

Graveyard Monuments in East, North and Central Fife

by John di Folco

INTRODUCTION

This survey is intended primarily to supplement the information on graveyard monuments contained in the 1933 *Inventory of the RCAMS, Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan*. It is also intended as a natural extension of the work by Sir George Macdonald on the 'Post-Reformation Tombstones in the Cathedral Churchyard, St Andrews', (*PSAS*, LXX) and Erskine Beveridge's *Churchyard Memorials of Crail*, 1893. Its limiting date is 1707 but later monuments are mentioned where it was felt they possessed details of design or lapidary interest. Of the thirty-eight parishes covered, nine (Cameron, Carnbee, Crail, Dunbog, Dunino,¹ Kemback, Logie, Moonzie and Newburgh) were excluded as they contained no memorial within the survey date. The remaining are listed in alphabetical order and each monument is described individually. Where appropriate, some reference and comparison are made to the surveys of Moray (*PSAS*, xcix) and East Lothian (*PSAS*, xciv). Irrespective of the script on the monuments all inscriptions are reproduced here in capital letters. Brackets enclosing words, letters or numerals indicate that they are illegible on the tomb but have been restored with reasonable certainty from remaining traces. While all ligatures have been expanded, all eccentricities and errors in spelling have been retained in both the English and Latin inscriptions and are indicated in the latter case by the use of *sic*. Each parish church or burial ground is accompanied by a National Grid reference number and the date on which the survey was completed.

I should like to acknowledge with gratitude all those who have helped me in the course of the work, particularly Mr R G Cant, MA, FSA Scot and Mr Angus Graham, MA, FSA, FSA Scot.

CLASSIFICATION AND DISCUSSION

As all the monuments recorded here fall within the later medieval, Reformation and post-Reformation periods, classification of them is confined to the following types:

Medieval Recumbent slabs

These are definable as the prototypes of the later recumbent stones and are closely related to the Calvary cross slabs in all but the nominal design and identical with those incised slabs

¹ Against the wall of the churchyard at Dunino is a small headstone finely carved on one side with a figure flanked by the tailor's 'goose' and scissors. It commemorates a Robert Taylour of Ardielone who died 27th March 1719.

which depict ecclesiastics in their vestments. Flat and rectangular, they are incised marginally with an inscription in gothic letters running within 5-inch spaced grooves. All are extensively damaged and only one, no. 1 in St Leonard's Chapel, St Andrews, is in its original position as part of the flagging of the church.

Reformation and post-Reformation recumbent slabs

In all, 23 recumbent stones were noted, but of these, 10 could not be fully recorded as they were either mere fragments, such as those at Ceres, or had weathered almost to the point of illegibility as was the case at Kilmany. The shape of the recumbent slab is also uniformly rectangular with its flat surface defined marginally by a shallow sunk band some $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 in wide, or by two grooves similarly spaced to carry the epitaph. The surface scheme of decoration may include a shield, either charged or left blank with the initials of the deceased flanking it, a varied arrangement of funerary emblems, the commonest being the skull and cross-bones together with the motto *Memento Mori*. In one case, no. 4 at Kilconquhar, two pennons flank an hour-glass. Except at Abercrombie, no. 1, where a large maltster's shovel is incised on a shield, and no. 2 at Leuchars with the shears and goose, the trade emblems are omitted from this type of monument. In size the slabs vary little, the maximum being no. 4 at Kilconquhar which measures 86 by 44 in and the smallest, no. 4 at Ceres, measuring 60 by $28\frac{1}{2}$ in. Beginning at a comparatively early date, 1563, with no. 5 at Ceres, six of the series fall between that date and 1600; although undated, the sections in the Lindsay vault there may also be assigned to this period; seven, including no. 2 at Leuchars and probably no. 1 at Forgan, from 1600 to 1633 and the remainder in the 1640s. Several differences, one significant, the others perhaps less so, emerge from a comparison of this type of monument in East Fife with those in East Lothian and Moray. The notable point of variation lies in the epigraphic skill of the stone cutter. There is strong and ample evidence of a conscious effort on the part of the mason to use relief and incised lettering as an element of design for maximum artistic effect. Carved with a bold sense of pattern and careful attention to layout, the marginal inscriptions of no. 1 at Abercrombie, nos 1, 2 and 4 at Ceres, nos 1, 3 and 4 at Kilconquhar, no. 2 at Leuchars and no. 1 at St Fillan's, Forgan provide examples of a broad relief lettering with an aesthetic effect independent of the rest of the surface decoration and, together with the fine symmetry of the unique, broad incised epitaph of no. 1 at St Monans, are indicative of a confident grasp of literal form. Only one instance of relief lettering occurred in the inscriptions of the post-Reformation stones in Moray where relief work was restricted to heraldic detail and funerary emblems, a contrast presumably explicable in terms of regional preference. In only two cases, nos 1 and 3 at Kilconquhar, is the marginal epitaph begun in the top sinister corner and not in the top dexter corner as was the invariable practice in East Lothian; in three instances, no. 5 at Kilconquhar, no. 1 at St Fillan's, Forgan and no. 5 at Cupar the inscription begins and runs transversely on the slab; at Kilconquhar, no. 7 and Leuchars, no. 2 it continues on a second marginal circuit.

Table-tombs

Two concurrent types are distinguishable here. The first is a rectangular slab, widely and steeply bevelled at the sides for as much as 17 in, with hipped gables all rising to a narrow central panel (see fig 1); the second has a flat surface enriched round the borders with a distinctive deep scalloping. Of the 21 bevelled table-tombs, the pedestal supports of 12 have collapsed so that the table section is now recumbent and, taken in conjunction with eight collapsed flat stones from a total of 12, points to the obvious inadequacy of the pedestals which can only have been regarded by the mason as of secondary importance in the structure of the monuments. With the single

exception of no. 1 at Leuchars, which has a slab infilling between each of the pedestals displaying relief work, they are of the leg variety and consequently do not carry the decoration which was such an attractive feature of the solid rectangular slab supports of Moray. The bleak functional purpose of the leg pedestals is relieved only by no. 8 at Kilconquhar where each of the four faces of the supports is decorated with funerary and trade emblems. Nor is the carving on the bevelled sides and ends in any way as rich as the East Lothian examples. The illustration (fig 1) is as ornate as any in the series. The gables may display heraldic devices, again either charged or left blank and funerary emblems; the sides, scrolled cartouches with shallow-cut inscriptions. Trade emblems are rare and occur on only one bevelled stone, no. 2 at St Monans, and on one flat stone, no. 4 at Leuchars.

The bevelled series begins in 1642 with no. 2 at Anstruther Easter and continues until the 1680s with no. 2 at Cults, extending into the eighteenth century with a modified design, already appearing in the 1670s with no. 2 at St Monans in which the bevelling splays at a much shallower angle with a consequent widening of the central panel. A seventeenth-century local deviation from the general pattern is shown with nos 1 and 2 at Anstruther Easter, nos 3 and 4 at Anstruther Wester and no. 1 at Pittenweem where the bevelled stones have acutely sheered gables. Since all are dated between 1642 and 1657, the possibility of a common atelier is likely. The table-tombs with the scalloped border feature a central scrolled cartouche dividing two compartments, the upper one displaying a shield, the lower, the emblems of death. The inscriptions, either marginal or on the cartouche, are shallow-cut. The earliest of these monuments, no. 1 in the Hay enclosure, Forgan, is dated 1648, the rest occur evenly in the remainder of the century. In the 1680s, however, the scallop motif goes largely out of fashion and is superseded by a stone with a rounded or moulded edge. It is not until after 1707 that this latter series reach greatest their frequency and so outrun the scope of this survey.

Wall monuments

Structurally the wall monuments of the late seventeenth and eighteenth century are classical compositions consisting of pedestals, columns, entablature and an ogival or triangular pediment framing a central commemorative panel. Both a structural and a stylistic study of the monuments are prejudiced by the fact that they have suffered severely from exposure (see no. 2 at Cupar, nos 3, 4 and 5 at Falkland and no. 2 at Collessie) which in at least one case, no. 4 at Kingskettle, has occasioned extensive repair in the eighteenth-nineteenth centuries. All the larger monuments show a close adherence to the concepts of classical design and proportion. Skilful and ambitious workmanship is evident in the intricacy and fineness of detail (see fig 2). Heraldic devices may fill the tympanum; cornice and architrave are heavily moulded, and trade emblems, bizarre figure postures and the ubiquitous mortality emblems are all cut with a keen desire to impress socially. Nos 1, 2 and 3 at Cupar commemorate a doctor, minister and bailie respectively and, though illegible, it can be inferred from the unusual trade insignia that no. 3 at Abdie also commemorated a writer. The small mural panels at Balmerino, Forgan, St Fillan's and the Hay enclosure illustrate the close relationship existing between this class of monument and the headstone. Distinction between them is in fact difficult as they are similar in design, size and decoration to the plainer headstones of the area. It is worth noting that no attempt has been made to incorporate classical architectural details on these small panels.

Post-Reformation headstones

Considerations of the origin, chronology and popularity of this type of monument have already been fully discussed by Mr Angus Graham in two articles (qv *PSAS*, xci and xciv), the

latter dealing with the size and shape of the headstone together with their diversity of ornamentation in the East Lothian region. Evidence gathered from the Fife area appears very similar, particularly in the occurrence of classical architectural styles in the decoration of a number of stones. No. 6 at Falkland, for example, despite the mutilated condition of the figure carving, illustrates the use of classical features which include a pair of caryatids. In other less ambitious attempts at least one face of the stone is cut after the manner of the wall monuments with flanking pilasters supporting an entablature and pediment all enclosing a central panel. Funerary emblems, winged cherubs' heads and trade insignia enrich one or both sides of the stone and also occasionally the shoulders of the pediment (fig 3). The tops may be shaped in various ways: rounded, rising from slight shoulders, with deeply incurving sides or simply with angular rakes enriched with spiral scrolls. Of the 32 headstones recorded, 16 are legibly dated pre-1707, with their frequency by decades as follows: 1631-40, 0; 1641-50, 1; 1651-60, 0; 1661-70, 0; 1671-80, 2; 1681-90, 5; 1691-1700, 4; 1701-1707, 4. These figures are, however, distorted by the fact that a considerable number of stones have suffered from weathering and could not with any certainty be assigned to the pre-1707 period. Recording was also made difficult by the tendency of the stones to sink into the ground for as much as three-quarters of their length, and by the processes of tidying up which have affected many churchyards in the region. The epigraphy, although deceptive in trying to date uncertain examples, is a helpful guide to the general standard of literacy, which is impressive even on the most modest of headstones.

Figure carving and epitaphs

While the decorative work on the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century tombstones is part of a general phase of art applied to sepulchral monuments, particularly in the lowland regions of Scotland where it is mostly characterised by a vigorous, stylised presentation of the human form and by a stereotyped rendering of the ubiquitous cherubs and emblems of death, the death figure itself is worth singling out as it is frequently interpreted in a manner strongly reminiscent of the medieval period at a time when its inspiration and influence had become a spent force in art. In the Middle Ages personification of death was commonplace in many art media and was treated in a highly imaginative and often grotesque way. Reference has already been made (*PSAS*, xcix) to the animated, belligerent Death postures on the St Andrews Cathedral stones, where he stalks and stabs his victim from behind or attacks him in his bed. Similar attitudes are struck at Aberfoyle, Perth (*PSAS*, xxxix, p 58). There, in the tympanum of a headstone, he wrestles with the body of the deceased and transfixes it with a dart. Elsewhere in Fife, at Elie for example (*RCAMS*, p 135), Death is more passive, recumbent in a coffin, or at Flisk (fig 1) holding an hour-glass and acting as a supporter for a cartouche. But, whatever the pose, there is little doubt that the Death figure continued as a vivid, intimate survivor in the local sculptor's mind which seems to have been nourished by the same morbid belief, awe and superstition that had both delighted and terrified his medieval predecessor.

Attempts at portraiture are rare. In addition to those already mentioned by *RCAMS*, they occur in only two churchyards, Monimail and Kingskettle, where the same carver has made no effort to depict any facial or bodily distinction in the deceased. The number of figure carvings both of the human and skeletal types is heavily concentrated in St Andrews which may well have been a centre of fashion from which masons in the surrounding parishes drew inspiration.

