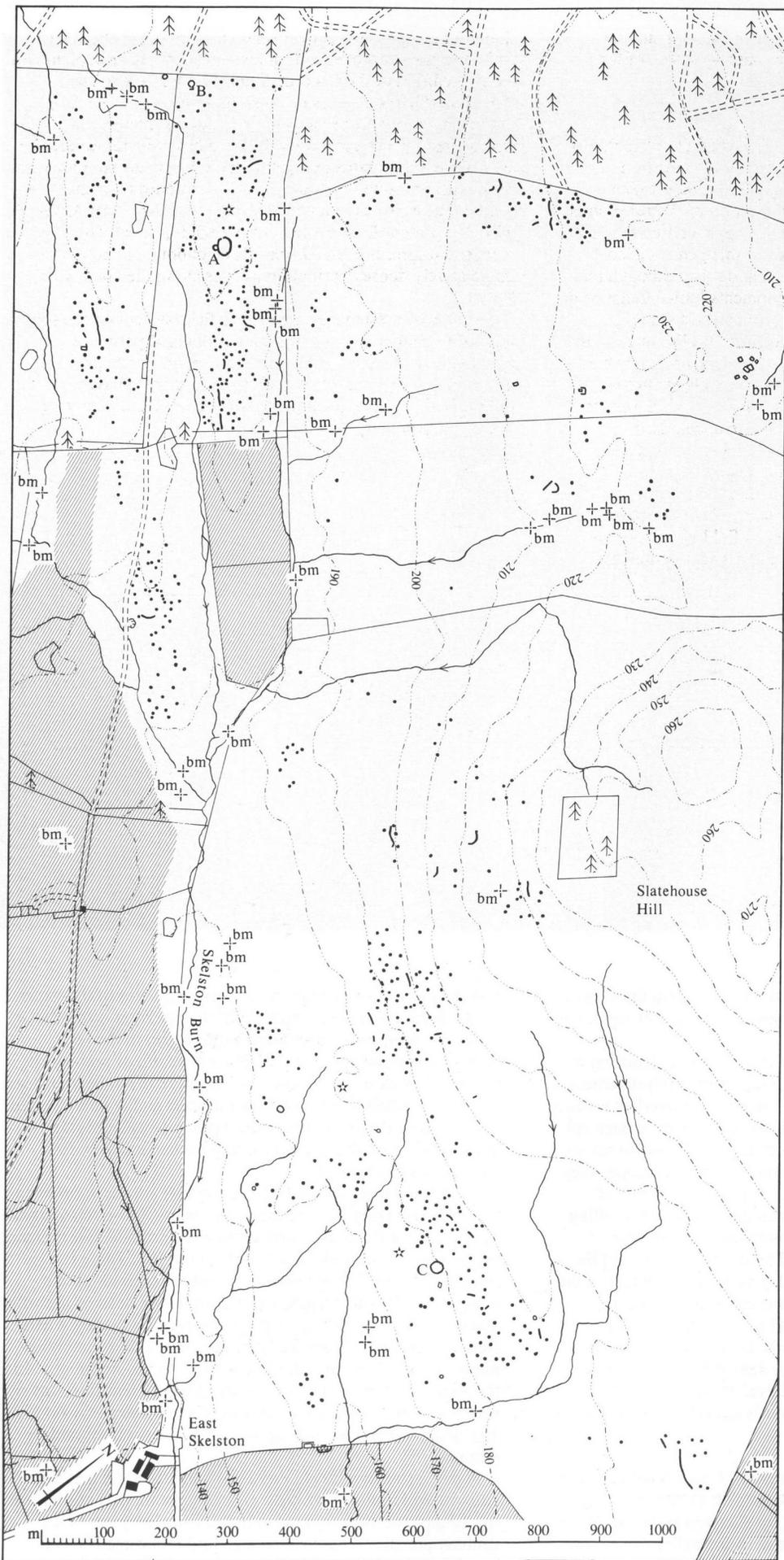


Fig. 15 Skelston Burn, archaeological landscape, improved ground shown hatched (NX 88 NW 14), 1:10,000 (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)

shieling huts, occasional patches of unenclosed rig, and the Improvement-period fields along the south-west side of the Skelston Burn.

