

ST ANDREWS
PRESERVATION
TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT
AND YEAR BOOK
1982

THE
ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST
LIMITED

The St Andrews Preservation Trust was founded in 1937 and incorporated in 1938.

Its object is to secure the preservation of the amenities and historic character of St Andrews and its neighbourhood.

Membership of the Trust is open on the following terms and conditions:—

Life Membership—A single payment of not less than £50.00.

Joint Life Membership—For Husband and Wife
A single payment of not less than £75.00.

Annual Membership—An annual payment of not less than £3.00.

Family Annual Membership—An annual payment of not less than £5.00.

Liability of Members is limited to £3.00.

Enquiries and Subscriptions should be addressed to Lawrence Nash, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer, The St Andrews Preservation Trust Limited, 115 South Street, St Andrews (Tel. 72152). A banker's order form is available for annual subscriptions.

PUBLICATIONS

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| “St Andrews: The Preservation Trust Handbook & Guide” | £1.00 |
| “Conservation in St Andrews: The Work of the St Andrews Preservation Trust” .. | 30p |
| “Trees in St Andrews” | 50p |

THE
ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST
LIMITED

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
AND YEAR BOOK
FOR THE YEAR 1982

ST ANDREWS
PRINTED FOR THE TRUST
BY
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1983

THE
ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST
LIMITED

HONORARY PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Haddington, K.T., M.C., T.D., LL.D.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| R. G. Cant, M.A., D.Litt., F.R.Hist.S., P.P.S.A.Scot. | Mrs H. R. Skinner Principal J. Steven Watson, M.A., D.Litt., F.R.Hist.S. |
| Ex-Provost John B. Gilchrist, M.A., J.P., LL.D. | The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Wemyss and March, K.T., LL.D. |
| A. B. Paterson, M.B.E., M.A. | |

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W. A. Heath, M.C.

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P. R. Donaldson, R.I.B.A., R.I.A.S.
Professor J. A. Macdonald, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E.

ELECTED TRUSTEES

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Professor P. C. Bayley | C. H. Martineau, Esq. |
| Dr N. P. Brooks | Mrs B. Neale |
| Dr J. W. Buchanan | A. B. Paterson, Esq. |
| G. Christie, Esq. | Dr A. G. Thomson |
| P. R. Donaldson, Esq. | Mrs L. Underwood |
| John di Folco, Esq. | W. A. Watson, Esq. |
| W. A. Heath, Esq. | Mrs K. A. Wilson |
| Professor J. A. Macdonald | |

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Lawrence Nash, B.L., 115 South Street, St Andrews

AUDITORS

James Murray & Co., C.A., 164 South Street, St Andrews

REGISTERED OFFICE OF THE TRUST

115 South Street, St Andrews – Telephone St Andrews 72152

THE ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST LIMITED

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

Mrs H. R. Skinner

It is with great regret that the Trust record the death of Mrs Helen Skinner, a distinguished Honorary Vice-President. An appreciation of her work is included in this Year Book.

The Work of the Trust

'To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive' said Stevenson; but the second half of this quotation is less well-known – 'and the true success is to labour'.

The work of the Trust goes forward largely through the activities of the various committees, as the following notes show; and while this labour is continuous and unceasing, and while aims are not always achieved – there is surely satisfaction and much success in the very labour itself.

Although a committee structure is clearly the most effective way for the Trust to operate – there is always a need for, and an open invitation to all members to participate where they can and conveners are always anxious to hear from any who can offer help – especially in the Museum.

It was stressed last year, and it is emphasised again that the Trust welcomes the vigilance of everyone in bringing to its attention any matter affecting our heritage here in St Andrews. Where we cannot act directly, we can often get assistance or initiate action from the responsible body involved.

Museum

This year has seen a transformation in the house at 12 North Street. After much planning and hard work by Mr John di Folco, Museum Convener, with all the members of the Museum Committee and other helpers, and with the aid of an outstanding curatorial assistant, Mr Richard Mackenzie, provided by the Manpower Services Commission, the premises were opened as a small house museum on the 5th July 1982.

Initially the displays have been devoted to showing something of the social and commercial life of the town in bygone times. We were pleased to exhibit items which the Trust salvaged from Keith's chemist's shop, together with displays to illustrate the town's antiquity, its trades and market, and the world of golf.

Unfortunately, due to other pressures, Mr di Folco had to withdraw as convener soon after the Museum opened. The Trust would like to record its very real appreciation and thanks to him for the purpose and hard work he gave to the task of creating the Museum; and the Trust must also record its deep indebtedness to Dr Nicholas Brooks who kindly took over the convenership at that point and guided the Museum through a most successful first season.

Over 2,000 visitors during the months of July, August and September, proved an encouraging start to the house's new role.

