BIRGHAM CEMETERY SURVEY
FINAL REPORT

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Archaeology • Heritage • Conservation

On Behalf of:	*Destination Tweed* *Old Melrose Dairy Steading* *Melrose* *TD6 9DF*
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Non-Technical Summary

Uncovering the Tweed is one of the 12 projects forming part of the Destination Tweed project which is delivering a community-based archaeology and heritage programme to investigate important sites along the River Tweed. As part of Uncovering the Tweed, AOC Archaeology Group undertook a detailed graveyard survey over 4 days of the historic Birgham Graveyard (now known as Birgham Cemetery) in the village of Birgham near Coldstream between October 2025 and April 2026.

This report outlines the results of the 243 gravestones that were recorded. More recent gravestones located to the west side of the cemetery were excluded from the survey. Of the gravestones recorded, five gravestones were erected in the late 16th/17th century; seventeen gravestones in the 18th century; twenty-six gravestones between 1800–1849; sixty gravestones between 1850–1899; ninety-six gravestones between 1900–1950; twenty-four gravestones between 1950–2000, and two gravestones post-2000. There were also twenty-six gravestones whose date could not be determined.

The survey has provided an update to the 1998 survey undertaken by the Borders Family Local History Society, which recorded the inscriptions on the stones nearly 30 years ago. This was invaluable in identifying some inscriptions that are now indecipherable due to weathering and other damage. A topographic survey was also produced as part of this survey using a GPS and UAV (drone) survey to create an accurate plan of the site and the stones, and establish a new numbering system.

The results identified a number of trends in styles of gravestones, inscriptions, lettering, materials and symbology, which follow the norm for the history and development of churchyards and their memorials from the late 17th century to the present day. A number of research questions have been posed, and the data has gone some way to contributing to these questions, whilst recommending further works that would be required to address them more robustly.

The more general recommendations put forward in this report relate directly to the aims and objectives of the Destination Tweed project, which would be to present the results in an accessible public forum, in addition to the presentation of a webinar or lecture to present the results to the local and wider community.

Acknowledgements

The work was undertaken by a group of volunteers working with AOC Archaeology as part of the Uncovering the Tweed project. AOC staff involved in this project include Diana Sproat, Suzanne Swan, Kai Wallace, Jamie Humble and Stuart Mitchell.

AOC would like to acknowledge and thank the following volunteers for undertaking the survey: Pauline Hogarth, Ethan, Kevin, Liz, Caroline, David, Glynis, Heather, Catherine, Stephen, Moira, Shannon, Keith, Maggie, Allan, Charlotte, Stuart, Carla, Anne and Mike. AOC would also like to thank Keith Elliot and Diane Munro of the Scottish Borders Council for arranging access and vegetation clearance at the site prior to the survey. The author is indebted to Pauline Hogarth of the Till Valley Archaeological Society (TillVAS) and her research into the history of Birgham ahead of this project and also for being part of the volunteer team.

The Destination Tweed project is a multi-partner collaboration led by the Tweed Forum. As part of the wider Destination Tweed, which has over thirty funders, the Uncovering the Tweed project is funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, and the Fallago Environment Fund.



1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Destination Tweed is a unique project which aims to celebrate and share the nature, history and stories of the River Tweed and deliver significant economic, environmental, educational and social benefits to the South of Scotland and North Northumberland. As a major multi-year partnership-led investment, Destination Tweed will deliver the River Tweed Trail. The Project delivery partners include the Tweed Forum, the Scottish Borders Council, the Dumfries and Galloway Council, the Northumberland Council, the Southern Uplands Partnership, the Borders Forest Trust, Buglife Scotland and Tweedsmuir.

1.1.2 As part of Destination Tweed, a further 12 projects covering a wide range of cultural, river and landscape enhancements will connect communities and attractions along the route and create opportunities to celebrate, care for, enjoy and promote the river sustainably.

1.1.3 Uncovering the Tweed is one of these 12 projects, and is delivering a community-based archaeology and heritage programme to investigate important sites of activity along the river and in the surrounding area.

1.1.4 As part of Uncovering the Tweed, AOC Archaeology Group undertook a detailed graveyard survey over 4 days of the historic Birgham Graveyard (now known as Birgham Cemetery) in the village of Birgham near Coldstream working with project partner Pauline Hogarth from TillVAS (the Till Valley Archaeological Society). The survey was undertaken by volunteers under guidance by AOC.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 Birgham Cemetery is situated to the east side of village of Birgham and is centred on NGR NT 79394 39083 (Figures 1 & 2). The survey was undertaken on the northern and eastern part of the cemetery where the historic gravestones and grave slabs, together with the earthwork remains of an historic chapel, are located (Figure 3).

1.3 Statutory Designations

1.3.1 Birgham Cemetery has two listings in the National Record for the Historic Environment (NRHE). Trove Ref 94676 refers to Birgham Burial Ground, and Trove Ref 58325 refers to Birgham Chapel, where undated archive record cards note the following:

'This is the supposed site of a Roman Catholic chapel, situated on the north side of the graveyard in Birgham. There can be no doubt as to its position as the foundation stones of the building have been frequently dug up when digging graves, and a slight hollow remains of what would appear to have been the interior of the building.

The parish was divided of old into four parts called the Quarters of Eccles. The chapel of St Magdalene was at Birgham, where the graveyard remains.'

There is no trace of this chapel. The graveyard is completely filled with gravestones.

1.3.2 The site is also noted in the Historic Environment Record as a Burial-Ground (Ref: 94676) and the chapel also has its own entry (Trove Ref: 58325).

2 Objectives

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The main general objective of the graveyard survey was for the local community to make an 'as is' record of the historic grave memorials at Birgham Cemetery and to create a detailed archive. The results will also feed into any future decisions on the conservation and analysis of the site.

2.2 Detailed Recording and Archiving

2.2.1 This main objective of the survey was to make a detailed record of the historic gravestones (bar the more recent post-2000 stones to the west side of the path) within Birgham Cemetery through systematic and analytical survey, photographic survey and topographic survey.

2.3 Public Engagement and Dissemination

2.3.1 A secondary objective was to make public the results of the survey via a detailed report to nationally recognised standards and guidelines to produce an archive record of the site for future analysis and research. The results of the survey will feature on the Destination Tweed website and social media.

2.4 Condition and Significance

2.4.1 A third objective was to assess the condition of the stones and their relative significance to better inform future decisions and care of this important historical resource.

2.5 Research Agendas

2.5.1 Finally, it was the overall objective of this project to feed into current research agendas, such as those posed by the Scottish Archaeology Research Framework (ScARF), specifically the South-East Scotland Archaeology Research Framework (SESARF). The relevant chapter is 9.4.6 (Rhodes *et al* 2025), and specific research questions related to burial places at Birgham Cemetery, include:

- How did burial customs in South East Scotland evolve over the course of the Middle Ages?
- To what extent do funery monuments conform to national/international trends? Are there specific local/regional variations?
- Are there notable differences between people buried in higher or lower status locations?

Additional research questions could also include:

- How does the Birgham Graveyard survey contribute to the assessment of the overall condition of early grave memorials in Scotland?
- How can the project feed discussions into future care and conservation of such moments?
- How can health and safety considerations and preservation of historic grave memorials be aligned given what we have identified as part of the survey?

- What can we discover about the local population movement and community dynamics from the 17th century onwards? How have these changed over time?
- How can the graveyard survey at Birgham contribute to the attitude towards death and commemorating the dead through time from the 1600s to the present day?
- How can the survey be used in collaboration with other detailed surveys of historic graveyards in Scotland and how can this collaboration of data lead to answering further research questions?

2.6 Other Questions

Introduction

2.6.1 In addition to the specific research questions above, gravestones and other types of grave memorials can be extremely useful in many ways in a more general sense.

Demographic Information

2.6.2 Data that has been gathered on names, ages at death, dates of birth and death can be used to estimate lifespan statistics, analyse population trends, and compare survivorship rates across different time periods or social groups. Clearly this is something that can be used in tandem with other detailed studies of graveyards within the county, as well as other archive sources such as parochial registers.

Social and Economic Status

2.6.3 The materials used and level of decoration and expense that has gone into the gravestones can indicate the wealth, occupation, or social standing of the deceased and their family, and how this may have changed over time and why.

Cultural and Religious Beliefs

2.6.4 Grave orientation and symbology can offer insights into the cultural, religious, and spiritual beliefs about death and the afterlife.

Family and Community Structures

2.6.5 An analysis of who is buried with whom and the spatial arrangement of family plots can reveal kinship and community ties. For instance, many of the earlier graves from the 18th and 19th century have several family members in one grave, yet later in the 19th century and into the 20th century, this becomes less common, with only one or two (usually spouses, perhaps also an unmarried son or daughter) being buried in the same grave.

Technological Changes

2.6.6 The evolution of monument materials, carving techniques and construction methods over time can reflect broader technological advancement in this craft.

Personal Stories and Genealogy

2.6.7 Examining names, and making a record of these names before they erode beyond legibility can be enormously helpful to genealogists and also provide a baseline for the more prominent

families which resided in an area over time. In the last century, mobility has meant that a wide variety of surnames are recorded in parishes, although prior to this, the same names crop up.

3 Methodology

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 A detailed graveyard survey was undertaken of the historic gravestones and other monuments located within Birgham Cemetery.

3.2 Survey of Historic Gravestones

3.2.1 The gravestones and grave slabs were recorded using the Mytum system (Mytum 2020). This system is comprehensive and looks not just at the inscribed names and dates, but also factors such as:

- condition (of monument itself and the inscription)
- orientation
- dimensions
- materials
- tooling marks
- memorial type
- existence of kerbs
- shape and style
- date
- text and text panels
- typeface
- decoration
- symbology (including marginal decoration)
- denomination
- repairs

3.2.2 Surveyors received an introductory session on the recording forms and then, in pairs, recorded the stones using the Mytum numbering system.

3.2.3 The work will eventually tie in with the 'Discovering England's Burial Spaces' (DEBS) project, a grant-funded initiative that works with community groups to design and test resources that will help people to record burial spaces like churchyards and cemeteries. The DEBS project has identified that the survey of burial spaces are popular activities for community groups and is a way to reconnect these under-used and often neglected heritage assets. Through National Lottery funding, small grants have been provided for the setting up and survey of burial spaces

throughout England culminating in a shared resource to which the Birgham Cemetery can contribute and a resource that can be called upon through their publicly accessible database.

3.3 Photography

3.3.1 In tandem with the recording sheets, each monument was photographed using a digital DSLR, including any detail such as decorative elements, worn inscriptions, examples of condition, etc. This record will become essential in creating a 'snapshot' of each memorial as a reference point, and in most cases has included a 1m graduated ranging pole for scale.

3.4 Photogrammetry

3.4.1 In addition to general photography, selected memorials were subject to photogrammetry to accurately record these in detail to scale.

3.5 Topographic Survey

3.5.1 A detailed topographic survey of the cemetery was undertaken using a combination of GPS survey and UAV (drone) survey. Volunteers got the chance to use the GPS to accurately survey in the monuments.

3.6 Data Management & Archiving

3.6.1 The project has been entered on to the OASIS website (Ref: aocarcha1-537033), and a copy of this report will be uploaded. A PDF copy of the report and a copy of the photographic record will also be forwarded to the National Record for the Historic Environment (NRHE) and the local Historic Environment Record (HER).

4 Historical Background

4.1 The Origins of Birgham

4.1.1 Birgham today is a small village of around 140 people, located in the parish of Eccles between Kelso and Coldstream. It does, however, have a long history being first mentioned in 1290 with the Treaty of Birgham concerning the marriage of the Maid of Norway and Edward I.

4.1.2 There is no known upstanding or visible remains of the medieval settlement at Birgham, the present buildings being of later 18th and 19th century date although almost certainly built over the previous existing medieval plots. It first appears on the publicly accessible historic mapping on Pont & Bleau's map of ca. 1560–1614 (Figure 4). Annotated as 'Birjimm' it is schematically represented as a slightly larger settlement than the ones surrounding it. The enclosed settlement of 'Hirfell' is noted to the north-east, and 'Warke Castle' to the east. This castle, which was established in the 12th century, is now a large mound with some stone walls remaining with the village of Wark (over the border in England on the south side of the Tweed) built around it to the east. Gordon's ca. 1642 map also notes Birgham, annotated as 'Birghame' (Figure 5).

4.2 Birgham in the 18th Century and Early 19th Century

4.2.1 By the mid-18th century, the settlement is annotated as 'Birgum', and this is also the spelling used on Roy's Military Map of Scotland, which is the first time that the settlement is depicted in detail (Figures 6 & 7). It shows the village with a row of houses to the north and south sides of the east/west through-road with tree-lined plots behind them. The cemetery is noted as a tree-lined enclosure set back to the south of the road, with two small structures to the west side; the chapel is not noted, so may have been ruinous even by this time.

4.2.2 The successive maps of the 18th century and early 19th century such as Armstrong's 1771 map, Blackadder's 1797 map and Greenwood, Fowler & Sharp's map of 1826 annotate Birgham as it is spelled today (Figures 8–10). Ayrton Hall is noted as being the main point of interest, which was a country house built to the east of the village in the early-mid 18th century. It is also noted on Roy's earlier map, although not annotated. Ayrton Hall was demolished before 1900, and little is known about the site or its history.

4.3 Birgham and Birgham Cemetery in the Mid-Late 19th Century

4.3.1 The Ordnance Survey maps of 1859 and 1862 note in detail the extent of the village and depicts the cemetery at this time (Figures 11 & 12). From west to east, there is the large country house of Springhill set in expansive gardens. Then moving into the village is the courtyarded farmsteading of Long Birgham. The High Street then extends eastwards with houses mostly to the north side with long rear gardens. A small row of cottages lies to the south of the road. The long-established north/south road extends southwards from the east side of the High Street with a large steading (Birgham Farmsteading) at the corner which was renovated some 10–15 years ago. The road leads to, and terminates at, the cemetery, although originally extended all the way down to the banks of the Tweed, a rough track to access the fields. The High Street then curves to the north-east with the country house of Birghamhaugh and then Ayton Hall, still present at this time with a long avenue garden to the south-east. A few more houses have sprung up to the north of the road, and another path leads northwards towards two rows of cottages called Blinkbonny and Greenlees, before terminating at the fields. The Ordnance Survey Name Book of 1858 describes Birgham as a '*...small but irregularly built Village Situated on the Turnpike road...the houses are of... inferior description, all of which have Small gardens attached; there are in it two Public houses, a School, but no Place of Worship, the parish being at Eccles...there was at one time a Small chapel here with a graveyard attached, the latter of which Still remain, And is used as a place of sepulture*.' (OS Name Book 1858). This suggests that although a chapel is known to have existed, little of anything had survived of it even nearly 200 years ago, likely more given its absence on Roy's mid-18th century map.

4.3.2 The cemetery is noted in detail in the larger scale 1859 map (Figure 12). Birgham Steading is depicted with a horse mill to the south end immediately adjacent to the cemetery, and the remains of the chapel are clearly marked. There are two buildings in an L-shape to the south of the chapel, which have now gone, in the position of the modern cemetery area to the west side of the path.

4.3.3 By the late 19th century, the 1900 Ordnance Survey maps depicts the cemetery in the layout we see today (Figure 13). The village remains much the same; Springhill and Long Birgham are still

present to the west side, and the Fisherman's Arms is now annotated. However, Ayton Hall has been demolished, with only its former avenue and an earthwork noted. Birgham Steading has also been expanded to enclose the courtyard, the rear barns encroaching close to the northern boundary of the cemetery. The chapel is annotated, although there is no outline of the building.

4.4 Birgham and Birgham cemetery in the 20th Century

4.4.1 The 1909, 1925 and 1957 maps shows little change to the layout of the village and cemetery (Figure 14).

4.4.2 The chapel is mentioned in the National Record for the Historic Environment (NRHE) and notes it as being the '*...supposed site of a Roman Catholic chapel...There can be no doubt as to its position as the foundation stones ... have been frequently dug up when digging graves, and a slight hollow remains in what would appear to have been the interior the building ... This chapel is recorded in 1250; its probable site is indicated by the rectangular depression close to the N side of the burial ground. "Several pieces of medieval pottery" have been found in a field immediately to the SE.*' (Figures 15 & 16).

4.4.3 A medieval cross slab was known to have existed in the churchyard in at least the 1960s, as it is mentioned in the NRHE together with a photograph (Figure 17). However, this is no longer present and may have been either removed, or now lies beneath the ground, covered by 60 years of vegetation growth. Indeed, some small areas of flat stones were located amongst the upstanding stones which may very well be this cross slab. Permission would be needed, however, to undertake any further investigations.

4.4.4 Today, the cemetery to the north of the diagonal path is full of gravestones dating from the early 17th century to the early 20th century, with a small handful post-dating 2000 (Figure 18). New burials are now confined to the south end of the cemetery to the west of the path and did not form part of this study.

5 Results

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Figures 3 and 19–21 provide detailed site plans of the cemetery identifying all the gravestones and grave markers within, starting with gravestone [001] in the north-west corner and slowly extending southwards, in rows from north to south. Figure 22 also provides a general grave plan demonstrating the expansion of the cemetery for each date category.

5.1.2 Plates 1–10 provide some UAV and wide angle photographs of the site taken during the survey and some wide angled views of the site from the ground, and Plates 11–15 show the volunteers hard at work deciphering and recording the stones and undertaking the topographic survey.

5.1.3 Appendix 1 lays out a précis of all gravestones recorded as part of this stage of the project, the names of the interred or remembered, and the year they died, as well as their relationship (where relevant) to the first person, or previous person, interred. The inscriptions have also been fully cross-referenced with a 1998 survey which was undertaken by the Borders Family

History Society to identify any ambiguities and also to identify if inscriptions that are difficult to read now were more visible 27 years ago (Borders Family History Society 1998, pp 40–66).

5.1.4 It should be noted that there are likely many stones that have become displaced over the centuries, laid down, and buried beneath the grass and soil. Indeed, there are several slabs, or fallen gravestones, that only peek out from the overgrowth; one of these may be the medieval cross slab noted in the 1960s. Therefore, the statistics presented in the results below should be considered with this in mind.

