

small-scale excavations demonstrated the slight nature of the feature which, at only 0.6 m wide and 0.28 m deep, is perhaps too shallow to be associated with a Roman military structure.¹³

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

(1) **Wick** (SS 91 71): a hoard of 91 silver denarii, deposited A.D. 164 or later, was found by use of metal-detectors.¹⁴ The date range of the coins was principally from Nero (A.D. 54–68) to Marcus Aurelius/Lucius Verus (A.D. 161–80); the latest coin was struck in A.D. 163–4. The hoard also contained three coins issued by Mark Antony in 31 B.C. The hoard was contained in a pottery jar of local manufacture.¹⁵

evan.chapman@museumwales.ac.uk

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2. SCOTLAND

By FRASER HUNTER

NORTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

ABERDEENSHIRE

(1) **Macduff** (NJ 71 64): a Roman gilt-silver ram's head, probably a bracelet terminal (FIG. 3),¹⁶ was found by metal-detecting in a field known to contain later prehistoric settlement. It appears to have broken off rather than been deliberately cut.¹⁷



FIG. 3. Gilt-silver ram-headed bracelet terminal, Macduff; L 24 mm, Wt 4.93 g. (Photo: Neil McLean, © National Museums Scotland)

¹³ Work by R. Hankinson of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

¹⁴ Acquired as treasure by National Museum of Wales (Wales 14.27).

¹⁵ Mr E. Besly sent information.

¹⁶ Now in Aberdeen University Museums collections.

¹⁷ Other stray finds of Roman material in 2015 comprise a headstud brooch from Lonnie (Highland), its location near a small loch and burn suggesting it may be a ritual deposit, and a dragonsque brooch from Gateside (Fife), while a

PERTH AND KINROSS

- (1) **Invergowrie** (NO 3427 3010): inspection of aerial photographs held in a private collection revealed the north-west corner of the camp in its predicted location.¹⁸
- (2) **Lintrose**: (a) *Tradewinds* (NO 2167 3758): an evaluation¹⁹ just within the south-west corner of the camp²⁰ recorded no Roman material. (b) *Harris* (NO 2188 3774): a further watching-brief²¹ within the camp was similarly negative.
- (3) **Forteviot** (NO 039 175): magnetometer survey²² over much of the camp's interior²³ revealed the ditch line but no clear trace of internal features, though extensive fluvio-glacial patterning would mask any subtle anomalies.

FALKIRK

- (1) **Airth** (NS 90 87): following a metal-detecting find of an unusual Iron Age terret, excavation²⁴ in flood silts alongside a burn revealed a simple Romano-British terret which had been deliberately deposited in a small scoop in the silt. A stray find of a trumpet brooch in a similar topographic location some 150 m west is likely to be a further ritual deposit disturbed by ploughing. It seems a series of individual items were placed as offerings in the flood deposits.

ARGYLL AND BUTE

- (1) **Cardross** (NS 34 78): a copper-alloy medallion of Clodius Albinus²⁵ was found by metal-detecting. This rare discovery, just north-west of the Antonine Wall and close to the Firth of Clyde, may be a diplomatic gift to a strategically significant local leader in an attempt to secure the northern frontier before Albinus withdrew troops for his attempt to usurp Septimius Severus as emperor.

THE ANTONINE WALL

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

- (1) **Bearsden, Burgh Halls** (NS 54192 72132): a limited evaluation²⁶ found no trace of the Ditch on its projected line.
- (2) **Easter Balmuildy** (NS 5823 7166): evaluation work²⁷ immediately east of the fort ditches²⁸ revealed the ground had been extensively disturbed, and no Roman remains were found.

bell-shaped stud was found beside Roman Dere Street at Soutra (Midlothian); see *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* 16 (2015), 84–5, 112–13, 122. A brooch 'from Montrose' (*ibid.*, 35) is the example from Dunnichen reported previously (*Britannia* 44 (2013), 283 n. 32).