Thanks are due to the University, to North East Fife District Council, and to numerous generous individuals who loaned or gave items for display as well as stands and display cases. We acknowledge also our great indebtedness to the Women's Citizens, the Townswomen's Guild, and the St Leonards Women's Church Guild for their unstinting help in 'manning' the house when open to the public.

In September a sale in the house of Mr Downie in Market Street, provided a unique opportunity to the Trust to acquire relics and cuttings books of George Bruce, the St Andrews actor, poet, collector and publicist for lifeboat services. Sadly, the carved relics of ships wrecked in St Andrews bay, were sold at prices far beyond our means, and were lost to the town. A list of items given to the Museum by various donors during the year, is included later in this report.

Oral History

An important part of the Museum Committee's activities is the development of audio-visual records, organised by Mrs K. A. Wilson. This work of recording the reminiscences of elder citizens of St Andrews continues and it is hoped to offer members an opportunity of seeing something of this activity in the not too distant future.

The Trust had the privilege of playing host to the sixth annual conference of the Scottish Oral History Group, at 12 North Street on 4th September 1982. Delegates from all over Scotland enjoyed a full programme of lectures, discussions and an audio-visual presentation by the Trust of 'Laurie Auchterlonie talking golf', a recording made by Rev. P. J. Moffett.

This presentation was repeated on St Andrew's Day – when the house was open to the public and when many of our museum acquisitions were also displayed to over 300 visitors who passed through that day.

In February, as a contribution to the St Andrews Music Festival, the Museum was again host to an exhibition on the theme of the Oscar-winning film 'Chariots of Fire' – which displayed St Andrews so prominently – as Broadstairs!

Planning

There is no doubt that St Andrews is attracting increasing attention from developers; and that, as a Trust concerned with an area designated as of 'outstanding importance', we must be correspondingly vigilant.

This year, therefore, there was formed a Planning Committee under the convenership of Dr Brooks, which has the task of considering every planning application made, that affects the conservation area of St Andrews. The aim is to ensure that nothing of importance slips by unnoticed, while major matters will continue to be brought forward for consideration at the Trustees' full meetings.

During the year, undoubtedly the most important matter here has been the public enquiry on the draft Local Plan, at which the Trust was represented by Dr Brooks. This report properly covers the calendar year of 1982, and although the enquiry was held in June 1982, the findings of the Reporter have only now been published; but it was thought sensible to include recording the fact that the North East Fife District Council accepted the recommendations of the Reporter at their meeting of 17th February 1983 in St Andrews. This means that (subject to any further public objections), planning for the next ten years

will (a) severely restrict the southward and westward expansion of the town, (b) extend the conservation area, (c) introduce a new traffic management scheme involving one-way passage westwards through the West Port, (d) abandon the Bruce Embankment site for the swimming pool project in favour of that at St Nicholas Farm, and (e) adopt a planting policy at Kinkell Brae caravan site to provide better screening.

Apart from (c), ALL these have been principal aims of the Trust's pressure over many years and the result is very gratifying indeed.

One result of limiting the physical growth of the town is to increase the pressure for internal development within the town centre – housing schemes on vacant garden ground and schemes for creating flats out of existing houses and commercial premises, are already flooding in. So long as the standards of design are high, the Trust has accepted this corollary of planning policy.

A number of major planning applications has caused us concern. The extension to the Old Course Hotel seemed altogether too massive for the site, but our objections were overturned. A succession of conflicting applications for development of the Old Cinema House as an amusement centre, dance-club or flats, has made it difficult to achieve consistency in balancing our desire to avoid uses which would attract undesirable elements to the town, with our desire to retain public amenities and the remarkable internal décor of the existing cinema. It remains to be seen which scheme, if any, the developer will eventually pursue. Smaller developments continue to cause us concern – the demolition of attractive ornamental chimneys at the 'Music House' in Madras College forecourt, and the rash of illuminated or garish shop signs, which continue to receive permission despite the examples of excellent design that have been achieved on some sites. Elsewhere we have had some success – in guiding the form of housing developments at Brooksby, Queens Terrace, and in resisting the loss of mature trees beside the proposed public toilets at the Scores.

Another application that carried over into 1983 was the proposal to build a supermarket on the site of the Argyle Street brewery. The Trust is not opposed to supermarkets as such, and while we were aware that a great part of the brewery buildings had passed the point of possible restoration, the Trust did oppose the plan on the grounds that the building was too massive for the site, since it encroached upon a part of the new Doubledykes Cottage extension of the public car park with the destruction of five mature trees, and since it provided very little car-parking area of its own. The Trust supported the alternative application lodged to develop sheltered housing on the site. Meanwhile, the supermarket application has not succeeded.

Properties

The Property Committee under the convenership of Mr P. R. Donaldson, continues to give the highest priority to the repair and maintenance of Trust property in St Andrews.

In particular, the repainting this year of 141 South Street has greatly improved the appearance of both the building and the adjoining courtyard.

