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Cover illustration: A Port Seton old worthy repairing nets (see page 35)

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It is with regret that the Society records the death of JOHN SIMPSON author of *The Feuars of Gifford* and other scholarly papers. John died at his home in Gifford in 1993. His paper on Yester Church, which had already been submitted to the Society before his death, is published with the approval of his widow, to whom we extend our sympathies.

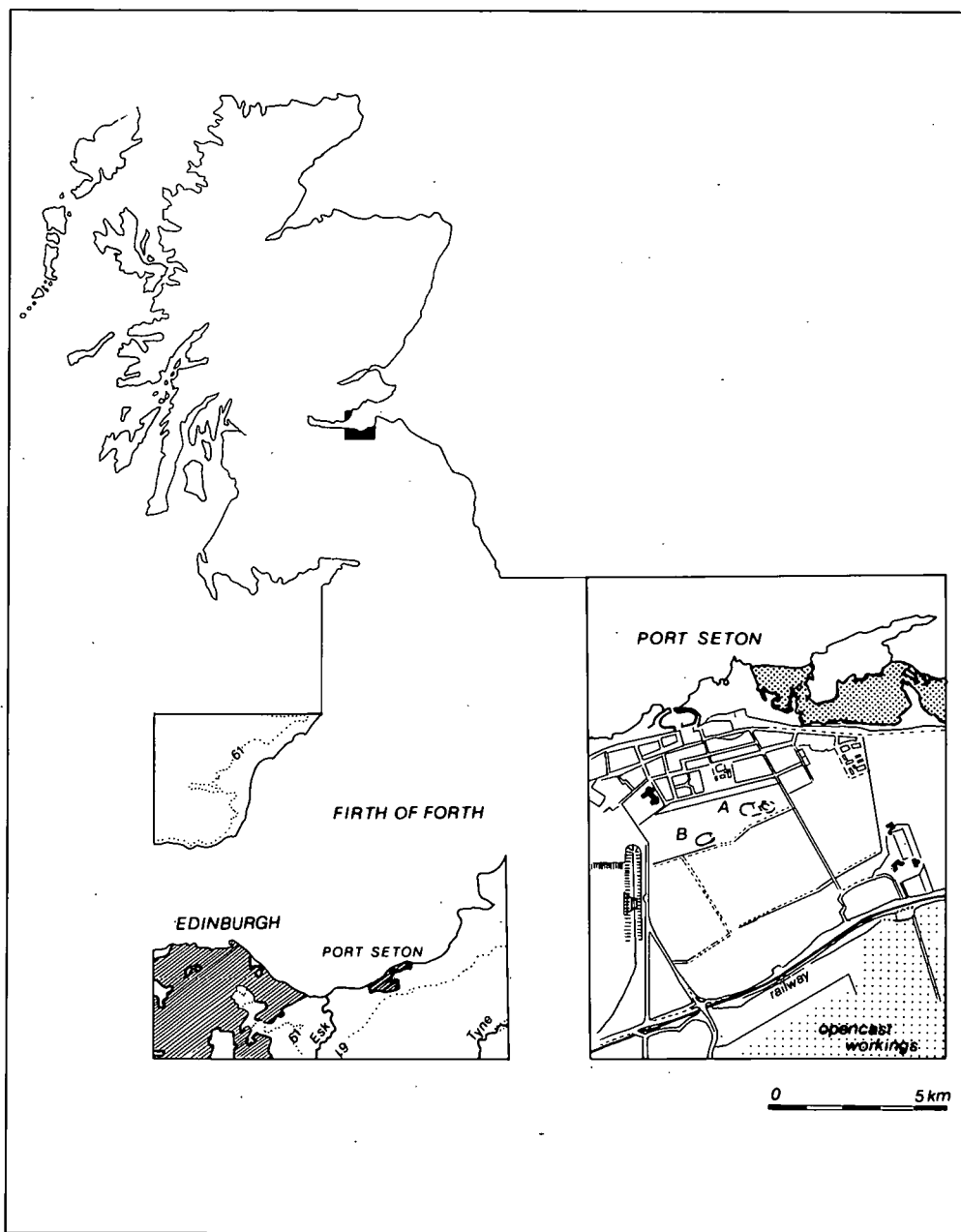


Figure 1. The location of the adjacent sites of Fisher's Road East (A) and Fisher's Road West (B).

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON, EAST LoTHIAN, 1994 AND 1995

By COLIN HASELGROVE & RODERICK McCULLAGH

INTRODUCTION

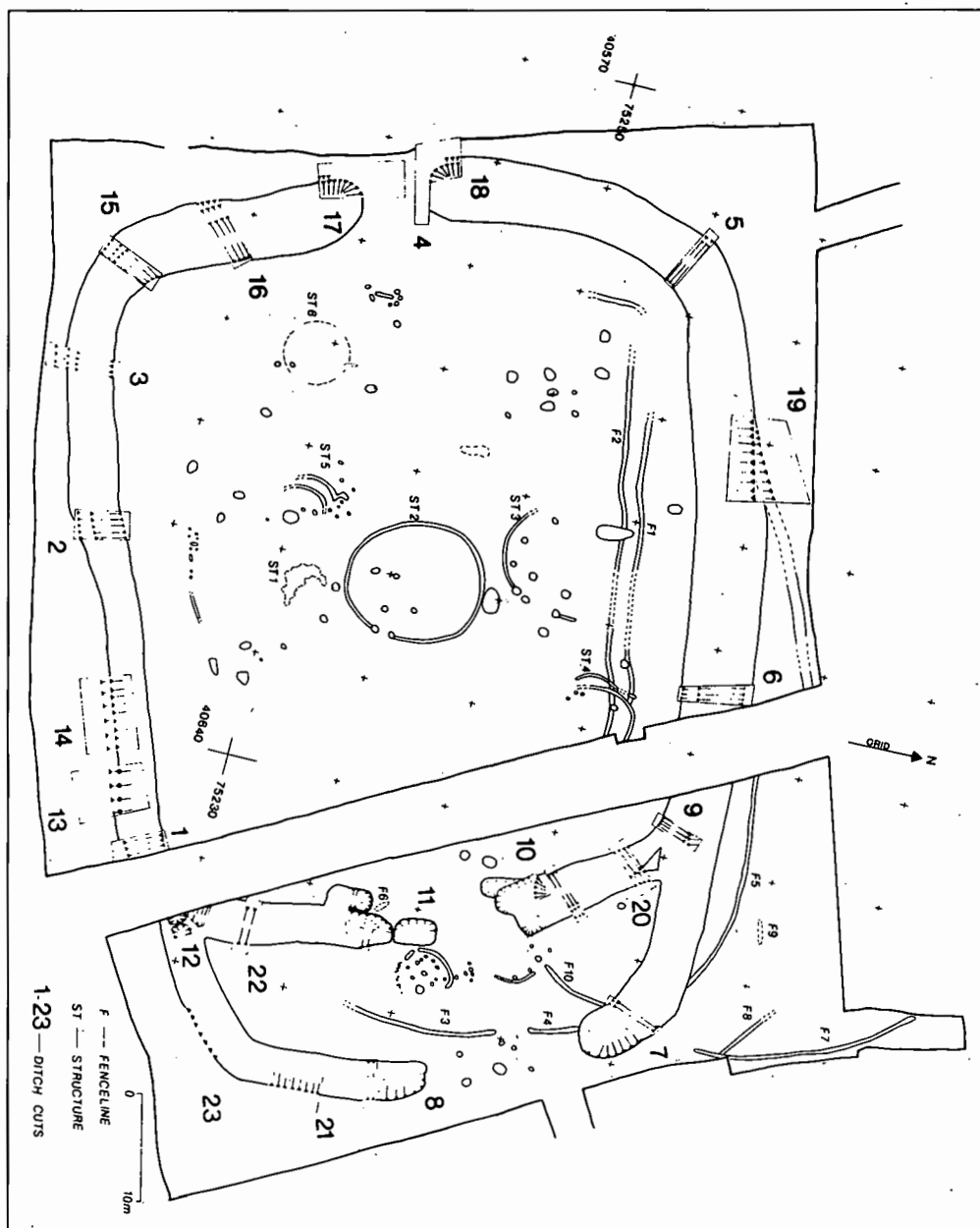
The coastal lowlands of the Lothians are renowned for their wealth of cropmark sites, but excavations have been rare and this almost ubiquitous, ancient settlement pattern, every bit as extensive as that of the present day, has seldom been appreciated. With fading memories of those large-scale excavations at Broxmouth hill, near Dunbar, and Saint Germain's, near Tranent, it is appropriate to publish interim statements of the findings of the two most recent excavations which have occurred in the region (Fig 1).

In April 1994, AOC (Scotland) Ltd won the contract to excavate a large crop-marked enclosure which was threatened with destruction by the advancing housing estate on the southern edge of the small fishing village of Port Seton (Fig 1, B). A year later, a second, slightly larger crop-marked enclosure, some 300 m east of the first site, came under threat by the same and still expanding housing estate (Fig 1, A) and was excavated by the Department of Archaeology, Durham University. This report presents brief accounts of both excavations, their initial interpretations and the initial results of post-excavation analyses. No attempt to integrate their separate results has yet been possible and in this report each site is presented independently; it is however the authors' joint hope that before the end of their respective projects there will be the opportunity to discuss common themes and contradictions.

FISHER'S ROAD WEST

Since 1946, there are records of over twenty aerial reconnaissance flights over the Port Seton area, but the cropmark of the western enclosure has been detected on only a few occasions. Indeed, so slight

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON



EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

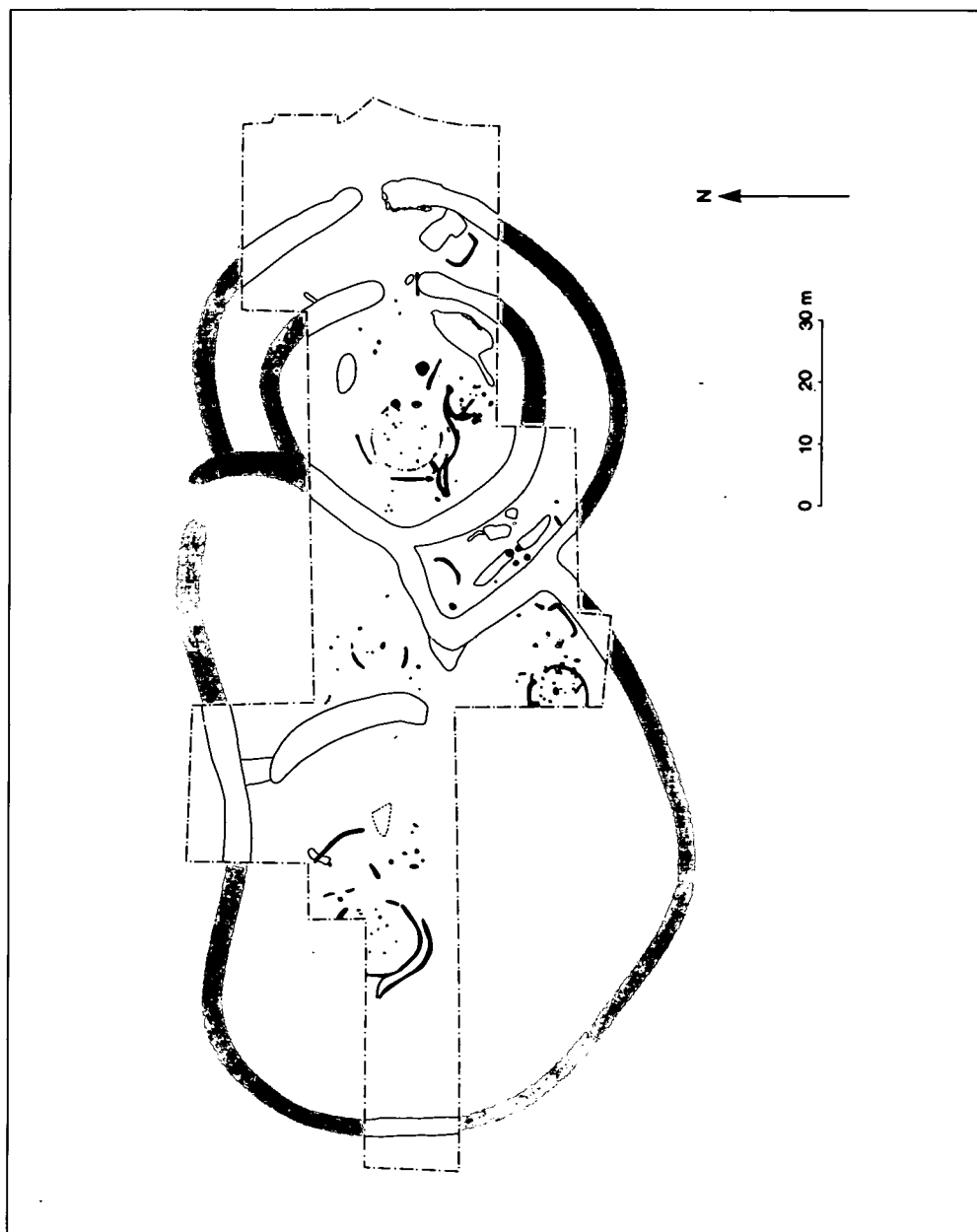


Figure 3. Plan of excavated features, Fisher's Road East.
Note: Scale different from Figure 2.

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

was the cropmark that it was only discovered, by Prof St. Joseph, Cambridge University, in 1980. The site itself was located at approximately 10 m OD, on a very slight ridge of late-Glacial raised beach deposits and comprises a single enclosure, aligned east-west, with an apparent extension at its eastern end. The excavations were instigated by the impending construction of housing development and were undertaken in May 1994 at short notice. To judge from the aerial photograph, it seemed likely that the excavation would uncover settlement evidence and archaeological materials comparable with aspects from the excavations at the enclosure at Saint Germain's (Watkins 1982), Broxmouth hill-fort (Hill 1979), both the palisaded enclosure and the unenclosed settlement at Dryburn Bridge (Triscott 1982) and the unenclosed settlement at Monktonhall (Hanson nd). The general context of these classes of monument has been extensively discussed (eg Macinnes 1984), but as has been recognised by many commentators (eg Hanson & Breeze 1991, 73), there is still a lack of firm evidence with which to gain access to this seemingly cohesive and extensive settlement pattern. The aims of the excavation were therefore directed towards the acquisition of information concerning:

- chronology and date;
- the structural development of the site over time;
- the nature and extent of internal occupation;
- the economy of the site;
- ritual deposition within or immediately outwith the enclosure ditches;
- the estimation of the physical extent of archaeological remains beyond the limits of the crop-mark.

Because the site was bisected by a protected, tree-lined field boundary, it was excavated in two unequal parts (Fig 2), separated by a strip of land measuring approximately 8 m wide. Although documentary evidence suggested that the site had not been subject to 18th and 19th century agriculture, earlier tillage had extensively truncated the site. This loss was compounded by ground preparation works undertaken by the developers, which resulted in the loss of most of the topsoil from the western half of the site. Topsoil survived under crop on the eastern half of the site to a depth of circa 0.4 m; unfortunately even in this area, which contained the double termini of the eastern entrance ways, the site was completely truncated flush with the surface of the subsoil. The first stage of excavation resulted in two areas, measuring in total nearly 6000 m², being cleared. This revealed a sub-rectangular ditched enclosure,

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

with a double entrance clearly visible at the eastern end. Two extension trenches; 5 m wide and 40 m long, were cut on the eastern and northern sides to expose the subsoil surface beyond the cropmark; these failed to detect any archaeological features. The excavation team was then divided between the investigation of the ditches and repeated cleaning of the interior surfaces. The ditch sequence was investigated through 22 transverse and longitudinal sections, representing some 22% of the total ditch area. The identified structures were totally excavated and a substantial sub-set of the isolated features was sectioned, and areas of the subsoil surface were re-cleaned and allowed to weather in an attempt to detect subtly differentiated features. Throughout the excavation, a wet sieving station was operated on site which permitted representative bulk samples of every excavated context from topsoil to subsoil to be processed. This assemblage represents the primary resource for the post-excavation analyses.

The evidence of settlement within the enclosed area consisted of the fragmentary remains of six structures. These vestiges varied from curving wall footings (Structures 3, 4 and 5) or, in one case, the complete circuit of a ring-ditch (Structure 2), to disturbed stone pavements (Structures 1 and 6). Further post-built buildings were located at the inner eastern entrance and isolated, highly truncated pits were examined to the west of the main building cluster. Excavation within the ditches revealed that rather than a single phase of construction, the site had undergone several distinct phases of ditch cutting; the apparent double eastern entrance was shown to be two successive versions of the same entrance, but a second entrance-way was revealed providing access across the ditch from the west. This latter entrance had not been visible on the aerial photograph. The extent of plough and soil-scraping damage was extensive and in some areas, especially in a 16 m wide strip adjacent to the western side of the field boundary, may have resulted in the general absence of archaeological features. Five broad phases of activity have been identified on site:

Phase 1

The earliest ditch line only survived on the south-west corner of the site where it was clearly truncated by the line of the Phase 2 ditch.

Phase 2

A second shallow and much truncated ditch was detected in almost all ditch trenches. The shallowness of this feature in many areas of the

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

site indicates either that the site suffered a considerable phase of erosion prior to Phase 3, or that it was never more than a shallow boundary marker.

Phase 3

At some considerable time after the Phase 2 ditch had infilled, a new enclosure, defined by a steep-sided V-shaped profile, was constructed. This ditch enclosed an area of approximately 0.28 ha.

Phase 4

The final phase of the enclosure saw the rapid and probably planned infilling of the eastern line of the Phase 3 cut and its replacement by a new ditch further to the east. The area of the new, enlarged enclosure totalled approximately 0.33 ha. For the first time in the archaeological investigation there was clear evidence for the ditch being accompanied by an internal rampart.

Phase 5

If Phase 4 can be extended to cover the period in which the form of the ditch and any complementary perimeter features were well maintained then the subsequent phase is characterised by a cessation of care and maintenance and the deposition of midden refuse into the ditch.

Away from the ditch stratigraphy, some sequence can be observed, but generally the subsoil surface had been so extensively truncated by both ancient, on-site activities and subsequent agriculture, that much of the complete site sequence has been lost. This situation pertained within the eastern excavation area and was verified by test trenches into the field boundary. It is therefore certain that most damage occurred as a result of pre-19th century tillage. From the fieldwork it was not possible to directly correlate the fragmentary interior sequences to any part of ditch sequence, but it is probable that Structure 4, for instance, did post-date one of the later phases of earthworks. Both within and beyond the crop-marked ditches, especially in the eastern excavation area, shallow linear features — provisionally interpreted as fence slots — were detected. It was not possible to configure these to form fragments of a field system (as one might surmise) nor to correlate, with any certainty, to either of the later ditch sequences or to the settlement evidence. These linear features do however indicate the presence of potentially important elements of a contemporary landscape that were not detected by aerial photography.

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The site has produced a small assemblage of pottery, which appears to be broadly similar to that from the nearby site at Saint Germain and parallels can also be drawn with the ceramic assemblage from Broxmouth hill (Cool 1982). Other artefacts include fragmentary rotary querns, a lead disc, a shale disc and various grinding or polishing stones. The size of this assemblage may of course reflect the quality of preservation on site, or indeed the inhabitants' own attitudes to waste disposal, but at present (ie at the current stage in the analysis process) it seems likely to be a true reflection of the material 'wealth' of the site. In contrast and perhaps in contradiction to the previous statement, there seems to be good evidence for some industrial process, perhaps metal working, being practised on site.

Initial examinations of the botanical remains (pollen, carbonised seeds and plant fragments, charcoal and waterlogged seeds, plant fragments and wood) indicate some interesting oppositions: carbonised cereal grain *versus* the absence of 'cereal cultivation pollen indicators'; pollen evidence for woodland *versus* the general absence of wood charcoal, carbonised florets of heather (*Calluna vulgaris* L) *versus* the absence of *Calluna* pollen. The absence of wood charcoal is countered by the ubiquitous presence of seemingly burnt coal or shale. In general, the assemblages are limited in species range with hulled barley (*Hordeum sativum*) being the most common of the carbonised cereals with emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) and possibly a hexaploid variety (eg *Triticum aestivum*) also being present but in much reduced numbers. In the waterlogged remains, the presence of *Linum catharticum* (purging flax) is worthy of note. Finally there is the enigmatic presence of a single, carbonised grape pip.

The very small bone assemblage contains complete and fragmentary bones of sheep, cattle and pig. Like the artefact assemblage the small size of this bone collection may reflect either actual consumption or a bias in the disposal of the waste or poor preservation. Certainly, the results of soil chemistry assays suggest that the site was not suited to preserving bone, but more work needs to be done on the specific environment of the ditch contexts before this effect can be verified.

The results of samples submitted for radiocarbon dating are expected towards the end of 1995 and until then the Fishers Road West enclosure is provisionally dated to the late 1st millennium BC or early 1st millennium AD. In its final form the ditched and banked enclosure seems to have functioned as a settlement, though possibly of short duration. It

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

was located in what seems to modern eyes to be a satisfactory position, but with the surrounding land being possibly too poorly drained to permit agriculture, and with the absence of timber as fuel it is possible that the site may not have matched the economic status of its neighbours.

FISHER'S ROAD EAST

Between February and April 1995, the cropmark site at Fisher's Road East, 300 m east of the first site, was excavated in advance of housing development as part of a longer-term research project in the region by the University of Durham. The Durham project aims to enhance understanding of the development of settlement and society during the 1st millennia BC and AD in the East Lothian lowlands of southern Scotland through a new programme of ground survey and excavation. Sites to be examined include some of the many known cropmark enclosures for which an Iron Age date can be suggested for the visible phases of activity.

The eastern site at Fisher's Road comprised two principal enclosures, the eastern of which is double ditched, the whole complex covering nearly 0.8 ha in internal area (Fig 3). Like its neighbour, the site lies at a height of approximately 10 m OD immediately to the south of Port Seton, on a platform of sandy gravels and boulder clays which formed as a raised beach under late Glacial conditions. The soils are tills of high agricultural quality up to 0.4 m in depth, but an extensive system of field drains traversing the site indicates that drainage has been poor. Prior to modern ploughing, rig and furrow cultivation running roughly north-south had crossed the entire site.

The overall aim of the 1995 excavation was to recover a maximum of spatial, chronological and environmental information about the site prior to its destruction. Objectives included determining how far the aerial evidence reflected the true extent of the site; establishing the relative and absolute chronologies of the visible features; and investigating the nature and extent of the occupation. An intensive programme of sampling deposits for environmental remains was undertaken, the results of which will be used in conjunction with the material culture of the site to reconstruct the nature and range of economic, social and ritual activities occurring there.

An area of 5420 m², representing approximately 60% of the interior of the complex, was stripped by mechanical excavator and hand cleaned to the surface of the visible archaeological remains. A pre-excavation

EXCAVATIONS AT FISHER'S ROAD, PORT SETON

gradiometer survey of the western part of the site was undertaken for comparative purposes, and to test the possibility that features of low aerial visibility could be detected as magnetic anomalies. Segments of all ditches were excavated to provide depositional sequences and to retrieve material culture and environmental soil samples. Domestic and industrial structures were sampled more intensively; as far as possible post- and stake-holes were fully excavated. The generally damp conditions during the excavation enabled fairly ready recognition of archaeological features, although in a few areas, these were obscured beneath furrow soil, which could only be partially removed.

A double ditched circular enclosure (Enclosure 1) at the eastern end of the site was connected to a larger single ditched enclosure, which was itself subdivided by a substantial arc of ditch into a smaller intermediate enclosure (Enclosure 2) and a larger sub-oval compound which forms the western limit of the site (Enclosure 3). Contrary to what might be deduced from the plan, initial analysis suggests that the whole complex is substantially of one phase and was constructed to a pre-determined layout. Opposed terminals facing east from the circular enclosure probably reflect the main entrance to the site. Rampart material had been levelled into the ditches, which were generally of substantial U-shaped form with more complex arrangements of double slots at several points. Where ditch terminals were sampled elaborate, apparently decorative stone revetments were located, suggesting an impressive original appearance of partly defensive, partly symbolic form. The ditch fills yielded animal bone, carbonised grain, artefacts associated with weaving, and a few fragments of pottery. Waterlogged deposits were not encountered despite the presence in the ditches of groundwater up to 1 m deep.

Four foci of domestic and related occupation were excavated in part or in whole. The most substantial of these lay at the western side of the circular enclosure. A circular stake-built structure (CS 1) measuring close to 11 m in diameter with part of an inner ring of post-holes, an east-facing porch and a partial outer ring ditch, was fully excavated. The packing of one of the stake-holes included a large pottery rim provisionally given a late Bronze Age or Iron Age date. Associated fence-lines and post-hole structures, and a possible midden base, indicate a wide range of activities taking place close to the dwelling.

The ephemeral remains of a second circular building (CS 2) were located right at the entrance from Enclosure 2 through into Enclosure 3.

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A shallow ring-ditch 8.3 m in diameter and a partial outer ring of post-holes 13.5 m in diameter were the only visible features. In the south-eastern angle of Enclosure 3, a third building (CS 3) was represented by a ring-ditch 9 m in diameter with a north-east facing entrance. A number of both internal and external post-holes may reflect weaving or other industrial activities associated with this structure. The fourth structure (CS 4) lay in the centre of Enclosure 3. It was formed by a ring-ditch 13 m in diameter with an east-north-east entrance. A ditch forming a parallel arc to the immediate south-east probably represents a fence line. Internal post-holes may reflect industrial activity or fittings. To the north-east another fence line and a series of post-holes suggest that the house may have been enclosed. One of the very few contemporary surfaces surviving on the site was a small patch of cobbling immediately to the north-east of CS 4, the compacted surface of which produced a sandstone spindlewhorl and fragments of animal bone.

An irregular sunken structure (F189), ovoid in shape and measuring 10 m by 5 m, was located inside the east part of the circular enclosure, immediately west of the south inner ditch terminal. Its floor was composed of cobbles and had been penetrated by a large number of small stake-holes. The south-east side was formed by a square-sectioned slot packed with stone for timber uprights. To the south-east a shallow gully led to or from the floor. Fills above the floor contained a large quantity of animal bone, including a substantial number of whale bone fragments. The structure has provisionally been interpreted as a facility for processing carcasses — its position to windward of all domestic structures is notable — and ethnographic parallels may offer clues to its method of use. A small number of other features, particularly those located between the ditches of the double circular enclosure may, after analysis, provide evidence for other industrial activities. Three U-shaped lengths of gully may well have been constructed as windbreaks; fragments of a crucible were found in one of them. This argues strongly for metalworking at the site.

There is some evidence of chronological depth at the site, notably the presence of bank material overlying stake-holes adjacent to one of the enclosure ditches, and the location of CS 2 in a position where it would have obstructed the entrance from Enclosure 2 into Enclosure 3. In addition, there are several small intercutting features, while the material from the ditch fills implies that the settlement was still occupied after the ditches had begun to fill with silt or collapse. The deposition of animal

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refuse in abandonment deposits in the sunken feature in Enclosure 1 suggests a change of industrial strategy or location at some point. However, there is no clear evidence for the repairing or rebuilding of houses, unless those which have been excavated were not contemporary with each other and represent a succession of dwellings. Generally, intact packing of post-holes showed that posts had rotted *in situ* rather than been removed. The depositional sequences in the ditches, where excavated, show a disparate set of circumstances which are not immediately reconcilable. Slumping of revetment material, silting, dumping and levelling are all attested, but none appear to have occurred consistently or simultaneously over the whole site. Unfortunately, the restrictions of time did not permit more sections of ditch to be excavated.

Apart from the handmade pottery and crucible fragments already mentioned, the relatively few finds from the site included three stone spindlewhorls, a single saddle quern or rubber, three stone balls and some possible whetstones or palettes. The faunal assemblage appears to be dominated by cattle (69% of identifiable fragments), with smaller quantities of sheep (11%), pig (8%), and horse (7%). This may be a factor of the preservational conditions, with the larger and more robust cattle bones remaining recognisable, while the smaller sheep and pig bones disintegrated into unidentifiable fragments. In non-ditch contexts, the proportion of sheep is noticeably higher (18%). Small quantities of dog, red deer antler and whale were also recovered, the latter presumably having been stranded on the nearby beach. Preliminary analysis of the carbonised remains indicates the presence of grains of both naked and hulled barley, while chaff, which is relatively abundant in some contexts, indicates that both emmer and spelt wheat were cultivated. The amount of carbonised material from the inner ditch of Enclosure 1 in particular suggests the dumping of episodes of cereal processing waste. Species such as heather and weeds are also attested. The presence of naked barley on the one hand and spelt wheat on the other is of particular interest. The former is a species which is generally present in Bronze Age deposits, but which had disappeared by, certainly, the later pre-Roman Iron Age, whereas in northern England at least, the main period of transition from emmer to spelt wheat occurred during the later 1st millennium BC. Port Seton should therefore offer the opportunity of investigating these transitions in the context of a single site, especially if the apparent variation in the amounts of emmer and spelt between contexts is genuine and proves to have chronological significance. In turn, this could yet have implications for the overall chronological development of the site. It is

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hoped that these questions will be clarified by a comprehensive programme of radiocarbon dating.

The enclosure complex at Fisher's Road East seems to have been a defended homestead of some social and economic status, which probably dates to the pre-Roman Iron Age or even to the late Bronze Age. The present lack of evidence for multiple phases implies a relatively limited duration of occupation, but activity on the site was clearly intensive and more than seasonal in nature, and radiocarbon dating may yet indicate that the occupation extended over a longer period of time. The relationship of this settlement to the smaller, but still imposing, enclosure at Fisher's Road West is another matter of interest for future analysis; the limited evidence so far available suggests that the latter site is the later of the two in date. The post-excavation programme which is now underway should shed further light on its agricultural basis and contacts, and on whether social or functional differences in the nature of the occupation existed between the different areas of the enclosure complex.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 1994 excavations at Fisher's Road West were funded by Historic Scotland and directed by Rod McCullagh with support from staff of AOC (Scotland) Ltd. We are grateful to Miller Homes Ltd and Wilcon Homes Ltd for their joint permission to excavate and to the site staff of Miller Homes for their assistance during the excavation. Particular thanks are also due to Gordon Barclay and Dr Ian Armit of Historic Scotland and to Dr W. S. Hanson who kindly provided an interim report on his excavations at Monktonhall, Inveresk. Christina Unwin prepared Figs. 1 and 2.

The 1995 excavations at Fisher's Road East were directed by Colin Haselgrove, Graham Philip and Max Adams, and were funded by Historic Scotland and the University of Durham. We are grateful to Miller Homes Ltd for their permission to excavate and for providing earthmoving equipment free of charge. Particular thanks are also due to Gordon Barclay of Historic Scotland; to Mr Sandy Marr, the site agent; and to all our landladies. Linda Bosveld prepared Fig. 3.

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THE HISTORY OF YESTER CHURCH

by JOHN H. SIMPSON

On March 30th 1708, the minister, heritors, elders and heads of families in Yester parish gathered for the visitation of the Presbytery of Haddington. John Hay of Hopes, factor to the 2nd Marquis of Tweeddale, speaking on behalf of the heritors, announced that *'in view of the recent alterations to the parish boundaries, the Lord Marquis was willing and ready to build a new church and manse in the town of Gifford and to assign as much land for a new glebe as might be equivalent to the glebe presently possessed by the Minister of Yester.'*

This meeting was held in the original parish church of Yester, known as St. Cuthbert's. It was founded in 1241 and became the parish church in 1572 after the Reformation. It stands not far from Yester House and used to serve the household and the community which had grown up round the house in the settlement called Bothans. (See the article by J. M. Bulloch in *Transactions Vol. IX*). But when, after the enclosure of Yester Park at the end of the seventeenth century, the estate workforce was gradually displaced to form the village of Gifford, it became clear that everyone's interests would be better served by having a new church built in the village. However, before this could happen, a problem had to be addressed. The site of Gifford was outside the old boundaries of Yester parish and in the adjoining parish of Bara. The Marquis used his influence and in 1702 the necessary changes were made. Yester parish was extended northwards to take in Sherriffside, Duncanlaw, Winding Law, Gifford, Broadwoodside and Woodhead from the parish of Bara, and Marvingston from the parish of Bolton, surrendering Hopes, Castlemains and Quarryford to Garvald parish which was amalgamated with what was left of Bara. Bara church was allowed to fall into disrepair; evidence of its site north of Linplum is now confined to a few tombstones. The old church at Bothans was later converted into the Tweeddale family burial vault.

