



**CARNASSARIE CASTLE,
ARGYLL**
Beyond the Bishop, a Community Excavation



Data Structure Report

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**HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
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Carnassarie Castle; Beyond the Bishop, an Archaeological Story

The excavation uncovered what appear to be hearth derived occupation deposits within what is very likely the remnants of a dun structure located to the north of the castle. The excavation also confirmed the presence of structures lying immediately to the west of the castle, these perhaps initially castle outbuildings, but still occupied after the castles demise in 1685. The excavation also investigated some of the buildings belonging to the township of Carnassarie Beg, the dating evidence confirming the historical picture of a settlement occupied until the middle of the 19th century. The excavation also showed that within the castle grounds both the castle outbuildings and those of Carnassarie Beg have been substantially affected by tree root damage. Another theme encountered during the excavation work were the topographical changes resulting from various campaigns of 'landscaping' within the castle grounds which appears to have removed any trace of buildings near the 'garden' gate and have significantly raised ground levels immediately to the north of the castle.



Acknowledgements

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1. Introduction

This Data Structure Report has been prepared by Kilmartin Museum with respect to the archaeological investigations at the scheduled site of Carnassarie Castle, Kilmartin, Argyll.

Carnassarie Castle is an iconic building that dominates the northern approach into Kilmartin Glen. The castle and its grounds are a Scheduled Ancient Monument and Property in Care maintained by Historic Environment Scotland. The castle is thought largely to date to the mid to later 16th century although there are strong local traditions that the present building replaced an earlier edifice. The castle has a rich history, which is more fully outlined in the Desk Based Assessment produced prior to the commencement of the excavation which is available as a PDF on the Historic Environment Scotland Portal (Regan 2016a and portal.historicenvironment.scot/document/600017216).

The projects archaeological aims were fully outlined in the Excavation Project Design (Regan 2016b) as part of the preparation to achieve Scheduled monument consent. In summary the excavation aims were to gain a better understanding of various aspects of the site including the use of a probable Iron Age dun, the possible outbuildings and potential wall around the castle and the deserted settlement of Carnassarie Beg. The project was funded by a grant from Historic Environment Scotland and funding from the A' Chruach Community Fund.

Historic Environment Scotland also commissioned a geophysical survey of the site prior to the commencement of the excavation (Ovenden 2017).

The Castle, garden, enclosure and cup-marked stone are Scheduled monument (SM90061) and Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent was granted by Historic Environment Scotland (Case ID: 300019224).

1.1 Outreach, Partnership and Community Involvement

The project was promoted as part of the Year of History Heritage and Culture and Scottish Archaeology and the Dig It Festival which is co-ordinated by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Archaeology Scotland. As such the local community and members of the wider public were invited to participate in the project. This primarily involved school groups from Argyll along with volunteers. The project also worked in partnership with Reading University, Queens University Belfast and William and Mary University, Virginia whose students contributed to the excavation. Other groups that participated in the excavation were Heads Up community group, the local young archaeologist club and the 19th Mid Argyll Scout Group.

2. Site Location and Description

Carnassarie Castle stands on a rocky ridge situated to the north west of Kilmartin parish and lies approximately 1.5kms north of Kilmartin village (centred NM 83900 00860, Figures 1-3). The site has commanding views to the east looking towards a narrow pass through Glennan towards Ford and Loch Awe and to the south overlooking Kilmartin Glen. From the ridge of the castle the ground drops to the east and south in a series of sheep and cattle grazed terraces to woodland overlooking the Kilmartin burn and the A816 road between Kilmartin and Oban. At the west the land rises to over 230m on Cnoc Creach and also rises at the north to the prominence of Carn Ban. The topography of Carnassarie consists of SW-NE aligned ridges of mixed geology including limestone, schist and basalt.

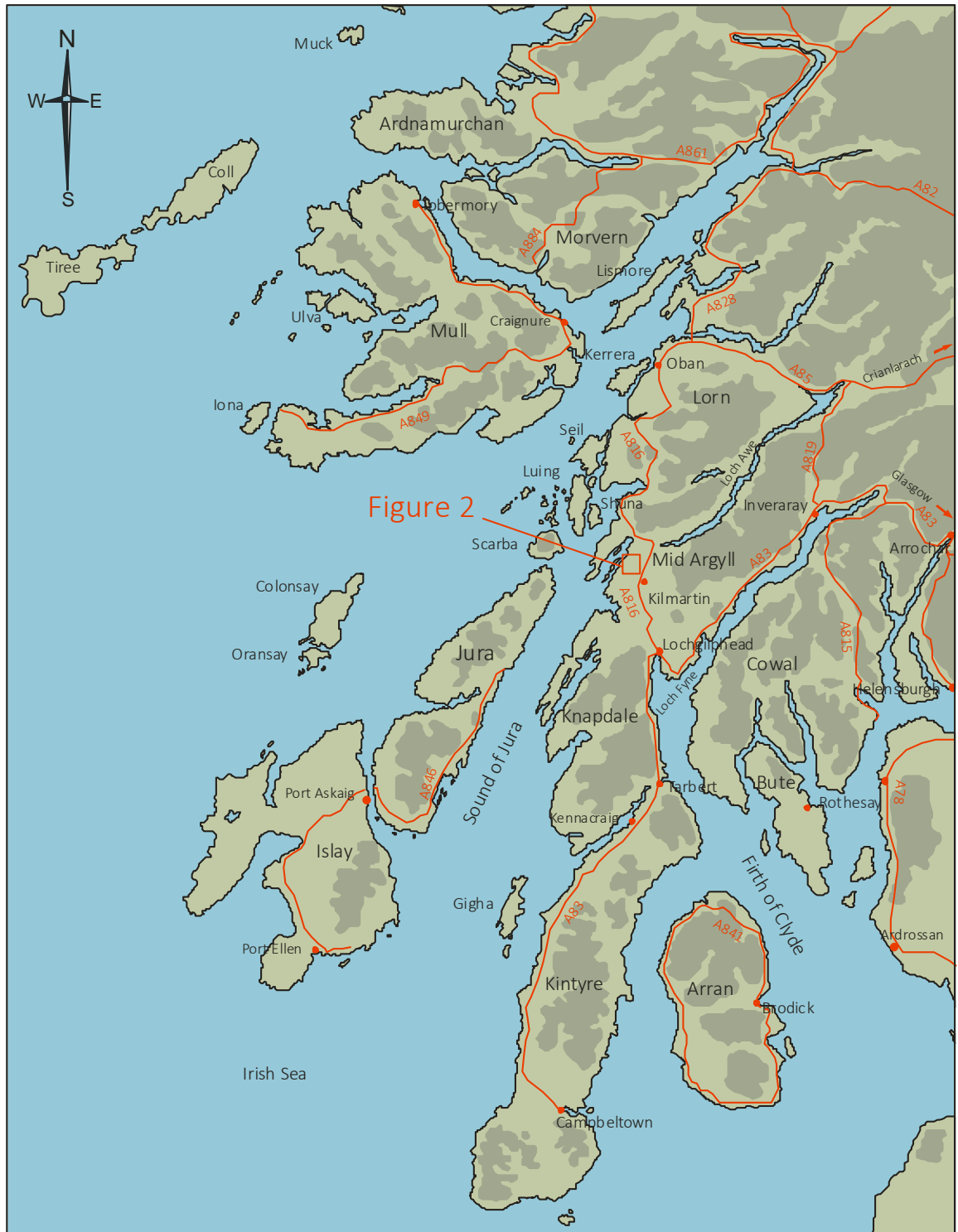


Figure 1: Location of Carnassarie in Argyll



Figure 2: Carnassarie Castle and Surrounding Landscape

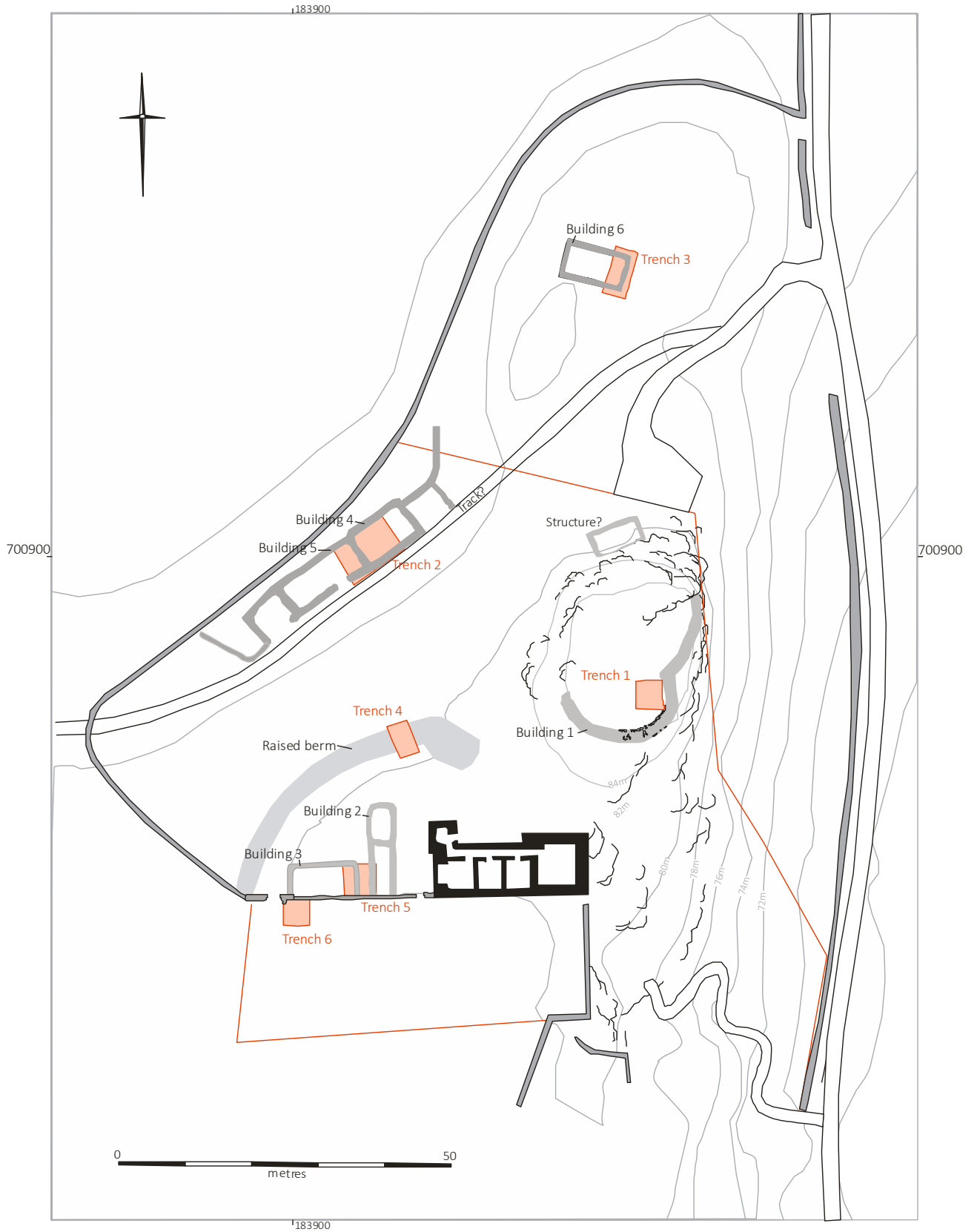


Figure 3: Trench and Building Locations

3. The Excavation Results

The excavation took place in June and July of 2017 and the site code used was CCA 17. The results of the excavation are discussed below by trench.



