The Chesters, Drem, East Lothian

Erosion Survey

Rampart Scotland Project 002:

Season 4

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April 2014



The Chesters, Drem, East Lothian Erosion and Topographic Survey

Season 4

National Grid Reference (NGR): NGR NT 50760 78260

Rampart Scotland Project No: 002

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Date of Fieldwork: March 2014

Date of Report: August 2014

Abstract

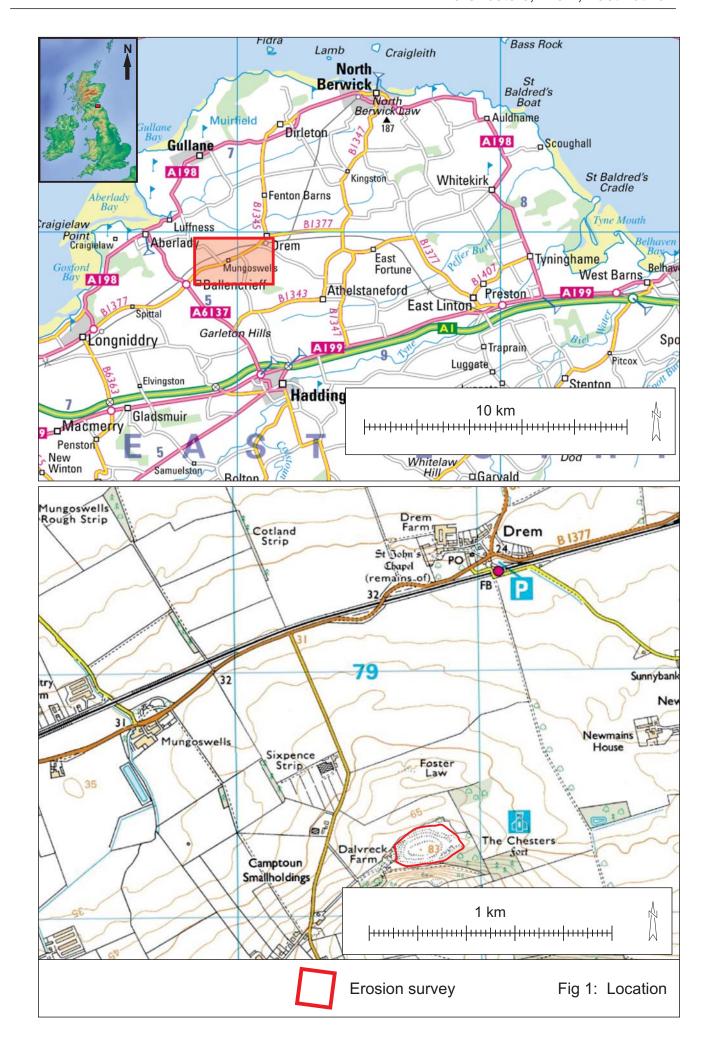
This report represents the results of Rampart Scotland's Hillforts of East Lothian Project Phase 4 and comprises the results of the continuing erosion survey at The Chesters, Drem.

The entire area of the site was subjected to further erosion survey, providing a damage assessment to be utilised for further management plans.

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- 1.1. The overarching aim of Rampart Scotland an in particular the Hillforts of East Lothian Project is to provide dating and survey (topographic, geophysical and management) evidence from as many previously unexcavated hillforts in East Lothian as access can be gained to, in order to provide an framework with which to compare and contrast hillforts across Scotland (Connolly & Cook 2010, 2011, 2012). This project represents the second of five hillforts being examined by Rampart Scotland in East Lothian, the others being White Castle, Garvald and Sheriffside, Gifford.
- 1.2. The Chesters faces a range of pressures and the erosion survey was intended to aid its future management. In addition, the survey forms part of an on-going research project into East Lothian's hillforts and is intended as the first stage of specific project on The Chesters to include more topographic and surveys, geophysical survey and ultimately key-hole excavation.
- 1.3. The Chesters is one of the largest and best preserved hillforts in East Lothian, if not Scotland, with an internal measurement of c 120m east-west by c 50m north-south. It comprises a *multivallate* hillfort with up to eight banks and ditches, as well as extensive evidence for internal settlement. The maximum measurement of the visible upstanding remains are c 270m east-west and c 140m north-south. Intriguingly the site is overlooked to the south by a low ridge and is one of the few locations in East Lothian where there is no inter-visibility with Traprain Law.
- 1.4. To date, the only excavation works to have taken place on site involved the monitoring of the removal of two World War II observation posts, for monitoring the nearby Drem airfield (Yates 1976), which identified no significant archaeological deposits or finds.
- 1.5. The Chesters is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (**SMR 90072**) and a Property in the Care of Scottish Ministers, managed on their behalf by Historic Scotland.
- 1.6. The ongoing programme of archaeological works at The Chesters aims both to provide more raw data about the nature of the site but also to compare and contrast management techniques and results between two hillforts one managed by the state (The Chesters) and one managed by the landowner (White Castle). Both sites face similar pressures and it is aimed to measure the erosion on both sites over a four year period.