Epitaphs

These follow the normal pattern of stating the name, occupation, age and date of death typified thus: HERE LYES YE CORPS OF ROBERT GALBRETH MASON WHO

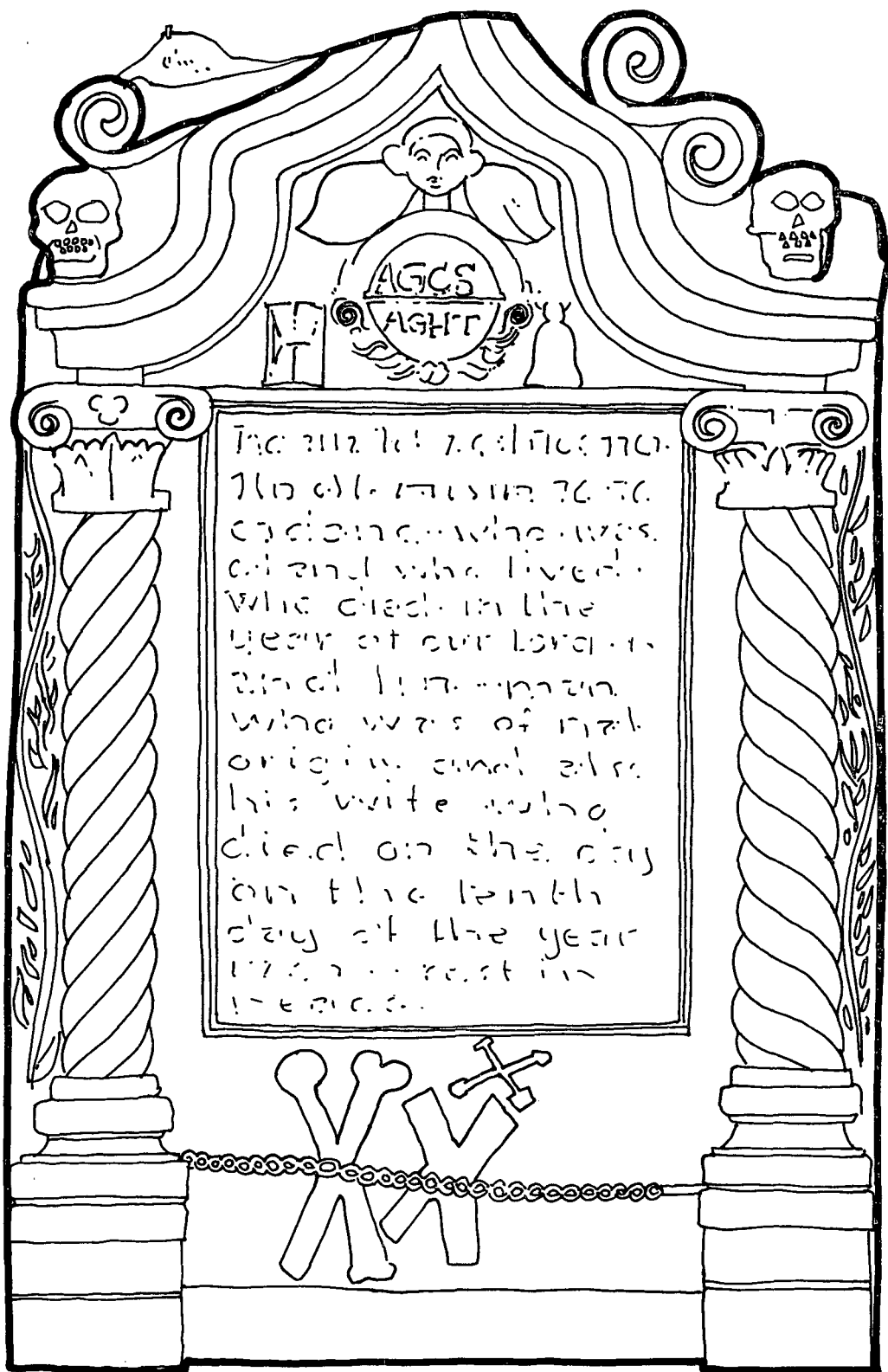


FIG 2 Greig wall-monument, St Michael's Church, Cupar

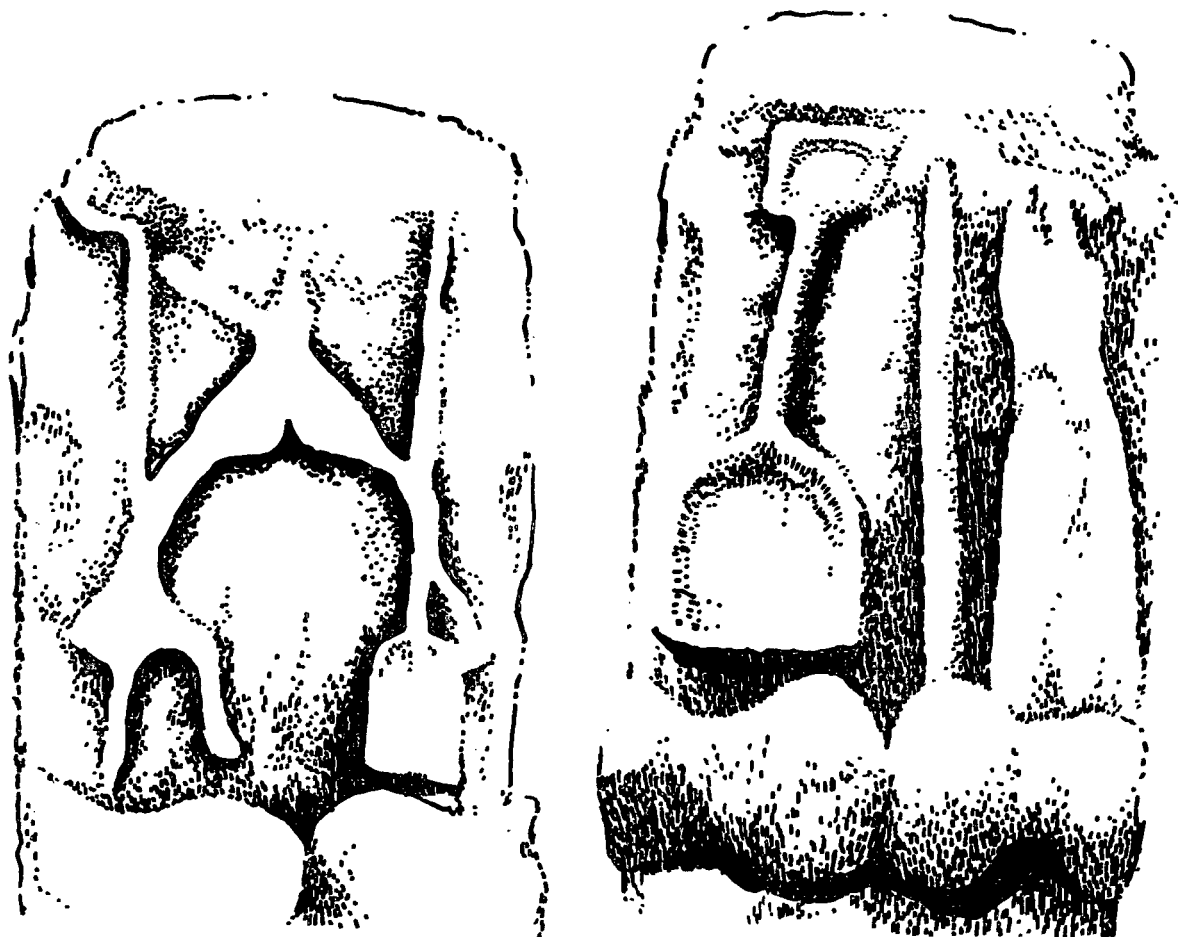


FIG 3 Post-Reformation headstone, Falkland

DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 26 DAY 1700 AND OF HIS AGE 36 YEARS. Generally, in all classes of monuments, spelling is less erratic and ligatures less common than was found in the Moray and East Lothian surveys, and greater attention paid to the overall layout of the inscriptions. The occurrence of the double L, with the second couched in the angle of the first, is extremely rare. Attention has been drawn to the clarity and fineness of the relief lettering on the recumbent slabs, the provenance of which is tentatively suggested as contemporary seal matrices or coin legends.

Although not an epitaph, a long sentiment on the south facing wall of the graveyard at Collessie provides an interesting glimpse of the seventeenth-century Scottish funerary attitudes and re-echoes John Knox's injunctions against burials inside the fabric of the churches. According to A H Millar's *Fife: Pictorial and Historical*, the inscription was cut to the order of Sir James Melville of Hallhill. It is incised on ashlar within a moulded frame with a splayed base course. The first verse, now covered by ivy, is here copied from Millar's work, the second is weathered but still legible. Together they read: 1609 / YE LOADIN PILGRIMS PASSING LANGS THIS WAY / PANS ON YOUR FALL AND YOUR OFFENCES PAST / HOU YOUR FRAIL

FLESH FIRST FORMIT OF THE CLAY / IN DUST MON BE DISSOLVIT AT THE LAST /
 REPENT AMEND ON CHRIST THE BURDEN CAST / OF YOUR SAD SINNES WHO
 CAN YOUR SAVLS REFRESH / SYNE RAISE FROM GRAVE TO GLOIR YOUR GRISLIE
 FLESH. (2) DEFYLE NOT CHRISTS KIRK WITH YOUR CARION / A SOLEMN SAIT
 FOR GODS SERVICE PREPARD / FOR PRAIER PREACHING AND COMMUNION /
 YOUR BYRIAL SHOULD BE IN THE KIRKYAIRD / ON YOUR VPRISING SET YOUR
 GREAT REGARD / WHEN SAVL AND BODY JOYNES WITH JOY TO RING / IN HEAVEN
 FOR AY WITH CHRIST OUR HEAD AND KING.

ABDIE NO 260164

Three monuments were noted here. (1) Lying against the east gable of the ruined church is a collapsed table-tomb, 76½ by 40 in. The upper third is cut with a shield parted per pale the charges of which are confusingly arranged. Its sinister flank is charged with a mullet between three cross crosslets fitchy for Adamson; into the dexter flank are worked the initials GA/GA/IA to run the same way as the epitaph. On one side of the shield is the incised motto BE SPARING; crowded against the dexter flank the badly weathered inscription reads: SUB · HOC · MONU/ MENTO · REQUI/ESCUNT / CINERES · GAVINI · A/DAMSON / PORTION/ARII · A · GR/ANGE · DE / LINDORIS · QUI · TITULO · HAER / it then runs onto a central panel EDITARIO · A · DIVERSIS · PROAVIS / EASDEM · TERRAS · SEDULO / LABORE · RETINUIT · (VIRI) · NON / SOLUM · PRUDENTIS · NATU/RAE · DOTIBUS · IMBUTI · SED · ETIA/M · IN · SACRIS · SCRIPTURIS · ULTRA / CURAM & OPERAM · PLEBEIOR/ UM · ADMODUM · PERITI · EX · HA/C · VITA · IN · PACE · (EXSPI)RAVIT / XXVIII · AP · ANNO · M · DCLXXX · AE/TATIS · LXXI · ET · NUNC · EX · CURA · ET / STUDIO · PRAESENTIS · GAVINI / ADAMSON · TANQUAM / FILII · AMANTISSIMI · ET / IN · MEMORIAE · TESSERAM / DEFUNCTI · PATRIS / CIPPUS · HIC · ERIGITUR. Cut in low relief at the base of the slab are the emblems of mortality: a skull between a crossed mattock and spade and cross-bones with an hour-glass beneath. The border of the slab is scalloped.

Translation: Under this monument lies the dust of Gavin Adamson portioner of Grange of Lindores, who by hereditary title from his forebears held the same lands, toiling unceasingly; a man who not only was endowed with the gifts of a sagacious intellect but also was exceeding skilled in the Holy Scriptures surpassing ordinary men in his diligence and attentiveness. He departed this life, April 28 1680, aged 71. This stone is erected thanks to the zealous care of the present Gavin Adamson, a dearly beloved son to commemorate his deceased father.

(2) This collapsed table-tomb, 72 by 36½ in, now leaning against the south wall of the church, has a scalloped border with the inscription running marginally. It reads: HEIR LYES THE BODIE OF PAT/RICK THOMSONE WHO ENTRED HIS BEING IN THIS LIF THE 24 OF / NOVEMBER 1621 AND DEP/AIRTED THE 27 OF NOVEMBER 1673 BEING OF AGE 52 YEARS = AND LIVED WITHIN THIS / PARISH OF EBBDIE DVR/ING HIS LIF TYM IN / GOOD REPVTATION BEING / SVM TYME TENANT IN / PARKHIL. Centrally is a panel with the raised letters PT and FT to either side of a heart. The rest of the panel is blank. Below are the lines: REMEMBER MAN AS THOU / GOES BY AS THOU ART / NOU SO ONC WAS I / AS I AM NOU SO MOST / THOU BE REMEMBER MAN / THAT THOU MOST DIE. In the space between these lines and the bottom of the slab are the emblems of mortality: a skull with an hour-glass in its jaw flanked by cross-bones and a crossed mattock and spade.

(3) Built into the south wall of the church between a pair of buttresses is a heavily weathered

wall monument measuring 85½ by 36 in. The central panel is framed at the sides by fluted pilasters which have neither bases nor capitals. Architrave, frieze and cornice are advanced from the columns and in their turn support a funerary urn. On the wide frieze is a shield surmounted by a helmet and surrounded by folds of mantling. The charges are very worn but appear to be a boar's head erased between two barrulets for Spens of Berriehole. From the top of the commemorative panel a finely carved hand reaches down holding two tablets and a quill. To either side of it are the relief letters AS and KA. Apart from a few isolated letters the Latin inscription is illegible.¹

July 1968

ABERCROMBIE NO 522035

(1) To the south of the ruined church lies a large recumbent slab, 80 by 42½ in, now broken in half. The inscription runs in the usual sunk marginal band and comprises a flattened relief lettering of a particularly fine clarity and quality. Introduced by a hand in the top sinister corner it reads: HEIR · LYETH · DAVID · TAILZO/VR · MALTMAN / IN · ABERCRVMBIE · QVHA · DECEAS/SIT · THE · 11 · OF · A = VGVST 1601 / ZEIR · AND · OF / HIS · AGE · THE · 38. A large shield fills the central area of the slab and is incised with a maltman's broad-bladed shovel. To either side are the raised initials DG and CS.

(2) Propped against the east gable of the church is a recumbent slab, 69 by 32¼ in. The base of this stone is very wasted and part of the inscription and the concluding elegiac couplet have thus been lost. The raised lettering is in places poorly spaced and covers the entire surface of the stone. Introduced by a hand in the top dexter corner, the inscription runs marginally after the second line: HIC DORMIT / M · ROBERTVS · / NICOLL · CVPRENSIS · MED(ICINAE) . . . / . . . / . . . QVI · OBIIT · 13 · MAR · 1597 · AE = TATIS · SVAE . . . Beneath is the elegiac couplet: QVAM · VERE · / DEXTREQVE · / VSVS · SIS · AR/TE · MEDENDI · / SVNT · COMI/TES · TESTE/S · SPES · AMOR · / ALMA · FIDE / . . . / SVRG . . .