The position of Trench 1 within the dun

3.1 Trench 1

On a rocky knoll c. 16m to the north-east of the castle there are the remains of an enclosure formed by the fragmentary remains of an oval-shaped enclosure consisting of an arc of stone walling (NMRS: NM80SW31, Building 1, Figures 3 and 4). These remains suggest a structure measuring internally 15m - 20m, with walls 2m thick. The inner face of the wall of the dun can be traced running 4.80m E/W before arcing to the N and running for another 3m, while what may be another section of wall face can be seen lying to the north of this but on a slightly different alignment (Figure 4). A rough alignment of stones also suggested the remains of a possible internal wall alignment.

Trench 1 had several aims, primarily to define, date and characterise this possible Iron Age enclosure and investigate whether a rough alignment of stones within it represented secondary structures. Another important aim was to understand the preservation of archaeological deposits within the enclosure and evaluate the potential damage to the monuments by previous and present vegetation cover.

The Trench (4m x 4m) was placed against the south side this possible internal wall and encapsulated what was likely the robbed eastern wall of the surrounding enclosure.

Cleaning of the trench quickly revealed that the putative internal wall alignment was no more than a fortuitous alignment of loose stones. Just beyond the south eastern edge of the trench was what appeared might be the internal face of the dun wall. The removal of a deposits connected with footings of an information board that previously occupied part of the trench (see below) revealed areas of burning. With these issues in mind a slightly amended excavation proposal was forwarded to HES and after discussion on 12/06/2017 it

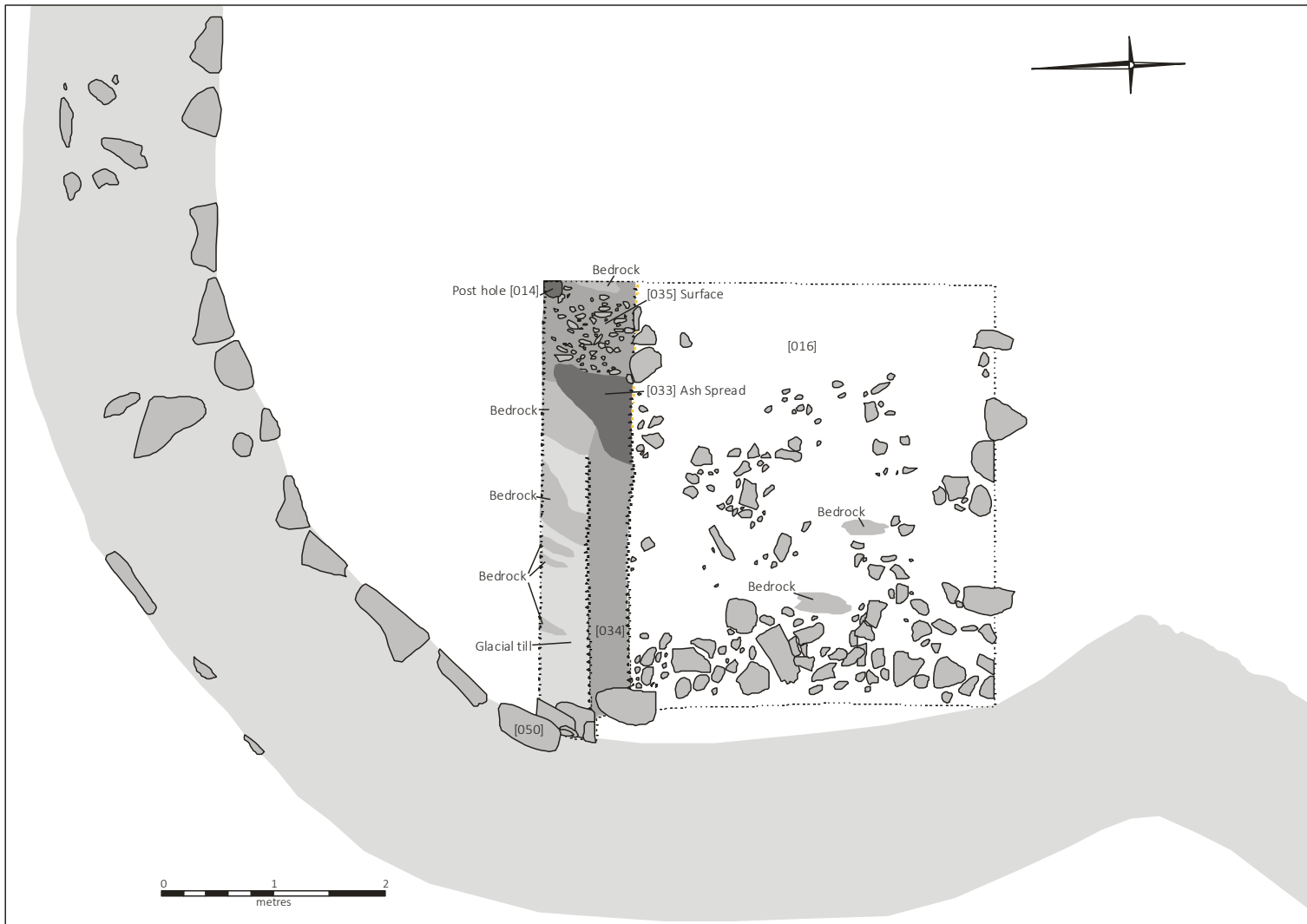


Figure 4: Trench

was agreed to excavate a sondage (0.80m wide) along the southern edge of the trench to investigate the possible occupation deposits as well as slightly extending the trench to take in the putative dun wall face. Beyond this to the north the rest of the exposed deposit [016] within the trench remained unexcavated.

The trench extension, as hoped, revealed the surviving internal face of the dun wall [050]. The wall appeared to have been constructed within a cut [049] excavated through/into the natural sub soil/bedrock. The natural consisted of ridges of epidiorite schist and quartzite in between which laid more clayey sands and gravels, likely the remnants of glacial till.

In its basal construction the dun wall stepped out to the west providing a wider base for the remnants of the upper wall (see figure 5), this in all standing 0.40m high, although the outer eastern face has been robbed or collapsed down the steep slope to the east of the knoll.

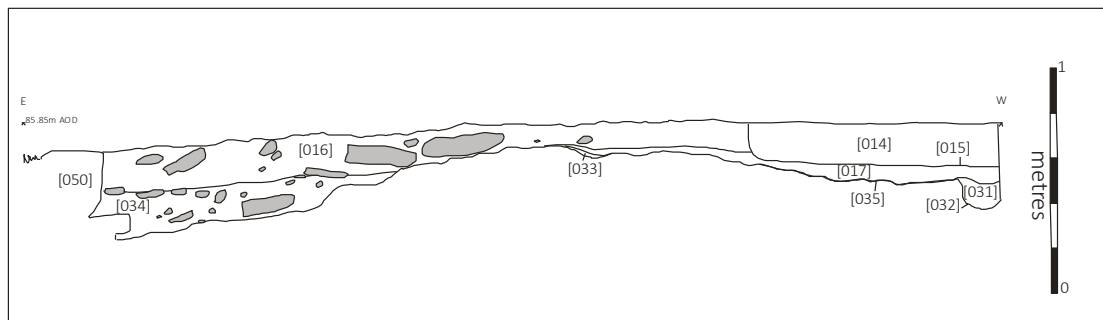


Figure 5: Trench 1 north facing section



Inner face of dun wall [050]

Sealing the lower courses of the wall and filling what was likely the construction cut was deposit [034] a dark ashy silt containing fragments of charcoal, only a 0.40m strip of this deposit was excavated along the southern edge of the trench between the internal wall face of the dun and a natural bedrock ridge at the west. Partially covering this bedrock ridge and continuing west was a distinct deposit of possibly hearth derived material [033] which was dark grey in colour and contained some charcoal although for the most part very fine suggesting perhaps peat had been the fuel source.

Deposit [033] lay mainly over natural bedrock but continued north beyond the edge of excavation where it looked like it was becoming thicker. To the west of the natural ridge and also overlain by [033] was what appears to be trampled surface of pebbles and small

fragments of rock [035] this surrounding what may have been a post setting [032] (fill [031]), although given the later disturbance in this immediate area (see below) this interpretation has to be treated with caution.



Ash Deposit [033]



Surface [035] and possible post hole [032]

The trampled surface [034] and burnt deposit [033] were both sealed by a mixed deposit burnt of fire reddened and fire cracked stones [017] which also contained charcoal.



Occupation deposit [017]

Sealing this occupation derived material was a layer of red brown sandy silt [016], which particularly at the east, contained rubble presumably derived from the disturbed dun wall.



Dun wall rubble in [016]

The western end of the trench contained a construction cut and disturbed fill [014]/[015] of a shallow trench that contained grass bars (one still remained in situ) that were used to provide the hard-standing for an information board to the castle.

3.2 Trench 2

The remains of a long range of buildings lie to the north-west of the castle and these likely represent the remains of Carnassarie Beg which documentary records tell us existed from at least the 16th century. The remains of these buildings are represented by a series of low turf covered banks forming the foundations of rectangular structures. Overall the range measures 39m and is up to 5m wide externally, divided into 5 spaces/rooms or buildings, these facing a track suggested by a hollow way at the east of the buildings. The excavation in this area had several aims, primarily to establish the age and function of some of the buildings and to evaluate the potential damage to the monuments by previous and present vegetation cover.

Trench 2 (8m x 6m) was placed over a cross or dividing wall encompassing what appeared to be one of the largest buildings in the range (Building 4, and one (so we thought) less disturbed by trees and a possibly smaller building (Building 5) at the south.