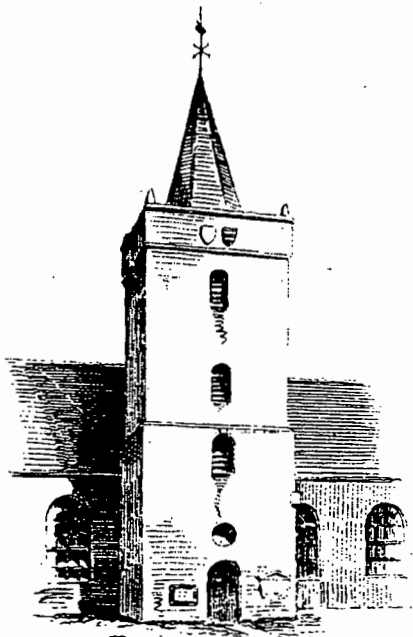
THE HISTORY OF YESTER CHURCH

The minister at the time was James Craigie who had been ordained in 1701. The four heritors were the Marquis of Tweeddale (Valued Rent £1815), Sir Richard Newton of Newton Hall (V.R. £1441), the owner of New Hall (V.R. £468) and the owner of Skedsbush (V.R. £111). They, as the chief landowners of the parish, were responsible in proportion to their valued rents for the stipends of the minister and schoolmaster and the costs of all building and repairs in connection with the church and the parish schools. In consequence, the Marquis contributed slightly over half, Newton slightly under a third, leaving a small share to the other two. The influence of each heritor was related to the size of his contribution. The Marquis, however, was not only the principal heritor but also the patron, which gave him the sole right to appoint the minister and added considerably to his general influence. Furthermore, in proposing a new church, manse and glebe he was making available about 15 acres of his own land, though admittedly he was reclaiming the former glebelands.

Work started almost immediately. The date 1708 is scored into the stone surround of the tower door of the church; the manse was completed in 1709. It stood across the road from the church where now can be seen the plaque commemorating one of its occupants, John Witherspoon. The garden stretched behind along the Haddington Road, but there was no adjacent land available for the glebe, since the fields immediately to the north and west were already owned by the inhabitants of Main Street and the land across the road to the east had already been designated Common. So the nearest suitable land was chosen — 13 acres beside Gifford Water.

The building of the church has sometimes been attributed to James Smith, the architect at that time engaged in the building of Yester House, but there is no evidence to connect him with it. No plans have survived and among the building accounts there is no bill for his services. The principal mason was John McCall of Haddington who had been responsible for the building of the Town House and Schoolmaster's House (now known as Greenfoot Cottage) in 1706. I think he was also responsible for their design as well, and if so, why not for the design of the church and manse? There is evidence that the manse was similar to the schoolmaster's house, both having nine windows in the front. (The front wall of Greenfoot Cottage was pulled down in 1814 and rebuilt with its present five windows). The plain lines of the church and the almost total lack of carving or ornamentation lend further support to the

THE HISTORY OF YESTER CHURCH



Yester Church from MacGibbon and Ross *Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland*, 1897.

view that it was conceived by a John McCall rather than a James Smith. It was common practice not to engage an architect for lesser buildings, and for the design to be the work of the builder and his employer (though the Marquis did use William Adam for the original manse at Garvald). The question of attribution is complicated by the design of the church at Carrington, Midlothian, which without having the beauty of proportions of Yester is too similar to admit coincidence. It was built at exactly the same time; 1710 is carved on the lintel of the main entrance. I suggest that it is a copy of Yester, made with the knowledge of the Marquis and his builder, and that this is further evidence of there being no architect involved in the building of Yester. Two or three other features will emerge in the description of the building which further point to the lack of an architect's involvement.

Whatever the answer to the question of authorship, the church is a building of worth and beauty. Its site had probably been fixed four or five years earlier when the Town House was built facing down the Avenue and the L-shaped lay-out of the village was being formed.

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Standing at the head of the main street, it would always be distanced from other buildings and so retain its dominance.

The T-shape is a peculiarly Scottish design which had evolved over the 150 years since the time of John Knox. In some cases it came about from a rectangular church in which the principal heritor threw out an aisle opposite the pulpit which had been moved to the centre of one of the longer sides (as at Pencaitland); sometimes a cross-shape was altered to a T by demolishing the choir or nave. Always the object was to accommodate the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper to the best advantage of the congregation and to put the preaching of the Word at the centre, removing the unacceptable sacrificial altar. Galleries or lofts were often put at each end of the main rectangle and, in the stem of the T, the Laird's loft sometimes had a family burial vault below it.

Yester is an early example of a church built to this pattern, rather than converted from an earlier design. The main rectangle (88' × 29') has a north-south axis rather than an east-west, but this is due to the demands of the site rather than a deliberate intention to go against traditional practice. However, orientation in Gifford in those days was somewhat unreliable. All its early feu-charters describe the houses in the High Street as 'lying on the north side of the town', when quite clearly the street runs north-south and the houses are on the east side; furthermore the two galleries in the church are constantly referred to as easter and wester. Presumably the weather-vane at least always contradicted such assertions. The east-west axis, or stem of the T, is taken by what may be called the Tweeddale aisle (24'6" × 23'6") balanced by the tower (16' × 14'), which shall be the starting point for a more detailed description of the building.

The weather vane is unusual in that the bird depicted in stylised form is a heron, such as are often seen on Gifford Water, head recoiled over the neck in flight. Stencilled in its body is the heraldic goat's head of the Tweeddales. The vane was made in 1709 by William Brown and gilded by John Warrender, both of Edinburgh. It was strengthened with two reinforcing bars in 1830 and repaired again in 1909. It stands at the top of a slated steeple, the base of which is surrounded by a corbelled parapet and guarded by four stone pinnacles at the corners. Below the parapet in the front are two small stone shields from which the carving has almost worn away; on the left-hand one are three escutcheons for Hay and on the other, three bands of ermine for Gifford. Lower down,

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about 15' from the ground, on the corner facing south is a sundial (also noticeable on Carrington church). It is not placed to catch the sun all the way through the day, but it functions for the hours during which services are normally held.

These three features of the tower are largely ornamental; its main functional purposes originally were to house the bell and provide a store-room for the sexton. The bell was transferred from the old church. For its size it hardly warrants such a massive edifice — it is 18 inches high and 18 inches wide. But what it lacks in stature it makes up in antiquity. The inscription on it reads: O MATER DEI MEMENTO MEI ANNO DOM MCCCCLXXXII (Mother of God, Remember me A.D. 1492). The date explains the un-Protestant sentiment. It is by far the oldest element of the church. The bellrope originally hung straight down to the room at the base of the tower. This room had no access to the church. It was used as a store for the beadle and gravedigger. In it a stone spiral stair rose to the floor above. No provision was made in the church for a vestry, another point which might suggest that the design was not that of an architect, or at least not one like James Smith with experience of building churches. It is possible that the tower contained a well and water closets. These are mentioned, in 1831, as needing repair, without any indication of where they were situated and it is difficult to reconcile their existence with the total lack of drainage which becomes apparent later on. In some churches the tower was used as the village gaol but Gifford already had such a facility behind the Town House.

The arches of windows and doors in the tower are all semi-circular and this was true of all the windows in the main body of the church, the gothic points of the two windows in the gable ends being a 19th century alteration. The windows in the front of the church need comment. First, the smaller windows at each end are a later addition. Secondly, the two large windows on the left are noticeably lower — about six inches — than those on the right. There seems to be no explanation for this, other than slipshod building control which also must explain why that same side is 2'9" longer than the right. The building accounts include a bill from John McCall for *'one rood built up and taken down again when the church was lengthened.'* No reason is given but, again, it is not suggestive of normal working practice under an architect's supervision. Thirdly, the remains of hooks for hanging shutters are clearly visible in the surrounds of most of the windows, though not in the middle one on each side. It is not clear whether they were an original feature, nor have

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I found any record of when the shutters were removed. Fourthly, these windows, most unusually for a church, are sash windows. No-one has ever found the church warm enough to open them. Would an architect have incorporated such a feature?

Apart from the absence of the smaller windows at each end of the front, there were other differences in the appearance of the church in the 18th century, the most obvious of which was that there was no harling on the stonework. On the ridge of the roof there were two finials, one on either side of the tower, of which only the weather-beaten stumps remain. They were rosettes on stems about a foot high and may well have come from the old church. The back of the church has changed very little, though the two rounded windows have acquired gothic astragals. Each of the three gable ends contains a small round vent to allow air to circulate through the roof-space. The 'stem' of the T-shape has an almost domestic style of architecture, with small square sash windows, a chimney and a 'front-door' at the top of a short flight of steps. The change in style is intentional to point to the private, almost secular, nature of the aisle. The Marquis and his party did not necessarily want to feel that they were 'in church' until they had gone right through to their gallery.

The inside of the church was almost completely bare. The walls were unplastered, the floor was largely flagstoned, if not earth; there were no entrance lobbies or inner doors under the galleries; below the Tweeddale gallery, where now there are various partition walls, the space was open back to the outer door, so the slope of the stairs up to the gallery was visible. There would have been less light (because there were fewer windows) and an almost total absence of any furniture or fittings — no pews, no table, no lectern, no organ, no railed platform. The body of the church was a large open space in which the congregation sat, if they had brought stools with them, or stood. The space was required for setting up the long trestle tables at which the congregation sat for Communion, held once a year. There were a few fixed seats round the walls, some of which were more like enclosures in which a family might sit together, paying an annual rent. There was, for example, a place immediately next to the pulpit on the minister's right hand, which was taken by Cornelius Douglas for his family at 1/- a year. His father had been chamberlain to Lord Tweeddale and he lived at Beechwood, at the southern end of the High Street, which at that time was one of the largest properties in the village. There were also six or seven bench seats

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below the two end galleries. These likewise would have been taken by the better-off families and provided additional income to the Poor Fund. Seats holding six people were charged 1/6, those for four 1/- a year.

Otherwise the only furniture was the pulpit with its sounding board, standing raised as now but with steps only on the north side and no imitative panelling on the wall behind. It was transferred, like the bell, from the old church and so is certainly of 17th century origin, if not older, but I have been unable to discover when or by whom it was made. It has undergone a fair amount of repair and alteration. The dove on top is the property of the present minister and its previous history is unconnected with Yester.

The only other decoration inside the church was provided by the panelling on the gallery-breasts. The ornate centre panel of the Tweeddale gallery was made for a similar loft or 'high seat' in the old church when it was being re-organised to include a Hay burial vault. The initials of John Hay, 2nd Earl (and later 1st Marquis) of Tweeddale, and his wife, Jane Scott, daughter of the Duke of Buccleuch, are arranged in a monogram so that they appear to read IHS which in a church context would normally be understood to stand for Iesus Hominum Salvator. The pun is made more explicit by the fact that it is an earl's coronet rather than a crown of thorns that surmounts the monogram. The date 1687 refers to the time when the old church was being altered. To incorporate the panel in the new church was a nice tribute from the 2nd Marquis to his parents. When we turn to the other two galleries, it is the lack of uniformity in the panelling which needs explanation. The gallery to the north (often erroneously called the wester gallery) has two sets of three panels, differing in design and unequal in length. They define sections of the gallery used by two of the heritors; the longer and grander section belonged to Newton of Newton Hall, the other to the owner of Skedsbush. The easter (south) gallery has three varieties of panelling, much less ornate, and presumably the slight differences can be explained in a similar way.

Unlike the two other galleries, the Laird's loft has no access from inside the church; the only access is from the private outside door from which a long flight of stone steps leads up to a landing. Two doors open off it, one to the gallery itself, the other to a retiring room which used to contain a fireplace with a flue connecting through the roof-space to the chimney in the gable. Sunday services would regularly last three

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hours with a morning and afternoon sermon of an hour each, separated by readings and prayers. It is understandable if the Marquis and his party liked somewhere to which they could retire to fortify themselves.

Such was the church of which the Rev. James Craigie and his parishioners took possession on September 24th, 1710. One might have expected some ceremony or service of thanksgiving, but the event passes almost unnoticed in the Session records.

September 17th. Preached on 2 Peter i.5. which was the last sermon in the old church.

September 24th. Preached in the new church on 2 Peter i.5. Sederunt after sermon. No scandal reported, ordered supply to the poor, begun and closed with prayer.

It seems appropriate at this point to describe the graveyard as it was then. It was surrounded by a stone wall about five foot high. At the entrance was a stone arch, referred to as the porch, with a wooden door on which notices were displayed. The graveyard was considerably smaller than it is now, the perimeter being a circle such as would be described using the rear door of the church as the centre and, as radius, the distance from there to the Duns Road. Inside the wall was a ring of beech trees which grew to become a distinctive and, in summer at any rate, a somewhat overpowering feature. They were felled in 1964-6 when they became unsafe. There were no paths in the churchyard except from the porch to the church entrances, of which the rear door could only be approached round the south side along the path which also serves the Laird's loft. Little was done about levelling or draining the site.

The records of the first half of the 18th century after the completion of the church are slim and patchy. The session records are brief and the heritors' records non-existent. The lack of information is the less unfortunate as, for over a hundred years, there was very little change to the building, only decay. Outside, the trees grew in size and the gravestones in number.

There were really only two people at any one time who were likely to initiate work on the church — the Marquis as patron and principal heritor, and the minister. Following the departure of James Craigie to become minister of Dunbar in November 1718, the next 100 years saw the installation of only two ministers, James Witherspoon in

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1720 and James Innes in 1760. They would be most active and influential in their early years. But, of course, in the early years of Witherspoon the church was practically new, so although the 4th Marquis was willing to spend freely on the estate and village, the church had no need of his generosity. When Innes moved into the manse in 1760, the heritors spent £60 on repairs and redecoration; there was some repair done on the church roof at the same time. Small repairs had been carried out in 1739/40 and 1750. This may have been in response to need or possibly a ten-year programme. The work in 1760 was more extensive than before because it combined routine maintenance with the specific requirements of the new minister. There is no mention in the records of any further expenditure on church or manse for 55 years.

The explanation of this almost disastrous neglect must be sought in the personalities of minister and patron. The 4th Marquis died in 1762 and his son succeeded at the age of 4, dying eight years later. His uncle, Lord George Hay of Newhall, acted for him during that time, and himself became the 6th Marquis in 1770. His primary concern was with saving and amassing money. A great deal had been spent by his brother on Yester House with first William Adam and then Robert and John employed on all sorts of alterations and improvements. So there was to be a period of retrenchment. The 7th Marquis inherited the title in 1787, by which time considerable reserves had been built up, added to which government schemes were available for improving entailed properties. Much work was done on the estate but the church was not included. In 1797, he and his wife went abroad, were interned by Napoleon and died of small-pox in 1804. The 8th Marquis was at that time embarking on a distinguished military career and did not return to take up residence at Yester till 1814. Even if James Innes had pressed for expenditure on the church before that, it is doubtful whether he would have been successful with the earlier Marquises. However, although he was certainly a popular minister, he was no great instrument of change. So although there may be understandable reasons why the attentions of successive Marquises were focussed elsewhere, the fact remains that the church and manse were falling into disrepair and for this only Innes and his patrons can be held responsible. In 1815, shortly after the return of the 8th Marquis from abroad, came the first alteration to the church. The 82-year-old minister was finding it difficult to see to read in the pulpit and the heritors agreed that the windows on either side of the pulpit should be 'enlarged'. This was effected by increasing the slope of the sides of the windows and thus widening the opening on the inside; there were also

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some minor repairs of an unspecified nature done at the same time. Two years later, Innes found that the light was still unsatisfactory and so the pulpit was pulled out from the wall a foot or so.

After another two years, the session, encouraged by the unaccustomed cooperation from the heritors, asked that a small building be added to the church porch (that is, the entrance to the churchyard) 'for watching at night to preserve the graves of the dead from violation'. Thoughts immediately turn to Burke and Hare but their activities did not begin until 1827. In fact, the trade in exhumed bodies for medical research had been under way since 1800 because of a sudden huge expansion in the medical faculty at Edinburgh University.

Innes at 86 was hardly able to continue and an assistant, Robert Court, was brought in and increasingly took over the work. Eventually the elders addressed a petition to the Marquis as patron, requesting him to arrange for Court to take over as minister *'because Innes was so old and ill that he could no longer cope.'* The petition was dated January 20th, 1820. Before any action could follow, James Innes died on February 3rd and a normal vacancy was created.

Innes' successor was Daniel Wilkie, minister of Stonehouse, near Lanark. He was ordained to the charge on December 8th, 1821 at the age of 41. He made no real mark at Yester in a pastoral sense, though it was he who successfully fought for proper attention to be paid to the state of the buildings. Soon after his arrival he wrote to the heritors complaining of the *'ruinous state of my manse and offices'* and requesting them to *'grant such respectable accommodation as you must see to be necessary in the circumstances of the case.'* The heritors immediately commissioned a report from William Lamb, a builder from East Linton, who concluded that *'it would be throwing away money to put any repairs on the manse.'* His advice was taken and he was asked to submit plans for a new manse. The result was the very handsome building presently known as Tweeddale House. It was built in the garden of the old manse and is proof that in those times a very impressive house could be built without the services of an architect. The mason-work was done by Archibald and John Logan and the joiner-work by William and James Lamb. The contracts were signed on September 26th, 1822 and by May 22nd of the following year (1823, not 1824 as often stated) the manse was ready for the minister and his family. The old manse was demolished.

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Attention was then turned to the church. As an earnest of his commitment, the 8th Marquis was ordained to the eldership. In 1825 the Session submitted a complaint to the heritors about the state of the church but for three years little was done beyond superficial repairs. Presumably, having made a substantial outlay on the manse, the heritors were reluctant to embark on further large expense so soon. Even when the elders renewed their complaint in August 1828 the response still fell far short of what was really required. An inspection of the roof and ceiling plaster showed that major work was necessary, but only temporary repair was undertaken to the plaster and the roof above the pulpit (the junction between the main roof and the tower). Water lying on the paved floor showed the need for drainage round the church, but it was realised that a drain round the church would have to go through the graves of those buried immediately next to the church wall, so it was decided to drain only from the north-west corner to the entrance to the Laird's loft — a part where there were no graves because there had been no path — at a cost not exceeding £5. Clearly this was a less than satisfactory solution.

Indeed the whole situation was so unsatisfactory that the minister looked elsewhere and on August 16th, 1829 preached his last sermon before leaving for New Greyfriars. This marks the low point in the church's history; the building was scarcely fit for use, morale in the session was low and the quest for the right minister to infuse new life had been unsuccessful. Fortunately, the Marquis and the other heritors were at last made to realise that an all-out rescue operation was required. On December 17th, 1829 a petition to the heritors signed by *'a very large proporion of the inhabitants of the parish'* complained of *'the ruinous and dangerous state of the church.'* The session clerk had backed this up by commissioning an inspection of the building by William Lamb (the builder of the manse) and John Swinton of Haddington *'in order to satisfy the parish and afford every information to the heritors.'* Before the end of the year the report was in the heritors' hands. The only comfort it contained was that the walls were in a safe state, though they had cracks in them up to an inch wide and the foundations needed to be drained. Almost everything else needed major work. A minute inspection of the roof was ordered from Alex. Instant, a local joiner. William Craise, another Gifford joiner, was instructed to demolish the steeple and submit estimates for rebuilding it or replacing it with a flat roof. A wooden floor to the whole church was to be laid, raised to allow for ventilation, with proper drainage paying *'no respect to the burial ground of any person'*. The interior was to be completely fitted out with seats

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and the end galleries stepped to provide tiered seating. The bulk of the work was given to William Lamb.

Six months later the work was inspected and such was the good effect that the heritors were encouraged to recommend further improvements. The two smaller windows in the front were added to afford more light under the galleries and the galleries themselves were smartened up with wall lining and doors added to the stairs. The outside of the church was now coated for the first time. The term harling was used but it seems to have been a heavy lime wash rather than rough-casting. There were also repairs to the roof which included the installation of gutters and fall-pipes, made possible by the new drainage. Fortunately, it was decided not to do away with the steeple though it had to be completely rebuilt. Its removal would have greatly altered the character of the building — one might almost say, of the village; that steeped tower has for so long been an integral part of everyone's picture of Gifford. It was at this time that the two reinforcing bars were riveted to repair the vane. All the work was completed before the end of 1830.

The most important innovation in the programme was the seating. It was this which really engaged the interest of the heritors and, as it were, gave them all a stake in the place. Thereafter the building was not only maintained, it was cherished. George Tait, the factor of Newhall, resident at Gifford Bank, was instructed to allocate the pews to the heritors and their tenants and dependants. (By this date it was incumbent upon the heritors to provide seating for two-thirds of the parish over 12 years old.) It was done by footage; of the total 842', 404' was apportioned to the Marquis, 158' to Newton Hall, 65' to Newhall and 15' to Skedsbush. This left a seat for the manse (20'), a seat for the elders (20'), a pew for the schoolmaster (9') and 150' free for those not attached to any heritor. It is from this plan that we learn of the heritors taking the front rows of the galleries. The exactness of the measurements given in feet and inches makes indisputable the conclusions drawn earlier about the significance of the panelling. The 'free' seats were under the Tweeddale gallery and projected forward towards the pulpit leaving only a T-shaped gangway connecting the three doors. The precentor's desk stood immediately in front of the pulpit. All this is shown clearly on a plan drawn very neatly in the heritors' minute book. (The plan bears the date January 1830, but this must be a mistake, common enough in January. The division was not proposed until October 1830, so the writer must have intended to write 1831). The pews were numbered from 1 to 72

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(the roundels can still be seen on the doors though the numbers are illegible) and a separate list made clear which numbers were allocated to each heritor. Pew 22, immediately beside the pulpit on the minister's right, is assigned to the Marquis but given no particular significance; it may have been for baptismal parties. Pew 23 is also given to the Marquis and looks like the place of penitents, though the practice of using such a pew had been discontinued. The area of unnumbered seats was used at Communion time for setting up the tables, so there must have been either free-standing benches or the special communion pews in which the bookboard folded down to form a table. The practice of taking communion in one's normal seat had been condemned at the General Assembly as recently as 1825.

The seating allocation was submitted for ratification to the sheriff substitute in Haddington presumably in order to impress on everyone that the responsibilities of the heritors had been met. To complete the repairs, the session clerk suggested that the windows needed attention and this was done along with repairs to the water-closets and well. The reference to these facilities was mentioned earlier; as was stated then, if they were inside the church, it can only have been in the base of the tower. There is no evidence of them there and no other reference to them.

During this period of restoration and renovation, it may well be that the church was closed for several months; this might explain why Robert Smith, appointed from Dreghorn to succeed Wilkie, stayed less than a year, being ordained on October 15th 1829 and transferring to Old Machar on September 23rd, 1830. David Horne was his successor and his stay was also very short — May 13th, 1831 to November 28th, 1833. Again no reason is given; work on the church was complete and everything would seem to have been auspicious. Whatever the explanation for his departure, it only emphasised the uncertainty of the situation and the lowness of morale. However, the new minister, John Thomson, presented on April 17th, 1834, made a considerable impression on his church and congregation. Many of the repairs and improvements made at this time stem from him and most of them consult the interests of the congregation.

But first, in 1837, came an alteration which was Lord Tweeddale's idea. When the new seating had been fitted, the flooring of the two galleries had been stepped to provide raked seating. This had had the effect of cutting out light from the end windows which prior to this date

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had been topped with semicircular arches like all the other windows. The Marquis had the idea of solving this problem by introducing the fashionable gothic pointed arch which would take the windows up to the ceiling. This involved an altered pattern of astragals in the window. Presumably the astragals in the two small windows in the back of the church which are of the same pattern were altered at the same time.

The minister's suggestions are mainly concerned with warmth and comfort. Covering the internal doors with cloth and adding springs to them *'will conduce to the comfort of the congregation'*. But there was no actual source of heat. A first move in that direction was made in December 1840 when Thomson recommended that the churchyard porch be slightly extended to include a fireplace *'for the comfort of elders standing at the plate'*. Clearly the porch acted as an offertory house for taking the retiring collection. A year later the minister was still relaying to the heritors the complaints of the congregation about the cold in the church and also expressing the need for a session house or vestry near the church. He put forward a plan for converting the ground floor of 'the steeplehouse' and making a connecting door next to the pulpit. At this time (1842) Lord Tweeddale had just left to take up the governorship of Madras and the vestry proposal was considered sufficiently important to require his approval. So Thomson was required to support his plan with a statement justifying the need.

This is reported at length in the heritors' minute-book:

'Mr Thomson stated that the want of a vestry had been long and deeply felt by the minister and session. The elder who collects at the plate is at present compelled to stand for nearly an hour in the porch where he is exposed to cold, winds and rain. And the plan proposed provides a place for the elder where he can stand comfortably to discharge his duty. Mr Thomson begged also to mention for himself that he felt a great inconvenience especially in winter that he had no vestry to go to near the church. There is no interval so that he is often about three hours in the pulpit at a time and would feel it a great relief if he could go to the vestry between sermons for a draught of water. At the sacraments also he stated that the inconvenience was much felt. At present when the clergymen exchange the gown they are obliged to go to the back of the door and do this in the open air. Then at baptisms he felt it a great inconvenience that the mothers with their infants had no room adjoining the church to go to. The whole would cost £17.'

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So the vestry was created in the base of the tower and a doorway cut through beside the pulpit. Because it was not part of the original design, access had to be by a steep and rather awkward stair to the level of the top of the steps up to the pulpit inside the church. Access on the other side of the pulpit, which would have been level, was impossible because of the spiral steps in that corner of the tower. All the same, the resulting plan seems so natural that it is difficult to understand why it had not been thought of originally. Possibly when the first manse was built it was sufficiently close to the church for a vestry to be considered unnecessary. Presumably, after the creation of the vestry, whatever in the way of graveyard equipment had been stored in the groundfloor room was removed to the first floor.

In October 1842, Thomson wished to start evening services. There had never been such services before and, without lighting, they could not be held except in summer. He asked permission to light the church with oil-lamps. Brackets were fitted on either side of the pulpit and other lamps were hung below each of the galleries. It was exactly at this time that oil-lamps were introduced by the Feuars of Gifford to light the village streets and it is no coincidence that James Porteous, then the only elder in the absence of the Marquis, was a manager of the Feuars.

In May of the following year John Thomson along with 450 other ministers 'came out' to form the Free Church, and Yester lost a man who was progressive in his ideas and possessed of great energy. But much had been accomplished in 11 years and it is not surprising that his less dynamic successor found little need for improvement or alteration.

Samuel Kerr entered on the charge in December 1843. He was the last minister to be presented by the Marquis as patron. During his thirty-five years the building was scarcely changed at all. In his first year, he had the interior of the church decorated; the ceiling was whitewashed and the walls sized and painted a stone colour. That implies that the walls were still not plastered and this is borne out by the painting scheme when the interior was redecorated in questionable taste in 1863. The walls were size-painted in three different shades of stone-colour and stencilled, *'the stones not being shown larger than at present and separated by white lines'*!

In November 1847 the first rudimentary attempts were made at heating the building when a stove was installed in the north-east corner

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underneath the Laird's loft. It was a pretty unsatisfactory site as far as heating the whole church was concerned but it was the only place where it was possible to make use of the existing chimney. It was never a success, but for a while anything was felt to be an improvement.

The 8th Marquis died, aged 89, in 1876 after a close association with the church lasting 62 years. Those years had seen not only the rescue of the church from ruin, but the building of a new manse and enormous improvements to the school and schoolmaster's house. Within two years Samuel Kerr and the 9th Marquis were also dead. The Rev. James Niblock from Port Glasgow was ordained on July 25th, 1878. (In a list of ministers he is usually referred to as Niblock-Stuart, but it was only in January 1883 that he took the second name.) The 10th Marquis was really the last of the traditional heritors, but he also made two great improvements without asking his fellow heritors to share the cost. The use of the organ during the service had been recognised by the General Assembly of 1870 with the publication of the Scottish Hymnary and now the Marquis offered a harmonium. The offer was accepted and the instrument was installed in January 1880. Because no such instrument had been envisaged in 1708, the design of the church contains no obvious place for it and no solution has so far proved ideal. To start with it was positioned next to the pulpit below where the bracket font now is. (At that time there was no bracket font and the floor was still level on that side). It stood on a low platform which extended in front of the pulpit to provide an area for the choir to sit.

At the same time the Marquis turned his attention to improving the churchyard. The wall was greatly reduced in height where it runs along beside the road, and iron railings were erected along it, giving a much more open and welcoming aspect. The porch and watch building, which had reverted to being an offertory building, were removed and replaced with the present pillars and iron gates. A plan of the graveyard was also commissioned and is now in the possession of the registrar in Haddington. Many gravestones were already illegible so the plan is by no means complete but it incorporated a system of measurement designed to record accurately the position of each grave. At the corners of the church, hooks are set into the wall just above ground level and from two of these, measurements by chain were recorded. It was intended that future burials should be mapped on the plan by the heritor's clerk. Unfortunately the practice lapsed. The path round the church was completed from the north to the east doors and the drainage was improved.

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All this was the personal project of the Marquis rather than a scheme of the heritors as a body. It came at a time when the old order was changing. The idea that the congregation could pay for its own improvements must show the influence of the Free Church. Only the year before, the new Free Church building had been opened in the Duns Road, entirely funded from voluntary subscription. From this time a variety of schemes were seen to be desirable and feasible which previously, because of the need to win the approval and backing of the heritors, might never have been suggested. Now the congregation raised £40 by subscription to clean and decorate the inside of the church. Included in this operation was a proposal to add a false door on the wall next to the pulpit to balance the vestry door and to have inscribed or painted on both the Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed or Ten Commandments. (If this was ever done, it was fairly soon removed in favour of the present panelling.) As part of this refurbishment of the church came the abolition of the table-seats under the Laird's loft, which were replaced by pews in 1883; these pews were still the 'free' seats and are distinguished from the 'heritors' pews by having no doors. The making of communion seated in one's own pew had now been accepted but even in 1883 may have felt rather *avant garde*.

In 1886, Niblock-Stuart left for St. James', Dulwich. He was succeeded by the Rev. Peter Hay Hunter. The new minister only held office for ten years but the changes he brought about both to the interior of the church and to the churchyard were comparable in scale to the work done in 1831. To achieve what he wanted he approached not only the heritors but also his congregation and among his elders he had a builder. In 1889 he wrote to the heritors about the need for improved heating in the church. Several members, he said, were staying away as a result of the cold. The stove which had provided an inadequate source of heat was now beyond repair and should be replaced by a boiler and system of hot-water pipes. The heritors offered £15 towards the projected cost of £45, provided that there was no further responsibility for maintenance. A furnace and boiler replaced the stove in the north-east corner of the Tweeddale Aisle and a boiler-room was partitioned off from the rest of the church. Access was created so that the furnace could be stoked from outside. This was to lead to problems with regular flooding in wet weather. Several times, between 1891 and 1916, the Church Officer had to be paid for baling out water from the stokehole. In order for the pipes to cross the church it was necessary to extend the 'choir platform' to the width of the church. At the same time, the matching

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wall-panelling on either side of the pulpit was added (a far superior way of disguising the vestry door) and some repairs done to the pulpit itself. There is no record of whose work the panelling is but it is craftsmanship of a high order.

Outside access had also been arranged for the grave-digger to the first floor of the tower as somewhere to keep his tools. The spiral stair in the vestry was demolished and that corner walled off. An external door was created, with a semicircular arch to match the other arches in the tower, to give access to the tower by means of a ladder in place of the stair. The bell-rope was brought across to hang down beside the ladder. So the bell could be rung without entering the vestry and the sexton could reach his tools and equipment by means of the ladder. The total cost of all this work was over £56, of which, as has been said, the heritors contributed £15, the rest being found from donations and collections.

In the following year (1891), the graveyard was levelled and improved and extended by a band 31 foot wide running from the Duns Road to the Haddington Road, the land being provided by the Marquis. The site of the old wall was made into a path and a new access from the Duns Road was formed, with a path also connecting to the rear door of the church. A tool house (more convenient than the room accessible only by ladder in the tower) was built on the new strip, a square building with a hipped roof, often mistaken for a morthouse. Money for this was raised by holding a bazaar and future maintenance costs were to be assisted by a charge of one guinea for burials and a levy of 5/- for erecting a tombstone, the design of which had to be submitted for the minister's approval.

