

EDINBURGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SOCIETY

Scottish Charity No. SC006520

News

Issue 219 – Spring 2023



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CAMMO

The work in the Walled Garden continues well. We had a record that said that the Glasshouse was 28 yards long so we measured it out and managed to find the East end of the building. Here we found the outside wall which has a rough, cobbled path around it (Fig 2). The path seems to have been covered in cinders to flatten between the cobbles. A couple of nice pieces of clay pipe stem and a bowl was found by the path.

Inside the building seems to have been a store of large flower pots, some intact. Also found were two plant labels for roses. The latest label is for 'Gloire De Dijon' a buff yellow rose, sometimes tinted with pink and Gold. It was

bred by Jacotot in 1853. The first rose label was for H.P Ferdinand Chaffiote, this was a strawberry red rose bred by Pernet in 1870. We are beginning to build up a picture of the garden. At the West end of the Glasshouse we have now found four grape labels. The latest one for 'Bowood Muscat'.

Our student volunteers are coming back after exams and dissertation hand ins are over which is very encouraging. We also had a visit from 6 students and 2 teachers from Craigmount High School. The students are working towards their 'Heritage Heroes Award' and had a good day for their visit. This is likely to become a regular link up with the school.

The Friends of Cammo dug over some parts of the garden in advance of planting plants to feed the bees in Autumn. Representatives of EAFS joined them and a number of pieces of ornamental ironwork were dug up. They seem to belong to a framework for an ornamental porch similar to those found on other early Glasshouses (Fig 1). We are now debating whether these pieces come from a porch on the large North Wall mounted glasshouse or from the irregular shaped building shown on the 1895 plan in the more central area that is overgrown.

We had a walkover at the beginning of the year to see what features from the 1895 plan we could find. The 'P' symbol caught our attention and by measuring the distance on the plan to the distance from the South wall we were able to find the well which had originally had 'a water engine' or pump attached. This was found towards the end of the day so recorded by photograph (Fig 3) and covered over again for safety. We will need to uncover it again to record it properly. The water level was approximately 2m down and there was a good depth of water below that.

Work continues and we hope to visit other similar aged glasshouses to compare with ours. All welcome to join us on a Monday, 10.00am at Cammo Lodge or visit the Walled Garden to see the site. Christine McPherson



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig.3



Fig.4

GREEN TEAM/GREEN WELLIES AT CAMMO ESTATE - Fig. 4

Over the past year we have welcomed members of The Green Team.

Based in Edinburgh their Aim is to provide experiences that connect children and young people to nature and themselves.

We have enjoyed working and supporting various groups including Green Wellies and local youth and school groups ,who have come along and helped us clear away the ever growing weeds and Ivy growing around The Stables.This work is much appreciated and we look forward to welcoming the Green Team back soon.

Joyce Herriot

Cammo Runaway Marriage

Alexander Campbell was the owner of the Argyle brewery in the Cowgate established 1710 and director of several companies in Edinburgh. He and Catherine, his wife had 13 children and until 1873 when he bought Cammo, the family home was 6 Charlotte Square. Five of his children and his wife, Catherine had died from TB (then known as phthisis) prior to his acquiring Cammo Estate.

In 1876 his daughter, Margaret Tyndall Bruce, commonly known as Maggie, caused a scandal which was widely reported in the press throughout Scotland and northern England. Under the headline "*Elopement of a Scotch Young Lady with a Coachman Discovery of the pair at Blyth*" The column went on to detail that Maggie Campbell, aged 19, daughter of Alexander Campbell Esq. had formed a strong attachment for George Simpson, aged 26, her father's coachman. They had left her father's residence at Cammo and made their way to Newcastle despite the police having been made aware. "*There they consummated their mutual affection by marriage.*" They then made their way to Blyth for their honeymoon. Meanwhile a detective had been sent from Edinburgh to find them which he failed to do but the local police found them a few days later and escorted them to the police station where they were charged with taking wearing apparel e.g., clothes. After the Edinburgh police were informed, the chief constable travelled to Blyth to accompany them back. The couple were then married in the Burgh Court of Edinburgh on 6 September 1876. As she had been under 21 her marriage in England was not legal. The Jedburgh Gazette provides further details "*after a short stay on the continent the young couple will take up residence at the bridegroom's native place.*" Sadly she was only married for two years as she died on 22 August 1878 from consumption. The death was registered in Newton Abbot, and she was interred in Torquay cemetery from which she was exhumed and reburied in St Cuthberts on 22 October 1878.