Only a small portion of Building 5 was uncovered, due to the presence of extensive tree root systems making excavation particularly difficult. This building measured approximately 4.2m in length and 3.80m wide internally. The walls of this structure [042] were bonded in part with a hard light brown lime mortar containing what appear to be small fragments of broken ceramic tile. The walls of the structure had been heavily robbed particularly those on the

eastern and western sides the best surviving wall being that at the north, this standing up to 0.60m high and 0.84wide.



North wall of Building 5 with mortar bonding left of scale

Within the walls were the remnants of a cobbled floor [043] and some patches of clay floor (with some indications of burning) although the later had been badly disturbed by roots. Towards the centre of the floors was a drainage channel [053] leading to an outlet against the north wall. Some pottery was recovered from the drain fill suggesting a mid 19th century use.



Cobbled surface [043] in Building 5 with drain outlet at upper right

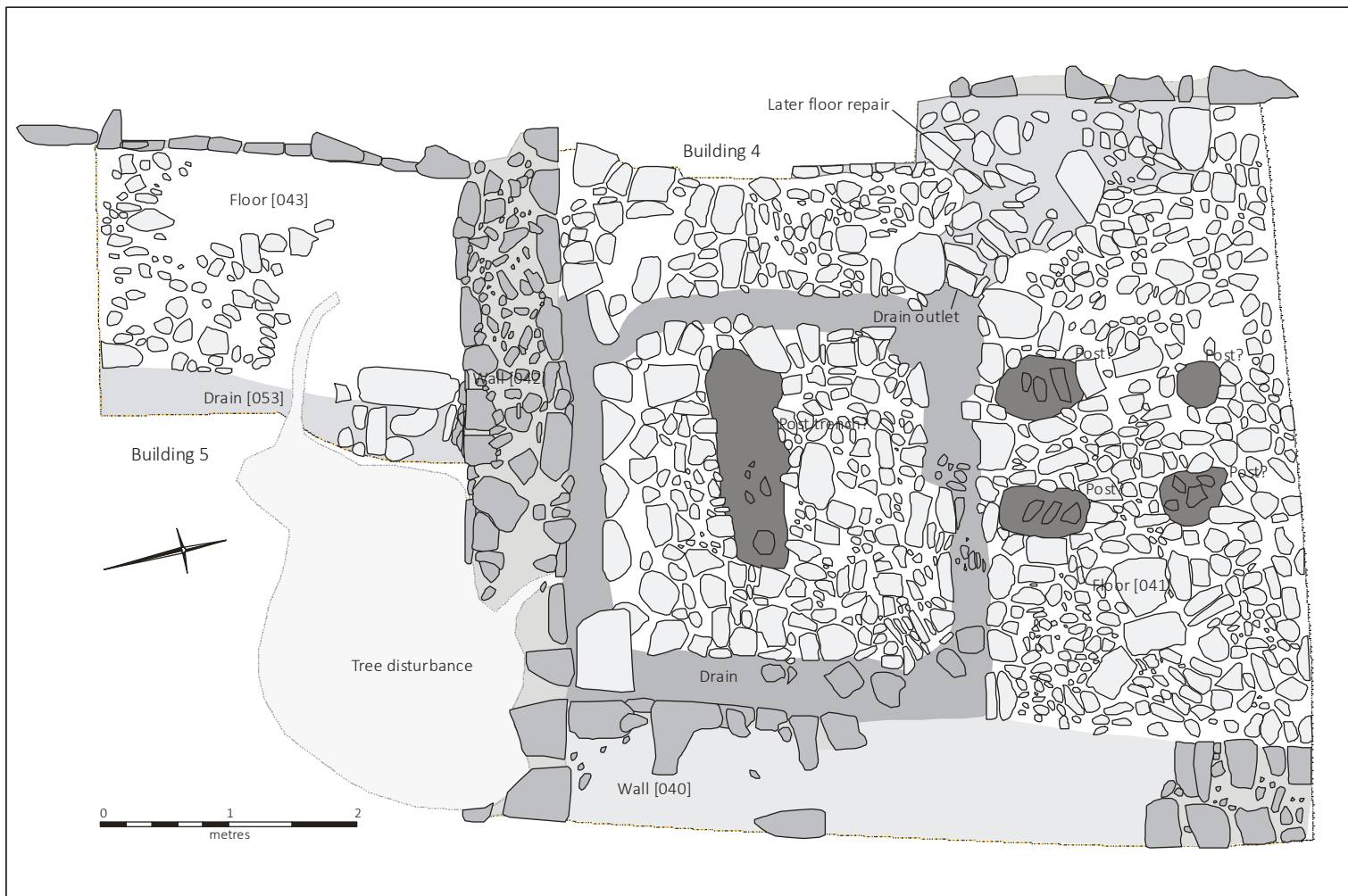


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 2

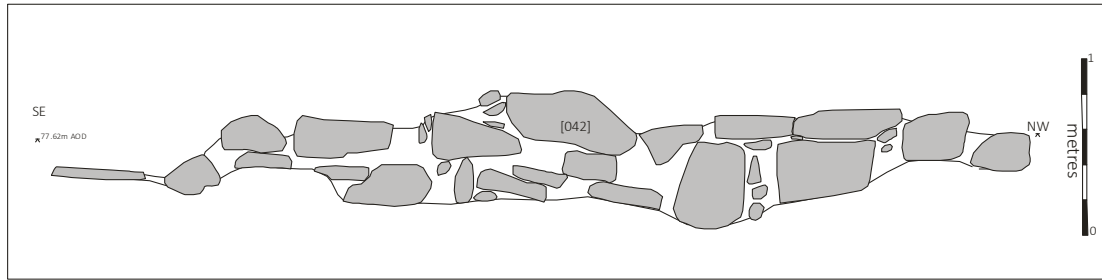


Figure 7: North facing elevation of wall [042]

As with Building 5 the walls of the Building 4 had been heavily robbed on the east and west sides although the surviving walls indicated this was a large structure measuring c 9.30m long and 5.10m wide internally. The south eastern wall of this structure had been constructed against the walls of Building 5 indicating that Building 4 was a later addition. The walls contained an extensive cobbled floor with a series of channels for internal drainage suggesting this functioned as a byre building.



Cobbled surface [031]

Several fragments of green schist had been utilised in the cobbled surface, these, especially one carved example, no doubt came from the castle and suggest the floor was constructed after the late 17th century when the castle became disused.



Part of arch used in cobbled floor of Building 4

The drains and the floor were covered by dark grey humic silt which included fragments of pottery and glass, suggesting contemporary dumping over the building after it had gone out of use, the pottery indicating this was likely sometime around the middle of the 19th century.

3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 (8m x 4m) examined a structure (Building 6) that lay outside the scheduled area to the north. Much of the walling of this structure had been removed, presumably due to later robbing. Within the trench the best preserved part of the structure were the footings of the east wall [046] while only small sections of the northern and southern walls survived.

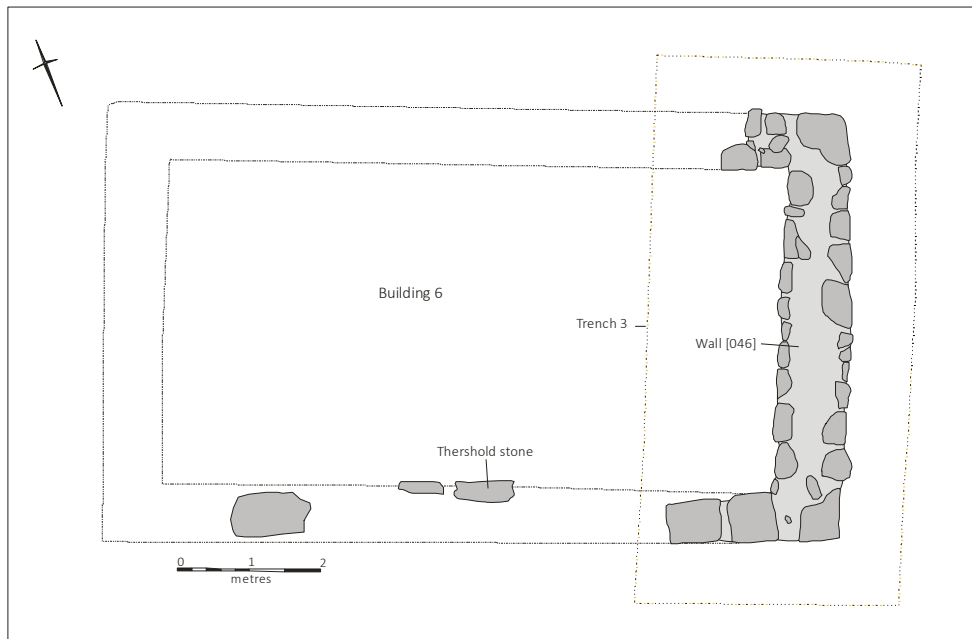


Figure 8: Trench 3



Building 6 wall [046]



Wall [043] (in background) with threshold stone in foreground

Two deposits were excavated, [019] a mid brown clay silt that had formed against the outside of the structure and [020] which was similar but more yellow in colour from along the internal face of the surviving wall. Post medieval pottery and glass were recovered from both deposits. The floor of the building within the trench would appear to have consisted of nothing more than trampled natural subsoil.

3.4 Trench 4

A distinct curving linear berm or earthwork can be discerned on the western side of the castle. The geophysical survey, particularly the resistance results, suggested this was perhaps a structural feature, possibly the remains of an enclosure wall around this side of the castle (Ovenden 2017, Figures 4 and 5). Trench 4 (5m x 3m) was positioned over this potential earthwork in order to test this hypothesis.

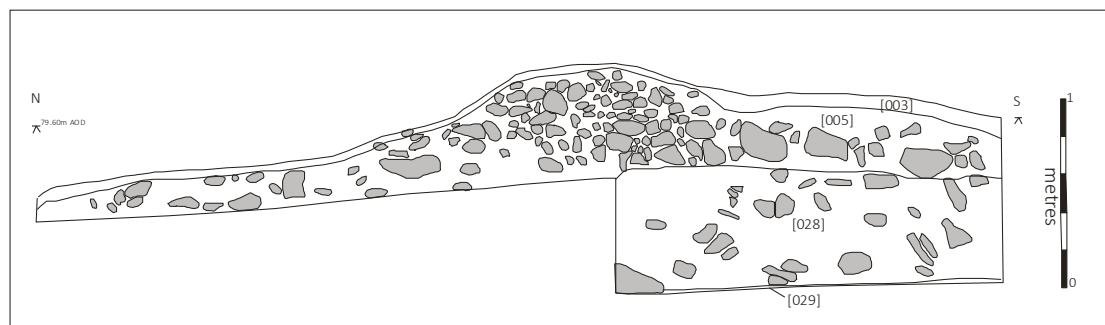


Figure 9: West facing section Trench 4

The removal of the grass cover revealed a mound of relatively small loose cobbles and rubble. It was decided in consultation with HES that a sondage 0.60m wide be excavated through this material along the eastern side of the trench.