¹⁸ Reported by Joe Gierasik and discussed with Dr D.J. Woolliscroft. For the site see R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 236–7. The presence of a further camp in the area is implied by the 1980s excavations at Dundee High Technology Park which revealed features now recognisable as Roman field ovens some 700 m to the north; see Gibson and Tavener, *PSAS* 119 (1989), 83–9.

¹⁹ For E. Crookston by D. Hall, who sent a report.

²⁰ R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 254–5. Earlier excavations, likewise barren, are reported in *Britannia* 42 (2011), 330 with further references.

²¹ For Mr and Mrs Burrows by D. Hall, who sent a report.

²² Led by Dr T. Poller as part of Glasgow University's SERF Project.

²³ For which see R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 205–6.

²⁴ By Dr F. Hunter of National Museums Scotland; the finds are in Falkirk Museum.

²⁵ Identified by Dr S. Moorhead; now in Clydebank Museum. Full publication is planned.

²⁶ For Anderson Bell & Christie by A. Hunter Blair and K. Green of GUARD Archaeology; B. Will sent a report.

²⁷ Led by M. Kilpatrick of GUARD Archaeology for Caledonian Properties Ltd; B. Will sent a report.

²⁸ For the fort, see S.N. Miller, *The Roman Fort at Balmuildy* (1922).

(3) **Twechar** (NS 6981 7544): a watching-brief²⁹ on the upgrading of powerlines crossing the temporary camp³⁰ revealed no Roman remains in the limited area exposed.

FALKIRK

(1) **Rough Castle** (NS 843 799): a watching-brief³¹ on the replacement of interpretation boards around the fort exposed but did not excavate features which may be Roman, including an area of flat sandstone slabbing at NS 8433 7986.

(2) **Falkirk**: (a) *Arnothill House* (NS 8808 7997): evaluation trenches³² south of Arnothill Lane confirmed the Ditch does not lie on the projected line in this area, but a few metres to the north.³³ (b) *Clyde Cottage* (NS 8856 7977): further trenches in the garden³⁴ confirmed the layout of the ditches and road at the entrance to the fort's western annexe. (c) *Adrian House* (NS 8860 7974): evaluation trenches³⁵ in the grounds confirmed the line of the fort's western ditches.

(3) **Polmont** (NS 94 78): metal-detecting revealed a fine statuette of a seated griffin (FIG. 4).³⁶

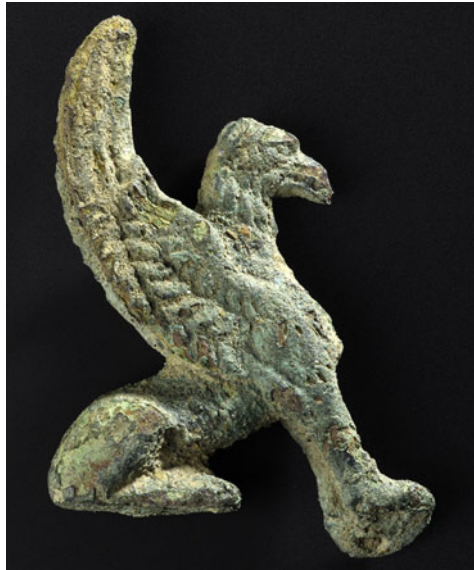


FIG. 4. Griffin figurine from Polmont; H 57 mm. (Photo: Neil McLean, © National Museums Scotland)

²⁹ For Freedom Network Services by J. Lochrie of Headland Archaeology, who sent a report.

³⁰ See R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 313.

³¹ By P. Fox of Kirkdale Archaeology for Historic Scotland.

³² By G. Bailey, who sent a report.

³³ See *Britannia* 39 (2008), 275 for earlier work in the vicinity.

³⁴ Led by G. Bailey (who sent a report) for Falkirk Community Trust and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society; for earlier work see *Britannia* 46 (2015), 289.

³⁵ For Falkirk Community Trust by G. Bailey, who sent a report.

³⁶ Now in Falkirk Museum; full publication by F. Hunter in *PSAS* 145 (forthcoming).

