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CONTENTS

Ring-Cairns and Related Monuments in Scotland

J.N. Graham Ritchie and Alastair MacLaren, page 1

Ring-Cairns in North-east Scotland

James B. Kenworthy, page 18

Stone Circles and Ring-Cairns

Aubrey Burl, page 31

Circular Enclosures at Rullion Green, Midlothian

R.B.K. Stevenson, page 48

Culcharron Cairn, Benderloch, Argyll

E.J. Peltenburg, page 50

A Ring-Cairn in Levens Park, Westmorland

David Sturdy, page 52

Ring-Cairns and Related Monuments in Wales

Frances Lynch, page 61

Single Grave Art in Britain

D.D.A. Simpson and J.E. Thawley, page 81

Berms, Banks, Ditches and Platforms Associated with Barrows in Scotland

R.W. Feachem, page 105

A note on Climatic Deterioration in the First Millennium BC in Britain

Stuart Piggott, page 109

The Dentition in Studies of Skeletal Material from Archaeological Sites

Dorothy A. Lunt, page 114

Projecting Ring-Headed Pins and Spiral Rings from North Uist

D.V. Clarke, page 118

INTRODUCTION

The following papers were delivered at the meeting of the Scottish Archaeological Forum held in Glasgow on March 4th 1972, or are the outcome of the subsequent discussion both formal and informal. Scottish ring-cairns and related monuments form the first part of the volume and short notes are included on three excavations of such sites in north Britain. The bibliographies of the six papers on this topic have been consolidated and may be found on pp. 56-60. The Scottish sites may be contrasted with the Welsh ring-cairns examined in the following paper. The system of abbreviations broadly follows that of British Archaeological Abstracts with the exceptions given overleaf. The reference system for chambered tombs pioneered in Megalithic Enquiries, and continued and fully explained by Miss Henshall in the second volume of The Chambered Tombs of Scotland (1972), 312-13, has been used where possible in order to save space, and detailed references will be found in the two volumes of this work.

The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland for making a grant towards the cost of the illustrations in volume 3 of the Scottish Archaeological Forum.

ABBREVIATIONS

<u>DES(year)</u>	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland
<u>JRSAI</u>	Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
<u>NSA</u>	The New Statistical Account of Scotland
<u>OSNB</u>	Ordnance Survey Name Book
<u>PPS</u>	Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
<u>PRIA</u>	Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy
<u>PSAS</u>	Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
RCAMS	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
RCAMW	Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire
<u>Stat Acct</u>	The Statistical Account of Scotland
<u>TDGAS</u>	Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society