Ann Kerrigan

References

Dundee Courier & Argus 30 August 1876
Scotland's People Marriages 685/4 287
Jedburgh Gazette 9 September 1876
Mortality Records of Edinburgh Council

PLANTING OF TREES IN WALLED GARDEN OF CRAMOND HOUSE

Following the granting of Scheduled monument Consent by HES, EAFS was asked by John Lawson Archaeology Officer CECAS to keep a watching brief on the planting of 3 rowan trees at the back of the former walled garden of Cramond House by Cramond Association Woodland Group. The walled garden overlies the Roman fort and vicus. This was carried out on 19 January 2023. Three holes approximately 50cms in diam. and 60cms in depth were dug, soil sorted on a tarpaulin and a quantity of bone was discovered. Other finds included a piece of window glass, part of a modern wine glass and a piece of slag.



The bones were mainly from cattle, the majority of which were more than 48 months old and included vertebrae, ribs and ankle bone. A cattle tibia was machine cut and there were knife marks on one of the ribs. There were 3 possible leg bones from sheep and a single bone (sacral vertebrae) from a small mammal but not a rodent. Bone information was supplied by Doris Koeck, BA.

Ann Kerrigan

TEST PITTING AT GYPSY BRAE, EDINBURGH

On the 25th and 26th February 2023 the EAFS undertook test pitting on a field to the west of Gypsy Brae, off Marine Drive. We had been asked to do the work by John Lawson, City of Edinburgh Archaeologist and our President. It was in advance of tree planning in the area. There was a possibility that the Roman Road linking Cramond to Inveresk Fort could pass through the area.

The weather was fine but very chilly as the wind off the Forth was brisk. Over 44 people turned out to help. This was society members, students from University of Edinburgh and some from further afield. We had volunteers from Glasgow, from Kirkintilloch and Fife amongst others.

Over the two days we opened 16 test pits of one metre square. We also had metal detectorists sweeping the slope above the test pit area.

Due to the mixture of experience of those excavating the test pits, some were dug to a depth of less than half a metre and some to over a metre. Top soil was between 120mm to 210mm below this was a more sandy layer. In the deeper pits a range of different silt/sand layers with inclusions of charcoal, gravel and pebbles were recorded – See Stratigraphy Report.

Finds were mostly of small sherds of pottery, mostly Nineteenth and Twentieth Century make of the size and consistency of those found in a ploughed field. A possible late Seventeenth century, early Eighteenth Century scatter has to be confirmed in Post-Excavation work.

Metal detectorist finds included coins – a significant number of ‘threepenny bits’ and 2 George the Sixth pennies and a half penny as well as more modern coins. There was a corroded penknife and a cigarette lighter as well as a spoon. Also a lump of metal possibly agricultural and a hammer.

Christine McPherson



VISIT TO TRIMONTIUM MUSEUM, MELROSE

Following an interesting lecture in January by Dr John Reid, chair of the Trimontium Trust, on the refurbished Trimontium Museum and plans for future archaeological work, it was decided to visit the museum when it reopened in the spring. Several members of our society visited on a wet Saturday in April.



After an interesting introductory talk, we looked at the artefacts and the interactive displays and beautifully produced film about the Romans and the surrounding native sites. Spending nearly 2 hours in the museum we then adjourned for a well-deserved coffee and discussed what we had seen. Consensus was that the museum is well worth a visit and that we thoroughly enjoyed it.

Ann Kerrigan

THREIPMUIR

Work at Threipmuir is progressing well to uncover the stone base, previously thought to be a stack stance. Excavation has revealed that it may be rather small for that purpose. The structure appears to have been built over the cobbled horse walk which we now know to surround it. The discovery of a section of horseshoe drain under one end may be further evidence. A good selection of mainly Victorian era finds have been recovered including stoneware cream jars, glass lemonade bottles and a commemorative clay tobacco pipe with dates 1837 and 1897.

Ian Hawkins



ABBEYMILL FARM, HADDINGTON, GEOPHYSICS

We finally completed this survey which was started in 2013 by surveying the burial ground and part of the paddock. A large higher resistance anomaly at the E end may be structural. Fig. 5
Ilan Hawkins