(4) **Mumrills** (NS 918 794): fieldwalking and metal-detecting over the fort site³⁷ recovered pottery, part of a shale bangle, denarii of Domitian and Hadrian and a dupondius of Antoninus Pius.

SOUTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

INVERCLYDE

(1) **Lurg Moor** (NS 2950 7373): an accurate survey of the fortlet³⁸ revealed, *inter alia*, a counterscarp bank on two sides (FIG. 5).

EAST LOTHIAN

(1) **Inveresk**, *Lewisvale Park tennis courts* (NT 34856 72293): a watching-brief³⁹ revealed a series of pits and a ditch (with some Roman ceramics), perhaps from a field-system.⁴⁰

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

(1) **Ewes Doors** (NY 37252 98609): survey of this watch-tower⁴¹ revealed traces of a four-post structure some 3 m across within an inner enclosure 5 m in diameter within a 3 m-thick bank; this lay in an outer enclosure some 17 m in diameter (FIG. 6). The entrance is aligned on the Roman road.

(2) **Burnswark** (NY 186 787): (a) a magnetometer survey⁴² of the eastern half of the south camp and 'fortlet' revealed no trace of any clear internal structures such as field ovens to suggest a prolonged occupation. Core samples were taken for analysis of sediments at key points. (b) Following field evaluation of the Roman camps and preliminary non-invasive metal-detector survey of the hillfort summit in 2014, a generous spread of lead targets was identified across the south ramparts of the hillfort.⁴³ This gave impetus for a successful HLF bid in 2015 to carry out a wide-scale detector survey and selective ground-truthing by means of two 10 by 2 m trenches, one placed on the mid-point of the summit and the second astride the western rampart of the hillfort.⁴⁴ These confirmed the distinctive metal-detecting signature of Roman lead sling bullets to an accuracy of 94 per cent. 17 lead bullets were recovered, of three types: 50 g lemon-shaped Type I,⁴⁵ 50–60 g acorn-shaped Type II and a third type, a smaller 20 g lemon-shape with a 5 mm diameter hole in one side (dubbed Type III). These smaller bullets were subsequently shown by experimentation to be aerophonic, making a whirring/whistling sound like a wasp.

Non-invasive metal-detector survey confirmed the presence of nearly 700 lead bullets scattered across half a kilometre of the south-facing hillfort rampart, the slinging-line behind the front rampart of the South Camp, and a localised scatter just north of the single north gateway of the

³⁷ Led by G. Bailey (who supplied information) for Falkirk Community Trust and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society.

³⁸ By the Survey and Recording team at Historic Environment Scotland; A. Welfare sent details. For the site, see *JRS* 43 (1953), 105–7; A. Robertson, *PSAS* 97 (1963–4), 198–200.

³⁹ For Fouin and Bell Architects by N. Johnstone of AOC Archaeology; M. Cook sent a report.

⁴⁰ The site lies north of the ridge which housed the bulk of the fort complex, but an extensive surrounding area saw some Roman activity; see M.C. Bishop, *Roman Inveresk: Past, Present and Future* (2002), map inside rear cover.

⁴¹ By the Survey and Recording team at Historic Environment Scotland; A. Welfare sent details. For the site, see RCAHMS, *Eastern Dumfriesshire: an Archaeological Landscape* (1997), 397, no. 1220.

⁴² Led by Dr A. Posluschny, then of the Römisch-Germanische Kommission, as part of the Archaeolandscape Europe project.

⁴³ For discussion of the site, see G. Jobey, *TDGNHAS* 53 (1978), 67–104; D. Campbell, *Britannia* 34 (2003), 19–33; L. Keppie in W.S. Hanson (ed.), *The Army and Frontiers of Rome* (2009), 241–52; D. Breeze, *Archaeological Journal* 168 (2011), 166–80; J. Reid, *Current Archaeology* 316 (2016), 20–6.

⁴⁴ The work, sponsored by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society and the Trimontium Trust, was led by Dr J. Reid and A. Nicholson; Dr Reid sent details.

⁴⁵ S. Greep, *Britannia* 18 (1987), 183–200.

