OLD MELROSE, SCOTTISH BORDERS

Desk-based assessment

Oxford Archaeology North

December 2007

The Trimontium Trust

Issue No: 622
OAN Job No: L9657
NGR: NT 588 340

CONTENTS

SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was carried out in 2006 by Oxford Archaeology North on the promontory at Old Melrose, Scottish Borders (NT 588 340), on behalf of The Trimontium Trust. The site was well known as the location of a chapel, that was probably founded in the early medieval period, and a medieval monastic holding. The research was designed to synthesise all known historical and archaeological sources for the site, and to propose further research that might be undertaken to improve the historical understanding of the site.

A site visit took place on the 2nd March 2006. An assessment of both primary and secondary published sources including cartographic evidence revealed remarkably little evidence for prehistoric or Romano-British occupation on the promontory. The earliest records for the site refer to the chapel and monastic site that was probably founded in the seventh century AD, and ultimately passed into the hands of the Cistercian monastery at Melrose during the fourteenth century. The area of the chapel and monastic site is now a Scheduled Monument (RO 865).

The Trimontium Trust has commissioned several geophysical surveys and its members have undertaken fieldwalking and dowsing over the promontory, although the results of these surveys are not conclusive. Combined with aerial photographic evidence, it does not appear that there are remains of any great antiquity surviving within the area. The one exception is a cropmark apparently depicting a sub-circular or rounded enclosure, to the south of Old Melrose Farm.

There are further possibilities for both non-intrusive and intrusive fieldwork, but it is suggested that any further fieldwork is located strategically to maximise the potential information and to address key research questions. Some of the cropmark and geophysical anomalies could be targeted by excavation, but this would require experienced archaeological supervision to determine the difference between archaeological and geological features. The southern line of the earthwork known as the Vallum, which unlike the northern sector is not a Scheduled Monument (RO 905), could also be targeted through excavation, which may offer the opportunity for the recovery of artefactual and environmental information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned by Donald Gordon of The Trimontium Trust to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site of Old Melrose, near Melrose, in the Scottish Borders (Fig 1; NT 588 340). The present assessment was commissioned following a rapid assessment of the archaeological potential of the site (SUAT 2005), which had itself briefly examined earlier geophysical surveys of the area (CFA Archaeology Ltd 2002; CFA Archaeology Ltd 2003; Hill 2003).

1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records, including those held by the Scottish Borders Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS), the National Library of Scotland including the Map Library, the National Archives of Scotland, and Edinburgh Central Library. In addition to this, a site visit was carried out on the 2nd March 2006.

1.2 LAYOUT OF THE REPORT

1.2.1 This report sets out the methodology employed during the assessment, followed by a brief geological and archaeological background. The types of evidence are then presented, broken down into such categories as documentary, cartographic, and photographic and pictorial sources. Later sections consider anecdotal evidence, archaeological finds, and archaeological survey work. In all sections, gazetteer site numbers are included as appropriate, and these relate to the gazetteer table (*Section 13*). Finally, the evidence is summarised and discussed, together with an outline of recommended further research.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 This survey was conducted by OA North in response to a request by Donald Gordon of The Trimontium Trust for research to be carried out into the site of Old Melrose. The work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 Several sources of information were consulted, in accordance with the project design. The main study area comprised the promontory of Old Melrose, and also included the area to the west, which originally formed part of the Old Melrose estate (Fig 1). The principal sources of information were maps, primary documents, and secondary published sources. The information was collated into a gazetteer of sites (*Section 13*), with more detailed evidence set out by category in *Sections 5-10*.

2.2.2 *Access to Archives (A2A):* this is an online database (www.a2a.org.uk) containing catalogues describing archives held locally throughout England and dating from the eighth century to the present day. A single reference to Old Melrose was located, held at Surrey History Centre (SHC 2185/LEB/11/2-4 1883). It was decided that the document was unlikely to contain significant information that was not available from other sources, and it was not, therefore, consulted.

2.2.3 *National Archives of Scotland (NAS):* the online catalogue of the National Archives of Scotland (www.nas.gov.uk) was consulted for documents relating to Old Melrose, and relevant documents are listed in the *Bibliography* (*Section 14*). Selections of these documents were consulted at West Register House and General Register House, Edinburgh, determined by factors such as the time available, the likelihood of particular documents to contain useful information, and the legibility and language in which the documents were written. Melrose parish teind plans (the Scottish equivalent of the English tithe maps) were specifically searched for in the paper catalogues at West Register House. It would appear that, if a teind plan was created for the area, there is no record of it with the NAS.

2.2.4 *National Archives:* the online catalogue of the National Archives (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) was consulted for references to Old Melrose, but no such references were located. Numerous boundary mark reports created by the Ordnance Survey for the Melrose area, and dating from the mid nineteenth century onwards, were noted, and were perceived as a resource possibly worthy of consultation. Time constraints meant that it was not possible to examine them, however. References to many medieval documents relating to Melrose (or Meuros), dating from the thirteenth to the fifteenth

centuries, were also found, a full list of which is available in the project archive. These did not appear to relate directly to the study site, however, and were not examined.

2.2.5   ***Map Library, National Library of Scotland:*** the county maps for Roxburgh were examined online (www.nls.uk), and the Ordnance Survey maps of the site were consulted at the map library.

2.2.6   ***National Library of Scotland:*** the online catalogue of the National Library of Scotland (www.nls.uk) was searched for references to Old Melrose, and relevant published secondary sources were consulted. These sources included books available on open access in the General Reading Room, and also books available on closed access, most of which were consulted in the General Reading Room, with additional sources consulted under supervision in the North Reading Room.

2.2.7   ***Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS):*** the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) was consulted online using Canmore (www.rcahms.gov.uk), and the sources referenced were included in the *Bibliography* (*Section 14*). Published and manuscript sources referenced within the entries were consulted at the RCAHMS headquarters in Edinburgh, according to the time available. Vertical and oblique aerial photograph coverage of the site was also examined, and architectural photographs were examined where relevant.

2.2.8   ***Turcan Connell, Solicitors, Edinburgh:*** Old Melrose forms part of the Ravenswood estate, owned by the Younger family, and the deeds to the estate are held by the family's solicitors, Turcan Connell, in Edinburgh. Deeds relating to Old Melrose were consulted at Turcan Connell's offices, with particular attention paid to early deeds, and to any maps and plans available. A full list of the Ravenswood deeds is available in the project archive, and those deeds that were examined are listed in the *Bibliography* (*Section 14*).

2.2.9   ***Google:*** the internet search engine Google was used to find additional references to Old Melrose, and information was found on sites including Genuki, the Melrose Historical Society Bulletins, Gazetteer for Scotland, and information on the villages of Newstead and St Boswells from Bordernet. Details are available in the project archive.

2.2.10   ***Edinburgh Central Library:*** secondary published sources, principally the *Statistical Accounts for Scotland*, were consulted in the Scottish reference section of the Edinburgh Central Library.

2.2.11   ***Greenlane Archaeology's library:*** secondary published sources relevant to the site were consulted in Greenlane Archaeology's library held at its offices in Ulverston.

2.3   SITE VISIT

2.3.1   A site visit was undertaken on 2 March 2006, in the company of Donald Gordon, Bill Lonie, and Walter Elliot of the Trimontium Trust, following the data collection for the desk-based assessment. Spoil from a pipe trench running the length of the field immediately to the west of the house at Old Melrose was examined for finds, and the open areas of the trench were examined for features. The path and summit at Chapel Knoll, and the linear earthwork at the neck of the promontory (Site **07**), were also examined. Very limited areas of a large field to the west of Old Melrose Farm containing cut stubble were examined for finds and features. Information was also gathered from Walter Elliot concerning field walking and dowsing that has been undertaken in the area.

2.4   ARCHIVE

2.4.1   A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with The Trimontium Trust on completion of the project.

3. TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND SIGNIFICANT BOUNDARIES

3.1   INTRODUCTION

3.1.1   Topographical information is useful as an aid to predicting the types of activity that may have occurred in a particular place at different periods in time. Solid geology provides an understanding of some of the basic raw materials available in the area, such as building stone, and drift geology is an indication of the suitability of land for different types of agriculture. An understanding of the significant boundaries, particularly historical boundaries, can help form ideas of movement in the landscape and different administrative units. The sections below set out some of the basic topographical and geological information for Old Melrose, followed by details of significant boundaries.

3.2   TOPOGRAPHY

3.2.1   Old Melrose lies to the east of the town of Melrose, in the Scottish Borders (NT 588 340, Fig 1). It is situated on a promontory formed by a meander in the River Tweed, and lies on the Tweed's western bank. This topographical feature is so distinctive that historical descriptions abound, of which the following, from 1845, is just one: '*Old Melrose, a peninsula nearly surrounded by the Tweed, which is overhung on the farther side by lofty precipitous banks, is strongly guarded by natural defences on every quarter except the south . . . The limited central space of the peninsula is high raised above the encircling river, and keeps the general level of the adjoining country, the ground descending all round with a steep but smooth unbroken declivity, finely contrasting with the abruptness of the opposite banks, to a circular grassy plain of pleasing seclusion*' (Thomson 1845, 56).

3.2.2   The River Tweed is the dominant topographical feature close to Old Melrose, and although the steepness and height of the banks around the meander make a significant shift in course within historic times unlikely, it appears that this was not the case further west. During the mid nineteenth century the minister of Melrose parish speculated that '*The valley of Melrose must have been a noble lake at some remote period, the Tweed entering it by a narrow inlet, across which Melrose Bridge is thrown, and leaving it by a narrow outlet at Tweedwood, before the formation of which, the whole space enclosed by Eildon and Gattonside Hills must have been a continued sheet of water. A substratum of water sand, dense or penetrable by the spade, pure or gravely [sic], is always met with in digging a few feet below the surface. At a comparatively recent period, less than two centuries ago, the course of the Tweed seems to have been on the south side of the valley. A fine rich flat, now on the south side of the river, is called Gattonside-hough, and its feudal tenures shew that it once actually formed a part of the Gattonside lands, which are on the north side of the river. In these tenures a right is retained to an ancient church-way, severed by the Tweed, along which inhabitants used to pass of old to the Catholic service in the abbey. Near the village of Newstead,*

the old channel of the river is beautifully marked, and what was formerly a deep pool and perilous eddy, across which Claverhouse is said to have been ferried, is now a fine meadow, but still continues to be called the 'wheel'. The change of course of the Tweed seems to have been aided by human industry, as an embankment is necessary to prevent it from resuming its old domain' (Thomson 1845, 53-4).

3.3 GEOLOGY

3.3.1 The solid geology of the region is composed mainly of greywackes, shales and grits of Silurian Age (Hill 2003, 28). The drift deposits consist of predominantly boulder clay at the site of Old Melrose, with glacial meltwater deposits and alluvium forming many of the banks to the River Tweed (*ibid*). At the site of St Cuthbert's Chapel, red clay is evident in the topsoil, identified as boulder clay composed of a grey or red stony clay containing cobbles of greywacke or sandstone (*ibid*). In the fields near Old Melrose, Old Melrose Farm, and Broomhill, the ground is an unimproved, heavy sandy clay with frequent small angular fragments of sandstone visible on the surface (CFA 2002, 7, 8, 9). Ploughed fields appear a startling pinkish red, and the influence of the solid geology can be seen in the many red sandstone buildings in the Melrose area.

3.4 SIGNIFICANT BOUNDARIES

3.4.1 Historically, the River Tweed forms the most significant boundary. Following the Battle of Carham in 1018, the Tweed was fixed as the border between the Lothians in the north, and Northumbria in the south (Driscoll 2002, 53, 63; Ritchie and Ritchie 1991, 151). During the seventeenth century the Tweed near Old Melrose formed the border between Lauderdale and Teviotdale (Blaeu 1654a; 1654b), and it continued to form a boundary between the various changing shires (Roxburghshire and Berwickshire, as shown by the Ordnance Survey 1899).

4. PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN REMAINS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The Melrose area is famous for some large prehistoric and Roman sites, indicating significant activity in the area during these times. A very brief summary of these sites is set out below.

4.2 PREHISTORIC ACTIVITY

4.2.1 The most famous prehistoric site in the area is the Iron Age hillfort on Eildon Hill (MacKie 1975, 80-82; Owen 1992). Eildon Hill North fort, which may derive its name from the Anglo-Saxon '*AEled dun*', the 'Fire Hill', occupies one of a line of hills overlooking the Tweed and the Leader Water (MacSween and Sharp 1989, 78). The hilltop could have been seen for over 30km in all directions except the south-west (*ibid*). MacSween and Sharp state that '*Like so many of the large southern hillforts, Eildon Hill had several phases of occupation. The earliest structure on the hilltop was a single rampart enclosing about 3.6 hectares. In its final phase it had three concentric ramparts which may have been built on specially prepared terraces. The summit is pitted with hut platforms, about 300 in all. If these were occupied simultaneously, this could suggest a population of between 1000-2000 people. A village of this size would indicate that the occupants traded with other groups in the area to obtain some of the food they needed, perhaps in exchange for manufactured items. It is believed that this site was the capital of the Selgovae tribe, known to live in the area of the Upper Tweed*' (*ibid*).

4.2.2 The proximity of Old Melrose to a major water course such as the Tweed would have made it attractive during the prehistoric period. The only indication of possible activity close to the site, however, is a single flake of struck flint (Site **22**), which is undated.

4.3 ROMAN ACTIVITY

4.3.1 There are extensive Roman remains within the Melrose area, and significant quantities were investigated during the nineteenth century. Bower, who was custodian of Melrose Abbey (Thomson 1845, 55), and the author of the main nineteenth-century guidebook to the abbey (*Section 9*), was evidently interested in the antiquities that were being found. On the subject of Red Abbey-stead, where remains of the fort at Newstead were being discovered, but not recognised as such, he states that '*it is certain, that when the ground there is dug, the foundations of houses are discovered, and a considerable quantity of lead, seals, and coins, have been found. The author has a brass coin in his possession, found in the year 1812, which appears to be Roman, having a Roman head on one side, and an upright person holding the horn of plenty on the other; but the inscription is obliterated* (Bower 1813, 15). *I saw a gold coin, which was found in 1821, with a perfect head on one side, and an inscription on the other, Augustus Nero* (Bower 1822, 15). *The discovery,*

also, of a rude carved boar, a Roman altar-piece, and a few less important Roman antiquities, raises the conjecture, that this building [what he calls the Red Abbey, later known as the Roman fort at Newstead] *might have been in existence during the Roman invasion. The most interesting of the stones is now in the possession of the family of Drygrange, and bears an inscription which may at once excite the amazement and speculation of the antiquary. It runs thus – "Deo Silvano pro salute sura et suorum Carrius Domiti Annus Leg.XX.V.V.V.S.L.L.M"'* (Bower 1827, 17-8).