July 1968 and April 1969

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL NO 515167

Of interest is the discovery recently by the custodian of a fragment of a recumbent slab which was serving use as a base for a nineteenth-century headstone. The opening words of the marginal inscription, in raised letters, read: M · THOMAE · BAL/FOVR · BALLIVO · S · ANDR. . . In the upper part of the stone is a slightly sunk panel containing a four-line sentiment of which the words: . . . S · LVMEN · GENTIS / . . . NA · SENATVS / . . . I · EXEMPLVM / . . . TVMVLOR are still remarkably clear. From the size of the letters, the decorative motifs and the angle of the break line, it is safe to conclude that this fragment is the missing right hand section of the one exhibited in the Prior's lodging and formerly attributed through a process of exclusion by Hay Fleming and Sir George Macdonald (cf *St Andrews Cathedral Museum*, p 144 and *PSAS*, LXX, p. 88) to William Skene, Conservator of the Privileges of the University. The evidence now available points instead to Thomas Balfour, graduate of St Leonard's College in 1549, elder, bailie and deacon in St Andrews in the 1560s and referred to in RPC as 'President of the Citie of Sanctandrois'. The inscription of the combined parts of the stone now read: M · THOMAE BAL/FOVR · BALLIVO · S · ANDR . . . / . . . / . . . RA POSVIT · 1582 · and

¹ According to Alexander Laing's *Lindores Abbey and its Burgh of Newburgh*, p 446, the initials refer to Alexander Spence, writer in Edinburgh, who married Katherine Arnot in 1686.

centrally the elegiac couplet: LVX · VRBIS · LVMEN · GENTIS / PARS · MAGNA · SENATVS / MAGNA · FORI · EXEMPLVM / CIVIBVS · HIC · TVMVLR.

Translation; Splendour of the city, Glory of the people, Playing a great part in the council and burgh court, An example to the citizens, I am buried here.

July 1969

St Leonard's Chapel and precincts

Set into the paving of the nave of this church are two worn recumbent slabs the first of which is *in situ*, centrally near the entrance.

(1) It measures 74½ by 38 in. The marginal inscription in gothic lettering is totally erased for the opening line and for the surname of the deceased's wife: It commemorates: / VIR · ROBERT · HENR¹ · OBIIT · IUNI / CONIUNX · SUA / JONETA OBIIT (uncut) ANO DNI (uncut). Although undated, it can be inferred from the style of the script that it belongs to the late fifteenth century. Any surface decoration has been effaced except for the faint outline of the dexter flank of a shield.

(2) A badly fragmented monument, 73 by 28½ in, has been cemented together and placed a little way from its original position near the south wall, to the right of the entrance. The marginal gothic inscription is heavily damaged, letters lacking their serifs or partially filled with mortar, all of which lead to uncertainty in reading the deceaseds' surnames. Beginning at the top sinister corner: HIC IACET (A)NDREA(S) VAU(?) / / . . . (M)ARIOT(A) (O)RA() / Mo Vo I · I. On the surface of the stone are traces of parallel incised lines which may be trade emblems.¹

(3) *Queen Mary's House;* Two pieces of a single recumbent slab were noted here, both being used as sills for basement windows. One (a) is the upper portion, 40 in wide by 22 in, with a finely cut marginal inscription in gothic lettering: HIC IACET EGREGIUS / VIR MAG then transversely on the slab: OBIIT : VI^{to} : KL : MARRIJ : ANO DO¹ M^o CCCC : XCV^{to}. In each of the two corners is a shield charged in low relief with a lion rampant and in chief three mullets. Two arms of a saltire are on the upper third of the stone. (b) Serving the same purpose on a window opposite is the lower portion of the slab, 40½ by 16½ in. This part is badly wasted and, of the inscription, the only significant word which could be made out was the surname INGLIS; in an equally worn shield only the lion rampant survives. This monument probably commemorates Alexander Inglis, Archdeacon of St Andrews.

(4) A corner of a recumbent slab, 19½ by 20 in, was found lying in the garden of the house. Between 5-inch marginal grooves, what remains of the inscription in gothic letters reads: IHS / HIC IA . . . ANO DNI Mo CCCC^o and, beneath, the rest of the date, LXXIII^o and part of the outline of a shield which may have been charged with piles fessways.

July 1969

ANSTRUTHER EASTER NO 566037

The two bevelled table-tombs noted here, the first of which is now collapsed, belong to the series with the short steeply angled gables.

(1) This lies to the east of the church and is partially covered with turf. On the narrow central panel, which is slightly dished, is the low relief carving of an hour-glass, coffins saltirewise, cross-bones, a blank shield and the initial W. The inscription is deeply cut and reads: HEERE LYES WILLIAM IAMESON MA/LTMAN BVRGES IN ANSTRVTHER SPO/VS TO

¹ The Calvary-cross slab to William Ruglyn, canon of the church and master of works who died in 1502, formerly in the south-western corner of the chapel, has been transferred to the Cathedral Museum.

MARJORIE CORSTROPHEN WHO / DIED SEP 26 1646 AND OF HIS AGE 51. On the other bevelled side: IF · A · MAN · DIE · SHALL · HE · LIVE · AGA/NE · ALL · THE · DAYES · OF · MINE · APPI/NTED · TIME · WIL · I · WIAT · TILL · MY / CHANGING · SHALL COME · IOB 14. The motto MEMENTO MORI is cut on one gable.

(2) To the southwest of the churchyard is the other bevelled table-tomb (qv RCAMS, p 23) similar to no. 1 in size, 68½ by 36½ in, with each of its sloping sides displaying a shield between two cartouches. They are incised as follows: (1) HIC IACET HONEST/VS VIR ANDREAS / VALKER QVONDAM / BALIVVS BVRGIDE (2) ANSTRVTHER QVI / OBIIT 16 OCTOBRIS / ANNO DOMI (sic) 1642 / AETATIS SVAE 63. On the other side: (1) (BEATI · MORTVI ·) QVI · IN · DOMINO / MORIVNTVR RE/QVIESCVNT (2) ENIM · A · LABORIB/VS · SVIS · ET · EORV/M · OPERA · EOS · SEQVNTVR. The narrow central panel is cut in low relief with an hour-glass, rosette, a star and an oak leaf; a winged cherub's head is on one gable and incised on the other is the motto MEMENTO. Both shields were blazoned by RCAMS but are now effaced.

August 1968

ANSTRUTHER WESTER NO 565035

Of the five memorials recorded here the first two are mentioned by RCAMS but additional epigraphic detail from these bevelled table-tombs is of interest.

(1) Lying alongside the south wall of the church is a severely weathered tomb with its four line inscription almost totally erased. Decipherable are the words: KEIR HVSBAND TO BEATRIX . . . followed by the wife's surname, now obliterated, and continues: SOME TYME BALIE WHO (DEC)EAS(ED) / APR 1657 AND OF HIS AGE 57.

(2) Situated near the east brink of the churchyard and similar to no. 1 in its steeply angled gables is the table-tomb already noted as commemorating Peter and John Oliphant, the latter having died on 2nd December 1644 and buried with his wife CATHARINE BORTHVICK.

(3) This stone has suffered from the same amount of weathering as nos 1 and 2. The inscription, however, is carried on a wider central panel leaving one of the bevelled sides undecorated. On the west gable is a small shield parted per pale and charged, dexter, three crescents; sinister, an axe, square and compasses arranged in the form of an F. Flanking the shield are the initials T O. Indistinct funerary emblems adorn the east gable and are surmounted by the motto MEMENTO MORI. This monument has a slight roll and hollow moulding which runs round the slab. It measures 76 by 38½ in.

(4) and (5) Two bevelled table-tomb tops, one mounted against the church wall, the other leaning against the tower steps at the entrance to the churchyard, almost certainly date from the pre-1707 period. This can be inferred from their marked similarity to nos 1 and 2 in design and from the traces of their inscriptions which have been extensively weathered.

June and August 1968

AUCHTERMUCHTY NN 239117

This churchyard contains a number of headstones so extensively earthed up as to make dating impossible. Of the four memorials noted here only two are certainly prior to 1707.

(1) A headstone 30½ by 20½ in with the date 1677 cut below the raised letters DW. The tympanum of the west face is cut with a winged cherub's head above a skull and cross-bones.

(2) A headstone similar to (1) in size and with the usual rounded top deeply incurving at

the sides. The letters IH IW are on its east face, and on the other side is the date 1699. Both stones show faint traces of fluted pilasters on the face which formerly carried the inscription. Among those memorials of a later date are (3) a headstone set against an enclosure wall at the west of the churchyard, which is of interest as it portrays the unusual feature of a small figure holding a deid bell and standing amongst funerary emblems, and (4) a headstone dated 1774 with the insignia of the gardener: twine reel, shears, crossed spades and a dibble stick.

Two fine eighteenth-century wall monuments are also in this graveyard. The one on the south wall commemorates Robert Maxwell of Broombrae, died 1724, and members of his family up until 1763. Opposite, on the south wall of the church, a similar but smaller monument commemorating Richard Stark and members of his family until 1755.

July and August 1968

BALMERINO NO 362248

Although all the monuments noted here have already been recorded by the Rev James Campbell in his book *Balmerino and its Abbey* (1899 edition, pp 598 *et seq*), they are, with the exception of the Calvary cross slab dated 1527, worth greater attention both for the epigraphy and heraldic detail.

(1) A recumbent slab, 72 by 29½ in, characterised by its fine relief lettering reminiscent of that at St Andrews and Leuchars. Introduced by a hand the inscription begins in the top dexter corner and reads: HEIR · LYIS · ANE / HONEST · MAN · AND · FAITHFVL · CALLIT · GE(ORG) / (RAMS)AY · BVR/GES · AND · BROTHER · GILD · OF · DVNDIE = AND · PORTIO/NER · OF · BOD / DVMCRAIG / QVHA · DEPAI/RTIT · YIS · PRE/SENT · LYF · 15 · OF / DECEMBER · AND / OF · HIS · AGE · 90. Beneath is a large shield parted per pale and charged, dexter, with an eagle displayed for Ramsay and, sinister, a fess checky which may be for Boyd. The top of the shield is flanked by the initials GR and CB.

There is no date on the stone, but from the styling it can be inferred that it is roughly contemporary with (2) a recumbent slab, 73 by 37 in, lying near the east wall. The inscription on this stone is similarly cut. Beginning at the top dexter corner it reads: HER · LAYIS · ANE · FAI . . . / . . . RE · ISABELL · RAMSY · SPOVS · TO · ALLEXANDR · MATH/EV · OF · KIRKTOVN · OF · BALME/RINOH · QVHA · DEPPERTIT · THE · 8 · DAY · OF · OCTOBR = ANO · 1596 · OF · AGE · 61. Centrally is a large shield parted per pale and charged, dexter, quarterly; 1st, a crescent increscent; 2nd, a mullet; 3rd, a fraise; 4th, a crescent (for Mathew?); sinister, an eagle displayed for Ramsay. Set in a square compartment it is flanked by the initials AM and IR. At the top of the stone is a skull in a circular compartment with a scroll above reading: DEATH · IS · LAYF · TO · THE · FAITHFVL.

(3) A collapsed table-tomb, 72 by 34½ in, with an incised marginal inscription beginning in the top dexter corner: HERE · LYES · MARGAR/ET · HENDERSON · SPOVS · TO · IAMES · KNOX · IN / PEESHILLS · WHO · DEP/ARTED · THIS · LIFE · THE · LAST · DAY · OF · FEB · 1673 = AND · OF · HER · AGE / 48 · YEARS.

At the base are the large initials IK MH.

(4) A small headstone, 27 by 20 in, with a broken top showing part of a skull and cross-bones, and with shallow cable moulding running down half its length. From the traces of mortar on the stone and the undressed back, it is likely that it was formerly a small mural panel similar to those found at St Fillan's church, Forgan. The inscription reads: HEERLYETH IOHN / WYLLE SCHOOLMR / OF BALMERINO WHO / DEPAI/RTED THE 7 OF / DECEMBR 1705 AND / OF HIS AGE 92 / OF HIS CHILDREN HE HAD CAIR / HE THEM IN STRUCTED GOD TO / FEAR THAT SO AT LAST / THEY MAY ATTAIN TO / WINE HEAVEN WHER HE IS GON.

(5) Against the south wall of the churchyard is a table-tomb with widely bevelled edges and hipped gables. The inscription could not be read.

July 1970

CERES NO 399118

Bracketed against the walls of the Lindsay vault are three sixteenth-century recumbent slabs, now badly wasted and in advanced stages of deterioration, as well as four fragments of the same class of monument of a similar date. Where existing, inscriptions and armorial bearings are cut in relief with the usual high degree of skill. From right to left they are:

(1) Recumbent slab, 70½ by 35 in. Any surface decoration on this stone has scaled off. Visible within a sunk marginal band is part of the inscription reading: DVGLIS · SPONSA · EIVS · QVE · OBIIT /

(2) Top portion of a recumbent slab showing the words: HIC · IACET · D/EIM · ELIZABITH / / GVS · ANNO · DOMINI . . . running marginally. A shield, intended as a matrimonial achievement, but lacking the partition line per pale, is charged: dexter, a chevron between three fleurs-de-lys with a pallet in base for a difference (Kinninmont of Craighall); sinister, four lions rampant (Wemyss). Below and to either side of the shield are the initials PK and EV. On a small sunk panel is the date 1579.

(3) Top portion of a recumbent slab with a corner of a shield charged with fleurs-de-lys. The name PATRICIVS is discernible in the margin.

(4) Recumbent slab, 60 by 28½ in. This stone is in very poor condition and all of the marginal epitaph except the word LYNDSAY has disappeared. Faint traces of a coat of arms charged with a fess chequy is in the upper part of the stone.

(5) Recumbent slab, 71½ by 34 in. Although still legible, the inscription on the sunk marginal band is now beginning to scale: HIC · IACET · IOHANN/ES · LYNDSAY · DOMINVS · QVONDA · DE · BY/RIS · QVI · OBIIT / 12 · DIE · NOVEMBER · ANNO · DOM . . . Exhibited in the upper part is a shield charged with a fess chequy, in chief three mullets. Below in a small sunk panel is the date 1563. (qv *Scots Peerage*, vol v pp 397–8).

(6) The upper part of a recumbent slab exhibiting a corner of a shield containing the arm of a chevron and two fleurs-de-lys, and the word SPERO in a sunk panel beneath. Of the original inscription only the letters KYNNYMO remain, which can be conjecturally restored as KYNNYMONT, together with the letters MBRIS AN . . . from the date.

(7) A small fragment of a recumbent slab with the marginal letter (W)YMIS · SPONS . . .

(8) Part of a triangular pediment topped with a fleur-de-lys finial. Worked as a monogram are the relief initials TMG and the date 1683 (see no. 10 below).

(9) The central part of the vault is taken up with the large sarcophagus to John, 20th Earl of Crawford, 1702–49 and Lady Jean Murray, 1730–47 (qv *Scots Peerage*, vol 1, p 489; vol 3, p 39). A plaque on the east end of the tomb commemorates John, Earl of Crawford and Lindsay, died 24th December 1749, aged 18.