The Property Committee now takes responsibility for Trust property tenancy agreements and, jointly with the Finance Committee, has conducted a full review of all rents, resulting in increases to much more realistic levels. It is Trust policy to

apply commercial rents to tenants engaged in business, but to be more accommodating with tenants not so engaged.

The problem of finding satisfactory storage space is now very pressing and remains a major pre-occupation of the Trust. Lack of space puts in jeopardy not only the architectural salvage and re-sale scheme, but also our ability to house any items we may be offered by donors or which we may wish to acquire to add to our collections.

Trees

Professor J. A. Macdonald, convener of the Tree Committee, reports that there appeared to be no tree losses due to storms, this year. On the other hand there is some concern at the lack of any information or co-operation from the local authority about actions taken by them or at their instigation, resulting in the loss of trees such as: four elms cut down in Lamond Drive – said to be damaging houses; four trees cut down on the Lade Braes, south of 100/104 Hepburn Gardens – said to be dangerous; one old, very picturesque willow at 22 Hepburn Gardens – said to be dangerous to traffic.

On the credit side the local authority have, however, planted a considerable number of new trees on the Lade Braes. They also asked the Trust to suggest sites for the planting of a number of trees to mark the Royal Wedding. This was done, but the Trust have not been informed when, where or if these plantings have taken place!

When a number of the Lime trees in South Street died, the local authority replaced them with Sorbus trees, to which the Trust objected strongly. An undertaking was given that these would be again replaced with the appropriate Tilia – but this has not yet happened.

At the Burgher's Kirk the tubs have been removed to 141 South Street, giving the householder at Burgher's Kirk more light and also improving the appearance of the courtyard at 141 South Street.

With the approval of the local authority, bulb planting has been continued at the Lade Braes by Mr Lamb with the help of staff and pupils of Lawhead School. In the back garden of 12 North Street, the central area has been laid out with gravel surrounded by a wide border containing 24 shrubs. This arrangement will greatly simplify weed control in future.

The committee is again indebted to the Manpower Services Commission for help afforded throughout the year in clearing weeds etc. at Law Park woodland, and garden areas of Trust property.

Mrs R. M. Hedderwick of Edinburgh very kindly offered to donate a tree to be planted in a suitable site in St Andrews in memory of her cousin, the late Miss Annabel Kidston. As Miss Kidston had lived for a time in Howard Place it seemed appropriate to plant it in the Hope Street Gardens. Permission was kindly granted by the Residents' Committee and Mrs Hedderwick was able to be present at the planting on 19th November, despite very inclement weather.

Publications

The Publications Committee, (convener Mr A. B. Paterson), supervised a new and revised edition of the Preservation Handbook and Guide. Sales already exceed 400 and there is a good stock to meet sales in the shops and at the Museum – of what is probably the best guide now available in St Andrews.

When the Trust received Miss Anabel Kidston's bequest of her painting – 'Christmas in the Market Place, St Andrews' – it was felt that this would make an excellent Christmas card, reproduced in full colour. Indeed, the whole edition of 2,000 was sold at Christmas; it is now available with a general greeting for sale throughout the year.

Other publications, such as 'Trees in St Andrews', have been increased to a more realistic price and continue to sell well.

Finance

Members have already been advised of the revision of subscriptions – unchanged for seven years – to more realistic levels and these are shown inside the front cover of this report.

Covenant forms are available from the Secretary and members are no doubt aware of how valuable recoverable income tax is to the Trust; and covenants are now based on a four year period.

Society for the Protection of Rural Scotland

Following the resignation of Mr Hew Lorimer as the Trust representative on this body, we are most grateful that Miss G. L. C. Falconer has kindly agreed to act for the Trust in this capacity.

Scottish Civic Trust

St Andrews was the venue for this year's annual conference of the Scottish Civic Trust and the North East Fife District Council gave a reception to them in the Byre Theatre after delegates attended a performance of 'Blythe Spirit'. The Trust co-operated through Mr A. B. Paterson and a sub-committee, in mounting a display in the foyer covering its aims and activities and in providing coffee after the show. Trust members also organised a series of conducted tours of St Andrews including visits to several houses of interest.

Meetings

The 45th Annual General Meeting was held on 20th May in the Physical Sciences building. Four Trustees were elected: Dr N. P. Brooks, Dr J. W. Buchanan, Mr G. Christie, and Mrs B. Neale. Later a fifth vacancy was filled by co-opting Mr W. A. Watson.

After the formal business members listened to a talk by Mr R. Brooks, a senior member of North East Fife District Department of Physical Planning – who explained the principles, difficulties, opportunities and restraints that affect the work of planning departments in local authorities.

