
DOI: 10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2017.74

http://repository.nms.ac.uk/2005

Deposited on: 19 February 2018
Excavations and Interventions in and around Cramond Roman Fort and Annexe, 1976 to 1990

How to cite:
Cook, M, Lawson, J A & McLaren, D 2017 ‘Excavations and Interventions in and around Cramond Roman Fort and Annexe, 1976 to 1990’ Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports 74
https://doi.org/10.9750/issn.2056-7421.2017.74
Visit http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/sair to see the journal homepage

Please note:
This document is the publisher’s PDF of an article published in the Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports journal. This version has been peer-reviewed and contains all final editorial corrections and journal pagination.

Copyright © 2017 rests with the Society and the individual authors. Except where otherwise noted, this work is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-No Derivatives licence. http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/ The permission to reproduce the Society’s copyright-protected material does not extend to any material which is identified as being the copyright of a third party. Authorisation to reproduce such material must be obtained from the copyright holders concerned.
Excavations and Interventions in and around Cramond Roman Fort and Annexe, 1976 to 1990

Martin Cook, John A Lawson and Dawn McLaren
with contributions by
Paul Bidwell, Hilary E M Cool, Alexandra Croom, Rob Engl, Kay F Hartley, Nicholas Holmes, Fraser Hunter & Felicity Wild

Address
AOC Archaeology, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian EH20 9SY

Author contact
Dawn.McLaren@aocarchaeology.com

Funding
Historic Environment Scotland
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of illustrations .......................................................... v
List of tables ........................................................................ vi

1. Abstract ........................................................................... 1

2. Introduction ........................................................................ 1

3. Archaeological background and aims of the project .......... 1

4. Method .............................................................................. 3

5. Results .............................................................................. 4
   5.1 Site 1: Cramond Tower ........................................ 4
   5.2 Site 2: Cramond Road I .......................................... 4
   5.3 Site 3: Cramond Road II .......................................... 15
   5.4 Site 5: Cramond House Garden .............................. 16

6. The Roman ceramics by Alexandra Croom & Paul Bidwell, with contributions by ......... 19
   Felicity Wild & Kay F Hartley
   6.1 The samian by Felicity Wild ...................................... 19
   6.2 The mortaria by Kay F Hartley & Alexandra Croom .. 23
   6.3 The amphorae ............................................................ 25
   6.4 The coarse wares ......................................................... 26

7. The Roman ceramic building material by Alexandra Croom ................... 37
   7.1 Site 1: Cramond Tower ........................................ 38
   7.2 Site 2: Cramond Road I .......................................... 38
   7.3 Site 3: Cramond Road II .......................................... 38
   7.4 Site 6: Cramond Pipeline ......................................... 38
   7.5 Site 7: Dunfermline College Games Hall ................. 38
   7.6 Site 11: Cramond School House ............................ 38

8. The Roman vessel glass by Hilary E M Cool ......................... 38
   8.1 Catalogue .................................................................. 39

9. The glass objects by Dawn McLaren .................................... 40
   9.1 Catalogue .................................................................. 41

10. The iron finds by Dawn McLaren ..................................... 41
    10.1 Overview .................................................................. 41
    10.2 Site 1: Cramond Tower ......................................... 41
    10.3 Site 2: Cramond Road I ......................................... 41
    10.4 Site 3: Cramond Road II ......................................... 41
    10.5 Conclusions .............................................................. 44

11. The non-ferrous metalwork by Dawn McLaren with identification and .................. 44
    discussion of selected Roman objects by Fraser Hunter
    11.1 Site 1: Cramond Tower ......................................... 44
    11.2 Site 2: Cramond Road I ......................................... 44
11.3 Site 3: Cramond Road II
11.4 Site 5: Cramond House Garden

12. The Roman coins by Nicholas Holmes. ............................................. 53
12.1 Catalogue of extant coins

13. The chipped stone by Rob Engl ......................................................... 55
13.1 Overview
13.2 Technology
13.3 Conclusions

14. The shale bangle fragments by Fraser Hunter. .................................. 55
14.1 Catalogue

15. The coarse stone tools and architectural stone by Dawn McLaren ....... 57
15.1 Overview
15.2 Site 1: Cramond Tower
15.3 Site 2: Cramond Road I
15.4 Site 3: Cramond Road II
15.5 Site 5: Cramond House Garden

16. The vitrified material by Dawn McLaren ........................................... 61
16.1 Summary

17. Discussion ......................................................................................... 61

18. Conclusions ..................................................................................... 66

19. Acknowledgements ........................................................................... 66

20. References ....................................................................................... 67
20.1 Online sources
20.2 Documentary sources
20.3 Secondary sources
**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS**

