



**BRUCE HILL, TARBERT, ARGYLL**  
**Community Excavation**



Data Structure Report  
September 2018  
Roderick Regan



## Abstract

The structure uncovered during this small community excavation at Bruce Hill, Tarbert, is very likely the remains of one of the buildings depicted on an Admiralty map of East Loch Tarbert dating to 1847, the building likely to have gone out of use prior to the First Edition Ordnance survey of 1865 where it is absent. If so, the building was likely occupied in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and possibly before that period. Only a small proportion of the building was excavated and none of its associated floors or internal use deposits.

The excavation also revealed deposits and some features, such as a hearth area, that predated this structure and given that two medieval pottery sherds were also recovered from the excavation, perhaps hints that part of the medieval burgh of Tarbert might lie in the vicinity.



Kilmartin Museum

Argyll, PA31 8RQ

Tel: 01546 510 278

Email: <http://www.kilmartin.org>

© 2018 Kilmartin Museum Company Ltd SC 022744.

Kilmartin House Trading Co. Ltd. SC 166302 (Scotland)

Contents	Page
1. Introduction	1
2 Location and Topography	3
3 Archaeological Background of Bruce Hill	3
4. Excavation Results	6
4.1 Trenches 1 and 1a	6
4.2 Trench 2	11
4.3 Trench 3	12
4.4 The Artefact Assemblage	14
5. Discussion	16
6. References	16
Appendix 1: Context Descriptions	17
Appendix 2: Context List	20
Appendix 3: Photo List	20
Appendix 4: Finds Catalogue	22
Appendix 5: DES Entry	24

## Acknowledgments

Kilmartin Museum would like to thank ACHA for permission to conduct the excavation on their land. We would also like to thank members of the Tarbert Castle Trust and the other volunteers who helped on site. The author would also like to thank Sheila Clark would kindly proof read the report.

## 1. Introduction

The small community excavation was undertaken on land owned by ACHA on the north west side of Bruce Hill, Tarbert on the 30<sup>th</sup> June to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July. The excavation was funded by Tarbert Castle Trust and the site code used was TAR 18.

