

W PATTERSON – SNSBI 27/5/2019 – numbers refer to Powerpoint slides¹

Admission: all early forms are taken from published transcriptions such as Bannatyne Club editions and have not been checked against MS originals.

(Introductory photo) Looking roughly SW to Whiteside Hill fort from White Knowe.

(4) Romano has attracted surprisingly little folk etymology connecting it to the Romans. Ironically the Romans must have had considerable interest in the area's strategic position where NW-SE and NE-SW routes cross. The suite of military installations around where the Lyne Water joins the Tweed includes an Antonine base with buildings of red sandstone. This implies both intended permanence at the time and roads good enough to transport the building material from considerable distance.

Holyrood no. 22. Confirmation by king Malcolm of grant (*de terra de rumenac*) by Philip *de Euermele* of a ploughgate *in feudo de Rothmanec* with pasture for 1000 sheep. = RRS, i, no. 261 dated by POMS 1165 x 9/12/1165

Holyrood no. 27. (General charter of foundation grants, confirmation by King William) grant of land in *rumanach* by Philip *de Euermele*. (Last item before list of witnesses.) RRS, ii, no. 243 Philip *de Vermelles* II grants 6/1/1179 x 1196 land at *Rumanoch* to Newbattle Abbey.

RRS, iii, no. 92. 24/6/1224. Alexander II grants land at Romano to Newbattle Abbey. *Terram de Rumanoch*

Newbattle nos. 122 (General confirmation by Alexander I – includes excambion between Holyrood and Newbattle of land at Romano and Mountlothian), 125 (*Carta Philippi Euermer* - Philip *de vermer* II) grants land that Hugo of Paduynan and his son Reinald held from Philip's father), 126 (William I confirms to Newbattle Abbey land at *Rumanoch* that Philip *de Euermele* had granted to Newbattle in excambion), 127 (includes exchange of land with Holyrood Abbey), 129-132, 134 vary *Romanoch* / *Rumanoch*.

Prosopography of Medieval Scotland (POMS) dates no. 131 to 1223 x 6/1/1230. No. 130 to 8/9/1199 – Oct 1199. No. 127 to 1223.

No. 125 has the wonderful *Sternedust!*

(5) W J Watson *The Celtic Place-Names of Scotland* 1926, 2004 edition; page 153.

<https://canmore.org.uk/site/49989/whiteside-hill> “The defences of Phases I and II represent the normal development of a pre-Roman Iron Age fort in S Scotland, and Phase III a re-occupation after an interval of disuse which probably coincided with the Roman occupation.” More photos in

https://www.themodernantiquarian.com/site/15811/whiteside_hill.html.

(6) Simon Taylor with Gilbert Márkus *The Place-Names of Fife* in 5 volumes, 2006-2012: vol. I 93 on *ràth* as possible territorial term.

(7) BLITON, Brittonic Language in the Old North, compiled by Alan James; at SPNS website, <https://spns.org.uk/resources/bliton>. On *rōd <https://spns.org.uk/wp->

¹ Slides with related footnotes are numbered in red.

(8) On *Ratae*, Rivet & Smith, *The Place-Names of Roman Britain*, 1979, 443-4.

Belgirate, like Gallarate on main railway from Lugano to Milan, looks as if it too could have an ethnic or personal-name specific. However, a name-forming suffix *-ate* is also found in place-names of the region.

(9) *Rathqubillintoun*# provided teinds (tithes) for Crichton collegiate church; it was probably in the vicinity of Gorebridge (*Registrum Domus de Soltre* etc., 308). Tempting to see *-qubillin-* as representing *Cuilén*, though McQuillans derive name from *Mac Uighilín*, < *Hugelin*, name of an Anglo-Norman settler in North Antrim at Ballyquillin.

(12) eDIL on *ràth* / *ráith*: <http://www.dil.ie/34837>

(15) The most extensive discussion of *ràth* names is in the Fife volumes: including Radernie III 123; Raith I 495; Rameldrie II 298; Ramornie II 299; Rathelpie III 522; Rathillet IV 468; Rumdewan (more likely *rann*) II 301; Rungally II 201; Rummond III 523.