In the graveyard itself upwards of a dozen monuments, screened by a privet hedge, are stacked against the west wall, and could not, therefore, be recorded. Set in the north wall is an unassuming mural monument, 41 by 56 in, with an accumulation of soil obscuring part of its base. Crudely interpreted Ionic columns support an entablature, the moulded cornice of which is extended in sectional lengths for some 63 in to either side. Although there is no pediment *in situ*, it is possible that the fragment within the Lindsay vault (see no. 8 above) belongs to this monument. The frieze displays weathered relief decoration consisting of a heart superimposed

on two bones, a star, a fleur-de-lys and a rosette. On the return of the frieze, above each column, are triglyphs and guttae. Between the pedestals are the funerary emblems of a deid bell, a mattock and a central skull from which there rises an hour-glass. The enclosed commemorative panel is slightly advanced from its backing and is incised in small capitals: **HERE LYES THOM/AS GOURLAY PORTI/ONER OF BALCHRISTY / AND TENNANT IN / BANDIRAN WHO DIED / AUG: 10 1682 AND / OF HIS AGE 59.** Beneath are the lines: **LO HERE'S IN TOMBD / A VERTOVS MAN AND / JUST : WHO LIVD A CHRI/STIAN WHILE IN LIFE / (AN)D'S HAPPIE THOUGH / () DUST.** There is no trace of the other wall monument mentioned by Christison (*PSAS*, xxxvi).

Near the entrance to the church is a collapsed table-tomb top with a rounded edge and carrying the incised transverse inscription in lower case: **HERE LIES THE CORPS OF ROBT / BLACK SOMETIME TENANT IN BALDINNY / WHO DIED DECR 10 1706 AGED 63/ THE CORPS OF RACHEL RUSSELL / HIS WIFE WHO DIED NOVR 1668 / AGED 30. THE CORPS OF JANET / ROBERTSON HIS 2nd WIFE WHO DIED / DECR 24th 1707 AGED 61.** On the same slab are recorded the deaths of Thomas Ramsay, 2nd July 1776; his wife Agnes Russell, February 9th 1763 and others of the same family up until 1829.

April 1969

COLLESSIE NO 286133

Two wall-monuments were noted here.

(1) The first, built against the east wall, measures 8 ft 4 in by 6 ft. Its prominent steep triangular pediment has a moulded rim. On the tympanum is displayed a weathered shield charged: between a saltire, a mullet in chief and a crescent in base. To either side of the shield are the relief initials IB and above, the date 1649. The cornice is moulded and returns round the two supporting columns which flank the area normally carrying the epitaph. This shows signs of alteration and in its present form consists of ashlar blocks, one of which is incised with part of the worn inscription: **THIS · IS · THE · BVRIAL · (PLACE) / OF · IOHNE · BONAR · OF · LVMQV(HAT) /** The rest is almost erased with traces of the uprights suggesting numerals. Immediately below is a block showing in relief the upper part of a recumbent skeleton.

(2) North of (1) against the same wall is a collapsed monument of Jacobean styling formerly flanked by large strapworked trusses of which only the sinister one remains. The spiral scrolls on the shoulders of the pediment meet at the apex with a mullet. The tympanum shows the relief initials RB/IB GH/1651. On either side is a finial entirely filled with an oval shield. From the worn charges on the sinister one, between a chevron three mullets in chief and a leaf in base, it is possible to infer that this monument commemorates members of the Balfour family. The central panel has been deliberately effaced to take another inscription which has never been executed.

August 1969

CREICH NO 326214

Only one small headstone was noted here lying to the south of the ruined church. Measuring 24 by 17½ in, it has raked shoulders with the apex of its east face occupied by a winged cherub's head. Incised below are the initials GC and IB. The inscription reads: **HERE · LYES · IEAN · BA/ILLIE · SPOWS · TO · GIL/BERT · CHRISTIE · MERC/HANT · BWRGES · IN · DV/NDIE · WHO · DEPARTED / THIS · LIFE · THE · 7 · DAY / OF · IANWARIE · 1704 / AND · OF · HER · AGE / 78 · YEARS.** Cut in relief on the west face is a weathered skull and cross-bones with an hour-glass lying horizontally below. Beneath the shoulders of the stone is

the motto MEMENTO MORI. The Barclay monument (qv RCAMS, p 67) is now in the porch of the modern parish church.

August 1968

CULTS NO 348098

A bevelled table-tomb lying to the east of the church appears to be the only monument prior to 1707, but a headstone placed at the foot of the belfry stairs is included here for its fine relief carving of two female figures with heavy busts and with their hair falling to their shoulders. The figure to the left clutches a book and extends her arm towards a winged cherub's head at the apex of the stone's angular shoulders; a similar gesture is made by the figure on the right who holds an hour-glass. Beneath the canopy of their arms runs a worn inscription: HEAR LAYETH / PATRICK GR(U)N/DISTON WRIGHT / IN WE(S)TER COA/LTS WHO DIED / THE 28 DAY OF IUN 1715. A square, compasses and an axe are cut in relief on the back of the stone together with a skull, crossed mattock and spade and cross-bones. Here also are the initials PG/CD and BE.

(2) The bevelled sides of this stone are plain and incised thus: HEIR · LYES · DAVID · LITSTER / SOMTIME · MILLER · IN · PITLESSIE / MILL · WHO · DIED · THE · 9 · OF · IVLIE / 1681 · AND · OF · HIS · AGE · 80 and WHAT MAN IS HE THAT / LIVETH AND SHALL NOT / SIE DEATH PSAL 82 v 48. In the west gable of the stone is exhibited a shield containing two picks or hammers and a mill-rind all cut in relief; in the east gable is a skull superimposed on two bones crowned with an hour-glass and with a deid bell to one side.

June 1969

CUPAR: ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH NO 373144

Built into the west wall of the churchyard are three seventeenth-century wall monuments, which, despite weathering and severe flaking, are noteworthy for their design composition and and commemorative information.

(1) To the right is the *Bethun monument*, measuring 100 by 68 in. Two columns with acanthus leaf capitals on either side of a central panel support a sectional entablature and triangular pediment. Prominent in the tympanum is a rosette from which cascade folds of cloth. The frieze is entirely filled by two winged, trumpet-blowing cherubs with tasseled gowns supporting the Bethun coat of arms: quarterly, 1st and 4th, a fess between three mascles; 2nd and 3rd, on a chevron an otter's head erased. Below the shield is a winged cherub's head. The two outermost columns each bear a rectangular part of the entablature with the emblems of mortality cut in relief in a recessed panel. The base of the monument shows traces of a skull, bone and winged cherub's head. The inscription is in small capitals and reads: MONUMENTUM PIJ ET GENE/ ROSI (VIRI) D.D. JACOBI BETHUN / MEDICINAE DOCTORIS · TARBET / INFERIORIS DOMINI : (QUI) / OBIIT 14 CAL JANUARIJ 1680 AETATIS ANNO 77 / HIPPOCRATES A(LT)ER (FUIT HIC) / HEROS, MEDICIN(AE) (ARTIBUS / ET) MUSIS SEMPER AMICUS (ERAT): / BELGIS AC ITALIS, GALLIS S(IM/UL) ATQUE BRITANNIS NO(TA) FUIT / VIRTUS INGENIIQUE VI(GOR): (ILLE), / FORISQUE DOMI CLARUS, (CECI)/DIT, REMANENTE JUCU(NDA) / PROLE ET HIC SITUS IP(SE JACET), / PULBIS ES ET AD PUL(VEREM) / REDIBIS, QUI LEGIS HAEC, (HOSPES), / MORTIS TU SAEPE ME(MENTO), / BEATI MORIENTIS IN D(OMINO).

Translation: A monument to a God-fearing and honorable man D D James Bethun Doctor of Medicine, subordinate lord of Tarvit who died 14th January 1680, aged 77. This outstanding man was a second Hippocrates, ever a friend to the arts of medicine and the Muses. His goodness

and powerful intelligence were known to Belgians and Italians, French and Britons alike. He was renowned at home and abroad, leaving his delightful children he lies buried here. Thou art dust and shalt return to dust, thou who readeest this. Friend remember death often. Blessed are those that die in the Lord.

(2) *Scott Monument*, 168 by 111 in. The detail of this once handsome monument is now almost obliterated, and only an outline of its former grandeur can be got from the few remaining features. A rectangular fragment of the pediment shows traces of a coat of arms and the displayed wing of a possible supporter. The scaling outline of three shields is also discernible above the commemorative panel which was once flanked on either side by two columns; now only their capitals and bases remain. Any funerary emblems have also been erased. Not unexpectedly only a few letters of the italic inscription are legible and they are bracketed here, while the rest of the inscription is that recorded by Monteith in his *Theater of Mortality*; 'SCOTIS RESUSCITATIS, ANGLIS EXCITATIS, RENOVATO FOEDERE REPARATA RELIGIONE, PROSTRATA HIERARCHIA, RESTITUTO PRESBYTERIO, SUCCENTURIANTIBUS ILLUSTRISSIMIS E PRIMA NOBILITATE ET MINISTERIO (BENE MERITIS) IN ECCLESIAM, NUNQUAM SATIS MEMORANDIS, CONFIRMANTE CAESARE BRITANNICO, ADSTIPULANTIBUS (REGNI) ORDINIBUS, (OBIIT PL)ACIDISSIME IN DOMINO UNUS, (QUI NOBIS) CUNCTANDO RESTITUIT REM, GU(LIELM)US SCOTUS, ECCLESIAE CUPRENSIS PASTOR, EX ILLUSTRIS ET ANTIQUISSIMA FAMILIA SCOTO-BALVIRIANA 84 9, ANNO AERAE CHRISTI MDCXLII A.D. CAL JUNII 13'.

(3) *Greig Monument*, 82½ by 46 in (fig 2). The most distinctive features of this monument are the two flanking columns with their deeply cut cable moulding, and the chain which stretches between the bases of the pillars coiling round cross-bones and crossed coffins. Two skulls cut in the round are placed as lateral finials on the ogival pediment which is deeply moulded and bordered by spiral scrolls. The tympanum exhibits a winged cherub's head with a curiously long thin neck which swells out into a circular pendant containing the relief initials AG CS / AG KT. To one side is the hour-glass, to the other the deid bell. The central panel bears the following worn inscription in lower case: HERE · RESTS · THE · BODY · OF / ANDREU · GREIG · ELDER / SOMETIME · BAILIE · OF · COUP/AR · WHO · DIED · THE · 17 OF / FEB · THE · YEAR · OF (GOD) / 1670 · AND · OF · HIS · (AGE) / 78 / ALSO · OF · HIS · ELDEST · SON / ANDREU · GREIG · D(EAN) · OF / GILD · WHO · DIED · THE · 14 · OF / APRIL · THE · YEAR · OF · GOD / 1675 · AND · OF · HIS · . . . / HEBREUS · 9 · 27 / APPOINTED · FOR · (MEN) / ONCE · TO · DIE · (BUT AFTER / THIS) THE JUDGEMENT.

(4) A wall monument with its commemorative panel and flanking pilasters effaced leaving only the details displayed in the ogival pediment. These consist of maltster's implements similar to those in fig 3 with crossed shovels and a weedcock between the peat 'tongs' and broom. The two dates 1671 and 1685 together with the initials WT IT are also in the tympanum.

(5) A recumbent slab placed upright in the ground leaving only the topmost 17 in clear. The inscription is in large relief letters running transversely: HEIR LYIS ALEX/ANDER SMYTH VHA / DEPAIRTIT THIS LYF YE 25 OCT ANNO / The rest is hidden, but according to a mention made of this stone in 1884, it continues DOM 1616 AND OF HIS AGE 62.¹

¹ J F and S Mitchell of the Scottish Genealogy Society located three seventeenth-century collapsed bevelled table monuments that were completely buried beneath the turf. They note details in 'Monumental Inscriptions in East Fife', nos 62, 180 and 190, Cupar.

DAIRSIE NO 414161

Only one monument prior to 1707 was noted here. Lying to the south of the church is a table-tomb, $74\frac{1}{2}$ by $36\frac{1}{2}$ in, with a round base and scalloped edges. Its surface is divided into two compartments, the upper one bearing the shallow, incised inscription. Now badly weathered, it reads running horizontally: HEIR · LYES · A · VERTUOS / AND · RELIGIOUS · MAN / IAMES · ANNALL / WHO · DECESSIT · (THE) / 20 · OF · NOVEMBER · 1661 / YEIRIS · AND · OF / HIS · AGE · () 4. The lower panel displays a shield charged with a saltire and in chief three mullets. Flanking the shield are the incised initials IA. Below are the emblems of mortality: a crossed mattock and spade, a skull, and, wedged between it and the cross-bones, an hour-glass, all cut in low relief above the motto MEMENTO MORI.

June 1968

ELIE NO 492002

Three memorials were noted here.

(1) Near the south boundary wall of the churchyard is a finely carved bevelled tomb-top measuring $83\frac{1}{2}$ by 30 in. The narrow panel is framed with rope moulding and incised with the initials IR. Flaking has occurred on the west gable obliterating most of the detail on the shield which, according to the RCAMS, was blazoned a chief and a lion rampant. The little that is visible does not suggest this but rather the dexter arm of a chevron and a plant slipped in base.

To either side are the raised initials IR. Conspicuous in the east gable is a finely carved skull superimposed on cross-bones all interwoven with a ribbon. The inscription is incised on a scrolled cartouche and reads: HIC QVIESCIT IN PACE VIR PROBVS VERAЕ / RELIGIONIS ET PIETATIS STVDIOSVS / IACOBVS ROGERVS HVIVS VRBIS IN/COLA QVI VITAM BENE ACTAM FI/NIIT 27 MAII 1650 ANNO AETATIS 36.