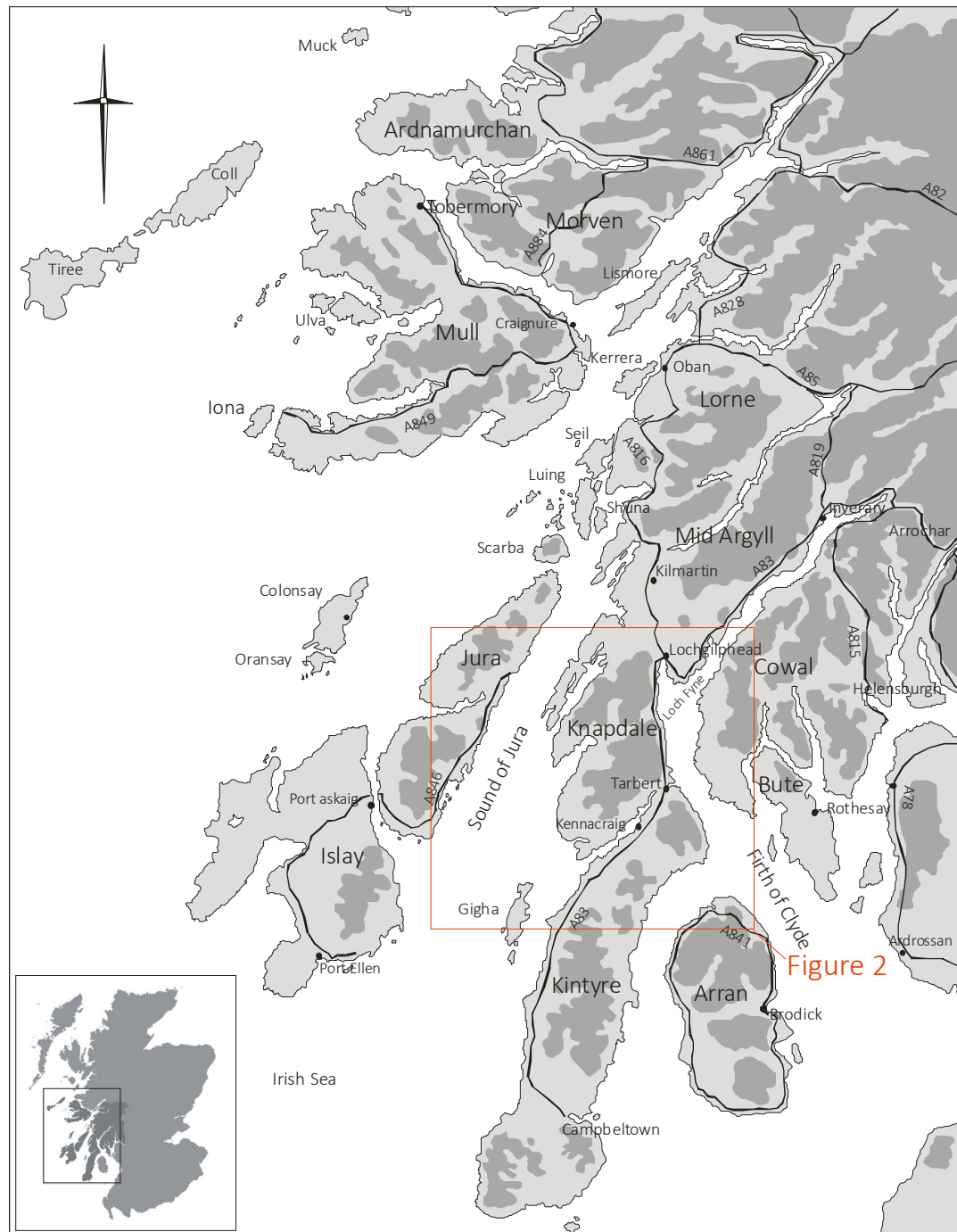


Figure 1: Tarbert Location in Argyll



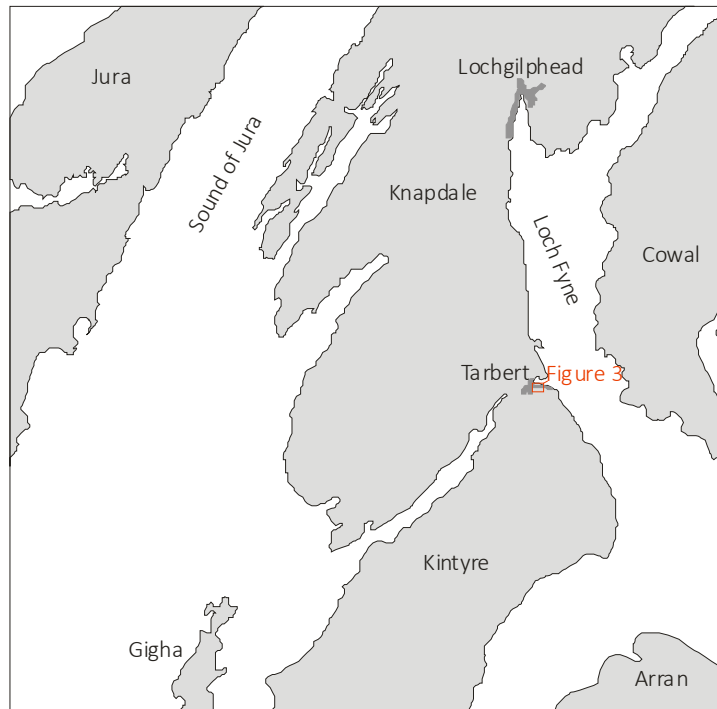


Figure 2: Tarbert Location in Kintyre

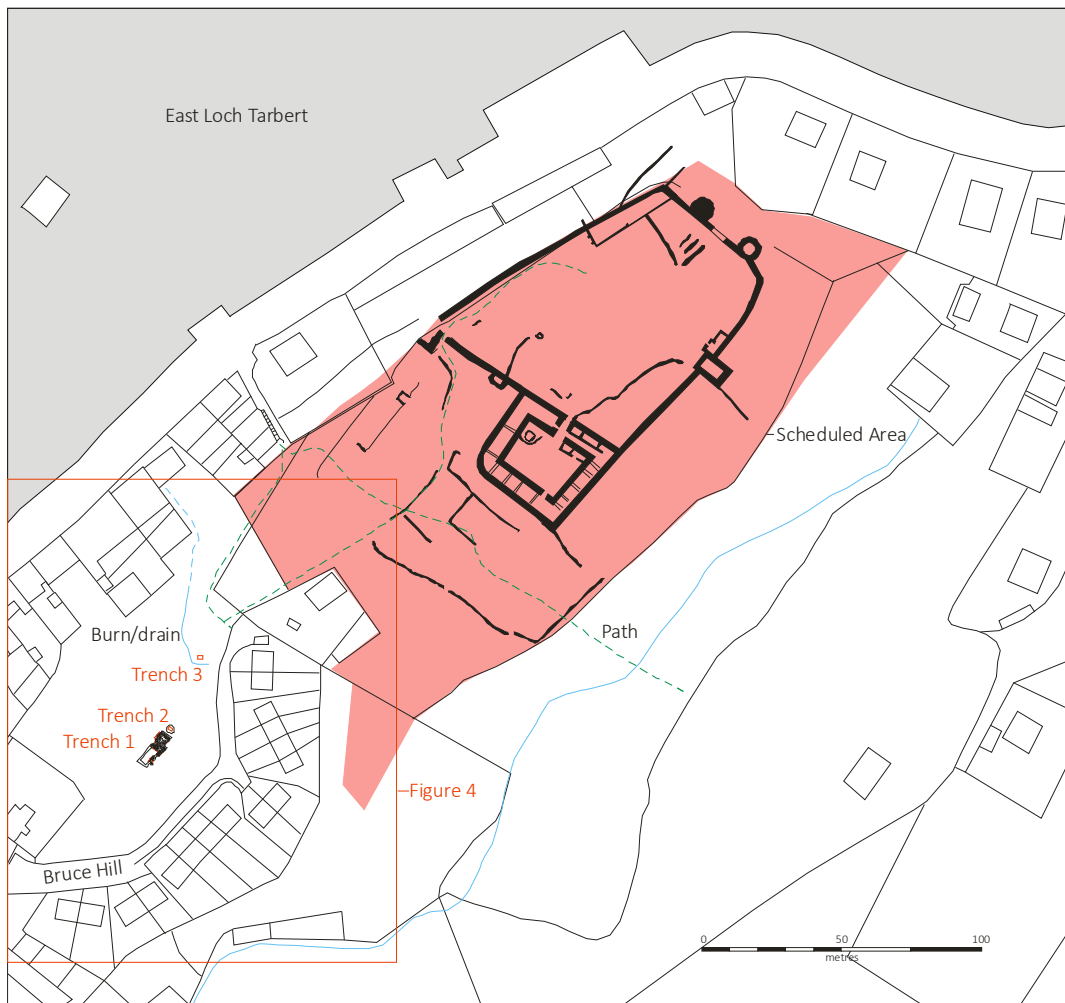
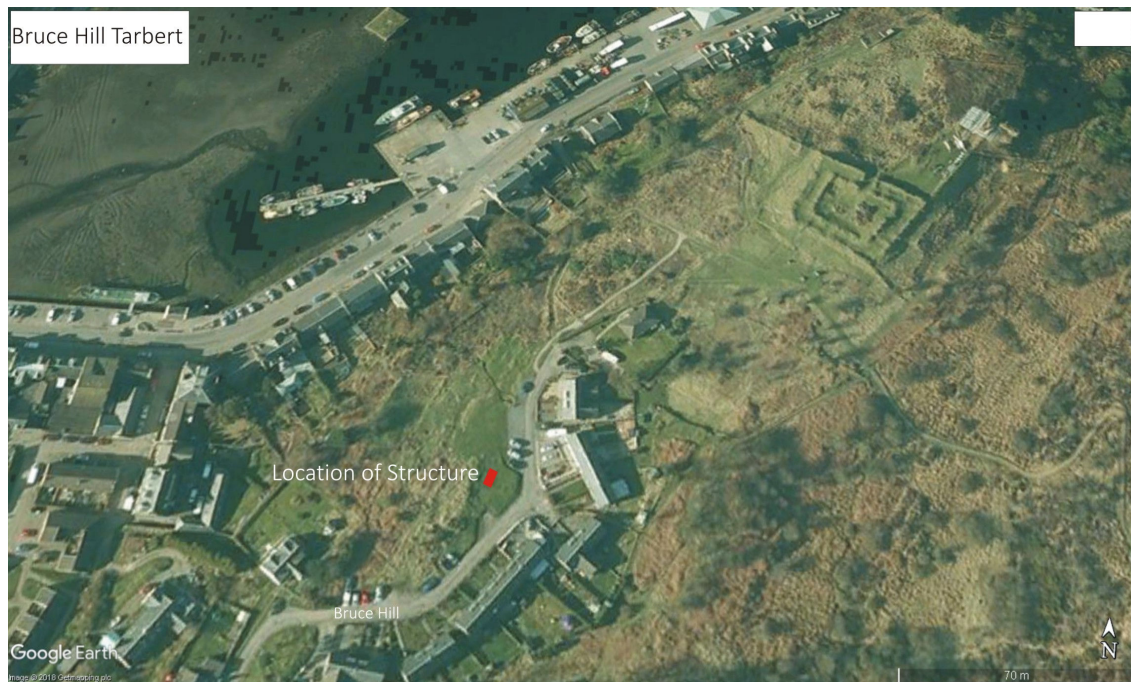


Figure 3: Site Location in Tarbert



Site Location from Google Earth

## 2. Location and Topography

The excavation trenches (Trench 1, 1a, 2 and 3) lay on the west side of the northern end of Bruce Hill (Figures 1-4), an area lying to the south west of Tarbert castle. The main area of excavation, Trench 1, was located at NR 86606 68561 (between 18.30m and 18.50m AOD) with Trenches 2 and 3 lying to the north. The land is currently open grassland or scrub covered ground that descends in a series of ridges to the west. At the north of this open area the dip of a small north west south east aligned stream or burn bisects the open ground. The area immediately to the west of Bruce Hill is trimmed grassland, and beyond this the ground is covered in more extensive scrub mainly bracken cover.