The Half-Yearly meeting took place in Lower College Hall on 11th November, when about 80 members greatly appreciated a presentation by Councillor David Niven, Chairman of North East Fife District Council, entitled 'St Andrews – then and now'. In the course of a life-time spent in St Andrews, Councillor Niven had photographed every shop and every change that had taken place over the years. The evidence from his colour slides of how much had changed was impressive and alarming and no doubt quickened everyone's appreciation of how much a preservation body was needed.

The Autumn Outing on 4th September, organised by Mrs Skinner, attracted about 30 members for a visit to Kellie Castle and thereafter to the Cambo Centre for tea and a visit to the pens of unusual breeds of farm animals maintained at Cambo.

In the name of the Trustees,
(Sgd.) WALLIS A. HEATH,
Chairman.

Mrs Helen Skinner

The Trustees record with very great regret the death of Mrs Skinner who was not only a Trustee for over thirty years from her first election in 1948 but made a unique contribution to its work by her organisation of a notable series of summer exhibitions in the Trust House at 12 North Street.

Of her many outstanding personal qualities her colleagues will remember, in particular, her steadfast refusal to be daunted by difficulties or discouragements. Thus, when it became clear in 1949 that the Trust could not do more than restore the street frontage and first two houses of Loudon's Close, Mrs Skinner, in association with Miss Annabel and Miss Margaret Kidston, took over responsibility for the remainder of the scheme. Later, she undertook the renovation of the prominent Georgian building at No. 36 North Street, retaining part of it as her own St Andrews home thereafter.

Mrs Skinner was, in her energetic way, involved in every aspect of the work of the Trust, but the summer exhibitions, while involving many other willing helpers, could have been created by no-one but herself. Their range and ingenuity were quite remarkable, beginning characteristically in 1968 with 'Weights and Measures, Pottery, and Shawls'. The aim was always to remind the visitor of the special qualities of everyday life in earlier times and to emphasise the importance of ensuring that all aspects of it were, as far as possible, conserved for future generations. The exhibitions were extraordinarily successful in enlisting support for the Trust both in membership and finance. For this and much more the Trust is indeed grateful.

**THE
ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST
LIMITED**

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1982

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|--------|--------|
| <i>Revenue:</i> | | | | | | | 1981 |
| Subscriptions from Subscribing Members | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £344 | £278 |
| Donations | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 218 | 229 |
| Musical Evenings | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 93 | — |
| Interest Received | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3,019 | 3,219 |
| Museum Income | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 329 | — |
| Rents and Feuduties | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,518 | 1,518 |
| Publication Profit | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 516 | 584 |
| Income Tax Repayment | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 814 | 408 |
| | | | | | | £6,851 | £6,236 |
| <i>Less:</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Administration Expenses:</i> | | | | | | | |
| Stationery and Advertising (including printing of Report) | | | | | £1,032 | | £1,068 |
| Meeting Expenses | .. | .. | .. | .. | 185 | | 263 |
| Honorarium to Secretary | .. | .. | .. | .. | 650 | | 800 |
| Audit Fee | .. | .. | .. | .. | 190 | | 160 |
| Post, Telephone and Sundries | .. | .. | .. | .. | 510 | | 478 |
| | | | | | £2,567 | | |
| <i>Property Upkeep:</i> | | | | | | | |
| Rates, Taxes and Insurance | .. | .. | .. | .. | £865 | | 687 |
| Heating and Lighting | .. | .. | .. | .. | 428 | | 635 |
| Repairs, etc. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,594 | | 1,111 |
| Factor's Fees | .. | .. | .. | .. | 174 | | 183 |
| | | | | | 3,061 | | |
| <i>Other Expenditure:</i> | | | | | | | |
| Museum Expenses | .. | .. | .. | .. | £454 | | — |
| Photographs | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 | | 61 |
| | | | | | 469 | | |
| | | | | | | £6,097 | £5,446 |
| <i>Surplus for Year (carried to Balance Sheet)</i> | .. | .. | .. | .. | | £754 | £790 |

