

Archaeological excavation of a medieval structure and an assemblage of prehistoric artefacts from the summit of Traprain Law, East Lothian, 1996–7

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with contributions by V E Dean, N M McQ Holmes, S Miller & A Saville

ABSTRACT

Investigations on the summit of Traprain Law, East Lothian, recorded and partly excavated approximately 300 sq m of fire-damaged ground immediately south of the summit 'pond'. The majority of the area excavated, roughly 240 sq m, proved either to be outcropping bedrock or shallow sandy loam soils overlying bedrock. These soils contained a range of early and later prehistoric artefacts. The remaining area excavated, roughly 60 sq m, contained a stretch of stone wall interpreted as the remains of a building and associated with quantities of medieval (13th- to 14th-century) pottery and iron nails. The nature of the medieval use of Traprain Law is reviewed in the light of this. The work was jointly sponsored by Historic Scotland and the National Museums of Scotland.

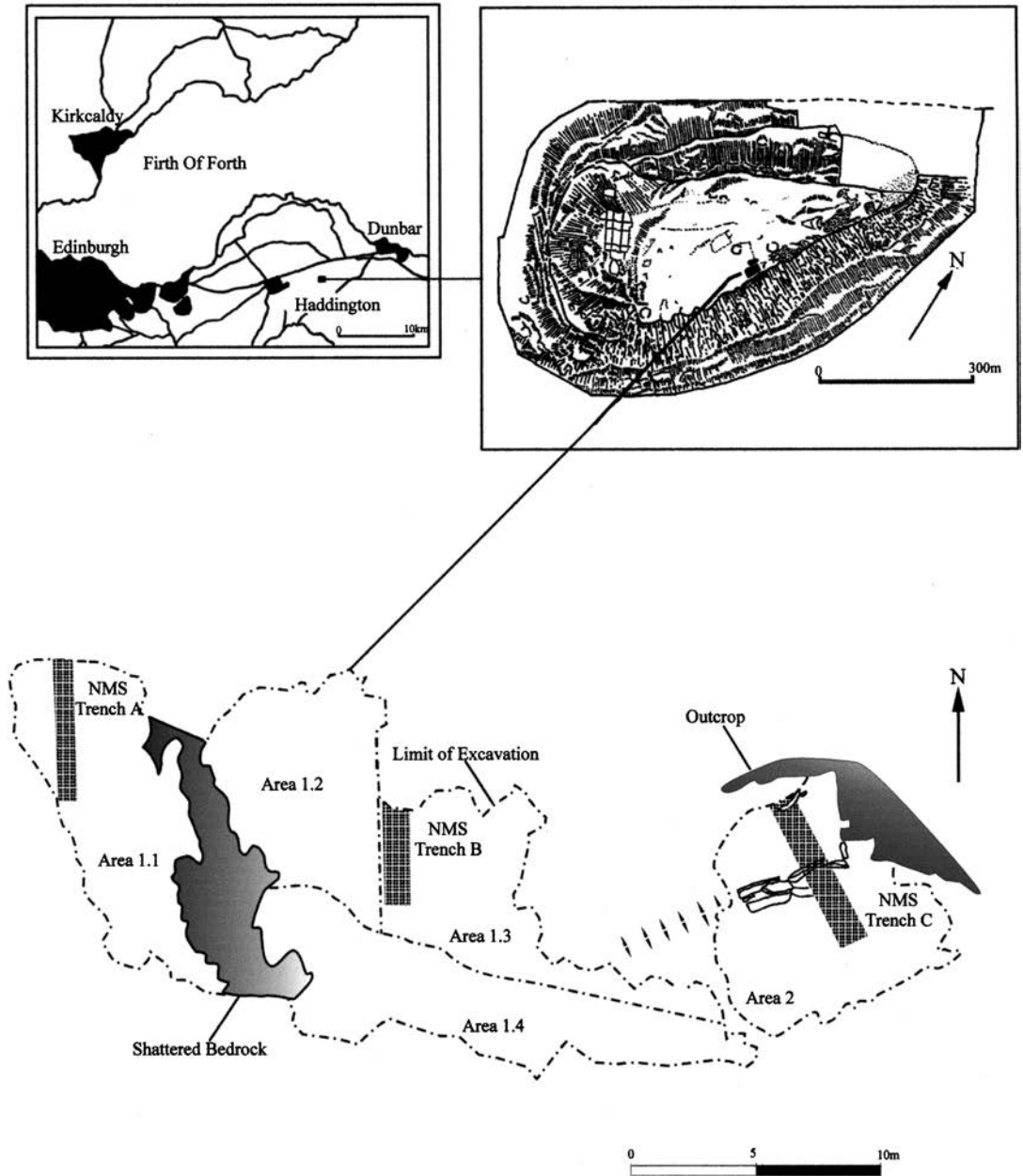
INTRODUCTION

In July 1996 an area on the south part of the summit of Traprain Law was badly damaged by a casual fire which got out of control and could only be contained by digging a shallow trench round it. Remedial work, principally sieving the ash, was carried out in August 1996 by the National Museums of Scotland (NMS), directed by Fraser Hunter. This recovered quantities of later prehistoric material from the sediments. Associated trial trenching identified a putatively medieval rectangular building constructed in the lee of a rock outcrop.

Due to the impracticality of importing sufficient sterile material to cover the newly exposed archaeological deposits prior to re-seeding, Historic Scotland commissioned AOC Archaeology Group to excavate the surviving deposits. The project was a collaborative one, with NMS providing the artefact expertise. These excavations were confined to the fire-damaged areas and a maximum depth of 0.4 m as defined by the re-seeding needs. This covered an area of some 300 sq m, much of which contained surface or near-surface bedrock. Between half and two-thirds of the putative medieval building lay within the area to be excavated, in the part with the deepest deposits. These works were carried out during July 1997 and directed by Thomas Rees.

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ILLUS 1 Site location map (Based on the Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright)

SITE DESCRIPTION AND PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Traprain Law is a distinctive hill formed from a glacially exposed laccolith which rises from the East Lothian plain to the east of Haddington (illus 1). The hillfort on the Law encloses a maximum area of around 16 ha and has dominating views of the surrounding landscape.



ILLUS 2 Bedrock outcrop from the west, with Area 2 on the right and the 'pond' on the left

The most extensive archaeological excavations on Traprain Law were undertaken by A O Curle and J E Cree in 1914–15 and 1919–23 (Curle 1915; 1920; Curle & Cree 1916; 1921; Cree & Curle 1922; Cree 1923; 1924). These concentrated on a gently sloping shelf at the western end of the Law, opening an area of approximately 0.6 ha. Further limited excavations have been carried out since then by Cruden (1940), Bersu (Close-Brooks 1983a) and Strong (1984). The extent of the excavations to date has been too limited to elucidate the full development and chronology of the site. However, the quality and quantity of artefacts recovered have ensured that a complex and prolonged discussion has continued as to the chronology and nature of activity on the hill (eg Jobey 1976; Hill 1987).

The present excavation areas (illus 1 & 2) are on the southern side of the summit among outcropping rocks to the immediate south and south-west of the 'pond', and a long way from the earlier excavations on the western slope. This represents the first substantial area excavated on the summit itself; the only other recorded work is Cree's investigation of the 'tank' or 'pond' (Cree 1923, 221–2) and Bersu's trenching of the rectangular enclosure to the east of the summit cairn (Close-Brooks 1983a). It presented the first real opportunity to compare the summit area to the sequence known, albeit imperfectly, from the western plateau.

EXCAVATIONS

All excavations were limited to the area affected and the prescribed depth of 0.4 m, which hinders interpretation in some areas. The 1996 season saw excavation of three evaluation trenches (illus 1), in addition to sieving the ash, while the 1997 season covered the full area of the fire. The area



ILLUS 3 Area 1.1 from the south-east after stripping to bedrock

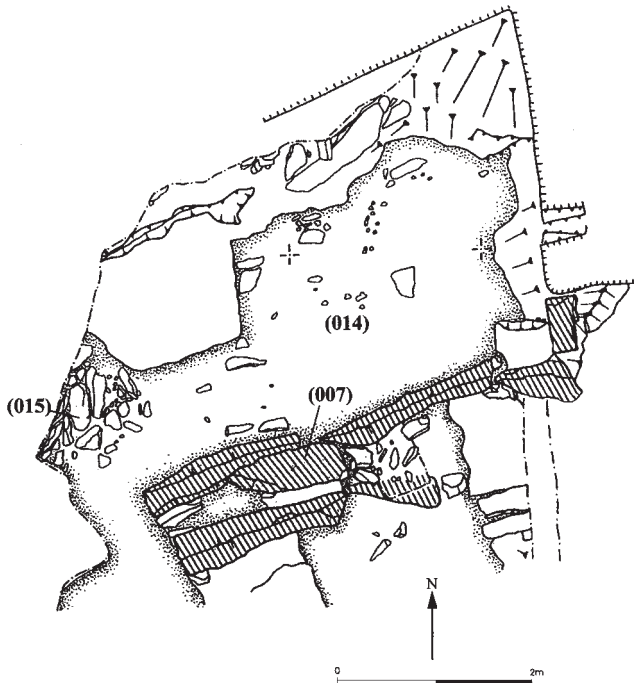
was split into a western (Area 1) and an eastern (Area 2) part, each further subdivided by visible outcrops of bedrock. Area 1 covered some 240 sq m and Area 2 around 65 sq m. Standard field techniques of excavation, recording and sampling were employed. While sections were often retained in Area 2, where there was a higher potential for complex stratigraphy, they were rarely used in Area 1 where little sediment variation was noted. A metal detector was used to sweep the spoil dumps and the excavation areas. All the spoil was dry-sieved by context and area through either 5 mm or 10 mm meshes.

