

The Archaeological Sites
and Monuments of

19

Papa Westray and Westray
Orkney Islands Area

The Archaeological Sites and Monuments of Scotland, 19
PAPA WESTRAY AND WESTRAY
(with adjacent small islands)
Orkney Islands Area

An Archaeological Survey

by R G Lamb

This list of sites and monuments on the islands of Papa Westray, Westray and adjacent small islands, the third list for Orkney in this series, has been prepared by Dr R G Lamb, the Archaeology Officer of the Orkney Heritage Society. The archaeological survey of Orkney has been made possible by a generous annual grant to the Orkney Heritage Society by Occidental of Britain Inc., and the project is also supported by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, and the Orkney Islands Council.

The entries describing the monuments have been edited by Mr A MacLaren and Dr J N G Ritchie of the staff of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland in order to bring them broadly into line with the format adopted for the Archaeological Sites and Monuments Series produced by the Commission; apart, however, for a few minor editorial changes, no alterations have been made to the text of Dr Lamb's Introduction. The assistance of Mr G Douglas, Mr I F C Fleming, Miss L Loudon and Mr O T Morgan in the preparation of this list is gratefully acknowledged.

Because of the importance of recent archaeological work in the islands, funded largely by Scottish Development Department (Ancient Monuments Division), the directors of the various projects have been asked to contribute the entries on these sites. We are grateful to Dr D V Clarke, Miss O Owen, Dr A Ritchie and Mr N M Sharples for their assistance; these entries are followed by the initials of the author concerned.

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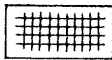
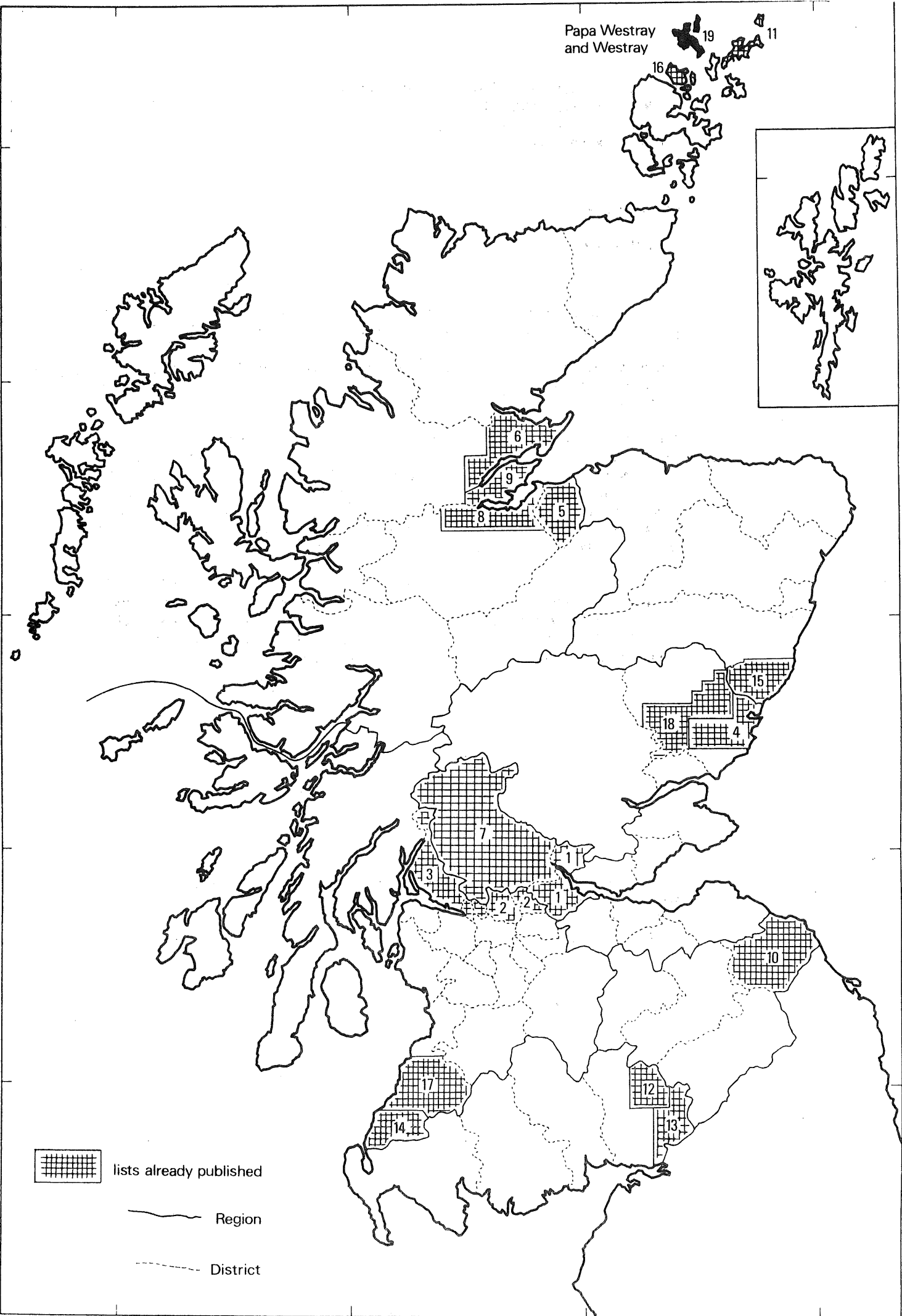
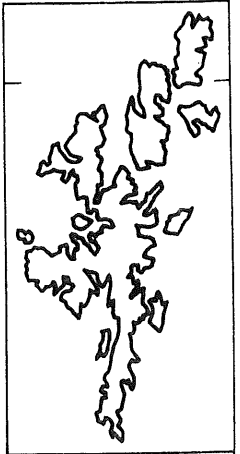
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Papa Westray
and Westray

19

11

16



lists already published

Region

District

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS SERIES

- 1 Clackmannan District and Falkirk District
Central Region, 1978
- 2 Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District and Strathkelvin District,
Strathclyde Region, 1978; revised edition, 1982
- 3 Dumbarton District, Clydebank District, Bearsden & Milngavie District,
Strathclyde Region, 1978
- 4 Lunan Valley and the Montrose Basin, Angus District,
Tayside Region, 1978
- 5 Nairn District,
Highland Region, 1978
- 6 Easter Ross, Ross & Cromarty District,
Highland Region, 1979
- 7 Stirling District,
Central Region, 1979
- 8 North-east Inverness, Inverness District,
Highland Region, 1979
- 9 The Black Isle, Ross & Cromarty District,
Highland Region, 1979
- 10 Berwickshire District,
Borders Region, 1980
- 11 Sanday and North Ronaldsay,
Orkney (compiled by R G Lamb), 1980
- 12 Upper Eskdale, Annandale & Eskdale District,
Dumfries & Galloway Region, 1980
- 13 Ewesdale and Lower Eskdale, Annandale & Eskdale District
Dumfries & Galloway Region, 1981
- 14 South Carrick, Kyle & Carrick District,
Strathclyde Region, 1981
- 15 South Kincardine, Kincardine & Deeside District,
Grampian Region, 1982
- 16 Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre,
Orkney Islands Area (compiled by R G Lamb), 1982
- 17 North Carrick, Kyle & Carrick District,
Strathclyde Region, 1983
- 18 Central Angus, Angus District,
Tayside Region (compiled by J R Sherriff), 1983
- 19 Papa Westray and Westray,
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NOTES

An asterisk (*) indicates that the site has statutory protection under the Ancient Monuments Act of 1979. Each entry is prefaced by a serial number (which facilitates use of the end maps), name, National Grid reference, 1:10,000 map number followed by the serial number of the Ordnance Survey Record Card (now housed at the National Monuments Record of Scotland); where appropriate, the date of visit and a select bibliography follows, and the final entry for each site gives the number of the record card of the Orkney Sites and Monuments Record, held at 48 Junction Road, Kirkwall, Orkney. Here may be found more complete details about each site; an optical coincidence system also permits retrieval under a wide variety of headings. A duplicate set of cards is held by NMRS.

INTRODUCTION

Westray and Papay

Westray is the north-westernmost island of the Orkney archipelago and its name needs no translation. Alongside it to the east is the smaller island of Papa Westray, which in Orkney is always called Papay; in *Orkneyinga Saga* it is qualified as *Papey in meiri*, 'the greater isle of the priests', in distinction to Little Papay, now Papa Stronsay. A full discussion of the nomenclature is given by Marwick (1925, 36); in the present publication, following Marwick's usage, the nationally-current 'literary' form Papa Westray is used in titles and headings, the more correct and less cumbersome Papay in the text.

Westray's skat value was of the order of thirteen urislands; about the same as Stronsay, a notably fertile although smaller island, comparing favourably with the largely hilly islands of Rousay and Eday, but only one-third the value of Sanday. Papay, although much smaller, was four urislands, indicating that a higher proportion of its land was productive. Westray today has become economically the most successful of the North Isles; impressive progress has been made with the agricultural reclamation of marginal land, there is a notably successful fishing industry, and it is the only one of the outer islands where depopulation is not a worry. That this achievement is not prefigured in the rentals confirms that it is due rather to modern social factors than to any special quality of natural resources.

A surprising fact about these two adjacent and geologically similar islands is that their historical geographies are markedly different. Papay shares some of the peculiarities of the very special landscape of Sanday and North Ronaldsay, and in Westray these peculiarities are lacking. The parallels extend back into prehistory and are curiously close. The ness-sited barrow-cemetery known as the Kraa-tooies (no. 1) finds its parallels in Els Ness, Tofts Ness and Tor Ness; the gairsty (no. 25) runs across the island in a way very like the two North Ronaldsay trebs; and most of all, there is a partial development of farm mounds.

When the Sanday and North Ronaldsay list (RCAMS 1980) was compiled, the farm mounds of those islands had been observed but not studied in detail. The exposure of stone structures, by sea-erosion at Hookin and by farmyard clearance at How, suggested that the mounds resulted from the repeated replacement of structures after the manner of oriental tells. Work by Dr D A Davidson and Mr I Simpson of Strathclyde University has since shown that their composition characteristically is a fairly uniform organic deposit. The mounds therefore are closely parallel to the *gårdshauger* of Arctic Norway (Davidson and Lamb forthcoming). Since the preparation of that paper, radiocarbon dates have become available for three Sanday farm mounds, consistently showing that the lowest deposits date only from the early Norse period or thereabouts; this comparatively recent date reinforces the parallel with the Norwegian examples. Place-name evidence suggests, however, that some mounds may be of pre-Norse origin, and samples from a greater number of mounds are needed to resolve the problems of dating.

The existence of farm mounds in Papay became apparent only during fieldwork in 1982; a few of the sites had previously been observed, but on the basis of local descriptions of the dark material they contain, they had been interpreted as burnt mounds (nos. 17, 19 and 24). With the exception of Kirk of Howe (no. 17), which approaches the proportions typical of a Sanday farm mound, the Papay ones are smaller, and it is notable that recently – or still-occupied farms usually do not occupy mounds – Mayback (no. 20) and Via (no. 22) being exceptions. This suggests either that the processes of mound formation were less vigorous in Papay or, as is perhaps more likely, that they operated over a shorter period of time and came to an end earlier than in Sanday. What were these special processes that produced farm mounds in this limited group of Orkney islands, and also in Northern Norway, is not known.

The isle of priests

Papay has long been associated in the minds of historians with pre-Norse Christianity, but the often-encountered assumption that these 'papar' were Irish does not bear scrutiny of either the documentary or the archaeological evidence. The Irish origins of the papar rest upon the story told as the opening chapter in both *Íslendingabók* and *Landnámabók*,

according to which, before the Norsemen reached Iceland, there were men there, whom the Norsemen called *papar*. These were Christian men who had come over sea 'from western parts' (*vestan*), but they later went away, being unwilling to continue living alongside heathen men. Rather curiously, and conveniently, they left behind 'bells and croziers and Irish books', and from this archaeological evidence, the Norsemen surmised that they had been Irishmen. It should not need to be pointed out that the material culture of early Insular Christianity occasionally defies analysis even by modern scholars, who are not always unanimous as to whether a particular gospel-book is a product of Ireland, Iona, Lindisfarne, or — fashionably nowadays — Pictland.

These early settlers in Iceland had gone there as anchorites in search of a 'desert' place — an idea to which the hagiographies frequently refer. But 'papa' place-names, which are always associated with agriculturally-favoured and therefore populated districts, are clearly unconnected with any such eremitical movement, but rather with some kind of missionary activity. It is the writer's belief that the rather scanty archaeological evidence available in Orkney and Shetland does not support a date before the eighth century for this evangelism, and that it indicates a movement originating in the southern Pictish heartland in circumstances when the Church there was under Northumbrian influence. The traditional dedications of the two important early churches in Papay — St Boniface's (no. 29) and St Tredwell's (no. 30) — interestingly bear out this view.

Tredwell is Triduana, the medieval centre of whose cultus was Restalrig, close by Edinburgh. Traditionally she was a nun in the party which Boniface, alias Curitan, is credited with leading from Jarrow to Pictland in 710, in response to Nechtan's letter to Ceolfrid requesting help in reforming the Pictish church after the Roman manner. The naming of the two Papay centres after Triduana and Boniface seems to commemorate these events, which occurred when Pictland was consciously rejecting Iona, and, perhaps in the realisation that Dalriada now posed a greater political threat, was moving towards a Northumbrian alliance.

Both sites are prime examples of the development of ecclesiastical centres out of major settlements of the ultimate Iron Age — settlements which probably each incorporated a broch, and in the eighth century are likely still to have been centres of local power. St Boniface's in particular is a site of great extent and complexity; it is unfortunate both that the area remains in use as the island's cemetery, recently extended, and that the shore side is being eroded. Two cross-slabs, a hogback monument, the massive stonework exposed in the cliff, the name 'Munkerhoose', the separate farm-mound with the suggestion of an older 'Binnas Kirk', and not least, the upstanding medieval church itself, constitute an assemblage of the greatest historical importance.

The Norse in Westray

The political and settlement structure in Norse Westray has some remarkable aspects which would repay investigation; at the moment we are still at the stage of being tantalised (Marwick 1952a, 31). The rental evidence is incomplete, much land seemingly having been in ecclesiastical ownership, but the surmised skat value of thirteen urislands is not itself out of the ordinary. What are remarkable are the unusual size, in urisland terms, of the tunships, and the pattern of distribution of chapels — or rather, the singular paucity of these. Even if the huge number of these in Sanday is a reflection of that island's general remarkableness, the comparison of Westray with Rousay, with a total of eight known locations if one includes the Burrian islet-site (RCAMS 1982, 22, 26), on an island of just half Westray's value, confirms that there is something decidedly odd about Westray.

