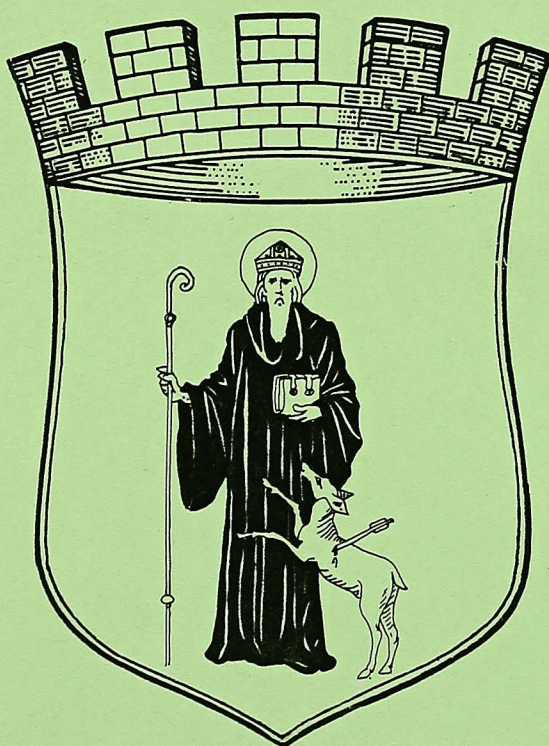


Historic

# ELGIN

the archaeological implications  
of development



Anne Turner Simpson  
Sylvia Stevenson

Scottish Burgh Survey  
1982

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## PREFACE

This report of the history and archaeology of the former burgh of Elgin is one of a series of such reports on the historic towns of Scotland, The reports have been commissioned by the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate of the Scottish Development Department with a view to providing the necessary background information upon which to base a policy for urban research in the future. They are also aimed at providing local authority planning departments with the historical and archaeological information necessary to enable them to assess the archaeological implications of any planning application.

This book contains an historical report compiled by Dr. Grant Simpson with an archaeological report and a series of illustrative plans compiled and drawn by Sylvia Stevenson. The reports attempt to identify those areas within the burghs which were developed at various periods of their history up to approximately 1800, and to locate within those areas sites which are of particular historical importance. Areas of 19th century growth and modern suburbs have not been examined.

The survey team would like to acknowledge the help and support of Moray District Council: Mr. R.A.Stewart, Director of Physical Planning of Moray District Council and members of his staff especially Mr. Brown and Mr. Duncan; the staff of the Archaeology Division of the Ordnance Survey, Edinburgh; and the Historic Buildings Branch of the Scottish Development Department. Miss M. Innes, Director of Libraries, Moray District Council and members of her staff, especially Mr. Seton, Local Studies Librarian. The survey team would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Professor Leslie Alcock and Mr. Eric Talbot who supervised the project at Glasgow University.

Note: The views expressed herein are those of the survey team freely given, and do not necessarily represent official policy.

Cover:- The Coat of Arms of the burgh of Elgin as depicted in Bute, Macphail and Lonsdale, 1897, 129.

# History

'Elgin lies in  $57\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  north latitude,  $2^{\circ} 25'$  west longitude, being situated in the north-east quarter of that part of England commonly called Scotland.'

(John Shanks, 1866).

## INTRODUCTION

Site: Elgin is situated on an east-west ridge of land and is largely surrounded by the wandering River Lossie, as well as being protected by hilly, rising ground only a few miles distant on the west and south.

Place Name: The name-form is 'Elgin' or 'Elgyn' from the twelfth century onwards and is probably from the Gaelic form 'Eilgin', meaning 'little Ireland', and referring to a settlement of Irish (i.e., Scots) at some time in the Dark Ages (Nicolaisen, et al., 1970, 89).

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Burgh Status: Elgin's position as a royal burgh in the reign of David I (1124 x 1153) is made clear in his grant of 20 shillings, from its rents to the nearby priory of Urquhart (see P.18). In 1268, Alexander III gave the burgesses the right to have a merchant guild. The burgh was attached to the earldom of Moray when this was re-established by the crown in 1312, but was later restored to the status of holding directly from the king. The burgh was represented in parliament from 1469 (Pryde, 1965, 7).

Medieval : King David's successors in the later twelfth and thirteenth centuries evidently viewed Elgin as an important centre of government. William the Lion (1165 - 1214) granted fourteen of his charters there (compared to one at Inverness and six at Aberdeen) and must have used it as a base for his military expeditions into Ross (Barrow, 1971, 11, 81). The establishment of the cathedral of the diocese of Moray at Elgin in 1224 is an indication of both the importance and the convenience of the settlement by that date (Cant, 1974, 23). Details of the social and economic life of the burgh in these centuries are largely lacking from record, but the town was sufficiently significant as a centre to merit two visits from Edward I during his period of attempted direct rule in Scotland. He and his forces spent two days at Elgin in July, 1296 (when a chronicler in his company referred to it as a 'good town' with a 'good castle') and a total of five days there in September, 1303 (Cramond, 1903, 1, 9-10).

Some indications of the economic status of the burgh emerge in record from the fourteenth century onward. In the years between 1367 and 1370, a period of general prosperity in Scotland, the customs duties paid to the crown averaged £119 5s 6d. yearly. These entries were paid on wool, skins and hides exported from the port or ports of Elgin (*ibid.*, i, 32). But in the fifteenth century, the value of goods exported was notably less. Between 1431 and 1476, the customs paid at Elgin, together with Forres, mainly on export of salmon, varied between £10 and about £12 annually (*ER*, iv, 534, v, 259, 393). These are minute sums compared to those paid, for example, in 1431 at Aberdeen (£741) or Dundee (£464) (*ER*, iv, 535, 539). The same story is told by the records of burgh taxations in the middle ages, which show Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh as the wealthiest towns, while Elgin, like its nearest neighbours, Nairn, Forres, Cullen and Banff, contributed no more than about 1% of the national total, even as late as 1535 (McNeill and Nicholson, 1975, 175, 188). Compared to the east coast burghs, Elgin and the other Moray coast burghs remained in an economic backwater.

It is only possible to speculate whether this limitation of overseas trading activity derived partly from the difficulty that Elgin, unlike the great majority of royal burghs, had no direct access to the sea or even a navigable river. There are signs that the burgesses did make use of nearby harbours and rivers, but all of these presented problems. In 1393, the earl of Moray granted the burgesses freedom from customs on their goods, such as wool and cloth, exported through his 'haven' or harbour of the River Spey (possibly the village of Garmouth); but it was 8 miles east of Elgin by land (Cramond, 1903. i, 19). About 1459 the burgesses were exporting corn to Leith from 'Fynderin' (Findhorn) and Lossie (*ibid.*, i, 36). But Findhorn was even more distant than the Spey, being 11 miles to the west and the port of Lossie or Spynie, although only 2 miles to the north-east on the northern shore of the once-extensive Loch of Spynie, was possessed, and strictly controlled, by the bishops of Moray, from their imposing Palace on the northern shore of the Loch (*ibid.*, i, 16-17). Elgin's export trade, therefore, faced difficulties; but it must be remembered that local trade, of which there are very few records, may have flourished.

The burgh certainly still attracted important visitors. The least welcome of these came in 1390, when Alexander, earl of Buchan, son

of King Robert II, and known as the 'Wolf of Badenoch', burned the entire town, the cathedral and the parish church (*ibid.*, i, 17). This act was in revenge for his excommunication by the bishop of Moray, some of whose lands he had seized. Later royal personages acted more peaceably; James II visited the town in 1458, when he lodged within the Manse of Duffus; in the Chanonry (*ibid.*, i, 34), and the ever-active King James IV was a frequent visitor between 1494 and 1509 (*ibid.*, i, 21-5, 38).

Early Modern : The Reformation of 1560 produced rather less change in the life of Elgin than might be expected (Cant, 1974, 10). As indicated, below, Bishop Hepburn remained active as a secular landowner until his death in 1573, and the last mass to be said in the cathedral was publicly solemnised in the presence of the earls of Huntly and Errol as late as 1594 (Mackintosh, 1914, 6).

The secular life of the burgh proceeded in a generally peaceful manner and occasional references in the records suggest some degree of sophistication: the existence in the town for example, of a surgeon in 1582, and of a goldsmith in 1584 (Cramond, 1898, 36, 47). The community as a whole made modest economic progress, although some hard times occurred; in 1587 the town council complained of their poverty caused by oppression by various local lairds and gentlemen, and in 1695 claimed to be suffering from decay of their trade and an insupportable burden of debts (RCRB, i, 262, iv, 198). The story told by the record of burgh stents (or national taxes) indicates some increase in wealth from the mid-sixteenth to the early eighteenth century. In 1557, the burgh came twenty-second in order among the royal burghs in the stent roll, paying £101.5s. (compared to £168.15s. from Inverness, and £2,550 from Edinburgh) (*ibid.*, i, 526). Elgin was twenty-first in rank in 1597 and twenty-fourth in 1649 (*ibid.*, ii, 10, iii, 372). Among the Moray Firth burghs, the town was about always ranked as less wealthy than Inverness, but distinctly superior to both Forres and Nairn (e.g., the figures for 1670 are typical: Elgin £1, Inverness £1.16s. Forres 5s, Nairn 3s.) (*ibid.*, iii, 622). In 1670, the town was fifteenth in order on the stent roll, but rose to thirteenth place in 1692, and in 1705 to ninth position, just ahead of Inverness (Elgin £1 8s, Inverness £1.8s 6d.) (*ibid.*, iv, 161, 371). This peak of wealth may well be connected with the burgh's erection about 1700 of a harbour under the town's control at Lossiemouth ( see page 6 ).

It is noteworthy that not only burgesses but also local landowners were active in economic affairs in the town. In the later seventeenth century, various lairds were engaged in trade, particularly with Holland, exporting

corn, malt and salmon, and importing wines, spirits, silks and other luxuries. A prominent example of such a trading laird was William King of Newmill (Watson, 1868, 151, 203). He had been factor for the Gordonstoun estate and in 1684 he purchased six crofts in the Chanonry and the mansion house erected from the remnants of the house of the Greyfriars (Mackintosh, 1914, 139). Properties and buildings in or close to the burgh thus came under the control of a local landed Proprietor and it is no surprise that William King was twice provost, in 1690-1700 and again in 1709-11 (ibid.,).