STRATIGRAPHY

The depth constraints on the excavations meant that not all of the archaeological sediments were investigated. All sediments in Area 1 were excavated and the upper surface of the bedrock exposed (illus 3). The whole of Area 2, covering the putative medieval structure, was excavated to the prescribed depth. This left a compact area of deeper sediment in the core of the area that was not removed (context 14 on illus 4), although a narrow trench was cut through this to assess its depth. The excavation results are discussed below by interpretative blocks.

Block 1: modern disturbance

Various modern disturbances were noted across the site. The most prominent were the ash deposits from the grass fire in 1996 (contexts 9 & 13). This fire had ignited the dense sub-surface root mat and acted more like a sub-surface peat fire than a normal surface grass fire. During the 1996 season these deposits blanketed the



ILLUS 4 The north-west part of Area 2, showing sediments left *in situ* at the limit of excavation (context 014, stippled), and edge-set slabs of the putative structure (context 007, hachured). Bedrock is the blank area; the edge of the extent outcrop is indicated by perpendicular lines

site to depths of between 50 mm and 150 mm. By the time of the 1997 excavations the majority of this ash material had been removed, presumably by the actions of wind deflation.

Rabbit disturbance was frequently noted throughout Area 2 (contexts 11 & 12) with most of the burrows surviving as voids although these were occasionally filled with topsoil. No burrows were noted within Area 1, reflecting the shallower soils in this area.

Block 2: soil formation

Fragments of the modern topsoil overlay portions of the excavation areas (contexts 1 & 2), although these had been heavily denuded as a result of erosion since the fire. Underlying this was a pale brown sandy loam interpreted as the B-horizon (contexts 10, 14 & 16). This constituted the vast majority of the material excavated across the site and in many areas was the only sediment present. The B-horizon was dense with rootlets and, in Area 2, had extensive evidence of rabbit burrowing activity. The level of bioturbation visible and the shallowness of the soil contribute to the homogenous nature of this sediment. The vast majority of artefacts came from contexts in this interpretative block.

Block 3: structure

The main element of the putative structure in Area 2 was a stretch of large slabs of rock that had been chocked to stand on edge (context 7; illus 2, 4 & 5). This wall was generally one course high, up to 0.88 m broad and a maximum of 1.08 m high at its west end. It ran south from the bedrock face, turned west and



ILLUS 5 Area 2 from west, with sediments left *in situ* at the limit of excavation (context 014, centre) and edge-set slabs of the putative structure (context 007, right)

appeared to stop at a possible entrance just before reaching the west section of Area 2. The extension of the line is visible in the turf to the west, but stops before reaching Area 1. There were very few smaller stones associated with the large slabs. Many of the main stones with their smaller chocking stones rested directly on the bedrock, although not all the wall base was exposed. One of the few exceptions was the first stone running south from the bedrock face which had a shallow deposit of B-horizon beneath it, which in turn overlay a very limited deposit of ash (context 18) lying on the upper surface of the bedrock.

The only feature identified in the probable interior of the structure was a densely packed area of stones (context 15; illus 4), running into the west section, which overlay roughly 0.1 m of B-horizon. Its surface appearance was similar to that of capping. However, a section through the feature showed nothing of note beneath it.

The bedrock to the north and east of the wall had a perpendicular face with relatively regular, smooth surfaces that were near vertical, an unusual feature in the natural outcrops on the site (illus 5). However, no clear evidence was noted of tool marks or any other indications to confirm that the bedrock had been quarried or otherwise altered.

Block 4: subsoil and bedrock

The B-horizon on the site has been discussed above, in Block 2. A distinct subsoil was only noted at one point, in the north-east corner of Area 2, where a 0.1 m thick clay layer (context 17) was noted in a deep niche of the bedrock. This is interpreted as a natural deposit deriving from a combination of the bedrock, the deeper soil profile and the tendency for the sediment to be saturated by groundwater.

All the exposed bedrock was igneous (context 8), although its appearance varied to some extent. In particular the division between Area 1.1 and Areas 1.2/1.3 was a ridge of shattered bedrock with near

vertical pseudo-bedding. In the rest of the areas the bedrock upper surface was a series of terraces, dipping slightly to the north, with irregular slopes between the terraces (illus 2 & 3).

ARTEFACTS

A wide range of material of a variety of dates was found in the excavations. All the finds are from topsoil or B-horizon, or are unstratified. As a result, areas rather than contexts are used in the descriptions as the contextual information was of less value than the spatial data. Dimensions are all in mm, given as length x breadth x thickness unless stated otherwise; D represents diameter and m is mass (grams). Site small find numbers are used throughout. The artefact reports are by Fraser Hunter unless noted.

LATER PREHISTORIC POTTERY (ILLUS 6 & 7)

The excavations recovered 136 sherds (962 g) of later prehistoric pottery, representing at least 24 vessels. As so little material from the site is yet published to modern standards, the aim of this study is to establish a fabric series and get an idea of the range of pottery on this area of the summit. It is hoped that this may prove a useful building block for subsequent work and reappraisal of earlier finds. Table 1 summarizes the key data by fabric and vessel.

TABLE 1
Later prehistoric pottery data

Fabric	Vessel	Mass (g)	No	Rim	Body	Base	Frag	Sooting	Residues	Distribution — area						
										1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2	2.1	2.2
1	1	130	29	1	7		21	10	1	9	7	1	3	1	7	1
2	2	173.5	25	4	20		1	11	5	2	20		3			
	3	33	3	1	2				2	2	1					
	4	67.7	5	1	3		1		1		3					2
	5	111.2	19		11		8	1	5	1	16		1			1
	6	3.7	1	1									1			
	7	3.2	1	1												1
	8	5.3	1		1						1					
	9	7.1	2	1	1											1
	10	99.1	12	2	8		2	1	1	1	11					1
3	11	65.2	12		12			1	1		9			1	2	
	12	55.8	3	1	2			1	2	1	1	1				
	13	13	2		2								1			1
	14	26.2	3		2	1				1	2					
	15	13.9	1	1					1		1					
	16	5.9	1		1											1
	17	51.3	9	1	6		2		1	2		1	2	1	2	1
	18	7.7	1	1	1				1							1
4	19	61.1	1	1					1		1					
	20	5.4	1		1						1					
	21	2.2	1		1								1			
5	22	6.4	1			1				1						
	23	4	1		1											1
	24	10.3	1		1					1						
Totals	962.2	136	16	83	2	35	26	21	21	74	3	13	3	14	8	
Percentages			12%	61%	2%	24%	19%	16%								

Fabric types were differentiated by eye, with inclusions identified by Suzanne Miller. Fabrics 1–5 have various igneous rock tempers; fabric 6 is organic-tempered; fabric 7 is untempered. Fabrics 1–3 dominate, accounting for 87% of the sherds by number. The igneous

inclusions are likely to be local, and could all be found among the Law's rocks. The marked differences suggest these are deliberate additions representing conscious choices rather than accidental inclusions. Some are clearly from weathered rock (fabric 4), presumably gathered from weathered surface deposits; the others are more angular, and probably derive from smashing up rock fragments. The obvious differentiation between the main fabric groups is by inclusion colour, with fabric 2 inclusions being white and fabrics 1 and 3 dark. In the absence of chronological control or detailed information on vessel form the reasons for these differences are unclear. However, as all are igneous, presumably with similar technological properties, it may be that colour was a consideration. The clay source is uncertain but probably local; for instance, clay is recorded in the base of the summit 'pond' (Cree 1923, 221). Excavations on the western terrace found masses of clay which had been collected, perhaps for pottery manufacture (Curle 1915, 147).

Approximate vessel numbers were arrived at by grouping similar sherds within fabrics. Although each such group is referred to here as a vessel and given a V-prefix (V1, V2 etc), this represents a minimum number, and some of these groups will inevitably contain sherds from several vessels. The alignment of small sherds for drawing posed some problems, and the illustrations (6 & 7) represent best guesses based on similar material from elsewhere.

No profiles can be reconstructed, nor rim/base diameters estimated, but the rim forms fall within the known range from the site (Hogg 1951, figs 55 & 56), with a dominance of internally bevelled forms, some inverted; there are also squared and rounded forms, and one expanded rim. The few bases are flat. There is sufficient variety to suggest that a range of forms (and hence perhaps functions) were represented. This hints at a degree of complexity in lowland Iron Age pottery which is rarely looked for. Indeed, wall thicknesses and surface finish indicate the presence of what are, in the local context, 'fine wares' (V20 and perhaps 9). Otherwise any surface treatment is rare, apart from slight surface smoothing. Only one vessel is decorated, the atypical sherd V19.

Around 19% of sherds show sooting, and 16% have carbonized residues. While sooting is an uncertain indicator, as it may derive from firing rather than use (Willis 1997, 57), the presence of carbonized residues is an indicator of cooking. Although 16% may seem a low percentage, it is noticeable that every vessel represented by five or more sherds has such preserved residues, suggesting most of the assemblage represents cooking pots rather than storage vessels. These residues have considerable research potential, although this must await a wider study of the material. They can both yield information on pot contents and provide samples for a radiocarbon-dated chronology. Indeed, dating of pot residues has the potential to revolutionize our dating of the Lowland Iron Age, particularly of older excavations where environmental samples were not taken.