This was a time when the Church was considerably influenced by Anglicanism and Hay Hunter was of that 'High Church' persuasion. It was his change of emphasis from the pulpit to the table as the centre for activity and attention that made the greatest change in the atmosphere of the services and the layout of the church. The Marquis must have been in sympathy with these moves, since in 1893 he allied himself with them by asking to be ordained elder.

In 1895, six pews (three on each side of the gangway) which projected in front of the line of the Tweeddale gallery opposite the pulpit were removed to make space to bring the harmonium and choir away

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from the pulpit and allow room for a table. In order that the amount of seating should not be reduced, the elders' seat (to the north of the pulpit) was divided into two pews and an extra pew added at the back under the Laird's loft. The area between the choir and the pulpit was raised six inches and widened by taking in part of the manse seat (to the south of the pulpit). This made a platform sufficiently deep and wide to accommodate the new table. The platform was surrounded by a carved wooden rail with gaps for access opposite the two side gangways and a gate in the front. In the 1970s the gate was removed and the rail cut back on either side to widen the access in the front. Until then, it looked even more like an Anglican communion rail than it does now. As with the panelling, there is, unfortunately, no record of who made the table or the rail. The table is in fact a massive oak chest which subsequently (1962) had sliding doors fitted at the back, enclosing its large storage space, designed presumably to hold the communion paraphernalia. The carving on it nicely picks up the design of the panels on the pulpit without exactly copying. The significance of the carving of the rail is not clear. The two longer panels at the sides have a book in the centre with two cherubs and two birds among ornamental foliage. The smaller panels at the corners have, more understandably, chalices as their centre-pieces. It is possible that the rail was brought from elsewhere and not designed for Yester. The adjustments which had to be made to the surrounding pews to accommodate the platform and rail are, in places, still obvious. It is clear, for example, that in some cases what had been pew-doors with numbered roundels on them have been used as pew ends. Behind the table were set three chairs, donated by the Marquis, for the minister and elders.

In addition, the space beside the pulpit on the side away from the vestry door was raised with steps to match the other side with the intention of providing a place for baptisms, though this predates the bracket font on that side of the pulpit. There is no information about where baptisms had been held prior to this. It would seem that it must have been either in the pulpit or by the pulpit steps.

While all these alterations were being made, the walls and ceiling were repainted. Apart from the work on the pews which were seen as still peculiarly the province of the heritors, everything else was carried out at the session's expense at a cost of over £80. This underlines what a revolution had taken place in the finances of the church, now that the congregation felt free — or bound — to give.

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Hardly was the work completed when Hay Hunter accepted a call to St. Andrew's, Edinburgh and in August, 1896, the Rev. John Muir was ordained to the charge.

In 1903, the Marquis' daughter, Lady Clementine, and her husband, Walter Waring, brought their daughter to be baptised in the church. The following year they gave a silver basin with the inscription: 'A gift to Yester Kirk from the parents of Clematis Elizabeth Denys Waring in commemoration of her baptism August 27th, 1904'. With it went a wrought-iron bracket, bearing the words 'For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven'. This is fixed to the pulpit and was intended for use by the minister either standing in the pulpit or on the platform at the top of the steps. Both places were found inconvenient and unsafe, so the bracket was rarely used and the basin was placed on the table when needed. On Armistice Day, 1948, an oak font was dedicated as a memorial to those who died in World War II; it was designed to hold the silver basin.

John Muir died in 1920 and was followed by the Rev. John Cumming. He came at a difficult time in the history of the Church. The involvement and financial responsibility of the heritors had been declining for many years and in 1928 all properties were handed over to the Church Trustees. Fortunately, by then the congregation was well used to being asked for contributions and a branch of the Churchwoman's Guild had been founded in 1913 with one of its main purposes being fund-raising. It was at this time that the responsibility for the churchyard passed to the local authority and it was further extended with a strip 15 foot wide. Another entrance was made from the Duns Road.

In 1929 the session tackled its first major expenditure without the assistance of heritors. This was the introduction of electricity. It was done by J. Cunninghame of Haddington and cost £125. The Woman's Guild raised the money and, more importantly, the idea of a standing Fabric Fund was born to which something was transferred every year from the General Account and to which the Guild contributed annually. This soon proved its usefulness. In 1935 it was decided to rough-cast or harl the outside of the church. There had been reference to harling in the 19th century but it would appear that this had been little more than a heavy lime wash; certainly the colour had been white, as is clear from a photograph of 1925, showing the south gable and much of the Tweeddale Aisle covered with creeper. That creeper was now removed. The outside of the church remained grey until 1970.

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The forethought which had suggested the setting up of the Fabric Fund enabled the routine maintenance of the building to be continued, but these were times of financial difficulties and they were followed by times of shortage brought on by World War II. Like many other places, the churchyard lost its iron railings for the manufacture of armament. In the years after the war, the generosity of parishioners provided furnishing for the chancel. The memorial font, supplied by Scott, Morton of Edinburgh and dedicated in 1948, has already been mentioned. The lectern was bought in 1954 thanks to a bequest of £30 'to beautify the church'. To honour the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the church, a gift was made of two chairs to add to the three behind the table. These two additional chairs are identifiable by the mitres carved in the headrail.

Soon after this anniversary, John Cumming retired and was followed by the Rev. George D. Monro. On his arrival he had to deal with another bequest — £50 to provide individual communion cups. The benefactress had not consulted anyone about whether there was any wish for these, and consultation showed that the congregation was divided. So clips were fitted to half the pews (those on the right of the gangway to anyone facing the pulpit). The other pews are still served by the old 'common' cups.

Another change, one which had a significant effect on the outside appearance of the church and for which no-one can really claim credit, was the removal in the years 1964 to 1966 of the old trees which for 250 years had encircled the church. In 1964, on a Sunday morning, one of them fell across the path by the south gable and it became clear that, for reasons of safety, they would all have to be felled. They had been an impressive sight ringing the church yard, but perhaps also rather oppressive. The flowering cherries that were chosen to replace them offer a view which is much more light and open, but which lacks some of its former character. With the old trees were removed several fallen and broken gravestones whose inscriptions had long since become illegible.

At the same time, a full scale programme of redecoration and refurbishment of the interior was undertaken under the direction of Ian Arnott, the recently appointed church architect. The white walls and grey woodwork date from this time. The pews were stripped of their dark varnish, revealing their natural light colouring. Pews in the north gallery were found to be infested with woodworm, and were eventually all removed (1973). Work on the interior was shortly followed (1970) by the

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redcoration of the exterior, when the doors were painted blue and the walls returned to white.

In the late seventies it was felt that the upkeep of the manse, because of its age and size and its extensive gardens and outbuildings, had become too costly. So it was sold and a smaller modern property in Tweeddale Avenue was bought. Some of the surplus money was used to partition off more of the area under the Laird's loft and provide washing facilities, a lavatory and a storeroom. It was decided that the remainder of the money should be invested as part of the Fabric Fund for use solely for the maintenance and improvement of the building. This should ensure that the near disaster of the early 19th century is never repeated.

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Records of the Kirk Session of Yester SRO CH2/377
Tweeddale Papers in the National Library of Scotland
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COCKENZIE AND PORT SETON FROM VILLAGE TO BURGH 1860-1914

By JIMMY HOGG

I made a most careful inspection of Cockenzie and I can hardly conceive it possible to find in the kingdom a more neglected and dirty village.¹

Mr Falconer Stewart's criticism of the sanitary standards he found in 1883 was thankfully already being acted upon as Cockenzie and Port



Plate 1. Fish sale at Port Seton harbour.

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Seton dragged itself up from the status of unkempt village to that of self-governing fishing burgh in the second half of the nineteenth century. The impetus for this change came from a combination of factors whose roots lay in the 1860s and 1870s.

The major development, and one which shaped all others, was an unprecedented upswing in population. This came in two bursts. Between 1861 and 1881 population rose from 989 to 1,612, an increase of 63%; between 1901 and 1921 it grew from 1,687 to 2,838, an increase of 68%. In simpler terms, between 1861 and 1921, whilst the population of Scotland grew by one half, and East Lothian by one third, that of the village nearly trebled!²

The most obvious result of this explosion was felt in the fishing industry. In 1855 there were 94 fishermen and boys plus 76 ancillary workers servicing some 41 sail boats, 20 of which were of 30 feet or more in length.³ By 1882 there were 349 men sailing a fleet of 93 vessels. These figures rose inexorably so that by 1913 an incredible 655 fishermen were working 111 boats, 62 of which were 45 feet or more in length, with motors having been installed in many vessels, both large and small. The growth was fuelled by the boom in the herring fishery. From the 1850s until just before the First World War, except for a major slump between 1884 and 1893, steadily rising prices and a thriving export trade in cured fish to central and eastern Europe brought real prosperity to many fishermen. The down side was that evolving fishing methods and larger boats, by the end of the nineteenth century, had led to the disappearance of several small communities up the east coast of Scotland. Port Seton survived, aided by its new harbour of 1880, as did Eyemouth, Newhaven, and Fife ports such as Pittenweem and Anstruther.⁴ Port Seton harbour, built through the fishermen's own efforts and the generosity of the Earl of Wemyss, needed several improvements over the next 40 years, but proved a blessing as boats increased in number and size.⁵

As the fishing community blossomed, so it required more houses. Before the 1860s very few fishermen owned their own homes, or property generally. They lived in small cottages built in the vicinity of Cockenzie harbour and the Boat Shore, the main street of Cockenzie village, and the still insignificant Port Seton. In 1864 a small housing development started which included a Co-operative store and would eventually be called New Street. Then, between 1870 and 1877, a model

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village to the south of Cockenzie harbour and consisting of 57 houses in four streets was constructed thanks to the energy of Robert Ovens, the young schoolmaster, and the financial support of the East Lothian Property Investment Company. It was named after the recently deceased Free Church minister the Reverend Archibald Lorimer.⁶ In the 1880s the Earl of Wemyss encouraged the building of Wemyss Place and Elcho Place, two long rows of houses with shops at both ends intended to form the northern side of a rectangle even more ambitious in scope than Lorimer Place.⁷ In the event a southern section called Gosford Road was completed by a local builder in the early 1900s. These and smaller schemes such as Hawthorn Terrace (1884-95) were in the main owned by fishermen, giving them a strong stake in their burgeoning village. In 1914 the above mentioned 9 streets consisting of 149 houses exhibited some 70% ownership by fishing families. Thus an 'aristocracy' of fishermen had been created. The more prosperous might own more than one property, and let out houses to other villagers, even fellow fishers.



Plate 2. A procession, probably the fishermen's walk associated with the Box Meeting, leaves Cockenzie harbour. Every September this was the main weekend in the fishing community's calendar, when the annual business of the Friendly Society of Fishermen was completed amidst scenes of great celebration. The group of buildings includes the old smithy.

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Plate 3. A group of fishermen and fishwives on the middle pier of Port Seton harbour. Note the heavy boots and clothes worn by the men, dead weights if a man went overboard.



Plate 4. Three fishwives and an older fisherman work on the middle pier at Port Seton harbour. In the background can be seen Elcho Place (built 1885-86) and Port Seton House.

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Two other trends characterized the housing stock. Firstly, most people still had to make do with older, rented accommodation. But from the 1890s onwards landlords started improving, extending, or building afresh; although not a few houses remained to be condemned by the burgh council in years to come. This impulse occasioned the almost total rebuilding of Port Seton for instance. Secondly, from the late 1860s an increasing number of villas sprang up, evidence of a growing, moneyed, class of craftsmen, shopkeepers and businessmen. These skirted the village, in more salubrious locations either side of the Edinburgh road, and proved prime targets for summer visitors.

Another reflection of the expanding village was an increase in the number of religious establishments. The first church was built in 1838 but the Disruption led to its takeover by the Free Church whose congregation built their own one in 1854 in what later became known as School Lane. The second half of the century witnessed a series of religious revivals, the first reaching Scotland in 1859 and 1860 from Ireland. This spread throughout the whole of the country but was particularly well received among fisherfolk and the fervour induced led directly to the building of the Mission Hall in 1864. D. L. Moody and Ira D. Sankey's visit to Britain in 1873 encouraged the process further and sects such as the Plymouth and Open Brethren made converts in the area.⁸ Over the next thirty years four new buildings appeared; a Primitive Methodist chapel in 1878, the Fishermen's Bethel in 1889 (the Mission Hall being already too small), the Wemyss Hall for the Plymouth Brethren in 1895, and a brand new United Free Church in 1905. In addition the parish church returned to quoad sacra status in 1885, the Open Brethren met in premises in Gardener's Close, and both the Close Brethren and the Salvation Army were renting the Mission Hall by 1913, as the Scottish Coast Mission had done before them.⁹

This proliferation of religious premises was not mirrored in the sphere of education. A new Free Church school had been built in 1865 to replace the overcrowded subscription school down by Cockenzie harbour. Taken over by Tranent School Board in 1873 after state education was introduced into Scotland, the attractive little building, which from the outset had catered for some 110 pupils, was extended four times and converted eventually into a two storey square block. In 1890 there were approximately 400 pupils on its roll. Fifty years after it opened it was catering for around 600.¹⁰

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Plate 5. The Earl of Wemyss unveils a new beacon at Port Seton harbour on 12 February, 1921. It was erected as a memorial to Colonel Thomas Cadell, V.C., C.B. (1835-1919), hero of the Indian Mutiny and Provost, 1897-1906.

These changes took place as the village gradually extended control over its own affairs. In the early 1870s it had become a Special Water Supply District and a Special Drainage District. The logical conclusion to this activity was reached in 1885 when it was formed into a police burgh under the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act 1862 (the Lindsay Act). Commissioners (councillors from 1900), as well as overseeing sanitation, lighting and water supply, could also regulate street construction and house building, encourage and monitor alterations in the small burgh. Commissioners were middle class; shopkeepers, managers, businessmen. Although three fishermen were on the first council, their lifestyle, including long absences from home, precluded their effectiveness. The electorate was basically male. Women could run families or businesses and be the backbone of the fishing community, but they could not vote unless they were householders, and few were. Neither could they become councillors until 1907, but none did during this period. There was a certain paternalism to start with as the first two Chief Magistrates (Provosts from 1893) were members of the Cadell family, the local landowners. Indeed General Sir Robert Cadell was in the habit of spending the winter months in balmy climes so that until his death in

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1897 the burgh would find itself without a Provost between December and May each year! The General was succeeded by his brother Colonel Thomas Cadell, V.C., C.B., and it was not until 1906 that the first local businessman broke the spell. By this time the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act 1892 and the Public Health (Scotland) Act 1897 had extended the council's powers. In the first decade of the new century, as well as controlling the rash of building which took place, it also inaugurated a programme of street paving and, in combination with Prestonpans, introduced a new water supply from Lammerloch reservoir south of Gifford, in the Lammermuirs. Incredibly, the complete naming of streets and numbering of houses was not undertaken until 1907, and roads were still being macadamized in 1913.

The burgh council could only do so much however. The character of the village was set by its geographical position on the Firth of Forth and its main economic activity of fishing. Fishing was seasonal. It could be carried out readily from the home port or involved temporary migration to distant herring grounds.¹¹ Herring was the key to prosperity but white fish and shellfish were still important, especially for the smaller boats or yawls. Underlying everything was the fickleness of the rewards, from season to season, year to year, boat to boat. Not all prospered: many continued to experience difficulties, if not downright poverty. Indeed several groups of men emigrated in 1888 during one of the periodic slumps.¹² The situation was not helped by the advent of trawling, a type of fishing which the local men anathematized. And there was always the great danger to life which participation in such a hazardous occupation entailed.¹³

The prosperity the herring fishing brought to Cockenzie and Port Seton, as with other east coast communities, would end with the First World War, the Russian Revolution and a collapse in east European demand. But ancillary activities, encouraged by the good years, in many cases survived. Though employing few people in statistical terms, businesses such as salting, sail making, fish selling, boat building and oilskin manufacture pointed towards a confident community. The boatbuilding yard at Cockenzie harbour became well established firstly under Adam Donaldson and then James Reekie. William Weatherhead from Eyemouth took it over in 1899 and flourished there. From small beginnings Daniel Buchanan, a Prestonpans born grocer, built up an oilskin manufactory which still exists today as Lothian Coated Fabrics of Prestonpans. Moreover, although only a handful of shops existed in 1860, there were over 40 small businesses serving the burgh as war broke out. Tranent Co-operative Society, which

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took over the Cockenzie society's affairs in 1877, led the way, building three new premises between 1896 and 1910.

If the 'silver darlings' brought the best financial reward, the inshore line fishing fed the tourist trade. Most locally landed fish was sent to Newhaven but some was held back for local retailers and the ever popular fish sales at the Boat Shore and Port Seton harbour, where fishwives entertained as they sold to holidaymakers. The village had been a destination for visitors since at least the 1860s. It offered summer lets for city dwellers wishing tranquillity and seaside amusements such as bathing and boating. The railway station at Prestonpans was not convenient so a great boon to the village was the arrival of the tramway from Levenhall in 1909, encouraging daytrippers.¹⁴ The tramway company, conscious of its profits, was behind the opening of an 18 hole golf course at Port Seton three years later.¹⁵

This replaced the small course between Cockenzie and Prestonpans swept away by the reopening of Prestonlinks Colliery in 1903. The return of mining to the area led directly to the construction of Crown Square



Plate 5. A fish sale at the Boat Shore, the natural and earliest haven in the area. Such sales were extremely popular with visitors. Behind the group is Rock Terrace, demolished in the 1930s.

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Plate 6. Holidaymakers enjoying the sea in the vicinity of Cockenzie and Port Seton. Many villages on both sides of the Firth of Forth could boast similar scenes.

and Crown Terrace, a scheme of miners' cottages which, although situated outside the boundary of the village, was in reality a part of it. After the war, when fishing went into decline, many fishermen, temporarily or permanently, turned towards mining for their livelihood.¹⁶

Between 1860 and 1914 the conjoined village of Cockenzie and Port Seton made the transition from village to independent burgh. A dramatic rise in population, the result of a reduced death rate, and a buoyant fertility rate common to many fishing and mining communities in the second half of the nineteenth century, was the spur to this change.¹⁷ This in turn led to more and better housing, improved services and a greater variety of facilities for the residents. It would be easy to characterize the fishing community as God fearing, hardworking and prosperous by the turn of the century, but not everyone attended the many religious meetings and shared in the undoubted wealth. Even before 1914 the fishing boom was ending and an influx of miners was subtly altering the sociological mix of the burgh. After the war economic depression, the decline of the fishing industry and chronic unemployment would become major problems. Yet, almost paradoxically, the existing bounds of the traditional burgh would

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have to be breached if progress was to be continued. There was no alternative to further expansion and development.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographs which illustrate this article come from a set of 31 glass slides loaned by Mr George Montgomery of Musselburgh to East Lothian District Libraries for copying. The copies now form part of the District Libraries' ever growing local history archive. Although no details accompanied the originals they seem to date from the period of about 1890 to 1920 and, with one exception, show scenes in the vicinity of Cockenzie and Port Seton. The quality varies, and some have an amateurish feel to them in composition. Like snapshots they depict people, usually in groups, and very few buildings are shown except as distant backgrounds. It has also proved almost impossible to identify any of the individuals portrayed, or even the object of some activities.

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Thanks are therefore due to the staffs of the Scottish Record Office, East Lothian District Libraries, and the East Lothian Courier.

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2. The figures for 1911 and 1921 are underestimates. The residents of Crown Square and Crown Terrace were essentially villagers even although they lived just outside the burgh boundary. See reference 16.
3. Peter F. Anson, *Fishing boats and fisher folk on the east coast of Scotland* (London, 1930), p. 268.
4. Malcolm Gray, *The fishing industries of Scotland, 1790-1914: a study in regional adaptation* (Oxford, 1978).
5. N. M. Hunter, *The 24th September 1880: a 'red letter day' in the annals of Cockenzie and Port Seton* (Cockenzie, 1880).
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7. *HC*, 1 October 1880.
8. W. J. Couper, *Scottish revivals* (Dundee, 1918).
9. Mission Hall and Fishermen's Bethel, *Record of meetings held by the Trustees, December 28th, 1888 - November 19th, 1975*.
10. The figure for 1866 is obtained from *Preliminary Statement, Cockenzie School*, 10 January 1866 (SRO ED 18/1 1109). The estimate of 600 is based on an actual number given for 1920 of 650 in Haddingtonshire Education Authority, *Minute book*, 1919-1920 (SRO CO 7/5 1/1).
11. The fleet followed the herring shoals around the coast of the British Isles in a clockwise direction, returning to their home ports between 'seasons'. For example, in the early 1890s, local boats might be at Kinsale in southern Ireland or Stornoway for May and June, Caithness, Peterhead or Berwick from July to September; Yarmouth and Lowestoft in October and November.
12. *HC*, 2 March - 22 June 1888.
13. Although many fatalities and injuries occurred throughout the period, three 'disasters' stand out. On 15 March 1861 a boat and 5 men were lost at the mouth of Cockenzie harbour. *The Brothers* was lost off Yarmouth with a loss of 8 men, including four members of the Hunnam family on the 7 November 1890. Two years later, on 14 October, the *James and Robert* went down with its crew of 5 in the Firth of Forth.
14. *Edinburgh Evening News*, 5 August 1909.
15. *HC*, 28 October 1910, 17 May & 12 July 1912.
16. In 1914 Crown Terrace consisted of 12 houses inhabited by managerial staff and skilled workers. Crown Square's 53 houses were basically tenanted by miners. 90 miners are listed as householders in Cockenzie and Port Seton itself in 1914. The figure is only 23 for 1907. The figures obviously underestimate numbers as they do not include sons and lodgers.
17. M. Anderson and D. J. Morse, 'The People' in W. Hamish Fraser and R. J. Morris (eds), *People and society in Scotland: II, 1830-1914* (Edinburgh, 1990), p. 40.

THE ATHELSTANEFORD CASE

by ROSALIND MITCHISON

John Jenkison became minister of Athelstaneford in 1701 and held the position till his death. He married twice and had eleven children. The case against him can be found in the register of the presbytery of Haddington for 1726-1730. The parish's kirk session register has not survived. This sort of gap in material is common when there has been a dispute. There is also some material in the papers of the commission of the General Assembly for 1727 (SRO CH1/2/55 ff414 on).

The case came to the presbytery in the form of a complaint by six elders. They claimed that when Jenkison first came to the Parish he was asked to accept a loan of £4.10 shillings sterling from the Poor Box — in other words the elders wanted to use the reserve funds profitably. There was no certainty that the loan had ever been repaid. An allegation was made that Jenkison had put a paper in the Box acknowledging the debt and had subsequently been seen removing a paper from the Box which he claimed was merely the discharge of a bursary not taken up. A second charge concerned the disposal in 1710 of 37 pounds 17 shillings Scots of foreign money, mostly Dutch, belonging to the parish, which he had handed to an Edinburgh merchant to change at a discount of 5%. The merchant had promptly gone bankrupt and had had to take refuge in Holyrood Abbey, so the money was lost. The third complaint was that the Box, kept by Jenkison, had been found broken into and that the discovery had led Jenkison to accuse an elder, one of the two who had keys to the Box, of theft. The final complaint was the most serious. The minutes of session meetings were recorded on slips of paper and, using these, the minister would dictate to the session clerk what was to be entered in the register. The clerk claimed that he later found that figures which he had written had subsequently been altered, lowering the

THE ATHELSTANEFORD CASE

Charge Part of the accounts and raising the discharge, and that only the minister had had access to the book. Jenkison had said that he merely rewrote some figures to make them clearer.

The clerk informed some or all of the elders of his concern and they brought their complaint to the presbytery, which set up a committee to look into the matter. The committee complained that from 1701-5 accounts had been kept 'without any Care or Exactness'. No trace of a return of the loan was found, and in his statements Jenkison had given the wrong name of an elder as the Treasurer to whom he claimed that the money had been handed. Going over the whole period of 1701-23, adding up receipts and expenditure the Committee decided that there was 112 pounds, 17 shillings and fourpence Scots missing.

In January 1727 the presbytery rebuked Jenkison for 'several things very culpable' in not having balanced the accounts for twenty four years. But as it appeared that there were faults of 'a much higher nature' the case was passed up to the Synod.

The Synod's view was that the facts alleged were 'very heinous' and would merit 'the highest Censure' if proved, but did not consider them proved. At this response six elders resigned office. The elders who were treasurers 'Absolutely refused to meddle any more with the Poor's Box' and would not keep the keys. This created a problem for the working of the poor relief system in the parish. The presbytery committee had to organise collections and distributions. This meant a great deal of work for members of neighbouring kirk sessions. The case got to the Commission of the General Assembly in August 1727 and this body followed the Synod's line in refusing to convict. The ex-elders refused to accept these verdicts, but would not further explain their reasons. At this point twenty six heads of households in the parish submitted a protest to the Synod. This stated that 'the Reverend Synod cannot expect that his (Jenkison's) parochiners can reseave any great benefit or advantage from his Ministrie . . . and far less that we can allow him to administer to us the Sacraments'. Here they failed to recognise that the validity of sacraments from sinful priests had been established in the eleventh century. The Synod told them to 'remove Uncharitable suspicions . . . and live together in Cordial affection'. There is no sign of compliance. Jenkison was excused by the presbytery from holding communion, but that was not enough for the householders and elders.

THE ATHELSTANEFORD CASE

Jenkison died in February 1730, and this enabled the dispute to be ended. Five at least of the six elders resumed office and the management of the parish's finances was taken over by them.

Embezzlement of the parish Poor fund was very rare, and regarded as extremely heinous. There are only a handful of cases revealed in the records of eighteenth century parishes, and this one is the only one that I know of where a minister was accused.

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES: some researches into past and present names

by *DAVID SYDESERFF*

In 1992 and 1993 interviews were conducted with several farmers to find out how field names came to be established, how they could become corrupted or forgotten and to what extent they can be maintained over a long period of time. The survey incidentally also throws light on the extent to which field boundaries have remained constant and the degree of amalgamation which has taken place. Note on the maps: These are based on Ordnance Survey maps (reproduced with permission) schematised to make the field naming clear. Much of the normal information has been omitted. Except for the maps of Halls and Stoneypath, they have been drawn from 1:10560 series, but reduced slightly in scale for printing. The farms of Stoneypath and Halls, being larger in area, are based on 1:25000 originals. Orientation of the maps varies to accommodate the shapes of the farms.

BIELGRANGE FARM

Interview with Elliot and Isabel Jeffrey, Grangelea, Bielgrange, Stenton, 9 May 1992.

The Jeffreys farm at Bielgrange and are related to other Jeffreys, at Deuchrie (a cousin who lives in Kelso), and at Halls. Mr Jeffrey was born at Ruchlaw Mains which his family either rented or owned, and moved to Bielgrange when he was aged about six years, c. mid 1930s; their home of Grangelea was built for the couple when they married (date not given). They have several maps of their farm dating from early to mid nineteenth century, the earliest one with the names of fields being dated 1860.

Most of the fields which are now merged were amalgamated in the 1947-60 period (besides those otherwise mentioned below). One old map

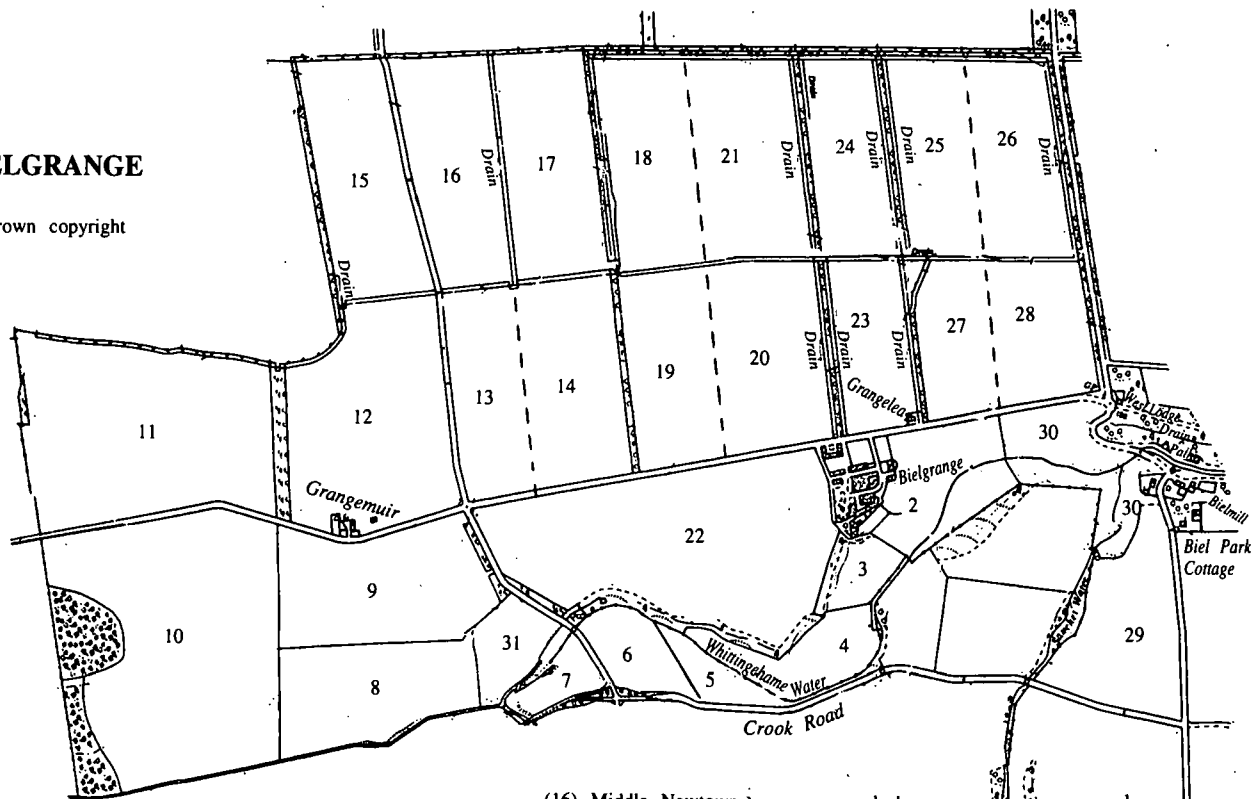
EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

belonging to the couple, dating early nineteenth century, shows part of the land on the south side of the Crook Road, described as "long narrow piece of haugh rented by Wm Arnot Stenton". Mr Jeffrey and his father knew the road by Ruchlaw House at Cairny Hill as the Back Hedges of Ruchlaw (the name of Back Braes of Ruchlaw is not familiar to him). The Jeffreys say that the name of Clawbare is still in use today for Ruchlaw West Mains by the locals of the area (but not by incomers). They know of Crook having been a hamlet, but cannot recall ever having seen buildings there.

They told the story of Spitemuir — also told by James Wylie of Ruchlaw Mains (who had not named the road). The Spitemuir ran from Ruchlaw Muir (viz Guildie) to Scraymoor. Balfour of Whittingehame in the early nineteenth century wanted to build a road exiting from Whittingehame House here, but Ruchlaw objected, saying that he planned to build a hamlet there — this was never done, and was probably said by Ruchlaw out of spite, hence the name (the two were of opposite political sides then). Another story was that the Lady of Biel, in the early nineteenth century, wanted to renovate the Kirk of Stenton and appealed to the other heritors for backing, but Ruchlaw (then being John Buchan Sydserrff of Ruchlaw) objected on the grounds that the planned layout for the seating favoured Biel more than his family, with the former's aisles being larger and grander and facing the altar. Ruchlaw felt that as his family had been in the area longer they should have these aisles, and refused to contribute to the renovation, so the Lady of Biel financed it all herself. These stories (apparently) are in correspondence held in Biel estate records.