Eighteenth Century: In this century Elgin maintained its economic and social status, but it was not till the early nineteenth century that the town began to acquire a series of notable public buildings, such as Dr. Gray's Hospital (1816-19), the new St. Giles Church (1827-8) and a 'Court House' (1838-61) (Cant, 1974, 16-19). The stent rolls of 1718 and 1737 reveal Elgin in the fourteenth and fifteenth position respectively, among the royal burghs (RCRB, v, 196-7, 631), suggesting that it continued to hold approximately the financial position it had achieved by the late seventeenth century. In the mid-eighteenth century, trade with Holland (noted above) was still flourishing, but by the 1790s this had faded and had been replaced by imports of manufactured goods from English ports such as London, Leeds, Birmingham and Newcastle (Sinclair, 1793, v, 11). Over 40 shops had by then opened for the sale of such items (ibid.). The population of the town was estimated at 2920 - 1793 and it was considered that its population had been increasing up to that point, although not in proportion to the decrease in numbers in the country as a whole (ibid.,15). In the craft work of the town, weavers were prominent (70 in number) and there were also 70 wrights, 55 shoemakers, and 32 tailors (ibid.,12). A soap works existed, but the commentator in the Old Statistical Account deplored the fact that there was no manufacture within the burgh 'for employing young children and giving them early habits of industry' (ibid.,19).

#### BURGH MORPHOLOGY

Street Layout: The town plan of medieval Elgin was of the classic 'single street' type, that street being the 'High' or principal street. Again, the positions of the castle close to the burgh at one end (west) and of the cathedral and chanonry at the opposite end (east) are fairly typical of early Scottish town layouts. The burgh thus lay in a rectangular enclosure some 550 metres long by 250 metres wide (Cant,1974, 4). Outside its garden walls to the north ran the North Back Gait (later



Blackfriars Road and North Lane), and similarly in the south was the South Back Gait (later South Street) (See p.21.) It is possible that the original settlement went no further than the line of Lossie Wynd on the east and that expansion towards the cathedral took place in the fourteenth century (ibid.). From the High Street the crofts or rigs of the burgesses stretched out to the two Gaits at north and south, many extending to well over 100 metres in length. see.p.22. Access from the High Street through the rigs to the north and south boundaries was by a series of narrow closes or wynds, many of which have been re-named in modern times (Cant and Lindsay, 1954, 27). The medieval street plan of the burgh appears to have survived almost unchanged until the nineteenth century. (see p.21).

Market Area: A distinct widening of the High Street at more or less its central point represents, in typical fashion, the original open market place area of the burgh. A market cross is mentioned as early as 1365 and even at this stage the market appears to have been within the walls of the cemetery of the parish church of St. Giles (Cant, 1974, 13). Indeed, the original broadening of the High Street can hardly have been sufficient to contain comfortably not only the market, the church and the cemetery, but also the Tolbooth (see page 24 ). The original market cross, known as the Muckle Cross, appears to have been situated just east of the church and was erected in the reign of Charles I. This cross was demolished about 1792 and eventually, in 1888, a restored cross was built, including at the top of its shaft, the Scottish lion which had formed part of the old cross (Cant, 1974, 13-14). The cramped conditions of the market site resulted in a decision of 1786 to lay out with cobbles an 'exchange' or market stance area still called the 'Plainstones', to the west of the church (ibid., 16).

Defences and Ports : Like the majority of Scottish burghs, Elgin in early times had no formal defensive walls. It is possible to conjecture that the castle itself would have been protected in the twelfth century by some form of wooden palisade. But protection of the town was provided only by the garden walls at the foot of the burgesses' rigs or tenements plus the four ports or gates (see page 19ff).

Bridges: Although no bridges exist within the boundaries of the burgh itself, the wandering course of the River Lossie, which runs close to the town on three sides, has produced the erection of several bridges

of importance as means of access to the town. The oldest is the Bow Brig, lying just over half a mile northwest of the castle. An inscription on it records that it was erected by the magistrates of the town between 1630 and 1635 (Cant and Lindsay, 1954, 25). Lying among fields to the south-west of the town was the Palmerscross Bridge, built in 1815 on the site of an older structure. The Sheriffmill Bridge, to the west of the town, dates from about 1800, while lower down the river are the Bishopmill Bridge (post 1829) and the Brewery Bridge (about 1798), near the east end of the cathedral (*ibid.*, 25-6). A bridge giving access from the Bishop's Palace of Spynie across the Lossie to the Cathedral precinct was in existence before 1242 and appears to have been sited at the north-east corner of the present Cooper Park, near the Deanshaugh Suspension Bridge (Mackintosh, 1914, 37). This early bridge was built by Archibald of Inverlochty, but no longer exists, and the date of its disappearance seems to be untraced.

HARBOURS: The economic problems presented to the town in the middle ages on account of its lack of a nearby harbour have already been mentioned (page.2). In the mid-sixteenth century, the ports of Spey and Findhorn were still active, as customs accounts bear witness (Cramond, 1903, i, 40). But in the early seventeenth century, an effort to erect a harbour for the town at Lossiemouth is mentioned: Elgin requested financial support from the Convention of Royal Burghs 'for building their port and harbour of Stotfald', near the mouth of the Lossie (RCRB, ii, 356). Further moves were attempted in the 1630s with little result; but in 1687 land was purchased there, an engineer was engaged, and in 1701 the Privy Council permitted a voluntary contribution in all the parish churches of the kingdom towards the cost of the harbour works (*ibid.*, iv, 329, 625; Mackintosh, 1914, 128). The Convention made a grant of 200 marks for the same purpose in 1700 (*ibid.*, iv, 300). As already noted, the creation of Lossiemouth harbour may well have been of immediate economic benefit to the town (see p. 3).

#### BUILDINGS

Castle: It seems likely that David I would have constructed a castle, probably of wood, on the convenient hill at the western boundary of his burgh of Elgin: but the first documentary reference to it occurs in 1160 in the reign of Malcolm IV. At the end of the thirteenth century, in the early stages of the Wars of Independence, it suffered the fate of many Scottish royal castles, being 'slighted' by the

Scottish forces themselves. It appears to have been maintained in some degree of order by the earls of Moray down to the fifteenth century (Mackintosh, 1914, 170-2). But eventually only a chapel, that of the Blessed Virgin Mary, survived and by the mid-sixteenth century, and probably earlier, the hill was known as the Chapel Hill or Lady Hill (Cramond, 1903, i, 85).

Cathedral: The cathedral of the bishopric of Moray was formally, established beside Elgin in 1224, but arrangements leading towards this event may have begun as early as 1215, and there is some evidence that the 'Church of the Holy Trinity beside Elgin' was at least partly in existence when it became the cathedral (Cant, 1974, 22). Organisationally, progress was rapidly made, when in 1226 Bishop Andrew enlarged his chapter, i.e. body of cathedral and diocesan dignitaries, from eight to eighteen. A further five canons were added in 1242 and this total remained static until the early sixteenth century, when two more posts were created (ibid.,25). By the mid-thirteenth century, therefore, the cathedral was very adequately staffed, both in numbers and in quality. The various bishops of the fourteenth century kept up these standards and it has been noted that they all had a high proportion of graduate clerks in their chapters (Maclean, 1981, 87).

The internal history of the cathedral is mainly concerned with the daily processes of diocesan administration. The drastic attack on the cathedral in 1390 by the Wolf of Badenoch (see page 3) was unfortunately not a unique event, since Alexander, son of the Lord of the Isles in 1402 twice plundered the cathedral precinct (Mackintosh, 1914, 57). These events underline the wealth which the cathedral represented and it is not surprising that the bishops proceeded in the fifteenth century to erect at Spynie Palace, two miles to the north, one of the most imposing episcopal residences in Scotland (Cant, 1948, 24-5). The wealth of the bishopric is also evident in the dealings of the last medieval bishop, Patrick Hepburn, son of the first earl of Bothwell, who was 'the great dilapidator' of the possessions of the church and continued to alienate its lands even when he held the secularised position of bishop after the Reformation of 1560 (Innes, 1837, xv-xvi). In status as well as in appearance the cathedral, throughout its history deserved the description bestowed on it by the acute ecclesiastical historian, Dr. Joseph Robertson, 'the grandest of all the northern minsters' (Mackintosh, 1914, 45).

Parish Church : The physical history of the parish church and its kirkyard is discussed below (page 26 ). Two aspects of its constitutional history are also worthy of comment. From as early as 1187-9, by a charter of King William I, the church was granted to the bishopric of Moray and a significant proportion of its revenue from that date was diverted to the upkeep of the bishop's personal household (Mackintosh, 1914, pp.199-200). The church was accordingly served by a vicar, appointed by the bishop as required; and its functioning was presumably subject to the bishop's wishes to a considerable degree. A second noteworthy development followed some decades after the Reformation when, in 1621, the arch connecting the nave and chancel was built up, and the former chancel was made into a separate church, named the 'Little Kirk'. This was at first used for week-day services; but in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries a series of episcopal clergymen ministered in it, by permission of the provost and magistrates, to whom the building was held to belong (ibid., 207-8). Although the physical division of early churches was not unusual in post-Reformation times, a building which housed both an establishment minister and an episcopalian priest, separated by a wall, was an uncommon phenomenon.

Friaries and Hospitals: The histories of the town's two friaries and two hospitals are discussed in conjunction with descriptions of their physical remains, below page 30ff.

Tolbooth: Nothing appears to be known of the town house or tolbooth during the middle ages. But it is clear that its site in the midst of the High Street and close to the parish church was a cramped and unsatisfactory one. Its principal early feature, which survived various reconstructions was a large square tower, 'almost without any windows'. The building contained a hall where burgh courts and county meetings were held, and a common jail (Shaw and Gordon, 1882, i, 356). Both the jail and the hall seem to have been inadequate, since there is record of a prisoner escaping in 1541 by taking off the lock of his prison; and the burgh court was held at various points during the later sixteenth century both in the parish church and within the former Greyfriars monastery (Mackintosh, 1914, 194). The subsequent history of the building is discussed below page 24ff ).

Schools: A remarkable number of schools have existed in Elgin from time to time. In the later middle ages, there may have been a cathedral school, under the authority of the chancellor of the diocese

(Mackintosh, 1914, 151). There was certainly a grammar school under the control of the town council by 1540, and probably earlier (*ibid.*). From 1694, this was situated in School Wynd, now Commerce Street, near its junction with South Street (Cant, 1974, 14). A private school run by a clergyman named Thomas Rag is mentioned in the 1540s and 1550s, but was suppressed by the town council (Mackintosh, 1914, 151-2). A song school attached to the grammar school is mentioned about 1550 and a formal establishment of one, under royal charter, was made in 1594. This 'Music School' continued as a separate institution and in 1676 a new building was erected for it in Moss Wynd, now Moss Street, which ran south-eastwards from the South Port (*ibid.*, 152-3). The grammar and music schools were drawn together into one institution, the academy, opened in 1801 (Cant, 1974, 16).

Houses: Until well into the nineteenth century, Elgin retained a large number of town houses of good vernacular quality of architecture, dating back to the seventeenth century or even earlier (Cant and Lindsay, 1954, 6-7). Many were destroyed in Victorian times and are now known only by their locations and from engravings ( below page 23ff ). In spite of continuing demolitions in the present century, a few buildings survive to indicate what once existed. At the east end of the High Street, at the Little Cross, the banking house occupied by William Duff of Duffle from 1703 to 1722 survives largely entire. Further west, at 42-46 and 50-52 High Street are two sets of houses, with rear extensions, of which the frontages are later seventeenth century, having remains of ground-floor arcades or piazzas of a type once very common in the town (Cant and Lindsay, 1954, 17-19). To the west of the parish church, in Thunderton Place, and set back slightly from the High Street, is Thunderton House, now a hotel. It was once 'the most splendid mansion in Elgin, belonging successively to the families of Moray, Duffus and Dunbar'. In the middle ages the 'Great Lodging' of the Scottish kings stood on this site. The present building dates back to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but has been much altered (*ibid.*, 20-21) ( see also below, page 21ff ).