Within a 2m long slot at the southern end of the sondage the deposits were excavated down to the natural subsoil, this a yellow brown sandy silt with water rolled cobbles. Above this lay a 4-6cm thick deposit of mid brown silty loam [029], containing occasional charcoal from which one fragment of pottery (decorated tin glazed earthenware) was recovered. This layer likely represents an old ground surface. Sealing this deposit was a large dump or accumulation of rubble within mid grey brown clayey silt [028], this within the sondage up to 0.65m deep. Much of the rubble had adhering lime mortar while the deposit also contained numerous loose mortar fragments with lesser amounts of slate. Lumps of charcoal, some of these large, were also present within the deposit and some of the mortar had been partially vitrified while some slate fragments were fire reddened. The burnt material may derive from the burning of the castle in 1685, this and the other rubble subsequently cleared from the castle and dumped outside to the north.



Trench 4 from above

Over this dumped deposit, was a loose deposit of mainly water rounded cobbles (some quite small) with a few fragments of more angular epidiorite/limestone [005]. This deposit forms the heaped arc that extended beyond the trench to the east and westwards towards the garden gate. The rubble also contained fragments of moulded stone (castle derived) and small broken pieces of drainage tile. Also recovered from just below this deposit were fragments of a plastic wrapper and some silver paper, possibly the remnants of cigarette packet. While these may be intrusive, i.e. introduced by a rodent, they and the very loose nature of much of this deposit suggests a relatively recent date. What this deposit represents is difficult to discern but may be the remnants of material intended to be used as an external surface or track around the castle but never used.

3.5 Trench 5

To the west of the castle tower were what appeared to be the remains or footings of an 'L' shaped range, the buildings lying between the two gates that give access to what may have been a formal garden. The trench had several aims primarily to establish the extent, age and possible function of any potential castle outbuildings and evaluate the potential damage to the monuments by previous and present vegetation and tree cover.

Trench 5 (5m x 5m) was placed either side of a north south oriented rise that what was presumed to be a wall. The presence of a wall [036] was quickly established and this effectively divided the trench into eastern and western parts each with their own archaeological sequence.



Figure 10: Trench 5

Wall [036] was the eastern wall to a structure (Building 3) measuring c11m long by c6m wide externally. The inner face of the northern wall was also revealed in the trench, although the NE corner had been robbed. The later robbing allowed the observation that the walls had been constructed directly over natural sub soil consisting of a yellow brown sandy silt and gravel. Internally the building had been provided with a series of clay floors [024]

surrounding two stone hearth settings [037] and [048]. The sequence of floors *vis a vis* the hearth settings unfortunately could not be established due to extensive root disturbance through these relatively 'soft' floor deposits. Only the better preservation of hearth setting [037] suggested that this might be later, but no stratigraphic relationship was established. There was also some evidence that the upper floors had been repaired particularly around the hearths while the rough cobbling around the threshold stone [047] at the north side the room also suggest these are later additions/adaption's to the original build.



Building 3 from north



Building 3 from east



Clay floor/s [024]



Hearth [037]



Hearth [048]



Looking towards N wall of Building 3 and threshold stone [047]



Wall [036]

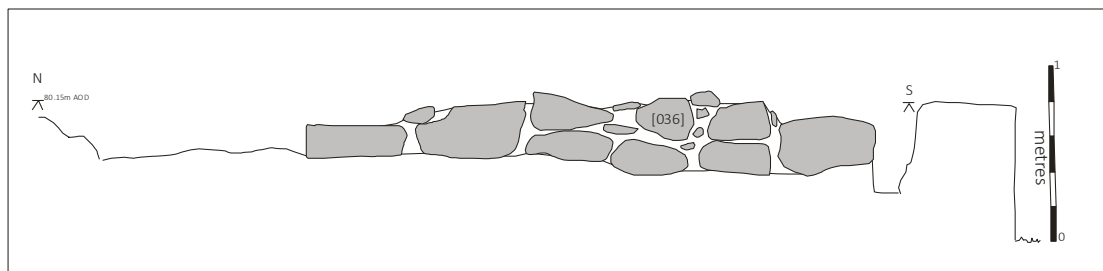


Figure 11: West facing elevation of wall [036]

A number of artefacts were recovered from the deposit just above the floors [023] suggesting these were contemporary with the last use of the structure. Particularly datable were fragments of pottery from a London shaped cup, suggesting an early to mid 19th century date.



Sherds of a London shaped cup recovered from floor of Building 3

The building appears to have gone out of use and subsequently levelled by a deposit of mixture of rubble in mid brown loam [012]. Cutting through all of these was a large cut, filled with very large blocks of limestone [051]/[052]. This feature currently eludes explanation although the cut was very rectilinear and suggestive of a machine excavation, is it possible that the 'landscaping' of the area around the castle led to the burial of inconvenient stones?



Cut [052] filled with large boulders

Also cutting all but the uppermost deposit within the trench was the wall of the garden that bounded the trench at the south.

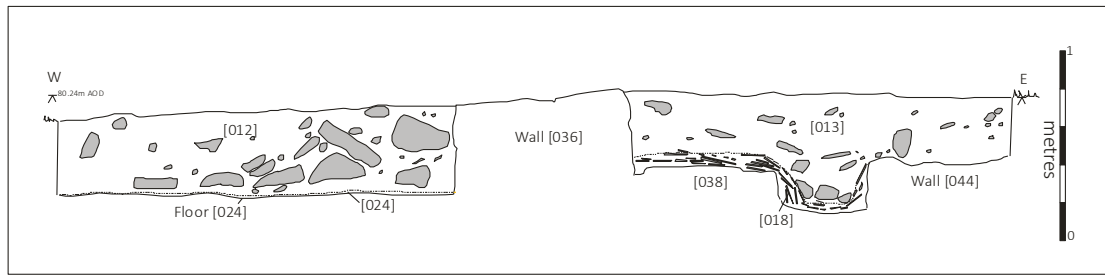


Figure 12: South facing section across Trench 5.

To the east of wall [005] and bounding the edge of the excavated area were the robbed remains of north south aligned wall [044], which was the south western end of a building or range aligned north/south, Structure 2. The wall was constructed from large blocks of limestone and quartzite with smaller stones used in packing.



Wall [044] from south

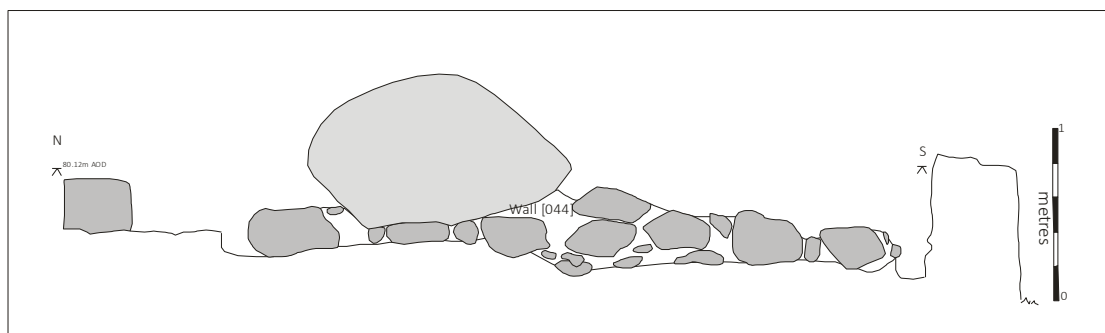


Figure 13: West facing elevation of wall [044]

Lying between walls [044] and [036] were the remains of a cobbled surface [038] and possibly a drain [045] running along the eastern side of the corridor surface although both had been extensively disturbed/robbed. This presumed robbing allowed the observation that the remnant cobbled surface (and drain) along with the walls of both structures had been constructed directly onto natural subsoil. The surviving cobbles/surface at the N of the trench were sealed by a deposit of dark silty clay [030] (possibly representing late use). To the south of this and lying over the remnants of the surface and against both walls was a deposit of roofing slate [018], suggesting stone robbing of the surface had occurred just prior to a slate roof being removed from one of the structures. No such deposit was encountered within Building 3 perhaps indicating the slate deposit was derived from Building 2, this being demolished and robbed while Building 3 was still being used. The deposit of slate was sealed by a mixed deposit of rubble, schist and sandy silt [013] which also had some evidence of some midden material being mixed within the rubble/demolition material accumulating in the space formerly occupied by the corridor, possibly after both buildings had gone out of use. The southern extent of the trench was occupied by the 'formal garden wall' which here appears to be a much later addition completely truncating what would have been the southern walls of Buildings 3 and 4 and their associated deposits on this side of the trench.

The whole trench was then sealed by a mixed deposit of rubble schist and shale [009] which may be a levelling deposit when this part of the castle grounds was landscaped in the 1930's.



The corridor/alleyway between Buildings 2 and 3



Slate dump [018] over cobbled surface and between walls in corridor

3.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 (4m x 4m) was placed to examine whether the projecting stones on the southern side of the western gate were part of a building on the southern side of the wall. The removal of the turf suggested that if any structure that existed on the south side of the wall had been removed, leaving only a small wall stump of the buildings north west corner, [039], this measuring 0.86m high and 0.80m wide. The upper wall bounding the north of the trench is clearly a different and later build to the walls surrounding both surviving elements that form the gates to the garden, these being wider than the later build. A line of stones at the base of this wall were on a slightly different alignment to the upper wall and may also have been part of this earlier structure, although this was far from clear. Natural was revealed within two areas at the north of the trench and one area to the west showing that the walls had been constructed directly onto natural subsoil.



