

The logo for the Biggar Archaeology group is a square with a white border and a dark brown background. The text "Biggar Archaeology group" is written in white, with "Biggar" on the top line, "Archaeology" in the middle, and "group" on the bottom line. Below the square, the tagline "Bringing the past to the present" is written in a smaller white font.

Biggar
Archaeology
group

Bringing the past to the present

A dark brown rectangular box containing the text "Biggar Gap Project" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Biggar Gap Project

Fieldwalking and Excavations at Cornhill Farm, Coulter by Biggar, Scotland

Interim Report – January 2001

by Tam Ward

Summary

An arable fieldwalking project was started in 1990, specifically at that time to give young archaeologists and others, experience in artefact retrieval, identification and recording. The project base proved to be rich in lithic scatters which were identified over several years, and as a consequence, limited excavation by test pitting was finally undertaken in 1999 to establish the nature of any archaeological deposits which may have survived below the plough soils, thus giving a better understanding of artefact movement and the survival of archaeology in arable fields.

An antiquity model of Cornhill Farm has been produced as a result of the project and for the sake of completeness; results of fieldwalking in three adjoining fields to the east of the A702 road and a field belonging to Wolf Clyde Farm are included.

Introduction.

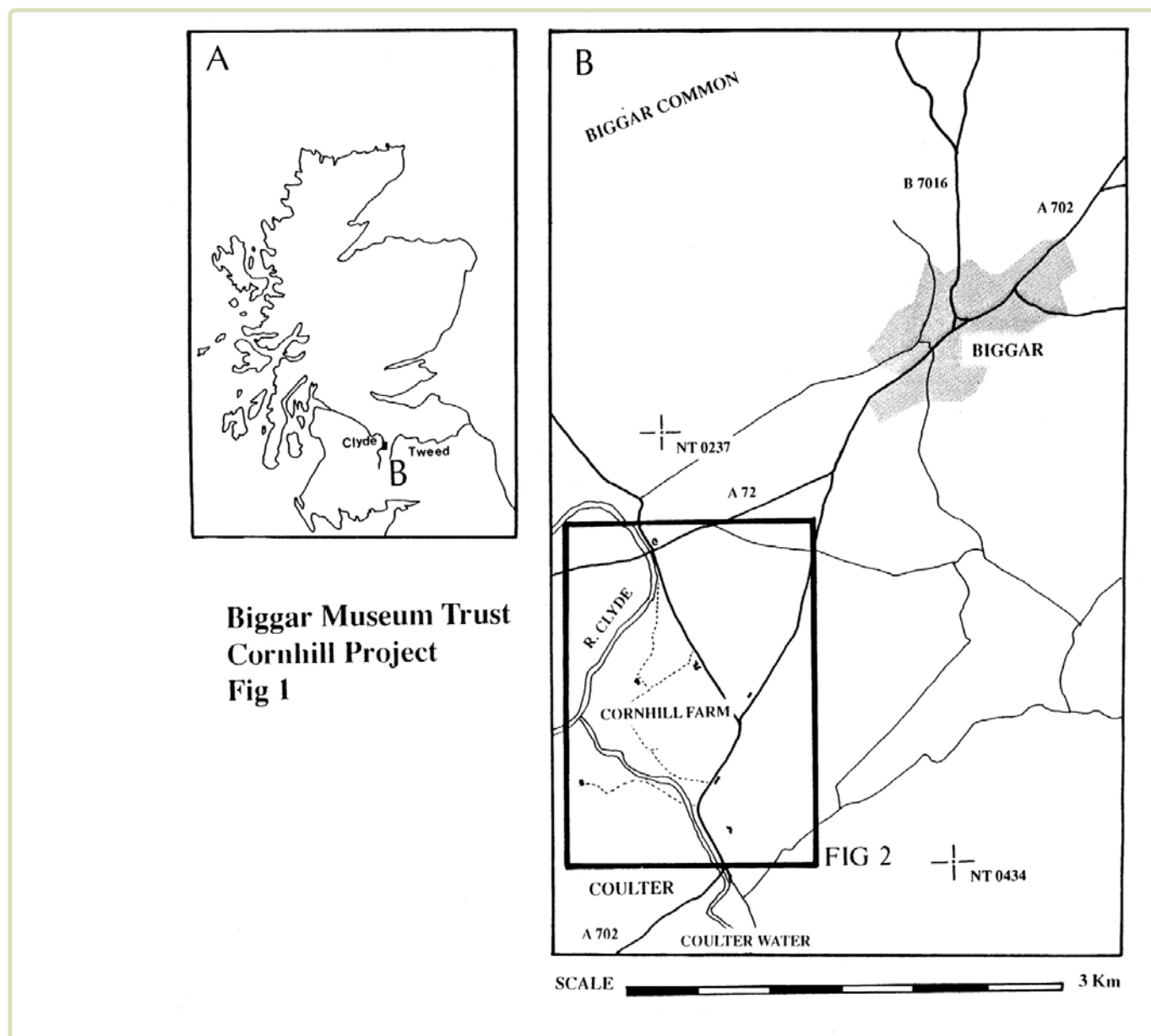


Fig.1 Project Area

Project Area. Figs 1 - 4.

Cornhill Farm [NT 023355] is bounded on the west by the River Clyde and by Coulter Water and it lies between the A72 road on the north and the A702 road on the east. Cornhill Road connects these two highways and partially dissects the farm which has four fields on the north east side of the minor road. The farm lies two miles south of the town of Biggar.

The farm occupies the southern half of an elevated spur of ground which rises from 200m OD on all sides to a summit of 249m OD. The ground is described as “land capable of producing a moderate range of

crops” but with “soil limitations” (Macaulay 1986).

The spur is bounded on the west side by the River Clyde and the Coulter Water; it is probable that it was originally surrounded by morass on the north, east and south sides. The Coulter Water may have occupied a course further to the east than it does now, in effect bounding the entire southern end of the higher area and flowing past Townfoot and adjacent to the south gate lodge of Cornhill House, then along the line of the driveway to a point where it would meet the existing river course, before it finally joins the River Clyde. There is however no direct evidence that the Coulter Water did occupy the course suggested here.