2.1 The Chesters first appears in William Forrest's Map of Haddingtonshire in 1799. The site was previously surveyed by the Ordnance Survey in 1853/54, in 1893 by J. H. Cunningham (1895) and by RCAHMS in 1914.

3 MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 3.1. The Chesters is both open to the public and an element of a working farm and as such has a series of management problems including:
 - Gorse roots
 - o Rabbit damage
 - Visitor pressure
 - Stock pressure from cattle movement and grazing
- 3.2. Previous active removal of gorse has exposed bare ground which is now open to erosion. At present there are no signs of grass regeneration.
- 3.3. Rabbit damage is in some places quite extensive, and more active burrows are recorded. Some burrows have collapsed causing the surrounding rampart to slump. In addition, in areas of cattle movement, there are signs of further collapse.
- 3.4. Visitor pressure is limited to well established routes that lead directly to the summit, crossing ramparts and causing deep scarring and rampart degradation. In some respects, the established path in some respects encourages visitors to follow it, thus increasing the damage.

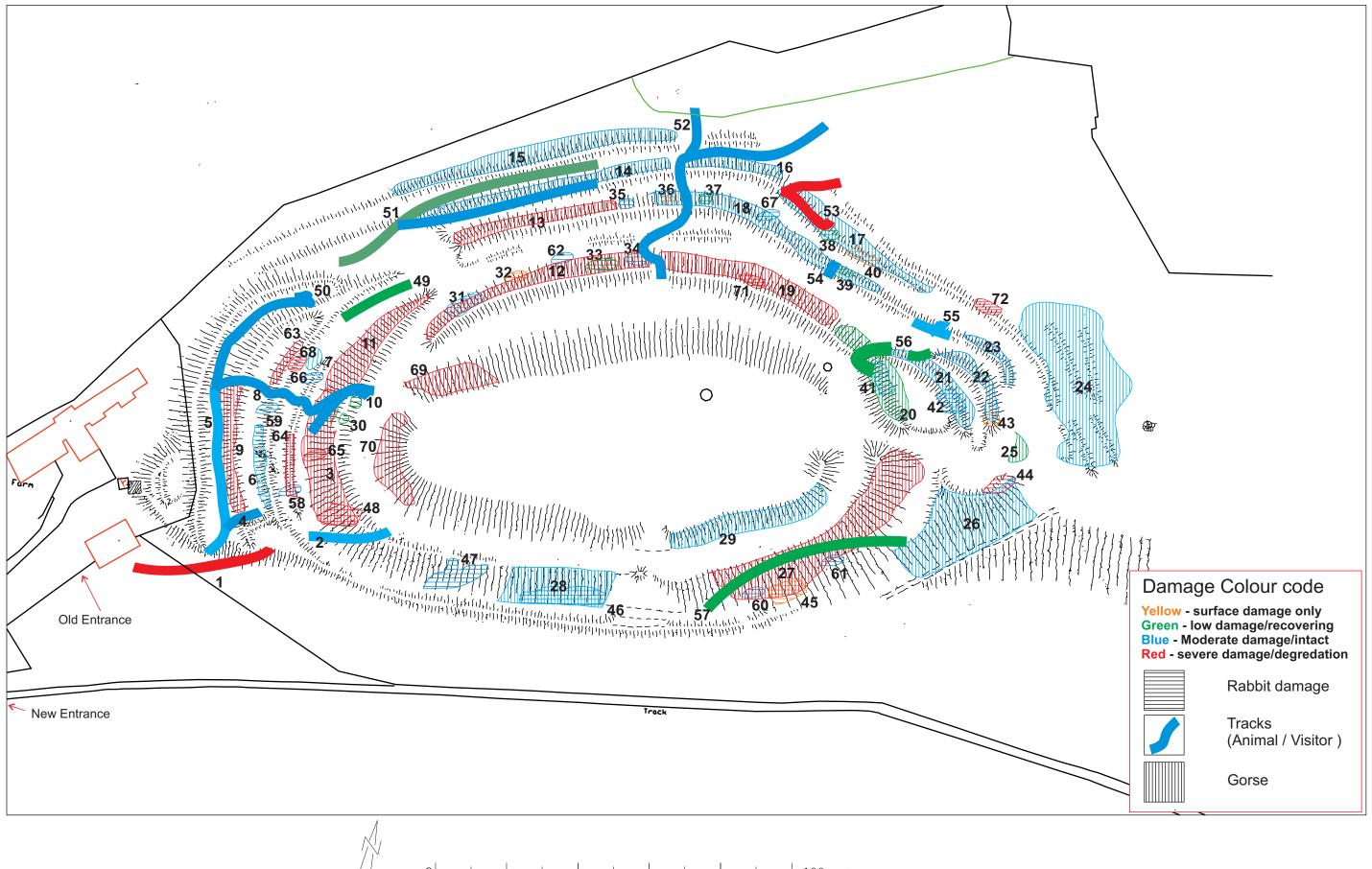


Figure 3: Site plan and erosion survey

- 4.1 The principal objectives of the survey were:
 - a. To document the extent and severity of the various sources of damage to The Chesters visible from surface traces;
 - b. To provide a report on the findings of the survey for the use as a resource by Historic Scotland for the future management of the site;
 - c. To provide a survey to guide future research on the site;
 - d. As an ideal location for the teaching of survey to archaeology students, adult education classes and volunteers;
 - e. To compare and contrast management practices and results at The Chesters with White Castle.
- 4.2 This report highlights key findings relating to the erosional condition, making general recommendations and identifying future research proposals.

5 SURVEY METHODOLOGIES

5.1 The erosion survey methodology was based upon that developed by the CFA, as outlined by in Historic Scotland's Technical Advice Note 16: *Burrowing Animal and Archaeology* (Dunwell & Trout 1999). The survey recorded visitor tracks, stock tracks, gorse damage and rabbit burrows. (Figure 2)

As described in *Section 3.1*, four different types of erosion were recorded in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (Connolly and Cook 2010, 2011, 2012): rabbit damage, cattle tracks, visitor tracks and gorse damage.

The updated 2013/14 results of the survey are presented in Table 1 and Figure 2, with the associated photographic record presented in appendix 1.

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
1	Visitor track	Active / Superficial From visitor entrance onto site	No Change	No Change	No Change	From layby to interior, crossing all ramparts
2	Visitor track	Active / Intrusive Over ramparts and ditch, deep cutting and up to 1.60m wide	Improvement	No Change	No Change	As before with little noticeable change
3	Cut Gorse	Stabilised / Intrusive	No Change	Worse	Worse	There are signs of new growth and slumping of area exposed