Typologically the pottery cannot currently be more closely dated than later prehistoric, as internal bevels are found from the Late Bronze Age onwards (eg Halliday 1988), and the possible shoulder on V1 and more complex form of V19 cannot be closely dated. Although Cool (1982) has suggested a typological sequence for the Lowland Iron Age, assessment of its wider validity must await full publication of Broxmouth and other more recent excavations. For the moment, there are no clear chronological divisions within this assemblage.

There are a few individual points of note. V2 has a perforation just below the rim, created before firing. This is an unusual but not unique feature (cf Bonchester Hill, Roxburghshire, and Craigmarnoch, Renfrewshire: Piggott 1950, 121, fig 6 no 9; Nisbet 1996, fig 13). Its small size suggests it may be connected with tying on a lid rather than any means of suspension. V19 stands out as unusual in its sharply defined profile, decoration and fabric. It is paralleled in both fabric

and general form by an example from the earlier excavations (Hogg 1951, fig 56 no 13), but is otherwise hard to parallel in the Lowland Iron Age corpus; superficial similarities to earlier Bronze Age material can be dismissed (T Cowie, pers comm).

As all the deposits were sieved the selection of pottery is likely to be representative. There are no major differences in fragmentation between the different fabrics (illus 8), although fabric 3 sherds are slightly larger. The size and condition of most of the sherds suggests they are derived from nearby deposits and have not been moving around in sediments for long. All vessels represented by more than a single sherd are scattered between several areas, some quite widely (eg V1 & V17), and it is possible that some of these represent more than one vessel. Others, such as V2, V5 and V10, show much more spatial integrity, suggesting a source close to Area 1.2.

SUMMARY CATALOGUE

Fabric 1

Fine, relatively soft matrix tempered with a few (<5%) sub-angular grit inclusions and a few larger pebble-size inclusions (up to 20 mm) which are probably igneous, containing feldspar, quartz and unidentified acicular minerals. Breaks have often occurred around these large inclusions. Outer surface oxidized to orange, inner reduced to black.

Vessel 1 Internally bevelled rim with clear finger impressions surviving. One sherd has a concave outer surface and may imply a shoulder; otherwise the form is unknown, although the larger sherds suggest it is a big vessel. Several fractures have occurred along diagonal coil junctions. Thickness varies from 8.5 mm to 18.5 mm (average 12.1).

Fabric 2

Characterized by a temper dominated by white angular igneous fragments, containing feldspar and pyroxene (<5 mm, with a few up to 10 mm); varying but lesser quantities of dark sub-angular grits (as in fabric 3) are also present. The temper varies from <5% to c 10%. Mostly buff to black reduced fabrics, some with more oxidized surfaces. At least eight vessels are represented.

Vessel 2 Internally bevelled rim, several fragments showing a prominent internal lip. One sherd was perforated before firing 12 mm below the rim (hourglass perforation, minimum 1.5 mm diameter). The thicker sherds, presumably from near the base, are grass-wiped internally; it is possible they are from a different vessel. Wall thickness 7–12 mm (average 9.4).

Vessel 3 Vertical rim, quite squared. Thick walls (12.5–14.5 mm, average 13.5 mm) and high percentage of inclusions (c 10%).

Vessel 4 Incurved rim with markedly concave internal bevel. Wall thickness 10.5–14.5 mm (average 12.6 mm). One sherd (from Area 2) may be from a different pot, but it is heavily burnt and therefore hard to be sure.

Vessel 5 Body sherds only, little information on original form. Pale buff fabric with darker core. Wall thickness 8–14 mm (average 11.1).

Vessel 6 Small size makes orientation of the one rim sherd unclear. Squared rim, but could be either slightly inturned or slightly everted. Wall 9 mm thick.

Vessel 7 Fragment of a vertical squared rim, 6.5 mm thick.

Vessel 8 Markedly paler fabric than the other vessels. Wall 9 mm thick.

Vessel 9 Relatively thin incurving tapering rim, possibly from an eating utensil. Oxidized fabric. Walls 6–8.5 mm thick (average 7.3 mm).

Fabric 3

Rock-tempered, characterized by dark angular igneous inclusions, containing pyroxene and lighter acicular crystals (<5 mm, some up to 10 mm; 5–10%). These inclusions are the same as but smaller than the large grits in fabric 1. The fabrics are generally reduced brown-buff; some are slightly oxidized. Some also contain some quartz.

Vessel 10 Rim sherds show some variation, if they are from the same pot. Both are near vertical with an internal bevel, one more markedly; the other is more squared and less bevelled. The curve on one body sherd suggests the pot may have been globular or shouldered. Internal and external surfaces smoothed. Some sherds have broken at diagonal coil junctions. Wall thickness 7.5–10.5 mm (average 8.9).

Vessel 11 All body sherds. Most are red-brown externally and black internally, although some are red-brown on both sides. Wall thickness 7.5–19.5 mm (average 9.7).

Vessel 12 Rounded rim; a slight curve on the sherd suggests it may have been slightly inturned or globular. Markedly higher percentage of inclusions (c 10–20 %) and uneven surfaces. Wall thickness 9.5–16.5 mm (average 13).

Vessel 13 Body sherds only. Grey fabric with smoothed surfaces, 11–12 mm thick.

Vessel 14 Undiagnostic sherds in an orange-brown fabric, 9–12 mm thick (average 10.7). Inclusions more mixed than in other vessels.

Vessel 15 Upright slightly expanded rim with an internal bevel. 12 mm thick.

Vessel 16 Relatively thin, fine sherd in buff-grey fabric, 8 mm thick.

Fabric 4

Rock-tempered, characterized by inclusions of light-coloured weathered fragments, probably igneous, containing mainly feldspars and some pyroxene, extensively iron stained (5–10 mm, c 10%). Dark reduced core with light grey surfaces.

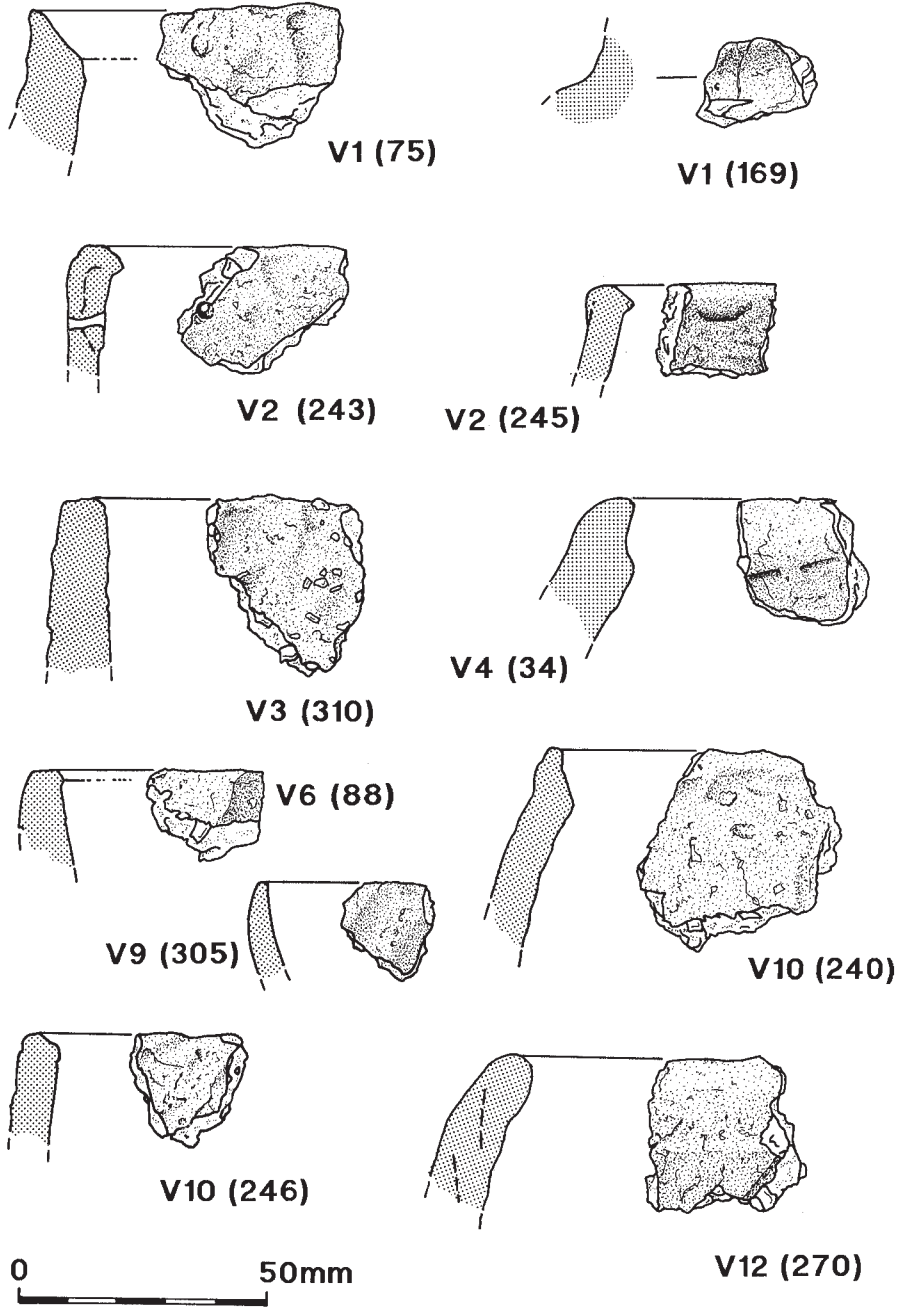
Vessel 17 The only rim fragment has an internal bevel. Walls 9.5–12.5 mm thick.