4.3.2 Curle excavated the fort at Newstead (MacKie 1975, 80-2), with temporary camps also present, and published a well-illustrated book on the subject (Curle 1911). Roman temporary camps have also been identified more recently, further east near Broomhill (NMRS NT53SE142), and a Roman signal station is known on the summit of Eildon Hill (MacSween and Sharp 1989, 78). More recently, Newstead and its environs have been the subject of a wider research project undertaken by the University of Bradford (Jones 1990). Dere Street, the Roman road which ran from the Tees to the Forth, which was the easternmost of the two major routes into Scotland, is believed to have run close to Newstead, to the west of Old Melrose (MacKie 1975, 75). There is currently no evidence to suggest Roman period activity on the Old Melrose promontory, however.

5. HISTORICAL SOURCES FOR THE MONASTIC SITE

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 The historical sources for the monastic site at Old Melrose have been extensively drawn on from at least the eighteenth century onwards. Within the last few years an extensive account has been written, bringing together many of the twentieth-century summaries of the earlier evidence (Lonie 1997a), and there is no need to repeat that information here. A summary of some of the main points is set out below.

5.2 BACKGROUND

5.2.1 Old Melrose formed part of the area associated with St Cuthbert, which spread from Melrose across the Tweed to Durham and Lindisfarne (Driscoll 2002, 9). The site may have lain on, or close to, a proposed early pilgrim route linking Lindisfarne to Iona via the valleys of the Clyde and the Tweed (Taylor 1999; Driscoll 2002, 44). The monastery was probably founded during the first half of the seventh century (Wade 1861, 84; Jeffrey 1864, 29), and mid nineteenth-century sources suggest that a roadway led to St Cuthbert's Chapel, known as Girthgate (Thomson 1845, 57-8; Cameron and Cameron 1861). A new house of Melrose was founded by the Cistercian order in 1136 (RCAHMS 1956, 265; Harrison 2007), 4km to the west of the Old Melrose promontory, but retaining and capitalising on the existing name.

5.3 RESULTS

5.3.1 Bede (*c* 673-735) wrote *The Ecclesiastical History of the English*, covering the period 597 to 731 (Colgrave and Myn0rs 1969; Jones and Dixon 1981, 63; Thomson 1791-2, 571), in which he describes the location of Old Melrose as *almost enclosed by the winding of the River Tweed* (RCAHMS 1956, 303). He died before this monastic site was 100 years old, and the text refers only to its earlier history. Further historical sources for Old Melrose and St Cuthbert's Chapel appear to be spread across several medieval chronicles, perhaps the most significant of which is the *Chronicle of Melrose*. The introduction to a recent edition of part of this chronicle states that '*The Chronicle of Melrose is the principal early monastic chronicle of Scotland. It falls into two distinct parts. The first part seems to be based on Anglo-Saxon sources, whereas the second part, dating from around the time of the refounding of Melrose Abbey in 1136, includes many original entries. From 1172 onwards, changes in the handwriting indicate that it was continued by a succession of writers as a more or less contemporary narrative. In the present volume we have printed only the second portion, beginning with the entry for 1136*' (Stevenson 1991, 5). Therefore, the translated portion is too late in date to cover the study site (Stevenson 1835). The second part of the chronicle does, however, provide a useful reference in relation to the promontory, indicating that it was already known as Old Melrose (as opposed to Melrose) by 1285-91 (Stevenson 1991).

5.3.2   Cowan and Easson provide a concise and well-referenced account of the history of Old Melrose: '*Possibly founded from Iona during the episcopate of Aidan between 635 and 651, the year to which can be attributed the entry of Cuthbert to the monastery under its abbot Eata and its prior Boisil (Colgrave 1956, 166-7, 172-3; Colgrave and Mynors 1969, 430-3). Eata remained as abbot until 663/4 (Colgrave and Mynors 1969, 430-1). Drythelm, an ascetic, became a monk in a separate dwelling at Melrose at the end of the seventh century (op cit, 488-9). Burned down by Kenneth MacAlpin in 839 (Skene 1867, 8). According to a twelfth-century account which incorporates earlier source material the monastery survived in 854 as a foundation pertaining to the bishops of Lindisfarne, one of whom Edilwald is credited as abbot of Melrose in 746 in a treatise on the Benedictine order (Anderson 1908, 6ff; Forbes 1872, 330). The monastery was deserted in 1074 when an attempt by Aldwin of Jarrow to restore it for Benedictine monks failed (Anderson 1908, 97-8). The monastery was succeeded by a church dedicated to St Cuthbert and dependent on the priory of Durham till 1124 X 1136 when David I exchanged it for the church of Berwick and annexed it to the Cistercian monastery founded at Melrose in 1136*' (Cowan and Easson 1976, 51).

5.3.3   The site is also described in the *Foundation Charter of the Abbey of Selkirk*, of 1119, as '*Et totum dominium meum de Malros per medium vicum et per mediam fontemusque ad fossam, et sicut fossa dividit, cadens in Twoda similiter in terris*'. This description translates approximately as 'my whole lordship of Melrose, by the middle street and middle well, as far as the fosse, and as the fosse marches, falling into the Tweed' (Craig Brown 1886, 384).

6. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER PICTORIAL EVIDENCE

6.1   INTRODUCTION

6.1.1   Photographic prints can provide archaeologically significant information in addition to that available from maps and plans, which can include cropmarks and ephemeral features in relief. Historical photographs of the area have the potential to show changes in the layout or details of the grounds, and paintings can show the landscape prior to the age of photography. Details of the aerial photographs examined are presented below in chronological order, followed by a record of other photographs and pictures of the area.

6.2   AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

6.2.1   *RAF, 1946:* this is a run of black and white vertical aerial photographs. Straight, fairly narrow ridge and furrow is visible in many of the fields, and the remains of a possible enclosure (Site **01**), either respected by the ridge and furrow, or representing an area where these earthworks have been levelled. A corresponding feature was recorded by the Ordnance Survey in 1921, which might suggest the latter is most likely. There is a change in alignment of the ridge and furrow on either side of the line of a former path or track (Site **02**) that linked Old Melrose House and a summerhouse. Several straight drains or former field boundaries appear to the west of the promontory, west of Old Melrose Farm.

6.2.2   *CUCAP, 1953:* this is a black and white oblique aerial photograph, showing two of the dark marks that also appear in the 1990 aerial photograph by John Dent.

6.2.3   *RAF, 1963:* this is a clearer run of black and white vertical aerial photographs than the 1946 sortie, with snow cover adding to the visibility of relief features, also highlighted by a large amount of shadow. The ridge and furrow visible on the 1946 photographs shows up clearly, as does the twentieth-century enclosure (Site **01**). In addition, sinuous ridge and furrow is visible between Ravenswood and Old Melrose Farm, and the earthworks within the walled garden at Old Melrose are clearly shown.

6.2.4   *Ordnance Survey, 1974:* this is another run of black and white vertical aerial photographs, but the scale is considerably smaller than the previous two sorties. All the fields are under grass, and it is not possible to discern potential archaeological features clearly. Nothing of archaeological significance is visible.

6.2.5   *RCAHMS, 1983:* this is two distinct runs of black and white oblique aerial photographs, taken on two different dates (although these are not specified). The first of these is in light snowy conditions, and nothing of archaeological significance is visible. The second run displays similar features to the RAF 1963 vertical run, but in greater detail. No additional features are visible.

6.2.6 ***JasAIR, 1988:*** this is a further run of black and white vertical aerial photographs at the same scale as those taken in 1974, and the same problems apply to this run as to the 1974 run. Nothing of archaeological significance is visible.

6.2.7 ***John Dent, 1990:*** this is an oblique colour aerial photograph, showing the fields under pasture. Three dark marks appear that are likely to correspond to paths or tracks shown as either current or proposed on a plan from 1809 (NAS(WREG) RHP3656, 1809; *section 8.2.8*). In particular, one of the more distinct of these appears to be the road or path (Site **02**) leading from Old Melrose House to a summerhouse to the north. In addition, two dark marks are visible which do not appear to correspond to the landscape shown on the 1809 plan, although they are difficult to interpret. They may be former paths, or possibly field boundaries or drains.

6.2.8 ***RCAHMS, 1998:*** this is a run of oblique black and white aerial photographs taken during July 1998. A circular enclosure (Site **04**) is visible in the form of a cropmark to the immediate south-west of Old Melrose Farm, which appears to pre-date the current road leading to Old Melrose, and the field boundary which is visible on the 1899 Ordnance Survey map (*Section 8.2.15*). The enclosure is situated on the eastern-facing slope of the highest piece of ground within the immediate area, commanding widespread views, and potentially controlling access to the promontory itself.

6.2.9 ***RCAHMS, 1999:*** this is a run of oblique colour aerial photographs, again showing the fields under pasture. One of the dark marks shown on the previous photograph, corresponding to a path shown on the 1809 plan (NAS(WREG) RHP3656, 1809), is visible as a parch mark (Site **03**). In addition, there is a broad parch mark to the north of Old Melrose that corresponds to the change in the alignment of the ridge and furrow on the 1963 RAF aerial photographs, and also to the drive leading to the summer-house on the 1809 plan (Site **02**).

6.2.10 ***Richard Strathie, 1999:*** colour print shots OM5 – OM38 cover the fields surrounding Old Melrose Farm (also known as Ravenswood Dairy Farm), and also the promontory of Old Melrose. These were taken by Richard Strathie, at various oblique angles to the ground. They show the fields under pasture in bright sunshine, and no features of archaeological significance are visible. It had been suggested by Walter Elliot that differential grass growth in the field immediately to the west of Old Melrose Farm may be *'a kind of 'pilgrim's village' outside the monastic settlement, which he links to David I's description of 'my lordship of Mailros'* (Gordon 2006). It has already been argued in the previous assessment report that the marks are not archaeological in origin (SUAT 2005, 3), and discussions with aerial photographic experts at RCAHMS during the present assessment came to similar conclusions.

6.2.11 ***Scotsman Publications, nd:*** this is also a black and white photograph apparently taken from Scott's View. It seems to show the twentieth-century enclosure in use (Site **01**), but it is not in the foreground, and the photograph is taken from a very low angle. The same photograph appears in the *RCAHMS*

Inventory, indicating it dates to before 1956 (RCAHMS 1956, facing page 285).

6.3   OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS

6.3.1 ***Ravenswood and Ravenswood House, 1893 (RCAHMS 1893):*** these are black and white photographs showing the Ravenswood estate. Many of these show the interior of Ravenswood House, with others showing people fishing on the banks of the Tweed. There are clear views of the woods at the edge of the estate, and some views of the exterior of the lodges. However, none of the photographs appear to cover the Old Melrose area. All these photographs are available in the *Images Online* collection on the RCAHMS website (http://www.rcahms.gov.uk).

6.3.2 ***Ravenswood Sale Particulars:*** sale particulars from the Ravenswood estate, dated *c* 1900 and included amongst the deeds, include some of the photographs (such as people fishing on the banks of the Tweed) held by the RCAHMS detailed above (Ravenswood Deeds 1900).

6.4   OTHER PICTORIAL EVIDENCE

6.4.1 ***Scott's View:*** Curle includes a picture taken from a watercolour showing Scott's View, which looks down from Bemersyde Hill onto the Old Melrose promontory (1911, facing title page). This shows the woods, and also the buildings of Old Melrose with smoke coming from the chimneys. The original watercolour is by Tom Scott (1854-1927; Scottish Borders Tourist Board nd), and the picture therefore does not date to before the 1809 plan (NAS(WREG) RHP3656, 1809), and does not give any additional information to that shown on the maps and plans. In a second version of the same landscape, painted in 1916, Scott depicted smoke rising from a possible structure in the vicinity of the Vallum (B Stephens *pers comm*). As there is no structure depicted on the contemporary Ordnance Survey maps, this is perhaps artistic licence, or smoke from an outside fire.

7. DOCUMENTARY SOURCES FOR THE SECULAR SITE

7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.1.1 Documentary evidence was gathered relating to secular settlement at Old Melrose, from the earliest information available (mid sixteenth century) until the first Ordnance Survey maps were produced in the mid nineteenth century. Beyond this date accurate maps largely negate the need for descriptive records. The evidence is presented here chronologically.

7.2 RESULTS

7.2.1 *Melrose Regality Records 1564:* '*shortly before the Reformation the commendator of Melrose Abbey appears to have feued the lands of Old Melrose to Robert Ormestoun, who in 1564 granted sasine of the place to his son John'* (RCAHMS 1956, 303).

7.2.2 *Inscription 1575:* '*Robert Ormestoun had then been, or was about to be, forfeited; but he seems to have regained possession and to have built himself a house if the carved lintel, now inserted over the entrance to the modern garden-house which stands in the wood near the north-east end of the promontory* [presumably Site **12**], *is to be associated with him*' (*ibid*). It apparently includes the initials RO and the date 1575 (*op cit*, 303-4).

7.2.3 *Inscription 1581:* '*Above the Boat is Westhouses, and the old Possession of the Ormistons for many Years: They have a good House here, with many vaults and Gun-holes on every Side, after the old Form. I see their Names on the principal Gate, anno 1581. They had the Custom of the Bridge while it was standing, and a considerable Interest about the Place, and in old Melrose*' (Milne 1743, 61-2).

7.2.4 *Documents 1606-1619 (NAS(GREG) GD224/997/21 1606-19):* one or more of these documents mention Old Melrose, but they were not examined because of lack of time.

7.2.5 *Documents 1618 (NAS(GREG) GD224/997/19 1618):* these are documents regarding the manor place, abbey and lands of Old Melrose. They were ordered and briefly examined but were found to be in Latin, and have not been translated.

7.2.6 *Document 1673 (NAS(GREG) GD1/603/2 1673):* this document, which was not examined because of lack of time as it was unlikely to contain useful information, mentions one James Laidlaw in Old Melrose.

7.2.7 *Document 1685 (NAS(GREG) RH15/53/30 1685):* this document was briefly examined, but was not clearly legible. Since it was an inventory of the testament of Alexander Patersone of Old Melrose, who had died, it would have contained only information relating to portable possessions, and would not have described any land or buildings.

7.2.8   ***Daniel Defoe, c 1725:*** this account of the travels undertaken by Defoe is useful in describing the ruins of Melrose Abbey, and the general state of the surrounding landscape at the time. Old Melrose is not specifically mentioned, however '*The country* [around Peebles] *is hilly, as in the rest of Tweedale, and those hills covered with sheep, which is, indeed, a principal part of the estates of the gentlemen* (Defoe 1724-6, 681) . . . *Here we saw the ruins of the once famous Abbey of Mailross, the greatness of which may be a little judged of by its vastly extended remains, which are of a very great circuit. The building is not so entirely demolished but that we may distinguish many places and parts of it one from another; as particularly the great church or chapel of the monastery, which is as large as some cathedrals, the choir of which is visible, and measures 140 foot in length, besides what may have been pulled down at the east end; by the thickness of the foundations there must have been a large and strong tower or steeple in the centre of the church, but of what form or height, that no guess can be made at. There are several fragments of the house itself, and of the particular offices belonging to it; the court, the cloister, and other buildings are so visible, as that 'tis easy to know it was a most magnificent place in those days. But the Reformation has triumphed over all these things, and the pomp and glory of Popery is sunk now into the primitive simplicity of the true Christian profession; nor can any Protestant mourn the loss of these seminaries of superstition, upon any principles that agree, either with his own profession, or with the Christian pattern prescribed in the scriptures. So I leave Mailross with a singular satisfaction, at seeing what it now is, much more than that of remembering what it once was* (*op cit*, 619).

