

MINUTES OF THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND, HELD IN THE LIBRARY ON SATURDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER 1974 AT 4.0 P.M., K A STEER, M.A., PH.D., F.S.A., F.R.S.E., PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Miss D. M. Hunter and Mr J Walker were appointed scrutineers of the Ballot for Office-Bearers.

The Secretary read the following Report by the Council:

ANNUAL REPORT

The Council herewith submits to the Fellows of the Society its Report for the year ending 30th November 1974.

Fellowship. During the year the Society gained 154 Fellows and lost 62 (28 through death, 16 by resignation, 9 through lapse of subscription, 6 through election not being completed, and 3 Life Fellows with whom contact has been lost). The net increase in membership is 92.

The Roll now comprises:

Honorary Fellows	17
Corresponding Fellows	2
Fellows	1,656
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	1,675
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Regular Meetings. The Anniversary Meeting was held on 30th November 1973. Monthly meetings continued till April 1974, and resumed on 14th October 1974. An extra meeting was held on February 25th 1974.

Rhind lectures. The Rhind lectures for 1973-4 were delivered in November 1973 by Mr D Stronach on 'Aspects of the archaeology of Iran'. The lectures were given in the David Hume Tower, University of Edinburgh.

Day Conference. A day conference on 'Building Construction in Scotland, some historical and regional aspects' was held on Saturday 4th May 1974, in association with the Vernacular Buildings Working Group and the University of Edinburgh Department of Educational Studies. The conference took place in the David Hume Tower, University of Edinburgh. The speakers were:

- Mr J G Dunbar Builders and craftsmen, the organisation of the building industry in 17th century Scotland.
 Mr I Fisher Building-stone and slate.
 Mr G D Hay Timber construction, some fieldwork observations.
 Mr A Fenton Thatch and thatching.
 Mr D B Walker Some regional variations in vernacular building techniques in Angus, Perthshire and Fife.
 Mr J S Dent Building materials and methods of construction, the evidence from excavations at Aberdeen.

Mr B R S Megaw took the chair, and Dr R W Brunskill summed up at the end of the meeting.

Excavation and Research. Grants were made to the following from Society funds for the 1974 season:

- Professor L Alcock Castle Rock, Dumbarton.
 Mr I A Crawford Udal, North Uist.
 Mr N M M Holmes St Mary's Street, Edinburgh.
 Mr A W R C Huie St Nicholas Church, Aberdeen.
 Dr W Kissling A survey of rural buildings in Dumfriesshire and Galloway.
 Mr L J Masters Slewcairn, Kirkcudbrightshire.
 Dr E J Peltenburg Balloch fort, Kintyre, Argyll.
 Professor J K St Joseph Roman temporary camps in Perthshire.
 Mr I A G Shepherd Rossinish, Benbecula.
 Mr D J Turner Achanduin Castle, Lismore.

The Gunning Fellowship. This was awarded to Mr A Fenton.

The Chalmers-Jervise prize. No award was made.

Report from the North-East Section. Six lectures were presented during the session, in addition to short papers given by members at the AGM and Fellow's Evening in March. Attendances as usual ranged from around 20 to over 40.

Some 18 members participated in surveillance of the Forties Field pipeline trench. This was at times an arduous and frequently tedious task necessitating constant application during spells of inclement weather, and unalleviated by any discovery of note.

Visits to known sites of archaeological importance continued in connection with the compilation of entries for the Guide to NE Antiquities.

Some members participated in the excavation of a short cist at Ladymire Farm near Ellon and a note appears in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, 1973.

Members also assisted in the urban excavations at Broad Street, Aberdeen; in the excavations within the West Church of St Nicholas Aberdeen; and in the excavation of a Dun at Langwell, Strath Oyke.

A medieval coffin slab in the roofless St Palladius's Chapel at Auchenblae, described in *PSAS* volume 10, was found during the year to be deteriorating rapidly and after permission had been received from Kincardineshire County Council and with the approval of the minister of Auchenblae Church it was removed by a group of Fellows to Inverurie Museum, where it will be restored and housed under cover.