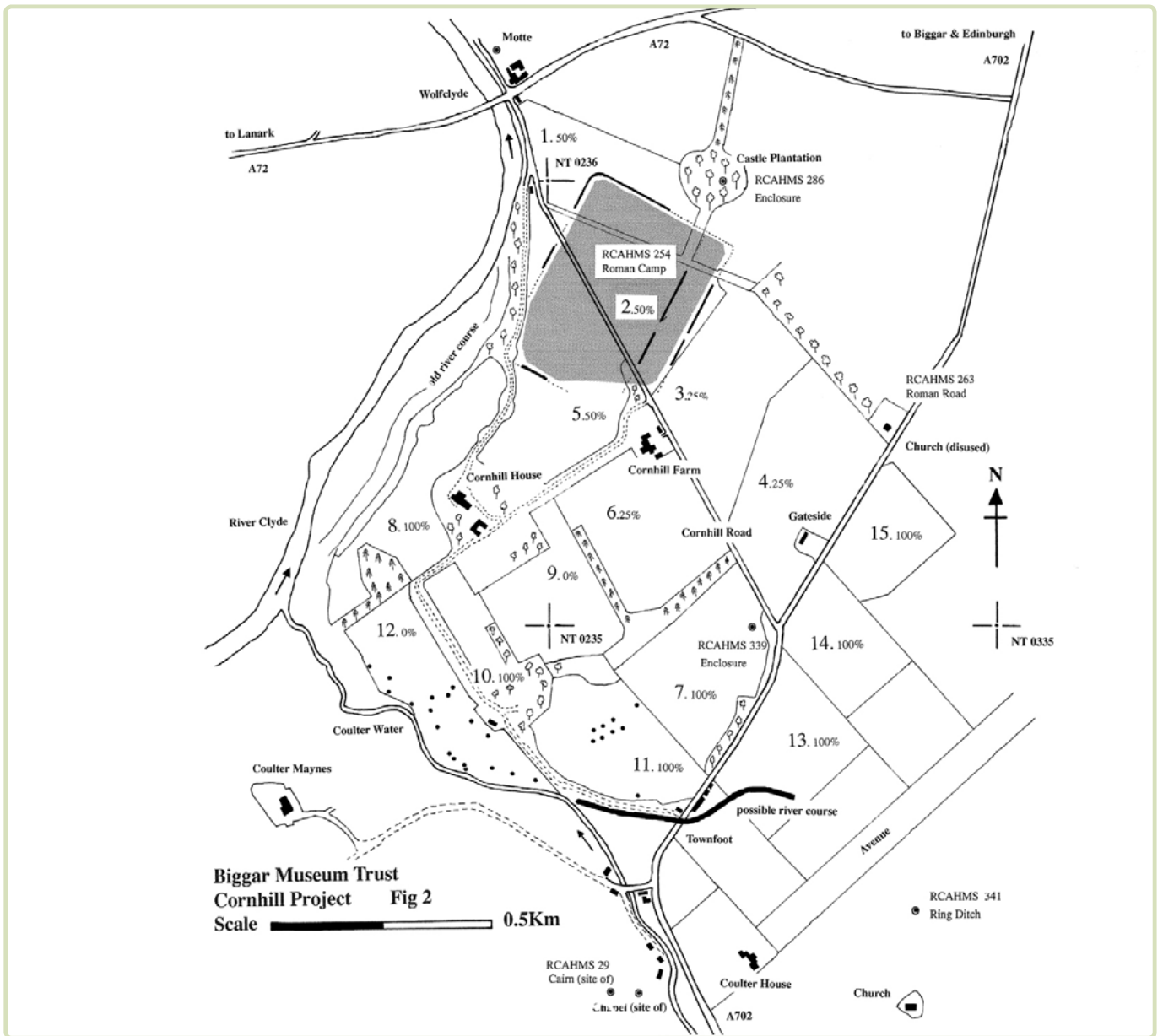
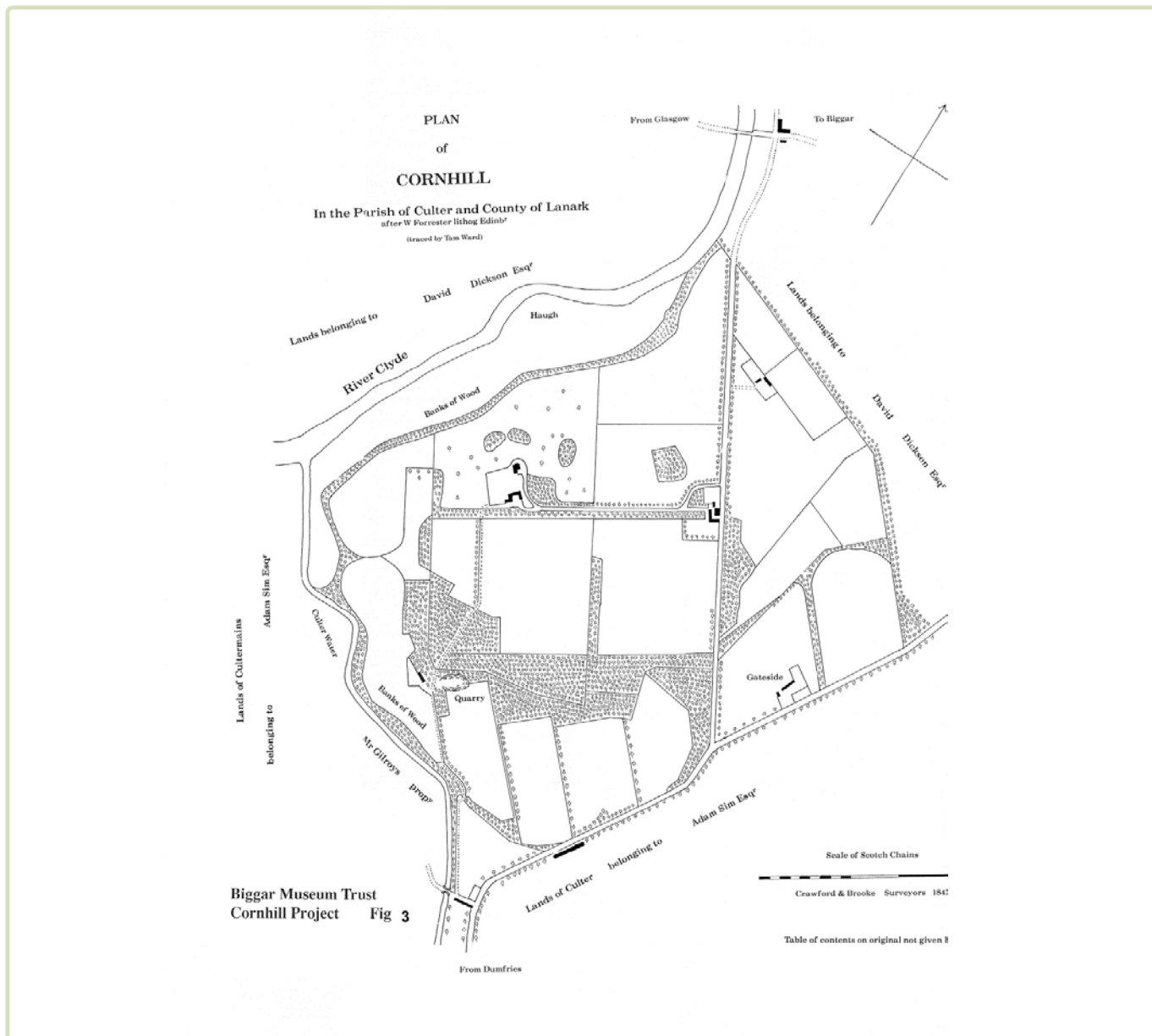


Fig.2 Known sites of antiquity on and near Cornhill Farm and description of fields.



Project Rationale

Cornhill Farm was originally chosen as a project area entirely for convenience, rather than for archaeological reasons. The proximity of the farm to Biggar Museum made it suitable for both the Young Archaeologists Club and the adult voluntary archaeologists based there to conduct fieldwork during evenings.

The project developed due to the success of the various campaigns of fieldwalking and culminated in the research design to test for archaeological deposits below the plough soils and to determine if possible, the reasons for the pre-historic activity on that particular landscape.

Excavation was targeted at two fields and for different reasons; Field No 12 was not walked as a ploughed

field, since the farmer, Mr McCaskie, informed that the field was unproductive for crops and was unlikely to be ploughed again. Since this field is between identified lithic scatters and it had a particularly attractive terrace overlooking Coulter Water and which is a continuation of the terrace of Field No 11 where Mesolithic tools were found, it made good sense to test if there had been a) continuity of use in pre-history of the complete riverside terrace and b) if the general scatter of lithic also prevailed over the field. Field No 11 was chosen because it offered the possibility of finding buried in situ archaeological deposits of different pre-historic periods and in the hope that dateable contexts would be discovered.

Methodology

Fieldwalking

The method adopted in the early days of fieldwalking was to retain all material considered to be struck or flaked lithic. Occasional pieces of c19th/20th century crockery, glass and coal were found in the plough soil horizons of all fields and in most trenches; these were not recorded and were discarded on site. Only the locations of items considered to be 'special' for example tools and diagnostic pieces were recorded in detail, clusters of lithic were noted, and the general scatters were simply recorded to the particular field within which they were found.

Chunks of cannal coal were retained because this material is frequently found in fields surrounding the Biggar area. It is uncertain whether the cannal coal was a pre-historic resource material for the manufacture of jewellery, or is of more recent deposition. The substance has been found in fields elsewhere and where no modern material has been noted.

Later in the Project, discrete scatters of lithic were bagged and recorded separately from the general background dispersal of artefacts and in Field No 11 part of the area was gridded at 20m intervals and finds recorded to 20m squares (fig 4).