7.2.9   *Following the course of the Tweed, we passed by abundance of gentlemen's seats and ancient mansions, whose possessions are large in this country. The country next to this, south east, is called Tiviotdale, or otherwise the shire of Roxburgh; and the Duke of Roxburgh has several fine seats in it, as well as a very great estate; indeed most of the country belongs to the family. His house called Floors is an ancient seat, but begins to wear a new face; and those who viewed it fifteen or sixteen years ago, will scarce know it again, if they should come a few years hence, when the present Duke may have finished the additions and embellishments, which he is now making, and has been a considerable time upon. Nor will the very face of the country appear the same, except it be that the River Tweed may, perhaps, run in the same channel. But the land before, lying open and wild, he will find enclosed, cultivated and improved, rows, and even woods of trees covering the champaign country, and the house surrounded with large grown vistas, and well planted avenues, such as were never seen before'* (*op cit*, 620).

7.2.10 ***Interloqʳ of Sale, 1738 (NAS(WREG) CS137/239 1738):*** the third and fourth documents in this bundle describe '*the said lands of old Mellrose, Croft of land there, Fishing & Gardens Teinds Houses and pertinents lying within the Lordship and Regality of Mellrose*'.

7.2.11 ***Extract Act 1739 (NAS(GREG) GD47/302 1739):*** this document details that '*the lands of Old Melrose [are sold] to John Fisher of Cumsley as highest offerer*' and that '*The price of the lands of Old Melrose conform to Decreet of*

Sale in favour of John Fisher is £1199', whereas the lands of Drygrange, which form the other part of Robert Paterson's estate, were sold for £22,800.

7.2.12 **Milne 1743:** *'About a Mile and a half from the Town of Melrose to the East, stands Old Melrose…famous for its ancient Monastery...'* (Milne 1743, 4).

7.2.13 **Marriage contract 1767 (NAS(GREG) GD237/10/13/13 1767):** this document, which was not examined given a lack of time, mentions John Johnston, tenant in Old Melrose.

7.2.14 **Thomas Pennant, 1772:** as with the earlier description by Defoe, Pennant provides an account of the landscape of the area: *'Continue my journey for a time along a fertile bottom, and, near the junction (the last in this place) of the Gala and the Tweed, a fine river, again enter the shire of Roxburgh. All the country is open, and much of it full of corn. Here the farmers injudiciously cut up the sides of the hills, and spoil their fine sheepwalks to get a little late and bad corn'* (Pennant 1774, 611). *'At a place called Bridgend stood, till within these few years, a large pier (Communicated to me by a gentleman who remembers the pier, now demolished. Mr Gordon has engraved what remained in his time, in his 64*[th] *plate), the remaining one of four, which formed here a bridge over the Tweed. In it was a gateway, large enough for a carriage to pass through, and over that a room, twenty-seven feet by fifteen, the residence of the person who took the tolls. This bridge was not formed with arches, but with great planks laid from pier to pier. It is said that it was built by David I in order to afford a passage to his abbey of Melros, which he had newly translated from its ancient site; and also to facilitate the journeys of the devout to the four great pilgrimages of Scotland, viz. Scone, Dundee, Paisley, and Melros'* (*op cit*, 612)

7.2.15 Pennant seemingly visited the Old Melrose peninsula, or at least viewed the site from its environs. *'Proceed to Old Melros, now reduced to a single house, on a lofty promontory, peninsulated by the Tweed: a most beautiful scene; the banks lofty, and wooded, varied with perpendicular rocks, butting like butresses from top to bottom'* (*op cit*, 615).

7.2.16 **Gilbert Laing, 1772 (NAS(GREG) GD237/10/25/1 1772):** in this letter (which was not examined due to lack of time) Gilbert Laing writes from St Petersburg that he is glad to learn that his brother, William Laing of Meikledale, is rebuilding at Old Melrose. It says that wood is to be supplied, and Gilbert thinks that William overlooking the workmen will be beneficial to his health. Gilbert also mentions that he thinks Old Melrose is preferable to Bowhill, which is cold and dark.

7.2.17 **Ravenswood Deeds 1775 (Deeds Bundle 17 number 1 1775):** the earliest deed for Old Melrose present amongst the deeds for the Ravenswood estate was dated 1775, and described the property at Old Melrose as follows: *'All and whole the town and lands of Old Melrose and houses biggings gardens woods crofts yeards common pasturage and whole pertinents and priviledges* [*sic*] *of the same with the tiend sheaves and other tiends as well parsonage and vicarage thereof together also with the salmon fishings and other fishings whatsoever belonging to the same used and wont between the Newstead miln*

*and the march set down between Bymerside and Old Melrose and haill
pertinents thereof lying within the Lordship of Melrose and Sherriffdom of
Roxburgh with the loft and seat in the kirk of Melrose and burial place in the
church yeard thereof pertaining to the said lands'*.

7.2.18 **Tack and discharge 1776 ((NAS(GREG)) GD1/249/14-15 1776):** these two
documents, which were not examined given the lack of time, mention Andrew
Sibbald, tenant in Old Melrose.

7.2.19 **Ravenswood Deeds 1777 (Deeds Bundle 2 number 1 1777):** a similar deed
from 1777 describes Old Melrose in the same terms as those used in 1775, and
also mentions Andrew Sibbald, farmer at Old Melrose, presumably in relation
to a continuation of tenancy.

7.2.20 **Ravenswood Deeds 1781-1841 (Deeds Bundle 2 numbers 2-6 and 12; Deeds
Bundle 17 number 2):** the description of Old Melrose continues unchanged in
deeds dated between 1781 and 1841, with the exception of a slight and
insignificant amendment to the description of the fishings in 1841. What is
perhaps interesting to note is the Latin used in the deeds, for example in that
from 1814 (Deeds Bundle 2 number 4). It begins the description with *Villam et
Terras de Old Melrose*, indicating the 'town' described earlier is really more
of a villa or farmstead.

7.2.21 **Old Statistical Account, 1791-2:** this includes a general description of the
parish, although the buildings and landscape at Old Melrose are not
specifically described. '*For its improvement it has been suggested, that the
different proprietors should make large strips of plantations, inclosed with
stone fences, both to shelter the land, and to consume the surface-stones which
encumber it*'(Thomson 1791-2, 561).

7.2.22 **Mention 1813:** '*Old Melrose is now in the possession of Conel* [Colonel]
Elliott Lockhart, who has a neat house there' (Bower 1813, 15).

7.2.23 **Letter 1827 (NAS(GREG) GD157/2499 1827):** this letter from Archibald
Douglas of Old Melrose was briefly examined, but it was found to be unclear,
and appeared to contain no relevant information.

7.2.24 **New Statistical Account 1845:** '*Old Melrose . . .* [is] *in its present state one of
the most delightful residences imaginable* (Thomson 1845, 51). *In the vicinity
of the Tweed, and within bounds of this parish, there are about fifteen villas
and considerable mansion-houses, of which Abbotsford in the west is not less
famous for its present, than, in the east, Old Melrose is for its ancient glory
(op cit, 62). . . Much of the land subjected to the plough during the war prices
of the grain has been thrown back into pasture; and much that was even then
left in pasture has since been broken up (op cit, 65). . . The number of acres
under wood is not less than 1200, and there is no natural wood except a few
straggling trees, chiefly birches, at Torwoodlee and Colmslie Hill. A few years
ago, the custom was to plant a portion of oak, ash, elm, sycamore, and beech;
but at present larch and oak are the rage, and a slight admixture of other trees
(ibid). The inclosures are, for the infield and arable land, thorn quick hedges,
- for the outfield and pastoral, stone dikes (op cit, 66). . . The chief*

circumstance in which the present differs from the past state of the parish, is in the general enlargement of the farms. Except in the case of a carrier or miller . . . a small farm is nearly unknown. The displacing of the old small tenants . . . was at first viewed with deep regret . . . But the introduction of a better style of agriculture which immediately followed, the rapid improvement of the country . . . seem to show that it was a change for the better. The land is divided into a limited number of great farms' (*op cit*, 75).

7.2.25 **Anon 1869:** '*the site* [of Old Melrose] *is now occupied by a modern villa*' (Anon 1869, 7).

7.3 RAVENSWOOD

7.3.1 Old Melrose is currently within the Ravenswood estate, of which it became a part in the nineteenth century. Three brief notes on the Ravenswood estate as a whole are included here, all dating from the period when Old Melrose was already included in it.

7.3.2 **1866:** '*in 1866 Rutherford's Southern Counties Register and Directory described Ravenswood as being "On the south side of the Tweed, opposite its junction with the Leader – the property and residence of George KE Fairholme, Esq of Old Melrose and Ludgate, Galashiels. Ravenswood was built in 1827; in 1859/60 an addition was made to it on the east end, and another addition is now in course of erection on the west end"*' (Olsen 2005, 11)*.*

7.3.3 **1881:** '*by 1881 Ravenswood was the home of Admiral Sir Henry Fairfax KCB. He and his wife were well-known benefactors of the area, gifting the village of Newstead a mission hall, reading room, and library. Admiral Fairfax died at Naples, and his will included money to provide a piped water supply to Newstead*' (*ibid*).

7.3.4 **1900:** the *Valuation* of Ravenswood estate in 1900 stated that '*the original estate of Ravenswood was a comparatively small property but has been added to from time to time by the acquisition of the lands of Old Melrose, Broomhill and Red Rigs. The former especially add much to the residential value of the place and consist mainly of very picturesque and attractive grounds*' (Deeds 1900).

8. CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

8.1 INTRODUCTION

8.1.1 The cartographic evidence for the secular site at Old Melrose complements the documentary record, and can, if viewed critically, provide information regarding the layout of fields and buildings, for example. Caution must be exercised, however, when interpreting the early maps, since what they show is often schematic, and should not be taken too literally. Pont's manuscript maps (1580s-1590s) of the area have unfortunately not survived, otherwise they would have been the earliest maps in the sequence. Robert Gordon, however, is likely to have been in possession of Pont's maps, and may have utilised elements of them for his own work.

8.2 RESULTS

8.2.1 ***Robert Gordon, c 1636-52 (Plate 1):*** 'Old Melros' is named and shown schematically on this map, apparently indicated as a small settlement or farm, with the symbol of a circle with a small rectangle on top. This seems to be the most minor settlement type identified on the map. It is shown on the west side of the River Tweed (not named), opposite where a tributary joins the Tweed. This would appear to be the Leader Water, with 'Rippeth' (Redpath) on the east, and 'Drygrange' on the west. The meander that winds round the promontory on which Old Melrose is presently situated is not shown. A tributary joining the Tweed on the west is shown further south (Bowden Water), with 'Halyden' (Holydean) on its north bank.

8.2.2 ***Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-55:*** 'old mulross' is labelled on Roy's map, with buildings depicted within the area of Old Melrose House, and possibly in the area of Old Melrose Farm, although the latter is less certain. The schematic depiction of agricultural fields covers only the southern area of the peninsula. There is no road depicted leading to the peninsula.

8.2.3 ***Blaeu's map of Lauderdale, 1654 (Plate 2):*** north is towards the top left of this map. 'Old Melross' is again named and indicated schematically, but this time the symbol used is larger than many of the surrounding settlements indicated, for example 'Rippetth' (Redpath), 'Hildoun' (Eildon), and 'Heeldoun Newstead' (Newstead). It appears to be essentially the same size as 'Melross', although the latter is coloured red. This increase in the size of the symbol is partly due to the scale of the map, which shows more detail, and more settlements, than the previous map. 'Old Melross' is shown on the south side of the River Tweed, just east of where the Leader Water runs into the Tweed. This is a more accurate location than on the Gordon map, but the meander around the promontory is still not shown.

8.2.4 ***Blaeu's map of Teviotdale, 1654 (Plate 3):*** north is towards the top right of this map. It is included as a comparison to the previous map (of the same year, by the same mapmaker), because it demonstrates effectively the schematic

nature of the symbols used to indicate settlements. 'Old Melross' is only slightly smaller than 'Mellross', and the former is larger than many of the surrounding settlements (such as 'Rippetth', 'Neusted', and 'Hildoun'). Although the positioning of the name makes it unclear, 'Old Melross' is indicated in the same position relative to the rivers and settlements as on the Lauderdale map.

8.2.5 *Moll, 1745 (Plate 4):* Moll appears to be somewhat confused, and in any case this map is at a slightly smaller scale than Blaeu's. 'Old Mellros Abbey' is named and shown in the position of Melrose, and Old Melrose is not shown at all. The closest settlement to the location of Old Melrose is 'Hildoun' (Eildon), shown midway between the Leader Water and Bowden Burn, on the south side of the Tweed. Again, the meander around the promontory of Old Melrose is not shown, in anything other than the broadest terms.

8.2.6 *Stobie, 1770 (Plate 5):* this is the first map of a suitable scale to show any detail on a site the size of Old Melrose. The meander that forms the promontory is clearly shown, and 'Old Melrose' is named. The name is associated with four buildings, one in the south aligned east-west, and three to the north of it, next to each other and aligned roughly north-south. By the font in which the text is shown, Old Melrose is of a similar significance to Broomhill and Peasehill to the west, although it has more buildings than both of these together. Next in size is Eildon, with at least seven buildings, followed by Newstead, with at least 15, and then Melrose, which is shown as a market town. When this is compared to the weighting of the various settlements shown on the previous maps, several things become clear. In the mid seventeenth century Blaeu indicates that Old Melrose is larger, or more important, than both Eildon and Newstead, but by the late eighteenth century Stobie indicates that the reverse is true. Bearing this in mind, there remains the possibility that Moll, although confused in his labelling, may have been indicating the decline in significance of Old Melrose by the mid eighteenth century. It is possible that the site was not inhabited at this point, and that Stobie is showing the beginnings of a new farmstead on the site.

8.2.7 Stobie is also the first to show roads on his map, whereas the previous maps had only shown rivers. The closest road to Old Melrose is that running from opposite 'Boathouse', on the opposite bank of the Tweed, towards Newtown St Boswells and Jedburgh in the south (the present A68).

8.2.8 *Taylor and Skinner, 1776 (Plate 6):* north is at the bottom of this map. The meander that forms the promontory is clearly shown, and 'Old Melrose ruins' is named within it. No buildings are indicated, but six are shown at 'Eilding' (Eildon). Once again, the present A68 is shown running to the west of Old Melrose. Many estates are indicated, such as Drygrange (Tod Esq), Kirkland (also Tod Esq), Gladswood (Dr Ridpath), and Beamerside (Haig Esq).

