Braehead Village, South Lanarkshire a survey and historical review.
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Summary
This paper presents the results of a survey of lime, ironstone and rock quarries with associated clamp kilns, and also a historical review of the village of Braehead in the Parish of Carnwath, South Lanarkshire.

Introduction
Braehead village lies on the B7016 road, approximately mid way between the towns of Carnwath and Forth, it is in the parish of Carnwath. The area lies on OS maps 1:50,000 sheet No 72 and on 1:10,000 sheets No's NS 95 SE & NS 95 SW. There are also 25inch to the mile 1st editions of OS maps (1864) of the village and surrounding district.

Braehead, as the name implies, sits on the summit of an elevated ridge between the Dippool Water on the east and the Mouse Water on the west. The ground ascends from the two river valleys which are c210m OD to the highest point of the ridge which is Braehead Moss, about 265m OD.

It was during the course of exploratory walks around the village by the writer and his two assistants that the realisation was made concerning the scale of the industrial lime, and to a lesser extent rock and ironstone quarrying, but most especially the preservation of numerous clamp kilns within some of the quarry areas. This led to an initial survey of the kilns and subsequent research into their history, and as a consequence, further questions were asked regarding the general history of the village, and importantly, the social and economic history of the quarrying industry there.

The results of the various strands of evidence are presented in this report in two parts: firstly the survey of the kilns and other features, and secondly a historical research of the village and surrounding area.

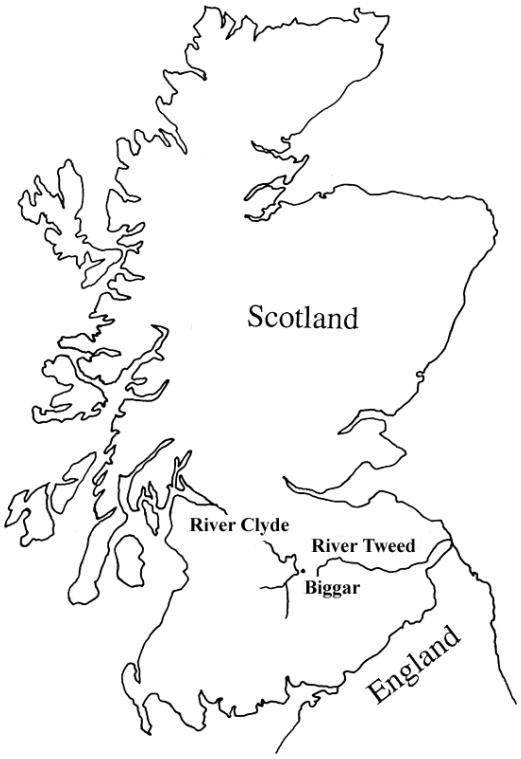
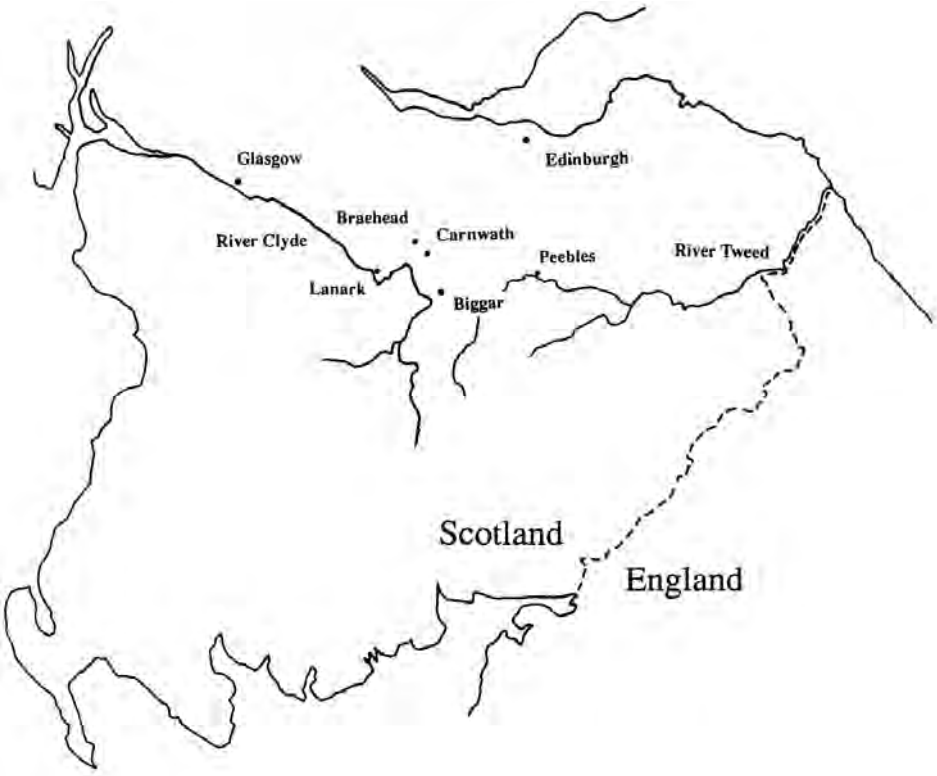

Scotland
River Clyde
River Tweed
Biggar
England

Fig.1


Glasgow
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Carnwath
Peebles
River Tweed
Lanark
Biggar
Scotland
England

Fig. 2

Part 1
Survey
The kilns are all clamp kilns and have been recorded here by length, width and depth, the latter being at the deepest point, usually at the closed end of the kiln pits. The sizes given are approximate since some kiln pits have clearly been enlarged by erosion while others appear to have been backfilled. The orientation of each is also given with the open end indicated by underline. GPS was used to fix the National Grid Reference for each kiln location.

The kilns are all seen as open elongate pits which have apparently been dug into either spoil heaps or the natural ground, taking advantage of a bank or incline in each instance. They are of uniform appearance being U shaped, with sloping grassy sides, the interior faces in some instances having slumped somewhat. A few have squared ends (fig 7) while others are much more amorphous in appearance but most are well defined. The open ends face different points of the compass and in some cases kiln pits face each other over open spaces. In some cases the kilns form rows or groups of up to eight kilns while in other places individual examples exist.