5.2 Gravestones 1596–1699

Introduction

5.2.1 There are five gravestones that belong to the period between 1596–1699 with certainty, Graves [042], [043A], [043B], [071] and [078] (Figure 20). In addition, it is possible that gravestones [057] and [062B] also belong to this period given the symbology on them.

5.2.2 The imagery and symbolism used on the stones provides an insight into the beliefs and attitudes towards death of people in this time period. These were often more morbid in nature compared to the religious imagery of the 19th century and more plain and reserved designs of today's gravestones.

Gravestone [042]

5.2.3 Gravestone [042] was possibly made by the same mason as Gravestone [078] due the similarities in design and execution (Plates 16–19). It is leaning heavily to the west, and has a detailed inscription, memorialising William Dods who died in 1667 and his wife Margaret Ingles who died in 1699, together with their son Thomas ?Dove who died in 1683. It features the 'memento mori', the skull, which is a common symbol attached to stones of this period (see Plate 17); if you see this on a stone it is of likely 17th or very early 18th century in date. It is a simple reminder of death to the living. Below this is another typical depiction: the crossed leg bones, yet another reminder of mortality. Below this is an hourglass, a reminder to the observer that the 'sands of time' run out for everyone. So we have very morbid sentimentality expressed in these early stones, with little religious iconography displayed. In contrast to this, there are two love hearts to either side of the memento mori, a symbol of love towards the deceased, as is the flower in the centre above it, and the flower-like scrolls to either side of the top of the stone (see Plate 19). It is not plainly designed, the upper part of the stone is shaped and sculpted, so time and effort has gone into its execution.

Graves [043a] & [043b]

5.2.4 Gravestone [043a] has possibly been relocated, as first appearances would suggest that [043A] and [043B] were one grave split down the middle, but it is in fact two stones (Plate 20). Gravestone [043A] features a large angel's head with the initials and date 'RD' and '1691' (Plate 21). The stone has a shaped head in contrast to its immediate neighbour, Gravestone [043B], which has a flat head with an indecipherable inscription (Plates 22–26). On the west face of the stone (where it lies against the adjacent stone) are the initials 'TB', the date 1699 and an hourglass (Plate 27). On the other side are the initials 'BD' and the date of 1683.

Gravestone [071]

5.2.5 Gravestone [071] memorialises Ednam Dodds who died in 1699, the same year that Margaret Ingles (William Dove's (or Dodd's) wife) died, who is remembered in Gravestone [042]. His wife Jein (Jane?) Smith is also remembered who died in the 1680s, although the exact date is difficult to read. As with Gravestone [042] the memento mori and crossed leg bones are represented, as is the hourglass below and flowers to either side of the skull (Plates 28–34).

Gravestone [078]

5.2.6 Gravestone [078] is dated to 1596 and is partially obscured by the holly tree adjacent to the north boundary wall (Plate 35–37). It features the typical symbology we have seen on the other stones – the memento mori, the crossed bones, the hourglass and the love hearts. At the top of the grave there are also flowers. The rear of the gravestone features the simple inscribed date 1596, and an angel is depicted above this.

Graves [057] & [062B]

5.2.7 Other stones which cannot be dated but may also date to the 17th century due to the symbology and styles used, include Gravestone [057] and a misplaced stone which has been removed and leant against a tree, Gravestone [062B]. Gravestone [057] is a triangular-headed stone with a moulded edge featuring a cherub's head with wings below which is a carved scythe (Plates 38–41). There are signs of an inscription to the rear face, although it is now indecipherable and only partially survives (see Plate 39). Gravestone [062B] features a cherub's head with wings, and has been disturbed by the bush in the centre of the cemetery, although may also have become displaced (Plates 42–44).

5.3 Gravestones: 1700–1799

Introduction

5.3.1 There are seventeen gravestones that were erected in the period 1700–1799. This Includes three graves which were recorded in the 1998 survey, although could not be placed in the cemetery during this survey. Those gravestones where the first two digits could be ascertained as '17' have also been counted here.

5.3.2 The symbology displayed on these 18th century gravestones is markedly different than that of the 17th century gravestones. There is a move towards less morbid imagery and plainer and larger memorials. Most of the gravestones in this time period tend to be of the later post-1770s date, noting a distinct gap in the record from around 1700–1770, although Gravestone [067] does date from this period (see Section 5.3.10 below).

5.3.3 Below is a description of a selection of some of the graves which show the characteristics and symbology of the period.

Gravestone [006]

5.3.4 Gravestone [006] is interesting as it highlights the idea of the purchasing of the burial plot for whole family members, so much so that the inscription has had to continue on the rear of the stone, largely due to its relatively small size (Plates 45 & 46). It mostly marks the graves of a number of children of the Huntley family aged from 7 months to 10 years and then the parents

themselves on the back, George and his wife Elisabeth, both of whom died in the early 19th century.

Gravestone [012]

5.3.5 Gravestone [012] dates to the 1770s and is also a relatively plain style of headstone commemorating James Liddle (died 1771) and his son Andrew (died 1795) (Plate 47).

Gravestones [019] and [037]

5.3.6 Gravestone [019] commemorates Dorothy Livingston and her husband Nichol, and daughter Jennet (inscription on the east 'rear' face) who died in 1792, 1793 and 1793 respectively (Plate 48). The grave is again plain, although there is some shape to the top of the stone in a double 'arch', similar to the pages of a book. Gravestone [037], another plain stone with a rounded head, is barely legible although the date of 1792 and the name Dick can be deciphered (Plate 49).

Gravestone [028]

5.3.7 Gravestone [028] is of a similar style to Gravestone [011], having a sloped and rounded top to a short stone. The stone is dedicated to George Cleghorn to the front (Plate 50), although there is another inscription on the back, where his daughter Isabella is remembered. The term 'months' can be deciphered in terms of her age, so it is assumed that this is an infant burial, and the same grave was used to inter her (Plate 51).

Gravestones [011], [048] and [054]

5.3.8 Gravestones [011], [048] and [054] are all very similar in shape with a scrolled-style top (as in the pages of a book), albeit with straight shoulders (Plates 52–54). The lettering also appears to be of a very similar style, and they are all dated from between 1769–1780 although belong to different families suggesting the same mason was employed to create these stones.

Gravestone [066]

5.3.9 Gravestone [066] is an interesting and unique stone with a distinctively shaped head and inset text panel with a dogtooth border (Plate 55). As with many of the stones, the 1998 survey proved invaluable in ascertaining the text that is now indecipherable due to weathering in the last 25 years. The stone here is dedicated to John Jacobson and was erected in 1797. His wife, Janet Dods, is also commemorated.

Gravestone [067]

5.3.10 Gravestone [067] is another plain stone with rounded shoulders and features large capital writing, partially disappeared now with the delamination of the stone, commemorating members of the Barry family and dates to ca. 1730s (Plate 56). Once again, the 1998 survey identified the text that has now gone.

Gravestone [068]

5.3.11 Gravestone [068] is in a very poor state of repair and has a distinctive triangular-headed top (Plates 57 & 58). The stone remembers James S--- Younger and dates from the 1770s, although much of the lower part of the inscription has been lost with the delamination of the stonework.

5.4 Gravestones: 1800–1850

Introduction

5.4.1 As we move into the 19th century, the numbers are considerably larger and therefore gravestones have been sub-divided into the first and second half of the 19th century. There are twenty-six gravestones that were erected in the period 1800–1850 and they are still very plain in style, with a few minor variations and individualities. It is also clear that the size of the stones become much large with symbology not seen prior, largely due to a number of factors, which will be touched on in the discussion section.

Gravestones [004], [005], [010], [107] and [018]

5.4.2 Located in the north-west corner of the cemetery, Gravestones [004] and [005] typify the type of gravestone which starts to emerge in this period and throughout the 19th century – that is, tall, fairly plain headstones with some variations to the shaped head of the stone (Plates 59 & 60). Gravestone [010] shows a slight variation in the style with an ogee-headed stone (Plate 61).

5.4.3 Gravestone [017] and Gravestone [018] are additional examples of the very plain round-headed stones we see in this era (Plates 62 & 63). Gravestones [020], [026], [030], [038], [041], [047], [049] and [053] are also similar in style.

Gravestones [007], [016], [032] and [033]

5.4.4 Gravestone [007] is a variation on the theme (Plate 64). It features the triple-rounded head mimicking the style of the angel's wings in the earlier 17th century graves. It is not a surprise, then that this is very early stone. The text is now illegible, although the 1998 survey records it dating to 1802 and commemorating Adam Richardson. Gravestone [016] is similar to this, commemorating James Storry (Plate 65). Gravestone [032] also features the triple curved top, although here the shoulders are slightly concave (Plate 66).

Gravestones [033], [029] and [039]

5.4.5 Gravestones [033] (1820s) and [029] (1830s) are similar in shape with slightly pinched shoulders (Plates 67 & 68). Gravestone [039] (1830s) has a more pronounced rounded top, also with slightly pinched shoulders (Plate 69).

Gravestones [063] and [070]

5.4.6 Gravestone [063] (1820) has slightly more decoration, a marked difference between the more plainer heads, with roll moulding to the top of the stone (Plate 70). Gravestone [070] (1827) has similar roll moulding to the top of the stone, although it is clear that they were likely created by separate masons (Plate 71).

5.5 Gravestones: 1850–1900

Introduction

5.5.1 There are sixty gravestones that were erected in the period 1850–1899. By the time we reach the later 19th century the gravestones become a lot more varied in style and execution as the industry has now become well established. General transport links and population movements mean that there is more choice for the bereaved. Most of the gravestones now have larger

chamfered footings, upon which stones have been fixed. This is generally why most of the stones which have been laid flat for safety date from this period, as the sheer weight of the stone fixed to the footing has become less stable through time. The footings themselves were often only sunk barely into the ground, sometimes on a loose base of bricks.

Plain Arched Gravestones and Variations

5.5.2 A number of gravestones have continued the plain tradition of a simple arch to the head, such as in Graves [001], [002], [003], [025], [050], [051], [058], [061], [075], [082], [083], [086], [123], [144], [159], [173], [177], [186], [187], [188], [189], [198], [200] and [212] (Plates 72–95). Additional decorative elements single out a number of gravestones, such as chamfered edging and chamfered borders and text panels, and the dogtooth-style border on Gravestone [187] (Plate 96).

5.5.3 In addition to the plain heads to the gravestones, there are slight variations on the theme, including the pinched shoulder style we saw in the early 19th century, including Gravestones [013], [024], [031], [076], [077], [079], [081], [122], [124], [175] and [178] (Plates 97–107).

Pointed Arched and Gothic-style Gravestones

5.5.4 The Gothic-style pointed arch also appears as a distinctive style in this period, a reflection of the revival of this style of architecture that was happening at the time; this simply filtered down to other aspects of the craftsmen's trades.

5.5.5 There are two styles of pointed arched stones in this period, which include those with rounded shoulders and those with straight-edged shoulders. The rounded shoulder type includes Gravestones [008], [080], [087], [088], [174], [190] (Plates 108–113), and those with straight shoulders includes Gravestones [009], [073], [084], [110], [161], [162], [207], [216], [227], this being the slightly favoured type (Plates 114–122).

5.5.6 Other more elaborate styles involving the pointed arch include Gravestones [027], [085], [150] and [160] (Plates 123–126). Gravestone [150] also goes one step further to include plain columns to either side (see Plate 125).

Pedimented and Other Styles

5.5.7 More elaborate pedimented gravestones also appear in this period, with include Gravestones [060], [142], [199] and [226] (Plates 127–130).

5.5.8 Other styles include one plain rectangular stone, [055] (Plate 131); another shaped stone, [213/214] (Plate 132), and a variation on the pointed arched stone, with sloping shoulders, Gravestone [217] (Plate 133).

Symbology and Motifs

5.5.9 We are now starting to see more symbolic carvings accompanying the inscriptions, although the majority are still fairly plain with little decoration. Most (bar four) of the plain rounded headstones and their variations contain no symbolic detail, although many do have a carved and/or inset border, either as a chamfer or as a plain rounded moulding.

5.5.10 Gravestone [083] (laid flat) features the words 'Erected By' in a raised decoration as if written on a scroll or ribbon (Plate 134). Gravestone [212] features a neatly carved flower and leaf motif at the head below the words 'In Loving Memory' (Plate 135).

5.5.11 The motifs that do appear in the other styles of gravestone are very stylised and constrained to the leaf motif style and other similar symbolic shapes and features. Gravestone [027] has a leaf carving again below the words 'In Loving Memory' (Plate 136); Gravestone [080] has a very neatly-executed trefoil with rose inlay (the symbol of love, perfection and truth) (Plate 137); Gravestone [123] has a trefoil design with ivy inside (Plate 138); Gravestone [085] again contains flowers and leaves; Gravestone [150] is very Classical in style and is flanked by Doric columns with another flower motif set in a circular panel (Plate 125); Gravestone [160] has berries in leaves in a shaped area mimicking the shape of the head (Plate 139); Gravestone [174] has a very similar design as Gravestone [150], here set in a differently-shaped panel, again following of the stone (Plate 140).

5.5.12 Gravestone [190] has a quatrefoil set in a circle with an outer circle with dogtooth carving (Plate 141). The pedimented gravestones feature motifs confined to the pediment, including a holly wreath to Gravestones [060] and [142] (Plate 142), a very stylised leaf motif to Gravestone [199] (likely here due to the material used for the stone), and a circular panel with pyramid detail around the datestone (of stone erection) to Gravestone [226] (Plate 143).

5.5.13 Decorative borders to the stones include the dogtooth styling to Gravestone [187], which has already been mentioned above (see Plate 96), and Gravestone [088] features a rope moulding with a scallop decoration to the base beneath the inscription (Plate 144).

Text Panels

5.5.14 Text panels in a different material to the stone itself also appears: Gravestone [086] has a light-coloured granite panel on a thicker base and footing, chiselled to resemble a more rock-faced texture (see Plate 83). Gravestone [087] is similar with an overlain polished granite panel with inlay used for the inscription, which has unfortunately meant that much of it is now indecipherable with weathering (Plate 145).

5.6 Gravestones: 1900–1950

Introduction

5.6.1 There are ninety-six gravestones that belong to the period between 1900–1950. There are some gravestones that are erected in the latter years of the 19th century (and later graves added to these).

Plain Arched Gravestones and Variations

5.6.2 The varying style and size of monuments continues from the late 19th century, with some simple arched stones continuing into this period including Gravestones [102], [109], [106], [117], [192] and [193] (Plates 146–151). The number is far less than that of the early-mid 19th century.

5.6.3 As with the period before it (1850–1899) there are also variations in the style, including those with flat shoulders, examples including Gravestones [099], [127], [136], [138], [152], [156],

[158], [179], [191], [194], [206] (Plates 152–162). There is one example of a much plainer and flatter arch, Gravestone [118], which is in fitting with other military style graves, this commemorating the death of P Purves, a Flight Engineer in the Royal Air Force, who died in 1945 (Plate 162). There are a few other variations, such as Gravestone [183], which is another flat-shouldered arch, although also has a small rectangular raised area to the centre (Plate 164), and Gravestone [170], which has a double roll (Plate 165).

Pointed Arched and Other Styles of Gravestones

5.6.4 Pointed arched gravestones continue to be popular in this period, with both curved and straight shoulders present. Curved shouldered gravestones include [105], [112], [147], [149], [151], [163], [167], [211], [215], [219], [220], [221], [222], [225], [230], [231] (Plates 166–181), and straight-shouldered (including those with flat shoulders) include [092], [094], [098], [100], [101], [103], [113], [134], [137], [143], [157], [208], [210], [223], [224], [232], [233] (Plates 182–198).

5.6.5 Other variations on the pointed arched gravestones include Gravestone [096], very much in the Classical style with flat and the concave shoulders with Corinthian-style columns to either side (Plate 199). Gravestone [133] is a much squatter gravestone with a raised central arch (Plate 200).

5.6.6 Other styles of gravestone also appear in this period, such as a continuation of the shouldered arched stones seen in the late 19th century, which include Gravestones [090], [091], [095], [126], [129], [149], [166] and [195] (Plates 201–208). These are slightly more variant and often feature decorative symbols at the head, which will be discussed in more detail below. Most feature flanking columns.

5.6.7 Rectangular gravestones also appear in this period, eight in total, all of a slightly different type. Gravestone [135] is a very plain rectangular monument, as is Gravestone [153], although the latter is a much taller memorial (Plates 209 & 210). Gravestones [097] and [229] are virtually identical, in black granite and gold lettering, and have chamfered shoulders (Plates 211 & 212). The remaining rectangular gravestones include Gravestone [120], which has a raised central section and another to the left hand side with a cross motif (Plate 213); Gravestone [165] which has a small rectangular central section to the head (Plate 214); Gravestone [168] with a raised central section (Plate 215), and Gravestone [171] which has outer straight shoulders with a slight arch between (Plate 216).

5.6.8 There are a couple of new styles of memorials as well which appear in the early 20th century, Gravestone [154] was created as a bird bath (Plate 217), dedicated to the memory of Albert Lewis Jull (again, an inscription provided by the 1998 survey), who died in 1943. Gravestone [164] also has an interesting shaped head, with raised shoulders and a central half-circle (Plate 218). Gravestone [165] is a tall Celtic cross (Plate 219), and dates from the 1920s; Gravestone [184] is in the shape of a book, which even has two mock supports to the rear (Plates 220 & 221). This stone is dedicated to husband and wife William and Agnes Chisolm who dies in 1948 and 1963 respectively.

5.6.9 There are a number of gravestones in this dataset where it is difficult to determine the shape of the headstone as it is buried, such as Gravestones [093], [116], [125], [149], [180], [181], [182], [201], [202], [203] and [228], although the present known styles from the gravestones

mentioned above are considered to be a large enough to make some inferences into the styles and trends in general (Plates 222–232).

New Materials and Dressed Stonework

5.6.10 The early 20th century marks new materials, namely granite, as can be seen in Gravestones [100], Gravestone [191] and Gravestone [194]. In this latter stone, the granite has been confined to the text panel which follows the shape of the stone.