8.2.9 *Proposed plan, 1809 (Plate 7; NAS(WREG) RHP3656, 1809):* this is by far the most detailed plan of the site to be produced at any date, including the Ordnance Survey maps that followed. It is titled '*A design for the improvement of Old Melrose, the seat of Col Lockhart*', and problems with interpretation arise from this. It is not always clear which features were already in existence,

and which were proposed, and the only indication from the key is that '*the dotted lines are the old fences*'. Several drives are shown, with two lodges in the west, and many paths, some of them running through woodland. There are numerous fences and hedges, and the functions of many of the areas and all of the buildings are defined. The house forms the southern part of the main building at Old Melrose, with the stables in the north. To the east lies the garden, and much further to the north is a structure that may never have been built. It is shown as a range of buildings ('*farm offices wash house &c'*) surrounding a courtyard, with a stackyard to the north-west. A summerhouse is shown close to the north-east tip of the promontory (Site **12**). The position of the drying green is unclear. One of the most significant features shown on this plan is the drive or path leading north-east from Old Melrose to the summerhouse (Site **02**).

8.2.10 **Thomson, 1820 (Plate 8):** with the exception of the 1809 plan, this is the most detailed map for its time. It shows settlements in both plan, indicated by clumps of black rectangles (at Bemersyde and Gladswood, for example), and elevations of what are presumably the mansion houses of estates (such as Gateheugh, Old Melrose, and Drygrange). Trees line the outer edge of the Old Melrose promontory, and a drive leads from the present A68 towards the house. As is currently the case, two branches run from the A68 and join before leading up to the house as a single track. Trees are also shown partly within the triangle formed between the three roads.

8.2.11 **Ainslie, 1821 (Plate 9):** this is a far less detailed map than Thomson's of the previous year. It names Old Melrose, and confirms it to be of a similar size or importance to Gladswood and Drygrange, and more significant, though with fewer buildings, than 'Eilden' (Eildon) and Newstead. The current A68 is shown as previously, but the scale of the map means that the drive up to the house at Old Melrose is not indicated. One significant change has, however, taken place since the previous map – the line of a 'railway' is indicated running past Melrose and crossing the Tweed, just to the south of the Old Melrose promontory. This is likely to represent the proposed line of a rail route, as yet to be built.

8.2.12 **Tennant, 1840 (Plate 10):** this map is of a similar scale to Thomson's map of 20 years earlier. It confirms Thomson's view of the relative prominence of the settlements, showing Old Melrose, Drygrange, and Gladswood as estates with elevations of schematic mansions. However, this should be treated with caution, as Tennant appears to have copied Thomson's map, and to have just updated it in places. This is shown not only in the repetition of the symbols, but also in the uncannily similar representation of the River Tweed, whose banks judder from side to side as they do on Thomson's map. Tennant has made some important additions to the map, however. A new mansion house, Ravenswood, the estate of Colonel Scott, is shown to the west of Old Melrose. The forked drive leading up to Old Melrose is indicated slightly differently, with the main track appearing to run from south-west to north-east, with the track from the north-west merely joining it. The 'railway' shown by Ainslie is not present, and the relative positions of these two routes was not then apparent because Ainslie did not show the track leading up to Old Melrose.

However, Tennant shows a new section of road running from Newstead to the present A68, to the west of Old Melrose, which appears to be following the line of the 'railway' shown by Ainslie. In addition, a ford is shown just to the south of the Old Melrose promontory, in approximately the position that Ainslie showed the 'railway' crossing the Tweed. Tennant shows trees along the outer edges of the promontory, just as Thomson did before him, and he names the owner of the Old Melrose estate as one 'Douglas Esqr'.

8.2.13 ***Crawford and Brooke, 1843 (Plate 11):*** this is significantly more detailed than any of the previous maps (with the exception of the 1809 plan, *Section 8.2.8*), and shows field boundaries and only plan views, not elevations, of buildings. It therefore gives a more accurate representation of the buildings present in particular settlements, rather than their importance. On the Old Melrose promontory, east of the present A68, the land is shown divided up into many different areas. The horizontal dashed lines presumably indicate ploughed fields, although this not entirely clear. In general, there are few curves, and the straight boundaries of all the surrounding fields would appear to indicate recent enclosure. There are several areas of enclosed woodland, including strips at or close to the outer edges of the promontory. It can now be seen that the house at Ravenswood is separated from the grounds at Old Melrose by a small stream, that runs from the south-west into the Tweed. Three tracks now run from the present A68 into the grounds of Old Melrose, although their relationship to the tracks previously shown is unclear. Three fairly small buildings are shown at Old Melrose, to the west of an almost square enclosure, which may be a garden. On the north side of the central track or driveway, a larger rectangular building is shown within an enclosure (later known as Old Melrose Farm).

8.2.14 ***Ordnance Survey, c 1859 (Plate 12):*** this is at a larger scale (1:2500) than the 1843 map, and includes more detail. Old Melrose is named, and is shown as an approximately square range of buildings to the west of an enclosed garden, very close to that shown on the 1809 plan (*Section 8.2.8*). Numerous tracks and pathways are shown, and a partially embanked trackway is indicated in the location of the linear earthwork (Site **07**). It is shown as in use, and it was also depicted on the 1809 plan. Many other features of note are also indicated by the Ordnance Survey, including a very small enclosure to the south of the formal garden, and four larger enclosures on the north side, the naming of St Cuthbert's Chapel (Site **05**, which is not shown, presumably just a site), a sheep pen near the end of the promontory (Site **13**), and an embanked mound with a building on the top to the north of this (the summerhouse shown on the 1809 plan, Site **12**). A possible building is depicted by the riverside, on the southern side of the promontory (Site **23**), which is described as a 'ruin' on an 1863 edition of the same map.

8.2.15 ***Ordnance Survey, 1899 (Plate 13):*** several changes can be observed within the grounds of the estate. The sheep pen (Site **13**) is no longer present, neither is the path leading north-north-west from Old Melrose, or the riverside building (Site **23**). There are more enclosures present to the south of the garden, including a pheasantry, and a small building (Site **14**) is shown close to the summerhouse (Site **12**).

8.2.16 ***Ordnance Survey, 1921 (Plate 14):*** considerable construction has taken place immediately north of the garden, with several greenhouses and a possible shed being present. A substantial enclosure is also present in the north of the field to the north of Old Melrose (Site **01**).

8.2.17 ***Ordnance Survey, 1963:*** there are some slight changes since the previous map, including the first depiction of the northern section of the linear earthwork as an 'earthwork' (indicated as an antiquity; Site **07**). The enclosure to the north of Old Melrose is no longer present (Site **01**).

8.2.18 ***Later Ordnance Survey maps:*** the microfilm collections of the Map Library were searched for Ordnance Survey maps post-dating the 1963 edition for the site, but none were available, apparently because the area had changed very little since that date.

9. ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

9.1 INTRODUCTION

9.1.1 The totality of the physical evidence for the monastic site at Old Melrose falls almost entirely within the categories of either anecdotal evidence or archaeological finds, or a combination of the two. The anecdotal evidence is set out below, presented as a chronological sequence, in order to demonstrate the origins of the various pieces of evidence, and to show how they have been subsequently quoted. Following this, the section on archaeological finds includes all finds where a suggestion has been made that their origin could be from Old Melrose. Such origins, however, are neither confirmed nor denied by their inclusion within this list. To minimise confusion, each find or group of finds is set out individually, with a chronological account of references within each entry.

9.2 ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE

9.2.1 Around the year 1743, William Maitland apparently sent out queries to each parish, and Adam Milne, at that time the minister for Melrose parish, replied by publishing a short book (anonymously, although it was widely known that he was its author). This book is the origin for some of the main pieces of anecdotal evidence for the monastic site at Old Melrose – evidence that has been quoted ever since. George Thomson, minister for the same parish a century later, had the following to say about Adam Milne: '*Milne, though a man of respectable talent and research, seems to have had the foible of mistaking for Roman encampments old sheep fields, eg his two* Casta exploratorum. *What he calls a Roman encampment on the top of the Eildons, may easily have been a border fastness, to which the cattle of the neighbourhood might be driven on the approach of the enemy; for there are no distinct indications observable from which it can be inferred that it was Roman, and his Roman road across Bowden moor is proven, by a curious old charter lately discovered, to have been a boundary line between the adjoining properties of the Kelso and the Melrose monastery*' (Thomson 1845, 55).

9.2.2 **Milne, 1743:** '*The Convent has been inclosed with a Stone Wall, reaching from the South Corner of the Tweed to the West Corner of it, where the Neck of Land is narrow; the Foundations of the Wall are yet still to be seen* (Site **07**). *At the Entrance to the Convent, about the Middle of this Wall, there has been an House built, likely for their Porters, called yet the Redhouse* (Site **06**). *The Place where the Chapel stood is still called the Chapelknow* (Site **05**) . . . *I do not think there has been any great Building about it, for, as Bede acquaints us, their Churches then were all of Oak, and thatched with Reeds*' (Milne 1743, 6).

9.2.3 **Old Statistical Account, 1791-2:** '*The convent of Old Melrose was inclosed with a stone wall, reaching from the south corner to the west corner of the Tweed, where the neck of the land is narrow; and the foundations of the wall*

are still to be seen (Site **07**). *I do not think there has been any great building about it; for as Bede acquaints us, their churches were all of oak, and covered with reeds'* (Thomson 1791-2, 571-2).

9.2.4 **Bower, 1813:** '*It is supposed that this convent was defended by a stone wall, stretching from that part of the river on the north side, to that on the south, where the neck of land betwixt them was narrowest, the foundation of such a wall having been seen about the year 1730, by the Rev. Mr. Milne, author of the Description of Melrose Parish; the ground there has since for a considerable time been inclosed and under tillage, so that there now appears no traces of this wall but in the former accounts of it* (Site **07**). *At the entrance to the convent, about the middle of the neck of land, and of this supposed wall, there was a house, built likely for the porters of the convent, yet called the Redhouse* (Site **06**). *The place where the chapel stood is still called the Chapel-knowe* (Site **05**)...*It is not likely that there were many stone buildings about Old Melrose at that time, for Bede informs us, that their churches were then all built of oak, and thatched with reeds'* (Bower 1813, 13-5).

9.2.5 All available editions of Bower's guides (1822, 1827, nd) and the anonymous guides (1847, 1869), which were very similar, were examined for additional information on antiquities at Old Melrose. However, no new relevant information was present in any of the later editions, which merely repeated the 1813 text almost verbatim, itself having been taken largely from Milne's description of 1743.

9.2.6 **Ordnance Survey, 1859:** '*the Ordnance Survey Name Book notes that human bones have been found near this site* [St Cuthbert's Chapel], *and near Old Melrose house'* (Ordnance Survey 1859, 241; quoted in NMRS NT53SE 23.00).

9.2.7 **Douglas, 1899:** '*It was on the peninsula... now known as Old Melrose, that the monastery was founded. No traces of the old buildings are now visible, though there is record of the foundations of an old wall, cutting off the peninsula from the mainland (Jeffrey, vol I, 307)'* (Site **07**; Douglas 1899, 36). '*Its present sweet verdure and tangled hanging woods, may be untenable; for, as a great historian observes, if we would see the Lowlands as they were in Cuthbert's day, we must sweep meadow and farm away, and replace them by "vast solitudes, dotted here and there by clusters of wooden hovels, and crossed by boggy tracks" (Green's Short History of the English People, 25)'* (*op cit*, 37). '*Cuthbert's name has also been associated with a fish-pond and a "holy" well at Old Melrose'* (*op cit*, 42; Site **16**).

9.2.8 **RCAHMS, 1945:** various pieces of information were gathered by the RCAHMS during a site visit carried out by them in 1945: '*foundations are reported to have been found in a flower bed skirting the south-east side of the Chapel Knoll, while three graves are said to lie under the lawn east of the south-east corner of Old Melrose'* (RCAHMS 1956, 303-4).

9.2.9 **Thomas, 1961:** '*The "entrance... about the middle of the wall" is known to Mr Moffat, tenant. It preceded the present layout of the drive, and its line is marked by a high ridge (natural) dotted on the enclosed plan, a ridge on*

which lay some sort of cobbled or made road (Site **08**). *This is still detectable in ploughing. The chapel knoll is marked, and actually covers a pretty large area, the chapel (medieval) being on its north-east extremity* (Site **05**; RCAHMS MS 348, 1961).

9.2.10 **MacKie, 1975:** '*About 320m before this house [Old Melrose] is reached the road forks and passes through a ditch and bank earthwork which has been traced all the way across the promontory, which is at its narrowest here* (Site **07**). *This is believed to be the remains of the outer defence of Mailros*' (MacKie 1975, 82). '*There was a stone chapel close to the house dedicated to St Cuthbert* (Site **05**). *Its foundations are reported by the present owner to be underneath the greenhouse*' (*ibid*).

9.2.11 **Lonie, 1997:** '*As summarised in RCAHMS, 1956, minor excavations found some old foundations to the south-east of the Chapel Mound and three graves, old but undated, to the south-east of the House, some 100m south of the Chapel. The vallum* (Site **07**) *is broken near its centre by an old road, now ploughed out* (Site **08**). *This ran south-west inclining south. The road does not obviously lead to any settlement and was perhaps a link with Dere Street. Despite the meagre remains the site is well attested in history...*' (Lonie 1997a, 6).

9.3   ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

9.3.1 **Stone find 1873 (Site 17):** '*In 1873 a block of red sandstone measuring 7 inches by 9 inches by 4.5 inches was found built into a garden wall at Gattonside (PSAS, x (1872-4), 448 ff), and is now preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities. It evidently formed part of the shaft of a free-standing cross, and is ornamented on the face with an interlacing double cord and on the side with a key pattern. Nothing can be said as to its origin, though Old Melrose is the nearest ecclesiastical site of the period to which the fragment evidently belongs*' (RCAHMS 1956, 304-5). '*The RCAMS* [sic] *Inventory of Roxburghshire, 1956, entry 594, describes the Gattonside stone. This is probably of 10th century date from Old Melrose and is held by the National Museum*' (Lonie 1997b, 32).

9.3.2 **Stone find c 1894 (Site 18):** '*A sculptured stone was dug up by the gardener, a Mr Short, within 100 yards of the supposed site of Old Melrose Church, in, or prior to, 1894. The fragment of sandstone, 1 foot long by 10 inches wide, by 9 inches thick, was sculptured in relief with a double spiral. In 1903 the stone was reported to be in the possession of the gardener*' (Allen and Anderson 1903, 436; NMRS NT53SE 23.01).

