



**Prestongrange Church, Prestonpans, East Lothian  
Data Structure Report  
Project 4660**

## Prestongrange Church, Prestonpans, East Lothian Data Structure Report

**On behalf of:** East Lothian Council

**NGR:** NT 3880 7450 (centred)

**Project Number:** 4660

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<b>DRAFT</b>  02/10/17	Bob Will ----- Project Manager	<b>FINAL</b>  02/10/17	John Atkinson ----- Managing Director
			

*This document has been prepared in accordance  
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

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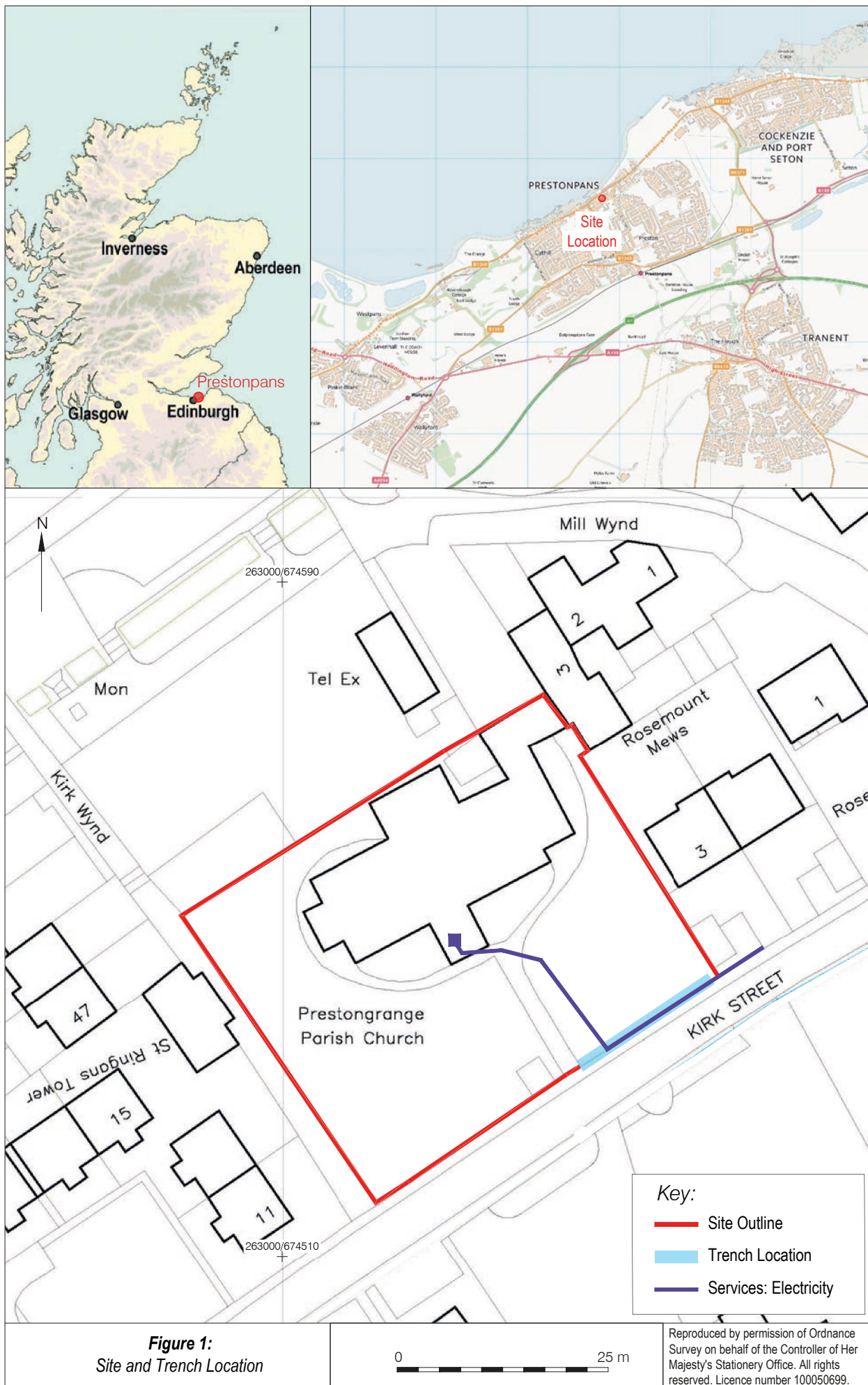
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## Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by East Lothian Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the down taking of part of an existing graveyard wall and excavation of a foundation trench to facilitate the construction of a new wall at Prestongrange church, Prestonpans, East Lothian. A seventeenth century gravestone dated 1646 and seven dressed stones, re-used building stones, were recovered from the fabric of the wall during down taking. Below the wall evidence of an earlier clay bonded wall was discovered. No human remains were encountered during the course of the work.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd, on behalf of East Lothian Council at Prestongrange church, Prestonpans, East Lothian. The archaeological watching brief was undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains within the development area with particular emphasis on human remains that may be disturbed by incursion into the graveyard soil. The work was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) approved by Andy Robertson of the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