### Lochurr

This archaeological landscape (Fig. 16) lies on the west side of Lochurr Hill to the north and north-west of Lochurr farm, occupying ground that rises from about 200m to just under 300m OD. There are areas of blanket peat on the flatter ground to the west of this area, but the only deep peat on Lochurr Hill is confined to gullies, and it appears that this gently-rising ground was preferred for settlement in antiquity, although the possibility remains that there are monuments buried under deep peat on the flatter ground to the west. In contrast with Brockloch and the Skelston Burn, Lochurr Hill lies outwith the main valleys, where the majority of settlement was concentrated, at least in historic times and probably also in prehistory; it is possible that this area may always have been marginal to the main settlements, with its occupation characterised by episodic, and perhaps relatively less intensive, settlement.

The farming and settlement remains span at least four millennia and, those of the prehistoric period include burnt mounds, a hut-circle (A on Fig. 16), a heavily-robbed homestead (B), a scatter of small cairns, and a field-system. Post-prehistoric and pre-Improvement activity is represented by

shieling-huts, possibly some of the burnt mounds, and the rig, while the post-Improvement monuments (i.e., those depicted on the first edition of the OS 6-inch map) comprise a square sheepfold (C) and a series of drystone walls.

The only probable permanent prehistoric settlement is represented by a single hut-circle and a possible homestead, but even allowing for attrition by later land-use, these monuments are not accompanied by the richness of structural remains that can be seen at Brockloch and along the Skelston Burn. Likewise, the present farm at Lochurr, although probably of medieval origin, is isolated from its neighbours, in contrast to the relatively dense distribution of sites along the Glensslin Burn.

The area of presumably prehistoric field-system on the south-west of Lochurr Hill does suggest a prolonged period of activity, of sufficient intensity to produce lynchets up to 1m in height and with at least two, and possibly three, phases represented by the sequential cross-contour banks overlying one of the lynchets.