9.3.3 **Stone find c 1928 (Site 19):** '*To judge by the single fragment that remains, a 12th century corbel carved in the form of a grotesque face (PSAS, lxiii (1928-9, 363), now in the museum at Melrose Abbey, the chapel must have been a building of some importance*' (RCAHMS 1956, 303). In 1956 this fragment, '*a 12th century mask-corbel of red sandstone from Old Melrose,*' was in the south room on the first floor of the museum (*op cit*, 288). MacKie notes in 1975 that '*There is a fragment of a 12th century corbel of red sandstone from*

this chapel in the Melrose Abbey museum' (MacKie 1975, 83). '*The Official Guide to Melrose Abbey, 1973, makes mention of a carved corbel of 12th century date, from St Cuthbert's Chapel, held in the Abbey Museum. This could not be located during major alterations*' (Lonie 1997b, 32).

9.3.4 ***Museum at Melrose Abbey 1956 (Site 20):*** in 1956, in the north room on the ground floor of the museum at Melrose Abbey, there was preserved '*From the early monastic site at Old Melrose, a carved fragment of warm-coloured freestone, rounded at one end and measuring over all 1 foot 2 inches by 10 ¼ inches with a present thickness of 5 ¾ inches. The front alone is roughly dressed and on it is carved a volute, or spiral or five turns, below which there is a "neck", originally about 9 inches wide but now reduced to 3 ½ inches. This fragment may be part of the top of a disc-faced cross*' (RCAHMS 1956, 288).

9.3.5 ***Stone finds* c *1997 (Site 21):*** Bill Lonie discovered three carved stone fragments set in the road-wall of the former Fairfax mission-hall.

9.3.6 *(i) 'A grey sand-stone fragment presents a rectangular face 130 x 110mm showing a loop and two short lengths of single-strand rib forming an inter-lace of five crossings. The style is Northumbrian of the later 9th century. The patron of the mission-hall was Dame Harriet Fairfax so that it is not improbable that the stone came from the site of Mailros Abbey, now Old Melrose, on the then Fairfax estate of Ravenswood'* (Lonie 1997b, 31).

9.3.7 *(ii) 'A fragment of pink sand-stone moulding 280 x 80mm, set vertically, is much defaced but shows the root curves of a deeply cut round, finely worked. These features suggest the Early English style of the later 12th century which would not be inappropriate to either St Cuthbert's Chapel or an early build of Melrose Abbey'* (*ibid*).

9.3.8 *(iii) 'A rectangular panel of pink sand-stone 190mm long x 110mm high over a flat border shows an oval array of eight leaves radiate around a four-petalled ball-flower. A receding concave moulding extends the top border by 15mm. This moulding appears to extend along top edges of the stone hidden in the wall. The deeply undercut carving suggests a 14th century date. The stone has no parallels in Melrose Abbey. The provenance suggests an ecclesiastical source of some status'* (*ibid*).

10. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND OTHER WORK

10.1   INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 The site of Old Melrose has been described archaeologically as '*unexcavated and almost invisible yet archaeologically important*' (MacKie 1975, 82). It has been further commented that '*in the absence of largescale excavations . . . interpretation on the ground is uncertain*' (Ritchie and Ritchie 1991, 151). Many attempts have been made to investigate it using non-intrusive techniques, however, and these are summarised below by type and chronologically.

10.2   GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

10.2.1 *CFA 2001:* geophysical survey was carried out at Old Melrose and Old Melrose Farm in 2001 (CFA 2002). Resistivity to the north and west of Old Melrose identified modern field drains, the possible kerbs of a road (Site **08**?), geological features, the twentieth-century enclosure shown on the 1921 Ordnance Survey map, and unidentified features (*op cit*, 7-8). At Old Melrose Farm, resistivity identified modern field drains and recent plough lines, but also a series of unidentified features which may be archaeological, including a possible enclosure and rectangular building (*op cit*, 8-9). Gradiometry was found to be largely ineffective (*op cit*, 17).

10.2.2 *CFA 2002:* further geophysical survey was carried out at Old Melrose and Old Melrose Farm in 2002, over much the same areas as previously, but with slight extensions (CFA 2003). At Old Melrose this work largely confirmed the presence of field drains and a possible road (Site **08**?), with a possible small part of the road identified further west (*op cit*, 7-8). Similarly, at Old Melrose Farm, the second phase of work seemed to confirm the earlier findings. In addition, two possible wells, two possible paths, ridge and furrow, and geological features were identified (*op cit*, 8). It was thought that the features previously identified as archaeological may in fact be the result of the underlying geology.

10.2.3 *Michael Hill 2003:* a programme of geophysical survey, comprising both resistivity and magnetic gradiometry (Hill 2003, 3), was undertaken across the north of the linear earthwork, a section of the possible road that may run east through the linear earthwork, and Chapel Knoll (*op cit*, 14). Resistivity on the linear earthwork (Site **07**) apparently concluded little more than could be observed from the surface – that the feature included a bank and a ditch (*op cit*, 3). The same technique when carried out on the Chapel Knoll (Site **05**) detected a possible large block of sandstone, whilst magnetic gradiometry did not produce reliable results due to the masking effect of high anomalous magnetic fields generated by local metallic objects (*ibid*).

10.3 FIELDWALKING

10.3.1 *Walter Elliot:* discussions with Walter Elliot during the site visit on 2nd March 2006 revealed that the fields around Old Melrose are rarely ploughed, and that as a consequence he has only been able to walk two fields to the west of Old Melrose Farm about three times. This fieldwalking revealed very limited quantities of Victorian and Georgian finds, which were not collected, one George III (1760-1820) penny, two fragments of unworked chert, and one sherd of pottery. The sherd is a base angle from a globular cooking pot, in white gritty ware, which displays isolated splashes of glaze, and sooting from use. The sherd is possibly as early as the twelfth century, but is more likely to date from the thirteenth to fourteenth centuries. The vessel was probably made locally, and similar material has been found at Kelso and Jedburgh (Julie Franklin *pers comm*).

10.3.2 *CFA 2001:* in the course of carrying out geophysical survey to the west of Old Melrose Farm, a single flake of struck flint was found (Site **22**; CFA 2002, 8). While carrying out similar work at Broomhill Farm, careful attention was paid to the possibility of the discovery of artefacts and their recovery, but no material of archaeological interest were identified (*op cit*, 9). CFA note that '*No artefacts other than a single struck flint from Melrose Farm (site 2) were recovered from any of the sites investigated. In the case of the scheduled area at Old Melrose this is unsurprising as the field was under pasture grassland, but at Melrose and Broomhill Farms, where the ground had been recently ploughed, the absence of artefactual material is perhaps slightly surprising*' (*op cit*, 17).

10.3.3 *OA North 2006:* at the time of the site visit a pipe trench had been dug across the field immediately to the west of Old Melrose, to a depth of approximately 1m. Some parts of this trench had not yet been back-filled, and spoil lay along the side of the entire length of it. All the spoil was briefly examined, and all visible artefacts and ecofacts were collected. These comprised several fragments of large mammal bone, probably cow, three fragments of pottery, and one fragment of glass. The group contains a fragment of sponge-printed white earthenware saucer, a sherd of brown-glazed red earthenware pancheon rim, and a sherd of self-glazed stoneware hollow ware, all dating from the nineteenth or early twentieth century. The piece of glass is from a bottle, but the form and date cannot be determined.

10.3.4 A stone-built drain was also examined close to the west end of the trench. The drain was approximately 0.80m below the present ground surface, although a construction cut for the feature could not be seen within the trench side, truncating the layers above. Interestingly, the stone elements of the drain were only visible within the northern side of the trench, and no corresponding feature could be defined on the opposing side, suggesting that the stone-lined feature turned sharply or terminated at this juncture. No ceramic drain pipe was visible, which might suggest that the feature was of some antiquity, but this cannot be proven. Although the location of drain was not accurately plotted, it does not appear to correspond to features detected during the geophysical surveys.

10.3.5 Part of the large field to the west of Old Melrose Farm was also briefly examined, as it contained stubble and exposed soil. A single piece of unworked chert was collected.

10.4 DOWSING

10.4.1 Walter Elliot has undertaken an extensive programme of dowsing across the Old Melrose promontory, concentrating on the areas around Old Melrose House and to the west of Old Melrose Farm. Within the field to the west of Old Melrose Farm it has been suggested that the dowsing has detected a series of rectangular anomalies, which are not dissimilar to features visible on aerial photographs, although of considerably greater density. To the west of Old Melrose House the dowsing has seemingly detected two different types of anomaly, both rectangular and circular in plan (Walter Elliot *pers comm*). These too appear to be replicated on aerial photographs to some degree, although not in the detail that Walter Elliot has proposed. Walter Elliot believes these anomalies represent the traces of both stone and timber buildings, although the detail is not revealed in the aerial photographs, and was not picked up with conventional geophysical methods.

10.4.2 To the immediate south of Old Melrose House, Walter Elliot has suggested that there is a large cemetery, probably connected to the ecclesiastical site (Walter Elliot *pers comm*). Human remains have been encountered to the east of the current house, but the exact location of this discovery is unknown (NMRS NT53SE 23.00).

10.4.3 The exact location of the chapel is still not certain, and the area appears to have encountered some disturbance during landscaping and the construction of garden features. A knoll is marked on the Ordnance Survey map (1899 and later editions) as the former site of the chapel, and this is within the larger area of the Scheduled Monument. Walter Elliot's dowsing has identified the potential outline of an apsidal structure upon this knoll, although conventional geophysics failed to replicate these findings to a level of similar detail (Hill 2003). It must be stressed that any potential site of the seventh-century chapel will have undergone considerable modification and disturbance, and may initially have only been a relatively ephemeral, timber building.

10.5 SITE VISITS

10.5.1 **RCAHMS 1945:** the site of St Cuthbert's Chapel (Site **05**) was visited by the RCAHMS, and they reported that '*no structural remains of this chapel are visible*' (RCAHMS 1956, 303-4).

10.5.2 **RCAHMS 1951:** the linear earthwork (Site **07**) was visited by the RCAHMS, and they described it as follows: '*Linear earthwork, Old Melrose: some 350 yards west of Old Melrose the private road from the highway at Old Melrose Lodge swings towards the south-south-east, an unmetalled wood-road continuing its previous line along the crest of the steep river bank. From a point 45 yards east of the fork a ditch-and-bank earthwork descends the slope*

and ends at the water's edge; its length is about 80 yards, but on the slope it proved unmeasurable. The bank is spread to a greatest breadth of 12 feet, and is up to 4 feet in height; the ditch, which is on the west side of the bank, varies greatly from place to place in its state of preservation. Above the wood-road the work had evidently been destroyed by rig cultivation before trees were planted' (RCAHMS 1956, 322-3).

10.5.3 **Ordnance Survey 1961:** the linear earthwork (Site **07**) was visited by the Ordnance Survey, and they described it as follows: '*NT 5852 3400 – NT 5848 3405. This earthwork generally as described above [by RCAHMS 1951]. The bank is about 3.0m broad and 1.0m maximum height, the ditch being 2.5m in average width. The earthwork is cut by a footpath about 40m below the wood-road, and there are traces of a ditch on the east side of the bank, extending from a few metres above this footpath to the end of the work some 6.0m from the water's edge on the steep river bank. Surveyed at 1:2500 (RCAHMS 1956, 322-3).*' The site of St Cuthbert's Chapel (Site **05**) was visited at the same time, and the Ordnance Survey noted that '*No structural remains of this chapel survive*' (*op cit*, 303-4). The fish pond or holy well (Site **16**) mentioned by Douglas in 1899 was researched at the same time and '*Local enquiries at Old Melrose revealed no knowledge of this fish-pond or the holy well. Their whereabouts were not located during field investigation*' (NMRS NT53SE 36).

10.5.4 **Bill Lonie 1996:** the visit is described as follows: '*There is little to be seen. The Chapel Mound* (Site **05**) *is just that, with a few undressed stones protruding. Skirting the mound to the north is a grass-grown path kerbed with heavy dressed stones. This is estate work and leads to a gate into the garden. Inspection of the garden walls discovered several finely dressed and simply carved stones built into them. These stones may be from the Chapel but are not readily dateable*' (Lonie 1997a, 6).

10.5.5 **SUAT 2004:** Derek Hall of SUAT visited Old Melrose with John Dent and Rory MacDonald of Scottish Borders Council and Richard Fawcett of Historic Scotland in September 2004 (SUAT 2005, 1). Hall comments that '*The most striking thing about a visit to Old Melrose is the complete absence of anything standing above ground that would suggest its previous function as the site of an early monastery*' (*op cit*, 3). He observes that '*It is worth noting that St Cuthbert's does not seem to lie directly under the greenhouse as is suggested in Michael Hill's report; …there are several substantial earthworks in the area of Chapel Knoll which seems a more likely location. It is also noticeable that there are at least two backfilled excavation trenches, presumably of some antiquity, on the knoll. The traces of a putative vallum are just visible in the woods to the north-west of the farm track that runs above the River Tweed; there is no trace of any continuation of this feature to the south of the track*' (*op cit*, 2).

10.5.6 **OA North 2006:** the site was visited briefly as part of the present assessment on 2nd March 2006. The Chapel Knoll (Site **05**) was briefly examined, as well as the path kerbed with dressed stones mentioned by Lonie (1997a). Remains of two reputed trenches were pointed out by members of The Trimontium Trust on the summit, but it was not clear whether they were specifically

antiquarian or archaeological in nature. A short section of the Vallum earthwork (Site **07**) was also briefly examined, and it was seen to comprise linear banks, some parts of which were topped by mature trees.

10.6   UNSPECIFIED SURVEY

10.6.1 ***Thomas 1961:*** a survey was carried out in 1961 by Charles Thomas, including the examination of aerial photographs. From the manuscript notes, although it is not specified, it would appear to have included a site visit. '*The vallum* (Site **07**) *seems more of a wide broad ditch between two banks, an inner bank and an outer counterscarp, both pretty well spread. It can be traced practically across the peninsula*' (RCAHMS MS 348, 1961). '*Unless the Red House (*Site **06**; *qu. From the red sandstone used in building?) lay in the present wood, it may be the area just inside the vallum by the entrance detectable on the air cover...*' (*ibid*). Thomas made a rough sketch map, onto which were annotated additional features including a cobbled road running to the south of the current road to Old Melrose House. Thomas states that he was informed of the location of the cobbles by the then tenant farmer, Mr Moffat. An original break in the centre of the Vallum is also described, although this would be to the north of the proposed line of the cobbled road. The Ordnance Survey map of 1859 (Plate 12) depicts a pathway running parallel to, and to the south of, the road leading to Old Melrose House, on the approximate line of the cobbled road sketched by Charles Thomas.

10.7   SCHEDULING

10.7.1 ***Secretary of State for Scotland, 1974:*** St Cuthbert's Chapel (Site **05**) and Monastery Site (Site **10**) were Scheduled (RO 865) by the Secretary of State for Scotland in 1974. It is not clear what archaeological survey or desk-based assessment work, if any, was associated with this, and the file was not located during this assessment.