(2) Lying to the north of the church a bevelled tomb-top less narrow than (1) but otherwise similar in design. The scrolled cartouche bearing the inscription has scaled off for half its length leaving only: HIC · DORMIT · PIVS · PROBVS . . . / ERVDITVS · ADOLESCENS . . . / TVRNBVLLVS · FILIVS · NAT . . . / MAE · TVRBVLLI (sic) A · BOGMIL · QVI . . . / ITA · OBIIT · 14 · APRILIS · 1648. The funerary emblems of a skull on cross-bones and the mattock and spade saltirewise with an hour-glass above fill the west gable. A shield charged with a bull's head erased flanked by the raised initials M/()T are in the east gable. The stone measures 79 by $39\frac{1}{2}$ in.

(3) The bevelled sides of this table-tomb, 76 by $37\frac{1}{2}$ in, splay at a shallow angle. Its central panel is slightly raised above the level of the other faces and is incised with a much worn inscription barely legible in parts: IN SPEM BEATAE RES/URRECTIONIS FIR/MAM (IN) GELIDA / HUMO VIRI PIETATE / PRUDENTIA ET VI/RTUTE PRAEDITI / GULIELMI DUDING/STON BALIVI ELIE / NSIS (T)UMULANTUR / EXUVIAE DUM / IN HIS TERRIS PE/REGRINABATUR . . . ET AT NUNC/VERO AB OMNI LABORE/ MOERORE REQUI/ESCIT CHRISTO (QUE) / IN AETERNUM MORATUR / MORS END () / IIS REQUIE . . . ITA LARGO(FI)NIIT / ANNO DOM 16(9 ?)6 / AETAT 69 NECNON / CINERES CHRISTIA/NAE MAN SPONSAE / EIUS DILECTISSIMAE / PIETATIS PROBITATIS/ET VIRTUTIS STUDI/OSISIMAE QUAE / VITAM FINIIT ANNO / DOM 1706 AETATIS / VERO 80 QUIN/ETIAM TRIUM (FILI?)ORUM (uncut).

Translation; In unshaken hope of a Blessed Resurrection the remains of William Dudington, bailie of Elie, a man endowed with godliness, goodness and virtue are buried in the cold earth. While he was a traveller here . . . but now he rests from toil and sorrow and dwells in

Christ for evermore (isolated words from this point are visible but the general sense is not clear) died the year of our Lord 16(9?)6 aged 69. And the dust of Christine Man his beloved wife, full of zeal for godliness, goodness and virtue who died in the year of our Lord 1706 and of her age 80. And the dust of three children (uncut).

In the west gable is a shield charged with a chevron between three cross patee fitchy¹ and flanked by the raised initials WD. To the dexter side, in a small panel, are the initials CM. Below is a heart pierced with an arrow and an hour-glass lying horizontally. A profile skull between cross-bones and a crossed spade and shovel are displayed in the east gable. A later eighteenth-century inscription commemorating members of the same family is carried in the south bevel. It reads: **HERE LYS MARGARET MILLER DAUGHTER TO ANDREW MILLER BAILLIE IN CRAILE WHO LIVED A CHRISTIAN AND DUTIFUL SPOUSE TO WILLIAM DUDINGSTON BAILLIE AT THE ELLIE THE SPACE OF 45 YEARS AND 10 MONETHS AND DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 1 DAY OF FEB 1737 AND OF HER AGE 63 YEARS.** Also commemorated is William Dudingston, bailie in Elie who died January 17()6.

In the north bevel is the sentiment: **IN OBITUM CHRISTIANAE MAN / IN THIS COLD URN INCLOSD HIERE LIES / A SAINT IN DEED WHO GOT THE PRIZE / TRUE / PIETY HER STUDY WAS / AND STILL ADHERD TO CHRIST HIS CAUSE / SHE LIVD IN CHRIST AND NOW IN BLISS / . . . HAPPINESS.**

July 1968; August 1969

FALKLAND NO 250074

Two wall monuments are set into the south boundary wall of the churchyard. With only minor differences between them, they comprise the usual features of a classical composition: a pedestal, columns or pilasters and an entablature framing the central inscribed panel and a rounded pediment bordered with spiral scrolls, which in both cases has fallen from the wall. Similarities in size and in details of their ornamentation suggest that they were cut in the same atelier. The soffits of the architrave each have a lozenge ornament and their pedestals display in relief a skull surmounting in one case (1) two sceptres saltirewise, in the other (2) a sceptre and scythe arranged saltirewise. Apart from its occurrence on a nearby headstone, the sceptre is not common as a funerary emblem.

(1) The collapsed pediment of the monument to the right is filled by two winged, gowned, trumpet-blowing cherubs supporting a shield charged, dexter, a chevron between three scorpions and a bird; sinister a chevron between two mullets, in base a crescent and a millrind. On the lateral ends of the frieze are two cherub heads, and to each end of the podium two pot-bellied cherubs hold a swag of drapery across its length. The inscription reads in small capitals: **OUR LIFE IS FRAIL AT EVERY BREATH / WEER SOON DEPRIVED OF IT BY DEATH / YOUTH BEAUTIE, STREANTH WHEN GOD DOTH CALL / AL MUST OBEY, BOTH GREAT AND SMALL / THIS IS OUR HOPE, DEATH'S BUT A SLEEP / OUR VERY DUST HER'L SURELY KEEP / WHO, AS UEE NOU WAS LAID IN GRAVE / THAT EVEN IN DEATH UEE LIFE MIGHT HAVE / ALLELLUAH / HERE LYES THE CORPS OF HELLEN COLL / WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 6 OF FEBR / 1687 AGE 19 MONETHS ALSOE THE CORPS / OF CHARLES COLL WHO DEPARTED THIS / LIFE SEPR . 23 1689 AGE 9 MONETHS / ALSOE THE CORPS OF IEAN COLL WHO DEPARTED / AGUST 20 (16)90 AGE 3 YEARS AL CHILDREN / TO GEORGE COLL BAILIE OF FALKLAND /**

¹ The Duddingston charges are normally, between a chevron three cross crosslets fitchy.

AND BARBARA ARNOT HIS SPOUSE / HER LY'S ALSO MARGET PITCAIRN / SPOUSE TO IOHN COLE LATE BAILIE OF / FALKLAND WHO DIED () AGED 72 / ALSO EUPAN COLE DAUGHTER TO THE ABOVE / GEORGE COLE AND SPOUSE TO M(R) WILLIAM / POTTER SHIPMASTER IN LEVEN WHO DIED () 17(60?) / HER AGE 67 ALSO GEORGE (CO)LE LATE (BAI)/LIE OF FALKLAND SON TO () COLE WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE () / a piece of masonry has been removed from the lower corner HIS AGE 48 REPAIRED BY MAR() / COLE TO THE MEMORY OF (GEORGE?) COLE HER FATHER 1774.

(2) This monument, to the left of (1), has its central panel flanked by fluted pilasters. The pediment contains a single winged, gowned cherub blowing a trumpet and holding a blank oval shield. On the commemorative panel is the date 1696 in large raised figures between a monogram of the letters TL WC. The inscription reads: I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER / LIVETH AND THAT HE SHALL / STAND AT THE LATTER DAY / UPON THE EARTH AND THOUGH / AFTER MY SKIN WORMS DESTR/OY THIS BODY YET IN MY FLE/SH SHALL I SEE GOD JOB 19 V 25 26 THE BURIAL PLACE OF / THOMAS LAWSON POR/TIONER OF FALKLAND / AND BALAMBLEA

(3) Three monuments of a simpler type are built into the east wall. A feature of the one on the extreme right is the relief carving on the base where a coffin on its side lies between two open books. Two skulls, the sinister one in profile, are cut to either side of a deid bell and an hour-glass, and the composition is completed with two bones. The commemorative panel is dished and framed by a delicate bead moulding. The inscription is now illegible, but in the pediment is the date 1705 between a monogram of the letters MDT. Large spiral scrolls flank the superstructure. This monument measures 71 by 29 in.

(4) Centrally is a large ogival monument built of ashlar blocks against the rubble walling. It has been altered by the addition of a nineteenth-century marble panel commemorating the Rev William Thomson who died in 1840. In its present form it consists of three panels, the upper one containing a weathered shield charged with three crescents on a chief, on a compartment of flames (?) and surmounted by a ribbon. The shield may have been cut with other charges, but, if so, they have been effaced. The initials WS in cursive script are above the shield. Below is a small lobed panel with a recessed surface carrying the date 1712 and a hand pointing to the names WILLIAM SIMSON / JEAN WALLACE alongside the motto MORS PATET / HORA LATET. The lower panel of the monument comprises a single rectangular block 40 in wide, cut with the rhyming couplets: (SE)PUL(CHRED) WITHIN AMELIA GEDDES LYIS / () IN JESUS HER DEATH DID NOT SURPR(ISE) / BECAUS BY GRACE HAD VERTUE GREAT IN ST(ORE) / HER WIT RENEWED HER LYF DID SIN ABH(OR) / SHE WALKT WITH GOD IN SPIRIT WORSHIPT TRU(TH) / EXAMPLARLY TO AL HER SEX AGE AND YOU(TH) / BORN IN THE YEAR 1665 (WHOM?) TROUBLES THEN DID GREATLY DR() / HER COURS (W)AS FINISHT IN 1681.

(5) Although this monument has been heavily damaged by the loss of its pediment and inscription, it is of interest for the bizarre figure carving of a winged cherub lolling cross-legged on a skull. The outer surfaces, against which the pilasters are set, are decorated with a pendant ribbon studded at intervals with such funerary emblems as the bone, hour-glass, spade etc. The monument measured 45½ by 28½ in.

(6) A small headstone, 30 in by 26 in, with a damaged top which is noteworthy for the figure carving on both faces of the richly bordered pediment. On the east face of the tympanum the torsos of two savages, wreathed at the waist, flank and support a circular device topped by a quaint wiggged head with puffed cheeks and a protruding tongue. Incised are the initials IA EW.

Columns with acanthus leaf capitals are to either side of the inscription which is partially earthed over: HER · LIE · THE · BONES / AND · ASHES · OF · IAM/ES · ALISON · TENANT / IN · DARN · UHO · DYED / THE · 16 · OF · NOV · 1699 · AND · OF · HIS · AG/E · 51 · AND ALSO · IAMES / AND · MARGRET · AL/ISON The west face of the pediment has a rounded tympanum cut with a winged cherub's head, and is supported by two caryatids between which are an hour-glass, crossed spade and shovel, a deid bell and a coffin.

(7) Lying loose near the south boundary wall is a small headstone, 30½ by 20½ in, of interest as it retains centrally on its base the small projecting tongue formerly used as a tenon to be set in the mortise of a supporting base. The shaped top with its incurving sides breaks out into lugs and is carved on the tympanum with an adze and compasses together with a coffin between the incised initials IB. The inscription is very worn and records the death of a IAMES . . . WHO DEPARTED THIS / (LYF) THE 13 OF OCTOB/ER 1644 HIS AGE 42. On the other side, the face of the stone is occupied by a skull, cross-bones and the motto MEMENTO MORI, and the tympanum by an hour-glass and the date 1684.

(8) A small headstone with a rounded top cut on the west face with the date 1683 and the initials IB. On the same face are a skull, cross-bones and an hour-glass. The almost obliterated inscription is on the other side and commemorates a IOHN (B)OUGH BURGES OF. . . . A crossed mattock and spade are in relief above the inscription.

(9) The wide angular shoulders of this headstone terminate in tight scrolls (fig 3) and are embossed with the trade insignia of a brewer: (i) a weedock and long handled shovel are straddled by the peat tongs (ii) a wide bladed shovel, rod and broom. These implements are probably contemporary with the latter part of the inscription on the west face where the central commemorative panel is recessed with an egg and dart moulding on its frame. Within the pediment is a monogram of the raised letters TG dividing the date 1674. The inscription, now partially earthed over reads: DAVID GERNAR / SON TO IAMES / GERNAR AND MAR/EA GROSER HE DYED / THE YEIAR 16()2 / HIS AGE 65 YE(IA)RS / DAVID FORSAITH DYE/D MARCH 13 DAY 17/46 AGE 76 YEIARS I/AMES FORSAITH HIS / SONE DYED MARCH / 23 DAY 1746. The east face commemorates James Forsyth, late Baillie and Brewer who died 5th June 1792, aged 54.

(10) A table-tomb, 77 by 40½ in, lying near (1). The inscription is very worn but can be read as IN MEMORIE / OF WILLIAM ARNOT (WHO) DYED FEBURY 1697 AGED I (?) MONETH. Also commemorated is a Margaret Arnot who appears to have died in the 1730s. A raised panel at the base of the slab is occupied by the relief carving of a shield containing a two-pronged fork (weedock ?), a shovel and an unidentified object. Two stars, the initials RA and CS and the date 1731 in large raised figures flank the shield. The funerary emblems comprise two skulls, a winged hour-glass, cross-bones and a cherub's head with sharply angled wings. Instead of the mattock a triangular bladed shovel and spade are arranged saltirewise.

(11) Two finely inscribed panels from a wall-monument which has now disappeared, lie against the wall of a small enclosure. One reads: MEMORIAE OPTIMORUM PARENTIUM / GULIELMI MARSHALL COMPLURES / ANNOS FALCOLANDIAE PRAETORIS PII, / PROBI MAXIME SOBRII VICINIS MULTI / UM DILECTII (sic) ET CHRISTIANAE / SIMPSON CONJUGIS AMANTISSIMAE, / PIAE, PROBAE, PLACIDO AC SEDATO ANIMO / INSIGNIS. QUORUM ILLE MORTEM OBIIT / 24 DECEMBRIS 1715 AETATIS 83 · ILLA · 7 OCTOBRIS 1693 · AETATIS 42 / NECNON EORUM LIBERORUM MEMORIAE / MONUMENTUM HOC SACRAVIT / IOHANNES MARSHALL FILIUS SCRIBA EDINENSIS. The other slab is in elegiac couplets: HIC SITUS ERST (sic) PRAETOR CUI FAL/COLANDIA CURAE / ATHOLIJ SUMMA RES QUO / QUE GESTA FIDE /

QUEM PIETAS PROBITAS DECO/RARUNT, JURA PARENTIS / JURA TORI SACRI
CUI VIOLARE / NEFAS / SOBRIA CASTA PIA HAC EADEM / REQUIESCIT IN URNA /
CARA TORI CONSORS CONJU-/GE DIGNA SUO.