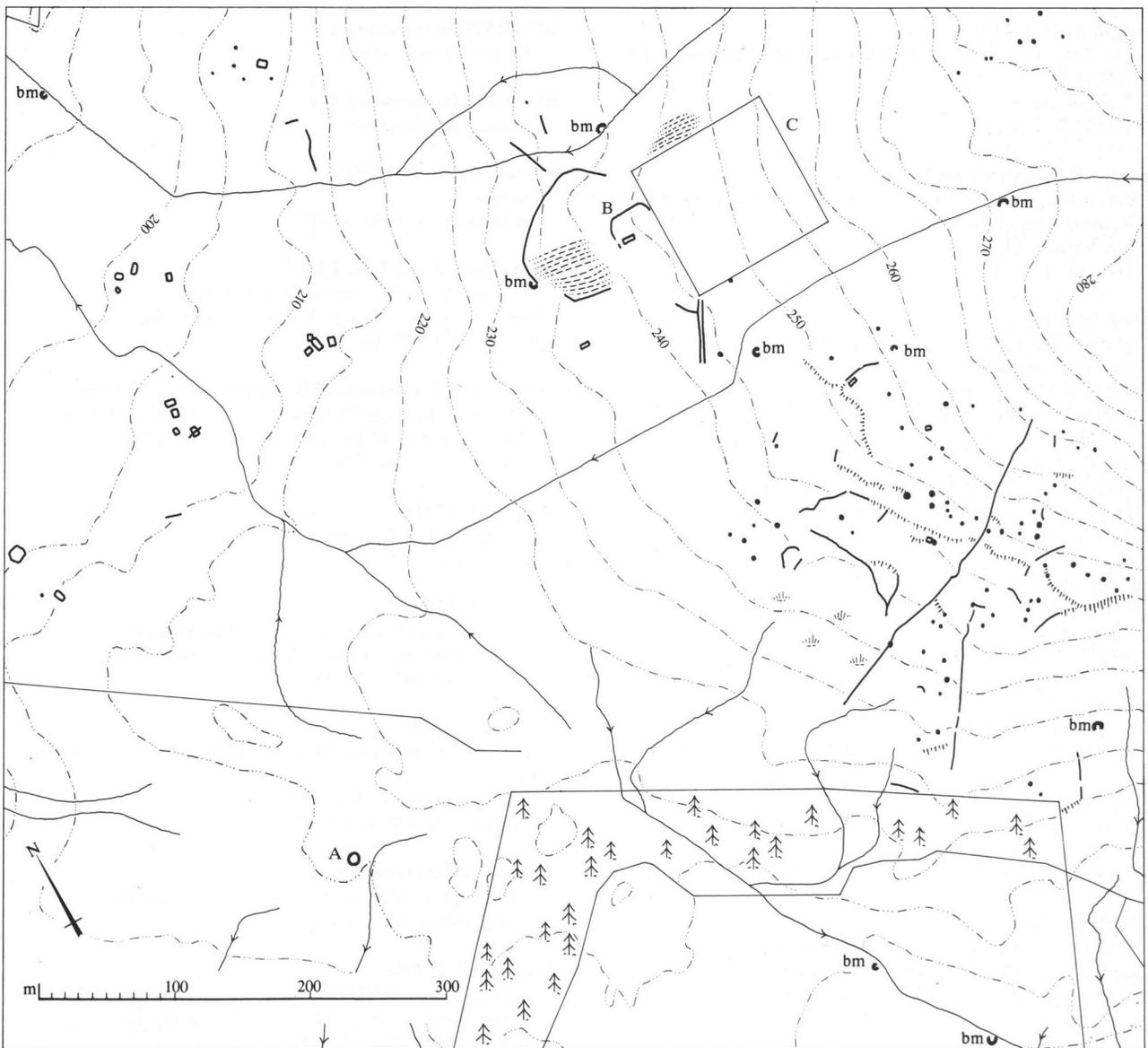


Fig. 16 Lochurr, archaeological landscape (NX 78 NE 34), 1:5000 (based upon the Ordnance Survey map, Crown Copyright)

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# GAZETTEER

## LIST OF SITES RECORDED IN GLENESLIN

(The sites are listed by OS 1:10,000 quarter sheet and by NMRS number)