The underlying geology is banded sedimentary schist (epidiorite) with areas of glacial sands, clays and gravels between.

## 3. Archaeological Background of Bruce Hill

Apart from Tarbert castle (Canmore ID [39316](#)) there is little recorded archaeologically in the immediate vicinity of Bruce Hill.

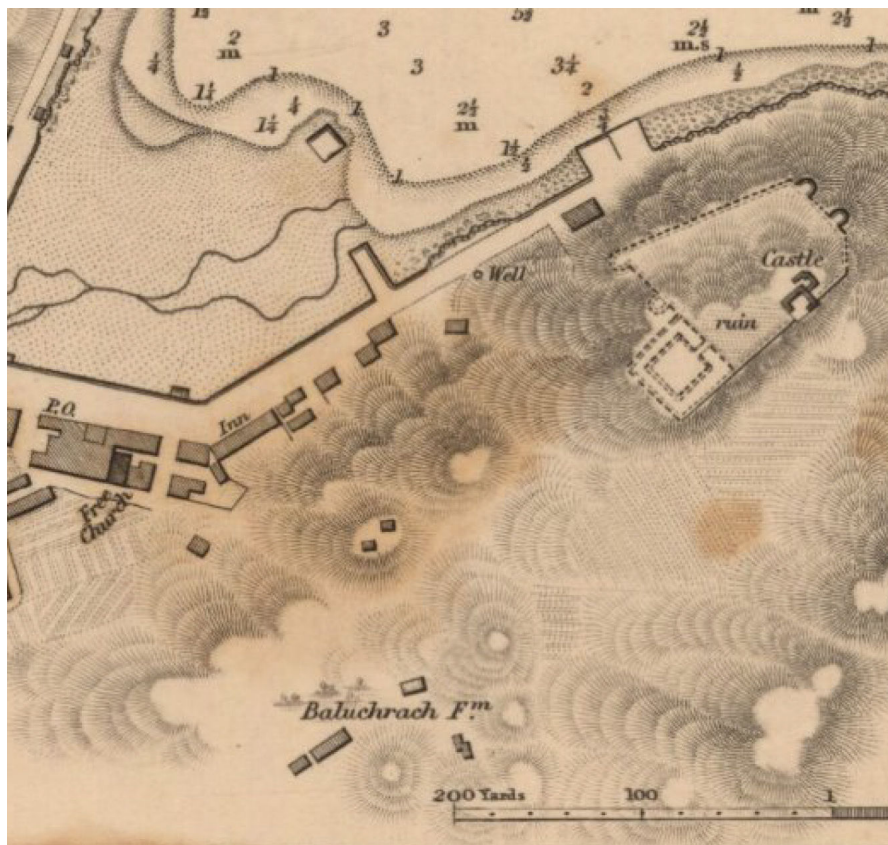
However, it has previously been speculated that the medieval burgh lies along the ridge running south west from the castle. Mitchell's 1888 publication on Tarbert tells us that *'According to Bell's 'Law of Scotland', royal burghs, as a rule, sprung up beside royal castles, and this is ... apparently the case with regard to Tarbert'* although he doesn't speculate beyond this as to where the burgh may have been (Mitchell 1886). Dunbar and Duncan state it *'probably occupied the flat topped ridge immediately to the south west of the castle...'* and *'...there may be seen traces of buildings, bounded by a rock-lined ditch...'* (Dunbar and Duncan 1971, pp 15-16). Dunbar and Duncan identified this ditch with the line of the burn that runs across the north of the Bruce Hill area that initially crossed the whole plateau, this line now broken by the houses constructed along the eastern side of Bruce Hill. The author recovered some slag from a newly cut edge along the side of this burn which runs across the north of the area in 2013 (Regan 2013). While this ditch may have bounded

the burgh, no definite building remains were identified to the south of the castle during the survey in 2013 and as such the location of the burgh still needs to be established.

The houses that border Bruce Hill appear to be of recent construction and likely date to the early 1970s. There is also evidence of extensive dumping or levelling along the western side of Bruce Hill and judging by the concrete blocks that can be identified this must be of recent date, possibly deriving from the construction of the houses and road.

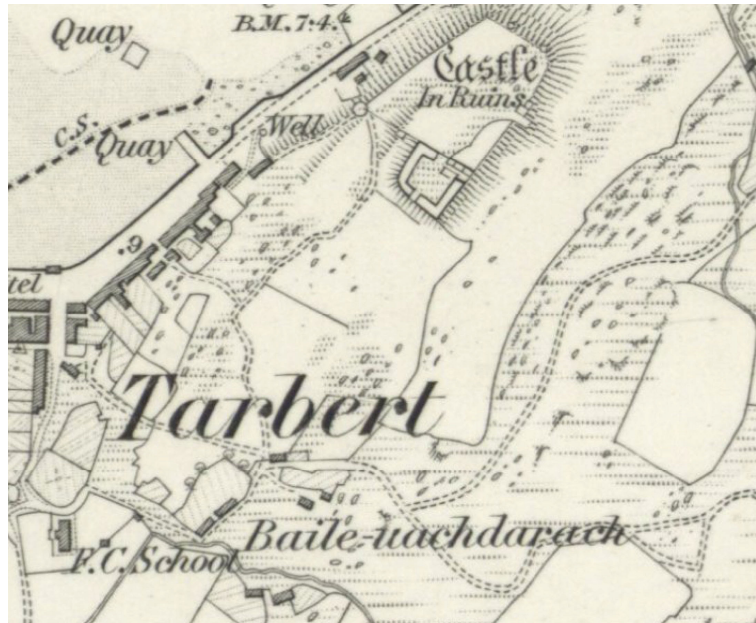
Prior to the excavation a quick assessment of the area recorded some slight earthworks suggestive of a structure, leading to the present investigation. The footings of a second structure can also be seen lying to the west of the excavation area positioned on the next terrace down. There are also some enclosure walls crossing the area that may relate to these structures.