1. Location map of Cramond with a composite plan of the Roman fort, road and gatehouse in relation to the sites referred to in the text
2. Plan of excavated trenches around Cramond Tower (Site 1)
3. Post-excavation section through the Roman ditch
4. Section through the Roman ditch excavated at Cramond Tower
5. Composite plan of Roman road
6. Section through road, showing Road Surface 053, Gully 023 and Drain 014
7. Section through road, detailing Upper Surface 052 and Drain 014
8. Plan of Roman road Phase 1
9. Plan of Roman road Phase 2
10. Plan of Roman road Phases 3 & 4
11. Plan of Roman road Phases 4 & 5
12. Section of the Roman road
13. Post-excavation detail of Beam Slot 015 from the north-west
14. Post-excavation detail of Beam Slot 009 from the south-west showing Post Holes 042, 041, 043 and 038
15. Post-excavation photograph looking south showing the road, Slabs 019, Drain 014, Beam Slot 039 and associated post holes to the west of the road
16. Post-excavation detail of Post Holes 024, 025, 026, 035, 036 and 037 within Beam Slot 039 from the north-west
17. Cramond Estate Plan (after Bauchop 1815)
18. Plan of Cramond Road II
19. Post-excavation photograph showing section through Cramond Road II, showing drain in the foreground
20. Rotary quern fragment incorporated into surface at Cramond Road II
21. Plan of features excavated at Cramond House Garden
22. Plan of Pit 3 at Cramond House Garden
23. Mid-excavation photograph of Pit 3 at Cramond House Garden
24. Decorated samian ware sherds
25. Stamped amphora handle (CR2/89/261)
26. Coarse ware ceramics from Sites 1 and 2
27. Coarse ware ceramics from Site 2
28. Coarse ware ceramics from Site 2
29. Coarse ware ceramics from Site 3
30. Coarse ware ceramics from Site 3
31. Coarse ware ceramics from Sites 3 and 11
32. Coarse ware ceramics from Sites 3 and 7
33. Glass vessel and object fragments from Cramond Road I
34. Yellow opaque glass annular bead (CR/2/89/109)
35. Selection of iron objects
36. Non-ferrous metal mounts and pendant from Pit 1
37. The silver belt-pendant and copper-alloy Trompetenmuster mounts
38. The silver belt-pendant from Cramond Road
39. Intact example of a ring-pommel sword belt hanger from Mainz
40. Distribution of pendants in the form of ring-pommel swords and strap ends in the form of *beneficiarius* lances
41. Non-ferrous metal objects 49
42. Shale bangle fragments 56
43. Stone objects: sling stone (CR/83/1103) and possible sculptural fragment 58
44. Architectural stone 60
45. Medieval and post-medieval metal objects 62
46. Post-medieval glass bottle seal 63

LIST OF TABLES

1. Summary of pottery by site, weight and number of sherds 20
2. Summary of pottery types from all sites, by weight, number of sherds and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) 20
3. Mortaria from all sites, shown as percentages 23
4. Amphorae from all sites, shown as percentages 25
5. Pottery from all sites (excluding amphorae), shown as percentages 27
6. Vessel types (excluding amphorae) by EVE, shown as percentages 37
7. Inventory of coins (now lost) recorded in Charlie Hoy’s excavation finds register 52
8. Summary of Cramond chipped stone assemblage 55
11.1.1 Catalogue of illustrated objects

► CT/87/88
Single looped buckle with decorative knops. Cast copper alloy single loop sub-triangular buckle with tapering and off-set bar; three riveted knops (Diam: 4.5mm) on angles of frame. Rectangular plate (L: 19mm; W: 15.5mm) is corroded under the buckle frame. Plate has two parallel round-headed rivets (Diam: 4mm) with in situ pin at one end; opposite end is broken. Pin (L: 14.5mm; W: 3mm) is formed from tapering rectangular strip, curled over the bar at the widest end; tip damaged. Traces of gilding are noted on frame and plate. The form of the buckle dates from the mid 13th to the end of the 14th century (Whitehead 1996: 24, no. 110). L: 25.5mm; W: 28mm; Th: 1.5mm. Illus 45a.

► ACT/80/4
Single looped narrow D-shaped buckle frame with off-set narrow bar (Diam: 4mm), decorated with raised knops (Diam: 6mm) at opposing terminals of the bar. The notched lip for the pin (W: 5mm) is flanked by raised D-shaped knops (W: 2.5mm). The buckle frame has been cast in a one-piece mould and the surfaces appear silvered. Similar buckles are known from late 14th- to 15th-century contexts in London (Egan & Pritchard 1991: 68–70). L: 46mm; Th: 3–5mm. Illus 45c.
(see 12 ‘The Roman coins’ below) which were not located in the surviving archive.