4	Visitor track	Active / Intrusive Track over rampart causing slumping	Improvement	No Change	No Change	No real sign of improvement
5	Cattle track	Active / Superficial Beside fence	No Change	Improvement	Worse	Signs of stabilisation and grass cover
6	Rabbit scrapes	Active / Intrusive Exposes bedrock and rampart material	Improvement	No Change	Worse	Some stabilisation and grass cover
7	Cut Gorse	Stabilised / Intrusive	Improvement	Worse	No Change	No sign of regrowth and bank material stabilised
8	Visitor/Ani mal track	Active / Intrusive Over ramparts and ditch, deep cutting and up to 60cm wide	No Change	No Change	No Change	No sign of regrowth though bank material stabilised

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
9	Cut Gorse	Stabilised / Intrusive Although stabilising, there has been erosion of material down slope	Worse	No Change	Worse	New growth and continued heavy erosion of bank
10	Visitor track	Active / Intrusive Track causing serious damage to rampart, creating a deep cut	No Change	No Change	No Change	No sign of regeneration, but no worse than before
11	Cut Gorse	Stabilised / Superficial Roots have exposed soil for erosion	No Change	No Change	Worse	Some new growth appearing
12	Cut Gorse	Stabilised / Superficial Roots have exposed soil for erosion	No Change	Worse	Worse	Signs of new growth appearing though previous bank material slumping has stabilised
13	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion	No Change	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing
14	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Gorse is regenerating — roots causing further damage to rampart	No Change	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing
15	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Gorse exposed rampart	No Change	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
16	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion	No Change	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing
17	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion	No Change	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing
18	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Area now used by active rabbit	No Change	Worse	No Change	New growth appearing
19	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Gorse is starting regeneration	No Change	No Change	Worse	Some new growth appearing
20	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion	Improvement	No Change	Worse	No sign of regrowth but although bank material stabilised grass growth is not present
21	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion - regenerating	No Change	No Change	Worse	Signs of new growth appearing though previous bank material slumping has stabilised
22	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion - regenerating	No Change	No Change	Worse	Signs of new growth appearing though previous bank material slumping has stabilised
23	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion -	No Change	No Change	Worse	Signs of new growth appearing though previous bank material slumping has stabilised