Mills: The meandering course of the River Lossie and its proximity to the town readily produced the establishment of a fairly large number of mills, some of considerable antiquity. Furthest up-river, one mile west of Elgin Castle, lay Scroggiemill, which was in existence by 1799 (Cramond, 1903, i, 509). Next was Sheriffmill, established before

1309 (Mackintosh, 1914, 161-2). Lying on a 'cut' just below the Bow Brig was an important mill called at first the Mill of Elgin or the King's Mill, latterly Oldmills. The mill here was in royal hands until about 1230, when Alexander II granted it to Pluscarden Priory as part of his foundation gift (ibid.,162-3). To the north of the town lay the oldest known mill associated with the burgh: the Bishop's Mill, established when William the Lion, by a charter dating between 1189 and 1195, gave the bishop of Moray the right to build a mill on the Lossie below the castle of Elgin (ibid., 178-9). This mill may have moved from its original site, since the River Lossie in this area now runs further north than it originally did. A village grew up at Bishopbill, perhaps as early as the fourteenth century, and was extended by means of a planned layout from 1798 onwards (ibid.). To the northwest of the present Cooper Park was Deanhaugh Mill, erected in the late eighteenth century for tobacco manufacture and as a waulk-mill and flax-mill (ibid.,117). The last two mills on the river, to the east of the cathedral, are the woollen mills of Newmill and the meal and wood mills of Kingsmill (ibid,115).

# Archaeology

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Elgin has developed on the present site since the twelfth century. Excavation in the burgh, and the disposition of the surviving late sixteenth and seventeenth century buildings on the High Street, suggest that the basic plan and street lay-out have remained consistent in orientation and width during almost the whole of that period. Elgin is of considerable importance as the marketing and social centre of the agricultural hinterland of Moray, and it is this importance which has led to the current spate of redevelopment and expansion.

A new relief road through backland property to the north of the High Street (see map 2) has allowed an extension to the Elgin Area Local Plan defined in a consultative report on the centre of Elgin and produced by Moray District Council in April 1982. Formal local plan policies from this document may be adopted in the first review of the area Plan to be carried out in 1982/83. Some of the options mentioned in the consultative document may affect surviving archaeological levels in the burgh, and areas of particular sensitivity in this respect are discussed below on page 12 ff.

Much of the old backland and close development north of the High Street has now been redeveloped, chiefly to provide car parking facilities for the retail outlets on the High Street. Some frontage redevelopment has taken place as for example at NJ 2139 6281, NJ 215 628 and NJ 217 628, and new housing occupies the area between the new relief road and Lossie Wynd (NJ 218 629). South of the High Street, redevelopment has been rather more piece-meal with new frontages at NJ 218 628, NJ 215 628 and NJ 212 627. The burgage boundaries have also been disrupted in a number of instances where several burgages have been opened up to provide parking facilities, at for example NJ 218 627. A new housing scheme has been inserted into the backlands at NJ 214 627. Some archaeological investigation has already been carried out in the burgh (see page 16 ) and has proved that a continued policy of trial excavation prior to redevelopment would be profitable. On the completion of the present redevelopment plan, it seems unlikely that further opportunities would offer themselves for the examination of remains of early burgh life in the near future.

### Sites under immediate threat

- a. One of the most important sites to become available in the near future is the old garage between 213 and 219 High Street (NJ 213 628). A new store is proposed for this site though no starting date is at present given. This is one of the few High Street frontages which will be available for archaeological investigation in conjunction with a good proportion of its associated backland area, and would provide an excellent opportunity to establish the depth of surviving archaeological deposits, and the relationship of the present frontage with that of earlier structures on the site.
- b. Renovation of existing property, and possible new housing at the junction of High Street and the new relief road (NJ 213 627) may again provide opportunities to examine an early frontage site.
- c. New retail premises have been proposed for the backland on the east side of Thunderton Place at present occupied by a car park (NJ 214 627). This redevelopment may also involve some demolition on the High Street, but with the retention of the present facade. Thunderton Place is a nineteenth century intrusion into the plan, but it would be useful to establish the presence and depth of archaeological deposits here and identify the nature of early backland usage beneath nineteenth century development.

### Future Investigation

The policies outlined below are not listed in order of importance, but are intended to provide guide lines for future research as opportunities arise through renovation and redevelopment (see page 18 ff for full discussion).

1. To attempt, through excavation and historical research, to recover the earliest possible date for the initial settlement of the burgh, and to provide evidence of the nature of its development economically and socially.
2. To determine the chronology and plan of the town walls and ports and to determine the course and constituents of these features since their earliest development.
3. To identify any alteration in the town plan not already known, and to establish the chronology of the expansion of the burgh.
4. To establish the physical nature and plan of town buildings before the late sixteenth century, and to determine the commercial and industrial usage of buildings and their associated backland areas prior to that date.



5. To identify any surviving traces of the pre-nineteenth century parish church with a view to establishing the earliest use of the site.
6. To identify any pre-thirteenth century occupation on the site of the present cathedral. To identify the sites of buildings associated with the cathedral canons, and confirm the course of the precinct wall to the west.
7. To confirm the site of the Dominican Friary. To locate and plan any surviving foundations, and to carry out further research into historical sources which may throw some light on the development of this community.
8. To identify the site of the first Franciscan house at Elgin.
9. To locate any surviving traces of the Maison Dieu and its associated graveyard.
10. To carry out deeper documentary research into the origins and development of the Leper House.
11. To establish the degree of survival of archaeological levels on the slope and at the base of the castle hill in the hope of establishing further details relating to its chronological and structural history.

#### Areas of Archaeological Priority

Although in the past, there has been limited material and structural evidence from Elgin to act as a guide to those areas which would prove to be of the greatest value archaeologically, exploratory excavation so far carried out in the burgh has been moderately encouraging in terms of the depth of archaeological deposit and the variety and quantity of material evidence recovered. A continued joint policy of documentary research and exploratory excavation, as opportunities arise, is strongly recommended to expand the existing known chronological and social framework of medieval Elgin. The sites listed below are placed in order of importance only in so far as they are threatened by proposed redevelopment within the limits of the medieval burgh and cathedral complex as defined on Map 2.

The area of archaeological interest is defined by Blackfriars Road to the north, Hill Street to the west, South Street, Greyfriars Street and South College Street to the south, and the River Lossie to the

East, a number of sites of obvious importance lie within this area, the cathedral, the castle and the site of the Greyfriars Friary are protected from redevelopment, as are the surviving seventeenth century houses on the north and south of the High Street. However, extensive redevelopment in backlands to the north of the High Street emphasises the importance of scrutinizing future redevelopment in the burghages.

1. Opportunities to examine the street frontage have been limited, but proposed redevelopment at NJ 213 628, NJ 213 627 (see page 12 (a to c) for discussion) may allow sampling of the deposits in these areas. (see map 2).
2. The site between High Street and Murdoch's Wynd at the foot of Lady Hill (NJ 212 627) is scheduled for redevelopment during 1982. Its proximity to the castle makes this site of importance, though as previous property has apparently been cut back into the slope, early deposits may have been truncated to the rear. The early High Street frontage at this point has now been covered by the new ring road.
3. Redevelopment has been proposed for the backland between 7 and 13, Greyfriars Street (NJ 2167 6280) and will provide opportunities to establish the degree of survival of archaeological levels.
4. Possible redevelopment or re-furbishment of buildings to the rear of 25 Greyfriars Street will provide similar opportunities to assess the survival of archaeological deposits.
5. A car park has been proposed for a present works site off Lossie Wynd (NJ 2164 6298) building work here may provide opportunities to examine archaeological deposits.
6. Environmental improvements are planned in the vicinity of the little Cross (NJ 2191 6286). Some importance is attached to this area as the possible limit of the early burgh. The little Cross was the site of one of the three public wells of the burgh which incorporated a copestone carrying the date 1642. The well was covered by road re-surfacing in 1956 (Seton, 1980, 10) and may well come to light during the proposed upgrading. Street improvements may also allow the identification of some of the drains and common gutters which carried sewage to Blackfriars and Harvey's Stanks.

The above sites are only of importance in so far as they are currently threatened by redevelopment. Future proposals for the burgh and the

results of future archaeological investigation will necessitate a radical re-assessment of current priorities.

### Recommendations

Extensive redevelopment has already taken place in Elgin. Much of the backland property to both the north and south of the High Street has now been rebuilt. Some frontages have also been replaced, and opportunities have here been lost to identify the site and structure of pre-sixteenth century town buildings. The conservation policy applied to the remainder of the High Street as yet unaffected by redevelopment means that future opportunities to examine potential archaeological sites on the street frontage will be limited. However, the need to repair and replace existing services and structures such as 215 to 219 High Street (see page 12 ) will lead to disturbance of which the archaeologist can take advantage. The following recommendations are made in the hope that they will enable the maximum amount of information to be extracted from the minimum amount of disturbance.

1. Deeper documentary research is required into some aspects of burgh history, especially in relation to those sites which have suffered destruction in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the castle, the Dominican Friary and the Leper House.
2. The renovation of property can be as destructive to the archaeological record as rebuilding. Any proposed renovation project could be usefully monitored in cases where structural alteration is proposed at ground level. It should also be borne in mind, that the structural remains of earlier buildings may survive beneath a later facade.
3. Any proposed road improvements, repairs to, and extension of, existing services such as gas, electricity and water, involving trenching, could be profitably monitored to build-up a picture of the survival and depth of archaeological deposits.
4. Bearing in mind the success of previous exploratory excavation in the burgh (see page 16ff) a continued policy of selective trial trenching could usefully be adopted in advance of future redevelopment in the archaeologically sensitive areas listed above.

### PREVIOUS WORK

A number of small exploratory excavations have been carried out in Elgin in advance of redevelopment. These have provided encouraging results and indicate the survival of well preserved structural,

environmental and artifactual evidence of early burgh life beneath the present settlement.