Vessel 18 Thinner than V17 (8.5 mm).

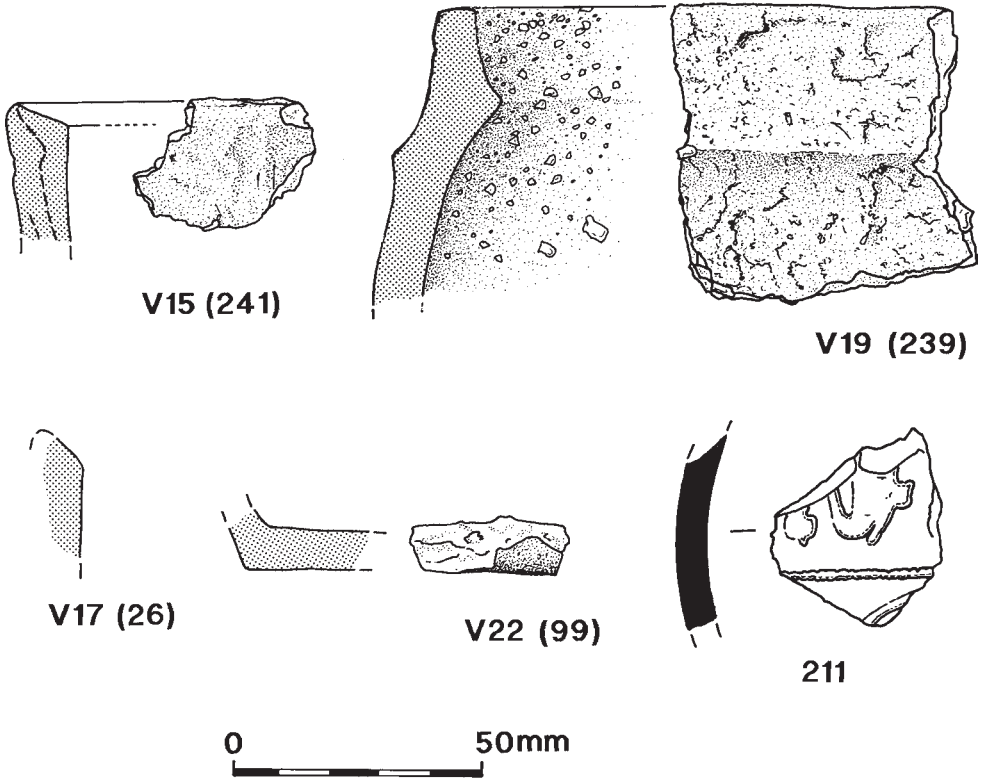
Fabric 5

Used for all single-occurrence rock-tempered fabrics.

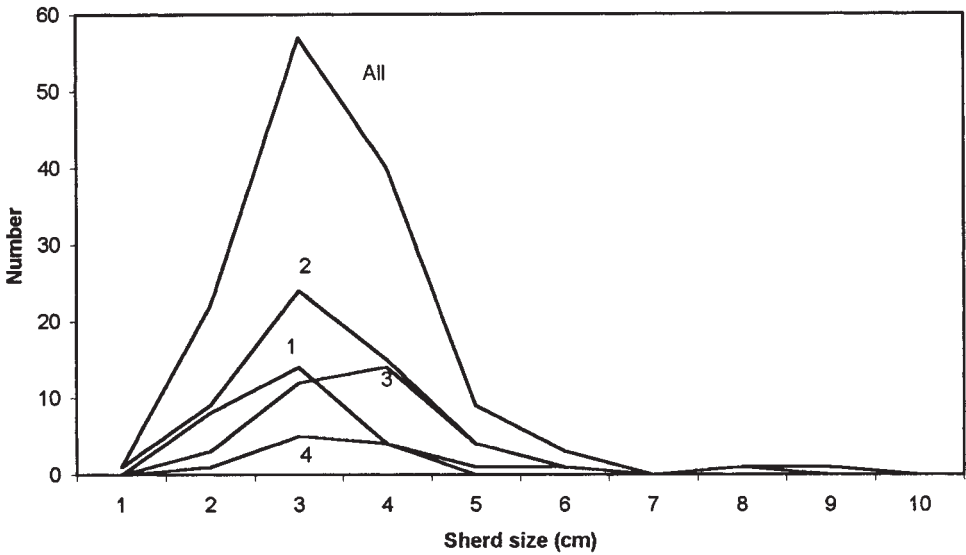
Fabric 5A: Vessel 19 Orange fabric with grey core, heavily gritted (10–20%) with small angular and sub-rounded igneous rock fragments of trachyte/phonolite (<5 mm) and sparser quartz, feldspar and iron oxide minerals. Squared rim with sharply defined internal bevel. Decorated below the rim with a raised ridge.



ILLUS 6 Prehistoric pottery (small find numbers in brackets)



ILLUS 7 Prehistoric pottery and samian (211)



ILLUS 8 Sherd size by fabric

Fabric 5B: Vessel 20 Fine burnished vessel in a dark reduced fabric with small sub-angular white grits (<5%). May simply be a finer and better-fired version of fabric 2. Wall thickness 6 mm.

Fabric 6

Organic-tempered vessels. Note that fabrics with voids have been counted as organic, although they could arise, for instance, from the dissolution of an alkaline material such as limestone or shell.

Vessel 21 Dark fabric (although fire-affected) with grass/straw temper as well as grits. Wall thickness 8.5 mm.

Vessel 22 Dark fabric with burned out rounded inclusions, ?organic. Burnished externally and well-finished internally. Wall thickness 10.5 mm.

Vessel 23 Oxidized fabric (cored), with rounded voids for temper. Wall thickness 10 mm.

Fabric 7

Untempered.

Vessel 24 A single sherd in an oxidized fabric — the clay is very fine, and it was thought it might be a Roman coarse ware, but there is no sign of wheel-turning and the walls are relatively crude and thick (11.5 mm).

ROMAN AND OTHER CERAMICS

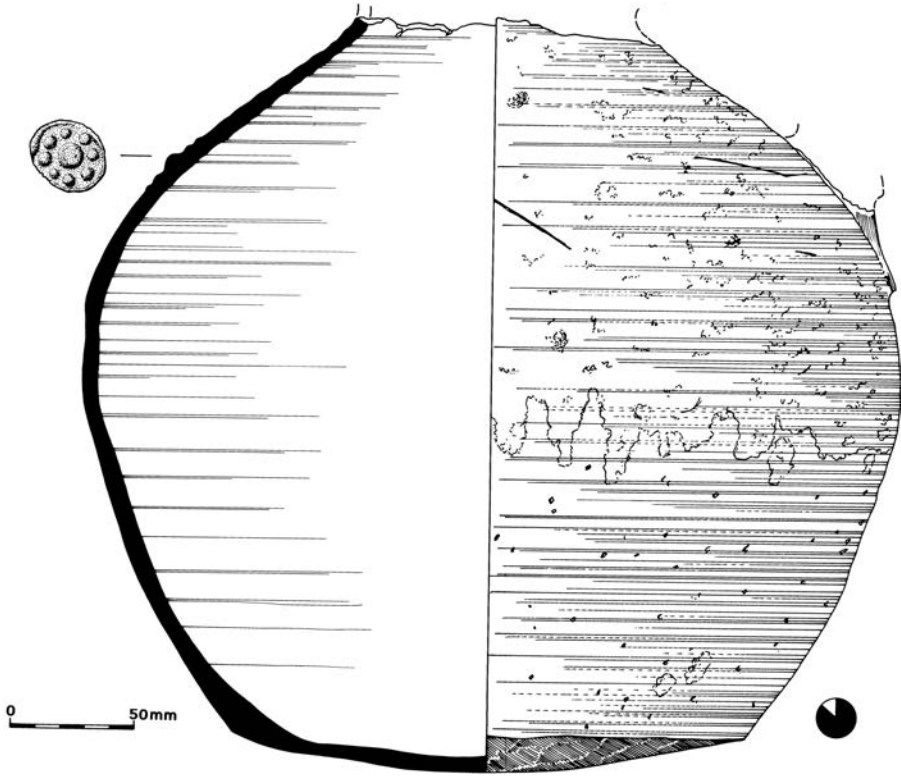
A single sherd of samian pottery (m 6.3 g) was found (illus 7, 211). It is a decorated body sherd of a Dr 37 bowl. The fabric is Central Gaulish, suggesting a second-century date. The decoration comprises part of a panel with a dolphin (cf Oswald 1937, nos 2382–7) and a beaded border below. Samian is abundant on Traprain, with nine types known from the site (Robertson 1970, Table X); Dr 37 bowls were particularly popular. Two pieces of fired clay (m 4.3 g) were also recovered.

MEDIEVAL POTTERY

Valerie E Dean

The assemblage comprises 257 sherds of medieval pottery, with a total weight of 3.025 kg, representing a minimum count of only three vessels. The fabrics are all likely to be of local origin. The pottery has been divided into three groups on the basis of fabric analysis. The vessels were all wheel-made. No rim or handle sherds were recovered, and all the basal fragments belong to the one vessel which was largely reconstructed (illus 9 & 10).