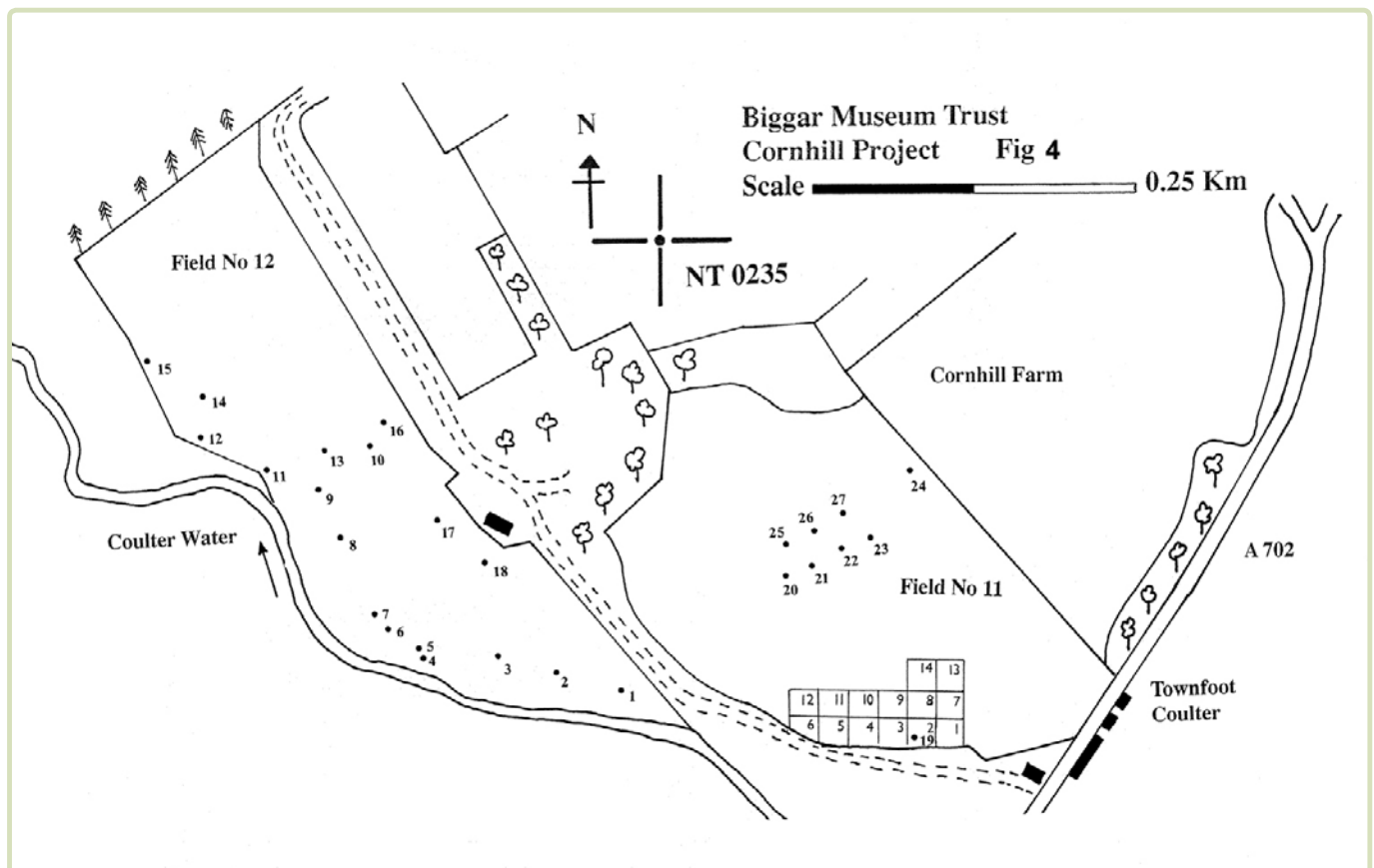
Excavation

The strategy was to open test pits measuring 1m by 1m and at intervals dictated by the topography of the ground. If any pit gave good reason for extension the maximum trench size would be 2m by 2m. Each pit would be excavated to natural and each was aligned to 0o magnetic. Finds were recorded by bagging together all objects found in the disturbed plough soil for each trench, items from below the plough zone were measured in plan only and to an accuracy of 10cm, the measurements taken firstly from the SW corner of each pit with the second co-ordinate being taken at right angles to that (easting's and northing's).

In both fields the river terraces were considered most likely to produce results, with flat areas, other natural terraces and summits also being targeted.

Catalogues

All retained objects are catalogued and have been accorded National Grid References given to the various levels of recording.



Material retrieved

Of the lithic types found, only the radiolarian chert, quartz and quartzite, and agate are indigenous to the area.

The chert abounds in most fields in the district; it is found as pebbles and cobbles and may also be found in river gravels such as in the Clyde and Coulter Water (the possible sources of procurement). The chert was originally derived from outcropping sources along the Southern Uplands Fault Line (SUFL) which traverses the landscape immediately to the south, in a NE/SW line and forms part of the political boundary between Upper Clydesdale and Upper Tweeddale. This type of chert is abundant in the Southern Uplands and is found in colours ranging from brown, black to the most common blue/grey variety, the latter being most favoured for tool making throughout pre-history. Good quality homogenous chert is easily obtained in the area while much of it is flawed by quartz veins making cleavage unpredictable. In both Clydesdale and Tweeddale the local chert is the dominant lithic type found on nearly every pre-historic site.

Agate is derived from the local volcanic sequences of rocks in the area, geologically known as the Midland Valley and which lies to the north of the SUFL. The local agates are found as eroded pebbles from their source in the lavas and also from the secondary source of conglomerates. Occasional pieces are found which appear to have been struck but these are a tiny minority, and in Clydesdale only two pieces have been recorded which can be shown to have been fashioned into tools; a leaf arrow-head found at Lamington, and on display at Biggar Museum and a Late Neolithic transverse arrow-head found at Brownsbank Farm (Ward, 2001).

White crystalline quartz is only occasionally found to have been worked in this area and probably never as cutting tools. However the typical rounded quartzite pebbles which are derived originally from north of the Highland Boundary Fault Line and have been rolled south by glaciations, and dumped as part of the drift geology in southern Scotland, form a common part of the pre-historic suite of lithic resources. These handy

sized pebbles are found in most places in the locality and since they are the hardest stone types to be found they were used extensively as hammer, grinder and anvil stones.

The remaining lithic types are flint, pitchstone, tuff, cannal coal, which, with the possible exception of the latter, are all imported materials. Varieties of flint attest to trade/exchange from north, south and west, however, the pitchstone is only geologically sourced to the Island of Arran in the Firth of Clyde and the tuff to Langdale Pike in Cumbria.

The nearest local source of cannal coal is the Lanarkshire coal fields at Lesmahagow 23km to the west, where it was mined in relatively modern times as 'cannel' or 'candle' coal (Stat Acc Scot, 1793). That being said it is unlikely to be naturally derived in the drift geology of this part of Clydesdale.

Known sites of antiquity on and near Cornhill Farm. Fig 2

Two sites were already known to exist on the farm; a Roman temporary camp and a circular enclosure; both identified as crop mark sites. The putative line of the Roman road may also run through part of the farm. Two other sites lie just outwith the farm boundary; these are Castle Plantation and Wolf Clyde motte. Surrounding the nearby village of Coulter there are a range of hillforts, defensive settlements, burnt mounds and cultivation terraces, which are all highly visible monuments.

The 40 acre Roman Temporary Camp is located across the Fields No's 1, 2 and 5 and is described by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS 1978, No 254). The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The possible alignment of the Roman road is given by RCAHMS (No 263) but the true position is uncertain, the modern A702 road may overly parts of the earlier route.

The ditched enclosure is given by RCAHMS (No 339) and described as an oval enclosure measuring about 35m by 30m within a single narrow ditch. The site may represent the remains of an Iron Age defensive settlement.

The oval enclosure on the summit of Castle Plantation is given by RCAHMS (No 286) it measures about 65m by 50m but is only seen as a faint scarp. The site may represent the remains of another Iron Age defensive settlement.

Wolf Clyde motte is a Monument in Care and is prominent near the bridge crossing the River Clyde. The site however is not all that it seems because it was extensively disturbed during the re-construction of the road bridge in 1932 when much of the original mound was moved to obtain building sand and gravel for the widening of the bridge, as reported in the Glasgow Herald newspaper in 1933.

The motte may have originally dated to the 14th century, based on excavation evidence from the Roberton motte (Tabraham, 1977).

The ring ditch is given by RCAHMS (No 341) and described as an enclosure measuring 6m in diameter and within a single ditch, with an entrance on the SE.

Nearer the village of Coulter there is a cairn site (RCAHMS, No 29) which is recorded to have been disturbed in the 19th century and to have covered a cist.

A short distance from the cairn site is the alleged site of a chapel supposed to have been erected by the Knights Templar's (Stat Acc of Lanark, 1841).

The fieldwalking commenced in 1990 to give experience to the Biggar Young Archaeologists Club and to develop the ability of the museum to undertake such work. The available fields at Cornhill were walked over each year, but to various standards of efficiency. The final percentage of efficiency has been estimated and given on Fig 2 and is based entirely on the judgement of the writer who supervised all the work. This has been derived after considering factors such as the experience of the walkers, weather conditions and proximity of each walker to each other. The assemblages retrieved from each field should not be taken as an indicator of how well a field was checked, but rather this will generally reflect the lithic density upon the surface of the field at a particular time. Where a field is given a 100% rating, the field was inspected at very close intervals between each walker and the entire field was inspected. Fields which have been given a lower rating were walked either sporadically or at wider intervals between the walkers.

Some allowance must also be made for initial inexperience with beginners, both children and adults; however the writer is confident that most walkers erred on the side of picking up all material including relatively modern items. The strategy for material recovery was biased only against modern objects, worked lithic was totally gathered. Certainly, concentrations of lithic would not have been missed in any field.

The standards in all respects improved over time and has resulted in a group of extremely experienced arable field walkers being now based at Biggar Museum, where the ability to process the results has also been developed.

A study has been done on some of the earlier fieldwalking assemblage (Gleeson, 1998), this is not given in this report.

A few selected quotations from that work are given here as an indicator of what has been retrieved, however, the entire assemblage from Cornhill will now require detailed study to allow a fuller understanding of its significance and of the activity over time in the area. (This has now been done in 2010 and the full project will be published, Ward & Wright, forthcoming).

"Chert platform cores are 57% over amorphous cores at 30% and bi-polar at 13%, therefore cores are being prepared for use."

"Rejuvenation flakes indicate a deliberate practice of core trimming as part of an efficient technology"

"The proportion of regular flakes at the site might also be suggest that there was a high knapping success rate"

"Of these flaked pieces most were produced as part of a narrow blade technology, resulting in the production of microlithic elements that would have been used as parts of composite tools"

Miss Gleeson suggests that the Cornhill site was deliberately chosen for its riverine location in an area where a known chert lithic resource could be exploited.

