

Site Number 1

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Cairn (Prehistoric)(Possible)

NRHE Number HU44NE 23

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446309 Northing 1145181

Description A possible cairn is located on the summit of a hill at the southern end of the area. The feature

is defined by a low mound, some 12m in diameter and 0.2m high with a dished interior. The edge of the mound is clearly defined to the east, north and west but is less clear to the south. The top of the mound has hardly any peat cover while the area to the north is covered by thick peat deposits. At AP 27 less than 10m to the north of the feature the peat thickness was 1.68m. This may indicate that the feature is partly sub-merged in peat and that it was originally

much more prominent than it is now.

Site Number 2

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site TITHE BARN, BURNT MOUND, CHAPEL, GRAVE, SETTLEMENT, DYKE, TURF HOUSE, CIST

NRHE Number HU44NE 12

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445650 Northing 1145160

Description The area was surveyed and excavated in advance of an oil rig supply base with the excavations

revealing a large teind barn dating from the early 16th C. A number of archaeological features

were surveyed including burnt mounds, turf walled structures, cist

A group of four, small turf-walled structures (Structures 20-23 in the published report) recorded during the Kebister survey on the summit of a grassy knoll. Structures 20 and 22 are sub-rectangular and traces of an entrance were noted at the SW corner of Structure 20. Structures 21 and 23 are sub-circular and are possibly the quarry sites for the construction of Structures 20 and 22. On the basis of their exposed location, small size and position relative to the sea, Structures 20-23 are tentatively interpreted as skeos (roughly built huts with plenty of spaces to let the wind through), in this case small fish-drying huts (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 3

Site Name Holm of Califf

Type of Site BUILDING; Rubbing Stone (Post Medieval), Structure (Period Unassigned), Cup (Stone)

NRHE Number HU44NE 6

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445100 Northing 1145830

Description A circular enclosure and a large rectangular house of later appearance are located on a small



island that remains seperated

from the mainland even at low tide. Finds include a rubbing stone, half a stone cup and a steatite lamp.

(1) Circular enclosure, large rectangular house of later appearance occupies most of the rest of the holm. A rubbing stone,

half a stone cup and a steatite lamp were found.

(3) Even at low tide the island is seperated from the mainland by 20 of sea. Mound at east side of island is eroding into sea

(see file for photographic record). Site not visited.

Site Number 4

Site Name Burn Of Tagdale

Type of Site Building (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44SW 63

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 444950 Northing 1144630

Description One unroofed building is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney & Shetland

(Shetland) 1880, sheet lii), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map

(1991).

Site Number 5

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Enclosure(S) (Period Unassigned), Hut Circle (Prehistoric)(Possible)

NRHE Number HU44NE 16

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445580 Northing 1145130

Description Structure and two possibly associated enclosures are located at approximately 30m OD, near

the S edge of the Kebister survey area, outwith the March Dyke (NO44NE 11.01), on rugged moorland immedieatly W of an area of extensive peat-cutting. The structure (Structure 24 in the published report) comprises a continuous heather-covered stoney-bank, 1m wide and 0.30m high, and is roughly circular. It underlies some 0.25-0.35m of peat, and is tentatively interpreted as a prehistoric building, conceivably a hut-circle. The two enclosures (Enclosures 8 and 9 in the published report) are located to its N and are represented by curvilinear stone

banks, overlain by some 0.50m of peat (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 6

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Clearance Cairn(S), Field System, Rig And Furrow (Medieval), Structure(S)

NRHE Number HU44NE 10



Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445850 Northing 1145500

**Description** Part of the Kebister Township, see HU44NE 11.00.

There are intricate field systems, including sub-peat dykes, over a wide area around Kebister settlement (HU44NE 5, at HU 457 455) (Owen and Lowe 1987).

Six distinct groups of cultivation rigs were recorded, all within the area enclosed by the March Dyke (HU44NE 11.01) and likely to be post-medieval in date. The longest are more than 150m in length. The rigs vary in width from 5-10m but are mostly nearer 5m. Cultivation remains are clearly contained within a field (Enclosure 7 in the published report) (see HU44NE 11). 17 field clearance cairns were recorded, most of them on the coastal plain below 25m OD.

33 dykes of various types and lengths demonstrate a complex history of land management. The dykes served a variety of functions as feld-edges, field boundations and perhaps other enclosure boundaries. Historical and radiocarbon dating indicates that major dykes were constructed at least in the medieval, late medieval and post-medieval periods.

Three rectangular structures (Strucures 13-15 in the published report) lie upslope of the cultivation remains, close to the March Dyke, are interpreted as medieval turf-walled plantie crub (upslope enclosures in which crops such as cabbage or kail were sown in late summer. (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Owen and Lowe, O and C. (1999) Kebister: the four-thousand-year-old story of one Shetland township, in Ritchie, A, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland monograph series No 14. Edinburgh

Site Number 7

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Plough Marks (Period Unassigned), Settlement (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44NE 5

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445720 Northing 1145520

**Description** Rescue excavations and survey work were undertaken in advance of the construction of an oil

rig supply base.

A low, circular mound immediately north of the post-medieval structure (HU44NE 5.02) marked the disturbed top levels of a prehistoric settlement. Finds over the mound surface included coarse pottery, stone and steatite artefacts of probable Norse origin. Beneath the farming disturbance was a damaged oval house site. The external wall was mostly ruinous but it was comparatively intact on the S side. No definite entrance was located. Orthostats punctuated the internal wall face within the building and formed alcoves, at least one of which was recessed into the wall itself. The interior had maximum dimensions of approximately 4m by 3m. Thick black occupation layers and a peat ash hearth filled the centre, and quantities of coarse pottery and stone implements were recovered. A complex series of drainage gullies, some contemporary with the building, ran below the walls and across the interior.

Another structure, comprised almost entirely of features in natural clay, underlay this one. The walls were marked by a double row of deep circular postholes, revealing a circular construction, about 8m in diameter. Many of the postholes were connected to each other by shallow slots and grooves. A substantial, rectangular, central hearth was the primary feature. Finds were scarse, but some coarse pot and stone implements were recovered. Other features were a large, oval water container and a rectangular cooking trough. Evidence of a sandstone



knapping industry overlay the primary occupation features of the structure.

Remains of another building were discovered to the E. The building was in two phases and of a differing character from those above. The original eastern wall consisted of an internal face of coursed dry-stone walling, with a central entrance. Straight sections of simlar walling adjoined either end of the curve and another entrance was located in the southern section of walling. Another curving wall ran parallel to the eastern end, enclosing a yard some 5m wide, where metal working took place. Two levels of rough paving filled the space between the two walls, forming an additional room or recess to the original building. The interior of the structure was filled with thick black occupation layers and a stone built hearth, rebuilt several times, was found. Much coarse pottery and many stone implements were recovered.

A massive stone built enclosure wall partially encircled the prehistoric settlment. Survey work in the areas revealed traces of multi-period agricultrual activity, including at least three subpeat dykes (Owen and C Lowe 1985).

Immediately N of the large house (HU44NE 5.02) a stone built, multi-cullular structure of at least two phases was located. It is likely to date from the late Iron Age on the basis of its pottery and structural type. The major linear cell had a paved floor overlying a clay floor with a hearth. The entrance was probably in the west. As with all areas at Kebister, it was rich in artefactual remains. To the E of this structure there was an area densely packed with complex negative features, pits, troughs, posthole, gullies and drains, often superimposed on each other, and may cutting a thick spread of burning. E of these features, part of a well built stone platform located in the section indicates that there may still be more structures to unearth at Kebister.

Prehistoric cultivation marks were found below all areas excavated in 1986 to the N of the large house. Three thermoluminescent survey dates for the earliest structure so far excavated have been obtained, and they all suggest that it is Neolithic (Owen and Lowe 1986)

Excavation of the prehistoric site was completed. A 4.60m stretch of walling containing a well-constructed semi-circular alcove is all that remains of a further stone structure. It pre-dates the oval house of stone and turf excavated in 1985. Substantial drains infilled with collapsed building masonry yielded a large quantity of stone artefacts including worked quartz implements, but no pottery. Analogy with the assemblage from the Scord of Brouster suggests a Neolithic date for this phase.

Ard marks were revealed across most of the site, overlying this phase. They criss-crossed each other diagonally, but the predominant trench was NW to SE. No field edges were discerned, but a collection of fine stone ard points was found distributed among the levelled stonework below. There the plough had broken on hitting undertlying stone debris. This is believed to be the first discovery of ard points in direct association with ard marks.

An intensive systematic survey of the hillside above the site was undertaken in order to place the excavate site in its full local and environmental context. It revealed other areas of archaeological interest, notably a cluster of at least 6 burnt mounds about 290m E of the excavation (HU44NE 7), one large burnt mound with a central depression about 75m to the SE (HU44NE 8), another mound with protruding orthostats which is likely to represent a futher prehistoric house site at 120m to the SW (HU44NE 9) and intricate field systems, including subpeat dykes, over a wide area (HU44NE 10) (Owen and Lowe 1987.

Site Number 8

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Burnt Mound(S) (Prehistoric)

NRHE Number HU44NE 7

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445920



Northing 1145660

Description See also HU44NE 4. There is a cluster of at least six burnt mounds about 290m NE of Kebister settlement (HU44NE 5) (Owen and C Lowe 1987).

The cluster of Burnt Mounds (1-6) lie at 15m OD, close to the shore and 20m SW of a dried up water-course. Burnt Mounds 1 and 2 had previously been recorded as 'Viking Graves' by P

Moar (records held in Lerwick Museum) and as burnt mounds by P Winham (see HU44NE 4). They are considerably more prominent than Burnt Mounds 3-6.

Burnt Mounds 1 and 2 lie just a few metres apart and are similar in size, shape and form. Both are oval with with one concave side facing away from each other. An arc of large angular stones 1.5m long may indicate a possible wall-line half-way up the concave side of Burnt Mound 1.

Burnt Mounds 3-6 vary in size and form. Burnt Mound 3 is small and circular; 4 and 5 are amorphous and lie adjacent to a natural break of slope; 6 comprises a linear spread of burnt stones delimited on the W by several earth-fast boulders. Test pits inserted into their surfaces confirmed that each was composed of small to medium, subangular to subrounded, burnt and fire-shattered stones in brown to black sandy loam. It is likely that the group as a whole represents one activity phase (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 9

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Burnt Mound (Prehistoric)

NRHE Number HU44NE 8

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445750 Northing 1145420

**Description** There is a large burnt mound with a central depression which may represent a cooking site

about 75m SE of Kebister settlement (HU44NE 5) (Owen and Lowe 1987).

The mound (Burnt Mound 7 in Owen and Lowe 1999) is located at about 20m OD, above and to the S of a dried up water-course, on the margin between the coastal belt of improved arable land and the higher pasture. It is kidney-shaped and appears to comprise three or four distinct elements. To the W is a sub-triangular mound with concave faces to the N and E. To the E is a mound with a concave face to the W. Between the two is an open area, possibly the site of the water-tank and hearth. To the S is a low, amorphous mound. Small test-pits excavated into the top of each mound revealed a dense concetnration of small to medium, angular and subangular, burnt and fire-shattered stones in a matrix of dark grey silty clay. A large base sherd of coarse pottery of likely Bronze Age date was recovered (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 10

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Mound (Period Unassigned), Settlement (Period Unassigned)(Possible)

NRHE Number HU44NE 9

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445610 Northing 1145390



Description

Situated 120m SW of Kebister settlement (HU44NE 5) is a mound with protruding orthostats, probably a prehistoric house. (Owen and Lowe 1987).

The structure (Structure 19 in the published report) lies some 25m from the shore, in an enclosed post-medieval field (see HU44NE 10). It is visible as a roughly circular, grass-covered mound, 10-12m across and standing 1m high on the W. Its upper surface is relatively level and defined to the S by three large orthostats, together with a low ridge. The E side has been damaged by later cultivation. Three test pits were excavated in its top. In Trench 1, a deposit of cultivated soil, 0.45m thick, overlay the archaeological deposits, including traces of burning. In Trench 2 a wall-face of roughly dressed stone slabs was exposed. No archaeological deposits were encountered on the E side of the mound (Trench 3). The structure is interpreted as a prehistoric house similar in form and size to the Iron Age oval stone house excavated in the main trench at HU44NE 5 (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 11

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Head Dyke (Post Medieval), Township (Period Unassigned), Watermill

NRHE Number HU44NE 11

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445670 Northing 1145350

Description See also HU44NE 5, HU44NE 10, HU44NE 14

Applies to ruins, situated 1/2 mile SW of Luggie's Knowe and 1 mile NW of Greenesta farmhouse. The property of Lady Nicholson, island of Fetlar.Name Book 1857

The crofting settlement comprised, in its final form, seven, conjoined, rectangular units built of drystone walling, all aligned NW-SE. The walls survive to 1.6m high in places and are generally c.1m wide. Internal floor areas range from 6.4 to 31.5 square metres. This settlement was abandoned about 1820. Associated features include a watermill (Structure 17 in the published report), a sheep-pen (Structure 16), a corn-drying kiln built over a teind barn (HU44NE 5.02) and four enclosures (Enclosures 4-7), one of which contained an area of rig (Cultivation Remains 6, see HU44NE 10).

No archaeological evidence of suspected Norse or early medieval occupation on the site was found.

The remains of a small horizontal water mill were recorded at the base of the steep slope below the settlement, in a meander of the Burn of Kebister. It was rectangular, aligned NW-SE with drystone walls and an entrance in the centre of the NE wall. The water-channel, 1.4m wide, was located at the NW end of the building. The mill race forms a channel approximately 10m long on the S side of the mill.

The settlement is known to its present neighbours, living across the voe, as 'Handigert' (Willy and Mary Anderson pers comm), though this name never appears in the documentary sources and all those who lived in the township between 1577 and 1817 gave their address as Kebister (Owen and Lowe 1999).

A township, comprising four unroofed buildings (see HU44NE 5 and HU44NE 14), one enclosure and a head-dyke is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney and Shetland (Shetland) 1881, sheet liii). Six unroofed buildings and one enclosure are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1973). Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 20 March 2001.



Site Number 12

Site Name Kebister, March Dyke

Type of Site Head Dyke (Post Medieval)

NRHE Number HU44NE 11.01

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445946 Northing 1145330

Description HU44NE 11.01 From 4555 4526 to 4613 4582, centred at 4600 4536

HU44NE 11.00 Township; Watermill

The March Dyke form the dividing line between the townland and the common grazing. Approximately 1100m in length, it encloses an area roughly 20ha. In places, a quarry ditch, 2.5m to 5m wide and up to 0.50m deep, occurs on its upslope side. Two gaps, interpreted as entrances, occur in its S circuit; a further gap was noted in its E circuit, near Structure 15. The dyke had been erected over an iron-stained, thin podzol profile which was not peat-covered. It consists of peat blocks, each about 0.20m by 0.30m, laid to form a bank some 1.2m wide and 0.45m high. Several displaced peat blocks were noted on the downslope side of the excavated section. The basal course of a stone wall, 0.90m wide, survived on top of the bank, constructed of large, locally derived, unworked stones (quartz, quartzite and sandstone) which would have formed a visible white boundary.

No dating evidence was recovered but the absence of underlying peat growth, the good preservation and its identification as a typical hill-dyke probably signify a post-medieval date. It is suggested that the final hill-dyke may have been constructed at the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century (Owen and Lowe 1999).

The head-dyke is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney and Shetland (Shetland) 1881, sheet liii), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1973).Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 20 March 2001.

Site Number 13

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Burial Ground (Period Unassigned), Chapel

NRHE Number HU44NE 5.01

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445690 Northing 1145490

Description Rescue excavations and survey work were undertaken in advance of the construction of an oil

rig supply base. The interior of a substantial post-medieval structure of possible 16th century date was excavated. The house cut through the remains of earlier medieval, rectangular stone structures, contained within an enclosure wall. Midden material found outside and stratigraphically below the western entrance of the large house is likely to date from the Norse period. The house overlay a subrectangular wooden structure, aligned W to E, which may conceivably be the remains of an early Christian chapel. A piece of porfido verde antique, possibly part of a reliquary base, such as those known from St Ninian's Isle and Jarrow, was

found nearby.

A final season was undertaken. The remains of two wooden boxes set in trenches cut into natural clay were excavated within and below the level of the 16th century structure. The best preserved had planked sides, and a base and lid of pine. Although no bone survived, these are



almost certainly coffins, and C14 determination are expected to indicate an early Christian date. Scant traces of a small rectangular structure aligned E to W, and located adjacent of the coffins, have been interpreted as a chapel site (Owen and Lowe 1987).

Site Number 14

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Corn Drying Kiln (Period Unassigned), Tithe Barn (16th Century)

NRHE Number HU44NE 5.02

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445700 Northing 1145500

Description Kebister, Shetland, portable cross-incised pebble. Measurements: H 176mm, W 52mm, D

15mm Stone type: sandstone

Present location: Shetland Museum, Lerwick

Evidence for discovery: found during excavations in 1985-7 in a redeposited context adjacent

to the sixteenth-century teind barn.

Present condition: good.

One flat face of this pebble has been incised with a Latin cross with very small expanded terminals and a circle at the base of the shaft.

Date: seventh or eighth century.

Rescue excavations and survey work were undertaken in advance of the construction of an oil rig supply base. The interior of a substantial post-medieval structure of possible 16th century date was excavated. Well-built, of dry-stone construction with walls 1m thick, it was rectangular in shape, aligned E-W on a slope, and had maximum internal dimensions of 15m by 5.25m. There was only one entrance to the building, in the centre of the W wall and the interior was partitioned into three units. A complex drainage system was installed when the structure was built and subsequently improved. The clay floor in the eastern unit was partially re-laid, suggesting habitation of some duration. A possible hearth was located against the N wall. The large western unit almost certainly had a raised wooden floor, supported on a stone ledge protruding from the lower courses of the wall faces. Two corresponding post pads provided firm bases for timber posts to support the roof. The large quantity of tumbled building rubble in the central unit was used to form a floor surface for a 17th to 18th century two-phase corn-drying kiln complex. This may be associated with a later group of croft buildings located on the other side of the Burn of Kebister (HU44NE 11.00).

### O Owen and C Lowe 1985.

The exterior of the substantial post-medieval structure was investigated, and is likely to have been a two-storeyed building. Above the door a richly decorated armorial panel of sandstone was built into the wall. The work is sophisticated, shows ecclesiastical influences, and is likely to date from the late 15th Century or early 16th Century on stylistic grounds. It bears the Latin inscription 'sine paulusper'. A small gold tag was dropped just outside the door.

The remains of later stone built sheds were found backed against the S wall of the large house, but these were in use after its abandonment. The house cut through the remains of earlier medieval, rectangular stone structures, contained within an enclosure wall. Midden material found outside and stratigraphically below the western entrance of the large house is likely to date from the Norse period. The house overlay a subrectangular wooden structure, aligned W to E, which may conceivably be the remains of an early Christian chapel (HU44NE 5.01).

#### O Owen and C Lowe 1986.

If has now been proved beyond reasonable doubt that the armorial stone found in 1986 was commissioned by Henry Phankouth, Archdeacon of Shetland 1501-29. The substantial



rectangular stone building from which it came must be the 'manse of the archdeaconry' which Jerome Cheyne, the archdeacon in 1561, complained had been allowed to 'fall down'. This substantiates the archaeological interpretation of the structure as a little used high status residence which fell into disrepair at an early date. Excavation in 1987 showed that the central room of the abandoned building was rescued shortly afterwards to house a rectangular corndrying kiln with a central bowl and a flue leading into it from the S. At the same time some secondary occupation occurred in the E room. This kiln was subsequently adapted, probably in the 18th century, by which time the ruins of the original building were uninhabitable.

An intensive systematic survey of the hillside above the site was undertaken in order to place the excavated site in its full local and environmental context (see HU44NE 10, HU44NE 11).

Site Number 15

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Farmstead (Period Unassigned), Rig And Furrow (Medieval), Sheepfold (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44NE 14

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446000 Northing 1145730

Description A small farmstead was identified during the Kebister survey, at Doo's Cove at the N end of the

area enclosed by the March Dyke (HU44NE 11.01). It comprises a possible post-medieval croft-house, a sheep-pen, a field-clearance cairn and cultivation remains. The croft-house (Structure 11 in the published report) is now largely obscured by the modern road embankment. Its side wall, some 11m long, survives and there are trances of a return wall at either end. The sheep-pen (Structure 10 in the published report) is located on a small headland immediatley W of Doo's Cove and is represented only by a low grass-covered arc of stones. Both of these structures are represented on the 1:10,000 OS map (HU44NE) as small square buildings. The clearance cairn lies at the E end of the arc of stones belonging to the sheep-pen. The five broad

rigs (Cultivation Remains in the published report) lie to the NE of the structures.

O Owen and C Lowe 1999.

This farmstead, part of Kebister township (See HU44NE 11.00), comprising one unroofed building is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney and Shetland (Shetland) 1881, sheet liii). Two unroofed buildings are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1973).

Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 20 March 2001.

Site Number 16

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Cist (Period Unassigned), Cremation Pit(S) (Prehistoric)

NRHE Number HU44NE 15

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445730 Northing 1145350

**Description** A prominent, steep-sided, grassy knoll is situated SE of the main Kebister excavation site

(HU44NE 5). It has a flattish top, maked by a series of low amorphous mounds, 0.10-0.20m



high, interspersed with rock outcrops. Trial excavations uncovered a small cist and two pits, all containing cremated human bone. (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 17

Site Name Gremista

Type of Site Natural Feature (Period Unknown)

NRHE Number HU44SE 300

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446600 Northing 1144800

Description A watching brief was carried out, 11–12 December 2012, during the excavation of 23 test pits

at Gremista. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded; however, a thick deposit of peat (>3m in places) indicates the site has potential for palaeoenvironmental

investigation.

Barton, R. (2014) Tingwall, Gremista, Watching brief, Discovery Excav Scot, New, vol. 14, 2013.

Cathedral Communications Limited, Wiltshire, England. Page(s): 175

Site Number 18

Site Name Green Head, Lerwick
Type of Site COASTAL BATTERY

NRHE Number HU44SE 77

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 447070 Northing 1144380

Description World War II Battery at Green Head with two 4 inch guns

- 1) World War II Battery at Green Head with two 4 inch guns.
- (2) Photocopied map of the Battery.
- (3) Destroyed by modern construction. The structures that were part of the battery are marked on the 3rd Edition OS map.

HU44SE 77 Centred 4710 4450

A World War Two Coast Battery is situated on Green Head. Consisting of two 4-inch guns with Observation post, searchlight platform and associated accommodation camp. The site has been levelled since the war and turned into an Oil Tank Farm.

J Guy 1995; NMRS MS 810/4, 19-20; PRO WO 192 116

The coast battery at Green Head is visible on vertical air photographs (106G/Scot/UK 97, 3053-3054, 18 May 1946), which show that at that date the installation was situated on what was almost an island.

The two gun-emplacements, Battery Observation Post (BOP), searchlight emplacement, engine house and accommodation huts are all clearly visible on what was an island connected to the mainland by sand/gravel bars.



The whole area has been redeveloped due to the more recent expansion of the oil industry with a new shoreline being created completely destroying the gunsite and island.

A plan held in the Public Record Office shows that the battery consisted of two gunemplacements (Nos. 1 and 2 guns), BOP, one searchlight emplacement, engine room, several huts and two large huts to accommodate a dining room and canteen.

Information from RCAHMS (DE), February 2006

Site Number 19

Site Name The Express, Bight of Vatsland

Type of Site Schooner

**NRHE Number** 

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446819

Northing 1145503

Description The schooner Express, wrecked 07/02/1886 in the Bight of Vatsland while sailing from Wick to

Mid Yell with general cargo

and passengers. Crew and passengers saved

(1) A schooner, named the Express, was wrecked 07/02/1886 in the Bight of Vatsland. The

vessel, of which J. Leith was the

master, was 88 tons reg., measuring 25m x 6m and built in 1861. The schooner was sailing

from Wick - Mid Yell with general

cargo and 3 passengers. The crew and passengers were saved.

Site Number 20

Site Name North corner of Green Head Quay and Scottle

Type of Site SUBMARINE FOREST

**NRHE Number** 

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 447200 Northing 1144700

Description Dredging taking place in the north entrance to Lerwick Harbour in the channel between the

north corner of Green Head Quay

and Scottle Home. Water depth is ~7m removing about two metres of sandy material to give a

water depth of 9m. Dredged

material is being pumped ashore to reclaim land Greenhead and Scottle Holm. Among the

sandy sediment pumped ashore

is a great deal of woody material, much of which is covered in bark.

Dredging is taking place in the north entrance to Lerwick Harbour in the channel between the north corner of Green Head

Quay and Scottle Home. Water depth is  $^{\sim}7m$  removing about two metres of sandy material to give a water depth of 9m.

Dredged material is being pumped ashore to reclaim land Greenhead and Scottle Holm. Among the sandy sediment



pumped ashore is a great deal of woody material, much of which is covered in bark. With the kind permission of Lerwick

Harbour Trust and Westminster Dredging, samples of wood were recovered by Tom Jamieson and Allen Fraser. From initial

inspection the woody material appears to be sections of birch trees. Bark covered samples will soon be dispatched to Dr Nigel

Melton of University of Bradford for 14C dating.

Similar woody material was found during a dredging on the Bressay shore in 1990. A stone axe was found associated with

that woody material. The axe has been fashioned from serpentinite rock - almost certainly from Fetlar or perhaps Unst. The

'spike end' has been cleaned to remove barnacles that why it shows the 'fresh rock' the rest of the axe is the dark 'patina' that

Fetlar serpentinite takes when it is polished. The axe has a slight 'waist' 13cm from the blade end - presumably this was

where it was hafted.

See: http://www.fettes.com/shetland/submerged%20forest.htm

Site Number 21

Site Name Point Of Scattland

Type of Site Coastal Battery (Second World War)

NRHE Number HU44SE 78

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446800 Northing 1143950

Description HU44SE 78 Centred 4680 4395

HU 4695 4360A Second World War Coast Battery is situated on the Point of Scattland. The battery consisted of two 12 pounder guns which were installed in 1942. Reduced to Care and Maintainance in January 1945, little now survives in an area of roadways to the N of a depot, apart from a few hut bases.

J Guy 1995; NMRS MS 810/4, 21-3 PRO 192 270

The location of the coast battery has been identified from vertical air photographs (106G/Scot/UK 97, 3053-3053, flown 18 May 1946), about 450m NW of Point of Scattland. The site now lies buried below a electricity sub-station within an area redeveloped for the oil industry.

Visible on the air photographs are the two gun-emplacements with the camouflaged crew shelter between , two engine rooms and two searchlight emplacements close to the shore.

The accommodation camp lay to the N beside a small burn (c. HU 4675 4410).

A plan held in the Public Record Office (PRO) shows that the battery consisted of two gunemplacement (Nos. 1 and 2 guns), magazines, stores, two engine rooms (A and B), crew shelter, two barrack rooms and two searchlight emplacements, [nos.1 and 2], (PRO WO 192 270).

Information from RCAHMS (DE), February 2006

22



Site Name Dales Voe

Type of Site Burnt Mounds, Ship Burial

NRHE Number HU44NE 4

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445683 Northing 1145517

Description Two low turf-covered mounds cut by a channel. One is kidney shaped with a smaller mound to

the NE. Likely to be the remains of burnt mounds although they have been identified as Viking

graves.

(1) Two turf-covered mounds cut by channel. (2) Burnt mounds. Two low turf-covered mounds, cut by channel. Previously recorded by P. Moar as Viking graves. (3) c.3' high, 18' x

28', recorded by P.Moar as Viking gravs.(4) Mounds possibly survive.

This site appears to be part of a group of six burnt mounds (HU44NE 7) recorded during detailed survey of the area as part of the Kebister project, 1985-87 (Owen and Lowe 1999).

Site Number 23

Site Name Burn Of Tagdale

Type of Site Building (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44SW 64

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 444950 Northing 1144630

**Description** RCAHMS First Edition Survey Project

One unroofed building is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney & Shetland (Shetland) 1880, sheet lii), but it is not shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map

(1991).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 6 June 2001

Site Number 24

Site Name Loch of Kebister

Type of Site Sluice

**NRHE Number** 

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445557 Northing 1144652

Description A sluice is marked on the west side of the Loch of Kebister on Ordnance Survey mapping from

1881. It was not seen during a walkover survey by AOC Archaeology Group 09/06/17 in very

poor visibility.



Site Number 25

Site Name Vatsland

Type of Site Farmstead (Period Unassigned), Sheepfold (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44NE 13

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446704 Northing 1145998

Description Ruins on the east side of Kebister Ness. The property of Lady Nicholson, island of Fetlar.

Name Book 1881.

Vatsland was a small satellite settlement of Kebister (HU44NE 5; HU44NE 11). It probably originated as an animal enclosure belonging to Kebister and became inhabited in later medieval or (less likely) post-medieval times. Together, Kebister and Vatsland were the foci of a 'scattald' (a settlement district with exclusive pasture paying 'scat' to the crown).

By the 16th century Kebister and Vatsland were part of the estates of an important Orkney ecclesiastic, the archdeacon of Shetland.

O Owen and C Lowe 1999.

A farmstead, comprising four unroofed buildings and one enclosure annotated 'Sheepfold' is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney and Shetland (Shetland) 1881, sheet liii). One L-shaped enclosure is shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1973).

Information from RCAHMS (AKK) 20 March 2001.

Site Number 26

Site Name Kebister

Type of Site Structure (Post Medieval)(Possible)

NRHE Number HU44NE 22

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446174

Northing 1145638

Description HU 46179 45646

A rectangular structure is located 55m to the south of Site 1. It is visible as a rectangular sunken area aligned across the slope, north-east to south-west and measuring some 5.8m by 2.8m. The entrance is likely to be at the north-east end which is less well defined.

HU 46189 45640

A possible hut-platform is located less than 10m to the south-east of Site 2. It is visible as a slight curving scoop into the hillside with a corresponding bulge down slope forming an almost level sub-circular area some 3m by 4m.

Information from OASIS ID: headland1-142396 (M Dalland) 2012



Site Number 27

Site Name Kebister
Type of Site Dyke

NRHE Number HU44NE 21

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446184

Northing 1145710

Description A possible sub-peat dyke is located on the upper west-facing slopes of Kebister. It is defined by

a slight ridge in the heather, aligned east-west. The feature can be traced over a distance of 26m. It is up to 0.3m high and 1.5m wide.Information from OASIS ID: headland1-142396 (M

Dalland) 2012

Site Number 28

Site Name Holm Of Califf

Type of Site Building (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44NE 20

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445100 Northing 1145830

Description HU44NE 20 4510 4583

See also:

HU44NE 6 HU 4510 4582 Structure; Rubbing Stone; Stone Cup

One unroofed building is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Orkney & Shetland (Shetland) 1880, sheet lii) and on the current edition of the OS 1:10000 map (1991).

Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 6 June 2001

Site Number 29

Site Name Greenhead, Bressay Sound

Type of Site No Class (Event)
NRHE Number HU44SE 278

Status Event
Easting 447126
Northing 1144626

**Description** HU44SE 278 centred 47126 44626 and 47070 44159

See also HU44SE 32, HU44SE 276, HU44SE 277.

These areas were examined by remote sensing (sidescan sonar and sub-bottom profiling) with limited diver survey. No constraints to the proposed reclamation works were identified.



It proved difficult to obtain a sub-bottom profile of this area on account of the rocky nature of the seabed, which was not apparent from either the published charts or previous surveys. The bottom was found to be virtually clear of debris, and the absence of any recognisable remains of the vessels that are recorded as having been lost within this area may be attributed to the dynamic local environment and the nature of the rocky slope.

MS/2336.

The locations assigned to this record are derived from that indicated on the published plan. They may extend into Bressay parish, to the E.

Information from RCAHMS (RJCM), 13 September 2006.

MS/2336.

The ill-defined area of Lerwick Harbour (HU44SE 32: centred HU 47722 41345) essentially forms an extensive roadstead which comprises the waters of Bressay Sound between the narrow Northern entrance (around HU 475 445) and the broader Southern entrance (around HU 483 400). The main facilities are to be found around HU 477 414, on the W side of the Sound; recent development extends Northwards from this point.

Information from RCAHMS (RJCM), 5 October 2007.

Site Number 30

Site Name Scottle Holm

Type of Site Organic Material (Wood)(Neolithic)

NRHE Number HU44SE 283

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 447300 Northing 1144700

Description Radiocarbon Dating (May 2008)

HU 4730 4470

In May 2008 a dredging operation was undertaken to deepen the narrow channel of the N entrance to Lerwick Harbour between Green Head Quay and Scottle Home. Water depth was deepened to 9m by suction dredging with the sediment being pumped ashore. A large quantity of woody material was collected from the dredged sediment by Tom Jamieson and Allen Fraser. A sample of the wood was

sent to the University of Bradford where it was identified as birch (Betula sp.) and a radiocarbon date of 5670–5550 cal BC (95.4% confidence) was obtained (GU- 17169). The date suggests that there is potentially a drowned Early Neolithic

landscape present in Bressay Voe, especially as similar quantities of woody material are said to have been present in sediments from the 1990 dredging of the N side of the voe between Sandwick and the Bay of Heogan.

Archive: Historic Scotland (radiocarbon date)

Funder: Historic Scotland

N D Melton 2010

Melton, N D. (2010a) 'Lerwick Harbour, Shetland Islands (Lerwick parish), radiocarbon dating', Discovery Excav Scot, New, vol. 11, 2010. Cathedral Communications Limited, Wiltshire,



England. Page(s): 158

Site Number 31

Site Name Dales Voe

Type of Site Oil Rig Construction Yard, Pier

NRHE Number HU44NE 24

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 445736 Northing 1145641

Description No further details recorded

Site Number 32

Site Name Gremista Wind Farm

Type of Site No Class (Event) (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44NE 25

Status Event
Easting 446300
Northing 1145500

Description HU 463 455 A watching brief was carried out, 23 March – 10 April 2015, during construction of

Turbine 1 at the wind farm. No finds or features were noted during the removal of peat and

topsoil.