5.6.11 A new style of rusticated style of stonework also appears, that is making stone looked unworked. For example, Gravestones [194] and [206] in granite has rusticated edging, and the rear of the stone is also completely rusticated (Plate 233). This can also be seen in rectangular Gravestone [171] and Gravestone [135] (Plates 234 & 235). This practice seems less popular on the pointed arched stones, although what we can see is the use of rusticated footing stones present, such as with Gravestones [101], [103], [153], [157], [210], [221].

Symbology and Motifs

5.6.12 Flower and other foliage symbology continue to be popular in this period, whether it is stylised, for example in Gravestones [099], [168], [170], [171], [191], [134], [137], [166], [215], [222], [225] (Plates 236 & 237), or more decoratively carved, for example in Gravestones [090], [091], [095], [096], [112], [113], [129], [147], [151], [164], [211], [231] and [233] (Plates 238–249).

5.6.13 Ivy leaf motifs are also present, such as in Gravestones [107], [120], [163], [210], [219], [220] (Plates 250–253). Indeed, Gravestone [220] stands out as being a relatively grandiose memorial with a rusticated rear and side columns (Plates 254–256).

5.6.14 Celtic style imagery can be seen in the form of the Celtic knot in Gravestones [153] and [221] (Plate 257).

5.6.15 Military symbiology can be seen in Gravestone [118], displaying the emblem of the Royal Air Force (see Plate 162). A masonry theme can be seen in Gravestone [133] depicting the compass (see Plate 200), and Gravestone [195] contains a book at the top of the inscription (Plate 258).

Masons Marks

5.6.16 On some stones, masons marks can be seen on the stones that identify the company/mason that created the stone. For example, on Gravestone [210], J Robertson & Co Hardgate Aberdeen is noted on the footing stone in raised gold lettering (Plates 259 & 260). Gravestone [181] notes the mason as Camer--- (much illegible) (Plate 261). Gravestone [201], laid down, has the remnants of a mark on the footing, '---EATON' and possibly 'KELSO' (Plate 262).

5.7 Gravestones: Post-1950

Introduction

5.7.1 There are many gravestones which fall into this period located to the west side of the path, hence the following statistics are probably not an accurate measure representing this time period, which will come when all the stones have been surveyed. Of those recorded, there are twenty-four gravestones as part of this project, that were erected between 1900–1950. A small

dataset, although there seems to be a general conformity to a plainer style, more use of polished granite, set in neater rows fitting the triangular plot up to the path.

Plain Arched Gravestones and Variations

5.7.2 Plain arched gravestones and its variations include gravestones [139], [196], [197], [204], [235] and [245] (Plates 263–269). Rectangular gravestones include [104], [108], [115], [121] and [243] (Plates 270–273).

5.8 Undated Gravestones

5.8.1 There were twenty-six gravestones that could not be dated for various reasons, mostly due to indecipherable inscriptions or the fact that the gravestone had been laid face down, and/or not enough of the stone was visible within the overgrowth. The 1998 survey went some way in identifying some secure dates for these stones, and some can be roughly dated due to their position in the cemetery, and the style of headstone, although given the latter there is much crossover in styles from the late 18th to the mid-late 19th century, so this cannot provide a secure date alone.

5.9 Evidence for the Chapel

5.9.1 The historic map evidence, coupled with the on-site earthworks, identify the most likely position of the former chapel (see Figure 20). Although partly obscured by the later large holly tree on the west side against the north boundary wall, it could be surmised that the chapel was approximately 20m in length and 9m in width. No obvious upstanding walls have survived, and it is likely that much of the stone was robbed-out for new structures. The earthworks suggest that some footing stones may remain, however.

6 Discussion

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 There were 243 gravestones recorded as part of this survey, the majority of which were dated to the early 20th century, with more of this date and post-2000 to the west side of the path which still remain unrecorded. Now that the results have been displayed above – identifying the types of gravestones and the materials and symbology which emerge through time – we should allow some caveats to the interpretation of the results, in the context of the general known history of churchyards and churchyard burials from the post-medieval period up to the present day. Once this has been established, we can then make a comment on the research questions that were raised in Section 2.5 and 2.6. Whilst it is outwith the scope of this study to do a more thorough analysis and response to these questions, we can make some brief assumptions and identify areas of future research.

Background to Churchyards in Scotland in the Post-Reformation Period

6.1.2 To provide some context, we can look at how churchyards were formed in Scotland following the Reformation of the 1560s. Whilst it is known that burials outside of a church was a practice that has occurred since the 8th century, it is not until much later in the 12th and 13th century

that we see the parish church appear. Lands were granted to Saxon and Norman nobles in Scotland by Alexander I and David I, and it was they who built churches and chapels on their lands (Wilsher 2006, 11). Even then, burials and memorials were usually the preserve of the wealthier and placed inside the church. In this period up to the 15th century, the churchyard was a meeting place for markets and fairs. In 1457, for example, the Wappenshaw was a display in the churchyard of weapons four times a year, and archery practice was common once a week (*ibid*, 12).

6.1.3 It was the Reformation, which saw the emergence of the Scottish Reformation Parliament of 1560 which ordered, within the 'Book of Discipline', that there should be no burials inside a church (Bowdler 2019, 14). There thus emerged the practice of higher status monuments appearing in the churchyard; important churchyards such as Greyfriars in Edinburgh are prime examples of this. But on a more parochial level, there emerged the emphasis that everyone was now equal in the eyes of God, and thus had a right to be buried in the churchyard (Wilsher 2019, 20). This desire took hold by the late 16th and early 17th century.

6.1.4 By 1700, the nation had become more prosperous and more literate, and this meant that the number of memorials outside churches increased, gathering momentum to define the character of the graveyards we see today. Only a few of the earlier 17th century gravestones generally survive (and even fewer have been found belonging to the late 16th century) although given their relatively small size compared to the huge headstone slabs of the next 200 years, many may well have been lost to the overgrowth or simply been cleared to make way for more graves.

6.1.5 The churchyard thus has seen a metamorphosis from a community gathering place for markets, fairs, weapon displays and archery practice – to a more sedate and tranquil space to honour the dead after the late 16th century. In this backdrop, we can make some general comments on the results of the survey at Birgham in light of known trends and histories of how churchyards developed in Scotland as a whole.

Gravestone Types and Materials

6.1.6 The only type of memorial we see at Birgham is the headstone. There are no table tombs or chest tombs or any other type of memorial (bar the bird bath grave which dates from the 1940s). No footstones appear to have also survived, which is the small stone which would have been placed at the foot of the grave marking the feet of the deceased, the position of the gravestone marking the head. Almost all the stones are sandstone, although granite makes an appearance in the later periods either as the whole stone or as a text panel as transport, communication and general industry gave rise to a much more variant market.

6.1.7 All of the 17th century graves are small and roughly rectangular in shape (albeit with shaped heads), which is typical of this time period. Simple names and dates were recorded, and they were crudely carved as compared with the masonry work we see later, or indeed before.

6.1.8 Once we move into the 18th century, we can see that the wealthier could now afford much larger headstones, and they came in a variety of shapes and sizes as the masons became more fluent in this emerging new trade. The stones from this period at Birgham are almost all of the

same type, with a curved top with either flat or rounded shoulders. Gravestone [066] and [068] are unique examples and show how masons were starting to gain their individual styles.

6.1.9 In the early 19th century there was not a great deal of change to the style of headstones, but they were certainly much taller, and with more variations, although this comes with a much wider number of burials. The masons were starting to create more detail to make stones more individual such as the roll moulded tops to Gravestones [063] and [070], and chamfered borders and simple line borders following the shape of the stone.

6.1.10 The mid-late 19th century saw even more variation, and more diverse styles appear. The depressed arch appears for the first time – Gravestones [050], [051], [058], [061] – as does the overhanging triangular pediment, mimicking the neo-Classical style of architecture. The stones generally retain a certain plainness overall, although there is more variation in the style of the bordering. Text panels also appear for the first time, such as in Gravestones [087] and [060]. The Neo-Classical theme appears again with the more elaborate stones having columns to either side, supporting protruding elements below the head of the stone, such as Gravestone [150].

6.1.11 By the early 20th century, headstones as Birgham still appeared to remain very austere, although new materials were creeping in, largely granite. Masonry had also been commercialised enough to create different techniques of the stone, the Arts and Crafts movement heralding in the new style of rustification, and making stone looked unworked, mainly to the back of the stone and sometimes to the sides bordering the inscription. Many also restrained the rusticated stonework to the footing. But the older styles seen in the 19th century also followed through into this period with pedimented and Classical styles.

6.1.12 The relatively small dataset from the mid-late 20th century restricts what conclusions we can make from stones of this period, although it appears that new materials and a more restricted form of monument was on the rise, a move away from the more individual tastes of the 19th century. There was simply more conformity. Granite is much more widely used as a material due to its durability, and it must have become obviously that stones 100 years prior were starting to show the signs of weathering.

The Symbology

6.1.13 We have already touched on the symbology of the earliest period at Birgham, the five gravestones belonging to the 17th century, and this is typical of what we see from this period, that is the morbid carvings reminding the mourners that death comes to us all in the skull motifs and the leg bones, that time runs out for everyone in the hourglass. And of course the angels that are watching over the dead.

6.1.14 By the time we get to the 18th century, however, this morbid sentiment has abated, and there appears little symbology on the gravestones of this period, and there is no real symbology on the gravestones of the 1700s at Birgham, not that which has survived anyway. There is also little symbology at Birgham on the stones of the early 19th century. However, once we move into the mid-late 19th century, the commercialism of the trade and the increase in the craft has allowed simple imagery to emerge here. Many graves at Birgham are still fairly plain in this period, although flowers and leaves appears as the abundant form of decoration, together with a few

trefoils (which form the border for carved leaves for flowers) and at least one Celtic quatrefoil. The pedimented gravestones bar one (which is in granite) all feature circular panels to the centre, including holy wreaths.

6.1.15 Into the early 20th century, the Birgham gravestones are still fairly austere, with many plain stones – some with simple incised voder lines or text panels – with again flowers and leaves being the main symbol present, either stylized or stone carved. Gravestone [231] stands out as a particularly nicely carved stone, with a prayer book to the head surrounded by rosebuds with more to the sides and the base.

6.1.16 As with the shape of the gravestones, the mid-late 20th century brought with it more conformity of styles with little symbology or decoration present.

Lettering

6.1.17 The lettering and typefaces used on the gravestones becomes much more sophisticated in the 19th century. The earlier stones of the 17th century, where they have survived are often larger and more crudely written, such as Gravestones [071] (Plate 33), Gravestone [045] (Plate 45) and Gravestone [048] (Plate 53), Gravestone [054] (Plate 54) and Gravestone [067] (Plate 56). Words tended to be split between the rows, such as the in Gravestone [045], which has separated the word 'MONTHS' on the fifth line. The lower later inscription has also been carved in a much smaller type to fit in all the information. Cursive and copybook writing emerged in the mid-18th century and by the end of that century and into the 19th century there was a much more wider variation in the fonts used, as well as much more neatly laid out, as books on calligraphy also emerged.

6.2 The Community: Family Names and Life Expectancy

6.2.1 Although the inscriptions have been recorded, a word of caution should always be made about making assumptions about the community and the families within it, based on this evidence alone. The benefits to genealogy aside, the results should always be analysed alongside other sources such as the parochial registers, which identifies names and dates of death. For example, we have already touched on how many graves may have been lost to time, and also there are some families that may nor have been able to afford gravestones, or the rest of the family is interred elsewhere, such as at Eccles or farther afield.

6.2.2 This being said, we can make some remarks on the family names buried at Birgham. The Dodds are clearly an early family, commemorated in the 17th century stones and those of the early 18th century. In the late 18th and early 19th century, there are few names the same, given the practice of interring one family in one grave, The Crichton family stand out in Gravestone [047] who also appear to have married into the Dods. The first date noted here is 1818 with James Crighton. Mary Creightin and her family also appear in an early stone, [048], dating from 1780.

6.2.3 The Hendrys, Elliots, Hays, Sinclairs, Walkers, Woods and Turnbulls appear prominent in the later 19th century, and even Dodds makes another appearance in the 1850s.

6.3 Condition

6.3.1 The condition of the gravestones within Birgham cemetery have identified varying degrees of loss even since the 1998 survey nearly 30 years ago. Indeed, the 1998 survey provided valuable information to stones that were now indecipherable, and more will become indecipherable in the next 30 years.

6.3.2 We have already touched upon the fact that many stones have also been engulfed by the ground, which is demonstrated by the presence of some stones only as small areas of stone within the earth. These may be stones that have been laid flat for many years, face down, their inscriptions likely lost forever unless they are unearthed. More importantly, the Celtic Cross noted in the 1960s has all but vanished (it was not present in 1998), so we can surmise that the same fate has befallen that stone, or it has been removed.

6.3.3 Weathering of the sandstone to many stones from the 1700s and early 19th century has also occurred in the form of delamination, which has rendered some inscriptions now lost altogether as the surface has simply peeled off the stone. Examples of this include Gravestone [057] (Plate 39) which has lost much of its inscription fac; it will not be long before it is all lost. Gravestone [068] (Plate 57) is also in a very poor state of repair. The rear surface of Gravestones [004] and [015] are also in poor condition, with the surface stone peeled away (Plates 274–276). Gravestone [065] was clearly made out of a poor block of sandstone, with several layers of stone visible and in danger of falling off from the main stone (Plates 277 & 278).

6.3.4 The plates show a number of stones that have significant leans and indeed, the Scottish Borders Council has been forced to lay some stones down (carefully and thankfully face up) because of health and safety concerns. But as ground subsides, there is a danger that more the large stones will become displaced or fall over.

6.3.5 Lichen, which is a fungus, is also a presence that has prevented the reading of inscriptions in full, and is a common site in gravestones in historic churchyards and cemeteries. Lichens can cause damage to gravestones over time as they break down minerals in porous stone which trap moisture, although forcibly removing the lichen would probably do more damage to the stones and professional advice would need to be sought from a conservator should any removal of lichens be warranted on the site.

6.3.6 There is evidence of rabbit infestation on the site with many bolt holes and droppings, particularly in the more overgrown older part of the cemetery to the north side. This could cause damage to the remains below and if left untreated could mean that some graves themselves are disturbed and the foundations on which the gravestones rest become more unstable.

6.4 The Chapel

6.4.1 The location of the chapel has been ascertained with some certainty, although there is likely to be little left of the building, the main stonework being largely robbed out. This being said, the remains of the earthwork suggest there may be foundation stone still *in situ*.

7 Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 General

7.1.1 There were 243 gravestones recorded as part of this survey, ranging on date from 1596 to 2012. The details recorded, and results presented, have allowed us to make some comment on how Birgham cemetery fits into the history and development of churchyards and churchyard memorials in Scotland from the post-medieval period up to the present day. They have successfully identified the morbid symbology of the much smaller and heavy relief carving of the stones of the 17th century, emerging into the more austere and larger 18th and early 19th century stones, with those of the Victorian and Edwardian period expressing more range and style and (albeit mostly plain flower and leaf) symbology. From this, the late 20th century gravestones have come full circle, being smaller and plainer stones, with little symbology, an intent to give more weight to the words on the stones and those that are commemorated. We have touched upon the gravestone styles, materials and lettering, and how the rise in literacy, masonry skills, transport links and technology, saw the increase in the variation of the headstones at Birgham through time.

7.2 Research Questions

7.2.1 The survey has been beneficial as it is the first proper survey of Birgham Cemetery for nearly 30 years, and it is clear much has been lost in that time in terms of readable inscriptions and condition of some of the stones. A detailed topographic survey has also gone some way top creating an accurate baseline for future surveys. However, in terms of linking the results to the specific research questions outlined in Sections 2.5 and 2.6, there is scope for more potential work to take place. To address these, a suggested approach can be provided below.

7.2.2 How did burial customs in South East Scotland evolve over the course of the Middle Ages? The results must clearly be seen in light of similar regional studies that have been undertaken in the Borders. Therefore, a similar analysis could be made at other parishes in the region – Eccles and Leitholm (also featured in the 1998 survey) and farther afield.

7.2.3 To what extent do funery monuments conform to national/international trends? Are there specific local/regional variations? Once again, comparative studies would help answer this question, although it has been shown, given present knowledge and understanding of gravestone types and the history of gravestones in general, that Birgham fits into the general accepted pattern.

7.2.4 Are there notable differences between people buried in higher or lower status locations? This does not seem to have been an issue at Birgham, as with many parish churchyards, rows were generally adhered to, although (as is often the case also today) families prefer to be buried together. We would have to assume that the more ‘elaborate’ and ornate gravestones could be viewed as higher status than the plainer stones, in terms of what certain families in the community could or could not afford, or felt was deserved.

7.2.5 How does the Birgham Graveyard survey contribute to the assessment of the overall condition of early grave memorials in Scotland? How can the project feed discussions into future care and conservation of such moments? How can health and safety considerations and

preservation of historic grave memorials be aligned given what we have identified as part of the survey? We have briefly looked at the condition of the stones above in Section 6.3, and information and photographs from this study can aid further studies by conservation professionals to make sure that some of the earlier stones survive, and do not fall into such decay that they have to be toppled or worse, removed altogether.

7.2.6 What can we discover about the local population movement and community dynamics from the 17th century onwards? How have these changed over time? Further study of the names and dates in the datatset at Birgham could aid with this research questions although as was cautioned above, this should go in tandem with study of the parochial register and other data to create a useful analysis of this.

7.2.7 How can the graveyard survey at Birgham contribute to the attitude towards death and commemorating the dead through time from the 1600s to the present day? We have looked at the typical symbology of the earlier stones and how they confirm to the typical evolution of symbology of gravestones from the morbid reminders of death in the 17th century, to scant decoration in the 18th century, then the more austere religious and plainer flower and leaf symbology of the 19th century as masons now had a wide variety of skills, experience, works of reference and technology to work with.

7.2.8 How can the survey be used in collaboration with other detailed surveys of historic graveyards in Scotland and how can this collaboration of data lead to answering further research questions? It would be recommended that the DEBS survey be contacted to see where Birgham can fit into their overall aims, objectives and subsequent analysis.

7.3 Recommendations

7.3.1 Filtering the comments regarding the research questions above, one or two points can be made regarding what recommendations can be suggested for how to use the information gathered from the survey and what more work can be done to create useful results from analysis.