Translation: To the memory of the best of parents, William Marshall for some years bailie of Falkland, god-fearing, honest, most prudent, dear to his neighbours; and Christian Simpson, his beloved spouse, god-fearing, honest, remarkable for her even and tranquil disposition. He died the 24th December 1715, aged 83, she on the 7th October 1693. Also to the memory of their children, John Marshall, their son and writer in Edinburgh dedicated this monument. Here lies a bailie whose charge was Falkland; he also attended to the affairs of Athol. Piety and honesty distinguished him. For him it was a sin to violate the rights of a father, the rights of holy wedlock. Prudent, chaste and pious, the beloved sharer of his couch, rests in the self-same grave, worthy of her spouse.

(12) A headstone with the inscription on its east face entirely erased but still showing some good figure carving of two cherubs blowing trumpets which meet in a star, and on the west face, a tightly worked composition consisting of a finely delineated winged cherub's head above a winged hour-glass and a star. Beneath is a panel containing a skull with a scythe and sceptre arranged saltirewise and cross-bones.

Among later memorials may be mentioned: (a) A headstone dated 1731 which includes among the funerary emblems a shield worked with an adze and compasses. It commemorates Alexander Kilgour, Coupar and Burges in Falkland who died 25th October 1721. (b) A headstone carved on its west face with a pediment supported by two pilasters which, as with (6) is reminiscent of the wall-monument assemblage. In the tympanum is a grotesque face clamping a weaver's shuttle in its jaw. The stone was erected by Charles Honyman, weaver in Falkland to his parents. (c) A table-tomb commemorating Alexander Houg who died 7th November, aged 41, 1714.

July 1698–9

FERRY-PORT-ON-CRAIG NO 458286

A table-tomb, measuring 77 by 37½ in, was the only monument recorded here. This stone has scalloped edges and a very worn inscription running marginally: **HIER LYIS THE BODIE OF / MARGRET PATERSON WHO WAS FIRST SPOWS TO PATRICK H(A)Y / MARCHANT BVRGES OF / DWNDIE (NE)XT SPOWS TO GEORG HAY MARCHAND BVRGH THER = SHE DEPARTID THE 21 OF / FEBR 1679 BEING OF / AGE 68 YEIR(S).** The top portion has a blank shield flanked by the raised initials MP/ PH / GH. On the surface of the slab are traces of lettering. In a compartment at the base are a crossed spade and mattock and crossed bones to either side of a skull and hour-glass.

July 1968

FLISK NO 314225

Hard against the south boundary wall of the kirkyard lies a bevelled tomb-top, 76½ by 36½ in (fig 1), the heraldic detail of which has already been noted and blazoned by RCAMS. A further examination of the stone under different light conditions revealed additional material. The dexter cartouche is held by two skirted figures but its Latin inscription is almost effaced. Decipherable in the four lines are the words: 16 NOVEMBRI · ANNO · AERAE / CHRISTIANAE 16(6)5. The sinister cartouche is supported at its east end by a skeleton with elongated rib-cage and arms and short stumpy legs. In one hand is clasped an hour-glass. The other end of the cartouche breaks out into an enlarged scroll moulding. The inscription reads: OPTIMO (SP)EI ·

PVERO · IACOBO · BLYTH · FILIO / QVONDAM · RECARDI · BLYTH · A · PITTACHOB / MONIMENTVM · HOC · IN · MEMORIAM · PIET/ATIS · SVAE · MARGARETA · ROLLO · MATER / CAEDENVM · CVRABAT. Prominent in the west gable is a shield parted per pale: dexter, a chevron between three boars' heads coupé sinister, a chevron between three boars' heads erased (RCAMS, p 149). Above the shield are the raised letters RB; to either side the initials IB and MR. The east gable is cut with the emblems of mortality.

July 1968

FORGAN: ST FILLAN'S NO 446259

Three monuments were noted here by RCAMS in 1925. Of these only the *Wilson* stone, lying half buried to the south of the church remains, the others presumably being covered by vegetation.

(1) On this recumbent slab the grouping of the funerary emblems at the base is noteworthy. In low relief a winged, gowned trumpet-blowing cherub and a squatting skeleton holding the sting of death flank and support a skull with a bone in its jaw. Crowning the skull is a scroll with the motto MEMENTO MORI. Worked into the composition are coffins saltirewise, crossed mattock and spade and a small scythe. Beneath is incised: THE DVSTS SHAL TVRNE / TO THE EARTH AS IT WES AND / THE SPIRIT TO GOD WHO GAVE / IT. The upper third of the slab is cut in raised letters with the inscription: (HEI)R · LYE(S) · (D)AVID · (WI)LS/ON · SON · TO · ALEX (AN)D(E)R · WI/LSON · () THE · FRE(RTO)V(N) () · OF / () · AND · OF · HIS / D(EAT)H · THE · () DAY · OF · IVNI / () YEIRIS. Centrally is a shield flanked by the initials DW and surmounted by a wreath. It should be noted that it was incorrectly blazoned by RCAMS (cf p 150) and is charged thus: a saltire between three mullets with a boar's head erased in base. Below are the lines in finely carved raised capitals: AL · THINGES · MVST · DIE · TH/AT · LYFE · HAITH · TAINE · AND / SO · MVST · IT · HAD · NEVER / NANE · ILVD · TO · DIE · I · DIE · TO / LIVE · AETERNALLIE. An hour-glass lying horizontally terminates this sentiment.

(2) Near (1) is a collapsed table-tomb top, 75 by 34 in. With a wide scalloped border framing a proportionally pleasing composition, this stone features a winged cherub's head hovering above a blank oval shield which has the initials II and SK to either side of it. A very worn epitaph is on a central cartouche: HIER · LYES · ANE / VOMEN · OF · GODLI · FAME / ISOBEL · K(IR)CAL/DE · (C)ALED · BYN / SPOWS · TO · IAM / STEVENSON · MA/LTMAN · BVRGES / IN · DVNDE · AND · DYED · 60 · YEIR · OF / (AGE) 20 IVNE 1653. In low relief at the base are skull, crossed mattock and spade, cross-bones and an hour-glass.

(3) A headstone, 31 by 19½ in, the top of which is cut in relief as a crown. Prominent on the face are the tailor's insignia of a goose, shears and a bodkin all cut in low relief beneath the crown and separated from it by a narrow slit running through the stone. The inscription reads: HEIR · LYES / MARGARET · DAVIDSO/N · SPOUS · TO · IAMES / KILPATRICK · WHO / DECEASED · 170V / AND · OF · HER / AGE 29.

(4) A headstone with angular shoulders measuring 33 by 18 in stands in the west of the churchyard. Incised at its top are the initials EB. The inscription is obscured by hard lichen and could not be completely recorded: HIER LYES / ELISEBETH BOIST / DOGHTER TO DAVID / BOIST WHO DEPART/ID THE 24 DAY OF / MARCH 1690 AND / OF HIR AGE 20 YIARS / REMEMBER MAN / THAT GOD HATH / GRANTED YOY / ANOTHER DAY / THIS NIGHT MAY / BE TO YOU THE LEST. . . .

(5) Although its date lies outside the scope of this survey a collapsed table-tomb top with a marginal inscription merits inclusion. Measuring 74 by 41 in, it has a fine scalloped border

and a crudely carved heraldic device consisting of a sword, two animals passant and a hunting horn. The inscription reads: HERE LIETH DAVID / KAY SOMETIME TENNANT IN CUMBERTOWN / WHO DIED IN THE MONETH OF / MARCH 1713 AND () = ()TH HIS WIFE ISOBEL / T()ET WHO DIED IN / ()MO.

(6) Close to nos (1) and (2), a table-tomb, 77½ by 39½ in with its inscription effaced, but with the raised letters WS and ED, and the date (1)685 visible flanking a blank shield at its base.

(7) A headstone, 25 in wide, with a bilobate top cut in relief with the initials GT and HL, above and to either side of a weaver's shuttle. Extensive earthing up has covered the date, but from the style of the lettering it can be ascribed to the early eighteenth century. The incised epitaph commemorates a IAMES · HENDE/RSON · SON · TO · IAMES · H/ENDERSON · WEAVER · IN / DWNDIE · WHO · DEPARTED / THIS · LIFE. . . . Mortality emblems are cut in relief on the west face of the stone.

(8) Small headstone, 26 by 17 in with a rounded top rising from slight shoulders. The incised inscription is poorly cut and reads: HEIR / LYES / PATRICK MAKE / VITH HIS SPOUS / IHANIT SMITH / VHO DID IN TH / YEAR 170 (sic) AG / (5)6. The initials of children are recorded at each side of the stone WM / TM / IM / AM. Distinctive on the west face, among the usual emblems of mortality, is a skull with an abnormally long jaw, similar to that on no (11). The initials PM and IS are also on this side.

(9) Set in the west boundary wall near the entrance to the churchyard are two small mural panels each displaying a weaver's shuttle in its top. The first, 19 by 14½ in, is earthed up for about one third of its length concealing the date and the latter part of the inscription which reads: HERE LIES EL/IZABITH MEL/VILL DAUGHTER / TO IAMES / MELVILL (W)EA/VER UHO. . . .

(10) The second, 31 by 17 in, has a top with double incurving sides and incised with the word VEVEER. Below, and flanked by the raised initials WB and AV, is the shuttle. The inscription reads: HERE LAYS IOHN / RILLYE SON TO / WILEM RILLYE / CHVRCHES ELDE/R VHO DID IN / THE YIER 1709 / AND OF HIS AGE. At the base are the emblems of mortality.

(11) A later headstone with a rounded top rising from shoulders and cut with an unusually ill-spelt inscription in which every S is reversed: HERE · LYES · WILLHIM / JUST · UHO · DIED · IN · IU/N · 1748 · AGED 75 · UITH / HIS · SPOUSE · KETRON / NOKLOSON · UHO · DIED / IKTOBR · 1735 · AGED · 55 / AN · THRI · CHILDREN / IAMES · JUST · WILLIAM / JUST · ELSPIT · JUST · HER / INTERRED · LAVING / ON · SON · DAVID · JUST. . . the remainder is earthed over. The east face of the stone carries mason's insignia and mortality emblems, the latter featuring another skull with the elongated jaw.

(12) Since preparing this article in 1968–9 both the church and graveyard have been appreciably tidied up by the Central and North Fife Preservation Society. It has therefore been possible to examine the bevelled table-tomb near the north wall. On a scrolled cartouche the very worn inscription reads: HEIR · LYIS · ANE · VOMAN · OF · GODLIE · (FAME) / CRISTIAN · GOLDMAN · CALED · BY · NAM · SPO/VS · (TO) · DAVID · BALFOVER · OF · SANFORD. The west gable of the stone carried a matrimonial achievement:— dexter, on a chevron an otter's head erased with a mullet in base for a difference; sinister, between a chevron three flowers (?) slipped. The initials DB and CG flank the shield. Although there is no date on the stone, from the styling it can be assigned to the second half of the seventeenth century.

(13) Abutting on the south wall of the church a small enclosure contains a collapsed bevelled monument similar in appearance to (12). The inscription could not be read.

July–August 1968; 1969; 1971

FORGAN: HAY ENCLOSURE NO 467260

(1) Although briefly mentioned by RCAMS, the collapsed table-tomb measuring approximately 62 by 30 in, propped against the wall of the enclosure, is worth recording as an interesting example of the care expended on a monument to a boy. Now broken in three parts, the slab has a deeply scalloped border and exhibits in the upper part the relief work of a shield charged with three voided escutcheons (Hay) flanked by the large raised initials AH. Incised on a central panel is the worn inscription introduced by a hand: HEIR · LYIS / ANDRO · HAY · / SON · TO · HEND/RE · HAY · OF · MOR/T TON · VHO · DE/CESSET · THE · LEST / OF · MARCH · AND / OF · HIS · AGE · X · / YEIRS · OF · GOD · / 1648. In the base are the relief emblems of a central skull flanked by a mattock and spade saltirewise, cross-bones and an hour-glass.

(2) Dislodged from the wall is a small mural panel, 34½ by 19 in, with a gently rounded top and slight shoulders formed by two incised framelines. Beneath the large relief letters DF and EH the incised inscription reads: HEIR · LYES · ELSPIIT · HA/Y · SPOUS · TO · DAVID · / FWLLER · IN THE · EERIE / WHO · DEPARTED · THE · / 3 · OF · MARCH · 1693 · YEARS / MEMENTO MORI. At the base of the stone in a small sunk panel is an hour-glass lying horizontally and surrounded by cross-bones, mattock and spade saltirewise and a skull.

May 1969

KILCONQUHAR NO 485021

The following memorials were noted here. They are taken in order from north to south.

(1) A recumbent slab, 72 by 42½ in. It has a notably well-cut inscription of large relief letters on a shallow, sunk, five-inch marginal band. Commencing at the top sinister corner and introduced by a hand it reads: HEIR · LYIS · ANE · HONORABILL / · MAN · IAMES / · BALLE(N)DEN · OF · KILCONQVH(AR) / (QH)VA · DECESIT the inscription then runs on across the face of the stone at the bottom sinister corner: THE · XI · DAY · OF / FEBRVAR · THE / XXVIII · ZEIR · OF / HIS · AIGE · IN · ANNO / 1593. Centrally is a weathered shield with a buck's head couped between three cross crosslets fitchy for Bellenden. Also in the shield are the numerals 5 and 9 from the date; and flanking it the initials IB. It is surmounted by a disproportionately small and poorly cut helmet and mantling. The remainder of the slab is taken up in its upper portion with a skull set on cross-bones and topped by a ribbon with the motto MEMENTO MORI cut in relief.

(2) Immediately outside the enclosure lies a recumbent slab, 76½ by 31½ in with its marginal lines five inches apart. This monument is very worn, being fragmented in two places. Its central surface shows traces of an incised skull and cross-bones. It appears to commemorate: ANE · HONORAB(IL) (MAN) GILBERT B(ALF)OVR LA(IRD) OF BALBO(THIE) = 88 ZEAR 1·5·8·7.