The hunter gatherers were scheduling the place as a regular stop in their annual migrations, and possibly were caching the chert at the site in order to save time.

It is clear that the majority of the lithic gathered at Cornhill represents Mesolithic activity, however Neolithic and the Bronze Age artefacts are also present. Leaf arrowheads are typical of the former and there is now overwhelming evidence from other Clydesdale sites that the pitchstone in this area is associated with the Early Neolithic period. A fine barbed and tanged arrowhead was also found.

Description of the fields. Fig 2

Each of the fields has sloping or undulating surfaces to a greater or lesser extent.

Field No 1

The field uniformly and gently slopes up to the E and the summit at Castlehill Plantation from a narrow terrace above the E bank of the River Clyde.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue..

Field No 2

The field is 7.01 Ha in size and gently slopes up to the NE, there is a fairly level area adjacent to the road and north of the farm.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue.

Field No 3

The field is 9.2 Ha in size and generally slopes up to the N and NW.

Finds lost!

Field No 4

The field is 10.44 Ha in size and gently rises up to the NW from the A 702 road.

Finds lost!

Field No 5

The field is 11.32 Ha in size and slopes up to the E and NE from the old river terrace. The centre of the field has a broad terrace running N/S, from this the ground rises up to the E to another terrace which is part of that lying on the N side of the road in field No's 2 and 3. There is a low summit near the centre of the field which has been planted with trees and of which a few mature trees survive. The field is currently sub divided by a post and wire fence.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue.

Field No 6

The field is 8.32 Ha in size and rises gently from the farm and Cornhill House to the summit in the SE.

Finds lost!

Field No 7

The field is 9.26 Ha in size and rises up from the A 702 road and to the W where it meets field No 6 at the highest level. The field boundary on the SE drops abruptly down a bank to the road, however the edge ridge there is more likely to be due to the effects of repeated ploughing resulting in soil building up to form a lynchet.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue.

Field No 8

The field is 6.67 Ha in size and is irregular in shape being bounded on the NW by a wooded bank which drops down to an old river course of the Clyde. At only one point to the NW of Cornhill House does this steep bank give way to a gently sloping area allowing easier access to the flood plain. The ground in the field undulates and rises from all points up towards Cornhill House. There are several fairly level areas on the field.

Chert 250 Flint 5 Cannal 5

Field No 9

The field is 6.26 Ha in size and rises very evenly to the W and NW.

Note: this field has not been walked, therefore there are no finds recorded from it.

Field No 10

The field is 2.21 Ha in size and it rises gently up to the E and SE with a fairly level terrace cutting across the NW third of the field in an NE/SW alignment.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue, plus additional material;

Chert 5 Flint 3

Field No 11

The field is 7.14 Ha in size and it rises up quite steeply to the N and NW from a narrow terrace above the steep bank which drops down to the estate road. There is a broad terrace which is aligned E/W over the centre of the field, this gives way to a final rise to the summit on the N.

Finds are given in Gleeson catalogue, plus additional material;

The following finds (1) were from the general fieldwalking, with a second list (2) for those items found and plotted to the upper terrace area in the field, the third group (3) are from the gridded area on the southern edge of the field (fig 3) and the fourth group (4) is from the excavation trenches.

(1) Chert 788 Flint 4 Cannal 9

(2) Chert 75 Flint 8 Cannal 1
(between NT 02103465 and NT 02253465)

(3)	Chert	Flint	Cannal
Grid 1	215	4	6
Grid 2	164	3	11
Grid 3	13	5	12
Grid 4	74	2	3
+ 4 of chert microliths			
Grid 5	83	0	5
Grid 6	128	4	10
Grid 7	127	1	5
Grid 8	59	0	3
Grid 9	100	0	7
Grid 10 Grid 10 may have been mixed with grid 14!			
Grid 11	6	0	1
Grid 12	109	0	0
Grid 13	134	3	3
Grid 14	598 (?)	3	8

4)	Chert	Flint	Cannal
	895	16	18

Includes

Scrapers	6		
Microliths	6	1	
Cores	19	1	
Knife	1	1	
Blades	2	3	

Field No 12

The field is 9.02 Ha in size and is fairly level for most of the SE half; it drops down on the NW side where there are a few small summits. The entire field falls abruptly down the bank to the Coulter Water on the SW side. The field may be described as a river terrace.

(See below for excavations results)

Field No 13

The field rises to the NW from the valley floor to the A 702 road. There is a natural terrace area at the northern end.

The finds from this field have been lost! They were primarily found on the northern tip of the field on the terrace between the A702 and Field No 14. Predominantly struck chert, there were a few small scrapers present in the sample which was numerically low.

Field No 14

The field rises to the NW from the valley floor to the A 702 road and at the northern corner there is a level area of about 100m in diameter, where nearly all the finds were located.

Chert 151 Flint 1 Cannal 1 Pitchstone 1

Field No 15

The field is fairly level apart from a drop down along the SE edge.

Chert 112 Cannal 8

Excavation Results

See catalogue of finds for preliminary details of lithic and other material retrieved.

All trenches (figs 2 & 4) were excavated to natural and each was biologically active to natural with rootlets, worms and in some cases mole burrowing and tree roots.

Field No 12.

Trench No 1 NT 01983466 4 square metre

The excavation was located at the eastern end of the field on a narrow plateau about 5m wide and just above the main break of slope down to the Coulter Water, the ground rises gently from the level area to the north towards the roadway. The trench was 2m x 2m, the southern edge measured 0.55m deep while the section on the upper side was 0.6m deep.

Three main horizons were seen in the soil profile;

- a) The plough soil which extended for a depth of c 0.3m - 0.4m, this consisted of a light loam which contains very few stones of cobble size or over.
- b) a sub soil up to 0.2m deep and which interfaced with the plough soil above and the sub stratum below, only occasional stones of cobble size were noted.
- c) Orange coloured sandy gravel of glacial origin.

Occasional flecks of charcoal were noted throughout the three horizons while tiny pieces of coal and Victorian crockery were found in the plough soil. A quantity of the common blue and locally derived radiolarian chert, both flaked and unworked were found in the 'b' horizon with a smaller amount bedded into the natural. Less lithic was found in the upper plough soil. At a depth of 0.5m the 'b' horizon had some patchy greyish coloured soil lenses which were very slightly enriched with microscopic charcoal, and extending through this layer was the only distinct feature (F1), a possibly post hole measuring 100mm deep by 60mm

in diameter, it was filled with a darker soil with larger charcoal flecks. Two chert flakes (T1/90 & 92)) were found in the feature. F1 was located in the NW corner of the trench.

The 'c' horizon was mottled with darker brown soil patches about 30mm - 40mm in diameter which proved to be former root intrusions. When some were excavated they were shown to bifurcate indicating branches in the root systems. These features were distinctly different in colour and texture from F1 and also from the greyish coloured soil and there was a clear absence of charcoal in them.

Finds

Two pieces of flint and a total of 199 pieces of struck chert were found. Unworked chert was also recorded as a statistical background to the flaked material, seven pieces were found. Abraded sherds of Early Neolithic pottery and a single tiny medieval sherd were also retrieved. A lump of soft haematite which was not faceted by working may be of natural origin, although it is possible that it is associated with the finds assemblage.

Of the chert there are two cores and two scrapers, one of each was found in the plough soil and the other two were below it.

The Early Neolithic pottery lay in the southern part of the trench and in the greyish soil patch there which also produced a quantity of chert flakes. The pottery is abraded by weathering and possibly by sub surface activity over the millennia, however a single sherd with a pronounced curvature all over may be from the base of a pot or may be the side wall of a small vessel, perhaps about 75mm - 100mm in diameter (a 'pinch pot'). A tiny green glazed medieval sherd was located at the base of the trench but this may easily be accounted for by the mole activity which reached that level as extant burrows.

Discussion

The ratio of chert from the plough soil to the layers below was approximately 1:3 respectively. It was evident that there had been soil creep over the site and presumably the items retrieved in the plough soil had travelled downhill over a period of time. The fact that a small pit (F1), and that a quantity of in situ material survives including early Neolithic pottery, indicates that the field has potential for archaeological deposits surviving below the plough soil horizon, at least on the lower areas of the field and along the narrow plateau of the river terrace.

Trenches 2 - 5 were similarly located as described for T1 above.

Trench No 2 NT 01933467 1 square metre 50m W of T1

The trench was 0.5m deep and the plough soil showed no variation in colour or texture, it reached the natural orange coloured sandy gravel. The finds include a flint, two chert cores and a piece of burnt chert.

Trench No 3 NT 01883469 4 square metre 50m W of T2

The trench was 0.4m deep at the northern side and graded down to 0.5m at the southern edge. The plough soil showed no variation in colour or texture, it reached the natural orange coloured sandy gravel. A single feature (F2) was a small pit measuring 100mm deep by 60mm in diameter; it was filled with a charcoal enriched dark soil and may have been a small post / stake hole which, judging by the black nature of the fill, may have burned in situ. Eight pieces of flint and two chert cores were the principal finds.