BIELGRANGE

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

- (1) Ginglet Park
- (2) Bank Park
- (3) Bank Park (separate field than (2)) } merged 1980s, now known as Haugh
- (4) Haugh
- (5) Wester Mill Haugh } now known as Lint Mill
- (6) Lint Mill East
- (7) Lint Mill West
- (8) East Braes
- (9) South Grangemuir Park
- (10) South Temprigg Park
- (11) North Temprigg Park
- (12) North Grangemuir
- (13) Turnbull's Park } now merged, known as Prince Turnbull
- (14) Princes Park
- (15) West (or Wester) Newtown

- (16) Middle Newtown } now merged, known as East Newton
- (17) Easter Newtown
- (18) Back Park
- (19) Potato Park } merged 1980s, known as Horse Park
- (20) Horse Park
- (21) North Horse Park
- (22) Stackyard Park (formerly Barnyard Park)
- (23) Garden Park
- (24) North Garden Park
- (25) Cottar's Cleugh } merged 1980s, now known as Kerr's Park
- (26) Kerr's Park
- (27) Harrower's Park } merged 1980s, now known as Harrower's Park
- (28) Cowan's Park
- (29) Biel Mill Park
- (30) Pheasantry Wood
- (31) Lint Mill Woodland

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

CHAPEL FARM, DIRLETON

Interview with Mr Elder, farmer, Chapel, Dirleton. 4 July 1992.

Mr Elder took over the farm in 1954 from his uncle who had been there since 1949. This uncle built the current farm house c. 1949-50; previously, it had been a ruin. Most of the farm consists of old-style buildings and there are plaques marking 18th century historic buildings. One of these buildings Mr Elder suggested was the original farm house, similar in shape and construction to Sydserf house, with an outside stair-case to the first floor; it was apparently used as a POW "bothy" during World War Two, there being names graffitied on to the walls (in German). Also, there are two wells on the farm, both now dried up. On the western side of the farm there used to be workmen's bothies, now removed; hence the name of the field here, "Bothy Field" (No. 12).

Mr Elder has a map of the farm and its lands, dating from 1855 when it was part of the estate of the Marquis of Dalhousie; this map names the various fields (which names given below), and also notes the railway. The farm today covers the same lands as it had then.

Mr Elder has never heard of the names Arnotflatt or Chapelside. The name of Skateraw field (property of Highfield) was not familiar to him; there is a dyke separating the fields of Chapel and Highfield here.

A number of fields on Chapel now have no particular name, viz "Field Up The Road" (No. 3), "Field(s) Below the House" (Nos. 10 & 11), "Pylon Field" (No. 6).

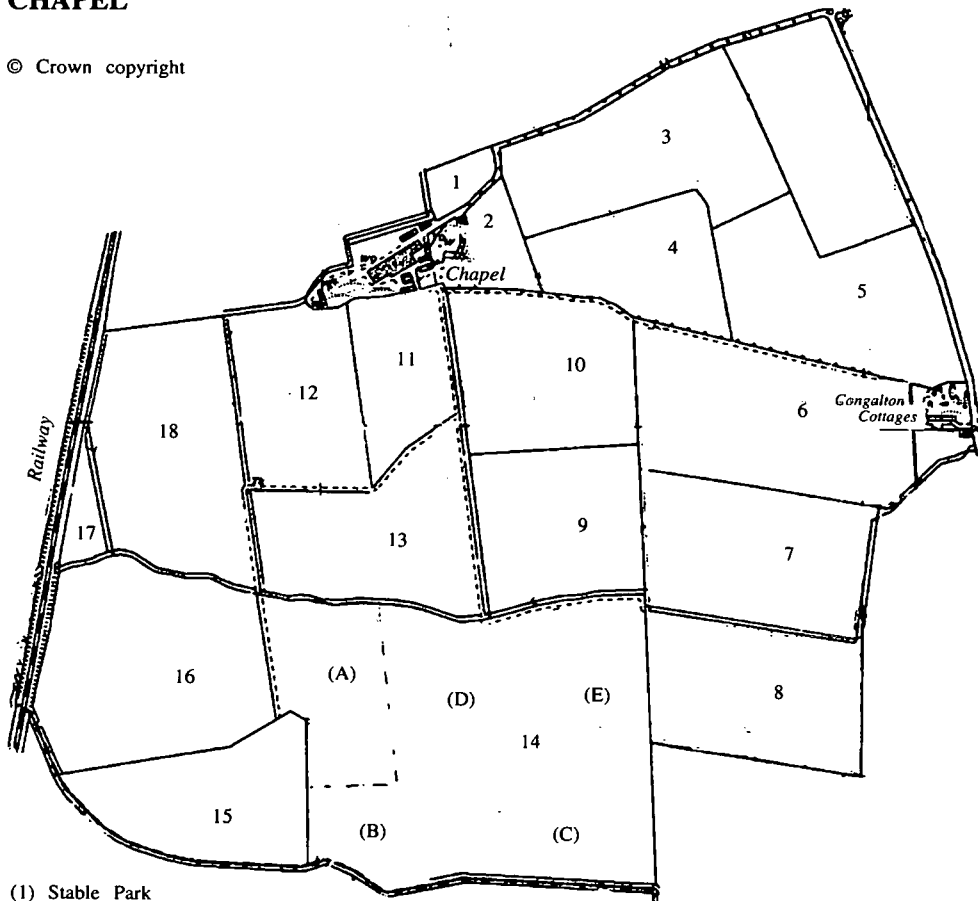
Finally, it was noted that Mr (and Mrs) Elder pronounce the name Sydeserff as "side-serf".

(Note: the first name given in the following is the one used today, the former names — marked "f" — applies to the names on the 1855 map mentioned above: if no former name is given then the name is the same today as it was then.)

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

CHAPEL

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- (1) Stable Park
- (2) Garden Park
- (3) Field up the Road (f. in two parts, "Hole Park" on the west, and "Broomielands" on the east)
- (4) The Bank (f. "West Bank")
- (5) Quarry (f. "East Bank")
- (6) Pylon Field (f. "South Bank")
- (7) East Mill Burn (f. "Mid Bank")
- (8) Congleton Field
- (9) Mid Mill Burn
- (10) Field Below the House (f. "Captain's Park")
- (11) (also) Field Below the House (f. "Stackyard Park")
- (12) Bothy Field (f. "Law")
- (13) West Mill Burn (f. in two parts, "Wood End" on the west, and "Gaw's Field" on the east)
- (14) 90 Acres (f. as follows (a) belt of fir trees — now gone; no name; (b) Plantation Field; (c) Peffer's Park; (d) Fir Park; (e) Dobbie Park)
- (15) Prora Field (f. "South Muir")
- (16) 36 Acres (f. in two parts, "North Muir" and "Mid Muir")
- (17) Rosie Corner
- (18) Railway Field

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

DEUCHRIE FARM, STENTON

Interview with Mr Jeffrey, farmer, Deuchrie (address, Kersknowe Farm, Kelso), 20 May 1992.

His family have been on Deuchrie farm since 1881. Place and field names have been as marked for as long as he has known. He does not know of the names in the hill-land areas — has not heard of Foul Steps, or of Wintershiells. These hill-land areas, he says, are probably on the Halls estate, which is owned by a cousin.

He knows Ruchlaw West Mains as Clawbare (sic), and is familiar with the areas known as (the) Allards and Jinky Burn (but did not know of there having been a mill at Jinky).

Rammerwood and Deuchrie Wood are known collectively as Oakswood, or Aikswood (the trees there being oaks). The stones above Deuchrie Wood are just a dump (the stones having been lifted from the fields). Of the ruin on Rammerside, he suggests this was the site of the settlement there — did not know of any house or settlement further east (No. 10, Hare Wynd). Of the name Lucknow, he does not know the origin, but suggested it might be related to a place in India (details not given). Similarly, he does not know the origin of the name of Chapelhaugh.

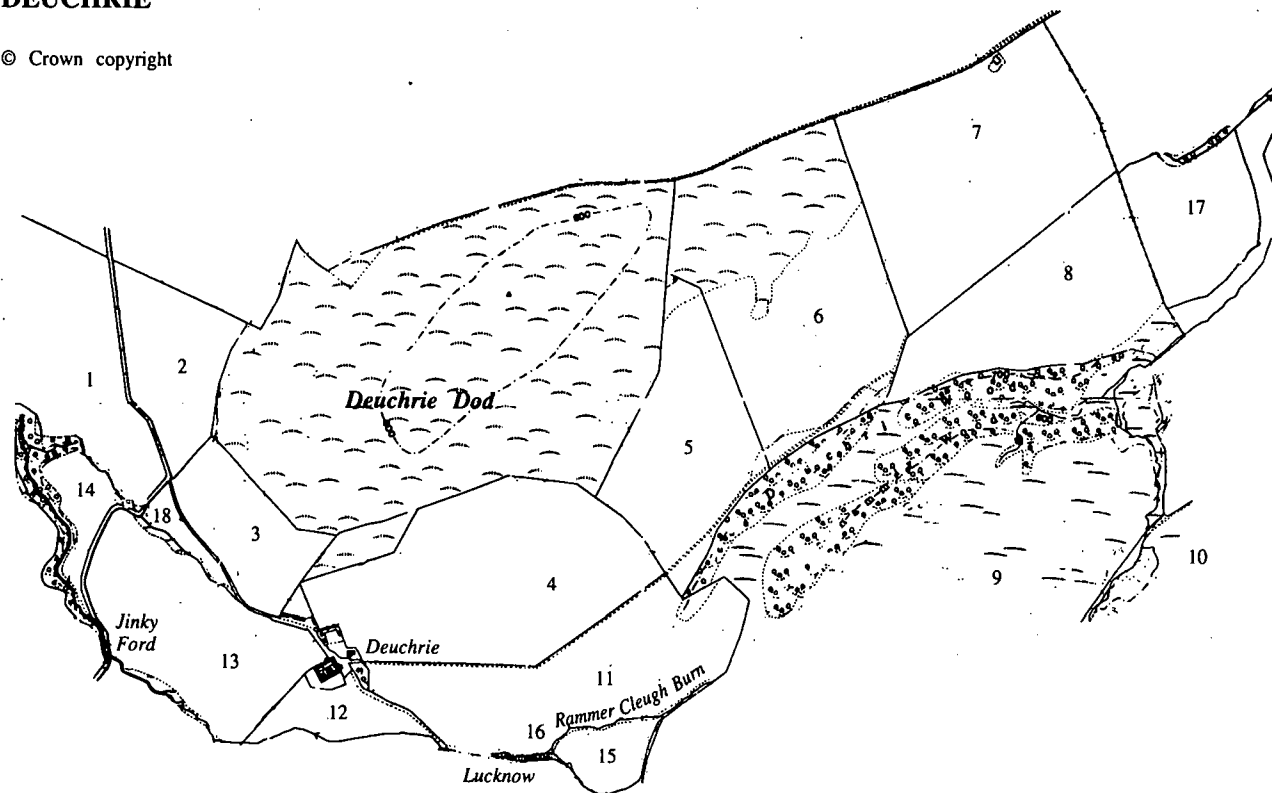
Of Nos. 5 and 6, below, Wall Hill and Mid Hill, these are known by these names, and not by the name on the published O.S. map (Well Hill).

DEUCHRIE

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

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- (1) Peat Meadow
- (2) Red Faugh
- (3) Dod End
- (4) House Field
- (5) Wall Hill
- (6) Mid Hill

- (7) Green Burn
- (8) Merryfield
- (9) Rammerside
- (10) Hare Wynd (on the Halls' estate)
- (11) Knacky Knowes
- (12) Cow Haughs

- (13) Hay Knowe
 - (14) (The) Middle
 - (15) Chapelhaugh
 - (16) Dog Lake
 - (17) Arnot's Loan (on the Hall's estate)
 - (18) (The) Allards
- these are parts of
No. 11, not separate

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

HALLS FARM, SPOTT

Interview with Mr Jeffrey, farmer, Halls Farm, Spott, 30 May 1992.

He is related to Jeffreys of Bielgrange and Deuchrie (cousins); his father farmed Halls (as tenant) from the 1930s. He has a map of the farm from 1860, and other maps, but quoted most field names by memory; the names of cleughs and stretches of rivers (as on O.S. 1:25000 Pathfinder series maps) are not familiar to him as he does not deal with these names during the day to day running of the farm, usually only the field names (an exception being the Cauld Burn).

He knows Ruchlaw West Mains has the name of Clawbare (sic). He remembers the Common House (O.S. ref. 659 716) which was taken down by his father about 30 years ago; this house was home for a shepherd who was charged to look after the livestock of Dunbar landlords grazing on the common ground here in the Lammermuirs. On his 1860 map, Hartside is marked as "Wester Hartside". There is no Easter Hartside, but Common House is marked, and he suggests that this house had the original name of "Easter Hartside".

The house and steading Hilldown, or Halldown, (No. 30) — is also marked on the 1860 map.

Mr Jeffrey suggested that the original farm of Halls was on the site of "Old Halls Field" (No. 2), his reason being that where the farm is now is reached via two fairly steep braes which would be difficult for horses. So if the farm had been on the Old Halls Field, access would have been easier, considering the lie of the land there. The Rottenraw, or Rottenrow, he knows by this name, as also most of the hill pasture land names — there is no other names as far as he knows. Lothian Edge is otherwise known as Hall's Edge (as marked on O.S. 1:25000 Pathfinder series map).

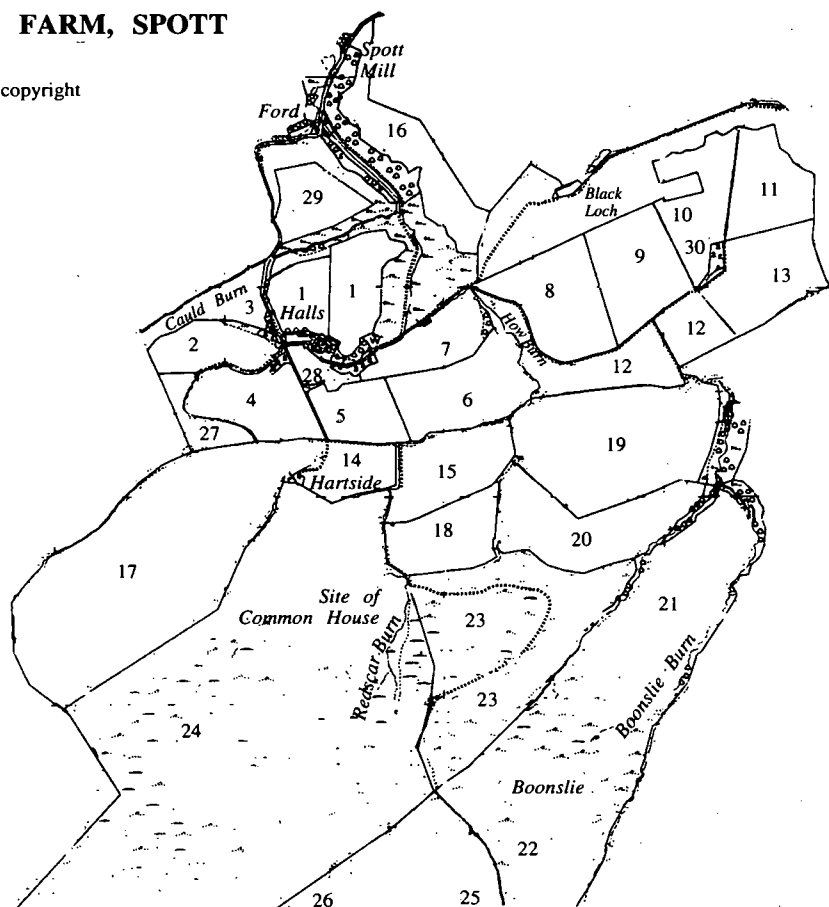
The Halls Farm goes south to just before Friarsdykes, and does not include that farm. Mr Jeffrey does not know of any place thereabouts by the name of Wintershiells.

Some field and place names were overlooked at the interview — nos. 26 to 29 inclusive.

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

HALLS FARM, SPOTT

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- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Braid Lee (also written as "Lea")
(easter and wester) | (14) Wester Hartside |
| (2) Old Halls Field | (15) Easter Hartside |
| (3) Cauld Burn Field | (16) The Sneeps (formerly in three parts, north,
mid and south) |
| (4) Mallets | (17) Hare Wynd |
| (5) The Folds (or Faulds) | (18) Sleepy Knowe |
| (6) Hartside Lees (written as this, not "Leas") | (19) Birkie Brae |
| (7) Lambing Field | (20) Black Law (or Blakelaw) |
| (8) Hillend | } now merged, but
still known
by these names |
| (9) Mid Hill | |
| (10) Old Walls | (21) Boonslie Shank |
| (11) Heuchie | (22) Watch Law |
| } now merged,
but still known
by these names | (23) Easter Hartside Edge (note, the road goes
through this field and is not fenced) |
| | (24) Wester Hartside Edge |
| (note, path
between nos.
10 and 11
removed by
Mr Jeffrey,
no date) | (25) Friarsdykes Dod |
| (12) Haining Rig (note, boundary, a road,
removed by Mr Jeffrey, no date) | (26) - (29) overlooked at interview |
| (13) Spruce Cleugh | (30) Wood, site of old steading, Hilldown or
Halldown |

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

HIGHFIELD FARM & SYDSERF, NORTH BERWICK

Interview with Mr Simpson (junior), farmer, Highfield Farm, North Berwick, 24 June 1992.

The farm of Highfield includes the lands of Sydsarf and Fenton Tower (the latter the farmer calls "The Castle"). The Simpson family have farmed here since c 1900, firstly as tenants of the Dirlerton estate, latterly as proprietors. The family are originally from West Kilbride, and have recently purchased the farm of Rockville, but these place names were not investigated at this interview.

Mr Simpson has a map which dates from 1860 showing the farm covering exactly the same ground as it does today, except the layout east of Sydsarf, where some fields have been merged. The boundaries of those given was not made clear during the interview, but some names may apply to areas and not actual fields. The 1860 map gives no names of fields. Sydsarf house, which was visited during the interview, has a small plaque on north side declaring it to be an 18th century historic building, but of this date Mr Simpson is critical, saying that it is older — the plaque was put up by the Council, date not known. The house is now used as a store, but is in poor condition, the roof in particular. The house formerly had an upstairs, which is obviously seen from inside, and there are fireplaces on both floors, now walled up; outside there is a chimney which has been built on to the house, not part of its original construction. On the western side there is an outside staircase.

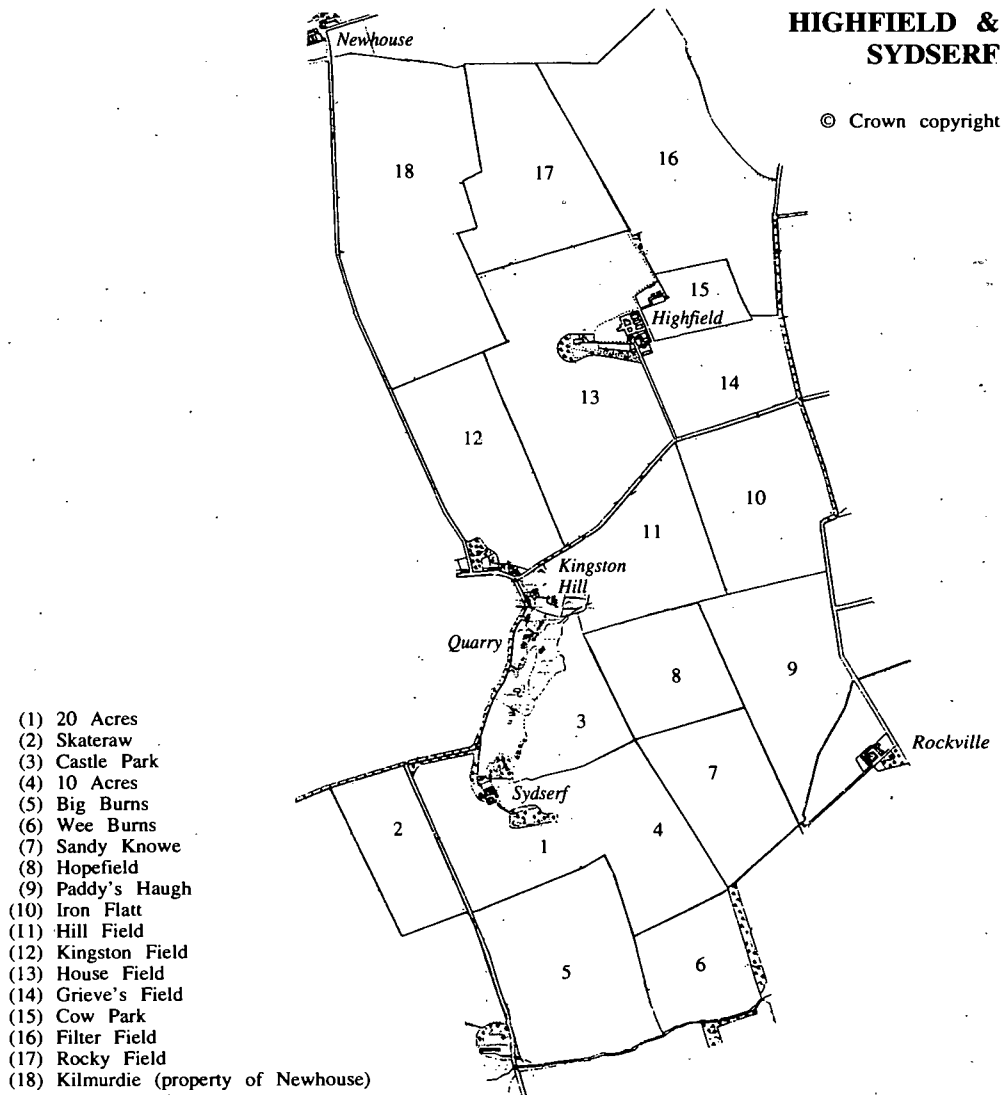
Of the two cottages at the steading of Sydsarf, the one nearest the house was built c 1930 for a stockman, the other was built in the 1950s at Mr Simpson's parent's marriage. Both cottages are now rented out.

Mr Simpson mentioned that when the land at Sydsarf (Field No. 1, 20 Acres) is ploughed, the soil comes up black, which he suggests is a sign of there having been gardens here once. He knows little of the history of the place, but has heard of the family name, although he has never met anyone with the name (up till now!). He pronounces the name "side-sarf".

At Highfield, houses have been built on the east of the farm, taking up part of the Cow Park (No. 15) — date of construction not asked. There is a footpath connecting these cottages to the main road, by the side of the Filter Field (No. 16).

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

Mr Simpson has no knowledge of the names Arnotflatt, Chapelhaugh, Chapelside. The name The Iron Flatt (No. 10), he suggested to be because the ground here is hard. The Rocky Flatt (No. 17) is so named because the ground has a lot of stones and rocks. The Kilmurdie (No. 18) is part of Newhouse farm, but was noted because it is on O. S. 1:25000 map used at interview.



EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

KINGSTON FARM, NORTH BERWICK

Interview with Mr MacDonald, manager, Grieve's Cottage, Kingston Farm, 15 July 1992; farm owned by Mr S. A. Stoddart, Kingston House.

Mr MacDonald has been on the farm for 26 years (since c. 1966) and has a couple of maps dating from the early nineteenth century showing the layout and names of fields of the farm (used for planning crop rotation and so on) — the names are identical to those in use today.

He has not heard of Arnotflatt, nor of Colledgestead (sic) at Dirleton; and knows the field west of Sydserf as "Skateraw". Pronounces Sydserf as "side-serf".

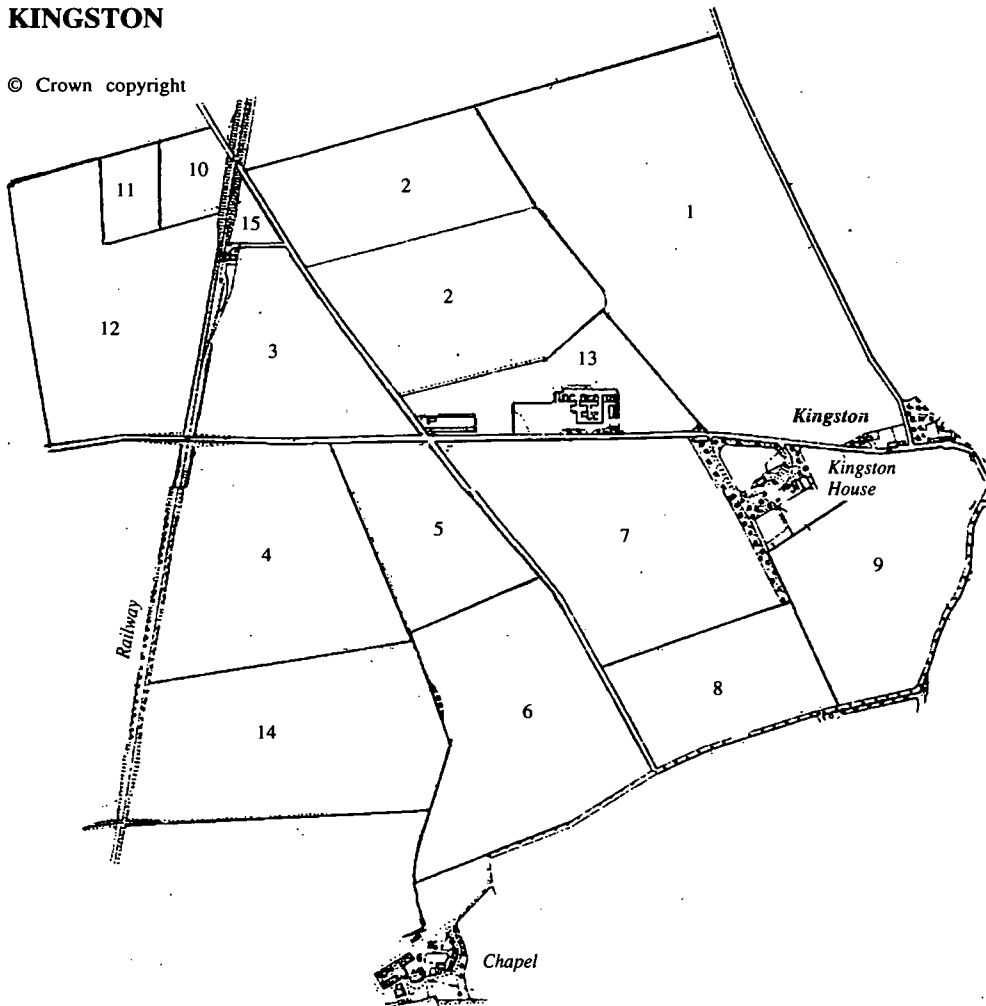
Of the fields on the farm, he does not know the origin of the names such as Egypt, Struthers, Gibbs (Corbie being Scots name for crow, he knew); the Roman Well Field (No. 1) is so named because there is a well in about the middle of the field and another on the boundary of Whitelaw Field (No. 2), but why the name "Roman" is not known.

He told a story of Kilmurdie, a hill part of Newhouse Farm, that there had been a battle there once involving a family Murdie or Murdo, and got the name from the cry "kill Murdie (or Murdo)" — he agreed that this story was of pretty dubious origin.

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

KINGSTON

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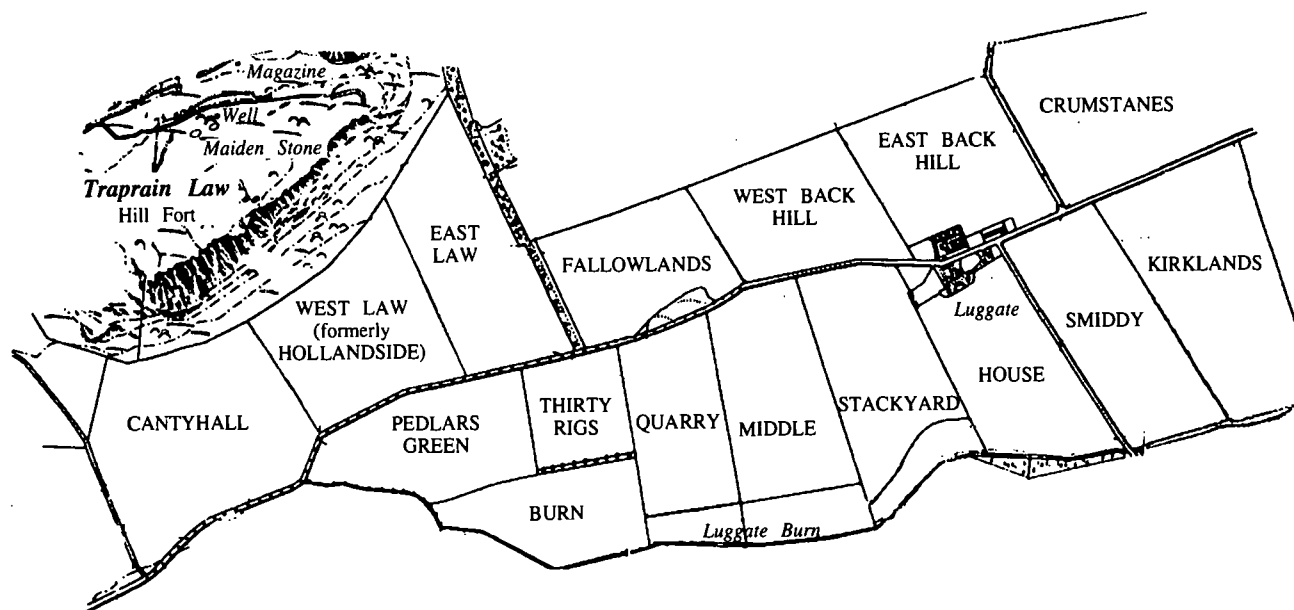
- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Roman Well | (8) Garden Park |
| (2) Whitelaw (formerly two separate fields divided by a hedge, which was removed in 1950s; the north part had been called "Muirpark", the south part "Whitelaw") | (9) Bank |
| (3) Station Field | (10) Struthers |
| (4) Sheep Field | (11) Bog |
| (5) Egypt | (12) Gibbs (Easter and Wester) |
| (6) Chapel | (13) Steading Park |
| (7) Corbie | (14) The Dean (property of East Fenton) |
| | (15) (name not given) (also property of East Fenton) |

LUGGATE

(from map supplied by David Wyllie, Stenton, August, 1992)

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

PHANTASSIE FARM, EAST LINTON

Correspondence with Mr T. Hamilton, Hamilton Farmers, Phantassie Farm, East Linton, Jan.-Feb. 1993 (Not visited.) Also, the lands compared with undated (but 18th century) plan of the farms of Linton and Phantassie at West Register House (RHP 3682: no surveyor; ex GD237, Tods, Murray & Jamieson W.S. Papers at Scottish Records Office — but there's nothing of Phantassie in these muniments [unless in boxes of miscellaneous papers]).

There is a lot of similarity between the two maps, the layout and the names are much the same in both. The major differences are that Phantassie today owns land immediately south west (nos 14-18 inclusive), that the lands west of Linton are laid out differently, and the appearance today of trees at what is now Kiln (No. 13).

The motive for this project was to see if Barebones had the alternative name of Clawbare (or Ruchflatt or Porks) — refer to notes Clawbare/Clabar elsewhere. There is no mention of this name — or of Ruchflatt or Porks — on the eighteenth-century map, and the name(s) are unknown to the farmer today, though he suggests that it is possible the name Barebones is "because the soil in the fields is shallow in places over rock". He also says that Under Barebones (No. 22) is now a Site of Special Interest, being the site of a Roman Camp.

On the eighteenth-century map, Barebones is marked as being detached from the rest of the lands, with no indication of where it lies, although there is a strip on its southern part declared to be "part of common" — there is another such strip on the south west part of Bank (No. 22, C18 map). The eighteenth-century map names the proprietors of land surrounding it, though, viz:— Mr Baird on west, Mr Knox on north, Lord Hailes on south and east: the map also gives its acreage as 5 acres 2 roods and 7 falls. From comparison with the modern map the 18th century Barebones would seem to be part of Upper Barebones (No. 23, modern map).

On the eighteenth-century map, the spelling of names seems to be an attempt at being "mannered" and "polite", eg for Buchan Hepburn of Smeaton (landowner north of Phantassie) the Hepburn is spelled "Hebron"; the Tyne Water is spelled as "Line Water"; "Dovecot" is spelled as

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

"Dovecoat" (No. 3, C18 map), so this has no doubt affected the spellings of the other place names.