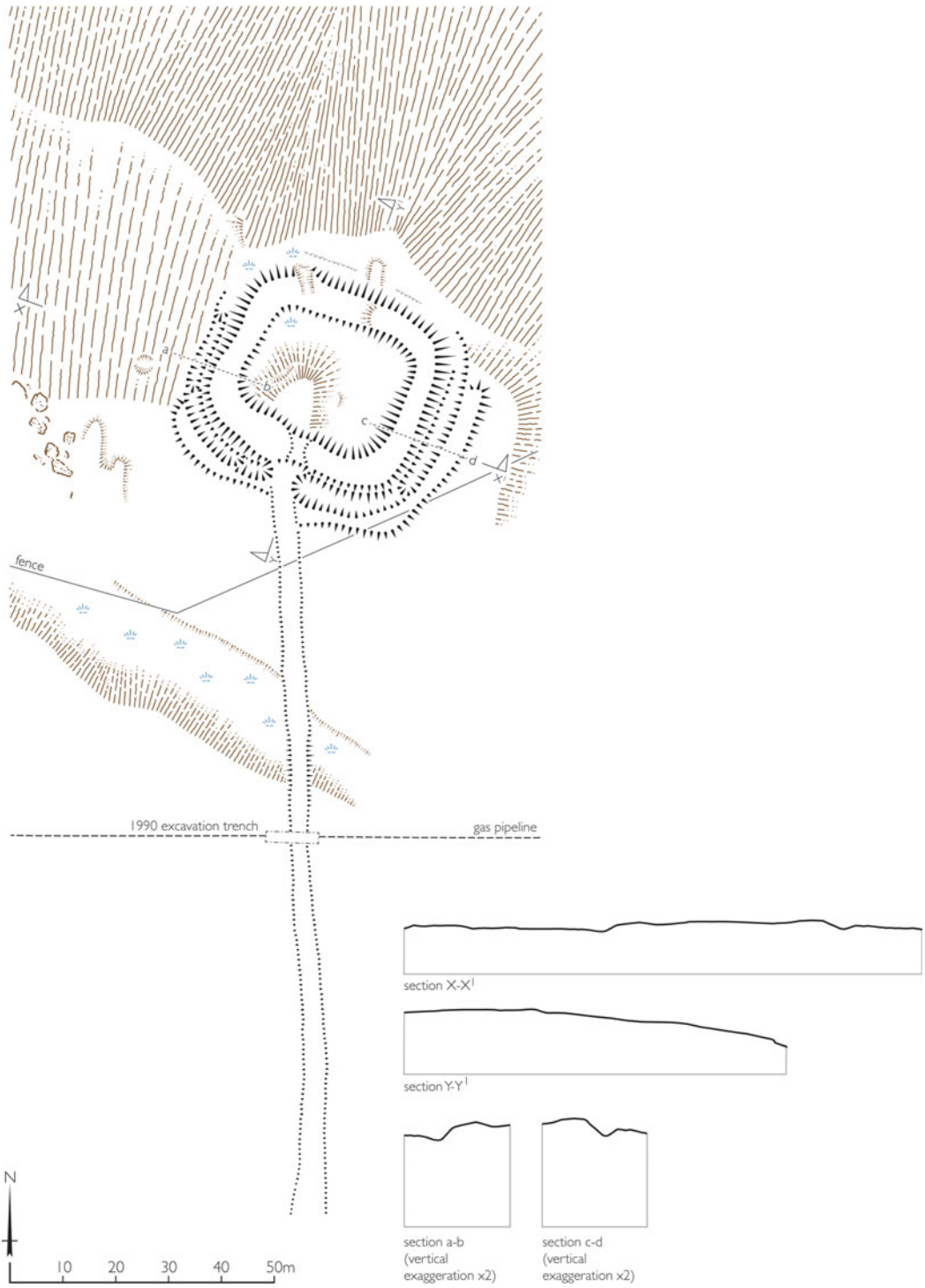


FIG. 5. Survey of the Lurg Moor fortlet. (By courtesy of and © Crown Copyright: Historic Environment Scotland)