1. In 1858, the Elgin Literary and Scientific Association conducted excavations at Lady Hill on the site of the castle (NJ 2117 6283). Three skeletons were discovered just outside the outer walls of the castle, together with a flint arrowhead, several pottery sherds, a quern and a copper coin of Charles II. There is no recorded stratigraphic relationship between the finds, or with the remains of the castle (Shaw, 1882, II, 7; Mackintosh, 1914, 174).
2. Further archaeological investigation was carried out in 1973 on the site of Elgin Castle. The results proved inconclusive and no definite traces of either a defensive enceinte or any internal buildings were identified on the summit. However, some structural remains survived in fragments of dressed and mortared stone recovered from all four cuttings, and a number of post holes were identified below topsoil though not in any discernable pattern. In the north cutting, down the slope of the hill, a low sandbank or rampart, apparently strengthened by tipped stone and with a vertical timber revetment on the north side, may have formed part of the medieval curtain wall. There was, however, a total lack of dating evidence from a secure stratigraphical context, and no definite occupation levels survived, probably due to later nineteenth century disturbance (MacDonald, 1973, 38-39).
3. Investigation of the reputed site of the Dominican Friary stank (NJ 212 629) led to the discovery of approximately fifty skeletons 1' (0.30m) to 1'6" (0.45m) below ground surface. The skeletons were lying at random and there was no evidence to indicate that they had been encoffined. In the excavator's view, the cemetery may have been of seventeenth century date (Keillar, 1971, 30).
4. Excavations to the rear of the north High Street frontage in 1976 (NJ 213 628) led to the discovery of a series of medieval pits. The site also produced thirteenth and fourteenth century pottery, dietary evidence in the form of animal and fish bones, and with the discovery of charcoal slag, and many crucible and mould fragments, indications of local metalworking (Lindsay, 1976, 44).
5. Exploratory work at NJ 219 628, in advance of redevelopment, produced evidence of late medieval occupation. Several hearths and pits containing much pottery and iron slag were identified together with a fragment of post-medieval kiln furniture. A well was also found on the site (Lindsay, 1976, 44).

6. Investigation at the north end of Lossie Wynd (NJ 216 630) led to the identification of a fifteenth-sixteenth century watercourse and a sixteenth-century stone-built well. The watercourse proved to be circa 26' (8.0m) wide by 3'3" (1.0m) deep and had been recut three times in the fifteenth and sixteenth century (Lindsay, 1977, 24).
7. Further work to the north of the High Street (NJ 213 628) revealed a series of four property boundary fences dating from the thirteenth to the fifteenth centuries. Some thirty cess pits of similar date contained well preserved environmental evidence. Structural evidence recovered from the site included a fourteenth-century oak barrel well, and a sixteenth-century timber build soak away with pegged mortice and tenon joints, eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural trenches approximately 2'7" (0.8m) wide, overlay most of the area examined. The site was completely waterlogged (Lindsay, 1977, 24).

No securely stratified artifactual or structural evidence-capable of providing a chronological framework had been recovered from the burgh until the recent exploratory excavations outlined above. The finds listed below do, however, provide some indication of the time span during which the site of the burgh has been occupied.

1. An early Christian cross slab probably dating from the ninth century AD., was discovered in 1823 during repairs to the High Street, in what was previously the churchyard of St. Giles. The stone, known as the Elgin Pillar, lay horizontally 2' (0.6m) below the surface, north-east of the old church (NJ 21596 6285). The stone was of granite, 6" (1.8m) long by 2'6" (0.76m) wide by 1' (0.3m) thick and was incomplete. The faces were inscribed respectively with Pictish symbols, and a cross with interlace decoration (Mackintosh, 1914, 76; Shaw, 1882, II, 3).
2. A hoard of gold coins was discovered in Elgin in 1759 (NJ 2162). No further information available (Lindsay, 1845, 260).
3. A hoard of gold coins was recovered in the burgh in 1772. No exact find spot is known, and the present whereabouts of the hoard is uncertain. (op.cit).
4. An Alexandrian coin of Galerius was found in a garden in Elgin (NJ 2162). The exact find spot and present whereabouts of the coin are not known (Robertson, 1960-61, 146).
5. A medieval sign in the form of a corroded iron chi rho 6" (0.15m) by 4" (0.10m) was found behind the museum in Elgin (NJ 218 630),

where it is now incorporated in the museum collection (Keillar, 1971, 30).

6. A fifteenth-sixteenth century jug was recovered intact from a well 33' (10.0m) deep in South College Street in 1977. This fabric is thought to have been produced locally between 1350 and 1700. The vessel is in the collection of the Elgin Museum.
7. A bronze tripod ewer was discovered 2'6" (0.76m) below the surface of the High Street during excavation work in 1922. It is thought to date from the fifteenth century and is at present held in the Elgin Museum.

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

##### Early Settlement:

The burgh was built on a low ridge of land running east-west and sloping to the south. It is protected on the west, north and east by the River Lossie, and on the south by a moss. The conical natural hillock at the west end of the present town defended by the Lossie to the north and the marshes to the south, obviously provided an ideal site for an early fortification. It was most probably this which provided the initial stimulus to settlement. The majority of the artifactual and structural evidence recovered from the burgh at present either in the form of chance finds or as a result of excavation provide no chronological indicators from a secure stratigraphical context earlier than the thirteenth century. Excavations to the rear of the High Street frontage (NJ 213 628) have produced pottery of this date (see page 17 ) which suggests that, the High Street was laid out eastwards from the castle at this date. The discovery of the 'Elgin Pillar' (see page 17 ) raises the interesting question of the possibility of an early ecclesiastical settlement on the site of the burgh. The stone was recumbent when found, and damaged, and could possibly have been brought in from elsewhere, there is no corroborative evidence for a church earlier than the twelfth century here. The history of the settlement before the reign of David I therefore, is obscure, but it was in all probability a king's burgh by that time, as David's charter to the Priory of Urquhart (1125-1150) refers to 'mei burgi de Elgn'. The prosperity of the burgh is suggested at that time also by the payment of the sum of twenty shillings from its revenue and its waters to the monks of Urquhart (Shaw, 1882, III, 64). By the thirteenth century, Elgin was a well established centre of royal authority

with a flourishing community of merchants and artisans (Cant, 1976, 5), was one of the most important towns in Scotland, and was chosen as the new seat of the Bishopric of Moray in 1224. The subsequent expansion of the burgh is discussed on page 21. Research is needed into documentary sources in conjunction with a continued policy of trial excavation as sites become available, to attempt to establish the earliest possible date for the initial settlement of the burgh, and to provide evidence of its economic and social development.

#### The Town Walls and Ports

The town was an established settlement with royal connections as early as the twelfth century (see page 18 ) but was never a walled town in the military sense. Some writers have speculated that the burgh limits may have been defined initially by an earthen rampart and timber palisade, such as that required to be built at Inverness in 1179 (Mackintosh, 1914, 174; Cant, 1976, 4). There is, however, no material evidence to support this hypothesis. The foot of the High Street burgages were in the later medieval period, and until very recently, marked by a succession of garden dykes. These dykes served to define the limits of the burgh along Blackfriars Road and North Lane to the north, and South Street and Greyfriars Street to the south. Fragments of the subsequent replacements of the medieval dykes are still to be seen on the south side of Blackfriars Road (NJ 213 629), although they have largely been removed by redevelopment. The burgh records place great emphasis on controlling access to the burgh via the ports, and entries in this document illustrate measures adopted, for example, in 1585 and 1600, to preserve Elgin from the plague. This would imply that the ports were the weakest point in town security, and that the burgage dykes coupled with secure gates at the common close were an efficient barrier to illegal access to the town, channelling social and commercial traffic through the ports. Neither documentary or archaeological evidence has been forthcoming to provide an initial date for the enclosure of the burgh, or the subsequent form taken by the walls, and this must remain a matter for conjecture. It is, however, reasonably certain that they followed the course outlined above.

Four ports provided entry to the medieval burgh. The west and east ports were probably the primary entrances to the town prior to its expansion eastwards (see below). The West Port stood across the High Street (NJ 2119 6270) until 1783, when, according to the burgh

records, it was illegally removed by the owner of an adjacent property, West Park, which stood on the site now occupied by the post office. The stones from the port were used to build the garden walls of this mansion (Young, 1879, 221). In his discussion of the development of the town plan of Elgin, Cant (1976, 9) suggests that the site occupied by the east port at the time of demolition about 1795 (NJ 212 6282) was secondary, a result of the expansion of the town eastwards towards the cathedral at some time before the fifteenth century. If this was the case, the earlier port must have stood to the east of the old parish church where the High Street narrowed (circa NJ 2172 6287). There is, at present, however, no evidence, either documentary or archaeological for this shift in position. An east port of the burgh is mentioned as early as 1242 (Shaw, 1882, III, 66), but with no indication as to site. As a consequence of the expansion eastwards, Cant also argues for the creation of the north and south ports to control access to the burgh from Lossie Wynd and Moss Wynd respectively. The north port in Lossie Wynd (NJ 2169 6295) was demolished in 1787. Some mention of the structure is made in the burgh records, as for example in 1708, when it is reported in the minutes as in need of repair (Cramond, 1903, I, 373).

The South or School Port stood at the head of Commerce Street (NJ 2172 6278). Its condition had apparently deteriorated in 1745 when it was described in the burgh records as 'in danger of falling', and a committee of inspection was appointed to conduct a survey. The town council minutes for June 1792 record a decision to take down the east and School Ports and instruct the magistrates 'to see the same done and two side pillars erected at each of them, and if any stones remain, to dispose of the same by public roup' (Cramond, 1903, I, 501). It was not until July 1795, however, that the council finally agreed that the School or South Port should be demolished as an obstruction to traffic, with a further directive that the materials of the School Port, and those of the East Port should be used towards the proposed repairs to the court house and 'the monument of St. Giles to be placed in the notch on the south side of the Tolbooth' (Cramond, 1903, I, 503).

The western part of the town was burnt in the fifteenth century, and it was probably necessary at that time to restore the walls and ports. Nothing is known of the design of the gates, but measures taken to secure the burgh against the infiltration of infected persons during outbreaks of plague in the late sixteenth century and early seventeenth



century, suggest that by this time at least, no very strong measures were taken to exclude access. Entries in the burgh records in 1585 refer to the 'bigging ye wynds with faillis' (turf) and 'bigging and up-pitting the east and west ports'. In 1600, a number of items were paid for 'bigging up' the east and west ports. The north and south ports were also closed up with 'faillis' as were the wynds.

Any future attention to roads and services proposed for the sites stated above could be usefully monitored in the hope of confirming the site and establishing the structural nature of the town ports.

### The Town Plan

The medieval single street plan of Elgin with its attendant back lanes and burgages axial to the early castle, is still very clear despite extensive modern development.

The High Street running east-west was the main focus of early settlement. To the north, the foot of the burgages belonging to the High Street properties were defined by Blackfriars Road and North Lane, on the east by Lossie Wynd and Moss Street, on the south by South Street, and on the west along a line indicated by the position of the west port (NJ 2119 6270) from South Street to the castle. South Street has almost certainly existed since the fourteenth century, as reference is made in 1363 to a road 'behind the gardens on the south side of the town' (Mackintosh, 1914, 174). This plan survived until the fourteenth century, when the pressures of an increased population led to an expansion of the burgh limits eastwards from Lossie Wynd towards the cathedral, though Cant (1976, 9) suggests that the little cross (NJ 2190 6286) first erected in 1402, may have originated as the market cross of a settlement dependent on the cathedral, as at Old Aberdeen. There is, however, no proof of this, and by the fifteenth century the area had become absorbed into the burgh. This eastward expansion probably involved some alteration to the existing street plan. Cant (1976, 9) puts forward the theory that for security reasons, the street now known as Commerce Street was diverted slightly west of its original line which may previously have been directed straight through to Lossie Wynd.