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
24	Cut Gorse	Active / Superficial Roots have exposed soil for erosion - regenerating	No Change	Worse	Worse	Signs of new growth appearing - bank material slumping has stabilised
25	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion – collapse in several areas.	Improvement	Improvement	Worse	No sign of regrowth - bank material stabilised and grassing over.
26	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion – collapse in several areas.	Improvement	Worse	Worse	New signs of regrowth and bank material stabilised
27	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots exposed soil for erosion – collapse in several areas.	Worse	Worse	Worse	New growth appearing bank material slumping has continued to erode
28	Cut Gorse	Active / IntrusiveRoots have exposed soil for erosion	Improvement	Improvement	Worse	No sign of regrowth and bank material stabilised Seems to be under control just now
29	Cut Gorse	Active / Intrusive Roots have exposed soil for erosion – rampart & core exposed	Improvement	Worse	Worse	New signs of regrowth though bank material stabilised (stone core and revetment of rampart is still exposed)
30	Isolated Burrow	Old / Intrusive Exposes stone core of rampart	No Change	Worse	Worse	Activity seems to be increasing with enlarged burrows

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
31	Isolated Warren	Active / Intrusive 5 burrows evident	No Change	No Change	No Change	Still active but stable
32	Isolated Warren	Active / Intrusive 8 burrows evident	Improvement	Worse	Worse	Rabbits active – returned to reinhabit
33	Isolated Warren	Stabilised / Intrusive 3 burrows evident	Improvement	Improvement	Worse	Rabbits no longer active
34	Area Warren	Active / Intrusive 12-15 burrows evident – extensive undermining of rampart	Worse	Worse	No Change	Still active – causing more damage to banks
35	Area Warren	Active / Intrusive 10 burrows evident with deep scarring of rampart exterior face	Improvement	Improvement	Improvement	Rabbits still now occupying burrows.
36	Isolated Warren	Active / Intrusive 3 burrows evident	Improvement	Improvement	No Change	Rabbits no longer active
37	Isolated Warren	New / Intrusive New burrows removing material and with track 52 causing severe collapse of rampart	No Change	No Change	No Change	Still active
38	Isolated Warren	Stabilised / Intrusive	No Change	Improvement	Worse	No longer inhabited

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
39	Isolated burrows	Active / Intrusive Rampart degrading with track 53.	Improvement	Worse	Worse	Rabbits active – track still used So this is a compound problem – where multiple erosional issues cause damage
40	Area Warren	Active / Intrusive Rampart degrading with animal track 54 over.	No Change	No Change	Worse	Still active with population
41	Isolated Warren	Active / Intrusive Damage is increased by gorse cover removal 20.	No Change	No Change	Worse	Still active
42	Isolated Burrow	Active / Intrusive Large amount of rampart interior excavated.	No Change	No Change	Worse	Still active
43	Isolated Warren	Active / Severe Noticeable deflation of rampart	No Change	Worse	Worse	Still active with a larger extent of burrowing
44	Isolated Warren	Active / Severe 11 burrows honeycombing area	No Change	No Change	No Change	Still active
45	Isolated Warren	Active / Severe 5 burrows	No Change	No Change	No Change	Still active but not extending
46	Area Warren	Active / Intrusive several burrows undermining profile and causing rampart slump	No Change	Worse	Worse	Still active with a larger extent of burrowing

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
47	Area Warren	Active / Intrusive burrows undermining profile and causing rampart slump	No Change	No Change	Worse	Still active but no more damage than 2011
48	Isolated Burrow	Active / Intrusive 2 burrows close to summit, with some slumping	Worse	Worse	Worse	Extensive activity in area, causing bank collapse and undermine – continues to be a problem
49	Stock Track	Active / Superficial Track beginning to erode surface	No Change	Improvement	No Change	Very little additional damage Path is stabilising
50	Stock Track	Active / Intrusive Track causing damage to summit of rampart	Improvement	Improvement	No Change	Very little additional damage Path is stabilising more than before
51	Stock Track	Active / Intrusive Two tracks converge on of rampart – upper track on summit is causing damage	No Change	Improvement	Improvement	Some areas have same level of damage as before though more signs of some stabilisation
52	Stock Track	Active / Severe Two tracks converge to cut through ramparts	No Change	No Change	No Change	Some areas have same level of damage as before though signs of some stabilisation
53	Stock Track	Active / Severe Track causing deflation of rampart	No Change	No Change	No Change	Some areas have same level of damage as before though signs of some stabilisation