Trench No 4 NT 01823470 1 square metre 75m W of T3

The trench was 0.5m deep. Being under the canopy of a mature sycamore tree the entire trench was filled with rootlets from the tree. The plough soil showed no variation in colour or texture, it reached the natural orange coloured sandy gravel. Chert only was found.

Trench No 5 NT 01823470 1 square metre 77m W of T3

This trench was specifically opened to test an anomaly detected by dowsing with metal rods.

The trench was 1.5m W of T4 and was also 0.5m deep. Being under the canopy of the mature sycamore tree the entire trench was filled with rootlets from the tree. The plough soil showed no variation in colour or texture, it reached the natural orange coloured sandy gravel. Nothing to explain the anomaly was found in the trench, however, when the excavated trench was re-dowsed; the anomaly had disappeared suggesting it was something within the matrix of the plough soil. Chert only was found.

Trench No 6 NT 01793471 1 square metre 20m NW of T5

The trench was 0.25m deep, clayey and broken rock lying immediately below the top soil. Chert only was found.

Trench No 7 NT 01783472 1 square metre 30m W of T6

The trench was 0.3m deep, clayey and broken rock lying immediately below the top soil. Chert only was found with the exception of a piece of cannal coal.

Trench No 8 NT 01763478 1 square metre 70m W of T7

The trench was 0.3m deep, clayey and broken rock lying immediately below the top soil. Chert only was found including a microlith but with the exception of a piece of cannal coal.

Trench No 9 NT 01743482 1 square metre 50m NNW- of T8

The trench was 0.3m deep, clayey and broken rock lying immediately below the top soil. One flint and chert were found.

Trench No 10 NT 01783485 1 square metre 55m NE - of T9

The trench was 0.25m deep, and lay between two areas of rising ground, The soil was wet and heavy lying on boulder clay. Chert and a piece of possibly worked agate were found.

**Trench No 11 NT 01753484 1 square metre
30m NW- of T10**

The trench was 0.25m deep and lay on a summit. The soil lay directly on broken rock. Chert only was found.

**Trench No 12 NT 01703483 1 square metre
55m NW - of T11**

The trench was 0.3m deep, clayey, sandy gravel lying below the soil. Chert only was found.

**Trench No 13 NT 01653488 1 square metre
45m NW of T10**

The trench lay on a prominent knoll and was 0.2m deep, broken stone below the soil. Chert only was found but including a steep sided scraper.

**Trench No 14 NT 01653485 1 square metre
45m W of T12**

The trench was 0.25m deep with boulder clay below the soil. Chert only was found.

**Trench No 15 NT 01603482 1 square metre
55m NW of T14**

The trench was 0.2m deep with broken stone below the soil. An old spring course lies on the W side. There were no finds from this trench.

**Trench No 16 NT 01803487 1 square metre
40m NE of T10**

This 0.25m deep trench lay in a hollow below two slopes. Heavy clay lay below the soil. Chert only was found.

**Trench No 17 NT 01833479 1 square metre
25m W of T10**

The trench was 0.3m deep with sandy clay lying below the soil. Chert only was found.

**Trench No 18 NT 01883476 1 square metre
30m SW of cottage fence**

The trench was 0.25m deep and on a level area of ground. Broken stone lay below the soil. Chert only was found but including a core.

Field No 11

Trench No 19 NT 02203462 4 square metre

This trench is located 45m W of the angle in the fence at the gate lodge and is within Grid No 2 (see above) (fig 3) and 1.5m north of the fence and lying parallel with it.

The plough soil was between 0.25m and 0.3m deep, the excavated depth was 0.45m. The natural below the plough zone was a sandy sub soil on top of rounded gravel over which lay a mat of tree roots from a nearby living tree.

The finds reflected previous fieldwalking results which had shown a concentration of lithic in the general area. The five microliths, five cores and two scrapers, all chert, from the trench indicate a Mesolithic activity and this was previously recorded in the fieldwalking. A significant proportion of finds came from the plough soil and indicates the ratio of buried to surface finds in fields with similar conditions. The ratio for a given area may be between 1:10 to 1:20 for surface and buried objects respectively. The terrace immediately above the driveway in this field clearly has an large assemblage of lithics indicating extensive activity and probably over an extended period of time.

Trenches T20 to T23 lay in a straight SW/NE alignment and were 25m apart, they were located about 5m back from the break of slope downhill to the SE.

T24 was 10m S of the fence and was located on level ground near the front of terrace.

T25 to T27 also lay in a straight SW/NE alignment and were about 25m apart and c 25m NW of the others and lying near the base of the break of slope uphill.

Trench No 20 NT 02103471 1 square metre

The trench was 0.2m to 0.25m deep with boulder clay lying immediately below the plough soil. One flint and chert including a possible core were found.

Trench No 21 NT 02123472 1 square metre

The trench was 0.2m to 0.25m deep with boulder clay lying immediately below the plough soil. Chert including a possible core and a piece of struck agate were found.

Trench No 22 NT 02143473 1 square metre

The trench was 0.2m to 0.25m deep with boulder clay lying immediately below the plough soil. One flint and chert including a core were found.

Trench No 23 NT 02173474 1 square metre

The trench was 0.2m to 0.25m deep with boulder clay lying immediately below the plough soil. Only four chert were found.

Trench No 24 NT 02193478 1 square metre

The trench was 0.2m to 0.25m deep with boulder clay lying immediately below the plough soil. Chert including a possible core was found.

Trench No 25 NT 02103478 1 square metre

The trench was 0.25m deep with broken bedrock lying immediately below the plough soil. The bedrock was lying laminated 'on end' and had a lighter brown soil between the stones indicating an older soil. Two flint and chert were found.

Trench No 26 NT 02133478 1 square metre

The plough soil was 0.3m deep and gave way to a lighter brown, relatively stone free soil. The NW and SE corners of the trench had broken rock at 0.5m deep and which dropped, also to bedrock, at the final depth of 0.6m below the grass. Decayed tree roots lay at the base of the trench. It is possible that the apparent gully running obliquely through the trench in an apparent NE/SW line is a ditch, however it may be attributable to a tree root ball, a plantation is shown in that area on an estate map dated 1842 (fig 3), in Biggar Museum. Finds include two flints, one of which is a fine microlithic rod, four chert cores, a possible chert microlith and two other pieces with edge damage.

Trench No 27 NT 02153480 1 square metre

The trench was 0.3m deep with sandy clay lying immediately below the plough soil. Chert and a possible worked piece of quartz were found.

Summary and conclusion of results

The lithics assemblage will be better understood when a specialists report is available. However, it has been demonstrated that areas of high archaeological potential exist on Cornhill Farm, with the terraced and level areas immediately overlooking the valley floor providing the highest concentrations of finds.

All the Scottish early pre-historic periods are represented as surface lithic scatters and it is likely that sub surface features and deposits of that time may survive in places.

Despite extensive walking, Roman objects were only found (but not by the BMT group, see appendix I) in the vicinity of the temporary camp. Medieval items were restricted to a few green glazed sherds of pottery. Every area contains a background scatter of relatively modern material.

Notwithstanding the problems of possible mix up of finds from Grids 10 and 14 in Field No 11, and the missing material from Fields No's 3, 4 and 6, (which from memory was a handful of chert in each case) and also 13, the overall results of the project do supply good indicators of the pattern of the settlement and land use of the area.

The antiquity of Cornhill Farm can be demonstrated to extend back to the Mesolithic period. However, until detailed analyses of the lithics are undertaken {Ward & Wright forthcoming}, the true extent in time, of the hunter gatherer period remains unknown. The area was certainly adopted for camp sites over 6000 years ago, and the project results indicate that the favoured locations were those terraces immediately overlooking the valley floor where the rivers would have provided a food resource of fish and fowl. The rivers were probably the familiar routes used by the hunters to travel through the landscape. The Mesolithic people brought in some flint for tools but the locally available radiolarian chert was extensively used for tool manufacture on the site, and was presumably gathered as pebbles in the immediate area, perhaps from the gravel beds of the rivers.

The existence of Early Neolithic settlement, between 5000 and 6000 years ago is indicated by the sherds of pottery found in Trench No 1, the leaf arrowheads, and possibly some of the other tool types such as scrapers, may also belong to this period. Evidence in the form

of associated pottery and pitchstone from other BMT projects in the Biggar area strongly indicates that the pitchstone found at Cornhill may also have been acquired in the Early Neolithic.

The Bronze Age, between 2500 and 4500 years ago is well attested in the Coulter area by casual but spectacular finds of bronze, gold, jet and amber jewellery, all now in the National Museum of Scotland, and also the existence of a burial cairn and of burnt mounds, which are shown mostly to date to that time.