Trench 6

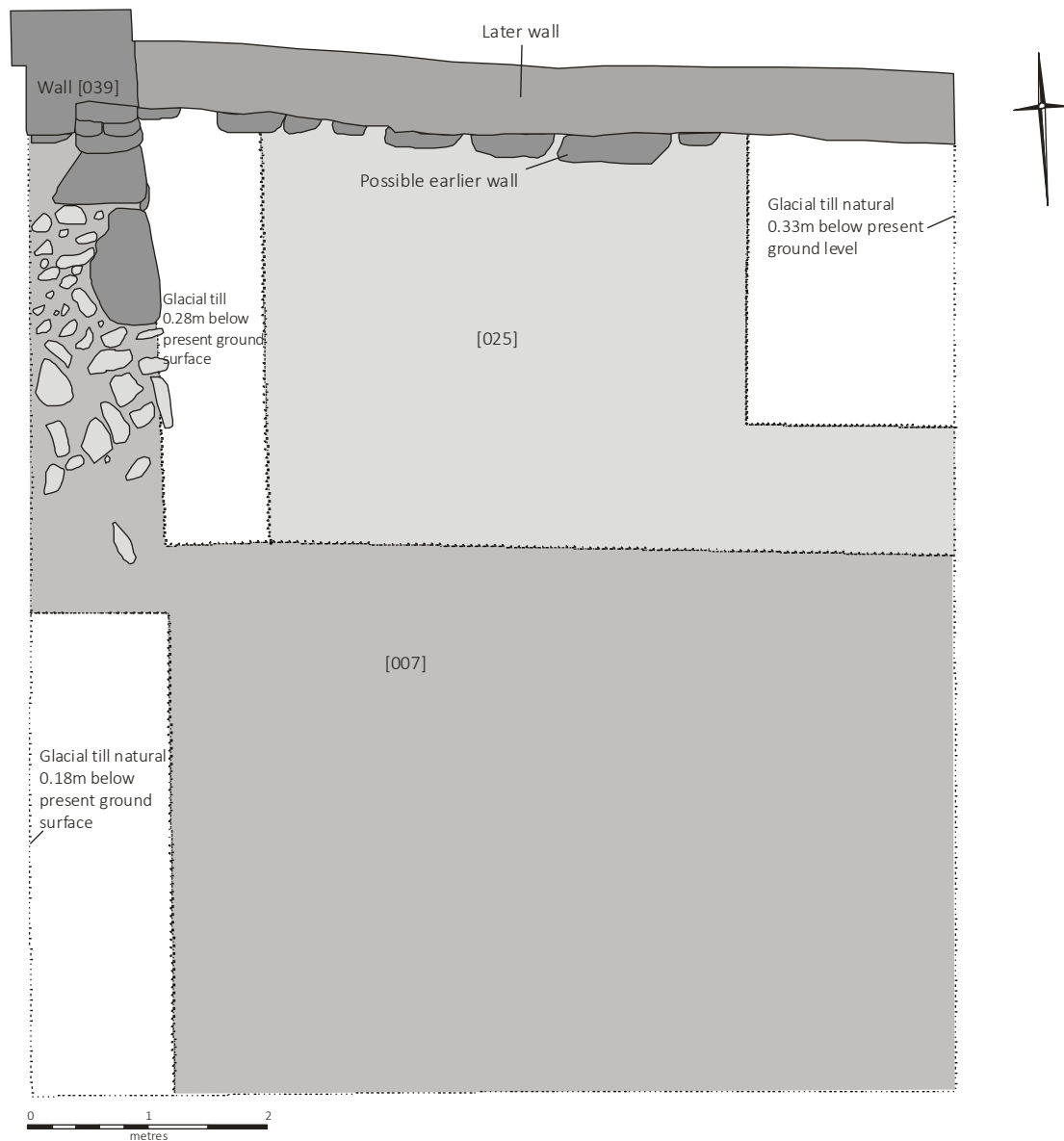


Figure 14: Trench 6

Apart from the remains of the wall the trench contained two deposits. The lower deposit [025], revealed in the northern area of the trench, was a homogenous soil, with post medieval glass and pottery present that suggest the presence of some midden material within what is likely a 'turned' garden soil. This deposit appeared to be became deeper towards the east, where it was up to 0.15m in depth, but was not present within the south western part of the trench. Layer [025] was sealed by a deposit of light brown sandy silt, [007], that covered the whole trench, this up to 0.20m deep at the south and east of the trench. This contained a relatively high quantity of drainage tile fragments, rounded cobbles and fragments of what looked like a modern bottle. This soil sealed the later build of the southern face of the garden wall at the north of the trench and suggests this deposit was part of a landscaping or levelling dumped after the wall had been rebuilt/repared.



Remnant wall [039]

4. The Artefacts

The full list of recovered artefacts can be found in Appendix 3.

Pottery

426 sherds of pottery were recovered during the excavation, the majority industrially produced wares, probably dating from the late 18th century to the mid 19th century. Potentially the earliest pottery is represented by the recovery of several shards of tin-glazed earthen wares. Tin-glazed white earthen wares were produced in Britain from the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, and the first factory in Scotland was the Delftfield factory in Glasgow which operated from 1748 – 1823. As such given the lack of other 17th or early 18th century wares recovered these may be late examples.

The assemblage includes sherds of creamware, pearlware, salt glazed stoneware, white glazed earthen wares, sponge decorated wares, transfer-printed wares, edged wares and dipped wares.

The assemblage also includes slip decorated redware and manganese glazed redware representing domestic bowls and crocks.

Glass

584 shards of glass were recovered during the excavation falling into two main categories bottle glass and window glass, with lesser amounts of other types of vessels present.

Bottles

The majority of the assemblage consisted of green glass from bottles that likely represent a wide date range from the late 17th to 19th centuries, while the fragments of one bottle [007] <030> appears to be quite modern in date.

Window Glass

32 shards of window glass were present within the glass assemblage.

Fine vessels

Several shards of fine glass probably drinking vessels or wine glasses were recovered from the excavation. One from deposit [012] <035> has a hand painted floral decoration (possibly gilt). Two other shards from [004] <027> and [026] <044> have similar incised/cut floral decoration and may be from the same vessel or set.

Other vessels

A number of shards of clear vessels or small bottles were also recovered while the base of a thick opaque vessel or jar was recovered from the floor of building 5.

Metal

41 iron objects were recovered from the excavation, these all heavily corroded and many deny ready identification. The recovery of what may be an arrowhead or crossbow bolt [013] <072> perhaps represents the only object we can directly identify with the castle. Other identifiable objects were nails, cauldron fragments along with potentially later objects including and iron drainpipe. One small cylindrical object made of lead was also recovered.

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Only 3 fragments of tobacco pipe were recovered from the site, all stem fragments.

Animal Bone

The numbers of animal bone recovered from the site was limited, in all, 47 fragments with over half of these (24) deriving from deposit [013] <057> suggesting this may have been used as a midden area after Building 2 had gone out of use.

Flint

1 flint was recovered from the site, the flint mid grey in colour possibly a broken prehistoric scraper.

Stone

A complete schist spindle whorl was recovered from deposit [013]. Part of another perforated disc of schist was recovered from the rubble infill of building 5, although this appears to small and light to have acted effectively as a whorl.

A thin elongated piece of slate or schist had been modified (using a knife?) and may be a small whetstone/hone or possibly a home made slate pencil.

Roofing Slate

Samples of roofing slate were collected from various deposits, particularly from deposit [018] the dump of roofing slate. Nine complete or near complete examples were retained [018] <091>/<092>. Where present all peg holes were relatively wide suggesting wooden pegs may have originally been used to attach the tiles. One fragment of slate [028] <094> from the clearance dump of the castle had been fire reddened.

Carved stone mouldings

Nine examples of carved architecture were recovered from the excavation, these all green schist fragments and undoubtedly derive from the castle. Recognisable fragments include part of a turnpike step, a window/door surround and fragments of rolled moulding.

Mortar

Three mortar samples were retained these all coming from later dumped material but possibly originally castle derived, one fragment showing signs of vitrification [028] <082>.

Environmental samples

Wood and plant charcoal was recovered from the samples taken from the potential occupation deposits within the dun, these [017], [031], [033] and [034], while a small amount of burnt bone was also recovered from [017].

5. Discussion

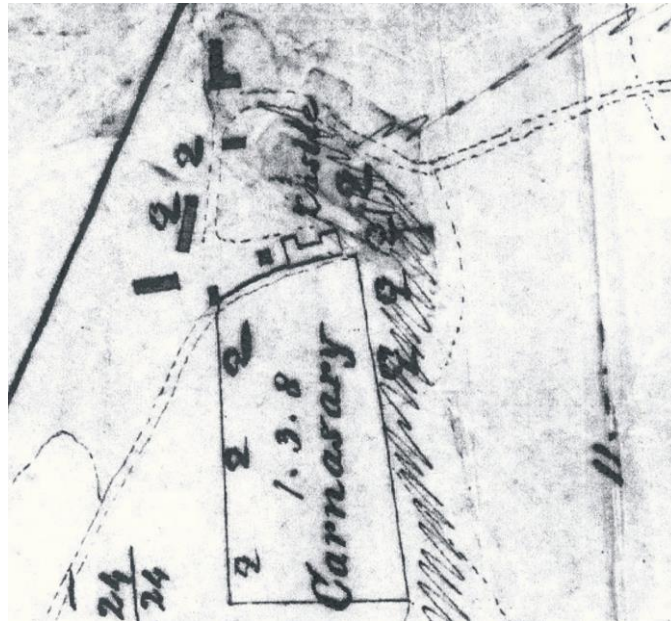
The excavation revealed the survival of what appear to be occupation deposits within the possible dun structure despite its ruined and denuded nature and the fact that bedrock outcrops close to the present surface on top of the knoll. Charcoal along with what appear to be barley seeds (although few in number) were present within the samples taken. Charcoal was also recovered from the fill of what may be a construction cut and should hopefully give a date near or soon after the construction of the dun structure. The excavation has also 'cleaned' up the picture of any internal structures or possible bifurcation of the dun walls postulated in earlier descriptions.



Occupation deposits within the dun

While this does not preclude the existence of any internal stone built structures the excavation showed that the putative wall bordering the northern edge of trench was no more than a fortuitous alignment of loose stones.

The walls of two buildings were uncovered within Trench 5. The structure to the west (Building 3), may have had a relatively long existence given the presence of two hearth positions and obvious repairs to the clay floors. The presence of a carved stone within the northern wall of the structure indicated that the wall itself or a later repair to it must date after the demise of the castle in 1685. Recovery of a small London shaped cup from the upper floor of the building also suggested it continued in use until the early/mid-19th century and may be the building depicted just west of the castle on John Johnson's map of the Kilmartin estate of 1825, thus continuing in use as part of Carnassarie Beg.



John Johnson's Estate map

To the east of Building 3 was the west wall of another structure Building 2 and between these a corridor or alleyway. The alleyway/corridor appears to have been originally paved and possibly had a drain running down its eastern side. Both drain and surface however had been heavily robbed as had the upper walls of Building 2. Part of the robbing and demolition process of Building 2 and the corridor/alleyway surface may have involved the removal of a slate roof, given the evidence of slate dump over the robbed alley surface, suggesting Building 2 had gone out of use while Building 3 continued in use, possibly in a modified form.