It was not until the nineteenth century that any further known additions or alterations were made to the street plan of the burgh. About 1800, Thunderton House (NJ 2151 6279) occupied seven burgher tenements, through which were inserted Batchen Street, between High Street and South Street,

Thunderton Place, and the forecourt of the house towards the High Street was built over, as was the backland running parallel with Batchen Street. In 1820, an attempt was made to improve access from the north to the centre of town, and North Street was inserted into the plan joining Blackfriars Road with the High Street west of the parish church. The frontages of this new street were largely constructed between 1820 and 1826, and included the assembly rooms (1821-22) (Cant, 1976, 17).

Blackfriars Wynd now Murdoch's Wynd and one of the original medieval burgh streets, was widened in 1894, a process which involved the removal of some buildings on the west side, and which also encroached on the castle mound.

It was in the later nineteenth century that considerable building took place in the burgh to the north and south of the High Street burgages. The map of Elgin in 1832 (R.B.S. 1832) shows little development on either Blackfriars Road or South Street, and similarly the area to the south-west of the castle north of South Street, had no significant development before the nineteenth century. In 1935, a more recent phase in redevelopment is entered with the eastern entrance to the town along South College Street being considerably widened, involving the demolition of some property. About this time also, the grounds of South College, then enclosed by a wall, underwent council housing development which also involved street widening (Seton, 1980, 5).

A new by-pass scheme, has recently been developed which has greatly altered the east and west extremities of the burgh. A new road and roundabout has caused the demolition of much old property below the castle hill at the west end of the High Street (NJ 212 627) (see map 2). The new carriageway and car parks now occupy much of the backland north of the High Street, and the associated demolition has led to the destruction of many of the old closes and disruption and truncation of the old routes into the burgh such as Murdoch's Wynd and North Street.

An integral part of the plan of the burgh are the rigs or backland associated with each frontage property on the High Street. These rigs varied in width, in Elgin they averaged some ten paces, and Cant (1976, 4) has calculated that there may have been a total of circa 100 tenements in the early burgh of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Although there is presently no reason to suppose that the boundary at

the foot of the burgages has changed on the north side of the town, the fickle nature of the course of the Lossie, has given rise to some speculation that there has been a variation in the boundaries of the other town properties to the north of the gardens.

#### Early Buildings and Materials

Although exploratory excavations in the burgh in the 1970s prior to redevelopment produced evidence of medieval settlement dating back to the thirteenth century, this investigation was carried out chiefly in the burgages associated with the High Street fronting properties, and no early structural remains were found which could be identified as dwelling houses (see page 17). The High Street frontage was extensively rebuilt in the nineteenth century on both the north and south, and although some buildings as early as the seventeenth century survive near the Little Cross, the majority of the immediately post-medieval buildings were removed by the turn of the century. The cartographic evidence, however, coupled with the position of the extant seventeenth century frontages suggests that the street width has remained constant at least since that time. Some cellarage and basement premises are apparent on the High Street (see map 2) and this may have affected the survival of archaeological levels on the frontages. The evidence of excavations in the backlands suggests that waterlogging has played an important part in preserving environmental evidence and timber, but how far these sub-soil conditions extend up the slope is not certain. Some redevelopment is proposed for the High Street frontage, and preliminary investigation here would prove of great value in assessing the productivity of these and immediately adjacent sites.

Pre-sixteenth century buildings in Elgin, as elsewhere in Scotland, were most probably of timber. Several grades of dwelling are described in deeds listed in the Register of Moray, as 'mansions, edifices, huts and booths or bothies' (Shaw, 1882, III, 67). The growth of the burgh in the fifteenth century brought about a marked change in the building pattern. Stone became the dominant building material from that time forward. The sites of a number of sixteenth century houses are known. Close by the museum (NJ 2191 6289) stood the town house of the Marquis of Huntly, which is referred to in the burgh records as early as 1540. In 1896, during extensions of the museum buildings, foundations probably associated with this structure were found (Mackintosh, 1914, 24). A little to the north of this building, although the exact site is not known, stood the town house of Mackenzie, Laird of Pluscarden, probably

built after 1595. Slezer's view of Elgin shows two juxtaposed tower houses which it can be assumed are the houses in question (Slezer, 1693, plate 36).

Previously adjoining the east side of Braco's banking house (NJ 2187 6287) was the town house of the Cummings of Lochtervanich, built in 1576. This building was removed when the British Legion Club was rebuilt in the nineteenth century (Seton, 1980) though the gable scar can still be seen on the east side of the seventeenth century Braco's house. Elchies house, built in 1670 for the Cummings of Lochtervanich, was situated on the site of 164 High Street (NJ 2143 6279). This building was demolished in 1845 and the site rebuilt. Calder House, reputedly built in 1669, was demolished in 1822 to allow the erection of the Assembly Rooms. The site was again redeveloped in 1970 with commercial premises and is unavailable for investigation.

Although only a small proportion of seventeenth century building survive in Elgin, it should be borne in mind that present facades can conceal earlier structural traces. Two examples can be given from the burgh. The White Horse Inn dates from the seventeenth century, though the High Street frontage has been reconstructed (Seton, 1980, 23). Opposite Old Seceder's Close, the facade of the former Commercial Bank of Scotland building was taken down and rebuilt in 1852 when it was acquired by the bank (Mackintosh, 1914, 187).

The remaining notable former building in the burgh, the old tolbooth of Elgin, stood to the west of the church approximately where the fountain now stands (NJ 2154 6284). There are no certain records of the early tolbooths. That serious repairs were carried out circa 1571 is suggested by the Burgh Court Book which implies that the burgh court met in the 'queur of the parochie kirk' until 1576 when the tolbooth was again functioning. This sixteenth century structure was in all probability of timber and thatch, as an entry in the burgh records at the turn of the sixteenth century refers to, 'Item £3 6s 8d for fog to thack the tolbooth' (MacGibbon & Ross, 1892, V, 99). By 1602, this old building was apparently ruinous and a contract was entered into 'to big ane sufficient tolbeith, within the said burgh quhair the auld tolbeith thereof presently stands, of threescore futtis length, twenty futtis of braid and wideness' (Mackintosh, 1914, 194). The new tolbooth was completed by 1605, built in stone taken from the kirkyard dyke of St. Giles and 'sclaited wt stanes frae dolass' (op.cit.). This building survived until 1702 when it was damaged by fire, however, the

tower probably survived as it appears older in surviving graphic evidence than the rebuilding of 1716. The site was cleared in 1843 as part of an improvement scheme for this part of the town and because of the general inadequacy of the facilities it provided. Whether any trace of this building survives is uncertain. The site is now a raised, paved area, but any future work on services in the general area may provide opportunities to assess the degree of survival of archaeological deposits.

Evidence as to the usage of early town buildings and backlands other than as dwellings is still limited. Gregory the builder was in Elgin in 1287 and Carpenters were sent by the Sheriff of Elgin in 1262 to Caithness to erect a new hall and wardrobe room for King Alexander III (Shaw, 1882, III, 68-69). In the fourteenth century, the Register of Moray makes reference to 'Osbert and Henry, smiths or armourers' and 'Richard, William and Thomas, glaziers' Brice the tailor, James the shoemaker and John the Fuller, were also operating in the burgh at that time.

Candlemaking was a profitable industry before the introduction of gas in 1830 and 'Candillmakeris' are first mentioned in the burgh in 1540 (Mackintosh, 1914, 11). In the seventeenth century the burgh had a considerable export trade in beer. Sixteenth century records (1547) mention complaints concerning the 'tasters of ale', and by 1687, there were eighty private brewers in Elgin exporting to Holland, Norway and the Baltic sea ports. There were consequently a large number of malt kilns in the burgh in the eighteenth century. These were approximately 100' (30.4m) long stone built and slated with a deep stone hough for water and a thick blue clay floor, only one remained in Greyfriars Street with part of another incorporated in an old garden wall at the rear of the drill hall. With the decline of the brewing trade, the kilns subsequently housed the looms of linen weavers.

The survival of archaeological evidence of the existence of these industries depends largely on the prevailing soil conditions and the processes involved in manufacture. Recent excavations in the burgh have shown waterlogged conditions to the north of the High Street favourable to the preservation of organic materials. Evidence of metalworking has also been forthcoming at NJ 213 623 (see page 16 ). Present indications are therefore favourable to the future identification of artifactual and structural evidence to corroborate the historical documentation of trades flourishing in the burgh.

### The Parish Church of St. Giles

The discovery of a Pictish symbol stone within the confines of the kirkyard in 1823, raises some questions as to the antiquity of the site. There was no urban tradition amongst the Picts and the presence of the stone is not necessarily indicative of continuity of settlement. Two other alternatives present themselves, either the stone was brought from elsewhere, or an early Christian centre existed somewhere in the vicinity of the burgh. There is, however, currently no evidence to clarify this issue.

A parish church of Elgin has occupied a central position in the High Street (NJ 2159 6285) at least since the late twelfth century. It is probably the church of Elgin (Ecclesium de Elgyn) referred to in a charter of William the Lion between 1189 and 1199. Although there are no recorded dimensions of this early church, it appears from description to have consisted of a nave of five bays, with north and south aisles, short transepts and a choir crowned at the crossing by a low tower with a saddle roof (Cant and Lindsay, 1946, 14). The twelfth century church was burned in the raid by the Wolf of Badenoch in 1390, but the structure does not appear to have been badly affected, and the restored church survived subsequent raids in 1402 and 1452 apparently without damage. In 1679, however, the roof of heavy free-stone slabs fell in, and extensive repair work had been carried out by 1684 involving the restoration of the upper part of the west gable, and re-roofing the building (Mackintosh, 1914, 201). The fabric then stood until the early eighteenth century without interference. Between 1700 and 1740, the transepts were removed to allow widening of the High Street and further contraction of the building occurred in 1800 with the demolition of the Chancel or Little Kirk, (partitioned off from the main building in 1621). The stones from this part of the church were reputedly used in the construction of the Old Academy.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, therefore, only the nave and tower of the old church remained, and these too were cleared in 1826 to make way for the present building. The kirkyard which had been associated with the church since the twelfth century was also removed in 1826. It appears to have served a dual function, as both the town burial ground, and the market place alluded to in 1365 (Shaw, 1882, III, 67). Burial in the kirkyard was discontinued about the first half of the seventeenth century, but the site apparently continued

to be maintained, as the Kirk Session Records contain several notices between 1596 and 1625 recording the rebuilding and repair of the kirkyard dyke. Intensive burial over a period of about six hundred years meant that the interior of the old church, and the kirkyard were highly disturbed when the church was demolished. Cartloads of human bones were transferred to the cathedral grounds or mixed with earth and carried to the outskirts of the town and used as a dressing for pasture land. The gravestones were used to pave the High Street. The site was subsequently levelled and the present church constructed.