Also note the following:—

- the map pre-dates the railway (which was built in the 1840s);
- the old course of the Tyne north of Phantassie was marked, with islets and small pieces of land (not named) — these have been ignored for the purpose of this project;
- the identical names of Nos. 7, 17 and 22 (Bank);
- on Nos. 15-17 inclusive, there are sites of three limestone quarries (there then being no trees);
- Nos. 7 & 8 are divided by a "drain";
- a settlement by the name "Cross Keys", now lost; Mr Hamilton of Phantassie was aware of this place, and called it a coaching inn; the map also marks the sites of mills in Linton and Prestonkirk, which again have been ignored for the purpose of this project.

Mr Hamilton of Phantassie suggested that Gurlay, or Gourlay (nos 16-18 inclusive, modern map) was a name associated with Hailes Castle, though he cannot remember any details, saying he read of this in a book loaned to his father some time ago.

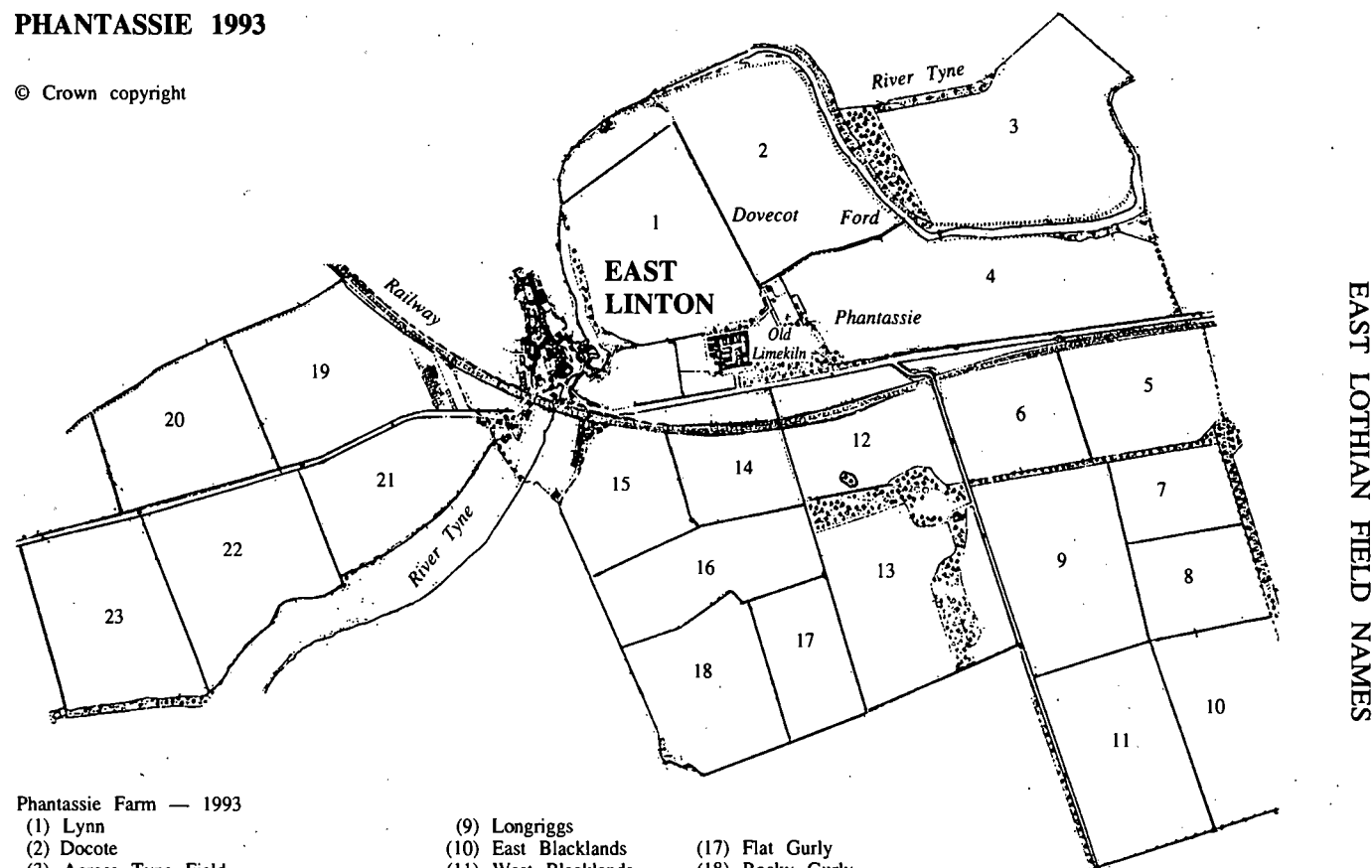
His father acquired Phantassie in November 1946, and he himself has lived here since 1950. The family had a map of the field names, but this was lost by their lawyers, and the only map he has now is a standard O.S. one; he learned the various names from the farm workers. He suggested that G. B. R. Gray of Smeaton holds a very old map of the area, but he has not seen this himself.

Hamilton Farmers, from the telephone directory, have the following listed besides Phantassie:— Garvald Mains & Kirklands (both Garvald), Sheriffside (Gifford), and Ramrig (Duns) — these places were not investigated in this correspondence.

PHANTASSIE 1993

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

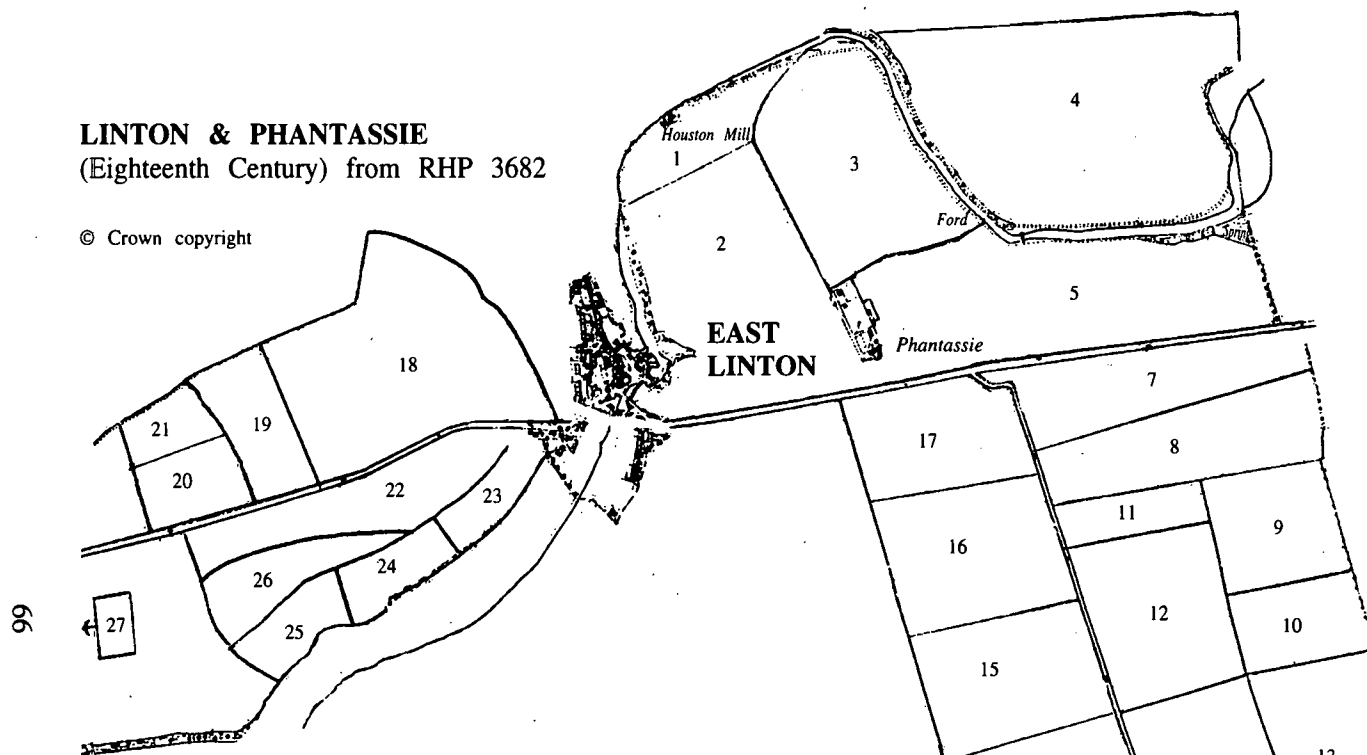
Phantassie Farm — 1993

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Lynn | (9) Longriggs | (17) Flat Gurly |
| (2) Docote | (10) East Blacklands | (18) Rocky Gurly |
| (3) Across Tyne Field | (11) West Blacklands | (19) Sale Field |
| (4) Crosskeys | (12) West Bank | (20) Bog |
| (5) East Bank | (13) Kiln | (21) Orchard |
| (6) Mid Bank | (14) Horsefield | (22) Under Barebones |
| (7) Laringham Hill | (15) Gasworks | (23) Upper Barebone |
| (8) Derby Shot | (16) Long Gurly | |

now merged into
one field

LINTON & PHANTASSIE (Eighteenth Century) from RHP 3682

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Phantassie Farm — 18th century (RHP 3682)

- (1) Houston Mill
- (2) Linn Park
- (3) Dovecoat Field
- (4) North Haugh
- (5) (not named)
- (6) Plea Haugh
- (7) Bank (note the name identical to nos. 17 & 22)
- (8) Dysart
- (9) Lerigam Hill Park
- (10) East & West Riggs Park
(no division marked on this map)
- (11) Lerigam Hill
- (12) Dobie Shot
- (13) & (14) (both) Blacklands Park

- (15) Gurly Hill
- (16) Quarry Shot
- (17) Bank (note the name identical to nos. 7 & 22)
- (18) Croft
- (19) & (20) (both) Bog Know
- (21) Bog Dales
- (22) Bank (note the name identical to nos. 7 & 17)
- (23) Dean Brae Infield
- (24) Dean Brae Outfield
- (25) Dean Brae Pasture
- (26) Dean Hill
- (27) Barebones

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

PRESSMENNAN FARM, STENTON

Interview with Mr Kinnaird, Redacre, Pressmennan Farm, Stenton, 9 May 1992.

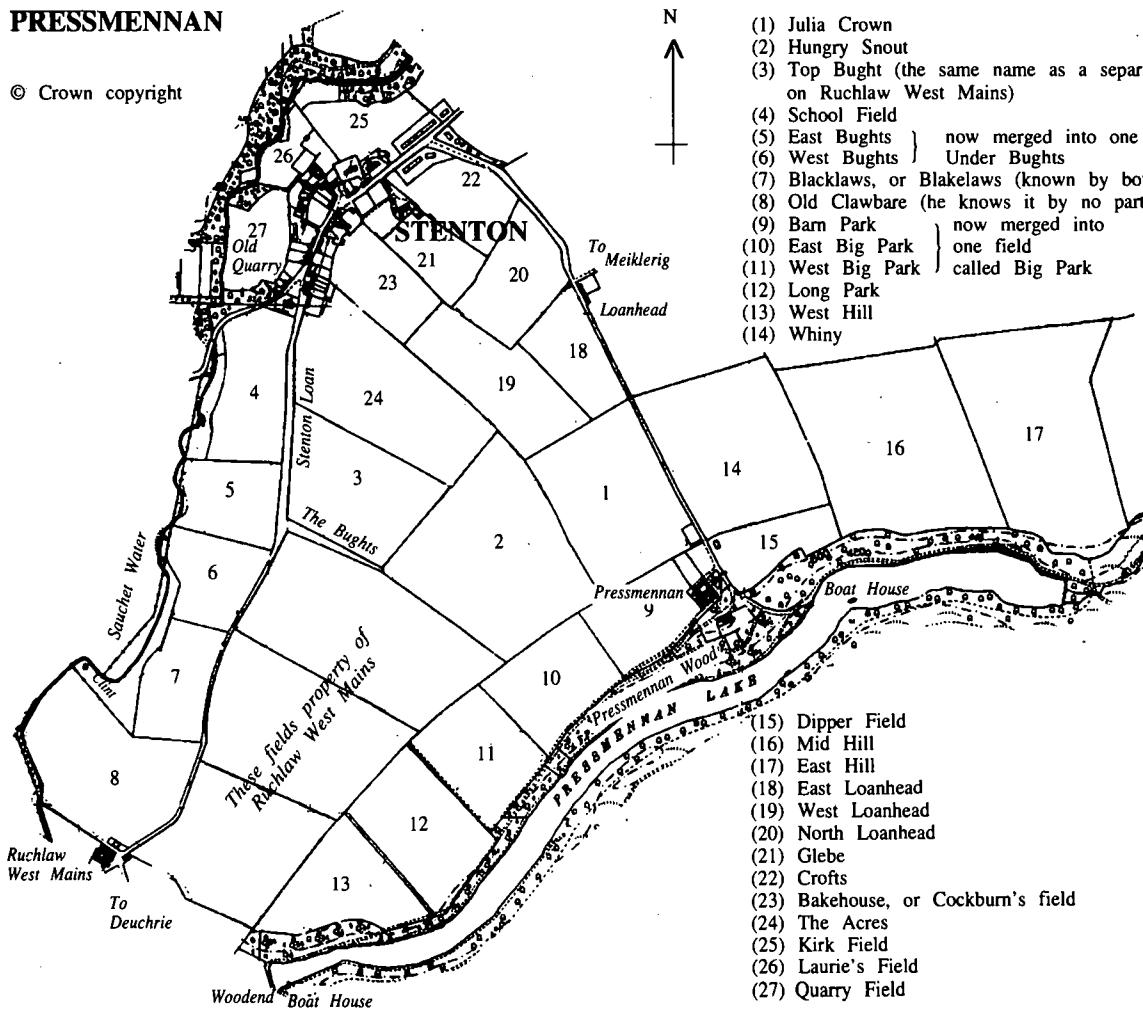
He has been the farmer at Pressmennan since 1967, though his father and grandfather have been tenants of this and other farms since the 1930s. The farm was formerly part of the Biel estates (date of its sale to Kinnairds not known). Mr Kinnaird was brought up at Garvald-Papple area, and knows of some place and field names there (which are still to be recorded). He and his family used to live at the 'big house' of Pressmennan until moving to their current home at the entrance to the farm. The grounds of the main house are now gardens, and had no particular name.

Julia Crown is the name of a field immediately north of the farm (No. 1), but the house which stands on the farm and is marked with this name in old maps is not known as such now. The name, however, is spelled 'Julia', not 'July', by Mr Kinnaird. Loanhead are ruined cottages midway between the farm and Stenton, and a well lies up a track running west of there.

Mr Kinnaird also owns part of woodland on the north-west side of Pressmennan Wood (c. field No. 13), but this has no particular name. He also owns three fields at Woodend (but not the house there) which again has no particular name (ie 'Woodend Fields'). He used to own fields nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 24, and parts of nos. 22, 25, and 27, most of which are the property of Mr Jeffrey of Bielgrange (who, from a separate interview, confirms the names given below). Part of Crofts Field (No. 22) just south of the village of Stenton, has been sold and houses are currently being built there. North Loanhead Field (No. 20) now includes a field on its western side, which had been called part of the Glebe (No. 21), although it was a separate field of its own (no date of this merger). The Bakehouse Field (No. 23) is known as such for its being adjacent to a (now gone) bakery in the village, and this field is also known as Cockburn's Field (whether this was the name of a baker is not known): this field has had these names for as long as Mr Kinnaird can remember, and cannot recall his parents calling it anything else. Finally, Mr Kinnaird knows quite a lot about individual buildings and small plots of land within the village itself (which information was not recorded in this interview).

PRESSMENNAN

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- (1) Julia Crown
- (2) Hungry Snout
- (3) Top Bught (the same name as a separate field on Ruchlaw West Mains)
- (4) School Field
- (5) East Bughts } now merged into one field called
- (6) West Bughts } Under Bughts
- (7) Blacklaws, or Blakelaws (known by both names)
- (8) Old Clawbare (he knows it by no particular spelling)
- (9) Barn Park
- (10) East Big Park } now merged into
- (11) West Big Park } one field
- (12) Long Park } called Big Park
- (13) West Hill
- (14) Whiny

- (15) Dipper Field
- (16) Mid Hill
- (17) East Hill
- (18) East Loanhead
- (19) West Loanhead
- (20) North Loanhead
- (21) Glebe
- (22) Crofts
- (23) Bakehouse, or Cockburn's field
- (24) The Acres
- (25) Kirk Field
- (26) Laurie's Field
- (27) Quarry Field

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

RUCHLAW MAINS STENTON

Interview with Mr James Wylie, 16 April 1992 (Ruchlaw Produce Co. Ltd, Ruchlaw Mains).

His family has had possession of the farm since the mid-1930s. Its extent was much as it is today though he has now diversified to pig and fruit farming as well as arable; Ruchlaw Mains itself is the main piggery and Mr Wylie's offices. He is also responsible for farms at Chesterhall, Lanarkshire, and at Penmanshiel, Berwickshire. He rents two fields from the proprietor of Ruchlaw House.

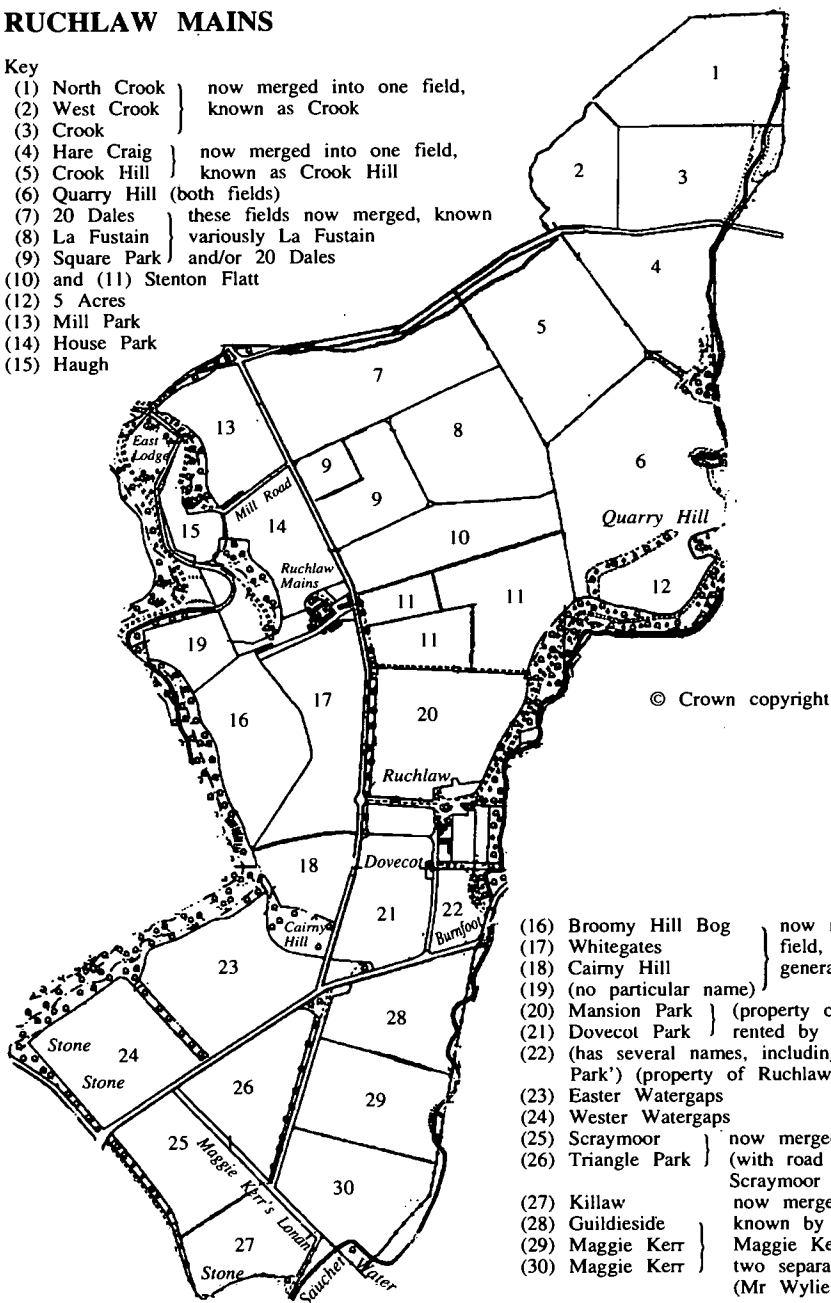
The brae from Ruchlaw Muir to Ruchlaw Burnfoot he knows by the name of Guildie, from the name of the field immediately south (Guildieside). When ploughing this field at the site of Ruchlaw Muir, the soil comes up black, which he says is sign of there having once been houses there. No such thing has happened when ploughing the fields of Crook. He says he knows nothing of there ever having been houses at that place. The minor road crossing by Crook is known as Crook Road. Of Blakelaws, Mr Wylie says that a wall of a former house (with a bricked up window) is built into the dyke immediately north of Ruchlaw West Mains on the west side of the road. He has never heard of the name July/Julia Crown (part of Pressmennan farm). The hedge between Crook Hill and 20 Dales and La Fustain was removed by Mr Wylie (no date). There had been a pond on Crook Hill, which has been filled in by Mr Wylie and trees planted (no date).

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

RUCHLAW MAINS

Key

- (1) North Crook } now merged into one field,
- (2) West Crook } known as Crook
- (3) Crook
- (4) Hare Craig } now merged into one field,
- (5) Crook Hill } known as Crook Hill
- (6) Quarry Hill (both fields)
- (7) 20 Dales } these fields now merged, known
- (8) La Fustain } variously La Fustain
- (9) Square Park } and/or 20 Dales
- (10) and (11) Stenton Flatt
- (12) 5 Acres
- (13) Mill Park
- (14) House Park
- (15) Haugh



- (16) Broomy Hill Bog } now merged into one
- (17) Whitegates } field, no one
- (18) Cairny Hill } general name
- (19) (no particular name)
- (20) Mansion Park } (property of Ruchlaw House,
- (21) Dovecot Park } rented by Ruchlaw Mains)
- (22) (has several names, including 'John Lawrie's
- (22) Park') (property of Ruchlaw House)
- (23) Easter Watergaps
- (24) Wester Watergaps
- (25) Scraymoor } now merged into one field
- (26) Triangle Park } (with road removed) named
- (26) Scraymoor
- (27) Killaw } now merged into one field,
- (28) Guildieside } known by component names
- (29) Maggie Kerr } Maggie Kerr possibly once
- (30) Maggie Kerr } two separate fields
- (30) Maggie Kerr } (Mr Wylie not sure)

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

RUCHLAW WEST MAINS & YARROW

Interview with Mr & Mrs Dobson, Ruchlaw West Mains, 2 May 1992.

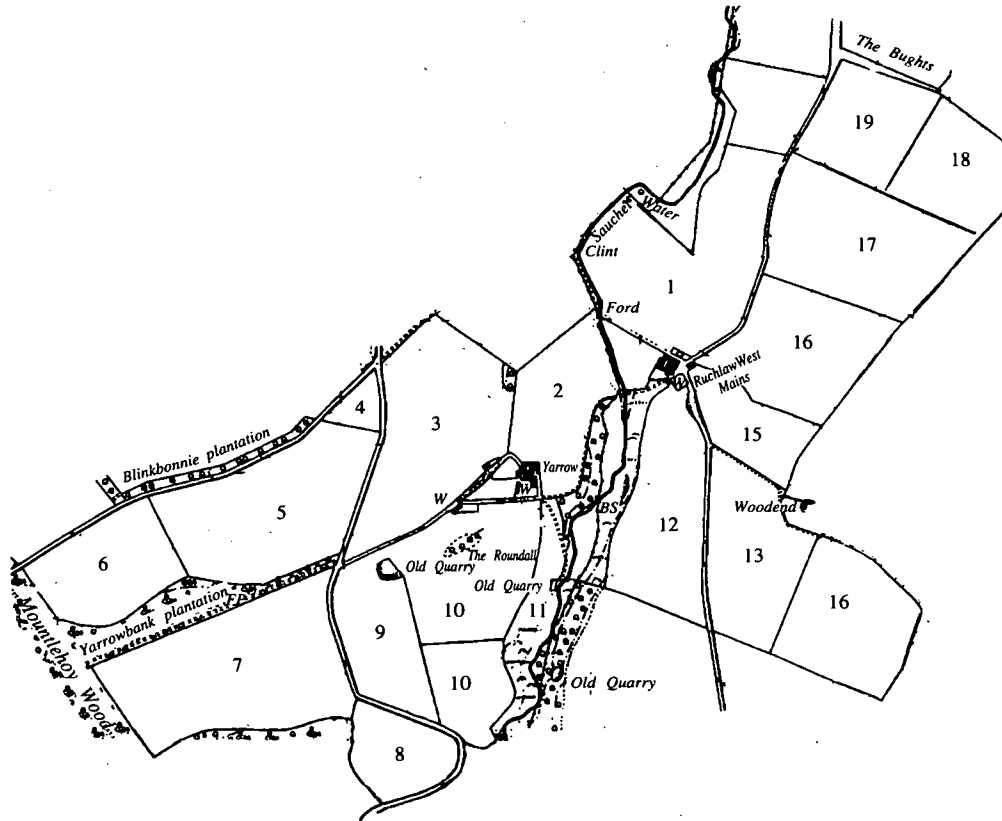
They have been on these farms since 1959, farmed originally by Mr Dobson's father (now deceased); they have a book listing the crops grown on the various fields dating from then. They own Ruchlaw West Mains and lease Yarrow from Clint Estates (Mr Blair, of Clint) — this has been so since taking occupation of the lands. The farms are both arable and cattle: they used to have sheep until a few years ago.

They said that some other local farmers had different names for certain fields (especially mentioned Kinnaird of Pressmennan and Blair of Clint). The Dobsons had seen the house built into the dyke north of Ruchlaw West Mains, but did not know anything of its origins — the name of Blakelaw was given to a field just north of the farm (No. 1). They also knew nothing of the 12 dales of arable land, or the acre of land with specified boundaries as mentioned in the Ruchlaw charters — but recognised some of the marches of the latter. They said that Ruchlaw West Mains had the old name of Clawbare/Clawbair, and noted the field just north of the farm (No. 1). The Ettrick field (No. 7) was known by another name by Mr Blair of Clint, but they could not remember this name. They knew of Guildie, the road (and the field) between Ruchlaw Muir and Ruchlaw Burnfoot, but nothing of there ever having been houses there. The Sauchet water at the farms they know as Yarrow Burn, and further upstream as the Jinky Burn (with the Jinky Ford where it crosses the road), but they did not know of there having been a mill or houses there: the area near there, where another burn crosses the road near Deuchrie road end they know as (the) Allards. The area between Deuchrie and Lucknow was known as Cowhaugh. Of July/Julia Crown at Pressmennan, they did not know of any building by that name, but the field just north of that farm was so called.

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

RUCHLAW WEST MAINS & YARROW

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- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Known as both Old Clabair, and South Blakelaw; part of this field they themselves called Whinny Brae (due to growth of whin bushes) | (10) Now one field known as Tiny Locks |
| (2) Washing House Flatts | (11) (the) Glen |
| (3) Blinkbonny (both fields) | (12) Brimby Stobs |
| (4) Oak Corner | (13) Crofts |
| (5) East Bank | (14) Shawmair (Mr Dobson's father spelt this as 'Shawmuir') |
| (6) West Bank | (15) Old Lambing Field (this is their own name for this field, known previously as Haugh) |
| (7) Ettrick (known by another name by Mr Blair of Clint) | (16) Cottage Park |
| (8) (the) Windings | (17) Holyn Bush |
| (9) Quarry | (18) Top Bugths |
| | (19) Bottom Bugths |

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

RUCHLAW WEST MAINS, OTHERWISE CLABARE, STENTON, EAST LoTHIAN

The farm of Ruchlaw West Mains is marked as "clawbare" on William Forrest's map of 1799, and also on 1822 map published by John Thomson.

In "Whittingehame", by Marshall B. Lang (1929) (p189):—"Ruchlaw West Mains is sometimes known as Cla-bair but the meaning of these words is obscure, and the name is not agreeable, for some reason, either to proprietor or tenant."

There is a passing reference to "Clawbare", as Ruchlaw West Mains, in a dispute concerning a right of way in the Stenton area in 1748: a witness to this dispute was a James Young who had lived there in late C17 (Biel Muniments, SRO, GD6/1274 (No. 3)).

Stenton old Parochial Register begins February 1679, but there is no reference to anyone of "Clawbare" (sic).

"Gaelic Place Names of the Lothians", by John Milne (n.d.) has nothing of the name.

Haddington's Local History Centre *Index to Sasines 1780-1869*, searched for "clawbare" (sic), gave the following;—

May 1819, Buchan Hepburn of Smeaton, seised to part of the lands of Newbyth, near East Linton, namely the lands of Ruchflatt or Porks, "now known by the name of Clawbare or Barebones".
(vol. 1780-1820 no. 2298, regt. June 1819)

May 1819, George Rennie of Phantassie, East Linton, seised to the lands "of old called Ruchflatt or Porks, now known by the name of Clawbare or Barebones, being formerly part of the estate of Newbyth".
(vol. 1780-1820 no. 2300, regt June 1819)

John Martine's "Reminiscences of the County of East Lothian" (1890-94) for the parish of Prestonkirk, writes of Upper and Under Barefoot, or Barebones, as "now" being part of Phantassie. Also, a Barebones Wood lies at O.S. ref. 605812, Pathfinder 1:25000 sheet 396.

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

(Note, other sasines indexed per volume 1869-1947 have not been searched for "clawbare" (sic).)

Ruchlaw West Mains took the name from being part of the estate of Ruchlaw, by Stenton. It was formerly known as West Mains of Stenton. (As recorded in several documents, including General register of Sasines RS2/1 f 208, Particular Register of Sasines for Haddington & c., RS26/2 f329, Calender of Yester Writs Nos 1711, 1712, 1713, and Inventory of Ruchlaw Writs, held in the Buchan Sydeserff of Ruchlaw Papers, SRO, GD1/494/84).

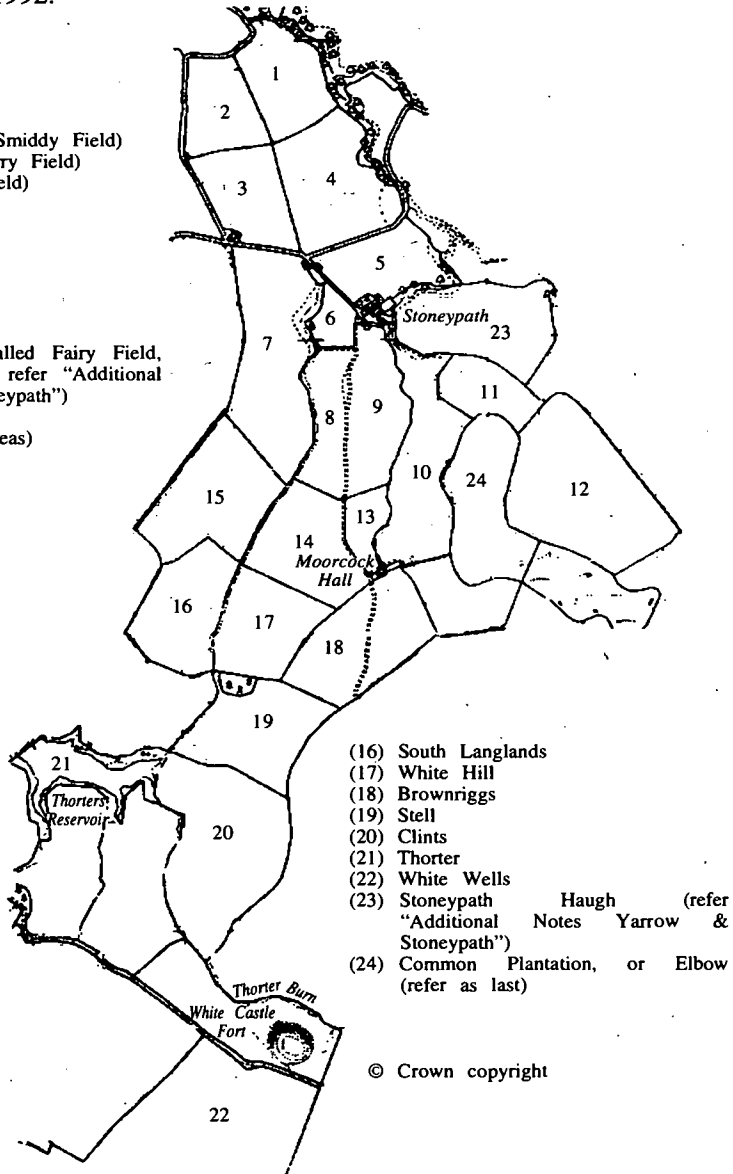
There is a reference to the lands of Wester Stenton, in the constabulary of Haddington (and an annual rent therefrom) dated March 1593-4; this possibly meant West Mains of Stenton (but is still to be researched in full). (Calender of Deeds, SRO, RD1/46 f245).