A possible clue is to be found in Marwick's (1952a, 34-5) brilliant analysis of the three tunships of Noltland Be-west, Midbea and Tuquoy, indicating that the *baer* of which Midbea was the centre, had once been a single estate with the colossal value of four-and-a-half urislands, with its focus on the elegant and refined Romanesque church dedicated to the Holy Cross (no. 148). Marwick did not know — the site was only observed in 1970 and recognized for what it is only in 1981 — that abundant archaeological evidence of the associated settlement lay alongside the shore beside the church; this was the scene of the 1982 Tuquoy excavation (no. 124). If this is typical, it may be that the original settlement in Westray involved big *landnám* claims by relatively few chieftain-settlers, each with a large household and following.

Orkneyinga Saga gives a vivid picture of the power-struggle surrounding Rognvald Kali's attempt, successful in 1136, to become Jarl. The account seems historically accurate and it substantially involves Westray. Three figures are named: Kugi of Rapness, Helgi of Pierowall, and the household of the obnoxious Thorkel Flettir for which no location is given. The writer has previously set out (Lamb 1981) the case for associating Thorkel with the Tuquoy settlement-site; as the argument is lengthy it will not be repeated here. Kugi's fall from power and the resulting loss of status of his household, could account for the failure of Rapness to acquire a parish church, while the return of Thorkel's son Hafliði with his ill-gotten gains, about or shortly before the middle of the twelfth century, would provide a context for the expensive elegance of Cross Kirk.

Pierowall is most interesting. It is quite unlike the 'villages' at the steamer-piers of other islands — Kettletoft in Sanday, Whitehall in Stronsay, St Margaret's Hope in South Ronaldsay — which have modern origins mostly connected with fishing or, like Balfour in Shapinsay, created as elements in a planned estate. Pierowall is old; unlike all the others, it had a medieval parish church, Lady Kirk (no. 150). In *Orkneyinga Saga* it is called *Hofn* ('Haven') — to this day, the inhabitants declare, with some truth, that Pierowall has the only real harbour in Orkney — and it is the only settlement in Orkney to be referred to as a *porp*, which may reasonably be translated as village. There have been many discoveries of midden material and similar indications of settlement between the houses around the bay (nos. 119 and 174) — there are in fact more of these local reports than have been listed, but there are uncertainties as to whether one is dealing with separate or the same discoveries. There is also the remarkable phenomenon of the location of the largest Norse cemetery to have been found in Britain (no. 131) in the dunes behind the village. The grave-goods are varied and obviously include items of trade. Does not all this point to a *kaupang* — an early market-centre?

The plan of Kirkwall before its harbour began to be filled in is similar to Pierowall's. Both places have or had a very well-enclosed inner harbour (at Kirkwall the Peerie Sea is the remnant) as an extension of a large sheltered bay. The main street, which has the church (St Olaf's, originally, in Kirkwall), curves around the inner harbour. The origins of both bear comparison with Scandinavian trading-towns (Blindheim 1982a). Each may have been a gathering point where local produce was assembled beside the harbour where merchants' ships, bearing foreign trade-goods, habitually put in — possible patterns of development are well summarised by Blindheim (1982b, 16-17). It is an intriguing possibility that Kirkwall and Pierowall together approached the threshold of medieval urban development, but only Kirkwall crossed it.

Nausts

The few examples of nausts in the Sanday and Rousay island-groups were included without comment in the Miscellaneous sections of the relevant lists (RCAMS 1980; 1982) but the great number in Westray and Papay makes this an appropriate place to explain why these structures are considered significant. Although many nausts have been in use within living memory, and there are naust-structures which relate in size and shape to Scottish East Coast types of fishing-boats which came into use late last century, many more are narrow and pointed-ended, suitable therefore for the locally traditional boats, the essential shape of which changed little from the Viking Age to the nineteenth century, and is still familiar in Shetland. The siting of nausts is governed by restrictive conditions of coastal and offshore topography. A great many such sites must have been in use for a thousand years or more — as is occasionally confirmed by place-names.

A naust (also spelled noost or noust) is an unroofed boat-shaped shelter contrived on or above the shoreline — the latter position preferred for 'winter nausts' in which fishing-boats were laid up in the off season. Rather confusingly, the word in modern Norwegian also covers a roofed boathouse. Future study of nausts will derive largely from Rolfsen's (1974) definitive study of those of Jaeren, and it will be convenient if his definitions of the parts of a naust-complex become widely accepted.

A naust-complex (*naustanlegg*) has three elements. What in this list is loosely called a naust is strictly the 'naust-ground' (*nausttuft*) with its turf or stone walls and end open to the sea. The slipway (*båtøpptrekk*) in front of it, is a cleared stretch of shore, possibly improved in some way to provide a sliding surface over which the boat is pulled up. This leads down to the landing-place (*båtstø*) which is the cleared area, below mean sea-level, often defined by parallel rows of stones, or quarried rock-faces (Rolfsen 1974, 11, 136). Sometimes the site of a destroyed or obliterated naust-ground is indicated by a surviving landing-place.

The Norwegian naust-grounds are identical in appearance to many in Orkney and Shetland. Excavation has proved that some of them date back to Viking, Migration or even Roman Iron Age times, and that what now appear as unroofed shelters, may have begun as roofed boathouses. Far-reaching historical conclusions concerning social organisation and administration have been drawn, from the Jaer coast study in particular. Nausts in Orkney would repay investigation with similar objectives in mind – particularly towards controversial questions such as *leidang* (in this connection, both the Gulating and the King Magnus law-codes have provisions relating to boathouses). But even in their modern aspects nausts are important industrial monuments, being the most directly tangible indicators of the nineteenth-century fishing industry. An account of how this was carried on in Papay at the turn of the century was contributed by Mr W Irvine, of Links, to the most recent issue of the Orkney Heritage Society's *Newsletter*, and it is through his local knowledge that so many Papay naust-sites have been identified. It is likely that in Westray the present list is much less complete. The abundance of nausts in both islands, compared with other parts of Orkney, is quite remarkable.

Industrial Monuments

Several aspects of the industrial archaeology of the islands have recently been studied by Mr G Douglas and Mr J R Hume, Scottish Industrial Archaeology Survey, and have thus not been duplicated here; details are held in the Survey's files in the Department of History, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XQ. The Survey included the examination of turret post windmill stumps at Holland Farm, Papa Westray (no. 48), and Rapness, Westray (HY 507 406), comparable to examples on both North and South Ronaldsay and on Sanday. An interesting series of drives for wind-powered threshing machines survives on the islands covered by this volume; those recorded by the Scottish Industrial Archaeological Survey on Papa Westray are Gowrie (HY 497 537), Hookin (HY 499 513), Mayback (HY 495 524), North Via (HY 498 532), Roadside (HY 495 525) and South Via (HY 498 532); and on Westray are Hillhouse (HY 488 444), Links (HY 441 498), Sanquhar (HY 508 417) and Swartaback (HY 495 428). Other details of the islands' mills were recorded at Hookin Mill, Papa Westray (no. 49); Rapness, Westray; West Side Mill, Midbea, Westray (HY 448 448) and the two mills at Trenabie, Pierowall, Westray (HY 438 479). Piers were also examined including Gill Pier, Westray (HY 446 489) and the hand-winch at Pierowall, Westray (HY 438 481); the ash closet at Gill Pier, Westray, was drawn and photographed, and details of the windpump at Skaiill, Aikerness, Westray (HY 455 519) were also taken. The files of the Scottish Industrial Archaeology Survey bear testimony to the wealth of information about the comparatively recent past that may be still recovered.

Threats

As always in the outer isles, the worst problem is coastal erosion. Some threatened sites are of particular importance. Among prehistoric monuments, the Point of Cott chambered tomb (no. 66), notable for its horned shape and potentially well-preserved forecourt, should rank high in national priorities. The St Boniface complex (no. 29) is arguably Orkney's most significant early Christian site, but the occupation of much of it by the modern graveyard, and its extension does lower its value. The dilapidation of the building itself, possibly the only medieval church in Orkney, apart from St Magnus' Cathedral, to survive in use for worship into the twentieth century, is regrettable. The late Norse settlement at Tuquoy (no. 124) is exceptional for its richness and the high quality of its buildings. But the total of all sites in Westray and Papay that the sea is damaging would run to a score or more.

Recent Archaeological Excavations

Even by Orcadian standards archaeological activity on Papay and Westray has been intense in recent years with excavation or re-excavation of sites, particularly of the Neolithic period. Settlement sites at Knap of Howar (no. 18) and Links of Noltland (no. 116) have provided much information about the pottery and economic life of the fourth millennium BC; burial monuments at Holm of Papa Westray North (no. 59) and Pierowall Quarry (no. 65) complement such information. At the latter site the discovery of a round house of early Iron Age date is of considerable importance and was associated with a large quantity of occupation debris. The rescue excavations at Pierowall and on the Norse settlement at Tuquoy (no. 124) underline the potential of many of the sites recorded here; as a measure of the interest of this work the excavators of these sites have kindly contributed brief summaries of their results in order that these may be made available in advance of their more detailed publications.

The following table shows the number of students enrolled in each of the various courses offered during the year. The total number of students enrolled in all courses was 1,234. The number of students enrolled in each of the various courses is shown in the following table:

Course	Number of Students
Mathematics	150
Science	120
History	100
English	80
Physical Education	60
Art	40
Music	30
Foreign Languages	20
Other	10

PAPA WESTRAY

BARROWS AND CAIRNS

- 1 Kraa-tooies centred HY 497 544 HY 45 SE 3
 On the broad ridge-summit and upper slopes of North Hill and Errival are at least forty burial-mounds, all circular or oval, and varying from 6m to 11m across and up to 0.7m in height. RCAMS reported the presence of 'cramp', and the OS records slab-structures in two. This is in the heart of Europe's largest arctic tern colony, and thus access is difficult in summer-time. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 43; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 528; Wainwright MS; OR 820.

STANDING STONES

- 2 Holland HY 4896 5166 HY 45 SE 5
 The stone in the field immediately N of Holland was thought by the investigator for the Original Name Book not to be ancient, but his judgement was overridden, and it is shown as an antiquity on the old 6-inch maps. Enquiries in the 1920s by Marwick and Corrie confirmed the local opinion, which is still current, that it is a cattle rubbing-stone of comparatively recent origin. This judgement is reinforced by the stone's neatly-squared shape, not typical of prehistoric standing stones. *June 1982*
 Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, p. 70; Marwick 1925, 32; RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 9 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 184, No. 527; OR 827.
- 3 'near Kirk of Howe' area HY 49 53 HY 45 SE
 George Petrie, writing in 1859, reports that a holed standing stone had existed at the beginning of the nineteenth century, near the ruins of the Kirk of Howe (no. 17). This is the only reference to it, and the description has a suspicious resemblance to that given by Brand of a stone near St Tredwell's Loch (no. 4). It is possible therefore that Petrie misplaced the reported stone.
 Petrie 1927, 28; OR 818.
- 4 near St Tredwell's Chapel area HY 496 508 HY 45 SE 24
 Brand in 1683 described two standing stones (one of them holed), which evidently stood not far apart; close to the unperforated stone was a recumbent stone hollowed like a manger. All trace of these had been lost before the nineteenth century.
 Brand 1701, 58; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 186, No. 543; OR 819.

BURNT MOUNDS

- 5 between Edgeriggs and Holland HY 487 512 HY 45 SE 6
 In 1928 Corrie saw a burnt mound with an indeterminate stone structure at its SW end, half-way between Edgeriggs and Holland; it had been largely levelled by cultivation. The report seems to refer to an area of indefinable extent, with two upright slabs barely protruding in a hollow at HY 4872 5123, in what is now a pasture field; this may be the site of a prehistoric house associated with a burnt mound. To the W, immediately across a field-dyke, at HY 4870 5122, is a smooth-profiled but steep, grass-grown mound 1.2m high, averaging 4m E-W by some 15m long. A small exposure shows some burnt stones in earth. It may be a remnant of another burnt mound, but could be partly due to spoil from the digging of the adjacent well. *June 1982*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 9 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 531; OR 824.
- 6 'near Kirk of Howe' area HY 493 530 HY 45 SE 8
 RCAMS listed a burnt mound, already destroyed and known only from report, 'near Kirk of Howe' (no. 17). On the analogy of similar confusions over Vanglee (no. 24) and Knowe of Burland (no. 19), which are farm-mound sites with exposures of dark earth, it is likely that this was another report of the Kirk of Howe site itself. *June 1982*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 533; OR 813.

- 13 East Corny Quoy HY 4934 4950 HY 44 NE 1
 This site is marked by an indeterminate stony rise among the dunes around Bay of Moclett, 200m NNW of the new pier; all that can now be seen of 'kitchen-midden' deposits, reported since the 1920s is a few limpet shells in a sandy exposure created by soil-slip on the shore banks. On the surface of the rise, however, it is possible to detect earthfast upright slabs, barely protruding through the turf. On the NW side of the rise are the remains of the 'quoy' in the form of a low bank forming the SW and SE sides of a rectilinear enclosure, the bank surviving for some 20m from the corner in each direction. The NE and NW sides of this enclosure have been destroyed by quarrying.
June 1982
 Marwick 1925, 32, 42; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 186, No. 542; OR 828.
- 14 Eastscott HY 4857 5045 HY 45 SE
 Overridden by a field wall 200m SE of Whitehowe is a rounded mound of rich brown earth in which many limpet shells are ploughed up; it is evidently an old settlement-mound.
June 1982
 OR 786.
- 15 Hookin HY 4992 5127 HY 45 SE
 The derelict farmstead of Hookin occupies a rise, some 0.8m high and 30m wide, which extends along the shoreline for about 100m; SE of the buildings, many earthfast upright slabs protrude through the turf. Erosion along the shoreline reveals a composition of typical brown sandy earth of 'farm mound' type, with some occasional stonework.
June 1982
 OR 849.
- 16 King's Craig HY 4840 5062 HY 45 SE 14
 The cliff, some 4m in height, which forms a headland at the farmstead of Whitehowe, is composed largely of settlement debris extending for some 26m along the coast. The archaeological deposits begin at 1.7m above beach level and are 2.3m thick, comprising shell and animal-bone middens interspersed with heavy stone structures including flag-stone floors with slab-formed drains beneath them. On the clifftop the site is discernible as a sight, broad mound underlying the farm buildings. Some finds in Tankerness House Museum. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 40; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 184, No. 525; OR 789.
- 17 Kirk of Howe HY 493 530 HY 45 SE 15
 The name Kirk of Howe (or Hoo), Kirk o' Mallo (or Marro) applied both to a chapel, the ruins of which survived into the 1840s, and to an enormous artificial mound, which almost fills the pasture field between the derelict farmstead of Howe and the public road. There are no surface traces of the chapel, which the original OS map locates at HY 4933 5306, on the S outer slope of the mound which is centred at HY 4932, 5309. The mound is partly cut by the road on its E side, and both here, and near the summit, trampling has revealed a make-up of loamy brown earth, similar to that of other farm mounds. Because it crowns rising ground its limits cannot be defined, but the deposits probably exceed 2m in thickness and cover an area at least 90m in diameter. (See also no. 6). *June 1982*
 NSA, xv (Orkney), 125-6; Petrie 1927, 28 (account written 1859); Marwick 1925, 32-3, 35-6; RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 10 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 530, p. 186, No. 540; OR 812.