7.3.2 Firstly, lack of time and respect for families of the more recent graves on the site, did not allow us to do further analysis of the gravestones to the west side of the path. A churchyard should always be looked at as a whole, and it is suggested that given the right circumstances, these would be recorded in the future and the data added to the results of this survey.

7.3.3 Whilst Appendix 1 has provided general information on the names ages of death and dates of death, a compilation of the inscriptions akin to that provided in the 1998 should be compiled and made publicly available.

7.3.4 Only a brief analysis of the results has been made as part of this report, and more can be examined to identify trends and patterns such as types of headstone, types of symbology, materials, age of death, family names, etc. Whilst there would be the usual caveats in terms of this being a single dataset from one cemetery – this can be subsequently fed into other similar studies of other churchyards to identify general patterns and trends across the regions and also Scotland.

7.3.5 To adhere to the recent (ALGAO Scotland 2023) guidelines on Public Benefit and Social Value (albeit outside the planning process), the results of our survey to date can be made more

publicly accessible in an interactive form. For example, an interactive map could be created from the topographic survey with a clickable link to each stone which opens out with the inscription and a photograph or photographs of the stone. More information can be included, such as its condition, materials, symbology, and any other information that may come to light at a later date. Links could also be made to gravestones of the same family (or family name) and other similar types of grave. Pre-existing platforms such as AOC Archaeology's In Situ page would be ideal for this type of the presentation.

7.3.6 Finally, in line with the aims and objectives and indeed requirements of the community involvement of the Destination Tweed project, it is recommended that an online seminar and/or some other form of online media should be undertaken to disseminate the results in an accessible form in addition to making the results, and this report, available on the Destination Tweed website.

8 References

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Figures

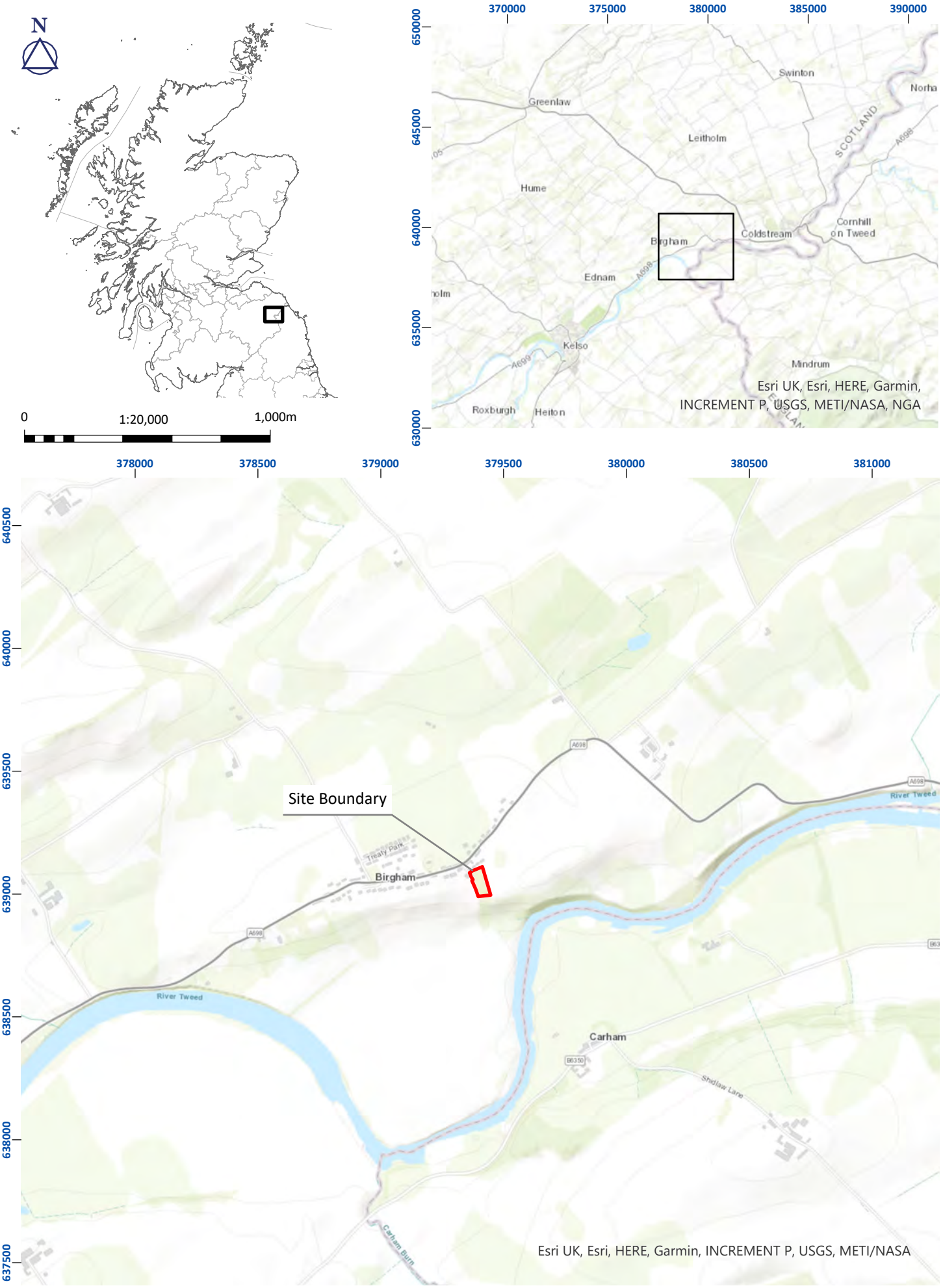


Figure 1: Site location plan

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Figure 2: Site Location Plan

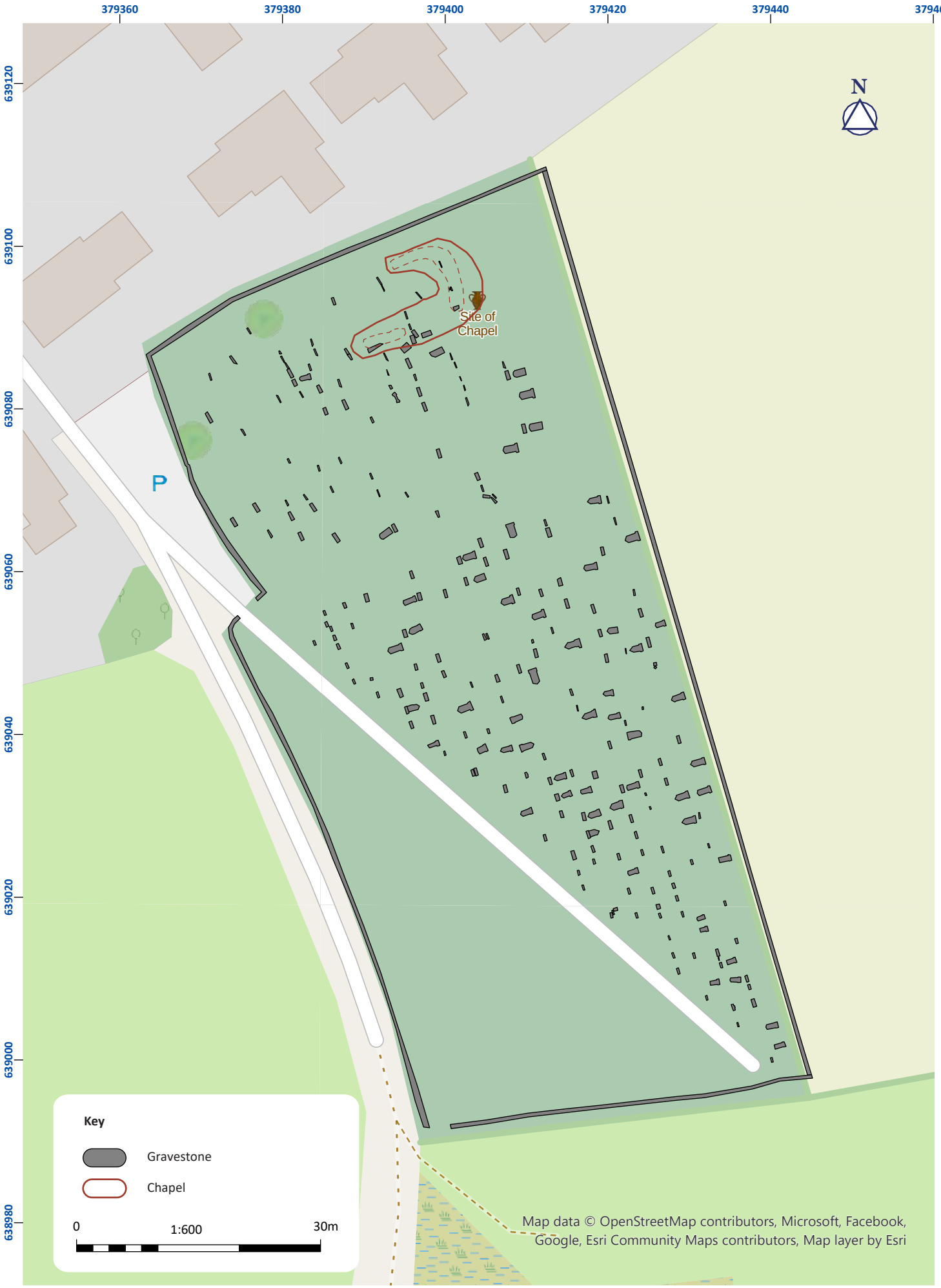


Figure 3: Detailed site location plan

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Figure 4: Extract from Pont & Bleau's map, ca. 1560-1614



Figure 5: Extract from Gordon's map, 1652

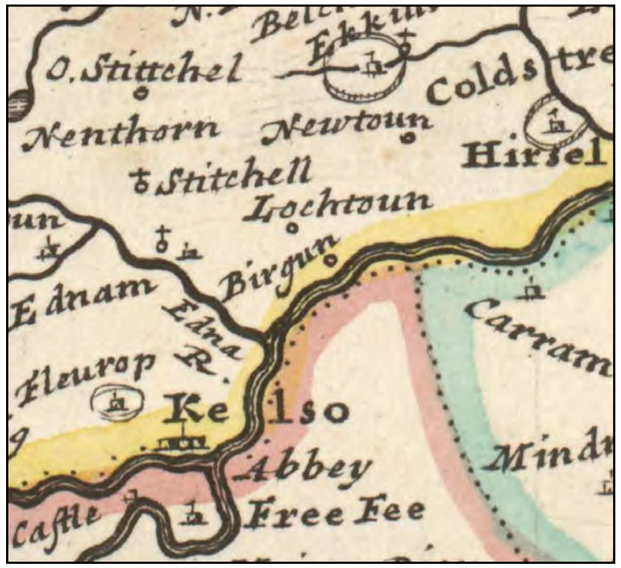


Figure 6: Extract from Moll's map, 1745



Figure 7: Extract from Roy's map, ca. 1747-1755



Figure 8: Extract from Armstrong's map, 1771



Figure 9: Extract from Blackadder's map, 1797

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Figure 10: Extract from Greenwood, Fowler & Sharp's map, 1826



Figure 11: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1862

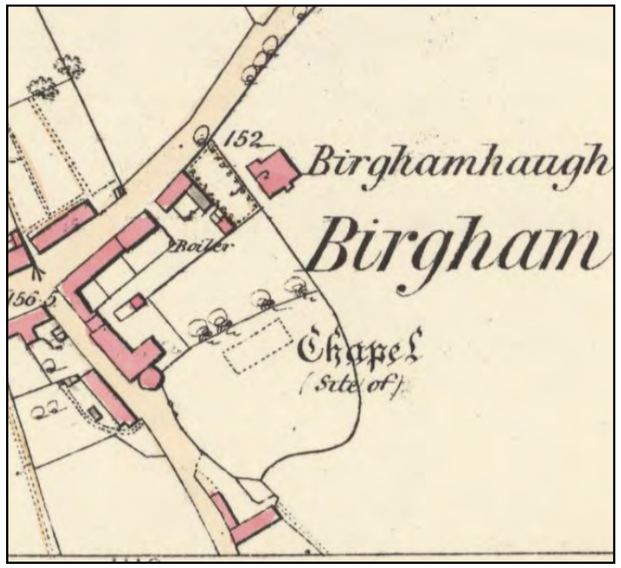


Figure 12: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1859

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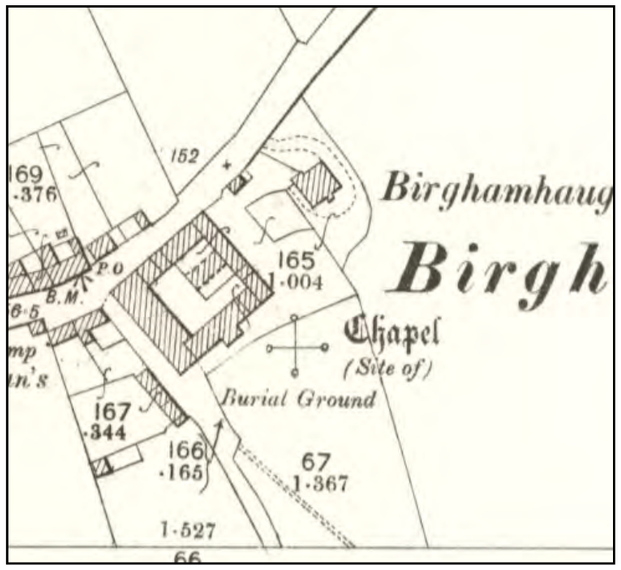


Figure 13: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1898

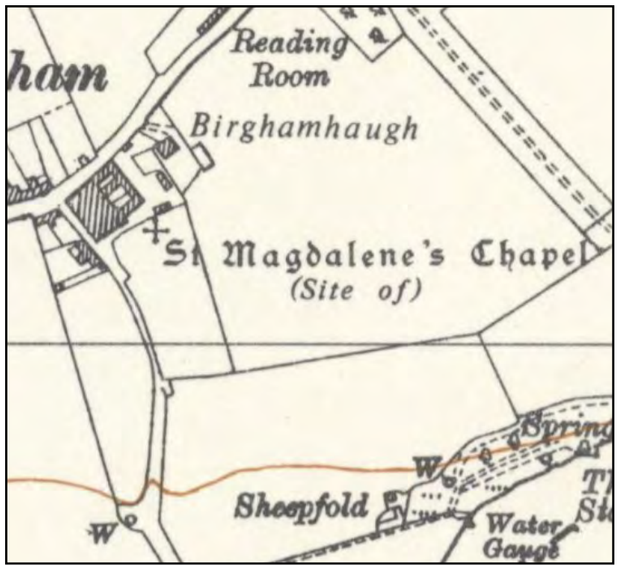


Figure 14: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1957

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1:10,000 quarter sheet NT 73 NE | O.S. No. 2 | BORDERS | New County / Old County BERWICK | DIST. BERWICK | PAR. ECCLES | Page 1

NGR NT 7938 3909 | CE | Qualifier | STATUS O.E. | Other

Definitive Record & Ref.

SITE NAME AND MAIN FEATURES: Birgham Chapel

TYPE: 2.5.2
FORM: STANDING STRUCTURE
CONDITION: DESTROYED
PERIOD: Pa Me Ne BA IA Ro Uncertain EM M PM U | Mth. ENT'D | Year A.D.R.

O.S. use only: ×

(NT 7938 3909) Chapel (NR) (Site of)

This is the supposed site of a Roman Catholic chapel, situated on the north side of the graveyard in Birgham. There can be no doubt as to its position as the foundation stones of the building have been frequently dug up when digging graves, and a slight hollow remains in what would appear to have been the interior of the building.

The parish was divided of old into four parts called the Quarters of Eccles. The chapel of St Magdalene was at Birgham, where the graveyard remains.

There is no trace of this chapel. The graveyard is completely filled with gravestones.

(NT 7938 3909) St Magdalene's Chapel (NR) (site of)

(contd)

1. OS 6" 1909

2. ONB 17 1857 95

a. NSA Vol 2 1845 50 (A D Thomson)

3. Fasti Eccles Scot 2 1917 12

R1 DG 18.10.54

4. F1 JFC 18.1.55

5. OS 1:10,000 1972

OS 495

Figure 15: Record of Chapel in the NRHE, 1958 (1)

1:10 000 quarter sheet NT 73 NE | O.S. No. 2 | Page 2

This chapel is recorded in 1250; its probable site is indicated by a rectangular depression close to the N side of the burial ground. 'Several pieces of medieval pottery' have been found in a field immediately to the SE.