The quarries are extremely irregular in shape and size and are complicated by the now grassed over spoil heaps which appear to consist of fragmented blue-grey shale within which are occasional flat shaped iron-stone nodules. It would appear that quarrying has taken place as an opportunistic operation, working deposits which were originally seen as outcrop exposures; consequently, the quarries are spaced over irregular intervals but follow a general east/west alignment around the ridge (fig 3). Track ways are evident as hollow ways and it is clear from comparison with the 1st Ed OS maps that the quarries have been subject to much modification over time, probably obscuring earlier kilns and other features. Some of the deeper quarries are now flooded (fig 8). There is no indication of mining in any of the quarry areas.

Fig. 4. Blasé Wood Kilns with assistant archaeologists

Fig. 5. Blasé Wood Kilns with assistant archaeologists

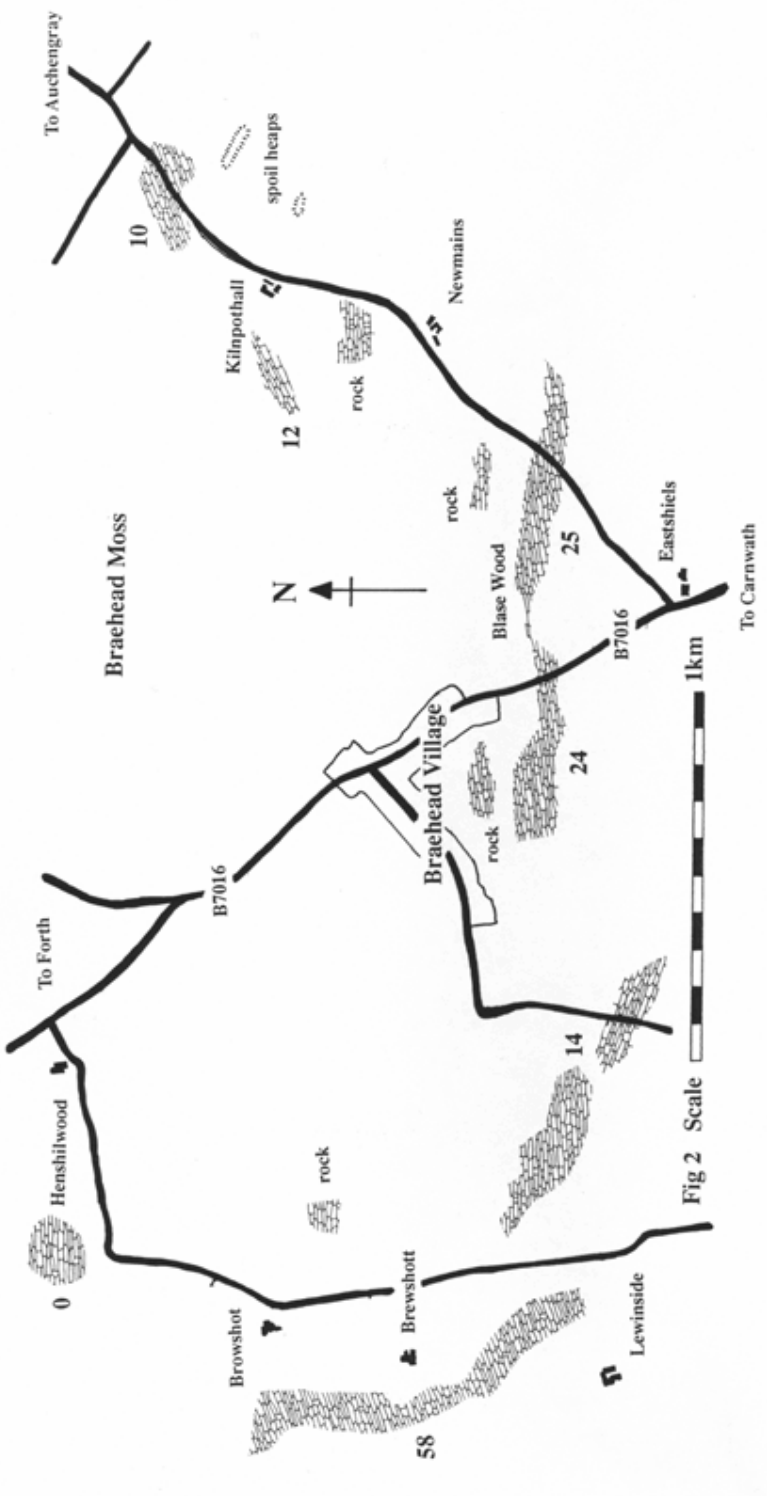

Fig. 3
The numbers at each quarry location give the recorded clamp kilns

Survey lists

NGR Sizes in metres, length, width, depth. Orientation, open end underlined

These groupings of 58 kilns lie in the westernmost quarries of the series, being north of Lewinside and west of Browshot farms. The southern half of this system does not appear on the 1st Ed OS maps and it appears therefore that they were opened at a later date. It is also possible that the northern and southern parts of this system were operated as separate businesses as the quarries do not connect through the dividing fence.

c NS 93747 50620	a group of two, possibly four poorly preserved kilns	NE/SW
NS 93731 50627	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93728 50633	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93726 50638	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93721 50650	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93729 50691	5 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93729 50698	5 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93730 50609	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93733 50618	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93731 50627	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93732 50636	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93731 50650	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group
NS 93730 50655	6 x 2 x 2	E/W } group

The above group of eight kilns are all lying in line on an elevated ridge with a service track running in front of them. The 1st Ed OS map depicts seven of them.