Archive: NRHE

Funder: Shetland Aerogenerators Ltd

Edward Bailey and Magnar Dalland – Headland Archaeology Ltd

(Source: DES, Volume 18)

OASIS ID: headland1-228232

Bailey and Dalland, E and M. (2018) Gremista Wind Farm, Watching brief, Discovery Excav Scot,

New, vol. 18, 2017. Cathedral Communications Limited, Wiltshire, England. Page(s): 179

Site Number 33

Site Name Green Head

Type of Site Quay (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number HU44SE 287

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 447090



Northing 1144300

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 34

Site Name Greenhead

Type of Site Sewage Works (Period Unassigned)

NRHE Number U44SE 291

Status Non-designated heritage asset

Easting 446920 Northing 1144750

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 35

Site Name Lerwick New Town

Type of Site Conservation Area

**NRHE Number** 

Status Conservation Area

Easting 447351 Northing 1141322

**Description** There are two Category B and six Catgeory C Listed Buildings within the Conservation Area

Shetlanders have been making a living from the land for 5000 years. The remains that the successive residents left behind are amongst the most complete in the country telling us much about the ancient history of Scotland. The many Iron-Age brochs that are still evident in the coastal landscape show that defences were as important at one time on Shetland as they were in the rest of Scotland. Clickimin on the edge of Lerwick, a Scheduled Monument managed by Historic Scotland, provides an example of these uniquely Scottish structures. The Pictish traditions of the rest of Scotland are found on Shetland in the physical remains of settlements and field systems, carved stones and silver objects. In Norse times (around 1000 AD), the islands were a stepping stone between Norway and its more southerly outposts - Dublin, Orkney, the Hebrides, Iceland and Isle of Man. Mentioned

in the Norse saga 'Orkneyinga Saga', written by an Icelandic historian in the late 12th century, Shetland appears to have been a stable farming community at that time. The influence of the Norse settlers on Shetland is still felt to this day; with place-names and cultural traditions as evidence of this. For example, the Norse word 'voe', meaning sea inlet, is used frequently in place-names across Shetland and the Norse fire festival of Up-Helly-Aa, although only introduced when Norse history was rediscovered by the Victorians, is celebrated every January in Lerwick. The New Town Conservation Area is central to the Up Helly Aa celebrations, with King George V Playing Field providing the venue for the burning of the galley, and its streets being the main processional routes for the festival. Shetland was originally part of the Norse Earldom of Orkney but reverted to direct rule from Norway after 1194. By the 14th century the Norwegians had lost the southerly islands of Man

and the Hebrides and had been taken over by Danish rulers. The marriage treaty of Margaret, Princess of Denmark to James III of Scotland involved a dowry of 10,000 florins. Part-payment of this dowry involved pawning of the Shetland Islands to Scotland on condition that when Denmark paid the debt, she would revert back to Danish rule. Attempts by the Danes to take Shetland back in the following centuries were unsuccessful. Scotlish landowners moved into the islands and the law, language, economy and religion of Scotland



prevailed in Shetland. The bishopric of Orkney and Shetland was transferred to the see of St Andrew's in 1472. Fishing and fish processing is still the biggest industry on Shetland and has been for many

centuries. Finnie describes the typical Shetlander as, 'a fisherman with a croft'. The trade grew through Bergen in Norway which was a trading port of the Hanseatic League; a confederacy of trading cities across northern Europe during the late Medieval and Early Modern period. In return for cod and ling, the islanders would receive cash, grain, cloth, beer and other goods. A passage of text on Moll's 1745 Map of the Shetland Isles states that the export of herring to the Dutch provided employment for all the people and that fishing and the export of other Shetland products provided 'a considerable sum of money yearly'. Herring became the dominant catch of the fishing trade during the late nineteenth century replacing the earlier cod. Lerwick's docks grew and the processing of fish was the mainstay of the islands until the 1970's when oil was discovered and brought ashore. This resulted in a prosperous boom for the islands as building works, transport links and mariners were in demand for supply and maintenance of the new technology needed for the oil terminal at

Sullom Voe. The terminal has forged a sensitive approach and managed to avoid large-scale pollution whilst pumping millions of pounds into the local economy and allowing the population to grow on the islands.

Lerwick's name comes from the Old Norse for muddy bay, Leirvick. Lerwick became the Shetland Isles' capital in the seventeenth century, relatively late in Shetland's history, mostly due to its new-found importance as a port. The Dutch herring industry allowed the port to become an important export site. The collection of huts on the western shore of the Bressay sound was what Lerwick consisted of at the beginning of the seventeenth century. Sir John Buchanan, Sheriff Principal of Orkney and Shetland, ordered the houses of Lerwick to be demolished in 1625 due to the outrageous behaviour of those who traded with and supplied the Dutch.

The town grew through the 18th century and became its own parish, separate from Tingwall. The distinctive lanes spread out from Commercial Street with gables to the street, narrow spaces providing shelter from the wind and between 1799 and 1815 the population grew from 900 to over 20005.

In the nineteenth century the docks of Lerwick began to increase in size and capability. Hay's Dock was completed by 1825 for the curing, boatyards and warehouses of the herring trade, which reached its peak at the turn of the 20th century. In 1905 Lerwick was Britain's busiest herring port.

### New Town

By 1862 it was clear that the crowded conditions in the lanes meant that there was very little space available for building. The Feuars and Heritors were the organisation that really controlled Lerwick and it was clear that the only space for new building was in the 'town parks' i.e. the ground from Hillhead to Burgh Road and from Breiwick Bay to Freefield. The herring trade financed the growth of the town during the late nineteenth century. Expansion to the east resulted in the gridiron formation of a New Town. Regular squares of development were formed and these exhibited the symbols of civic pride such as the Town Hall and the County Buildings.

At a meeting of the Feuars and Heritors in 1862 it was decided to arrange for a layout plan of the town parks area. Roderick Coyne prepared a preliminary layout of the parks in 1862 for the formation of the New Town, and J.W. Hepburn produced a revised layout plan in 1878. The Shetland Museum and Archives now hold both of these maps. Gifford describes the development as comprising substantial villas and a string of churches. From analysis of the historic maps, it would appear that Burgh Road is beginning to become an important thoroughfare with residences built along it before 1872. This area was the focus of early building in the new town so that in 1875 we find the new residents asking to have the east side of Burgh Road paved. However, Gilbertson Park and the Jubilee Parks are yet to be formed and the gridiron system of streets is not yet imposed on the area. High Street curves across the area to meet Hillhead and Harbour Street has not been extended westwards yet. In 1880 a contributor to the Shetland Times

newspaper commented on the new houses springing up in the new town. The days had gone, he said, when merchants and others were prepared to live in houses all alike, little more than square boxes with everything given over to utility. Now there was more than one villa, said the article, and already they were making a great improvement to the appearance of the town. 1887 saw continuous work on paving and installing drainage in the new town. The Jubilee Parks (also known as George V Playing Fields) area was certainly divided into potential feus on the layout plan of the new town of 1878. However, no building was carried out in this area for the next 50 years or so. In 1935, when the council was under pressure to build more housing,



the Feuars and Heritors were asked to allocate the parks for

housing. The Feuars offered to sell the parks to the council on condition that the Council should 'recondition' them and maintain them as open spaces for the entire town. They came to be known as the Jubilee Parks for King George V's Silver

Jubilee. By 1901 [see OS Map 1901] there are more houses stretching up and down Burgh Road on both sides and around the southern part of the conservation area. Gilbertson Park has been formed. The grid of streets that shows the late nineteenth century affection for Norse history through street names such as King Harald Street and King Erik Street has now been built. Harbour Street has been extended westwards by this stage, the Town Hall has been erected at Hillhead but High Street has yet to be truncated to make way for St Olaf Street. Two very prominent New Town buildings; Isleburgh House and the former Public School are built during the early years of the twentieth century and these add character to the New Town along with the residential developments. In 1930 [see OS Map 1930] we can see that the lower portion of the conservation area has now been built. The Old Gilbert Bain Hospital and the residential developments of Burgh Road, St Olaf Street and King Harald Street have been completed. The open area that

becomes George V Playing Fields is still vacant and perhaps was used as an informal parkland area before the death of the King in 1936.

Site Number 36

Site Name Lerwick Central Area/Lanes

Type of Site Conservation Area

**NRHE Number** 

Status Conservation Area

Easting 447599

Northing 1141328

**Description** There are 104 Listed Buildings within the Conservation Area.

the Sound's harbour but

Lerwick's name comes from the Old Norse for muddy bay, Leirvick. Lerwick became the Shetland Isles' capital in the 17th century, relatively late in Shetland's history, mostly due to its new-found importance as a port. The Dutch herring industry allowed the port to become an important export site. A collection of huts on the western shore of the Bressay sound were what Lerwick consisted of at the beginning of the seventeenth century. In 'Lerwick: the birth and growth of an island town', James W. Irvine suggests that the structures may have been little more than flimsy booths, with a sense of impermanence. All of the shoreline was part of the scattald of Sound; a scattald being a tax-paying district, comprising one or more townships. Sir John Buchanan, Sheriff Principal of Orkney and Shetland, ordered the houses of Lerwick to be demolished in 1625 due to the outrageous behaviour of those who traded with and supplied the Dutch. The possibility of trading from this area had now been established and the next logical step was the erection of solid, permanent buildings to replace the flimsy temporary booths. It is not known when the first permanent house was built in Lerwick. Captain Smith was frequently in Bressay Sound in 1633 and was very impressed with

never once mentioned Lerwick or suggested that there was a single house standing there. The name 'Leirwick' is used for the first time in 1644 in a sasine entry, which mentions Robert Sinclair of "the tenement of land and house newly built thereon in the bay or weik callit Leirwick or Brassaysoundsyd". The witnesses to the charter were Hew Sinclair and Thomas Dunkason, both described as "indwellers in Lerwick". In 1647 Robert Sinclair now "in Lerwick" was again involved in a charter which mentions the tenement "of hous, with the yard, etc., presently possessed by him in the town and banks of Lerwick, as the same is dyked about and marched, lying betwixt the house and the tenement possessed by Hew Tyrie on the east and the house possessed by William Sutherland on the west. With his peat banks, and freedom of casting peats, on the Nes of Lerwick, set off to the said house".

From these two entries we can deduce that the place was being called Lerwick as early as 1644 and that the settlement had a number of residents in the 1640s who were obtaining official feus from the owners of the Sound scattald. During the Anglo-Dutch Wars of the seventeenth



century the ramparts of Fort Charlotte

were built in 1665 for Cromwell's troops by John Mylne, Master Mason to the Crown. The fort was named after George III's queen. The building of the fort allowed for permanent settlement of Lerwick. Fort Charlotte grew into the form it takes to this day in 1781 when the garrison blocks were built and the fort used again to defend against American warships during the American Wars of Independence. The fort remains the most complete example of its type to survive.

Scalloway was the ancient capital of Shetland and was the location of Shetland's annual parliament or 'Ting' until around 1700 when the law courts moved to Lerwick and the town's dominance in commerce and transport began. It is estimated that by 1701, when Lerwick became a parish separate from Tingwall, the population of the town was about 700. The Old Manse appeared before 1700 and Patrick Scollay's house – No.10 Commercial Street - was built around 1730.

The Tolbooth was completed in 1770 and the Fort was remodelled and renamed in 1781. The town grew through the 18th century and became its own parish. By the middle of the 18th century, Lerwick had grown into a prosperous trading centre. The years from 1790 to 1820 were the most important in Lerwick's urban history as the town expanded rapidly. Between 1799 and 1815 the population grew from 900 to over 20005. Commercial Street and the lanes are the distinctive heart of the town of Lerwick. The distinctive lanes spread out from Commercial Street with gables to the street and narrow spaces providing shelter from the wind. The street plan is from the earliest expansion of Lerwick during the 17th and 18th century although most of the buildings date from the 1800s. The buildings that line the route of Commercial Street are an essential part of the fabric and character of Commercial Street, displaying the traditional street pattern of this area with

many being either B or C(S)- listed. Unlike a traditional burgh plan with a linear marketplace and set rigs on either side; it is thought that the development in Lerwick was rather informal, as merchants built their large houses along the sea shore which at this point roughly followed the line of the present Commercial Street. The pattern of development is therefore a distinct response to local conditions. The houses were built with their gable ends towards the sea to protect them from the elements. Many of the lanes were originally known by the names of the early builders, but were renamed by the Commissioners of Police in 1845 to reflect personalities and themes of that time; Joseph Leask's Closs, Gilbert Tait's Closs and Sutherland's Closs thus became Pitt, Reform and Fox Lanes.

Dr Arthur Edmonston gives his impression of Lerwick in 1809 in his 'View of the Present State of the Zetland Islands'. Edmonston estimated that the town contained around 300 houses built from stone quarried from above the town.

Some of them were handsome erections, many with doors and windows ornamented with freestone. He said that, "the houses, however have been set

down without any regard to any plan, and generally with their ends to the sea. The principal street, or rather row, which extends from one end of the town to the other, is in many places well-paved with large flags; it is, however, of very unequal dimensions, and in some parts does not exceed six feet in width". He remarked upon the agreeable effect from the houses having been built on the hill, noting that this contributed much to the 'ornament' of the town. By 1862 it was clear that the crowded conditions in the lanes meant that there was very little space available for building. The Feuars and Heritors were the organisation that really controlled Lerwick and it was clear that the only space for new building was in the 'town parks' i.e. the ground from Hillhead to Burgh Road and from Breiwick Bay to Freefield. The herring trade financed the growth of the town during the late nineteenth century. Expansion to the east resulted in the gridiron formation of a New Town. Regular squares of development were formed and these exhibited the symbols of civic pride such as the Town Hall and the County Buildings.

By the mid 20th century the area behind Commercial Street consisting of the tightly packed, steep and narrow lanes contained many derelict and decayed sites. Housing has long been a priority for the Council in Lerwick and in the post-war years permission for a modest amount of public housing was given. In the 1950s and 60s Richard Moira, an Edinburgh architect, designed a series of small infill housing schemes in the Lanes area, to turn run down backland sites into simple terraced housing with pedestrianised lanes and landscaped courts. The Heddell's Park and Annsbrae scheme between Mounthooly Street and Queen's Lane won a Saltire Society Housing Design Award in 1959. The rear of Burns Lane, Hill Lane and Fox Lane were demolished to allow a swimming pool to be built in the 1970's. This area is now a car park and has meant the sad loss of the distinctive lane-end gables on Hillhead. The town



expanded to the north and south during twentieth century, with much new housing constructed during the 1970s to accommodate the influx of residents working at Sullom Voe or as an indirect effect of the oil boom. The designation of a conservation area in 1975 was hoped to allow sensitive redevelopment of the important and unique townscape, and to halt unsympathetic development such as the swimming pool. The very recent past has seen a renaissance of the waterfront in Lerwick. The new Shetland Museum and Archives Building (opened in 2007) at Freefield is a bold and imaginative modern building and the project included the restoration of the historic dock and storehouse and neighbouring boat-building sheds that give Hay's Dock a sense of continuity. The Lerwick Waterfront Regeneration project recently won the national award at the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning for 2008.

Site Number 37

Site Name Scalloway

Type of Site Conservation Area

**NRHE Number** 

Status Conservation Area

Easting 440310 Northing 1139449

Description There are 20 Listed Buildings within the Conservation Area.

Scalloway is the second town of Shetland and sometimes described as its largest village. The name possibly comes from the Norse word Skalavagr; Bay of the Skali (hall). Scalloway was the ancient capital of Shetland until the 18th century when the law courts moved to Lerwick and that town's dominance in commerce and transport began. It was the landing place for delegates attending Shetland's annual parliament or 'Ting', originally held on the Lawting Holm in Tingwall Loch, two miles north of the village. From 1602 the 'Ting' was held in Scalloway, which was still only a village. In 1665 Edward Montagu noted that "the principal town is Scola Vo (Scalloway), of about 100 poor houses and one pretty stone house of the King's where the Governor resides". The Norse administration was centred upon Orkney so it is natural that in order to get to Tingwall these rulers landed at Scalloway being the closest sheltered bay, thereby allowing the importance of the town to grow during the Middle Ages. The valley of Tingwall was inhabited by

many Norse settlers who were attracted to the fertile land. Scalloway became the capital due to its proximity to Tingwall and Orkney. Scalloway lies at the southern end of the Tingwall valley and features an imposing castle now in ruins, built in 1600. It was built by Earl Patrick Stewart who changed the law in Shetland from Norse to Scots and moved the parliament from Tingwall to Scalloway. This resulted in harsh penalties for minor offences and the confiscation of property led to him and his clergy and courtiers amassing wealth and estates that in turn provoked unrest from the citizens. He was eventually arrested and imprisoned in 1609 for his aggressive behaviour towards his fellow landowners; his son Robert attempted an insurrection and they were both executed in Edinburgh in 1615.

After Earl Patrick Stewart's execution the castle was used as a garrison for Cromwell's troops before being abandoned altogether. Beneath the grand banqueting hall are large kitchens and a dungeon where 17th century 'witches', condemned to die on nearby Gallows Hill, awaited their fate. The Gallow Hill, above Houll and overlooking the village, was Shetland's place of execution during the 17th century. Barbara Tulloch and her daughter Ellen - the last witches to be burned in Shetland - were executed there, perhaps around 1680. Around 1700 the law courts removed to Lerwick and Scalloway began to decline although some lairds still built houses there, for example Mitchell at Westshore. Today there are few remains within the walled garden of the mansion at Westshore. By the end of 18th century Scalloway only had 31 inhabited houses. Blacksness Pier, to the south of the castle, was built in 1832 for the fishcurers and entrepreneurs, Hay & Ogilvy, and this led to the growth of the village. The development of Scalloway followed the development of the harbour during the 19th century and the village saw a revival in its fortunes as merchants replaced the lairds. In



1894 the importance of its docks increased as the system of selling fish was replaced by auction rather than contract. After 1894 Scalloway became busier with the pier extended in 1896 to accommodate the steamer from Leith. The harbour was extended again in 1959 and 1981

Site Number 38

Site Name Gardie House

Type of Site Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL)

NRHE Number GDL00186

Status Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape

Easting 449015 Northing 1142104

**Description** An early example of a formal 18th century designed landscape and classical house of 1724,

with early 19th century 'model' farm and cottage. An example of the smaller Scottish country

house, unique in Shetland.

Type of Site

18th century formal landscape contemporary with and integral to the setting of a classical

mansion.

Main Phases of Landscape Development

1724, 1812-36

Artistic Interest Level of interest

High

Gardie House and its designed landscape can be considered to illustrate how a formal classical landscape design can be tailored to meet Shetland's specific landscape and economic

conditions. This gives the site high value as a Work of Art.

Historical

Level of interest

High

Gardie House has high Historical value as an early example of an innovative house and landscape, and a significant early 19th century 'model' of improvement.

Horticultural

Level of interest

Some

The South Garden, ornamental gardens and the history of fruit production at Gardie give the site some Horticultural value.

Architectural

Level of interest

Outstanding

Gardie House, its associated buildings and structures are a prime example of a small Shetland country house in an early classical style. They are of outstanding Architectural value, in expressing a classical architectural approach combined with traditional qualities.

Archaeological

Level of interest

Some

There are archaeological sites of potential interest in the vicinity of Gardie House. This gives the site some Archaeological value.

Scenic



Level of interest

High

The prominence of Gardie House and its designed landscape from Lerwick, give the site high Scenic value and reinforce the diversity of Shetland's historic landscape.

**Nature Conservation** 

Level of interest

High

Grassland management of the policies has aimed to increase the diversity of flora. In addition new planting and the construction of ponds on the adjacent organic farm provide food and shelter for large numbers and species range of migrating birds. This gives the site high value for Nature Conservation.

#### Location and Setting

Gardie House is situated on the west coast of Bressay, north-west of the Bressay-Lerwick ferry terminal. It sits on the eastern shore of Bressay Sound, directly opposite Lerwick.

The designed landscape is situated on gently rising ground with Gardie's main front facing the Sound and Lerwick, which are intervisible. The site is a prominent landmark for those leaving and arriving in Bressay Sound.

The designed landscape comprises symmetrical rectilinear walled enclosures and courtyard gardens set symmetrically around the mansion house, leading down to Gardie Pier. This pattern has not changed in extent since its establishment in the 18th century (1878, OS 6"; 1900, OS 6"). The designed landscape measures c 30ha (74 acres), including c 2.3ha (6 acres) of courtyard gardens.

#### Site History

Gardie House was built for Magnus Henderson in 1724, by Forbes, a mason from Aberdeen. It was built with its show front facing south-westwards, to the sea, and was innovative for its time, being two rooms deep in plan with its principal apartments on the first floor. The landscape layout is contemporary with the House and comprises a series of formal walled gardens, set within drystone-walled parks symmetrically disposed with the mansion at their centre. The site is linked to a harbour.

In 1799, Elizabeth Nicolson, wife of Thomas Mouat of Garth (see Belmont), inherited Gardie from James Henderson, her uncle. In 1812, Mouat and Nicolson let the property to their nephew William Mouat (d.1836). He added a square, ashlar porch to the main front and to the north-east of the House, he built a 'model' farm steading, albeit diminutive in scale, containing a stable, dairy, hen house and a byre for one cow (Skene, 1812 shown in Finnie, 1990, p.83). Sir Walter Scott visited Shetland aboard the Lighthouse Commissioners' yacht and hired a boat from Lerwick, to be rowed around Bressay and Noss. He landed at Noss sound 'to dine at Gardie House (the seat of the young Mr Mouat) on the Isle of Bressay... We are most hospitably treated... Young Mr Mouat, son of my old friend, is an improver, and a moderate one.' (Scott, 1814). In 1820, Mouat built a Gothic cottage onto the north garden walls adjoining Gardie House.

In 1845 Gardie House was described as:

'the most imposing house of Bressay... Several spots near the mansion house were, some years ago planted with willows and ash. The plants of ash are not in the same state of progress as the willows... there are various plants of aspen, poplar, laburnum, elm and plane tree thriving well. The climate does not appear to favour evergreens...There is not, so far as I have heard, any instance of a hot house in this country, except, here; and its vines produce an exuberant crop of grapes.' (New Statistical Account, 1841).

Later in the 19th century the layout of the main courtyard garden was altered, forming an oval lawn at its centre. The House was altered to its present form in 1905. The House remains in private ownership.

Landscape Components

**Architectural Features** 

Gardie House, built in 1724, was altered in 1820 and 1905. The classical country house comprises a principal seven-bay block of two-storeys with attic. The central five-bays have a



raised wallhead which supports a wide pediment. A finely-dressed ashlar porch projects from the centre of the principal elevation, which is harled with stugged and droved red sandstone dressings and details. Early 20th century additions designed by James Aitken (of Lerwick), include the shallow-pedimented attic over the central bays, with widely-spaced windows, the parapeted porch and small single storey wings. On the west is a forecourt enclosed by high walls. A screen wall pierced by a central, classical gate forms the west forecourt boundary and main entrance, and there are symmetrical three-bay pavilions at its junction with the side walls to north and south.

The garden walls are of flagstone rubble, linking the various buildings. South-east of the house the Walled Garden has flagstone rubble walls, 2-3m high, mainly without copes and showing signs of subsidence.

West of the House is Gardie House Cottage, with its associated outbuildings and garden walls, dating to 1820. The Cottage, extended c 1880, is a single-storey and attic, three-bay symmetrical Gothic building with harled walls. Its also faces the sea. Garden walls adjoin the south gable of the cottage and the east gable of the wing, the latter connecting with the stables. One wall supported a glasshouse, now demolished. The Stableblock, north of Gardie House, is harled with droved and polished ashlar dressings. Its principal elevation faces southwest to Gardie House with a two-storey tower topped by a square pyramid roof with a weathervane. In plan, the stables are symmetrical and U-plan with flanking L-plan wings. The west range contained stable accommodation, the north a dairy and hen house and the south range a byre for one cow. It is now used as a store.

Gardie House was originally approached from the sea, with a landing at Gardie Pier. It is contemporary with the House (1724). The associated cement rendered boathouse was built c 1950.

### **Drives & Approaches**

The principal approach from Gardie Pier to the west, was along a path leading to the forecourt gates. A public pier and ferry terminal at Maryfield, c 300m further south, have superseded the Gardie pier. Current access, by car, leads south-west from the Heogan Road along a drive.

### Parkland

A series of large square parks surround Gardie House and the farm steading. All are enclosed by drystone dykes, and are disposed in a symmetrical layout around the house and gardens. The axis of the design is the straight track leading from the pier to the farmsteading. These fields are integral to the designed landscape, as clearly illustrated on A. M. Skene's drawing of 1818. They are in agricultural use as cultivated grassland.

### The Gardens

The forecourt has a central oval lawn, bounded by a gravel path linking the main entrance gate to the front door. Borders, lined by modern, low stone walls, are set against the boundary walls. Groups of mature sycamore stand in the angle of the west wall. The forecourt south wall is pierced by an arched gateway leading to the South Garden.

West of the House is a large rectangular enclosure containing a rectangular grass terrace, accessed by a flight of steps, which leads north-westwards from the house, and retained by a drystone wall. This raised walk provides views west over the Sound, and east over a sunk lawn. There is no record of the function of this area, which is cut by an open water channel.

The Cottage and its accompanying walled garden occupy the northern corner of this enclosure. The Cottage garden comprises a terraced lawn bounded by a stone-lined water channel on its south-eastern side. Two flights of stone steps remain at each end of the glasshouse terrace.

South-east of Gardie House is the rectangular, sheltered, former Kitchen Garden. Its subdivision into four compartments by minor footpaths (1878, OS 6") has been restored by the Scott family and the compartments used for a combination of vegetables, flowers", trees and shrubs, and sculpture displays. A framework of wind- tolerant shrubs has been planted for shelter. The southern corner of the garden retains some elm and sycamore trees.

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Site Number 39

Site Name Hawks Ness, broch at Corbie Geo

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM2070;HU44NE 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446120 Northing 1148936

Description The monument comprises the remains of a broch, an Iron Age defensive structure.

The broch survives as a large mound of rubble set on a knoll. The mound is over 5m tall. Little structural detail is visible, except enough of the stones of the outer wall-face to suggest a diameter of 17.6m some distance above ground level. Much of the stone from the broch has probably been reused in nearby drystone dykes and a sheep-fold.

The broch is already scheduled, but this rescheduling extends protection to a small area around the broch, in which tumbled rubble may conceal associate structures.

The area to be scheduled is a circle 45m across, to contain the broch, the rubble around it and any associated structures hidden from view. This area is marked in red on the accompanying map extract.

#### Statement of National Importance

The broch is of national importance as a prominent local landmark which is likely to contain extensive undisturbed archaeological deposits. These remains, together with details of the structure presently concealed by rubble, have the potential to considerably add to our knowledge of middle and late Iron Age domestic and defensive architecture and economy.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS record the site as HU44NE 3.



Site Number 40

Site Name Law Ting Holm,thingstead,Loch of Tingwall

Type of Site Secular: meeting place, thingstead, moot hill

NRHE Number SM2074

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 441823 Northing 1143445

Description The monument comprises a small promontory, once an island, on which by tradition the Law

Ting, or senior law-giving assembly, of Shetland met each summer, between the 11th century and the mid-sixteenth century. There is no reason to doubt the veracity of this tradition, and the location is typical: a place on which a small assembly would be clearly visible to spectators yet also able to proceed without interruption. The proximity of the former head church of

Shetland also adds weight.

The physical remains take the form of a small mound at the end of a promontory at the N end of Loch of Tingwall, not far from the old and present churches of Tingwall, in pre-Reformation times the head church of the islands. The mound appears to have been little modified, although a report states that the stones on which various officials sat were present there until removed during the 18th century, and traces of former dispositions may survive below the turf. The most obvious feature today is the carefully-built stone causeway, just over 40m long and 1.7m wide, which stretches from the mound to the N shore of the loch. Traces of walls can be seen at both the Holm and the landward ends of the causeway, but these are probably of more recent date.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, with maximum measurements of 130m N-S by 125m E-W, to include the mound, causeway, traces of walling and an area around these features, including a part of the loch bed normally submerged, in which traces of other structures and associated archaeological deposits may survive. The area is shown in red on the accompanying map extract.

Site Number 41

Site Name Vassa Voe, broch, Cat Firth

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM2088

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445607 Northing 1152349

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 42

Site Name Cullingsburgh, St Mary's Church, churchyard and broch

Type of Site Ecclesiastical: burial ground, cemetery, graveyard; church, Prehistoric domestic and defensive:



NRHE Number SM2099; HU54SW 5
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 452110

Northing 1142301

**Description** The monument comprises the remains of St Mary's Church and burial ground, and a prehistoric

broch (defensive tower) immediately adjacent, all sited on a small promontory at Cullinsburgh, Bressay. The broch was first scheduled in 1934 and St Mary's Church in 1953, but inadequate areas were included to protect all of the archaeological remains: the present re-scheduling rectifies this. In addition, given the close proximity of the two monuments, the two scheduled

areas are being combined into one.

The church appears to date from the medieval period and may have been dedicated to St Mary. It is the only medieval cruciform church to have been identified in Shetland so far, although the transepts may have been later additions to the usual arrangement of rectangular nave and chancel. By 1930 the S transepts had been demolished and most of the other walling was represented by a drystone dyke. Older masonry can be observed both in the E end and in the N transept gable.

Sometime during the 19th century, a Pictish cross-slab with an ogham inscription was found near the church, perhaps within the churchyard. The cross-slab now resides in the National Museum of Scotland.

The rectangular churchyard is demarcated by a drystone wall, which traverses a large stony mound at its NW corner. This is almost certainly the remains of a broch, a defensive stone-built tower dating probably from the Iron Age, sometime between 500 BC and AD 500. Three-quarters of the broch mound lies outwith the graveyard dyke, and one-quarter within it. No remains of broch walling are now visible. Typical prehistoric stone tools have been recovered from the surface of the site.

The area to be scheduled includes the remains of the church, the churchyard and the broch, and an area around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive. It has maximum dimensions of 52m N-S by 57m W-E, as indicated in red on the accompanying map. All burial lairs still in use are excluded from the scheduling.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as the only example of a medieval cruciform church in Shetland. The discovery of the cross-slab in the 19th century suggests that the history of this monument as a church site dates at least as far back as the 9th or 10th century; while the existence of a broch mound in the near vicinity not only demonstrates that the site overall has a long history of occupation and use, but also that it has the potential to elucidate what happened to high status domestic prehistoric societies around the time that Christianity was adopted. The broch mound itself has the potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric architecture, land-use and economy.

References
Bibliography
RCAHMS records the monument as HU54SW 5.

#### References:

MacGibbon D and Ross T 1896-7, THE ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE OF SCOTLAND FROM THE EARLIEST CHRISTIAN TIMES TO THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY, Edinburgh, Vol. 3, 157-9.

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Ritchie A 1999, EXPLORING SCOTLAND'S HERITAGE: SHETLAND, Exploring Scotland's Heritage Series, Edinburgh, 99, No. 37.



Site Number 43

Site Name Loch of Brindister, dun

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: dun

NRHE Number SM3491

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 443265

Northing 1137013

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 44

Site Name Trowie Loch, burnt mound complex 225m WSW of Vadill Cottage

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM3579;HU45SE 6
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 447251 Northing 1153780

Description The monument comprises the remains of a substantial burnt mound complex, visible as two

partly turf-covered mounds separated by a tidal creek. One mound lies on the mainland and is relatively small, measuring about 7m SW-NE by 5m transversely and stands 0.7m high. The other lies on a small islet but is much larger, measuring about 11m N-S by 9m transversely and standing 2m high, with an irregular top surface. Small-scale investigations in the 1990s showed that archaeological remains survive between the visible mounds and that the complex measures at least 28m by 11m overall. The monument lies on the west shore of the Vadill of Garth, a tidal inlet about 60m wide that extends south from the East Voe of Skellister for about 0.8km. It lies at sea level and parts of the complex are submerged at high tide. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 40m NW-SE by 34m transversely (maximum), to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of a post-and-wire fence to allow for its maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

Burnt mounds are formed of heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.



A large part of this monument survives in excellent condition below a covering of turf, though tidal erosion is a significant threat, particularly to the area between the two mounds. A small part of the complex was excavated by archaeologists in 1991-3, with the investigation targeted on areas of erosion and avoiding the secure portions of the mounds. The work showed significant variations in the character of different parts of the complex and highlighted the presence of a range of interesting and significant features, including a hearth and adjacent claylined pit at the southern edge of the smaller mound. Large paving slabs and orthostats are part of a stone feature leading from the pit to the centre of the complex. Excavation here produced artefacts including pottery and worked quartzite. The work showed that the larger mound on the islet is composed of tips of peat ash and burnt stone. A peat deposit was located beneath the complex. The investigations indicate that this is a complex structure incorporating a range of features with potential evidence for a development sequence. This monument has excellent potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain further artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The peat and soil deposits below the mound may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

#### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show a classic crescentic shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains. This example, like some other Shetland burnt mounds, preserves evidence for a range of internal structures. It can be compared with a complex burnt mound on Bressay, which was excavated and then reconstructed and displayed close to the Bressay ferry terminal.

The interest of this burnt mound complex is enhanced because it lies within a landscape rich in prehistoric remains, including three probable brochs and another burnt mound that lies 1.1km to the northwest. This landscape has been investigated as part of the South Nesting Palaeolandscape Project, which aimed to provide a context for the known monuments in the area through field walking, geophysical survey and environmental assessment. The work revealed hundreds of individual archaeological sites in the vicinity and identified land with enhanced soils that formed part of an intensive infield agricultural system.

### National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of much of the monument, and the complex structures it contains, enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice in Shetland.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU45SE 6. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN1009 (PrefRef 969).