6. Arch Sites & Mons of Berwick District 1980 46 no 401
Visited 1980
(Soc of Ants Arch Fld Svy)

a. H Berwick Nat Club
13 1890-1 123-4 (J Ferguson)

b. Berwickshire Churches & Churchyards 1896 95
(J Robson)

c. Scottish Record Society
93 1967 58 'Parishes of Md Scotland' (I B Cowan)

R2 IF 8.9.80

OS 495

Figure 16: Record of Chapel in the NRHE, 1958 (1)



Figure 17: Archive photograph of medieval cross-slab, ca. 1960s

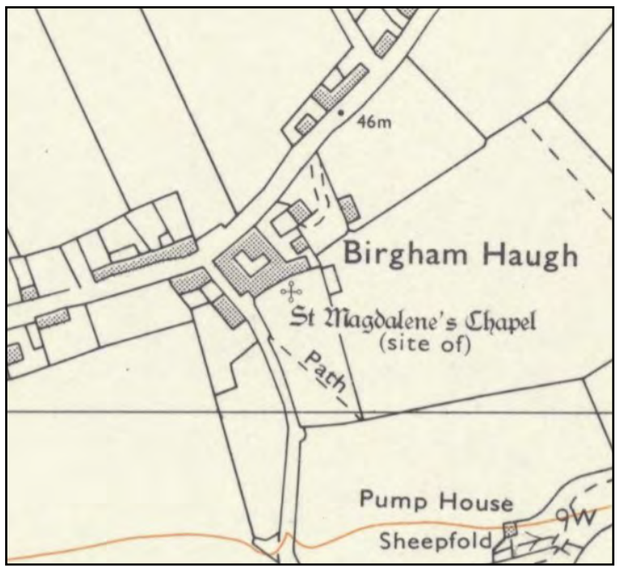


Figure 18: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1972

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Figure 19: Birgham Cemetery, General Plan

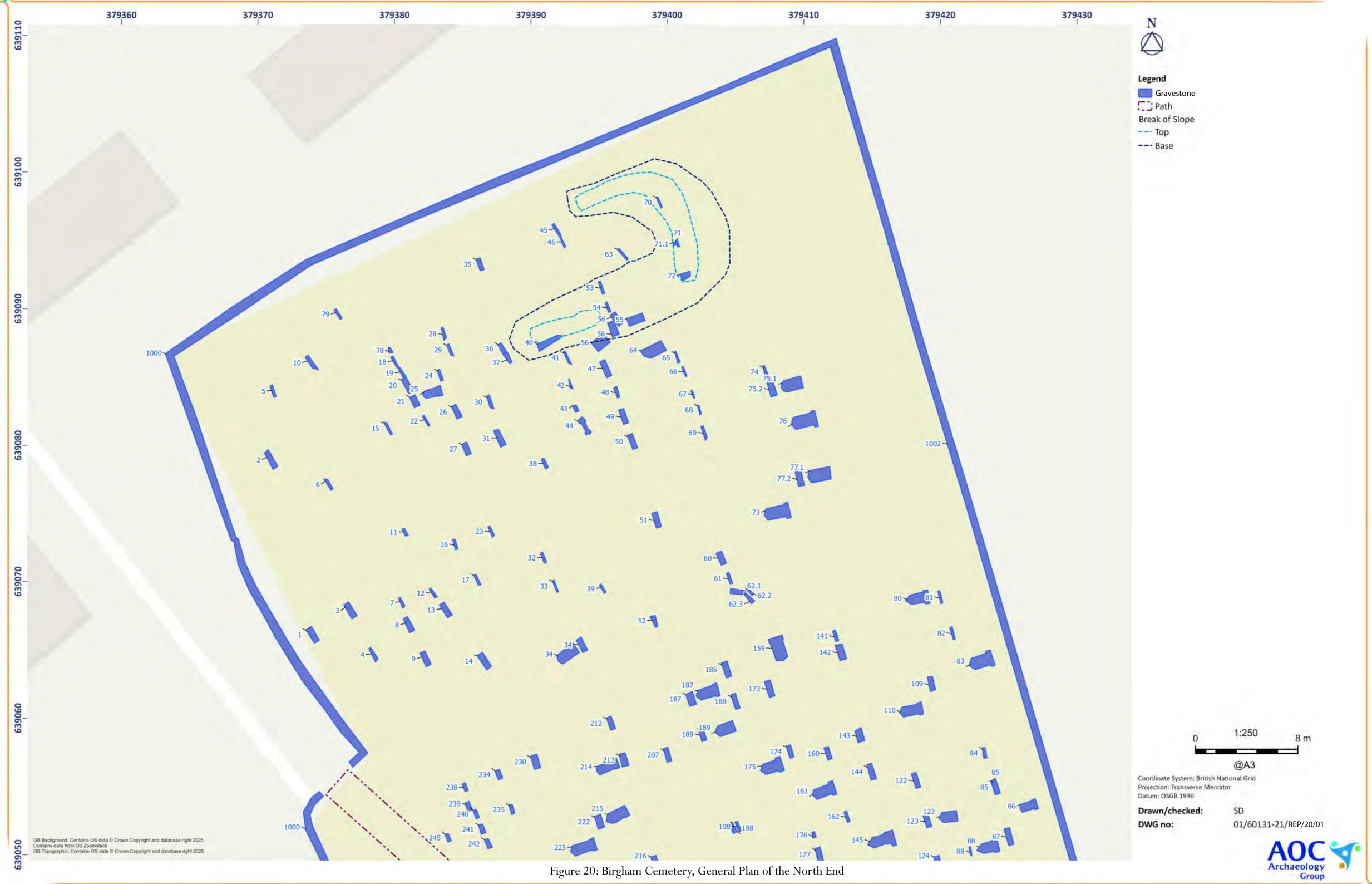


Figure 20: Birgham Cemetery, General Plan of the North End

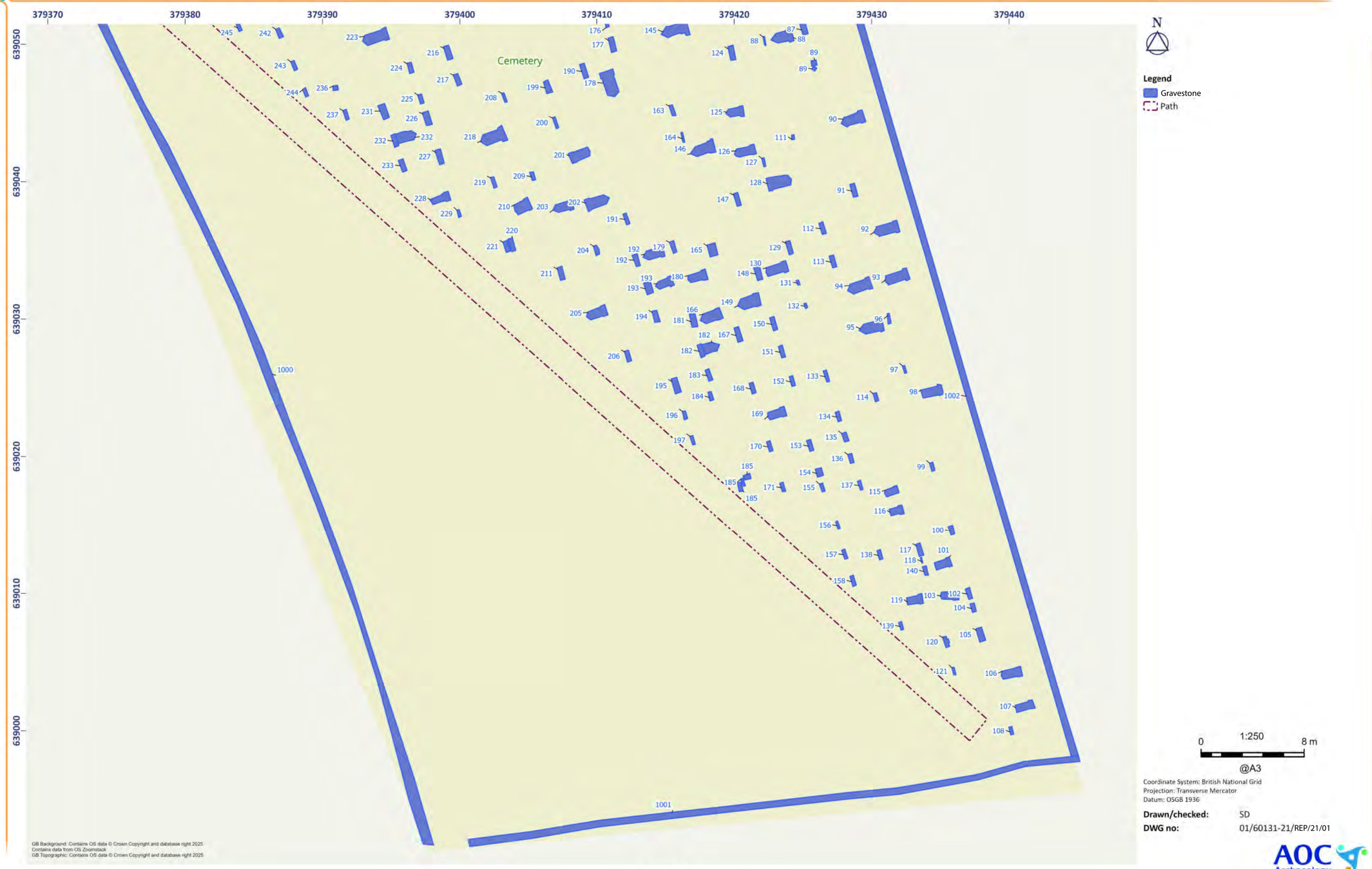


Figure 21: Birgham Cemetery, General Plan of the South End

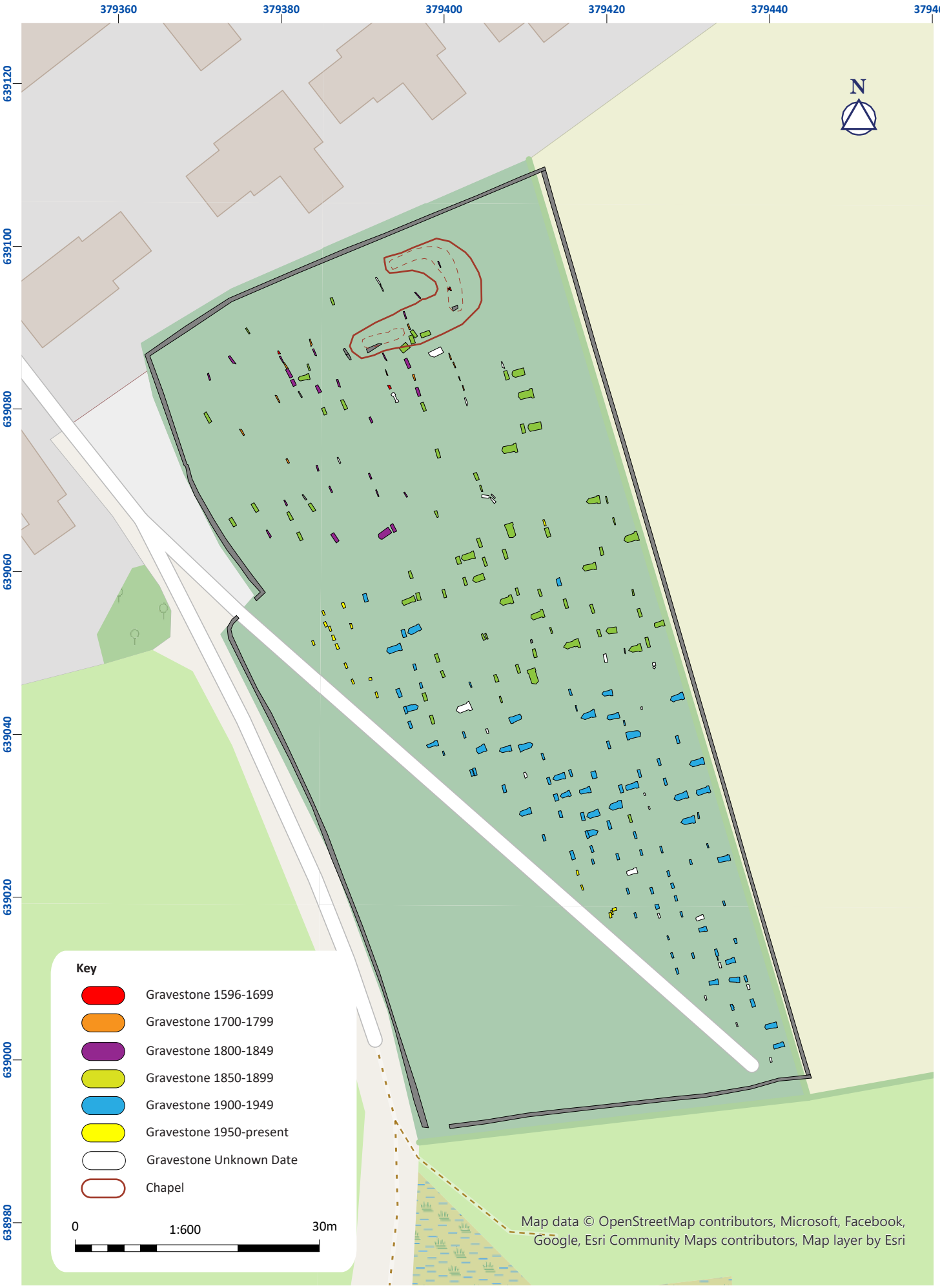


Figure 22: Site plan of Cemetery showing dates of gravestones

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Plates



Plate 1: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 2: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 3: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 4: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 5: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 6: General UAV view of Birgham Cemetery



Plate 7: General view of Birgham Cemetery looking northwards



Plate 8: General view of Birgham Cemetery looking southwards



Plate 9: General view of the north-west corner Birgham Cemetery



Plate 10: General view of Birgham Cemetery (Gravestone [002] is in the foreground), looking southwards



Plate 11: Volunteers recording the Gravestones



Plate 12: Volunteers recording the Gravestones



Plate 13: Volunteers recording the Gravestones



Plate 14: Volunteers recording the Gravestones



Plate 15: Volunteers recording the Gravestones (topographic survey using the GPS)



Plate 16: Gravestone [042]



Plate 17: Gravestone [042]



Plate 18: Gravestone [042]



Plate 19: Gravestone [042]



Plate 20: Gravestones [043A] and [043B]



Plate 21: Gravestone [043A]



Plate 22: Gravestone [043B]



Plate 23: Gravestone [043B]



Plate 24: Gravestone [043B], detail of inscription



Plate 25: Gravestone [043B], detail of inscription



Plate 26: Gravestone [043B], detail of inscription



Plate 27: Gravestone [043B], detail of inscription



Plate 28: Gravestone [071]



Plate 29: Gravestone [071]



Plate 30: Gravestone [071]



Plate 31: Gravestone [071]



Plate 32: Gravestone [071]



Plate 33: Gravestone [071]



Plate 34: Gravestone [071]



Plate 35: Gravestone [078]



Plate 36: Gravestone [078]



Plate 37: Gravestone [078]



Plate 38: Gravestone [057]



Plate 39: Gravestone [057]



Plate 40: Gravestone [057]



Plate 41: Gravestone [057]



Plate 42: Gravestone [062B]



Plate 43: Gravestone [062B]



Plate 44: Gravestone [062B], detail of cherub



Plate 45: Gravestone [006]



Plate 46: Gravestone [006]



Plate 47: Gravestone [012]



Plate 48: Gravestone [019]



Plate 49: Gravestone [037]



Plate 50: Gravestone [004]



Plate 51: Gravestone [028]



Plate 52: Gravestone [011]



Plate 53: Gravestone [048]



Plate 54: Gravestone [054]



Plate 55: Gravestone [066]



Plate 56: Gravestone [067]



Plate 57: Gravestone [068]



Plate 58: Gravestone [068], detail



Plate 59: Gravestone [004]



Plate 60: Gravestone [005]



Plate 61: Gravestone [010]



Plate 62: Gravestone [017]



Plate 63: Gravestone [018]



Plate 64: Gravestone [007]



Plate 65: Gravestone [016], detail



Plate 66: Gravestone [032]



Plate 67: Gravestone [033]



Plate 68: Gravestone [029]



Plate 69: Gravestone [039]



Plate 70: Gravestone [063]



Plate 71: Gravestone [070]



Plate 72: Gravestone [001]



Plate 73: Gravestone [002]



Plate 74: Gravestone [003]



Plate 75: Gravestone [025]



Plate 76: Gravestone [050]



Plate 77: Gravestone [051]



Plate 78: Gravestone [058]



Plate 79: Gravestone [061]



Plate 80: Gravestone [075]



Plate 81: Gravestone [082]



Plate 82: Gravestone [083]



Plate 83: Gravestone [086]



Plate 84: Gravestone [123]



Plate 85: Gravestone [144]



Plate 86: Gravestone [159]



Plate 87: Gravestone [173]



Plate 88: Gravestone [177]



Plate 89: Gravestone [186]



Plate 90: Gravestone [187]



Plate 91: Gravestone [188]



Plate 92: Gravestone [189]



Plate 93: Gravestone [198]



Plate 94: Gravestone [200]



Plate 95: Gravestone [212]



Plate 96: Gravestone [187], detail



Plate 97: Gravestone [013]



Plate 98: Gravestone [024]



Plate 99: Gravestone [031]



Plate 100: Gravestone [076]



Plate 101: Gravestone [077]



Plate 102: Gravestone [079]



Plate 103: Gravestone [081]



Plate 104: Gravestone [122]



Plate 105: Gravestone [124]



Plate 106: Gravestone [175]



Plate 107: Gravestone [178]



Plate 108: Gravestone [008]



Plate 109: Gravestone [080]



Plate 110: Gravestone [087]



Plate 111: Gravestone [088]



Plate 112: Gravestone [174]



Plate 113: Gravestone [190]



Plate 114: Gravestone [009]



Plate 115: Gravestone [073]



Plate 116: Gravestone [084]



Plate 117: Gravestone [110]



Plate 118: Gravestone [161]



Plate 119: Gravestone [162]



Plate 120: Gravestone [207]



Plate 121: Gravestone [216]



Plate 122: Gravestone [227]



Plate 123: Gravestone [027]



Plate 124: Gravestone [085]



Plate 125: Gravestone [150]



Plate 126: Gravestone [160]



Plate 127: Gravestone [060]



Plate 128: Gravestone [142]



Plate 129: Gravestone [199]



Plate 130: Gravestone [226]



Plate 131: Gravestone [055]



Plate 132: Gravestones [213]/[214]



Plate 133: Gravestone [217]



Plate 134: Gravestone [083], detail



Plate 135: Gravestone [212], detail



Plate 136: Gravestone [027]



Plate 137: Gravestone [080], detail



Plate 138: Gravestone [123], detail



Plate 139: Gravestone [160] , detail



Plate 140: Gravestone [174], detail



Plate 141: Gravestone [190], detail



Plate 142: Gravestone [142], detail



Plate 143: Gravestone [199], detail



Plate 144: Gravestone [088]



Plate 145: Gravestone [087], detail



Plate 146: Gravestone [102]



Plate 147: Gravestone [109]



Plate 148: Gravestone [106]



Plate 149: Gravestone [117]



Plate 150: Gravestone [192]



Plate 151: Gravestone [193]



Plate 152: Gravestone [009]



Plate 153: Gravestone [127]



Plate 154: Gravestone [136]



Plate 155: Gravestone [138]



Plate 156: Gravestone [152]



Plate 157: Gravestone [156]



Plate 158: Gravestone [158]



Plate 159: Gravestone [179]



Plate 160: Gravestone [191]

