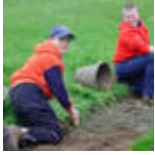


Kenmore Primary School



Survey Team

The Ben Lawers team worked at Meggernie, Glen Lyon. The Survey team mapped the site to see if there was a change in the land that might indicate a building or other man made structure. This will indicate where to dig (excavate). We went to see how it is done. The three archaeologists that assisted us in the task, Derek, John and Kirsteen worked for the National Trust for Scotland and Glasgow University and so were able to help us with the equipment.



The site

Equipment used in the survey was:

- Plane table and tripod stand - used as a table for the map of the site
- Range pole - used as a marker to pin point a section of the site e.g. a corner of a trench (hole)
- Alidade - a ruler with a viewfinder on it to line up the ranging pole to a mark on the map
- Measuring tape - used to measure the distance from the plane board to the pole
- Scaled ruler - used to scale down the measurements given from the plane board to the pole so we can mark the point on the map
- Water proof paper - used to write on



Here we are working!



Derek and pupils using the alidade



We all enjoyed doing this -- it was a new and fun experience! Overall we had a great day.

Excavation Team

Why were we doing the excavation?

We are excavating at Meggernie because there were remains of a building there. We wanted to find out who lived there and what their life style was like.



Kirsteen helping pupils excavate

What tools did we use?

We used the side of the trowel to carefully remove the top layer of soil. Once we had scraped all the soil to the side of the trench we scooped the soil with a shovel and put it in the bucket. Finding artefacts: If we found something we had to be careful not to damage or crumple any of them because it could be quite valuable. You need to be careful with the bigger stones because there is more chance of them being part of a wall.

What is a spoil heap?

A spoil heap is a pile where you put all of the soil and stones that you have dug out of the trench.



Pupils excavating

We all had a very good day and fortunately the weather was very calm. We learnt a lot by going on this trip.



John excavating with one of the pupils

Finds Team

What are Finds?

Another name for finds is Artefacts. They are objects that are found and tell us about the people that made them and how they lived.



These are some of the objects we found during our excavation.

We found pieces of metal, glass, pottery, charcoal, flint and slag. We know from these pieces how the people lived.



Pupils cleaning artifacts so they can be studied

This bit of glass came from an old bottle. It is much thicker than present day glass. You can see it is green. It is in a tray so that it doesn't get damaged.

We were shown other artefacts found earlier such as a child's shoe. It was treated to preserve it.



Glass fragment found while excavating

Once the archaeologists find artefacts they get transported to a lab. The lab figures out how old they are and what they were used for.

We all enjoyed being archaeologists for a day.

P6 and P7
Kenmore Primary School
16th June 2004