The two crop mark sites; the one on the farm near the A702 road and the other to the south east (fig 2) may also fit this period or, more likely, they may belong to the following period when iron became the new prestigious metal

The Iron Age, about 1500 to 2500 years ago, is represented in the Coulter area by numerous hill forts and defensive settlements and the site at Castle Plantation is one of these, the crop mark sites have already been alluded to.

The Roman incursion into Scotland in the 1st and 2nd centuries AD and using the Clydesdale route is also well known through excavations and crop mark sites. The temporary camp at Cornhill, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is an important location on the Roman map of Scotland, indicating one of the series of stopping places for the armies en route to the Clyde - Forth wall and beyond. The Roman road certainly passes somewhere near to the east side of the camp which has been subject either to a reduction in size or an enlargement, on the east side, possibly indicating at least two periods of use. The camp entrances on that side are clearly visible on aerial photographs held in the National Monuments Record of Scotland. The site of the camp may have been chosen for access to the Clyde, perhaps for watering the horses. A low point in the river terrace to the SW of the camp corner would have given easy access to the river which probably flowed nearer to the camp when it was used. The high and cliff like river bank on the west side of the camp would certainly have deterred any attack on that side.

In 1988 several items from Cornhill were handed in to Biggar Museum from a field walker (see Appendix III) and these included some Roman objects including three coins and a faience melon bead, a lead spindle

whorl is also of Roman date (some currently on display at Biggar Museum). The coins may indicate losses during the 1st and 2nd centuries which may explain the alteration to the camp on the east side.

Cornhill does not appear to have any known medieval history, the main house and all the estate buildings were built in the 19th century. Cornhill does not appear on Ross' map of 1773, but a place named Castlestead is given, this place soon disappears from record (Irving, 1864). Castlestead may have been the name of the buildings which lay on the north side of Cornhill Road between the present farm and Wolf Clyde and are shown on the estate Map of 1842 (fig 3). It may have originally been named from the site at Castle Plantation as Iron Age earthworks were often given the misnomer of 'castle'. On the other hand the reference to a castle could be to the motte at Wolf Clyde. A few sherds of green glaze pottery were found but these are probably attributable to the 17th century and are typical of occasional finds in fields nearby to settlements.

Cornhill House functioned as a nursing home for the elderly from the last war until recently when it was converted into a hotel. The mixed arable and livestock farm is now operated independently.

The estate map of 1842 shows considerably more tree plantation than now exists (evidence of this was found in Trench No 26) and the trees, past and present, will certainly have had some effect on any archaeological remains in the ground. Furthermore, the area of the Roman camp was co-incidentally re-used for the same purpose during WWII when parts of fields No's 2 and 5 were used to encamp part of the Polish Brigade during their preparation for re-entering the conflict in Europe. It may be that features such as latrine pits of a 20th century army now lie within the Roman camp, a possibility which will be of interest to future archaeologists. Similarly, the buildings already mentioned above (see fig 3), occupied part of the Roman camp.

Notes

The finds assemblage from Cornhill will require to be studied professionally, after which time it will be submitted to the Treasure Trove Panel for disposal.

The ploughing sequence of the farm is approximately 11 years fallow and 3 years in crop, making a 14 year cycle. This means that the fields have been ploughed about 12 times with mechanisation since the use of tractors about 1945. It is likely that the ploughs have dug slightly deeper over time since then.

The intensity of land use for arable and for woodlands will have taken a toll of the archaeology which once existed.

The scope of the early tree plantations will be appreciated from Fig 3 (estate map).

Pitchstone has now been found at several places in the Biggar district as unworked lumps, cores, large and small flakes, with some pieces having edge damage and a single item, from Cornhill, having bi-facial re-touch. This was previously thought to have been a leaf arrow-head but is not now regarded as such.

It is considered here that much of the pitchstone may have been primarily a non functional lithic, that is to say it was not being used as a tool material. It is possible that the black (and occasional grey) shiny and exotic material was curated by people in the Early Neolithic more for aesthetic reasons. The cores, flakes and tiny spalls which have been found may be taken as evidence for reduction but to date it is unclear if this was taking place on the sites. (See Ness & Ward, 2001 for report on a pitchstone seminar held at Biggar in September 2000, Biggar Museum Trust).

Acknowledgements

The writer is indebted to Messrs McCaskie, farmers at Cornhill Farm for permission to carry out this Project over such an extended period of time. Their co-operation and interest in the work is much appreciated as is the information they supplied regarding the farm.

The fieldwalking was often carried out under wet and cold conditions and the fortitude of the BMT Archaeology Group which includes various 'generations' of the Biggar Young Archaeologists Club can only be admired. The Project was assisted at one point by members of the Edinburgh Young Archaeologists Club and their help was significant.

Particular thanks are due to Denise Dudds and Joy McBain who catalogued the assemblage and to John Whitworth for marking specific items within the collection.

Abigail Gleeson used part of the project for her dissertation "A Dynamic Approach to Lithic Analysis", 1998, University of Edinburgh. The catalogue (unnumbered here) of her description of the material she used is given here as Appendix I. I am grateful for the interest she has shown in the assemblage and the information supplied by her as a result.

The Project was initiated and managed by the writer and any errors or omissions in this report are his responsibility.

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Appendix I

Catalogue of fieldwalking finds from Cornhill near Coulter and surrounding area.

1997 - 1999

Pre-fix letters = CH Ce = ceramic Li = lithic

Numbers run on from Abigail Gleeson, University of Edinburgh dissertation catalogue 1998. This dissertation is not given here as it will be superseded by a new report (Ward & Wright forthcoming)

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Location NGR all NT
247	Ce	medieval		02253465 Field No. 11
248	Li	Cannel coal	8	02253456
249	Li	Chert	6	02253456
250	Li	Chert	41	02253456
251	Li	Chert	5	02253456
252	Li	Chert	230	02253465
253	Li	Agate	3	022347 “
254	Li	Chert	280	022347
255	Li	Chert	44	022347
256	Li	Chert	4	022347
257	Li	Flint	2	022347
258	Li	Agate	1	020348 “
259	Li	Chert	8	020348
260	Li	Chert	48	020348
261	Li	Chert	121	020348
262	Li	Chert	2	020348
263	Li	Flint	1	020348
264	Li	Flint	1	020348
265	Li	Cannel coal	1	020348
266	Li	Hammer stone	1	021349 “

Follows objects gathered from 20m grid system in Field No. 11 at NT 02022346 (see fig 3)

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Grid No Location or NGR
267	Li	Chert	49	1
268	Li	Chert	154	1
269	Li	Chert	5	1
270	Li	Chert	1	1
271	Li	Chert	6	1
272	Li	Flint	4	1
273	Li	Cannel coal	6	1
274	Li	Chert	30	2
275	Li	Chert	128	2
276	Li	Chert	3	2
277	Li	Chert	2	2
278	Li	Chert	1	2
279	Li	Cannel coal	11	2

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Grid No Location or NGR
280	Li	Flint	3	2
281	Li	Chert	115	3
282	Li	Chert	14	3
283	Li	Chert	3	3
284	Li	Flint	5	3
285	Li	Cannel coal	12	3
286	Li	Agate	1	4
287	Li	Chert	66	4
288	Li	Chert	3	4
289	Li	Chert	1	4
290	Li	Chert	5	4
291	Li	Flint	2	4
292	Li	Cannel coal 3	4	
293	Li	Chert	55	5
294	Li	Chert 15	5	
295	Li	Chert	10	5
296	Li	Quartz	1	5
297	Li	Chert	3	5
298	Li	Cannel coal	5	5
299	Li	Greywacke	1	5
300	Li	Chert	35	6
301	Li	Chert	91	6
302	Li	Chert	2	6
303	Li	Cannel coal	10	6
304	Li	Flint	1	6
305	Li	Flint	3	6
306	Li	Chert	17	7
307	Li	Chert	109	7
308	Li	Chert	1	7
309	Li	Flint	1	7
310	Li	Cannel coal	5	7
311	Li	Chert	7	8
312	Li	Chert	52	8
313	Li	Cannel coal	3	8
314	Li	Agate	1	8
315		Bronze Rivet?	1	8
316	Li	Chert	79	9
317	Li	Chert	18	9
318	Li	Chert	2	9
319	Li	Chert	1	9