NX78NE				NX 88 NW			
3	NX 764 858	Green Craig	small cairns, bank	49	NX 797 838	Mark Cleugh	burnt mounds
4	NX 7765 8755	Girharrow Burn	cairns	50	NX 7991 8361	Mark Cleugh	farmstead
5	NX 775 857	Craes Hill	small cairns, huts	51	NX 7910 8357	Castramon Burn	burnt mound
6	NX 772 855	Craes Hill	cairn, small cairns, hut, burnt mounds	52	NX 7996 8398	Gleneslin Burn	burnt mound, sheepfold
7	NX 787 879	Girharrow	'cairns'	53	NX 777 846	Shillingland	burnt mounds
10	NX 7892 8522	Cats Craig	burnt mound, small cairns, enclosure	54	NX 7815 8435	Castramon Moor	homestead, small cairns
11	NX 7985 8558	Bogrie Moor	cairns	55	NX 783 847	Doddies Brae	burnt mounds
17	NX 767 853	Lochurr	field clearance, enclosure, lazy-beds	56	NX 7862 8449	Muttonhole	burnt mound
18	NX 78 85	Bogrie Hill	cairns	57	NX 789 840	Castramon Moor	buildings, huts
24	NX 7682 8624	Lochurr Hill	burnt mound	58	NX 785 839	Castramon Moor	burnt mound, shieling-huts
25	NX 7648 8660	Walls Burn	farmstead (possible)	59	NX 788 832	Castramon	small cairns
26	NX 7531 8617	Pointfoot	burnt mound	60	NX 778 838	Castramon Hill	bank, small cairns
27	NX 7751 8511	Old Shillingland	farmstead, kiln-barn	61	NX 7821 8471	Doddiesliggat	building
28	NX 7827 8551	Shillingland Moor	burnt mound	62	NX 7610 8483	Loch Knowe	homestead (possible)
30	NX 78 85	Shillingland Moor	small cairns	NX 88 NW			
31	NX 7689 8564	Lochurr Hill	burnt mound	1	NX 8173 8971	Maxwelton	motte
32	NX 7713 8591	Craes Hill	burnt mound	2	NX 8166 8865	Old Crawfordton	homestead
33	NX 760 852	Lochurr	burnt mounds	3	NX 8155 8884	Old Crawfordton	tower-house
34.00	NX 76 85	Lochurr	archaeological landscape	4	NX 804 859	Bogrie Moor	cairns (possible)
34.01	NX 761 855	Lochurr	field-system, shieling-hut	5	NX 8072 8519	Bogrie Moor	cairn (possible), field clearance cairns
34.02	NX 75 85	Lochurr	shieling-huts, small cairns, enclosure	6	NX 8081 8516	Bogrie Moor	settlement
34.03	NX 76 85	Lochurr	burnt mounds	7	NX 813 854	Bogrie Moor	cairn (possible), small cairns (possible)
34.04	NX 7570 8556	Lochurr	hut-circle (possible)	9	NX 8265 8940	Maxwelton	enclosure
34.05	NX 7611 8587	Lochurr Hill	homestead (possible), buildings, banks, rig	10	NX 835 893	Crossford Hill	field clearance cairns (possible)
NX 78 SE				11	NX 8406 8891	Breckonside Tower	tower, building
1	NX 7586 8419	White Isle	earthwork, quern, structures	12	NX 8468 8567	Snade Castle	earthwork
2	NX 7625 8449	Loch Urr	island dwelling	14.00	NX 81 86	Skelston Burn	archaeological landscape
3	NX 7989 8234	Craigdasher Hill	cairns	14.01	NX 8143 8700	East Skelston	homestead, hut-circle
4	NX 794 824	Craigdasher Hill	small cairns	14.02	NX 8140 8705	East Skelston	cairn
8	NX 7670 8370	Craigenvey Moor	small cairns	14.03	NX 8120 8712	Skelston Burn	hut-circles
9	NX 7640 8340	Craigenvey Moor	small cairns	14.04	NX 81 86	East Skelston	small cairns, banks, rig
15	NX 7647 8346	Craigenvey Moor	cairn	14.05	NX 8196 8650	East Skelston	cairns
16	NX 7640 8412	Craigenvey Moor	platform	14.06	NX 8114 8689	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
18	NX 761 832	Black Mark	shieling-huts	14.07	NX 8144 8673	Skelston Burn	building
20	NX 791 842	Sundaywell Moor	buildings, enclosures, road, hut	14.08	NX 8113 8702	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
21	NX 7776 8320	Hawk Craig	burnt mound	14.09	NX 8145 8712	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