(3) The quality of the relief lettering in the marginal band of this recumbent slab is similar to no. (1) at Abercrombie in its distinctive flattened capitals. The inscription begins at the top sinister corner and reads: HEIR · LYIS · KATHARINE · SC/OT · DOCHTER / OF · M · WILLIAME · SCOT · OF · E/LIE · AND · IE = ANE / SKENE · HIS / SPOVS / DECESSIT / THE · THRID / ZEIR · OF · HIR / AGE · 1615. The stone measures 66 by 32½ in and carries no funerary emblems.

(4) The upper part of this large recumbent slab, 86 by 44 in, exhibits a shield which may have been charged but which is now totally erased and centrally, a funerary composition of an hour-glass and cross-bones flanked by two pennons, a spade and a mattock. The marginal

inscription lacks the definitive lines but is deeply and finely incised. Beginning at the top dexter corner it reads: HERE · LIETH · SIR / WILLIAM · SCOTE · OF · ELY · (KNI)GHT / WHO · DECEISET · / THE · 27 · OF · IVNE · 1628 · AND · OF · HIS = AGE · 82 · S · YEAR.

(5) This recumbent slab has a gently rounded top and is much worn on its dexter side where several letters of the transversely running inscription have been effaced. The inscription is cut in the upper part of the slab and reads: HEER · LYETH · MAISTER / DAVID · MUNRO · SONE · TO / IOHNE · MUNRO · OF · PITO(R)THIE · WHO · DYED / (MINI)STER · OF · KILCONQ/() THE () · OF · / () (NOVEMBER · ()5 / HIS · AGE · 66. Incised centrally are the initials M/DM IL. Cut in relief at the base of the slab is a horn book. The *FES* gives the year of his death as 1645. (qv Vol 5, p 209).

(6) The final stone in the row is a heavily damaged recumbent slab, 70 by 33 in. Traces of a marginal inscription continuing transversely on the surface of the slab are visible, but the only significant word remaining is the place name RERES.

(7) To the east of the six previous stones lies a very worn recumbent slab, 71½ by 40 in. Its surface is apparently free of the emblems of mortality and its inscription is noteworthy as continuing on a double marginal circuit. It reads: (HEIR) (R)EST V(NT)ILL THE / LAST RESVRRECTION THE BODIE / OF CATHRIN / SPOVS TO IOHN SYMSON VHO / / DEPARTED THIS / L(I)FE THE () OCTOB 1644 AND / OF HER AGE THE. . . Also commemorated on the stone is a IOHN CHAP(MAN?).

(8) Although the inscription has been entirely weathered from this table-tomb, it is of interest for its deep, broad and ornate roll and hollow moulding which frames the narrow central commemorative panel. Pierced in the hollow are four drainage holes. Supporting the stone are five rectangular pedestals, one of them placed centrally and each decorated with trade insignia and emblems of mortality on their four faces.

(9) A small headstone, 32 by 22 in, with a rounded and apically grooved top supported by fluted pilasters. Within the pediment is a winged cherub's head, scissors, a tailor's goose and the only example noted of the '4' symbol. The inscription is very wasted but appears to commemorate David Carstairs, died 1732 and James Carstairs, died 1731 and other members of the same family.

July 1968; July 1969

KILMANY NO 388218

(1) Of the three memorials noted here the most interesting was a recumbent slab approximately 55 by 36 in, cemented against the south wall of the church and partially obscured by two table-tombs crammed against it. This stone has weathered and scaled so badly that the little remaining surface detail and the marginal inscription were extremely difficult to make out. Decipherable within double marginal lines are the words: YEIRIS LAVS DEO AMEN / IAMES THOMSONE / WHO D . . . , and on the face of the slab, a shield cut in low relief as a matrimonial achievement: dexter, a stag's head cabossed, on a chief two mullets impaling, sinister, a demi-lion or demi-otter issuing from lines undy.

Above and to either side of the shield are the initials M/IT/BS. From the heraldic evidence and the fragment of the inscription it would appear that this slab marks the grave of the Reverend James Thomson, minister at Kilmanny, who died October 1646. He married Bessie Smith by whom he had two sons, James and George (*FES*, Vol 5, p 161).

(2) A table-tomb, 76 by 38½ in, incised with two inscriptions. Within marginal lines runs the seventeenth-century epitaph: HEIR · LAYES · DAVID · MEPHE/N · SOMETYMES · TENANT · IN · MVRDOCAIRNIE · WHO · ASHE · LIV/ED · IN · THE · FER · OF · GOD ·

AND / LOVE · OF · MAN · (WH)O · DAYED · THE · 4 · OF · NOVEMBER · 1686. Transversely on the face of the slab: HEIR LAYES THE CORPS OF DAVID WILLIAMSON / MERCHANT IN KILMANY / UHO DIED OCTOBER THE 1 () 1734 AND OF YEARS. . . . The funerary emblems are arranged in a compartment at the base and consist of an incised skull between a crossed mattock and spade and cross-bones. In the jaw of the skull is an hour-glass; below is the motto MEMENTO MORI.

(3) This bevelled table-tomb, 68 by 32 in, has been partially recut. The cartouche on the south bevel has been shaved down and carries a shallow-cut very worn inscription reading: BENEATH · THERE · LYES · ANDREU · COUP/AR · SON · TO · IOHN · COUPAR · AND · ELSPET / SMITH · TENENTS · IN · MIDDLEMILN · WHO · BE/ING · THE · LAST · OF · THE · FAMILIE · DIED · FEB · 26 · 1743 / AGED · 25 · YEARS · 11 · MONTHS · 4 · DAYS. On the north bevel: REMEMBER MAN THAT THOV MVST DIE / AND OF AGE 70 ANNO 167 () YERRS. In the west gable is a shield probably contemporary with the seventeenth-century fragment of the inscription and charged, dexter three hammers or picks, sinister a demi-lion issuing from and flanked by the raised initials IC/MS. In the east gable, cross-bones and the mattock and spade saltirewise lie to either side of two skulls surmounted by an hour-glass.

Among the later monuments is a headstone dated 1774 displaying on its east face two winged cherubs holding a crown above a winged head.

June-July 1968

KILRENNY NO 575048

No additional monuments were recorded here, but it should be noted that the table-tomb top featuring the rigged sailing ship, astrolabe and quarterstaff mentioned by RCAMS (qv p 167) was incorrectly assigned to a Robert Ford. The incised inscription should read: HERE LYES THE CORP/S OF ANE HONEST AND / VERTVOVS MAN IAMES / BROVN SPOVS TO AGNIS / FOORD SOMETIME BAI/LIE IN KILRENNEY VHO / DEPARTED THIS LIFE / DECEMBER 22 1672 / AND OF HIS AGE 62.

July 1968

KINGSBARNES NO 593121

Built against the east wall of the graveyard, a very dilapidated wall-monument, 7 ft 6 in by 5 ft 9 in, was the only memorial noted here. It is made up of large ashlar sections which, in some of their detail, repeat the pseudo-Romanesque work of the nearby Corstorphine monument (see RCAM, p 176). These are severely weathered, however, and most of the general outline is indistinct. A central cartouche framed with strapwork is illegible. On the remaining square part of the pediment is displayed a shield cut with the relief initials ABSF(?) worked as a monogram. Below is the date 1638.

August 1969

KINGSKETTLE NO 310084

Five stones were noted in this graveyard:¹

(1) A headstone, 47 by 33 in, with a large winged head on the damaged top. Two figures

¹ There is no trace in the churchyard of the recumbent slab commemorating Gualter Heriot, Laird of Ramornie, died 6th April 1589 and his wife Elizabeth Scott (see RCAMS, p 162).

rise from the acanthus leaf capitals of the flanking columns and hold a swag of drapery which is dished and incised with the much weathered inscription: HERE · LYE · THE · BONS · OF · ALEX / BALINGALL · SOME · TIME · TENNENT / IN · CLATHE · WHO · AFTER · HE / HAD SERVED · HIS · GENERATION · AND · LIVED FOR 78 YEAR . . . DIED 1699.

(2) A headstone extensively earthed up exactly comparable in its decorative motifs to no. (4) at Monimail and presumably contemporary with it. On one face are the relief initials GB/ET.

(3) Propped against the west wall, a headstone commemorating Alexander Mason, tenant in Kettle who died 4th January 1726; his wife, Elspeth Aitchieson who died 8th December 1724, and William Mason, tenant in Kettle, died 7th November 1746, aged 59 and Isobel Pride, died 10th November 1756, aged 69.

(4) A collapsed wall-monument, 7 ft 6 in by 3 ft 2 in, set in a sandstone frame lies centrally in the graveyard. In the tympanum of the triangular pediment are the large incised letters DT CR/IT MM. Framed by running vine, the oval commemorative panel is a late eighteenth-nineteenth century inset as is the lettering of the inscription which reads: HERE LYES / THE CORPSE OF / DAVID THOMSONE / PORTIONER OF KET/TLE WHO DIED THE / 28 OF JUNE 1686 HIS / AGE 70 WITH JAMES / THOMSONE HIS SON / WHO DIED THE 28 OF / APRIL 1686 HIS / AGE 39. The usual emblems of mortality are cut between the bases of the flanking columns.

(5) The pediment of a wall-monument, with the letters RR AM interrupting the date 1686. The inscription appears to have been deliberately removed from the central panel.

July 1969

LARGO NO 419026

Three monuments were noted here:

(1) In the north-west of the graveyard a small eighteenth-century headstone, 27½ by 22 in, with angular shoulders moulded at their edges and terminating in tight lugs. On the sides of the stone is low relief work consisting of a skull and bone and an hour-glass. On the west face a winged cherub's head hovers over a circular panel framed by bolection moulding. The inscription is in lower case italics: HERE LYES / ANDREW SELKIRK NO/TAR PUBLICK THE . . . / SON TO . . . On the other face are the incised initials IS and EM.

(2) Affixed to the north wall of the church, a wall-monument which has suffered severely from weathering. In the tympanum is a shield charged with a chevron between three garbs. The initials AC II are incised in the frieze. No trace of the inscription remains.

(3) Inside the church a recumbent slab with a transverse inscription in a lettering of the late seventeenth-eighteenth century. SR ANDREW WOOD OF LARGO HIS / YOUNGEST SONNE M THOMAS WOOD/LYETH HERE BVRIED WITH HIS WIFE / MARGERET LOGEN & THEIR SONNE / IOHN WOOD ESQVIRE.

July 1969

LEUCHARS: ST ATHERNASE NO 455215

The following slabs were noted here:

(1) Immediately to the north of the apse is a table monument, undoubtedly the finest in the survey. It stands 50 in high and comprises a slab infilling between six shaped pedestals which support a bevelled top, 74¾ by 35 in, with returns at each of the pedestals. A scrolled shield with a winged cherub's head above and beneath, all cut in low relief, entirely fills each of the side

infillings. Incised on the two north-facing shields are the initials IM and HS; on the two south ones, the initials DS and CM. On the eastern infilling are displayed the relief initials M/IM over an horizontal hour-glass and a skull and cross-bones with the initials MW beneath; on the western one are similarly arranged the letters M/PS, a winged cherub's head from which hang a pendant and the letters IW. There are two inscriptions on the bevelled top, the more interesting being the expansive Latin one, in which one of the matrimonial details concerning Patrick Scougall, Bishop of Aberdeen, contrasts with information contained in Vol II of *Records of Old Aberdeen*, (p 201, Spalding Club).¹ Beginning on the 9 in wide central panel the incised lower case inscription reads: EXUVIAE HIC REPONUNTUR DUARUM SORORM (sic) VIRTUTU(M) / PARITATE INSIG(NI)TUM (sic) IANAE ET MARGARETAE WEMIARTIN () QUE / SUCCESSIVIS HUIJUS ECCLESIAE PASTORIBUS NUPSERANT On the north bevel: IANA PATRICIO SCOUGALL QUEM POST PLACIDISSIMUM DECUALE (sic) / CONJUGIUM FEBRE MALIGNA CORREPTA MAERENTEM RELIQUIT AN / DOM: 1654 AETATIS SUAE 34 · MARGARETA JOHANNI MIDDLETON / CUI MAESTISSIMO, POST TOTIDEM ANNOS AMANTISSIME ET PLACIDISSIME / TRANSACTOS PUERPERII DOLORIBUS EREPTA EST AN DOM 1674 JUN: 2 AETATIS 38. On the south bevel: DUM VIXERANT / PIETATE IN DEUM CHARITATE IN PROXIMOS, LARGITATE IN EGENOS ACTE (sic) / CONJUGALI PRUDENTIA ET GRAVITATE MATRONALI TENERO IN LIBEROS AFFECTU / INTER SE AEQUALES, ALIIS PRAELUXERUNT NUNC METAM LABORUM ADEPTAE, AETERNAE / LUCIS GAUDIO SIMUL FRUUNTUR PARENTUM TUMULO ETIAM SEPELIUNTUR / DAVID ET HELENA SCOUGAL CAROLUS ET JACOBUS MIDDLETON.

Translation: Here lie the remains of two sisters noteworthy for their virtues. Jane and Margaret Wemiartin (Wemyss of Myreton?) who married successive ministers of this church. Jane (was the wife of) Patrick Scougall whom she left mourning after ten years of peaceful marriage, being carried off by a malignant fever in the year of our Lord 1654 aged 34. Margaret was the wife of John Middleton from whom, grief-stricken, she was snatched away in childbed after as many years spent in love and harmony in the year of our Lord 1674, June 2 aged 38. As long as they lived they were alike in their duty to God, their charity to their nearest, in their liberality to the needy, in wifely good sense and matronly dignity, in their tender affection for their children, and outshone others. Now, having reached the goal of their toil, they together enjoy the bliss of the Day Everlasting. In their parents' tomb are buried too David and Helen Scougall, Charles and James Middleton.

Incised in the slightly recessed west gable is the inscription in Roman capitals: HER LYES / JANET CLEPHAN SPOU/SE TO MR JAMES / ROBERTSON MINR / OF THE GOSPEL AT / LEUCHARS SHE DIED / IANRY 18 1726. A blank shield on a scrolled backing is exhibited on the west gable.