(17) Rohallion is close to Dunkeld, making with that and Schiehallion / *Sìdh Chailleann* (Perthshire's far-seen iconic mountain) a set of three names likely to refer to the ancient tribe of *Calidones*. There is no obvious hill-fort reference, although the location commands the Pass of Birnam and there are scant remains of a small 16th century castle that could have used the same site. <http://www.stravaiging.com/history/castle/rohallion-castle> It is also the name of the estate containing it.

(18) Donibristle: Fife vol I 265.

(19) Thanks to National Library of Scotland for online provision of this and other historic Ordnance Survey maps.

(20) Dunearn: Fife vol I 193. <https://canmore.org.uk/site/52860/dunearn-fort> on the archaeology.

(23) Drumanagh: the Wiki article <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drumanagh> is probably too enthusiastic for many about the likelihood of direct Roman involvement. Until very recently ownership problems prevented proper archaeological investigation but not treasure-seeking with metal detectors.

https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/90014316.pdf?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents for an aerial view.

The story of the 'abduction' of Emer by Cú Chulainn resonates with a supposedly historical account of events in Wales, in a commentary on the Mabinogi of Manawydan, <http://www.mabinogion.info/manawydan.htm>. "The trouble seems to have begun at the start of 1109, when Cadwgan ap Bleddyn decided to hold a feast for all 'the chieftains of the land' While at that feast, Cadwgan's son Owain ap Cadwgan heard that Nest, daughter of Rhys ap Tewdwr (his own second cousin), was now living in a castle belonging to the marcher lord Gerald of Windsor, who was the guardian of a small Marcher enclave of Pembrokeshire which had been annexed by the English king. On the pretext of visiting her 'as a kinswoman', it would seem he seduced her and made her an accessory in a plan to

carry her away and ransack Gerald's castle at the same time. This was achieved some nights later, with Gerald having to make a humiliating exit through the castle latrine. ...”

(24) Fiachnae besieged *Dún nGuair*, = *Din Guaroy* which is Bamburgh – *if Sluagad Fiachnae meic Báetáin co Dún nGuair i Saxanaib* has a historical basis. If so he could have travelled from upper firth via Romano, or by another of several routes known to be used later.

(26) The stone of Manann could easily fill a talk on its own! Rev Prof Fleming who instigated erection of the stone on a tall plinth in the town centre in 1833 thought it was ‘stone of the monks’. NB legend of Robert Bruce laying glove on stone, forgetting, and later sending his servant to the ‘clack’ to fetch his ‘mannan’; cf. Welsh *maneg*, possible OIr *manic* < Latin *manica* ‘glove’. In 1888 John Rhys suggested stone of Manannán.

<https://megalithix.wordpress.com/2016/02/28/stone-of-mannan/> With probable original position on Lookaboutye Brae and close to Lady Well (a suspected but not certain holy well), and a strange tidal phenomenon on the Forth, it is a little reminiscent of Lydney and its Nodons temple.

(27) Dalmeny was the most easterly parish of West Lothian, bounded by River Almond.

(28) It would be interesting to hear Irish contributions on the Mannan names. NB in *Gododdin* stanza 3 [M]ananyt as a territorial name apparently next to Lothian: Ptolemy's *Monaoida* for Man is usually taken as needing emendation to *Manavia*, but perhaps not?

(30) The ‘high road of the Carnes’ was discussed in the late Gerald Cummins's admirable, labour-of-love ‘Old Roads of Scotland’ website, at

<http://www.oldroadsofscotland.com/miscmedpebbles.htm>, giving a reference to a charter of c 1370, no. 111 of the *Registrum Honoris de Morton*,

http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=gLAEAAAAIAAJ&pg=PR7&dq=langholm&as_brr=1#PPA87,M1 pp86-88.

(31) 1920s base map with Ministry of Transport's draft road numbering; ‘705’ is now A 701, ‘702’ now A702(T). Castle Greg / Camilty Hill Roman site is highlighted near top of the map; Netherurd south of Dolphinton, Whiteside Hill (*Ràth Manach?*) nearest SE corner of map, Lamancha (formerly Romano Grange) nearest east edge of map.

(32) <https://canmore.org.uk/site/50020/cairnmuir-netherurd> on the Netherurd hoard.

(33) Fraser Hunter, ‘Iron Age Coins in Scotland’, in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, vol. 127 (1997) 513-525, esp. 515;

https://www.academia.edu/8842386/Iron_Age_coins_in_Scotland.