## Site Location

- 3.1 The watching brief area is located on Prestongrange Church, Prestonpans, East Lothian (centred at NGR NT 388745) (Figure 1). It is bordered on the east and west by housing, Kirk Street to the south and High street to the north. The site is currently used as a graveyard for Prestongrange Church. The watching brief was carried out on the boundary wall with Kirk Street from the entrance gate east to the corner.

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Prestonpans church is an A listed building (LB: 40320; NMRS: NT37SE 18; HER id: MEL47) once a vicarage belonging to Holyrood Abbey which was burnt down in 1544. A new church was built in 1595 by John Davidson on ground granted by the laird. This church was almost certainly a rectangle with a west tower. The present church was erected in 1774, incorporating the old tower and other fragments of the earlier church. Additions and alterations were made c 1890. Preston Parish Church united with the Grange Church, the erstwhile Free Church in West Loan, in 1981. It is now known formally as Prestongrange Church
- 4.2 The kirkyard contains a number of interesting gravestones, including a few carved stones of seventeenth and eighteenth century date. Notable is that to John Stuart of Phisgul “..... barbarously murdered by four Highlanders near the end of the Battle fought in the field of Preston, on the 21st September 1745. Several pre-1707 grave monuments are set into the walls of the watch-house or in the boundary wall of the graveyard. The area of the proposed works to facilitate the repair of the boundary wall is likely to contain human remains, both disarticulated and articulated.

## Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological work was to:
- establish the presence or absence of any human remains, as yet unknown archaeological artefacts, features and deposits within the development area;
  - determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- 5.2 The objectives were therefore to:
- Conduct an Archaeological Watching Brief on all ground-breaking work, and during the

dismantling of the lower courses of the current wall, in order to identify and record any archaeological features encountered within the development area, establishing their character, date and extent if surviving;

- Identify, record, survey, collect and report on any apparent human chanel for reburial within the excavated trench;
- Identify *in situ* burials and agree a suitable approach with the client and ELCAS for recording, and recovery, should that be necessary;
- Submit a report to data structure level for agreement to ELCAS on completion of the archaeological monitoring of all ground disturbance, which includes an outline of the scope of any further excavation and/or post-excavation works should any significant archaeology be encountered.

## Methodology

6.1 All work was conducted in line with the following standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), of which GUARD Archaeology is a Registered Organisation:

- *Code of conduct* (2014);
- *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014), and
- *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2014).

## Archaeological Watching Brief

6.2 The archaeological watching brief was carried out during the removal of the lower courses of the existing graveyard wall and the subsequent excavation of a foundation trench 18.4 m long by 1.14 m wide.

6.3 All machine excavation of trenches was supervised by a GUARD archaeologist. The machine excavator was fitted with a c 0.35 m wide bucket.

6.4 The topsoil was removed to the base of the formation level to construct the new wall.

6.5 Any significant archaeological features encountered were dealt with by the on-site archaeologist. A full record of excavated features was made using a single context recording system using pro-forma sheets, drawings and photographs. All archaeological features were photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections were drawn at 1:20, and plans at 1:20.