10.7.2 ***Secretary of State for Scotland, 1977:*** the linear earthwork (Site **07**) at Old Melrose, possibly dating from 700 BC to AD 700, was Scheduled (RO 905) by the Secretary of State for Scotland in 1977. As with the 1974 Scheduling, the work associated with this is unclear, and the file remains closed until 1 January 2009 (NAS (WREG) DD27/5575 1977-8).

11. DISCUSSION

11.1 SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE

11.1.1 *Section 3, Topography:* given the steepness of the banks, the promontory would appear to be in the same position today as it was in the early medieval period. There is a natural abundance of stone in the area, making this an obvious building material. The River Tweed has been a significant boundary since at least the eleventh century.

11.1.2 *Section 4, Prehistoric and Roman remains:* the surrounding area was a significant focus of activity during the Iron Age and the Roman period, although the evidence on the promontory itself is sparse, represented by a single flint flake. The rounded enclosure to the south of Old Melrose Farm represents the most promising potential for archaeological remains from this period, but remains uninvestigated and undated.

11.1.3 *Section 5, Historical sources for the monastic site:* study of all these sources could be a thesis in itself. Bede's description of the location of the monastic site appears to relate to the promontory. If a physical or layout description of the monastic site, or St Cuthbert's Chapel, is included amongst the chronicles, it has not been quoted by later sources. All the sources really provide is an account of the existence of the monastic site and St Cuthbert's Chapel, with approximate dates.

11.1.4 *Section 6, Aerial photographs:* there is little information on the aerial photographs that is not shown more clearly on maps and plans. Although ridge and furrow is visible, its form suggests that it is relatively late, and relates to field boundaries shown on the maps and plans. It is believed that most of the anomalies visible on aerial photographs are caused by the underlying geology, or relatively modern drains and pathways.

11.1.5 *Section 7, Documentary evidence for the secular site:* Old Melrose was in use from the mid sixteenth century as an estate of reasonable standing. A house was built in 1575, the lintel of which survives, and the area in general was subject to improvements in terms of agriculture and estate layout in the early eighteenth century. Rebuilding took place at Old Melrose in 1772.

11.1.6 *Section 8, Cartographic evidence:* there is possible (schematic) evidence of the layout of the buildings in 1770 (ie just prior to rebuilding in 1772), and the proposed plan from 1809 is by far the most useful. It shows the drive to the summerhouse and old paths, but it is problematic because it is a proposed plan, rather than a plan showing what was there at the time. The sequence of Ordnance Survey maps is also useful, showing small changes such as the creation and removal of sheepfolds.

11.1.7 *Section 9, Anecdotal evidence and finds:* it is not clear why Milne thought that there was a stone wall across the promontory (1743), given his comments about building materials from Bede, unless stone foundations were really

visible. His mention of Redhouse does not state any evidence clearly, either. Bower is quite clear in 1813 that all traces of the wall have been obliterated by agriculture, possibly relating to the changes that occurred in 1772 and 1809. There is anecdotal evidence from 1859 of human bones, from 1945 of foundations under a flower bed and graves under the lawn, from 1961 of a cobbled road detectable by ploughing, and from 1975 of foundations of St Cuthbert's Chapel under the greenhouse. Several carved stones of various dates exist, most of which were not found at Old Melrose itself.

11.1.8 *Section 10, Survey:* non-intrusive techniques have only added a little to the understanding of the site, and there is no record of systematic excavation having taken place.

11.2   DISCUSSION

11.2.1 It is certainly intriguing that there are so few records and finds recorded from Old Melrose, other than those referring to the chapel and monastic site. Despite the relatively poor and heavy soils, the promontory would appear to be an ideally contained and defendable location, with access to the river, and therefore not unfavourable for settlement. The Vallum may have its origins in the prehistoric or Romano-British periods, but remains undated. This would not prevent the feature being re-used or utilised in later periods. It must be acknowledged that prehistoric occupation may not leave a large amount of evidence, but one might expect Iron Age settlement to have continued into the Romano-British period, when the use of more readily recognisable Roman material is relatively common.

11.2.2 Similarly, early medieval activity may have left little trace, and without detailed archaeological excavation the remains of timber buildings will remain difficult to detect, although a church or chapel structure may be more substantial than other forms of occupation (eg Lowe 2006; Newman and Leech forthcoming). It may also be the case that the land was largely down to pasture during the medieval monastic phase, as the almost total absence of pottery sherds in the ploughsoil suggests little attempt at manuring or improvement.

11.2.3 A regrettably low standard of recording of the precise location and nature of the remains that have been found at Old Melrose makes them difficult to interpret and assess. It should be borne in mind that considerable landscaping and building has taken place in the vicinity of Old Melrose house, and that this will have affected the survival of any archaeological remains. The former monastery may have occupied the relatively central position currently enjoyed by the house, as continuity of settlement can often be demonstrated for farmsteads of medieval origin. If this is the case, the remains of the monastery will undoubtedly have suffered. An indication of the extent of the landscaping which appears to have taken place in 1809 can be seen from the ramped summerhouse mound, with its driveway leading from the house at Old Melrose. It is possible, however, that the driveway and the mound were already in existence prior to this date. This might explain the greater visibility

of the driveway to the summerhouse, compared to some of the other routes which are no longer in existence.

12. FURTHER RESEARCH

12.1 While the current assessment paints a relatively bleak picture regarding the state of current archaeological knowledge for the promontory, this does not mean that further, fruitful, research cannot be undertaken. Initially, it would be prudent to utilise further opportunities for non-intrusive fieldwork as and when they arise, such as fieldwalking ploughed fields, monitoring riverbank erosion, or watching intrusive maintenance or building works etc, particularly as the core of the site is scheduled. There is, however, potential for further pro-active work also.

12.2 ***Documentary research:*** it is possible that useful information lies in documentary sources that could not be examined due to the constraints of the scale of this project. There are undoubtedly other early written sources to Old Melrose that remain undiscovered, as they form part of un-indexed documents such as early sasines, and these could be sought out. Since all of this would be extremely time-consuming, undertaking the work professionally would be prohibitively expensive, but this could be undertaken by non-professional researchers, given adequate training. Examination of the chronicles may also prove useful, although at this stage it is unclear whether any further relevant information is likely to be contained within them.

12.3 ***Archaeological finds and anecdotal evidence:*** it may be worth attempting to trace all finds, be they stone or bones, that have been reported as having been discovered at Old Melrose, or that are supposed to have their origins there. Similarly, individuals or descendants of the individuals involved could be traced in order to try to establish more accurate locations for finds and remains that have been reported anecdotally. The suggestion made by Bill Lonie that the stones in the wall of the Fairfax Mission Hall originated from Old Melrose is an interesting one, and investigations could be conducted to locate letters and diaries of occupants of Old Melrose, particularly the Fairfax family, and search these for references to finds or features being discovered. Oral history from the Younger family, assuming this avenue has not been exhausted already, may also prove valuable. This should include investigations regarding the current and past names of the fields at Old Melrose, as these fieldnames proved elusive during the desk-based assessment. All information gathered should be published, as a minimum in the form of grey literature, impeccably referenced and illustrated with accurate drawings and plans. Professional advice and assistance should be sought at all stages.

12.4 ***Fieldwork:*** given the extent to which Old Melrose has suffered from poorly recorded discoveries, it would be disastrous if intrusive archaeological work was undertaken that was not to a sufficiently high professional standard, and if publication did not result from significant results. Equally, close attention should be paid to any intrusive work being undertaken during the course of building or other work, and sufficient provision should be made for the professional investigation and recording of deposits that may be destroyed as a result. This should ideally form part of the planning process, but where this is not the case, it could be organised by interested parties such as The Trimontium Trust. This would be most important in the immediate environs of

Old Melrose House, beyond the boundaries of the Scheduled Area. The reputed site of the chapel is protected, but more importantly may have undergone considerable disturbance during landscaping. A detailed walkover and earthwork survey within the wooded part of the Scheduled Area may provide more information on this landscaping, and in turn identify earthworks that may be of greater antiquity.

12.5 ***Excavation:*** aerial photographic reconnaissance and geophysical survey has not resolved the issue of whether many of the anomalies detected are of genuine archaeological origin, or geological, or a combination of both. Archaeological excavation could form a possible option to confirm or refute these results, but given that the images on the aerial photographs appear to be largely geological, it is not recommended that a significant amount of resources are dedicated to these. Other than a single stone-lined drain, there were no visible remains in the sides of the pipe trench running westwards from Old Melrose house that were examined in March 2006, and only modern finds were recovered from the spoil. The pipe trench did, however, pass through the area where structures have been proposed by dowsing survey. This would not prevent further geophysical survey from being undertaken, in areas adjacent to those already surveyed. Likewise, there are remarkably few finds from the ploughsoil within the field to the west of Old Melrose Farm, suggesting that the area was not formerly subject to intensive occupation.

12.6 The site of the circular or rounded enclosure visible as cropmark, to the south of Old Melrose Farm, would certainly be worthy of fieldwalking if circumstances allow, or geophysical survey. This feature appears to represent the best evidence for potential settlement or activity on the promontory, prior to, or perhaps contemporary with, monastic occupation.

12.7 If excavation were ever to be undertaken, in the field to the west of Old Melrose, or in the fields to the west of Old Melrose Farm, then this would need to be supervised by an archaeologist with sufficient experience to distinguish between geologically natural and anthropogenic deposits, including ephemeral features representing timber buildings. Ideally, such works would be preceded by a project design laying out the research aims and objectives behind each stage of work, and undertaken following consultation with the Scottish Borders Council archaeological curator.

12.8 ***The Vallum:*** this feature represents one of the most substantial surviving earthworks on the promontory, that could conceivably be of some antiquity. While the feature is likely to have formed an element of the monastic land division, and possibly the boundary to the monastery itself, this in turn may have utilised an earlier earthwork, perhaps even pre-Roman in origin. It is reported that a wall was visible at this point in the mid-eighteenth century (Cameron and Cameron 1861; Jeffrey 1864), but this cannot be verified, nor the date of such a structure. The northernmost element of the earthwork is also a Scheduled Monument (RO 905), and it is unlikely that intrusive fieldwork would be allowed in this section. The proposed line of the ditch to the south is, however, not protected by law, and offers an opportunity to search for and sample the Vallum ditch. This might offer an opportunity to retrieve dating evidence for the earthwork, as well as information on the environment during

the time that the ditch was open. The exact antiquity of the feature is unknown, and artefactual or scientific dating techniques may extend considerably the known chronology of occupation on the Old Melrose promontory. At Hoddom, Dumfries and Galloway, for example, excavation of a monastic vallum ditch revealed hitherto unknown details of a bank and fence line, and provided dating evidence for the feature (Lowe *et al* 1991, 14; Lowe 2006).

13. SITE GAZETTEER

Site no	Description	Date	NMRS No; SMR No; Status	Location
01	Enclosure north of Old Melrose House	Twentieth C	-	NT 5880 3413
02	Driveway from Old Melrose to summerhouse	*c* 1809?	-	Centred approx NT 5887 3414
03	Cropmark apparently corresponding to former road line	Unknown	-	Centred approx NT 5882 3398
04	Possible enclosure to the south of Old Melrose Farm	Unknown	-	NT 5830 3360
05	St Cuthbert's Chapel	Medieval	NT53SE23; 214/0027; Scheduled (RO 865)	NT 5886 3406
06	Red House	Early medieval?	-	Anecdotal evidence and possible AP evidence – not closely located
07	Linear earthwork	Early medieval?	NT53SE21; 214/0159; Partly Scheduled (RO 905)	NT 5852 3400 – NT 5848 3405
08	Road to Old Melrose through linear earthwork	Early medieval?	-	Anecdotal evidence and possible geophysical evidence
09	Graves	Early medieval?	-	Anecdotal evidence – not closely located
10	Old Melrose monastery	Early medieval	NT53SE23; 214/0027; Scheduled (RO 865)	NT 5886 3406 – not closely located
11	Drythelm's house	Early medieval	-	Not closely located
12	Summerhouse	*c* 1809?	NR53SE104; N/A; -	NT 5897 3428
13	Sheep pen	Nineteenth C	-	NT 5902 3423
14	Building close to summerhouse	Nineteenth C	-	NT 5901 3429
15	Old Melrose house, stables, garden, greenhouses	Nineteenth C?	-	NT 5882 3398
16	Fish pond or holy well	Unknown	-	-
17	Gattonside stone	Tenth C?	-	-
18	Old Melrose stone 1	Unknown	-	-
19	Old Melrose stone 2	Twelfth C	-	-
20	Old Melrose stone 3	Unknown	-	-
21	Fairfax Mission Hall stones	Ninth to fourteenth C?	-	-
22	Flint flake	Unknown	-	-
23	Building	Pre-1859		NT 5874 3382

14. BIBLIOGRAPHY

NMRS: references within the text prefixed with NMRS refer to individual site files within the National Monument Record of Scotland, Edinburgh.