(Signed) CHARLES H. MARTINEAU, *Trustee*

(Signed) WALLIS A. HEATH, *Trustee*

**THE
ST ANDREWS PRESERVATION TRUST
LIMITED**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1982

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|----|------|---------|---------|
| <i>Fixed Assets:</i> | | | | 1981 |
| <i>Heritable Property</i> – per Appendix I | .. | .. | £18,744 | £18,744 |
| <i>Furniture and Fittings</i> – per Appendix I | .. | .. | 2,243 | 1,752 |
| | | | £20,987 | £20,496 |
| <i>Current Assets:</i> | | | | |
| <i>Publications, etc.:</i> | | | | |
| Stock as valued by Secretary | .. | .. | 4,390 | 964 |
| Net Cost of “What to See in East Fife” Booklet | .. | | 320 | 320 |
| <i>Debtors</i> | .. | .. | — | 90 |
| <i>Cash in Bank and on Hand</i> | .. | .. | 3,266 | 1,116 |
| <i>Investments</i> | .. | .. | 24,000 | 29,000 |
| | | | £52,963 | £51,986 |
| <i>Less:</i> | | | | |
| <i>Current Liabilities:</i> | | | | |
| Sundry Creditors and Accrued Charges | .. | £190 | | 810 |
| Subscriptions paid in Advance | .. | 55 | | 12 |
| | | | 245 | |
| | | | £52,718 | £51,164 |
| <i>Represented by:</i> | | | | |
| <i>Reserves and Undistributed Revenue:</i> | | | | |
| <i>Revenue Account:</i> | | | | |
| Balance as per Balance Sheet as at 31st | | | | |
| December 1981 | .. | .. | £17,721 | |
| Add: Surplus for 1982 per Revenue Account | | | 754 | |
| | | | £18,475 | 17,721 |
| <i>Capital Accounts</i> – per Appendix II | .. | .. | 34,243 | 33,443 |
| | | | £52,718 | £51,164 |
| | | | | |

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS

We have examined the books and annexed accounts of the St Andrews Preservation Trust Limited. We have accepted a certificate from the Secretary that the Title Deeds of the Heritable Property are in order and unburdened. In our opinion, the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account comply with the Companies Acts 1948 to 1980, and give respectively a true and fair view of the Trust's affairs as at 31st December 1982 and of the surplus for the year then ended.

(Signed) JAMES MURRAY & Co., C.A., *Auditors*

St Andrews, 25th March 1983

APPENDIX I

HERITABLE PROPERTY AND FURNITURE & FITTINGS

| | Cost | Additions | Sales | Aggregate Depreciation to date | Book Value at 31st December 1982 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i>Heritable Property:</i> | | | | | |
| 146 South Street and 1 & 2 Louden's Close, St Andrews | £2,030 | £108 | — | — | £2,138 |
| 136 South Street, St Andrews | 2,082 | — | — | £127 | 1,955 |
| 141 South Street, St Andrews | 5,639 | — | — | 315 | 5,324 |
| 12 North Street, St Andrews | 3,539 | 942 | — | — | 4,481 |
| Bogward Dovecote | 1,340 | — | — | 245 | 1,095 |
| Bell Rock House, The Harbour, St Andrews (gifted by Mrs Sekalska) | 1,912 | 1,839 | — | — | 3,751 |
| | £16,542 | £2,889 | — | £687 | £18,744 |
| | £1,350 | £991 | — | £98 | £2,243 |

APPENDIX II

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|---------|---------|---------|
| <i>General:</i> | | | | | | 1981 |
| Balance as at 1st January 1982 | .. | .. | .. | .. | £18,879 | £18,779 |
| Add: Life Members' Subscriptions for 1982 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 300 | 100 |
| | | | | | £19,179 | £18,879 |
| <i>Boase, Bryson and Other Bequests:</i> | | | | | | |
| As at 1st January 1982 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7,702 | 7,702 |
| <i>Specific:</i> | | | | | | |
| Pilgrim Trust and Dalrymple Archaeological Fund Grants— Purchase and reconstruction of Louden's Close | .. | | | £1,813 | | |
| Dalrymple Archaeological Fund Grant— Reconstruction of 136 South Street | .. | .. | | 100 | | |
| Donation from Mrs Mabel Boase | .. | .. | .. | 100 | | |
| Grant from Dalrymple Archaeological Fund towards repair of Bogward Dovecote | .. | .. | .. | 150 | | |
| Donations from the late Miss J. I. Low | .. | .. | .. | 4,066 | | |
| General Donations | .. | .. | .. | 133 | | |
| Radcliffe Trust—Advances re contribution to apprentice stonemason's wages | .. | .. | .. | 1,000 | | 6,862 |
| | | | | 7,362 | | |
| | | | | £34,243 | £33,443 | |

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS – 1982

Annual Members

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dr J. W. Buchanan | Richard N. Caddy |
| Professor and Mrs R. W. S. Mitchell | Mr and Mrs George Topping |
| A. S. Todd | Dr and Mrs John Thompson |

Life Members

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs L. Underwood | W. J. Braid |
| Mrs Ruby H. Reid | Miss Winifred M. McKenzie |
| Mrs Elizabeth A. Morris | Mr and Mrs D. Owen |
| Raymond Lamont-Brown | James Macleod |
| Mr and Mrs Alfred Forrest | Dafydd Neale |
| John Greig Sibbald, J.P | |