NS 93727 50964	7 x 2 x 2	N/S } group
NS 93716 50968	7 x 3 x 1.5	N/S } group
NS 93707 50974	8 x 3 x 2	N/S } group
NS 93700 50976	8 x 2 x 2	N/S } group
NS 93791 50995	8 x 3 x in filled	E/W }group
NS 93795 51000	8 x 3 x in filled	E/W }group

Some of the above group have possible stonework

NS 93659 51010	3 x 2 x 2 in filled	N/S }group
NS 93744 50681	4 x 3 x 1.75	NW/SE }group
NS 93767 50534	6 x 2.5 x 1.75	N/S }group
NS 93769 50534	6 x 2.5 x 1.75	E/W }group
NS 93772 50528	6 x 2.5 x 1.75	NE/SW }group
NS 93772 50521	5 x 2 x 1.75	NE/SW }group
NS 93782 50508	6 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93787 50495	5 x 2.5x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93797 50488	5 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93799 50488	5 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93804 50480	8 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93835 50454	4 x 3 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93841 50449	5 x 3 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93845 50443	4 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93851 50437	4 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93856 50433	4 x 2 x 2	NNE/SSW } group
NS 93863 50432	6 x 3 x 2	N/S }group
NS 93835 50452	4 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group

NS 93837 50449	4 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93842 50445	4 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93849 50434	4 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93854 50432	4 x 2 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93861 50426	5 x 3 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93873 50427	4 x 2.5 x 2	NE/SW }group
NS 93875 50432	5 x 2 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93884 50429	5 x 2 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93888 50427	5 x 2 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93891 50426	5 x 2 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93892 50418	5 x 2 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93891 50412	5 x 1 x 1.5	N/S }group
NS 93888 50409	8 x 3 x 2.5 (may not be a kiln)	N/S }group

NS 93870 50450	5 x 2 x 0.75	NE/SW
NS 94044 50257	4 x 1.5 x 1.5 }adjacent below	NE/SW
NS 94044 50257	4 x 1.5 x 1.5 }	NE/SW
NS 94066 50257	6 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW
NS 94037 50275	3 x 1 x 1.5	E/W
NS 94036 50280	4 x 1.5 x 1.5	E/W
NS 94020 50284	4 x 2 x1	E/W

The latter three kilns lie in an area of much disturbance and it is likely that other kilns once existed there.

Group

NS 95691 50371	5 x 1.5 x 1.5	E/W
NS 95657 50347	4 x 2 x 1.5	E/W
NS 95642 50358	5 x 1.5 x 1.5	E/W
NS 95584 50346	7 x 2 x 1	E/W
NS 95561 50352	4.5 x 1 x 1	N/S
NS 95549 50349	4.5 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW } group
NS 95543 50353	4 x 2 x 1.4	NE/SW } group
NS 95530 50359	4.5 x 2 x 1.3	NE/SW } group
NS 95528 50365	6.5 x 2 x 1	NE/SW } group
NS 95524 50383	3 x 1 x 1	W/E
NS 95481 50376	3.5 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW } group
NS 95474 50373	4.5 x 1.5 x 1.8	NE/SW } group
NS 95470 50379	6 x 2.5 x 1.5	E/W } group
NS 95471 50389	6 x 1.5 x 1.6	E/W } group
NS 95466 50393	4.5 x 1.5 x 1.5	E/W } group
NS 95457 50386	6 x 2 x 1.6	E/W } group
NS 95459 50377	6 x 2 x 1.6	E/W } group
NS 95451 50366	6.5 x 2.5 x 1.7	E/W } group
NS 95450 50360	6.5 x 2.5 x1.7	E/W } group

Note some of the above group face each other over a c 8m gap

NS 95332 50385	3.5 x 1.5 x 1	NW/SE
NS 95380 50395	5.5 x 3 x 2.5	NNE/SSW
NS 95427 50390	4.5 x 1.5 x 1.6	NNE/SSW
NS 95446 50400	6 x 1.5 x 1.7	NNE/SSW
NS adjacent above but undeveloped	3 x 0.5 x 1.5	NNE/SSW

The above group extends west from the B7016 Carnwath to Forth road, the following group (in Blasé Wood) are part of the same series but extend east from the road. Recorded from east to west.

NS 96317 50304	5 x 2 x1	NE/SW	} group
NS 96313 50392	4 x 2 x 1	NE/SW	) group
NS 96317 50399	5 x 2 x 1	NE/SW	} group
NS 96260 50409	8 x 2 x 1.5	N/S	} group
NS 96260 50396	6 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW	} group
NS 96263 50390	5 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW	} group
NS 96263 50351	6 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW	} group
NS 96248 50352	6 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW	} group
NS 96249 50359	5 x 2 x 2	NE/SW	} group
NS 96251 50359	5 x 1.5 x 2	NE/SW	} group
NS 96212 50385	4 x 2 x 1.5	E/W	} group
NS 96212 50382	4 x 2 x 1.5	E/W	} group
NS 96211 50375	4 x 2 x 1.5	E/W	} group
NS 96207 50368	4 x 2 x 1.5	E/W	} group
NS 96197 50392	6 x 3 x 1.75	NW/SE	}group
NS 96167 50399	6 x 2 x 1.75	NNE/SSW	} group
NS 96160 50400	6 x 2 x 1.75	NNE/SSW	} group
NS 96152 50400	4 x 2 x 1.75	NNE/SSW	} group
NS 96123 50380	6 x 2 x 2	N/S	} group
NS 96123 50382	5 x 2 x 2	NE/SW	} group
NS 96120 50385	5 x 2 x 2	E/W	} group
NS 96109 50413	5 x 1.5 x 2	N/S	

NS 95904 50424 This is a brick constructed pond measuring 15m square by 1m deep, it is most likely nothing to do with the quarries and may have been a water supply to East Sheils farm. It is given on 1st Ed OS maps but in an irregular shape indicating a previous reservoir to the formal brick structure seen in this survey.

NS 95820 50337 25 x 4 x 3 NW/SE

The above site has the appearance of a mine adit entrance but this is improbable, similarly it appears to be far too large to be a clamp kiln of which it has the same appearance apart from larger size. A further quarry scoop lies immediately above on the NW side. If it is a quarry as seems most likely, the spoil heaps are missing.

NS 95776 50399	6 x 2 x 2	N/S	} group
NS 95779 50404	6 x 2 x 2	N/S	} group
NS 95777 50403	6 x 2 x 2	N/S	} group

The following group are the easternmost extension of the Blasé Wood quarries and are on the east side of the road between Eastshiels and Kilnpothall. Recorded from east to west.