6.6 All archaeological finds were dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Finds were collected as bulk samples by context. All finds will be processed to MAP2 type standards and subject to appropriate specialist assessment. If necessary, conservation of finds will be appraised to allow for specialist study.

6.7 A section was recorded denoting depth of topsoil, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information was logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.

## Results

7.1 **Downtaking of existing wall** (*Figure 2 and 3, Plates 1-6*)

7.1.1 The existing graveyard wall (001) comprised a lime mortar bonded sandstone rubble wall, linear in plan aligned east to west. The wall was built from sub-rectangular red and yellow sandstone blocks, two courses of stone wide with a rubble fill and measured 18.4 m long by 0.42 m wide and approximately 2 m high. The upper courses of the wall had been removed

before archaeological monitoring commenced leaving the wall 0.85 m high from the external pavement. The ground level within the graveyard was approximately 0.7 m higher than the outside pavement. The watching brief was able to monitor the soil behind wall as it was being dismantled. Seven dressed masonry blocks were recovered from the wall during down taking and were presumably re-used from an earlier building. In addition a gravestone, damaged and decorated with a recessed engraved central panel bearing the date 1646 and framed by a moulded chamfer with a double loop at the top was found lying face down incorporated into part of the foundation course of the wall.

**7.1.2** The remains of three possible structures were found against the north side of the graveyard wall. The first (003) comprised modern brick and sandstone fragments, haphazardly laid and bound in a cement mortar. Some of the bricks were stamped 'Prestongrange'. The feature measured 1.6 m long by 0.35 m wide by 0.4 m in height. The second structure (008) comprised sandstone rubble consisting of sub-angular stones and measured 3.8 m long by 0.35 m wide by 0.72 m in height. The third structure (009) also consisted of sandstone rubble and measured 1.2 m long by 0.35 m wide by 0.58 m in height. These deposits may relate to an earlier boundary wall or possibly foundations for memorial stones that were located next to or actually attached to the wall.