In the light of this evidence, it seems highly probably, that little or nothing remains of the early church or graveyard. However, future work either inside the present church or roadworks adjacent to the building could be usefully observed to assess the extent of survival of archaeological deposits in this general area.

#### The Cathedral Complex

The date of the creation of the Bishopric of Moray is uncertain, but it was probably in existence by c.1114 or c.1120 when a Bishop first appears in the documentary record. The bishopric originally had its cathedral at Spynie but was removed to Elgin in 1224. The new site was not within the then boundaries of the town, but incorporated the church of the Holy Trinity to the north-east of the burgh referred to both in the bull of Pope Honorius III and the Charter of Alexander II as 'Sancte Trinitatis juxta Elgyn' (Mackintosh, 1914, 199). The subsequent history of the cathedral is discussed on page 7, the most significant events archaeologically include the burning of the church together with eighteen houses of the canons and chaplains of the cathedral college in 1390, the subsequent rebuilding in the fifteenth century, and the abandonment of the site at the Reformation.

There are three basic components of the Cathedral Complex, the Cathedral Kirk itself, the so-called Bishop's lodging, together with the buildings described as the 'College of the Chanonrie' consisting of the dwellings of the cathedral dignitaries and prebendaries, and the precinct wall and gates which enclosed the whole complex.

The cathedral remains are still extant. Originally the building consisted of a quire and presbytery, a crossing surmounted by a tower, north and south transepts, an aisled nave and two massive west towers. Soon after its completion, in the thirteenth century, the three east bays of the south aisle of the nave were extended southwards. In 1270, the cathedral was burned and subsequently rebuilt to achieve the present

dimensions. The chapter house was added at this time (NJ 2221 6307) (Richardson and Mackintosh, 1950, 4). In 1390, the cathedral was once again burned and restored in the early fifteenth century. In 1506, the centre 'steeple' of the restored church collapsed, rebuilding work was begun in 1507 by Bishop Foreman, but this work was still not complete in 1538 (Shaw, 1882. III, 281). After the middle of the sixteenth century, the structural history of the Cathedral is one of steady decline. An act of the Privy Council, 1567-8 orders lead to be taken from the cathedral churches of Aberdeen and Elgin, which would imply that the building was no longer watertight. It appears, however, to have suffered little serious structural damage at the Reformation. An English man who visited Elgin in 1618 describes the cathedral as ' a faire and beautiful church with three steeples all yet standing, but the roofs, windowes and many marble monuments and tombs...all broken and defaced' (Richardson and Mackintosh, 1950, 6). In 1711, the central tower (visible in Slezer's prospect) collapsed destroying also the north transept and the nave (Mackintosh, 1914, 68). The cathedral was extensively quarried after this date and it was not until a keeper was appointed in 1825 that any attempt was made to preserve the site. Unfortunately the well-meaning attempt to define the remains probably destroyed some of the archaeological levels. Most of the 2,866 barrowfuls of rubbish removed were dumped in the Order Pot (NJ 2260 6277) an abandoned stretch of the River Lossie (Mackintosh, 1914, 69).

The cathedral is under the protection of the Secretary of State for Scotland and is not under threat. However, any future restoration work could usefully be monitored to confirm and define the structural history of the site.

The manses of the chapter of secular canons were grouped around the cathedral within the precinct wall. Little now remains of the buildings which houses these cathedral dignitaries. The so-called 'Bishop's Palace' which may in fact have been the Precentor's Manse (Cant and Lindsay, 1946, 11) still stands (NJ 2211 6309) by the cathedral, and probably dates from the late sixteenth century. North College, formerly the Deanery or 'Manse of Inverkeithing' (NJ 2208 6315) is much altered but probably medieval, the oldest part being the north wing. The South College (NJ 2223 6297) incorporates part of the vaulted understorey of the Archdeacon's Manse. The present South College is otherwise a modern private residence, with no external signs of antiquity.



The manses of the canons mirror the history of the cathedral. According to Fordun's Scotichron, they were burned in 1270 and 1390, rebuilt in the fifteenth century, and after the Reformation, were occupied as private dwellings (Mackintosh, 1914, 44). Six manses reputedly stood in the grounds of the college, and the remainder on the south side of North College Street. What is now King Street also appears to have been occupied by Manses, one of the last to be demolished being the Unthank Manse which stood at the west corner of King Street and North College Street and was demolished in 1884. This was built to an L-shaped plan, and enclosed within high walls. Duffus manse occupied a site on the east side of King Street opposite Unchank House. Again built to an L-plan, the manse was enclosed by high walls with an arched gateway giving access to a small courtyard. It was demolished in 1829. The original Duffus manse was built by John de Spalding, Canon of Duffus, probably as early as the thirteenth century, and accommodated a number of royal guests. In the sixteenth century, a new manse was built on the site of the old (Wyness, 1944, 28).

Little now remains of the manses. Cant and Lindsay (1946, 11) record a vaulted fragment immediately to the east of the cathedral which is thought to represent the basement of a canon manse. The Elgin Brewery was built in 1784 between the Pan Port and the cathedral. Rebuilt after a fire in 1898, the buildings were finally demolished in 1912 when they were acquired by the town (Seton, 1980, 4). The manse of Petty is said to have stood on the brewers site, (Mackintosh, 1914, 115), and remains of a vaulted chamber, long used as a beer cellar are recorded in nineteenth century courses. King Street has been largely rebuilt, though extensive garden areas remain. The erstwhile cathedral precincts have been improved for their amenity value and are not likely to be appreciatively altered by redevelopment. However, future repair to existing buildings and services may allow the examination and assessment of underlying deposits in terms of their archaeological potential.

The cathedral and its associated buildings were enclosed within a stone wall approximately 12' (3.6m) high and 6' (1.8m) broad, extending approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile (1km) from the River Lossie south-west to Collie Street and then north across the back of the Deanery to the Lossie (see map 3). This wall was punctuated at four points by gates leading into the precinct from a paved street which followed the external perimeter (Mackintosh, 1914, 118). Of these four gates, only the Pan Port (NJ 2231 6297) much restored in 1857, remains, though the sites of the

other three are said by one authority to have been respectively, spanning North College Street between the Little Cross and the Museum (NJ 2191 6287); to the rear of the Bishop's Palace (circa NJ 220 630); and to the south, virtually opposite the 'Bede House' in South College Street (Mackintosh, 1914, 118). The Pan Port and a short adjoining section of wall apart, some fragments of the enclosing wall still survive. An angled fragment of masonry at NJ 2227 6284, standing 8' 10" (2.7m) high by 6' 7" (2.0m) thick by 28' (8.5m) long defines the direction of the wall to the south-east. At present included in a housing estate, opportunities to investigate this area are limited. (Mackintosh, (1914, 127) identified a fragment of the precinct wall to the rear of 36, South College Street, an identification verified by Cant (1954, 13). This building has however, been demolished to make way for the recently completed ring road.

The foundation course of the wall may still be tracable to the west and east of the cathedral, and any future improvements may make it possible to examine the extrapolated line.

#### The Dominican Friary

The early history of the Dominican or Blackfriar's house in Elgin is obscure. It is thought to have been founded between 1233 and 1235 by Alexander II, and was certainly in existence by 1285 in which year 'five chalders of victual' are recorded as having been granted to the Friars by Alexander III (Cowan and Easson, 1976, 118). The revenues of the Maison Dieu were granted to the Dominicans in 1520 and thereafter there are few historical mentions of the house. The small community which remained at the Reformation was probably disbanded when the lands and revenues were gifted to the Dunbar family, a gift which was confirmed by the crown in 1570-71.

The site of the Friary as marked by the Ordnance Survey (NJ 2117 6295) is approximate (see map 3 ). It certainly appears to have occupied part of the 'Borrowbriggs' (lands which extended from the north side of Blackfriars Street to the Lossie) north of the castle. Personal correspondence from 1851 states that in 1838, a Mr. Robert Grigor recollected having seen ruins of the buildings at the west end of the Borough Briggs, south of a lake (stank) formed by the flood of the River Lossie. Certainly the oldest title deeds of property on the north side of the town describe land there as bounded by the 'stank' of the Blackfriars entered by the River Lossie when in flood (Mackintosh,

1914, 180). On the other hand, in a letter written in 1789 contained in the Hutton Manuscripts, it is claimed that in 1750, the Blackfriars buildings and burying place were 'rased and made arable ground' (Mackintosh, 1914, 133). In the course of this work, it is recorded, many coins, rings, seals and silver spoons were discovered, but subsequently sold in Edinburgh. This suggests that only foundations could have actually been seen in 1838. The Friary appears to have been a substantial property. Mentions in the seventeenth century refer to the buildings as consisting of 'a manor place, houses, biggins, yards, orchards etc.'. No trace of this complex, however, now remains. Excavations within the last ten years (see page 16 ) have recovered from the reputed site of the Dominican Friary stank (NJ 212 629) a number of skeletons. It is not possible to positively identify this burial ground with that of the Friary, especially as the excavator considers the date of deposition to be seventeenth century. However, there is no reason why the Friar's cemetery could not have continued in use after the Reformation. There are unconfirmed traditions that the gravestones were used as building materials for the houses at Bishop Mill in 1750 (Mackintosh, 1914, 180).

#### The Franciscan Friary

The Franciscan Greyfriars are thought to have occupied two different sites in the burgh. The first was an incomplete foundation of Friars Minor, Charter evidence from the reign of Alexander III suggests that the Friars were established in Elgin by the late thirteenth century. The charter was undated, but one of the signatories, Bishop Robert of Ross died about 1273, therefore the grant must have been made before that date. Similarly, it cannot have been made earlier than 1253, the date of consecration of Archibald, Bishop of Moray (Anon, n.d. 46). Whatever the date of foundation, however, an endowment was made to the house about 1281 by William, Earl of Ross, who granted certain lands for the upkeep of the Friars Minor 'who for the time or in the future may be in occupation of their house in Elgin beside the cathedral' (Cowan and Easson, 1976, 127). A proviso of this grant dictated that should the Friars not take up residence, or did not remain on the site, the income of the lands was to revert to the support of two chaplains in the cathedral. As this latter alternative was adopted, the occupation of the site by the Friars Minor must have been temporary. At what date this abandonment took place is not certain. The entry in the chartulary of Elgin Cathedral concerning the raid by

the Wolf of Badenoch in 1390 makes no mention of any destruction of the Greyfriars buildings, which could mean that they were either unaffected by the raid, or alternatively, that they were no longer occupied. However, documentary sources claim that the buildings were ruinous by the early fifteenth century and were removed by Bishop John Innes (1407-1414) (Anon, n.d. 46).