NS 96612 50348 5 x 1.5 x 1.5 NE/SW

NS 96592 50344	5 x 1.5 x 1.5 by 3 of 1.5m apart	NE/SW
NS 96556 50337	5 x 1.5 x 1.75	E/W
NS 96520 50324	5 x 1.5 x 1.75	E/W
NS 96377 50316	5 x 2 x 1.75 by 3 of 1.5m apart	NE/SW

Group – The kilns in this group have visible burnt stone and lime showing

NS 94528 50359	8 x 3 x 1	NE/SW
NS 94383 50340	6 x 2 x 1	E/W } group
NS 94387 50330	5.5 x 2 x 1.5	E/W } group
NS 94392 50323	5.5 x 2 x 1.5	NE/SW} group
NS 94403 50321	5.5 x 2 x 1	N/S } group

NS 94399 50307	5 x 3 x 1.5	E/W } group
NS 94405 50298	6.5 x 3 x 2	E/W } group
NS 94401 50289	6 x 2 x 1.5	E/W } group
NS 94433 50311	5.5 x 2 x 1.5	E/W
NS 94433 50345	5 x 2 x 1	NE/SW
NS 94466 50296	6 x 2 x 1.4	SE/NW
NS 94458 50279	c4 x 2 x 0.5 eroded example	

NS 95638 50642	poorly preserved	W/E
NS 94943 50098	poorly preserved	W/E

NS 96621 50933 This is a rock quarry given on 1st Ed OS as 'Hewenstane' there no lime kilns, there was a building here, now no longer seen.

The following group of kilns are west of Kilnpothall (see figs 6 & 7).

NS 96495 51075	5 x 2 x 1.5	NW/SE
Ditto	7 x 1 x 1.5	W/E both ends open

NS 96439 51057	5 x 1 x 1	N/S
NS 96432 51067	5 x 1 x 1	W/E
NS 96481 51088	5 x 1 x 1.5	SW/NE

The above examples appear to be cut into spoil heaps and it is likely that many kiln sites have been re-buried as quarrying progressed. There are certainly many possible kiln sites among the quarry spoil heaps, these ambiguous features have not been recorded here.

NS 96584 51116	5 x 2 x 2	N/S
NS 96600 51121	6 x 2 x 1.5	NNE/SSW
NS 96615 51128	6 x 2 x 1.75	NW/ES
NS 96622 51128	6 x 2 x 1.75	NW/SE
NS 96628 51125	6 x 2.5 x 1.75	NW/SE
NS 96640 51132	6 x 2.5 x 1.75	N/S
NS 96648 51130	5 x 2 x 1.75	N/S

The following group are north of Kilnpothall and are on the west side of the road

NS 96992 51437	6 x 2.5 x 1.5	NE/SW

The above kiln has a spoil heap lying directly in front of it, indicating the kiln was used before the spoil was created.

NS 97032 51453	5 x 1.5 x 1.5	E/W

The following group form a straight line of eight kilns of fairly uniform size, being 6 x 2 x 2 and all facing the SE towards the road, and only a few metres from it. They range from NS 97084 51460 to NS 97037 51425. They are depicted on the 1st Ed OS map 25 inch to the mile.

NS 97705 52637 This is the location of the most easterly quarry; however there are no obvious kilns. On the summit of a spoil heap there are several long gully like features. Two are parallel and 20m long, set 3m apart. The other three measure between 5m and 10m long. They do appear to be deliberate in form, however as they are not seen in any other quarry, it is possible that they are simply the product of spoil deposition. They are unlikely as kiln types. This quarry is given on 1st Ed OS maps but with no details.

AT NS 970 511 and NS 972 513 (both in the same field) there are two large isolated shale spoil heaps which have been derived from the quarries immediately to the north. These form very regular shapes and indicate they were created as a continuous activity. They are given on 1st Ed OS map 25 inch to the mile, and the associated quarries are given as 'ironstone', also at the northern end of the larger spoil heap were buildings no longer seen and given as 'engine house' and 'tanks'. A smaller isolated spoil heap may be seen near the rock quarry (Hewenstanes) at NS 9665 5100.

Fig. 6. Kilnpothall Kilns

Fig. 7 Kilnpothall Kiln

Fig. 8: Flooded Rock Quarry

Geology

The village of Braehead lies on the Lower Limestone Group and is bounded on the southern side, along the line of the quarries by Limestone, Oil shale and Cementstone Groups. All of which is part of the Carboniferous Sandstone and Limestone Series. [Geological Survey of Great Britain (Scotland) Solid Geology Map Sheet No 23, Hamilton].

The limestone quarries (fig 3) run across the southern flank of the ridge upon which the village is situated, from the west at Lewinside at c 210m OD and rising to 260m OD on the east at Kilnpothall.

It is recorded (see below) that coal was also available to burn the lime; however, this may have been a reference to the oil shale.

At NS 954 506, NS 963 506, NS966 509 and possibly at NS 944 509 there are hard rock quarries of honey coloured sandstone from which the older houses, church and school of the village and the surrounding farmhouses must have been built, it is probable that the few earlier historic buildings in the area were also built from these quarries..

Lime industry and clamp kilns

Most of the following is extrapolated from a publication (Nisbet, 2003) on the 18th century lime industry in Scotland.

Lime was traditionally used as mortar, plaster, harling or lime-wash, and its use in Britain can be traced back to Roman times. It was also valuable as a soil improver and fertiliser, certainly from about 1600. By the mid 18th century, demand increased for both ground improvement and building (but at Braehead it was primarily for the former). It also became important in the production of iron and in the chemical industry. All mortared buildings dating to c 1700 or earlier and including castles, churches and houses will have been built with lime manufactured in clamp kilns.

Nearly every Scottish county contains lime from various geological sources.

Before limestone could be used it had to be calcined or burnt in kilns. The earliest form of kiln was the clamp kiln, described as a basic 'horseshoe' shaped earth enclosure. Layers of lime and fuel were built up and then covered in turf and then burnt for several days. Field evidence shows that clamp kilns were commonly dug into slopes, making them durable and able to be re-used. Large groups of clamp kilns have been recorded in Scotland and by the 19th century these were replaced by brick or stone kilns, of which many examples may still be seen. Although the latter may have been able to cope with larger volumes of product, it was suggested that the older method produced the best lime.

Lime was often considered more valuable than the coal used to burn it, although in some areas 'lime-coal' was an inferior sort (perhaps at Braehead?); better quality coal was not considered essential.