- 18 Knap of Howar * HY 4830 5180 HY 45 SE 1
 The remains of two oblong stone-built houses represent a Neolithic farmstead dating from the later fourth millennium BC. Excavated in the 1930s and the 1970s, the house-walls survive to a maximum height of 1.6m and enclose areas of about 10.0m by 5.0m (house 1) and about 7.5m by 3.0m (house 2), divided into rooms by upright stone slabs. They were furnished with hearths, pits, built-in cupboards, stone and possibly wooden benches. The walls have a core of midden derived from an earlier structural period, but the artefacts and radiocarbon dates from the primary and secondary middens demonstrate cultural and chronological uniformity. The mode of subsistence was primarily pastoral, rearing cattle, sheep and pigs, but there was some evidence for cereal cultivation and for exploitation of marine resources, especially fish and shell-fish. The use of Unstan ware links the settlement with stalled cairns, and there are few similarities with contemporary grooved ware settlements such as Skara Brae. (AR)
 Traill and Kirkness, 1937; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 182-4, No. 524; *DES (1973)*, 68-9; *DES (1975)*, 35-7; Ritchie and Ritchie 1978, 39-42. The finds are in NMAS: AB 1615; HD 628-46, 1899-1900, 2003-16, 2020-9.
- 19 Knowe of Burland HY 4987 5076 HY 45 SE 11
 On the crest of the ridge dividing St Tredwell's Loch from the E coast is a broad eminence some 30m in diameter. Although previously listed as a burnt mound, it can now be seen that it is an old settlement mound composed of typical 'farm mound' material. No stone-work is to be seen, although there are several large displaced slabs. *June 1982*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 536; OR 785.
- 20 Mayback HY 4954 5240 HY 45 SE
 The buildings of Mayback occupy a farm mound lying N-S along the shore. Because it grades into the ridge of the dunes at each end its length cannot be estimated, but it is some 40m wide E-W. A typical 'farm mound' deposit of soft loamy brown earth with a few limpet shells has been exposed by erosion on the shoreline. *June 1982*
 OR 829.
- 21 Newbigging HY 4937 5342 HY 45 SE
 Extensive stone structures are said to have been found below the surface around the farmstead of Newbigging. *June 1982*
 OR 782.
- 22 North and South Via HY 497 532 HY 45 SE
 The farmsteads of North Via (HY 4979 5330) and South Via (HY 4980 5324) share an elongated farm-mound lying parallel with the shore, exceeding 100m in N-S measurement by about 40m, and up to 1m high. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 44; OR 815.
- 23 between Shorehouse and Cott HY 4988 5295 HY 45 SE 25
 The blunt, low headland between these two houses has uneven rising ground towards the edge of the banks, which are steep and grass grown. Over a length of 80m along the shoreline, sea erosion has exposed fragments of stone walling; that at the point of the headland is buried in earth, while further N it is in sand. There is little midden material. *June 1982*
 OR 821.
- 24 Vanglee HY 4892 5097 HY 45 SE
 There is an extensive mound in the field E of the Backiskaill road-junction. This field is regularly ploughed by Mr J Rendall, Holland, who confirms that it is not natural in origin, and it is almost certainly a farm mound, the dark material of which has generated the erroneous report of a burnt mound; Marwick reports a tradition that the house of Vanglee, which occupied it, was burned down after the death of its last occupant, a leper. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 45; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 537; OR 788.

TREB DYKE

- 25 The (Cunnam) Gairsty HY 4846 5034 to 4990 5050 HY 45 SE
 Papay is divided into two geographically unequal parts by a treb dyke which crosses it at the latitude of St Tredwell's Loch. Rather less than half the original length, which took a very devious course, is preserved as an earthwork, the condition of which varies.

The best-preserved stretch is that from the E coast of the island to the E shore of the loch. It begins at HY 4990 5050, some 20m inland from the shoreline at Bay of Burland, initially running SW as a prominent earthwork 7m wide and 0.9m high, with a steeply rounded profile. After 30m, at HY 4984 5048, it turns sharply W and coincides with an old farm track taking it up to the derelict farm buildings of Cuppin, HY 4977 5053. Cuppin is built on the top of the hill ridge; from here the treb runs WSW straight downhill to the lochside at HY 4964 5060. In this part it is a bank some 8m wide, its cross-profile rising to the N on which side it is 0.9m high; the S edge has been truncated by ploughing. The whole of this length of the treb is across ground that is not now cultivated.

On the W side of the loch, the hillside sloping down to the loch is arable, but the farmer, Mr J Rendall, Holland, knows its course from the soil change. It left the loch at HY 4920 5093 and ran in a straight line uphill, westwards, and over the summit. At HY 4884 5101 the public road crosses it, and a remnant of the treb is seen as a sudden peak in the bank on the E side of the road. To the W it is less certain; it must have continued downhill, but at or near Gairbolls it did a right-angled turn to run S, now along the contour. Marwick here saw it, just W of the house of Gairbolls, but this area is now obscured by rubbish. Immediately S of the road to Backiskail, opposite Gairbolls, it appears in a pasture field as an earthwork 9m wide and 0.4m high. It dies out at HY 4866 5086 and beyond here the course is uncertain; it continued S and somewhere turned W again to meet the coast near the Well of Quoyollie at HY 4846 5034.

Rentals going back to c. 1500 mention the 'yaird' as dividing the island into two economic halves, each skatted as 2 urislands. Within living memory the two portions defined by the treb were known as North Yard and South Yard. This situation is closely parallel to the division of North Ronaldsay by two treb dykes (RCAMS 1980, pp. 21-2, Nos. 127-8), where, however, the division does not relate to rental apportionments; in Papay, it is clear that the ancient dyke was re-used as a convenient administrative boundary. According to Marwick, the name Cunnam (rabbit) Gairsty applied to the western part of the treb.

June 1982

Marwick 1925, 33; 1952a, 45; OR 780.

INDETERMINATE MOUNDS

- 26 Hyndgreenie HY 4955 5387 HY 45 SE 13
 On a shoulder below the summit of Hyndgreenie, on the S edge of the nature reserve, is a prominent grass-grown mound. Wainwright suggested that it might be Viking, but it lies amid extensive quarrying, surrounded by many smaller mounds which are obviously spoil-heaps. The mound is a continuation of a rocky spur, and living rock can be seen outcropping in its lower part; in view of the uncertainty as to where the natural rock gives way, if at all, to mound material, the apparent precision of the measurements given by RCAMS may be misleading. *June 1982*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 185, No. 529; Wainwright MS; OR 817.
- 27 N of North Via HY 4982 5335 HY 45 SE
 Within the angle of the road some 60m N of North Via, is a broad nettle-covered mound some 12m N-S by 10m; its appearance might suggest an old settlement mound, but it is locally explained as a rubbish-heap. *June 1982*
 OR 816.

ECCLESIASTICAL MONUMENTS

- 28 Chapel of Via area HY 49 53 HY 45 SE 6
 Marwick reports a tradition that a chapel had existed at Via, but its exact location and dedication are not known. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 33; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 186, No. 541; OR 814.
- 29 St Boniface's Church *, Binnas Kirk HY 488 526 HY 45 SE 17,
 and Munkerhoose * 26
 The old parish church of Papay stands above a rocky shore in the now sparsely inhabited NW corner of the island. It is associated with extensive settlement-remains of the Iron Age and Pictish period, with two discoveries of Early Christian cross-slabs, and a Norse hog-backed monument; added to the place-name evidence, they indicate that the whole complex was an important early ecclesiastical centre.

The church, still in use in 1920 but abandoned by 1930, is essentially a twelfth-century church, which was extended westwards in 1700. The site of its chancel is occupied by a family burial-place. The building is still entire, but there are holes in the slab-covered roof, and the internal furnishings and some of the structural timbers are succumbing to decay. The hogbacked gravestone lies immediately E of the family tomb, but only its top now protrudes from the grass. In 1920, when for the first time burials were made on the N side of the church, a slab was found at a depth of about 1m; a portion was left in the ground, but the part now in NMAS (IB 200) has an encircled cross pattee with a small incised cross, of unusual design, above it. In 1966 a second slab, now in Tankerness House Museum, Kirkwall, was found during grave-digging near the NE corner of the church. This is a water-worn beach-slab, standing 790mm high above the display-stand in which its base is set; it is elliptical, its maximum width, near the top, of 320mm narrowing to 175mm at the base, and 64mm to 69mm thick. The obverse has a weakly-executed encircled cross pattee with a boldly-cut square-armed cross above it; to the lower left of the upper cross is a running human figure, very faintly incised, and another, unidentifiable design seems to lie to the upper left of the cross. On the reverse is a rectangular pattern apparently representing a standing robed human figure. The incised designs, executed by pecking, have an unfinished appearance.

There are known to be extensive stone structures under the churchyard and the recent extension to the S of it; these also underlie the broken ground between the churchyard and the shoreline, where they are exposed in an erosion-section. This shows heavy stonework interspersed with midden deposits, the whole forming an archaeological stratum nearly 3m thick. An extensive settlement of Iron Age date (possibly including a brooch) which continues into the Pictish period may be represented. The grass surface of the upper slope of the banks has many projecting upright slabs indicating further structures. At the N end of the exposure, however, the section reveals the content of an extensive rounded eminence, some 1m high above the surrounding ground level, which occupies the area of rough grass immediately N of the churchyard. The content of this eminence can also be seen in rabbit-scrapes, being dark brown loamy earth with a little shell-midden material, showing that the feature is a typical 'farm mound' — a distinctively different type of deposit from the tumbled stone structures to the S of it. The whole complex covers an area of about one hectare.

The name Munkerhoose (*munkarhus*, monks' house) applies specifically to the buried stone structures, and is more loosely used to include the farm mound also. Binnas Kirk is sometimes used as an alternative name for the same structures, and sometimes for the church; although the latter usage may result from a confusion in popular etymology with Boniface, Binnas is in fact *bæn-hus*, 'chapel'. An alternative and apparently more ancient tradition recorded by Marwick, and still just detectable on the island, applies Binnas Kirk specifically to the farm mound and makes it a separate church from St Boniface's.

RCAMS and others have tentatively associated the Munkerhoose with an episode in *Orkneyinga Saga*, ch. lxxii, where in 1137 Earl Rognvald, attending mass at Pierowall, encountered sixteen tonsured and unarmed strangers. The episode is discussed by Dietrichson, Taylor and Gudmundsson; it appears probable that it has been misplaced from another scene in the saga and that it did not take place in Westray. The church,

Munkerhoose and the hogbacked stone are separately scheduled. *June 1982*
Name Book, Orkney No. 26, p. 11; Dietrichson 1906, 124 (Norwegian text); Kirkness 1921; Scott 1922; Marwick 1925, 33-4, 40; Taylor 1938, 386, 388; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 179-80, Nos. 518-20, p. 184, No. 526; Gudmundsson, *Orkneyinga Saga*, footnote, p. 163; Lang 1974, 230; C J Arnold, Report on four composite bone comb fragments found in the erosion-section 1975, in Tankerness House Museum files, ref 731; Arnold 1975; OR 847.

- 30 St Tredwell's Chapel * HY 4964 5088 HY 45 SE 4
The chapel, which stands on the SE upper slope of a conical mound, some 4.5m high and 35m across at water level, forming a peninsula in St Tredwell's Loch, was one of the most renowned pilgrimage-centres of Orkney. Brand's statement that votive offerings of coins were still made was confirmed by Traill's excavation of c.1880, when thirty coins, ranging from Charles II to George III, were found on the chapel floor.

According to Neale, the chapel was one of very few in Orkney which possessed tracery. This had disappeared by 1870 but Dryden's drawings show sufficient architectural detail to indicate a church of some wealth. At that time the walls stood up to 6 feet high – which was still true in 1930 – and the interior measured 20ft 3in by 13ft 10ins within walls of very variable thickness. Traill cleared out the rubble and piled it into two rectangular cairns which still obscure the S wall and the prehistoric structures beneath it. The walls now stand up to 1.3m high in the W and N, less than 0.3m high at the SE corner. The chapel is probably of late medieval date.

Immediately outside the W wall Traill broke into a subterranean passage which he followed N then NW for some 10m, passing several sets of door-checks and a side-chamber and entering a 'circular building'. Finds from this structure, including a stone ball, are in NMAS (AS 40, HR 193-208); others are in Tankerness House Museum (nos. 131, 177-81). The opening into the passage is now blocked by rubble; it is likely that this was part of a complex of late Iron Age buildings, on the wreckage of which the chapel was built. It is possible that a broch lies at the core of the mound, on the lower SE slope of which a revetment-wall, 1.9m high and traceable for 11m, may be part of an outer wall or ring-work. A few metres to the N of the chapel are the footings of two small subrectangular buildings of indeterminate date.

A cross-slab is said to have been seen some years ago in the deep water beside the islet, but an attempted recovery was unsuccessful. *June 1982*
'Jo Ben' (sixteenth century), text in Barry 1805, 437; Brand 1701, 58-9; *NSA*, xv (Orkney), 117-18; Neale 1848, 113; Sir Henry Dryden, drawings 1870, in *NMRS*; *PSAS*, 17 (1882-3), 137-8; MacGibbon and Ross 1896-7, vol 1, 106-8; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 180, No. 521; pp. 181-2, No. 523; OR 850.