The site of this early foundation was known in the nineteenth century as occupying the south side of the High Street, in the garden of the early nineteenth century Dunfermline cottage (NJ 2188 6282) (Shaw, 1882, 26). Here, foundations and vaults were to be seen. The only survival of the house of the Friars Minor was a stone dove cot which is recorded as in the ownership of Thomas Young, burgess of Elgin in 1538. Although there is also a confusing reference to 'buildings' in the same reference, this may simply have applied to the foundations. In the first half of the nineteenth century, the dovecot appears to have been demolished, and its stones used to build 'substantial walls' around the garden of Dunfermline Cottage. The site has now unfortunately been redeveloped and opportunities for future investigation will be limited.

By the late fifteenth century, the community of Friars, by now known as Observantines, had transferred to a new site. There is some doubt as to the date of foundation of this new house. Tradition alleges an endowment by John Innes of Innes in 1479, which is rejected by Cowan and Easson (1976, 13) on the grounds of the uncertainty of the corroborative evidence, (a spurious bull of Pope Sixtus IV allegedly confirming the foundation by Innes). These two writers consider it far more likely that the Observantine House was either one of two or three houses sanctioned by Sixtus IV in 1481-82, or alternatively, it may not have been erected until the reign of King James IV to whom the foundation has also been attributed (op.cit.). The community had, however, become ensconced by 1494 as a payment to the Friars is recorded between 1494 and 1495. At the Reformation, the buildings became the property of the burgh and the Friars were dispersed. From 1563, the Friary was used as a Court of Justice, and thereafter continued in secular hands, the buildings gradually becoming ruinous. The church was substantially rebuilt in 1896 having again come into the possession of the church in 1891. The conventual buildings clustered round a court to the south of the church, were rebuilt on the old foundations and incorporate some fragments of the old friary. (Cant and Lindsay, 1946, 14).

The Friary is situated to the south of Greyfriars Street (NJ 2194 6273) outwith the limits of the old burgh. Whether any archaeological levels remain undisturbed despite the late nineteenth century restoration is not known, though as indicated above, the foundations of the fifteenth century buildings should be tracable incorporated in the present fabric. Any future proposed alterations or attention to services within the present convent could usefully be monitored to establish the degree of survival of early deposits.

#### The Maison Dieu

The Maison Dieu at Elgin was founded by Andrew, Bishop of Moray about 1237. A reference is made in the Hutton Manuscripts to an agreement dated 1237 between Bishop Andrew and the brothers and sisters of the Domus Dei of Elgin in which they are to have the Bishop's lands at Munben, this would appear to confirm a foundation date or or before 1237.

The house stood on the south side of the Fochabers Road outside the east port of the burgh, and is described in the Chartulary of Moray as 'near the Taok brook and the Leper House of Elgin, providing for the entertainment of strangers, and the maintenance of the poor and infirm' (Mackintosh, 1914, 123).

Historically, the hospital is known to have been burned together with the cathedral and several buildings in the burgh by the 'Wolf of Badenoch' in 1390. It was, however, rebuilt and occurs in the documentary sources in 1394 where it is described as the 'domus dei' near the walls of Elgin., (Cowan and Easson, 1976, 179). References continue through the fifteenth century, but in 1445, it is said to have been 'long void and wont to be assigned to secular clerks as a perpetual benefice, though originally founded for the maintenance of poor brothers and sisters' (op.cit.). In 1520, James, Bishop of Moray, granted the house and its revenues to the Blackfriars of Elgin. The house may, however, have been maintained through the sixteenth century as a poors house. Between 1561 and 1572, records indicate payments made to three bedesmen, who presumably occupied the hospital buildings. The implications are, however, that subsequent to the Reformation, the house and revenues were in secular hands, certainly the associated preceptory was granted to Robert Douglas in 1567, and James VI granted the hospital to the provost and council of Elgin in 1594/5 to provide for the poor. This latter grant in recompense for the secular misuse

of revenues from the house since the Reformation, suggests by its wording that the buildings were still occupied (Cowan and Easson, 1976, 179; Shaw, 1882, III, 205). The charter making this grant was confirmed in 1620, but the house appears to have been abandoned shortly afterwards as a new 'Bede House' for the support of four poor men was erected on the south side of South College Street in 1624 financed by the Maison Dieu revenues (Mackintosh, 1914, 126).

No trace now remains of the preceptory, hospital and chapel of the Maison Dieu. The Ordnance Survey place the site of the chapel at NJ 2232 6262 (O.S. Record Card NJ 26 SW 12), 'in the centre of Maison Dieu Park, south of Easton House (Mackintosh, 1914, 123). In 1838, folk memory recalled the east gable of this building with a large Gothic window, but as reported in the Scots magazine on Wednesday 20th January, 1773, the walls of the old chapel were blown down by 'a dreadful hurricane' (Mackintosh, 1914, 124). Shaw (1882, 207) claimed that some foundations were visible in the latter part of the nineteenth century which had been eradicated at the time he was writing, he also mentions a scheme to enclose and plant the site with shrubs, against any further disturbance. However, probably due to the cultivation of marginal land at the beginning of the first war, all that remained of the chapel and its associated graveyard in 1914 were a few irregularities on the ground in process of being levelled out through cultivation.

Some excavation was carried out here during the 1914-18 war, but apparently without result (O.S. Record Card NJ 26 SW 12). More recently, the site was redeveloped in the early 1960s in the course of which some skeletal remains were recovered.

The future potential of this site archaeologically does not superficially appear to be very great, however, any future work in the vicinity may provide opportunities to locate any surviving traces of the Maison Dieu buildings and associated graveyard.

#### The Leper Hospital

The exact site of the Leper Hospital of Elgin cannot now be accurately located. The Ordnance Survey (Ordnance Survey Record Card NJ 26 SW 17) place the house in the area of NJ 226 626 on the basis of Mackintosh's description of the site as discovered in the mid-nineteenth century. Trenching in 1850 on the land at that time, part of a garden nursery, led to the discovery of extensive foundations of boulders and blue clay (Mackintosh, 1914, 122). The site must have been quite

extensive as approximately 40 cartloads of material were led away. The location of the foundations within the lands of the Leper House strongly suggested that this was the site. The burial ground of the hospital seems also to have been revealed, and a number of skeletons were uncovered. Unfortunately, no plan was made of the building, and there is no record of any associated artifacts or pottery which would provide a guide to the date of the site.

Historically, little is known of the hospital, either its date of foundation or final closure. One of the first mentions occurs about 1391, when land called 'spetalflat', beside the houses of the 'Lepers of Elgin' is recorded (Cowan and Easson, 1976, 178). At a much later date, an entry in the burgh court book, dated June 1649, comments, 'William Milne resigns his Spittal croft lying betwix the king's highway that passes frae the east point of the bruch to the bridge of Barmuckatie at the South, the Channonrie crofts of the cathedral Kirk of Murray at the north, extending in lenthe frae the burne of Tayok at the east to the Lyper lands at the west' (Cramond, 1903, 185). Both are indirect references and the site would bear deeper documentary research than is possible here, particularly since destruction in the nineteenth century was in all probability total. All that can be said is that the house was functioning in the latter part of the fourteenth century, and was probably discontinued at the Reformation, though designation 'leper' remained attached to its former acres in later title deeds of adjacent properties.

### The Castle

The first mention of the Castle of Elgin occurs in a charter of Malcolm IV in granting the lands of Innes, to Berowald the Fleming in 1160. The condition of tenure of this grant was the service of 'one knight in my castle of Elgin' (Shaw, 1882, III, 80). The early importance of the site is reflected in its royal connections. Several charters were granted by William the Lion from this castle, and in the thirteenth century it provided accommodation for Alexander II. The castle suffered considerable damage in 1297 when it was taken by the Scots having been occupied by Edward I during the previous year. It was very probably dismantled at the end of the thirteenth century, as alternative accommodation for royal visitors was provided in a building in 'the King's garden on the north side of the High Street' (Cant, 1974, 3). However, some reconstruction work did take place, as further mentions are made of the castle in documentary sources

through the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries as one of the major strongholds of Scotland (Cant, 1974, 3). The circumstances of its abandonment are obscure, but it is thought to have lain derelict since the fifteenth century. The associated chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, apparently continued to function at least until 1556 after which date no more monies are recorded as having been paid to the castle chaplain.

The castle site was ideally suited to fortification. A natural conical hill of sand and gravel was probably initially occupied by an earth and timber defence, to be later (probably in the late thirteenth century) replaced by masonry structures, traces of which, are seen on the east side of the summit today (MacGibbon and Ross, 1892, V, 86).

Some excavation has been carried out on the site, though because of the confused and highly disturbed nature of the archaeological levels, no very clear conclusions have been drawn in relation to the chronology or the structural sequence of occupation. The summit has been mutilated by quarrying for building materials amongst the castle masonry, the building of a monument to the Duke of Gordon in 1839 and a later, now demolished, observatory, have deeply pitted and disturbed the site. Excavations in 1858 by the Elgin Literary and Scientific Society (see page 16 ) were according to Mackintosh (1914, 174) not carried out on a systematic basis, and must have served to further confuse the stratigraphy. More recent excavations (Macdonald, 1973, 38-39) found no positive trace of a defensive enceinte enclosing the summit or of any internal buildings (see page 16 ). The stratigraphy consisted largely of layers of sandy soil and rubble above natural glacial sand and gravel. Excavation proved that the natural profile of the hill had been altered by recent terracing which confirmed that the present surface features are not relevant to the medieval occupation of the site.

The results of the recent excavations and the surviving masonry apart, some information as to the disposition of the defences can be gleaned both from the documentary record, and the observations of nineteenth century historians. The main entrance probably stood on the west side at the top of Hill Street where the ascent is comparatively easy. Reference is made in a sasine of 1654 to the 'east port of the castle hill', located 'near the point where the road leading down to the Morrieston Ford at Black Friar's Haugh strikes off from the road



which skirts the foot of the hill on its northern side from east to west' (Shaw, 1882, III, 82). The inference here is that some defensive work enclosed the bottom of the hill. Shaw (1882, III, 83) observes that the level summit of the hill was divided by a transverse wall indicated in the late nineteenth century by a trench running north-east - south-west. The western area was occupied by the foundations of numerous buildings. The east enclosure contained the remains of the keep which are still visible. These observations are a purely visual interpretation without the support of archaeological investigation, and identify with the disturbed appearance of the summit today. Although recent excavations suggest that little undisturbed evidence survives on the summit, the lower slopes of the hill remain. The south side has recently been cleared in preparation for redevelopment, the earlier property here appears to have been cut back into the slope at both NJ 212 627, and NJ 211 627 and deposits here may have been truncated. However, despite the possible interference of a road cut along the slope on the west, north and east of the hill, traces may survive of early defences.

Considering the early importance of this site and the paucity of material evidence recovered from it, any future opportunities to establish the degree of survival of archaeological levels on the slope and at the base of the hill should not be neglected.

