also be associated grain- or hop-dryers. A large boundary ditch was located to the immediate north of the villa; however, this did not appear to enclose any further features, and may have been for corralling livestock. Five inhumations, one a putative late fourth- to fifth-century military burial, and five cremations were found in the fields directly to the south of the villa.[7]

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL: CONTENTS

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2. SCOTLAND

By FRASER HUNTER

NORTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

ABERDEENSHIRE

(1) **Aberdeen**, *Milltimber* (NJ 8580 0077): 90 bread ovens were found on the north bank of the river Dee.[8] The ovens were similar in style to those found at Kintore Roman camp,[9] but all were deliberately dug into the banks of dried up palaeochannels which cut across the site. There was no evidence of ditches in the extensive area stripped of topsoil (nearly 5 ha), but the ovens suggest the presence of a Roman camp. Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates has shown the features most likely date to the Agricolan campaigns of the 80s.

FIFE

(1) **Capledrae** (NT 19 98): the discovery[10] of a late Roman silver ring with a re-set earlier intaglio (FIG. 3) gives credence to an antiquarian account of 'Roman jewellery' being found near the Devil's Stane in the late nineteenth century.[11] This link to an earlier standing stone finds parallel in other silver hoards in the area.[12] The ring's hoop is lost; the bezel (H 19 mm, W 15.5 mm, T 7.5 mm) has a truncated conical form typical of the late Roman period, the upper decorative serrated edge probably mimicking beaded wire. The pale pink intaglio (second/third century A.D.), its front deliberately coloured red to mimic jasper, shows Mars with spear and shield holding Victory, who carries a wreath and palm branch.[13]

[7] Work by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd, in advance of improvement works to the A4226. R. Morgan sent information.

[8] Work directed for Headland Archaeology by K. Dingwall in 2014 as part of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route/Balmedie to Tipperty project, funded by Transport Scotland, Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council.

[9] M. Cook and L. Dunbar, *Rituals, Romans and Roundhouses. Excavations at Kintore, Aberdeenshire 2000–2006* (2008).

[10] A metal-detecting find, claimed as Treasure Trove and allocated to Fife Cultural Trust.

[11] A. McN. Houston, *Auchterderran (Fife): a Parish History* (1924), 60.

[12] Discussed in A. Blackwell, M. Goldberg and F. Hunter, *Scotland's Early Silver* (2017), 35, 38, 91–2.

[13] Compare M. Henig, *A Corpus of Roman Engraved Gemstones from British Sites* (3rd edn, 2007), nos 90–2, though these lack the shield.

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FIG. 3. Silver ring and intaglio from Capledrae, Fife. (*Photo: Mary Freeman, © National Museums Scotland*)

SOUTH OF THE ANTONINE WALL

SCOTTISH BORDERS

(1) **Old Melrose** (NT 58 34): finds from metal-detecting survey[14] in an area of the Newstead complex which has seen no previous investigation indicate military activity of uncertain character. No substantial cropmarks are known in this area, some 1.5 km south-east of the fort;[15] the material could represent a halo of debris around the military complex, but its intensity suggests more concentrated activity, such as losses from troops stationed at a temporary camp.[16] The bronze coinage awaits study, but cavalry fittings and denarii are consistent with a predominantly Flavian date. The exception to this, and the most remarkable find, is a copper-alloy spur (FIG. 4), a unique find for Scotland but with plentiful late fourth/fifth-century parallels elsewhere,[17] although differing in detail in the presence of fastening rings on the terminal plates, which are usually riveted. This suggests activity linked to the late Roman military.

[14] By J. Reid for the Trimontium Trust.
[15] D. Cowley in F. Hunter and L. Keppie (eds), *A Roman Frontier Post and its People: Newstead 1911–2011* (2012), 44.
[16] As linear ditches known from cropmarks might suggest.
[17] H.E.M. Cool in P. Booth *et al*., *The Late Roman Cemetery at Lankhills, Winchester. Excavations 2000–2005* (2010), 290–1.

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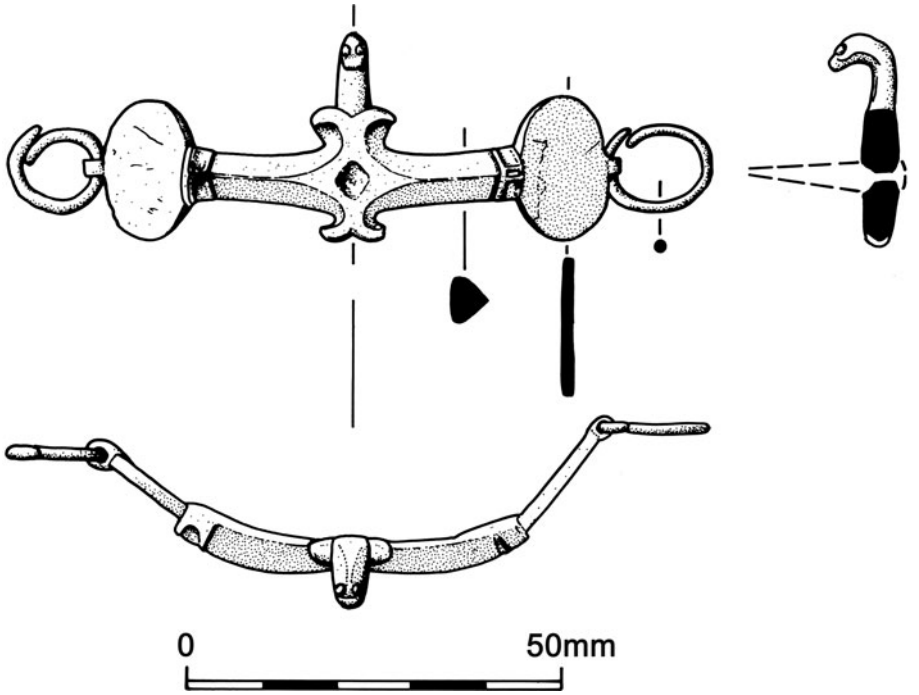


FIG. 4. Late Roman spur from Old Melrose. (*Drawn by Alan Braby*)

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

(1) **Kirkpatrick Fleming** (NY 27 70): an aureus of Nero was found in the area of the temporary camp.[18]

(2) **Creetown**, *Greenburn* (NX 48 61): a small hoard of 14 denarii ending with Hadrian may offer some clue to the location of Roman activity in this area, where a road is anticipated.[19]

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[18] Now in Dumfries Museum. For the site, see R.H. Jones, *Roman Camps in Scotland* (2011), 251–2.

[19] Claimed as Treasure Trove, and now in the Stewartry Museum. A road has long been sought in this area, heading west from the known fortlet at Gatehouse-of-Fleet, and likely field traces have been recorded east of the findspot. The discovery of a Roman fortlet on the other side of the estuary of Wigtown Bay, at Kirwaugh (*Britannia* 42 (2011), 335–6), suggests the traditional fording site at Creetown was used, as this led to near the mouth of the river Bladnoch.

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