NAUSTS

- 31 Backiskaill HY 4844 5082 HY 45 SE
In the shoreline above the old jetty at Backiskaill is a row of contiguous nausts, built of turf and erect slabs, 2m to 2.5m wide and up to 5.5m long. The three northernmost open at beach level, and derelict winches stand at the heads of two of these. The three to the S are truncated, with their floors some 0.5m above the top of the beach. To the S, a small limpet shell-midden, probably representing shellfish used for bait, has been exposed by erosion. *June 1982*
OR 842.
- 32 Bay of Burland HY 5000 5035 HY 55 SW
A stone-built naust stands just behind the shoreline on the S side of the Bay of Burland below Blossom, a position not reckoned to be a good landing place; it is 2.2m wide, pointed-ended and survives to a length of 2.6m. There were formerly two nausts.
June 1982
OR 830.

- 33 Bothikan HY 4900 4969 HY 44 NE
At the W side of the head of the Bay of Bothikan, as this inner part of Moclett Bay was called, is a naust, partly slab-formed and partly enclosed by the drystone shore dyke. There are vestiges of other nausts inside the dyke. According to Mr W Irvine, Links, there was one naust outside and at least one inside this dyke. *June 1982*
OR 840.
- 34 Cott HY 4988 5301 HY 45 SE
There are several nausts in the steep banks facing smoothly shelving rocks directly below Cott; three of these, formed of upright flagstones, averaging 5m by 2m and pointed at the end are at the bottom of the slope giving access to the top of the beach. S of these and higher up are traces of at least five further nausts. According to Mr W Irvine, Links, it was at Cott that most of the Papay boats used to land their catches. *June 1982*
OR 832.
- 35 Hundland and Bewan area HY 503 537 HY 55 SW
According to Mr W Irvine, Links, there were nausts below Hundland and Bewan, but no traces can now be seen. *June 1982*
OR 843.
- 36 Links HY 4986 5144 HY 45 SE
Mr W Irvine, Links, indicated a break in the dunes below his house as marking the site of an old naust; some years ago he found a large cache of rivets here. *June 1982*
OR 844.
- 37 Mayback HY 4955 5222 HY 45 SE
According to Mr W Irvine, Links, there were nausts at Mayback. At the farmstead itself there has been erosion, but 120m S, half-way to Skennist, the sand-covered traces of several probable nausts can be detected in the dune ridge. *June 1982*
OR 833.
- 38 Moclett HY 4952 4917 HY 44 NE
In Moclett Bay, 200m SE of the pier, a break in the steep banks provides tractor access to the shore; it is directly opposite an opening in the rocks which appears to have been artificially cleared, and it probably marks the position of a naust. *June 1982*
OR 839.
- 39 Nistaben HY 4834 4986 HY 44 NE
WNW of Nistaben and N of the rocky point known as Minister's Flag, three stone-lined nausts, much reduced by erosion, are cut into the shoreline. *June 1982*
OR 836.
- 40 Nouster HY 4983 5175 HY 45 SE
Directly E of Nouster, in a small sheltered geo, are remains of four nausts, one of which is exceptionally big; it contains a decaying boat. *June 1982*
OR 835.
- 41 Quoyolie HY 4844 5034 HY 45 SE
In the shoreline beside the Well of Quoyolie are two fine stone-lined nausts; the end of each is pointed, their maximum width is 1.4m, and their length is now reduced by erosion to 2.3m. *June 1982*
OR 838.
- 42 Quoyolie HY 4838 5014 HY 45 SE
In the shoreline directly below Quoyolie are three nausts and a possible fourth; they are much reduced by erosion, surviving only to a length of some 2m. *June 1982*
OR 837.

- 43 Shorehouse HY 4982 5277 HY 45 SE
 In the shoreline 100m SW of Shorehouse are two square-ended nausts, each surviving to a length of 5m and a width of 3m, built of turf and upright slabs. They are truncated by erosion and their floors are now 1m above the top of the beach onto which they open. *June 1982*
 OR 841.
- 44 Skennist HY 4964 5198 HY 45 SE
 Cut into the edge of the shore banks below Skennist are seven stone-and-turf nausts in a row. According to Mr W Irvine, Links, there used to be the cottages of many fishermen here. The name **Skeida-naust* confirms the ancient importance of this naust-site, *skeid* signifying a type of fast longship, which was specifically a warship. *June 1982*
 Marwick 1925, 44; OR 834.
- 45 Via HY 4987 5337 HY 45 SE
 A little north of Via, exactly opposite the right-angled bend in the road from Newbigging, a break in the dunes, which form the shoreline, marks the site of an old naust. *June 1982*
 OR 831.
- 46 Whitehowe HY 4840 5060 HY 45 SE
 In the eroding cliff-face near Whitehowe, some 40m S of the King's Craig settlement-site (no. 16) is a broad basin, which evidently is a naust seen in cross-section. It is 4m wide, 1.1m deep, and its bottom is 0.9m above the beach. The naust has been filled with earth and stones; the earth fill merges on each side into a buried soil layer, which northwards merges into the lowest midden layer on the King's Craig site. *June 1982*
 OR 790.

INDUSTRIAL MONUMENTS

(See also p. 10)

- 47 Holland Farm HY 4884 5153 HY 45 SE
 The fine, mid-nineteenth century stone buildings of the Holland farm complex include a horse-engine house, circular within and without, with a conical flagstone-covered roof; although the machinery has gone and the side-openings have been built up, the building is in excellent repair. *June 1982*
 OR 825.
- 48 Holland, Windmill HY 4899 5128 HY 45 SE
 In an elevated field S of Holland is the circular stone base of a dismantled post-mill said to date from the early nineteenth century and to have been in use until c.1940. The ground corn was stored in the square building 30m to the E (on the OS 1:10,000 map, the identification of the mill has been misapplied to the store). *June 1982*
 Fenton 1978, 399; OR 826.
- 49 Hookin Mill HY 5005 5122 HY 55 SW
 On the shoreline at the outflow from St Tredwell's Loch is a roofless rectangular building, externally 10.5m E-W by 5.3m, with opposed doorways near the W end in the N and S walls. The iron-framed undershot-wheel, 2.8m in diameter, is outside the E wall; within the ruin are the collapsed remains of machinery including two millstones. This mill could operate only at low tide and then not every effectively; it was used for grinding oats. *June 1982*
 OR 822.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 50 ?Gairsty of Hoo HY 4910 5353 to 4921 5338 HY 45 SE
200m W of Newbigging there begins a denuded dyke which runs to the coast, then turns to run NW along the cliff edge. Made of earth and stone and measuring 1.2m in width and 0.8m in height, its construction is similar to that of a traditional hill-dyke. Marwick mentions a 'Gairsty of Hoo' alongside the gairsties of Cuppin, Vanglee and Gairbolls, which are parts of the treb (no. 25). The extant dyke terminates above Gerrsons Geo, which is *gards-enda-gjá* 'dyke's end's geo' suggesting that the dyke is of early medieval origin or earlier, and that it may be what Marwick had in mind. (Hoo is Howe, 300m SSW of Newbigging). It bears no obvious relationship to the present pattern of land-use, but is probably an old township or hill dyke; its size and construction are not those of a treb. *June 1982*
Marwick 1925, 33; RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 10 July 1928; OR 781.
- 51 The Messigate HY 4987 5076 to 4964 5088 HY 45 SE
There is now no trace of the 'mass road' (*messu-gata*) that is said to have run from the Knowe of Burland (no. 19) to St Tredwell's Chapel (no. 30). *June 1982*
Marwick 1925, 35; OR 794.
- 52 St Tredwell's Loch HY 4965 5104 HY 45 SE
On a low peninsula on the N shore of St Tredwell's Loch is a wall, locally regarded as ancient, built of horizontal slabs, surviving to a height of 0.5m. Its course, enclosing the centre of the 'island', is indicated on the OS 1:10,000 map. *June 1982*
OR 783.
- 53 Weelies Taing HY 505 533 HY 55 SW
Weelies Taing is an extensive boulder-spit comprising two arms, which enclose a tidal pond, the whole being covered at high tide. On the narrower (W) arm are three groups of structures, all built of water-worn slabs packed slantwise face-to-face, with the faces transverse to the line of the walls. Nearest to the land are two parallel walls, of similar construction, 6m apart, forming a 'roadway' running along the taing; the W wall seems to be the E edge of a broad platform. Half-way along, the arm is crossed by a transverse wall, and at its extremity, where it joins the broader (E) arm, is a substantial circular pond 9m in diameter over walls 0.6m thick. Near its N margin a fragmentary wall, traceable for some 20m, meanders away to the ENE. The circular pond was probably a refuge or 'sheep-fort', for sheep cut off by the tide, but the other structures, which have taken much labour to construct, are less readily explained. *June 1982*
OR 823.

ISOLATED AND UNPROVENANCED FINDS

- 54 Errival area HY 498 549 HY 45 SE
A hammer-stone, picked up by Corrie within 30 yards of the Errival summit cairn, is in Tankerness House Museum (no. 381).
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No 2, 12 July 1928; OR 848.
- 55 Papa Westray unlocated
A stone 'axe or hammer' is listed in the catalogue of the Tankerness House Museum's old collection.
OR 845.
- 56 Papa Westray unlocated
A stone 'hammer', 3.75in long, with a groove cut round it, is listed in the Tankerness House Museum catalogue.
OR 846.

HOLM OF PAPA WESTRAY

CHAMBERED CAIRNS

The code number in brackets immediately following the title of some of the articles in this section conforms to the system outlined by Henshall 1972, 312-13.

- 57 The Disses of the Holm (ORK 22) * HY 5091 5183 HY 55 SW 1
 This most remarkable monument, on the highest ground at the S end of the Holm is an elongated version of the Maes-Howe type of tomb, having no less than ten single and two double side-chambers opening off the main chamber. It is further notable for markings, now not easy to find, including an 'eyebrow motif'. The tomb was excavated in 1849 by Thomas, at which time no finds of ancient material were made. Its condition subsequently deteriorated, a graphic account of which is given by Corrie in 1928; the following year it was taken into guardianship and given a concrete barrel-roof. *June 1982*
 Thomas 1852, 127-9; Petrie 1857, 61; 1866, 222-3, 225; Marwick 1925, 46; RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 11 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 186-9, No. 544; Henshall 1963, 201-2; Ritchie and Ritchie 1978, 36-7; OR 920.
- 58 Holm of Papa Westray, 'middle' HY 5070 5185 HY 55 SW 3
 Half-way along the Holm and half-way up its W-facing slope is a circular mound 9.5m in diameter and 0.6m high, at the centre of which several firmly-set stones are visible. Three of these are slabs, each some 0.5m long, which project slightly and may represent the internal divisions of a stalled cairn. *June 1982*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 190, No. 546; OR 851.
- 59 Holm of Papa Westray, North (ORK 21) * HY 5044 5227 HY 55 SW 2
 First excavated in 1854, this Neolithic tomb, an Orkney-Cromarty stalled cairn, is currently being re-excavated (1982-3), revealing an oblong cairn, c. 11m by 6m, with an inner and outer stone revetment, an entrance passage at the N end, and a rectangular burial-chamber. The chamber is 5.0m by 2.7m and is divided into four compartments by pairs of upright slabs; it contained a number of inhumation burials accompanied by plain pottery bowls, and a deposit of fish bones in a stone setting. The chamber had been deliberately infilled with earth, stones and food debris, including cattle, sheep, deer, shells and fish bones. (AR)
 Petrie 1857, 62; Petrie Sketch Book no. 3 (in NMRS); RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 189-90, No. 545; Henshall 1963, 200-1; *DES (1982)*, 19.

WESTRAY

CHAMBERED CAIRNS

- 60 Curquoy (ORK 34) area HY 43 47 HY 44 NW 17
 A detailed description of an exceptionally long stalled tomb containing a remarkable assemblage of human remains, was supplied by John Hewison to George Petrie, after it had been discovered and, by implication, obliterated in February 1860. The location was 'Korkquoy' 'at the foot of Nucker Hill'. Interpretation of information as to a field-name *Curquoy* (cf. no. 147) given in a letter from Mr N Cooper to Miss A S Henshall in 1959, combined with Petrie's statement, points to an area around HY 432 474, where the very steep slope of the hillside begins to level out.
 G Petrie, Large Notebook No. 7, pp. 17-18, in NMAS; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 358, No. 1053; Henshall 1963, 218; OR 862.
- 61 Fitty Hill HY 4332 4451 HY 44 SW 8
 In 1970, on a prominent shoulder, on what until recently was unenclosed rough grazing, the OS discovered a probable Orkney-Cromarty stalled tomb represented by a mutilated mound, 16m in diameter and about 1m high, with seven protruding slabs, not all of which, however, are necessarily ancient. *June 1981*
 OR 893.