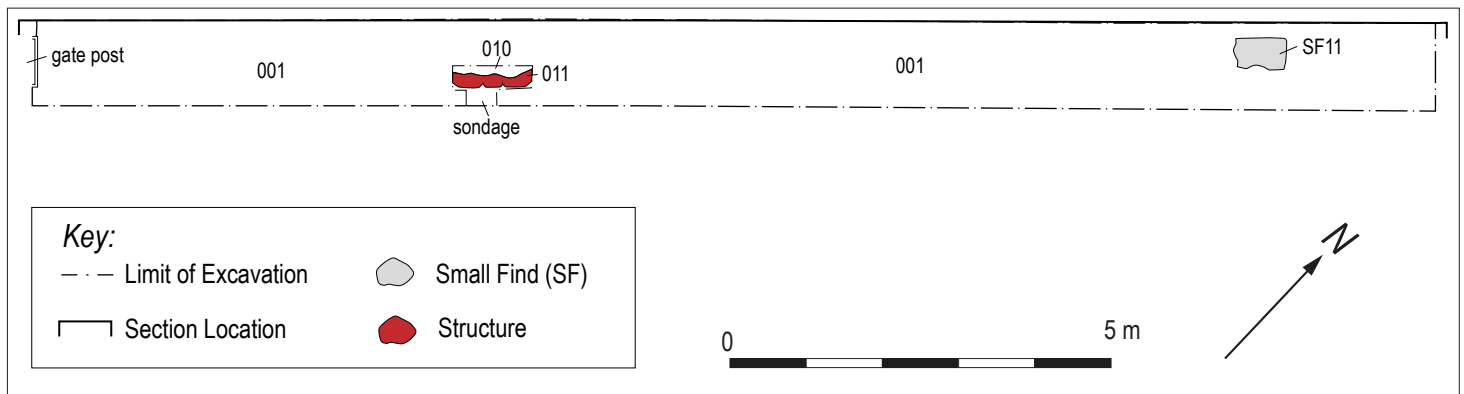


Figure 2: South facing section of foundation trench showing position of features

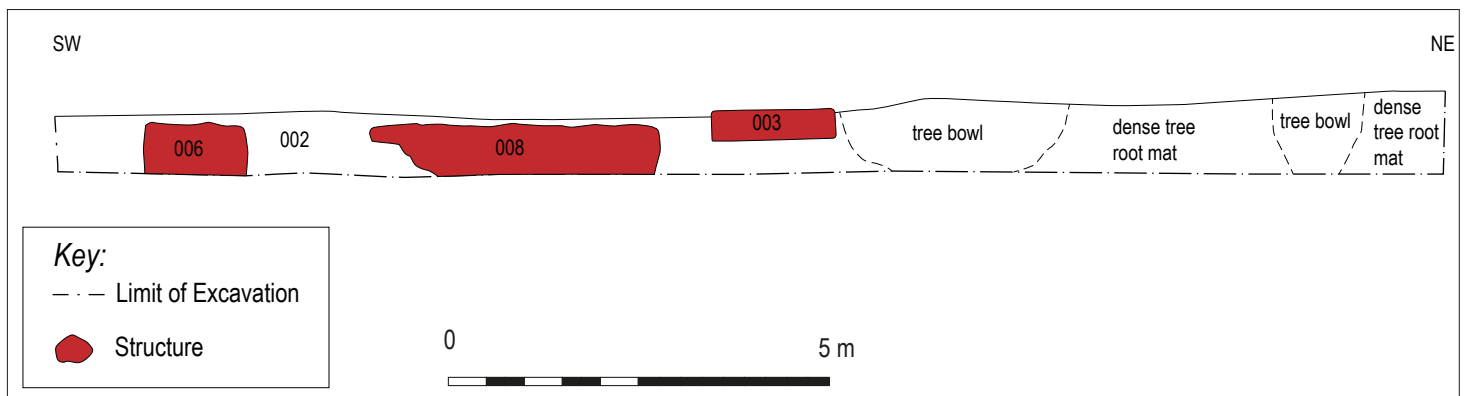


Figure 3: Plan of foundation trench showing position of features



Plate 1: View of the wall after removal of upper courses, prior to archaeological monitoring commencing, taken from the east

## 7.2 Excavating foundation trench for new wall (Figure 2 and 3 and Plates 7-11)

7.2.1 The foundation trench for the new wall was wider than the original wall and involved excavating a strip 0.3 m wide from the pavement (004) and a 0.3 m wide strip in the graveyard (002). The tarmac forming the pavement was overlying a layer of sharp red gravel (005) which overlay a layer of ash and cinders (006) that sealed a layer of crushed brick and sandstone fragments (007).

7.2.2 Meanwhile in the graveyard the topsoil comprised loose dark brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular stones. This measured 0.78 m deep at the west end of the wall increasing in depth at the east end of the wall to 1.1 m. This material appeared to have accumulated against the north side of the graveyard wall. A semi-mature London Plane tree growing against the north side of the existing wall had to be felled to facilitate construction of the new wall. To the east of this was the remains of a large tree stump with associated root system adjacent to the wall was also cut back. Excavation of the foundation trench towards the west end of the trench, below a trampled layer of topsoil and detritus associated with removal of the wall revealed part of a clay bonded sandstone rubble wall (011). This was found on the same alignment as the graveyard wall but located below the formation level of the new wall and as such was not fully investigated but preserved *in situ*. The exposed section of the clay bonded wall was 1 m long and 0.2 m wide and the clay bonding was up to 0.15 m thick. The foundation for the new wall was built over this.



Plate 2: View of foundation trench with rubble features from the south west



Plate 3: View of fully excavated foundation trench from the west



Plate 4: Part of the clay bonded wall 011 below the graveyard wall 001



### 7.3 **Artefacts** (see concordances for full details)

7.3.1 A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the watching brief including the seven dressed masonry fragments and the memorial stone. The remaining six artefacts include two badly corrode possible iron coffin handles, a copper and iron wall fixing that may have come from a lightning conductor, three sherds of pottery and a clay tobacco pipe stem.

7.3.2 The pipe stem appears to be quite late possibly dating from the late nineteenth or even the early twentieth century. On one side is stamped '...BURGH ALE' (Edinburgh Ale) and the other 'Wm Younger' which would suggest that this was advertising the products of Wm Younger's brewery in Edinburgh, which although it started in the late eighteenth century rapidly expanded during the mid-nineteenth century.