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
54	Stock Track	Active / Severe Rampart breached and slumping due to cattle track	Improvement	Improvement	No Change	Some signs of stabilisation
55	Stock Track	Active / Intrusive Small breach in rampart	Improvement	Improvement	No Change	Some signs of stabilisation
56	Stock Track	Active / Intrusive Small breach in rampart and traverses up exterior	Improvement	Improvement	Improvement	Some signs of stabilisation
57	Stock Track		Active / Superficial Stock track trough cleared gorse area is causing visible damage.	No Change	No Change	Stock track in cleared gorse area is visible but no worse than it was.
58	Rabbit burrow		Active / Intrusive Active burrows with large amount of fresh soil from bank core	No Change	Worse	Active burrows with fresh soil from bank core
59	Rabbit burrow		Active / Intrusive Active burrows (3) with fresh soil from bank core	No Change	Improvement	Active burrows though no more soil from bank core
60	Rabbit burrow		Active / Intrusive Active burrows (6) with fresh soil from bank core	No Change	No Change	Active burrows (5) with soil from bank core – though seems to be less activity

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
61	Rabbit burrow		Active / Intrusive Active burrows (6) with fresh soil from bank core	No Change	Worse	Active burrows (6) with soil from bank core
62	Rabbit burrow		Active / Intrusive Active burrows (4) with fresh soil from bank core	No Change	Worse	Active burrows (4) with soil from bank core
63	Gorse			New	Worse	Active / Intrusive Gorse beginning regeneration – this is new
64	Gorse			New	Worse	Active / Intrusive Gorse regeneration – this is new
65	Rabbit burrow			New	Worse	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (6) with fresh soil from bank core – may relate to [48]
66	Rabbit burrow			New	Improvement	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (2) with fresh soil from bank core
67	Rabbit burrow			New	Worse	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (5) with fresh soil from bank core
68	Gorse			New	New	Active / Intrusive Gorse beginning regeneration – this is new

	Туре	2010 Condition	2011 Condition	2012 Condition	2013 Condition	Notes
69	Gorse			New	New	Active / Intrusive Gorse regeneration – this is new
70	Rabbit burrow			New	New	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (6) with fresh soil from bank core – may relate to [48]
71	Rabbit burrow			New	New	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (2) with fresh soil from bank core
71	Rabbit burrow			New	New	Active / Intrusive Active burrows (5) with fresh soil from bank core

Table 1: Erosion survey results

7.1 Livestock and Visitor paths

7.1.1 The damage from visitors continues to localised and clearly established paths. Visitor access is focussed along Tracks 1 and 2, leading directly into the interior, and there is no evidence for ad hoc alternative routes. Of course while this activity minimises the overall spread of erosion it concentrates it in particular locations. The new entry has had no effect on visitor activity, as they seem to continue on the old routes after entering the site via the new pathway.



7.1.2 It is likely that the visible stock erosion has been in place for years, as many of the rampart breaches such as those

PLATE 1: VISITOR DAMAGE 2 THROUGH UPPER RAMPART

associated with Tracks 10, 52 and 54, are significant and are likely to have taken some time to 'wear' through the rampart. Again, like the visitor tracks, these are now established and show continued use, causing further but localised damage.



PLATE 2: STOCK DAMAGE 10 OF RAMPART BANK AND SLOPE

- 7.1.3 Tracks 51 and 53 also interact with rabbit damage to create further erosion, with the undermined rampart more susceptible to collapse (Section 6.3.2).
- 7.1.4 A new stock track 57 that appeared on the south east flank of the site in 2012 (Figure 2) runs along the slope for a distance of circa 40 metres and has become significantly worse. This is in part due to the clearance of gorse which has now allowed stock access to this slope.

7.2 Gorse growth

- 7.2.1 The 2010 gorse clearance removed large areas of this intrusive vegetation and is to be welcomed in principle. However, the removal resulted in the exposure of unvegetated and loose soil and rampart material leading to some erosion.
- 7.2.2 There is also clear evidence of gorse regeneration and it is recommended that the situation is continued to be monitored.
- 7.2.3 Several locations are showing signs of new growth, though this may be controlled with grazing, however, although some areas of gorse are showing no sign of life, there is a potential that gorse could begin re-colonisation if left unchecked.
- 7.2.4 On the 4th season of survey, there was not only signs of some limited regeneration of new growth, but also areas where previously there was none present (Gorse 63 & 64 68 & 69). The problem seems to be ongoing.



PLATE 3: REGENERATING GORSE AREA 22 IN 2014.