- 62 Howa Tuo (ORK 42) * HY 4343 4362 HY 44 SW 4
 This tautologically-named monument ('mound mound') stands on the skyline, at the edge of a pasture field. Measuring some 18m ESE-WNW by 16m, it was recorded by RCAMS in 1928 as 1.2m in height, but this had been reduced by 1957 when it was seen by Henshall. Three slabs, now protruding about 0.3m above the top of the mound, appear to represent the divisions of a chamber of Orkney-Cromarty type, on the same alignment as the major axis of the mound. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 357, No. 1051; Henshall 1963, 226; OR 909.
- 63 Knucker Hill (ORK 33) HY 4286 4703 HY 44 NW 16
 On the summit at 113m OD is an oval mound, some 14m across and 1.3m high, with six slabs so arranged as to indicate a stalled chamber aligned N-S. Its appearance is unchanged since it was planned by RCAMS in 1935. To the S, at a distance of some 25m centre-to-centre although with only some 15m separating the peripheries, is a smaller mound not exceeding 0.2m high and about 8m in diameter. Two slabs lie on its NE perimeter; it probably represents a separate burial-mound. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 358, No. 1053; Henshall 1963, 218; OR 861.
- 64 The Lum Head (ORK 24) HY 4221 4910 HY 44 NW 14
 This Orkney-Cromarty round tomb stands on a high shoulder of an E-facing hill at 160m OD (60m OD). The oval mound had been partly excavated before 1928 exposing four upright slabs, which were planned by Henshall in 1957. Only the tops of these showed above ground suggesting that a substantial part of the chamber survives. One of the slabs had ceased to be visible by 1970. *June 1981*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 28 June 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1042; Henshall 1963, 205; OR 860.
- 65 Pierowall Quarry HY 4389 4905 HY 44 NW
 In January 1981, enlargement of the Pierowall stone-quarry produced a decorated stone; a small area of the site was subsequently excavated as it had survived the initial quarrying operations but was scheduled for subsequent destruction. Excavation, though comparatively limited in extent given the estimated size of the site, revealed a monument of two main periods. The earlier was a chambered cairn belonging to the Maes Howe group, the later was a round house of early Iron Age date. The large round cairn was about 18m in diameter; it had two revetments (the inner 14m in diameter), and it enclosed a chamber entered by a passage on the SW side, which was visible in the quarry section. Associated with this are three decorated stones, in the Irish megalithic art tradition, as represented at Newgrange. The larger stone was probably positioned as a lintel over the entrance into the passage. This stone, elaborately decorated with pecked spirals, is now in Tankerness House Museum, Kirkwall. As the revetment collapsed there was considerable deposition of occupation material around the cairn, and at one point the disarticulated remains of at least six individuals were inserted into the rubble. These activities were radically altered by the wholesale destruction of the cairn around 2100 b.c. in terms of uncalibrated radiocarbon dates. It was paved over at a height of about 1m above the ground surface and a small structure was constructed on a platform at its edge. The primary occupation in this structure contained large quantities of debris from the activities of a flint knapper, but this did not continue into the upper levels where proportionally more flint tools were present.
- The early Iron Age occupation saw the construction of a large stone-walled round house. Its walls were about 3m thick, but its dimensions are unknown because it was not a true circle. It lay directly on top of the cairn and the interior was sunk into it. Outside the round house was an extensive area of occupation material resulting from various domestic activities. Before quarrying, the site had been entirely masked by a sand-dune, approximately half of which still remains. (NMS)
 Neil 1981; Neil and Moran 1981; *DES (1981)* 26; OR 914.

- 66 Point of Cott (ORK 41) HY 4654 4744 HY 44 NE 3
 This long stalled tomb lies on the edge of a 5m high cliff at the blunt headland 600m N of Cleat. It is a grass-covered mound aligned N-S, measuring 30m in length and widening from 7.6m at the N end to 13.7m at the S, where it was horned. The wall-face of the W horn can be traced on its W side, continuing N for much of the length of the mound. Nine stall-slabs project in the hollowed centre. This important site is suffering erosion along the whole length of its E side and also at its N end, where the stonework is rapidly falling out. At the moment, however, the forecourt area at the S end remains intact.
June 1983
 RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 356-7, No. 1047; Henshall 1963, 226; OR 906.
- 67 Vere (ORK 52) HY 4583 5045 HY 45 SE 19
 This Orkney-Cromarty stalled tomb survives as a mound 19m in diameter and 1m high, in front of Vere farmhouse. Some of the internal slab-divisions can be seen, and the mound lies within an enclosure covering approximately 0.3ha, the wall of which incorporates two smaller mounds (cf Egmondshowe, Sanday; RCAMS 1980, p. 11, nos. 1 and 7). *June 1981*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 29 June 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 353, No. 1044; Henshall 1963, 243; OR 759.

BARROWS AND CAIRNS

- 68 Couters Hill HY 4173 4850 HY 44 NW 25
 In 1928 Corrie was shown the positions of three mounds, one on the summit of Couters Hill and the other two, already obliterated, rather below it. The summit cairn, now in a pasture field, is a roughly circular rise some 13m across with two upright slabs projecting in its hollowed centre. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1075; OR 699.
- 69 Crow Tuo HY 5018 3951 HY 53 NW 5
 On a prominent summit in a pasture field (23m OD), is a grassy mound 12.5m across and 0.8m high, which has every appearance of being a burial-mound. *June 1981*
 OR 877.
- 70 Fitty Hill HY 4297 4486 HY 44 SW
 The triangulation station on the summit of the highest hill in Westray (169m OD) occupies a flat-topped stony mound 8.5m in diameter and over 1.5m high. The name (*viti*) indicates the existence of a beacon-stance. The OS suggest that it is a recent marker cairn, but the size of the mound, and the crowning of the neighbouring summits of Gallo Hill (no. 71) and Knucker Hill (no. 63) by prehistoric burial-mounds, suggest that this also may be one. *June 1981*
 OR 866.
- 71 Gallo Hill HY 4313 4616 HY 44 NW 15
 The summit cairn on Gallo Hill (119m OD) is built on what is probably a burial-mound, the grass-covered remains of which are some 12.5m in diameter and 1.5m high. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 357-8, No. 1052; OR 692.
- 72 S of Skethaquoy area HY 421 486 HY 44 NW 10
 There is now no trace on the steep SE slope of Coulter's Hill of a mound over 30m in diameter and up to 1m high; it appears to have been removed a generation ago.
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1041; OR 689.
- 73 near Stancro HY 500 404 HY 54 SW
 Two mounds lie in the SW corner of the pasture field N of Stancro House. The larger, at HY 5006 4044, is on the shoreline and is being eroded; it comprises the surviving half of a circular bank of about 14m overall diameter, 0.4m high, at the S end of which on the shoreline, two courses of an outer revetment are visible. Within it is a hollow, then a central knoll containing a large cist or small slab-formed chamber, of which the N side is represented by an upright stone aligned E-W, 1.7m long and 0.7m high. The knoll is composed of large slabs laid slantwise face-to-face; this site is probably a 'bell-cairn'.

To the SE, at HY 5007 4042 is a grass-grown mound 9m in diameter, 0.3m high, its top hollowed.

Further N in the same field, at HY 4013 4049, is a grass-covered mound 8m in diameter and 0.5m high; a few slabs protrude at several points around the edge. *June 1981* OR 884-5.

- 74 'Wilkies Knowe' unlocated HY 44 NW 27
In one of two mounds of this name, the location of which is not known, a large steatite urn was discovered early last century somewhere in the neighbourhood of Pierowall and in 1834 passed to NMAS (EK 4).
Archaeol Scot, 5 (1847-90), Appendix, p. 28; Anderson 1883, 76; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1078; OR 904.
- 75 The Bloody Tuacks area HY 42 45 HY 44 NW
Rev J Armit recorded the tradition of a battle against Lewismen, to which the name Highlandman's Hamar (HY 427 453) refers, and he related this to two groups of mounds which lay in the saddle between Fitty and Gallo Hills. He evidently had in mind a spot to the N of Highlandman's Hamar, which he says was still known as The Bloody Tuacks.
June 1981
NSA, xv (Orkney), 126; OR 903.
- CISTS**
- 76 Berridale area HY 454 492 HY 44 NE 12
A hammerstone in the Tankerness House Museum's old catalogue is recorded as having come from an otherwise unknown cist which was discovered on Berridale farm in 1927. Tankerness House Museum, old catalogue, no. 502.
- 77 Farrivald area HY 423 492 HY 44 NW 26
Some years before 1928, a cist containing a cremation was found and removed by the farmer of Farrivald at a point 'about 200 yards' NNW of his farmhouse.
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1076; OR 700.
- 78 E of Kestro HY 4471 4314 HY 44 SW 10
On the links 80m E of Kestro (no. 110) a cist containing human bones was ploughed up about 1950. *June 1981*
OR 728.
- 79 near Nistigar area HY 44 45 HY 44 NW 28
A cist was discovered many years before 1928, not far from the Mill of Nistigar at the head of the Bay of Tuquoy.
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1079; OR 701.
- 80 Rapness HY 5003 3863 HY 53 NW
On a rocky knoll near the extremity of Rapness is a denuded mound, on the turf-covered top of which are two parallel upright slabs, which are evidently the remains of a cist, aligned SSW-NNE, 1.3m apart, projecting 0.2m. The W slab is 0.6m long, the E, which is broken in two, is 0.7m. *June 1981*
OR 876.
- 81 Westray unlocated
A tumulus in Westray contained a cist, probably with a cremation burial; fragments of a third- or fourth-century Roman glass cup (EQ 97) and a polished marble disc (AV 1) associated with it are in NMAS.
PSAS, 8 (1868-70), 390-1; Davidson 1886, 138; Curle 1932, 395, No. 88; Robertson 1970, 212; OS Record Cards HY 44 NW 3 and 6; OR 912.

STANDING STONES

- 82 'near Pierowall' unlocated HY 44 NW 8
 Low in 1778 reported that standing stones were infrequent in Westray; he 'only observed one near Pierowall with a hole in it'. This is the only known reference to this vanished site.
 Low 1915, 149; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1039; OR 901.
- 83 ESE of Quoybirse * HY 4445 4717 HY 44 NW 5
 On a rounded hilltop 200m ESE of Quoybirse is a much-weathered and partly split standing stone now just over 3m high. *June 1981*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 3 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1039; OR 685.

BURNT MOUNDS

(See also no. 124)

- 84 near Claybraes HY 5059 4014 HY 54 SW 5
 Two burnt mounds immediately E of the roadway opposite Claybraes, had been destroyed before 1928, but a scatter of burnt material was then still visible; by 1970 there was no trace of this and nothing can now be seen. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1061; OR 882.
- 85 Garth HY 4661 4525 HY 44 NE 4
 A scatter of burnt stones near the middle of the arable field NE of the farm, is all that remains of the mound listed by RCAMS. *July 1970*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1056.
- 86 NE of Gill Pier HY 4502 4922 HY 44 NE 10
 This spectacularly sea-eroded burnt mound lies on the shoreline 400m NE of Gill Pier. When seen by the OS investigator in 1970 it was 13m E-W by 5m wide and 0.6m high; its maximum width was reduced to 3m by 1981 and is now 2.5m. The section shows densely-packed shattered burnt stones forming the entire composition of the mound above a basal layer of black earth. *June 1983*
 OR 705.
- 87 Hilldavale HY 4261 4788 HY 44 NW
 The farmer at Littlehouse pointed out a spot on the adjoining property of Hilldavale where burnt material is ploughed up; a gentle rise can be seen in the field. *June 1981*
 OR 696.
- 88 between Howan and Langskaill HY 4362 4301 HY 44 SW 5
 At the edge of a field is a roughly circular burnt mound 11m in diameter and 1.3m high. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1063; OR 721.
- 89 Ness HY 4997 3923 HY 43 NE 1
 150m N of Ness farmhouse is the site of two mounds reported by Corrie in 1928. Both were grass covered, but one had been reduced by the removal of material a generation before. On this occasion a cist containing bones and ashes was discovered. The surviving mound was 50ft in diameter and 5ft high and had a well at its foot. By 1969 the last vestige had been removed and the field is now cropped; but OS in 1970 reported a scatter of burnt stones. Corrie's report makes no mention of burnt material, and he evidently thought the mounds to be burial-cairns, it is thus not clear why they were listed under the burnt mounds category in the *Inventory*. On the other hand, the 'cist' could well have been one of the box-like constructions associated with burnt mounds. *June 1981*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 2 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1062; OR 875.

- 90 Knowe of Cotterchan HY 5114 4154 HY 54 SW 2
About 250m SE of no. 91, a small burnt mound has been nearly levelled by cultivation; it is marked by a ploughed-down knoll of indefinite size. *June 1970*
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1058; OR 879.
- 91 Knowe of Goltoquoy HY 5092 4168 HY 54 SW 1
It is recorded that a large slab-formed chamber was exposed at some time before 1928 in the mutilated burnt mound about 100m E of Sanquhar. *June 1970*
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1058; OR 878.
- 92 Knowe of Hamar HY 5039 4127 HY 54 SW 3
200m NNW of the Bu of Rapness, the boundary between two cultivated fields is spanned by a burnt mound 25m NW-SE by 13m and 1.4m high. *June 1970*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 2 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1059; OR 880.
- 93 beside Loch of Burness HY 4268 4807 HY 44 NW 19
At the margin of Loch of Burness there is a mound 12m in diameter and 0.6m high. OS reports a few burnt stones lying on its surface; no such material is now visible, but the siting makes its identification as a burnt mound virtually certain. This has been identified with the RCAMS mound 'near the NW corner' of the loch, but Corrie's notebook makes it clear that that mound (no. 94) lay on arable land, not in a marsh. *June 1981*
OR 695.
- 94 near Loch of Burness area HY 42 48 HY 44 NW
RCAMS reports a burnt mound 'near the NW corner' of Loch of Burness. The *Inventory* gives no further details, but Corrie's notebook reveals that it lay on cultivated ground and had been destroyed. It is therefore not the same as the extant mound (no. 93), not recorded by RCAMS, in the marsh at the loch margin. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No.2, 14 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 358-9, No. 1055; OR 852.
- 95 near Loch of Burness area HY 42 47 HY 44 NW 20
RCAMS lists a burnt mound 'at the S end of the loch' of Burness. Corrie's notebook records that it had been destroyed. If one allows for some imprecision of compass location, this could conceivably refer to no. 87, but on balance it seems more likely to be another, and now vanished, burnt mound. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 14 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 358-9, No. 1055; OR 697.
- 96 Loch of Wastbist HY 4898 4262 HY 44 SE 14
In marshy ground at the NE margin of this loch, shrunken as a result of drainage, is a burnt mound which before 1928 had been mutilated by trenches cut through it. Its original outline was oval, 17m NE-SW by 9m and 1.4m high. *June 1970*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 3 July 1928, with measured sketch-section; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1057; OR 874.
- 97 ENE of Noup HY 4168 4892 HY 44 NW 9
On the steep hillside 400m ENE of Noup farm is an oval mound some 9m N-S by 7m and 1m high. It is turf covered and nothing can be seen of its content; although listed by RCAMS as a burial-cairn, its position beside an old watercourse suggests that it is at least as likely to be a burnt mound. *June 1981*
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1040; OR 688.
- 98 near Perth HY 5087 4107 HY 54 SW 4
In 1928 Corrie noted two cultivated knolls which he thought possibly marked the sites 'of prehistoric mounds that have been destroyed by agricultural work'; the knolls can be identified as two natural rock-outcrops immediately E of the road, where it starts to descent steeply towards the Sands of Woo. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 2 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1060; OR 881.