7.3.3 Of the three sherds of pottery one (SF 014) is from a plate rim with a feathered edge and a blue hand painted band along the edge. The sherd is a white earthenware with a 'salt-glaze' and could date to the late eighteenth century. Similar vessels were made at Prestonpans in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. A base sherd (SF 13) in a red fabric with brown glaze and yellow 'joggled' slip decoration was also found and again could have been made locally in the nineteenth century. The third sherd (SF10) was a white earthenware base possibly from a vase with no decoration or manufacturer's mark.

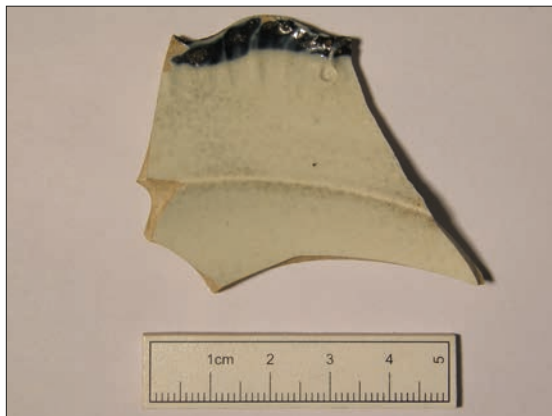


Plate 5: white salt-glaze plate rim



Plate 6: red earthenware with brown glaze and yellow slip decoration

## Discussion

8.1 Surprisingly during the course of the watching brief no articulated or dis-articulated human remains were uncovered. The presence of a clay bonded wall below the existing graveyard wall and the incorporation of re-used dressed masonry and a seventeenth century gravestone into the foundation of the wall suggests that the graveyard wall had already been re-built possibly in 1774 or in 1891 when extensive refurbishments to the church were carried out. This may also account for the presence of dressed sandstone masonry forming part of the fabric of the wall and could have come from the original church built in 1595 which was dismantled and remodelled during these periods of refurbishment. The rubble structures against the north side of the wall all appear to be foundation material to support gravestones or memorials built into or set against the north side of the graveyard wall which were removed prior to the wall being dismantled. The small group of artefacts contains two interesting sherds of pottery which were probably made locally in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century when industrial scale pottery manufacture was just beginning in Scotland.



Plate 7: Dressed masonry stones recovered from the fabric of the wall.



Plate 8: 1646 dated gravestone recovered from the foundations of the wall.

## Recommendations

- 9.1 The watching brief found no evidence of human remains during the course of the work but did reveal evidence to suggest that the graveyard wall had been rebuilt on an earlier occasion and did recover a seventeenth century gravestone and dressed masonry that probably relates to the various phases of re-building and repair to the church and churchyard. Given the nature of the results no further work is deemed necessary.
- 9.2 The 1646 gravestone was moved into the watch-house by the entrance to the churchyard for safe keeping and could at a future date be displayed mounted onto the graveyard wall. The dressed masonry blocks were removed from site and are currently stored temporarily in the GUARD Archaeology Ltd offices until a decision is made on their final destination.
- 9.3 GUARD Archaeology Ltd would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only and the final decisions on the nature and extent of any further archaeological work rest with the planning authority.
- 9.4 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. A copy of this is included in Appendix E. The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within six months of the completion of all fieldwork.
- 9.5 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> for this project (OASIS Reference: guardarc1-295198) will be completed within 3 months. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, the CECAS

Archaeologist will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

## Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology would like to thank East Lothian Council for commissioning the work. The archaeological watching brief was carried out by Alan Hunter Blair. Technical support was from Aileen Maule and Jen Cochrane. The report was written by Alan Hunter Blair, with the illustrations produced by Jennifer Simmons. The report was desk top published by Gillian Sneddon. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology Ltd by Bob Will.