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Site Number 45

Site Name The Burrian, broch 105m NE of Benston

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM3580

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446740 Northing 1154003

Description

The monument comprises the remains of a circular stone building, probably a broch of Iron Age date built between 500 BC and AD 200. The building is visible as a large turf-covered mound measuring 16.5m in diameter and standing 0.6m high. A short stretch of the curved outer wall face is exposed on the E side of the mound. The monument stands on a rocky knoll at about 20m above sea level, in a location offering views in all directions. The shore of the East Voe of Skellister lies 0.6km to the northeast. The monument was first scheduled in 1974 but the documentation does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is a circle 41m in diameter, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The surviving mound is in good condition and almost entirely covered with turf. Although stones have been taken from the building to construct an adjacent croft and other farm buildings, there is no evidence of any disturbance below ground level. It is very probable that substantial buried remains of the building's lower courses, including walls and perhaps galleries, are preserved below ground level. Internal occupation deposits are also likely to survive. Large deposits of midden material have been noted around the structure and several artefacts have been recovered from the knoll, including a broken cushion-type stone mace, a stone hammer and a steatite whorl. Aerial photographs suggest that remains of an outer defence may surround the building, probably a wall or bank and possibly a ditch. Future investigation of the mound and buried remains may allow researchers to ascertain the date and character of the building and confirm whether it is a broch or another type of prehistoric structure, and to assess evidence for the development sequence, duration of use and the nature any external defences. In addition, the buried remains have the potential to enhance understanding of the use and function of brochs and similar structures, and of the daily lives of the people who occupied them. There is high potential for the recovery of additional artefacts and environmental evidence that may illuminate the diet, economy and social status of the occupants and the extent to which this varied over time.

#### Contextual characteristics

There are more than 130 brochs in Shetland. This structure is also probably a broch and has the potential to enhance our understanding of the relationship between brochs, the extent to



which they were contemporary, and their relationship with the wider landscape. Brochs have been viewed as having a defensive or offensive function, or simply as being the prestige dwellings and farms of an elite keen to display its status. The buried remains at Benston have the potential to help address these questions and could provide insights into the nature and use of these structures and the landscape immediately around them. There is a direct line of site from this structure to another broch that lies only 0.5km to the WSW, on the Holm of Benston. A third broch, also known as 'The Burrian', lies only 1.2km to the ENE. A homestead and field system lies 0.6km to the northwest and the site of a burial ground and chapel 0.4km to the east. There is therefore high potential to study this structure within the context of the wider archaeological landscape. Just to the southwest of the broch and later croft are three sub-oval depressions with stone walling visible in places. These may represent subsidiary outbuildings, or structures indicative of continued occupation of the site after abandonment of the probable broch.

#### Associative characteristics

The site is known as 'The Burrian', further suggesting that it represents the remains of a broch.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of Iron Age Shetland and the role and function of brochs or other types of large circular prehistoric buildings. The monument forms part of a significant cluster of large Iron Age buildings and offers the potential to study the relationship between this structure and two other brochs nearby. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the development and reuse of Iron Age structures in Shetland.

References Bibliography References

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Site Number 46

Site Name Skellister, burnt mound 115m SW of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM3584;HU45SE 20 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446710 Northing 1154717

Description

The monument comprises the remains of a substantial burnt mound, visible as a turf covered U-shaped bank covering an area that measures 24m SW-NE by 14m transversely and standing about 1m high. A damp hollow is enclosed by the bank and another damp hollow containing a well lies SW of the bank. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. The monument lies on low, undulating ground immediately NW of the road leading south from Skellister, at around 20m above sea level. The shore of the East Voe of Skellister lies 250m to the east. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet

modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.



The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 35m ENE-WSW by 22m transversely, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes post-and-wire fences and a roadside drainage ditch to allow for their maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives as an upstanding, turf-covered mound in excellent condition. Its form survives to a marked degree and the monument seems largely undisturbed. The two distinct waterlogged areas offer excellent potential for the survival of organic remains. Burnt mounds are made from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. Records indicate that black earth and burnt stones were visible here in 1968, when there may have been less vegetation. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.

The monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show a classic crescentic shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

The proximity of this example to several other prehistoric monuments is very notable. Other burnt mounds lie 390m to the NE and 650m to the SW and a prehistoric field system and house lie 450m to the SW. A standing stone lies 650m to the NW. The monument was clearly part of a wider occupied landscape in which broadly contemporary domestic and ritual activities took place.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds, and their placing in the landscape. The good



preservation of the monument, the potential for organic remains to survive and its proximity to other prehistoric monuments enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice in Shetland.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU45SE 20. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN1118 (PrefRef 978).

References

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Dockrill, S, J, 1991 'South Nesting Archaeological Landscape, burnt mound' in DES 1991, 74

Site Number 47

Site Name Broch of Benston, broch 380m NW of Nesting Primary School

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch; house

NRHE Number SM3585;HU45SE 18
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446316

Northing 1153730

Description

200), a later building constructed north of the broch, the remains of outbuildings, and a partly submerged causeway extending E from the Holm of Benston to the Ness of Benston. The broch is visible as a mound, 17.5m in diameter and standing 1.3m high, with basal stones of the outer

is visible as a mound, 17.5m in diameter and standing 1.3m high, with basal stones of the oute wall face visible here and there. The monument stands less than 10m above sea level, on a small island around 100m from the NE shore of the Loch of Benston and 1km from the sea at the East Voe of Skellister. The monument was first scheduled in 1974 but the documentation

The monument comprises a broch of Iron Age date (built probably between 500 BC and AD

does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

**Cultural Significance** 

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The broch has partially collapsed, but the surviving mound is in stable condition, though heavily covered by vegetation. Substantial buried remains of the broch's lower courses and foundations are likely to be preserved within the mound, together with occupation levels. The visible features demonstrate that this is a complex, multi-phase monument with evidence for a development sequence. The secondary structure to the north of the broch measures 4.8m in diameter and contains four orthostats 0.5m high; researchers have suggested it resembles a nearby homestead. This structure probably provides evidence for continued occupation of the site after abandonment of the broch tower. The outbuildings, noted as slight earthworks, also have potential to preserve evidence of secondary occupation, although two of them are overlain by modern sheepfolds.

The buried archaeological deposits associated with the monument's construction, use and abandonment may allow future researchers to date the various stages of the site's visible



development sequence: broch, later structure and outbuildings. In addition, the buried remains have considerable potential to enhance understanding of the use and function of brochs and the daily lives of the people who occupied them. There is high potential for the recovery of artefacts and ecofacts which could illuminate the diet, economy, and social status of the occupants and the extent to which this varied over time. The presence of the curving causeway suggests that the site of the broch was already an island during its occupation.

#### Contextual characteristics

This broch is one of over 130 in Shetland. It has high potential to enhance our understanding of the relationship between brochs, the extent to which they were contemporary, and their relationship with the wider landscape. There are two other brochs in the vicinity of this monument, one 480m to the northeast, and the other 1.6km to the northeast, positioned 250m from the coast. Brochs have been viewed as having a defensive or offensive function, or simply as being the prestige dwellings and farms of an elite keen to display its status. The buried remains at Benston have the potential to contribute to these questions and may provide further insights into the nature and use of these structures and the landscape immediately around them. The secondary structure to the north of the broch has high potential to tell us about continued Pictish occupation on broch sites, and can be compared to other much larger structures erected within broch towers, such as that at Levenwick.

#### Associative characteristics

The broch is depicted and labelled 'Brough, Site of' on the Ordnance Survey first edition map.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of Iron Age Shetland and the role and function of brochs. The monument offers potential to study the relationship between the broch itself, the causeway, a secondary structure and several outhouses. The monument also stands relatively close to two other brochs and there is potential to examine the relationship between the three structures. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the development and reuse of brochs in Shetland.

### References

Bibliography

RCAHMS record the site as HU45SE 18. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR records the site as MSN1006 (PrefRef 966).

### References

Mackie, E W 2002, The roundhouses, brochs and wheelhouses of Atlantic Scotland c.700BC-AD500: architecture and material culture, Part 1: The Orkney and Shetland Isles. BAR British Series 342: Oxford. 116.

RCAHMS, 1946 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Twelfth report with an inventory of the ancient monuments of Orkney and Shetland, 3v Edinburgh. 78.

Site Number 48

Site Name Brough,broch on the Burrian 200m N of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM3589

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 447790



Northing 1154468

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 49

Site Name Loch of Freester, chambered cairn 100m SE of Old Trafford

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: chambered cairn

NRHE Number SM3595

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445052 Northing 1153965

**Description** The monument comprises the front part of a heel-shaped chambered cairn of the Neolithic

period, built probably between 4000 and 2500 BC. It is visible as low turf-covered mound that measures around 10.5m E-W by 5.8m transversely and stands 0.8m high. Several large stones protrude through the turf, defining a slightly concave S façade. An upright stone stands at the W corner and four more stones lie on their sides. Near the E side, three stones in a line running N-S may represent an internal wall face. The cairn stands 20m above sea level on a knoll that dominates the head of Cat Firth, lying 350m to the west. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling

rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 30.5m E-W by 26m transversely. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is in a stable condition and retains its form to a significant degree, despite having been robbed of stone in more recent times. Some localised rabbit burrowing has brought burnt bone to the surface on the W side, suggesting that the site has not been investigated by antiquarians and that burials may survive in situ. The monument retains several interesting features, including the curving line of stones revetting the S façade, and the cairn is likely to preserve evidence for its development sequence.

Chambered cairns are Neolithic in origin, dating most commonly from the third and fourth millennia BC. Excavation elsewhere suggests that they were used over a lengthy period and housed the remains of multiple individuals. Despite the removal of stone from this cairn, significant archaeological information is likely to survive beneath its surface. The excavation of similar mounds elsewhere in Scotland shows that cairns might be adapted over time and also form a focus for burial in later periods. Buried deposits associated with cairns can help us understand more about the practice and significance of burial and commemorating the dead at specific points in prehistory. They may also help us to understand the changing structure of society in the area. In addition, the cairn is likely to overlie and seal a buried ground surface that could provide evidence of the immediate environment before the monument was constructed. Botanical remains including pollen or charred plant material may survive within archaeological deposits deriving from the cairn's construction and use. This evidence can help us build up a picture of climate, vegetation and agriculture in the area before and during construction and use of the cairn.

Contextual characteristics



Heel-shaped cairns are a rare and distinctive form of chambered cairn found in the Shetland Islands. This example also has particular interest because of its location in a landscape rich in prehistoric monuments, including other cairns and settlement remains. There are cairns 0.4km to the ENE and 0.6km to the SE, a standing stone 1.8km to the NE, and homesteads 2km to the WSW, 1km to the E and 1.2km to the NE. Across Scotland, cairns are commonly positioned to see from and to be seen and are often inter-visible. The position and significance of this cairn in relation to contemporary agricultural land and settlement is likely to be significant and merits future detailed analysis. Given the many prehistoric sites in the area, this monument has the potential to further our understanding not just of funerary site location and practice, but also of the structure of early prehistoric society and economy.

#### National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, the nature of burial practices and their significance in prehistoric and later society. Buried evidence from cairns can also enhance our knowledge about wider prehistoric society, how people lived, where they came from and who they had contact with. This monument is particularly valuable because it lies in a landscape where there is a variety of prehistoric monuments, including settlements and other cairns. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the placing of such monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance of death and burial in prehistoric life.

References Bibliography References

Henshall, A S, 1963 The Chambered Tombs of Scotland, vol 1. Edinburgh. 588.

Site Number

Site Name Hard Knowe, cairn 330m N of Muness

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: cairn (type uncertain)

**NRHE Number** SM3598

Status Scheduled Monument

**Easting** 445373 Northing 1153502

The monument is a cairn dating from the Neolithic or Bronze Age, built probably between 4000 Description

and 1000 BC. It is visible as low, almost circular, partly turf-covered mound of stones, about 12m in diameter. The remains of a well-preserved stone kerb are visible on the S and E edges of the cairn. Near the centre, two earth-fast stone slabs and two fallen slabs indicate the position of a burial cist or chamber, measuring 1.5m E-W by 0.8m transversely. The cairn is in the centre of an oval-shaped prehistoric field, defined by a boundary of evenly-spaced stones. The cairn stands 20m above sea level, positioned between two prominent rocky outcrops that lie immediately to the NW and SE. It overlooks the head of the Cat Firth, the shore of which lies about 0.5km to the S and W. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the

documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling excludes the above-ground elements of the square planticrub and telegraph pole that lie within the scheduled area, to allow for their maintenance.

Statement of National Importance



#### **Cultural Significance**

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The cairn survives in good condition overall. Although stones have been removed in the past, the cairn retains a covering of stone and is now stable. The central cist or chamber and the kerb stones to the S and E are clearly visible and significant features. One researcher has suggested that two of the kerb stones on the E side of the cairn may be evidence for a flat façade on this side. Without more research, it is not yet clear whether the monument is a chambered cairn or a round cairn. Excavations elsewhere have shown that chambered cairns are normally Neolithic in origin (about 4000-2500 BC), while round cairns commonly date from about 2500-1500 BC. Chambered cairns were often used to house the bones of a number of people, while round cairns frequently cover and mark one or more individual human burials. The cist in the centre of this cairn has been opened in the past and it is not known what was found. However, the covering of stones over this monument appears intact, suggesting that additional archaeological information is likely to survive beneath its surface. The excavation of similar mounds elsewhere in Scotland shows that cairns may incorporate or overlie several graves or pits containing cist settings, skeletal remains in the form of cremations or inhumations, pottery and stone tools. These deposits can further our understanding of the practice and significance of burial and commemoration of the dead at specific times in prehistory. They may also help us to understand the changing structure of society in the area. In addition, the cairn is likely to overlie and seal a buried land surface that could provide evidence of the immediate environment before the monument was constructed; and botanical remains including pollen or charred plant material may survive within archaeological deposits deriving from the cairn's construction and use. This evidence can help us build up a picture of climate, vegetation and agriculture in the area before and during construction and use of the

The cairn is surrounded by a single line of stones that forms an oval-shaped enclosure with a diameter of about 43m. The stones are mostly earth-fast, though some are now missing. The enclosure could be contemporary with this monument, or may represent a later prehistoric field laid out with reference to the cairn. There is high potential to examine the construction, dating and function of the enclosure and to study its relationship with the cairn.

### Contextual characteristics

Cairns are well represented in Shetland, but this example is of particular interest because its form is similar to the well-preserved round cairn on Nesbister Hill, 9km to the SW, and there is potential to compare and study the characteristics of the two monuments. This example is also of particular interest because of its location in a landscape that is very rich in prehistoric monuments, including other cairns and settlement remains. These include a cairn 650m to the N and a chambered cairn 560m to the NW, a standing stone 2km to the NNE, and prehistoric homesteads 2.2km to the W, 730m to the ENE and 1.3km to the NE. Across Scotland, cairns are commonly positioned to see from and to be seen and are often inter-visible. The position and significance of this cairn in relation to prehistoric settlement and agricultural land is likely to be significant and merits future detailed analysis. Given the many comparable sites in the area, this monument has the potential to further our understanding not just of funerary site location and practice, but also of the structure of early prehistoric society and economy.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, the nature of burial practices and their significance in prehistoric and later society. Buried evidence from cairns can also enhance our knowledge about wider prehistoric society, how people lived, where they came from and who they had contact with. This monument is particularly valuable because it lies in a landscape rich in prehistoric monuments of various types, including other cairns, a standing stone and settlement remains. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the placing of such monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance of death and burial in prehistoric life.



References Bibliography References

Calder, C, S, T, 1965 'Cairns, Neolithic houses and burnt mounds in Shetland' in PSAS, 96, 50-52.

Site Number 51

Site Name Loch of Houlland, cairn 470m E of Clack

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: cairn (type uncertain)

NRHE Number SM3601

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445448

Northing 1154137

Description

The monument is a cairn dating to the Neolithic or Bronze Age, built probably between 4000 and 1000 BC. It is visible as an almost complete circle of kerb stones, some large and some set on edge, about 10m in diameter. Inside the kerb is a thin layer of stones, with a subrectangular stone burial cist or chamber at the centre, measuring 1.8m E-W by 1.2m transversely. The cairn stands around 20m above sea level, on a low rise between the Loch of Houlland to the N and the Loch of Freester to the SW. The head of the Cat Firth lies about 750m to the SW. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is a circular on plan, measuring 30m in diameter and centred on the centre of the cairn. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

This cairn survives in good condition. Stones have been removed in the past, but some cairn material still exists within the interior of the cairn and the monument is now stable. The central cist or chamber and the substantial near-complete kerb are clearly visible features. The kerb stones have a high quartz content and may have been selected to make the cairn stand out within the landscape. There are no clear indications of a passage or entrance. Without more research, it is not clear whether the monument is a chambered cairn or a round cairn, perhaps of slightly later date. Excavation suggests that chambered cairns are Neolithic in origin (about 4000-2500 BC), while round cairns date most commonly from about 2500-1500 BC. Chambered cairns were often used to house the remains of a number of people, while round cairns frequently cover and mark one or more individual human burials. The cist or chamber in the centre of this cairn has been opened in the past and it is not known what was found. However, additional archaeological information is likely to survive beneath the ground surface. The excavation of similar monuments elsewhere in Scotland shows that cairns may incorporate or overlie several graves or pits containing cist settings, skeletal remains in the form of cremations or inhumations, pottery and stone tools. These deposits can help us understand more about the practice and significance of burial and commemorating the dead at specific points in prehistory. They may also help us to understand the changing structure of society in the area. In addition, the cairn is likely to overlie and seal a buried land surface that could provide evidence of the immediate environment before the monument was constructed; and botanical remains including pollen or charred plant material may survive within archaeological deposits deriving from the cairn's construction and use. This evidence can help us build up a picture of



the climate, vegetation and agriculture in the area before and during construction and use of the cairn.

#### Contextual characteristics

Cairns are well represented in Shetland, but this example is particularly interesting because its form is similar to the well-preserved round cairn on Nesbister Hill, 9km to the SW, and to a very similar cairn at Hard Knowe, only 635m to the S. There is potential to compare and study the characteristics of these monuments. This example is also of interest because of its location in a landscape that is very rich in prehistoric monuments, including other cairns and settlement remains. These include a chambered heel-shaped cairn 430m to the WSW, a standing stone 1.4km to the NNE, and homesteads 880m to the NNE, 950m to the ENE and 640m to the ESE.

Across Scotland, cairns are commonly positioned to see from and to be seen and are often inter-visible. The position and significance of this cairn in relation to contemporary agricultural land and settlement is likely to be significant and merits future detailed analysis. Given the many comparable sites in the area, this monument has the potential to further our understanding not just of funerary site location and practice, but also of the structure of early prehistoric society and economy.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, the nature of burial practices and their significance in prehistoric and later society. Buried evidence from cairns can also enhance our knowledge about wider prehistoric society, how people lived, where they came from and who they had contact with. This monument is particularly valuable because it lies in a landscape rich in prehistoric monuments of various types, including other cairns, a standing stone and settlement remains. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the placing of such monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance of death and burial in prehistoric life.

References Bibliography References

Calder, C, S, T, 1965 'Cairns, Neolithic houses and burnt mounds in Shetland' in PSAS, 96, 55-6.

Site Number 52

Site Name Grunna Water, burnt mound 400m NW of Houlland

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM3602

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445799

Northing 1154870

The monument comprises the substantial remains of a burnt mound, visible as a crescent-shaped earthwork some 15m long, 7m wide and standing 1.3m high. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. The monument is located adjacent to a stream at around 40m above sea level, on grassland which slopes to the east and overlooks Grunna Water. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet

modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is circular on plan, measuring 25m in diameter, centred on the mound. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive,



as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives as an upstanding, turf-covered earthwork in good overall condition, with some minor rabbit burrowing on the eastern edge.

Burnt mounds are made from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The common crescent shape is formed as discarded material accumulates around a central area, which is normally where the waterheating activities took place. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.

The monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

#### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show the classic crescentic shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

The proximity of this burnt mound to several other prehistoric monuments is very notable, in particular its close proximity to the remains of a prehistoric house, just 80m to the northwest. There is a standing stone 615m to the northeast and the remains of another prehistoric house 730m to the southeast. These monuments were part of a wider prehistoric landscape of settlement and land-use.

### National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds, and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of the monument and its proximity to other sites relating to prehistoric settlement and land-use enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice, both in



Shetland and in Scotland.

Site Number 53

Site Name Grunna Water, house 480m NW of Houlland

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: field or field system; house

NRHE Number SM3603

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445782 Northing 1154944

**Description** The monument comprises the remains of a prehistoric house. It is visible as an oval low turf-

covered bank and a setting of large irregular boulders enclosing an oval hollow, measuring approximately 7m E-W by 5m N-S. Beyond the house remains there are traces of cultivation and low turf banks forming a sub-oval enclosure. The monument is late Neolithic or Bronze Age in date, probably from some time between 3000 and 1000 BC. It is located on elevated ground around 40m above sea level on semi-improved grassland overlooking Grunna Water to the east. The monument was originally scheduled in 1974 but the area was inadequate and the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is an irregular oval on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. It excludes the above-ground elements of the post-and-wire fence which falls within the scheduled area.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is in good overall condition, although there are signs of disturbance by burrowing animals in the recent past. A series of large, irregular shaped boulders, some of which are earth-fast, encloses an oval hollow. This is surrounded by a low turf bank. There are suggestions of a possible entrance on the western edge. The house appears to lie within a suboval enclosure formed of low turf banks and there are traces of cultivation within the enclosure. There are still visible traces of the the transects dug across the homestead in 1991 as part of the South Nesting Palaeolandscape project. These revealed evidence of prehistoric occupation and agricultural activity.

The site is likely to contain important buried deposits, including artefacts, ecofacts and other environmental evidence. Examination of the building foundations can provide detailed information about the form and construction of prehistoric houses in Shetland, and buried features in the interior can contribute to our understanding of how houses were used and organised, and how this might change over time. Buried artefacts, ecofacts and soils can contribute to our understanding of how people lived and worked, and provide insight into trade and exchange and the nature of the agricultural economy. Archaeological investigation at similar sites has yielded high quality artefactual and ecofactual material, which can help us to build up a much fuller picture of prehistoric domestic life. There is also the potential to compare the building with the enclosing bank and cultivation remains to determine whether these features are contemporary, and to ascertain how the inhabitants managed the landscape in the immediate vicinity of the house. There is particular potential to determine how the field system developed, whether the soils were improved, and if so how and at what dates.

Contextual characteristics

This is one of a number of broadly similar prehistoric houses that characterise early settlement



and the development of agriculture in the third to second millennium BC in Shetland. It is part of a relatively rare and geographically restricted group, which gives us a more balanced view of prehistoric life, when compared with the more common and widespread burial and ceremonial monuments of the later Neolithic elsewhere in Scotland.

The monument's situation within the landscape further enhances its importance. It is located on elevated land, overlooking Grunna Water to the east and South Nesting Bay further to the northeast. There are also a number of other broadly contemporary prehistoric sites in the area. Of particular interest is the burnt mound which lies just 70m to the southeast, while further afield are the remains of a homestead approximately 790m to the southeast, and the standing stone at Skellister around 600m to the northeast. This monument is an important element of a much wider relict landscape and it testifies to early human efforts to exploit land and natural resources for agricultural production. Comparison of this site with the other prehistoric domestic remains in the area would help us to develop a much better understanding of prehistoric domestic life and landuse.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular, the nature of prehistoric settlement, agriculture and landuse in Shetland. It has the potential to improve our understanding of the distribution of settlement, the structural techniques used to build houses and changes in the nature of settlement over time. There is also excellent potential to study how the site fitted into a landscape that is rich in prehistoric remains. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of prehistoric domestic architecture and settlement, both in Shetland and Scotland.

References Bibliography References

Calder, CST, 1958 'Stone Age house-sites in Shetland', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, 89, 367-8.

Dockrill, S J et al. 1991 'The South Nesting palaeolandscape project, Shetland Islands', Univ Bradford Archaeol Sci Annu Rep 5th annual report, 19.

Site Number 54

Site Name Stromness Voe,burnt mound 50m NW of head of voe

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM5699; HU 34 NE 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 438996 Northing 1147669

**Description** The monument consists of a burnt mound, a prehistoric cooking place.

The mound is located on gently sloping ground near to a small stream. It is crescentic on plan, about 8m long and stands 1.4m high. There are no signs of recent disturbance.

The area to be scheduled is sub-circular, 35m NW-SE by 30m NE-SW, bounded on the NE by a small stream, to include the mound and an area around it in which traces of activities relating to its accumulation and use may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a well-formed and undisturbed burnt mound which has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to shed light upon the date and function of these widespread but little-understood monuments.



References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 34 NE 3.

Site Number 55

Site Name Kirk Score, chambered cairn, settlement and field system, Russa Ness

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: field or field system; settlement (if not assigned to any mor

NRHE Number SM5718; HU 34 NE 10
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 436580 Northing 1146998

**Description** The monument comprises the extensive remains of a prehistoric settlement and also a

prehistoric chambered burial cairn. The S part of the monument was scheduled in 1993, but subsequent field visits have revealed more, well-preserved, archaeological remains to the N.

Hence this extension.

The monument is situated on a ESE-facing slope near the S end of Russa Ness. There are at least 3 house-sites, of a type normally assumed to be pre-Iron Age in date, and the remains of a probable Neolithic chambered burial cairn. These are surrounded by a pattern of irregular fields, defined by low stone walls and terraces. The area has been used for later cultivation, and a more regular pattern of fields overlies a small part of the hillside, perhaps associated with a small, ruined, rectangular enclosure.

Two of the prehistoric houses lie on the upper part of the formerly cultivated slope, at about 50m OD and 250m apart, while the third lies downslope from the more southerly of these. All 3 are oval on plan and have large upright stones set internally, marking subdivisions. The lower house is set into the slope, while the upper 2 stand proud. The probable chambered cairn, a tumbled mass of large boulders showing hints of a chamber and E-facing facade, is set higher still on the slope, but not quite on its crest.

The area to be scheduled consists of that scheduled in 1993 plus an extension of similar size to the N. It is bounded on the E by the high water mark of ordinary spring tides, and elsewhere by an irregular line not defined by any features on the ground. The area measures a maximum of 450m NNE-SSW by 250m transversely, as indicated in red on the accompanying map extract.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a well-preserved example of a prehistoric farming settlement, preserving evidence for domestic and agricultural activity and having the potential, through excavation, to provide more evidence relating to the date and sequence of construction and use of the different elements of the settlement, about domestic and agricultural economy and social organisation in the third and second millennia BC.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 34 NE 10.

Site Number 56

Site Name Hill of Olligarth, settlement and field system NE of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: field or field system; hall; settlement (if not assigned to any



NRHE Number SM5719; HU 43 NE 2 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 438882 Northing 1147293

**Description** The monument consists of the remains of a prehistoric house and field system on the E-facing

slope overlooking the head of Stromness Voe.

The house is oval in plan, some 15m by 12m. It has had an entrance from the ESE, and four large boulders protruding from the centre represent internal subdivisions of the living space. Outside the entrance traces of curving dykes may represent a forecourt, but have been partly obscured by use as a sheep shelter. A number of fragmentary stretches of walling occur nearby, while a more well- preserved enclosure lies 60m to the E, and runs down to the water of the voe. This may be contemporary, although it has clearly been used more recently.

The area to be scheduled is rectangular, 130m WNW-ESE by 80m NNE-SSW, bounded on the E by the high-water mark of the shore, to include the house, forecourt, enclosure and traces of walling, together with an area around these in which traces of activities associated with their construction and use may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a small prehistoric settlement with clear potential to provide information, through excavation and analysis, which could light upon the nature of prehistoric agriculture and the economic and social organisation of life in pre Iron Age Shetland.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 43 NE 2.

Site Number 57

Site Name Whiteness Junction, burnt mound 150m W of Stebbligrind

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM5720;HU 34 NE 13
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 439243

Northing 1146592

**Description** The monument consists of a small burnt mound, a prehistoric cooking place. The mound lies

just to the W of the public road to South Whiteness. It is approximately 1m high and 7m across,

and stands in a marshy area of ground.

The area to be scheduled is 20m square, aligned parallel to the road, and is bounded on the E by the roadside fence, which is itself excluded from scheduling. The area is marked in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a small undisturbed burnt mound, which has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide information about this widespread but poorly understood category of monument, and thus about Bronze Age domestic and social organisation.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 34 NE 13.



Site Number 58

Site Name Loch of Houlland, homestead 190m W of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: homestead

NRHE Number SM5721

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 439753 Northing 1141621

Description The monument consists of the remains of an unusually large prehistoric house, set below a

more recent sheep enclosure.

The house measures 11m by 8m within walls up to 3.5m thick. The inner course of the walls is marked by large upright blocks, six of which appear to subdivide the interior while two flank the entrance, which is to the SE and appears to have had a straight facade. A series of later walls associated with a sheep enclosure obscure the earlier remains. This is one of the largest of the prehistoric house sites known in Shetland.

The area to be scheduled is circular, 35m in diameter, to include the house and an area around

in which evidence relating to its

construction and use may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Site Number 59

Site Name Quina Scord, chambered cairn 400m NW of Gillaburn

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: chambered cairn

NRHE Number SM5727;HU 45 SW 1
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440426 Northing 1151632

**Description** The monument consists of the remains of a prehistoric chambered burial cairn. The cairn is

situated on a SE-facing slope above the Gilla Burn. It is of semi-circular, or heel-shaped, plan, with a flat facade facing SSE. Little of the cairn material survives except for the larger blocks which define the kerb and facade. The latter has been framed by two upright blocks 1.2m high,

but the eastern one has now fallen.

A number of boulders in the centre of the cairn may indicate the position of a chmaber, but the plan of this is not clear, nor are there any signs of an entrance passsage.

The area to be scheduled is semi-circular, 35m in diameter, with the flat part of the semi-circle formed by a modern fence on the NNE, which is itself excluded from scheduling. The area is shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a well-formed, although much reduced, chambered tomb. It has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide information about the construction and use of prehistoric burial places.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 45 SW 1.



Site Number 60

Site Name Loch of Girlsta, homestead 500m NE of Bretto

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: field or field system; homestead; house

NRHE Number SM5728; HU 45 SW 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 443187

Northing 1153115

Description The monument consists of a prehistoric house and field system on an E-facing slope above the

Loch of Girlsta.

The house is represented by an oval hollow some 13m by 11m, and appears to be subdivided internally, giving the impression of a smaller house with an outer "forecourt", but this may be due to selective stone-robbing. To the E of the house, beyond its entrance (which is on this side), are two fields enclosed by boulder walls.

These fields are joined by a gateway or entrance 1.0m wide. The more easterly, and larger, of the fields runs down to the loch, which forms its E boundary. The area to be scheduled is a quadrilateral, bounded on the E by the shore of the loch and on the W by the fence beside the public road. The fence is itself excluded from scheduling. The area has maximum dimensions 70m E-W by 50m N-S, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a good field example of a small prehistoric farming settlement. It has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide information on prehistoric agriculture, economy and social organisation.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 45 SW 3.

Site Number 61

Site Name Score Hill, gun emplacement

Type of Site 20th Century Military and Related: Battery

NRHE Number SM5370; HU54SW 24.0 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 451268

Northing 1144765

Description The monument consists of a gun, gun emplacement, magazine and associated remains, dating

to the First World War.

The 6-inch naval gun, installed in 1917 for the defence of the N approach to the anchorage at Lerwick, survives within its circular concrete emplacement, within which are ready-use lockers. Adjacent to the emplacement is a sunken concrete magazine. Some distance to the W are the remains of a hoist, used to assist the bringing of ammunition and supplies to the summit of the hill, while to the S lie the remains of the temporary huts which housed the gun-crew.

The area to be scheduled is triangular in plan, and includes the gun, gun emplacement, magazine, hoist and hut foundations, as marked in red on the accompanying map.



Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as one of the very few coastal defence sites with its gun in situ, and also as part of an integrated system of defence which illustrates the principles of coastal defence as practised in 1918, when the main threat was seen as water-borne. It is also of historical significance as a tangible reminder of the vital strategic role played by Shetland in two World Wars.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU54SW 24.0.

Site Number 62

Site Name Ander Hill,lookout tower

Type of Site 20th Century Military and Related: Lookout tower

NRHE Number SM5372; HU54SW 25 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 452414

Northing 1141535

**Description** The monument is a wartime lookout tower situated on the summit of Ander Hill, and built

during the first World War, probably in 1917.

The tower was built as part of a system of defences protecting the seaward approaches to the anchorage of Lerwick. As such, it commands an extensive view along the E coast of Bressay and beyond. It is of harled concrete block construction, with smooth-finished blockwork on the quoin stones, lintels and jambs of window and door apertures. The tower is of 2 floors with a flat roof, provided with a parapet for use as an observation platform. In addition to the tower, an underground shelter, accessed by a ground-level trapdoor, a cast-iron water-pump and a concrete footing with the remains of a wooden signalling pole survive in close proximity, and are to be included within the scheduled area.

The area to be scheduled is square, 40m on each side, to include the tower, underground shelter, water-pump and signalling pole, as indicated in red on the accompanying map.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a well-preserved example of a category of structure once widespread but now scarce, and as part of a group of structures which as a whole illustrate the principles of coastal defence systems established during the First World War. In addition, the monument is of importance for its historical associations, being one of the few tangible reminders of Shetland's vital strategic role in two World Wars.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU54SW 25.

Site Number 63

Site Name Quoyness, settlement 375m W of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: hall; settlement (if not assigned to any more specific type)

NRHE Number SM6816; HU 34 NE 14 Status Scheduled Monument



Easting 439450 Northing 1148591

**Description** The monument consists of the remains of a prehistoric settlement, represented by a house and

traces of field walls.

The house is an irregular oval, 10m by 8.5m with walls 0.6m high spread to a width of up to 2.5m. It has been partly obscured by a later construction. The entrance was from the S, where traces of outer walls suggest a forecourt. Several short lengths of filed walling are visible nearby.