- 99 'N of Pierowall' unlocated HY 44 NW 18
 A burnt mound 'known only from report' and lying within the area covered by OS 1903 six-inch sheets lxxiv-lxxv, is listed by RCAMS. RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 358, no. 1054; OR 864.

BROCHS

- 100 Knowe of Burristae HY 4317 4291 HY 44 SW 1
 This broch-mound now stands hard against a low, exposed shore, and the sea has scoured away most of the interior so as to expose about a sixty-degree arc of concave interior wall-face, opposite the sea. This structure displays various architectural features including a scarcement and, above this, a square opening into the intramural gallery. On the land side, the mound is over 4m high and very steep; slab-structures are detectable in the ground up to 25m from the base of the mound. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 350, No. 1034; OR 718.
- 101 Queena Howe * HY 4250 4948 HY 44 NW 11
 Where the sand gives way to a rocky shore on the W side of Links of Noltland, a slightly raised and hummocky area of rough grass is dominated by a steep mound 22m across and 2.2m high, which stands 20m back from the shoreline and probably contains the remains of a broch. The shore banks opposite it show an erosion-section some 85m long across a series of massive stone structures. There appear to be several concentric walls emerging from the section in its E half and re-entering in the W. The outer of these walls, against the outer side of which much shell midden material has been heaped, is built of heavy beach-boulders propped on edge, reminiscent of the 'breakwater' at Clickhimin (Hamilton 1968, p. 76 and plate xii). There is no trace of the enclosure which must have given the site its name ('quoy-mound'; such curious forms as 'Queen of Howe' arise from modern misunderstanding). *June 1983*
 G Petrie, Notebook No. 9, pp. 132-3; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 352, No. 1043; *DES (1977)*, 25; OR 690.

UNENCLOSED SETTLEMENTS

(Including Norse, Medieval and Later Settlements, *see also no. 143*)

- 102 Cleat HY 4657 4682 HY 44 NE 5
 An overgrown mound some 2m high occupies an area between Cleat farm buildings and the clifftop. Some time before 1879 human bones were found in it, and in 1928 bones were visible as a result of erosion; the shoreline is now grass-covered, but the extent of the mound seems too great for a burial mound and it is more likely to be a settlement site. *June 1981*
 Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, p. 169; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 357, No. 1048; OR 703.
- 103 SE of Cleat HY 4670 4663 HY 44 NE 11
 Between a farm track and the shore 250m SE of Cleat the OS reported in 1970 the exposure of midden material and stone structures over a length of 30m, representing the last remnant of a sea-eroded mound. The banks are now grass grown and only a little midden material can be seen. *June 1981*
 OR 706.

- 104 Berst Ness centred HY 440 420 HY 44 SW 3
 Previously interpreted as burial-cairns, this is a remarkable group of prehistoric houses associated with vestigial field-walls, spread over nearly a hectare of level turf-covered ground near the end of Berst Ness. Corrie in 1928 recommended a detailed survey, but this has not yet been carried out. The southernmost mound, surmounted by a cairn, is 13m in diameter and has a setting of erect slabs on its S margin, which looks like part of a concave entrance-facade, perhaps belonging to a house of the heel-shaped type well known in Shetland. It is connected by two curving walls to a hut-circle to the N of it; the hut-circle is represented by the erect slabs of its internal wall-face, giving an internal diameter of some 4m. North again, and according to Corrie's sketch, also connected by a wall-footing to the second feature (although this wall is now hard to discern) is another hut-circle, this one in the form of a broad circular bank 11.5m in overall diameter. It seems to have had an entrance arrangement of erect slabs on its SSW margin. Lying apart from the group and to the W is a fourth feature, a circular mound, some 14m in diameter and 1m in height. *June 1983*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 6 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 357, No. 1050; OR 720.
- 105 Brough HY 4482 4791 HY 44 NW 24
 On a level, arable field 250m N of Brough farmhouse, a pronounced rise marks a settlement site, in which some structure was exposed many years before 1928. *June 1970*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 360-1, No. 1074; OR 865.
- 106 ENE of Hahouse 1 HY 4554 5124 HY 45 SE 18
 The ridge of dunes forming the shoreline of Bay of Skaill at a point 400m ENE of Hahouse, is being eroded by the sea, which has created a sand cliff 3m high. Near the top of this can be seen some fragmentary drystone walls and shell-midden deposits. As the lower part of the bank is concealed behind slumped turf, and some stonework which is protruding from this turf may have slipped from higher up; the thickness of the deposit is not ascertainable. See also no. 107. *June 1983*
 OR 681.
- 107 ENE of Hahouse 2 HY 4539 5119 HY 45 SE 18
 Immediately behind the dune-formed shoreline of The Ouse, 250m ENE of Hahouse and 150m from the previous site, is a large shapeless sandy mound. In 1970, the OS investigator saw traces of drystone walling and midden deposits here, but in 1981 these were not apparent, and rabbit-scrapes showed only a content of dirty sand. *June 1983*
 OR 680.
 For the difficulties of reconciling these two sites with that recorded by the Commission see OR 681-2.
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 29 June 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 350-1, No. 1036.
- 108 Hodgalee HY 4644 4473 HY 44 SE 3
 This is an overgrown settlement-mound near the head of the Bay of Tuquoy (10m OD); the most obvious feature is a steep rise some 2m high, but the settlement evidently extends beyond this. In the shoreline just clear of the mound on its SE side, recent erosion has exposed several walls, including the crudely-built outer face of a round building. In better masonry next to this a lintelled doorway, 0.7m wide and clear to a height of 0.7m, opens into a chamber which is choked with debris. W of the mound on the shoreline are two nausts, the N with drystone lining and clearly-defined mouth, 2m wide and 5m long, the S is 2m wide and 7m long, both pointed-ended. Beneath the nausts is an exposure of midden material. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 350, No. 1035; OR 725.
- 109 Hooan HY 4366 4313 HY 44 SW
 The rounded knoll occupied by the abandoned farmstead of Hooan is locally believed to be artificial. While it is hard to distinguish it from the natural relief, it nonetheless could well be a settlement-mound. *June 1981*
 OR 900.

- 110 Kestro HY 4479 4315 HY 44 SW 11
On the links below Midbea is a conical mound about 2m in height with exposures of walling and midden material; it is surmounted by a cairn. The mound is some 30m in diameter but the stumps of many erect slabs projecting from the turf indicate that the settlement covers a wider area. *June 1981*
OR 727.
- 111 above Knowe of Burristae HY 4308 4295 HY 44 SW 6
On grassland by the shore to the W of the Knowe of Burristae (no. 100), a low rounded hilltop is crowned by a ruined structure, oblong or oval on plan, measuring over 6m ENE-WSW by 4m. Its NE corner can be seen to be rounded and the wall is 1.2m thick, the faces on both sides having basal courses of upright slabs. There are several walls associated with the structure, and it appears to be a prehistoric house with associated field-system; it has been erroneously identified with the unlocated chapel of Kirbist (no. 149). *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 6 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1070;
OR 722.
- 112 Knowe of Skea HY 4414 4181 HY 44 SW 2
The extremity of the rocky peninsula of Berst Ness is marked by a large settlement-mound, about 26m in diameter, in the sea-eroded S side of which can be seen stone walls and midden deposits. *June 1983*
RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 357, No. 1049; OR 719.
- 113 Knowe of Sunloft unlocated
NMAS catalogue contains an undated entry relating to 'refuse heap pottery' (HR 1250-72) provenanced 'Knowe of Sunloft'; it presumably refers to a kitchen-midden deposit, or perhaps to a burnt mound, but there is no other record of the discovery, and local enquiry has failed to prompt any recollection of the name.
NMAS typescript catalogue; OR 915.
- 114 Langskaill HY 4383 4287 HY 44 SW 9
In the late 1960s a water pipe was laid across the field at the back of Langskaill farmhouse. The excavation encountered stone structures including a lintelled passage 'some 4 to 5 feet deep', which was left intact and covered over.
OR 729.
- 115 Links of Garth HY 4673 4472 HY 44 SE
Lying NE-SW alongside the low shoreline for some 100m is a mound attaining a maximum height, at its NE end, of about 6m. Its SE face is being eroded, exposing stone structures buried in sand. The stonework, none of it very substantial, continues to the SW as the height of the mound lessens towards the point of the low headland. *June 1981*
OR 871.
- 116 Links of Noltland HY 428 493 HY 44 NW 29
Originally recognised by the Orcadian antiquary, George Petrie, in the middle of the 19th century, this Grooved Ware site was rediscovered in 1977. Since then four seasons of excavation have been undertaken to examine the nature and size of the surviving deposits which are being exposed in a rapidly deflating machair system on the N coast of the island. This preliminary work suggests that the deposits may be spread over an area of some 3ha, but there is as yet no evidence to suggest that the remains are continuous over that area. Indeed, had that once been the case, previous deflations of the machair system are likely to have eroded some material. The archaeological deposits both lie on and are covered by blown sand. The initial results suggest that the site can be conveniently subdivided into 3 areas; the west midden, the central dunes and the east midden (Grobust). Each has quite distinct structural and artefact characteristics.

The main settlement appears to have been located in the west midden. Although this is not yet confirmed, some features, including a hearth and a possible collapsed oven of Rinyo type, point towards such an interpretation. The midden itself has a compact clayey consistency and at present some 1100sq m is exposed through erosion, though this is not its full extent. Its deposition appears to have been closely regulated in order to ensure its availability for future use. Work at the edge of this midden has shown that its deposition was preceded by a period of continuous cultivation involving the use of ards; boundaries in the form of ditches occur in the earlier phase of this cultivation. At the end of the period of midden accumulation a low wall, now partly destroyed by later cultivation on the midden, was built and adjacent to it the articulated skeletons of some eleven red deer were discovered. The sequence ends with further traces of cultivation on the midden surface.

Little is exposed in the central dunes and only one small eroding area has been excavated. A low wall with large vertical, upright slabs, regularly spaced, in one face appears to lie on top of earlier cultivation although the evidence for the latter is tenuous. Adjacent to one face of the wall there was a large bone scatter, predominantly red deer, containing both individual bones and small articulated groups. This apparent butchering debris and the wall are covered by a thin midden containing Beaker pottery, hitherto rare in the Northern Isles.

The east midden is an area of high sand-dune with a complex of well-preserved structures. The structures so far excavated have been set into holes dug into the dune, which accounts for the remarkable preservation, with walls still standing to a height of over 1.5m. Work has concentrated on a two-roomed building with the two chambers linked by a narrow passage, the roofing of which survived *in situ*. The N chamber was rectangular with circular cells off at each of the southern corners although in a later phase modification involved the blocking off of one cell and the construction of a dividing wall. The S chamber has a very irregular lobate plan with a large square recess opposite the entrance from the connecting passage. The whole structure was deliberately and carefully infilled although the nature of the infilling is quite different in each chamber. In plan this building is not paralleled at other Orcadian Grooved Ware sites.

Finds from the excavation have been particularly numerous, in the order of 10,000 artefacts. In general they find ready parallels in the material of Skara Brae and to a lesser extent Rinyo. However, significant differences can be seen in the material recovered from individual areas, although work on documenting these differences is only at an early stage. (DVC)

G Petrie Notebook, No. 9, pp. 26-9; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1081; *DES (1977)*, 24-5; *DES (1978)*, 18; Clarke, Hope and Wickham-Jones 1978; *DES (1980)*, 25; *DES (1981)*, 25-6.

- 117 Mound of Skelwick HY 4893 4524 HY 44 NE 6
 There is a large settlement-mound at the head of the bay of Skel Wick. When, prior to 1928, the coastal road had to be diverted into a cutting made through it after the old road fell into the sea, great quantities of kitchen-midden refuse were found, incorporating many fragments of deer-horn and bones. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1065; OR 716.
- 118 Ness of Tuquoy HY 4593 4325 HY 44 SE
 Adjoining the isolated steading on the S side of the extremity of the Ness, the shore banks are being eroded, exposing over a 30m front, and at about 1m below ground level, a layer of settlement debris 0.5m thick, resting on a buried soil, and itself covered by blown sand. The deposit comprises shell and animal-bone midden containing some burnt stones and drystone masonry. At the E end of the exposure is a row of upright slabs, and at the W end, a setting of five such flags looks like the arrangement at the doorway of a prehistoric house. *June 1983*
 OR 869.

- 119 Pierowall HY 43 48 HY 44 NW 30
 In May 1970 workmen digging foundations for council houses encountered a kitchen-midden deposit of shells, animal bones and burnt stones, beneath blown sand at HY 4367 4870. An oval beach stone with a hollow 'about the size of a foot and four inches deep' was found on this occasion.
- A similar midden is said to have been found during foundation-digging on a new house-site in 1969 at HY 4353 4847. *June 1970*
 OR 921-2.
- 120 Quoygrew HY 4433 5065 HY 45 SW
 On the low shoreline immediately W of Quoygrew, and perceptible on the surface only as a slight rise, is an erosion-exposure of densely-packed midden material 1.5m thick. Some stonework is visible, including a fairly substantial drain with laid masonry side-walls. The midden is rich in fish bones; minor excavations in 1978 yielded a pin, pottery, and carbonised grain. *June 1983*
DES (1977), 25; DES (1978), 18; OR 677.
- 121 Sands of Woo HY 5111 4090 HY 54 SW
 Lying alongside the shoreline behind the Sands of Woo is a prominent steep-sided mound rising over 2m above ground level. Measuring about 60m SW to NE by 20m transversely, it is almost certainly an old settlement-mound. *June 1981*
 OR 887.
- 122 Surrigarth area HY 49 45 HY 44 NE
 A 'kitchen-midden' at 'Surrigar' is the provenance given for antler and stone objects in Tankerness House Museum. No such site is otherwise recorded, but it could well have been an erosion-exposure in the soft cliff-face, now protected by a sea-wall, alongside the farm buildings at HY 491 451. *June 1981*
 Tankerness House Museum, old catalogue nos. 32-5; OR 910.
- 123 Tafts HY 4963 4171 HY 44 SE
 The abandoned farm of Tafts stands upon a prominent mound rising some 2m above the general level of the sandy links; two small exposures caused by rabbits show limpet-shells and animal-bone midden material. *June 1981*
 OR 873.
- 124 Tuquoy, Westside HY 4543 4313 HY 44 SE 5
 Excavation at a point some 70m W of Cross Kirk (no. 148), coupled with survey work, and the recording of the eroding adjacent cliff section were carried out in 1982. The cliff section reveals traces of settlement along a stretch at least 75m long, comprising complex structures of differing phases, with associated flagged floors, slab-lined drains, with midden and other occupation debris, both inside and outside the buildings. Steatite bowl fragments, coarse pottery, an end fragment of bone comb, a chalk spindle whorl and a possible ring-headed pin of bronze were discovered; they indicate that most of the settlement derives from the Norse period. However, a silted-up passageway, with a flagged base bordered by walls on each side, may be the remains of an earlier structure, perhaps a souterrain; and at the E end of the section, a deep pit filled with waterlogged, anaerobic material, exceptional in the Northern Isles, containing well-preserved wood and other environmental evidence, is overlain by layers of peat ash, 1.2m in depth, packed with fire-shattered rubble, perhaps representing a burnt mound.
- Excavation centred around four substantial walls of dressed masonry, visible in the cliff section and standing to a maximum height of 1.1m, and immediately adjacent to each other. One wall has a width of 1.42m, suggesting a defensive function, and taken together with another wall located at right angles to it, may prove to be the remains of a tower, perhaps originally square. A secondary building phase is represented by an extension to the S, which is plastered internally with a yellowish-white lime plaster, indicating a date not before the twelfth century. Other structural remains on the site include a curving wall suggesting a circular construction; a complex sequence of buildings immediately to the N, including a broad wall, 1.3m wide, constructed in two phases, and other early walls in the E. Altogether, at least five separate constructional phases of probable late Norse date have

already been identified, representing considerable rebuilding and continued and extended occupation of the site over a period of time. The site is comparatively rich in finds of metalwork, bone and stone objects, considerable quantities of coarse pottery and other occupational debris. Excavations will continue in 1983. (OO)
Lamb 1981; *DES (1982)*, 18-19; Owen 1982; OR 710.