**Prestongrange Church,  
Prestonpans, East Lothian  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**



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## Appendices

### Appendix A: List of Contexts

Context No.	Area	Description	Interpretation
001		A lime mortar bonded sandstone rubble wall built from sub-rectangular red and yellow sandstone blocks, stone size 660 mm x 200 mm x 180 mm <-> two course of stone wide with a rubble fill. Measured 18.4 m long x 0.42 m wide x approx 2m in height, taken down to 0.85 before archaeological monitoring started. Seven dressed stones were recovered from the wall during dewatering and a Gravestone dated 1646 was found lying face down forming part of the basal course.	Existing graveyard wall
002		Loose dark brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular stones, 0.33 m deep at the west end of the wall increasing in depth to 0.68 m at the east end.	Graveyard soil
003		Brick and sandstone fragments/rubble bound in a cement mortar. Bricks stamped 'Prestongrange', brick size 230 mm x 120 mm x 90 mm. Measured 1.6 m long x 0.35 m wide x 0.4 m in height.	Rubble base for Memorial stone set against graveyard side of graveyard wall
004		Tarmac surface, measured 0.09 m deep.	Tarmac forming existing pavement surface
005		Sharp red gravel, measured 0.1 m deep.	Bottoming for tarmac 004
006		Ash and cinders below 005, measured 0.08 m deep.	Possible ash and cinder pavement prior to tarmac pavement
007		Brick and sandstone fragments below 006, measured 0.12 m deep.	Bottoming for cinder pavement 006
008		Sandstone rubble consisting of sub-angular stones. Stone size 400 mm x 230 mm x 180 mm. Measured 3.8 m long x 0.35 m wide x 0.72 m in height.	Rubble base on north side of wall to support weight of gravestone built into graveyard wall
009		Sandstone rubble with sub-angular stones. Stone size 250 mm x 180 mm x 130 mm. Measured 1.2 m long x 0.35 m wide x 0.58 m in height.	Rubble base on north side of wall to support weight of gravestone built into graveyard wall
010		Firm dark brown clay devoid of conspicuous inclusions. Measured up to 0.15 m deep	Clay at the base of wall 001, subsequently found to be bonding of wall 011 below 001.
011		Clay bonded sandstone rubble wall found below formation level for new wall. Only partially exposed in exploratory sondage below wall 001	The remains of an earlier wall on the same alignment as wall 001. Possibly the remnant of the original graveyard wall.

### Appendix B: List of Finds

Find No.	Area	Context No.	No. of Pieces	Material	Type	Description
1		001	1	Ceramic	tobacco pipe	tobacco pipe stem fragment stamped (Edinburgh Ale, Wm Younger)
2		001	1	Metal	Brass and Iron	Metal plate on an iron shank possibly part of a lightning conductor
3		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed yellow sandstone column base. Measured 0.42 m x 0.42 m x 0.27 m
4		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed roughly squared yellow sandstone block with rebate. Measured 0.42 m x 0.42 m x 0.27 m
5		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed rectangular yellow sandstone block with rebate. Measured 0.5 m x 0.39 m x 0.17 m
6		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed sub-rectangular yellow sandstone block with rebate. Measured 0.45 m x 0.28 m x 0.18 m
7		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed sub-rectangular red sandstone block with rebate. Measured 0.45 m x 0.28 m x 0.18 m
8		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed sub-rectangular yellow sandstone block with rebate. Measured 0.4 m x 0.39 m x 0.19 m

Find No.	Area	Context No.	No. of Pieces	Material	Type	Description
9		001	1	Stone	Masonry	Dressed sub-rectangular yellow sandstone block with moulded detail. Measured 0.4 m x 0.39 m x 0.19 m
10		002	1	Ceramic	Pottery	white earthenware base sherd with angle, sub-circular
11		001	1	Stone	Gravestone	Damaged and decorated gravestone with a recessed engraved central panel bearing the date 1646, framed by a moulded chamfer with a double loop at top. Measured 0.64 m in height x 0.46 m wide x 0.17 m deep. Left on site
12		002	2	Metal	Iron	Possible coffin handles.
13		002	1	Ceramic	Pottery	decorated glazed base sherd- redware with yellow slip decoration 19thC?
14		002	1	Ceramic	Pottery	a sherd from plate rim with feather edge and blue glaze decoration. - salt glaze late 18th C?