Cartographic evidence suggests these structures, situated north of Baluchrach farm are the buildings depicted in the area of Bruce Hill on an Admiralty map of 1847 (see below, Hydrographic Office, 1856 (surveyed 1845-47) Loch Gilp; Sketch of Millport; East Loch Tarbert, Admiralty Chart 2472). No structures however, are shown in the area by the time of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (see below, Argyllshire, Sheet CXCI, six inch edition surveyed in 1865).



1847 Admiralty chart of East Loch Tarbert





1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map of area south west of castle

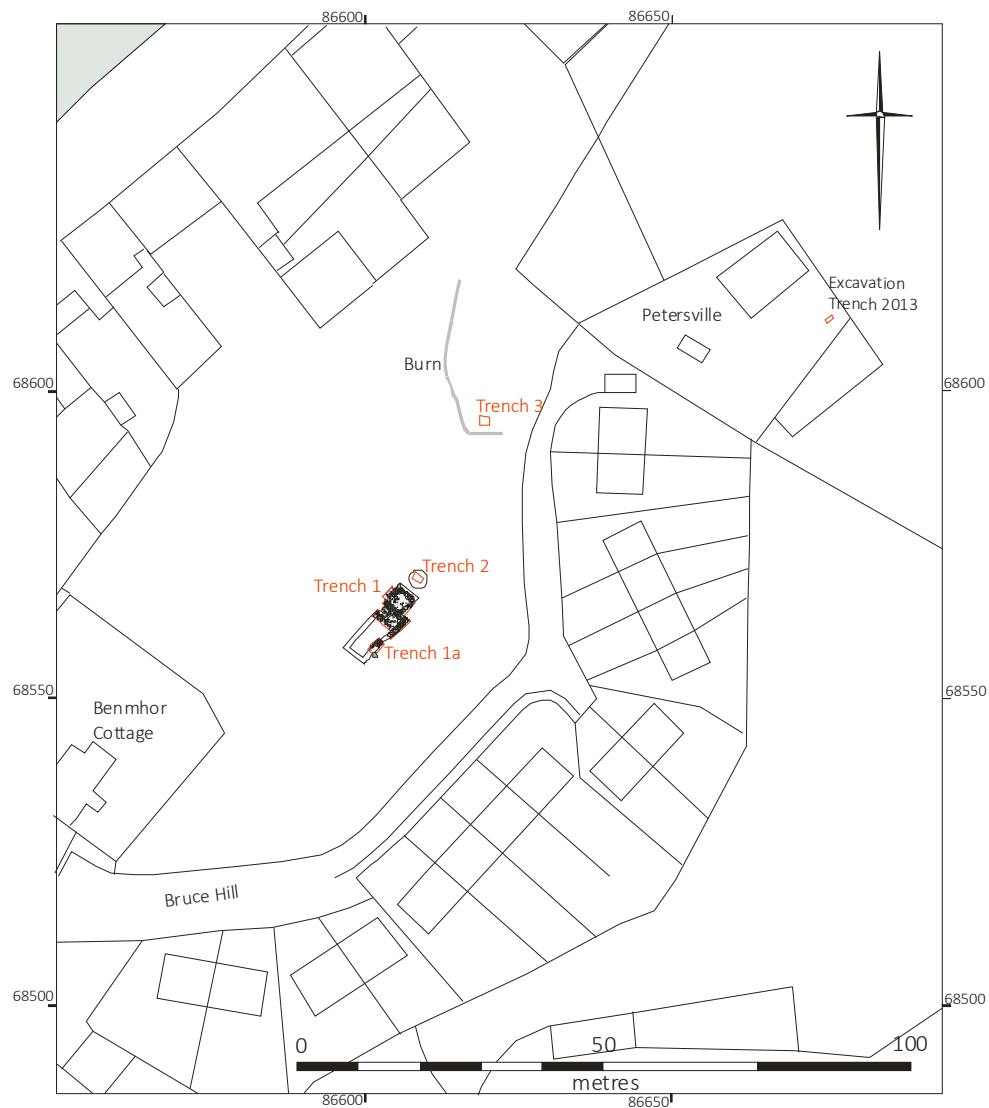


Figure 4: Location of Trenches



#### 4. Excavation Results

Four areas were examined (Figure 4, Trenches 1, 1a, 2 and 3).

##### 4.1 Trenches 1 and 1a.

Trench 1 was placed over what appeared to be a wall line, running north west from a natural bedrock ridge, the latter aligned north east/south west.

The trench revealed the footings of a rectangular building, Structure 1, which was aligned, like the natural outcrops, north west/south east. An extension, Structure 1a, had been added to the north east end of Structure 1 (Figure 5).

Only the northern end of Structure 1 was revealed in Trench 1, the structural elements consisting of three drystone rubble-built walls [012], [013] and [014] respectively forming the east, north and west sides of the building with a possible doorway on the north west side. Once the nature of the building was established, slight earthworks to the south suggesting surviving wall lines indicated the building measured approximately 8.50m in length externally, while the exposed walls within the trench indicated the building was 3m in width internally.

A small area of turf was removed from the presumed wall line at the south east of the main trench (Trench 1a) indicating a distinct bend or misalignment of the wall line, this potentially due to the wall collapsing or leaning to the west within Trench 1a.

Natural bedrock was located in the south east of the trench over which had been built the east wall of the structure. To the north and west of this outcrop there appeared to be what was likely the upper or latest floor level of the building, this consisting of rough cobbled areas set within a dark brown humic silt.

A small area of burning [018] in the north east corner of the building suggest the position of a hearth or an area of intense burning as the walls above this had been reddened by fire.

Separating areas of 'flooring' [021] at the east and west of the structure internally and located towards the centre of the building was a 'strip' of loose very dark grey humic material [022]. While this remained unexcavated, its loose humic nature and the absence of stones or cobbling in this area suggested the line of a drain. This interpretation was reinforced by the presence of a gap in the north wall of the structure suggesting a drain outlet, this latter blocked by rubble. A large flat slab at the north west end of the structure appears to have been used as a threshold stone, this leading to a gap in the wall suggesting the position of a doorway.

To the south of the excavated trench, and lying within the overlying rubble [006] were several relatively large and flat slabs of schist and it is possible these may have originally formed a cover for the drain, the stones perhaps removed for possible re-use.

The whole room is then sealed by a deposit of rubble [006], with mainly small to medium stones suggesting larger wall stones may have been removed from the building given their general absence within this deposit.