The Annual General Meeting of the Section was held on March 12th 1974. Election of office-bearers and committee were as follows:

<i>Chairman</i>	Mr J Caldwell*
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Mr M T MacNeill*
<i>Secretary</i>	Dr A A Woodham*
<i>Committee</i>	Mr I A F David, Mr R H Duguid, Mr G R Esslemont,* Mr A W R C Huie, Mr W Middleton, Mr G Shepherd,* Mr J A Soutar, Mr W Taylor.*

The members indicated by * above form a sub-committee responsible for the production of the Antiquities Guide under the Convenership of Mr G Shepherd.

Report of the Urban Archaeology Committee. The Committee has continued in various ways to press for action to rescue archaeological sites in towns. By decision of Council the word 'Medieval' has been dropped from the Committee's title. Although medieval levels will usually be the most obvious in urban excavation, prehistoric, Roman, and post-medieval material will also naturally occur in urban areas and the Committee will be concerned to ensure that this is dealt with by appropriate experts.

During the year excavations, of varying extent, have been conducted in Aberdeen, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews. No excavation has yet been organised in some major towns such as Perth and Stirling, and the Committee is very concerned to observe the continuing piecemeal destruction of archaeological levels in the numerous smaller burghs throughout Scotland.

On 20th April 1974 the Committee held a Technical Symposium on Urban Archaeology at the University of Glasgow. On this occasion approximately 30 invited experts discussed problems involved in urban work in Scotland. The travelling exhibition on 'A Heritage in Danger: Scotland's Medieval Burghs' has visited 13 locations during the year and continues to stimulate local interest. Through Council the Committee was able to arrange for the Scottish Development Department to issue a circular to local authorities in April 1974, listing ten qualified members of the Society who are willing to act as consultants to authorities in various parts of the country on problems of urban rescue archaeology. It is intended that this should be a temporary arrangement only, designed to encourage rescue work in the interim until local government reorganisation is put into effect and until action is taken by the Department of the Environment to establish an official Rescue Unit or Units, as has already been done in England and Wales. Unfortunately the system of consultants has so far produced very little response from local authorities and it is clear to the Committee that government action to tackle rescue archaeology on an official basis is now very urgently required.

A report with recommendations entitled *Archaeology and Local Government - An Environmental Problem* was published by the Society and copies were sent to the Secretary of State, to all local authorities and major amenity societies in Scotland and to Scottish Members of Parliament.

Editor's Report. Two volumes of the Proceedings were published during this session, volume 102 in May and volume 103 in June; these dates were rather later than scheduled owing to a combination of printers' labour problems, the three-day week and a paper shortage. With the publication of volume 104 expected in January next year, the Proceedings will then be only one year behind.

Material is now being collected for volume 105 which will appear in 1975. Printing costs have risen very steeply in the last year, and it is becoming increasingly important that authors should present good copy which complies with the editorial notes, including illustrations drawn with the correct page-size in mind.

The Annual Report was unanimously approved on the motion of Mr H S Fotheringham seconded by Mr G Hay.

Treasurer's Report. I have pleasure in presenting to you the Treasurer's Abstract of Accounts for the year to 30th June 1974. An abbreviated form of the accounts has been in your hands for some days and I have here the complete and detailed Accounts available for your perusal.

The Accounts show that the Society continues to prosper and the General Account shows an increased net income from subscriptions of £4,831 as against £4,316 last year. This is due partly to the number of new Fellows elected during the year, but largely it is due to a considerable reduction in the subscription arrears due to the Society. It would be a great help if a greater number of Fellows would arrange for their subscriptions to be paid through their banks. Some 750 Fellows now do so. Elsewhere in the General Account on the income side there are welcome increases in subscribing libraries, new Fellows' entry fees, interests, and in tax recovered. This year we benefitted from the high bank interest rates ruling.