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

STONEYPATH FARM, WHITTINGEHAME

Mr John Brown, farmer, Stoneypath Farm sent a photo-copied map of the farm, May 1992.

- (1) Ice Pond
- (2) North West Park (or Smiddy Field)
- (3) Hairy Knowe (or Quarry Field)
- (4) Hill Tap (or Jinkie Field)
- (5) Mains Park
- (6) Well Cleugh
- (7) Smith's Acre
- (8) Thorn Head (or Braes)
- (9) Hare Law
- (10) West Elbow
- (11) North Elbow
- (12) South Elbow (also called Fairy Field, or, possibly "Fairrie", refer "Additional Notes Yarrow & Stoneypath")
- (13) Cow Park
- (14) Greenside (or Green Leas)
- (15) North Langlands



- (16) South Langlands
- (17) White Hill
- (18) Brownriggs
- (19) Stell
- (20) Clints
- (21) Thorter
- (22) White Wells
- (23) Stoneypath Haugh (refer "Additional Notes Yarrow & Stoneypath")
- (24) Common Plantation, or Elbow (refer as last)

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

ADDITIONAL NOTES YARROW & STONEYPATH

Interview with Mr J. Blair, Clint, Whittingehame, 27 June 1992, and detailed letter preceeding, dated 18 June 1992.

He is proprietor of the lands' farmed from Yarrow and Stoneypath, but does not work on the land, being a lawyer in Edinburgh; he has handled the sale of Ruchlaw House (and its baronetcy) to Mr Balfour, present owner (amongst other local transactions). His father acquired the lands from Lord Balfour of Whittingehame in 1939. He has an 1833 map of Dunbar Common, as surveyed by Nicholas Weatherley, showing the divisions in favour of various proprietors as had been done that year (refer "Transactions of East Lothian Antiquarian & Field Naturalists Society" vol. 15 (1976) p75).

This interview and the preceding letter confirmed other information and corrected minor details, as follows:—

Field No. 10 on Yarrow is actually "Tiny Lochs", which name comes from there being several "dips" on the land which "very occasionally hold water in heavy rain".

Ettrick Field on Yarrow (No. 7) is also known as "Frozen Eyelid Field", because his mother's eyes "reputedly were frozen open one cold night when she was shooting pigeons", with his father.

For the field north of Nos. 2 & 3 on Yarrow, lying south of Clint, he does not know any proper name but suggests "The Parks". However, he has always called it "Jack & Jill", because of the hill (rhyming = Jack & Jill — hill). Field No. 12 on Stoneypath, "Fairy Field", probably should be spelt "Fairrie", which is a name in his family and originates from Jamaica (details not given); however, he does not know why the name should be applied to this field.

The Common Plantation on Stoneypath (No. 24) also known as "Elbow", is so called presumably because of the shape. It originally stretched south up the hill to the "Victory Plantation", which latter was planted by his father in 1947 in a V-shape. The wood had been requisitioned at the outbreak of World War II "and according to my father was a fine wood of mature Scots pine which would have been 150 or so years old in 1940".

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

The area east of Stoneypath (No. 23) is known as Stoneypath Haugh. Field No. 11 on Yarrow is known as Yarrow Haugh.

Of Moorcock Hall, he does not know the origin, but suggests it was a shooting lodge of the Balfours of Whittingehame.

He has never heard of Leehouses, and was very interested in any information about it.

He knows Ruchlaw West Mains as Clawbare, and was disappointed at its name falling out of use.

He also confirmed the names of woods, mostly as recorded on standard O.S. maps, viz:— on Yarrow, Killaw, Oak Corner, Yarrow Strip, Montlehoy, The Birks. And, on Stoneypath, Robin Tup's (note, the origin of this name not known by Mr Blair), Smith's Acre Strip (location not specified, forgot to ask), Langlands, The Stell, Thorter's, The Elbow or Common, The Victory.

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

STONELAWS FARM, WHITEKIRK

Interview with Mr D. Miller, farmer, Stonelaws Farm, Whitekirk, 7th June 1993, and correspondence with Mr M. Gardner, son of former owner of the farm, both of whom live at Bankhead House, Bankhead Farm, Whitekirk.

Mr Miller took over Stonelaws Farm four years ago from the Gardner family, who gave him a large scale Ordnance Survey map (1:10 560) of the farm. This map was dated 1965, and had field names pencilled on; but some of these names have faded with age. Most of the field names, however, are still in use, though Mr Miller has changed some; he has also removed some hedges, fences, etc. to make larger fields. The Gardners have a hand-drawn map of the farm, dated October 1849, when it was the property of a Mr Howden. Then, however, the farm was only of Stonelaws, Howden and part of Pleasants — not the extent of Stonelaws as it is today. Some of the spellings on this map are not clear, for example, No. 24 "Pirmie Bank" could be "Pirmie Bank", and No. 11 "Duxrry Park", this might not be the actual name — presumably this applies to the "Whiterig"/"Wheatrig" fields, Nos 10/11, 18/19 and 20 (I have not seen this map). The Gardners came to Stonelaws in 1908.

Most of the "former" names are from the 1849 map. By the time of the 1965 map, almost all the fields were as they are today; the main exception being Nos. 22 and 23, 24 and 25, which had merged and were known as "Hungry Tam" and "Howden", respectively. Also, No. 20 was known in 1965 as "Cow Park" — "Front Field" is Mr Miller's name. Mr Miller has also re-named No. 29 as "Just Behind the Wood" — the former name on both maps being "Woodside Field". Further, Nos 4-6 were merged and known as "Kip Cairn" on the 1965 map.

On the 1965 map there was a house at O.S. ref. 573 798, named as "The Cottage", and there was another house slightly further east named as "Bag End" (which latter is otherwise "Spring Gardens", on earlier O.S. maps) and there was a house opposite this which was not named. "Spring Gardens" is now the name of field No. 27. Howden was rebuilt as a private house c. 1990.

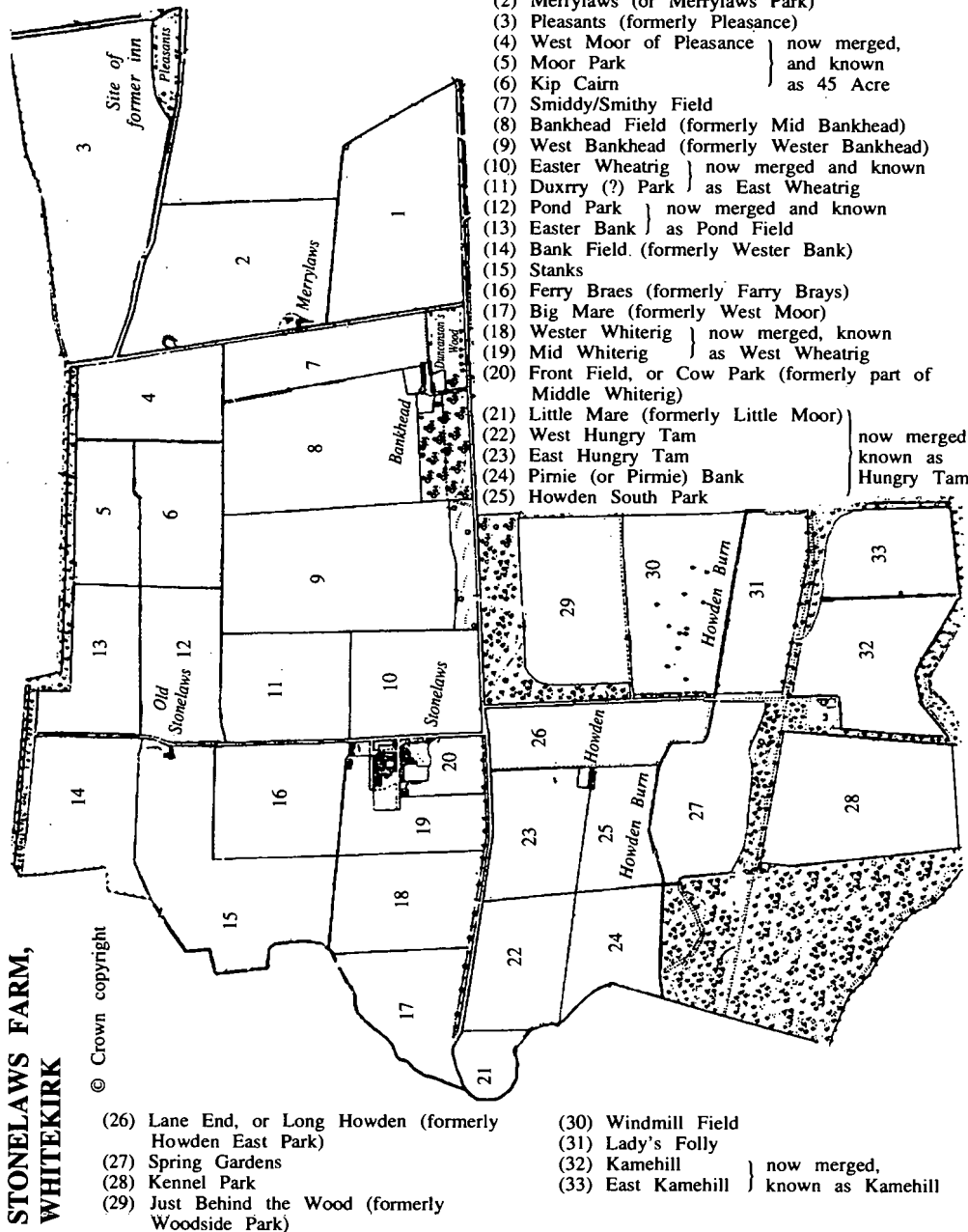
Old Stonelaws, the original farmstead, was rebuilt as a private house c. 1991. Stonelaws Farm, as it is today, was built late eighteenth

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

century, early nineteenth century. Bankhead is now a row of cottages but formerly had a foundry for the Newbyth estate, according to Mr Gardner — he also writes that there used to be an inn at Pleasants (which name was formerly "Pleasance"). At Merrylaws, the only building there now was formerly a smithy. "Kennel Park", No. 28, was the site of the kennels of Newbyth, which, according to Mr Gardner, lay in the south-west corner of this field. The "Windmill Field", No. 30, had a well, from which water was pumped to a tank at Bankhead, for use there and at Stonelaws.

The meaning of certain names is not known to either Mr Gardner (or his father) or Mr Miller, these being "Duxrry Park" (No. 11) (whatever the spelling), "Stanks" (No. 15), "Hungry Tam" (Nos 21-25), "Lady's Folly" (No. 31).

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES



EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

WHITEKIRK MAINS

Correspondence with Mr George Tuer, farmer, Whitekirk Mains, November-December 1992 (not visited).

Mr Tuer had applied to East Lothian District Council for permission to turn a couple of his fields into a golf course, and this prompted my enquiry for the names of these fields before they are "lost". Mr Tuer has since received consent to construct the golf course: the fields to be "lost" are nos. 1-4 and 6, basically Whitekirk Hill and the fields "Shelter" and "Plantation".

How long Mr Tuer has been proprietor here, he did not say, but mentioned on the telephone that it was only a few years. The name of the previous owner he did not give.

He suspected that the fields "Shelter" and "Plantation" "are fairly new names as one was the site of an air raid shelter during the war and World War II; the other is next to the plantation Whitekirk Covert".

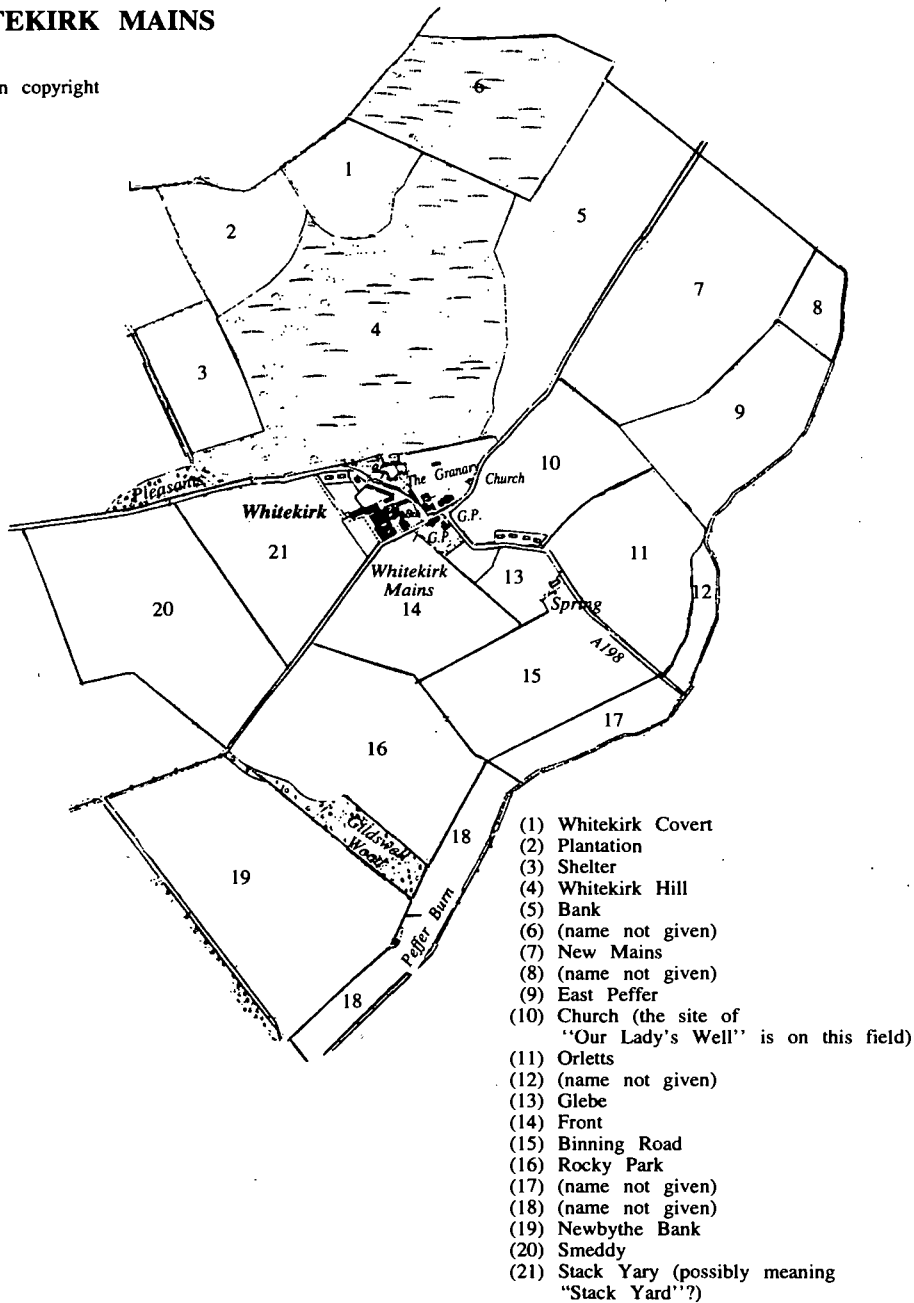
The O.S. Survey of 1963-65 (partly revised 1972) shows differences in field patterns from today. The differences are that No. 5 was in two parts (on O.S. map), No. 8 was a part of No. 7 (there was no boundary), and Nos. 16 and 19 were also in two parts.

West Register House (which holds the Register House Plans and maps) has no maps of the Whitekirk area, aside from a map of New Mains dated 1803, but this does not name the fields (RHP 6011).

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

WHITEKIRK MAINS

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EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

WHITEKIRK NEWMAINS, WHITEKIRK

Interview with Mr Lambert, farmer, Whitekirk Newmains, Whitekirk,
26 March 1993.

Mr Lambert's father came to Whitekirk Newmains in 1918, just after World War One, the family being originally of Perthshire. He has a large scale map (1:10 560) of the farm as made up by his father, date unknown: the layout of the fields, and the place names, have hardly changed. I showed Mr Lambert the map of Newmains in West Register House (RHP 6011), dated 1803, but he was confused over the exclusion of the fields north of the Scoughall road: these fields had always been a part of the farm as long as he has known. The farm's northern march is the Pilmuir burn, except directly north, where there is a dyke before the burn; there had been trees between this dyke and the burn, the property of Scoughall, which had been felled, date unknown. This RHP only shows acreages, not names, and these acreages — and the layout of the fields — are very similar to the fields today.

Mr Lambert told me a story from his father's time, of how the farmers of Auldham and Gleghornie used to drive their cattle on foot to the market at East Linton, and use a shortcut to bypass Whitekirk, just south of his farm, to ford the Peffer, then join the (main) road at Binning Wood: the route of this is still clear on maps, and is passable on foot (there being a footbridge over the burn now). This was before lorries were used to transport livestock, although Mr Lambert says cars were in use then, so it was probably c. 1920s, he suggests. He mentioned this because at that time the farm house had no wall bounding the road and, on one occasion the cattle being driven were supervised by only two men, and got out of control, trampling through Mr Lambert's father's garden, including a newly made pond!

Of the place names, Wylie's Puzzle (No. 6) took its name from the time the farm was acquired by Mr Lambert's father (c. 1918). His predecessor was a Mr Wylie. The field was very difficult to work, the ground being very hard, and this Mr Wylie and other local farmers all helped Mr Lambert's father to plough the field — at this time with horse ploughs, of course. It was so difficult to work, it was "a puzzle" as to how Mr Wylie had managed to farm it — and this name stuck! The previous name, if any, Mr Lambert does not know.

EAST LOTHIAN FIELD NAMES

The origin of the name "Spion Kop" (No. 12) is totally unknown. Of the Station Field (No. 4), Mr Lambert was told by his father that a fort of some sort had been on this site — but what sort, and of what date, he does not know. Mr Lambert made note of what had obviously been gates on the boundary fields of the Mains (No. 2) and Scoughall (No. 5) — marked with an "x" on my maps. These gates are obvious because their fence posts still remain, now wrecked and rotted and completely overgrown. They imply that the southern fields were at one time part of Newmains, but this would have been before Mr Lambert's father's time. From place name surveys of the farms of Scoughall and Lochhouses — at the School for Scottish Studies, dated 1981 — these fields were Dowlaw and East March (of Scoughall). Mr Lambert told a story of the laird of Tynninghame and the laird of Newbyth playing cards and gambling. The latter lost and forfeited the lower fields to the Tynninghame estate.

Mr Lambert has made small reservoirs at the top of Wylie's Puzzle (No. 6) adjoining the Pilmuir burn — there are other reservoirs on Scoughall, the other side of the burn. (No date given of when these were constructed.)

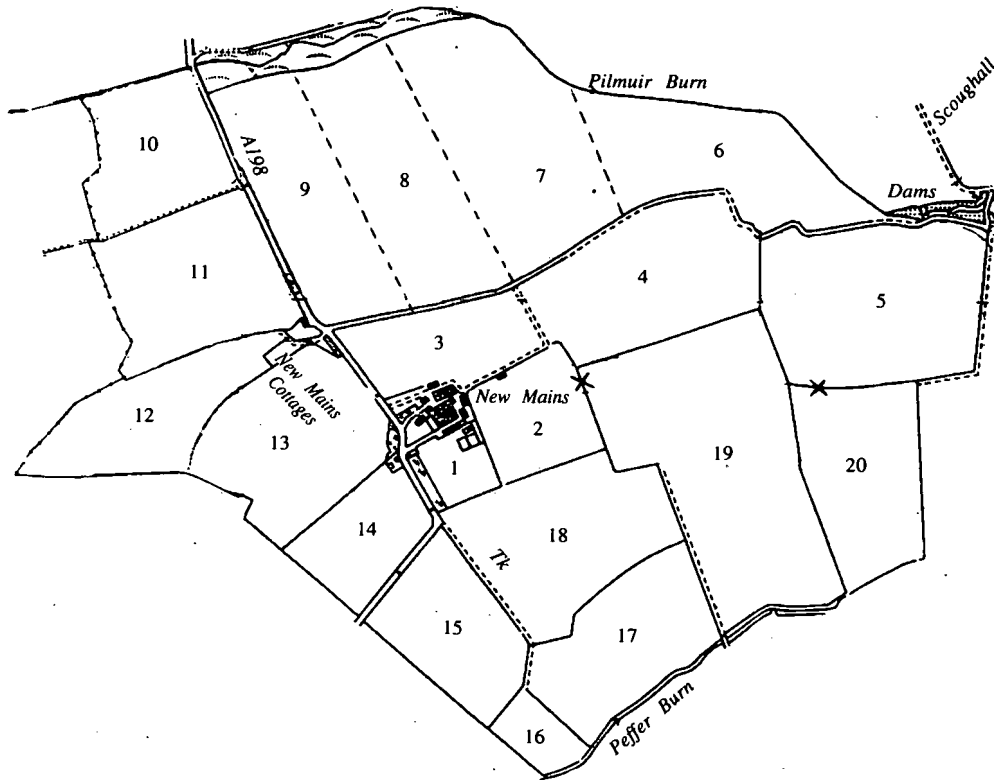
Barebanes field (No. 18), he suggests, is as its name suggests — the soil is shallow and the ground rocky — to its "bare banes". He knows nothing of the names of Clawbare, nor of Ruchflatt or Porks — which names had been recorded for a parcel of land on the Newbyth estate in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Mr Lambert's house was built about 1766: it is of two storeys and he says the lower, ground, storey was built of good red sandstone, but the top storey had been added later using drab grey stone from Whitekirk Hill, which had been harled over at an unknown date. He had discovered this when he stripped away the harling once, but was forced to re-harl because of the unsightly two-tone appearance.

EAST LoTHIAN FIELD NAMES

WHITEKIRK NEWMAINS

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- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (1) Cow Park | (11) The Rockies |
| (2) The Mains | (12) Spion Kop |
| (3) Stackyard | (13) Water Hole |
| (4) The Station | (14) Home Field |
| (5) Scoughall | (15) Upper Peffer |
| (6) Wylie's Puzzle | (16) Lower Peffer, or New Ley |
| (7) Wood End | (17) The Peffer (formerly "Old Ley") |
| (8) High Field | (18) Barebanes |
| (9) The Lodge | (19) Dowlaw |
| (10) Pilmuir | (20) East March |
- } these are separate names
} for one field
} both on
} Scoughall

NB. There is now no dividing boundaries between Nos. (6) to (9) inclusive, though there had been during Mr Lambert's father's time: they are now separate names for the one big field.

BOLTON PARISH LIBRARY AND OTHERS: The Record of a Lost Resource

By NORMAN D. H. MURPHY

A collection of documents relating to Bolton Parish Library has recently come to light, consisting of four school jotters and a printed leaflet. They were found in a drawer of an old table in Bolton Church.

On the front cover of each jotter a title is written in a clear flowing hand, in black ink fading a little to brown, and with a pen that gives fine up-strokes and bold broad downstrokes. The lettering is not quite copperplate but still manages to be aesthetically pleasing, and was clearly done by someone proficient and familiar with the art. One's first guess at the writer's identity would probably be the village schoolmaster but the author is nowhere revealed.

The four jotters or notebooks are titled respectively:

Catalogue of Books in the Parish Library at Bolton, 1891 (This is an alphabetical list which for some reason has been left incomplete and replaced by . . .)

Alphabetical Catalogue of Books in the Parish Library at Bolton, May 1891 (Which duplicates the above and includes many more entries; then . . .)

Consecutively Numbered Catalogue of Books in the Parish Library at Bolton, May 1891, and finally, in the A5 jotter . . .

Class Catalogue of Books in the Parish Library at Bolton, May 1891

BOLTON PARISH LIBRARY AND OTHERS



The Cover of one of the Bolton Notebooks
(less than life size)

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<i>Biographical Books</i>	pages 3-5
<i>Essays</i>	pages 7-9
<i>History</i>	pages 10-12
<i>Missions</i>	pages 13-14
<i>Novels, Tales, Stories</i>	pages 15-21
<i>Stories for the Young</i>	pages 22-27
<i>Poetry</i>	pages 28 (sic)
<i>Religious Books</i>	pages 29-33
<i>Travel and Description</i>	pages 34-36
<i>Useful Books</i>	pages 37

Inside, the pages are largely filled with a catalogue of the books which comprised the Parish Library, organised as the titles of the jotters suggest. Clearly, whenever the library made a new acquisition, the title had to be entered three separate times, and in the cases of the Alphabetical Index and Numerical Index, often inserted with some difficulty.

Most of the entries are made in the same hand and with the same pen as mentioned above, but in a number of places a different writer — indeed probably more than one, to judge from the inks and the calligraphy — has added additional titles. The impression is of a single major cataloguing of the library under the three headings and by a single librarian, carried out in May 1891, followed by a periodic update by his successors.

The printed leaflet suggests however that this was not the first cataloguing exercise, for it details additions made to the Parish Library in the years 1869 and 1870; and the pages are numbered 10, 11 and 12, with the title page, by implication, 9. It is possible that this follows on from one or more previous leaflets which record even earlier additions to the library on pages 1 to 8. It seems not unreasonable to suggest that the Parish Library may well have been functioning before the middle of the nineteenth century.

BOLTON PARISH LIBRARY AND OTHERS

BOOKS ADDED IN 1869 & 1870.

A
All about it.
Alone in London.
Arctic Explorations.
Aunt Alice.

B
Bertie's Birthday Present.
Biddy, Maid of all work.
Blanche Gairdner.
Bob, the Crossing Sweeper.

C
Carey, Marshman, & Ward.
Children of Cloverley.
Children's Friend, 1868.
Child's Companion, 1868.
Christian Leaders.
Christian Missionary.
Crown of Success.
Curiosities of Natural History.

D
Days of Knox.
Deep Down.
Diary of Kitty Treviyan.

E
Edith Vernon's Life Work.
Emilie, the Peace Maker.

F
Meggie of the Pines.
Memoir of Rev. R. M'Cheyne.
Memorials of James Henderson.
Memories of Bethany.
Michael Kemp.
Michael Kemp, Sequel.

G
Night Lights (Scripture).
Nile Tributaries.

H
Only a Servant.
Orphans of Glen Elder.
Our Father's Business.
Ourselves.

I
Passages in the Life of an Indian Merchant.
Patience Hart.
Pilgrim Street.
Poor little Gaspard's Drum.

J
Quality Fogg's old Ledger.
Questions of Jesus.

K
Realities of Irish Life.
Rights and Wrongs.

L
Fern's Hollow.
Fighting the Flames.
Frances Leslie.
Fresh Leaves of the Book, and Its Story.

M
Giant Cities of Bashan.

N
Hannah Lee.
Happy Homes.
Heads and Tales.
Home Sunshine.
Homely Readings.
House of Israel.

O
Killo's Bible History of the Holy Land.

P
Leaves from the Journal of Our Life.
Life Boat.
Life of David Brainerd.
Life of John Bradford.
Life of John Knox.
Life of Dr. Marsh.
Life of Dr. Livingstone.
Light House.
Little Fox.
Little Lou's Sayings and Doings.
Little Meg's Children.

Q
Sandwich Islands.
Saturday Afternoons.
Scenes in other Lands.
Scottish Reformers and Martyrs.
Shadow and Substance.
Shenac's Work at Home.
Shepherd of Bethlehem.
Star out of Jacob.
Stepping Heavenward.
Stepping Stones.
Stories for Village Lads.
Story of a Diamond.
Sunday Evenings.

R
Taking Tales for Cottage Homes.
Tales of a Grandfather.
Tales of the Covenanters.
These Forty Years.
Three Little Spades.
Tibby, the Char-woman.
Tract Magazine, 1869.
Two Bears.

S
Vineyard Labourers.
Voice from the Forge.

T
Walks from Eden.
What Little Hands can do.
Words for Working People.
Work, plenty to do and how to do it.

The leaflet has 8 pages, each one quarter the size of a foolscap sheet. Only the first 4 are printed, the remainder being blank. Of the 91 books listed, 73 were still on the shelves in 1891. Possibly the wildest "typo" is the 1869 rendering of Nile Tributaries, which by 1891 has become Nile Tribulations.

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Furthermore, it is noteworthy that this leaflet is printed, unlike the main catalogues which are handwritten. Could this imply a library which was more prestigious and better funded in 1870 than in 1890? The quality of print (which is letterpress) is really quite good, although the imprint has been so heavy that the pages are embossed as well as inked.

Thus much for the catalogues and the circumstances in which they came to light. But what of the actual contents of the Bolton Parish Library? What were the reading tastes of the villagers of Bolton a hundred years ago?

The list of books given here is a simple transcription from the *Class Catalogue* jotter and reveals a fairly catholic taste. Some of the titles quoted have disappeared as the years have passed, others will be remembered only by dedicated bibliophiles, and authors' names are by no means always given, but a surprising number of these books form the bedrock of English and Scottish literature of the nineteenth century — names still very familiar to us.

This list of titles goes some way to reinforce the image of the serious-minded and literate Scottish agricultural worker — the man who would return from a day spent behind a plough horse to pass his evenings reading steadily through the Waverley novels, or even more solid and worthy tomes. For surely the choice of books in the Library must have been influenced to some extent by public demand, although we can guess at a certain amount of "improving literature" being inserted by the minister perhaps, or the dominie, or the folk in the "Big Hoose".

There is one rather astonishing omission from the lists, considering the close associations of Bolton parish with the poet Robert Burns, whose mother and brother lie in the churchyard a few yards from the presumed site of the library. Nowhere is there any mention of any of Burns's work in the library. Was it perhaps assumed that every villager would have his own copy of the verses? It seems very odd.

Two other obvious questions arise. The first is — What became of the Bolton Parish Library? Here the jotters are not very helpful; they show us a snapshot, as it were, taken in 1891, with a small amount of material added thereafter, but probably not long afterwards.

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Was the library lost in the upheavals of the Great War? Was it dissipated later when Bolton lost its school and schoolmaster? Did it perhaps go to augment the Haddingtonshire County Library, maybe when Bolton manse was sold? One intriguing possibility is that the Bolton Parish Library may still exist somewhere, forgotten in a cupboard or cellar. What a delight it would be to find it again.

The second question is — Did other rural parishes have their own libraries, in the same manner as Bolton? Here the short answer is — yes they did, and at least one survives to this day.¹

There is scope here for more detailed and broader-based research than I have entered upon in this paper, which is primarily concerned with the Bolton library, but it might be appropriate to devote a paragraph or two to the other records which have come to light in the course of these investigations. I have looked only at the rural parishes; the towns might each merit a study on their own.

ABERLADY

The Aberlady Parish Library was established under the terms of the Traill Bequest and was housed in the former village reading room — now part of Hall House. The Traill family lived for many years in The Lodge, West Main Street, and the last survivor of the family, Miss Anne Traill, “was of a charitable nature and greatly interested herself in educational matters; her bequests in the shape of bursaries, etc. to the county, as well as local, being well known. She was also the founder of the village library.”²

The library was operated under the joint supervision of the parish minister and the village schoolmaster. At the time of its inception these were the Rev. John Hart and Mr Jamieson respectively. Ultimately, around 1926 the library was incorporated into the County Library Service, at a time when the Rev. Dr. Thomas Caldwell and Mr Alexander Ross held the supervisory posts, and a Miss Levack — a teacher at the school — acted as librarian.

No details of the library itself have come to light at this time.

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PENCAITLAND

A reference to a Parish Library occurs in the minute book of the Kirk Session, for 10th November 1877. Quoted in full, it reads:

Mr Coullie [the then minister] formally handed over to the custody of the Kirk Session the Parish Library which had been revived and improved. It was stated that the library contained upward of four hundred volumes in all departments of literature which had been collected at an outlay of nearly £30.