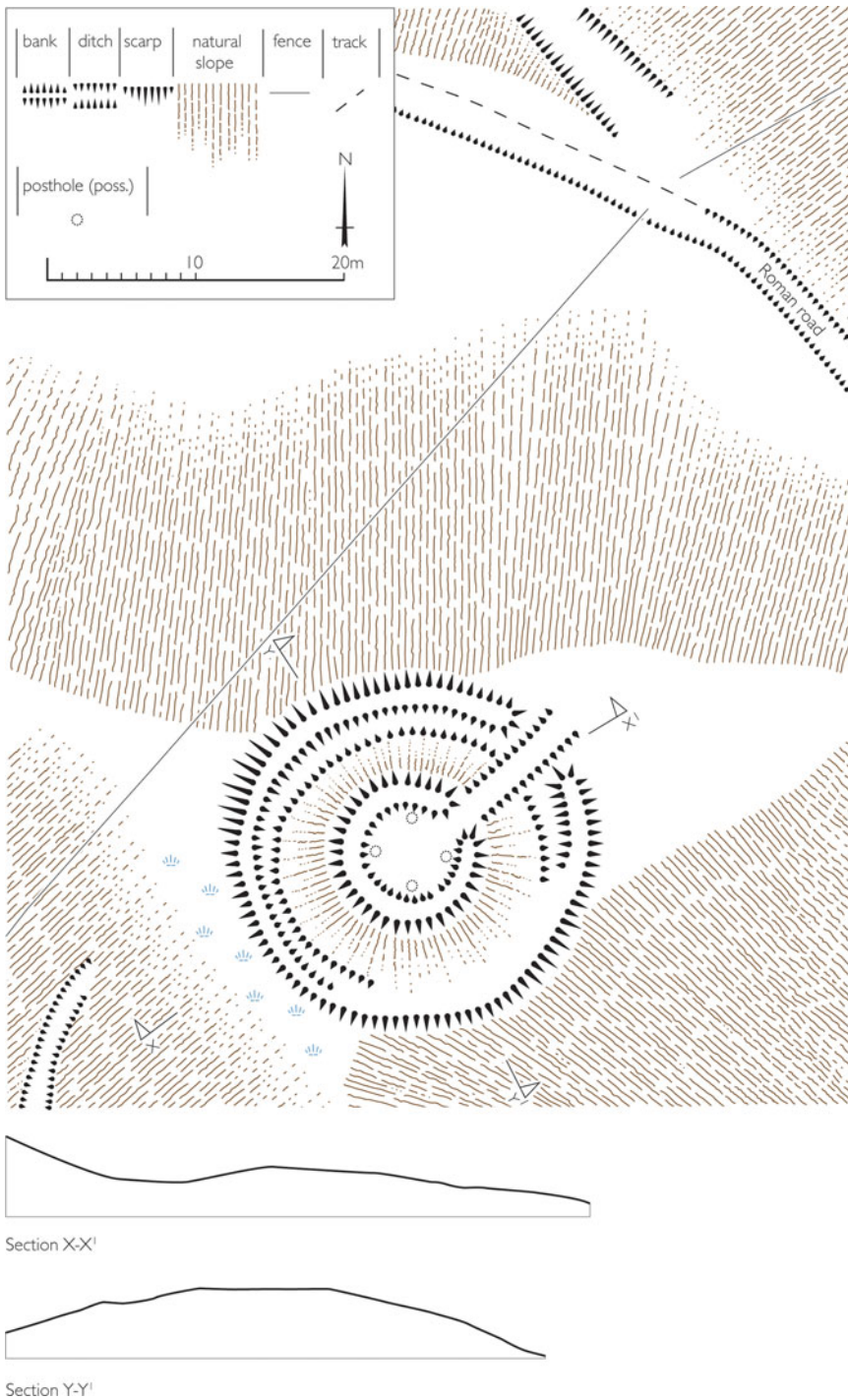


FIG. 6. Survey of the Ewes Door watch-tower. (By courtesy of and © Crown Copyright: Historic Environment Scotland)