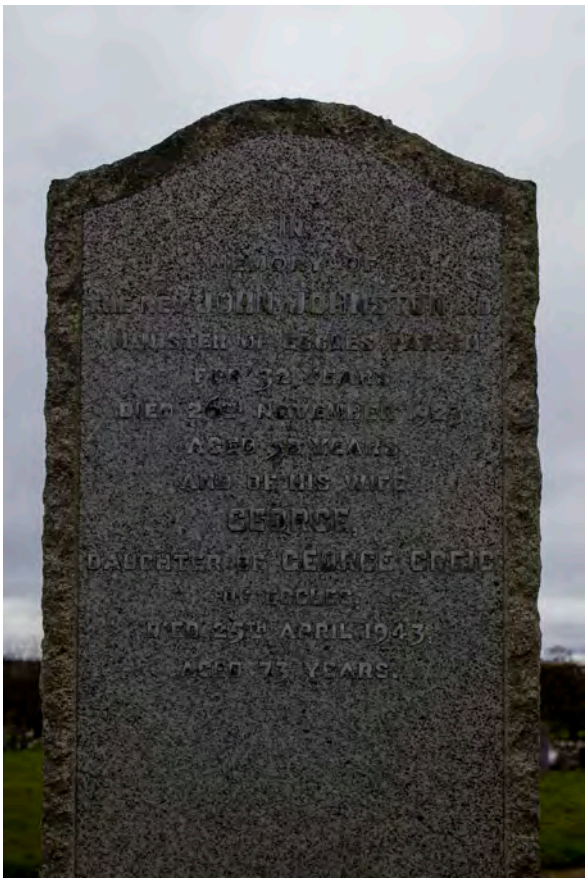


Plate 161: Gravestone [194]



Plate 162: Gravestone [206]



Plate 163: Gravestone [118]



Plate 164: Gravestone [183]



Plate 165: Gravestone [170]



Plate 166: Gravestone [105]



Plate 167: Gravestone [112]



Plate 168: Gravestone [147]



Plate 169: Gravestone [149]



Plate 170: Gravestone [151]



Plate 171: Gravestone [163]



Plate 172: Gravestone [167]



Plate 173: Gravestone [211]



Plate 174: Gravestone [215]



Plate 175: Gravestone [219]



Plate 176: Gravestone [220]



Plate 177: Gravestone [221]



Plate 178: Gravestone [222]



Plate 179: Gravestone [225]



Plate 180: Gravestone [230]



Plate 181: Gravestone [231]



Plate 182: Gravestone [092]



Plate 183: Gravestone [094]



Plate 184: Gravestone [098]



Plate 185: Gravestone [100]



Plate 186: Gravestone [101]



Plate 187: Gravestone [103]



Plate 188: Gravestone [113]



Plate 189: Gravestone [134]



Plate 190: Gravestone [137]



Plate 191: Gravestone [143]



Plate 192: Gravestone [157]



Plate 193: Gravestone [208]



Plate 194: Gravestone [210]



Plate 195: Gravestone [223]



Plate 196: Gravestone [224]



Plate 197: Gravestone [232]



Plate 198: Gravestone [233]

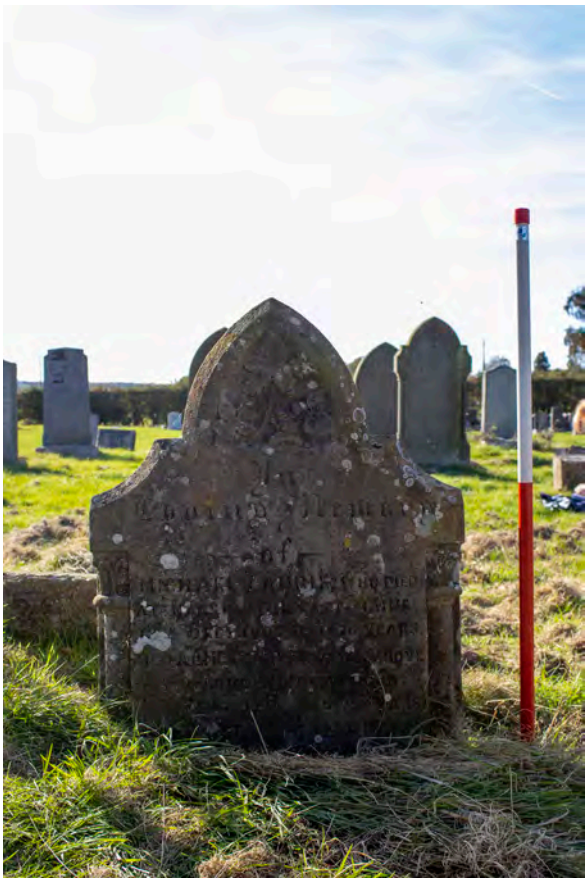


Plate 199: Gravestone [096]



Plate 200: Gravestone [133]



Plate 201: Gravestone [090]



Plate 202: Gravestone [091]



Plate 203: Gravestone [095]



Plate 204: Gravestone [126]



Plate 205: Gravestone [129]



Plate 206: Gravestone [149]



Plate 207: Gravestone [166]



Plate 208: Gravestone [195]



Plate 209: Gravestone [135]



Plate 210: Gravestone [153]



Plate 211: Gravestone [097]



Plate 212: Gravestone [229]



Plate 213: Gravestone [210]



Plate 214: Gravestone [165]



Plate 215: Gravestone [168]



Plate 216: Gravestone [171]



Plate 217: Gravestone [154]



Plate 218: Gravestone [164]



Plate 219: Gravestone [165]



Plate 220: Gravestone [184]



Plate 221: Gravestone [184]



Plate 222: Gravestone [093]



Plate 223: Gravestone [116]



Plate 224: Gravestone [125]



Plate 225: Gravestone [149]



Plate 226: Gravestone [180]



Plate 227: Gravestone [181]



Plate 228: Gravestone [182]



Plate 229: Gravestone [201]



Plate 230: Gravestone [202]



Plate 231: Gravestone [203]



Plate 232: Gravestone [228]



Plate 233: Gravestone [206]



Plate 234: Gravestone [171]



Plate 235: Gravestone [135]

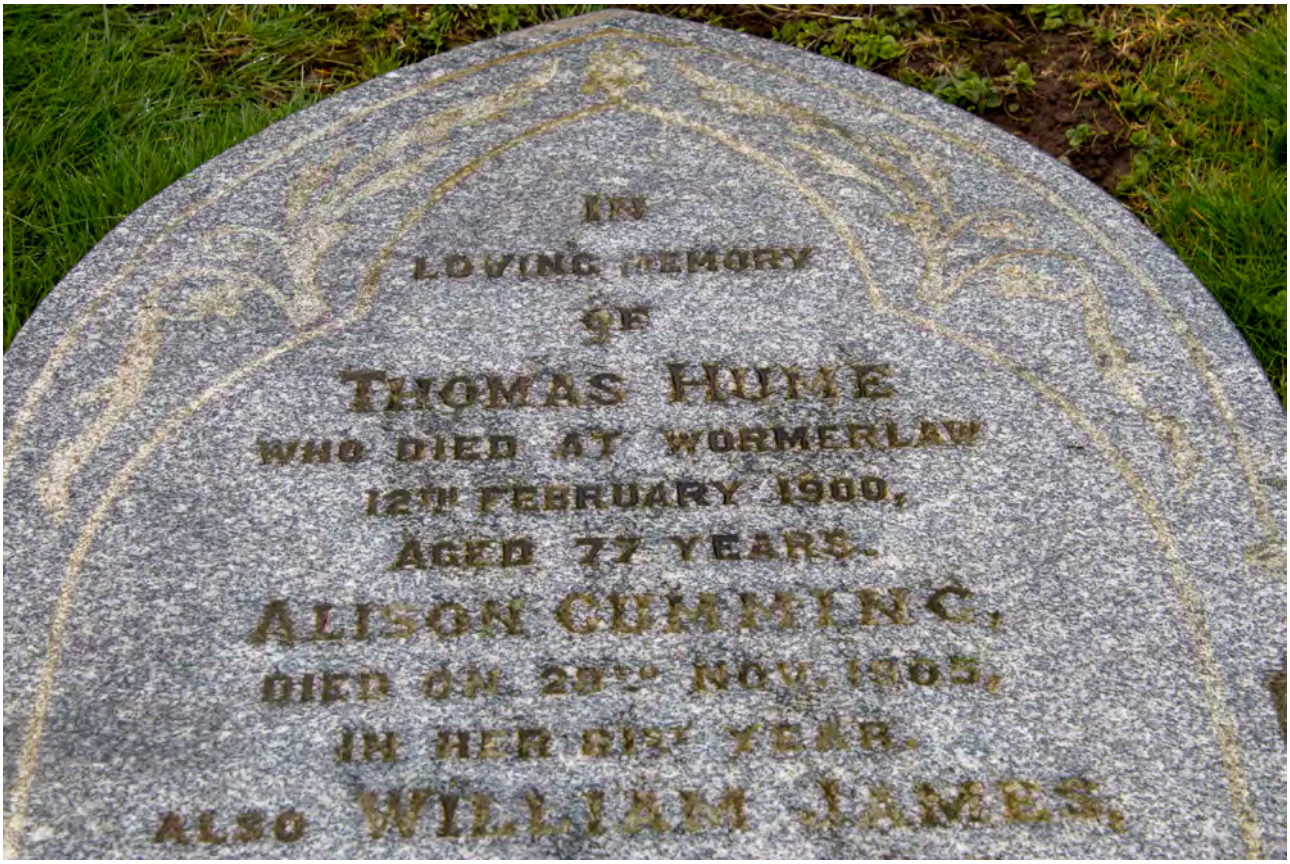


Plate 236: Gravestone [222]



Plate 237: Gravestone [225]



Plate 238: Gravestone [091]



Plate 239: Gravestone [095]



Plate 240: Gravestone [113]



Plate 241: Gravestone [129]



Plate 242: Gravestone [211]



Plate 243: Gravestone [231]



Plate 244: Gravestone [231], detail



Plate 245: Gravestone [231], detail



Plate 246: Gravestone [231], detail



Plate 247: Gravestone [231], detail



Plate 248: Gravestone [231], detail



Plate 249: Gravestone [233], detail



Plate 250: Gravestone [107], detail



Plate 251: Gravestone [210], detail



Plate 252: Gravestone [219] , detail



Plate 253: Gravestone [220], detail



Plate 254: Gravestone [220], detail



Plate 255: Gravestone [220], detail



Plate 256: Gravestone [220], detail



Plate 257: Gravestone [153]



Plate 258: Gravestone [195], detail



Plate 259: Gravestone [210], detail of footing



Plate 260: Gravestone [210], detail of mason's rasied lettering



Plate 261: Gravestone [181], detail of mason's inscription



Plate 262: Gravestone [201], detail of mason's raised lettering



Plate 263: Gravestone [139]



Plate 264: Gravestone [196]



Plate 265: Gravestone [197]



Plate 266: Gravestone [204]



Plate 267: Gravestone [245]



Plate 268: Gravestone [235]



Plate 269: Gravestone [104]



Plate 270: Gravestone [108]



Plate 271: Gravestone [115]



Plate 272: Gravestone [121]



Plate 273: Gravestone [234]



Plate 274: Gravestone [004] shoiwng damage to rear of stone



Plate 275: Gravestone [015] showing poor condition of rear of stone



Plate 276: Gravestone [015] detail showing poor condition of rear of stone



Plate 277: Gravestone [065] showing delamination of stonework



Plate 278: Gravestone [065] showing delamination of stonework

Appendix 1. Record of Gravestones Recorded

The following table has been colour-coordinated representing each of the main date groups as follows. In all instances, the FIRST date of erection has been used, even if there are additional burials memorialised at a later date belonging to a later date group.

Red = 1596–1699
Orange = 1700–1799
Light Purple = 1800–1849
Light Green = 1850–1899
Light Blue = 1900–1949
Yellow = 1950–2000
Pale Yellow = 2000 onwards

No Colour = Unknown

Additional information/discrepancies from the 1998 survey by the Borders Family History Society in red.

GRAVE NO	*1998 SURVEY REF NO*	*MEMORIALISING (& RELATIONSHIP OF OTHERS INTERRED IF STATED)*	*AGE OF DEATH*	*DATE OF DEATH*
001	454	Mary Hendry (wife)	38	1879
		John Matthew (son of Mary)	25	1889
		John Matthew (husband of Mary and erector of initial stone)	81	1919
002	453	Alexander Smith	73	1889
		Mary Hardie (wife of Alexander)	26	1849
		George Smith (son)	Infancy	Not given
		Mary Smith (daughter)	12	1861
		Isabella Watson (second wife of Alexander)	?83	1904
003	452	Robert Hendry	59	1874
		Sarah White (wife of Henry)	62	1883
004		Jospeh Edmison	??	1808
		Margaret Tait (wife of Jospeh)	??	??
		Sarah (daughter of Joseph)	??	??
		George (son of Joseph)	31	18??
005	446	John Turner[1]	73 75	1899 1825
006	447	George Huntley	7 months	1796
		James Huntley	3 and 3/4	1797
		L??? Linny Huntley	10	1801
		Margaret Huntley	4	1801
		Elizabeth Crichton (wife of George who erected the stone)	66	1828
		George Huntley (wife of Elizabeth)	71	1832
007	448	?? Adam Richardson	?? 65	?? 1802
008	449	Thomas Rutherford	81	1869
		Isabella Lunham (probably wife of Thomas)	86	1887
009	450	Andrew Walker	82	1850
		Catherine Elliot	72	1865 1835
		Ellan Turnbull	60	1870
		James Walker	59	1883
		William Walker	55	1873
		Jane Walker	61	1888
		Agnes Walker	79	1898

[1] The stone goes on to mention that the stone was erected by the Earl of Home as a testimony of gratitude for his faithful service during a period of 42 years.

		William walker	?80	?1894
010	445	Robert Fairbairn	67	1829
		Catherine Fairbairn (wife of Robert)	72	1836
		Agnes Robertson (their niece)	48	1858
011	444	George Mathison	14	1769
		George Hogg (on back)	??	1798 1768
		?Helin (daughter of George)	Not given	1769
012	443	James Riddle	60	1771 1786
		Andrew Riddle (son of James)	24	1795 1803
013	442	William Dickson	82	1860
		Margaret Wells Welsh (wife of William)	88	1868
		Agnes (their daughter)	80	1896
		Robert Thomson (husband of Agnes)	79	1919
		Mary Dickson (?second wife of Robert)	81	1919
014	441	Elizsabeth Bailes (wife of John Turnbull)	53	18?7 1847
		Margaret (daughter of John)	3 weeks	183? 1834
015	438	Mary Dodds[2]	75	1762
		Thomas Dodds (son of Mary)	??	????
		Mary (wife of Thomas)	??	????
016	439	James Storry	??	18??
017	440	William Dods	72	1819
		Janet Patterson (wife of William)	76	182?
018	435	Agnes Dods (daughter of William Dods)	9	1816
		Thomas Dods (son of William Dods)	22	1842
019	434	Dorothy Livingston	??	1792
		Nichol Sheel (husband of Dorothy)	77	1793
		Jennet Service (daughter of James Service Smith)	30	1793
		James Service	80	1841
		Agnes Sheel (wife of James Service)	80	1841
020	433	Nicholas Allan Fewel (son of George)	9	1839
		Agnes Service	74	1868
		George Alan	81 84	1875
021	Unknown	--[3]	--	--
022	Unknown	??[4]	??	??

[2] Recorded in 1998, this stone is now completely decipherable.
[3] The headstone of this grave has now gone, only the plinth remains.
[4] This stone is now indecipherable with the delamination of the surface stonework.

023	430	James McDou??? McDougals	??	??
024	Unknown	William Brown	68	1866
		Agnes Kerr (wife of William)	82	1878
025	432	Whightman Riddell (wife of Robert Service Allan)	64	1882
		Robert Service Allan	73	1913
		Ellen Kerse (Robert's second wife)	81?	1926
026	Unknown	William Sinclair	83	1832
		Elizabeth Hamilton (wife of William)	78	1834
027	Unknown	Thomas Sinclair	82	1892
		Isabella Newton (sister-in-law of Thomas)	66	1888
		Alice Newton (wife of Thomas)	76	1905
		Mary Sinclair (their daughter)	81	1939
		Alexander Sinclair (their son)	83	1946
028	423[5]	?? George Cleghorn	??	1767
		(on reverse) Isabel Cleghorn (daughter of George)	?? months[6]	1757
029	424	William Hay	86	1836
		Joan Jean Cumming (wife of William)	85	1834
030	425	??? Andrew Barrie	73	1822
		Barbara ??? Hislop	?? 69	1827
		James ?? Barrie (their son)	?? 78	1875 1872
031	426	James Elliot	50 30	1837 1857
		?? (although not named on stone)	infancy	??
		?? (although not named on stone)	infancy	??
		Elspeth Dods (wife of James)	65	1870 1878
032	427	James Burnet Smith	70	1802
033	428	Jane Bruton	?? 26	?? 1820
		Mabel Hewit (wife of John)	??	?? 1847
		George (son of John & Mabel)	?? 2	?? 1842
		Mary Anne (daughter of John & Mabel)	4	?? 1843
		Jane (daughter of John & Mabel)	?? 11	?? 1847
		Three children who died in infancy	Not given	Not given
		John Brunton	?66	1857
034	429	Agnes Stewart (wife of John Brunton Forester)	27	1848
		Jane (their daughter)	1	1848

[5] This is assumed looking at the logical sequence of numbers in the row.
[6] If months are mentioned, possibly an infant burial.