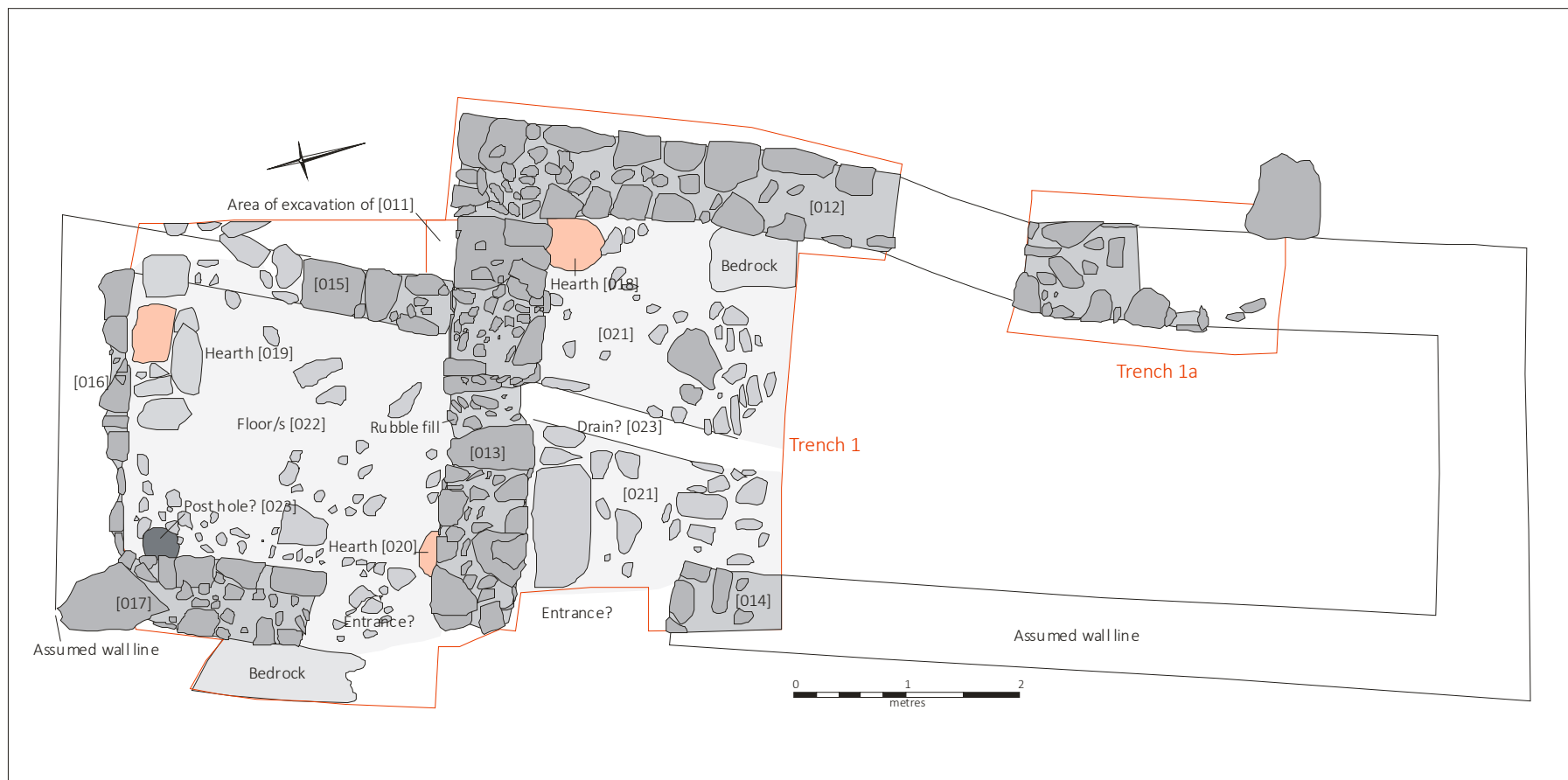


Figure 5: Trenches 1 and 1a





Structure 1 from south



Structure 1 from west with drain-line? [023] running below scale



## Structure 1a

The earliest deposit/s contained within the remains of this structure was a burnt area of clay (red/orange in colour) [020] surrounded by a trampled dark grey deposit of soot and charcoal, this suggesting the remains of a hearth and surrounding floor. The burnt area could be seen running under the north wall of Structure 1 and as such was earlier than either Structure 1 or Structure 1a.



Burnt area or hearth running under north face of wall [013]

To the north of Structure 1 and west of the west wall of Structure 1a, was deposit [011] that also appeared to run under the walls of both structures. This was a very dark grey humic silt from which was recovered the handle of a medieval jar, both this and hearth indicating an earlier occupation presence in the vicinity.

Internally within Structure 1a there could be seen a series of floor deposits, some of which undoubtedly relate to the use of this building, although these were not untangled from earlier deposits during the excavation.

The east wall of Structure 1a [015] abutted the north wall of Structure 1, with walls [016] and [017] respectively forming the northern and western walls of the building, a large erratic boulder likely used within its construction. This additional building or room measured 2.60m north south by 2.30m east west internally.

Natural bedrock was observed outcropping immediately to the west of the east wall of the structure, probably indicating that Structure 1 and Structure 1a had been constructed between natural ridges.





Structure 1a from north

A rough area of cobbling along with the absence of wall footings at the south west of this building suggested a possible entrance, although walling was also missing from the north east corner of the structure indicating later robbing. Constructed against the north east wall of the building was a slightly sunken hearth or fireplace [019], constructed from horizontally lain slabs of schist, the central slab against the wall showing distinct signs of burning, although it contained no associated charcoal/ash or fuel deposit.



Hearth setting [019]



To the south and west of the hearth the surrounding deposits, were mainly silty clay, with areas of rough cobbling that showed distinct signs of having been compacted or trampled suggesting this was a well used floor surface.

A discrete area of looser and darker material in the north west of the room, surrounded by stones suggested this was a post placement, although this remained unexcavated. The whole room was sealed by a deposit of collapse or demolition rubble [005], very similar in nature to [006] at the south, the presence of co-joining pot sherds across these deposits suggesting this was formed at the same time.

#### 4.2 Trench 2

Trench 2, measuring 1.8m x 1.20m, was positioned over what appeared to be a 'circular' earthwork lying to the north of Structure 1.

Excavation quickly revealed this to be of modern provenance, being a fire pit containing a large quantity of burnt material [002] of relatively modern origin (probably 1960's or early 1970's. The pit contained bottles, pram wheels, golf club heads and other metal work along with tools and toys (the artefacts were put back within the excavated trench).



Artefacts within [002]

To the west of the trench this material directly overlay natural bedrock, but in the east overlaid a deposit of dark grey brown humic silt [003] (Figure 6). This deposit contained a small amount of post medieval pottery sherds and sealed the underlying bedrock.