This had been more than defrayed chiefly by subscriptions from private individuals. It was further reported that the library had been largely taken advantage of since its opening in the beginning of October last. A copy of Catalogue and Rules were given to the Session Clerk to be kept for future reference.

Sadly, the Catalogue and Rules have not survived among the Session's records, but the entry raises some interesting points. Firstly, we may note the outlay of £30 for more than four hundred books. Happy, happy days! But more seriously we read that in 1877 the library was being, as it were, re-launched. This implies that it had its origins some years, perhaps even same decades, earlier. There are, however, no prior references in the Session minute book.⁴

The only earlier, and rather negative, reference to a library in Pencaitland occurs in a report by the Inspector of Schools, dated 1841, in which the Inspector notes that there is no library "connected with" the village school.⁵ In terms of Parish Libraries, however, this comment may be less than conclusive.

SALTOUN

I hesitated before including East Saltoun in the list of communities possessing Parish Libraries, because here we are breathing a very different literary air. Nonetheless, the Burnet Library deserves mention, even although it is unlike the others in origin and in kind.

This library was founded around 1660, by a bequest from Norman Leslie, then tutor to the Fletcher family. This makes it one of the oldest

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private libraries in Scotland. It was substantially enlarged in 1715 by a gift of books from the estate of Gilbert Burnet, one time incumbent at Saltoun who went on to grander things as Bishop of Salisbury. Thereafter it was frequently augmented by gifts of books from the great and the good of the Saltoun area

Originally wholly ecclesiastical, the Burnet Library later expanded to include works by Boswell, Hume, Adam Smith and others, as well as tracts and pamphlets by Francis Bacon and Daniel Defoe. Some of its contents became very valuable.

When the Saltoun manse was sold a number of years ago, the books were catalogued and taken into the National Library of Scotland, where they remain.⁶

It is uncertain whether much use of the Burnet Library was made by the general public, or even whether they had any right of access at all. If one defines a Parish Library in the way I have tried to do here, as a resource readily available to the whole community, I can find no record of such a facility existing in Saltoun.

STENTON

Stenton Parish library appears to have been quite a prestigious affair in 1905, with a printed catalogue of contents (which must have made updating very difficult indeed!) and a comprehensive Constitution and Rules for Borrowers.⁷ A couple of these rules are worthy of remark.

The Stenton library was about twice the size of Bolton's, but like Bolton it was organised into sections, based on the nature of the books. By far the largest class was "Fiction" with about four hundred volumes. As in Bolton this category contained not only Annie S. Swan and Marie Corelli and the Mills and Boon equivalents of the nineteenth century, but also the solid works of literature which we associate with Scott and Dickens, Galsworthy and Hardy and their ilk. Curiously, one of the rules of the Library specifically excludes "Juveniles" from borrowing anything from this category. Clearly there was a wish to protect young minds from anything that might — to use the legal expression "deprave and corrupt the lieges" but surely this blanket prohibition was overkill!

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Another area in which the rules were exceedingly peremptory was the handling and care of borrowed books. Strict and detailed instructions were given for washing hands before reading, for opening and holding books correctly, for not slipping them into coat pockets, and for returning them in a pristine state. The emphasis is such as to suggest that the librarian had had a few nasty experiences. Were the people of Stenton in the habit of using a "jammy piece" as a bookmark?

WHITTINGEHAME

In Whittingehame Parish there is the odd situation — the converse of what tends to happen elsewhere — that the old Parish Library still exists, but all accompanying records are lost. The books remain; nothing else.

For the purposes of this article, I sought permission of the Session Clerk to view the collection in the vestry at Whittingehame church, which he kindly gave. It proved a fascinating experience.

For a start, the library is much bigger than I had expected to find in such a small community, with nearly a thousand volumes on the shelves. Indeed the book numbering system goes up to around 1200, but a few gaps on the shelves suggest that some books might have been borrowed and not returned. The Session Clerk, Mr. Harrower, confirmed that this was his belief also, adding that the library is still very occasionally used, but that the local population today is a good deal smaller than in the library's heyday a hundred years ago.

The composition of the library has much in common with the catalogues of Stenton and Bolton — solid reading, much of it moralistic and improving; educative but without a great deal to laugh at. Thirty six matched volumes of the works of Sir Walter Scott rub shoulders with *The History of the French Revolution*, in twenty volumes, and Wilson's *Tales of the Borders* in six. There are many devotional books and the history of the Church is well covered. There is a surprising emphasis on non-fiction and the sciences. Books on geology are prominent, with a number of classic mid-19th century texts on the shelves.

Probably the library owes much to the generosity of the Balfour family, local lairds for many years, and no doubt its composition reflects

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their tastes and interests as well as their general desire to have a literate and morally upright tenantry.⁸ I expect this was the case in most of the parish collections.

It is interesting to see the care that has been devoted to protecting the books. Virtually every one has been fitted with a brown paper dust jacket, expertly cut and folded and bearing the title and a book number. Some books indeed bear two or even three book numbers, witness evidently to re-cataloguing at different times over the years. Considering the age of the library, most of the books are in extremely good condition.

At a very crude guess, the library might have been founded — on the evidence of the titles I looked at — in the mid-19th century, peaking in popularity some fifty years later, and declining with the local population and with the advent of modern recreations and library services. Today it is to all intents and purposes a museum piece — but a very delightful one.

A worthwhile and fascinating task awaits anyone with the time and energy to undertake the re-cataloguing of this unique collection. If this were done, and the results studied together with the Stenton record and the newly discovered Bolton lists, a statistically respectable assessment could be made of the reading habits of nineteenth century East Lothian villagers. It is a job worth doing.

YESTER

The Parish Library in Yester appears to have been a wholly secular enterprise, perhaps run initially by the main village school. The only written references which have been found⁹ refer to the library as existing in the rear room of Dolphin Cottage at a time when the school was housed in the adjacent building, now the Village Hall. Certainly after about 1887 when the school was converted into the then "Jubilee Hall", this was the case.

Later, in 1923, the administration of the Hall was vested by the Marquis of Tweeddale in a Management Committee comprised of village people, which voted to "dispose of" the library and convert its erstwhile room into a ladies' lavatory.

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The last decade or so of the library's existence is still remembered by Gifford people, who recall it as stocked largely with classics, probably given by the Marquis.

From the mid-1920s until sometime in the 1950s the local newsagent ran a small and more lightweight lending library, as was quite common in those times. Indeed this may have survived until the mobile library van started calling at Gifford.¹⁰

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply grateful for all the positive help I have received in tracing evidence of rural Parish Libraries other than Bolton's. The people who were able to help in this manner are mostly cited in the references below. I should also acknowledge however, all those good people — mostly Session Clerks — who investigated their archives for me but found nothing recorded on this subject.

These negative results, although disappointing, are not conclusive. More may yet come to light. However that may be, to all who so generously gave of their time on my behalf, I tender my grateful thanks.

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BREWING IN THE NUNGATE AND HADDINGTON DURING THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

By JEAN H. SHIRLAW

Brewing in the Nungate and Haddington was undoubtedly carried on in small breweries for many years prior to the 19th Century, but it is difficult to find archival material to substantiate this statement.

The area was in the centre of rich agricultural land, barley would be readily available and there would be a local demand for beer.

Ian Donnachie in his book *A History of the Brewing Industry in Scotland* describes a typical small brewery thus — 'consisting of a series of two-storey buildings around a courtyard, having a Brewhouse, maltings, stores, granary and stables'.

A medium sized one belonged to James Hoggart in the Nungate', as in 1801 it was insured by The Sun Fire Insurance Office of London for £700. The details of which were as follows:—

His dwellinghouse	£ 70
Household goods etc	£ 40
Malt barn and kiln	£190
Stock, incl grain & utensils	£100
Stable	£ 30
Stock, incl. utensils in loft and Brewhouse	£200
Brewhouse and Cellar	£ 70

This was one of two breweries operating at this time in the Nungate.

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James Hoggart (or Hoggarth), followed by his son, remained in this brewery until 1821², when James Hoggarth jnr³ sold the premises to Peter Dewar, who, in turn, sold the property in 1825 to James Cumming, a distiller⁴. He erected various new buildings on the site, converting the brewery into a distillery. It was later sold to James Brodie, another distiller, in 1830⁵. He died in 1838 and the distillery was tenanted for some time by William Dunlop and his brother, George; they also had another distillery in Haddington.

The site of the brewery/distillery (now disused) was described in the Ordnance Survey Name Book of 1849, as being on the N/E margin of the River Tyne, about 4 chains N/E of the Nungate Bridge; the exact location is shown on the first Ordnance Survey Map of Haddington, 1854.

The second brewery in the Nungate, called the Nungate Brewery, was described in the Ordnance Survey Name Book of 1849 as a small building in good repair, having all the necessary offices attached, including a malt kiln. The site was 5 chains East by North from the Nungate Bridge and appears on the first Ordnance Survey Map of 1854.

This property, owned by Robert Mather was disposed in 1805 to Alex Howden, Snr⁶. The brewery passed on to his son, Alexander in 1819. Being also a brewer, he built a malt barn onto the premises and continued brewing here until he sold the premises in 1840 to Robert Muat, a Shoemaker in the Nungate. He leased the brewery to another brewer, John Walker, who retained the tenancy until 1859 when it passed to James Richardson. In 1862⁷ he bought out the tenancy from Thomas Muat, an heir of the owner of the property. James Richardson continued brewing here until he took over the tenancy of the Sidegate Brewery in Haddington in 1866.

The maltings which were at the Nungate Brewery were retained by James Richardson until his death in 1880. Later, they were acquired by a branch of Messrs Bernard Maltings.

After a lapse of 20 years brewing was revived in the Nungate by Mark Binnie, who purchased land at the Eastgate End. From a Report in the Haddingtonshire Courier of 24 February 1882, the new Brewery was described as a 'substantial three-storey structure equipped with the most modern machinery standing amidst a lot of derelict property'. It was

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Mark Binnie's intention 'in course of time to clear away the dilapidated buildings to make way for shedding, stables and other outlying offices of the new brewery'.

As this research was stimulated by the finding of a 'Mark Binnie' Beer bottle, enquiries were made to the Scottish Brewing Archives in Glasgow. There was, virtually, nothing there about the early Breweries in the Nungate and Haddington, but there was an article by a previous archivist, C. H. McMaster, headed 'Scottish Forgotten Breweries', Mark Binnie & Co, The Nungate Brewery, Haddington'.

Mark Binnie was born in Haddington (?) in 1849; he started as a 'pupil brewer' about 1869 under the supervision of Wm Thomson, Head Brewer at the Commercial Brewery of Morison & Thomson, situated in the Canongate, Edinburgh. When the partnership of Morison & Thomson



The Nungate Brewery

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broke up in 1878, Mark Binnie moved south to Bishop Middleham in County Durham to become junior brewer at the brewery of Forster & Co. He worked here until he returned to Haddington to set up his own brewery in the Nungate in 1881. Production commenced the following year at the New Nungate Brewery, as it was initially known, and was capable of producing 200 barrels a week. An Aerated Water Manufactory was later added.

Mark Binnie had two sons, William the elder, who served his time at the Hereford Brewery of S. T. Jenkins & Co. He came back to work for his father in 1899; the second son, John, learned his trade at the Nungate Brewery.

It was from William's personal notebook and from 'The Brewing Book of the Nungate Brewery' kept by John, from 1903/1906, that some of the Brewery products, etc are known:—

- (a) 36/- Table Beer at 1038°.
- (b) 54/- India Pale Ale at 1048°.
- (c) 60/- Bitter Beer.
- (d) 80/- Ale at 1058°.
- (e) Double Brown Stout, 100/- Ale, and 140/- Strong Ale at 1084°.

Both bulk and bottle beers were produced.

A high proportion of home-grown barley was used in the brewing process, but imported barley was also used in the mash-tun from places such as California, Libya and Romania. Flaked maize and rice were used. Hops came from Kent, Sussex, Belgium and Bavaria. The trade was mainly local, although, prior to 1900 there was a trade with the West of Scotland.

For a short time, between 1903/1906, William left Haddington to work in a Yorkshire Brewery. On his return, John left to work as an assistant brewer at Bell's Brewery at the Pleasance, Edinburgh, before moving south to Staffordshire a few years later. He never returned to the family business.

The Binnie family home was at Tynepark which was sold in 1911. Mark Binnie then moved to White Lodge, West Road, Haddington, where he died in 1924. He was succeeded by his son, William T. Binnie who

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ran the Nungate Brewery until October 1937. The trade, goodwill and tied properties were acquired by Wm Younger & Co Ltd, Edinburgh. The Nungate Brewery buildings were acquired by Burns, Coulston & Co Tanners & Wire Mfrs. In 1980 the site was cleared to build a housing estate. The Brewery's Trademark was a goat and a tree.

While there was brewing in the Nungate there was also brewing in Haddington, at Brewery Park and the Sidegate.

The brewers known to own Brewery Park were father & son, both William Shiells.

There is a reference in a sasine of 1817 to William Shiells⁸, being a brewer in Haddington. Two years later in 1819, when John Wood surveyed the town for his Map of Haddington, William Shiells is shown to reside in Back Street, (just North West of the Town House) which was later renamed Court Street and Market Street. From Pigot's Directory of 1825/1826 Wm Shiells and Catherine McBean are classified as Brewers in Back Street, so it is possible that there was a small brewery there at the beginning of the 19th Century. The only other brewer classified was Alexander Howden at Nungate.

In Pigot's Directory of 1837, Wm Shiells, Snr was now noted at West Port and from his will⁹ dated 1834 he stated that he had erected a new brewery near the West Port, (later called Brewery Park). It was described in the Ordnance Survey Name Book of 1849 as an extensive brewery about 10 chains South West of the Town Hall behind the jail. The property now belonged to his son, Wm Shiells (his father having died in 1847), who was still there in 1852, but when the Valuation Rolls began in 1856/1857¹⁰ the property consisting of Field, Garden, Stable, Loft, Brewhouse etc. was now owned by Wm Shiells' heirs. From subsequent Valuation Rolls it appears that the Brewery was carried on by Ross Shiells until 1860/1861, when the premises were bought by George Young, (Smith and Farrier), thus signifying the end of the Brewery at Brewery Park.

The other Brewery in Haddington was the Sidegate Brewery.

The new housing Complex, Brewery Court, in the Sidegate was the site of a brewery which operated there for about 70 years. From John Wood's map, surveyed in 1819, the property belonged to Mrs

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Alison Martine of Morhambank. Her son John, who was a brewer, set up a brewery on his mother's land sometime between 1825 and 1837 (his name did not appear in Pigot's Directory of 1825, but did appear in 1837).

From the Valuation Rolls of 1856/1857 the premises were shown to consist of brewery, malt kiln, granaries, cellar and steam engine. From the same source it was noted that John Martine continued brewing there until 1863 when the tenancy changed to Thomas Lawrie, another brewer. He was there for only a short time, as in 1866 James Richardson, (from the Nungate Brewery) took over the tenancy, which he retained until his death in 1880. His home had been Tynepark.

The Sidegate Brewery was now sold to James McKell Montgomery, who bought Tynebank, Haddington in 1887¹¹. Brewing was continued by him until he sold the business to a newly formed company, Haddington Brewery Co. Ltd in 1896¹². In the agreement of sale Montgomery was to bring in an adequate water supply to the brewery from his home at Tynebank; also his son, James Rae Montgomery was to be engaged at the Brewery for 5 years at a salary of £100 per annum. James McKell Montgomery was to receive £5,750 in cash and £2,000 in shares in the Company, making him the largest shareholder. The Capital of the Company was £20,000. There were about eighty other shareholders, mainly businessmen in Haddington, each of whom held from one to twenty shares of £10 each. This company ran the Brewery for about three years until 1899 when it went into voluntary liquidation. The shareholders were paid out in full when the company was finally liquidated in 1900.

A few months later, John Robertson, a Solicitor in Edinburgh acquired the business, plant, goodwill and assets of the former company for £5,750¹³. It still retained the name, Haddington Brewery Co Ltd. The new shareholders were mainly from Edinburgh, except the brewer, James Freebairn of Church Street, Haddington who owned 500 shares. This enterprise lasted for about 4 years by which time the brewer now was Augustus Frederick Hislop, of Sidegate, Haddington. The Judicial winding up of the company took place in June 1904.

This marked the end of brewing in the Sidegate. The premises were taken over by Alexander Kennedy, Coachbuilder in 1905.

BREWING IN THE NUNGATE AND HADDINGTON

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 13. BT 2/4490
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SC Sheriff Court
VR Valuation Roll. These are held at Scottish Record Office.
BT 2 Register of Dissolved Companies which is held in West Register House.

A SHY LADY AND HER ESTATES A STUDY OF M. G. CONSTANCE NISBET HAMILTON OGILVY 1843-1920

By *STEPHEN BUNYAN*

There were scenes of unusual activity on the roads in East Lothian very early in the morning of the 11th September 1888, as the local nobility, fashionably dressed, in their carriages, the tenant farmers in their gigs, the local clergy and important figures from the burghs and villages in traps, or on horseback, or even on foot, in their Sunday best, made slow progress as was dictated by such means of transport, to the new chapel at Biel, built by Rowand Anderson in 1883 for the new owner. Many must have been on the road almost all night, for some arrived by 7.30 am for the 8.30 am start of what was the Scottish wedding of the year. The Scottish press gave it the sort of coverage reserved in our day for the Prince of Wales. In contrast, in September 1991, the marriage of the only daughter of a Scottish Duke to a French Count went almost unnoticed. The difference is explained in part at least by the much larger part played in 19th century rural affairs by the great estates. The wedding was unusual because it was that of a great heiress in charge of her own affairs and that too was unusual then. The scale of the lady's local influence had been demonstrated the year before at the time of the celebrations of the Queen's Golden Jubilee on 21st June 1887. The first of a series given by our bride-to-be was described as follows in the *Haddingtonshire Courier* of 24th June 1887.

"Innerwick Yesterday, the first of the series of festive gatherings, given on her East Lothian estates in honour of the Queen's Jubilee by Miss Nisbet Hamilton, took place, no fewer than 500 people being entertained in the beautiful glen, the green sward of which during the afternoon, presented a most animated appearance. The sports began about

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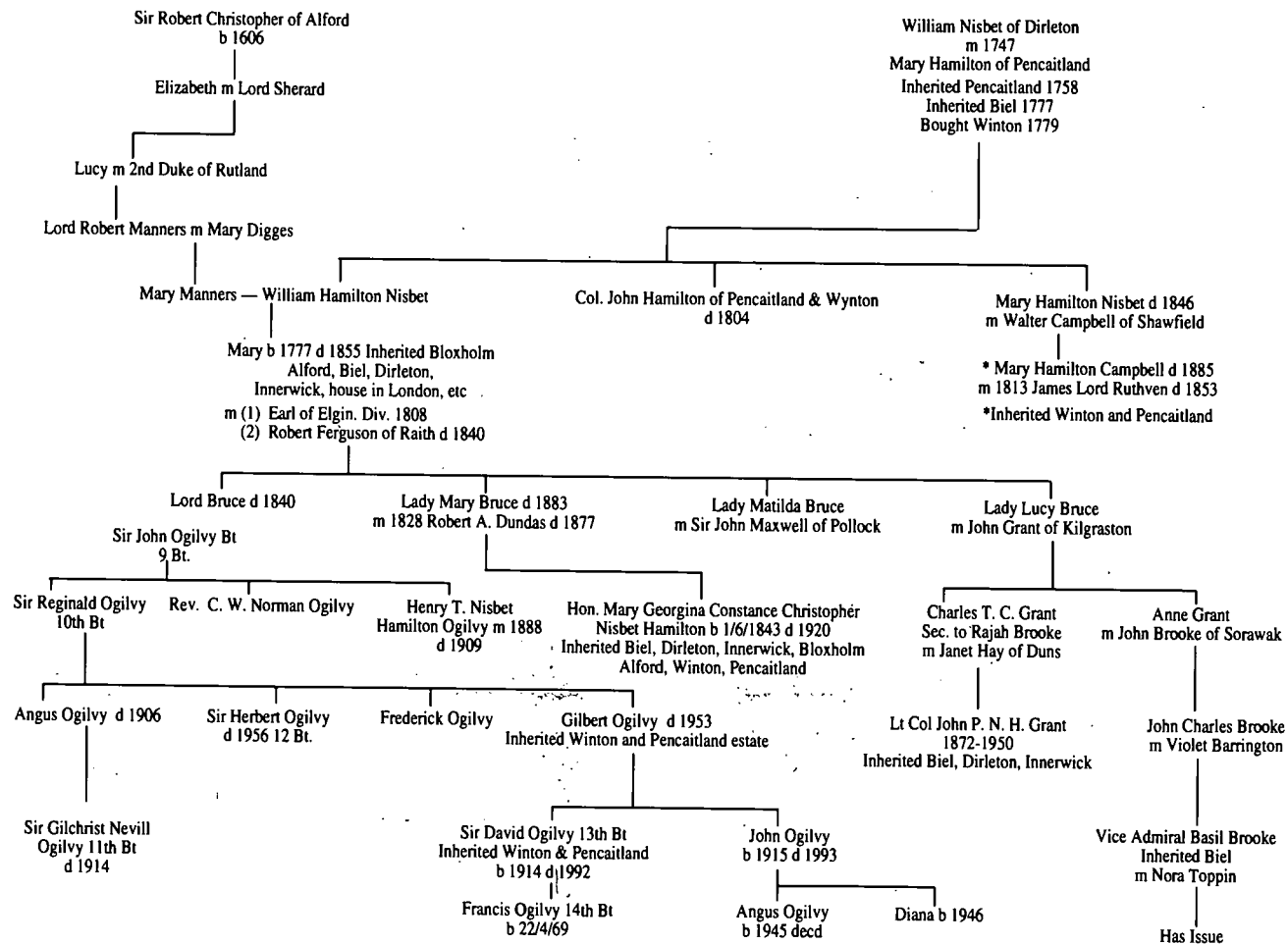
two o'clock, when all kinds of games were engaged in, young and old vying with each other in the exhibition of their loyal attachment to the Queen. Refreshments of the most substantial character were provided, copious libations of tea being accompanied by meat sandwiches, mutton pies, and a liberal allowance of delicious cake. The East Linton brass band was in attendance, and provided excellent music, to the livelier strains of which the younger portion of the company engaged with much spirit in reels, polkas, and other favourite dances."

Other entertainments followed at Dirleton (1,000 guests), Winton (800) and Biel (1,200), making a total of 3600 friends, tenants, servants etc., not counting those on her two English estates. In the vote of thanks at one she was referred to, apparently with justice, as the kind hearted lady. The events on all the Scottish estates were organised by the Factor, Mr. Higgins, Canon Wannop of Holy Trinity Church Haddington, and Mr. Bissett, the House Steward. At Biel the guests were shown the Public



Constance Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy.

Table showing the connections of Mrs C. N. H. Ogilvy and their effect on inheritance of the various estates



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Rooms and the new Chapel where the crucifix was much admired and where Police Inspector Fraser and the Dunbar Police and Coastguard helped with the arrangements. Loyal messages were sent, that from Dirleton by the novel method of Carrier Pigeon and from Biel a loyal poem written by Jessie McVicar of the dairy, was sent to the Queen.

The Jubilee was also celebrated in a more solemn way at Biel as we see in the following notice.

Biel A Jubilee Thanksgiving Service will be held in the Chapel of St. Margaret of Scotland, Biel, on Sunday next, 28th June, commencing at six o'clock pm. Preacher Rev. J. Willard Richmond, M.A., Headmaster of Trinity College, Glenalmond. — Adv.

Interesting Presentation — For the last three years, Miss Nisbet Hamilton has thrown open her private chapel to the public, and allowed any to attend the services who chose to do so.

By way of acknowledging her kindness in the matter and also as a testimony of regard, a deputation of the more regular attenders of the chapel services waited upon her on Friday last for the purpose of presenting her with a beautifully bound bible for use in the chapel.

On 7th January the same year, the paper reported a series of entertainments given by her to the children in the village schools and this was a tradition which she continued over the years;

Stenton A very enjoyable treat was given by Miss Nisbet Hamilton to the school children on Thursday, the 30th ult., of the character similar to that provided to various other of the county schools in those districts in which Miss Hamilton's estates lie. The entertainment began by a series of clever and amusing conjurer's tricks, which were followed by the ever attractive performances of Punch and Judy. These ancient and worldwide favourites received here a quite unusual and novel ovation from the children by their singing a very clever song of welcome, composed specially for the occasion by Miss Giary, who is at present staying at Biel. The above exhibition over, the children were then entertained to tea, accompanied by a most liberal supply of buns, currant-loaf and before separating, Mr. Marjoribanks proposed three hearty cheers for Miss Hamilton and Miss Giary, both of whom were present along with other friends during the course of the entertainment.

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How had it come to pass that these estates were in the hands of a single lady? She was Mary Georgina Constance Nisbet Hamilton, who was born in 1843. She was the only child of Lady Mary Bruce and her husband Robert A. Dundas, who had married in 1828. Her inheritance had come to her from her mother who died in 1883. She in turn had inherited it mainly from her mother, Mrs. Nisbet Hamilton Ferguson who had been formerly the Countess of Elgin. This inheritance consisted of the Hamilton estate of Biel, including the village of Stenton, the Nisbet estate of Dirleton and Innerwick with the ancient castle of Dirleton, the mansion house of Archerfield, and the ruined castles of Innerwick and Thornton, and the Christopher estates of Bloxholm and Wellvale in Lincolnshire. The land holding in East Lothian alone is shown in 1874 as 16,666 acres valued at £28,540 pa. In addition Miss Nisbet Hamilton in 1885 had inherited the Hamilton estates of Winton and Pencaitland from her relative the Dowager Lady Ruthven.

By any standards it was a vast inheritance. It was made up in East Lothian of three mansion houses in good order, containing a fine collection of pictures, objets d'art, curios, plate and furniture, of four villages which her family had largely built and cherished, and of nearly forty farms (some of the best in Scotland). The prosperity of the estate was demonstrated by the amount of building that had been done over the years, both to the mansion houses, in the villages and on the farms. It is also testified to by various writers but perhaps most fully by A. G. Bradley in his book *When Squires and Farmers Thrived*, published in 1927, written about his stay in East Lothian in 1870 as a student at Fenton Barns, one of the farms on the Dirleton and Archerfield Estate.

He came there at the peak of British agricultural prosperity and Fenton Barns, farmed by George Hope, was famous throughout Europe. Bradley pays tribute to the standard of farming both in terms of efficiency and prosperity found in the whole of the surrounding countryside.

From his book we get a picture of the home of the young Constance Nisbet Hamilton at Archerfield, which he visited. He described it as a great country house but said it was formal, ceremonious and dull. R. A. C. Nisbet Hamilton, Constance's father, was a junior member of the Dundas family who had controlled the political life of Scotland at the end of the 18th century, but Henry Dundas, Viscount Melville, fell from power in 1806. He had probably married Lady Mary Bruce partly for her social position, but more for her prospects in her mother's inheritance and

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the political influence her wealth would give him. When she inherited her properties he assumed first the name Christopher in 1835 and then Nisbet Hamilton in 1855. He was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in 1852. It was said that his function was to give dinners for the Conservative Party. If so the peak of his entertaining must have been in 1859 when, on Saturday, 20th August, the young Prince of Wales visited North Berwick and went to the Bass Rock and Tantallon Castle. He went out on Sir Hew Dalrymple's yacht *Firefly* (R.T.Y.C.), accompanied by the gunboat, the *Louisa*, as a tender. The guns of the *Louisa* fired a Royal Salute and the Royal Standard was hoisted on the summit by Mr. Warrender of Lochend and Mr Dalzell. When the party landed on the Bass Rock they had lunch, spent three hours there and went to Tantallon. The party then rode back to North Berwick, which was full of holiday crowds, and on to Dirleton, where the Prince stayed with Mr. and Lady Mary Nisbet Hamilton.

The royal visit was marked by flags on the Castle and in the villages and by bonfires in the area at night. The Nisbet Hamiltons provided for a dinner in Dirleton Inn, presided over by the factor for the tenants and others, and a marquee was erected in which the servants and labourers were given dinner and their wives and daughters tea.

On Sunday the Prince went to Dirleton Church and the minister was invited back to lunch at Archerfield. No doubt the sixteen year old Constance was there at the time of the visit of the seventeen year old prince. They probably met but there could have been no realistic hope of a romance. Bradley describes her in 1870 as plain featured, with a reputation for cleverness and a great heiress. He says there was talk of suitors. It would have been astonishing if there had not been. He said there was even talk of German Royalty and certainly her inheritance was as great as some minor German Principalities. She was carefully chaperoned and shy. Bradley said however, that even then, she had a look which showed she would settle the matter for herself. Which she did in due course. Her choice was Henry T. Ogilvy, the son of Sir John Ogilvy Bt., a Liberal M.P., which would not have endeared him to her father, who had shocked even some of his Conservative friends when he gave notice to quit to George Hope of Fenton Barns apparently for no other fault than standing as a Liberal candidate. Constance may also have been influenced by the fact that she had seen how her father had gained control over her mother's inheritance.

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By the time she married her position was improved by the Scottish Married Woman's Property Act of 1881, which secured her income at least to her, though it was less generous than the English act of 1882. The Settled Land Act of 1882 must also have been of value to her and her husband when they came to develop Gullane in the 1890s. Nevertheless, she bestowed a great position on her husband by her marriage to him. Unfortunately, by the time she married she was forty-five and beyond the age of safe child bearing. This yet again created inheritance problems and must have affected her attitude to her great possessions.

Bradley suggests that by 1870 a great social cleavage had developed in Scotland between the gentry and the tenantry, brought about by the growing fashion for English education. This had created a language barrier and was creating a religious one. He gives evidence that in Robert Nisbet Hamilton's time this was so at Archerfield. There is, however, some evidence to the contrary in the details of the setting up of the Dirleton Golf Club. Mr Nisbet Hamilton was a keen golfer and encouraged people involved, however loosely, with the estate to play on the thirteen hole course at Archerfield. Dirleton Golf Club was formed in 1869 and later in the year was renamed Archerfield Golf Club as a compliment to Miss Nisbet Hamilton, who had presented a medal. As we have seen relations were certainly cordial by the time of the Golden Jubilee in 1887.

This more open attitude is also shown in the list of the guests at the wedding in 1888 which, in addition to the nobility and gentry, included the tenants of the farms on the estates as well as the important figures from the local burghs. Dunbar, for instance, was represented by Mr & Mrs Kelly and Mr J. T. Kelly the bank agent and key members of the Episcopal Church, by the Rev. D. & Mrs McColl of the Episcopal Church, the Rev. R. Buchanan of Dunbar Parish Church, Provost and Mrs Brand, Mr & Mrs Drysdale and Capt. Jackson.

The wedding itself was obviously carefully thought out. The arrangements had regard for the devout Episcopalianism of the couple and the elaborate service started at 8.30 a.m. and was followed by Holy Communion. It was celebrated in the new Chapel at Biel, dedicated to St. Margaret of Scotland. The chapel could only hold some of the many guests, between one and two hundred, but we know from a later inventory it was normally seated for one hundred and two. Everything

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else that was fitting for such an important occasion in the lives of the bride and bridegroom and indeed the people on their estates, and of the area, was done. Though the marriage began at 8.30 am a substantial crowd had gathered by 7.30 am hoping for a seat or good view. The bride entered unobtrusively, presumably from the house, with no bridesmaids, to be given away by her cousin, Mr Robert Dundas of Arniston, to join the waiting Mr Ogilvy and his best man, Lord Sherborne. She was suitably attired in white velvet brocade and white satin with Brussels lace, wearing several pieces of diamond jewellery, including five diamond stars as buttons and a tiara. Three brooches were wedding presents from the bridegroom.

The chapel was richly furnished with the crucifix of beaten silver embellished with precious stones, which had been such an object of interest to the visitors at the Golden Jubilee celebrations. The altar had two rows of candlesticks and two more in front, these with their candles stand approximately 8' high. There were three silver sanctuary lamps. It is interesting that some of the items for the chapel were given as wedding presents, e.g. the silver bowl and jug, were given by the Earl and Countess of Haddington, and the Venetian Silver Sanctuary Lamps by Mr & Mrs R. Bruce, the iron mounted alms box, presumably not used that day, by Miss A. E. Dundas. A 16th century Italian Cope was given by Mr & Mrs Cyril Flower and was used that day. The Bishop of Edinburgh gave an old Jacobite Prayer Book which he used. The chapel was beautifully decorated with flowers. There was a porch of evergreens and heather. There were white arrangements under the windows in the Chancel and on the altar, while three Gothic arches of white heather separated the Chancel from the Nave.