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Grid No	Location or NGR
320	Li	Cannel coal	7	9	
					Grid 10???
321	Li	Chert	6	11	
322	Li	Cannel coal		11	
323	Li	Chert	31	12	
324	Li	Chert	76	12	
325	Li	Chert cores	2	12	
326	Li	Chert blade	?	13	
327	Li	Chert flakes	98	13	
328	Li	Chert	31	13	
329	Li	Chert cores	5	13	
330	Li	Cannel coal	3	13	
331	Li	Flint flakes	2	13	
332	Li	Flint core		13	
333	Li	Chert flakes	391	14	
334	Li	Chert	194	14	
335	Li	Chert scrapers	2	14	
336	Li	Chert worked	4	14	
337	Li	Chert cores	7	14	
338	Li	Flint core		14	
339	Li	Flint flakes	2	14	
340	Li	Agate struck	?	14	
341	Li	Cannel coal	8	14	
'Special' objects					
342	Li	Chert	12	NT 022347	Field No 11
343	Li	Flint	12	NT 022347	
344	Li	Chert microliths	2	NT 022347	
345	Li	Flint B & T arrow	1	NT 02003475	upper terrace
346	Li	Pitchstone	1	NT 022347	
347	Li	Chert	12	NT 022347	
348	Li	Pitchstone	1	Grid 13	
349	Li	Chert microliths	2	Grid 13	
350	Li	Chert microliths	4	Grid 3	
Field No 8. South West of Cornhill House (Hotel) at river terrace.					
351	Li	Chert	87	NT 015351	
352	Li	Chert	1	NT 015351	
353	Li	Flint	1	NT 015351	
354	Li	Flint	2	NT 015351	
355	Li	Chert	53	NT 015351	
356	Li	Chert	1	NT 015351	
357	Li	Chert	1	NT 015351	
358	Li	Cannel coal	4	NT 015351	

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Grid No Location or NGR
359	Li	Agates	3	NT 015351
360	Li	Greywacke natural	2	NT 015351
Field No 8. West of Cornhill House (Hotel)				
361	Li	Chert	43	NT 017356
362	Li	Chert	2	NT 017356
363	Li	Chert	52	NT 017356
364	Li	Cannel coal	2	NT 017356
365	Li	Flint	1	NT 017356
366	Li	Agate	15	NT 017356
Area of c. 100M Diameter in corner of field at Field No. 14				NT 026351
367	Li	Chert	69	NT 026351
368	Li	Chert	10	NT 026351
369	Li	Chert	1	NT 026351
370	Li	Flint	1	NT 026351
Field centred				NT 017354 Field No. 8
371	Li	Flint	1	"
372	Li	Cannal coal	2	"
373	Li	Chert flakes	7	"
374	Li	Chert chunks	3	"
Field centred				NT 018350 Field No. 10
375	Li	Flint flakes	3	"
376	Li	Chert core	1	"
377	Li	Chert cores	2	"
378	Li	Chert flakes	2	"
Field centred				NT 022347 Field No. 11
379	Li	Chert chunks	2	" upper terrace
380	Li	Chert retouched	1	"
381	Li	Chert flakes	21	"
382	Li	Chert microlith	1	"
383	Li	Chert tool	1	"
384	Li	Chert microlith	1	"
385	Li	Chert cores	1	"
386	Li	Chert scrapers	5	"
387	Li	Chert blades	4	"
388	Li	Flint flakes	8	"
389	Li	Cannal coal	5	"
Area centred				NT 02103465 to Field No. 11 NT 02253465
390	Li	Chert scraper	1	" "
391	Li	Chert chunks	26	" "
392	Li	Chert flakes	33	" "
393	Li	Chert tool	1	" "
394	Li	Chert microliths	3	" "

Find No	Material	Type	Quantity	Grid No	Location or NGR
395	Li	Cannal coal	1	"	"
396	Li	Flint tool?	1	"	"
397	Li	Chert tool	1	"	"
398	Li	Flint flakes	7	"	"
399	Li	Flint scraper	1	NT 02083465	Field No. 11
Gateside field at				NT 028352	Field No. 15
400	Li	Chert scraper	1	"	"
401	Li	Chert scraper	1	"	"
402	Li	Chert scraper	1	"	"
403	Li	Chert edge damage	1	"	"
404	Li	Chert chunks	40	"	"
405	Li	Chert flakes	66	"	"
406	Li	Chert core	1	"	"
407	Li	Chert worked	1	"	"
408	Li	Cannal coal	8	"	"
409	Li	Agate	6	"	"
Field centred				NT 027349	Field No. 14
410	Li	Chert flakes	57	"	
411	Li	Chert chunks	50	"	
412	Ce	Green glaze	1	"	
413	Li	Chert cores	3	"	
414	Li	Chert scrapers	3	"	
415	Li	Chert retouched	3	"	
416	Li	Agate struck?	1	"	
417	Li	Quartzite pebble	1	"	
418	Li	Cannal coal	14	"	
419	Li	Pitchstone	1	"	
420	Li	Chert chunks	18	"	
421	Li	Chert flakes	16	"	
422	Li	Chert core	1	"	
423	Li	Cannal coal	3	"	
424	Li	Flint flake	1	"	
Field centred				NT 028348	Field No. 14
425	Li	Chert chunks	24	"	
426	Li	Chert scrapers	2	"	
427	Li	Chert core	1	"	
428	Li	Cannal coal	1	"	

Appendix II

Excavations at Cornhill Farm, Coulter by Biggar.

Catalogue of finds and samples

All finds are co-ordinated to a grid system using Easting's and Northing's; all trenches are aligned to 0o magnetic.

Trenches 1 - 18 are located in field number 12. (See fig.2 and 3)

Trenches 19 - 27 are located in field number 11. (See fig.2 and 3)

Unless otherwise stated all items are worked chert

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
Trench No 1				NT 01983466			
T1/01	unworked	25	plough soil				
/02		56	plough soil				
/03	Core		plough soil		1.8	1.8	
/04	Scraper		plough soil		1.7	1.8	
/05		3	in situ		0.0	0.0	
/06		2	"		0.1	1.5	
/07		1	"		0.3	1.3	
/08		1	"		0.3	1.4	
/09		1	"		0.3	1.45	
/10		1	"		0.4	0.8	
/11		1	"		0.4	1.4	
/12	unworked	1	"		0.4	1.5	
/13		1	"		0.4	1.6	
/14		1	"		0.5	0.2	
/15		1	"		0.5	1.65	
/16		3	"		0.5	1.7	
/17		6	"		0.5	1.7	
/18		1	"		0.6	0.8	
/19	unworked	2	"		0.6	1.6	
/20	Scraper?		"		0.6	1.75	
/21		1	"		0.7	0.7	
/22		2	"		0.7	0.8	
/23		2	"		0.7	1.2	
/24		1	"		0.7	1.3	
/25		1	"		0.7	1.6	
/26	Broken Stone		"		0.7	1.7	
/27	unworked	1	"		0.7	2.0	
/28	unworked	1	"		0.8	0.6	
/29		1	"		0.8	1.6	
/30	Scraper		"		0.9	0.4	
/31		2	"		0.9	0.7	

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
/32	unworked	1	"		0.9	0.7	
/33		4	"		0.9	0.9	
/34	Burnt	1	"		0.9	0.9	
/35		1	"		0.9	1.9	
/36	Flint	1	"		0.9	1.1	
/37		1	"		0.15	0.1	
/38		3	"		0.15	1.5	
/39		1	"		0.15	1.6	
/40	Core	1	"		0.15	1.55	
/41		1	"		0.15	1.55	
/42		1	"		0.25	1.65	
/43		3	"		0.35	1.6	
/44		2	"		0.35	1.9	
/45		1	"		0.45	1.6	
/46		3	"		0.55	1.9	
/47		1	"		0.75	1.8	
/48		1	"		1.1	0.3	
/49		2	"		1.0	0.8	
/50		2	"		1.0	0.9	
/51		1	"		1.0	1.0	
/52		1	"		1.0	1.8	
/53		2	"		1.2	0.5	
/54		1	"		1.4	1.0	
/55		2	"		1.2	1.1	
/56		1	"		1.2	1.1	
/57		1	"		1.2	1.5	
/58		1	"		1.2	1.7	
/59	unworked	1	"		1.2	1.9	
/60		4	"		1.3	0.9	
/61		1	"		1.3	1.0	
/62		1	"		1.3	1.1	
/63		1	"		1.3	1.2	
/64		1	"		1.35	1.9	
/65		1	"		1.4	0.1	
/66		1	"		1.4	0.4	
/67		1	"		1.4	0.4	
/68		1	"		1.4	1.1	
/69		1	"		1.4	1.5	
/70		1	"		1.4	1.7	
/71		1	"		1.4	2.0	
/72		1	"		1.45	1.8	
/73		1	"		1.5	0.7	

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
/74		3	"		1.5	1.1	
/75		2	"		1.5	1.3	
/76		2	"		1.5	1.6	
/77		1	"		1.55	1.8	
/78		2	"		1.5	1.9	
/79	unworked	1	"		1.5	1.9	
/80		1	"		1.5	2.0	
/81	Core	1	"		1.6	0.7	
/82	Flint	1	"		1.6	1.4	
/83		1	"		1.7	0.0	
/84		3	"		1.7	0.7	
/85		1	"		1.7	0.8	
/86		1	"		1.7	1.0	
/87		1	"		1.7	1.6	
/88		1	"		1.7	2.0	
/89		1	"		1.8	1.6	
/90		16	around posthole F1				
/91		3	"	F1			
/92		1	"	F1			
/93		9		not plotted			
/94	Medieval pottery				1.4	0.5	
/95	Haematite		"	not plotted			
/96	Pottery	4			0.9	0.9	
/97	Pottery	1			1.0	0.0	
/98	Pottery	2			1.3	0.4	
/99	Pottery	1			1.6	0.8	
Trench 2				NT 01933467			
T2/01	Cannal Coal	2	plough soil				
/02	Burnt Chert	1	plough soil				
/03		19	plough soil				
/04	unworked	8	plough soil				
/05	Cores	2	plough soil				
/06	Flint	1	in situ	not plotted			
/07	Brown Chert	1	"	not plotted			