22	NX 7739 8260	Craigenputtock Moor	burnt mound	14.10	NX 8156 8702	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
23	NX 7805 8295	Hawk Craig	building, small cairns	14.11	NX 8171 8690	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
24	NX 7818 8285	Hawk Craig	burnt mound	14.12	NX 8181 8705	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
25	NX 7904 8277	Lettrick	enclosure	14.13	NX 8155 8642	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
26	NX 7961 8279	Craigdasher	burnt mound	14.14	NX 8153 8731	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
27	NX 772 841	Craigenvey	farmstead	14.15	NX 8182 8753	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
28	NX 7727 8411	Craigenvey	burnt mound	14.16	NX 820 872	Skelston Burn	burnt mound, huts, small cairns
29	NX 780 840	Castramon Hill	burnt mound, shieling-huts	14.17	NX 8254 8673	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
30	NX 787 844	Muttonhole	burnt mound, shieling-huts	14.18	NX 8194 8676	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
31	NX 784 843	Muttonhole	burnt mounds, shieling-huts	14.19	NX 8207 8654	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
32	NX 7927 8385	Castramon Moor	burnt mound	14.20	NX 8208 8644	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
33	NX 7913 8390	Castramon Moor	hut-circle (possible), small cairns, building, enclosure	14.21	NX 8205 8623	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
34	NX 7933 8339	Castramon Burn	burnt mound	14.22	NX 8237 8621	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
35	NX 7983 8312	Mark Cleugh	burnt mound	14.23	NX 8240 8627	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
36	NX 7635 8232	Craigenputtock	burnt mound	14.24	NX 8250 8615	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
37	NX 7632 8258	Craigenputtock	burnt mound	14.25	NX 8264 8633	Skelston Burn	cairn
38	NX 7799 8492	Shillingland	burnt mound	14.26	NX 8260 8624	Skelston Burn	hut-circle (possible)
39	NX 7866 8459	Muttonhole	building, enclosure, field-system	14.27	NX 8265 8599	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
40	NX 790 845	Sundaywell Moor	homestead, building, small cairns	14.28	NX 8277 8587	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
41	NX 7879 8376	Castramon Moor	burnt mound	14.29	NX 8285 8587	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
42	NX 79 84	Sundaywell Moor	burnt mounds, shieling-huts	14.30	NX 8286 8581	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
43	NX 7934 8466	Sundaywell Moor	homestead, burnt mound, small cairns	14.31	NX 8290 8624	Skelston Burn	cairn
44	NX 7911 8423	Sundaywell Moor	burnt mound	14.32	NX 8291 8627	Skelston Burn	homestead (possible), hut
45	NX 7996 8411	Sundaywell Moor	burnt mound	14.33	NX 8297 8608	Skelston Burn	burnt mounds
46	NX 7957 8355	Castramon Burn	burnt mound	14.34	NX 8318 8619	Skelston Burn	burnt mound
47	NX 7943 8352	Castramon Burn	enclosure	14.35	NX 82 86	Skelston Burn	small cairns, banks
48	NX 7945 8378	Castramon Burn	burnt mound	15.00	NX 835 895	Crossford Hill	small cairns, cairn, farmstead, kiln, building, burnt mounds
				15.01	NX 835 895	Crossford Hill	small cairns, banks
				15.02	NX 8367 8978	Crossford Hill	cairn (possible)
				15.03	NX 8380 8971	Crossford Hill	farmstead, kiln
				15.04	NX 8402 8935	Crossford Hill	building
				15.05	NX 8344 8982	Crossford Hill	burnt mound
				15.06	NX 834 896	Crossford Hill	burnt mounds