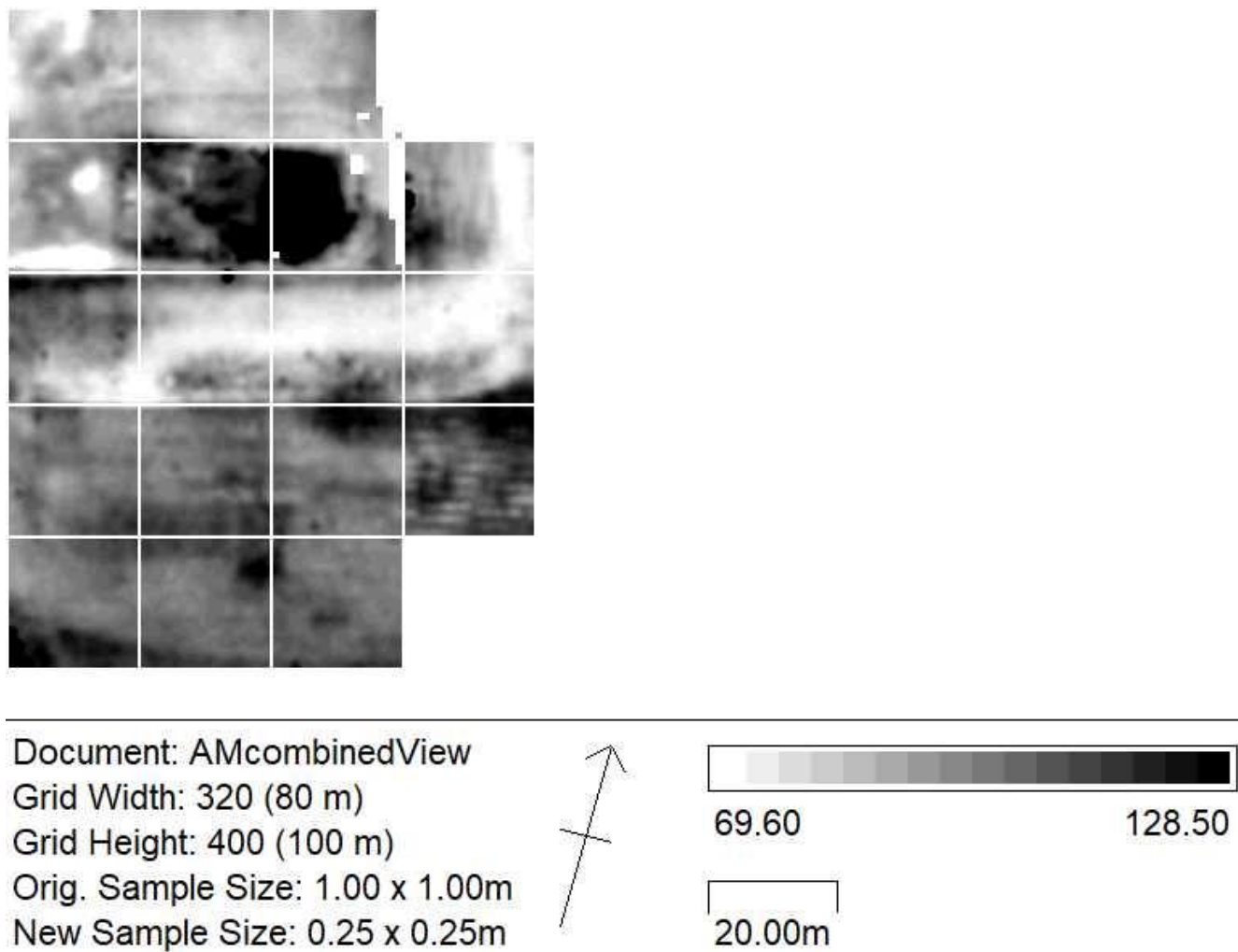


Fig. 5

PAPPLE, EAST LOTHIAN, GEOPHYSICS

A survey to the S of a surviving stub of wall from a medieval tower house_at Papple Steading in East Lothian with Haddington History Society produced some evidence of possible structure adjacent to the wall. Fig. 6
Ilan Hawkins