		John Brunton	65	1884
		Jane Walker (second wife of John)	90	19??
035	422	James Forster	65	1891
		Isabella Hay (wife of James)	62	1899
		Isabella (their daughter)	??	1871
		John (their son)	infancy	1859
036	421	>> illegible	>>	>>
037	420	Dick ??? George Dickinson	??	1792
038	419	Thomas Meikle	75 25	1815
		Agnes Sinclair (wife of Thomas)	18 43	1787
		Janet Jennet Meikle (their daughter)	28	1799
039	418	Elizabeth Aitchison	75	1852 1832
		Jane Merton (daughter of Elizabeth)	46	1859
040	415 or 416	Only top of the stone appears above the overgrowth; now writing visible	??	??
041	413	William Buckham	63	1812
		Alexander Buckham (brother of William)	66	1826
042	414	William Dove	Not given	1667
		Margaret Ingles (wife of William)	Not given	1699
		Thomas Dove (their son)	Not given	1683
043a	Unknown	??	Not given	1691
043b	Unknown	??	Not given	1699
	Unknown	??	Not given	1683
044	?412	??	??	??
045	?411	William ??	??	??
046	?410	??	??	??
047	409	??? James Crighton	?? 63	?? 1818
		Janet Jeffrey (wife of James)	75	1837
		John Dods (son-in-law of James & Janet)	35	1826
		Agness Crichton Crighton	64	1860
		Elspeth Crichton Crighton	67	1864
		Elizabeth Crichton (granddaughter of ????)	51	1870
		William Crighton (son of James)	74	1875
		Robert Crighton	78	1881
		Robert Thomas Crighton (son of Robert)	Not given	Not given
		Robert Crighton	57	1900
		James Crighton (son of Robert)	Not given	Not given
		Robert Crighton	64	1905

048	408	Mary Creighton	18	1780
		Elspeth Creighton	60	1785
		Agnes Moffat	27	1785
		William Creighton	32	1790
		William (William's son)	3 months	1785
049	407	Adam Dodds	57	1810
		Alexander (his son)	9	1805
		2 sons (no names)	infancy	not mentioned
		Margaret Colston (his wife)	66	1826
		Robert Dodds (his son)	54	1852
050	406	Andrew Dodds	69	1859
		Isabella Dodds (his sister)	21	1867
		James & Elspeth	infancy	not mentioned
		Margaret Drummond (his wife)	28	1869
		Rachel Lunham (wife of Andrew Dodds)	85	1886
051	405	Isabella Henderson	46	1873
		Robert Fairbairn (her husband)	8?	1907
		Mabel (her youngest daughter)	76	????
052	417	David Gowan Cowan	61	1868
		Mary Gowan Cowan (daughter of David)	32	1879
		Mary Bell	78	1886
053	402	John Wood	??	1801
		Elspeth Wood	5	1811
		John Wood	6	1816
		Elisabeth (his daughter)	22	1815
		Isabella Dodds (his wife)	78	185?
		Margaret (his grandchild)	16 months	1851
		Elspeth (his grandchild)	19 months	1865
		Isabella (his grandchild)	??	1871
054	401	John Wood	37	1771
		Isobele Wood	30	1792
055	400	Isabella Wood	61	1872
		Alexander Wood (her brother)	64	1881
		Margaret Lillie (wife of Alexander)	84	1910
		Alexander (son of Alexander)	45	1910
		Margaret (daughter of Alexander)	60	1919

		???	??	????
		???	70	????
056	400	Isabella Wood	61	1872
		Alexander Wood (brother of Isabella)	64	1881
		Margaret Lillie (wife of Alexander)	84	1910
		Alexander (son of Alexander)	45	1910
		Margaret (daughter of Alexander)	60	1919
		????[7]	??	????
057	395[8]	William B????	??	????
		William (son of William)	5	1735
		Margaret Barr[9]	??	????
058	396	William Walker	57	1872
		Margaret (his daughter)	6	1839
		Agnes (his daughter)	2	1843
		Isabella	6	1854
		Janet Neal (his wife)	68	1883
		Robert Walker (his eldest son)	59	1896
059	Unknown	???	5	????
060	?399[10]	Thomas Lunham	28 68	1884 1867
061	Unknown	Thomas Williamson	68	1867
		Mary Williamson (his wife)	?? 77	1871
062	Unknown	??	??	??
062A	Unknown	??	??	??
062B	Unknown	??	??	??
062C	Unknown	??	??	??
063	394	Alexander Leitch	17 70	1826 1820
064	Unknown	Gravestone fallen face down	>>	>>
065	393	Jenn??? ??? Jennet Hopkirk	?? 46	1786
		William Stevenson	77	18?? 1812
		??? Mary Murray (their granddaughter)	6? 9	1776 1806
066	392	???? John Jacobson	?? 66	???? 1797
		Janet Dods	?? 59	???? 1775

[7] At least one more interment that is illegible here.
[8] This is inferred by the sequence of numbers in a row – the delamination of the stone on the written face has now made it indecipherable, so have relied upon the 1998 survey of this stone, although it appears that it was patchy even then.
[9] Margaret is noted as being the daughter of John Barr.
[10] This could be Grave 399 from the 1998 survey, which also records Mary Lighterness (died 1878 at 77) and William Lunham (died 16 in 1881, their grandson).

067	391	????[11]	?	173?
		Margaret	?? 2	1725
068	390	James Spencer	22	1737
		James Spencer	55	1744
069	384[12]	???	??	??
070	385	Mary ???? Johnston (on front)	20	?1827
		William Johnston (on back)	Not given	18?? 1813
		Margaret Dickson (wife of William)	??	1816
071	386	AM Ednam Dodds	not mentioned	1699
		Jein Smith (his wife)	not mentioned	16?? 1684
072	Unknown	Slab lying flat on ground	??	????
073	387	Elizabeth Brown	49	1880
		William Brown (her son)	1 yr 11 months	1886
		William Scott (her husband)	79	1907
074	Unknown	????	??	????
075	383	Stewart Dunlop	73	1883
		Ellen Smail (wife of Stewart)	73	1886
		James Dunlop (brother of Stewart)	69	1894
076	382	Agnes Hay	76	1866
		Abraham Kinghorn (husband of Agnes)	84	1874
		Robert (their son)	52	1877
		Thomas (their son)	77	1894
		Janet (their daughter)	80	1898
077	381[13]	Agnes	8?	1880
		William (brother of Agnes)	Not given	Not given
		James Redpath (father of Agnes & William)	74	1894
		Isabella	??	18??
078	388	?? James Barry	??	?1596
079	437	Andrew Dryden	28	1880
		Alexander Dryden	??	188? 1885
080	263	Elizabeth Davidson	43	1886
		George Runciman (husband of Elizabeth)	57	1892
081	226	William Marshall	75	1883

[11] The top half of this stone with the inscription is missing.
[12] This is assumed given the numbers in sequence
[13] This is assumed given the numbers in sequence

		Alexander Marshall (son of William)	23	1885
082	227	James Robeson	30	1888 1883
		Robert Robeson (son of James)	8 3	1885
083	228	Robert Jeffrey	26	1883
		Janet Turnbull (wife of Jeffrey)	26	1886
		William Jeffrey (their son)	18 months	1884
084	229	Alexander Turnbull	73	1884
		Alison Borthwick (his wife)	86	1904
		Janet Borthwick (possibly sister of Alison?)	83	1904
085	230	Helen MacNeill	42	1895
		William C Robson	87	1938
086	231	Adam Yule	not given	1885
		Catherine Gray (wife of Adam)	not given	1903
		Jessie	not given	not given
		Jane	not given	not given
		Barbara	not given	not given
087	232	Isabella Stevenson	not given	1887
088	261	Isabella Wanless	65	1885
		Thomas Paxton (husband of Isabella)	65	1886
089	233	Maggie Dean	??	??
090	234	Margaret Deans	?? 79	1903
		Walter Robertson (husband of Margaret)	79	1905
		Mary Anne (their daughter)	24	1888 1898
091	235	Elizabeth P Aitchison	24	1905
		Alexander Hutchison (her father)	79	1933
		Christina Trotter (her mother)	79	1938
092	236	Ellen Susan Matterson	21	1905
		Margaret Jane Deans (her sister)	29	1909
		Helen Robertson (their mother)	63	1916
093	237	Elizabeth ?? Rutherford	77	?? 1905
		Robert Rolandson (her husband)	82	1910
		Elizabeth Rolandson	78	1838
		Margaret Rolandson	84	1955
		Thomas Rolandson	83	1965
094	257	??? William Kinghorn	69	1907
		Elizabeth Holliday (his wife)	87	1922
		Margaret Elizabeth (their daughter)	56	1930
095	256	John Russell	80	1907

		Mary Anne (his daughter)	57	???? 1914
		Margaret Bell (his wife)	91	1917
		Adam (his son)	64	1921
		Helen (?Adam's daughter)	22	1937
096	238	Michael Laurie	76	1905
		Agnes Scott (his wife)	75	1912 1918
		Michael Laurie	??	????
097		Janet Turnbull Stewart	7 months	1932
		Elizabth Stewart (Watson)	31	1937
098	239	Jane MacLeod	70	1932
		Andrew Yule (her husband)	74	1940
099	240	James Johnston	75	1944
		Agnes Whightman (his wife)	58	1932
		William Johnston (their son)	84	2000
100	241	Janet Meek Fairbairn	44	1933
		David Fairbairn	82	1959
		Margaret Henderson Fairbairn	75	1995
101	250	Peter Purves	73	1936
		Ann Purves (his wife)	69	1946
102	242	William Young Bell	47	1933
		Robert Moffat (his son)	28	1944
		Isabella Moffat (his wife)	66	1954
103	249	Elizabeth Newlands	78	1937
		William Henderson (husband of Elizabeth)	86 80	1939
104	243	William Bell	62	1976
		Alice Main (his wife)	88	1999
105	244	Thomas Mitchell	24	1934
		Agnes McDougall (his mother)	77	1957
		Alexander McDouglas (his father)	78	1958
106	245	Isabella Robertson	48	1934
		Henry R Ormiston (her son)	??	1942
107	246	Jessie Bertram Little	54	1934
		Walter Aitken (her husband)	78?	1948
108	n/a	Honor Nancy Horne	78	1998
109	262	William Gardner	76	1913
		Agnes (her daughter)	9	1885
		Catherine Allan	84	1924
110	264	John Wood	62	1888

		Margaret Hall	??	????
		Isabella Wood	59	1919
		William Wood	71	1920
111	260	JC	??	??
112	259	Robina Cessford	28	1907
		Robert Thomson Luke (her husband)	94	????
113	258	Anne Jane Crichton	70	1907
		??? Robert Combe (husband of Anne)	?? 72	???? 1909
		Robert Henry Combe (son of Anne & Robert)	69 67	1936
114	255	James Kerr Yule	59	1934
		Agnes Halliday	73	1943
115	254	Ninian Douglas	77	1953
		Dinah Davidson (his wife)	52	1935
116	253	Agnes Scott	72	1935
117	252	William Davidson	51	1936
		Anne Elizabeth Dawson (his daughter)	29	1951
		Margaret Dickson Dawson (his wife)	79	1969
		Jean Dawson (his daughter)	51	1978
		Margaret Isabel Dawson	67	1985
118	251	P Purves	20	1945
119	280	Thomas H Robertson	55	1939
		Catherine Wood (his wife)	80	1962
120	248	William Ainslie	60	1938
		Georgina Chisholm (his wife)	75	1957
121	247	Esther Yeoman	66	1950
		John Anserson	76	1954
122	265	Thomas Mabem	80	1881
		John Lauder (his grandson)	8	1888
		Agnes Young (his wife)	70	1904
123	266	John Fairgrieve	56	1887
		Margaret Holmes (his wife)	75	1906
		Helen (their third daughter)	67	1936?
		Isabella (their oldest daughter)	93	1956
124	267	??? Robert Shannan Wood	78 16	18?? 1887
		John Wood	?? 31	???? 1889
		William Wood[14]	Not given	1911

[14] Erector of the original stone.

		Margaret ???? Shannan (wife of William)	Not given	1913
125	294	Catherine Sleigh	71	1915
		James Stewart (her husband)	83	1935
126	268	Agnes Purves Wood	23	1911
		James Wood (her father)	73	1914
		Mary Rutherford (her mother)	71	1917
127	269	Annie?? Florence Montgomery	27	1911
128	270[15]	Thomas Little	67	1911
		Agnes Bertram (wife of Thomas)	82	1933
		Elizabeth (daughter of Thomas & Agnes)	32	1919
		Isabella Rae	77	1962
		George Little (husband of Isabella)	90	1968
129	271	Agnes Fulton	56	1912
		James Thorburn (her husband)	81	1935
		Agnes Thorburn	91	1989
		Elizabeth Thorburn	93	1990
130	291	Barbara Johnston	62	1912
		Arthur (her son)	20	1913
		Robert McDougall (her husband)	70	1918
		Jane Black (her daughter)	77	1957
		Cathrine Scott (her daughter)	84	1969
131	Unknown	Robert Scott	??	????
132	Unknown	??	??	????
133	274	Donald Maciver	51	1937
134	275	Helen Anderson	75	1937
		Andrew Fairley (her husband)	82	1947
		John (her son)	89	1986
		Mary (her daughter)	85	1990
135	?276[16]	Euphemia Porter	71	1938
136	277	Walter Tait	44	1938
		Margaret H Patterson (his wife)	71	1965
137	278	Elizabeth Wallace Dickson	67	1938
		Patrick Coccoran	87	1958
138	279	William Ronaldson	80	19??

[15] This is an assumption based on the sequence of numbers. Note that the stone is now laid flat with the inscription face down, so could not be read – names and dates, etc, taken form the 1998 survey.
[16] This is assumed give in the sequence of numbers in the row, although no name was recorded in 1998, simply noting that it was a 'small fallen stone'.

		Catherine McDougall (his wife)	86	1957
139	281	Francis Steel	71	1951
		Jessi Stewart (his wife)	87	1969
140	Unknown	??[17]	??	??
141	299	Grace Agnes Elliot	83	1986
		Alice Leslie Hunter Blair	93	1993
		William Rye Elliot	85	1993
		John Milne	70	1973
142	298	Robert Elliot (Farmer)	56	1887
		Isobel Sadler Elliot (granddaughter)	Infancy	Not mentioned
		William Marshall Elliot	86	??82
		Robert Elliot[18]	19	1917
		Isabella Mary Freeman Ryle (Eldest daughter of Robert & Agnes Freeman Ryle[19])	92	1961
143	297	John Cleghorn	49	1902
		David (John's son)	8 months	1887
		Elizabeth McDougall[20]	83	1931
144	296	Adam (son of John Inglis[21])	3	1887
		John Inglis	47	1889
		Mary Paxton (wife of John)	82	1927
145	295	William Wood	?? 66	???? 1888
		Isabella Wilson (wife of William)	81	1904
146	293	Jane Middlemass[22]	70	1910
		Agnes (daughter of Jane)	53	1915
		Robert Jones (husband of Jane)	84	1922
		????	??	1922
147	292	Alexander Patterson	73	1914
		Mary Richardson[23]	74	1923
148	Unknown	??? Margaret F T Charles[24]	?? 29	???? 1918
149	306	??? Andrew Russell (husband of Margaret)	53	???? 1928
		??? Frances (aunt of Andrew)	77	???? 1942

[17] This is a brick foundation stone (?for Grave No 101)
[18] Died of in the First World War of wounds at Fampaux and interred at Aubigny en Artois
[19] They resided at Farnacres Hall and Low Fell in Co Durham
[20] Elizabth was the original erector of the stone
[21] John Inglis Hargreaves erected the stone
[22] Jane is noted as being interred at Whitsome Churchyard.
[23] Mary erected the stone
[24] No stone, the base only has survived

		Christine Margaret Russell	77	1995
150	290	William Cleghorn	40	1866
		Herriot Renton (wife of William)	86	1912
		Euphemia Cleghorn (daughter of William and Harriet)	82	1936
		Isabella Cleghorn (daughter of William and Harriet)	72	1937
		Alice Cleghorn (daughter of William and Harriet)[25]	86	1947
151	289	Jessie Ormiston	65	1912
		Andrew Neill (husband of Jessie)	58	1912
152	288	John Smyth	83	1940
		Elizabth Jane (wife of John)	69	1941
		John Scott Smyth[26] (son of John & Elizabeth)	37	1945
		Jeanie Smyth (daughter of John & Elizabeth)	46	1953
153	287	Robert Atkinson	70	1942
		Isabella Cockburn	67	1946
		Jane Young Atkinson (daughter of Robert & Isabella)	51	1952
		Robert Atkinson (son of Robert & Isabella)	64	1965
		Elizabeth Atkinson (daughter of Robert & Isabella)	82	1982
154	286	Alber? ???ill[27] Albert Lewis Jull	?? 29	???? 1943
155	285	Albert Jull	85	1970[28]
		Frances Catherine (wife of Albert)	Not given	1963
		Albert Lewis Jull	29	1943
156	284	Jane Blackie	71	1947
		John Purves	76	1957
157	283	Thomas Scott	47	1947
		Annie Cairns (wife of Thomas)	Not given	1949
158	282	Margaret Georgina	19	1948
		George Simpson (father of Margaret)	Not given	1991
		Jean Simpson	Not given	2000

[25] Alice is noted at the bottom of the stone as being the 'LAST SURVIVOR OF THE FAMILY' hence it looks as though none of the three daughters married or had children
[26] John is noted to have been killed in action over Germany
[27] This is the grave marker is in sculpture in the form of a bird bath, with the inscription on the base; looks to have been turned around 90° from its original position.
[28] The first name noted is a later date than the other memorials (his wife and son) so this may have been a new stone erected when he died, replacing the gravestone of his sone in 1943 and wife in 1963

159	324	Alexander Richardson[29]	70 79	1890
160	300	Janet Waddell	68	1888
		James Welsh (husband of Janet)	67	1898
161	301	Andrew Turnbull	83	1898
		Margaret Wilson (wife of Andrew)	63	1898
		William Wilson (nephew of Andrew & Margaret)	20	1888
162	302	Margaret Young	62	1899
		James Hamilton	73	1906
163	303	Andrew Shiel	63	1915
		Janet Graham (wife of Andrew)	73	1933
164	304	Walter Brydon	70	1916
165	305	William Leitch[30]	Not given	1917
		Eliza Anne Traill	Not given	1922
		Margaret Grainger Leitch (daughter of William & Elizabeth)	Not given	1960
		Harriet Gunn Leitch 'Hetty' (possibly daughter of William & Elizabeth although it isn't mentioned)	Not given	1962
		Joan Leitch	Not given	1968
166	316	Alexander Dawson	75	1920
		Annie Bennet	Not given	1923
		Margaret (daughter of Alexander & Annie)	Not given	1925
167	307	Walter Stobie Richardson	51	1919
		Robert Young (son of Walter)	22	1919
		Daniel[31] (son of Walter)	10	1902
		Margaret Young (wife of Walter)	71	1942
168	308	Emma Purvis	60	1944
		William Cowe (husband of Emma)	73	1947
169	309	George Skeldon	62	1847
		Euphemia Hardie (daughter of George)	19	1945
		Helen Horsburgh (wife of George)	83	1964
170	310	James Ford Wright	79	1946
		Elizabeth Wright	76	1947
171	311	Lancelot L Blakemore	55	1948
		Susannah Blakemore	68	1960