7.3 Rabbit damage

- 7.3.1 The effects of rabbit infestation on archaeological monuments are now well attested and described in detail in the *Historic Scotland Technical Advice Note* (Dunwell & Trout 1999). There is evidence for intense colonisation across the whole site, although the east and south slopes are favoured. The loose composition of the rampart material favours burrows, and it is suggested that there is little depth to the inner area soil profile, which will in general prohibit intense rabbit activity.
- 7.3.2 In very specific locations, for example, the south slope, where warrens and isolated burrows penetrate the once-covered gorse slopes (rabbit damage 43–48) the erosion represents a real threat to the structural integrity of the rampart, with deep burrows and clear activity throwing up large amounts of core material. As mentioned above (Section 6.1.3) rabbit damage (31-39) combine with cattle tracks (Tracks 52 and 53) to increase the level of collapse. It is unclear as to whether the rabbit population is increasing or has decreased at the present as new damage is clearly in evidence (Damage 58-62) but other locations seem to be no longer active. (Damage 32,33,35 &36).
- 7.3.3 It is becoming clearer though that rabbit activity is constant and although in one year it may seem a burrow is abandoned, they may return and re-excavate in subsequent years. (30 & 32 for example)



PLATE 4: NEW RABBIT DAMAGE [48]

7.4 Conclusion

- 7.4.1 This 4 year observation of the erosional activity on the Chesters has now concluded and allowed a clearer picture of the management issues that challenge the present day custodians of this and other monuments.
- 7.4.2 The nature of management is clear when studied over a number of years. As seen in plate 5, below, the initial cutting of gorse exposed the slope to erosion and although there was a period of repair to the rampart slope the recolonization by rabbits soon grew to levels where the area was compromised, and introduction of cattle to prevent gorse regrowth also resulted in trample and further deflation and slumping.
- 7.4.3 Initial removal of gorse should be followed up by regular continuous assessment of the various issues in a quick walkround, that can provide an overview of potential new threats to the site. It is clear from this location that the gorse though visually intrusive, has already damaged the surface as much as it can, while rabbit and animal tracks are far more destructive when allowed to continue unchecked.



PLATE 5: DAMAGE 47 - COMPARATIVE DAMAGE RECORD EXAMPLE

- 7.4.4 Further survey and correlation with other sites (such as White Castle hillfort in the Lammermuirs, East Lothian will enhance the effectiveness of various management regimes.
- 7.4.5 The current recommendation would be to provide monument wardens with a simplified system of recording erosion activity;
 - Vegetation coverage/regeneration
 - Rabbit Burrows
 - Badger Activity
 - Mole Activity
 - Stock Damage
 - Visitor Damage
 - Other Damage
- 7.4.6 This can be updated on a yearly basis, allowing a more proactive approach to increased threat/damage and forming an ongoing process of data collection for a number of sites. Given that bracken and gorse will already have caused maximum damage that can be caused, the decisions on removal of this cover should be based on visual impact and visitor access, and this leads to a concomitant issue of maintenance and potential additional erosional activity.