The area to be scheduled is a circle 30m in diameter centred on the centre of the house, to include the house, forecourt walls and the nearer fragments of field walling, together with an area around these in which evidence relating to their construction and use may survive. The area is shown in red on the accompanying map.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as an example of a small prehistoric farming settlement which has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide information about the economy and social organisation of pre Iron Age society.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 34 NE 14.

Site Number 64

Site Name Jamie Cheyne's Loch,homestead 50m N of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: homestead

NRHE Number SM5900;HU 34 SE 2
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 439874

Northing 1142788

**Description** The mounment consists of the remains of a prehistoric house with an attached yard, the whole

set within a larger enclosure.

The house is approximately 6.5m across, and appears to have been internally subdivided, but this is hard to ascertain. The entrance has been from the E. A small sub-circular enclosure is attached to the N side of the house, and outside this again is another enclosure, up to 35m across. The whole site is partially obscured by deep peat and heather.

The area to be scheduled is a square of side 50m, aligned N-S, to include the house, enclosures and an area around in which evidence relating to their construction and use may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a well-preserved prehistoric farming settlement. Because of its partly peat-covered situation, it offers an unusually high potential for the recovery of information, through excavation and analysis, about prehistoric information, through excavation and analysis, about prehistoric agriculture, domestic economy and social organisation.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 34 SE 2.



Site Number 65

Site Name Heglibister, cairn 250m W of Nesta Ness

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: cairn (type uncertain)

NRHE Number SM6223;HU 35 SE 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 438869 Northing 1151546

Description The monument consists of a large mound on top of which lie the remains of a construction of

large stones, probably a cairn of late Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

The mound lies close behind houses at Heglibister, and has been known as "De Duss", meaning a heap. It is oval in plan, about 25m across and over 3m high, and is set on a small rock outcrop on an E-facing valley side. There is little superficial detail visible, only a number of facing stones protruding which suggest a basal diameter of about 15m.

Nearby finds of Iron Age midden material and the general form and location of the site have suggested to some archaeologists that the site is a broch, but it appears to be too small for this and the site is too limiting.

The area to be scheduled is a circle 30m in diameter, to include the mound and a small area around it. There is a modern wooden pole within the centre of the summit of the mound. The below-ground elements only of this are included. The area is marked in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a ruined but possibly undisturbed cairn, which could contain significant archaeological deposits. It has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide important information about prehistoric ritual and funerary activities.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 35 SE 3.

Site Number 66

Site Name Scord Junction, burnt mound 320m SSE of Utnabrake

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM6291;HU 44 SW 9
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440904 Northing 1140174

Description The monument comprises a burnt mound, a prehistoric cooking place of probable Bronze Age

date, which may conceal remains of contemporary settlement.

The mound is situated beside a stream which flows from Loch of Asta to the sea. It is a relatively large example, measuring approximately 17m across at the widest, and has an irregular oval plan. It rises to 2m high. Although the mound has clearly been dug into, perhaps for road metalling, its basal levels appear never to have been distrubed, and may contain evidence of structures associated with contemporary settlement.

Burnt mounds are the by-product of boiling by the immersion of heated stones in a trough of



water, and are usually interpreted as cooking places. The area to be scheduled is circular, 30m in diameter, centred on the mound, and includes the mound itself and an area around it in which traces of structures associated with its use and accumulation may survive, as marked in red on the accompanying plan.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a fine example of a burnt mound at the larger end of the size range for such monuments, and because it has the potential, through excavation and analysis, to provide important information about prehistoric domestic economy and diet. It may also conceal evidence relating to contemporary domestic architecture.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 44 SW 9.

Site Number 67

Site Name Stromfirth, homestead 700m SSW of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: field or field system; homestead; house

NRHE Number SM6817;HU 45 SW 2
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440334

Northing 1150234

Description The monument consists of the remains of a prehistoric house with an associated field system,

located beside the public road on the W side of Loch of Storm.

An oval house, externally about 11m by 9m has been quarried for more recent building, but sufficient survives to identify the upright internal dividing stones and the location of the entrance, which has been to the E. The modern road runs across the site just to the E of the entrance. A series of fragments of walling, with occasional field clearance cairns, lies all around the house, being particularly well-represented to the N and the W.

The area to be scheduled is a quadrilateral, bounded on the E by the roadside fence (which is excluded), measuring a maximum of 155m along the roadside (NNE-SSW) by 60m transversely, to include the house and the best of the fragmentary field system, and an area around in which traces of activity associated with the construction and use of the monument may survive.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a small prehistoric farming settlement, which has the potential, through survey and excavation, to provide information relating to prehistoric domestic and agricultural economy and social organisation.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 45 SW 2.

Site Number 68

Site Name Voe of Sound, prehistoric house 180m W of Point of Sandwall

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: homestead; house

NRHE Number SM8385; HU 43 NE 2
Status Scheduled Monument



Easting 445827 Northing 1139174

Description The monument consists of the remains of a substantial prehistoric house, located on a hillside

terrace overlooking the Voe of Sound.

The monument, which stands at about 35m OD, consists of a mound of large stones within which the remains of an oval structure some 7.5m by 6.5m can be discerned, with walls from 1.3m to 0.8m thick. The entrance appears to have been on the W side, flanked by two upright stones.

The form and general appearance of the monument are consistent with its identification as a prehistoric house, most probably of the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age (approximately 3000 - 1000 BC).

The area to be scheduled is circular, 30m in diameter, to include the house and an area around it in which related remains may survive, as indicated in red on the accompanying map extract.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as the well-preserved remains of a prehistoric house, which may contain original occupation deposits. It has potential to provide information about prehistoric domestic architecture and economy, and contemporary land use.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 43 NE 2.

Reference:

Calder, C. S. T. (1958) 'Stone Age house-sites in Shetland', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, Vol. 89, 377, No. 45.

Site Number 69

Site Name Teind barn, 120m N of Kebister

Type of Site Ecclesiastical: grange/farm - secular buildings associated, Industrial: farming, food production; s

NRHE Number SM11262; HU44NE 5.02 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445701 Northing 1145491

Description

The monument consists of the excavated remains of a substantial post-medieval structure identified as a probable teind barn dating from the early 16th century, and perhaps built for

Henry Phankouth, archdeacon of Shetland (1501-1529).

The interior and an area around the exterior of the monument was excavated in the 1980s as it was threatened by the construction of an adjacent oil rig supply base at Dales Voe. It was built overlying the remains of earlier medieval, rectangular stone structures, contained within an enclosure wall, probably a chapel and associated enclosure. It is situated within a complex and multi-period landscape, which was bounded by a dyke (the March dyke) to the N, S and E and by the sea to the W. The site is now dominated by the oil rig supply base to the NW.

The barn was a substantial building, erected on foundations up to 1.5m wide, and is aligned E-W with its long axis running parallel with the slope. It had maximum dimensions of 17m by 7.2m, with walls 1m thick, which today stand to a maximum of 1.5m high, and was partitioned into three units of unequal size. The thickness of the walls and the large amounts of rubble present when the building was excavated, suggest that it may have originally stood two storeys high. There was a single entrance through the W gable, immediately outside of which was



found an armorial panel that would originally have been situated above the doorway. The arms have not been identified, but the work is sophisticated, shows ecclesiastical influences, and is likely to date from the late 15th/early 16th century, suggesting that it was produced in an ecclesiastical context for an ecclesiastical patron such as Henry Phankouth. It bears the Latin inscription 'sine paulusper'.

A corn-drying kiln was later inserted into the central space of the building, probably during the mid-17th century, after a period of abandonment and ruination. This kiln was remodelled in the late 17th or early 18th century.

The area to be scheduled comprises the building and an area around it where associated archaeological features would be expected to survive. The area is rectangular in shape and has maximum dimensions of 22m E-W and 16m transversely.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as the remains of what has been identified as a pre-Reformation teind barn. Teind barns are an extremely rare type of building with only two other surviving examples identified in Scotland; Whitekirk (East Lothian) and Foulden (Berwickshire). In both cases the buildings have been significatly altered and Foulden is a post-Reformation example. In a Shetland context, a teind barn would therefore be a unique and significant structure which illuminates a little known aspect of Shetland's past; the ecclesiastical organisation of the Islands and the collection of the archdeaconry teinds and rents. It is the only probable teind barn found in the Northern Islands, and it is one of the very few high status late medieval/early modern structures to survive on the archipelago.

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Owen O and Smith B 1988, 'Kebister, Shetland: an armorial stone, and an archdeacon's teind barn', POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOL 22, 1988.

Smith B 1989, 'In the tracks of Bishop Andrew Pictoris of Orkney, and Henry Phankouth, Archdeacon of Shetland', INNES REV 40, 1989.

Site Number 70

Site Name The Knab, fixed torpedo platform 130m NE of Type of Site 20th Century Military and Related: Battery

NRHE Number SM10755; HU44SE 90 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 448101 Northing 1140524

Description

The monument comprises the remains of a World War II land-based fixed torpedo tube platform. It is situated on the E side of The Knab facing the island of Bressay, with commanding

views over the southern approaches to Lerwick Harbour.

The torpedo tube platform was established as an integral part of the Lerwick Harbour defences. The three torpedo tubes were fixed to provide a lateral spread of fire across Bressay Sound, in order to be effective against fast-moving targets such as E-boats.



The remains consist of a large concrete base built on to the rocks, with a raised wall section to the front where the torpedo tubes were mounted, as evidenced by three sets of bolts together with a corresponding depression in front of (SE of) the tube positions. On the NE side of the platform is an enclosed structure which probably served as the command post. Associated with the platform are four concrete pillars, probably supports for a re-supply pier, and a step and path access route to the landward side.

The area to be scheduled includes the concrete platform, the concrete pillars and the associated access route, and an area around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive. The area to be scheduled has maximum dimensions of 58m NNE-SSE and 48m E-W, as indicated in red on the accompanying map.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is an extremely rare and well-preserved example of an unusual coastal defence system from World War II. It is the only example of its type in Scotland. The torpedo platform was an integral part of the defences of Bressay Sound, an extremely important anchorage during World War II, and bolstered the existing defences of two 4.7-inch guns on The Knab.

References Bibliography RCAHMS records the monument as HU44SE 90

References:

Guy J 1995, A SURVEY OF THE 20TH CENTURY DEFENCES OF THE SHETLAND ISLANDS.

Site Number 71

Site Name Scalloway Castle

Type of Site Secular: castle

NRHE Number SM90273; HU43NW 1
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440440 Northing 1139230

Description

The monument is a post-medieval tower house. Commissioned by Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney and Lord of Shetland, the tower house was built between 1599-1607. It is rubble built with freestone dressings of yellow Eday (Orkney) sandstone and sits on a natural limestone coastal promontory, Blacks Ness, in the village of Scalloway, Shetland.

The tower house is L-shaped in plan with a main rectangular tower and a smaller square tower or 'jamb' in its southwest corner. The larger main tower is of four stories with a staircase in the jamb providing access to the upper floors. The vaulted ground floor had a kitchen, well and cellar above which is the great hall. The final two stories are no longer floored but would have contained the earl's private accommodation and additional rooms in an attic or 'garret' space in the main tower and jamb. Surrounding the tower house is an area of ground under which the remains of associated buildings of similar date are likely to survive.

The scheduled area is irregular. It includes the remains described above and an area around within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

### Statement of National Importance

The national importance of the monument is demonstrated in the following way(s) (see Designations Policy and Selection Guidance, Annex 1, para 17):

a. The monument is of national importance because it makes a significant contribution to our understanding and appreciation of the past as a post-medieval tower house, built between



1599 and 1607.

- b. The monument retains structural, architectural and decorative attributes which make a significant contribution to our understanding and appreciation of the past. The tower house survives to four stories, has an innovative scale-and-platt stair, two fireplaces in the great hall, quatrefoil and circular gun loops; and decorative armorial plaque above the main entrance.
- c. The monument is a rare example of a castle in Shetland; it is one of only three examples in the Shetland Islands.
- d. The monument is a particularly good example of a post-medieval tower house. It has the potential to tell us about the final stage of tower house development.
- e. The monument has research potential which could significantly contribute to our understanding or appreciation of the past. The surrounding area has been shown to contain archaeological features dating to the monuments construction and use during the first half of the 17th century. LiDar (Airborne Laser Scanning) imagery has also confirmed the immediate area surrounding the tower house is likely to contain buried structures and archaeological deposits.
- f. The monument makes a significant contribution to today's landscape and our understanding of the historic landscape. The tower house contributes significantly to the character of Scalloway village. In the 17th century the monument was the largest building in the area.
- g. The monument has significant associations with historical figures and events, in particular, Patrick Stewart Earl of Orkney and Lord of Shetland; the Bishop of Orkney, Bishop Law; the Cromwellian 'Commonwealth' and local witch trials.

Assessment of Cultural Significance

This statement of national importance has been informed by the following assessment of cultural significance:

Intrinsic characteristics (how the remains of a site or place contribute to our knowledge of the past)

The monument was constructed between 1599 and 1607 and is a well-preserved example of a post-medieval tower house. Tower houses were prolific on the Scottish mainland but are rare in the Shetland Islands. Scalloway Castle is one of only three castles ever constructed in Shetland, the other two are Castle Holm (scheduled monument SM2100; Canmore ID 679) and Muness Castle (scheduled monument SM90224; Canmore ID 120).

Tower houses are a type of castle which, in Scotland, range in date from the 14th century to the early 17th century. Earlier tower houses would often comprise a single tower surrounded by smaller buildings for kitchens, additional storage and accommodation. Scalloway Castle built these into the tower itself along with innovative features such as a scale-and-platt staircase and two fireplaces in the great hall. As such it is representative of the latter developmental stage of tower house architecture and technology in Scotland.

There is a heavily eroded armorial panel over the main door. It had a Latin inscription recorded in the 18th century, which read, 'Patrick Stewart Earl of Orkney and Shetland/James V King of Scots/That house whose foundation is on a rock will stand/but if on sand it shall fall/AD 1600.' Further decorative elements include chequer board style corbelled turrets complete with imitation gunloops. Evidence of the structure's defensive nature can be seen in the quatrefoil (shaped like a four-leafed clover) and circular gunloops under the windows and beside the main entrance. These are comparable to examples found at Muness Castle.

The field to the north of the castle, known as 'Castle Gardens' has been in use since at least the 17th century. Excavations conducted in 1979-80 ahead of the construction of a knitting factory (now Scalloway Museum) discovered features broadly dating to the 17th century. These included latrine pits and areas of levelling close to the castle's boundary wall. To the south of the castle, outwith the scheduled area, an early 17th century ditch was identified and may



represent defences relating to the castle pier. In 2019 a trial excavation ahead of a new external display area confirmed 17th century activity in the most northernly extent of the scheduled area along with the potential remains of a garden wall. During the Second World War this field would be the site of several Nissen huts, the concrete bases of which were still visible on aerial photography until at least 1975.

LiDar imagery shows that to the northeast of the main castle block there are three depressions orientated east-west for a distance of 25m. These may represent a rectangular range of ancillary buildings. Pits and middens are also likely to survive in this area, along with artefacts and environmental information. These remains can enhance our knowledge of the layout and phasing of the castle throughout the 17th century and beyond. The archaeological remains have the potential to provide information about the daily domestic life of the inhabitants as well as society, economy and trading contacts from the post-medieval period onwards. Evidence may also survive for earlier occupation of the promontory.

Contextual characteristics (how a site or place relates to its surroundings and/or to our existing knowledge of the past)

Scalloway Castle sits on a natural coastal promontory known as Blacks Ness, in the village of Scalloway, Shetland. The castle survives to wallhead and continues to contribute significantly to the character of the village, although later 20th and 21st century development of the harbour has significantly altered its immediate context. Scalloway Castle overlooks the Isle of Tronda to the south; Scalloway harbour to the west and, to the east, the East Voe of Scalloway. Being surrounded by water on three sides provided ample natural defences and the castle's location would have given an excellent view of anyone approaching by land or sea.

Prior to the construction of the castle, there is thought to have been a settlement at Scalloway, indicated by its original name of Skalarvargr or 'bay of huts' and was the traditional landing place for landowners making their way to the Ting (parliament) at Lawting Holm. These factors may have contributed to Patrick Stewart Earl of Orkney and Lord of Shetland's decision to site his new castle and residence there in 1599. Scalloway Castle was a judicial centre and had an associated place of execution - Gallow's Hill which is thought to have lain to the west of the village.

Scalloway Castle sits within a wider context of lordly residence construction in Orkney and Shetland in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. In 1591 Earl Patrick built 'The Laird's House' at Sumburgh (scheduled monument SM90174; Canmore ID 182999); the Earl's Palace at Kirkwall, Orkney between 1601 and 1607 (scheduled monument SM90194; Canmore ID 2496) and also finished the Earl's Palace at Birsay, Orkney (scheduled monument SM90033; Canmore ID 1836) - a project of his late father. In 1598 the Earl's half uncle, Lawrence Bruce, began construction of Muness Castle which shares many similarities with Scalloway.

Associative characteristics (how a site or place relates to people, events, and/or historic and social movements)

The monument has significant associations with important historical figures, events and social movements. Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney and Lord of Shetland, was the son of Robert Stewart the illegitimate son of King James V of Scotland. Earl Patrick earned the unofficial title of 'Black Patie' for his brutal nature and was accused of forcing local people to labour unpaid on the construction of Scalloway Castle. Tales of Earl Patrick and Scalloway Castle are still a prominent feature of island folklore. In 1609 he fled to the Scottish mainland where he was arrested and imprisoned in Dumbarton castle. In his absence Bishop Law stepped in to oversee courts at the castle from 1612. After a failed uprising in Orkney Earl Patrick and his son Robert were executed in 1615.

Scalloway continued life as a judicial centre with a guillotine, known as 'The Maiden' which was still in use in 1640, when records show that a new blade was ordered. In 1643 Orkney and Shetland, along with Scalloway Castle were granted to William Douglas, 7th Earl of Morton by Charles 1st. From 1653 Cromwellian 'Commonwealth' soldiers were based at Scalloway Castle following 'The Wars of the Three Kingdoms'. Scalloway Castle is also associated with Shetland's witch trials in the first half of the 17th century.

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Site Number 72

Site Name Clickimin Broch,broch and settlement

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM90077; HU 44 SE 2 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446437 Northing 1140816

Description

The monument consists of the broch of Clickimin. The broch of Clickimin, or Clickhimin, is a complex archaeological monument, with evidence dating from the Bronze Age (around 1000)

BC) through to the late Iron Age (around AD 500)

The main elements, in ascending date order, are a small house and outbuilding of late Bronze Age date, an early Iron Age ring-fort, a middle Iron Age blockhouse and broch (with later alterations), a later Iron Age wheelhouse-type dwelling and several lesser foundations representing late Iron Age dwellings. A causeway leads towards the site, which is situated on a small rock knoll beside a shallow loch.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, bounded to the S by the fence marking the limit of the area in state care and on the remainder of the perimeter by a line running approximately



20m out from the edge of the peninsula on which the monument stands, so that a portion of the bed of the loch is included.

Within this area evidence relating to the construction and use of the various elements of the monument is likely to survive. The area to be scheduled is marked in red on the accompanying map.

#### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as one of the most comprehensively excavated examples of a late prehistoric defensive settlement. Despite the extensive excavation and reconstruction, much remains unanswered, especially as regards the evolution of the physical setting and the fine details of construction sequence.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 44 SE 2.00.

Site Number 73

Site Name The Hevdas, fort, Gulberwick

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: fort (includes hill fort and promontory fort)

NRHE Number SM8427; HU 43 NE 9
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445003 Northing 1138465

Description The monument comprises the remains of a promontory fort, probably of later prehistoric date.

The monument occupies the point of a cliffed headland called The (or Da) Hevdas. Part of the remains appears to have been lost to marine erosion. A low mound of earth and stones is flanked by a bank and possible rock-cut ditch. Where this mound is cut by the top of the cliff it shows drystone walling and occupation deposits (including late prehistoric pottery) in section.

There is a small subsidiary mound immediately to the E. A few metres to the north, an earthern bank runs inland from the E cliff edge for about 10m and then swings to run NW for about 30m before merging with the hillside. The hillside to the immediate NE of the N end of the bank has been quarried. The result is a flat, lowered area to the NE of the bank, which may be a defensive ditch.

It is, however, possible that the flat area and the N part of the bank is a more recent product of quarrying, although the bank appears to be continuous with that flanking the prehistoric mound. Two low banks run from the larger bank across to the cliff on the W side, but are probably of more recent date.

The site is best interpreted as the remains of an Iron Age fort which has been modified by later stone quarrying.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, bounded by the clifftop to E, S and SW, and elsewhere by a line drawn parallel to, and 5m from, a fenceline. This includes all of the remains described, measures a maximum of 80m approximately N-S by a maximum of 45m E-W, and is marked in red on the accompanying map extract.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as the remains of a later prehistoric fort, with potential to provide information about Iron Age defensive architecture and domestic economy. It also has group importance as one of a chain of coastal fortifications, both brochs and promontory forts, along the E coast of South Mainland Shetland.



References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 43 NE 9.

Site Number 74

Site Name Benston, house 600m W of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: house

NRHE Number SM3600

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446012 Northing 1153857

**Description** No further information recorded

Site Number 75

Site Name Freester, otter-house on headland SSE of Dykend

Type of Site Secular: deer trap

NRHE Number SM8441; HU 45 SE 39

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 445428 Northing 1152982

Description The monument comprises a trap for wild otters, or otter-house, located on the tip of a low

coastal promontory.

Such traps were formerly widespread around Shetland's shores, and otter pelts were a valuable addition to local crofting incomes up until the earlier decades of the present (20th) century.

The otter-house consists of a small cairn of large stones with a hollow interior, accessed by a low, narrow doorway which was formerly furnished with a wooden door. The door closed by a counter-weighted mechanism when an otter, tempted by bait, entered the trap.

Only a few traces of the wooden elements survive, but the stone structure is in good repair, and is distinguished by the re-use of a rotary quern stone as part of its back wall - the hole in the centre allowing a clear sight into the trap.

The area to be scheduled consists only of the cairn and an area around it, a circle with an overall diameter of 2m. The area is centred on the position indicated with a red cross on the accompanying map extract.

### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as a very well preserved example of a small-specialised structure formerly widespread around northern coasts but now very scarce. It serves as a reminder of the wide range of ways in which natural resources helped to supplement the subsistence crofting lifestyle. (Despite the extensive trapping of otters before they received legal protection, Shetland remains the British stronghold of the species.)

References Bibliography



RCAHMS records the monument as HU 45 SE 39.

Site Number 76

Site Name Windhoek, burnt mound 150m E of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM3693; HU43NW 2
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440154

Northing 1138548

**Description** The monument comprises the remains of a burnt mound, visible as an elongated earthwork,

6m by 2.5m, and standing 0.7m high. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. It is located just above the high water mark on poorly drained grassland, approximately 25m south of the beach overlooking East Voe of Scalloway. The monument was first scheduled in 1975, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present

rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is circular on plan, measuring 20m in diameter and centred on the centre of the monument. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives as an upstanding, turf-covered earthwork in good overall condition. Its north end is crescent-shaped, which is characteristic of burnt mounds. Soil poaching in two places on the west side of the mound has exposed some of the underlying burnt and fire-cracked stones of which the mound is mainly composed.

Burnt mounds are typically formed from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The common crescent shape is formed as discarded material accumulates around a central area, which is normally where the water-heating activities took place. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay and such a feature was once visible on this site. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.

The monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

#### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement.



Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show the classic crescentic shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

The position of this example on low-lying ground and so close to the high water mark is all the more interesting as it contrasts with the higher, inland positions of most other burnt mounds. These monuments were part of a wider contemporary landscape of settlement and land-use.

### national Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds, and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of the monument and its proximity to other burnt mounds enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice, both in Shetland and in Scotland.

References Bibliography RCAHMS records the site as HU43NW 2.

#### References

Calder, C ST 1965, 'Cairns, Neolithic houses and burnt mounds in Shetland', Proc Soc Antiq Scot 96, 85.

RCAHMS 1946, Twelfth Report with an inventory of the ancient monuments of Orkney and Shetland, Edinburgh: HMSO.

Site Number 77

Site Name Castle Holm, castle 180m ESE of Churchtown

Type of Site Secular: castle

NRHE Number SM2100; HU34NE 1

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 439510 Northing 1147544

Description

The monument comprises the remains of a small and potentially very early stone castle sited on an islet in the Loch of Strom, together with the remains of the stone causeway that connect

on an islet in the Loch of Strom, together with the remains of the stone causeway that connect it to the shore. Researchers suggest the castle may date to as early as the 12th century. The main castle building is a rectangular tower measuring 6.5m E-W by 5.6m transversely, with walls between 1m and 1.4m thick. Most of the walls now stand less than 1m above ground level, but at the NW corner of the tower, the W wall stands about 2.5m tall. The walls are constructed of rubble blocks built with shell-lime mortar. The foundations of other buildings have been identified further east and other traces of masonry suggest that the island was once completely enclosed by a stone wall. The causeway is about 50m long and, although partially submerged, is visible as a narrow line of boulders. The island lies off the W shore of the Loch of



Stom, a tidal sea loch, close to its S end, and stands barely above sea level. The monument was first scheduled in 1953, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

Although the upstanding walls have been robbed and facing stones are missing from the base of the W wall, the ruin seems to have been stable for several decades. There is no evidence of disturbance to the castle site other than the removal of stones from the upstanding structure, which suggests that buried archaeological remains will survive in good condition. There may also be waterlogged deposits given the castle's island location, which could preserve rare organic remains. There is potential to examine in detail the construction and form of the castle, its development sequence and dating, and its relationship with the wider landscape. The likely presence of remains from different periods gives the possibility of exploring issues such as the duration of occupation, the extent to which occupation of the site was continuous and the nature of abandonment processes.

#### Contextual characteristics

Researchers have suggested that this castle resembles Cobbie Row's Castle, a structure on the island of Wyre in Orkney. Both castles have a small rectangular tower and documentary evidence suggests that the Orkney example was built in 1145. A former church lies on the loch shore 150m SW of Castle Holm, and there is potential to study the relationship between the two sites. A ruinous late 12th-century chapel lies adjacent to Cobbie Row's Castle, suggesting that strongholds of this date were often provided with a small private chapel. The structure on Castle Holm has considerable significance because only two other castles are known in the Shetland Islands, at Scalloway and Muness, and they date to a much later period, the turn of the 16th century. Moreover, Castle Holm has wider significance beyond the Northern Isles because, if contemporary with Cobbie Row's Castle, it would be one of the oldest two medieval castles of stone and lime to survive in Scotland. As well as comparing the structure with other early castles across Scotland, there is also potential for researchers to examine the castle in the context of the medieval settlement pattern in the vicinity.

#### Associative characteristics

There is no known documentary evidence to clarify when this castle was built. The site is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map and is labelled 'Castle (Ruins of)'.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular, the earliest medieval castles built in Scotland. There is high potential for well-preserved archaeology to survive that can make a significant contribution to our knowledge of the development of early castles. Its significance is enhanced by the capacity to compare it with Cobbie Row's Castle on Orkney and with other potentially contemporary sites in the vicinity. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the early stone and lime castles of Scotland.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU34NE 1. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN2508 (PrefRef 2391).



Site Number 78

Site Name

Loch of Asta, burnt mound 180m ESE of Peerie Asta

Type of Site

Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM2026; HU44SW 8
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 441194

Northing 1141097

Description The monument comprises the remains of a substantial burnt mound, visible as an almost

circular earthwork some 12m in diameter and standing 2m high. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. The monument lies on grazing land less than 5m from the west shore of the Loch of Asta, at around 10m above sea level. The monument was first scheduled in 1957, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present

rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 31.5m N-S by 25m W-E maximum across the centre of the mound, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives as an upstanding, turf-covered mound in good overall condition, despite some intrusion and disturbance by burrowing animals. The monument has a flat top with a small area of erosion on the east side where grass has subsequently re-grown.

Burnt mounds are made from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.

The monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show a classic crescentic shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but



the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

The proximity of this example to several other prehistoric monuments is very notable. The remains of an interesting 'two-storey' cist grave lie 200m to the south-west and a there is a fine standing stone 920m to the north. The monument was clearly part of a wider occupied landscape in which broadly contemporary ritual and funerary activities took place.

#### Associative characteristics

The monument is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map and is labelled 'tumulus'.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds, and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of the monument and its proximity to other prehistoric monuments enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice in Shetland.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU44SW 8. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN670 (PrefRef 894).

Site Number 79

Site Name Nesbister Hill, cairn 350m E of Wastower

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: enclosure (domestic or defensive, rather than ritual or fune

NRHE Number SM2041;HU44NW 2
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440241

Northing 1145429

Description

The monument is a round cairn of the Neolithic or Bronze Age, built probably between 4000 and 1000 BC. It is visible as a low mound of boulders, about 12m in diameter and standing up to 1m high. A cist formed of massive stone slabs lies at the centre of the cairn. It measures

and 1000 BC. It is visible as a low mound of boulders, about 12m in diameter and standing up to 1m high. A cist formed of massive stone slabs lies at the centre of the cairn. It measures 1.2m NNE-SSW by 0.8m transversely by 0.6m deep, the cover slab lying half inside. The cairn is of particular interest because two to three courses of its external vertical wall face are visible on the NW side. An enclosure formed of boulders and earth banks, up to 2m wide and 0.4m high, lies 11m northeast of the cairn. The enclosure is oval in plan and measures 19m ENE by 11m transversely. The cairn stands 130m above sea level on top of Nesbister Hill. It offers very extensive views in all directions, but especially down Whiteness Voe to the Burra group of islands, along the south coast of West Mainland and across to Foula. The monument was first scheduled in 1954, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 59m SW-NE by 31m transversely. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.



Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The excavation of similar mounds elsewhere in Scotland has demonstrated that round cairns were often used to cover and mark human burials and are late Neolithic or Bronze Age in origin, dating most commonly from the late third millennium BC to the early second millennium BC. The cist in the centre of this cairn has been opened in the past and it is not known what was found. However, much of the monument appears intact and is in good condition, suggesting that archaeological information is likely to survive beneath its surface. One or more additional burials may survive, particularly as archaeologists often find burials away from the centres of cairns. Burial cairns of this date may incorporate or overlie several graves or pits containing cist settings, skeletal remains in the form of cremations or inhumations, pottery and stone tools. These deposits can help us understand more about the practice and significance of burial and commemoration of the dead at specific times in prehistory. They may also help us to understand the changing structure of society in the area. In addition, the cairn is likely to overlie and seal a buried land surface that could provide evidence of the immediate environment before the monument was constructed. Botanical remains, including pollen or charred plant material, may survive within archaeological deposits deriving from the cairn's construction and use. This evidence can help us build up a picture of climate, vegetation and agriculture in the area before and during construction and use of the cairn. There is also potential to examine the construction and dating of the enclosure to the northeast and to study its relationship with the cairn.

#### Contextual characteristics

Cairns are well represented in the Shetland Islands, but researchers have singled out this example as the best preserved of Shetland's circular stone-built cairns. It has particular interest because of the preservation of part of its external wall face and because of its landscape position dominating a long stretch of the west coast of Mainland.

Across Scotland, cairns seem to be positioned in relation to their visibility, often specifically located to maximise their visual impact, and they are often inter-visible. The position and significance of this cairn in relation to other prehistoric monuments is likely to be significant and merits future detailed analysis. There is a standing stone 1.1km to the NNE on the S slope of Wormadale Hill and another 1.4km to the WSW, both in locations visible from the cairn. There is also a chambered cairn 1.4km to the WSW that is not visible from Nesbister Hill. Comparison of this cairn with other prehistoric sites in the area means that this monument has the potential to further our understanding of ritual and funerary site location and practice and to enhance understanding of the structure of early prehistoric society and economy.

### National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, the nature of burial practices, and their significance in prehistoric and later society. Buried evidence from cairns can also enhance our knowledge about wider prehistoric society, how people lived, where they came from and who they had contact with. This monument is particularly valuable because it lies in a landscape where there is a variety of prehistoric monuments, including standing stones and other cairns. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the placing of such monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance of death and burial in prehistoric life.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU44NW 2. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN957 (PrefRef 917).

References



Feachem, R W, 1963 A Guide to Prehistoric Scotland. London. 85

RCAHMS 1946 Twelfth Report with an Inventory of the Ancient Monuments of Orkney and Shetland.

Site Number 80

Site Name Loch of Tingwall, standing stone 130m E of Garth Lodge

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: standing stone

NRHE Number SM2040; HU44SW 13 Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 441238

Northing 1142028

**Description** The monument is a standing stone likely to date to the third or second millennium BC. It stands

2.05m high and is relatively straight-sided, with its major axis aligned approximately NNE-SSW. It stands by the side of a public road at around 20m above sea level on low-lying flat land 150m west of the S end of the Loch of Tingwall, near the narrow neck of land that separates the Loch of Tingwall from the Loch of Asta. The monument was first scheduled in 1954 but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is a part-circle on plan, with a radius of 5m, centred on the centre of the monument, but not extending west beyond the edge of the road. The scheduling includes the standing stone described above and an area around it within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of a post-and-wire fence to allow for its maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is a fine example of a standing stone and survives in excellent condition. A low mound about 0.5m high extends for 2m-3m around the standing stone and small stones protruding from the mound may be packing stones to help keep it in place. We know of no evidence that the stone has been moved and it is therefore likely to stand within its original socket, probably a shallow depression or pit. In addition to the visible packing stones, other archaeological material, including possibly burial deposits, may be present at the base of the stone. The stone may be surrounded by related features, including smaller stone settings, pits, burials and timber structures. It is clear that in some instances, single standing stones represent the only surviving component of a larger stone monument (such as a stone alignment). The potential presence of associated artefacts and important environmental information in a pit beneath the stone, or in surrounding pits, reinforces the potential of the monument.