Whether either of these buildings functioned as castle outbuildings is unclear, but given their relative proximity to the castle and the fact that Building 3 appears to have a long use life, suggest they may have been. However, more conclusive evidence would have to be forthcoming to definitively state this.

Some form of structure no doubt existed on the south side of the western gate into the garden area, given the projecting stones and a surviving wall stub on this side. However, the rest of any structure has been effectively removed, with no evidence of other associated walls or floors.

The structures to the north west of the castle are also depicted on John Johnson's map of Carnassarie Beg. The structures have also suffered from later robbing although enough survived to get good indications of the size and function of two of the buildings making up the long range of buildings within the scheduled area. Building 4 was floored with a mixture of cobbling alongside a clay surface and was also supplied with a drain, indicating at least

part of this building was used to house animals. Less ambiguous was Building 5 its extensive cobbled surface and system of drains indicating this was a byre. The reuse of castle architecture within the floor of Building 5 suggested at least this part of the range of buildings post-dated the demise of the castle, although we only encountered the latest use of these buildings the pottery recovered from above the floors suggested that both buildings continued in use until the mid-19th century.

The northern most structure of Carnassarie Beg (Building 6) was also examined, this again was heavily robbed, but enough of the building survived to indicate it had one centrally placed door and given its relatively elevated position indicated it may have functioned as a barn.

The excavation also revealed the fairly extensive damage to the site from surrounding trees, particularly to walls and any 'softer' floor deposits. The photograph shown below also shows the extent of tree cover at that time which is clearly much more extensive than at present, particularly on the dun knoll.

Also apparent was the extensive reconfiguring of the site during various landscaping campaigns that were revealed during the excavation work. The distinct arc of rubble on the north west side of the castle was highlighted in the project design and in the geophysical report as being a possible wall alignment. Of the areas covered by the geophysical survey that were tested by excavation it was the resistance results that most readily correlated with what was actually uncovered. The arc of the berm tested in Trench 4 gave a high resistance signal. However, the walls of Buildings 2 and 3 did not produce a similarly high response although they could be discerned as low resistance responses (Ovenden 2017, Figures 5 and 16). The arc of rubble rather than being a putative wall, at least in the excavated section, appeared to be no more than a band of loose stones probably of recent date.



Photo c.1936 provided by HES showing area the castle from the north

A scan of a photograph, shown above, from an album of the Scottish Record Office, dated c.1936 and provided by HES shows the area to the north of the castle with what appear to be rubble dumps in this area (catalogue no. 551 359/541/1). Why the rubble was dumped here is still unclear but it is possible it was brought onto the site for some landscaping or planned hard standing that was never completed. Beneath this arc of rubble was a thick deposit containing demolition or collapsed material that appears to be castle derived and is likely the result of the clearance of rubble and collapse from its interior. Again when this happened is hard to gauge, but the clearance of the castle may have occurred sometime after the purchase of the castle by the Malcolm's of Poltalloch in 1829. By the mid 1850's the Malcolm's were creating an extensive designed and improved landscape centred on the newly built mansion of Calton Mor. This designed landscape incorporated many of the ancient and historical monuments around Kilmartin Glen and undoubtedly included Carnassarie castle which, as a 'romantic' ruin, would have been visited by guests of the estate. The relationship between the monuments in the area, including the castle and the Malcolm's designed landscape warrants further study as it has implications for its preservation and past presentation of the castle, but this is perhaps beyond the scope of this report. There is also evidence from Trench 6 that a structure has been removed from this part of the site, although again when this happened was not clear from the excavation results. Later landscaping possibly by the Ministry of Works in the 1930's may also have important implications for what we see today around the castle. The large rectilinear cut within Building 3, filled with large stones can perhaps be explained by attempts to 'tidy up' the site. Similarly, there appears to be a whole band of large stones lying between the castle and Carnassarie Beg, some with evidence of drilled bore or blast holes their presence as yet unexplained. What is clear is that a better understanding of this landscaping chronology would lead to a better understanding and interpretation of the castle grounds.

6. References

Ovenden, S. M. 2017 Geophysical Survey Report, Carnasserie Castle, RGC17225/CNC.

Regan, R. 2016 Carnassarie Castle, Argyll, Excavation Desk Based Assessment. Kilmartin Museum Report.

Regan, R. 2017 Carnassarie Castle, Argyll, Excavation Project Design. Kilmartin Museum Report.

Appendix 1: Context Descriptions

[001] Layer. Overburden over Trench 2. Mainly consisting of moss nettles and saplings in a dark grey humic silt with occasional pottery and glass.

[002] Layer. Overburden over Trench 2. Mainly consisting of moss nettles and saplings in a dark grey humic silt with occasional iron object and pottery.

[003] Layer. Topsoil cover over and cleaning over Trench 4. Mainly grass and scrub in a dark brown silt, recovered artefacts were occasional pot, bone and glass, tile fragments were sampled.

[004] Layer. Rubble over south east of building. Small of medium schist and limestone fragments over robbed wall in a dark grey silty loam includes moderate pottery and glass.

[005] Layer. Cobble and stone dump. Mounded arc of rubble consisting of loose small to medium water rounded cobbles with occasional limestone and epidiorite schist fragments in a mid brown sandy silt. Includes broken drainage tile fragments and glass.

[006] Layer. Topsoil cover and cleaning over Trench 6. Mainly grass in a light brown sandy silt that includes moderate drainage tile fragments occasional pottery, glass, bone, iron object and tobacco pipe.

[007] Layer. Dumped soil on south side of gate. Loose to moderately compact mid yellow brown sandy silt. Contains moderate amount of cobbles near gate and along northern side of trench. Includes moderate drainage tile fragments occasional pottery, glass and iron object.

[008] Layer. Topsoil cover and cleaning over Trench 1. Grass and moss cover in a red brown silty sand. Includes occasional pottery, glass, tile fragment and slate.

[009] Layer. Topsoil cover over Trench 5. Grass and moss cover in a red brown silty sand. Includes frequent schist fragments.

[010] Layer. Rubble collapse/demolition within building 5. Consists of angular to rounded rubble fragments in a dark grey humic silt. Includes occasional moulded stone fragment (from castle) along with glass and pottery.

[011] Layer. Levelling dump. Limestone and schist rubble within a dark brown sandy silt. Includes frequent schist/shale fragments, occasional tile, glass and slate fragments.

[012] Layer. Rubble infill. Mid to dark brown silty sand and loam. Includes frequent small to medium limestone and schist blocks (with occasional larger blocks). Includes occasional slate, glass and pot fragments.

[013] Layer. Layer. Rubble infill. Light to mid brown silty sand and loam. Includes frequent small to medium limestone and schist blocks (with occasional larger blocks). Includes occasional slate, glass, pot and fragments.

[014] Fill. Dark grey silty clay with occasional pebbles over a yellow clay packing and coarse sand base.

[015] Cut. Rectangular cut for grass bars. Measured 1.40m E/W 0.55m wide and 60mm deep.

[016] Layer. Red brown clayey silt with occasional limestone or cobble fragments, with rare charcoal and burnt bone.

[017] Layer. Mid to dark brown sandy silt includes moderate stone fragments (some fire reddened) with moderate ash/charcoal in discrete patches.

[018] Layer. Dump of roofing slate within a red brown sandy silt, including occasional glass and bone.

[019] Layer. Mid yellow brown clayey silt. Includes occasional rubble (limestone), glass, pot and charcoal.

[020] Layer. Light yellow brown clayey silt. Includes occasional rubble (limestone) and glass.

[021] Layer. Dark grey silty clay. Includes occasional pottery glass and iron object.

[022] Layer. Mid grey brown sandy silt, includes occasional pottery, glass, charcoal, bone and iron fragment.

[023] Layer. Mid brown sandy silt, includes occasional pottery, window glass, charcoal and tobacco pipe.

[024] Layer. Floor consisting of tamped clay and coarse gravel, some of this stained with ash.

[025] Layer. Mid to dark brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal tile, pot and glass.

[026] Layer. Rubble collapse within building 5. Consists of limestone, sandstone and cobble rubble within a dark grey silty loam, includes occasional pot, glass and slate fragments.

[027] Layer. Mid to dark brown silt. Includes occasional slate, pot, bone and charcoal.

[028] Layer. Mid grey brown sandy loam, includes frequent rubble, mortar fragments and occasional charcoal, pot and slate.

[029] Layer. Mid to light brown sandy silt, includes occasional pot and charcoal.

[030] Layer. Dark brown humic silt includes occasional bone, pot, iron object and glass.

[031] Fill. Possible post hole fill. Mid grey brown clayey silt, with occasional small stone and charcoal.

[032] Cut. Possible post hole. Oval? In shape measure with 0.16m wide with a concave profile measuring 0.12m deep.

[033] Layer. Deposit of trampled? fractured/broken stone (some burnt) within a mixture of red/brown and dark grey soil, including ash and charcoal.

[034] Layer. Dark grey ash and charcoal spread.

[035] Layer. Deposit of trampled fractured/broken stone (some burnt) within a mixture of red/brown and dark grey soil, including ash and charcoal.

[036] Walls. Rubble walls of building 3, the remnants of the E wall measure 3.20 long being up to 1.10m wide and stand up to 0.46m in high. The N wall was only partially revealed in the trench and measures up to 1.20m in width.

[037] Hearth. Hearth constructed from three horizontal slabs of epidiorite schist, which show some signs of burning/scorching. Measures overall 0.78m by 0.70m.

[038] Cobble/slab surface. The remnants of a stone surface running between buildings 3 and 4. The largest surviving section measures 0.80m by 0.80m and constructed from limestone blocks smoothed by wear.

[039] Wall stub. Remnants of N/S aligned rubble wall measuring 0.86m high and 0.80m wide. The wall is bonded by a hard light yellow grey mortar.

[040] Wall. The walls were rubble built with no sign of mortar bonding. They were constructed with mixed rubble using angular limestone blocks and more water rounded cobbles along with schist and quartzite blocks. The wall within the trench stood up to 0.29m high and 0.82m in width.

[041] Cobbled floor. The floor was constructed from mainly tightly packed rounded cobbles and some flatter flags of schist and limestone. The floor was best preserved on the SE and more disturbed within the rest of the building. A series of connecting drainage channels were observed in the southern half of the building, these leading to a channel outlet towards the centre west of the building. Along the western side of the building there appears to have been some attempt at repair or the raising of the surface on this side. Where not drainage related, absence of cobbling suggested the settings for timbers, possibly for the creation of stalls.