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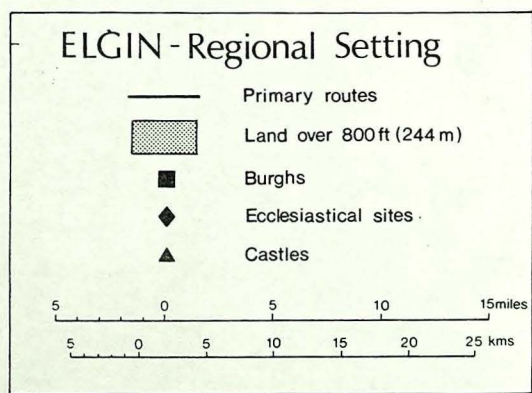
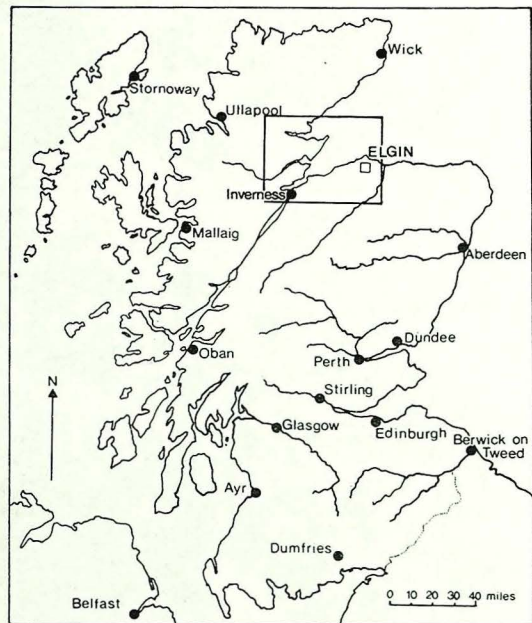
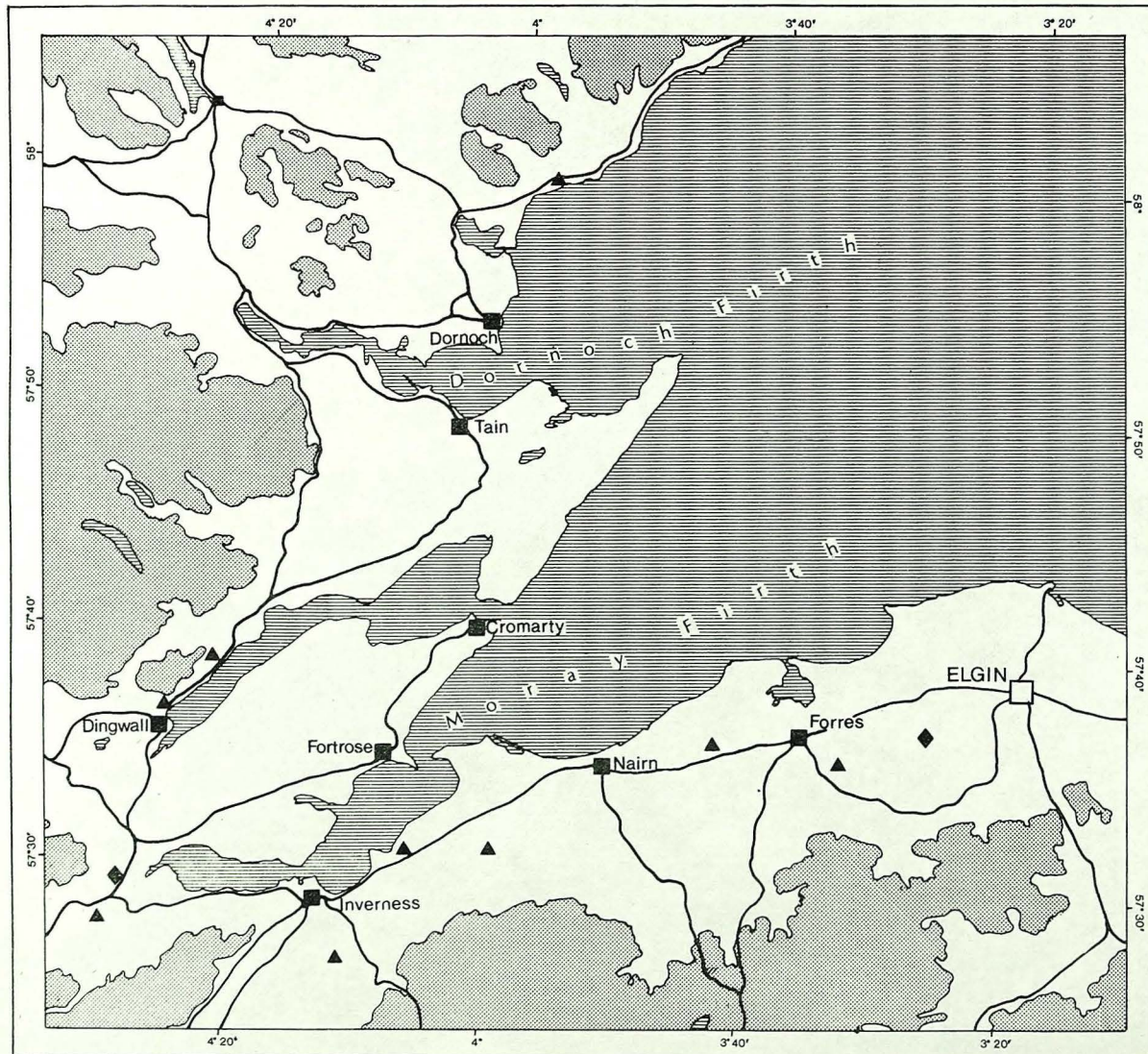
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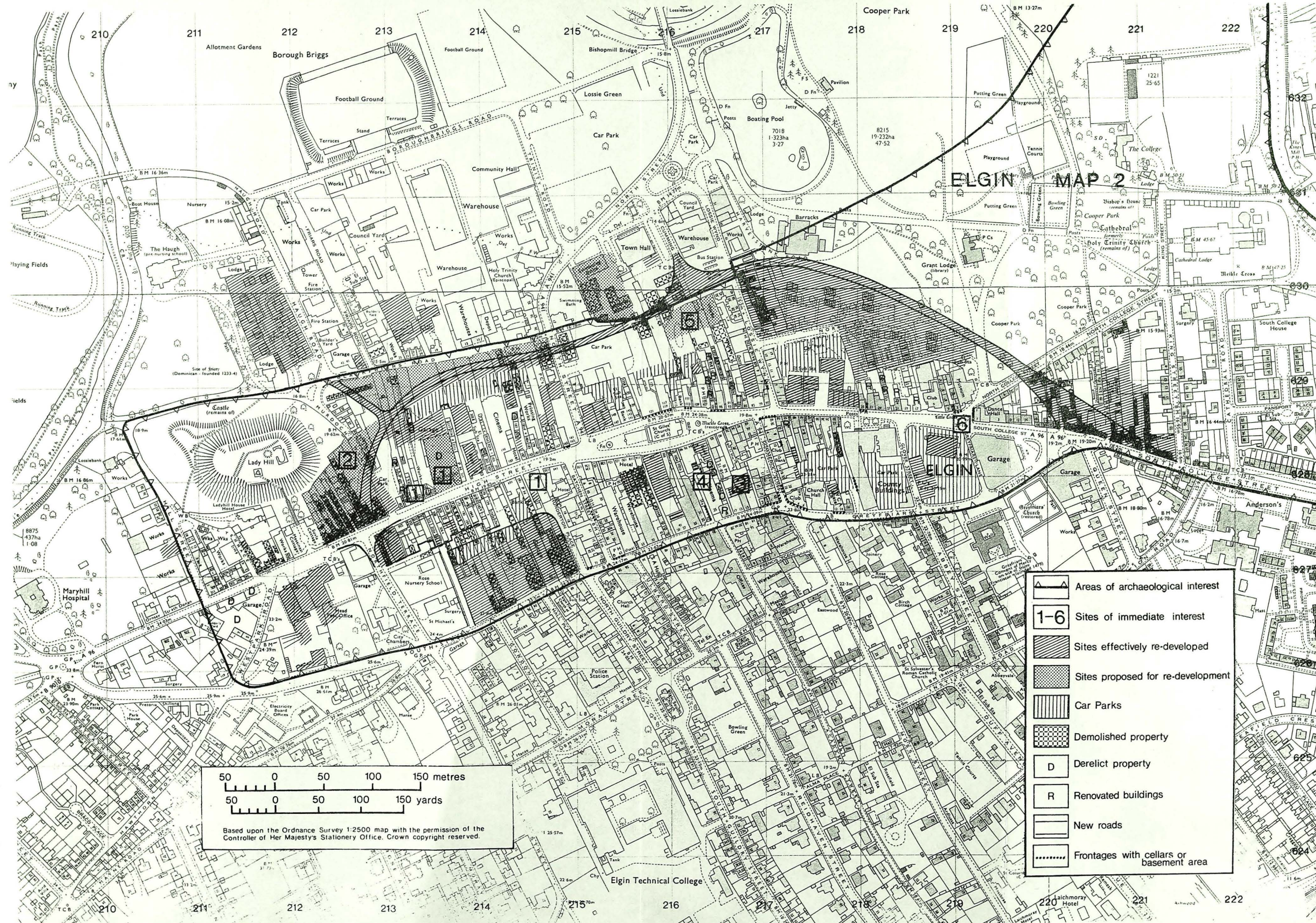
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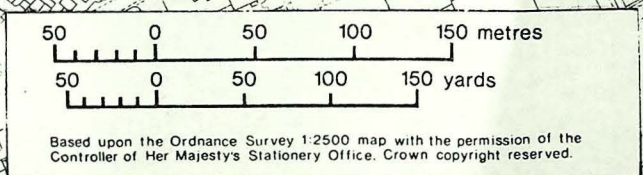
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










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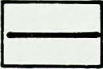
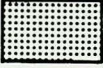
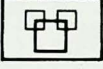

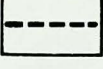
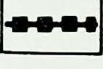

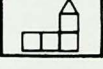

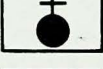


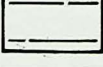



# ELGIN MAP 2



-  Areas of archaeological interest
-  1-6 Sites of immediate interest
-  Sites effectively re-developed
-  Sites proposed for re-development
-  Car Parks
-  Demolished property
-  Derelict property
-  Renovated buildings
-  New roads
-  Frontages with cellars or basement area

# ELGIN MAP 3

-  Conservation Area
-  Listed Buildings – all categories
-  Site of Castle
-  Elgin Cathedral
-  Projected line of Cathedral Precinct wall
-  Extant remains of Precinct wall
-  Site of 15th century Franciscan Friary
-  Site of Dominican Friary
-  Site of Town Ports
-  Site of 12th century Church
-  Site of 18th century Tolbooth
-  The 'Bishop's House'
-  Former course of the River Lossie
-  Limit of secondary burgh expansion
-  The Little Cross



ELGIN MAP 3