Detailed fabric descriptions are based on the method outlined by Orton *et al* (1993). Colour descriptions and classifications are taken from the *Munsell Soil Color Charts*. The work was carried out by visual examination, with a binocular microscope at x20 where appropriate. Without thin-section and geological analysis, detailed identification of inclusions was not practicable. Differentiation between natural inclusions in the clay matrix and added temper has not been made.



ILLUS 9 Globular medieval jug from Area 2

Fabrics

The fabrics are all of a gritty tradition, and may well be of local origin, possibly from the known kiln site at Colstoun (Brooks 1981, 364–403).

Type 1 A fairly hard fabric, 5–8 mm thick, with a hackly texture, fairly smooth surfaces and a rough fracture. It is pitted and contains some voids caused by the burning-out of grass temper. The outer surface is yellowish red (5YR 5/6), the core varies from reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6) to greyish brown (10 YR 5/2), with a greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) inner surface. The 10–15% inclusions comprise abundant poorly-sorted, fine to coarse and occasionally very coarse, rounded, opaque quartz; a moderate amount of fairly sorted, fine and occasionally medium to very coarse sub-angular haematite; occasional poorly-sorted, fine to coarse, angular rock; and very sparse flecks of mica. The interior has been smoothed, but the inclusions are visible on the exterior surface. The splashed, light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) external glaze is fairly even and glossy, with brown streaks and spots giving a mottled appearance.

Some 60% of the 246 sherds of this fabric have been joined to form one large vessel (illus 9 & 10). This is a large, thin-bodied, globular jug with a sagging base, which is missing its rim, neck and handle. It has a slight ridge running around the top of the shoulder, and a thumb impression at the point of attachment of a handle just above the mid line. The only decorative element is on the shoulder, opposite the handle. It is an applied dark brown pad with a central blob surrounded by eight smaller, misshapen blobs, known as a 'raspberry roundel'. The body has been scratched or scored before firing, and the lower part has been knife-trimmed. The glaze extends over the upper half of the body. It is probable that the remaining 97 sherds are



ILLUS 10 Reconstructed sherds of a globular medieval jug from Area 2; the rim, neck and handle were not recovered. (© Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland)

parts of the same vessel which could not readily be refitted. All the sherds came from Area 2, the overwhelming majority from 2.1 (only two sherds came from 2.2).

Type 2 Eight sherds of a moderately hard fabric, 3–7 mm thick, with a smooth, laminated texture, slightly rough surfaces and a rough break. The outer and inner surfaces are yellowish brown (10 YR 6/4); the core is very dark grey (10 YR 3/1). The 25% inclusions comprise abundant, fairly sorted, medium, sub-round, opaque quartz; very sparse, fairly sorted, fine, sub-angular rock; and very sparse mica. Both surfaces have been smoothed, with the grains showing through. There are very slight traces of a white (10 YR 8/2) glaze. All the sherds appear to belong to the same vessel, the form of which was not ascertainable. All came from Area 2.1.

Type 3 One sherd of a fairly hard fabric, 6 mm thick, with a fine texture, slightly rough surface and a slightly rough break. The outer surface is very pale brown (10 YR 7/3), the core is light grey (10 YR 7/1) and the interior is white (10 YR 8/2). The 25% inclusions comprise very abundant, fairly sorted, fine but occasionally medium, sub-angular opaque quartz; moderate, fairly-sorted, fine but occasionally medium, sub-angular rock; occasional, fairly-sorted, fine, sub-angular haematite; and very sparse mica. The sherd is abraded, with grains visible through both surfaces. It is unglazed. The vessel form was not ascertainable. The sherd came from Area 1.1.

Comparanda

It is difficult to say very much about the pottery, given that virtually all of it comes from the one vessel. However, gritty wares were widespread in southern Scotland from the 12th to the early 15th centuries.

The large jug (illus 9 & 10) is interesting. It is very large and thin-bodied, with a capacity estimated at approximately 17 litres and total full weight of 20 kg. When full of liquid, it would have been extremely difficult to lift by its one handle. Similar 'raspberry roundel' motifs have been found at Colstoun (Brooks 1981, fig 6.90 & 90.1) and Berwick (Moorhouse 1982, fig 22.157). This was quite a common form of decoration from the late 12th to mid 14th centuries. A jug of similar shape and size was found below the floor of the 13th-century church tower at Crail, Fife (Stevenson 1964, 252, pl xxvi). Other jugs of similar form were found in Linlithgow Loch (Laing 1969, fig 7.4, pl 11a), and at Colstoun (Brooks 1981, fig 5.73), dated to the 13th-14th centuries. Globular jugs have also been found at Inverkeithing (MacAskill 1983, fig 10.9), Perth (Haggarty & Thoms 1982, fig 3.1) and Melrose (Cruden 1953, fig 1), none of which post-dates the 14th century. This vessel can therefore confidently be dated to the 13th-14th centuries.

METAL

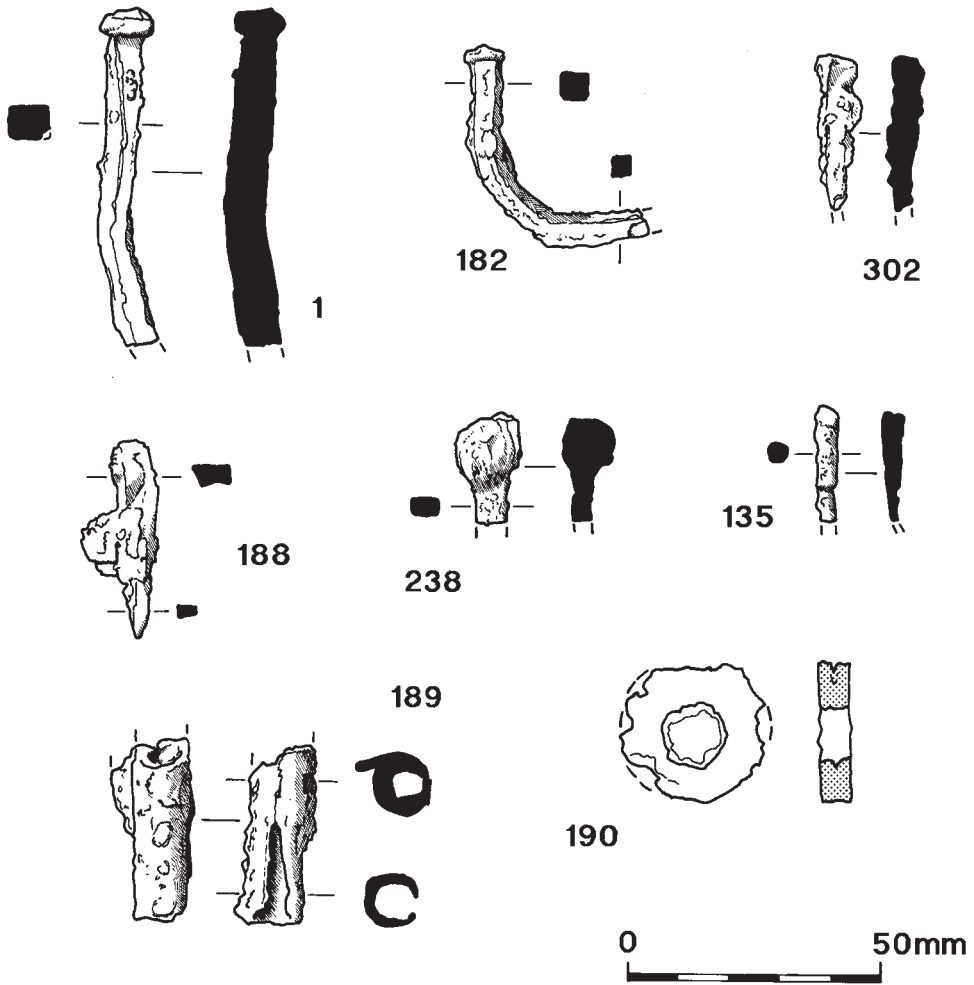
Little of the metalwork is diagnostic and some may be recent, although certainly modern items have been excluded. The lead shot and the ?cast vessel rim are of 16th century or later date, and there is a 17th-century coin. The distribution (Table 3) strongly suggests the nails are connected with the medieval building. The only other distinctive item is the socket from a small ?spearhead, which has both Iron Age and medieval parallels. Key items are drawn in illus 11.

Iron

- 135 **Unidentified fragment** with slightly expanded head and sub-square shaft, with an encircling hollow towards the tip, which is flattened and broken. L 21.5, shank 4, head 5. Area 1 (illus 11).
- 156 **Possible vessel rim fragment** from a cast iron vessel (curved fragment with a rounded edge), and thus no earlier than 16th century in date. L 31, W 13.5, T 7. Area 2.
- 170 **Flat fragment**, no original edges. L 18.5, W 13, T 6.5. Area 2.
- 181 **Flat fragment**. L 17, W 17, T 5.5. Area 2.1.
- 189 **Cylindrical split socket**. Only fragments of the blade survive, too small for positive identification, but a small spearhead is a strong possibility. L 37, socket D 13, max W 21. Area 2.1 (illus 11).
- 190 **Perforated disc**. D 27.5, internal D 12.5, T 6. Area 2.1 (illus 11).