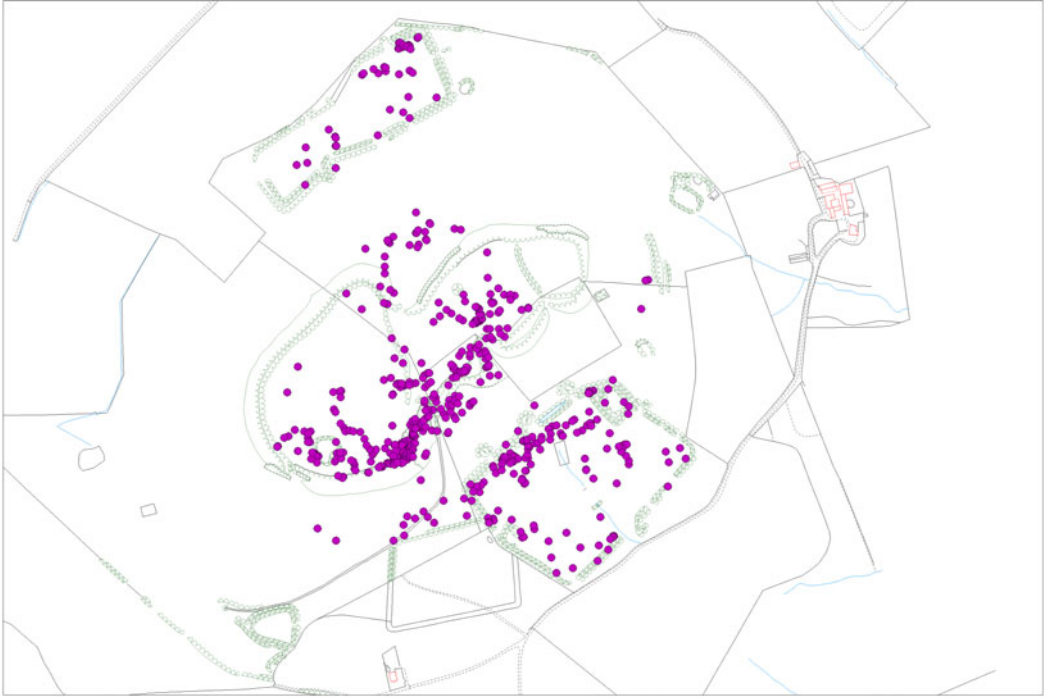


FIG. 7. Distribution of lead slingshot at Burnswark, from non-invasive metal-detecting. (By courtesy of Dr J. Reid)

hillfort (FIG. 7). Initial interpretation suggests the finds represent a full frontal assault on the hillfort from the south Roman camp and possibly an attempted escape route northwards blocked by focused slingshot from the north Roman camp.

(3) **Ladyward** (NY 1133 8208): magnetometer survey⁴⁶ over the western part of the fort provided details of the plan (FIG. 8);⁴⁷ the intensity of the response suggests extensive burning at the site.

(4) **East Gallaberry** (NX 97 82): metal-detecting finds of coins and a brooch are likely to be connected to the nearby camp of West Gallaberry or the Antonine fort at Carzield.⁴⁸

(5) **Glenlochar**: (a) (NX 74 64): metal-detecting around the site recovered a range of finds, including an anthropomorphic handle from a shallow bowl, a lead weight and two pieces of Iron Age-style metalwork (a harness mount and a mini-terret).⁴⁹ (b) (NX 73900 64085): a watching-brief while electricity poles were replaced⁵⁰ revealed an undated feature within Camp V.⁵¹

f.hunter@nms.ac.uk

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⁴⁶ Led by Dr A. Posluschny for the Römisch-Germanische Kommission as part of the Archaeolandscapes Europe project.

⁴⁷ Known from aerial photography; see RCAHMS, *Eastern Dumfriesshire: an Archaeological Landscape* (1997), 177, fig. 18; 309, no. 1208.