Trench 2 from north

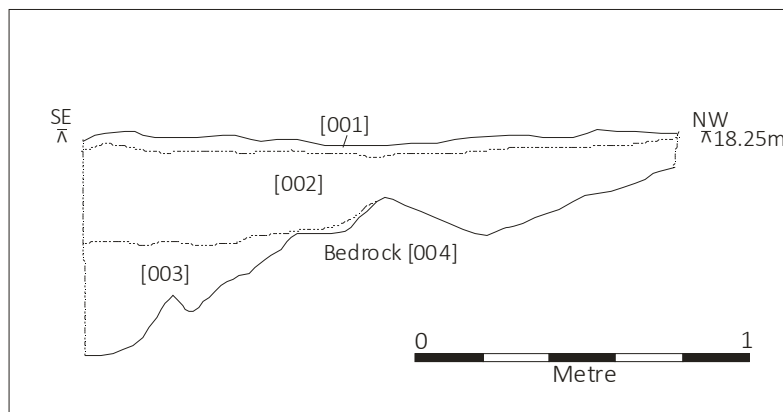


Figure 6: NE facing section Trench 2

#### 4.3 Trench 3

This trench, measuring 1.30m by 1.20m, was placed on the northern side of the burn that runs across the northern area of Bruce hill. The small 'valley' in which the burn lies has previously been considered to be the remains of a defensive ditch running across this part of the ridge. During the survey work undertaken at the castle in 2013, fragments of slag were recovered from a recent recut of the sides of the burn. It was therefore hoped the excavated trench might cast light on the origins of the slag, or whether the ditch was defensive in nature.



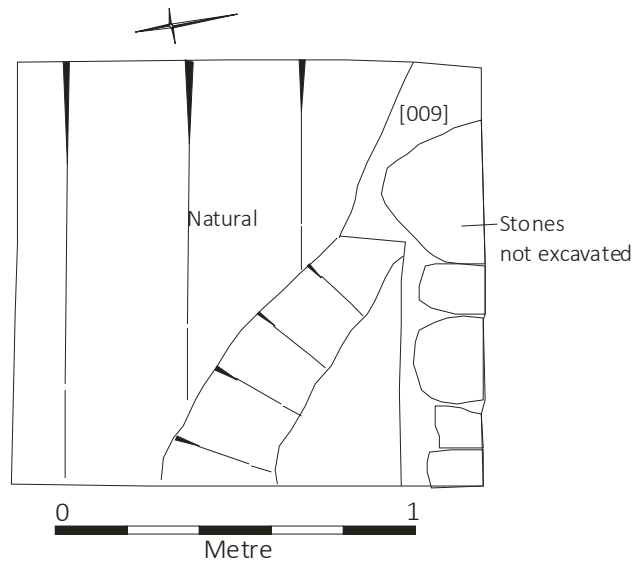


Figure 7: Trench 3

The excavated deposits suggest that while the edge of an artificial cut was present in the trench (Figure 7) this was most likely of modern date, given that a sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the lower fill of [010], which was a mid grey clayey silt. Over this fill lay a deposit of dark red brown silty clay [009] (Figure 8). A rough alignment of stones on the southern side of the trench within this deposit perhaps suggests an informal lining of the ditch, possibly to consolidate the edges of the burn. This upper deposit contained distinctly modern material such as bathroom tiles, plastic, recent bottle glass and one fragment of slag and apart from the latter none of these objects were retained.



Trench 3 from west



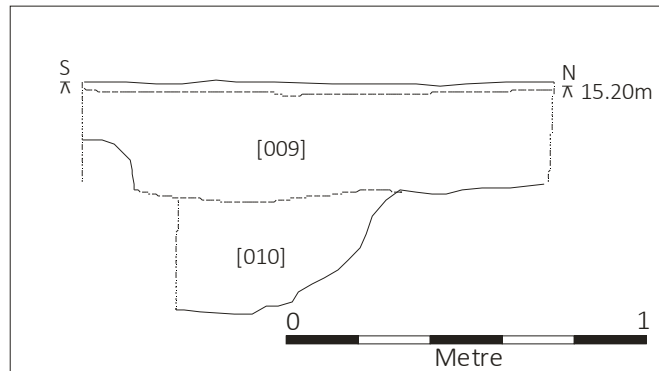


Figure 8: Trench 3 east facing section

#### 4.4 The Artefact Assemblage

##### Pottery

###### [003] 2 sherds

2 glaze white earthenware, 1 with brown and yellow decoration.

###### [005] 111 sherds

26 manganese slipped redware, 33 glazed white earthenware, 4 salt glazed stoneware, 16 blue and white transfer print (2 with partial stamps 1 with 'min...', 1 base small bowl), 6 pearlware (1 Cobalt blue flow decorated, 3 sherds base and handle of small undecorated bowl/cup, 1 rim blue flower painted, 1 rim blue dot (flower?) painted underglaze), 1 unscaloped impressed blue edged ware, 4 white granite 'china' undecorated, 4 hand painted chrome colours (banded and floral decoration), 3 cut sponged decorated wares, 1 sprig moulded decoration, 2 polychrome decorated, 3 banded decoration (2 blue, 1 red), 3 dark blue band decorated porcelain? 1 jackfield type, 1 salt glaze moulded rim, 1 glazed redware, 1 Rockingham ware (lid), 1 redware (medieval?).

###### [006] 155 sherds

26 blue and white transfer print (1 base small bowl), 20 manganese slipped redware, 70 glazed white earthenware, 1 salt glazed stoneware, 9 scalloped blue edge ware, 3 unscaloped blue edged ware, 1 unscaloped impressed blue edged ware, 5 cut sponge decorated, 3 cut sponge and banded (1 chrome coloured, 2 blue coloured), 3 band decorated (blue coloured), 3 pearlware, 1 marble decorated glazed white earthenware, 2 floral embossed decorated creamware, 4 polychrome (3 floral decorated, 1 brown dots), 1 Rockingham ware, 1 brown and white slip decorated redware, 1 brown and white slip decorated white earthenware, 1 redware unglazed.

###### [010] 1 sherd

1 white glazed earthenware.

###### [011] 1 sherd

1 medieval pot handle.

##### Roof tile

[005] 4 fragments of red earthenware roof tile.

##### Clay Tobacco Pipe

[005] 1 small stem fragment.

**Metal**

[005]

1 knife blade? 1 handle, 1 wire, 1 spoon?, 1 unidentifiable

[005] metal.

[006]

small chisel, 1 unidentifiable, 1 large fragment of small cauldron, 1 tool? with hooked and pointed end, 1 weight or smooth iron.

**Coins**

[002] halfpenny 1943

[005] William IV 1831 farthing.

**Slag**

[009] fragment of iron? Slag.

**Glass**

[005] 45 sherds

22 green bottle glass, 21 clear bottle glass (2 with embossed names), 1 window glass, 1 wine glass rim.