125. Weather Ness HY 5251 4060 HY 54 SW
Near the end of Weather Ness is a slight rise on the top of which are numerous earthfast erect slabs; although traditionally stated to mark the graves of shipwrecked North Ronaldsay men, the stones suggest the presence of a prehistoric house. *June 1981*
OR 888.

EARTH-HOUSE

(See also no. 124)

126. Pisgah area HY 43 48 HY 44 NW 7
An earth-house comprising a deep rock-cut chamber with slab-formed roof supported on pillars, and a steeply sloping access passage, was discovered about 1850 when the sand-dune covering it was removed. It was planned and published in detail by Thomas, who locates it 'near the place where the Scandinavian graves were found' (no. 131). A plan by Petrie, on the reverse of an untitled drawing showing a broch (see no. 11), and labelled 'Earth House in Westray', shows a chamber of the same shape as Thomas's, but with a quite different arrangement of pillars. In 1928 the filled-in and overgrown site, known as 'Pisgah', was shown to Corrie near Pierowall church (no. 150) but on the opposite side of the road; the exact location is not now known. *June 1981*
Thomas 1852, 129-31, plate xvii; Petrie plan in NMRS; Kirkness 1930, 223-4; RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 14 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 351, No. 1037; OR 855.

TREB DYKES

127. above Burn of Finchaley HY 4210 4707 to 4226 4725 HY 44 NW
A broad bank is traceable in an improved field running downhill from HY 4226 4725 at 54m OD; after running under a fence into unimproved rough land it continues downhill on a slightly sinuous course, towards a small tributary of the Burn of Finchaley, and becomes lost at 48m OD. At its maximum the bank is 0.3m high and 5m broad.
June 1981
OR 714.
128. S of Our Ness HY 4173 4941 to 4195 4929 HY 44 NW
A grass-covered earthen bank, 0.7m high and 6m broad, runs from the cliff edge straight up a steep hillside for a distance of 250m. *June 1981*
OR 715.

NORSE BURIALS

129. Links of Trenabie area HY 44 50 HY 45 SW
Wallace, who visited Westray in 1688, and Rev J Izat who contributed the entry for the *Statistical Account* a century later, concur in describing graves, evidently Viking on the links near Trenabie. A less precisely located description by Low in 1778 probably refers to the same discoveries. These accounts indicate burials on the opposite side of the isthmus from no. 131.
Wallace 1883 (account 1693), 30; Low 1915 (account 1778), 147-9; *Stat. Acct.* xvi (1795), 263; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 355, No. 1046; OR 856.

- 130 Mae Sand/Tuquoy Links? unlocated HY 44 SW or SE
 In *NSA* Rev J Armit described burials at both the N and S ends of Westray, the former evidently referring to no. 131. The S group lay in a similar area of shifting sand; Mae Sand HY 44 42 and Tuquoy Links HY 45 43 are plausible locations.
Stat. Acct., xvi (1795), 263-4; *NSA*, xv (Orkney), 126; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 355, No. 1046; OS Record Card HY 44 SW 7; OR 762.
- 131 Pierowall Links area HY 43 49 HY 44 NW 13
 On an undefined area of Pierowall Links (but cf no. 126) burials with weapons were first reported in 1839, and discoveries continued through the nineteenth century. The various groups of objects have become confused, but the copious literature has been analysed by Thorsteinsson, who has produced a definitive account of the cemetery, identifying seventeen grave-groups.
 RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 353-4, No. 1045; Thorsteinsson 1968; OR 761. Museum holdings; NMAS IL 182-208; Sheffield City Museum J93-1288; Pitt Rivers Museum, Farnham.

INDETERMINATE MOUNDS

- 132 Ayre of Burrestae HY 4331 4281 HY 44 SW
 On the flat, turf-covered backshore at Ayre of Burrestae is a low, rectangular mound 3m NW-SE by 2.5m. At its NW end are two flat flags (one concealed by turf), immediately SE of which is a pair of upright slabs. *June 1981*
 OR 868.
- 133 SW of Langskaill HY 4344 4256 HY 44 SW
 On the flat grass-grown backshore SW of Langskaill is a mound 4.5m in diameter, 0.2m high, with on its perimeter, the tops of four upright slabs, placed radially to the centre of the mound. *June 1981*
 OR 867.
- 134 Noup Head HY 3921 4971 HY 34 NE
 On the extreme edge of the highest part of the cliff at Noup Head are the remains of a mound, a possible burial-mound, or a marker cairn measuring 5m by up to 2m and 0.3m in height. *June 1981*
 OR 693.
- 135 near Peatwell HY 4509 5185 HY 45 SE 21
 In a pasture field 80m SW of Peatwell there is a low mound; it was heavily quarried early this century, but is thought to have contained an ancient structure. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1073; OR 682.
- 136 near Peterkirk HY 5002 4006 HY 54 SW 6
 Some 60m SE of Peterkirk (no. 153) are the remains of two stony mounds. The more northerly is 11m by 6m and 0.3m high, but the other has been almost completely eroded. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1080; OR 726.
- 137 NW of Trenabie HY 4438 5112 HY 45 SW 2
 On a shoulder of a grass hillside overlooking the sea to the W, is an oval mound aligned NW-SE and measuring 8m by 6m and 0.4m in height. A stone sinker was found in it many years ago. *June 1981*
 OR 678.
- 138 WNW of Trenabie * HY 4432 5103 HY 45 SW 1
 Overridden by a dyke immediately above a low rocky shoreline is a shapeless rise from which protrude two earthfast erect slabs, one on each side of the dyke. It was noted as a 'Picts House' in the 1870s; although undoubtedly a prehistoric site, there is no indication whether it is domestic or funerary. *June 1981*
 Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, p. 24; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 351-2, No. 1038; OR 676.

- 139 below Tuquoy HY 4542 4397 HY 44 SE
Between the road and the shore, directly opposite a milestone, is the last remnant of a sea-eroded knoll containing stonework including one wall-face. *June 1981*
OR 870.

- 140 Vaval HY 4463 5175 HY 45 SW 3
Beneath the cairn on the summit of Vaval is a featureless stony mound about 12m in diameter and 0.7m high. *June 1981*
OR 679.

INDETERMINATE SITES

- 141 Burness HY 4291 4824 HY 44 NW 4
The grass-covered peninsula in the loch immediately S of Burness farm is traditionally the site of 'picts'-houses'; it shows no traces of occupation, but the peninsula itself seems at least partly artificial. *June 1981*
OR 687.

- 142 Knoll of Skulzie HY 4472 4904 HY 44 NW 23
A mound immediately N of Gill Pier was built over at the end of last century, and two stone axes and some human remains were found in it. Petrie also recorded features at this point, but because of the dumping of rubbish nothing can now be seen. *June 1981*
G Petrie, Notebook, No. 9, p. 30; PSAS, 19 (1884-5), 136; Petrie 1890, 94; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1072; OR 698.

- 143 NW of Queena Howe HY 4227 4960 HY 44 NW 22
Along a 24m stretch of shoreline 350m NW of Queena Howe (no. 101), but partly obscured by old cars dumped over the banks, are exposures of masonry near the top of the low cliff. The main feature is a fragment of the inner wall-face, standing 0.7m high and measuring 3.9m along the chord, representing a circular house with one reaiially-set partition-slab. This must be the 'small section of a Brough' sketched by Petrie in 1866. *June 1983*
G Petrie, Notebook, no. 9, pp. 132-3; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1071; OR 694.

- 144 Skail HY 4567 5217 HY 45 SE 23
In 1928 Mr Chalmers, the tenant of Skail farm, informed Corrie of 'an old building' immediately behind this farmhouse, the site of which could still be seen as a much spread mound showing burnt stones. Many skeletons had been found there and Chalmers thought the house must stand on an old burial-ground. The area has since been largely built over, and the present owner, Mr J Scott, reports further finds of skeletons in long cists, as well as burnt stones and midden material. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 29 June 1928; OR 686.

- 145 E of Skail area HY 460 522 HY 45 SE 22
Shortly before 1928 Mr Chalmers of Skail, while ploughing in the second field E of the farmhouse uncovered a 'circular or oval' cavity containing ashes or burnt bones. RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 29 June 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1077; OR 683.

ECCLESIASTICAL MONUMENTS

- 146 Cleat HY 4648 4685 HY 44 NE 7
Tradition places the site of a chapel in a small paddock immediately N of the farm buildings. Human remains have been found there, and a kitchen-midden deposit and a find of a decorated bone comb suggest that this is an ancient settlement-site. Corrie recorded the tradition that this was the site of the old house of Cleat, one of several houses burned in reprisal after 1745. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 4 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1068; Fereday 1980, 108; OR 704.

- 147 Curquoy or Korkquoy area HY 43 47 HY 44 NW
 In connection with the unlocated chambered tomb (no. 60) J Hewison gave G Petrie the name *Korkquoy*; the field-name *Curquoy* apparently refers to the same area. It seems to indicate a church-site (*Kirkja*); the field-name refers to area HY 431 474, but the name originally may have had a wider application; the dearth of recorded chapels in Westray makes it likely that one was indeed located in this populous district.
 OR 863.
- 148 Cross Kirk * HY 4550 4315 HY 44 SE 1
 The ruins of this building, one of the most refined of Orkney's medieval churches, comprise an original chancel and short nave which was subsequently lengthened. The chancel, internally 2.78m long by about 2.1m wide, was barrel-vaulted, and is notable for the inclined jambs of the chancel-arch. The nave averaging 4.1m wide, is assigned an original length of 5.56m by RCAMS, and is thus presented by differential paving in the guardianship layout. After extension the internal length was 14.17m; the extension is usually assigned to the thirteenth century but the moulding of the existing south doorway appears to be of 16th- or 17th-century date. Whereas the later work has been reduced to its foundation courses, the original building stands some 2.5m high, which can be compared with MacGibbon and Ross's statement that 'when certain people within living memory were pulling it down, an old inhabitant begged them not to 'pull down the Danes' work', alluding to the chancel and eastern part of the nave'.
 This church is unquestionably to be associated with the adjacent high-status late Norse settlement (no. 124). The original work can tentatively be ascribed to Hafliki Thorkelsson, about the middle of the twelfth century or slightly earlier. *June 1983*
 Sir Henry Dryden, drawings 1870, in NMRS; MacGibbon and Ross 1896-7, vol 1, 124-6; Craven 1901, 172-3; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 344-5, No. 1032; Marwick 1952b, 53-4; Ritchie and Ritchie 1978, 73; Lamb 1981; OR 892.
- 149 Kirbist area HY 43 43 HY 44 SW 6
 The former existence of a chapel in this district is suggested by the place-name. In 1928 D Rendall, the farmer of Nether House, showed Corrie the site here listed as no. 111, which Corrie tentatively identified as a chapel. The chapel is more likely to have lain in the immediate neighbourhood of the farms of West, Mid and East Kirbist. *June 1981*
 RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 6 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1070; OR 722.
- 150 Lady Kirk * HY 4395 4881 HY 44 NW 2
 The very irregularly-shaped bicameral church, situated near the centre of Pierowall village, was very heavily remodelled in the seventeenth century as confirmed by an epigraphic date of 1674. Two particularly fine graveslabs of this period are set in the interior walls of the chancel. The S wall of the nave, which is earlier than the remainder, may be of medieval date. *June 1981*
 Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, p. 99; Tudoe 1883, 374; RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 343-4, No. 1030; OR 913.
- 151 Noup area HY 41 48 HY 44 NW 21
 The RCAMS *Inventory* is the only authority for the former existence of a chapel 'close to the farm-house of Noup', but the source of this information is not given, and the chapel is not now locally known. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1066; OR 902.
- 152 Old Kirkhouse area HY 489 452 HY 44 NE 8
 A chapel, evidently associated with the large settlement-mound of Skelwick (no. 117), is traditionally located in its general area, but there is no evidence of its exact site. *June 1981*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1069; OR 717.