Lime was most commonly quarried leaving the landscapes seen today with some of the deeper workings flooded and with the groups of clamp kilns (as at Braehead). However, at nearby Leven Seat (hill) to the east of Forth, there are major lime mines, although these were used for the Lanarkshire iron industry in the 19/20th centuries. Other nearby lime quarries are at Climpy, near Forth and in the Carluke area, quarries near Carluke also have excellent clamp kilns preserved and some of the quarries are given as 'disused' on the 1st Ed OS maps in 1864.

Lime working would have been a relatively large employment in rural areas, perhaps about ten men working a quarry and its kilns. Winter months were spent in preparation, clearing ground (known as tirling) and exposing the limestone and fuel, while summer was the time for burning.

Note; the background history of lime working given in the article from which some of the above information was gleaned, is invaluable to anyone interested in the subject. The lime workings at Braehead now require a serious research project to provide details of their importance in local social and economic history. Unfortunately, published local history works make scant, if any reference to Braehead, let alone the lime industry carried out there, private estate papers, if they exist, may yet provide the story.

Part 2
Braehead History
This work makes no pretence at being a comprehensive enquiry into the history of Braehead, rather it points the way for other researchers to sources of information, and indeed begs further questions to be answered.

Place names
Blase Wood
The wood covers an area of quarrying and kilns. The term blase can be traced to Scots usage of Blaes, Blaize and Blaise, all meaning "a bluish-grey indurated clay or soft slate" (Scottish National Dictionary). The term is often used to describe burnt oil shale and spoil heaps of this may be seen at nearby Tarbrax village.

Kilnpothall (farm) given on Roy's map of 1745.
The name is obviously derived from association with kilns, however, whether the 'pot' element refers to the numerous clamp kilns still to be seen or to actual pot kilns no longer visible, is uncertain.

Many of the local place names have changed over the years; this can be traced especially on map evidence and on other documentation.

Early buildings
The only places depicted in the immediate vicinity of Braehead on early maps prior to the 19th century, were the 16th century tower house of Eastshield (figs 9 - 10) and the 17th century country house of Westshield Figs 11 - 14). Couthally Castle (figs16 - 17) at Woodend Farm, 3km to the south east of Braehead is worthy of mention as the entire area must have come under the feudal control of the Somerville family who resided there.

Eastshield (fig 9) was a 16th century tower house, fairly typical on many in Scotland. It was the home of a family called Inglis who participated in local and national affairs throughout the 16th and 17th centuries. They were closely linked with the Somervilles of Couthally Castle near Carnwath. What remains of Eastshiels tower is a stair turret which presumably projected from the north west corner of a square or rectangular tower house. The main point of interest of the remaining part of the tower is that there is a doocot at the top of the tower, a rather unusual feature. Adjacent to the ruin and

built into the later farm buildings is a door lintel obviously removed from the tower. It carries the date 1567 and the name Thomas Inglis (fig 10) in quaint lettering.

Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Westshield house (figs 11 - 14) appears to be two 17th century buildings forming an 'L'shape and joined by a later stair tower. It was associated with the family of Denems or Denholms and their Armorial was placed above the main 17th century entrance, a stork or a heron with a thistle. The initials ID and M- also appeared with the date 1668, presumably the time when one of the extensions was added.
The more or less complete building was tragically demolished during the 1970's, and if still standing and renovated such as the similar house of Jerviswood at Lanark, then it would, without doubt have been a huge asset to the community as a whole.

Fig. 11 Westshiels during occupation

Fig. 12

Fig. 13

Fig. 14

Fig 15 Cleuch Doocot

Figs 12 – 14 Westshiels before demolition

Couthally Castle

The Braehead district lies within the Parish and Barony of Carnwath, at Woodend Farm are the grass covered remains of Couthally Castle fig 16); this was the ancestral home of the distinguished Somerville family whose history can be traced back to the Battle of Hastings in 1066. They of course were on the winning side of that epic battle, and eventually descendants migrated north to Scotland under the patronage of King David I and Malcolm IV during the 12th century. Their first stronghold was the impressive 'pudding bowl' motte to be seen on Carnwath golf course (fig 18), a timber castle would have graced the summit of the artificial hill. Later, the Somervilles move to a new stone castle built beside a bog at Couthally. The Somervilles and their home figured prominently in Scottish history with many monarchs visiting for business and pleasure. Many stirring tales are published regarding this family, (but will not be re-told here). Suffice for the purposes of this work to mention the remains of their stone and lime castle, parts of which may still be seen, including a gun port in a fragment of a 16th century tower.(fig 17). Beautifully carved stones with figures (fig 19) at Ampherlaw House are said to have come from Couthally. The important burial vault of St Mary's Aisle in Carnwath (fig 20) contains rare effigy tombstones of the Somervilles.

Fig. 16

Fig. 17

Fig. 18

Fig. 20

Fig. 19

Fig. 21

Cleuch Doocot

A final, and nearby stone and lime building of note is the Cleuch Doocot (fig 15). Now a sad ruin of a once impressive 17th century lectern type doocot. Pigeons could only be kept in this manner by the landed gentry and they provided their owner with fresh meat, eggs, feathers, manure and even the ingredients to make gun powder, all this and it did not cost a penny to keep them because they flew out of their home each day and ate the peasants corn! Penalties for stealing or harming the pigeons were severe, from having a hand chopped off or in extreme cases – death!

These early buildings were doubtless made from locally quarried stone and lime, but the details of this are lost.

Historical References (Braehead)

Old Statistical Accounts 1794

"There is plenty of lime in the middle of the parish with a seam of coal below it for burning. It was sold at 5 ½ d per boll as slaked lime" (apparently for fields rather than for building).

New Statistical Accounts 1841

Lime is given as 6 feet in thickness with 18 inches of coal sufficient for burning.
Braehead is given on the Lanarkshire map in the volume.

Census 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871

The four earliest census records for Carnwath Parish were consulted principally with a view to obtaining the names and numbers of people engaged in the lime industry. Surprisingly, there are practically no references to lime works or the labour required to operate the various quarries.

1841 in this year there are two ministers; the Rev John Mclellan aged 35 and John Cooper aged 40. There is one flesher (butcher), four tailors, three shoemakers, four wrights, one blacksmith, one mason, two merchants and the teacher Thomas Shaw.

At nearby Forth there is one entry for a lime miner, which probably was for Levenseat there.