(2) To the south of the church is a recumbent slab, 76½ by 28 in, unusual in that it shows no trace of having borne a date. Beginning in marginal grooves and introduced by a pointing hand in the top dexter corner, the raised letters of the inscription continue on a second marginal circuit terminating round the trade emblems of the shears and goose. In the upper part a winged

¹ For Patrick Scougall see *FES*, vol 1, p 392, vol 5, pp 148, 222; and references in *Synod of Fife*, Abbotsford Club; *Records of Old Aberdeen*, vol 2, Spalding Club; *DNB*, vol xvii. For Middleton see *FES*, vol 5 and *Synod of Fife*. Both from the general styling of this monument and its inscription it would appear likely that it was erected by Mr John Middleton after the death of his wife in 1674.

figure supports the dexter flank of a shield charged with an oak tree eradicated for Watson surmounted by a fess with a crescent for a difference. The inscription reads: THE · CORPS · OF / (JOHN · WATSONE · AND · MARGARET · GVL(AN) / (SPOV)S · TO · RO(BERT) / WATSONE · IN · BRAKMONTH · AL · GODLIE · SOBER / / AND · HONEST / CHRISTIANS · RESTS · HEIR · WAITING · FOR / (THE) DAY · OF / REVELATIOVN then angled round the trade emblems, OF IESVS / CHRIST. Beneath are the letters IW · MG / RW · GW. Amongst the lettering to the left of the surface is a skull and bone.

(3) Near no. 2 is a table-tomb, 73 by 34 in, supported by four shaped pedestals. An incised frame-line runs round the surface and within it the transverse inscription in Roman capitals reads: HERE · LIES · GRIZZEL · SIM / SPOUSE · TO · IOHN · DUNCAN / SOME · TIME · TENNENT · IN · ARDIT / WHO · DIED · ANO · 1676 OF · AGE : 46 · YEARS / SHE · WAS · SISTER · TO · PATRICK · SIM · IN / STRATHBURN / HERE · LIES · PATRICK · SIM · SOMETIME / TENNENT · IN · STRATHBURN · AND / MARGRAT · SMALL · HIS · SPOUSE / HE · DIED · ANO 1706 · OF · AGE · 75 · YEARS / SHE · DIED · ANO · 1710 OF · AGE · 63 YEARS / HERE · LIES · PATRICK · SIM · TENNENT / OF · STRATHBURN · SON · TO · THE · PATRICK · ABOVE · AND · FATHER / TO · THE · PATRICK · BELOW · HE / DIED · SEPTR 23TH 1738 · OF · AGE / 69 · YEARS. Centrally, in italics, is commemorated Barbara Anderson, spouse to Patrick Sim, who died 15th January 1747, aged 75. The inscription continues in Roman capitals: ALL · LIVING · LISTEN · HERE · AS · YE · GO · BY / IN · FLOWER · OF · AGE · YOUNG · PATRICK · SIM · DID · DIE · DESIRED / MUCH · BY · ALL · THAT · KNEW · HIS · MERIT / HERE · RESTS · IN · HOPE · HIS · FLESH / IN · HEAVEN · THE · SPIRIT / HE · WAS · SON · TO · PATRICK · SIM / AND · BARBARA · ANDERSON · IN / STRATHBURN · HE · DIED · IULY · 19TH / 1734 · OF · AGE · 28 · YEARS.

(4) To the west of the church stands a table-tomb measuring 77½ by 39 in and supported by three plain pedestals and one shaped one. Judging from the irregular thickness of the slab which in places is only 2½ in, it is likely that this monument is a raised recumbent slab. The surface detail shows extensive weathering which has effaced a part of the incised inscription on the central raised cartouche. What is legible reads: (HERE LYES THE COR)PS / OF (ALE)XANDER WA(T)S/ON AND HIS WIFE WHOSE / NAME WAS CAT(HARIN) () / WHO. . . . At the bottom of the cartouche is the sentiment; BLESSED ARE THE DEAD THAT / (DIE IN) THE LORD THEY REST FROM / THER (LABOURS) AND THER WORKS / FOLLOW THEM HE DIED IN THE / YEAR 1702 HIS AGE 70 KATH. . . . In the upper end of the stone is a very wasted shield displaying a crown. To either side and below are the large initials (A)W RW/CW. A large pair of pincers and the remains of an anvil also flank the shield.

(5) In a similar condition, a collapsed table-tomb, 75 by 26 in approx, lying partially covered by turf. The top section of the scrolled cartouche has scaled off so that only a place name and the date 10th May 1647 remain. In a panel at the base is a shield charged with crescent in chief and a mullet in base.

April 1969

MONIMAIL NO 302142

Only one monument in this graveyard bears a date earlier than 1707, though some broken pieces stacked against the south wall may be from the late seventeenth century. Of these were noted:

(1) A headstone now split in two, 42 by 20 by 9 in. The scrolled top has a small cherub's head as a keystone and also encloses a winged cherub's head in the recessed tympanum. Below, the inscription reads in lower case: HERE LYES YE / CORPS OF ROBERT / GALBRETH MASON / WHO DEPARTED THIS / LIFE APRIL THE 26 / DAY 1700 AND OF / HIS AGE 36 YEARS. On the reverse side, at the top, is a finely carved hour-glass, a large skull and a single bone. The lower part is filled with an arrangement of a trowel and mull to either side of crossed chisels. Other mason's insignia are on this face but the present positioning of the stone has obscured them.

(2) A headstone, 38½ by 17½ in. The top, gently raked with incurving sides, is occupied with a finely cut winged cherub's head over the incised initials DB. The rim of the rest of the stone is enriched with foliated scrollwork which forms an oval frame linked at the top by a bulbous-cheeked face and enclosing the mason's insignia arranged in a quasi-heraldic way: on a square a pair of extended compasses, a mull and crossed chisels together with two unidentified objects. The other side is cut at the top with a large skull superimposed on two cross-bones, an hour-glass and mattock and spade. No trace of the inscription remains.

(3) A headstone top notable for its handsomely carved smith's emblems: a crowned hammer between an anvil and pincers and a vice.

(4) Near the south wall is a headstone, 34 by 29 in, partially earthed up. Its west face is cut in bold relief with the figures of a man and woman intended to represent the deceased. They hold hands and the wife clutches the lily of chastity across her stomach. In the tympanum is a winged cherub's head which shows a strong facial similarity to that of the figures beneath. Debased classical features are cut on the east face. A rounded pediment, displaying on each shoulder a large skull cut in the round, contains the relief initials IM/MS. The cornice is incised with the motto MEMENTO MORI. Flanked by two pilasters with long rectangular capitals the inscription reads: HEIR LYES THE CORPS / OF IOHN MILAR (AND) / MARGRET SMITH WHO DE/PARTED THIS LIFE 20 / AND 26 DAYS OF MARCH / 1730 AND OF EACH OF / THER AGES 60 AND 61 /-YEARS.

April 1969

ST MONANS NO 523014

Three monuments were noted here:

(1) A recumbent slab lying to the left of the south transept door and measuring 77 by 32½ in. The incised marginal inscription is cut in exceptionally fine broad and evenly spaced lettering. It reads: HEIR · LYETH · / ANE · HONEST · MAN · IOHNE · HVNTA/R · QVHA · DIED · / THE · 17 · OF · IVLIE · THE · ZEIR · OF · GOD · 1605 = AND · OF · H/IS · AGE · THE · 38 · ZEIR. There is no decoration on the slab.

(2) A bevelled tomb-top, 83½ by 44 in, showing on its east gable a tailor's goose lying between the blades of open shears; the other gable displays a raised circular blank shield. Both the central panel with its funerary emblems of the hour-glass, skull, cross-bones and crossed mattock and spade and the bevelled sides bearing the epitaph are very worn; consequently there is some doubt about the surname of the deceased. It appears to commemorate a GEORGE / PONSTO · AND · TAILOUR · IN · S · MONANCE / WHO · DIED · FEBRUARY 25 1676 · AND · OF / HIS · AGE · 59, but there is a possibility that the N of the surname may be a poorly cut LI or U. In addition to some isolated lettering on the other bevelled side the words HIR AGE are visible presumably denoting the wife of the deceased husband.

(3) A headstone with its top incurving at the sides and notched at the apex. The maltster's

insignia of a broad bladed shovel, fork and broom are worked amongst the mortality emblems. No significant lettering of the inscription remains.

July–August 1968

NEWBURN NO 454035

(1) Lying partly earthed over to the south-west of the ruined church is a bevelled tomb-top. On its narrow central panel is a finely incised deid bell filling the space left by the quotation: THE MEMORIAL OF THE IVST SHALL BE BLESSED / BVT THE NAME OF THE WICKED SHALL ROT · 10 · PRO. Occupying the west gable is a weathered shield charged: on a bend engrailed, a rampant animal. It is flanked by the initials WF and surmounted by the word VMBRA. The other gable contains the emblems of mortality. On a cartouche the inscription reads: HEIR LYIS ANE GODLY AND VERTEOVVS MAN / WILLIAM FAIRFVLL OF LATHALLAND WESTER WHO / DEPARTIT THIS LYF THE 27 OF NOVEM 1646 AGE 69.¹

(2) A collapsed table-tomb top with a gently convex surface and sheered ends, measuring 84 by 38 in. There is a central panel 10 in wide and slightly sunk, cut with a maltster's shovel, the relief initials DW, an hour-glass, skull and cross-bones and the incised initials MF. A lateral panel bears the inscription commemorating ANE VERTEOVVS HONEST MAN / DAVID WILSONE PORTIONER OF BALKIRSTIE / WHO DEPARTED THIS LYFE IN THE MONETH OF OC/TOBER 1650 PVLVIS ET VMBRA SVMVS. A similar panel on the other side has the quotation: NAKED CAME I FROM MY MOTHERS / WOMBE AND NAKED WIL / I RETVRNE THITHER SVRGITE MORTVI / VENITE AD IVDICIVM.

Two later memorials are of interest:

(3) A small headstone with a wide, rounded top, each curve cut in high relief with a skull and cross-bones. It commemorates ALEXR CLARK MILIR / IN IOHNSONS MILL WHO / DIED IULY 1731 AGED 44.

(4) On the east gable of the church is a wall-monument showing the familiar classical assemblage in which two fluted columns support an entablature, the frieze of which shows faint traces of the initials of the deceased. The ogival pediment is moulded and broken. Wedged into the tympanum is a triangular block cut with a winged cherub's head surmounting a book. The structure is topped with a funerary urn and measures approximately 7 ft by 3½ ft. The funerary emblems displayed at the base consist of a skull superimposed on cross-bones between a pair of hour-glasses and a pair of crossed spades and shovels. The central panel is severely weathered and commemorates the R(EV)EREND MR · DAVID · MYL(ES) / MINISTER · OF · THE · GOS(PEL) · (IN) / NEUBURN · AND · WHO · WAS · ORDAINED / MIN(ISTER) · () MAY · 10 · 1705 / AND · H(AV)ING · LABOURED / FAITHFULLY · IN · WORK · OF · THE · GOSPEL · (FOR) THE · SPACE · OF · 2(9) YEARS DEPARTED · THIS · LIFE · (IUNE) 27 1734 · OF · HIS · AGE · 53 YEARS · ALSO / THE · BODY · OF · A(NNA) SPOUS · TO · THE. . . .

August–September 1968

¹ The Fairfowls of Lathallan normally have three parrots within a bordure as charges, and it is therefore interesting to note this surname being used without any trace of the fowl in the accompanying shield. The charges used here probably indicate that the stone was not originally intended for a member of the Fairfowl family but for some other tenant of the Laird of Lathallan.

PITTENWEEM NO 548026

Two memorials were recorded here:

(1) A bevelled table-tomb, 69 by 32½ in, belonging to the series with the acutely sheered gables. Incised on the narrow central panel are the initials IR/BA among the relief work of two shields, coffins saltirewise and cross-bones. The inscription on the bevel is remarkably fresh: HIC · IACET · IACOBUS · RICHARSONE · HVIVS · I/61 · OLIM · BALIVVS · OBIIT · VNDECIMO · DIE · MEN/SIS · DECEMBRIS · ANNO · DOM : 1652 · AETAT / NON · HABEMVS · HIC · MANENTEM · CIVITATEM / (INQ) VIR · IMVS · HEB13 · 14 · and on the other side: HOMO · NATVS · DE · MVLIERE · PREVI · VIVENTIS / ORE · REPLETVR · MVLTIS · MISERIIS · QVI · VASI/LOS · EGREDITVR · ET · CONTERITVR · ET · FVG/(I)T · VELVT · VMBRA · ET · NVMQVAM · IN · EODEM/(ST)ATV · PERMANT · IOB · 14 · 12. The incised motto MEMENTO MORI occupies one gable; a cherub's head the other.

(2) A bevelled table-tomb featuring wide gables, one of which is cut in relief with a compact arrangement of funerary emblems including the deid bell, the other with a wreathed circular device bearing the initials DB/AA interrupting the date 1676. An unusual detail on this stone is the undulating central panel which carries no decoration and may be intended to represent a parchment or scroll. The inscription is on a cartouche and reads: HEIR LYETH THE CORPS OF A FAMOVS / MAN DAVID BINNING SKIPPER AND LATE / BALLIE OF THIS BRVGH AND HVS BAND TO AGNES / ADAMSON WHO DEPARTED THE FIRST OF SEPR 1675 HIS AGE 36 The stone measures 69 by 42 in.

July-August 1968

STRATHMIGLO NN 216103

The following stones were recorded, beginning at the east of the churchyard:

(1) A small headstone with a rounded top, finished laterally with tight spiral scrolls and showing on its east face the raised initials IP MH divided by the date 1687; also on this face are cut an axe and square on a shield. On the other side is a winged cherub's head with a medallion at its neck and below, an hour-glass and skull.

(2) Within the round top of this headstone, 30½ by 26 in, is displayed a skull between the date 1681. The large raised letters WR and cross-bones are to one side of a coultter and above a shovel and spade saltirewise. Alongside an hour-glass on the east face are the raised letters SR/IR.

(3) Hard up against the west boundary wall is a small headstone with a round top into which are cut the much worn raised initials (P?)A / ()B Beneath are a cherub's head, cross-bones and an hour-glass. Within the tympanum of the west face is the date 1688. From its position and being partially earthed up, it is difficult to establish if any trace of the inscription remains.

(4) Nearby is an early eighteenth-century headstone almost entirely earthed up showing the trade insignia of the weaver: a shuttle and stretcher.

July-August 1968