⁴⁸ For further details see *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* 16 (2015), 59. The finds are in Dumfries Museum.

⁴⁹ For further details see *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* 16 (2015), 56; the handle will be published in F. Hunter, *PSAS* 145 (forthcoming). The finds are in Stewartry Museum.

⁵⁰ By J. Pickin for CIET (UK) Ltd.

⁵¹ For the site see R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 215–16.

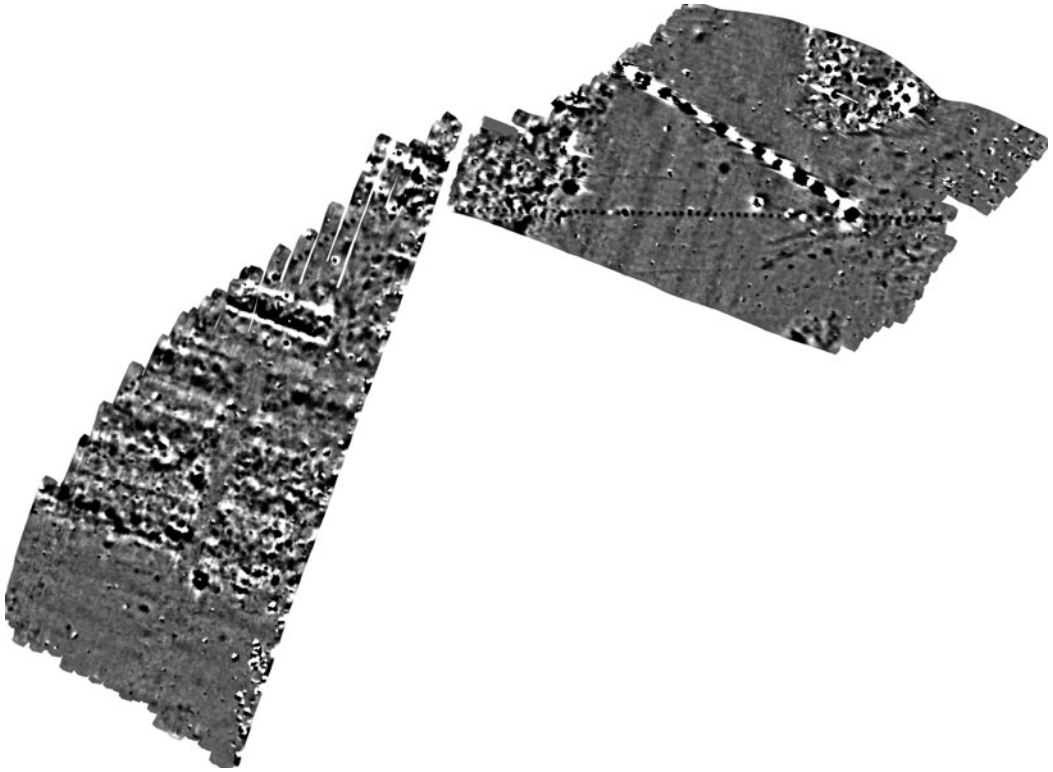


FIG. 8. Magnetometer survey of Ladyward fort. (By courtesy of Dr A. Posluschny)

ENGLAND

3. HADRIAN'S WALL

By PETE WILSON

NORTH TYNESIDE

(1) **Wallsend fort** (*Segedunum*) (NZ 300 658): more of the baths discovered last year⁵² 120 m due south of the fort was exposed, and excavation completed on the accessible portion (FIG. 9). It was established that the baths had originally been built to the 'standard' Hadrian's Wall bath-house plan recorded at Benwell, Chesters, Carrawburgh, Bewcastle and Netherby. The Wallsend baths were built on the edge of a stream valley and the building had suffered from land-slip: walls had shifted out of alignment and the southern part of the building had broken away and slid south and east down the slope. The northern parts of the Hadrianic structure were incorporated into a drastic rebuild in a simpler block arrangement of *frigidarium*, *tepidarium* and *caldarium*.

⁵² See *Britannia* 46 (2015), 291.