Considerable effort would have been required to transport, position and erect the stone, demonstrating that it was a significant and worthwhile achievement to those who were responsible. Where it has been possible to date comparable monuments, they typically derive from the third or second millennium BC. The monument therefore has an inherent capacity to inform our understanding of this period, and may have the potential to further our knowledge of contemporary ceremonial and ritual landscapes.

Contextual characteristics



In Scotland as a whole, standing stones are very often located with reference to ritual or burial monuments, such as henges, stone circles, cairns and other types of burial, and there are grounds to believe that many played a part in ceremonial or ritual activity. In addition, the position of many standing stones appears to have been chosen to take advantage of routeways, views and inter-visibility with other monuments, and some are likely to be part of a network of landmarks. It has been argued that the position of standing stones and similar contemporary monuments often coincides with observation lines upon the rising or setting points of the sun or the moon on a distant horizon at key dates in the year (for example, winter solstice).

This monument has an interesting location close to the narrow neck of land separating two lochs that fill the valley floor. There is a concentration of other prehistoric monuments in the vicinity, including a burnt mound 800m to the south and a two-storey cist grave 1km to the south. Further study of the prehistoric monuments here may further our understanding of the nature of their inter-relationships and increase our knowledge of the way in which contemporary society may have used different parts of the landscape.

#### Associative characteristics

The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map depicts the standing stone. It is known locally as 'The Murder Stone'.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular the ritual and ceremonial landscape of Shetland in the third or second millennium BC. This standing stone is also important because it lies in a landscape that contains a relatively high density of other types of prehistoric monument. The loss of this monument would significantly impede our ability to understand the nature of earlier prehistoric ritual and ceremonial practice, both in Shetland and in Scotland.

### References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU44SW 13. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN671 (PrefRef 895).

### References

RCAHMS, 1946 Twelfth Report with an Inventory of the Ancient Monuments of Orkney and Shetland. Edinburgh. 121

Ritchie, A, 1997 Shetland. Exploring Scotland's Heritage Series. Edinburgh. 130.

Site Number 81

Site Name Wick, chapel and burial ground 60m ENE of

Type of Site Ecclesiastical: burial ground, cemetery, graveyard; chapel

NRHE Number SM3809; HU43NW 10
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 444136

Northing 1139195

Description The monument comprises the remains of a small chapel and associated burial ground,

probably from the early historic or medieval period (around AD 400-1500). The foundations of the chapel nave are visible as low turf-covered banks about 0.3m high, with occasional large stones protruding through the turf. They indicate that the nave measures about 6m E-W by 5m transversely. Slight earthworks beyond the E wall of the nave almost certainly indicate the



presence of a chancel. The graveyard lies to the E of the chapel and is defined on its N, E and W sides by widely spread turf-covered banks about 0.4m high. To the S is a 1m-wide ditch of uncertain date, with a turf-covered bank 0.5m high immediately to the S. The site lies on the E bank of the Burn of Wick, at about 30m above sea level. It occupies a terrace on land that slopes gently down to the coast, some 500m to the SSE. The monument was first scheduled in 1977, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduled area extends up to but excludes a post-and-wire fence at the S end of its W boundary. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of a post-and-wire fence near the N end of its W boundary to allow for its maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

There is no evidence of disturbance to the chapel site, which suggests that buried archaeological remains are likely to survive in good condition. There is potential to examine in detail the construction and form of the chapel, its date of foundation and development sequence, and its chronological relationship with use of the burial ground. It is probable that large numbers of burials remain in situ, with high potential to enhance our knowledge of status and burial practice, and to reveal evidence for health, diet, illness, cause of death, and perhaps the types of activities people undertook during life. The likely presence of remains from different periods gives the possibility of exploring issues such as the duration of occupation, the extent to which occupation of the site was continuous and the nature of abandonment processes.

### Contextual characteristics

Researchers have suggested that this is one of four historic chapel sites that survive in the district of Gulberwick, and that this church may have been a head church in the middle ages. There is potential to compare this chapel with the sites of others at Brindister, Trebister and Upper Sound. Small chapels in Shetland may sometimes date back to the early historic period and there is potential to compare the buried remains of this chapel with known early historic chapels at St Ninian's Isle and at Nesti Voe on the Isle of Noss. The remains of this chapel and burial ground can add to our understanding of the organisation and spread of Christianity in the Shetland Islands. There is potential to examine the burials and to study the findings in the context of the medieval settlement pattern in the vicinity.

#### Associative characteristics

Early ecclesiastical sites such as this are vital to any understanding of how the Christian faith developed and was organised in Shetland. The site is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map and is labelled 'Chapel & Burial Ground (site of)'.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of early church sites in the British Isles. There is high potential for well-preserved archaeology that can make a significant contribution to our knowledge of medieval church architecture and burial. Its significance is enhanced by the capacity to compare it with other early church sites in the vicinity. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand early chapels and the role they had in the organisation of Christianity.

References Bibliography



RCAHMS records the site as HU43NW 10. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN928 (PrefRef 875).

Site Number 82

Site Name Broch of Burland, broch 1135m SE of Hillcrest

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch

NRHE Number SM2053; HU43NW 5
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 444570 Northing 1136075

**Description** The monument comprises a broch of Iron Age date, built probably between 500 BC and AD

200, and the remains of three large ramparts and ditches on its landward side. The broch is visible as a very large turf-covered mound on the NE side, but elsewhere the external stone wall stands exposed to a height of around 3m. The ramparts and ditches are mostly visible as earthworks, though stone facing is exposed in places. The monument lies about 30m above sea level, in a spectacular location on a narrow peninsula surrounded by cliffs. The monument was first scheduled in 1934 but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present

rescheduling rectifies this.

The broch has an overall diameter of 19.5m and survives to a maximum height of 3.5m. A tumble of stone debris occupies and obscures the interior, but it is clear that the wall is about 4.5m thick. Galleries are visible within the wall thickness high up on the E and W sides, and there is an entrance passage to the west, opening on to a narrow path passing immediately above the cliffs. About 3m into the passage, there is a door check on either side. Beyond, a narrow side passage leads south to a chamber. The entrance passage continues through two lines of later walling which abut the inner face of the broch wall. These are parts of secondary modification of the broch interior, now largely obscured by rubble, that reduced the central area to less than 5m in diameter. North of the broch, the three ramparts and ditches span almost the full 45m width of the promontory and, together, are 40m across from north to south. The outer ditch is 6.5m wide and to the south is a probable stone wall, 5.5m wide, with an opening at the centre 2.4m wide. To the south are two further pairings of ditch and wall, also both with a central gap. These defences enclose the seaward end of the promontory, an area measuring about 80m N-S by 50m transversely in total, with the broch sited in its NW corner.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 148m NNW-SSE by 67m transversely, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduled area extends to the mean high water mark to the east, south and west.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

Although the broch has partially collapsed on the NE side, the surviving structure is in good condition and shows little sign of recent deterioration. It is very probable that substantial buried remains of the broch's lower courses, including walls and galleries, are preserved beneath the tumble overlying the structure. It is clear that the broch itself is the product of several phases of development. This is demonstrated by the stone structure in the broch interior, a secondary feature that itself shows two episodes of building. Researchers have commented on the excellent preservation of the entrance passage that was extended to pass through the secondary structures, making it unique in Shetland. The earthwork features nearby



suggest further complexity, and there is potential that these defences were used before or after the primary occupation of the broch tower. Excavation in 1983 demonstrated that the buried archaeological deposits can enhance our understanding of the external defences. The small-scale excavation suggested that the outer two ramparts are constructed of dumped earth and rubble, with stone revetting. Further investigation of the buried remains may allow future researchers to date the construction of the broch and compare this with the dates of the rampart defences. In addition, the buried remains have considerable potential to enhance understanding of the use and function of brochs and the daily lives of the people who occupied them. There is very high potential for the recovery artefacts and ecofacts that may illuminate the diet, economy and social status of the occupants, and the extent to which this varied over time.

#### Contextual characteristics

This broch is one of around 130 known in Shetland. It has the potential to enhance our understanding of the relationship between brochs, the extent to which they were contemporary, and their relationship with the wider landscape. Brochs have been viewed as having a defensive or offensive function, or simply as being the prestige dwellings of an elite keen to display its status. The buried remains at Burland have high potential to help us address these questions and provide insight into the nature and use of these structures and the landscape immediately around them. There is also potential to compare the outer defences here to those of other brochs, such as at Aithsetter 6km to the south. Some researchers have suggested that the wall-face at the W end of the inner rampart invites comparison with block houses, such as that at Ness of Burgi.

#### Associative characteristics

The broch is depicted and labelled 'Brough of Burland' on the Ordnance Survey first edition map.

### National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of Iron Age Shetland and the role and function of brochs. The monument offers considerable potential to study the relationship between the broch and three ramparts, and the broch itself shows a development sequence, the entrance passage extending through two phases of secondary internal structure in a manner unique in Shetland. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the development and reuse of brochs in Shetland.

### References

Bibliography

RCAHMS record the site as HU43NW 5. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR records the site as MSN664 (PrefRef 888).

#### References

Lamb, R G, 1980 Iron Age promontory forts in the Northern Isles, Brit Archaeol Rep, BAR British, vol.79. Oxford. 81

Mackie, E W 2002, The roundhouses, brochs and wheelhouses of Atlantic Scotland c.700BC-AD500: architecture and material culture, Part 1: The Orkney and Shetland Isles. BAR British Series 342: Oxford.

RCAHMS, 1946 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Twelfth report with an inventory of the ancient monuments of Orkney and Shetland, 3v Edinburgh. 70-2.



Site Name Wormadale Hill, standing stone 335m ENE of Kerith

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: standing stone

NRHE Number SM2048

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 440533 Northing 1146503

Description The monument comprises a standing stone likely to date to the third or second millennium BC.

The stone stands approximately 2.4m high and is 0.6m in width (maximum) at its base. The granite monolith leans to the southwest and is approximately triangular on plan, tapering towards its top and with several quartz inclusions. Variously sized packing stones are visible around its base, indicating that evidence may survive for its date and method of erection. The standing stone is located on rough grazing land on the southern shoulder of Wormadale Hill, overlooking Whiteness Voe to the southwest, and at around 140m above sea level. The monument was first scheduled in 1960 but the documentation does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

standards; the present rescheduling rectines this.

The area to be scheduled is circular on plan, measuring 15m in diameter centred on the stone. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives in good condition despite a gentle lean to the southwest. Several packing stones are visible at its base, helping to keep it in an upright position and indicating that the monolith was placed in a pit when first erected. This relatively undisturbed context suggests that archaeological deposits are likely to survive in buried horizons around and underneath its base. The lack of surviving monoliths in the immediate location suggests this was an isolated standing stone and not necessarily part of a larger monument. It may, however, have been incorporated into a wider landscape of contemporary sites.

### Contextual characteristics

Standing stones are widespread in Scotland, which indicates the presence of prehistoric people across much of the country, stretching from the south and southwest to the Northern Isles. Individually, standing stones are often part of a much larger, wider system of monuments (such as henges, stone circles and cairns) and these often take advantage of natural routeways and vantage points. In this case, the views from the stone across its southern arc and over Whiteness Voe to the southwest are striking. Researchers have charted the alignment of standing stones with celestial bodies and events; a lunar alignment has been suggested at Wormadale. Researchers believe that standing stones such as this formed part of important ceremonial or religious events, for instance, the marking of changes in season or times in the agricultural year.

Like other, significant examples the effort required to transport and erect this monolith would have been substantial. This perhaps indicates something of the importance of the locale and of the stone itself, and its capacity to inform our understanding of the period. It may have the potential to further our knowledge of contemporary ceremonial and ritual landscapes.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular the ritual and ceremonial landscape of Shetland in the third or second millennium BC. Its loss would significantly impede our ability to understand the nature of earlier prehistoric ritual and ceremonial practice, as well



as the wider beliefs of the prehistoric people that used these sites, both in Shetland and Scotland.

References Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU44NW 6.

References

RCAHMS, 1946 Twelfth Report with an Inventory of the Ancient Monuments of Orkney and Shetland. Edinburgh.

Thom. A and Thom. A S., 1978 Megalithic remains in Britain and Brittany. Oxford.

Site Number 84

Site Name Lingness, prehistoric houses 740m NE of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: house

NRHE Number SM3660

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 448967 Northing 1154513

Description The monument comprises the remains of three oval prehistoric houses in close proximity to

each other, varying from 8m to 13m in diameter. The remains are believed to be late Neolithic or Bronze Age in date, probably from around 3000 to 1000 BC. The monument is located at less than 10m above sea level on a narrow isthmus of land joining the promontory of Lingness to the mainland. The monument was originally scheduled in 1975 but the scheduled area was inadequate and the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present

rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, measuring 93m SW-NE by 79m NW-SE (maximum), to include the remains described above and an area of land around them on the isthmus within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The top 0.3m of the farm track that traverses the site is specifically excluded from the scheduling to allow for its maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is situated within rough grazing land and is in stable condition. The houses survive to varying degrees and appear to have been heavily robbed of stone, most likely to construct a nearby field wall across the isthmus. The northernmost house is the best preserved and has been cut into sloping ground close to the shoreline. Although substantially robbed of stone on the S and E sides, there is clear evidence of an entrance on the S side. Internally there appears to be a stone-built alcove or chamber and there are intermittent traces of the wall face inside the structure, which is 9m in diameter. The largest oval house, up to 13m in diameter, is located on a terrace above and E of the other two houses. It is defined by a grass-covered wall bank with some stones visible; the bank is best preserved on the E side and a possible entrance exists at the N end. The least well preserved of the houses lies between the other two and is approximately 8m in length, but its full outline cannot be discerned.

Despite the extent of stone removal in antiquity, there is no evidence of excavation of buried



remains and there is potential for the survival of significant buried archaeological remains both within and around the houses. The site is likely to contain important structural evidence for the buildings and the chronological relationship between them, as well as artefacts, ecofacts and other environmental evidence, which could help to further our understanding of prehistoric domestic life and agricultural activity.

Examination of building foundations can provide detailed information about the form and construction of prehistoric houses in Shetland, and buried features in the interior can contribute to our understanding of how houses were used and organised, and how this might change over time. Buried artefacts, ecofacts and soils can contribute to our understanding of how people lived and worked, and provide an insight into trade and exchange and the nature of the agricultural economy. Archaeological investigation at similar sites has yielded high quality artefactual and ecofactual material, which can help us to build up a much fuller picture of prehistoric domestic life. There is also the potential to compare the buildings with a field boundary that appears to cross the isthmus N of the settlement and may be contemporary, in order to determine the relationship between the features and to ascertain how the inhabitants managed the landscape in the immediate vicinity of the houses.

#### Contextual characteristics

The survival of a group of prehistoric oval houses, at least one of which is cut into the slope like a hut platform, is relatively rare in Shetland. When considered alongside other prehistoric houses, these sites are important in helping us to characterise early settlement and the development of agriculture in the third to second millennium BC in Shetland. Such sites form a significant part of a relatively rare and geographically restricted group, which gives us a more balanced view of prehistoric life, when compared with the more common and widespread burial and ceremonial monuments of the later Neolithic elsewhere in Scotland.

The monument's situation within the landscape, on an easily defended isthmus with excellent seaward views in all directions, is particularly notable. There are a number of other prehistoric monuments in the surrounding area. In the immediate vicinity a student reported a possible midden adjacent to the best preserved house, while apparently different phases of boundary dykes display evidence of a long history of landuse on the isthmus. Other prehistoric monuments occur nearby, including a burnt mound approximately 850m to the SE. The houses at Lingness are an important element of a much wider relict landscape that testifies to early human efforts to exploit land and natural resources, in particular for agricultural production, over several millennia. Comparison of this site with the other prehistoric domestic remains in the area would help us to develop a much better understanding of prehistoric domestic life and landuse.

### Associative characteristics

The site was recorded by the eminent archaeologist C. S. T. Calder during his surveys in Shetland during the 1950s. Local tradition records a boat-shaped setting of stones at the site, which has been suggested as a Viking boat burial, but it seems likely that this interpretation relates to the least well-preserved of the three houses described above.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular, the nature of prehistoric settlement, agriculture and landuse in Shetland. It has the potential to improve our understanding of the distribution of settlement, the structural techniques used to build houses and changes in settlement over time. There is also excellent potential to study how the site fitted into a landscape that is rich in prehistoric remains. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of prehistoric domestic architecture and settlement, both in Shetland and Scotland.

References Bibliography References

Calder, CST, 1958 'Stone Age house-sites in Shetland', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, 89, 369.



Site Number 85

Site Name Houlland, prehistoric house 320m E of

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: enclosure (domestic or defensive, rather than ritual or fune

NRHE Number SM3588

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446376

Northing 1154424

Description The monument comprises the remains of a prehistoric house within an enclosure and

associated field remains. These survive as low stone and turf-covered banks. The monument probably dates from the later Neolithic period (approximately 3000'1500 BC). It is located on improved grassland in a low-lying hollow at around 30m above sea level. The monument was originally scheduled in 1974 but the scheduling does not meet modern standards: the present

rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives in good condition overall. The footprint of a circular house, around 12m in diameter, is clearly visible within a sub-circular enclosure. The house is positioned approximately in the centre of the enclosure and is defined mainly by a circle of stones and a slight mound of stony debris. The enclosure is defined by a low, stony and partly turf-covered wall. It appears to have been laid out with respect to the local topography, in that it is placed on the perimeter of a slight natural hollow. Other adjacent linear stone features may be the remains of contemporary or later field walls.

Geophysical survey in the immediate area has indicated that further buried archaeological remains are likely to survive. There is potential for the buried elements of this site to contain important archaeological deposits, including artefacts, ecofacts and other environmental evidence, which could help to further our understanding of prehistoric domestic life and agricultural activity. Examination of building foundations can provide detailed information about the form and construction of prehistoric houses in Shetland, and buried features in the interior can contribute to our understanding of how houses were used and organised, and how this might change over time. Buried artefacts, ecofacts and soils can contribute to our understanding of how people lived and worked, and provide insights into trade and exchange and the nature of the agricultural economy. Archaeological investigation at similar sites has yielded high quality artefacts and environmental evidence, which can help us to reconstruct a fuller picture of prehistoric domestic life. In this case, there is also the potential to compare the date and construction of the house with the enclosure and field walls to determine the relationship between these features, and to ascertain how the inhabitants managed the landscape in the immediate vicinity of the homestead.

### Contextual characteristics

The monument is a reasonably well-preserved example of an enclosed homestead. It shares characteristics with a number of broadly similar prehistoric houses in Shetland that also have adjoining evidence of enclosures and field systems. As such, this example characterises one type of early settlement and the development of agriculture in the third to second millennium BC in Shetland. It is part of a relatively rare and geographically restricted group, which gives us



a more balanced view of prehistoric life, when compared with the more common and widespread burial and ceremonial monuments of the later Neolithic elsewhere in Scotland.

Traces of ploughing were recorded as part of a limited archaeological investigation of the site and its soils. Researchers have suggested that the evidence points to differing land-use regimes taking place on different parcels of land from an early date. The monument's situation within the landscape of South Nesting enhances its importance. Other homesteads are located some 800m to the northwest and 650m to the southwest. There are also burnt mounds some 700m to the northwest and 450m to the northeast. Later prehistoric features in the area include Burrian broch, only 550m to the southeast. This monument is clearly therefore an important element of a much wider relict landscape which testifies to early human efforts to exploit land and natural resources, in particular for agricultural production, over several millennia. Comparison of this site with the other prehistoric remains in the area could help us to develop a much better understanding of prehistoric domestic life and land-use.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to understanding of the past, in particular, the nature of prehistoric settlement, agriculture and land-use in Shetland. It has the potential to improve our understanding of the distribution of settlement, the structural techniques used to build houses and changes in settlement and agriculture over time. There is also excellent potential to study how the site fitted into a landscape that is rich in prehistoric remains. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of prehistoric settlement and agriculture both in Shetland and Scotland.

References Bibliography References

Calder, C S T, 1965, 'Cairns, Neolithic houses and burnt mounds in Shetland', in Proc Soc Antiq Scot, 96, 75-6

Dockrill, S J, 1991, 'South Nesting (Nesting parish): archaeological landscape, burnt mound', in Discovery Excav Scot, 75

Dockrill, S J (et al), 1991, 'The South Nesting palaeolandscape project, Shetland Islands', Univ Bradford Archaeol Sci Ann Rep, 5th annual report, 20

Site Number 86

Site Name Tingwall Parish Church, burial aisle 20m SSE of

Type of Site Crosses and carved stones: inscribed stone; tombstone, Ecclesiastical: burial avile/vault

NRHE Number SM10810

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 441919

Northing 1143728

The monument comprises the remains of the 17th-century burial aisle of the Mitchells of Westshore, which contains several significant grave markers. The monument is a turf-covered barrel-vaulted structure, measuring approximately 7m by 6m. It stands in the graveyard of the present 19th-century church of St Magnus (Tingwall Parish Church) at around 20m above sea level, and occupies a prominent position within the landscape at the N end of the Loch of Tingwall. The monument was first scheduled in 2003, but the documentation does not meet

modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is rectangular and includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and



abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. All active burial layers are specifically excluded from the scheduled area.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is a well preserved example of a post-medieval burial aisle incorporating architectural elements from an earlier church. Its entrance archway is decorated with a roll moulding, which is thought to have been relocated from the medieval church of St Magnus. This earlier church has not yet been located but is likely to have been situated to the north of the burial aisle. The aisle contains several finely carved tombstones of the 17th and 18th centuries, which have been moved into the aisle from the kirkyard sometime during the 20th century. One, now very fractured, commemorates Andrew Crawford, Master of Works to the Earl of Orkney and Shetland. The monument has the potential to tell us much about ecclesiastical history and architecture, and burial and commemorative practices, as well as stonemasonry skills.

#### Contextual characteristics

The burial aisle reflects the significance and status of the Mitchell family, who were notable Zetland merchants in the late 17th century. Their connection with Scalloway Castle, the seat of the Earl of Orkney and Shetland, is indicated by the presence of Andrew Crawford's grave slab. This grave slab is particularly interesting because of Crawford's involvement with several significant building works, notably the Earl's Palace in Kirkwall, Orkney, and probably the castles at Scalloway and Muness in Shetland. The remaining grave markers are carved with a range of heraldic symbols and death emblems.

### Associative characteristics

This monument has direct links with several notable historical figures, including Andrew Crawford, a Master of Works to the Earl of Orkney and Shetland, responsible for the construction of several significant buildings in the Northern Isles in the 17th century; and the Mitchell family, who were a high-status 17th-century family of merchants.

### **National Importance**

The monument is of national importance as an example of a post-medieval burial aisle incorporating elements of an earlier church and likely to have formed part of the larger footprint of the medieval church of St Magnus. It is also of national importance because it contains several ornately-carved 17th-century grave markers belonging to notable historical personages and is representative of the commemorative practices of the time.

References Bibliography References

Finnie, M, 1990, Shetland: an illustrated architectural guide, Edinburgh. 36.

RCAHMS, 1946, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Twelfth report with an inventory of the ancient monuments of Orkney and Shetland, 3v Edinburgh. 44.

Ritchie, A, 1997, Exploring Scotland's Heritage: Shetland, Exploring Scotland's Heritage series, Edinburgh. 25.



Site Name

Ness of Sound, coastal battery 470m SE of

Type of Site

20th Century Military and Related: Battery

NRHE Number SM13030

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 447111 Northing 1139066

Description The monument comprises the remains of a Second World War coastal defence battery, built in

1940. The two gun emplacements, battery observation post, two (of originally three) searchlight emplacements and the engine room survive as upstanding concrete buildings. Other ancillary structures survive either as upstanding buildings or are represented as concrete foundations. The battery is located 2.3 km SSW of Lerwick, overlooking the southern approach to the Bressay Sound, and lies about 10m above sea level on gently sloping ground above low

cliffs.

The two gun emplacements are substantial concrete structures, of similar scale but different design. One gun emplacement (Emplacement 1) measures about 11m square and faces southeast, while Emplacement 2 is around 10m by 12m and faces just south of east. Both splay outwards towards the front and are partly sunken into the gentle slope. The battery observation post is a structure of similar size, positioned 6m west of the first emplacement. The magazine, a double-roomed subterranean structure, is located 12m to the northwest of Emplacement 1. These principal structures are connected by a network of corridors made of cast concrete and covered with corrugated iron. Other parts of the battery are located away from this cluster of buildings and include: the engine house (about 50m to the west); the reserve searchlight emplacement (90m to the SSW); Searchlight Emplacement 1 (45m to the SE, but now collapsed); Searchlight Emplacement 2 (75m to the NNE); and a reserve engine house (120m to the NW). In addition, there are the remains of other support structures, including an auxiliary building or guardhouse, 95m to the west, and the concrete footings of the accommodation camp buildings, which extend to about 70m north of the gun emplacements.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan and includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. Towards the north end of the west boundary, the scheduled area extends up to but excludes the remains of a stone wall, while further south along the same boundary, it extends up to but excludes a post-and-wire fence. The scheduling specifically excludes the post-and-wire fences that cross the scheduled area to allow for their maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The main structures are built of concrete and survive in fair to good condition. The upstanding parts of the support buildings, originally of wood and metal, have been removed, but the structures are represented at foundation level by concrete bases with diagnostic features, such as the waste pipes in the ablution block. Although the main functional buildings are fortifications, they were probably completed at short notice in adverse conditions and using local materials. Both the gun and searchlight emplacements show a range of different designs that appear to reflect a development sequence as the construction progressed. Many interesting details survive, including: the main armament holdfasts; steps and fireplaces in the gun emplacements; and the concrete stand for the position finder in the battery observation post. Interesting outlying features include a small concrete-lined pit beyond the SW searchlight emplacement, which has been identified as the section observation post. The main functional structures are easy to understand and appreciate and give a vivid impression of how Lerwick was defended during the Second World War. The survival of the foundations of the accommodation camp means that the complete range of structures that formed and supported the battery is represented on this site.



#### Contextual characteristics

This well-preserved battery is an example of the coastal defences that were used during World War Two around the coast of the United Kingdom to defend strategic military assets or protect certain land areas. Relatively few comparable examples survive today in such good condition. The battery defended the approach to the southern end of the Bressay Sound and was an important part in the defence of Lerwick, and specifically, Lerwick harbour. It represents an important, visible and easily understood component of the military infrastructure developed around Lerwick, and is an iconic reminder of the war effort in Shetland. It conveys something of the strategy, equipment and capability of the British forces and the efforts to combat potential invasion of the United Kingdom by German forces. The battery represents part of the response to this perceived threat of imminent invasion in 1940 by the so-called 'back door' to the British Isles.

### Associative characteristics

The Shetland SMR holds a schematic plan titled 'Ness of Sound, layout of battery, secret'.

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular the mechanism and strategy for defending strategic assets in the United Kingdom during the Second World War. It survives in fair to good condition with the majority of its functional structures intact. Differences in the gun and searchlight emplacements display the evolution of designs as the battery was being built. It is a lasting component of a wider contemporary landscape, specifically the defences that ringed Lerwick and served to protect Shetland and the northern fringes of the British Isles in 1940.

References Bibliography References

Friel, R, 2002 Condition report, coastal defence battery, Ness of Sound

Ness of Sound, layout of battery, secret. Plan held by Shetland SMR

Site Number 88

Site Name Vassa Voe, house & enclosure 320m SSW of Seaview

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: enclosure (domestic or defensive, rather than ritual or fune

NRHE Number SM3597

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446206 Northing 1152747

**Description** Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is in reasonably good condition overall. The house is oval in shape, defined by a single kerb of substantial stones, and the interior is slightly hollowed. The house wall is best preserved on the north and east sides, and is almost 2m wide in places. An entrance is visible on the SSW side. The house is surrounded by an incomplete, low, stony and mostly turf-covered enclosure wall. There is some evidence of shallow peat cutting having taken place within the enclosure more recently, but these are now inactive and turfed over. The monument is situated on the top of a slope between two scarps of rocky outcrop, overlooking



Vassa Voe to the west. The site is likely to contain important buried deposits, including artefacts, ecofacts and other environmental evidence, which could help to further our understanding prehistoric domestic life and agricultural activity.

Examination of the building foundations can provide detailed information about the form and construction of prehistoric houses in Shetland, and buried features in the interior can contribute to our understanding of how houses were used and organised, and how this might change over time. Buried artefacts, ecofacts and soils can contribute to our understanding of how people lived and worked, and provide insights into trade and exchange and the nature of the agricultural economy. Archaeological investigation at similar sites has yielded high quality artefactual and ecofactual material, which can help us to build up a much fuller picture of prehistoric domestic life. There is also the potential to compare the date and structure of the building with the enclosing bank to determine the relationship between these features, and to ascertain how the inhabitants managed the landscape in the immediate vicinity. There is particular potential to determine how the field system developed and whether the soils were improved.

### Contextual characteristics

This is a relatively well-preserved example of a number of broadly similar prehistoric houses with enclosures in Nesting and east Shetland that characterise early settlement and the development of agriculture in the third to second millennium BC in Shetland. It is part of a relatively rare and geographically restricted group, which gives us a more balanced view of prehistoric life, when compared with the more common and widespread burial and ceremonial monuments of the later Neolithic elsewhere in Scotland.

The monument's situation within the landscape further enhances its importance. It is in an exposed location close to the seashore but with good views across Vassa Voe and Catfirth. There are a number of other prehistoric monuments in the surrounding area overlooking Catfirth. Features of broadly contemporary date include another oval-shaped prehistoric house, 1km to the south, and a cairn at Hard Knowe. Later brochs, 750m to the southwest and 1km to the NNE at Loch of Benston, occupy strategically important locations overlooking the main water systems. This monument is clearly an important element of a much wider relict landscape and it testifies to early human efforts to exploit land and natural resources, in particular for agricultural production, over millennia. Comparison of this site with the other prehistoric domestic remains in the area would help us to develop a much better understanding of prehistoric domestic life and landuse.

### **National Importance**

The monument comprises the remains of a prehistoric house and associated field enclosure. The prehistoric house is oval in shape and measures approximately 11m by 8m. The low intermittently visible remains of a wall run around the house, forming a large, approximately oval enclosure, measuring a maximum of 65m SW-NE by 60m transversely. The monument is believed to be late Neolithic or Bronze Age in date, probably from around 3000 to 1000 BC. It is located on sloping ground around 15m above sea level on the west shore of Vassa Voe, an arm of Catfirth. The monument was originally scheduled in 1975 but the scheduling documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

### Statement of National Importance

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular, the nature of prehistoric settlement, agriculture and landuse in Shetland. It has the potential to improve our understanding of the distribution of settlement, the structural techniques used to build houses and changes in settlement over time. There is also excellent potential to study how the site fitted into a landscape that is rich in prehistoric remains. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of prehistoric domestic architecture and settlement both in Shetland and Scotland.



References Bibliography References

Calder, CST, 1958 'Stone Age house-sites in Shetland', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, 89, 369.

Site Number 89

Site Name Skellister, standing stone 320m WNW of Burns

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: standing stone

NRHE Number SM2035

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446317 Northing 1155214

Description The monument comprises a standing stone likely to date to the third or second millennium BC.

It is approximately 2.7m high and, at its maximum, 1.07m wide. The granite monolith is irregularly-shaped, tapers towards its top and has several quartz veins running through it. Variously sized packing stones are partly visible around its base, indicating that evidence may survive for its date and method of erection. The standing stone is located in a prominent position with extensive views to north, south and east. It stands on the SE shoulder of Hill of Skellister on rough grazing and among rocky outcrops, at approximately 40m above sea level, overlooking South Nesting Bay to the east. The monument was first scheduled in 1958 but the documentation does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is circular on plan, measuring 15m in diameter. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

### Intrinsic characteristics

The standing stone survives in good condition overall. Several packing stones are visible at its base, helping to keep it in an upright position and indicating that the monolith was placed in a pit when first erected. This relatively undisturbed context suggests that archaeological deposits are likely to survive in buried horizons around and at its base. The lack of surviving monoliths in the immediate location suggests this was an isolated standing stone and not necessarily part of a larger monument. It may, however, have been incorporated into a wider landscape of contemporary sites.

### Contextual characteristics

Standing stones are widespread in Scotland, which indicates that prehistoric people occupied much of the country, stretching from the south and southwest to the Northern Isles. Individually, they are often part of a much larger, wider system of monuments (such as henges, stone circles and cairns) and these often take advantage of natural routeways and vantage points. In this case, eastward views from the stone are impressive and its position, like so many other examples, is below the locally high ground (in this case to the northwest at Hill of Skellister) and away from summits. It appears to command more views eastwards and this suggests the importance of its position. Researchers have charted the alignment of standing stones with celestial bodies and events. They believe that standing stones such as this formed part of important ceremonial or religious events, for instance, the marking of changes in season or times in the agricultural year. Like other significant examples, the effort required to



transport and erect this monolith would have been substantial. The presence of local outcrops with a similar geological structure, however, suggests that the quarry for the monolith may have been close by. Whether erected from local material or brought in from afar, its presence and position indicates something of the importance of the locale and its capacity to inform our understanding of the period. It may have the potential to further our knowledge of contemporary ceremonial and ritual landscapes.

#### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular the ritual and ceremonial landscape of Shetland in the third or second millennium BC. Its loss would significantly impede our ability to understand the nature of earlier prehistoric ritual and ceremonial practice, as well as the wider beliefs of the prehistoric people that used these sites, both in Shetland and in Scotland.

References Bibliography References

RCAHMS, 1946 Twelfth Report with an Inventory of the Ancient Monuments of Orkney and Shetland. Edinburgh.

Site Number 90

Site Name Turness, burnt mound 180m NE of Babsies

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM3661; HU45NE 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 446978

Northing 1154998

**Description** The monument comprises the remains of a substantial burnt mound, visible as an upstanding

crescent-shaped earthwork measuring about 13m SW-NE by 7m transversely and standing up to 1.5m high. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. The monument lies at around 15m above sea level on a low ridge that separates the West Voe of Skellister (190m to the N) and the East Voe of Skellister (150m to the SE). The monument is situated about 140m from the sea and its position gives good views NE over South Nesting Bay. The monument was first scheduled in 1975, but the documentation does not meet modern

standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of the post-and-wire fence that crosses the scheduled area to allow for its maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

Burnt mounds are made from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds.



Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source, as in this case.

This monument survives in good condition as an upstanding, largely turf-covered mound. It has excellent field characteristics and shows the classic crescent shape typical of burnt mounds. A small area of erosion at the SW corner of the mound confirms that, beneath the turf, it is composed of small fragments of stone typical of burnt mound material. There is potential for a trough to survive to the SE of the mound and records suggest that a well existed 7.5m to the N. This monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They are often a classic crescent shape and may have been reused on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

A variety of other monuments in the vicinity demonstrate use of the surrounding landscape during prehistory. Other burnt mounds lie 390m to the SW and 1.2km to the W; there are homesteads 850m to the SW and 1.2km to the W; and two round cairns and a heel-shaped cairn cluster about 2km to the SW. There is considerable potential to study this burnt mound in its landscape context and to investigate whether it was sited close to, or away from, foci of contemporary domestic activity.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of the monument, which retains its form to a marked degree, enhances this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice in Shetland.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU45NE 3. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN1019 (PrefRef 979).

Site Number

91

Site Name

Gungstie, chapel and burial ground 25m S of, Nestivoe, Isle of Noss



Type of Site Ecclesiastical: burial ground, cemetery, graveyard; chapel

NRHE Number SM2670; HU54SW 9
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 453074 Northing 1140950

Description

The monument comprises the remains of a small stone-founded chapel and associated burial ground, dating probably to the early historic period (around AD 400-800). The foundations of the chapel are visible as low turf-covered banks. The nave measures 8.5m N-S by 7.6m transversely, and the chancel to the east 5.5m N-S by 5.2m transversely. The graveyard was still in use in 1820 and may have been used after that date. It extends eastwards to the eroding shoreline and includes two flat grave slabs of 17th-century date on the S side of the church. The site lies on the Isle of Noss, immediately south of the house and steading at Gungstie, just south of the crossing between the Isle of Noss and Bressay. It stands at around 5m above sea level, on a narrow spit of land that separates Nestivoe from Noss Sound . The monument was first scheduled in 1968, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduled area extends up to but excludes a wall at the E end of its N boundary. The scheduling specifically excludes the above-ground elements of post-and-wire fences, a flag pole and a derelict winch, to allow for their maintenance.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

### Intrinsic characteristics

Archaeologists have excavated a relatively small proportion of the burial ground, but this demonstrates that the preservation and condition of buried archaeological remains is good, although the eastern part of the burial ground is subject to coastal erosion. Artefacts recovered from the site and limited excavations at its eastern edge have demonstrated the early date and importance of the monument. A small broken cross-slab, incised with an interlace cross of a very early type, was found on the edge of the graveyard in 1959. Its form and decoration demonstrate that this was an important ecclesiastical site in the early historic period. Smallscale excavation was conducted in 1993 following the insertion of a water pipe and three skeletons were partially excavated, demonstrating the continuation of the graveyard to the low cliff east of the chapel. A slotted stone, interpreted as a possible corner post for a cornerpost shrine, was revealed at the north of the graveyard, on the edge of the cliff. Further excavation was conducted in 1994 as part of work to stabilise the eroding shore line. The corner post was found to be in a secondary location, but fragments of a broken rune stone were also found, suggesting that use of the site continued into the Viking period (around AD 800 ' 1100). Skeletons in imminent danger of eroding into the sea were excavated archaeologically. This excavation showed that the area had been intensively used and reused for burial, with some burials in coffins and others buried directly in simple pits. A circular stone structure was interpreted by the excavator as possibly forming part of a 12th-century round

It is clear that the monument contains a wealth of information and probably preserves a complex sequence of development. There is potential to examine in detail the buried remains of the chapel and to assess its chronological relationship with use of the burial ground. It is probable that large numbers of burials remain in situ, with the potential to enhance our knowledge of status and burial practice, and to reveal evidence for health, diet, illness, cause of death, and perhaps the types of activities people undertook during life. The presence of remains from different periods gives the possibility of exploring issues such as the duration of occupation, the extent to which occupation of the site was continuous and the nature of abandonment processes.



#### Contextual characteristics

Small chapels of proven early historic date are rare in Scotland and few examples have been excavated to modern standards. However, the chapel, graves, and artefactual evidence from this monument can be compared with the early historic chapel on St Ninian's Isle off the W coast of south Mainland, 25km southwest of Gungstie. St Ninian's Church is known for the hoard of 28 Pictish silver objects recovered in the late 1950s, but the excavations there also recovered corner posts from stone shrines and stones with carved crosses. The chapel and burial ground at Nestie Voe can also be compared with a variety of other remains nearby on Bressay. These include a broch 230m away on the opposite shore of the Noss Sound, which may have influenced the choice of this site for the chapel, and the Chapel of St Mary's, dating to the 10th century or earlier, which lies 1.7km to the northwest on the Voe of Cullingsburgh and is also sited very close to a broch. The Bressay Stone, a Pictish symbol stone dating probably from the 8th to 9th centuries, was found nearby. The remains of this chapel and burial ground add to our understanding of the infancy of Christianity in Scotland and offer potential to examine the connections between ecclesiastical and earlier sites and the ways that Christian culture was dispersed.

#### Associative characteristics

Early ecclesiastical sites such as this are vital to any understanding of how the Christian faith spread throughout Scotland. Documentary sources refer to the coming of Christianity, but the accounts we have are partial and problematic. The fragmentary nature of the historical record enhances the significance of the archaeological remains preserved at Nesti Voe.

Historical accounts tell us that a chapel stood on the site in 1711. In 1774, the chapel was described as 'small, but of neat workmanship, and the yard is still used as a burying ground'. By 1852, when the ground plan was recorded, only the N wall of the chancel remained upstanding, to a height of around 1.5m. The site is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map and is labelled 'Chapel (site of)' and 'Burial ground'.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of early historic ecclesiastical sites in the British Isles. It has well-preserved archaeology, giving potential to make a significant contribution to our knowledge of early church architecture and burial. Its significance is enhanced by the capacity to compare it with other early church sites in the vicinity. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand early historic chapels and the role they had in the dissemination of Christianity.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the site as HU54SW 9. The Shetland Amenity Trust SMR reference is MSN818 (PrefRef 758).

References

Turner, V, 1995 'Gungstie, Noss' in DES 1994, 93.

http://www.paparproject.org.uk/ The Papar Project

Site Number 92

Site Name Loch of Beosetter, burnt mound 130m SSE of Sandgarth

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: burnt mound

NRHE Number SM2027

Status Scheduled Monument



Easting 449057

Northing 1143971

Description Description

The monument comprises the remains of a substantial burnt mound, visible as an upstanding earthwork about 22m long and 12m wide and standing 2m high. The burnt mound is likely to date to between 2000 and 1000 BC. The monument lies on grazing land 10m from the east shore of the Loch of Beosetter, at around 5m above sea level. The monument was first scheduled in 1974, but the documentation does not meet modern standards: the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is irregular on plan, to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

The monument survives as an upstanding, turf-covered mound in good overall condition, despite some intrusion and disturbance by burrowing animals and sheep. The present shape of the monument partly reflects limited excavation that has occurred in the past. A hollow on the NW side was formed by excavation in 1930, when fragments of a steatite vessel were found embedded in the burnt stones. There has also been partial excavation on the SE side, during which a rough cist-like structure was revealed. These areas of past disturbance are now grassed over.

Burnt mounds are made from heaps of burnt and fire-cracked stone, occurring usually within a matrix of dark soil and perhaps charcoal or ash. The stones represent the waste product from the use of hot stones to heat water, probably for a variety of purposes. After several immersions, the stones would crack and break and were discarded to form burnt mounds. Burnt mounds are often accompanied by troughs that held the water and there is sometimes evidence for associated shelters and the hearths in which the stones were heated. Troughs are usually set in the ground and lined with wood, stone or clay. Burnt mounds typically lie close to a stream or other water source.

This monument has good potential to inform our understanding of the date and nature of burnt mounds, their function(s) and duration. It may contain artefacts or ecofacts that can increase our understanding of the function of burnt mounds and how they were used. The mound may have accumulated directly on an old ground surface and may seal important environmental information that could increase our knowledge of the landscape and land-use before and during the mound's creation.

### Contextual characteristics

There are around 1,900 recorded examples of burnt mounds in Scotland with notable concentrations in some areas, including Shetland. The greater number in Shetland may also reflect increased survival because of a lack of later development or agricultural improvement. Burnt mounds in the Northern and Western Isles and northern Scotland are often particularly large. They often show a classic crescentic shape and may have been re-used on many occasions over a significant period. They may also have served different social and practical functions to smaller mounds.

In Scotland, excavated examples typically date to the middle Bronze Age, around 1500 BC, but the overall range of dates varies from the late Neolithic through to the early historic period (around 2400 BC to AD 900). A common interpretation of these monuments in Scotland is that they were used to boil water for cooking. However, researchers have also suggested that they could have been used as saunas or sweat-lodges (possibly medicinal as well as sanitary); as baths; or for textile production (dying and fulling), brewing or leather working. Burnt mounds



are often found in relatively isolated locations in Scotland, but in Shetland they sometimes occur in association with settlement remains.

The proximity of this example to two other burnt mounds, 150m to the NE and 470m to the ENE, is interesting because single, isolated examples are more common. There is potential to compare the form, use and dating of the three mounds. These monuments were also part of a wider contemporary landscape of settlement and land-use, and a possible prehistoric dwelling lies 320m to the NW of this mound. Two horizontal mills 120m to the NE also reflect later use of a water course in this vicinity.

#### Associative characteristics

The monument is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map as two separate mounds labelled tumuli. This suggests that the visible, upstanding remains of the monument were more extensive in the past.

### **National Importance**

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular prehistoric society and the construction and use of burnt mounds, and their placing in the landscape. The good preservation of the monument and its proximity to other examples in the vicinity enhance this potential. The loss of this monument would impede our ability to understand the nature of later prehistoric domestic and ritual practice in Shetland.

Site Number 93

Site Name Hill of Cruester, standing stone 570m NE of Hiltoun

Type of Site Prehistoric ritual and funerary: standing stone

NRHE Number SM2034

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 448996 Northing 1142838

Description

The monument is a prehistoric standing stone, likely to date to the third or second millennium BC. Formed of sandstone, it is 2.8m high, 0.2m thick and 1.3m wide at the base. It stands at around 40m above sea level in a very prominent hill-top location. Its site offers long views in almost all directions, particularly SW over the Bressay Sound and down the E coast of Mainland. Likewise, the stone is highly visible and prominent when viewed from below. The monument was first scheduled in 1953 but the documentation does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The area to be scheduled is circular on plan, measuring 20m in diameter, centred on the centre of the monument. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

Intrinsic characteristics

The monument is a fine example of a prehistoric standing stone and survives in excellent condition. On plan its major axis lies WNW-ESE, but the stone has a very decided tilt to the SSW. There are traces of packing around the base. A smaller, earth-fast recumbent stone, 0.9m long by 0.4m wide by 0.5m high, lies within 1m of the standing stone. We know of no evidence



that the stone has been moved and it is therefore likely to be standing within its original socket, probably a shallow depression or pit. In addition to the visible packing stones, other archaeological deposits may lie around or at the base of the stone, including burials, stone settings, pits or post-holes. It is clear that in some instances, single standing stones represent the only surviving component of a larger monument originally, such as a stone alignment. The potential presence of associated artefacts and/or important environmental information preserved beneath the stone, or in surrounding pits or other features, reinforces the potential of the monument.

In this case, considerable effort would have been required to transport, position and erect the stone, demonstrating that it was considered a significant and worthwhile endeavour to the people who erected it. Where it has been possible to date comparable monuments, they typically derive from the third or second millennium BC. The monument therefore has an inherent capacity to inform our understanding of this period, and may have the potential to further our knowledge of contemporary ceremonial and ritual landscapes.

#### Contextual characteristics

The monument's location dominates Bressay and the east coast of Mainland and the stone would have been visible from land and sea. In Scotland as a whole, standing stones are very often located with reference to ritual or burial monuments, such as henges, stone circles, cairns and other types of burial, and there are grounds to believe that many are part of ceremonial or ritual activity. In addition, the position of standing stones often appears deliberately chosen to take advantage of routeways, views and inter-visibility with other monuments, and some are likely to be part of a network of landmarks. It has been argued that the position of some standing stones with reference to other contemporary monuments often coincides with observation lines upon the rise or setting points of the sun or the moon on a distant horizon at key dates in the year (for example, at winter solstice).

Although standing stones are a widespread class of monument in Scotland, there is a concentration of fine examples in Shetland, giving this stone particular interest. Further study of the prehistoric monuments here may increase our understanding of the nature of their interrelationships and of the way in which contemporary society may have used different parts of the landscape.

There are burnt mounds 1 km to the SW and 1.25 km to the N of this standing stone and the remains of a possible prehistoric house 1km to the NW.

Associative characteristics

The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map depicts the standing stone.

**National Importance** 

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to the understanding of the past, in particular the ritual and ceremonial landscape of Shetland in the third or second millennium BC. This standing stone is also important because it lies in a landscape that contains a relatively high density of other types of prehistoric monument. The loss of this monument would significantly impede our ability to understand the nature of earlier prehistoric ritual and ceremonial practice, both in Shetland and Scotland

Site Number 94

Site Name Noss Sound, broch 200m SSE of Norther House

Type of Site Prehistoric domestic and defensive: broch, Prehistoric ritual and funerary: standing stone

NRHE Number SM2061

Status Scheduled Monument



Easting 452803 Northing 1140972

Description

The monument comprises a broch of Iron Age date, built probably between 500 BC and AD 200, the remains of two ramparts on the landward side of the broch and a standing stone that lies around 45m NNW of the broch. The broch is visible as a very large turf-covered mound within which small areas of masonry are exposed. The ramparts also survive as substantial earthworks. The monument lies about 10m above sea level, on a low peninsula that protrudes SE into Noss Sound. The monument was first scheduled in 1934 but the documentation does not meet modern standards; the present rescheduling rectifies this.

The turf-covered mound stands at least 4m high and measures 18m in diameter. Few of the broch's structural features are exposed, although several courses of the inner wall face are visible on the NW side. In the early 19th century several cavities were noted in the walls, which are interpreted as internal wall cells. Each was around 3.7m long and 1.8m wide and traces of one are still visible on the SW side. The wall of the broch is around 5m thick. An earth and stone bank crosses the neck of the promontory, around 8m from the broch, and a second more massive bank lies a further 4.5m beyond to the north. Large edge-set boulders survive towards the E end of the outer bank and may have been part of its structure. Researchers suggest the banks may be the remains of stone walls that were originally 3.2m thick. The standing stone is situated beyond the banks to the NNW, and measures about 1.2m high, 1.5m long and 0.6m thick. It is aligned NNE-SSW and stands parallel to a low bank or wall base that lies 1m to the west.

Two areas are to be scheduled to include the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment may survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The larger scheduled area is irregular on plan and includes the remains of the broch and ramparts. A second smaller area is a circle, 10m in diameter, centred on the centre of the standing stone. The larger scheduled area extends to the mean high water mark to the south and east. On the SW side it extends up to but excludes a dry stone wall.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

### Intrinsic characteristics

Although the broch has partially collapsed, the surviving mound is in good condition and shows no sign of recent damage. Observations made in the 19th century indicate that substantial buried remains of the broch's lower courses and foundations are preserved beneath the mound. The ramparts and nearby standing stone suggest that this is a complex, multi-phase monument set in a landscape that preserves evidence for a long period of use. There is a strong likelihood that buried archaeological deposits associated with the monument's construction, use and abandonment are well preserved. These may allow future researchers to date construction of the broch, and compare this with the dates of the rampart defences and standing stone. In addition, the buried remains have considerable potential to enhance understanding of the use and function of brochs and the daily lives of the people who occupied them. There is high potential for the presence of artefacts and ecofacts that may illuminate the diet, economy and social status of the occupants and the extent to which this varied over time.

### Contextual characteristics

This broch is one of around two hundred in Shetland. It has potential to enhance our understanding of the relationship between brochs, the extent to which they were contemporary, and their relationship with the wider landscape. Brochs have been viewed as having a defensive or offensive function, or simply as being the prestige dwellings and farms of an elite strata of society, keen to display its status. The buried remains at Noss Sound have potential to contribute to these questions and may provide insight into the nature and use of these structures and the landscape immediately around them. The standing stone may relate to much earlier activity in the 2nd millennium BC, or may derive from activity contemporary with the broch. The field bank adjacent to the standing stone, and others in the vicinity, may



preserve evidence for land management contemporary with the broch, or may relate to later activity contemporary with the ruined agricultural buildings that lie between 65m and 145m W of the broch. The remains of an early Christian chapel lie 260m away on the opposite side of Noss Sound and its site may perhaps have been occupied in earlier years when the broch was in use.

Associative characteristics

The broch is depicted and labelled 'brough' on the Ordnance Survey first edition map.

**National Importance** 

This monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, in particular of Iron Age Shetland and the role and function of brochs there. The monument offers potential to study the relationship between the broch itself and two ramparts, and to compare the use of the broch with that of a variety of features in the vicinity, including a standing stone. The loss of the monument would significantly diminish our future ability to appreciate and understand the Iron Age in Shetland, especially the development and re-use of brochs.

References Bibliography References

Fojut, N 1982, 'Towards a Geography of Shetland Brochs', Glasgow Archaeological Journal 1982, 48.

Mackie, E W 2002, The roundhouses, brochs and wheelhouses of Atlantic Scotland c.700BC-AD500: architecture and material culture, Part 1: The Orkney and Shetland Isles. BAR British Series 342: Oxford, 117.

Site Number 95

Site Name Sound, laird's house, chapel and burial ground 220m SSE of Oversound

Type of Site Ecclesiastical: burial ground, cemetery, graveyard; chapel; enclosure, Secular: garden; house; w

NRHE Number SM13049

Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 438358

Northing 1150127

Description

The monument comprises the remains of an 18th-century laird's house, known as the Haa of Sound, and associated structures, the fishing station of Sound, including böds (fishermen's booths or huts), and a burial ground within which the remains of Our Lady's Chapel are found.

The monument lies on the west side of Weisdale Voe, just above sea level.

The laird's house is Palladian in form and measures 10m by 5m. The building originally had two storeys and three bays, with rear wing to the west and courtyard to the east. The house has a symmetrical façade, which survives almost to the wallhead. There is a single storey, 3-bay cottage to the west of the laird's house, with a small barn adjacent to the southwest. There is a well to the southeast of the laird's house. The adjoining fields and gardens are formally arranged. At the shore there are böds and two piers, demarcating a small harbour. To the south are the remains of a laundry, public house and a graveyard within which the remains of a chapel are visible, set into a mound containing the remains of an earlier, medieval chapel.

The area to be scheduled is irregular in plan, to include the buildings, enclosures, piers, graveyard and an area around these within which associated remains are likely to survive. The modern gate allowing access to the field immediately to the south is specifically excluded from the scheduling to allow for its maintenance. All active burial lairs are specifically excluded from



the scheduling.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The monument's cultural significance can be expressed as follows:

#### Intrinsic characteristics

This type of laird's house can be dated to the 18th century on stylistic grounds (Strachan's Type II). The relatively late date is supported by the fact that the böds are next to the harbour, rather than in the house. The proximity of the house to the fishing station indicates that this was probably the house of a merchant. The fishing station has a beach suitable for the drying and curing of fish. The formal layout of the grounds indicates that this was an important house and the associated buildings add to the interest of the complex. There is a strong likelihood that archaeological deposits associated with the complex's construction, use and abandonment survive.

Although the walls of the chapel and enclosure are denuded, they retain sufficient structural integrity to add to our knowledge and understanding of medieval and later architecture and religious practices. The enclosure may contain human skeletal remains, which could provide valuable information on life in the medieval period and later, including diet, health, incidence of disease and life expectancy.

### Contextual characteristics

The Haa House developed from the 17th century as the residence of lairds and merchants, and classicism began to appear in these structures from the early 18th century. Lairds were landed proprietors who held land directly or indirectly from the Crown. As the homes of the lesser gentry, laird's houses are a crucial part of the settlement pattern in this period. They have the potential to inform our understanding of the nature of settlement and society in the early modern period. Haas were sited to suit the activities of their occupiers, with those of merchants located near harbours, sheltered voes or other trading locations for the benefit of import and export. The occupation of this laird's house seems to have been linked to the fishing station, which was likely a source of income for the laird. It has the potential to shed light on lairds' involvement in the fishing industry, which was so important to Shetland in this period

Shetland's distinctive land ownership pattern changed in the mid 16th century. In the medieval period, there were few resident lairds and the land was mostly settled by the tenants of absentee landlords. In the 16th century, resident lairds began to consolidate landholdings and where they owned more than one estate, built more than one laird's house, leading to a relatively dense distribution of this architectural type. The Haa of Sound retains the potential to inform our understanding of this regional variation.

Lairds and merchants in Shetland often also had town houses in Lerwick which, together with the lairds' houses, can enhance our understanding of the settlement pattern and architectural developments.

### Associative characteristics

The Haa of Sound was the seat of the Clunies-Ross family, which produced several eminent figures. It was the birthplace (in 1786) of John Clunies-Ross, a sea captain who visited and, in 1827, settled on Direction Island in the Indian Ocean and appointed himself Ross I, King of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Queen Victoria granted the family the islands in perpetuity in 1886 but John Clunies-Ross's descendents were forced to sell them to Australia in 1978.

There is a tradition that two wealthy sisters founded the chapel, after surviving a storm off the coast of Shetland, during which they vowed to Our Lady that they would erect a church in her honour on the spot at which they were able to land. Our Lady's Chapel was apparently held in special regard by fisherman and mariners, and by women seeking husbands. It seems to have remained a place of pilgrimage after the Reformation of 1560, which was interpreted by observers as evidence of superstition or idolatry amongst Shetlanders.



### **National Importace**

The monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to contribute to our understanding of the past, in particular the construction techniques and domestic life of an early modern laird's house and fishing station, and trade and processes associated with the fishing industry, as well as wider early modern society and the ecclesiastical history of Shetland. The monument may also shed light on the nature of land ownership in Shetland. The site's relatively good preservation enhances this potential. Its loss would diminish our ability to understand the early modern architecture of Shetland and the nature of land ownership in this period.

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Strachan, S R 2008, The Laird's Houses of Scotland: from the Reformation to the Industrial Revolution, 1560-1770 (unpubl PhD thesis, University of Edinburgh).

Tudor, J R 1883, The Orkneys and Shetland: their past and present state, London: Edward Stanford.

Turnbull, J 1836, 'United Parishes of Tingwall, Whiteness and Weesdale' New Statistical Account (1834-45) 9, 69.

Site Number 96

Site Name The Knab, coastal battery, 150m S of War Memorial

Type of Site 20th Century Military and Related: Anti-aircraft/barrage balloon site; Battery; Magazines

NRHE Number SM13680; HU44SE 91
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 447940 Northing 1140490

Description

The monument is a First World War coastal battery, comprising two gun emplacements, a munitions store and hut base. One gun emplacement, the munitions store and associated blast bank and a concrete hut base survive. The concrete structure of second gun emplacement has been removed but the turf covered foundation remains. The monument is located on the Knab

The battery survives as four discrete elements comprising two gun emplacements, a munitions store with an earth bund and the concrete base of a hut. The western gun emplacement is located at the south end of Knab Road and is now a viewpoint/ interpretative site. The turf base upon which the gun emplacement sat is visible beneath the viewpoint. The eastern gun emplacement is located on the headland in rough grassland and survives as a concrete structure. Both gun emplacements measure c.7m across. To the north of the eastern gun emplacement are a concrete hut base (beside a stone wall) and a munitions store. The munitions store is still intact and has two rooms. The munitions store is protected by an earth

headland to the south of the Lerwick overlooking the Bressay Sound at 10m above sea level.



bund and is accessed via a narrow passage on the south side.

The scheduled area is irregular on plan and includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive, as shown in red on the accompanying map. The scheduled area excludes the built structure of the modern viewpoint, the top 300mm of existing tracks and road and the modern drystone wall to allow for their maintenance. The ground beneath these structures is included.

Statement of National Importance Cultural Significance

The cultural significance of the monument has been assessed as follows:

#### Intrinsic Characteristics

The monument is the remains of a First World War coastal battery which originally comprised two concrete gun emplacements, a hut and a munitions store with associated blast bank. Of these features, the munitions store, one of the gun emplacements and the concrete base for the hut, possibly an observation post or to provide accommodation are well preserved. The battery was installed in 1917 to protect the southern entrance to the Bressay Sound. The surviving gun emplacement has a flat concrete base for a light anti-aircraft gun, a Bofors 40mm. This site codenamed 'BX' is recorded in files (WO 166/2051 and WO 166/2052) dated May 1940 and January 1941, held by the National Archives in Kew, London. This indicates that the gun emplacement was re-armed in the Second World War to provide anti-aircraft protection. The other gun emplacement survives as a turf covered foundation (at the south end of Knab Road) and is now surmounted by a modern interpretative viewpoint.

There is high potential for the survival of archaeological evidence both within and around the battery, which can increase our understanding of the construction and use of the battery and the daily lives of the men who built and served on it.

### **Contextual Characteristics**

The monument is located in a prominent position on the Horse of the Knab headland where it guarded the southern approach to Lerwick Harbour. It is one of three gun emplacements dating to the First World War that were built to guard the important anchorage at Lerwick. Lerwick first served as an Examination port (where foreign ships were searched to ensure they were not carrying goods to Germany), and later became a mustering point for ships as part of the convoy system. The other two emplacements are located to the north-west and southwest on Bressay and are both scheduled monuments; Score Hill, gun emplacement (scheduled monument reference SM5370) and Bard Head, gun emplacement (scheduled monument reference SM6367).

In contrast to the gun emplacements on Bressay which each had a single six inch gun, The Knab had two guns. This reflects its proximity to Lerwick harbour and the site's strategic importance. The only other First World War gun emplacement in Shetland is on Vementry which was built to protect the entrance to the deep water anchorage of Swarbacks Minn, which was used as a forward anchorage by cruiser squadrons (scheduled monument reference SM5371). In the Second World War a fixed torpedo platform (scheduled monument SM10755) was installed below the gun emplacement at The Knab to provide protection from attacks by German Eboats, and the gun emplacement was converted to an anti-aircraft battery by re-arming with Bofors guns.

### Associative Characteristics

As a component in a network of similar sites, the coast battery represents the nationwide efforts to protect and defend the United Kingdom during the First World War. It reflects the considerable national resource that was put into the homefront effort and it serves as a reminder of the human sacrifices that were made between 1914 and 1918.

One of the two gun emplacements has been re-developed and serves as a viewpoint within interpretative panels that recognise the significance of The Knab, the sailors and the



servicemen that were stationed here.

Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as part of an integrated system of defence which protected the strategically important harbour at Lerwick. Although one of the gun emplacements has been significantly altered it retains its field characteristics to a marked degree. It makes a significant addition to our understanding of the principles of coastal defence as practiced in 1917-8, when the major threat to British sovereignty was seen as waterborne. The re-arming of the site in World War Two with Bofors guns demonstrates how sites were adapted to respond to the threat of aerial warfare. The site is also of significance as a tangible reminder of the vital strategic role played by Shetland during the First and Second World Wars.

#### References

Bibliography

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Site Number 97

Site Name Fort Charlotte, Lerwick

Type of Site 20th Century Military and Related: Fort, Secular: fort (non-prehistoric)

NRHE Number SM90145; HU 44 SE 3
Status Scheduled Monument

Easting 447568

Northing 1141524

Description

The monument consists of the 17th century artillery fortification known as Fort Charlotte. Although a fort seems to have been built at Lerwick to protect ships of the English Republican Navy, no trace survives. The present fort was begun during the Second Dutch War (1665-7). Its construction was placed in the hands of Robert Milne, Charles II's master mascer and cost £28,000. It was roughly pentagonal in shape, with a battery set behind a zig-zagged parapet wall facing out over Bressay Sound to the east, and angled bastions defending the landward sides. It contained a two-storey barrack block holding 100 men, with space for another 200 to be quartered near by. The battery was never fully armed, and the rampart had not been finished by the time peace was made in 1667. During the Third Dutch War (1672-77) the fort was not garrisoned, but in 1673 the Dutch landed and burnt the abandoned barrack block. The fort was eventually completed during the War of American Independence (1776-83), when Britain was opposed by the naval forces of Spain, France and the states of northern Europe. It was named after George III's queen, Charlotte, and in March 1781, it was garrisoned by 270 soldiers of the Earl of Sutherland's Regiment.

The ramparts follow the outline of the fort left incomplete in 1667, with a seaward battery for up to 12 guns and bastioned defences to landward. A plan drawn in 1783 shows four traverses running back from the battery walls, designed to prevent enemy fire raking the battery, but it is doubtful if these were ever built. Otherwise all the principal buildings on this plan still survive, some with later modifications (these are separately listed and do not form part of scheduled monument). The main gate lies between the west and southwest bastions, while secondary gates are set in the north and south walls. A small postern gate between the west and northwest bastions appears to be a 19th- or early 20th-century slapping.

The area proposed for scheduling encompasses the whole area contained within the walls of the fort, the walls themselves, and a zone extending for 2m in front of the base of the walls on all sides, excluding all buildings in use as is shown in red on the accompanying map.



### Statement of National Importance

The monument is of national importance as an almost completely preserved example of a late or 18th-century coastal battery and associated barrack, built in a period of tension to control one of the principal shipping lanes between the states bordering on to the Baltic and North Sea on the one hand and the European colonies in America and the Far East on the other. Its importance is enhanced by the fact that it partly encapsulates an earlier fort of 1665-7, and incorporates modifications made subsequently in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

References

Bibliography

RCAHMS records the monument as HU 44 SE 3.

#### References:

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Ritchie, A. (1985) Exploring Scotland's Heritage: Orkney and Shetland, Edinburgh, 24-25, no. 4.

RCAHMS (1946) Inventory of the Ancient Monuments of Orkney and Shetland, 3 vols, Edinburgh, II, 63-64.

Site Number 98

Site Name Burial-Ground And Kirkyard Wall, Bressay Kirk

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB5877; HU44SE 100

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 449318

Northing 1140992

**Description** 1809-1814. Near-symmetrical three by two-bay hall church of rectangular plan. Harled walls

with droved ashlar margins to openings.

West (entrance) gable: near-symmetrical. Two-leaf vertically-boarded timber entrance door with plate glass fanlight in segmental-arched opening offset to right. Flanking marble war memorials set in margined recesses. Windows flanking centre in gable. Ashlar belicote on harled plinth at gablehead.

South elevation: symmetrical, tall round-arched windows flanking centre and windows in bays to outer left and right.

North elevation: symmetrical. Windows flank a central vestry. Vestry with timber sash and case window and vertically-boarded timber door in west wall. Coped chimney stack on south gable.



East gable: entrance door at ground in bay to left. Windows flanking centre in gable.

Stained glass memorial windows of 1896 and 1895 flanking pulpit. Some leaded windows with coloured glass surviving. Purple-grey slate roof with ashlar skew copes.

Interior: flagged floors in entrance vestibules to east and west, dog-leg timber stairs leading off and rising to panelled and grained U-plan gallery supported to timber columns and with raked timber pews. Panelled timber pulpit at centre of south wall with a gothic panel at the rear with engaged, ball finials. The pulpit is flanked by stained glass windows and marble memorials to Mouat family. Vertically-boarded timber wainscoting to hall, timber floor and pews. Timber lining with strapwork to ceiling and gables.

Kirkyard Wall: drystone walls enclosing kirkyard to south and east. Ashlar and rubble enclosure with urn and spear finialled cast-iron railings to Henderson family built into west wall.

Statement of Special Interest Place of worship in use.

This is one of the earliest of the 19th century churches in Shetland, replacing its predecessor of around 1722 which had replaced Bressay's three ancient chapels. The off-set entrance doors are an unusual feature, possibly intended to reduce wind force when both sets of doors are open.

The stained glass windows commemorate John Ross, who was a local schoolteacher and Sir Robert George Crookshank Hamilton, who was born in Bressay and became Governor of Tasmania in 1886.

The bell dates to 1858. It was cast in Whitechapel, London and may reuse material from an earlier Bressay bell dating back to 1723.

Listed building record updated in 1997 and 2019.

References Bibliography Printed Sources

Gifford, J (1992) Buildings of Scotland: Highlands and Islands. p.470.

**Online Sources** 

Lerwick and Bressay Parish Church. Parish History at https://www.shetland-communities.org.uk/subsites/lbpc/parish-history.htm (accessed 05/12/2019).

Site Number 99

Site Name Maryfield House, including boundary walls and gatepiers

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB5879

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 448923 Northing 1141815

Description Early 19th century, 2-storey and attic, 3-bay symmetrical L-plan house (now hotel). Harled W

(principal) elevation, harl-pointed rubble side and rear elevations with ashlar margined openings and projecting cills. Later flat-roofed projecting entrance porch centred at ground with fixed-light in W wall, and entrance door in N wall. Windows flanking at ground, regular fenestration at 1st floor. Irregularly fenestrated side elevations, 2-storey wing advanced at left



of rear elevation with stair window in re-entrant angle, modern single storey addition extending to S and E.

Modern glazing throughout, modern slate roof, stugged sandstone and cement-rendered stacks with octagonal cans.

BOUNDARY WALLS AND GATEPIERS: formal arrangement comprising square stugged sandstone gatepiers with pyramidal caps flanking principal elevation, flagstone rubble walls enclosing gardens extending to E and W. Vertically-boarded timber door offset to right in W wall of W garden, extending on to right (S) to adjoin E wall of storehouse (see separate listing).