The service was a full choral one. It was conducted by Bishop Dowden of Edinburgh assisted by Canon Murdoch of All Saints, Edinburgh. Canon Wannop of Holy Trinity, Haddington, the Rev. D. McColl of St. Anne's, Dunbar, who carried the Crozier, and the Rev. N. Ogilvy, brother of the bridegroom.

The Bishop used Lady Robert Manner's (the bride's great, great grandmother) prayer book which had exceptionally large print and which had been used by Archbishop Socker at King George III's marriage and, because it was considered lucky, at several subsequent royal marriages. The Jacobite prayer book given by the Bishop was used at the Communion.

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After the wedding the new Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy Arms were flown from the flagstaff, replacing the Hamilton Arms which had been up earlier. Just as the whole company could not be accommodated in the chapel, so they fed in relays at the wedding breakfast at 11 am, purveyed by Summers and Sons of Princes Street. About 12 noon, the cake 25" in diameter and 4' high with banners showing the Coats of Arms of the various branches of the families of the bride and groom, was cut by the bride and handed round, and the Rev. J. Marjoribanks of Stenton proposed the marriage toast. The company and most of the house party dispersed soon after because the honeymoon was to be spent at Biel where, in the afternoon of the wedding day, the couple planted a purple beech to the east of the house.

The day was not quite over because the various villages were in fete and this culminated in bonfires, illuminations and fireworks. There were bonfires at Pressmennan, at Archerfield and Pencaitland, and a *feu de joie* of twenty one guns was fired and there was a fireworks display at Stenton. There were substantial celebrations in Dunbar with bunting on every flagstaff, fireworks in front of the established church and with rolling tar barrels. This last detail suggests that people's enthusiasm may have overcome decorous celebrations. On Wednesday Mr. Gray of Leith provided a further display of rockets and squibs at Kirkhill in Dunbar.

There were also celebrations at Baldovan, the Ogilvy seat in Fife where a salute was fired by the Artillery Volunteers and during the day the bells pealed in St Paul's Church, Dundee. No doubt there were similar celebrations in Lincolnshire.

Perhaps the most pleasing detail of the day is that the committee of the East Linton Combination Poor House, chaired by the Earl of Haddington, gave orders that the inmates should have a special tea on the wedding day. This was duly done and they had a pleasant social evening during which references were made to Miss Nisbet Hamilton's many kindnesses.

When one considers the low-key approach to Royal visits today and the problems encountered in mounting simple celebrations for local or national events, it all sounds remarkable, as do the accounts of the wedding presents. We read, for instance, that the merchants of Dunbar gave a gold card case with an illuminated address, that the people of

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Dunbar, better class and poor, subscribed for a massive Boule clock, that her merchants in Edinburgh gave a huge silver vase, that the tenants of the various estates gave large and expensive presents, that the children of the various schools in the villages gave presents, for example the children of Gullane School gave a prayer book bound in ivory, and the teachers and pupils of Kingston School a silver mounted handbag.

No doubt the presents were a measure of thanks for interest shown and favour conveyed. The Provost of Dunbar mentioned the recent addition to the water supply and the favour of strangers visiting Dunbar given permission to wander in the grounds at Biel. Perhaps in some cases they were a measure of real affection for the bride and in others an insurance for the future that custom might continue to be enjoyed. Even so, some seem amazingly lavish, like the antique silver gilt casket given by Holy Trinity Congregation in Haddington, considering Canon and Mrs Wannop also gave an individual present.

After their marriage, the couple seemed to have settled down to fulfil their responsibilities on the bride's estate. The day by day management was in the capable hands of the factor, Robert Higgins, who lived at Ninewar and was paid £240 p.a. and had his expenses paid, including a gardener at £42.4.6d p.a., but the couple continued to give entertainment for the people.

There was, in 1889, a great New Year Fete at Biel which was in part a marriage festival but consisted of two marquees with tea for 1000. The company included the Earl and Countess of Haddington, and other local gentry. Henry N. Hamilton Ogilvy commented on the feeling engendered by being before 1000 people knowing they were all friends of his wife, and hoped he could be included in their friendship. There was dancing to the East Linton Brass Band, followed by fireworks and the Whittinghame piper. A similar entertainment was given at Thorntonloch in a barn for 400 people. Over the years, especially in summer, a series of similar parties occurred both in Scotland and in Lincolnshire, e.g. one at Bloxholm in 1894 for 200. A series of musical entertainments, instrumental and vocal, were arranged at Winton, Biel and Archerfield over the years, a tradition continued at Winton by Sir David and Lady Ogilvy. There were also formal balls for the gentry e.g. on 29 October 1892, but also a dance for tradesmen, work people and their friends, in the castle at Winton House.

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In 1894 on the anniversary of their wedding, a garden party for 400 was given at Biel, including the local aristocracy headed by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe, but including the tenantry. From time to time they also had large house parties. One in 1894 included the Princes Leopold and Reginald of Croy and another in 1897 was held for the Yester Ball. They took an interest in a whole series of village concerts.

Their interests also took a more serious turn. Quite soon after his marriage, Mr H. T. Hamilton Ogilvy laid the foundation stone of the Episcopal School at St Paul's Cathedral in Dundee, on March 27 1889, and was presented with a silver trowel by the architect. Mr Ogilvy stressed the importance of a religious education and his own connection with the Episcopal Church in the city. One suspects that he and his wife may have made a generous contribution to the project.

About the same time a small orphanage, St David's, was established at Biel for twelve poor boys from Dundee. The boys wore kilts and formed the choir in the chapel. A *Country Life* article of 1902 says that letters of appreciation were still coming from boys who had been there. Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy continued her interest in golf and her husband was President of the Archerfield Club. They leased the ground at Muirfield to the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers which led to the development of Muirfield. Mr & Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy granted the excellent golf course to the people of Gullane. They granted an important concession to North Berwick for the extension of the golf course there. These developments were seen as important in the development of the area.

Gullane began to develop and this was greatly helped by the provision of a water supply, largely as a result of the efforts of Mr Ogilvy and the generosity of his wife. She was given a silver key to turn it on. A cake and wine banquet followed in Gullane School, provided by the couple with catering by Mr Bisset of the New Hotel. Archerfield Estate benefited from the development of Gullane which gained further impetus with the building of the railway in 1898. This was followed by similar interest and involvement in providing an improved water supply for Dunbar.

Reference had already been made at the time of the wedding to the provision of the water supply to the town, but the problem had become

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urgent because of a typhoid outbreak which had followed a case at Pathhead. Concern had also been expressed about Pressmennan where the river trout had died in large numbers the previous year. The new supply came from a higher source and its excellence was testified to by Provost Brand when he gave Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy a silver water key at the opening ceremony, which was held at the decorated jubilee fountain at the east end of the town. It was in the presence of the Magistrates and Council, and representatives of Freemasons, Free Gardeners, Foresters, Oddfellows, and Templars with their regalia, and a group of local notables.

The ceremony was also followed by a cake and wine banquet in the Assembly Room.

The couple took an interest in church building. Mr Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy almost at once became a trustee of St Baldred's Episcopal Church in North Berwick, replacing Sir Hew Hamilton Dalrymple who had died in 1887, and whose heir was not an Episcopalian. R. C. Nisbet Hamilton had been one of the original trustees of that church. Mr & Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy were also involved in the building of St Anne's Church, Dunbar, also by Rowand Anderson between 1888-1890. They were certainly interested in, but may not have been involved in, the conversion of Lady Jane Ogilvy's orphanage into the Chapel of St Luke in Strathmartine.

As principal heritor of the parishes of Stenton, Dirleton, Innerwick and probably Pencaitland, and also heritor in Whittinghame, Athelstaneford, North Berwick, Spott and Dunbar, Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy was required to contribute to the maintenance of parish churches and manses and to contribute also to the ministers' stipends. Major alterations were carried out at Stenton in 1891-92 by James Jerdan and at Dunbar Parish Church in 1896-97. The work at Dunbar was funded largely by money raised by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe, but she no doubt involved Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy. The latter would also make contributions to churches in Lincolnshire.

In addition to the assessed payments, a payment of 14/- was paid to insure the private aisle at Dirleton Church. These payments were made though she was a practising Episcopalian, but were recognised as a duty and a service for the people on the estate. There were also payments of private generosity, like an extra payment of £4 in 1891 to make PC Murdoch's pay up to that of a Sergeant.

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Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy took an interest in the South African War. She sent various items to the army and publicly thanked her staff for helping to make and send them. She appealed for more goods which she would send and listed what had already gone, e.g. to the Royal Scots, 12 cardigan jackets, 12 Tam o' Shanters, 24 pairs of socks. Similar donations were sent to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the Black Watch, the Gordon Highlanders, the Lincolnshire Regiment and the Queensland Volunteers.

In June 1900 there was a huge bonfire at Biel and an effigy of Kruger was burned to celebrate the entry to Pretoria. There had also been a Camp of Edinburgh Company of Volunteer Medical Staff Corps at Biel in 1892. They paraded to Stenton Parish Church for a service.

In 1906 the 1st Battalion of the Scottish Regiment of the Church Lads Brigade camped at Biel. This was the first camp of its kind under canvas in Scotland and was deemed a great success. The boys were well behaved. They established good relations with the Big House. On Sunday they attended Holy Communion in the Chapel at 7.30 am, had a drumhead service taken by their chaplain, the Rev. D. M. Shaw of Airdrie, at 10.30 am and attended evensong in the Chapel. On one occasion they had tea in the Hall and were allowed to sail and fish at Pressmennan Lake.

Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy presented the prizes on the Friday evening. Her husband expressed the pleasure it had been for them to see so many happy, well-behaved boys in the grounds and expressed the hope that they would return the following year.

In 1900 HRH the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, a nephew of Queen Adelaide, visited Biel and had luncheon. Later in the summer, HRH the Duchess of York, later Queen Mary, visited Yester and made an afternoon visit to Biel. On that occasion the party assembled to meet her included TSH Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe Weimar.

On 10th October 1902, King Edward VII visited North Berwick, staying with Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar at the Knoll from 9th - 11th. He visited North Berwick Golf Course from the Marine Hotel grounds. Ben Sayers was presented and arrangements were made for a set of golf clubs to be made. He visited Carlekemp House which had just

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been built at a cost of £40,000. The King returned to Quality Street where he planted a tree asking that it be well protected. The King signed the Council Minutes Book and recalled his visit of 43 years before. The King had luncheon at the Knoll at 2 pm and planted another tree, and then went off on an extensive motor car tour to Whittingehame, the home of the Prime Minister, A. J. Balfour, and Tynninghame where the party included Mrs and Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy. The royal party arrived at Tynninghame at 5 o'clock and the King had tea. He planted a tree in such darkness that the Prime Minister got lost in the gloom.

Clearly at this time Biel was seen as the couple's principal residence. The *Country Life* article of August 30, 1902, and another in *Scots Pictorial* in 1912 give a full description of the mansion and the former gives credit to Mr Hamilton Ogilvy for the care of the treasures and the grounds, but clearly it was a joint interest.

The garden had rare plants, some of which you would only expect in the south. The slow flowing stream made rare aquatic plants possible. There is an interesting report of December 1899 which says that only 1 degree of frost had been recorded that autumn and the dinner table at Biel on two evenings had a central arrangement of 38 specimen glasses with an astonishing range of outside flowers: antirrhinum, carnations, chrysanthemums, clematis jackmanii, calliopsis, dahlias, gaillardia, godetia, jasminum (yellow), lupinus, laurustinus, French marigold, Scotch marigold, marguerite, mignonette, montbretia, michaelmas daisy, nasturtiums, nicotiana affinis, phlox, penstemons, roses, rhododendrons, rudbeckia, salpiglossis, scabious, sunflowers, stocks, sweet peas, sweet violets, tagetes signata pumila.

While we accept that the climate is mild here in winter, this must have been a truly amazing display. The desire to mount it is a testimony to the interest the proprietors took in their garden. The *Country Life* article mentions the trees in the grounds and in particular a fine old cedar brought in a pot from London by the 2nd Lord Belhaven. It perished in a strong gale on November 5, 1926. Thomas Hannan gives a list of the trees in his *Famous Scottish Houses* (1928). The article also talks about the animals which were kept in the fashion of the time — ostriches, emus and kangaroos. There had been excitement reported in the local press in 1894 when a kangaroo escaped into the park and could not be recaptured.

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The house contained many treasures. From this and other accounts, we know that there were pictures by Van Dyck, Lely, Gainsborough, Kneller, Murillo and Thomson of Duddingston; and that among the other treasures was a necklace which had belonged to Queen Elizabeth and given to Lord Sherard.

In the years before the Great War, Archerfield was let, to among others, the Prime Minister Asquith and it may be that some pictures were moved then to Biel and Winton. Other important pictures were inherited at Winton from Lady Ruthven. Some pictures formerly at Biel and Archerfield can now be seen in the National Gallery in Edinburgh, to which they were bequeathed by Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy, notably two portraits of Lady Robert Manners, one by Ramsay and one by Lawrence, Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy by Gainsborough and Mary Nisbet, Countess of Elgin, by Gerard. The greatest treasure must be *The Taking of Christ* recently attributed to Caravaggio.

Details of two other members of the Ogilvy family were noted in the family newspaper cuttings scrapbook about this time. The first was C. W. Norman Ogilvy, whose induction as Vicar of Oswestry took place in 1897. His death is recorded in 1903. From the testimonies at his funeral we get a picture of an exceptional parson earning the affection of the whole community as his brother had done in East Lothian.

Also recorded is the marriage in December 1904 of Herbert K. Ogilvy, second son of Henry's brother, Sir Reginald, to Lady Christian Bruce, daughter of the Earl of Elgin, and a kinswoman of Constance Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy, who was descended from the 7th Earl. It was reasonable to suppose that she might wish to provide for a member of her husband's family. About this time she took stock of her affairs, to consider providing an income for her heir in entail J. P. Grant to prevent him having to go to Nigeria, then known as the White Man's Grave.

Bradley commented that while she and her husband were happy together, the gift of the judicious management of a great estate in difficult times was denied to them. While this may have been true they were certainly not alone in being affected by the great agricultural depression caused by the importation of cheap grain from North America after 1875 and the fact that the British governing classes were slow to realise the dangers of free trade in a changed economic climate.

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Bloxholm was sold, and its gates brought to Winton. Archerfield was let from time to time, other economies were practised and a proposed Episcopal church in Pencaitland was not built.

Henry Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy died on December 19th 1909, and was buried in a new burial ground which he laid out, and which extends to half an acre, next to the cemetery in Pencaitland. It was dedicated in 1911 to St Michael and All Angels. It was intended as a site for an Episcopal chapel which was never built, perhaps because of falling income, the onset of the Great War and the social changes which it caused. A great cross still there commemorates the piety of this devoted couple. From his obituary notices we learn the role he played. He was a Depute Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace in the county. He was a member of the County Council which was, of course, new body at that time. He was Chairman of the Lunacy Board and of the Bill Committee. He was a member of several School Boards and Parish Councils. He was a keen curler and Vice-President of the East Lothian Province of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, as well as being President of the Biel and Dirleton Curling Clubs and Patron of that at Winton. Two services were held at Biel and one at St. Baldred's, North Berwick. The funeral came from Biel to Pencaitland at two o'clock and the service according to the Anglican Rite was performed by Mr Murdoch of Holy Trinity, Haddington, and the Rev. R. Douglas Bruce of St. Anne's, Dunbar, who had taken the two services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. at Biel.

After his death, his widow lived a quieter life mainly at Winton. During this period she perhaps gained 'the reputation which led to my title, visiting the farms but saying little or nothing. Devoted to the memory of her husband with whom she had been so happy, she expected the tenants to have their photographs in their dining rooms. She visited the schools in the villages and to the children she now seemed a very formal old lady.

More building projects were undertaken. Gilbert Ogilvy designed the laundry at Winton for her and she fitted it out in 1914 to be a convalescent home for officers. The War Office declined it and she dismantled the fittings, only for them to change their mind.

Mrs Nisbet Hamilton Ogilvy died on 25th June, 1920. Her funeral service was held in the Inner Hall at Winton and she was buried beside her husband in the new burial ground in Pencaitland. Many tributes were

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paid to her generosity, to her support of the church, particularly the Episcopal Church, to her accomplishments, to her interest in local affairs, to her love of music and history, to her patriotism, and finally to justify my title, in the words of the Parish Minister of Pencaitland, "To outsiders she might seem stiff and proud, but under great shyness there was a very humble and tender heart. No good object appealed to her in vain and she was ever ready to help where there was distress."

The estates of Biel and Archerfield passed to Lt. Col. J. P. Nisbet Hamilton Grant, D.S.O. of Kilgraston who was descended from Lady Lucy Bruce. He died in 1950 and Biel then passed to his relative, Vice Admiral Basil Brooke. In 1952 Admiral Brooke demolished the Chapel built by Rowand Anderson in 1883 and most of the building done by William Atkinson in the early 19th century. The porch was re-sited. He sold Biel to Charles J. Spence Esq. in 1958. Admiral Brooke died in 1982.

The Winton Estate was bequeathed to Gilbert Ogilvy. This may have been because Herbert Ogilvy had succeeded to the Ogilvy Baronetcy because his nephew had been killed in action in 1914. Gilbert's elder son, David, inherited Winton from his father in 1953 and as Herbert died in 1956 without an heir, he also inherited the Ogilvy title. Sir David Ogilvy died in 1992 and was succeeded by his only son, Francis, as 14th Baronet of Inverquhar and Laird of Winton.

ANNUAL REPORT 1993

The sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Athelstaneford Parish Church on Saturday, 23rd May 1992.

At the AGM the officers of the Society were re-elected.

Mr R. Barker, Dr L. Errington, Mrs M. K. Lewis and Mr J. Woolman were due to retire from the Council. Mrs Lewis and Mr Woolman were re-elected and Dr I. Donaldson and Mrs J. Hunt were elected as members of the Council.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Secretary outlined the history of the church and parish, and Dr Islay Donaldson, author of "East Lothian Gravestones", led a tour of the churchyard and its fascinating collection of gravestones.

Members were saddened to hear of the death of Sir David Ogilvy Bt., President of the Society from 1979 to 1991. A tribute is included in volume XXII of the Transactions.

On 30th May, members visited Manderston where they were received by Lord and Lady Palmer. They were impressed by the splendour of the house and grounds for which they had been prepared by Lord Palmer's excellent presentation at the Annual Dinner in March.

On 20th June members were led on a most enjoyable walk in Pease Dean over Telford's Bridge and up to Cockburnspath Tower and back through the Dean by Mr H. H. Edie.

On 4th July members were led on a walking tour of Musselburgh and Inveresk by Mr Stephen J. Edwards. Points of interest included the fine range of domestic and commercial buildings.

Heavy rain affected the visit to Dalkeith on 15th August. Members were shown St Nicholas's Church and St Mary's Episcopal Church by various members of their respective congregations and were given tea in

the Old Tolbooth, now the hall of St Mary's Church. Mr W. Fiddes outlined the history of that building. The visit to the park did not take place.

On the 19th September members visited Paxton House. They were received by the Executive Director, Mr K. J. Scotland. The future of this fine Adam mansion has been secured by the formation of the Paxton Trust, and members were impressed by the house and the restored picture gallery, in which are displayed some of the pictures of the National Gallery collection.

On Saturday, 10th October members had a joint outing to Saltoun Big Wood with the Botanical Society of Scotland, led by Dr Stefan Helfer. Much of interest was seen.

On Thursday, 29th October, members visited East Lothian District Council's buildings in Haddington. They were received by the Hon. Secretary and Mr Douglas Buttenshaw. The purpose of the visit was to see the Council's collection of pictures but considerable interest was also shown in the buildings themselves and the workings of the Council.

Two lectures were given in the course of the season. On 12th November, Charles J. Burnett, Esq., the Ross Herald of Arms, gave a fascinating lecture on the Honours of Scotland. On 11th February, Dr K. Velander gave an illustrated lecture on mammals, principally a study of pine martens, in which she commented on the wide range of problems encountered in such a study.

The annual dinner was held in Kilspindie House Hotel, Aberlady, on Friday, 26th March when the Hon. President, Professor Emeritus R. Mitchison, gave a fascinating talk entitled "Marriage and non-Marriage in 18th Century Scotland".

Volume XXII of the Transactions was published during the year, and has been well received. Volume XXIII is in preparation.

The Society maintains its interest in other local matters. The Secretary represents the Society as a trustee of the Lamp of Lothian, and on the Traprain Law Management Advisory Group. The Society is represented on the John Muir Park Management Committee by Mr R. Weatherhead and on the North Berwick Museum Management Committee

by Mrs J. Hunt and Mr R. Forster. The Society is a corporate member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the John Muir Trust, the River Tyne Trust, The Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Scottish Local History Forum, the Council for Scottish Archaeology and the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society. Members are reminded that the Society supported the purchase of Pressmennan Wood by the Woodland Trust. Local people are now being encouraged to assist in conservation work there on the first Sunday of each month. The Society is vigilant over threats to our heritage of historic buildings, landscapes and natural habitats, and makes appropriate representations when these seem threatened. It continues to be interested in potential development at Archerfield, Gosford and Briery Bank in Haddington.

Arrangements are in hand for an exhibition of the collection of pictures by Miss Nimmo-Smith in Haddington House during Haddington Festival Week.

Some members of the Society are involved in the botanical survey of the Lothians which is to produce 'Botany of the Lothians'.

The Society supported the publication of "A History of Dirleton Castle Golf Club 1854-1981" by Doctor A. Paterson.

Membership of the Society is steady at 257; in addition there are 12 institutional members.

The Society's Transactions are lodged in the Copyright Libraries and are purchased regularly by others. Information about the Society has been sought by and placed in a number of national and other works of reference; and inquiries both about the Society and about issues related to East Lothian from within and without East Lothian seem to grow in number.

PROGRAMME 1993-94

Saturday, 12th June	The Light of the North. Exhibition and visit to Dunfermline
17th July	Visit to Flodden, Etal and Ford
14th August	Visit to Gosford
18th September	Visit to Eaglescairnie Mains
Sunday, 17th October	Visit to Caroline Park

LECTURES

Thursday, 11th November	Medicine from the Mud Dr B. Moffat
10th February	East Lothian's Historic Churches Ian Fullerton

ANNUAL REPORT 1994

The sixty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Whittingehame Parish Church on Saturday, 22nd May 1993, by kind permission of the Minister, the Rev. J. Lawson and the Kirk Session. Members were welcomed by the Hon. President Professor R. M. Mitchison.

The Hon. Secretary paid tribute to Sir David Ogilvy Bt, past president of the Society, who died on 16th June 1992. The office-bearers of the Society were re-elected. Miss E. Strachan and Dr I. Donaldson retired as members of Council and were replaced by Miss V. Fletcher and Mr M. Cox. Mr C. Tabraham and Mr R. Forster were re-elected.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Secretary spoke about the part played in the formation of the Society by A. J. Balfour, Esq., the former Prime Minister, Miss Alice Balfour, his sister, and the Rev. M. B. Lang, all of the parish. Professor R. Mitchison gave a résumé of the Disruption of May 1843, and Mr C. Tabraham spoke about the church and its history.

Members then visited the Yew Tree at Whittingehame Tower where the Secretary gave a brief outline of the history. Members also visited the burial ground there.

Members were saddened during the year by the death of Miss Christian Nisbet, a founder member of the Society, and shocked by the death, as a result of an accident, of Miss Sue Jenkinson, a member of the Council of the Society and the Museums Officer of East Lothian District Council, who in a short time had made a notable contribution to museum provision in East Lothian.

On Saturday, 12th June, members commemorated Saint Margaret, Queen of Scotland, who died in 1093, by visiting the exhibition 'The Light of the North' at the City of Edinburgh Art Gallery led by Herbert Coutts, Esq., the Director of the City Museums and a member of Council of the Society, and proceeded to Dunfermline where Dr F. Fawcett, Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments, led a visit to the Abbey and the Rev. A. L. Jessamine welcomed the party to the Abbey Church

On Saturday, 17th July, a visit was made to Flodden Field where the Rev. Hugh MacKay of Talmine, a member of the Society, outlined the background to and the strategy of the Battle of Flodden. The party then visited Heatherslaw Corn Mill, and the school room at Ford with its Biblical Murals by Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford, as well as an exhibition of other pictures by her.

On 14th August members were invited to visit Gosford House by the Hon. Vice President, the Rt Hon. the Earl of Wemyss and March KT. Lord Wemyss gave an outline of the current proposal to develop the estate. Members were shown part of the Picture Collection by Mr James Holloway, Keeper of the National Portrait Gallery.

On Saturday, 18th September, members visited Eaglescairn Mains, an FWAG demonstration farm, where Mike Williams, Esq., showed how he had carried out a policy reconciling modern farming with conservation.

On Sunday, 17th October, members visited Caroline Park, the fine 17th century mansion in Granton now being restored to some of its former glory by its new owners, Mr and Mrs Andrew Parnell.

Two lectures were given in the course of the season. The first on the 11th November was by Dr Brian Moffat, 'Medicine from the Mud', an update of the excavation at the Medieval Hospital on Soutra which members had previously visited, and the second an audio/slide presentation on 10th February by Mr Ian Fullerton, East Lothian's Historic Churches. Both were well received by large enthusiastic audiences.

The Annual Dinner was held on 11th February in Kilspindie House Hotel, when Professor Aubrey Manning, President of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, gave an illustrated talk on the work of the Trust.

Volume XXIII of the transactions is in preparation and contributions should be made to the Editor, Mr David Moody.

The Society maintains its interest in other local matters. The Secretary represents the Society as a trustee of the Lamp of Lothian, and on the Traprain Law Management Advisory Group. The Society is represented on the John Muir Park Management Committee by Mr R. Weatherhead and on the North Berwick Museum Management Committee by Mrs J. Hunt and Mr R. Forster. The Society is a corporate member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the John Muir Trust, the River Tyne Trust, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Scottish Local History Forum, the Council for Scottish Archaeology and the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society. Members are reminded that the Society supported the purchase of Pressmennan Wood by the Woodland Trust. The Society is vigilant over threats to our heritage of historic buildings, landscapes and natural habitats, and makes appropriate representations when these seem threatened. It continues to be interested in potential development at Archerfield, Gosford, Briery Bank in Haddington and in the possible development of a Centre dedicated to the memory of John Muir.

Some members of the Society are involved in the botanical survey of the Lothians which is to produce 'Botany of the Lothians'.

The Society supported the publication of "A History of Dirleton Castle Golf Club 1854-1981" by Doctor A. Paterson.

The Society congratulates the Hon. President, Professor R. Mitchison on her election as a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Membership of the Society stands at 235; in addition there are 12 institutional members.

The Society's Transactions are lodged in the Copyright Libraries and are purchased regularly by academic and other libraries where they are of interest to the growing number of local history societies. They are issued to Secondary Schools in East Lothian and to Loretto School and Belhaven Hill School. They are proving useful in helping to meet the increased interest in local history in new history syllabi. Information about the Society has been sought for and placed in a number of national and other works of reference. Inquiries both about the Society and about issues related to East Lothian seem to grow in number.

PROGRAMME 1994-95

Saturday, 4th June	Visit to Fountainhall and Ormiston Hall
2nd July	Visit to Balgone
13th August	Visit to Hamilton Old Parish Church, Hamilton Mausoleum and Chatelherault Hunting Lodge
3rd September	Visit to St Cuthbert's and St Bothan's Chapel, and the old castle at Yester
Sunday, 16th October	Visit to the exhibition "Treasure Islands" and a talk entitled "RLS from the Bass Rock to Samoa", in the Royal Museum of Scotland

LECTURES

Thursday, 10th November	Miss Nimmo Smith's pictures and Old Haddington by George Angus
9th February	A History of Ballencrieff Tower and its Restoration by Peter Gillies

ANNUAL REPORT 1995

The seventieth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Aberlady Parish Church on Saturday, 14th May 1994 by kind permission of the Minister and Kirk Session. Members of the Society were welcomed by the Hon. President, Professor R. M. Mitchison. Tribute was paid to Miss Sue Jenkinson, a member of Council who had tragically died as a result of a road accident.

The Office Bearers of the Society were re-elected. Mr Ian Hardie was re-elected as a member of Council and Mrs C. Roberts was elected as a new member.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Earl of Wemyss spoke about the history of the church and the part played in that history, at various times, by members of his family.

On Saturday, 4th June, members visited Fountainhall by invitation of Mr & Mrs R. M. Cowe. They then visited Ormiston Hall and the Great Yew and were entertained to tea by the Hon. President.

On Saturday, 2nd July, a visit was made to Balgone where Mr & Mrs Alan Dean have carried out an extensive restoration and where Mr A. T. Renville spoke about the historic landscape.

On Saturday, 13 August, the members went by coach to Hamilton where a visit was made to Hamilton Old Parish Church, to Chatelherault Hunting Lodge and the Hamilton Mausoleum. Members were impressed by the restoration work carried out at Chatelherault.

On Saturday, 3 September, a visit was made to the recently restored chapel at Yester and to the Old Castle there. An account of the restoration was given by Lady Maryoth Hay and the party was led through the woods by Lady Maryoth and Miss V. M. C. Fletcher.

On 16th September tribute was paid to R. L. Stevenson with a visit to the National Museum of Scotland where Miss Jenni Calder gave a talk entitled "RLS from the Bass Rock to Samoa" and members visited the Treasure Islands exhibition.

Two illustrated lectures were given in the course of the season. The first on 10th November was by Mr George Angus who related some of Miss Nimmo-Smith's pictures to their locations in old Haddington.

In the second lecture on 9th February, Mr Peter Gillies spoke about the history of Ballencrieff Tower and the problems he is facing in its restoration.

The Annual Dinner was held on 24th March in Kilspindie House Hotel when Mr Herbert Coutts, Director of the City of Edinburgh Museums, and a member of the Council of the Society, gave a fascinating illustrated address entitled Profile of a Blockbuster exhibition.

Volume XXIII of the transactions is in preparation and contributions should be made to the Editor, Mr David Moody.

The Society maintains its interest in other local matters. The Secretary represents the Society as a trustee of the Lamp of Lothian, and on the Traprain Law Management Advisory Group. The Society is represented on the John Muir Park Management Committee by Mr R. Weatherhead and on the North Berwick Museum Management Committee by Mrs J. Hunt and Mr R. Forster.

The Society is a corporate member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the John Muir Trust, the River Tyne Trust, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Scottish Local History Forum, the Council for Scottish Archaeology and the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society. The Society is vigilant over threats to our heritage of historic buildings, landscapes and natural habitats. It makes appropriate representations when these seem threatened. It continues to be interested in potential development at Archerfield, Gosford, Briery Bank in Haddington and in the possible development of a Centre dedicated to the memory of John Muir.

Some members of the Society are involved in the Botanical Survey of the Lothians which is to produce 'Botany of the Lothians'.

The Society contributed to the provision of Information Boards at Traprain Law.

Membership of the Society stands at 263; in addition there are 12 institutional members.

The Society's Transactions are lodged in the Copyright Libraries and are purchased regularly by academic and other libraries where they are of interest to the growing number of local history societies. They are issued to Secondary Schools in East Lothian and to Loretto School and Belhaven Hill School. They are proving useful in helping to meet the increased interest in local history in new history syllabi. Information about the Society has been solicited by and placed in a number of national and other works of reference. Inquiries both about the Society and about issues related to East Lothian seem to grow in number.

PROGRAMME FOR 1995-6

Saturday, 10th June	Visit to the Binns
Saturday, 22nd July	Visit to Musselburgh Riding of the Marches Festival Exhibition
Saturday, 12th August	Visit to the Bass Rock
Saturday, 16th September	Visit to Ballencrieff Tower and the Hopetoun Monument
Thursday, 21st September	Talk. The Battle of Prestonpans
Sunday, 1st October	Lecture on James Craig and the New Town of Edinburgh and visit to the New Town
Thursday, 9th November	Lecture. Col. Gardiner and the Stair Family
Thursday, 8th February	Artists in East Lothian 1860-1920

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