1851 in this year there is a reference to Eastshiel Limeworks where John Glass is a lime burner aged 51. Under the same place there are a farm and a general labourer. A new minister appears as Alexander Banks and there are two teachers. Weavers now appear and there are no fewer than twenty nine of them, plus a spinner of flax. Among the usual trades there is now a chimney sweep, a violinist, several paupers, a quarrier/weaver and his wife, a Chelsea Pensioner, and importantly, a Lime Merchant, William Gray. At Eastshiel Easterton and Eastsidewood Cottage there is a stone quarrier each and at Westsidewood there is a thatcher.

At Climpy near Forth, there are twelve ironstone miners given and rather surprisingly there are many more miners involved with ironstone than coal.

1862 & 1871 these years give the usual occupations of the villagers and surrounding workers, however, apart from William Gray in 1861 still being a lime merchant there are no references to lime workers. In 1871 Peter Hall is the constable.

Carnwath Church old cemetery monumental inscriptions

The pre 1855 monumental inscriptions have been recorded (Scott 1977), but unfortunately for the purposes here little was found. However, for local genealogical enquiries, this is a valuable tool. In the work by Scott (above) an interesting note is given for the *Retours of Heirs 1700 – 1799*; 'James Purdon, to father Stephen portioner Westhiells who died May 1763, in the fifteen shilling land of Westshiells with salmon fishing in the Clyde in Lanarkshire 1765'. This tells of a pollution free River Clyde just before the industrialisation of Lanarkshire poisoned its lower reaches.

Another note is given to the effect that Braehead had a 'burgher minister' in 1802.

Braehead School Registers

The school registers for years 1864 to the present are kept in the school. The registers of pupils, teachers and daily reports, including weather and illness epidemics which affected attendance, all make a fascinating and informative record of the population of Braehead and surrounding area. These valuable documents were only briefly perused for this paper; they do merit a more detailed scrutiny and analyses, one which surely would significantly colour the history of Braehead. A few 'tasters' are given here;

The first book is dated 1864 – 1880 for St Andrews School Braehead. This is how the school is depicted on the 1st Ed OS maps. In 1884 the school is described as Braehead Public School. In 1895 there were 69 scholars, in 1898 there were 117 on the roll and in 1906, 43 out of a total of 98 were off with measles! Children aged 12 or over were allowed time off for potato planting and harvesting and for other seasonal farm work. In 1888 the school was closed for Lanark Lanimer day celebrations. In 1958 there were 44 pupils on the roll and in 2005 there were 43 pupils with 4 teachers and 2 support staff.

The first school to be built on the present site is the adjacent house (fig 22) seen today with the date stone 1841. On the 1st Ed OS (1864) this building is depicted with 'playground'. The other classroom building was added at a later date. However, also on the 1st Ed map another school is given near the church at the other end of the village. It may be that this was the original school which was replaced by St Andrews School, records pre dating 1864, if they exist, may have the answers.

Church and manse

Church records were not consulted for this report. They would provide much additional information. It would appear that the first church was a United Secession church, built in 1798 with 500 sittings and a stipend of £70. The 'break away' congregation came from the established church at Carnwath. There appears to have been a 'meeting house' originally, reputed to have been near the present site of the existing church (which is now a house). A 'burgher' minister (see above) was present in 1802. Records show a church built in 1798 but the date stone of the present building (fig 23) is 1845.

Forrest's map shows a 'meeting house' and 'manse' in the relative positions of the existing former church and manse. However, although the church location seems to have been in the same place, the manse was re-built on a new spot. The original manse was the now ruinous building (fig 24) which can still be seen today at the side of the road, behind it is a rather elegant gabled house (the later manse) set in gardens.

Fig. 22

Fig. 23

Fig. 24

Fig. 25

Newspaper cuttings (supplied by R&W Bryce and George Stewart)

Doubtless for the later history of the village and surrounding area there will be much information to be gleaned from newspaper cuttings, most especially those of the

Hamilton Advertiser which dates back to 1856. A few cuttings (c1934) are available in the village but a detailed search would be rewarding.
A few notes of interest are given here, the papers probably being the Hamilton Advertiser;

In 1934 one W T Prentice recollects his memories of Braehead "some 60 – 70 years ago". Among many names, places and anecdotal tales he mentions one John Glass who lives at Kiln Row midway between Westmains and Braehead, and that no house now marks the spot. This must be the buildings beside the kilns and given on the 1st Ed OS map, and which may still be traced in outline on the ground complete with the garden enclosure, an earth dyke. Mr Prentice also mentions an Adam Mann "carried on a pretty extensive lime-stone quarry business where some of the Braehead folks were employed". He also mentions a house called 'The Kilns' near Scabgill Farm. Another reference to the lime industry in the late 19th C is John Robertson "who worked in the Limestone Quarry". The police 'headquarters' (fig 25) is pointed out and he also mentions the popular sport of quoits being played in the village.

In 1938, complaint is being made that electricity had not yet been installed despite the fact that the poles were lying about. Derelict buildings, part destroyed by fire in the village, were reported unsightly. New houses are needed, especially for miners who prefer to stay in Braehead.

Scabgill Monument
The rather forlorn, ruinous little building (fig 21), occupying a corner of ground at Scabgill and given as 'tomb', on both Forrest's map and the 1st Ed OS map, appears to be a memorial (not a tomb) of the Denham family of Westshield. A marble inscription once adorned the chamber but was broken in pieces. Its whereabouts is unknown. The inscription was a follows;

A mournful monument devoted to the memory of Capt. Thomas Steuart Denham only son of Sir Archibald Steuart, Baronet of Westshiels and eldest son of Thomas Steuart, Baronet of Coltness and Dame Susana Denham Daughter of Robert Denham of Westshiels and Marion Lockhart. The Capt. Was of the 6th. Regiment of the Kings Regiment of Foot. He joined the corps in 1748 Pe.et Aix Ch. C. attended duty 2 years. He was 5 years in different stations in Scotland and 5 years in England. He was in the descent in 1757 upon France. He embarked May 15, 1760 was huryed over to Alsfeldt in Resse Cassel. Died of a fever Ld. Day March 22, 1761. having troad The Steps of Frail Life 35 years 3 months 6 days.

This to is sacred to the memory of Girs. Steuart the Capt's only sister. She died March 26, 1754 and Buried in her Grandmother Dame Susana Denham's grave and mingles dust with a cloud of valuable relations in the Greyfriars Church yeard after a virtuous pilgrimage of 26 years 5 months 7 days.