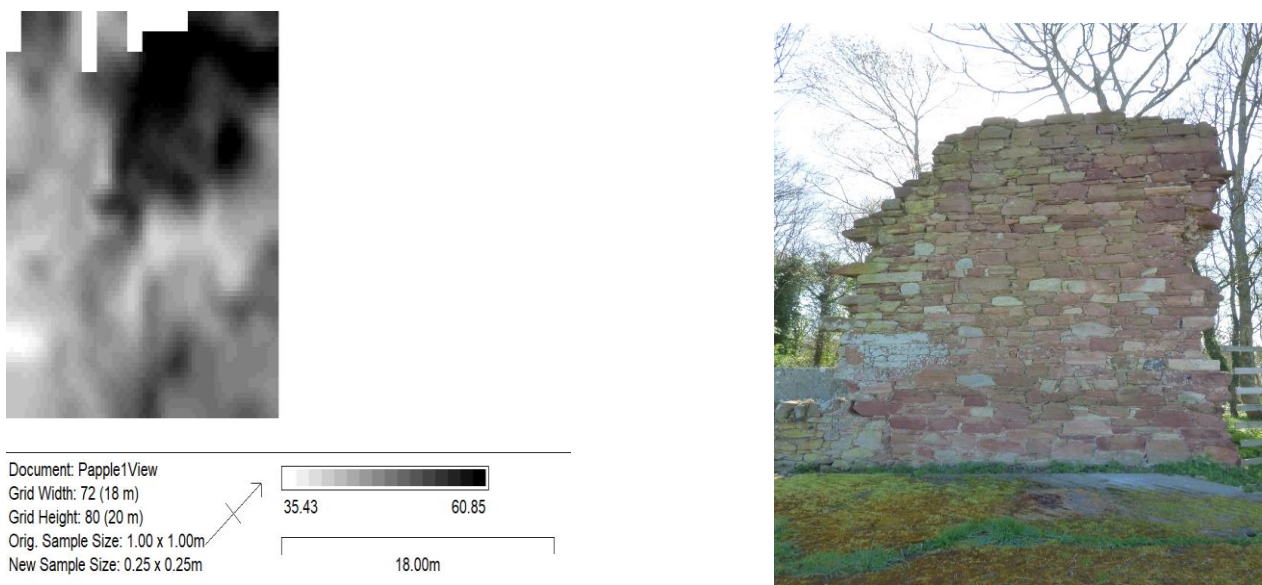


Fig.6

ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND SUMMER SCHOOL 2023

This year's Summer School was based in Montrose and despite the odd touch of East coast morning haar and a short shower, the weather stayed fine for it. Geoff Waters is a hard act to follow but Rod McCullagh can feel pleased with the management of his first Summer School. It was interesting and comprehensive.

Rod had gathered a solid phalanx of experts to support the endeavour. Strat Halliday, Alex Woolf, Richard Oram, Eve Boyle, Moira Greg and Norman Atkinson to name but a few as well as knowledgeable input from participants. The first 3 were the evening lecturers who struggled against our tiredness and our three course dinners (with wine) to entertain and enlighten us. Strat was hampered by a late start due to hiccups in the timing of serving dinner. With his usual aplomb, he rejigged his subject and manage to give us an introduction to the archaeology of Angus and the Mearns that set us up for the next two days. Dr Alex Woolf, as would be expected gave a more considered, lengthy and academic lecture which unfortunately did have a slightly soporific effect after a full days travelling and more food and wine. On our third evening Professor Richard Oram kept our interest in his normal entertaining way whilst educating us about his beloved medieval period. His enthusiasm managed to keep most of us awake until the end when Rod gave a mercifully brief summing up. Geoff Waters was presented with gifts to commemorate his 30 years contribution.

The site visits gave an opportunity to see some rare Pictish Stones including the Glamis Manse Stone and the Pictish Stone in St Palladius Church, Drumtochty as well as those in the Meffin Museum. For those interested in earlier periods we visited Capo Earthen Long Barrow and Green Castle Earthworks. These gave us a chance to stretch our legs and leave the buses for a while. A Roman Fort, a Tower House and a couple of early churches gave us variety. Lunch break in Fettercairn was not long enough to visit the distillery unfortunately but we did get a good look at the memorial arch - Queen Victoria visited! And there was a very pleasant café.

So we had another successful Summer School. Next year it is likely to be based nearer the central belt possibly around a Hotel in the Cumbernauld area.

Ann Kerrigan



Pictish Stone, Manse, Glamis, Angus



Pictish Stone, Dunnichen, Angus

Archaeological Research in Progress (ARP)

On 27th May several members of the Society attended the annual Archaeological Research in Progress conference in Augustine United Church, Edinburgh, to hear a wide ranging series of talks on recent and ongoing projects from across Scotland. This conference is organised in alternate years by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Archaeology Scotland. In 2023 it was the turn of the Society of Antiquaries. The conference is also used as the launch point for the annual 'Discovery and Excavation' publication.

Alan Calder

Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports (SAIR)

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland publications team is pleased to announce that **Issue 103** of [Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports \(SAIR\)](#) is now available to view online:

A time of change: Mesolithic occupation at Cramond, Edinburgh during the 9th millennium BC

by John A Lawson FSAScot, Alan Saville FSAScot and Rob Engl FSAScot

(It should be noted that from an EAFS point of view contributors to the report included Valerie Dean and it is to her that the EAFS committee send their congratulations.)

COMING EVENTS

FMSG Conference 11th July, 10am -5.30 pm, 'The Human Touch'

Rhind Lectures 29th September - 1st October 2023 'What has Mayan Archaeology done for us?'

Doors Open Day, Edinburgh, 24/25 September 2023

Remaining EAFS lectures for 2023

Dr. Alison Sheridan NMS	Supernatural power dressing In prehistoric Scotland	Wednesday 4 October
Martin Cook AOC Archaeology	Excavations at Cramond Roman Fort 2008	Wednesday 1 November
Society Members	AGM followed by 2023 project update and social evening	Wednesday 13 December

This Newsletter was compiled by Alan Calder, member of the EAFS Committee, with contributions from all Committee Members.

(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society, its Committee and Members)

Next Newsletter will be issued later this year. All Contributions welcomed.

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