14.1   CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Ainslie, J, 1821 *Ainslie's Map of the Southern Part of Scotland*

Blaeu, J, 1654a *Laudelia* (Lauderdale)

Blaeu, J, 1654b *Teviotia* (Teviotdale)

British Geological Survey, nd *Galashiels Solid Edition. Scotland Sheet 25W*, 1:50,000

British Geological Survey, nd *Galashiels Drift Edition. Scotland Sheet 25W*, 1:50,000

Crawford, W, and Brooke, W, 1843 *Map embracing extensive portions of the Counties of Roxburgh, Berwick, Selkirk & Midlothian and Part of Northumberland...*

Gordon, R, *c* 1636-52 *A map of the Clyde and Tweed basins*

Moll, H, 1745 *The North Part of ye Shire of Roxburgh and The Shire of Selkirk called also Etterick Forrest*

Ordnance Survey, *c* 1859 *Roxburghshire Sheet VIII.7 (with part of Sheet VIII.3)*, surveyed 1859, first edition 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1899 *Berwickshire Sheet XXX.II, Roxburghshire Sheet VIII.2.3.6.7 (Parts of), Second Edition 1899*, Roxburghshire surveyed 1859, revised 1897, second edition 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1921 *Roxburghshire (New Series) Sheet NVIII.4, Berwickshire Sheet XXX.6.7.10.11 (Parts of), Edition of 1921*, Roxburghshire surveyed 1859, revised 1919, third edition 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1963a *Plan NT5833 and Plan NT5933*, revised 1961, 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1963b *Plan NT5834 and Plan NT5934*, revised 1961, 1:2500

Roy, W, 1747-55 *Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-1755*

Stobie, M, 1770 *A map of Roxburghshire or Tiviotdale*

Taylor, G, and Skinner, A, 1776 *Survey and map of the roads of...Scotland: Road from Lauder to Jedburgh*

Tennant, N, 1840 *Map of the County of Roxburgh*

Thomson, J, 1820 *Roxburghshire*

14.2 PRIMARY SOURCES

Ravenswood Deeds, 1775, Bundle 17 number 1 *Ext Disposition of the Lands of Old Melrose, Gilbert Laing Esq to Walter Elliott, dated 25th May 1775 regd 1 May 1777. Sasine heron in favour of Walter Elliott dated 6th recorded at Edinr 7 June 1777*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1777, Bundle 2 number 1 *Transfer of Old Melrose from Gilbert Laing, deceased, to Walter Elliott, 6th June 1777*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1781, Bundle 2 number 2 *Charter Confirmation of the Lands of Old Melrose and Teinds by John Davidson Esqr Comr for his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch In favour of Walter Elliott Esqr, 20 Febry 1781*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1794, Bundle 17 number 2 *Disposition of Old Melrose, Captain Walter Elliott to Mrs Margaret Eliott, Dated 30th May 1794*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1811, Bundle 2 number 3 *Carta Resignationis In favorem …Elliott Lockhart… Armigeri Terranum de Old Melrose et Terranum in Lillieleaf, Vigisimo Decembris 1811*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1814, Bundle 2 number 4 *Instrumentum Sasina in favorem Galielmi Elliott Lockhart Armigeri Terranum de Old Melrose,* dated 25th April 1814, and recorded 27th April 1814, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1819, Bundle 2 number 5 *Reg'd Disposition and Deed of Entail of the Lands of Old Melrose and Peasehill by William Elliott Lockhart Esq, Dated 23rd January 1819, Regd 27 March 1837*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1837, Bundle 2 number 6 *An Act for enabling the Trustees of William Elliott Lockhart deceased, of Borthwickbrae, to sell the Lands of Old Melrose and Part of the Estate of Borthwickbrae to pay the Debts affecting the same. 10th June 1837*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Ravenswood Deeds, 1841, Bundle 2 number 12 *Instrument of Sasine in favour of Adam Fairholme Esqr, Dated 5th March 1841*

Ravenswood Deeds, 1900 *Report upon the Valuation of the estate of Ravenswood including the lands of Old Melrose, Broomhill, and Red Rigs, in the Parish of Melrose and County of Roxburgh, 7th September 1900*, held by Turcan Connell Solicitors, Edinburgh

Gordon, D, 2006 *Letter to Mark Brennand re Old Melrose, 4th January 2006*

National Archives of Scotland (General Register House)

NAS(GREG) GD1/249/14, 1776 *Tack by Gilbert Laing of Meikledale to Andrew Sibbald, late tenant in Fairintown, now in Old Melrose, of lands of Old Melrose, for 5 years, 17 Feb 1776*

NAS(GREG) GD1/249/15, 1776 *Discharge by Elizabeth Sibbald, youngest daughter of Andrew Sibbald, tenant in Old Melrose, spouse of George Currie, tenant in Ha:rule, with consent of said George, to said Andrew of £100 stg., as bairn's part, 20 Apr 1776*

NAS(GREG) GD1/603/2, 1673 *Libel of forthcoming at instance of Robert Ormistone, servitor to James Eillies of Huntlywood, against James Mersser, portioner of Newstoid, debtor to James Laidlaw in Old Melrose, who was cautioner in a bond by Thomas Bickit to Ormistone, 11 Jan 1673*

NAS(GREG) GD47/302, 1739 *Extract act approving scheme of division of the prices of the lands of Drygrange and Old Melrose, among creditors of Robert Paterson of Drygrange, 2 Feb 1739*

NAS(GREG) GD157/2499, 1827 *Archibald Douglas, Old Melrose, to H.F. Scott, 20 Mar 1827*

NAS(GREG) GD224/997/19, 1618 *Manor place, abbey and lands of Old Melrose*

NAS(GREG) GD224/997/21, 1606-1619 *Allanshaws, Wooplaw, Threepwood, Williamlaw, Quhitlie, Sorrowlessfield, Old Melrose, and others*

NAS(GREG) GD237/10/13/13, 1767 *Postnuptial contract of marriage between John Johnston, tenant in Old Melrose, and Isobel Laing, natural daughter of Mr William Laing of Meikledale, 26th November 1767 (within Legal papers)*

NAS(GREG) GD237/10/25/1, 1772 *Gilbert Laing to William Laing of Meikledale, his brother, 27th April 1772 (in Correspondence from or relative to Gilbert Laing, merchant in St. Petersburg, in wrapper labelled 'I desire my son William not to burn these letters till he has leisure to read them all over')*

NAS(GREG) RH15/53/30, 1685 *Note of inventory of testament of deceased Alexander Patersone of Old Melrose, 3 October 1685* (within Legal and miscellaneous papers)

NAS(WREG) CS137/239, 1738 *John Fisher, purchaser of lands of Old Melrose vs Creditors on sale of estate of Old Melrose : Decreet of Sale in favours, 29 July 1738.* Third document: *Interloqr of Sale of the lands of Old Mellrose In favours of John Fisher, 29 July 1738*, fourth document: *Decreet of Sale of the lands of Old Mellrose in favours of John Fisher, 29 July 1738*

NAS(WREG) DD27/5575, 1977-8 *Old Melrose - linear earthwork c.330m West of Melrose, Etrrick and Lauderdale, scheduling of an earthwork perhaps 700 BC to 700 AD*, March 1977 - January 1978

NAS(WREG) RHP3656, 1809 *Plan of improvements to Old Melrose the seat of Colonel Lockhart*

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) MS 348, 1961 *Notes by C Thomas and extracts from 1794 pamphet*

RCAHMS MS 2422, 2004 *Land off Old Melrose Road, Newton St Boswells, Scottish Borders. Archaeological evaluation*, CFA Archaeology Ltd

Surrey History Centre (SHC)

SHC 2185/LEB/11/2-4, 1883 *Including MS pencil notes about the monastery of Old Melrose, Scottish Borders*

14.3   SECONDARY SOURCES

Allen, JR, and Anderson, J, 1903 *The early Christian monuments of Scotland: a classified illustrated descriptive list of the monuments with an analysis of their symbolism and ornamentation*, Edinburgh

Anderson, AO (ed), 1908 *Scottish Annals from English Chronicles 500 to 1286*, London

Anon, nd *Information on the village of St. Boswells in Scotland: Admiral Sir Henry Fairfax, Scotland*, http://www.stboswells.bordernet.co.uk/news/349.html

Anon, nd *Information on the village of Newstead in Scotland: History of Newstead, People of Note Associated*, http://www.newstead.bordernet.co.uk/history/

Anon, 1847 *History and antiquities of Melrose, old Melrose, and Dryburgh Abbeys. With a description of Abbotsford, Eildon Hills*, Melrose

Anon, 1869 *History and antiquities of Melrose. Old Melrose, and Dryburgh Abbeys, with a description of Abbotsford, Eildon Hills*; Melrose

Barber, J, 1999 The linear earthworks of Southern Scotland; survey and classification, *Trans Dumfriesshire Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc*, 3 ser, **73**, 63-164

Bower, J, 1813 *Description of the abbeys of Melrose and Old Melrose, with their traditions*, Kelso

Bower, J, 1822 *Description of the abbeys of Melrose and Old Melrose, with their traditions*, Edinburgh

Bower, J, 1827 *Description of the abbeys of Melrose and Old Melrose, with their traditions*, Edinburgh

Bower, J, nd *Description of the abbeys of Melrose and Old Melrose, with their traditions*, Melrose

Brooke, CJ, 2000 *Safe sanctuaries: security and defence in Anglo-Scottish border churches 1290-1690*, Edinburgh

Cameron, S, and Cameron, C, 1861 *The History and Antiquities of Melrose, Old Melrose, and Dryburgh Abbeys, with a description of Abbotsford, Eildon Hills*, Edinburgh

CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2002 *Initial Geophysical Survey at Old Melrose*, unpubl rep

CFA Archaeology Ltd, 2003 *Geophysical Survey Phase II at Old Melrose*, unpubl rep

Colgrave, B (ed), 1956 *Two Lives of St Cuthbert*, Cambridge

Colgrave, B, and Mynors, RAB (eds), 1969 *Bede's Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, Oxford

Cowan, IB, and Easson, DE, 1976 *Medieval religious houses, Scotland: with an appendix on the houses in the Isle of Man*, London

Craig Brown, T, 1886 *The History of Selkirkshire or Chronicles of Ettrick Forest, Vol. II; The Burgh and Parish of Selkirk*, Edinburgh

Curle, J, 1911 *A Roman frontier post and its people. The fort of Newstead in the parish of Melrose*, Glasgow

Defoe, D, 1724-6 *A Tour Through the Whole Island of Great Britain*, abr edn, Harmondsworth

Douglas, G, 1899 *A history of the Border counties (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles)*, The county histories of Scotland, Edinburgh; London

Driscoll, S, 2002 *Alba: The Gaelic Kingdom of Scotland AD 800 – 1124*, Edinburgh

English Heritage, 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

Forbes, AP, 1872 *Kalendars of Scottish Saints*, Edinburgh

Harrison, J, 2007 The Melrose Chronicle, Lost and Found, *History Scotland*, **7**, (3), 18-24

Hill, M, 2003 *Geophysical Surveying of the Monastic Site of Old Melrose*, Univ Edinburgh, unpubl rep

Jeffrey, A, 1864 *The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire and Adjacent Districts from the most remote period to the present time*, Edinburgh and London

Jones, B, and Dixon, MV, 1981 *The Macmillan Dictionary of Biography*, London

Jones, R, 1990 The Newstead Project: the archaeological search for acculturation, *Scottish Archaeol Rev*, **7**, 104-13

Lonie, B, 1997a Melrose Abbey, Old Melrose, and its Historical Setting, *Melrose Hist Soc Bull*, **5**, 6-17

Lonie, B, 1997b The Fairfax Mission-hall Carved Stones: An interesting find, *Melrose Hist Soc Bull*, **5**, 31-2

Lowe, CE, Craig, D, and Dixon, D, 1991 New Light on the Anglian 'Minster' at Hoddom, *Trans Dumfries Galloway Natur Hist Antiq Soc* **46**, 11-35

Lowe, CE, 2006 *Excavations at Hoddom, Dumfriesshire: an early ecclesiastical site in south-west Scotland*, Edinburgh

MacKie, EW, 1975 *Scotland: an archaeological guide: from the earliest times to the twelfth century*, London

Macsween, A, and Sharp, M, 1989 *Prehistoric Scotland*, London

Milne, A, 1743 *A description of the parish of Melrose, in answer to Maitland's queries sent to each parish in the kingdom*, Edinburgh

Mitchell, S, 2004 Old Melrose Road, Newton St Boswells (Melrose parish), evaluation, Discovery Excav Scot, **5**, 2004

Mudie, G, Poller, T, and Rennie, C, 2002 Old Melrose, Scottish Borders (Melrose parish), geophysical survey, Discovery Excav Scot, **3**, 103

Newman, RM, and Leech, RH, forthcoming *Dacre: an early Christian monastery?*

Ordnance Survey, 1859 Original Name Books of the Ordnance Survey (Roxburghshire) Book No.28, Southampton

Olsen, J, 2005 *Old Melrose, St. Boswells and Bowden: with Dryburgh, Gattonside, Maxton, Mertoun and Newtown St. Boswells*, Catrine

Owen, O, 1992 Eildon Hill North, Roxburgh, Borders, in JS Rideout, OA Owen, and E Halpin (eds), *Hillforts of southern Scotland*, Edinburgh, 21-72

Pennant, T, 1774 *A Tour in Scotland and Voyage to the Hebrides 1772*, Edinburgh

Ritchie, G, and Ritchie, A, 1991 *Scotland: Archaeology and Early History*, Edinburgh

RCAHMS, 1956 *An inventory of the ancient and historical monuments of Roxburghshire: with the fourteenth report of the Commission*, 2 vols, Edinburgh

Scottish Borders Tourist Board, nd *Scottish Border History: Famous Borderers*, http://www.electricscotland.com/history/borders/famous_borderers.htm

Skene, WF (ed), 1867 *Chronicles of the Picts: Chronicles of the Scots*, Edinburgh

Stevenson, J (ed), 1835 *Chronica de Mailros, e codice unico in Bibliotheca Cottoniana servato, nunc iterum in lucem edita. Notulis indiceque aucta*, Bannatyne Club, Edinburgh

Stevenson, J (trans), 1991 *Medieval chronicle of Scotland: the Chronicle of Melrose*, Lampeter

SUAT, 2005 *An Assessment of the Archaeological Potential of the early Monastic site of Old Melrose, Scottish Borders*, unpubl rep

Taylor, S, 1999 Seventh-century Iona abbots in Scottish place-names, in D Broun and TO Clancy (eds), *Spes Scotorum: Hope of the Scots*, Edinburgh, 35–70

Thomas, AC, 1971 *The early Christian archaeology of north Britain: the Hunter Marshall lectures delivered at the University of Glasgow in January and February 1968*, London

Thomson, G, 1791-2 Parish of Melrose (County of Roxburgh, Synod of Merse and Teviotdale, Presbytery of Selkirk), in J Sinclair (ed), 1979 *The Statistical Account of Scotland 1791-1799*, **III**: *The Eastern Borders*, Wakefield, 560-76

Thomson, G, 1845 Parish of Melrose. Presbytery of Selkirk, Synod of Merse and Teviotdale, *The New Statistical Account of Scotland*, **III**: *Roxburgh, Peebles, Selkirk*, Edinburgh, 51-75

Wade, JA, 1861 *History of St Mary's Abbey, Melrose, the Monastery of Old Melrose, and the Town and Parish of Melrose*, Edinburgh

14.4   PHOTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

CUCAP (Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs), 26 July 1953, *MT75/6, 19836/7, RCAHMS RX/3002* (oblique aerial photograph)

Dent, J, 1990 *RCAHMS C91988/po/CN* (oblique aerial photograph)

JasAIR, 1988 *Sortie 51688, JasAIR, Frame 179*, 14th June 1988, 1:24,000, Lib C276 (vertical aerial photographs)

Ordnance Survey, 1974 *RCAHMS Sortie OS/74/080, Frames 027-028*, 8th May 1974, 1:24,000 (vertical aerial photographs)

RAF, 1946 *Sortie 106G/SCOT/UK18, Frames 7247-7245*, 15th April 1946, 1:10,000, Lib B107 (vertical aerial photographs)

RAF, 1963 *Sortie 543/RAF/2042, Frames F22:0052-0051*, 22nd January 1963, 1:10,000, Lib B523 (vertical aerial photographs)

RCAHMS, 1893 *RCAHMS SC701517-701525* (black and white photographs)

RCAHMS, 1983 *RCAHMS RX/5370-5374; RCAHMS RX/5382-5391* (oblique aerial photographs)

RCAHMS, 1998 *RCAHMS D36448 CN –D36450 CN*, 24th July 1998 (oblique aerial photographs)

RCAHMS, 1999 *RCAHMS D56598 CN -D56601 CN*, 10th June 1999 (oblique aerial photographs)

Scotsman Publications, nd *RCAHMS RX/1146* (photograph from Scott's View)