Nails

Twenty-five nails were found. Most (23) are square-sectioned with a sub-square head (Ford & Walsh 1987, Type A), although a couple have more rectangular heads; only six are complete. The other two are different and are detailed below. A plot of shank width against head width (illus 12) shows that most have noticeably small heads, several with signs of burring or other damage; a few have slightly larger heads. Six are bent from removal, while seven lack their tips, which were probably clenched over to hold them and may have broken during removal. The intact nails have a length range of 43–78 mm and shank widths of 4.5–6.5 mm. Most of the fragments fall into this range, although a couple of larger ones may be represented, with shank widths 7–8 mm. This size range is typical for medieval nails (eg Ford & Walsh 1987; Walsh & Maxwell 1997). Their distribution (Table 3) concentrates in the area of the medieval building (Area 2.1) and near its west end (Area 1.4), strongly implying they are connected with its construction.



ILLUS 11 Iron objects

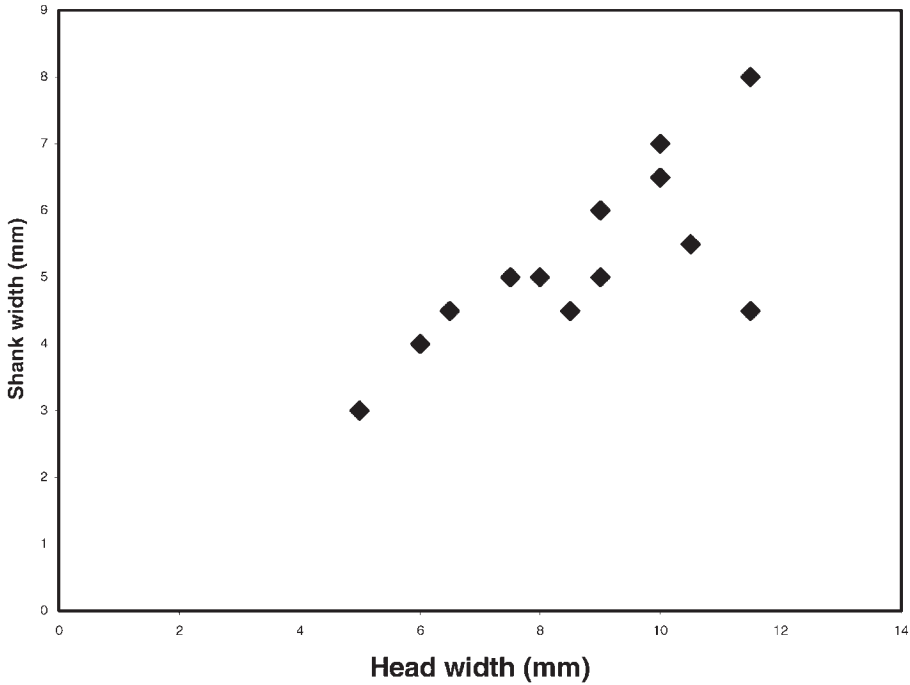
The smallness of the heads suggests they were intended to be countersunk by hammering flush into a surface. This and their size suggests they were intended not for major structural fixings (much of which would not use nails) but for something like a plank floor or plank-clad walls. The breakage and damage suggests these parts of the structure were dismantled.

The other nails are as follows (illus 11).

- 188 **Tapering flat-sectioned nail**, with slightly expanded head. L 38, W 6, T 3. Area 2.1.
- 238 **Decorative cylindrical nail head** with a rectangular shaft. Such a nail might be used on a door or a chest. L 21, shank 6 x 3.5, head 12.5 L x 11.5 D. Area 1.2.

Lead

- 199 **Damaged lead shot?** Hemisphere, hollowed on one face. D 13.5 x 15.5, H 9.5. Area 2.



ILLUS 12 Scatterplot of nail head width versus shank width

COIN

N M McQ Holmes

- 3 **Double Tournois** of Louis XIII of France (1610–43). XRF analysis indicates it is almost entirely copper, with minor (<1%) silver and lead. Such coins were commonplace in Scotland. Area 2.2. Not illus.

SLAG

Four pieces of non-diagnostic non-magnetic slag were recovered, two a glassy slag adhering to rock and two a light porous vesicular slag (total m = 226 g). They derive from an uncertain high-temperature process, most probably connected with iron. The small quantity indicates this did not take place in the immediate vicinity, but the topography suggests it was somewhere on the summit area.

STONE

with geological identifications by Suzanne Miller

A wide range of stone items was found, none certainly early prehistoric or medieval, with several which are diagnostically later prehistoric. The raw materials are consistent with the use of local sources. Identifications are by visual inspection, except for the oil shale and cannel coal which was analysed using standard techniques (Hunter *et al* 1993; Davis 1993). Key items are drawn in illus 13 & 14.

Ornaments

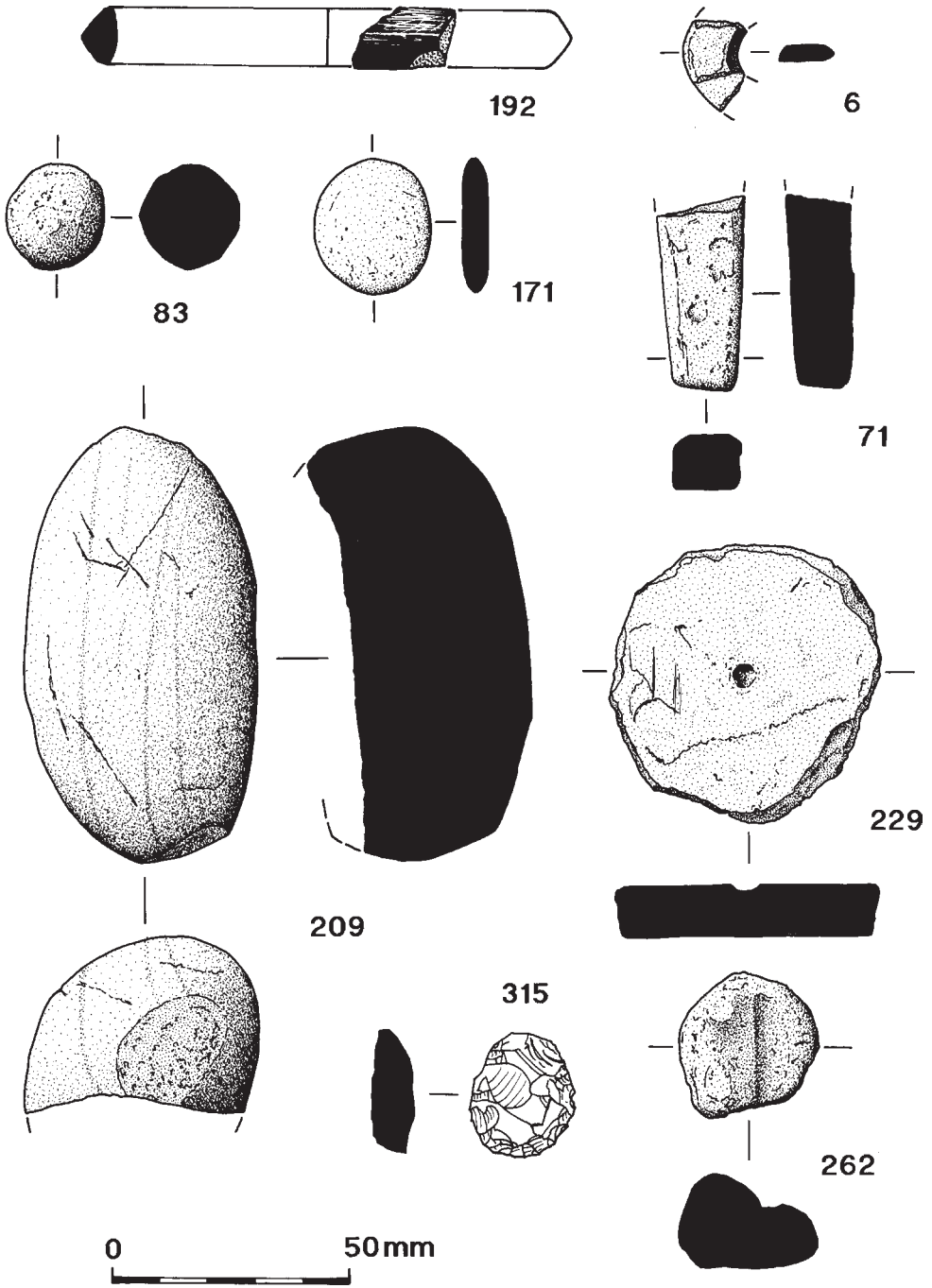
- 192 **Bangle segment** of cannel coal, sub-triangular in cross-section and polished to a medium lustre. A few polishing scars are visible externally, and there are traces of circumferential abrasion scars internally. Such bangles are normally later prehistoric, although earlier and later examples occur; however they do not continue into the medieval period. Although the precise source is uncertain it is likely to be local: cannel coals occur in Westphalian (Coal Measures) deposits, which are known from the Musselburgh/Dalkeith area (Cameron & Stephenson 1985, fig 26). L 20, W 8.5, H 13, internal D 70–75 mm (10% survives). Area 1.2 (illus 13).
(See also 6, an unfinished bead or pendant, discussed in the Manufacturing section.)