[042] Wall. Remnant Eastern and western walls of building 5 these being up to 0.82m in width and standing up to 0.22m high.

[043] Floor/s. The floor/s of the building consisted of trampled/packed clay over gravel/pebble make up. The upper surface in part was discoloured through use with some charcoal ash staining and signs of burning.

[044] Wall. The west wall of Building 2. Only the western face of this wall was seen running the length of the trench for 0.48m, and cut at its southern extent. The wall stands up to 1.10m high.

[045] Drain. A small surviving segment of a possible stone drain base, measuring 0.40m by 0.40m.

[046] Wall. Walls of Building 6. The surviving rubble built east wall measures 6m long, 1.10m wide and stands up to 0.40m in height (largest stone 0.70m x 0.60m x 0.40m).

[047] Threshold. Threshold stone with a notch from a timber upright on its eastern side, the stone measures 0.44m by 0.32m. Associated with the threshold were a group of cobbles/stones, forming a rough floor immediately to the south of the threshold stone

[048] Hearth. Hearth setting comprising of a group of horizontally lain stones measuring 0.80m by 0.50m, some stones fire reddened.

[049] Cut. Possible construction cut for Dun wall [050].

[050] Wall. Surviving inner face of dun wall. This can be traced running 4.80m E/W before arcing to the N and running for another 3 m. Within the trench the wall is rubble built and stands up to 0.40m high in three courses. The outer face of the wall could not be traced with any certainty.

[051] Fill. Fill of cut consisting of very large limestone blocks with some smaller cobbles. There were several voids beneath and around the large stones suggesting rapid excavation and dumping.

[052] Cut. The eastern edge of a near vertical cut at least 0.35m deep. Not fully excavated.

[053] Drain. The remnants of a drain and outlet within the north end of Building 5. The drain consisted of a channel cut into natural deepening at the north where it is lined with flat stones. Not fully excavated due to root intrusion.

Appendix 2: Context List

Context No.	Trench	Type	Description
001	2	Layer	Turf/overburden
002	2	Layer	Turf/overburden
003	4	Layer	Cleaning
004	2	Layer	Rubble infill of building
005	4	Layer	Rubble infill of building
006	6	Layer	Turf/overburden
007	6	Layer	Yellow sandy soil and cobble dump
008	1	Layer	Turf/overburden
009	5	Layer	Turf/overburden
010	2	Layer	Rubble infill of building
011	5	Layer	Rubble infill of building
012	5	Layer	Rubble infill of building
013	5	Layer	Rubble infill of building
014	1	Fill	Fill of grass bar cut
015	1	Cut	Cut for grass bars
016	1	Layer	Red brown clay silt
017	1	Layer	Burnt occupation deposit
018	5	Layer	Slate dump
019	3	Layer	Soil outside building 6
020	3	Layer	Soil inside building 6
021	5	Layer	Soil below slate dump
022	2	Layer	Soil over cobbles
023	5	Layer	Soil above floors
024	5	Layer	Floor building 3

025	6	Layer	Soil below 007
026	2	Layer	Rubble infill of building
027	2	Layer	Soil above floors
028	4	Layer	Rubble dump
029	4	Layer	Basal soil trench 4
030	5	Layer	Soil above surface/floors
031	1	Fill	Fill of post hole
032	1	Cut	cut of post hole
033	1	Layer	ash/charcoal deposit
034	1	Layer	construction fill?
035	1	Layer	Trampled surface
036	5	Layer	Walls building 3
037	5	Hearth	Hearth setting
038	5	Cobbles	Surface corridor
039	6	Wall	Wall stub S side of gate
040	2	Wall	Wall building 4
041	2	Cobbles	Floor building 4
042	2	Wall	Walls
043	2	Floor	Cobble floor building 5
044	5	Wall	Wall building 2
045	5	Drain	Drain?
046	3	Wall	Walls building 6
047	5	Threshold	Threshold stone
048	5	Hearth	Hearth setting
049	1	Cut	Construction cut
050	1	Wall	Dun wall
051	5	Fill	rubble fill
052	5	Cut	modern trench?
053	2	Drain	Drain building 5

Appendix 3: Finds List

Catalogue No.	Context No.	Material	Quantity	Description
001	001	PT	18	4 slip decorated redware, 2 manganese glazed redware, 2 hand decorated pearl ware, 1 yellow banded decoration, 1 sponge decorated, 1 banded with feather decoration, 1 moulded rim, 6 glazed white earthenware, 1 transfer print
002	003	PT	1	1 glazed white earthenware,
003	004	PT	32	12 slip decorated redware, 2 creamware, 2 hand decorated, 1 banded decoration, 2 sponge decorated, 12 glazed white earthenware, 5 transfer print, 1 stoneware base
004	006	PT	17	2 edged ware, 2 banded decoration, 1 transfer print, 1 yellow glaze decoration, 11
005	007	PT	20	5 transfer print, 1 sponge? Decorated, 1 banded decoration, 3 hand painted decoration, 1 manganese glazed redware, 2 brown glazed, 7 glazed white earthenware
006	008	PT	5	2 slip decorated redware, 3 glazed white earthenware
007	010	PT	52	16 hand decorated, 1 salt glazed stoneware, 1 green transfer print, 1 pearlware?, 5 banded decorated with dots, 17 transfer print and moulded, 11 glazed white

				earthenware
008	011	PT	22	19 creamware, 3 pearlware
009	012	PT	5	2 glazed white earthenware, 1 tin glazed, 1 banded decoration
010	013	PT	83	57 manganese glazed redware, 7 slip decorated redware, 1 yellow glazed redware, 4 floral decorated pearlware? 1 joggled decoration, 1 transfer print, 1 banded decoration, 11 creamware?
011	019	PT	31	3 manganese glazed redware, 20 glazed white earthenware, 2 transfer print, 5 banded decoration, 1 redware/tile?
012	021	PT	8	1 moulded creamware, 2 banded decoration, 2 joggled, 1 sponge decorated, 2 glazed white earthenware
013	022	PT	68	4 manganese glaze redware, 2 slip decorated redware, 2 trans print, 12 banded, 6 sponge, 3 hand decorated, 34 glazed white earthenware, 1 cobalt blue, 2 other
014	023	PT	13	7 hand decorated, 1 sponge decorated, 1 banded pearlware, 4 glazed white earthenware
015	025	PT	19	4 banded decoration, 2 edged ware, 1 manganese glazed redware, 1 transfer print, 1 redware?, 2 tin glazed earthenware, 2 floral decorated
016	026	PT	10	2 transfer print, 1 floral decoration, 7 glazed white earthenware
017	027	PT	16	15 transfer print, 1 salt glazed stoneware
018	029	PT	1	1 glazed red earthenware
019	030	PT	5	1 tin glazed earthenware
020	028	PT	1	1 floral decorated pearlware? 1 slip decorated redware, 3 glazed white earthenware
021	006	TP	1	stem
022	022	TP	1	stem
023	023	TP	1	stem
024	001	GL	1	green bottle
025	002	GL	6	3 green bottle (1 base), 1 clear vessel, 2 window
026	003	GL	2	2 green bottle (1 neck)
027	004	GL	33	20 green bottle (6 base), 5 window, 2 blue clear vessel, 4 clear vessel, 2 wine (1 cut decorated)
028	005	GL	2	green bottle
029	006	GL	40	23 green bottle (2 base), 1 window, 6 clear vessel (2 wine, 1 neck)
030	007	GL	68	43 green bottle (modern), 19 green bottle (1 base), 5 window, 1 clear vessel
031	008	GL	1	1 green glass object
032	008	GL	26	24 green bottle (2 base), 1 window, 1 clear vessel
033	010	GL	4	green bottle
034	011	GL	62	57 green bottle (2 neck, 1 base), 3 window, 2 clear vessel
035	012	GL	30	22 green bottle (3 base), 6 window, 2 wine (1 hand painted)
036	013	GL	78	73 green bottle (4 base), 5 window
037	018	GL	8	green bottle
038	019	GL	147	146 green bottle (4 base, 2 neck)
039	020	GL	1	green bottle

040	021	GL	12	7 green bottle, 5 clear/opaque glass (base of thick vessel)
041	022	GL	10	6 green bottle (1 base), 3 clear glass vessel, 1 window
042	023	GL	8	5 green bottle (1 neck), 3 window
043	025	GL	40	green bottle (5 base, 1 neck)
044	026	GL	1	1 wine glass cut decorated
045	030	GL	4	green bottled
046	003	CBM	11	drainage tile
047	005	CBM	2	drainage tile
048	006	CBM	4	drainage tile
049	007	CBM	4	drainage tile
050	008	CBM	4	drainage tile
051	011	CBM	11	drainage tile
052	012	CBM	2	drainage tile
053	025	CBM	4	floor tile?
054	003	BN	1	animal bone
055	006	BN	1	animal bone
056	012	BN	2	animal bone
057	013	BN	24	animal bone
058	016	BN	2	animal bone
059	018	BN	9	animal bone
060	022	BN	3	animal bone
061	027	BN	2	animal bone
062	028	BN	2	animal bone
063	030	BN	2	animal bone
064	013	SH	1	periwinkle
065	002	FE	1	hinge?
066	004	FE	3	tool/machine part?
067	006	FE	2	unidentifiable
068	007	FE	2	drain pipe?
069	011	FE	3	nail, cauldron fragment? shoe heel?
070	012	FE	1	adhering to slate
071	013	FE	7	1 large nail, 3 nails? 3 cauldron fragments?
072	013	FE	1	crossbow bolt?
073	019	FE	1	nail
074	021	FE	4	2 blade fragments? 2 unidentifiable
075	022	FE	13	cauldron, ring
076	023	FE	1	unidentifiable
077	030	FE	2	unidentifiable
078	012	PB	1	lead object
079	028	CH	5	Charcoal
080	013	MR	1	Mortar
081	028	MR	1	Mortar
082	028	MR	1	vitrified
083	012	BR	1	hand made brick
084	022	FL	1	flint
085	010	ST	1	Small whorl?
086	012	ST	1	Whetstone?
087	013	ST	1	Spindle whorl
088	008	ST	2	roof slate
089	010	ST	1	roof slate
090	013	ST	1	roof slate
091	018	ST	4	roof slate