Strathie, R, 1999 *OM5-OM38,* 8th July 1999 and 21st August 1999 (oblique aerial photographs)

15. ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES
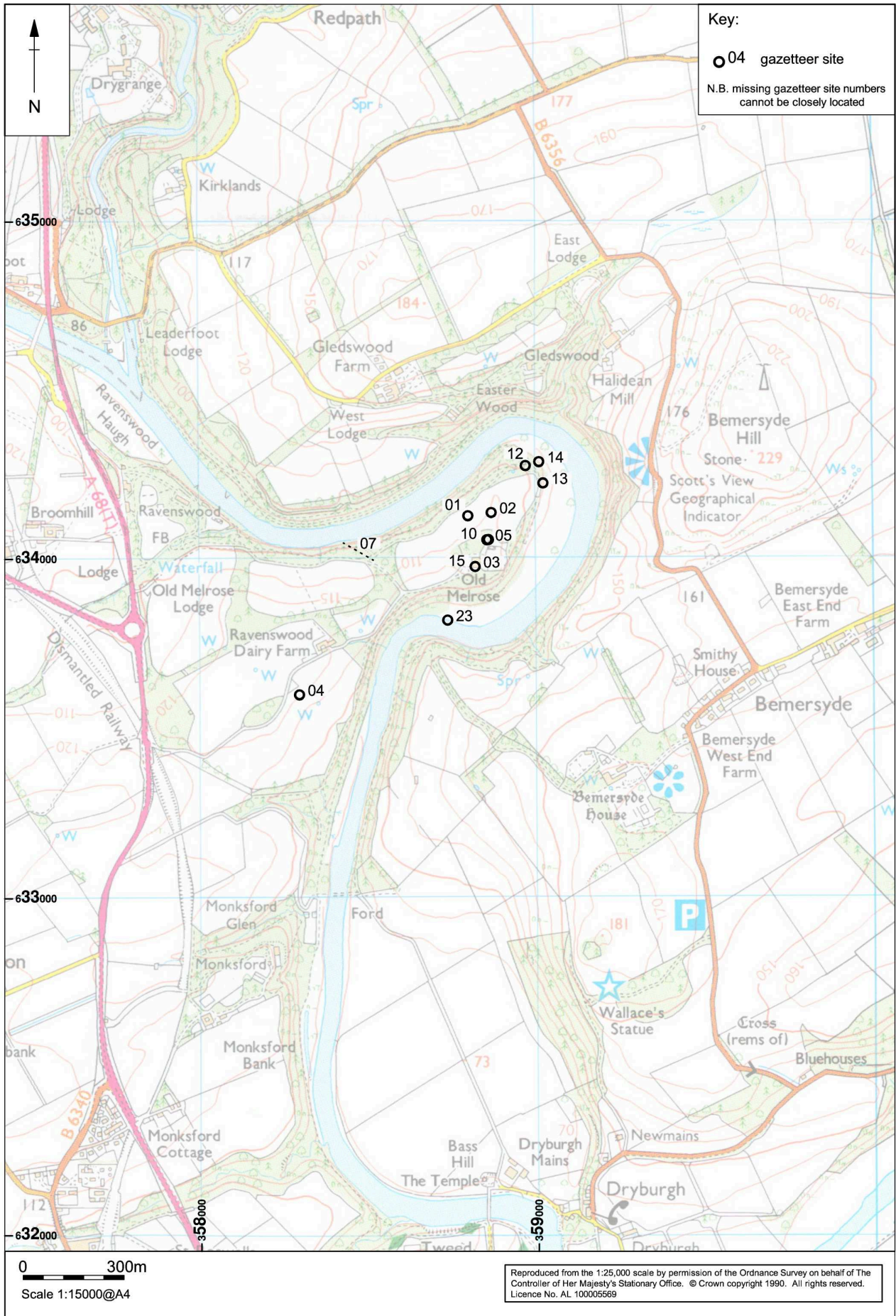
Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites

PLATES

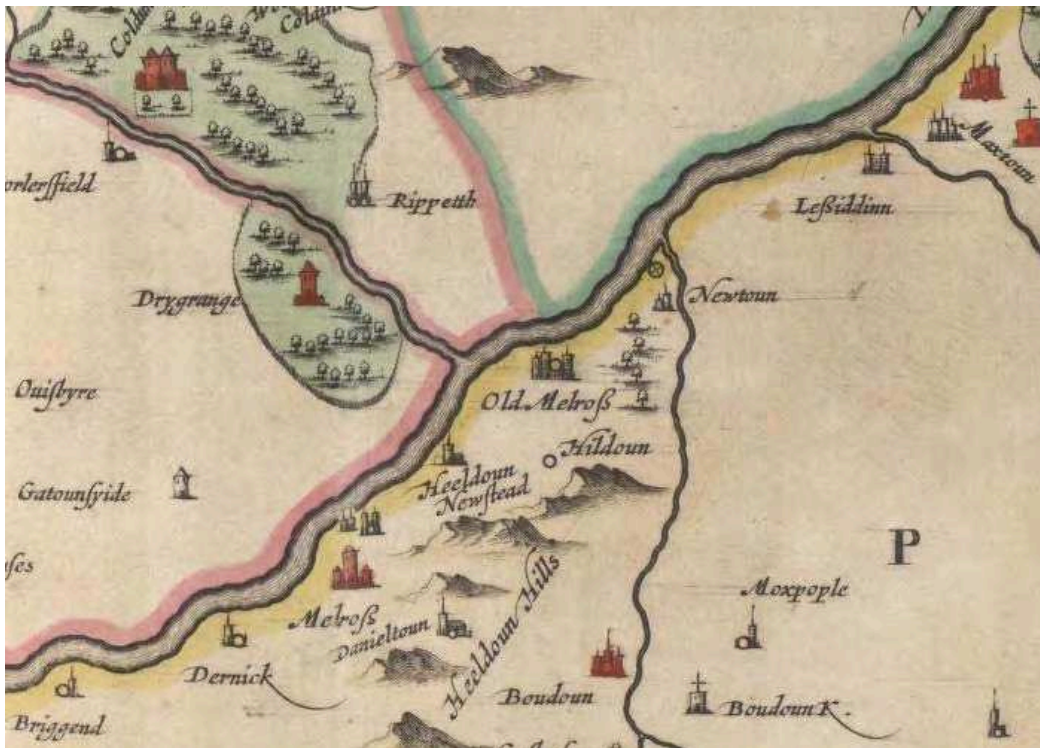Plate 1: Extract from Gordon's map, *c* 1636-52

Plate 2: Extract from Blaeu's map of Lauderdale, 1654

Plate 3: Extract from Blaeu's map of Teviotdale, 1654

Plate 4: Extract from Moll's map, 1745

Plate 5: Extract from Stobie's map, 1770

Plate 6: Extract from Taylor and Skinner's map, 1776

Plate 7: Proposed plan of 1809

Plate 8: Extract from Thomson's map, 1820

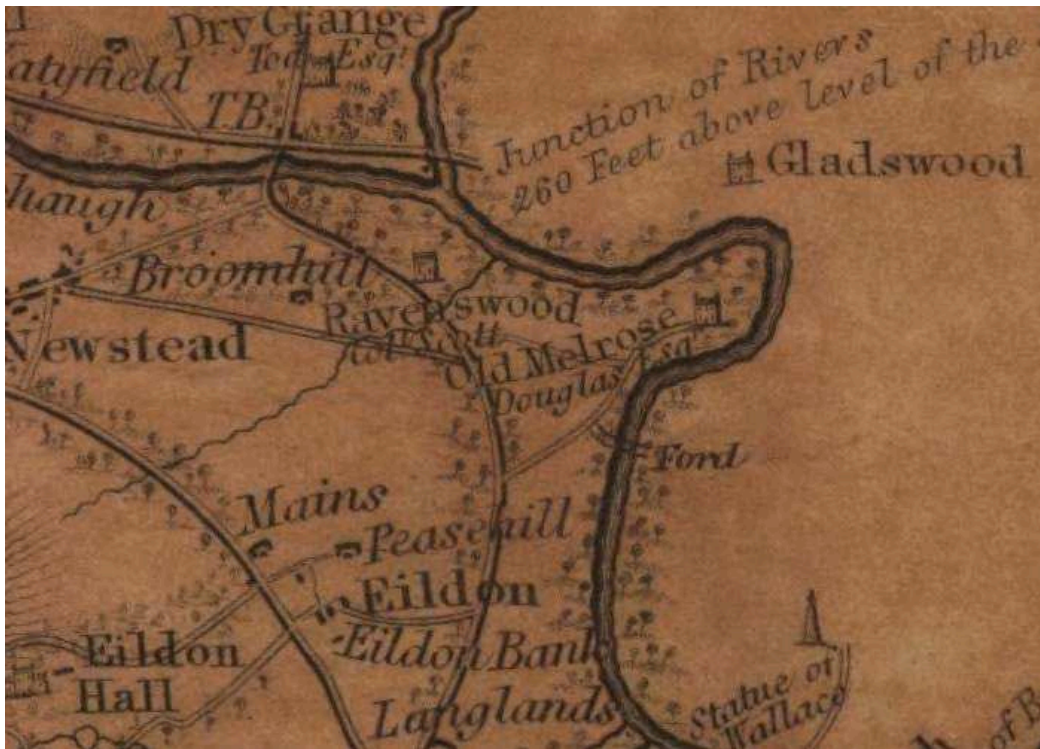Plate 9: Extract from Ainslie's map, 1821

Plate 10: Extract from Tennant's map, 1840

Plate 11: Extract from Crawford and Brooke's map, 1843

Plate 12: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, *c* 1859

Plate 13: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1899

Plate 14: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1921

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites

Plate 1: Extract from Gordon's map, *c* 1636-52

Plate 2: Extract from Blaeu's map of Lauderdale, 1654

Plate 3: Extract from Blaeu's map of Teviotdale, 1654

Plate 4: Extract from Moll's map, 1745

Plate 5: Extract from Stobie's map, 1770

Plate 6: Extract from Taylor and Skinner's map, 1776

Plate 7: Proposed plan of 1809 (Copyright National Archives of Scotland/Tods Murray LLP)

Plate 8: Extract from Thomson's map, 1820

Plate 9: Extract from Ainslie's map, 1821

Plate 10: Extract from Tennant's map, 1840

Plate 11: Extract from Crawford and Brooke's map, 1843

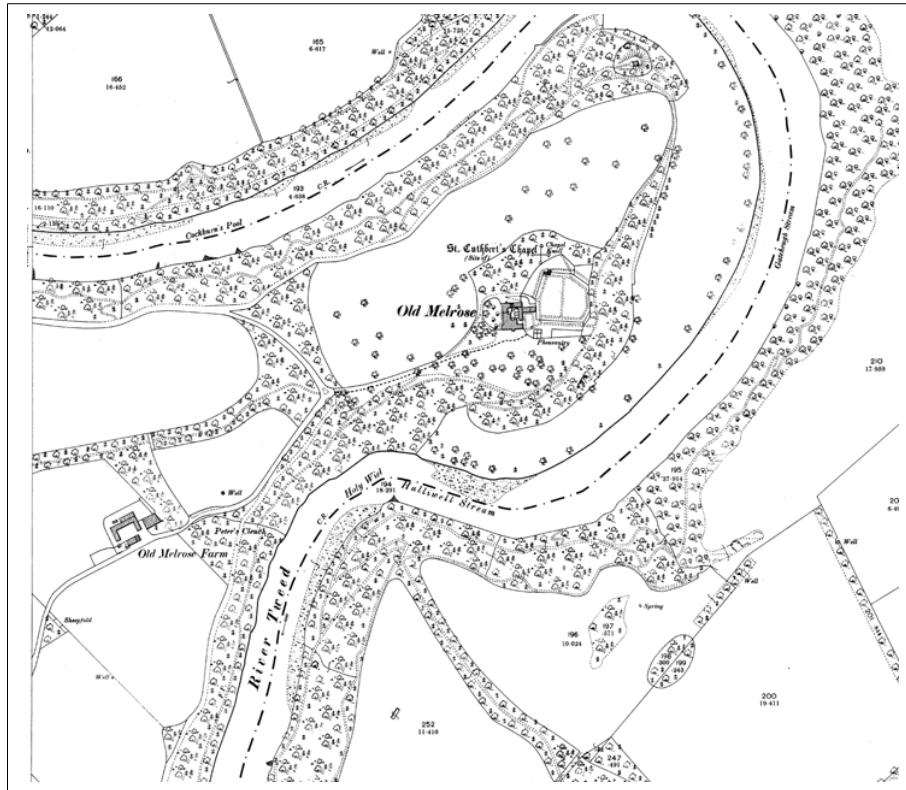Plate 12: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, *c* 1859
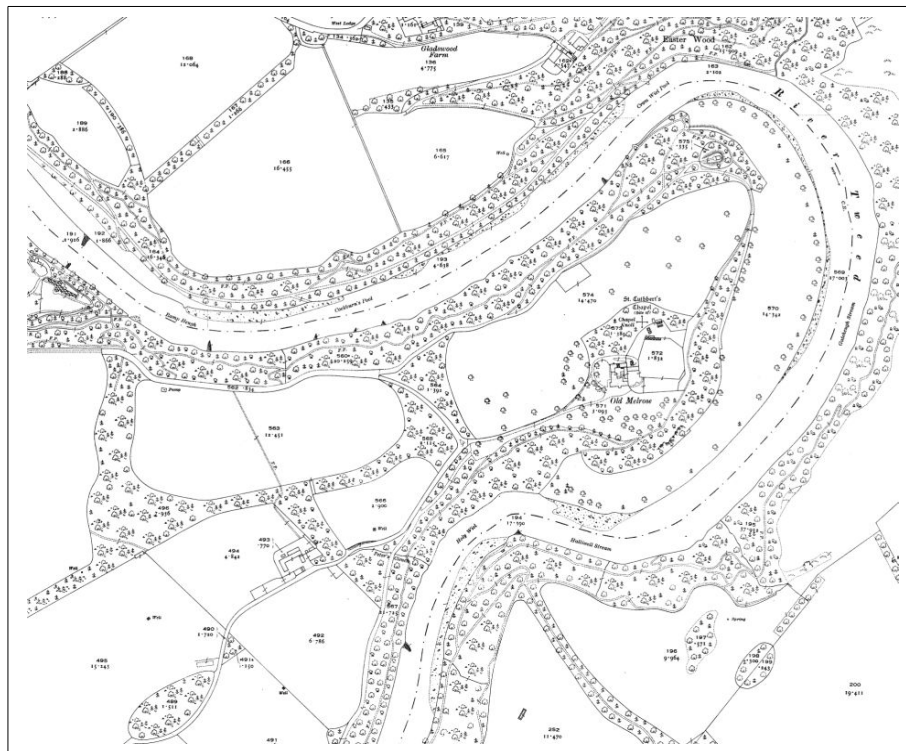
Plate 13: Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1899

Plate 14: Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1921