[006] 12 sherds

8 green bottle glass, 3 clear bottle glass, 1 wine glass base.

**Bone**

[005] 2 animal bones, 1 butchered.



Medieval vessel handle from [011]

## 5. Discussion

Excavation of the building at Bruce Hill, produced hints of occupation in this area earlier than the construction of Structures 1 and 1a. This was evidenced by the presence of a hearth running under the north wall of Structure 1, although as yet this remains undated. Deposit [011] which ran under both structures contained a medieval vessel handle. A second medieval pottery sherd was recovered from later deposit [006] this along with the handle perhaps indicating medieval occupation in this area.

If this is the case then it may be of some import given the suggestion that the medieval burgh might lie along the ridge south of the castle.

The remains of Structure 1 and 1a undoubtedly belong to a later period, possibly dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and it seems certain that these are the remains of buildings represented on an Admiralty map dating to 1847, and likely belonging to the settlement of '*Baile-uachdarach*'. The likely presence of a drain channel and associated drain outlet within the north end on Structure 1, indicates that this building was a byre, but may have ceased to function as such with the addition of Structure 1a at its north end. The presence of a hearth or burnt area within the north east of Structure 1 and a hearth within the north end of Structure 1a might also indicate that the buildings were later used as habitations or perhaps workshops. The rubble overlying the floors of both structures was generally small in size indicating that larger stones had been robbed for reuse elsewhere. The relative absence of artefacts from the floors of either Structure 1 or 1a, as compared to their relative abundance within the sealing rubble deposits, suggest midden material being dumped after the building had gone out of use, with the majority of the pottery appearing to date to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and after.

The buildings do not appear on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map indicating that the buildings must have gone out of use before 1865. Perhaps significantly the associated Name Book describes '*Baile-uachdarach*' as '*Several old dwelling houses a little above the village of Tarbert*' and gives the derivation of the name as '*Upper Town*' (Ordnance Survey Name Books, 1868-1878, Argyll, Volume 11, OS/2/11/6), which might allude to a more extensive and potentially earlier settlement situated along the ridge south of the castle, which may be borne out by the recovery of medieval settlement evidence, however slight, recovered from this small excavation.

## 6. References

Dunbar, J G and Duncan A A M 1971 Tarbert Castle: a contribution to the history of Argyll, *Scottish Historical Review*, vol.50, no. 149, 1-17.

Mitchell, D 1886 Tarbert, Past and Present: Gleanings in Local History, Dumbarton.

Regan, R 2013 Tarbert Castle, Desk Based Assessment and Archaeological Ground Survey. Kilmartin Museum Report.

## Appendix 1: Context Descriptions

[001] Layer. Topsoil, mainly grass in a dark brown silty loam with occasional modern object that was not retained.

[002] Layer. Remains of burnt midden material, contains a large amount of metal/glass objects.

[003] Layer. Dark grey silty clay loam, includes occasional small to medium stones, charcoal and pot.

[004] Natural bedrock.

[005] Layer. Dark brown black silty loam, includes frequent rubble, mainly small to medium sized angular schist with occasional pot and glass.

[006] Layer. Dark brown black silty loam, includes frequent rubble, mainly small to medium sized angular schist with occasional pot and glass.

[007] Layer. Mid to dark yellow grey silty clay coluvial, includes occasional small to medium schist fragments with modern material.

[008] Layer. Mid grey blue clayey silt, includes occasional pot small stones and charcoal.

[009] Layer. Dark red brown humic silt, with occasional modern glass, bathroom tile and plastic (all discarded).

[010] Layer/Fill. Mid blue grey clay silt with occasional pot, stone and charcoal.

[011] Layer. Dark grey brown silty loam, includes occasional pot and stones.

[012] Wall. Aligned north east-south west this wall is the east wall of Structure 1. The wall is constructed of roughly coursed rubble blocks, the larger blocks (max size) pinned by smaller stones. The wall stands up to 0.56m high and 0.80m wide No trace of mortar.



Wall [012] from south



[013] Wall. Aligned north west-south east this wall is the north wall of Structure 1. The wall is constructed of roughly coursed rubble blocks, the larger blocks (max size) pinned by smaller stones. The wall stands up to 0.63m high and 0.85m wide. No trace of mortar. The wall has a central rubble blocked channel, 0.30m wide, running through its lower extent, suggesting a drain outlet.



Wall [013] from west

[014] Wall. Aligned north east-south west, this wall is the west wall of Structure 1. Not a great deal of this wall was exposed but is likely to be of similar build and dimensions as [011] and [012].

[015] Wall. Aligned north east-south west this wall is the east wall of Structure 1a. The wall is constructed of roughly coursed rubble blocks, the larger blocks (max size) pinned by smaller stones. The wall stands up to 0.30m high and 0.45m wide. No trace of mortar. The wall has been robbed at its northern end.



Wall [015] from south

[016] Wall. Aligned north west-south east this wall is the north wall of Structure 1a. The wall is constructed of roughly coursed rubble blocks, the larger blocks (max size) pinned by smaller stones. Only the inner edge of this wall was revealed, the wall standing up to 0.30m high. No trace of mortar.

[017] Wall. Aligned north east-south west this wall is the west wall of Structure 1a. Only the lower course of this wall survives and it is built from roughly coursed rubble blocks. The wall stands 0.15m high and is 0.70m wide, while a large boulder may have been utilised in its construction.



Wall [017] from south

[018] Hearth? Circular patch of fire reddened and blackened clay.

[019] Hearth. Rectangular setting of a group of horizontally lain slabs forming three slightly raised sides around a slightly sunken slab that showed distinct signs of burning. This is constructed against the southern side of wall [015]. The overall dimensions are 1.54m by 0.56m.

[020] Hearth? Circular patch of fire reddened clay measuring 0.46m in diameter.

[021] Floor. Disturbed upper floor layer of Structure 1. Consisting of dark brown grey clay over areas of more 'formal' cobbling, this more apparent on the south side of the trench. A large horizontally laid slab of schist, measuring 1.10m by 0.50m probably represents the threshold into the building.

[022] Floor/s. Compacted and worn areas of clay flooring with some patches of rough cobbling. The floors appear well trampled with frequent small flecks or fragments of coal and charcoal.

[023] Fill? Loose dark grey humic silt in a linear band running through the floor of Structure 1. This is likely the upper extent of a drain fill.

[024] Fill? Sub circular patch of loose dark grey humic silt, likely the fill of a post hole in the north west corner of Structure 1a.