[29] The stone was erected by Alexander's nephew John James Richardson, who is presumably buried elsewhere.
[30] William is noted as being the schoolmaster at Eccles Schoolhouse.
[31] Daniel is remembered here although is noted as being interred in Fogo Churchyard)

172		***Unassigned***		
173	323	Annie Wilson	25	1899
		Three children who 'died young' and interred in Eccles Churchyard (siblings of Annie)	Not given	Not given
		James Wilson (father of Annie)	72	1902
		Mary McDonald (mother of Annie and wife of James)	81	1917
		Mary Wilson (daughter of James)	57	1930
		Jessie Wilson (daughter of James and wife of 'Richard Gibson')	73	1947
174	322	John [Neill]	10 months	1890
		Andrew Neill[32] (brother of John)	34	1920
		John Matthew Neill[33] (brother of John & Andrew)	28	1923
		David D Neill (father of John, Andrew and John)	77	1937
		Sarah Matthew (wife of David)	84	1946
		Mary Anne Crombie (wife of John, the second son)	57	1949
175	327	Jane Brown	??	1890
		Robert (brother of Jane)	82	1911
176	321	Robert Dunlop[34]	??	????
177	320	Robert Glasgow	77	1891
		Elizabeth Wright	70	1889
		John Hugh (son of Robert & Elizabeth)	28	1867
178	319[35]	James McDougal	60	1886
		Margaret Rutherford (wife of James)	74	1900
		Helen McDougal (granddaughter of James & Margaret)	23	1914
179	318	John Renton	54	1920
		Hay Middlemas Borthwick (wife of John)	61	1934
		William (son of John & Hay)	39	1941
180	317	Catherine Sked	61	1920
		James Anderson Craig[36] (son of Catherine)	23	1917

[32] Andrew is noted as having died in Alberta, Canada, and is interred in Calgary Cemetery.
[33] He is noted as being 'husband of Mary Anne Crombie'.
[34] Robert is noted as being the sone of Amos and Agnes Currie. His birth date is provided (albeit indecipherable) so his death date may be beneath the undergrowth. Possibly an infant grave given the simple small cross grave marker?
[35] Now illegible, so text taken from the 1998 survey.
[36] James is noted as killed in action at the Battle of Gaza in Egypt

		Adam Craig[37] (husband of Catherine)	89	1945
181	316	Alexander Dawson[38]	75	1920
		Annie Bennett (wife of Alexander)	Not given	1923
		Margaret (daughter of Alexander & Annie)	Not given	1924
		Annie (daughter of Alexander & Annie)	Not given	1945
182	315[39]	Allison Cowe	62	1920
		Thomas Cowe (husband of Allison)	62	1923
183	314	Janet Henderson	67	1919
		James Yule (husband of Janet)[40]	51	1902
		Andrew Yule (son of Janet & James)	60	1939
184	313	William White Chisholm	?? 67	???? 1948
		Agnes Hutchison Chisholm	66	?1963
185	312	James ?Slater	Not given	1950
		Janet (wife of James)	Not given	1960
186	325	Mary Reay	?48	1890
		Charles Colvine	84	1927
187	345	???? Isabella[41]	43	1883 1893
		John Wilson Reid (Reid not recorded)	76	1889 1899
		?Elisa Elizabeth Gibson (wife of John)	83	1905
		George (son of John/husband of Isabella)	52	1912
188	326	Isabella Younger	79	1890
		John Anderson (husband of Isabella)	82	1898
		Jane (daughter of Isabella & John)	85	1909[42]
189	344	George Cockburn	34	1892
		Isabella Stark (mother-in-law to George[43])	57	1889
190	328	George Young	47	1891
		Christine Robertson (wife of George)	70	1898
191	329	Dinah ?Moscrop	57	1923
		John Home (husband of Dinah)	78	1954
		Mary Helen B??? (second wife of John Home)	58	1964

[37] Adam is noted as having dies at Polwarth Rhodes
[38] The stone has been carefully removed from its footing and laid face up in front of it.
[39] This is assumed given the number in the sequence; the gravestone has now been laid flat face down so can't be read, text based on 1998 survey.
[40] James dies at an earlier date than Janet and is noted as being interred at Caddonfoot Cemetery
[41] This gravestone was covered heavily in moss, so is very difficult to decipher.
[42] The date of Jane's death seem s a little strange, as she would have been born in 1824 whereas here mother Isabella would have been born in 1811, making her 13 years old at the time of Jane's birth and her father, born in 1816, would have been 8 years old. She may possibly have been adopted?
[43] The stone was erected by George's wife Mary Stak, although she is not interred here.

192	330	John Wood	61	1923
193	331	James Scott	71	1923
		Agnes Anderson (wife of James)	72	1927
194	332	Rev John Johnston	58	1923
		George[44] (wife of John)	73	1943
195	333	Sarah Thorburn	27	1925
196	334	Adam Millar	73	1950
		Mary (daughter of Adam)	41	1952
		John (son of Adam)	69	1980
197	335	John Purves White	48	1972
		Peter Purves White	22	1951
		Agnes Purves (assumed to be the mother of John & Peter)	74	1976
		John White (husband of Agnes)	80	1977
198	343	Thomas Barron	73	1891
		Margaret Dickson	84	1903
		William (son of Thomas and Margaret)	67	1913
		Alexander (son of Thomas and Margaret)	64	1915
199	342	James Wood	73	1892
		Jane Thomson (wife of James)	70	1891
		Isabella bell (daughter of James & Jane)	80	1923
200	341	William Hope	11	1891
		George[45] (son of William)	18 19	1908
201	340[46]	Thomas Common	64	1927
		Mary Jane Lile (wife of Thomas)	75	1921
		Margaret Lisle (aunt of Mary)	64	1929
		Isabella Common (daughter of Mary)	32	1933
202	339[47]	Agnes Campbell	69	1927
		John McWilliam (husband of Agnes)	77	1931
		Elizabeth (daughter of Agnes & John)	52	1934

[44] Yes, her name is given as George (maybe short for Georgina) and is noted as being the daughter of George Greig.
[45] George is noted as being interred at West Ruther Churchyard. There is much space at the base of the stone, presumably for the parents, although they are not marked and presumably interred elsewhere.
[46] This is assumed given the number in the sequence – the gravestone is now lying face down so cannot be read; text taken from the 1998 survey.
[47] This is assumed given the number in the sequence – the gravestone is now lying face down so cannot be read; text taken from the 1998 survey.

		Lieut. Hugh Campbell McWilliam (grandson of Agnes & John)[48]	Not given	1945
		Mary (daughter of Agnes & John)	32	1933
203	349	Alexander Nicol	84	1928
		Jane Scott (wife of Alexander)	78	1931
		Jane (daughter of Alexander & Jane)	83	1957
		Annie (daughter of Alexander & Jane)	70	1969
		Catherine[49] (daughter of Alexander & Jane)	87	1975
204	338	Isabella Johnson	76	1971
		Henry Taylor (husband of Isabella)	45	1925[50]
205	337	Isabella	19	1925
		Robert Stark (father of Isabella)	84	1955
		Helen Henderson	85	1956
206	336	Mary	21	1925
		Isabella Ann Young (mother of Mary)	62	1931
		Robert Moffat (husband of Isabella)	78	1932
		Margaret (daughter of Isabella & Robert)	70	1960
207	346	Margaret Turnbull	76	1893
		James Scott (husband of Margaret)	77	1895
		Elizabeth Scott (daughter of Margaret & James)	59	1902
208	347	Henry Renton Ormiston	76	1906
		Ann Redpath (wife of Henry)	Not given	Not given
209	348	Agnes	Not given	1958
		John Stevenson (husband of Agnes)	Not given	1961
		Elizabeth (daughter of Agnes & John)	2	1928
210	352	Mary Doughty	73	1930
		George Runciman	81	1936
211	350	2nd Lieut. John Halliday	26	191?
		Lizzie Jane (sister of John)	2?	1928
		Robert Robertson (brother of John)	42	1941
		Catherine Laurie Robertson (mother of John, Lizzie & Robert)[51]	77	1943
212	358	Anne Redden	72	1898

[48] Hugh is noted to have died of wounds sustained at Sonsbeck in Germany, and is intered at Nijmegan, Holland.
[49] Catherine is noted as being the widow of Pt. John Black – given mention of his rank, he may have died in the Second World War
[50] A new headstone?
[51] The erector of the stone was John Halliday, Catherine's husband, although he himself is not mentioned on the gravestone and presumably buried elsewhere?

		Thomas White	78	1900
		Margaret (daughter of Anne & Thomas)	75	1923
213 & 214	357	James Aitchison	85	1897
		Isabella Falla	80	1900
		Elizabeth Falla (Neice of James & Isabella)	78	1933
		William Foreman (husband of Elizabeth)	81	1946
215 / 222	359	Thomas Hume	77	1900
		Alison Cumming (presumed, wife of Thomas)	81	1905
		William James (son of Thomas & Alison)	61	1919
		Margaret (daughter of Thomas & Alison)	Not given	1939
		Elizabeth (daughter of Thomas & Alison)	83	1934
		John (son of Thomas & Alison)[52]	80	1943
216	356	Alexander Riddell Moor	3 years 8 months	1897
		Robert Moor (father of Alexander)	75	1937
		Agnes Davidson Riddell (wife of Robert)	80	1950
217	355	Isabella Lauder	63	1896
		George (son of Isabella)	33	1901
		Margaret (daughter of Isabella)	??	1907
218	354	George Clark	72	????
		Nicholas Robertson (presumed wife of George)	??	????[53]
219	353	Sarah Brown	66	1929
		Robert Wilson (husband of Sarah)	73	1961
220	351	Isabella Young	59	1930
		Peter Young (husband of Isabella)	63	1938
		Peter (son of Isabella & Peter)	40	1939
221	365	William Craigie	Not given	1947
		Staff Seargent William P Craigie (son of William)	26	1925
		Flying Officer John Norman Craigie[54] (son of William)	34	1941
222		***Note this is the footing stone for Grave 215***	-	-
223		??? Hall	??	1930
224	360	Pte James Scott	20[55]	1916
		Margaret Bennet (mother of James)	Not given	1920

[52] This inscription is on the base of the stone.
[53] Much of this gravestone is covered in moss so the base of the inscription cannot be seen
[54] Killed in action.
[55] Implied by provision of the date of birth and death but actual age not given.

		James Scott (father of James)	?93	1938
		Thomas Leith Rettie	79	1961
		Margaret ??? (wife of Thomas)	??	????
225	361	Margaret Aitken Turnbull	46	1916
		Thomas Wyllie Turnbull (husband of Margaret)	74	1920
226	362	Michael Turnbull	74	1898
		Jessie Wylie Turnbull (wife of Michael)	74	1899
227	363	Margaret Tait	35	1899
		Jessie Robertson[56]	70	1935
		John McDougall	84	1939
		James (son of John)	66	1957
		David (grandson of John)	42	1959
		Jean (daughter of John)	71	1961
228	364	?Francis Renwick	61	1930
		Flora Anderson (wife of Francis)[57]	77	1948
229	Unknown	John Forbes Stewart	55[58]	1931
		Jane Stewart (Turnbull)	82[59]	1955
		William Stewart	47[60]	1955
230	370	Robert Dunlop	50	1900
		William White[61]	50	1913
		Jane Tulley	62	1916
231	368	Helen Stenhouse	49	1902
		William (son of Helen)	3 years 4 months	1881
		Charles (son of Helen)	24	1915
		Charles Kerse (husband of Helen)	75	1925
232	367	Agnes Jeffrey[62]	73	1902
		John Aitken (husband of Agnes)	74	1904
		Jane Aitken (daughter of Agnes & John)	45	1910
		Alexander Aitken (son of Agnes & John)	71	1928
233	366	William Christison	75	1903

[56] Both Margaret and Jessie are noted as being the wife of the rector of the stone, John McDougall, so Jessie may have been a second wife.
[57] There may be more on this grave, although it is illegible.
[58] Implied by date of birth and death given.
[59] Implied by date of birth and death given.
[60] Implied by date of birth and death given.
[61] Both Robert and William are noted as Jane's wife, who was the rector of the stone, so William was a second marriage.
[62] Stone is completely covered in moss, so text taken from 1998 survey.

		Thomasina Brown (wife of William)	51	1882
		George Christison (son of William & Thomasina)	21	1880
		Agnes Phyllis Christison (daughter of William & Thomasina)	45	1906
		William (son of William & Thomasina)	Not given	1906
234	371	Elizabeth Lauder[63]	64	1951
235	372	Thomas O S Dean	73	1966
236		William Meins	59[64]	1955
		Jessie Meins	104[65]	2007
237	373	Margaret Reay Bell	69	1955
		John Wood (son of Margaret)	61	1970
		Robert Wood (husband of Margaret)	91	1971
		Mary Wood (daughter of Margaret & Robert)	87	2000
238	379	Margaret Meikle	Not given	1956
		William Meikle (husband of Margaret)	Not given	1963
239	378	Andrew Leitch	54	1957
		Margaret Leitch (wife of Andrew)	59	1965
		Noelene Margaret Hargreaves (daughter of Andrew & Margaret)	?57[66]	1966
240	Unknown	Bob Yule	Not given	1961
		Kate (wife of Bob)	Not given	1989
241	n/a	Andrew Leitch	76	2009
		Elam Leach (nee Hogarth)	76	2012
242	377	Wilhelmina C Atkinson	48	1958
243	376	Hunter Finlay Mitchell	Not given	1959
		Agnes Pollock (wife of Hunter)	Not given	1979
244	375	Thomas Weir Nicol	Not given	1963
		Margaret Y Craig (wife of Thomas)	81	1974
245	380	Margaret R Johnston	40	1962
		William T Brydon[67]	69	1995

Other graves noted in the 1998 survey, which cannot be placed exactly in the survey above, They may now be stones that are laid flat face down, or are now completely illegible, making them difficult to know exactly which graves they are.

[63] There is a lot of space below Elizabeth's name as if her husband was intended to be buried with her, but he is not noted. His name was james Brandon and he was the erector of the stone.
[64] Implied by date of birth and death given.
[65] Implied by date of birth and death given. Also the oldest person to be buried in the cemetery.
[66] Dates do not add up – possibly sister rather than daughter?
[67] Likely to be husband of Margaret, although not mentioned.

GRAVE NO	1998 SURVEY REF NO	MEMORIALISING (& RELATIONSHIP OF OTHERS INTERRED IF STATED)	AGE OF DEATH	DATE OF DEATH
Unknown	272	R Robertson	Not given[68]	Not given
Unknown	273	G. W.	Not given	Not given
Unknown	369	Elizabeth Jardine	67	1902
		John Armstrong (husband of Elizabeth)	78	1904
		Ann Hall	73	1927
		George Armstrong	76	1936
Unknown	374	Margaret J Stuart	Not given	1956
		Charles Stuart	Not given	1973
Unknown	397	James Shields[69]	34	1825
Unknown	404	William Mosman	Not given	Not given
		James Mosman	Not given	1788
Unknown	431	Edmond Dodds	73	1829
		Barbara McDougal	71	1827
Unknown	436	John Ingles	??	1788
Unknown	437	Andrew Dryden	28	1880
		Douglas Dryden	20	1887
		John Dryden	27	1898
		George Dryden	71	1898
		Jessie Anderson	78	1906

[68] This is assumed as it was not noted down.
[69] James is noted as 'late of the 25th Regiment of Foot'.

Appendix 2. Copy of OASIS Entry

OASIS ID (UID): aocarcha1-536592
Project Name: Graveyard Survey at Birgham Cemetery, Birgham
Activity type: Graveyard Survey
Sitecode(s): 60131-21
Project Identifier(s): 60131-21
Reason for Investigation: Community research
Organisation Responsible for work: AOC Archaeology Group
Project Dates: 11-Oct-2025 - 03-Apr-2026
HER: Scottish Borders Council, Archaeology Service
HER Identifiers: [no data]
Project Methodology: Uncovering the Tweed is one of the 12 projects forming part of the Destination Tweed project which is delivering a community-based archaeology and heritage programme to investigate important sites along the River Tweed. As part of Uncovering the Tweed, AOC Archaeology Group undertook a detailed graveyard survey over 4 days of the historic Birgham Graveyard (now known as Birgham Cemetery) in the village of Birgham near Coldstream between October 2025 and April 2026. The survey has provided an update to the 1998 survey undertaken by the Borders Family Local History Society, which recorded the inscriptions on the stones nearly 30 years ago. This was invaluable in identifying some inscriptions that are now indecipherable due to weathering and other damage. A topographic survey was also produced as part of this survey using a GPS and UAV (drone) survey to create an accurate plan of the site and the stones, and establish a new numbering system.
Project Results: 243 gravestones were recorded. More recent gravestones located to the west side of the cemetery were excluded from the survey. Of the gravestones recorded, five gravestones were erected in the late 16th/17th century; seventeen gravestones in the 18th century; twenty-six gravestones between 1800–1849; sixty gravestones between 1850–1899; ninety-six gravestones between 1900–1950; twenty-four gravestones between 1950–2000, and two gravestones post-2000. There were also twenty-six gravestones whose date could not be determined. The results identified a number of trends in styles of gravestones, inscriptions, lettering, materials and symbology, which follow the norm for the history and development of churchyards and their memorials from the late 17th century to the present day. A number of research questions have been posed, and the data has gone some way to contributing to these questions, whilst recommending further works that would be required to address them more robustly.
Keywords:

Subject/Period: CEMETERY: 17th Century
Monument Type Thesaurus (Scotland)

Archive:
Reports in OASIS:
Sproat, D., (2025). Birgham Cemetery Survey: Interim Report. Edinburgh: AOC Archaeology Group. 60131-21.

Sproat, D., (2026). Birgham Cemetery Survey: Final Report. Edinburgh: AOC Archaeology Group. 60131-21.

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