Excavations at Hoddom, Dumfriesshire

An Early Ecclesiastical Site in South-west Scotland

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*Richard Tipping*

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*Timothy Holden*

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*Magnar Dalland*

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Editor’s Note:
Sadly, since the time of writing their contributions to this book, Daphne Brook and Elizabeth Pirie have died.
Hoddom Castle is a 16th century L-plan tower house which may incorporate earlier work, and is reputed to be the largest castle built in the Borders in the 16th century. When the Bruce family were granted the lordship of Annandale in the 12th century they divided the area into baronies, one of which was the barony of Hoddom (or Hodelm) the seat of which is thought to have been at Old Hoddom Castle (now Hallguards). The importance of Hoddom seems to have declined around this time and the Hoddom family seem to have moved away. It may have been after this period that the seat of the lands moved west across the River Annan from Old Hoddom Castle to the site of Hoddom Castle, although this is speculation on my part.