## Appendix 2: Context List

Context No.	Type	Trench	Description
001	layer	1-3	Topsoil
002	layer	2	modern bonfire midden
003	layer	2	plough soil?
004	bedrock	1-2	natural bedrock
005	layer	1	rubble in Structure 1a
006	layer	1	rubble in Structure 1
007	layer	1	soil above floors in Structure 1a
008	layer	1	soil above floors in Structure 1
009	layer	3	mixed layer
010	layer	3	drain fill
011	layer	1	soil below Structure 1
012	wall	1	east wall Structure 1
013	wall	1	north wall Structure 1
014	wall	1, 1a	west wall Structure 1
015	wall	1	east wall Structure 1a
016	wall	1	north wall Structure 1a
017	wall	1	west wall Structure 1a
018	hearth	1	hearth in Structure 1
019	hearth	1	hearth in Structure 1a
020	hearth	1	hearth below Structure 1
021	Layer	1	floor/s Structure 1
022	Layer	1	floor/s Structure 1a
023	fill?	1	drain fill?
024	fill?	1	post hole fill

## Appendix 3: Photo List

Photo No.	Context No.	Trench No.	Direction From	Description
1	005	1	N	rubble
2	005	1	N	rubble
3	006	1	S	rubble
4	006	1	S	rubble
5	013	1	W	wall
6	015	1	N	wall
7	015	1	N	wall
8		3	W	Trench 3 post ex
9		3	W	trench 3 location
10		3	W	Trench 3 post ex
11		1	N	structure 1a
12		1	N	structure 1a
13	019	1	N	hearth
14	019	1	S	hearth
15	019	1	S	hearth
16	020	1	N	hearth
17		1	S	structure 1a west wall
18		1	S	structure 1a east wall
19		1	S	structure 1a east wall



20		1	N	structure 1a
21		1	N	structure 1a
22		1	N	structure 1a
23		1	W	structure 1
24		1	N	structure 1 east wall
25		1a	S	trench 1a
26		1	E	corner structure 1
27		1a	S	trench 1a
28		1a	S	trench 1a
29		1	S	structure 1
30		1	W	threshold stone
31		1	W	structure 1
32		1	N	structure 1
33		1	N	structure 1a
34		1	N	structure 1a
35	019	1	N	hearth
36	019	1	S	hearth
37	019	1	S	hearth
38	019	1	S	hearth
39		1	S	structure 1a east wall
40		1	S	structure 1a west wall
41	020	1	N	hearth
42		1	N	structure 1a
43		1	N	structure 1a
44		1	N	structure 1a
45		1	N	structure 1a
46		1	W	structure 1 north wall
47		1	W	structure 1
48		1	S	structure 1
49		1	S	structure 1
50		1	W	structure 1 north wall
51		1a	S	trench 1a
52		1	E	corner structure 1
53		1a	S	trench 1a
54		1	S	structure 1
55		1	S	structure 1
56		2	N	trench 2
57		2	N	trench 2
58		2		artefacts from trench 2
59		2		artefacts from trench 2
60				working shot
61				working shot
62				working shot
63				working shot
64				working shot

#### Appendix 4: Finds Catalogue

Catalogue No.	Context No.	Trench No.	Material	Number	Description
001	002	2	MT	1	halfpenny 1943
002	003	3	PT	2	2 glaze white earthenware, 1 with brown and yellow decoration
003	005	1	PT	111	26 manganese slipped redware, 33 glazed white earthenware, 4 salt glazed stoneware, 16 blue and white transfer print (2 with partial stamps 1 with 'min...', 1 base small bowl), 6 pearlware (1 Cobalt blue flow decorated, 3 sherds base and handle of small undecorated bowl/cup, 1 rim blue flower painted, 1 rim blue dot (flower?) painted underglaze), 1 unscaloped impressed blue edged ware, 4 white granite 'china' undecorated, 4 hand painted chrome colours (banded and floral decoration), 3 cut sponged decorated wares, 1 sprig moulded decoration, 2 polychrome decorated, 3 banded decoration (2 blue, 1 red), 3 dark blue band decorated porcelain? 1 jackfield type, 1 salt glaze moulded rim, 1 glazed redware, 1 Rockingham ware (lid), 1 redware (medieval?)
004	005	1	TL	4	4 fragments of red earthenware roof tile
005	005	1	TP	1	1 small stem fragment
006	005	1	MT	5	1 knife blade?, 1 handle, 1 wire, 1 spoon?, 1 unidentifiable
007	005	1	MT	1	William IV 1831 farthing
008	005	1	GL	45	22 green bottle glass, 21 clear bottle glass (2 with embossed names), 1 window glass, 1 wine glass rim
009	005	1	BN	2	2 animal bone 1 butchered

010	006	1	PT	155	26 blue and white transfer print (1 base small bowl), 20 manganese slipped redware, 70 glazed white earthenware, 1 slat glazed stoneware, 9 scalloped blue edge ware, 3 unscaloped blue edged ware, 1 unscaloped impressed blue edged ware, 5 cut sponge decorated, 3 cut sponge and banded (1 chrome coloured, 2 blue coloured), 3 band decorated (blue coloured), 3 pearlware, 1 marble decorated glazed white earthenware, 2 floral embossed decorated creamware, 4 polychrome (3 floral decorated, 1 brown dots), 1 Rockingham ware, 1 brown and white slip decorated redware, 1 brown and white slip decorated white earthenware, 1 redware unglazed.
011	006	1	MT	5	1 knife blade?, 1 handle, 1 wire, 1 spoon?, 1 unidentifiable
012	006	1	GL	12	8 green bottle glass, 3 clear bottle glass, 1 wine glass base
013	009	3	SL	1	lump of iron? Slag
014	010	3	PT	1	1 white glazed earthenware
015	011	1	PT	1	medieval vessel handle



## Appendix 5: DES Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Argyll and Bute
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Bruce Hill, Tarbert, Community Excavation
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	TAR 18
<b>PARISH:</b>	Kilcalmonell
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Roddy Regan
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Kilmartin Museum
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Excavation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Settlement
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	medieval pottery
<b>NGR</b> (2 letters, 6 figures)	NR 86606 68561
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2018
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	.
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>The structure uncovered during this small community excavation at Bruce Hill, Tarbert, is very likely the remains of one of the buildings depicted on an Admiralty map of East Loch Tarbert dating to 1847, the structure likely gone out of use prior to the First Edition Ordnance survey of 1865 where it is absent. If so, the building was likely occupied in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and possibly before that period. Only a small proportion of the building was excavated and none of its associated floors or internal use deposits.</p> <p>The excavation also revealed deposits and some features, such as a hearth area, that predated this structure and given that two medieval pottery sherds were also recovered from the excavation, perhaps hints that part of the medieval burgh of Tarbert might lie in the vicinity.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Tarbert Castle Trust
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Kilmartin Museum, Kilmartin, Argyll, PA31 8RQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	museum@kilmartin.org
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	The archive will be deposited with Kilmartin Museum and copies of the report lodged with WoSAS SMR, the NMRS and OASIS database