On expenditure the item of consequence is the transfer of £6,000 to Publications Fund to meet the increased cost of the Proceedings. Other increases are in salaries and in postages.

The General Account shows a deficit, there being an excess of expenditure of £680. A perusal of the Publications Account shows the need for the transfer of £6,000 as volume 102 of the Proceedings cost £5,189, for printing, binding and posting. Other expenses on this Account for volumes 103 and 104 total £1,276, and there was a deficit carried forward of £168-00.

All the endowed Accounts met their commitments and carried various balances to increase the Capital Accounts. The Excavation Fund distributed £800 for projects, which was rather more than usual but the Fund was well able to meet this charge.

The Accounts have been audited and signed by the Society's auditors, Messrs Scott-Moncrieff, Thomson and Shiells, CA, and have been passed as a correct and satisfactory record. I have pleasure in submitting these Accounts for your acceptance.

The Accounts were approved on the motion of Mr M T Williams seconded by Mrs M N Weston.

Increase of Annual Subscriptions

The President referred to the notice, which had been sent to all Fellows, in which the Council recommended the raising of the annual subscription from £3-15 to £5-00, to become due in the year 1975-6 commencing on the 1st July 1975. After explaining the need for increased revenue, especially to meet the greatly increased cost of the Proceedings, the President formally moved the motion. A request was made for a reduction in subscription for retired Fellows. The motion was put to the vote, and was carried by a large majority.

The President thanked the office-bearers and councillors who had served the Society during 1973-4.

The Ballot

The ballot having been concluded, the Scrutineers found and declared the list of Council for the ensuing year to be as follows:

<i>President</i>	K A STEER, M.A., PH.D., F.S.A., F.R.S.E.
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	R G Cant, M.A. G G Simpson, M.A., PH.D., F.S.A. B R S Megaw, B.A., F.S.A., F.R.S.E.
<i>Councillors</i>	S Maxwell, M.A. Professor R Cramp, M.A., B.LITT., F.S.A. Miss D M Hunter, B.A. E J Peltenburg, B.A., PH.D. A Small, M.A. N P Brooks, M.A., D.PHIL. Rev G M Dilworth, O.S.B., M.A., PH.D. E W MacKie, B.A., PH.D. J J Robertson, M.A., LL.B. Professor L Alcock, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.HIST.S. T F Watkins, B.A., PH.D. I MacIvor, B.A., F.S.A. Basil C Skinner, M.A. J A Donaldson
<i>Secretary</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	
<i>Ex-Officio Members of Council</i>	R B K Stevenson, M.A., F.S.A. (Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland)

- A A Woodham, B.SC., PH.D. (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum)
 Miss Anne S Robertson, M.A., D.LITT., F.M.A., F.S.A. (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum)
 B R S Megaw, B.A., F.S.A., F.R.S.E. (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum)
 Rev D Shaw, PH.D., TH.DR. (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum)
 Mrs Anna Ritchie, B.A., PH.D. (Editor)

The deaths of the following Fellows were intimated during the year 1973-4:

	<i>Elected</i>
Rev Dom William W Bayne, o.s.b., Priory of St Gregory the Great, Portsmouth, Rhode Island, USA 02871	1968
A D Callander, Lellopitiya, Ratnapura, Ceylon.	1919
Lt.-Col Carnegie-Arbuthnott, Balnamoon, Brechin.	1923
H D Colt, F.S.A., 70 Chester Square, London, S.W.1.	1924
J Cook, M.A., 20 Muston Road, Filey, Yorks.	1942
J H G Crawford, B.COM., A.L.A., Berwick County Library, 49 Newton Street, Duns, Berwickshire.	1968
C Davidson, J.P., 38 Craigs Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh 12.	1967
A H Dickson, Manse of Aldie, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross-shire.	1923
M R Dobie, O.B.E., B.A.(OXON.), Heriot Cottage, 15 Church Road, Duffus, Elgin, Morayshire.	1931
E H Easson, B.SC., 4 Kelvin Street, Mexborough, Yorkshire S64 9BH.	1973
A Forrest, 1381 Pollockshaws Road, Glasgow S.1.	1945
T L Galloway, Advocate, Auchendrane, by Ayr.	1920
Professor M R E Gough, M.A., F.S.A., The Mill House, Kingswear, Dartmouth, Devonshire.	1951
Mrs I C Grant, Rose Villa, Alford, Aberdeenshire.	1959
Dr R S Hardie, Port-na-Mairt, Ganavan, Oban, Argyll.	1954
Miss E M Harrison, The Bield, Elgin.	1957
S M K Henderson, PH.D., B.SC., 30 Nethercliffe Avenue, Netherlee, Glasgow G44 3UL.	1937
W Kirkness, Craft Studio, 34A Howe Street, Edinburgh 3.	1919
L G MacDougall, A.R.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.A.S., Dunollie Castle, Oban, Argyll.	1926
Major F R P Nimmo-Smith, Dirleton House, Dirleton, East Lothian.	1961
Lady Owen St C O'Malley, 27 Charlbury Road, Oxford.	1927
W St Clair, Clairville, Kirkintilloch, Dunbartonshire.	1957
J F Smith, 20 Gwydrin Road, Calderstones, Liverpool 18.	1936
M Stevenson, M.C., Glen House, 1 Tantallon Terrace, North Berwick, East Lothian.	1959
Mrs A E Torbet, M.A., Tekka, Heathcote Road, Crieff, Perthshire.	1965
Captain F Watson, T.D., M.A., M.ED., B.COM., F.R.S.A., 5 West Lawn, Ashbrooke, Sunderland, Co Durham.	1961
J M B Wright of Auchinellan, Ford, by Lochgilphead, Argyll.	1950
Rev W Wright, M.A., B.D., 21 Dunard Road, Rutherglen.	1927

The following Fellows intimated their resignation:

- R J Ardern, 71 Drumossie Avenue, Inverness.
 W Bain, B.SC., 13 Abergeldie Road, Aberdeen.
 Professor G W S Barrow, M.A., B.LITT., History Dept, The University, Newcastle upon Tyne.
 A Cuthbert, C.A., 27 Cumlodden Avenue, Edinburgh.
 A T Doig, M.D., D.PH., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.E., 11 Victoria Road, Lenzie, near Glasgow.
 Rev W H Goodall, 8 Susan Avenue, Evington, Leicester LE5 6GF.
 J A Kerr, B.MET. (Sheffield), 15 Hooper Road, Sheffield 11, Yorkshire.
 F R D Marshall, The Lodge, New Place, Park Road, Banstead, Surrey.
 F M Moffat, c/o Muirhead Moffat & Co, 132/136 Blythswood Street, Glasgow C.2.
 Lt Cdr M F MacGregor, Cardney, Dunkeld, Perthshire.
 C T McInnes, O.B.E., White Cottage, Old Kirk Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh 12.

D A McKay, M.A., B.A., PH.D., 5 Belmont Avenue, Uddingston, Glasgow.
Mrs L M Macmillan, 7 Almond Court East, Edinburgh 4.
Mrs J Reid, 7 Moray Place, Edinburgh.
L J Salter, North Rose, New York, USA.
Miss A Smith, Addistoun, Ratho, Newbridge, Midlothian.
J M Thomson, R.S.A., R.S.W., 7 Randolph Cliff, Edinburgh 3.
W C Wallis, Gosfield House, Halstead, Essex.

The meeting concluded with the following brief communications:

Dr J Close-Brooks	A Dark Age pin from Golspie, Sutherland.
Mr D Caldwell	A twelfth-century bell from Kersmains Farm, Near Roxburgh.
Mr N Holmes	Seventeenth-century pottery from the Tron Kirk excavation.
Mr B C Skinner	An early seventeenth-century archery trophy at Hopetoun House.