Donations to the Museum 1982

The Trust's collections and displays have been enriched by the kindness of the following donors:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Mrs Blackler | Grocery book |
| W. Braid | Cheese Press |
| L. M. Campbell | Photos and related items |
| G. Christie | Photos and related items |
| R. Garine | Photos and related items |
| Mr and Mrs T. L. Langlands | Photos and related items |
| Mr and Mrs W. S. Robertson | Photos and related items |
| W. Wilson | Photos and related items |
| Miss Forman | China ornament |
| D. Joy | Printers's plate and poster |
| Mrs E. Kirkwood | Corner cupboard, cups and saucers |
| Miss E. Litster | Coins |
| T. McKechnie | Wine and spirits rule |
| R. Mackenzie | Shop items and advertising |
| Rev. and Mrs P. J. Moffett | Persian carpet |
| A. A. Morris | Minute book and ship's nameplate |
| Mrs B. Neale | Books |
| Miss T. Rigg | Letters |
| J. H. Scott | Documents and coat-of-arms |
| Mrs R. Sekalska | Onion bottle, sewing machine and table |
| G. Thomson | Joiner's tools |

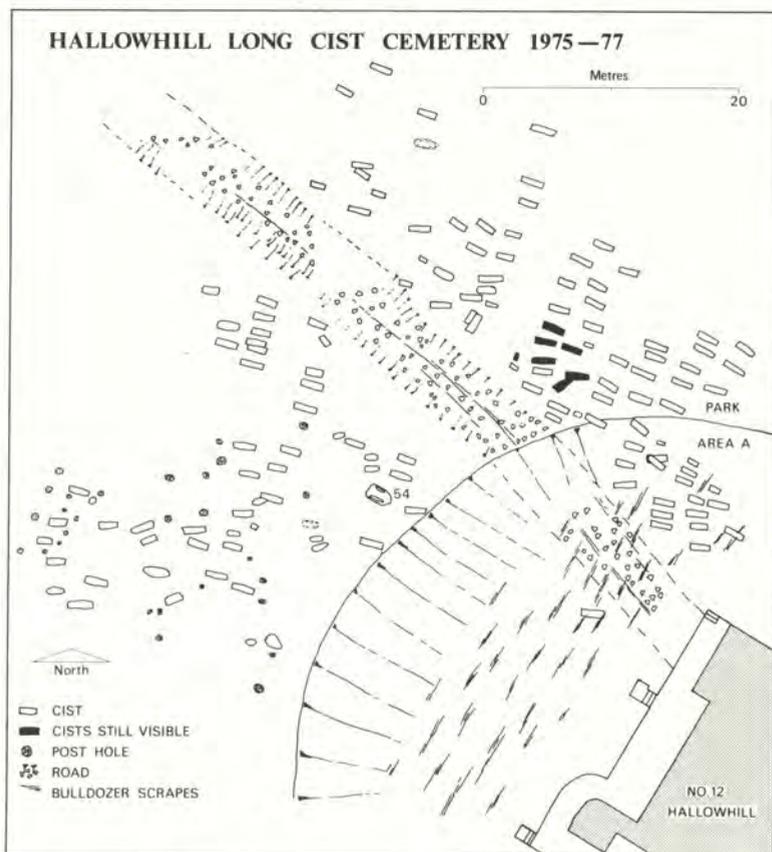
We are also most grateful for the miscellaneous items and assistance, lent or given by the Byre Theare, John di Folco, Mrs E. Proudfoot, W. Harvey, the late Mrs H. R. Skinner, D. Burnett and the University of St Andrews.

THE LONG CIST CEMETERY AT HALLOWHILL, ST ANDREWS

EDWINA V. W. PROUDFOOT

Hallowhill lies at the north-west end of a low ridge, between the Kinness Burn and the Cairnsmill Burn, to the north of the Canongate, originally about one mile west of St Andrews, but now within the burgh. The site was open farmland until the development of housing along the Canongate resulted in the building of the Hallowhill-Trinity Place Estate in the early 1970s. The house and garden at number 12 Hallowhill were sited on a shallow terrace cut into the south-east of the hill, and it was during levelling of the garden here that the first recent traces were uncovered of a long cist cemetery originally located by nineteenth century antiquarians. Although the finds came as a surprise to the householder the site had long been known, and is shown on Ordnance Survey six-inch maps, though this had apparently been ignored by the authorities when planning the development of the area. Once it was realised there were burials in the garden, permission to excavate was readily given by the then owners, Mr and Mrs Fullerton, and a season of excavation was begun in October 1975 with the help of volunteers under the direction of the writer; this and later work are described below, fig. 1.