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
/08		5	"	not plotted			
/09	unworked	5	"	not plotted			
Trench 3			NT 01883469				
T3/01	Flint	5	plough soil				
/02	Canal Coal	2	plough soil				
/03	Brown Chert	1	plough soil				
/04	Flint	1	plough soil				
/05	Cannal Coal	1	plough soil				
/06	Cores	2	plough soil				
/07		91	plough soil				
/08	unworked	36	plough soil				
/09	Flint	1	in situ		0.1	0.3	
/10		1	"		0.1	0.3	
/11	Knife	1	"		0.1	0.9	
/12	Microlith	1	"		0.3	0.1	
/13					0.3	0.1	
/14		4			0.3	0.2	
/15					0.3	1.8	
/16		3			0.8	0.3	
/17					0.8	0.4	
/18			(Feature 2)		0.85	0.95	
/19		5			0.9	0.5	
/20					1.1	0.8	
/21		2			1.2	0.2	
/22		3			1.2	0.3	
/23					1.3	1.3	
/24					1.3	0.9	
/25					1.5	0.4	
/26	Flint knife?				1.5	0.7	
/27					1.5	0.7	
/28		2			1.5	0.8	
/29					1.6	1.5	
/30					1.8	1.8	
/31		4			1.9	0.2	
/32	Core/Scraper				2.0	0.3	
/33		2			2.0	0.3	
/34	Quartz/Flake				2.0	0.3	
Trench 4				NT 01823470			
T4/ 001	Unworked	6	plough soil				
/002		16	"				
Trench 5				NT 01823470			
T5/ 001	Unworked	9	plough soil				
/002		13	"				

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
Trench 6				NT 01793471			
T6 /001	Unworked	2	plough soil				
/002		16	"				
Trench 7				NT 01783472			
T7/001	Unworked	14	plough soil				
/002	Unworked brown chert	2	"				
/003		14	"				
/004	Cannal Coal	4	"				
Trench 8				NT 01763478			
T8/001	Microlith		plough soil				
/002	Unworked	7	"				
/003		56	"				
/004	Cannal Coal	4	"				
Trench 9				NT 01743481			
T9/001	Flint blade		plough soil				
/002	Core?						"
/003		26	"				
/004		7	"				
Trench 10				NT 01783485			
T10/001	Agate Worked		plough soil				
/002		4	"				
Trench 11				NT 01753484			
T11/001		8	plough soil				
Trench 12				NT 01703483			
T12/001	Core?		plough soil				
/002		3					"
/003	Unworked	10	"				
Trench 13				NT 01653488			
T13/001	Steep sided scraper		plough soil				
/002			"				
Trench 14				NT 01653485			
T14/001	Unworked	15	plough soil				
/002		27	"				
/003	Core						
Trench 15				NT016034082			
Trench 16				NT 01803487			
T16/001		6	plough soil				
Trench17				NT 01833479			
T17/001	Unworked	6	plough soil				
/002		15					
Trench 18				NT 01883476			
T18/001		2	plough soil				
/002	Core						
/003		12					
Trench 19				NT 02203462			

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
T19/001		129	plough soil				
/002	Microlith		"				
/003	Microlith		"				
/004	Flint	3			"		
/005	Unworked brown chert	3	"				
/006	Cannal Coal	5	"				
/007	Cores		2		"		
/008	Natural Stone		"				
/009	Natural Stone		"				
/010	Unworked	12	"				
/011	Ceramic	1	"				
/012	Flake	1			0.1	0.5	
/013	Medieval Pot				0.1	1.8	
/014		1			0.2	0.4	
/015		2			0.2	0.5	
/016		2			0.2	1.3	
/017		1			0.2	1.7	
/018		2			0.2	1.7	
/019	End Scraper				0.2	2.0	
/020		1			0.2	2.0	
/021		2			0.3	1.0	
/022		1			0.4	0.6	
/023		4			0.4	0.8	
/024	Snapped Blade?				0.4	0.8	
/025	Microlith				0.4	1.4	
/026	Ceramic/Green Glaze				0.4	2.0	
/027		1			0.5	0.4	
/028	Brown chert	1			0.5	0.5	
/029		3			0.5	1.7	
/030		1			0.6	0.4	
/031		2			0.6	0.8	
/032		2			0.6	1.1	
/033		3			0.7	0.3	
/034	Worked Agate1				0.7	0.9	
/035		3			0.8	0.9	
/036		1			0.8	1.2	
/037	Scraper	1			0.8	2.0	
/038	Core	1			0.9	0.2	
/039		1			0.9	0.2	
/040		1			0.9	0.8	
/041		2			0.9	1.3	
/042		4			0.9	1.5	
/043	Blade?	1			0.9	1.7	
/044		2			0.9	1.7	
/045		1			1.0	0.0	

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
/046	Unworked	1			1.0	0.0	
/047		3			1.0	1.0	
/048		6			1.0	1.5	
/049	Broken Blade?	1			1.1	1.0	
/050		3			1.1	1.0	
/051	Core	1			1.1	0.9	
/052		2			1.9	1.6	
/053	Unworked	1			1.2	0.1	
/054		2			1.2	1.6	
/055		1			1.3	1.7	
/056	Microlith	1			1.4	0.6	
/057		3			1.5	1.0	
/058	Broken Microlith	1			1.6	1.0	
/059		2			1.6	1.2	
/060		1			1.6	1.5	
/061		7			1.6	1.6	
/062		3			1.6	1.8	
/063		1			1.7	1.1	
/064		2			1.8	0.3	
/065	Core	1			1.8	0.9	
/066		1			1.9	0.8	
/067		2			1.9	1.0	
/068		2			1.9	1.0	
Trench 20				NT 02103471			
T20/001	Flint	1	Plough Soil				
/002	Unworked	2	"				
/003		16	"				
/004	Core?	1				"	
Trench 21				NT 02123472			
T21/001	Unworked	6	Plough Soil				
/002		33	"				
/003	Core?	1	"				
/004	Worked? Agate 1		"				
Trench 22				NT 02143473			
T22/001	Unworked	4	Plough Soil				
/002		24				"	
/003	Core	1	"				
/004	Flint	1	"				
Trench 23				NT 02173474			
T23/001		4	Plough Soil				
Trench 24				NT 02193478			
T24/001	Unworked	2	Plough Soil				
/002		13	"				
/003	Core?	1				"	

Cat No.	Description	Quantity	Context	Location	East	North	Depth
Trench 25							
T25/001	Flint Blade (broken)	1	Plough Soil				
/002	Flint (Broken Core)	1	"				
/003		8	"				
/004	Unworked	4	"				
Trench 26							
T26/001	Cores	3	Plough Soil				
/002	Agate?	1	"				
/003	Microlith?	1	"				
/004	Edge Damaged	2	"				
/005		26	"				
/006	Unworked	3	"				
/007		2			0.3	0.9	0.5
/008	Flint Micro	1			0.45	0.5	0.4
/009		1			0.45	0.5	0.4
/010	Core	1			0.5	0.7	0.4
/011	Flint (Blade?)	1			0.6	0.9	0.4
/012	Unworked	1			0.8	0.7	0.5
/013		3			0.8	0.8	0.5
Trench 27							
T27/001	Quartz Worked	1	Plough Soil				
/002		15	"				
/003	Unworked Brown chert	1	"				

Appendix III

Biggar Museum Trust

Cornhill near Coulter, Biggar

Catalogue

Number	Description	Quantity	Location	Year
CH88/001	Cast lead spindle whorl with radiating c line and triple pellet decoration		NT02053578	1988
CH88/002	Copper alloy octagonal finger ring		"	"
CH88/003	Blue Faience Melon Bead		"	"
CH88/004	Mark Anthony Legionary Denarius Struck 32-31 BC		"	"
CH88/005	Vespasian Silver Denarius Struck in Rome 76 AD		"	"
CH88/006	Hadrian Silver Denarius Struck in Rome 119-128 AD			"
CH88/007	Lead Weight (Conical)		"	"
CH88/008	Glass Convex Lens (from a ring / jewel setting?) Iridescence Showing			"
CH/003	Lead object			
CH/004	Lead object			
CH/005	Crotal Bell			
CH/006	Copper alloy Buckle 17c (?)			
CH/007	Pitchstone			
CH/008	Pitchstone			
CH/009	Pitchstone			

Notes:

The Grid reference was supplied by the finder of this collection, Mr Martain Brown.

The three coins were identified by Dr Donald Bateson of the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

Some of these objects are on display at Biggar Museums pending a final report and then submission to the Treasure Trove Panel.