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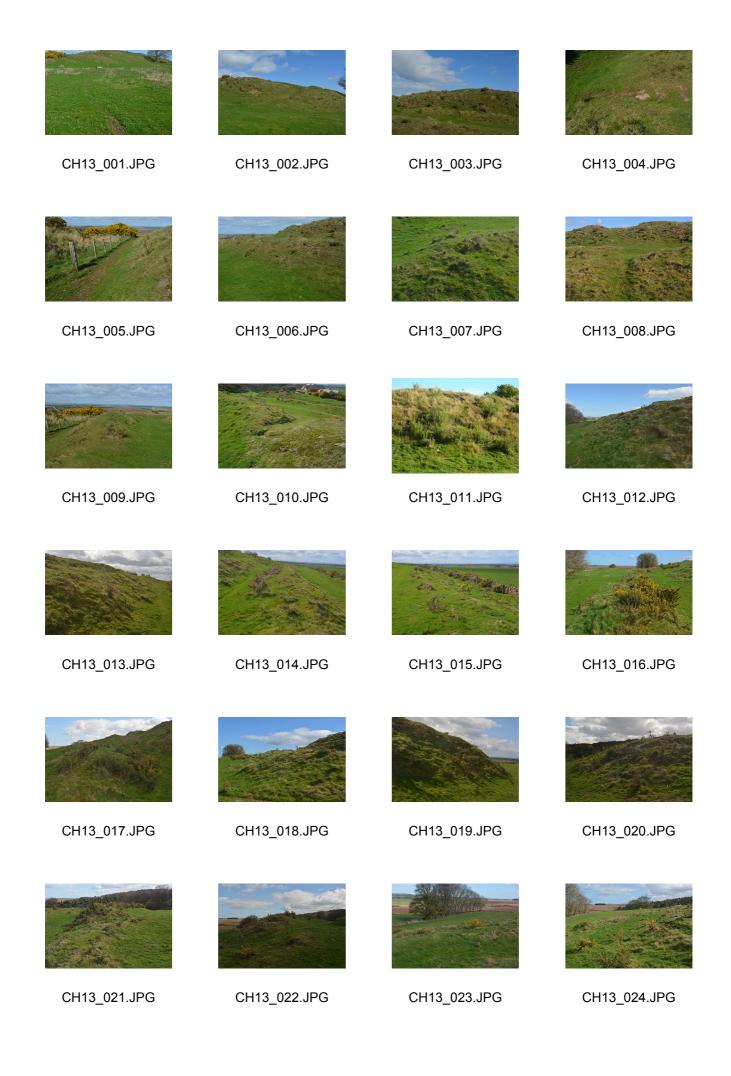
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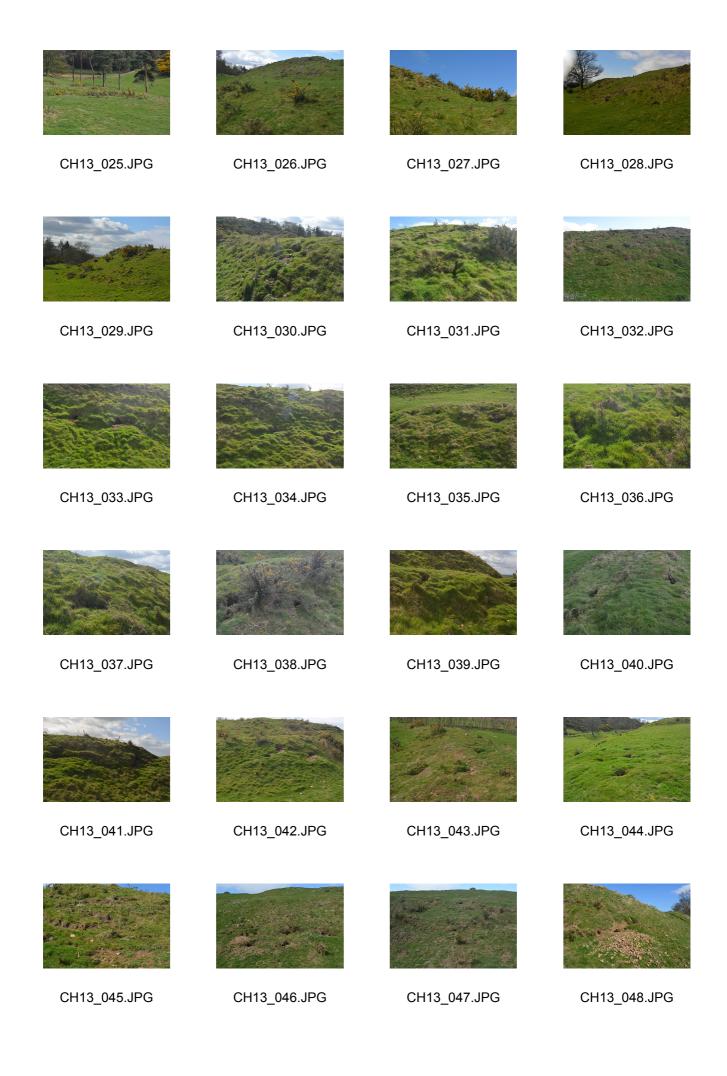
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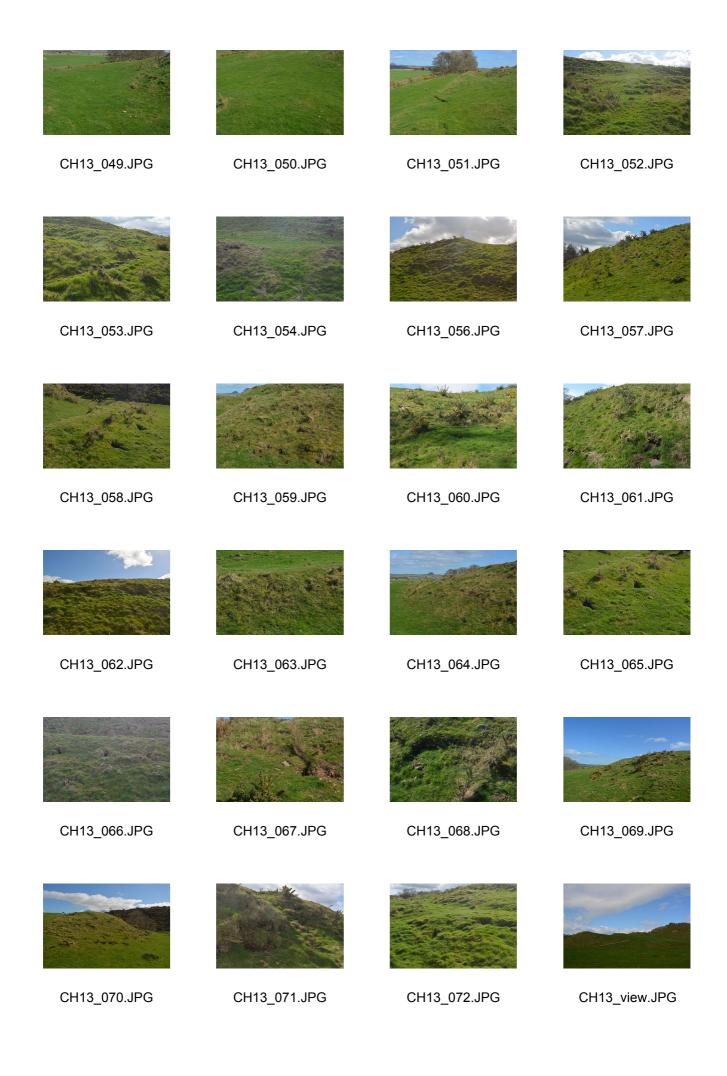
Damage	Aspect	Description	Date
01	Southwest	Visitor track	12/03/2014
02	West	Visitor track	12/03/2014
03	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
04	West	Visitor track	12/03/2014
05	West	Cattle track	12/03/2014
06	East	Rabbit scrapes	12/03/2014
07	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
08	East	Visitor/Animal track	12/03/2014
09	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
10	West	Visitor track	12/03/2014
11	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
12	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
13	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
14	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
15	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
16	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
17	East	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
18	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
19	South	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
20	South	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
21	Southwest	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
22	Northeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
23	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
24	Southeast	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014