Leisure activity

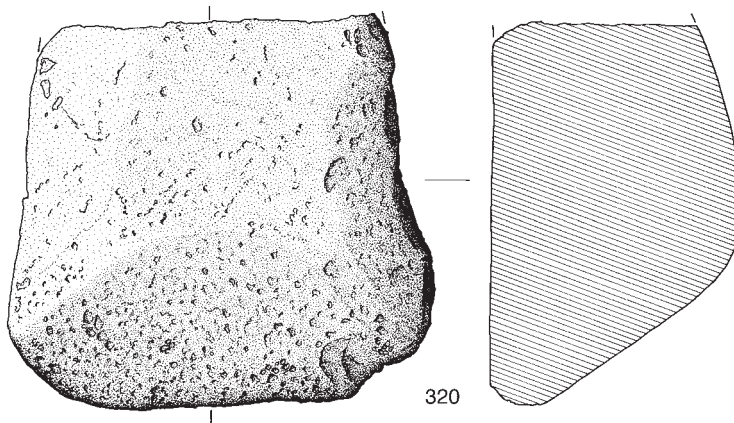
- 83 **Ball of sandstone** with the facets from shaping still clearly visible. The type is well-known in the southern Scottish Iron Age (Cool 1982, 95–6), and the survival of facets is attested in other examples: it probably represents a lower level of finish rather than incompleteness. Traprain already has the largest assemblage of such items. Although Cool (1982, 95–7) argues for a date of fourth/third centuries BC, the quantity of finds from Traprain, where Roman Iron Age activity is well attested but pre-Roman is scanty, suggests the currency of the type should be extended to include the Roman Iron Age. A function in games is most likely (Cool 1982, 96; Close-Brooks 1983a, 222). D 21–22 mm. Area 1.4 (illus 13).
- 171 **Counter?** Flat sub-circular disc of fossiliferous limestone with no clear working traces (although most of the original surface is lost). The geology implies it was brought onto the site, and its size and shape are consistent with use as a gaming counter, although it is not as circular as most. Compare Curle & Cree (1916, 128). D 27.5 x 24, T 5.5. Area 2 (illus 13).

Tools

- 320 **Saddle quern fragment** of trachyte (the igneous rock of which the Law is composed), trapezoidal in section and tapering in plan towards the broken edge. It is very well-made, regular and with no rough edges, although the coarseness of the stone means there are no visible toolmarks. The grinding surface is flat with no dishing, implying it was not heavily used. In section the working edge overhangs the base. Its thickness would allow it to be set in the ground for stability. Saddle querns were in use from the Neolithic to the Iron Age, continuing in use, presumably for specialized functions, even after the introduction of more efficient rotary querns. The wear extending to the edges is consistent with an Iron Age date (Close-Brooks 1983b, 288). L 155, W 145–170, T 100. Area 1.2 (illus 14).
- 159 **Grinder fragment** of baked mudstone. The fragment has broken off the end of a cobble, with the flat face showing wear marks which extend onto its edge but no further. The wear suggests use as a grinder rather than a polisher. L 34, W 13, T 12. Area 2.
- 209 **Pounder** formed on a broken quartzite cobble, rounded section, with an elliptical area at one end (36 mm by 22 mm) roughened through use. L 90, W 48, T 47. Area 1.1 (illus 13).
- 262 **Grinding stone fragment.** Irregular piece of sandstone, much worn but with a pronounced channel on one face (W 5, D 1.5), with a smaller, less certain one perpendicular to this. The lack of any obvious shaping to the stone itself suggests this represents expedient use of a pebble or fragment. It could have functioned in shaping objects, such as bone tools. L 32, W 29, T 18.5. Area 2.2 (illus 13).
- 15 **Pebble polisher.** Flat, round, quartzite pebble, with one face smoother and more lustrous from casual use as a polisher. L 41, W 35.5, T 15. Area 1.4.
- 71 **Whetstone fragment** of siltstone, rectangular in section and tapering to a flat end; presumably originally symmetrically tapering from an expanded centre. The two narrow faces are smoothed and bear traces of dark staining. Similar examples occur in both Iron Age and medieval contexts (Cree & Curle 1922, fig 21; Trewin 1982, nos 41–2). L 40, W 18, T 14. Area 1.1 (illus 13).



ILLUS 13 Stone objects



ILLUS 14 Saddle quern fragment (scale 1:3)

Manufacturing debris

229 **Unfinished perforated disc**, cut and chipped to an approximate circle with a small central indent on one face. Fine grain silty sandstone. Part of the opposite face has flaked off, which may be the reason for its discard. The faces are very flat, and bear abrasion scars from polishing. The stone type would be unusual for an ornament, and it may have been intended as a weight. D 60 x 55.5, T 10.5. Area 1.2 (illus 13).

Oil shale. The working of oil shale and cannel coal is common on Iron Age and Early Historic sites, especially where local sources are available. No detailed assessment of available sources near the site has been carried out, but oil shales occur locally in Dinantian deposits, which are found in the immediate vicinity (Cameron & Stephenson 1985, fig 17). Numbers 23 and 197 are undiagnostic spalls and chunks from oil shale working. Number 44 appears to have one possible prepared (squared) edge and part of the natural surface of the block, suggesting it is a thinning flake from a squared blank. None shows the clear toolmarks which would allow unequivocal identification as working debris, but they are quite consistent with the larger assemblages known from other sites. Areas 1.2 and 1.4.

6 **Unfinished pendant/bead fragment** of oil shale (from a different source to the working debris). Flat ring with hour-glass perforation; some of the surfaces are lost, but abrasion scars on the edge and the faces imply the object had not been finally polished when it broke. Probably intended as a bead or pendant; the perforation is off-centre, but this may be due to the unfinished nature of the object. L 18.5, W 9.5–10.5, T 3.5, internal D 15–20 mm (29% survives). Area 2.2 (illus 13).

STRUCK LITHIC ARTEFACTS

Alan Saville

A small collection of struck lithic artefacts was recovered, comprising 21 items of flint or chert. These can be classified as in Table 2.

The scrapers are both rather unusual types. The flint scraper (315; illus 13) is the larger of the two, an end scraper fashioned on a bifacially flaked blank, perhaps the remains of a core (26 mm by 22 mm by 9 mm; m 5.8g). The other scraper is a tiny 'button' type (10 mm by 12 mm by 3.5 mm; m 0.5g), on a flake of blue-grey chert with retouch inversely on the distal edge (312). The retouched edge is heavily abraded. Neither the scrapers nor any of the other items are diagnostic as to cultural period, other than that they are all most probably prehistoric rather than any more recent. Apart from the unclassifiable burnt fragment, the only other burnt piece is one

TABLE 2
Struck lithics

Type	Flint	Chert	Total
Unclassified burnt fragment	1	–	1
Unretouched flakes, complete	4	–	4
Unretouched flakes, incomplete	6	3	9
Scrapers	1	1	2
Miscellaneous retouched pieces	4	1	5
Totals	16	5	21

of the fragmentary unretouched flint flakes. Many of the flint flakes are really just small spalls from secondary retouching and the absence of flakes in any number or any cores suggests the area from which this collection came was not one where primary knapping had taken place.

Nine pieces of quartz were also recovered but all, with the possible exception of one very small flake (174), appeared to be of entirely natural origin.

DISCUSSION

WESTERN AREA (AREA 1)

This area covered roughly 240 sq m and can be characterized as either outcropping bedrock or bedrock covered by a shallow B-horizon and topsoil (illus 3). There were no identifiable anthropic sediments and the inference must be either that they were never present or that bioturbation has homogenized any such sediments.

The artefacts recovered are largely early and later prehistoric in origin. Their presence in the natural soil profile mostly reflects the downhill migration of material from activity higher up the slope, on the summit plateau. As such the assemblage probably represents a background density of artefacts that one would expect to find at most points of Traprain Law which were not suitable for habitation. The general potsherd size and condition suggests that most of the material has not moved far since its original discard.

THE ARTEFACTS

It is regrettable that none of the artefacts came from useful sealed contexts, as stratigraphic control is the main element missing from most previous work on the site. However, some information can be extracted from their distributions. The finds constitute what is for the Lowland Iron Age a relatively rich assemblage, and as the first major group recovered from the summit of Traprain Law they have an importance in understanding the wider picture of the site. Typological dating reveals four main phases of activity: earlier prehistoric (the struck lithics); later prehistoric (pottery, coarse stone, Roman pot); medieval (pottery, metalwork); and post-medieval/modern (metalwork, glass, etc). The distribution reveals some differences between them (Table 3); although this raw data does not allow for volume excavated, it can be used to compare relative differences between material types. The prehistoric material is found in both the west and east areas, most markedly in the up-slope areas of the former; although most of the area is unsuitable for settlement it probably derives from activity up-slope. In contrast, the medieval material, especially the pottery, concentrates in the area of the building, strongly suggesting that the latter is 13th/14th century in date (see below).

The struck lithics are most likely to be early prehistoric (Neolithic/Bronze Age). They are of significance in indicating use of the summit during this time. This ties in with earlier finds which

TABLE 3

Breakdown of finds by material and area

Material		1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2	2.1	2.2	?	Total
Ceramic	Prehistoric		21	74	3	13	3	14	8		136
	Roman		1								1
	Medieval		1				7	246	2	1	257
	Fired					1		1			2
Cu alloy								1			1
Pb							1				1
Fe	all nails	1		3	1	5	5	15	1		31
				3	1	5	3	12	1		25
Stone			2	5		4	2		2		15
Struck lithics			4	7	2	5	2	1	1		22
Slag								2	1	1	4
		1	29	92	7	33	23	291	17	2	495
Area (m ²)		240	75	50	65	50	65	25	40		305

suggest substantial activity (especially Neolithic) on the western terrace (Jobey 1976, 192). However, its character remains uncertain as no undisturbed deposits have yet been revealed. The lithics from these excavations are not chronologically diagnostic and thus could be later, but no distinctive struck lithic technologies of Iron Age date have yet been recognized from Scotland.