092	018	ST	4	roof slate
093	028	ST	5	roof slate
094	028	ST	1	Burnt roof slate
095	003	ST	1	Carved stone
096	004	ST	1	Carved stone
097	004	ST	1	Carved stone
098	004	ST	1	Carved stone
099	008	ST	1	Carved stone
100	013	ST	1	Carved stone
101	013	ST	1	Carved stone
102	013	ST	1	Carved stone
103	013	ST	1	Carved stone
104	006	OT	1	Plastic hairpiece?
105	007	OT	1	Plastic button
106	016	CH		Sample 1 flot, charcoal
107	016	CH		Sample 1 1mm retent, charcoal
108	017	CH		Sample 2 flot, charcoal
109	017	CH		Sample 2 1mm retent, charcoal
110	017	BN		Sample 2 1mm retent, burnt bone
111	031	CH		Sample 3 flot, charcoal
112	033	CH		Sample 4 flot, charcoal
113	033	CH		Sample 4 1mm retent, charcoal
114	034	CH		Sample 5 flot, charcoal
115	034	CH		Sample 5 1mm retent, charcoal

Appendix 4: Sample List

Sample No.	Context No.	Type	Reason
001	016	bulk	Occupation deposit of dun
002	017	bulk	Occupation deposit of dun
003	031	bulk	Occupation deposit of dun
004	035	bulk	Occupation deposit of dun
005	034	bulk	Occupation deposit of dun
006	016/034	Kubiena tin	Pollen from dun occupation

Appendix 5: Graphic List

Graphic No.	Scale	Trench	Description
1	1:20	6	Trench 6
2	1:20	2	Trench 3 walls and floors
3	1:20	1	Trench 6 after turf removed
4	1:20	4	Cobbles
5	1:20	5	Trench 5
6	1:20	5	S facing Section
7	1:50	3	Building 6
8	1:20	1	Dun and sondage
9	1:20	1	N facing section
10	1:20	4	W facing section
11	1:20	5	Elevation Wall [036]
12	1:20	5	Elevation Wall [044]

13	1:20	2	Elevation Wall [042]
14	1:100		Trench locations

Appendix 6: Photo List

Trench	Context No.	Direction from	Description
1	016	S	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S	Trench after turf removal
1	016	W	Trench after turf removal
1	016	W	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S above	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S above	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S above	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S above	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S	Trench after turf removal
1	016	N	Trench after turf removal
1	014	W	Grass bar
1	016	W	Trench after turf removal
1	016	W	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S	Putative wall?
1	016	S	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S	Trench after turf removal
1	016	S	Wall collapse
1	016	S	Wall collapse
1	016	S	Wall collapse
1	016	W	Putative wall?
1	016	N	Wall collapse
1	016	S	Wall collapse
1	014/015	E	Grass bar cut
1	014/015	E	Grass bar cut
1	014/015	E	Grass bar cut
1		S above	Trench 1
1	014/015	W	Grass bar cut
1	017	W	Occupation deposit
1	017	W	Occupation deposit
1	017	N	Occupation deposit
1	017	N	Occupation deposit
1	017	N	Occupation deposit
1	050	N	Dun wall
1	050	N	Dun wall
1	050	NW	Dun wall
1	050	NW	Dun wall
1	050	NW	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	033/035	W	Trampled surface and ash spread
1	035		Trampled surface
1	033	W	Ash spread
1	033	S	Trampled surface
1	032	N	Post Hole
1	035	N	Trampled surface
1	035	W	Trampled surface

1	050	N	Trench 1 and dun wall
1	033	N	Ash deposit
1	033	N	Ash deposit
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1	033	W	Ash deposit
1	033	W	Ash deposit
1	033	W	Ash deposit
1	033	W	Ash deposit
1	033	N	Ash deposit
1	033	N	Ash deposit
1	033	N	Ash deposit
1	033	S	Ash deposit
1	033/050	N	Ash deposit and dun wall
1	033/050	S	Ash deposit and dun wall
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and dun wall
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and surface
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and surface
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and surface
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and surface
1	033/035	S	Ash deposit and surface
1	050	W	Dun wall and trench
1	050	W	Dun wall and trench
1	050	W	Dun wall and trench
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1	050	W	Dun wall
1		W	Dun wall pre ex
1		N	Dun wall pre ex
1		W	Possible wall pre ex
1		N	Dun wall pre ex
1		N	Dun wall pre ex
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	004	W	Trench 2 turf removed
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	042	W	Wall
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	004	N	Trench 2 turf removed
2	042	W	Wall
2	042	W	Wall
2	026	S	Rubble building 5
2	026	S	Rubble building 5
2	040	N	East Wall building 4
2	040	N	East Wall building 4
2	040	N	East Wall building 4
2	004	N	Rubble building 4

2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	S	Carved stone
2	042	N	Wall
2	042	N	Wall
2	042	N	Wall
2	042	W	Wall
2	042	E	Wall
2	042	E	Wall
2	042	E	Mortar in wall
2	042	E	Mortar in wall
2	042	W	Wall face
2			roots
2		E	roots
2		N	roots
2	043	S	Cobbled surface
2	043	S	Cobbled surface
2	043	S	floor with burning
2	043	S	floor with burning
2	053	W	drain
2	053	E	drain
2	053	E	drain
2	042	S	Wall
2	042	E	Wall
2		E	roots
2		E	roots
2		E	roots
2		E	roots
2		E	roots
2		SW	roots
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	N	Cobbled surface
2	031	E	Drain
4		S	Trench 4 pre ex
4		E	Trench 4 pre ex
4		E	Trench 4 pre ex
4	005	S	Turf removed
4	005	S	Turf removed
4	005	N	Turf removed
4	005	N	Turf removed
4	005	W	Turf removed
4	005	W	Turf removed

4	005	S above	Turf removed
4	005	S above	Turf removed
4	005/028	W	Section
4	005/028	W	Section
4	005/028	W	Section
4	005/028	W	Section
4	005/028	S	Trench 4
4	005/028	S	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
4		S above	Trench 4
5		E	Trench 5 pre ex
5		N	Trench 5 pre ex
5		W	Trench 5 pre ex
5	009	N	Turf stripped
5	009	W	Turf stripped
5	009	W	Turf stripped
5	036	W	North wall
5	036	W	North wall
5	009	E above	Turf stripped
5	009	E above	Turf stripped
5	036	N	Wall
5	036	E above	Wall
5	036	E above	Wall
5		E above	Working
5		E above	Working
5	013	W	Rubble in corridor
5	012	E	Rubble in building 3
5		E above	Working
5	018	E	Slate dump
5	018	N	Slate dump
5	012	W	Lower rubble building 3
5	018	E	Slate dump
5	018	N	Slate dump
5	018	N	Slate dump
5	018	E	Slate dump
5		E above	Working
5		E above	Working
5		E above	Working
5	018	E	Slate dump
5		E above	Working
5		E above	Working
5	018	N	Slate dump
5	018	N	Slate dump
5	013	S	Section
5	013	S	Section
5	013	S	Section
5	012	S	Section

5	012	S	Section
5	012	S	Section
5	051	N	dumped stone
5	051	E	dumped stone
5	037	S	dumped stone and hearth
5	037	S	dumped stone and hearth
5	037	S	hearth
5		E above	Working
5	018	N	slate dump
5	018	N	slate dump
5		N	Trench 5
5		N	Trench 5
5		N	Building 3
5		S	Building 3
5	037	E	Hearth
5	037	E	Hearth
5	036	N	Wall
5	036	N	Wall
5		N	corridor
5		N	corridor
5		N	corridor
5		N	corridor
5	038	N	surface
5	045	W	Drain?
5	038	E	Cobbles
5	038	S	Cobbles in corridor
5	044	S	Wall
5	044	S	Wall
5	036	SW	Wall
5	036	NW	Wall
5	037	E	Hearth
5	036	NW	Wall
5	024	N	Floor
5	048	E	Hearth
5	036	S	N Wall
5	047	N	Threshold stone
5	036/047	W	N wall and threshold
5	036/047	W	N wall and threshold
5		S above	Building 3
5		S above	Building 4
5		W	Wall and castle
5		W	Wall and castle
5		W	Wall and castle
5		W	Wall and castle
5	048	E	Hearth
5	037/048	S	Hearths
5	037/048	S	Hearths and floor
5	048	S	Hearth
5			roots
5			roots
5			roots
5			roots

5			roots
5			roots
5			roots
5			roots
5			roots
6		W	Trench 6 pre ex
6		S	Trench 6 pre ex
6		E	Trench 6 pre ex
6	007	S	Turf removed
6	039	E	Wall
6	039	S	Wall
6	007	S	Turf removed
6	007	S	Turf removed
6	039	S	Wall
6	039	S	Wall
6		S	Trench 6
6		S	garden wall
6	039	E	Wall
6	039	S	Wall
6	039	S	Wall
6		E above	Trench 6
6		E above	Trench 6
3		N	Building 5
3		N	Building 5
3		N	Building 5
3		N	Building 5
3		N	Building 5
3		N	Building 5
3		S	Building 5
3		S	Building 5
3		S	Threshold stone
3		W	S wall
3		W	S wall
			working
			working
			working
			working
2		N	Trench 2 pre ex
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1
1		S above	Trench 1

Appendix 7: DES Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Argyll and Bute
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Carnassarie Castle Excavation
PROJECT CODE:	CCA 17
PARISH:	Kilmartin
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Roddy Regan
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Kilmartin Museum
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Excavation
NMRS NO(S):	NM80SW 31
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	possible dun, castle outbuildings and deserted settlement
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Dun occupation deposits, Post medieval finds assemblage
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NM 83900 00860
START DATE (this season)	May 2107
END DATE (this season)	June 217
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	The excavation uncovered what appear to be hearth derived occupation deposits within what is very likely the remnants of a dun structure located to the north of the castle. The excavation also confirmed the presence of structures lying immediately to the west of the castle, these perhaps initially castle outbuildings, but still occupied after the castles demise in 1685. The excavation also investigated some of the buildings belonging to the township of Carnassarie Beg, the dating evidence confirming the historical picture of a settlement occupied until the middle of the 19 th century. The excavation also showed that within the castle grounds both the castle outbuildings and those of Carnassarie Beg have been substantially affected by tree root damage. Another theme encountered during the excavation work were the topographical changes resulting from various campaigns of 'landscaping' within the castle grounds which appears to have removed any trace of buildings near the 'garden' gate and have significantly raised ground levels immediately to the north of the castle.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Publication
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Environment Scotland, A' Cruach Community Fund
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Kilmartin Museum, Kilmartin, Argyll, PA31 8RQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	rodny@kilmartin.org
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	The archive is retained by Kilmartin Museum. Copies of the report will be lodged with, Historic Environment Scotland, WoSAS SMR and the NMRS