- 153 Peterkirk HY 4998 4008 HY 44 SE 2
 This site, on the W shore of the SW extremity of Westray, appears to be a more than usually considerable chapel occupying the site perhaps of a broch. The mound, some 25m across, is much altered by quarrying and sea-erosion; midden material can be seen in exposures, and on the S side is a substantial wall, which, however, is not straight and exhibits at least three distinct periods of building. This wall runs N-S and its ends are buried; higher up the mound is exposed a short length of E-W wall but it is impossible to connect the two or say whether they belong to the church or to the older structure. Occasional erect slabs protrude all over the mound, and on its NW slope a small cist-like box is exposed. Some 30m SE of the mound, on level ground, is a rectangular slab-formed structure, barely visible in the turf and too hidden to be measured; it lies 1.5m back from the shoreline. *June 1983*
 RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 344, No. 1031; OR 724.
- 154 'Sheepy Kirk' – old UP Church HY 4458 4680 HY 44 NW
 Inconveniently located on an exposed hilltop 2km SE of Pierowall village is the shell of the United Presbyterian church, built in 1823 for 440 sittings and disused by 1879. It is starkly rectangular, 17.2m E-W by 8.9m externally, with no windows in the N wall; the S wall has four round-arched windows, the two inner ones being taller than the outer, forming a symmetrical composition on either side of the pulpit position. Facing the pulpit, a gallery, reached by an internal stair in the NE corner, extended along the N wall. The E and W walls, which are said to have been gabled, although both gables have fallen, each had a round-arched doorway. A small, single-storey house, evidently secondary to the church, forms a projecting wing at the centre of the N side. Church and house stand in a rectangular enclosure, 70m E-W by 90m with a gateway in its E wall; a small sub-enclosure formed within the SE angle of the larger one and bounded on the N by the church, may have been intended as a burial-ground, but there are no headstones.
June 1983
 Name Book, Orkney No. 26, p. 163; Small 1904, 498-9; OR 684.

STACK SITE

- 155 Castle of Burrian HY 5039 4292 HY 54 SW 7
 The Castle is a high, stack, isolated at high tide, within a cliffbound bay. It was ascended in 1970 by Mr N K Blood of the OS, who reports that its higher, SW end is occupied by two contiguous subrectangular bow-sided buildings, the more northerly 9m by 5m, the other 10.5m by 5.5m between the centres of earth-and-stone walls spread to a thickness of 1.5m. The larger building has an additional circular structure at its W end and a possible doorway half-way along the N side. He also reported masonry traces at the point of access on the W side of the NE end of the stack, and another possible building there.
 Name Book, Orkney No. 26, p. 265; OR 890.

CASTLE

- 156 Noltland Castle * HY 4292 4868 NY 44 NW 1
 This Z-plan tower-house, probably begun c. 1560 by Gilbert Balfour but most likely left not quite finished, is one of the finest examples of a Scottish artillery-defended fortified residence. A courtyard range, probably seventeenth-century and more ruinous, adjoins it. *June 1983*
 Billings 1852; MacGibbon and Ross 1887-92, vol. 2, 213-21; Dietrichson 1906, 81-3 (Norwegian text), 74 (separately paginated English text, summary); RCAMS 1946, ii, pp. 345-50, No. 1033; Simpson 1952; Cruden, 1963, 187-9; Dunbar 1966, 42, 56-7; OR 911.

NAUSTS

(See also no. 108)

- 157 Ayre of Swartmill HY 4793 4607 HY 44 NE
On the landward side of the road that runs along the shingle ayre is a group of nausts, some overgrown, others stone-built free-standing, and containing decaying boats. Some nausts lie at right angles to the shore, others parallel to it. *June 1981*
OR 899.
- 158 Bay of Havey HY 4892 4593 HY 44 NE
There are two recent stone-built nausts on the grass surface at the head of a small geo. *June 1981*
OR 897.
- 159 Berst Ness HY 4411 4214 HY 44 SW
A single stone-built naust stands high up the gentle slope, where a track runs down to the beach on the E side of Berst Ness. There are kelp-drying racks nearby. *June 1981*
OR 895.
- 160 Castle Geo HY 4980 4287 HY 44 SE
There are three pointed, turf-formed, slab-lined nausts, their seaward ends partly eroded, on top of the grassy banks at the head of the geo. *June 1981*
OR 916.
- 161 Rack Wick HY 4991 4248 HY 44 SE
There are six overgrown nausts, which appear to be pointed-ended in the steep grassy banks at the head of the bay. *June 1981*
OR 917.
- 162 Rapness HY 5025 3943 HY 53 NW
There are at least four overgrown stone-built nausts between the roadway and the head of a sandy geo. *June 1981*
OR 883.
- 163 Sands of Woo HY 510 408 HY 54 SW
There are four well-preserved nausts at HY 5104 4081, close to the track leading down to the shore below Perth. Two similar ones lie to the NE at HY 5106 4085, and a further two, much broken-down, at HY 5107 4086. *June 1981*
OR 886.
- 164 Sponess HY 4852 4642 HY 44 NE
There is a row of at least six dilapidated nausts on the shoreline at Sponess; extending N along the W shore are further ruined structures including more nausts. At the point is a ruinous building, perhaps a fishing-lodge. *June 1981*
OR 898.
- 165 Taphland HY 4734 4447 HY 44 SE
In the rapidly disintegrating cliff below Taphland is a drystone-lined pointed-ended naust dug into the top of the cliff. Its sea end is now 1.4m above the shoreline. The naust has a surviving length of 3m, its width 1.8m, and its maximum height 1.2m. *June 1981*
- 166 Tuquoy Links HY 4486 4298 HY 44 SW
On the top of the banks above a low geo are eight stone-built nausts probably of late nineteenth-century construction. They are up to 3.6m long and 2.2m wide at their mouths. At the head of the geo, directly facing the sea, are two slighter and narrower nausts which are probably older. They are about half the size of the others and their ends are very pointed. *June 1981*
OR 894.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 167 Cleat HY 4643 4682 HY 44 NE
An almost square dovecote attached to one of the farm outbuildings at Cleat was recorded in detail by Corrie in 1928. *June 1981*
RCAMS Notebook, Orkney, No. 2, 4 July 1928; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 359, No. 1064; OR 702.
- 168 Gentlemen's Cave HY 3978 4859 HY 34 NE
This sea-cave, reached by descending a long sloping ledge on the spectacular cliffs S of Noup Head, is a less commodious hiding-place than the Rapness one (no. 169), but traditionally it also was used by the same four lairds in 1746.
Tudor 1883, 377; Fereday 1980, 115-21; OR 919.
- 169 Gentlmen's Ha' HY 5165 4191 HY 54 SW
A cave about half-way up the cliff on the E side of Rapness, and accessible by descending a precipitous grass slope, was used as a place of refuge by four North Isles Jacobite lairds for several months during 1746.
Low 1915 (account 1778), 142-3; Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, 277; Fereday 1980, 115-21; OR 918.
- 170 near Old Manse unlocated HY 44 SW 7
Half a mile from the Old Manse (HY 4376 4270) Rev J Izat described 'two remarkable graves by the sea shore'. One was large; the other, some distance away, was small, and was set within a small circle of stones.
Stat. Acct., xvi (1795), 263-4; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 355, No. 1046; OR 763.
- 171 Tuquoy area HY 45 43 HY 44 SE
Brand records the finding of bones 'between Tukey and the West Church'; this appears to refer to some otherwise unknown discovery between Tuquoy farm (HY 453 438) and Cross Kirk (no. 148).
Brand 1701, 45-6; OR 891.
- 172 Weather Ness HY 5218 4051 HY 54 SW
Towards the extremity of Weather Ness is a massive rectangular enclosure, 25m by 16m, between the centres of banks which have spread to a thickness of 4m; there are tumbled remains of a stone revetment on the inside. *June 1981*
OR 889.

ISOLATED FINDS

- 173 'Backaskaill' unlocated
NMAS catalogue provenances a polished stone ball (AS 34) to 'Backaskaill, Westray'. Unless Backaskaill in Papa Westray is meant, this may relate to Breckaskaill farm (HY 451 501).
NMAS card catalogue.
- 174 'Cleat House' HY 4626 4711 HY 44 NE 9
The Name Book is the only source of information concerning a discovery of 'ancient coins' while the foundations of 'Cleat House', not to be confused with Cleat farmhouse, were being dug in 1849.
Name Book, Orkney, No. 26, p. 164; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 361, No. 1082; OR 896.
- 175 Heatherbank area HY 43 44 HY 44 SW
Heatherbank is the stated provenance of a split macehead (AH 129) acquired by NMAS in 1907. The croft house was at HY 439 449.
NMAS card catalogue.

- 176 Pierowall Village HY 437 486 HY 44 NW 27
In 1970 Mr A C Hunter brought to NMAS pieces of worked bone, hammer-stones and a stone trough, which had been found at the corner of the track that turns sharply N from the village street at the Gospel Hall.
DES (1970), 33; OR 905.

HOLM OF AIKERNESS

ECCLESIASTICAL MONUMENT

- 177 Holm of Aikerness HY 4697 5250 HY 45 SE 20
About 1700 there still survived the walls of a chapel traditionally associated with nuns, on the low stony island half-way between Westray and Papay. RCAMS quotes W Traill, Holland, as reporting that foundations, apparently indicating a small chancel and nave, were partly covered by a sheep-shelter. The islet has not recently been visited, but it is overflowed at a low level by the Loganair service, and scrutiny on several such occasions suggests that nothing is now visible. *April 1981; February 1982; November 1982*
Brand 1701, 39, 51; RCAMS 1946, ii, p. 360, No. 1067; OR 760.



SCHEDULED AND GUARDIANSHIP MONUMENTS

The names and identification of several sites have changed since they were given statutory protection under the Ancient Monuments Act of 1979, which supersedes the earlier acts, and the following concordance gives the name and category under which they have been afforded protection, followed by the number of the article in the present list. A cross (+) indicates monuments wholly or partly in the care of the Secretary of State for Scotland.

PAPA WESTRAY

Prehistoric, Domestic and Defensive

- Castle of Bothikan, broch, Bay of Moclett (no. 11)
- + Knap of Howard, houses (no. 18)
- Knowes of Maebeck, burnt mound (no. 8)
- Munger House, house W of St Boniface Church, Holland (no. 29)

Crosses and Carved Stones

- St Boniface Graveyard, tombstone (no. 29)

Ecclesiastical

- St Boniface Church (no. 29)
- St Tredwell's Chapel and Brough (no. 30)

HOLM OF PAPA WESTRAY

Prehistoric, Ritual and Funerary

- Holm of Papa, chambered cairn at N end (no. 59)
- + Holm of Papa, long cairn (no. 57)

WESTRAY

Prehistoric, Ritual and Funerary

- Howa Tower, chambered cairn NNW of Netherhouse, Bay of Kirbist (no. 62)
- Quoybirse, standing stone SE of (no. 83)
- Trenable Farm, standing stone (no. 138)

Prehistoric, Domestic and Defensive

- Knowe of Burristae, broch W of Langskaill, Bay of Kirbist (no. 100)
- Knowe of Queen o' Howe, broch (no. 101)

Ecclesiastical

- + Pierowall Church (no. 150)
- + Westside, Tuquoy Church (no. 148)

Secular

- + Noltland Castle (no. 156)

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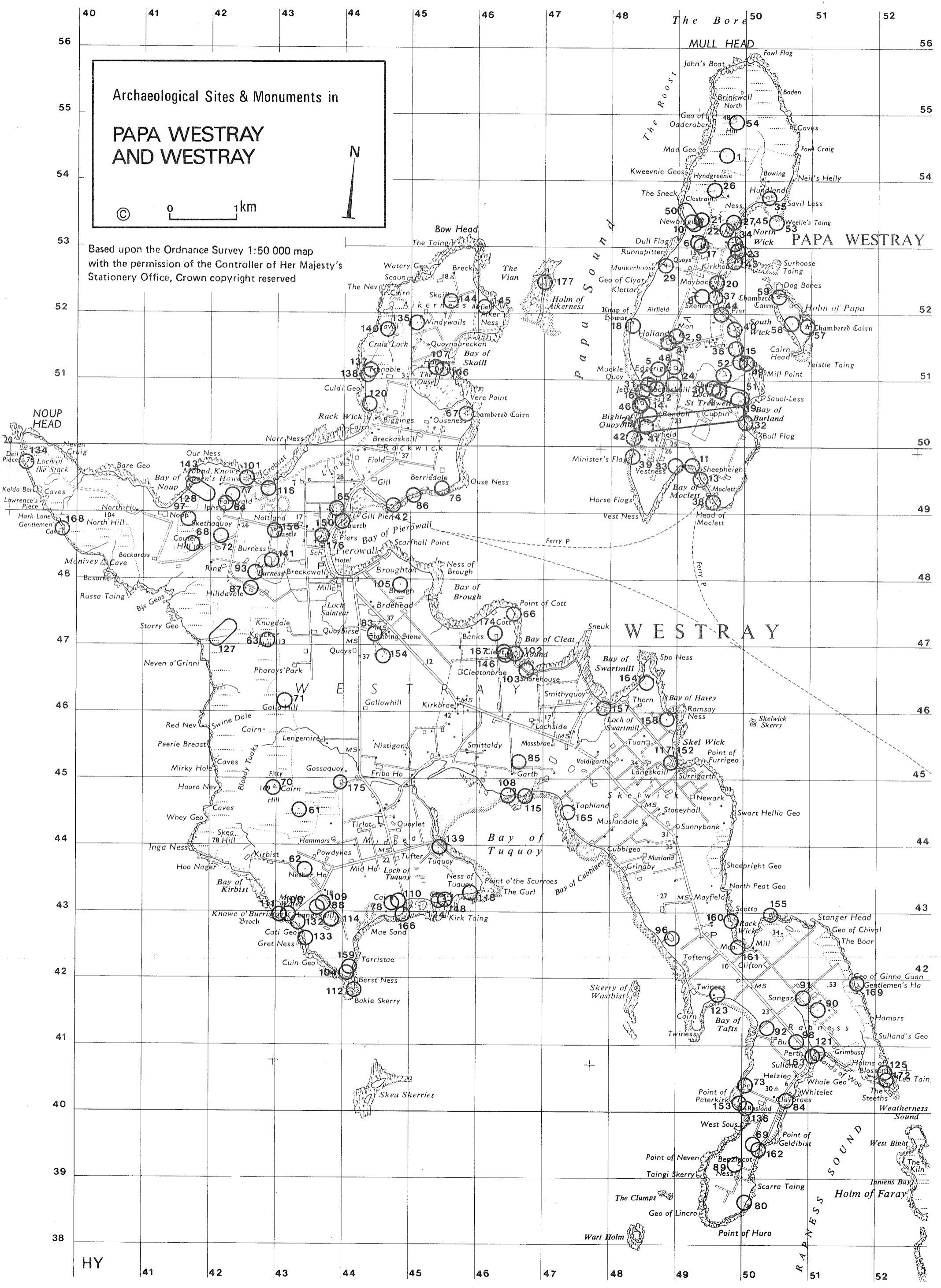
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