Their parents Sir Archibald Denham and Jean Warrender mourn for them. These were virtuous, pious, and of most amiable character and with accepted sorrow leave it Ingraven on this marble.

Sisteviator
Haec legens sistes sed tamen non sistes. O vitae fugacis
curriculum breve. O guam fluxa huma na spes et lubrica.
O mortalitas praematura. Nam hic recordautur Liberi sed
Non posteri. Come splendid virtue mourn the woe
Grim death wrought in this realm below

The Upper Ward of Lanarkshire Described and Delineated 1864 Vol II

This is the best and most comprehensive local history record of the area, dealing with each parish in what is now South Lanarkshire. The following information was gleaned from the Carnwath Parish section:
Although the village is shown on the parish map, it appears unnamed.
"Lime is wrought at Eastshiels"
"a United Presbyterian church at Braehead in the limestone district"
"a school at Braehead"
"one constable stationed at Braehead"
Eastshiels "lime is wrought to profit on the estate"
"lime at Westshiels to a considerable value on the roll" (followed by)
Leamside or Lowenside is of less value" (Lewinside, suggesting the lime quarries there were not yet opened and confirming their absence of the 1st Ed OS maps).
"Browshot, three holdings, one of them a lime work"
"Blackhill with Kirkgreen has free stone quarries"
The farm of Kirkgreen is not given on any maps, however, by its described location in UWL it must have been where the lime and ironstone quarries are north of Kilnpothall. Apparently the Coltness Iron Company owned Kirkgreen.
The history of the two prominent ancient families of Inglis in Eastshiels and Denems or Denholmes of Westshiels is given in UWL in some detail and need not be repeated here. Suffice to say that these two families did figure in local and national politics in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Gazetteer of Scotland 1851

Braehead is not given.

Imperial Gazetteer of Scotland 1855

Braehead given, "here is a United Presbyterian church, with 500 sittings". The population in 1841 was 312.

The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland (Vol IX AD1634 – 1651)

Both Eastshiels and Westshiels are given in four charters (129, 342, 1655 and 1992) of the above period, along with many other place names in the area. The documents concern the affairs of Gavin Dalzell who apparently had the Carnwath lands in that century. There is no mention of either Braehead or to lime working.

Map evidence

Neither of the two earliest detailed maps of Clydesdale depicts Braehead; these are **Timothy Pont's** manuscript map of 1596 and the published version of this in 1654 by the Dutch cartographer, **Johannes Blaeu.** East and West Shiels are given on both maps.

Roy's map of 1747 is interesting because it does give 'Braehead' with what appears to be four buildings set as a square. The most prominent depiction is that of 'Westshiel House', which is shown in the formal arrangement of enclosures and driveway. Other place names given around Braehead are Boghall, Roughsyke, Roughcrook, Browshot, Nothshiel House, Headscrook, Thirsty Hole, Eastshiell, Winkens, Craighouse, Newmains, Kilipothall, W Sidewood, Cold Mornings and Croafthill. The fact that Kilipothall exists must surely indicate the lime workings there at that time. Thirsty Hole and Cold Mornings are enigmatic place names. Roads are not given.

Ross's map of 1773 gives the only road in the area as running from Carstairs, Ryeflat, Boghall, Westshield, Scabgill and on to Stobwood. There is no road depicted from Carnwath to the Braehead area. Westshield and Cleuch are both given with depictions of a house, indicating some distinction at each of these places.

The modern roads system begins to appear on the more accurate maps by ***Forrest*** in 1816 and 1822, and for the first time the village of Braehead is recorded on a map as a village (but see Roy's map above). The modern farms are all given, with the tomb at Scabgill, East Shield as a 'ruin' and West Shield with the name Wingate Esq. West Shield is also given with formal tree avenues and boundaries around it. The village is given with a manse and a meeting house, the only other nearby name is Greenholes to the west although there are several houses depicted along both the main street and the main road. It is on these maps that the industrial working of lime and stone appear for the first time.
Quarries given as 'Lime Work' are between Browshot and Lewinside, straddling the main road south of the village to their eastern end south of Newmains, quarries north and west of Kilnpothall with one quarry on the west side as 'Hewenstane', a quarry on the west side of the main road near modern Back Brae and an 'Iron Mine' on the east side of the road junction at modern Maryville.

The 1St Ed OS 6 inch to the mile (1864) (see fig 26) map shows quarries at Browshot to Lewinside, north of Scabgill, north west of Braehead Mains, east of Lower Oldtown, the main system extending across the main road on the south side of the village and through Blasé Wood and over the road there, west of Newmains Cottage, and the quarries on the south west, west and north east of Kilnpothall. Several of the lime quarries are given with lime kilns depicted and named, 'kilns'. Some buildings are also given but the only named example is at Hewenstane (a rock quarry).

The 1st Ed OS 25 inch to the mile (1864) maps give good detail of most sites and are especially good for individual clamp kilns and groups or banks of kilns, although only a fraction of the full amount given in this survey are depicted on the maps. The larger scale maps obviously give more detail and legend and the relevant information has been given in this report at appropriate places.
An unnamed long house and garden are shown for the quarry south of the village. This is evidently given as 'Kiln Row' where John Glass lived, in a newspaper cutting of 1934 (see above).
Winter recreation is shown by the large curling pond immediately east of St Andrew's School, at the edge of the moss.

The **1:10,000 OS map of 1957** gives all of the quarries depicted on the 1st Ed and additionally has the rock quarry (fig 8) (given with 'crane') at NS 944 509 and to the west of Brewshot and Browshot. This quarry, now flooded is distinctive by having three conical shaped spoil heaps suggestive of mechanical extraction. The quarry is not given on 1st Ed OS maps (1864) indicating it was opened at a later date.
Detail of the quarries becomes less on the modern maps and several place names have changed since the earlier editions were published.