Damage	Aspect	Description	Date
25	North	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
26	North	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
27	Northwest	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
28	North	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
29	North	Cut Gorse	12/03/2014
30	West	Isolated Burrow	12/03/2014
31	Southwest	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
32	South	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
33	South	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
34	West	Area Warren	12/03/2014
35	East	Area Warren	12/03/2014
36	Southeast	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
37	Southeast	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
38	Northeast	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
39	Southwest	Isolated burrows	12/03/2014
40	Northeast	Area Warren	12/03/2014
41	West	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
42	West	Isolated Burrow	12/03/2014
43	North	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
44	Northwest	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
45	Northwest	Isolated Warren	12/03/2014
46	Northwest	Area Warren	12/03/2014
47	Northwest	Area Warren	12/03/2014
48	East	Isolated Burrow	12/03/2014
49	West	Stock Track	12/03/2014

Damage	Aspect	Description	Date
50	South	Stock Track	12/03/2014
51	East	Stock Track	12/03/2014
52	West	Stock Track	12/03/2014
53	Northeast	Stock Track	12/03/2014
54	West	Stock Track	12/03/2014
55	East	Stock Track	12/03/2014
56	Southeast	Stock Track	12/03/2014
57	East	Stock Track	12/03/2014
58	Northeast	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
59	East	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
60	Southwest	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
61	East	Stock Track	12/03/2014
62	Northeast	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
63	East	Gorse	12/03/2014
64	Southwest	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
65	East	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
66	Southwest	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
67	Southwest	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
68	East	Gorse	12/03/2014
69	Southwest	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
70	East	Rabbit burrow	12/03/2014
71	Southwest	Gorse	12/03/2014
72	Southwest	Gorse	12/03/2014







Appendix 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Rampart Scotland: The Chesters Season 4
PROJECT CODE:	002
PARISH:	ATHELSTANEFORD
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	David Connolly and Murray Cook
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rampart Scotland
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Erosion Survey
NMRS NO(S):	NT57NW 1
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Hillfort
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 50760 78260
START DATE (this season)	September 2013
END DATE (this season)	March 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	July 2010,2011,2012 – Topographic Survey and Erosion Survey
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	As part of on-going research into East Lothian hillforts, further topographic, erosion survey, and limited geophysical survey was undertaken of The Chesters by Rampart Scotland.
	This work was a continuation of previous seasons of survey and erosion appraisal first funded by Historic Scotland following a programme of gorse removal. The work was undertaken with volunteers and students as part of a series of training sessions.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Further survey, geophysical survey and key-hole excavation
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Scotland and Rampart Scotland
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