#### Statement of Special Interest

Similar in form to Mizpah House, Maryfield is a prominent landmark on Bressay when viewed from Lerwick. With the storehouse, it forms a notable group at the point where the ferry now approaches the shore. This composition and the view of Maryfield has been compromised somewhat by the building of a modern house between the two elements.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p82.

Site Number 100

Site Name Gardie House, Bressay; GARDIE HOUSE, INCLUDING GARDEN AND BOUNDARY WALLS, PAVILIO

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB5880

Status Listed Building- Category A

Easting 448772 Northing 1142061

Description 1724, with additions of circa 1820, and alterations of circa 1905 by John M Aitken of Lerwick.

Classical country house comprising 2-storey and attic, 7-bay principal block of rectangular

Classical country house comprising 2-storey and attic, 7-bay principal block of rectangular double-pile plan, with later porches projecting at centre of W (principal) and side elevations; principal front enclosed by walled garden, bounded to W by screen wall with classical gate at centre, terminated to N and S by pavilions, each with symmetrical 3-bay W elevation.

PRINCIPAL BLOCK: harled walls with stugged and droved red sandstone dressings and details. Eaves cornice, margined windows, long and short V-jointed quoins at corners.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: symmetrical, 7-bays, grouped 1-5-1. Fine ashlar porch projecting at ground in centre bay; shouldered and corniced architrave to 6-panel 3-leaf timber door; round-arched timber sash and case windows in side elevations. Regular fenestration in flanking bays and at 1st floor. Wallhead raised over centre 5 bays wide corniced pediment above; windows in centre bay and centred over flanking bays.

S ELEVATION: asymmetrical, single storey porch with cornice, blocking course, and block pediment, centred at ground; modern conservatory advanced at left behind screen wall extending to S; blank in bay at right. Windows at 1st floor in centre and right bays; blank in bay to left

E (REAR) ELEVATION: asymmetrical elevation of 3 widely-spaced bays; blank at ground in centre bay, windows flanking in bay to right, window and door with 6-pane fanlight flanking in bay to left. Stair window at 1st floor in centre bay, windows in outer bays.

N ELEVATION: porch matching that to S projecting at ground in centre bay; single bay piend-roofed wing advanced in bay at left; above both obscured to N by large lean-to timber utility area. Small window at 1st floor offset to left of centre, rectangular fenestration in bay at left, blank in bay at right.



Timber sash and case windows; 15-pane at ground and 1st floors of principal elevation, 12-pane at 2nd floor. Grey slate piended platform roof with cast-iron gutters and downpipes; dormers of 1905 with gabled ashlar dormerheads breaking eaves at side and rear elevations. Tall multi-flue ashlar stacks with circular cans rising through platform.

INTERIOR: many period details surviving, much from circa 1810, and from 1905 at 2nd floor. Drawing room centred at 1st floor with timber panelling of circa 1750.

GARDEN AND BOUNDARY WALLS, PAVILIONS, GATES, AND GATEPIERS: formal arrangement comprising tall rubble wall enclosing garden to W with round-arched opening centring S wall; classical screen wall bounding to W with central gate comprising horizontally-channelled piers with engaged columns rising to frieze and bold cornice surmounted by ball finials; decorative wrought ironwork over 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber gates; flanking harl-pointed screen walls terminated to N and S by 3-bay pavilions comprising 3-centred arch with 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber doors at centre; outer bays slightly advanced with blind round-arched recesses, and stepped blocking course at wallhead; rubble outbuildings behind flanking courtyards.

### Statement of Special Interest

In 1799 Elizabeth Nicolson, wife of Thomas Mouat of Garth (Delting) inherited Gardie from her uncle James Henderson. Gardie then passed to her brother-in-law John Mouat in 1819. The house and its policies are a central feature in the view of Bressay from central Lerwick, and it appears much as in Skene's view of 1812 showing the form of the house prior to Aitken's alterations. The fine timber panelling in the 1st floor drawing room matches that of drawing rooms at Haa of Sand (1753) and Busta House.

References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p83. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p471.

Site Number 101

Site Name Outbuilding, Gardie Cottage, Bressay

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB5881

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448727

Northing 1142140

Description Circa 1820, extended circa 1880. Single storey and attic, 3-bay symmetrical Gothick cottage.

Harled walls over flagstone rubble base course.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: gabled porch with pointed-arched multi-pane timber sash and case windows projecting in centre bay. Margined windows with modern 4-pane glazing and blind pointed arch-heads in flanking bays.

S GABLE: 2 bays; windows at ground and 1st floor in bay at right.

E (REAR) ELEVATION: single window centred at ground with well-designed modern gabled wing advanced at right.

Modern glazing throughout. Fish-scale slate roof to porch; purple-grey slate roof with tiled ridge and cement skew copes to house and wing. Harled apex stacks, coped with circular cans.

OUTBUILDINGS: adjacent to N of house; rubble, with pedimented gable.

GARDEN WALLS: high flagstone rubble walls adjoining S gable of house and E gable of wing,



latter connecting with stable to S (see separate listing). Flagstone rubble wall with large stabbed cope adjacent to W elevation, curving round to join S garden wall.

### Statement of Special Interest

This unusual cottage was extended S in mass concrete to the present 3-bay form circa 1880. This alteration, as with the modern wing to the rear, respects the early 19th century character of the cottage. Linked to the high garden walls of Gardie House, it is an essential element in the layout of the policies.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p84.

Site Number 102

Site Name St Magnus's Church And Churchyard, Tingwall

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB18554

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 441904 Northing 1143754

**Description** 1788-90, with mid-19th century porch. 4 x 1-bay symmetrical hall church with belicote to

entrance gable at E. Harled walls with some droved ashlar dressings.

E (ENTRANCE) GABLE: symmetrical, gabled porch centred at ground with pointed-arched window in gable and entrance door to S; gallery window centred in gablehead above; bell contained within corniced round-headed bellcote on rectangular plinth at gablehead.

S ELEVATION: symmetrical, tall round-arched windows flanking centre, windows at ground to outer bays.

W GABLE: symmetrical; infilled round-arched door centred at ground with gallery window in gablehead above.

N ELEVATION: symmetrical, windows at ground to left and right.

Border-glazed fixed-lights with coloured and patterned glass. Purple-grey slate roof with droved ashlar skew-copes.

INTERIOR: vertically-boarded timber lining to entrance porch, vertically-boarded timber 2-leaf inner entrance doors with iron latch and 2-pane fanlight in semicircular arch-head accessing inner vestibule with vertically-boarded timber wainscoting to timber gallery stair, and 4-panel door to main hall. Grained timber fittings to hall; vertically-boarded wainscoting with stencilled frieze above, horizontally-boarded pews, timber Tuscan columns supporting raked U-plan gallery with panelled front, clock at centre by A T Anderson of Lerwick. Plaster ceiling with architraved circular ventilators. Raised pulpit platform centred on S wall, panelled timber balustrade surmounted by brass rail and urn finials; semi-octagonal panelled pulpit accessed by timber stair at right with cast-iron balusters; margined blind arch flanked by fluted pilasters to back of sounding board rising to corniced circular canopy with ogee dome surmounted by urn finial; pulpit flanked by marble memorials to Turnbull family.

KIRKYARD WALLS, WAR MEMORIAL, ENCLOSURES, GATES AND GATEPIERS: rubble boundary walls, harled and harl-pointed, with triangular rubble cope enclosing kirkyard containing variety of gravestones and memorials dating from 17th century onwards. Obelisk-like grey granite memorial to Great War adjacent to entrance gates with additional plaque to Second World War. Red sandstone gothic memorial to Reverend John Turnbull to S of church (signed W Munro on base), enclosed by stugged sandstone wall with droved ashlar copes surmounted



by railing with fleur-de-lys finials. Simple classical sandstone monument to John Bruce dated 1805. To SE, ashlar sarcophagus of circa 1700 carved with 2 coats of arms and emblems of mortality. Other enclosures of circa 1900 with cast-iron railings. 2-leaf iron entrance gates with arrow finials to S wall; square cement-rendered and lined gatepiers with pyramidal caps flanked by harled quadrant walls with matching piers to left and right. Additional gate to W with 2-leaf cast-iron gates flanked by square cement-rendered piers with pyramidal caps.

#### Statement of Special Interest

B Group with Mitchell's of Westshore Burial Aisle and Tingwall Manse. Ecclesiastical building in use as such.

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p36. John Gifford HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS (1992), p511.

Site Number 103

Site Name Bod Of Gremista, Gremista Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37258; HU44SE 26

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 446447

Northing 1143127

Description Circa 1790. 2-storey, 3-bay near-symmetrical house of rectangular plan. Harled walls.

East (principal) elevation: modern vertically-boarded timber door at ground offset to left of centre; regular fenestration in flanking bays and at first floor.

South gable: single window to left at first floor. North gable: modern vertically-boarded timber door (to salt store) centred at ground, single windows to right at first floor and attic.

West (rear) elevation: asymmetrical 3-bay elevation with windows at first floor in bay to centre and right, small windows at ground flanking centre.

Timber sash and case windows; 12-pane to principal openings, 4 and 8-pane elsewhere. Stone slab pegged roof with stone ridge; harled apex stacks with thackstanes, coped, with circular cans.

Interior: modern museum interior of 1987.

### Statement of Special Interest

The Bod of Gremista is best known as the birthplace of Arthur Anderson. His father Robert - an Unst man - had impressed Arthur Nicolson of Lochend sufficiently to be placed in charge of fishcuring operations at Gremista. He moved to the recently built Bod with his wife, Elizabeth Ridland of Dundrossness, and their eldest child Arthur was born in 1792. After starting his career in the Royal Navy, Arthur co-founded the Peninsular & Orient Steam Navigation Company with Brodie McGhie Willcox. Concerned for the conditions of the Shetland people, he served as Member of Parliament for Orkney and Shetland from 1847 to 1852 and founded the Anderson Educational Institute (see separate listing, LB37264) in 1862. After an initial restoration around 1970 this building was further restored as a museum in 1987.

Minor changes to Statement of Special Interest section in 2017.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p23.

Bod of Gremista Management Committee THE BOD OF GREMISTA (1989).



James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p95, 277.

John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p494.

Site Number 104

Site Name Hay's Dock And Storehouse, Freefield, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37261

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447292 Northing 1141837

Description HAY'S DOCK: circa 1825. Irregularly shaped dock enclosed by piers to N (with curved E end and

storehouse) and E flanking entrance to E. Large stugged sandstone blocks to quay walls and some surfaces with stone and cast-iron bollards and mooring rings, iron cramps between

copestones. Slip to S with stepped sides and concrete covered ramp.

STOREHOUSE: early 19th century. Gabled former storehouse of rectangular plan. Stugged sandstone rubble walls, cherry-caulked with stugged sandstone dressings. Chamfered corners corbelled out to square at 1st floor. Currently (1995) roofless.

S ELEVATION: asymmetrical; small rectangular window with iron bars centring elevation; slit window to right, recess with stone mooring bollard at ground to left with small square opening above; rubble infilled door to outer left.

W ELEVATION: gable end; wide door centred at ground with loading door at 1st floor rising into gablehead.

N ELEVATION: blank.

E ELEVATION: mirrored image of W elevation, but with narrower door at ground.

### Statement of Special Interest

The firm of Hay and Ogilvy collapsed in 1842 due to decline in the herring boom and damage to their fishing fleet in a gale. The collapse resulted in the establishment of Hay & Co in 1844 when William Hay joined forces with his sons, William and Charles. They originally worked from premises in Commercial Street, but William applied for new premises at Freefield, and by 1845 it was one of the busiest spots in Lerwick. The company caught, cured, bought, and exported fish on a very large scale, and was actively involved in the whaling industry. It also built and repaired ships and sold goods wholesale and retail including the Welsh roofing slate that can now be seen throughout Shetland. A photograph of 1930 shows the dock with the storehouse roofed.

References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p22. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) plate 56. James R Nicolson LERWICK HARBOUR (1966) p11. James R Nicolson HAY & COMPANY (1982) p5. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p492. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p112.

Site Number 105

Site Name North Ness House, North Ness, Lerwick



Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37262

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447514

Northing 1141804

Description Circa 1820. Single storey and attic, 3-bay symmetrical house with gabled wings projecting to

rear giving approximate U-plan. Harled S elevation, harl-pointed rubble side and rear

elevations, painted stone dressings.

S ELEVATION: symmetrical, projecting gabled porch centred at ground with boarded entrance door in W side, border-glazed 6-pane timber fixed-light in gable. Regular fenestration in flanking bays; dormers with harled gabled dormerheads breaking eaves at outer bays.

W ELEVATION: 2-bay gable with windows at ground and 1st floor in bay to right; modern cement-rendered porch projecting to left.

N(REAR) ELEVATION: single window centring elevation at ground, flanking bays obscured by projecting gabled wings, that at right (W) altered and modernised, that at left with single window in advanced section of E elevation.

E ELEVATION: 2-bay gable, blank except for window at 1st floor in bay to left.

4-pane timber sash and case windows. Purple-grey slate roofs; harled apex stacks, coped, with circular cans. Cement-rendered skew copes with bracketted skewputts.

BOUNDARY WALLS AND GATEPIERS: cement-rendered and lined rubble wall with concrete triangular cope to S. Entrance gate at centre with stugged and painted gatepiers surmounted by gabled caps. Random rubble boundary wall to W.

### Statement of Special Interest

North Ness House was built for Peter Lesslie, a native of Dundrossness and retired shipmaster. He bought the property, cultivated the ground, and built the North and South Stations. This house has presided over the North Ness and is a prominent feature in old photographs of this area. One of the early 1880?s shows the principal elevation with the gabled porch, but no dormer windows. It is now less visible due to the proximity of later buildings, but still forms a striking group when viewed with the neighbouring Jahara (see separate listing).

### References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p22. Tom Henderson SHETLAND FROM OLD PHOTOGRAPHS (1978) plate 62. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) plate 33. James R Nicolson LERWICK HARBOUR (1966) plate 13. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p95 plate 17.

Site Number 106

Site Name Anderson Institute, Lovers Loan, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37264

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448036 Northing 1140895

**Description** William Smith of Aberdeen, 1860-1, with alterations, 1924. 2-storey asymmetrical Tudor school

with French Baronial details, comprising 4-bay centre block with 2-stage entrance tower;



flanking single storey and attic wings, 4-bay wing to left (S), 5-bay wing at right (N) with 2-stage tower in re-entrant angle. Harl-pointed stugged rubble walls with droved sandstone ashlar dressings and details. Base course, chamfered arrises and sloping cills to windows.

NE (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: asymmetrical, 4 bays with gabled bays to outer right and left. Bay to left; 2-storey 3-light gothic traceried canted oriel, with heavily corbelled base, lintel course and cornice above; engaged octagonal shaft surmounted by ball finial at gablehead. PRINCIPAL TOWER: open at ground; stone steps accessing concrete-covered platt, vertically-boarded timber entrance door with plate glass fanlight above. Base course, buttressed N corner, band course at 1st floor, string course, machicolated cornice and blocking course at eaves. NE face; pointed-arch opening at ground, polished pink granite plaque (see notes) inset above with hoodmould over; blank panel inset in band course above, circular clock face set in square frame centred at upper stage. NW face; pointed-arch opening at ground, hoodmoulded window above, 2 narrow windows at upper stage. Pointed-arch 3-light window in bay to right, 3-light window at 1st floor, gabled dormer breaking eaves with shield carving in gablehead and ball finial at apex. Bay to outer right slightly advanced; 4-light canted bay with battered base course and crenellated parapet, hoodmoulded window at 1st floor in crowstepped gable with fleur-de-lys finial at apex.

NW ELEVATION: N wing advanced at right, 2-stage tower in re-entrant angle to left; square lower stage with pointed-arch door (with stone steps) and window at ground floor faces, narrow windows in octagonal upper stage, string course and dentilled cornice at eaves. 2 closely- spaced bays immediately to left, blind basement window in left bay, adjoining gabled dormerheads breaking eaves.

SE ELEVATION: S wing advanced at left, gabled entrance porch with stone steps and pointedarched door in re-entrant angle to right. Large window with gothic tracery adjacent to right.

SW (REAR) ELEVATION: 2-storey, 2-bay gable at outer right with 2-storey addition advanced at left.

N WING: single storey and attic, 5-bay principal (NE) elevation, symmetrical except for tower in bay to outer left; regular fenestration in bays to right with pointed-arch windows at ground and gabled dormers breaking eaves. 2-bay (NW) gable end; pointed-arched windows at ground, chimneybreast corbelled out at 1st floor. Regularly fenestrated rear elevation except for centre bay blank at ground and stair window at intermediate level in bay to outer right, gabled dormers breaking eaves.

S WING: single storey and attic, 4-bay principal (NE) elevation, symmetrical except for porch in bay to outer right; vertically-boarded timber door with plate glass fanlight above; regular fenestration in bays to left with pointed-arch windows at ground and gabled dormers breaking eaves. Gable matching N wing. Regularly fenestrated rear elevation except for blank at ground in inner left bay, gabled dormers breaking eaves.

4-pane and plate glass timber sash and case windows with timber mullions to most openings; multi-pane timber sash and case windows at ground floor of rear elevation and later addition. Multi-pane mullioned windows with cusped lower lights to library and entrance porch (leaded glazing). Grey slate roofs to main block, wings and dormers, cast-iron gutters and downpipes with hoppers. Bell-cast square pyramidal roof with cast-iron brattishing around platform to principal tower, bell-cast octagonal pyramidal roof with finial to N tower, roof of addition piended to S, lead roof to oriel. Polished ashlar stacks, each with string course, corniced cope and octagonal cans; incised vertical channelling to principal 4-flue stack.

INTERIOR: vertically-boarded timber wainscoting throughout, panelled doors with 6-pane glazed uppers. Galleried hall, timber balustrade with turned spindles at 1st floor, pyramidal cupola over, doors off gallery set in pointed-arch recesses. Timber staircases with turned spindles and ball finials to newels. Hammerbeam roof to library, hammerbeams and hammerposts decorated with bosses, wall-posts bearing on semi-octagonal corbels.

BOUNDARY WALLS: random rubble boundary walls with ashlar cope to N and S. Stugged ashlar dwarf wall to Twageos Road with ogee ashlar cope and cast-iron railing above; wall terminated to N and S by square ashlar piers with pyramidal caps; square ashlar gatepiers (currently dismantled 1995) with pyramidal caps. Random rubble retaining wall with ashlar cope



immediately to rear of N wing.

### Statement of Special Interest

The granite plaque over the entrance arch reads "Educational Institute erected and founded by Arthur Anderson A D 1860". Anderson was born at Gremista, and after a starting his career in the Royal Navy, he co-founded the Peninsular & Orient Steam Navigation Company with Brodie McGhie Willcox. Concerned for the conditions of the Shetland people, Anderson served as Member of Parliament for Orkney and Shetland from 1847 to 1852. The school was designed by the architect of Balmoral Castle, its motto "Doe weel and persevere" were the parting words of Thomas Bolt when the Anderson left Shetland to join the Navy in 1808. This building is a striking feature of Lerwick?s skyline, particularly when arriving by sea. It has been compromised somewhat by the erection of temporary classrooms adjacent to the principal front, but historically, it remains Lerwick?s most important 19th century building.

#### References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p32. Bod of Gremista Management Committee THE BOD OF GREMISTA (1989). James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p126, 216, plate 42. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p489. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p142 plate 16. Groome?s GAZETTEER p499.

Site Number 107

Site Name The Store, Freefield Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37275

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447162

Northing 1141868

Description Late 18th century/early 19th century, extended to E in earlier 19th century. 2-storey and loft, 5

x 1-bay storehouse. Random rubble walls with droved ashlar dressings.

N ELEVATION: 5 bays (grouped 2-3) regularly fenestrated, windows infilled except vertically-boarded timber shutter with iron hinges to window at ground in bay to outer right;

W ELEVATION: openings centring gable; wide door at ground, loading doors at upper floors, segmental arched with 2-leaf timber doors at 1st floor, infilled at loft.

S ELEVATION: 5 bays, grouped 3-2. Left group; door at ground to left of bay to left and in centre bay, both with boarded timber infill. Right group; 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber door at ground in bay to right, timber sash and case windows at 1st floor; 12-pane to left, 4-pane to right. Boarded timber infill to other windows.

E ELEVATION: corner to right chamfered at ground; openings roughly centring gable; 6-panel domestic timber door with 5-pane fanlight above at ground; openings at upper floors infilled; additional small square window in gablehead.

Modern corrugated sheet cladding to roof.

### Statement of Special Interest

The firm of Hay and Ogilvy collapsed in 1842 due to decline in the herring boom and damage to their fishing fleet in a gale. The collapse resulted in the establishment of Hay & Co in 1844 when William Hay joined forces with his sons, William and Charles. They originally worked from premises in Commercial Street, but William applied for new premises at Freefield, and by 1845 it was one of the busiest spots in Lerwick. The company caught, cured, bought, and exported fish on a very large scale, and was actively involved in the whaling industry. It also built and repaired ships and sold goods wholesale and retail including the Welsh roofing slate



that can now be seen throughout Shetland. A photograph of circa 1890 shows a substantial ridge stack marking the former gable end.

References Bibliography

James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p141. James R Nicolson LERWICK HARBOUR (1966) p11. James R Nicolson HAY & COMPANY (1982) p5 plates 16 and 30. NMRS Ref: A 80688. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p112 plate 21.

Site Number 108

Site Name Inches, 14 Bell's Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43576

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 447022 Northing 1141301

Description

Dated 1872. 2-storey 3-bay near-symmetrical villa of rectangular plan with single storey service wing to rear (N). Stugged squared and specked sandstone principal front, harl-pointed side and

wing to rear (N). Stugged squared and snecked sandstone principal front, harl-pointed side and rear elevations, all with polished ashlar dressings and details, droved at arrises. Base course

and eaves cornice.

S (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: 6-panel 2-leaf timber entrance door with plate glass fanlight at ground in centre bay; doorpiece comprising pilasters with scrolled brackets flanking lintel and supporting cornice. Bipartite windows at ground and 1st floors in bay at left. 2-storey, 3-light canted bay with corniced lintel at ground in bay to right. Projecting cills and stop chamfered arrises at windows. Long and short dressings to windows and at corners.

W ELEVATION: narrow windows to left of centre at ground; modern single storey conservatory projecting at right; narrow window at 1st floor to right of centre.

N (REAR) ELEVATION: round-arched stair window centred at 1st floor, windows at ground and 1st floors in flanking bays; harled rubble service wing advanced at ground.

E ELEVATION: single window centre at 1st floor.

Some timber sash and case windows surviving; plate glass to principal front, 4 and 6-pane to side and rear elevations and service wing. Purple-grey slate piended platform roof with profiled cast-iron gutter to principal elevation; decorative cast-iron brattishing with wrought-iron finials at corners. Stugged sandstone wallhead stacks centring side elevations; corniced with octagonal and circular cans.

INTERIOR: internal fitting surviving include 4-panel doors, panelled shutters and plaster cornices. Timber staircase with decorative cast-iron balusters and timber handrail. Stained glass stair window bearing date 1872.

BOUNDARY WALLS: random rubble walls, stugged and droved ashlar gatepiers with bases and cavetto-moulded caps with urns centring house to S; flanking quadrant walls with saddleback cope, terminated to E by cement-rendered and lined pier.

PUMP: cast-iron pump (to W of house) on stugged ashlar plinth by George Smith & Co of Sun Foundry Glasgow.

### Statement of Special Interest

This pattern book design was built by Andrew Sievwright, a prominent lawyer whose father, Gilbert, lived in Law Lane. He inhabited it shortly before emigrating to New Zealand and it subsequently functioned as the manse for St Olaf's Church.



References Bibliography

James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p105, 173 plate 44. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE

LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p184 plate 30.

Site Number 109

Site Name Gilbertson Park, Burgh Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB43577

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447076

Northing 1141452

Dated 1897. Classical park gates comprising 2-leaf wrought-iron park gates at centre; square-

plan polished ashlar gatepiers with bases, shafts partially fluted with rusticated banding; frieze above with alternating triglyphs and medallions; corniced caps with ball finials on stepped bases. Flanking short lengths of stugged sandstone dwarf walls with ashlar cope and wroughtiron railing connecting to flanking piers (matching above but without ball finials), flanking dwarf quadrant walls connecting to outer piers (matching above but without friezes, fluting and ball finials). Flanking rubble boundary wall with saddleback cope bounding E of park.

Statement of Special Interest

An inscription on the left gatepier reads "Gilbertson Park" and on the right pier "Presented to the town of Lerwick by Robert P Gilbertson Esq and opened by him 27th June 1897".

References Bibliography

James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) plate 17. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF

CENTURY (1991) plate 27.

Site Number 110

Site Name Ice Factory, Grantfield, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB43606

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447077

Northing 1141870

Description Early 19th century. Pair of 2-storey and attic industrial buildings with mutual side wall giving M-

gables to E and W; single storey gabled buildings projecting to W. Random rubble walls with

stugged sandstone dressings, droved at arrises.

E ELEVATION: M-gable; openings with segmental-arched lintels centring left gable at each floor and hoist projecting in gablehead. Right gable; wide opening with modern doors centred at ground; infilled door to left. Partially-infilled loading door centred at 1st floor with flanking windows, vertically-boarded timber loading door with timber flagpole above centred in gablehead.

N ELEVATION: asymmetrical, irregular fenestration; chimney-gable to left of centre with



windows flanking, right window shared with group to right centred by 4-panel timber door with plate glass fanlight and matching window to right. Door accessed by open timber stair to landing supported on decorative cast-iron brackets. Infilled door centred below chimneygable at ground, with boarded window to left, 6-pane fixed-light to right.

W ELEVATION: gabled cement-rendered rubble wings (with built-up wallheads) projecting at ground.

S ELEVATION: 2 bays, widely spaced, with windows flanking centre at 1st floor. Modern lean-to addition projecting at ground to outer left.

12-pane timber sash and case windows to principal windows at 1st floor. Vertically-boarded timber doors. Purple-grey slates, cement-rendered rubble and brick chimney and ashlar skew copes to N block. Grey slate and corrugated-iron cladding to S block.

Statement of Special Interest

A prominent feature of Grantfield indicating the former appearance of this area.

References Bibliography

Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) plate 21

Site Number 111

Site Name Skipidock, Garthspool, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43607

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447014

Northing 1141885

Description Early 19th century, reconstructed 1895. Dock of splayed plan, bounded by pier to N (with

entrance at E end) quay wall to E, and beach to S. Large stugged sandstone blocks to quay and

pier walls with some stone mooring bollards surviving.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p22. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p492.

Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) plate 21.

Site Number 112

Site Name Janet Courtney Hostel, Gressy Loan, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB43609

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448071 Northing 1140799

Description James Shearer of Dunfermline, 1939. 3-storey over partially-exposed basement, 9-bay

asymmetrical flat-roofed International Modern hostel comprising stair tower breaking eaves at centre with 5-bay elevation partially overlapping at left, and 3-bay elevation recessed at right.



Roughcast walls over stugged squared and snecked sandstone base, with concrete dressings, all painted. Cill and lintel courses at basement; eaves course. Projecting cills at windows.

NE (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: stair tower to right of centre; comprising full-height 14-light mullioned and transomed stair window surmounted by relief of burgh arms flanked by engaged finials. 5-bay regularly fenestrated elevation advanced and overlapping at right; door at basement in bay to outer left. 3-bay regularly fenestrated elevation recessed to right of tower; basement concealed; horizontally-boarded and studded 2-leaf timber entrance door with cantilevered concrete canopy at principal floor adjacent to tower.

SE ELEVATION: asymmetrical 3-bay elevation with 2-storey canted bay at basement and ground in bay to right comprising basement window at centre face, 3-light window at principal floor, parapet with stylised urns above. Regular fenestration above and in centre bay, obscured at ground by modern addition; blank bay at left.

SW (REAR) ELEVATION: irregularly composed and fenestrated elevation with 2-storey, 10-bay service building advanced at left, and modern single storey infill at right.

Timber windows, predominantly 8 and 6-pane with casements; 4-pane fixed-lights to stair tower.

TERRACE; stugged squared and snecked sandstone walls (matching basement) with concrete cope and galvanised steel railing.

### Statement of Special Interest

This building was a gift of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees. It was immediately requisitioned for military needs, delaying its opening for the accommodation of country boy students until October 1947. The overlapping planes and Art Deco influenced tower are strong architectural features of the period, their impact somewhat lost due to the view from the E being obscured by recent additions to the High School complex. Despite the contrasting styles, this building makes an impressive companion to the High School and Bruce Hostel when viewed from the sea.

### References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p32. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p250. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p489.

Site Number 113

**NRHE Number** 

Northing

Site Name Hayfield House, Hayfield Lane, Lerwick

LB43611

1141309

Type of Site Listed Building

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 446900

Description Circa 1840. 2-storey over raised basement 3-bay former villa (now o

Circa 1840. 2-storey over raised basement 3-bay former villa (now offices) formerly of U-plan, now infilled with modern lean-to 2-storey addition to rear giving square plan. Stugged squared and snecked granite walls with droved sandstone ashlar dressings, cement-rendered rear

elevation. Margined windows with projecting cills.

S (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: projecting droved sandstone ashlar porch centred at principal floor comprising flight of stone steps to advanced round-arched doorpiece with flanking narrow sidelights and cornice articulated around. Window centred at 1st floor; regular fenestration in flanking bays.

E AND W ELEVATIONS: regularly fenestrated; modern lean-to addition at basement of E



elevation. Blind windows at 1st floor in bay to outer left of E elevation, and at 1st floor in bays to outer left and right of W elevation.

N (REAR) ELEVATION: modern cement-rendered lean-to addition obscuring basement and principal floors. Window in infilled centre bay at 2nd floor, blind window in bay to left.

Modern timber lying-pane windows. Grey slate piended roof with terracotta ridge tiles and profiled cast-iron gutters with decorative brackets. Droved ashlar stacks flanking centre bay, coped, with red circular cans.

### Statement of Special Interest

A photograph of circa 1970 shows the centre bay of the rear elevation recessed, with 2-storey service entrance infilling at basement and principal floors. Hayfield was built for a prominent Lerwick Merchant.

### References

Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p31. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) plate 44. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p494. NMRS Ref: SH/554. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p113 plate 30.

Site Number 114

Site Name Seafield, Kantersted Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43618

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 446615 Northing 1140030

Description 1833, with addition and alterations of circa 1900. Single and 2-storey, 5-bay asymmetrical

classical villa of rectangular plan with projecting 2-storey wing centred at rear. Droved sandstone ashlar principal front with harl-pointed stugged rubble side and rear elevations with droved achieved achieve droved achieved ac

droved ashlar dressings. Projecting cills at windows.

E (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: asymmetrical; 2-storey elevation with advanced single storey entrance hall and drawing room in bays to centre and left. Entrance door at centre bay comprising 6-panel timber door with round-arched plate glass fanlight and flanking narrow plate glass timber sash and case windows. Regular fenestration in bays to left. 2-storey bay to right of centre; tripartite windows at ground and 1st floors in bowed bay to right of centre; bipartite windows at ground and 1st floors in bay to outer right. Single bay crenellated wall with window extending to left of elevation.

S ELEVATION: end elevation of principal front comprising bowed bay to left with tripartite windows at ground and 1st floors, single storey end wall of drawing room extending to right, rubble rear wall of former conservatory extending to left.

W (REAR) ELEVATION: irregularly fenestrated; blank to right of centre, projecting 2-storey bathroom block at centre; lean-to glazed timber porch in re-entrant to left.

N ELEVATION: vertically-boarded timber door with carved flower over lintel centring elevation; 4-pane window to left.

Timber sash and case windows; 12-pane to principal elevation, curved with 8-pane sidelights to tripartite windows, 2-pane upper sashes and plate glass lower sashes to windows in later work, some modern glazing to rear. Purple-grey slate roof with cast-iron gutters and downpipes with hoppers. Stugged sandstone ashlar wallhead stacks to N, and W elevations and single flue stack to SE corner, all coped with circular cans.



INTERIOR: tiled vestibule floor; 2-panel inner entrance door with glazed upper, sidelights and 4-pane round-arched fanlight. Timber staircase with turned spindle. Drawing room bow-ended to E; timber chimneypiece with dentilled cornice. Bow-ended dining room with grey marble chimneypiece, decorative plaster cornice, architraved windows and 6-panel doors.

STEADING: U-plan, harl-pointed random rubble walls with stugged and droved sandstone dressings. Formerly symmetrical principal elevation to E comprising 2-storey tower with 3-pointed arch at ground, round-arched vertically-boarded timber door centred above at 1st floor, row of flightholes over alighting ledge below eaves. Flanking 2-bay ranges, blind windows with evidence of "12-pane" painted windows in each bay except for cement-rendered and lined infill to cart-arch in inner left bay. Bays at outer left and right slightly advanced, modernised at left, modern vehicle door inserted at right. Segmental-arched cart arches to left at N elevation, 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber doors in left arch, partially rubble-infilled right arch. Variety of roofing materials including corrugated sheeting, fishscale tiles and grey slate; bell-cast pyramidal slate roof with wrought-iron weathervane to tower; cast-iron gutters and downpipes. Regular fenestration to courtyard elevations.

BOUNDARY AND RETAINING WALLS: droved ashlar wall to drive (E), surmounted by ashlar cope and cast-iron railing with fleur-de-lys finials; gate at centre with pineapple finials to gatepiers; wall terminated to N and S by droved ashlar piers with pyramidal caps. Random rubble terrace wall centred by stone steps with nosings accessing entrance door. Ashlar coped random rubble walls flanking entrance front, round-arched gateways adjacent to elevation, vertically-boarded timber gate in archway to right. Flagged area to W, bounded random rubble retaining wall with concrete cope. Droved ashlar gatepiers with bases and caps adjoining steading at S end. Droved ashlar piers at shore (to E) with bases and pyramidal caps.

#### Statement of Special Interest

Built for Angus Ogilvy, owner of the Shetland Banking Company, this is a sophisticated house of good quality construction. The layout of the garden and the siting of the stables are an important part of the composition.

References Bibliography Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p34.