Much of the material relates to later prehistory, broadly Late Bronze Age/Roman Iron Age, although little differentiation can yet be achieved within this. The activities represented include food processing, preparation and consumption; manufacturing of stone ornaments and perhaps iron; the wearing of ornaments; leisure activities; and access to exotica, ie Roman pot. There is nothing to indicate any clear status, functional or chronological difference from the western terrace, although the sample is limited. However, the recovery of such a range of material from a small and poorly preserved area does point to substantial activity on the summit area. The implication of the slag is that ironworking was taking place somewhere on the summit itself, rather than restricting such activities to the margins of the site, although the tiny quantities involved indicate it was not in the immediate vicinity, and its date is uncertain.

A PUTATIVE MEDIEVAL STRUCTURE (AREA 2)

Area 2 had a more complex sequence of features, although the constraints of the excavation limit interpretation. The wall feature was a linear stone construction aligned east/west, turning at its eastern end to meet the alignment of the bedrock face. No confident evidence of a wall to the north, adjacent to the bedrock, was identified: the large stones on illus 4 at the northern limit of the excavation were fragments which had broken away from the bedrock face. The stone feature is interpreted as the southern wall of a rectilinear structure built against the bedrock face which here forms a right angle. There is no clear evidence as to whether the bedrock face was fortuitously or deliberately shaped to form the inferred northern side of the structure, although such regular smooth faces are unusual on the Law.

There was evidence of the wall line continuing west from Area 2 into the unburnt areas, although it did not reach Area 1. This gives dimensions for the structure of between 10–12 m long by 4 m wide. There was no visible evidence of a wall forming the northern side once the bedrock face ended; this fell outwith the area excavated.

The site is a good one for a building, within the constraints of the exposed summit area. The bedrock outcrop provides shelter (illus 2), while the pond to the north and a spring to the east would supply water. The outlook in a wide sweep to the south is outstanding.

As there were no dated stratigraphic deposits in association with the wall, dating relies on inference. The key evidence is the medieval pottery, comprising a complete vessel apparently smashed *in situ* (illus 10) and sherds from another; their distribution is almost exclusively within the postulated structure. The presence of sherds from at least two vessels indicates the association of pot and building is not a single chance event, while the large size and sharp edges imply minimal post-depositional movement. Hence they are unlikely to predate the use of the structure, which would have disturbed them. This provides at least an inferred *terminus ante quem* of 13th/14th century. It can be argued that this is actually the date of the building (or at least its destruction): the wall is founded on bedrock, and most of the pottery was discovered on or close to bedrock, implying little build-up of deposits between the building of the wall and the deposition of the pottery.

The only interior feature was the concentration of stones (context 015) at the west end of the exposed portion of the interior. Initially this was thought to be a drain cover but on excavation there proved to be nothing underneath but a shallow B-horizon lying on bedrock. Given that only part of this feature was exposed it is hard to identify a convincing function. The feature may be an element of a stone floor or a post-pad. However, both options suffer from the shallowness of the soil layer over the bedrock; the latter would have been much more suitable as both a floor and a post-pad.

There was no clear floor level exposed and the inference was that the interior had, especially on its northern side, been stripped to the upper surface of the bedrock. It is possible that the southern portion of the interior had an earthen floor, to maintain a level surface against the dip of the bedrock. The practicality of this can be seen in illus 4, in the extent of context 014: the southern wall stones mainly remained earthfast at the flat surface created by excavation to the 0.4 m limit, while the north of the interior is exposed bedrock. Another option is a plank floor to level off the interior. It was suggested above that the small nails recovered from the area of the structure are most likely to relate to furniture, plank flooring, or plank cladding on the walls; their bending and breakage suggests this was deliberately dismantled.

Accepting that this stone feature does represent the surviving portion of some form of wall, there must have been loss or masking of material that originally constituted it. In particular there was a marked shortage of smaller stones. The lack of substantial recorded activity on the hill from the 14th century onwards suggests that significant stone robbing is unlikely, although the summit cairn is a possible candidate. Thus if the stone feature was a wall, it probably had an organic superstructure rather than being wholly drystone in construction. It could have been the footing for a turf wall, although one might expect a full drystone wall as a dry, firm base to the turf element. The presence of the B-horizon between the two large westernmost stones suggests this could have been a void originally, perhaps designed to retain a cruck or sill beam, or the base of a wickerwork upper structure. Such reconstructions remain highly speculative: Walker and McGregor (1993, 9) comment on the variety of buildings which can be founded on such rubble walls in the vernacular traditions, and the consequent difficulty in determining structure from foundations. The apparent break in the wall suggests a possible entrance on the south side.

The north wall remains enigmatic. The building could have been a lean-to against the bedrock, but this seems unlikely given that the south wall continues beyond the outcrop's western extent. It is more likely to have had a pitched roof, perhaps based on crucks which could easily be founded on bedrock ridges.

Without a full ground plan there is limited point in extensive quotation of parallels; excavated rural medieval buildings are in any event rarities. However general similarities in size and form may be noted with the fragmentary timber and clay buildings at Rattray, Aberdeenshire (Murray & Murray 1993, 137–41); further afield, the building forms discussed at Wharram, East Yorkshire, provide better-preserved parallels (Wrathmell 1989).

An alternative, but less plausible, explanation could be as an enclosure on the southern edge of the level ledge, with the outcropping bedrock forming the northern, upslope, edge. Another option is that it could be a retaining wall for a garden plot. This is compromised by the lack of any significant drop in level on either side of the wall and the presence of a possible entranceway through the wall.

TRAPRAIN IN THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

The results from these excavations represent the best evidence to date of the medieval use of Traprain. There is very little medieval material from previous excavations. NMS collections comprise only some 11 sherds of white gritty and green-glazed wares: two from the western terrace, four from Cruden's rampart sections, three from the summit rectangular enclosure and two unprovenanced. There is also a Crossraguel penny of later 15th-century date recorded as a stray find from the western terrace (Curle 1920, 55). The lack of material from this latter area is significant given the large areas opened there, and suggests medieval activity was concentrated on the summit. Apart from the excavated feature, possible candidates for medieval structures are the row of sub-rectangular houses on the terrace above the Cruden wall, east of Trench C IV (Feachem 1956, fig 2), and the rectangular structure east of the summit cairn. Bersu's trench here was inconclusive, and Close-Brooks (1983a, 212–13) suggested it could be 18th-century, but from the medieval sherds recovered (*ibid*, 221–2, nos 45–6) and later casual finds from the area it could equally be medieval or overlie medieval remains.

The historical evidence is scant. The hill is recorded as *Dunpenderlaw* (in various forms) at least from the reign of David II in the 14th century, when it was held by the Hepburns from the Earls of March (Thomson 1882, app 2, no 855). The Hepburns, Earls of Bothwell from 1488, held it throughout the medieval period until the flight of the 4th Earl in 1567. In 1547 there are records of a beacon on the Law to warn of the anticipated English fleet (Burton 1877, 73).

No records of any medieval settlement on the Law have yet been found. From this, and its landscape setting, the most likely use of the Law would be for pasture, and the building could then be seen as a shieling or bothy. However, it is worth recording another possibility. Traprain is associated with the mythical early life of St Kentigern, with his mother, St Thenew, being cast off the hill when pregnant. This was well known in the medieval period from the 12th-century versions of the *Life of St Kentigern* (Jackson 1958, 287–91), and a considerable following grew up around the saint (Yeoman 1999, 16–28). There are also suggestions of an Early Christian presence, in a reference to the supposed foundation of a church on the site around AD 500 by St Modwenna (Forbes 1872, 406; Curle 1915, 140). While lacking any strong evidence, it is possible that either of these connections could have led Traprain to acquire a religious role, either formal or expedient, in the medieval period, perhaps as a stop on the East Lothian pilgrim routes (Yeoman 1999, 49–52). In this scenario the excavated building would have been an ancillary structure, with activity focused on a church or shrine perhaps within the summit rectilinear enclosure. Only further excavation can resolve this intriguing possibility.

CONCLUSION

Overall the excavations have recovered valuable information on the density and nature of activity on the summit of Traprain Law. They have confirmed some early prehistoric and substantial later prehistoric activity in the summit area for the first time. The discovery of what is probably a 13th/14th-century building raises questions of the little-understood later use of the site; combined with the literary evidence it is suggested that Traprain may have had a religious significance at this time. This unexpected discovery is a reminder of how little we know of this pivotal site. Finally, the vulnerability of the deposits to threats such as fire damage has been highlighted, reinforcing the site's fragility and the importance of good management of this vital resource.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Much of the excavation team was made up of the stalwart volunteers of the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society. We are grateful to the dedicated efforts of them and the other excavators over the two seasons. Roger McWee and Rolf White provided invaluable metal-detecting support. Thanks are due to the various specialists, and to Kristian Göransson and Ian Mackenzie who assisted with the post-excavation processing. Conservation work was carried out by Belén Cobo del Arco, Alex Quinn and Jane Clark, while Ann MacSween provided much-needed help with the prehistoric pottery. We wish to thank colleagues in AOC Archaeology Group and NMS for their support, and are particularly grateful to David Caldwell, who checked the historical sources and discussed interpretation with us, and Anne Crone, who checked over the text.

Artefact drawings are by Alan Braby and site drawings by Tanya O'Sullivan. The pot photograph is by Neil McLean and is reproduced by courtesy of the Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland.

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