15.07	NX 8359 8986	Crossford Hill	burnt mound	103	NX 848 896	Breconside Hill	homestead (possible),
15.08	NX 8336 8954	Crossford Hill	burnt mound				small cairns, rig
17	NX 80 88	Castlehill	small cairns, rig	104	NX 8428 8803	Auchenfedrick	farmstead
19	NX 8235 8551	West Skelston	cairn	105	NX 8447 8816	Auchenfedrick Cottage	building, pele
20	NX 8157 8885	Old Crawfordton	house				
23	NX 8441 8818	Auchenfedrick	homestead, building				
25	NX 8 8	Crawfordton	kiln: corn-drying		NX 88 SW		
27	NX 8169 8626	East Skelston	enclosure, cairn				
36	NX 843 898	Laggan Burn	burnt mounds	1.00	NX 80 84	Sundaywell Moor	archaeological landscape
38	NX 847 894	Breconside	burnt mounds	1.01	NX 802 844	Brockloch	farmstead, pele, field-system
39	NX 8481 8930	Breconside	farmstead				
40	NX 8425 8945	Laggan Burn	burnt mound	1.02	NX 802 845	Brockloch	enclosures
41	NX 8129 8575	Greymane's Stone	hut-circle, small cairns	1.03	NX 8014 8462	Brockloch	homestead
43	NX 8375 8917	Crossford Scroggs	building	1.04	NX 8008 8462	Brockloch	cairn
44	NX 8411 8897	Breckonside Tower	burnt mound	1.05	NX 802 846	Brockloch	field-system
45	NX 839 889	Laggan Burn	burnt mounds	1.06	NX 8000 8448	Brockloch	burnt mounds
46	NX 8395 8871	Craig Plantation	farmstead	1.07	NX 8030 8473	Brockloch	building (possible)
47	NX 8420 8884	Breckonside Tower	homestead (possible), building	1.08	NX 806 848	Sundaywell	field-system, buildings, enclosure
48	NX 8421 8876	Breckonside Tower	burnt mound	1.09	NX 806 850	Bogrie Linn	farmstead
49	NX 8414 8874	Breckonside Tower	burnt mound	1.10	NX 8059 8551	Sundaywell	building
50	NX 840 882	Auchenfedrick	burnt mounds	1.11	NX 8056 8504	Bogrie Linn	burnt mound
51	NX 8427 8821	Auchenfedrick	hall-house (possible), kiln, pele, farmsteads	3	NX 8111 8473	Sundaywell	fort, building, enclosure
52	NX 8430 8845	Auchenfedrick	burnt mound	4	NX 8106 8470	Sundaywell	field clearance cairn
53	NX 8435 8234	Auchenfedrick	building	5	NX 8114 8441	Sundaywell	pele
54	NX 8464 8832	Bankhead	burnt mound	12	NX 840 802	Speddoch Hill	field clearance cairns
55	NX 8156 8619	Skelston Hill	burnt mound	13	NX 8390 8492	Garrieston Wood	burnt mound
56	NX 8441 8822	Auchenfedrick	kiln-barn	14	NX 808 841	Sundaywell	burnt mounds
57	NX 8484 8779	Wallacehall Wood	burnt mound	15	NX 806 842	Brockloch	burnt mounds
58	NX 816 886	Old Crawfordton	burnt mounds	16	NX 8123 8435	Sundaywell	burnt mound
59	NX 8171 8896	Old Crawfordton	cairn	17	NX 8116 8396	Fraserford	enclosure
60	NX 8145 8846	Cleughside	cairn	18	NX 8090 8467	Sundaywell	building, enclosure
61	NX 8276 8833	Stewarton	pele (possible), building, enclosure	19	NX 823 841	Collieston Cottage	burnt mounds
62	NX 810 885	Castlehill	burnt mounds	20	NX 8000 8401	Glenesslin Burn	hut
63	NX 808 887	Castle Hill	burnt mounds	21	NX 814 829	Black Cleugh	burnt mounds
64	NX 8086 8887	Castlehill	burnt mound	22	NX 818 828	Black Cleugh	burnt mounds
65	NX 8121 8889	Castlehill	burnt mound	23	NX 816 830	Nether Whiteside Moor	burnt mounds, small cairns, rig
66	NX 814 887	Old Crawfordton	buildings, lade, mill	24	NX 8180 8482	Bogrie	building, enclosure
67	NX 814 889	Old Crawfordton	mill, building	25	NX 8279 8370	Dunesslin	burnt mound
68	NX 8193 8847	Cleughside	burnt mound	26	NX 8007 8391	Mark Cleugh	burnt mound
69	NX 8217 8836	Cleughside	farmstead	27	NX 8139 8496	Bogrie	building
70	NX 821 884	Cleughside Burn	burnt mounds	28	NX 821 849	Drumshangan	burnt mounds
71	NX 8349 8858	Crossford Studio	cairn (possible)	29	NX 822 830	Collieston Burn	farmstead
72	NX 8342 8847	Crossford Studio	building	30	NX 8235 8325	Collieston Burn	burnt mound
73	NX 8338 8890	Crossford	buildings, field-system	31	NX 827 842	Nethertown	burnt mounds
74	NX 8325 8927	Knockstrony	burnt mound	32	NX 8207 8415	Nethertown Moor	burnt mound
75	NX 8186 8504	Rowantreehall	buildings, enclosure	33	NX 832 839	Collieston Burn	farmstead
76	NX 8474 8559	Snade	burnt mound	34	NX 8253 8431	Nethertown	shieling-hut (possible)
77	NX 8172 8592	Herd Hill	burnt mound	35	NX 815 845	Sundaywell Cottage	cairns
78	NX 824 857	West Skelston	burnt mounds	36	NX 803 837	Whiteside Cottage	burnt mounds, small cairns
79	NX 8332 8918	Knockstrony	enclosure	37	NX 8348 8433	Glenesslin Schoolhouse	cairn
80	NX 8294 8929	Clonegate	building				
81	NX 8285 8942	Clonegate	building, field-system				
82	NX 8228 8589	East Skelston Cottage	cairn				
83	NX 8488 8541	Snade	burnt mounds				
85	NX 826 875	Torr Wood	burnt mounds				
86	NX 826 872	Knockmarlin	burnt mounds, rig				
87	NX 834 870	Quisilton Wood	burnt mounds				
88	NX 836 865	Slatehouse Hill	burnt mounds, small cairns, rig				
89	NX 8285 8558	West Skelston	burnt mound				
90	NX 836 857	Coatston Wood	burnt mounds, field clearance cairns				
91	NX 832 858	Browhead	burnt mounds				
92	NX 8310 8560	East Skelston	burnt mound				
93	NX 832 853	Nether Goosedubs	burnt mounds, building				
94	NX 838 854	Garrieston Wood	burnt mounds				
95	NX 8378 8517	Garrieston Wood	burnt mound				
96	NX 8199 8600	East Skelston Cottage	burnt mound				
97	NX 822 876	Torr Wood	burnt mounds, shieling-huts				
98	NX 8291 8791	Stewarton	burnt mound				
99	NX 8285 8707	Knockmarlin	burnt mound, small cairns, rig				
100	NX 822 850	Shank	burnt mounds				
101	NX 8469 8532	Snade	farmstead				
102	NX 8306 8594	Browhead	building, enclosure, lazy beds				