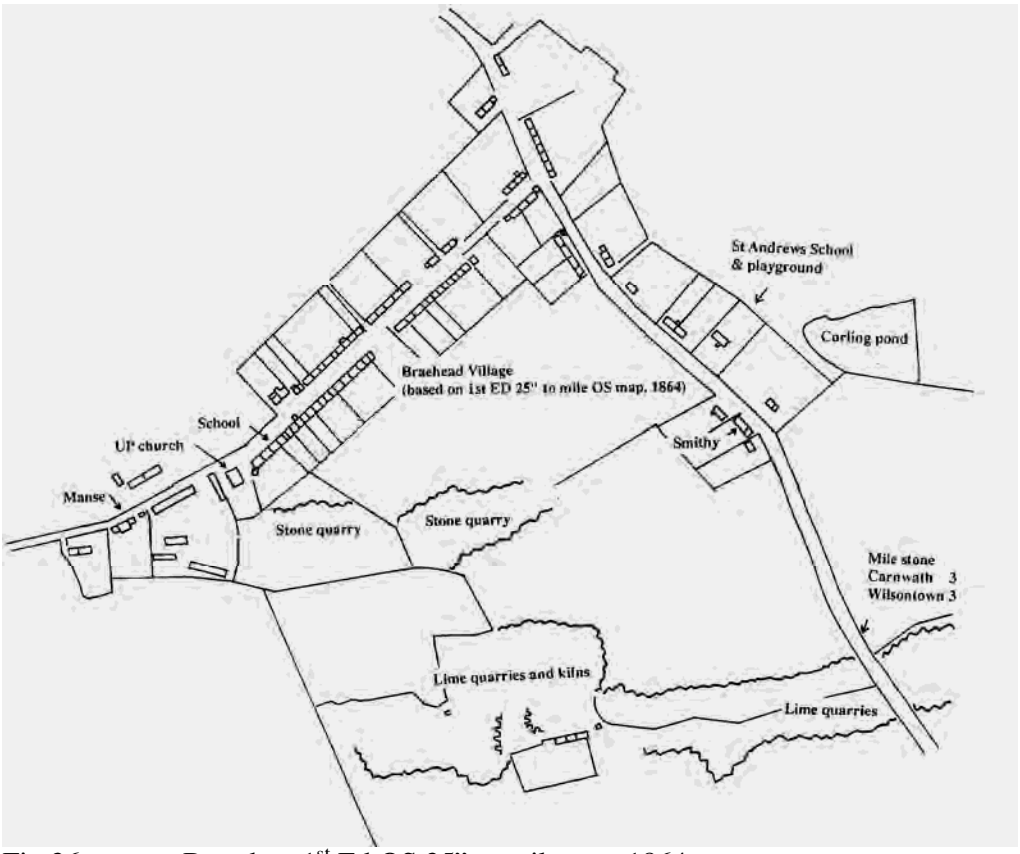

Fig 26. Based on 1st Ed OS 25" to mile map 1864.

Conclusion

Braehead appears in history only at the beginning of the 19th century, on the map of William Forrest in 1816. Roy's map 1747 does give the place name but what existed then is uncertain, however, Braehead does not appear to have originated as a farm. The map of the area by Charles Ross in 1773 shows no such place or even a road leading anywhere near it. It seems reasonable to conclude that Braehead village and the general increase in population of the area may be attributable to the lime and quarrying industry which must have begun, at least on a larger scale, some time in the later 18th century. Some of the rock quarries in the area may have been opened or at least increased their output at this time; to build lime mortared stone houses, farm buildings, dykes and latterly the church, manse and school.

The only two known earlier buildings near the village were Eastshiels and Westshiels and slightly further away, Couthally Castle and Cleuch doocot. Obviously both stone and lime were required for the construction of these buildings, ranging from the 15th to the 17th centuries, the sources of these materials is unknown, however they are all built using the same honey coloured sandstone found at Braehead, it is plausible to speculate that some of the Braehead lime and stone quarries have a much longer history than may be determined in this survey.

Since it is known that some of the Carluke lime quarries and kilns were in 'disuse' from OS maps in 1864, it may be that much of the Braehead quarries and kilns were similarly abandoned by that time. This would account for the lack of information in the early census records.

Evidently by the number of sittings in the church (500) in 1855, the community was thriving and this continued into the 20th century. As the lime works gradually closed down, workers must have gained alternative employment in the nearby coal mines at Forth and Wilsontown, thus maintaining a tradition of work derived from the mineral wealth of the area. However, weaving became an important part of the village economy as attested by the Census documents, the village and surrounding district also prospered with a range of trades and businesses being carried on.

Like all communities, Braehead paid the ultimate sacrifice in the world wars of the 20th century, as attested by the roll of honour on the War Memorial which has names only for WWI.

During the second half of the 20th century even the coal mines were in demise and alternative employment had once more to be sought. Many local miners found work at Bathgate in the British Leyland factory and there was a thriving heavy transport business in Forth. Increasing private ownership of cars meant that Braehead, like all other rural communities became a commuter settlement, apart from the school, the only local work being, once again, on farms.

At the coming of the new millennium what history this small community had, appears to have been forgotten. Evidence of the former mineral industries, although still quite obvious, has been ignored and its significance lost to younger generations, and indeed on their parents. This is hardly surprising as the village and surrounding community are mostly comprised of immigrant settlers from out with the immediate district. This is evident by the continuing building of modern homes on nearly every farm and in the village itself. Employment, shopping and entertainment are mostly done by commuting in cars. However, without doubt the community is thriving on this new generation of population, the numbers of school children attending Braehead primary and the various successful village activities are testament to that.

Braehead, like many other rural settlements appears to be successfully maintaining a community spirit, albeit of an alien kind to that of the founders; the people who manually worked the soil, and those quarries, burners and carters whose endeavours helped them to improve it.

This brief outline of the history of Braehead does not satisfactorily answer a number of questions. Why was the school called St Andrews? This may be tied in with the church history which has not been researched here. There are still many details to discover of how and when the lime industry was carried on, and who owned and operated it and its economics. Strangely, only a few scraps of reference are given to lime workings in the Census documents. A considerable amount of history concerning the village will yet be available in various formats such as newspaper reports, private documentation and possibly church records. This is beyond the scope of the present writer.

Nevertheless, a secondary project has evolved from this study, this was the copying and cataloguing to CD Rom available photographs of the district and most especially school photographs supplied by several residents. The material is available for studying and/or copying at Braehead School and Biggar Museum by appointment.

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To learn more about Biggar Archaeology Group contact:
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