Note location of Clonmacnois at crossing of the Shannon, a N-S artery for travel on water, by the E-W *Eiscir Riada* ridgeway through the Irish midlands.

(34) <https://canmore.org.uk/site/51669/lamancha> on axes found at Lamancha.

(35) On ‘Stirling torcs’ a.k.a. Blair Drummond hoard, e.g.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stirling_torcs

For the ‘Brighter gold’, e.g. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brighter_Gold

(40) There was a Roman fort at Bochastle by Callander: a 'glen blocker' of c 85 AD controlling the Pass of Leny to the north-west. Dunmore hill fort was Iron Age to early medieval and overlooked the suggested route by the Eas Gobhain.

(41) The Clyde-Tweed route by the Biggar Gap is shorter in overall distance; but maybe that and the route from Clyde to Loch Lomond by the River Leven immediately under Dumbarton Rock were not always practicable for political reasons?

(42) Till 2006 kayaking on Loch Katrine, Glasgow's main reservoir, was forbidden so any use for cross-country journeys would have been stealthy and not publicised. For 'Route H', <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=rsiL9go7CRcC&pg=PA242&lpg=PA242&dq=kayak+loch+long+to+stirling&source=bl&ots=Xd8p7upVY9&sig=ACfU3U3GMlkVXjKbvaYfgCXOCDy1OO3Bfw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiDxK7C4dvhAhVnUhUIHSvYCKo4ChDoATAGegQICBAB#v=onepage&q=kayak%20loch%20long%20to%20stirling&f=false>.

For an actual journey achieved by paddlers from Suffolk, and thus perhaps not the most accustomed to stretches of lively river with rocks, <http://www.songofthepaddle.co.uk/forum/showthread.php/7261-Across-Scotland-by-way-of-the-Trossachs>.

Since the 19th century Loch Arklet (considerably) and Loch Katrine (not much) have been enlarged as reservoirs; but the changes can only have been marginal to the journey as a whole.

For obvious reasons the exact find spot of the Stirling torcs is not publicised.

(43) From Peter McNiven's PhD thesis of 2011 on place-names of Menteith, <http://theses.gla.ac.uk/2685/1/2011mcnivenphd.pdf>:

Pages 53-4 "It is improbable that we will know exactly when Gaelic was first spoken in Menteith on a regular basis, but if Menteith was a major route-way on the journey from Iona to Lindisfarne (Taylor 2000, 114; Taylor 1999, 49), then Gaelic may have been introduced by Gaels travelling between these important Christian centres. However, it is also likely that the district was a crossroads between Picts, Gaels, Britons, Angles, and Vikings in their battles for supremacy of northern Britain. The rich agricultural lands of the ancient region of Manaw were highly coveted in this period and many battles were fought for control of it. While it is probable that the area on both sides of the head of the Firth of Forth, i.e. Clackmannanshire and East Stirlingshire, including the fortress of Stirling, were core parts of this kingdom, it is unclear whether Menteith, or part of it, was ever included in Manaw. According to the Annals of Ulster, Aedán mac Gabráin, king of Dál Riata, won a battle in Manaw in 582-3. ..."

The Menteith parish of Kilmadock, on the Teith, may be named for a Welsh saint *Cadoc* or *Docgwin* (McNiven thesis pp 146-7), perhaps indicative of far-flung cultural connections.

A current Gaelic name for Callander, *Calasraid*, is claimed to mean 'harbour street' or 'ferry street', rather surprisingly for an inland town. <https://www.ainmean-aite.scot/placename/callander/> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callander>

(45) <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=rqboBQAAQBAJ&pg=PA624&lpg=PA624&dq=de>

[utsche+flussnamen&source=bl&ots=uhpNvqzjQ9&sig=ACfU3U1hM_em4rdvV6WBCw8E5I2YDUiZA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjBmCLq9tvhAhUIwAIHHe3hAxE4FBDoATAAegQICRAB#v=onepage&q=deutsche%20flussnamen&f=false](https://www.onomastikblog.de/artikel/neuerscheinungen/deutsches-gewaessernamenbuch/), at 'Main, der'.

<https://www.onomastikblog.de/artikel/neuerscheinungen/deutsches-gewaessernamenbuch/> for more information on the book.

Consistent with the suggested etymology the canalised Main now provides a principal part of a navigable link, including a stretch of canal, between the Rhine and the Danube.