Considerable interest in archaeology in St Andrews had been aroused in the mid-nineteenth century, after excavations of the Culdee chapel and cemetery at the Kirkhill (also recently re-excavated), and the discovery in 1859 at Balnacarron-Lawhead of an urnfield with some 18 cremations in urns, as well as other Bronze Age remains. These findings were reported in some detail in the local press (*St Andrews Pictorial Magazine*, 37, January 1861). Records of stones being turned up during ploughing on Hallowhill, on the south side of the Kinnessburn suggested the possibility of an ancient site there, and so local antiquarians Charles Howie, Robert Walker and J. Bernard Davis carried out an excavation in 1860, uncovering five long cists (*St Andrews Lit. & Phil. Soc.*, April 13, 1861). This was followed (*St Andrews Lit. & Phil. Soc.*, December 1861) by a second excavation which uncovered fifteen more long cists. In the report there is a comment that "many more" cists were known, suggesting that others were uncovered but not excavated. Interest in the site would have ended here but for one cist which differed from the others in several ways. The majority of the long cists, or stone coffins, were made of sandstone slabs – covers, sides, ends, bases, mainly lying east to west and containing one unaccompanied individual, cf. plates 1 and 2. One cist, rather small, but similarly of sandstone slabs, lay north to south, was very deep in the ground and was covered by many stones (perhaps a small cairn). This cist contained the remains of a child, accompanied by a range of objects of great interest, curiosity and beauty. Sadly these objects do not survive, but a description of the grave and its contents was published by John Stuart (*Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, Vol. II (1867) lix.) and it was this description which became the basis of the information included on the Ordnance Survey Record Card and which should have alerted all concerned in planning the recent park and housing developments at



Hallowhill. On the north side of the hill a park was laid out in 1975: trees were planted, some dug into graves, without anything being noticed, while on the south side of the area, within the grounds of number 12 Hallowhill considerable terracing took place. Nothing was noticed, except that the ground was unusually stony, and Mr Fullerton began what was to be a long struggle to carve a garden from the subsoil. Almost his first spade struck a large stone, and when he removed this he found some bones. These were reported to the police, as required by law, as well as to various friends and academics and eventually the writer was asked to organise a small excavation with local volunteers and students, too many to thank individually here, but whose help is acknowledged gratefully.

The area around Mr Fullerton's find was tidied up, revealing three cists, of which Mr Fullerton's became number 2, plate 2. Work was slow and it soon became clear that the site was inappropriate as a volunteer excavation, partly because of digging difficulties, but partly because there were clear traces of many other graves in the small area already exposed, so that it would have



Plate 1 – View of excavations at Hallowhill, from the east, showing graves and road after a light snowfall. The graves in plate 4 are in the centre of this view.



Plate 2 – Cists 1 and 2 completely excavated, showing general construction details. Cist 2, centre, was damaged when first discovered. Cist 3, with skeleton, shows a typical burial.

taken an inordinately long time to excavate with only occasional assistance. It was decided, with Mr Fullerton's agreement, to cover the site with protective materials for the winter, and to seek funds for a formal excavation. The Scottish Development Department (Ancient Monuments) could not supply funding, but the Manpower Services Commission did, with Fife Regional Council as initial sponsor for a small team to excavate the garden area and to explore the park to see what remains might be there. The Manpower Services Commission later provided funds for two further seasons of excavation, with larger teams, this time sponsored by the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee, and finally the Scottish Development Department (Ancient Monuments) provided funds for a research assistant to help to prepare the full report for publication, now well in hand.

Within the garden of 12 Hallowhill, referred to as Area A, some twenty burials were excavated, all originally in long cists but found in varying stages of preservation or destruction. Part of a cobbled road was also found. The area had been affected by three main destructive processes – ploughing, nineteenth century excavations and recent bulldozing, and it is not surprising, therefore, that many of the burials were incomplete, and only three in Area A were previously untouched – 15, 21 and 22. Cist 1 had been opened previously but only the west end, that is the head end, had been disturbed, while cist 20, also opened previously contained only a few traces of bone. An ancient disturbance of cist 24 had taken place, when at a later date and on a slightly different orientation cist 6 was cut into it.

Individuals were buried in cists, often extremely well built, conforming to a standard – the burial lay on its back, head to the west, sometimes arms by the side, sometimes across the lap, or in a few cases, folded over the chest. Some cists were rectangular, while others were tapered at the east, but always the best stones were placed at the west. Where the cover stones survived undisturbed it could be seen that on occasions several stones were used, with a tendency for the best to be at the west, though occasionally a single stone formed the cover. Most graves seemed to be dug so that the north side was a tight fit for the side stones, and packing stones were not needed, while on the south side the extra space had to be filled and packed with small boulders, as can be seen in cist 1, plate 2. The cists were built of local sandstone, much of it from the seashore. Some stones were of ripple sandstone, the nearest outcrops of which are found at Kinkell, which must have been their source. Other stones still had limpets attached to them.