Site Number 115

Site Name Old Cemetery, Knab Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43623

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447828 Northing 1140946

Description Early 19th century. Triangular cemetery with 3-bay classical arched entrance gateway at N

corner. Cement-rendered and lined rubble boundary wall, partially with droved ashlar cope. Droved ashlar entrance gateway comprising segmental-arched carriage gate at centre gate; coped with stepped block pediment above, flanked by lower, slightly recessed pedestrian

gateways.

Variety of grave enclosures comprising cast-iron railings on droved ashlar copes, lining E and S walls and flanking path along W wall. Monument to Laurenson family in enclosure no 12, comprising marble round-arched memorial slabs set in Romanesque arcaded red sandstone recesses in ashlar-coped stugged sandstone wall.

Statement of Special Interest

By 1829, the old Lerwick kirkyard was full. The Heritors of the town decided in March 1831 to



recommend the triangular piece of ground which now forms what is now known as the Old Cemetery. Originally laid out as a park circa 1820, before being designated a burial ground on 14th April 1831. Records of the Heritors meeting of the 16th January 1835 mention a Mr William Matheson, surveyor, had drawn a plan of the ground and had designed the entrance gate.

References Bibliography

E S Reid Tait A LERWICK MISCELLANY (1955), p55. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) plate 8.

Site Number 116

Site Name Gutters Hut, North Ness, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43630

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447530 Northing 1141920

**Description** Circa 1900. 2-storey 13 x 3-bay gutters? hut of rectangular plan. Corrugated-iron clad timber

frame construction on concrete base. Timber door and window surrounds with projecting cills. Full-length timber walkway at 1st floor with cast-iron handrail supported on projecting timber

joists, returned at E and W elevations to open timber stairs.

N ELEVATION: asymmetrical, ground floor; wide door at centre bay with windows in flanking 4 bays, wide doors in flanking bays, doors in penultimate bay to left and in bay to outer right. 1st floor; square window in centre bay with windows in flanking 4 bays, wide door in bay to right, door and window closely spaced in bay to left, door in penultimate bay to left, blank bays to outer left and right.

E ELEVATION: bipartite windows at ground and 1st floors in bay to left. Regular fenestration in bays at right except blank at ground floor to right.

S (REAR) ELEVATION: irregular fenestration with lean-to at ground.

6-pane hoppered timber windows. Corrugated-iron clad roof with cast-iron gutters and downpipes. Cement-rendered stacks, coped with circular cans.

Statement of Special Interest

One of the last surviving of these once prolific buildings which were a major feature of Lerwick?s townscape during the Herring Boom.

Site Number 117

Site Name Jahara, North Ness, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43631

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 447510 Northing 1141788



Description

Early 19th century. 2-storey over concealed basement, 3-bay house. Cement-rendered walls with droved and painted margins to windows at principal front.

E (ENTRANCE) ELEVATION: near-symmetrical with centre and left bay grouped to left. Modern flat-roofed porch in centre bay at principal floor.

S ELEVATION: 2-bay gable with single window at 1st floor in bay at right, chamfered corner at left

W (REAR) ELEVATION: asymmetrical; door centred at basement, partially infilled former stair window above, regular fenestration in flanking bays at basement and principal floors, enlarged window at 1st floor in bay to right. Blank at 1st floor except for small square window to right of centre.

N ELEVATION: blank gable end.

Some plate glass and 4-pane timber sash and case windows surviving; purple-grey slate roof with cast-iron gutter and downpipe with hopper. Cement-rendered apex stacks with concrete copes and circular cans;

cement-rendered skew copes.

BOUNDARY WALLS AND GATEPIERS: cement-rendered and lined rubble wall with concrete triangular cope to S. Entrance gate at centre with stugged and painted gatepiers surmounted by gabled caps. Random rubble boundary wall to W.

#### Statement of Special Interest

A photograph of 1972/3 shows Jahara with a gabled porch with slated roof. This house forms a striking group with its neighbour North Ness House.

#### References

Bibliography

Tom Henderson SHETLAND FROM OLD PHOTOGRAPHS (1978) plate 62. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) plate 33. James R Nicolson LERWICK HARBOUR (1966) plate 13. NMRS Ref: SH/551. Thomas Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p95 plate 17.

Site Number 118

Site Name Ness-Of-Sound, Sea Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43637

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 446581

Northing 1139858

Description Dated 1837, recast in 1929. 2-storey, 3-bay near-symmetrical classical villa of L-plan with single

storey wing in re-entrant and single storey porches projecting to N and E. Harled walls with cement-rendered and lined dressings and details. Long and short quoins at windows and

corners, projecting cills at windows.

E (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: projecting entrance porch centred at ground comprising central 6-panel timber door with 4-pane fanlight, tall windows in flanking bays divided by stop-chamfered square columns with capitals and bases; bipartite windows in side elevations with stop-chamfered arrises; plain cornice and balustraded parapet around eaves. French window with 2-pane glazed upper and 8-pane fanlight centred over porch, 2-storey 4-light bay window with string and cill courses and crenellated parapet in bay to left. Bipartite window at ground in bay to right, Wyatt window offset to left at 1st floor. Wide corniced pediment with datestone in tympanum bearing inscription: "J G 1837 RECONSTRUCTED R D G 1929".



S ELEVATION: 2-bay end elevation of principal range advanced at right, windows at ground and 1st floors in bay at left, rear wing recessed at left, single storey flat-roofed wing in re-entrant angle with window to left of centre at 1st floor.

W (REAR) ELEVATION: 2-bay part of rear elevation of principal range recessed to right with tall 8-pane stair window adjacent to re-entrant angle, window; rear wing elevation advanced at left with window at ground to right of centre and Wyatt window centred at 1st floor; single bay wing elevations flanking.

N ELEVATION: windows roughly centred at ground and 1st floors, single storey porch with vertically-boarded timber door with 3-pane fanlight and pair of windows in side elevations.

Timber sash and case windows with multi-pane upper sashes and 2-pane lower sashes. 8-pane fixed-light stair window with coloured border glazing. Purple-grey slate piended roof with terracotta ridge terminals and profiled cast-iron gutters and downpipes. Stugged ashlar wallhead stacks centring end elevations of principal range, additional wallhead stack adjacent to re-entrant angle, all coped with octagonal cans. Single-flue harled stack with circular can at corner of N porch.

INTERIOR: many fittings from 1929 refit surviving; timber stair with herringbone pattern soffit, upper flight oversailing with balustrades on both sides in nautical form.

BOUNDARY WALLS: random rubble garden and terrace walls with flagged paths and stone steps. Stugged sandstone piers with pyramidal caps centring E wall.

#### Statement of Special Interest

A watercolour shows the house in its early 19th century form as a square 2-storey block with wallhead stacks at end elevations and flanking wings, a form still evident despite the later alterations to this house which is a prominent feature on the Ness of Sound.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p34.

Site Number 119

Site Name Bruce Hostel, Twageos Road, Lerwick

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB43638

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448007 Northing 1140955

Description W Laidlaw MacDougall and W W Reid, dated 1914-23, with boundary walls by John M Aitken. 2-

storey and attic, 3-bay symmetrical hostel with classical details, gabled 3-storey wings projecting at rear giving U-plan. Harled walls with polished and droved ashlar dressings and details. Base course, cill course at 2nd floor, band course and mutuled cornice at eaves. Stop-

chamfered window arrises. Stone transoms to ground floor windows.

NE (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: symmetrical, channelled pilasters framing elevation and broad centre bay, entrance door with panelled pilasters recessed at ground behind distyle screen of Tuscan columns; stone steps to glazed and panelled timber entrance door with semicircular 6-pane fanlight at centre, flanking 6-pane timber fixed-lights with matching fanlights above. Entablature corbelled out to frieze bearing script "BRUCE HOSTEL" with flanking heart sculptures; 5-light window at 1st floor, downward-swept parapet breaking eaves above with segmental-arched armorial panel containing date 1919 and shield at centre. 7-light mullioned and canted bays at ground in outer bays; tripartite windows at 1st floor framed by channelled



pilasters, segmental-arched pediments at eaves.

SE ELEVATION: asymmetrical, 3-bay end elevation of principal block to right framed by channelled pilasters, transomed windows at ground, bipartite at bay to left, additional window at 1st floor to left of centre bay. 2-bay wing recessed at left, transomed windows at ground, 2 in bay to left, 3 narrow windows in bay to right with door below that at centre. Regular fenestration at 1st and 2nd floors, bipartite windows, gabled dormerheads breaking eaves at 2nd floor.

NW ELEVATION: mirrored image of SE elevation; except bipartite window at ground floor blind, mullioned bipartite windows at ground floor of wing.

SW (REAR) ELEVATION: near-symmetrical, modern infill at centre, flanking gabled wings, each with 2 windows in inner left bay at ground, narrow window offset to left, door in inner right bay, tripartite windows at 1st and 2nd floors.

Modern glazing throughout. Purple-grey slate roof, piended and bell-cast to main block, castiron gutters and downpipes with semi-octagonal hoppers, red terracotta ridge tiles with finials. Corniced timber dormers to NE pitch, bipartite at centre and outer bays, tripartite at SE and NW pitches. Overhanging timber eaves to wings, slate roofs with terracotta ridge tiles to dormers. Harled wallhead stacks at SE and NW elevations of main block, deep ashlar copes with battered red circular cans.

INTERIOR: entrance hall; decorative timber floor, vertically-boarded timber panels to dado with incised hearts to rail. 6-panel architraved doors. Timber screen below staircase (matching dado) with arched and glazed upper section. Ornate bronze urn supported by Chinese figures and surmounted by eagle (2 dragons recently removed). Timber stair and balustrade with panelled newels and incised hearts in urn finials; plain square balusters with octagonal stanchions and incised hearts, herringbone patterned soffit. 3-pane stair window with border glazing. Pair of architraved 3-pane round-arched with bracketted cills at 1st floor landing. Timber chimneypieces in rooms flanking hall.

TERRACES: ashlar steps at centre with channelled parapets terminated by dies with bases and caps; flanking harled retaining walls with ashlar balustraded parapet, circular bastions at corners to outer left and right with crenellated parapets, terrace returned along side elevations. Secondary terrace wall to NE, random rubble wall with channelled cope, wide opening at centre, stugged drum piers with channelled caps. Wall terminated to N and S by conical-capped drum piers integral with boundary walls.

BOUNDARY AND RETAINING WALLS: boundary random rubble retaining wall to W, terminated to N by harled drum gatepiers with bases and conical caps. Random rubble boundary walls to N, S, and W with square-section channelled cope. 2-leaf timber entrance gates to NW; incised hearts and trefoils, with wrought-iron hinges, square ashlar piers with corniced caps; flanking stugged squared and snecked quadrant walls with base course and blind arrowslits, curving forward to drum piers with arrowslits and conical caps. Stone steps at centre, square piers at top with bases, caps and urns matching internal stair. Random rubble quadrant wall at NE corner, stugged, stop-chamfered gatepiers, 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber gates with wrought-iron hinges, cope oversailing as arch with keystone bearing heart motif at centre. Stugged ashlar drum piers with bases and conical caps flanking quadrant.

#### Statement of Special Interest

Although dated 1919, construction work had already begun in 1914 and was not completed until 1923. It was gifted by Robert Hunter Bruce of Sumburgh and Lunna. W Laidlaw MacDougall was the agent of the Sumburgh estate, and W W Reid was later to become burgh surveyor. The loosely baroque detailing suggests that its design might have been influenced by J J Burnet?s Bank of Scotland. John M Aitken was the contractor, and is credited with the design of the perimeter walls, gates, and gatepiers. Like the neighbouring Anderson Institute, this building is a striking feature on the burgh?s skyline, particularly when arriving by sea. It is of good quality construction and an important part of the history of education in Shetland.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p31. James W Irvine LERWICK (1985) p165, plate 42. Thomas



Manson LERWICK DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY (1991) p4 and 165. John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p489.

Site Number 120

Site Name Pier, Gardie House, Bressay

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB44520

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448680 Northing 1142013

Description Early 18th century in origin, 19th century re-working. Random rubble pier projecting to W from

shore and curving to S. Cement-rendered boat-house at shore; iron rails leading from boat-

house to timber derrick and ashlar steps at W end of pier.

Statement of Special Interest

The pier is a prominent feature in Skene's view of Gardie of circa 1812, and remains an essential part of this view today. Fragments survive of a timber trolley with cast-iron wheels, and a winch E of the boathouse, presumably used for transporting boats to the water.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p83.

Site Number 121

Site Name Steading, Gardie House, Bressay

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB44521

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448786

Northing 1142108

**Description** Early to earlier 19th century. Symmetrical U-plan steading comprising central 2-storey tower

with flanking L-plan wings. Harled walls with droved and polished ashlar dressings. Margined

openings to principal elevation.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: 2-stage tower slightly advanced at centre; segmental cart-arch to flagged pend at ground, partially blind window to maid's bedroom above with ogee cornice at eaves of pyramidal roof. Vertically-boarded timber doors (louvered at left) in flanking wings.

S ELEVATION: asymmetrical; 4 bays with 4-pane timber windows in bays to left of centre, and slit ventilators in bays to right of centre. Rubble wall extending to E; wallhead curving down infilled gate at junction with drystone wall extending S.

E (REAR) ELEVATION: courtyard with variety of openings; slated rubble lean-to E wall of ranges.

N ELEVATION: asymmetrical; 5 bays with vertically-boarded timber door in bay to outer left, louvered timber infill to opening in bay to outer right, slit ventilators of various sizes in centre bays.



Fish-scale slate pyramidal roof with weathercock at apex at tower; cement-rendered and lined wallhead stacks centring sides of tower, coped with circular cans. Piended stone slab roof with cast-iron skylights to wings (partially clad with corrugated sheeting, 1996).

#### Statement of Special Interest

The W range contained stable accommodation with a dairy and hen house in the N range, and a byre for one cow in the S range. This is a charming building on account of its diminutive scale, but is an essential feature in the policies of Gardie House.

References Bibliography

John Gifford HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS (1992) p471. Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p84.

Site Number 122

Site Name St Ola's Church And Burial-Ground, Gunnista

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB44523

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 450138

Northing 1143693

Description 18th century. Rectangular graveyard on site sloping to E containing headstones dating from

18th century, and single storey, 3 x 1-bay near-symmetrical classically detailed rectangular

mausoleum.

BURIAL ENCLOSURE: stugged sandstone ashlar walls, moulded base course over rubble, wallhead slabs carved as lintel cornice at eaves. Margined corners and chamfered arrises to windows. Doorway centred in W elevation with flat-arch and skull and crossbones carved on keystone. Interior; grave slabs, 1 depicting skull and egg-timer, ashlar reveals framing doors and windows. Bays off-set to right at N and S (side) elevations, single window centring E elevation.

BOUNDARY WALL: drystone wall, topped partially by semicircular cope; square drystone gatepiers to W side.

Statement of Special Interest

Gunnista was the site of the mediaeval kirk of St Olaf. The mausoleum is that of the

Hendersons of Gardie.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p84.

Site Number 123

Site Name Pier, Fishing Station, Heogan, Bressay

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB44524

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 447437

Northing 1143447



Description

Later 19th century. Fishing station complex comprised of house and store at centre with flanking outbuildings to N and S, courtyard to rear with long barrel store lining W side forming courtyard; pier with derrick to S. Harl-pointed and lined rubble walls with stugged and droved sandstone dressings to principal elevation of house, lime- harl-pointed rubble walls with stugged sandstone dressings elsewhere.

HOUSE AND STORE: W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: 2-storey 3-bay gabled house with single storey store to adjoining to N (left). House; door at ground off-set to right of centre, small window to outer right, regular fenestration in bay to left and at 1st floor. Single storey store to left, window to left of centre and vertically-boarded timber door at outer right.

N GABLE: blank gable to house, store projecting at ground with square window in gablehead. High rubble wall extending to barrel store gable at left.

E (REAR) ELEVATION: windows centred at 1st floor and at ground in bay to left only.

S GABLE: 2-bay gable with single window at 1st floor in bay to left.

N OUTBUILDING: symmetrical single storey 3-bay store aligned to N of house. Door in centre bay, 2 square ventilators at ground level in flanking bays. Slit ventilator centring rear elevation; 2 square ventilators at ground level in N gable.

S OUTBUILDING: symmetrical single storey, 5-bay gabled store aligned to S of house. Central door in W elevation with windows in flanking bays. Modern lean-to addition to rear.

BARREL STORE: long gabled barn enclosing E side of courtyard. Blank E elevation, courtyard elevation with segmental-arched door near centre, rubble buttresses and large modern opening to right. Single window to right in N gable. 2 x 2 bay roofless rubble building with square windows and door at SE corner adjoining barrel store in NE corner of courtyard.

PIER: to S of complex, projecting S into sea, Bressay stone walls with slabbed carriageway, E wall turned at right-angle and extending E as sea wall; derrick with timber mast and boom and iron fittings at pierhead.

#### Statement of Special Interest

The B-category refers to the interest of the complex as a whole rather than individual components. Compared to other stations on the islands, these buildings are built on a large scale. The house with flanking stores forms a very impressive row clearly visible from across Bressay Sound. Currently (1996) the buildings are roofless other than the barrel store and S store which have modern corrugated sheet clad roofs. Despite the largely derelict state of these buildings, their walls and layout remain much as original making this Shetland's finest surviving fishing station.

Site Number 124

Site Name Boat Store And Slipway, Maryfield, Bressay

Type of Site Listed Building
NRHE Number LB44525

Status Listed Building- Category B

Easting 448863 Northing 1141748

**Description** STOREHOUSE: early 19th century, single storey symmetrical gabled storehouse. Harl-pointed

rubble walls with stugged sandstone dressings. Vertically-boarded timber door centring W

elevation, and offset to left of N gable with slit ventilator in gablehead.

Grey slate roof with clay ridge tiles, sandstone ashlar skew copes with clay urn finials.



WALL AND RETAINING WALLS: flagstone rubble wall projecting E from SE corner, and curving northwards to Maryfield House. Retaining wall with steps extending to left (N) from W elevation.

SLIPWAY: rubble ramp with sandstone edge, bounded to S by flagstone rubble wall.

Statement of Special Interest

With the slipway and walls, this small building forms a strategic charming group at the point where the ferry now approaches Bressay.

It also forms a striking composition with Maryfield House (see separate listing), although this view has now been compromised somewhat by the building of a modern house between the two elements.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p82.

Site Number 125

Site Name Walled Garden And Gatepiers, Laxfirth House, Lax Firth

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB47293

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 443623 Northing 1147081

Description 18th century, remodelled in 19th century. 2-storey 5-bay (grouped 1-3-1) symmetrical laird's

house comprising main block of rectangular plan with large 2-storey square-plan wing to rear (N). Rendered and painted walls with painted long and short quoins to windows and framing

elevations.

S (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: symmetrical, modern lean-to porch centred at ground with 3 closely-spaced windows at floor above, regular fenestration in outer bays.

W ELEVATION: blank gable of main block to right, wing elevation recessed at left with windows to outer right and left of ground and 1st floors.

E ELEVATION: single storey gabled wing-projecting from main block at left, irregularly fenestrated wing elevation recessed at right.

Modern glazing throughout. Purple-grey slate piended roof to main block, flat felted roof to rear wing. Pair of shouldered 3-flue wallhead stacks to rear elevation of main block, and 4-flue shouldered wallhead stacks to E and W elevations of wing.

WALLED GARDEN AND GATEPIERS: random rubble wall enclosing long rectangular garden extending to S from house; painted ball-finialled square gatepiers centring S wall.

Statement of Special Interest

A house that departs from the usual form for Shetland's haas. Finnie suggests that the house dates from the 18th century, with its piend-roofed form resulting from a remodelling of the 1840s.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p38.



Site Number 126

Site Name Manse, St Magnus's Church, Tingwall

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB47306

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 441917

Northing 1143658

Description Early 19th century with late 19th century alterations. 2-storey 3-bay asymmetrical former

manse linked by garden walls to U-plan steading to E. Harled walls with droved sandstone ashlar dressings. Base course, chamfered arrises and sloping cills to windows of principal

elevation; margined windows and corners to rear.

S (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: asymmetrical, gabled bay advanced at left, tripartite windows at ground and 1st floors, small pointed-arched window centred in gablehead above; 2-leaf vertically-boarded timber door with plate glass fanlight to pointed-arched opening in gabled porch centring elevation at ground and clasping corner of advanced bay; window centred above at 1st floor; bipartite window at ground in bay to right, window centred above rising into harled stone dormerhead breaking eaves.

W GABLE: single window to right at 1st floor.

N (REAR) ELEVATION: vertically-boarded timber door with 2-pane fanlight to left of centre with window centred above, small window at ground to right of centre with large border-glazed stair window above; regular fenestration in outer bays.

E GABLE: windows to left at ground and 1st floors; single storey single bay wing projecting to right of centre; modern flat-roofed addition to gable of latter.

Modern glazing to principal elevation, 12-pane timber sash and case windows surviving in outer bays of rear elevation. Purple-grey slate roof with cast-iron hoppers to downpipes; droved sandstone ashlar skew-copes with block skewputts; harled apex stacks to principal gables with circular cans and stone copes enlarged in concrete.

BOUNDARY WALLS AND GATEPIERS: random rubble wall with triangular cope enclosing house to N,E, and W, and enclosing garden to E; entrance gate to NW of house comprising cement-rendered and lined gatepiers with pyramidal caps flanked by harled quadrant walls and matching outer piers.

Statement of Special Interest

B Group with Mitchell's of Westshore Burial Aisle and St Magnus's Kirk.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p36. John Gifford HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS (1992), p511.

Site Number 127

Site Name Steading, Veensgarth House, Veensgarth

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB47308

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 442848



Northing

1144262

Description

Mid 19th century, with later alterations. Substantial farm steading comprising principal 10-bay range to W, U-plan steading to rear (E) with mill building projecting to E from NE corner forming rough L-plan. Harl-pointed rubble walls with droved sandstone ashlar margins and stugged sandstone dressing to corners.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: single storey 3-bay grieve's house (with gabled porches to E and W) to outer right; near-symmetrical 7-bay elevation adjoining at left; bays grouped 2-3-2; raised wallhead to central 3-bay cartshed with segmental-arched cart-arches in each bay with square loft windows above; 2 widely-spaced bays to flanking barns, that at right with window inserted at centre of elevation, that at left partly obscured by modern lean-to addition.

Modern glazing to grieve's house, some timber louveres to barns, purple-grey slate roof to grieve's house and mill building, former with piend-roofed dormers to E pitch, corrugated sheeting to other pitches; stugged sandstone stacks with circular cans to grieve's house, single-flue stack to NW gable of U-plan steading.

#### Statement of Special Interest

Veensgarth is one of a number of farms established in the Tingwall Valley by Lerwick merchants during the 19th century, and is notable for the lowland form of the steading and farmhouse (see separate listing).

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p36.

Site Number 128

Site Name Veensgarth House, Veensgarth

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB47311

Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 442833 Northing 1144224

Description Mid 19th century. 2-storey 3-bay symmetrical gabled former farmhouse with full-width piend-

roofed and gabled wing to rear and mono-pitch roofed outbuilding adjoining at SE corner.

Harled rubble walls with stugged and droved sandstone dressings.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: near-symmetrical, gabled porch at ground in centre bay flanked by tripartite windows, regular fenestration at 1st floor.

N ELEVATION: single window at ground offset to right.

E (REAR) ELEVATION: single storey wing parallel to main house, gabled to left and piend-roofed to right; small gabled porch adjoining; tall stacks. Single window to 1st floor of main house behind.

S ELEVATION: single windows to both floors offset to right.

Purple-grey slate roofs; stugged sandstone skew-copes and gablehead stacks to principal roof.

GARDEN WALL AND OUTBUILDING: random rubble wall enclosing garden to S with remains of small rubble outbuilding at SW corner.

Statement of Special Interest

Veensgarth is one of a number of farms established in the Tingwall Valley by Lerwick



merchants during the 19th century, and is notable for the lowland form of the house and adjoining steading (see separate listing).

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990), p36.

Site Number 129

Site Name 20 COMMERCIAL STREET, THE LODBERRIE, INCLUDING BAINS BEACH SEA WALL AND STEPS, CR

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37242

Status Listed Building- Category A

Easting 447894 Northing 1141244

Description

Later 18th century, with later alteration. Picturesquely grouped house and stores built on lodberry, comprising single storey over concealed basement 3-bay range (former shop) to commercial street with 2-storey 3-bay house connected at right-angle to rear (N); 2-storey range (former sail loft and dry goods store at upper floor) with store and workshop at basement bounding W extent of complex, small flagged courtyard centred at N end of lodberry, 2-storey store (former wet fish store with meat and fishcuring "skeo" at upper floor) to NE corner. Harl-pointed random rubble walls.

FORMER SHOP: rebuilt circa 1950. Single storey, 3-bay concrete-block elevation to Commercial Street, door at centre with narrow window adjacent to left and wide window at right. W gable; single window to left at upper floor, stone steps with rubble wall at foot accessing Bain?s Beach and W sea door in wall extending to left from gable. E gable; single window centred at upper floor, adjoining timber gate (incorporating ship?s wheel) accessing stone steps from Commercial Street to basement entrance at right with vertically-boarded timber door.

HOUSE: 2-storey, 3-bay E elevation with entrance door offset to left of centre, windows in outer bays at ground and 1st floors; high random rubble wall fronting basement bay at right and enclosing flagged yard, segmental-arched E sea door in wall at outer right with timber hoist projecting above. N gable; door at basement and window at upper floor in bay to right, small louvered opening in gablehead; slated rubble lean-to at basement to left with door in E wall, W wall open at ground with flying buttress above supporting roof, and connecting fishcuring shed to house.

FORMER SAIL LOFT AND STORE: W elevation; single small basement (workshop) window to right. Blank N wall, timber-boarded gablehead with 3-pane fixed-light, main sea door with timber infill adjacent to left.

CURING SHED AND STORE: 3-bay N (seaward) elevation, single window centred at basement, rubble-infilled openings in bays at upper floor. W elevation; 4-panel door to right. Tall openings flanking centre of gables at upper floor, timber louvres; apex stack to W gable.

Variety of plate glass and 2 and 3-pane timber windows, latter with hoppers. Purple-grey slate roof with cast-iron gutters and downpipes. Stugged sandstone stacks to house, coped with circular cans. Concrete skew copes to house and range to Commercial Street.

SEA WALL AND NOOST: random rubble wall with stugged sandstone cope flanking house to E and W (Craigie Stane and Bain?s Beach). Partially flagged noost to Craigie Stane with concrete-coped rubble wall to N.

INTERIOR: basket-arched buffet recess in parlour with flanking fielded-panel doors. Flagged floors to basement.



Site Number 130

Site Name Lerwick Town hall, Hillhead and Charlotte Street, Including Lamp Standards, Gatepiers, Boundar

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37256

Status Listed Building- Category A

Easting 447488

Northing 1141415

Description

The building was designed by Alexander Ross and dates to 1881-3 with design alterations made during construction by John M. Aitken in 1882. It is a 2-storey, 5-bay symmetrical Gothic and Flemish Baronial style town hall, with crow-stepped gables, distinctive corner bartizans and a square-plan, battlemented clock tower to the rear (east) rising between a pair of 2-storey and attic wings. The building is set on an elevated site in Lerwick, facing west and is of stugged, squared and snecked sandstone with ashlar margins. There is a base course, moulded band courses and eaves course and finialled triangular roof vents. The entrance (west) elevation has an advanced central gabled entrance bay with a segmental-arched doorway and a 3-light corbelled oriel window above. Flanking this central bay is a pair of mullioned and transomed bipartite windows at ground level and mullioned bi-partite windows with carved apron panels at the 1st floor. There is a rose window to the north gable and pointed-arched tracery windows at the 1st floor of the south gable. A linking corridor to Lystina House (see separate listing) lies to the east.

There are grey slates to the roof with fishscale pattern to the bartizans and there are some apex stacks. The 1st floor has stained glass windows to the hall and other windows are set in timber sash and case frames. Those to the west elevation at the ground floor have stained glass over 4-pane sashes.

The interior was seen in 2014. The late 19th century room layout is relatively little altered and many features of this date survive. The main hall on the first floor has an open timber roof with corbels and curved trusses. There are a number of significant stained glass windows in the building by James Ballantine & Son, dating to 1883 and Cox and Sons, Buckley & Co of London, dating to 1882. These include an outstanding series of narrative windows in the main hall, depicting several important figures in the history of Shetland from around 870-1469 and a rose window to the north wall with several coats of arms. There are further stained glass windows in the Council Chamber. There is timber panelling with quatrefoil design to the dado rail in the hall and some rooms. The central dog-leg stair has highly decorative metal balusters and a stained glass stair window depicting Lord Aberdour. There is some plain cornicing and large stone fire surrounds.

There is a low coped boundary wall with cast iron railings and pyramidal-capped gatepiers to the west and north elevations. Cast iron lamp standards with entwined dolphins and finialled lanterns are situated to the west of the entrance.

Site Number 131

Site Name Fort Charlotte, excluding scheduled monument SM90145, Commercial Street and Harbour Stree

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB37255

Status Listed Building- Category A

Easting 447552

Northing 1141516



Description

Fort Charlotte was designed by John Mylne, Master Mason to King Charles II. Work began on the original fort in 1665-7, and it was subsequently rebuilt in 1781 after lying in disrepair for almost a century. The fort has roughly pentagonal ramparts with bastions at the corners enclosing a complex of predominantly 18th century buildings (some with later alterations) with lime harled walls and droved sandstone ashlar dressings. The roof is grey slate with cast-iron gutters and downpipes.

The external walls of the fort, are constructed of: random rubble with a flagged wallhead. The east wall is battered to Commercial Street and the west wall buttressed on its east side.

Western block: This is a 2-storey, 11-bay symmetrical block on the west side of the fort. East (entrance) elevation: This elevation has a timber entrance door which has a heavy bracketted cornice above the door. The barrack block has a blank (rather than a window) at 1st floor level above the door. The rest of the barrack block has regular windows, although left and right ends of the building are stepped forward and higher than the main block. North and South elevations: This elevation has a door at ground floor in its centre with a window above and windowless blank bays flanking the door. The south elevation mirrors the north. West (rear) elevation: This is a 10-bay near-symmetrical elevation with doorways flanking the centre bay at ground floor level. There are regularly spaced windows at 1st floor with segmental-arched lintels. There are additional doorways at ground floor level in the bays to the outer left and right with an additional window inserted to the left of the latter.

Northern block: This is a 2-storey, 7-bay asymmetrical barrack block on a sloping site comprising a 5-bay near-symmetrical building which has been extended to the west by 2 wider additional bays. The building has 12-pane timber sash and case windows, a grey slate M shaped roof with harled chimney stacks with copes and circular cans. South (entrance) elevation: This elevation is made up of 7 bays with a harled stair which accesses the 1st floor in the penultimate bay to the left. This bay also contains the main door into the building. The barracks have regular windows across the elevation. East and West elevations: These elevations have M shaped gable; the east has two doors at ground floor level. North (rear) elevation: This elevation is asymmetrical, grouped in 5-2 bays. The 5-bay group is symmetrical with a door at 1st floor in the centre bay. The 2-bay group is blank at ground floor level.

Out-house: This is a harl-pointed building with a hipped grey slate roof. Of note is the single 16-pane timber fixed-light in the west elevation to the right of centre.

Southern block (artillery storehouse): This is a single storey 11-bay building by the south gate. It is constructed of random rubble. The building is part harled with timber doors and timber sash and case windows. The roof is hipped grey slate with harled and coped ridge chimney stacks. A rubble store stands adjacent to the west elevation.

Reservoir: This is a single storey rubble building with a platform roof with pitches flanking it to the east and west.

Powder magazine: This has a harl-pointed and coped rubble wall enclosing a submerged and flagged courtyard with shifting room at the southeast corner and magazine at the centre. The shifting room is gabled with 2 evenly spaced square windows in west elevation and a door in the centre of its north elevation. The gabled magazine has slit windows in the middle of each elevation and doors on the south elevation.

In accordance with Section 1 (4A) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 the following are excluded from the listing: scheduled monument SM90145 (Fort Charlotte: see separate designation record).

Site Number 132

Site Name MIZPAH HOUSE, INCLUDING OUTBUILDINGS, BOUNDARY WALLS, RAILINGS AND GATE

Type of Site Listed Building

NRHE Number LB5878



Status Listed Building- Category C

Easting 449290 Northing 1140658

**Description** 1819. 2-storey and attic, 3-bay symmetrical T-plan former Manse with flanking gabled

outbuildings. Harled walls. Margined windows with projecting cills.

W (PRINCIPAL) ELEVATION: symmetrical single storey porch projecting in centre bay; roundarched window and entrance door in W and N elevations respectively; windows in flanking bays, regular fenestration at 1st floor.

N ELEVATION: 2-bay gable, single window at attic in bay to left, blank N elevation of rear wing recessed at left with lean-to in re-entrant angle.

E (REAR) ELEVATION: gabled 2-storey wing projecting at centre with single window at 2nd floor in E gable, and lean-to in re-entrant angle at right.

S ELEVATION: 2-bay gable with single window at attic in bay to right; 3-bay rear wing elevation recessed at right with gabled and slated porch projecting to left of centre.

Modern glazing throughout; grey tile roof with ashlar skew copes. Stugged sandstone 3-flue apex stacks to each gable, coped, with circular cans.

OUTBUILDINGS: rectangular single storey rubble outbuildings flanking house with gables to E and W, linked to house by rubble screen walls with infilled doorways; raised wallhead to N screen wall.

BOUNDARY WALLS, RAILINGS AND GATE: drystone wall enclosing garden to W; wallhead at centre of W side lowered accommodating finialled iron railings and gate.

#### Statement of Special Interest

Similar in form to Maryfield House, Mizpah is a good example of an early 19th century Shetland Manse, and a prominent feature of the view across Bressay Sound from southern Lerwick.

References Bibliography

Mike Finnie SHETLAND (1990) p84.