While the majority of burials belonged in the long cist group there were other types. Grave 119 for example was a deep shaft with the burial, oriented north-west to south-east, head to the south-east, deposited at a depth of 1.25 m. (4 ft.) below the present surface. Grave 96 had only a boulder rim – and here only the teeth survived, since there were no cover stones as protection. Cists 51A and 51B lay north to south adjacent to one another and were two of those opened in the nineteenth century. 51B was very deep, beautifully constructed, and, from the re-fill of large stones had originally been covered by a considerable pile of stones. This almost certainly was the grave described by Stuart (*Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, Vol. II, (1867) lix.) as smaller than the rest and containing the remains of a young person, accompanied by a range of artefacts, including a small pale green circular glass cup, broken fragments of

another similar cup, probably Roman while the fragment of a ring of glass covered with yellow enamel with red spots might have been Pictish. It is highly regrettable that these, and the other objects have now been lost, and are not available for study, especially in view of the remains found accompanying grave 54, plate 3 and fig. 1. Grave 54 lay north-west to south-east, was a large oval grave, perhaps of two storeys, though no remains survived in the upper part. The base of this grave was the cover of another below, in which there were the fragmentary remains of a child of 5 to 6 years, its head to the south-east, lying on its back, and with a purse or bag containing a range of objects across the left thigh and knee. The purse had decayed, but its shape and size were indicated by the position of the objects it contained. At the bottom were seven cowteeth. Next was a small black stone, below which was part of a Roman snake-head bronze bracelet. Beside this was a quartz crystal or bead and then there were two pebbles, one a white quartz triangle, the other oval pink quartz, stained brown on one side, possibly with the remains of paint. At the top were a Roman disc brooch in very poor condition and a Roman seal box which was beautifully preserved. The Roman objects were all contemporary, that is manufactured about the end of the first century A.D., but there is no indication of the date of deposition, which could have been much later. The pink quartz pebble, if the stains are from paint, could find its best parallel among Pictish remains in Caithness and Orkney, where painted pebbles have been found frequently in Pictish contexts. Dates for such finds would be late, perhaps eighth century. Such items from widely differing dates and contexts are difficult to assess archaeologically, and it is hoped that a radiocarbon date from the bones of the skeleton and possibly from one of the teeth may provide a guide date which will be useful here.

Interestingly, no long cists were close to Grave 54, and it is possible the grave was early and was marked in some way – perhaps by a small cairn, but there is no surviving evidence to support such a theory. The presence of these two very different graves with their exotic but compatible grave goods in a cemetery of mainly long cists raises many problems which will be considered in the full publication. Of the numerous other aspects of this excavation of which space prevents discussion two should be noted – one, the presence of a cobbled road through the site, apparently respecting and respected by the cists and the second is that the two exotic graves lay on either side of the road, fig. 1.

Many questions have been posed as a result of this work, and many will remain unanswered, such as the original size of the cemetery. Some 150 remains of long cists and other graves were found, but they represent only part, perhaps only half of the cemetery on Hallowhill, since its limits can only be inferred. A reasonable estimate for Area A might be of some 50 cists lost and for the Park between 50 and 100, which might indicate the cemetery originally contained some 250 to 300 burials.

Many of the 150 burials were extremely fragmentary and were inadequate for scientific study, but where estimates of age at death, sex and height could be made, it was clear that the remains were those of a community – individuals of both sexes, ranging from babies, including a foetus, to elderly individuals. Their health on the whole was good, and there were few broken bones, though there were some interesting medical indications, such as a leper, and a trepanned skull. On the whole the indications are of a settled community using



Plate 3 – Cist 54, upper level. The child burial with its 'purse' lay at the north end, below the large flat stone.



Plate 4 – This group of graves has been left open and can be seen at Hallowhill. These are the graves marked in black on the plan, fig. 1.

the burial ground over a considerable period, probably of several hundred years.

With so many variables it is difficult to estimate the dates when the cemetery was in use, but a range from the pre-Roman Iron Age to about the eighth century A.D. might be appropriate. However, radiocarbon dates for some of the skeletons may make it possible to narrow the range and suggest a shorter time span.

Long cist cemeteries have traditionally been assigned to the early Christian period, partly because the cists were oriented, often in rows, the bodies stretched out, heads to the west, while no possessions or offerings were buried with the dead. Many of the cists and graves at Hollowhill fall into this category, but others do not, and the possibility of a pre-Christian holy site must be considered, particularly in view of the two clearly non-Christian graves, as well as of others unlikely to be Christian in origin. An added complication is the difficulty of interpreting a number of post holes, possibly the last remnants of a structure, located near the top of the hill, towards the south-west of the site, in an area of few and rather irregularly spaced cists. However too few post holes have survived the centuries of ploughing for any sensible reconstruction to be attempted.

In addition to the problem of pagan to Christian continuity there are other questions raised by documentary references, suggesting a possible early Christian identification for the site, while other documentary sources show that Hollowhill itself was an early name for the area. These, and other problems relating to settlement outside St Andrews raise problems of toponomy, which are being dealt with in the more extensive publication of this material.

Most of the cemetery at Hollowhill was destroyed in the course of development, but it was decided to retain six representative cists, to show something of the character of the site. These are marked in black on fig. 1 and are shown in plate 4.