### Appendix C: List of Field Drawings

Drawing No.	Area	Sheet No.	Context no.	Subject	Scale
001		1	002, 003, 008 and 009	South facing section through deposits and structures after dountaking of graveyard wall 001 and excavation of foundation trench	1:20
002		2		Plan showing location of features recorded in wall foundation trench	1:20

### Appendix D: List of Digital Images

Film No. 1		Subject	Taken from
Frame	Area		
1		Registration	
2		General view of wall 001 partially taken down	W
3		General view of wall 001 partially taken down	E
4		South facing elevation at east end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	S
5		General view during down taking of wall 001	SE
6		South facing elevation at east end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	S
7		South facing elevation at east end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	SE
8		South facing elevation at east end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	S
9		South facing elevation at east end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	SW
10		East end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	SW
11		East end of wall 001 showing re-used dressed stone incorporated into fabric of the wall	W
12		Brick stamped 'Preston Grange' from ballast deposit 003	S
13		General view of ballast deposit 003 during dountaking	S
14-15		Some of the dressed stone recovered from wall 001 during dountaking	N and NE
16		Coping stones removed and set aside for later reinstatement	E
17-18		General view during down taking of wall 001	W and E
19-20		Some of the dressed stone recovered from wall 001 during dountaking	N
21-22		South facing section of graveyard soil deposit 002 at the west end of wall 001	S
23-24		South facing section of graveyard soil deposit 002 at the east end of wall 001	S
25		Dressed stone recovered from wall 001 during dountaking	N
26-27		General view of wall 001 partially taken down	W and E
28-30		Working shots	E, W and W

Frame	Area	Subject	Taken from
31		Deposits 005-007 below tarmac pavement 004	N
32		General view of problematical tree	S
33-34		Wall 011 below wall 001	E
35-36		Stone SF003	
37-38		Stone SF004	
39-40		Stone SF005	
41-42		Stone SF006	
43-44		Stone SF007	
45-46		Stone SF008	
47-49		Stone SF009	
50-51		Structure 008	S and SW
52		Structure 009	S
53-54		Wall 011	E and W
53-54		Wall 011	S
<b>Film No 2</b>			
1		General view of tree stump/debris	S
2		General view of tree stump/debris	E
3		General view of trench	E
4		General view of tree stump/debris large stones	W
5		General view of tree stump/debris	S
6		General view of tree stump/debris	SE
7		Film 2 identification	
8		Excavated and cleaned foundation trench W end	W
9		South facing section of trench W end	S
10		South facing section of trench middle, W of tree stump	S
11		General view removing tree stump.roots	W
12		General view removing tree stump.roots	W
13		General view removing tree stump.roots	E
14		1646 memorial stone just uncovered	E
15		1646 memorial stone just uncovered	E
16		1646 memorial stone just uncovered - detail	E
17- 25		1646 memorial stone -detail	S
26-27		1646 memorial stone - detail of date	
28		1646 memorial stone - moved to inside graveyard	SE
29		General view cleaning foundation trench E end	S
30		completed foundation trench	W
31		completed foundation trench	E
32		South facing section of trench - middle	S
33		South facing section of trench - middle	S
34		South facing section of trench - E end	S
35		South facing section of trench - middle showing tree roots	S

## Appendix E: Discovery and Excavation Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Prestongrange Church, Prestonpans, East Lothian
PROJECT CODE:	4660
PARISH:	Prestonpans
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Alan Hunter Blair
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	--
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	C16th Church
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	C17th Gravestone
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 3880 7450
START DATE (this season)	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
END DATE (this season)	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	GUARD Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Crosbie Stonecraft to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the down taking of part of an existing graveyard wall and excavation of a foundation trench to facilitate the construction of a new wall at Prestongrange church, Prestonpans, East Lothian. Seven dressed stones, re-used building stones, and a seventeenth century gravestone dated 1646, were recovered from the fabric of the wall during down taking. Below the wall evidence of an earlier clay bonded wall was discovered. Large fragments of animal long bone were recovered, but not retained, from topsoil during excavation of the foundation trench for the new wall, no human bone was encountered during the course of the work
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Crosbie Stonecraft
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	bob.will@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.

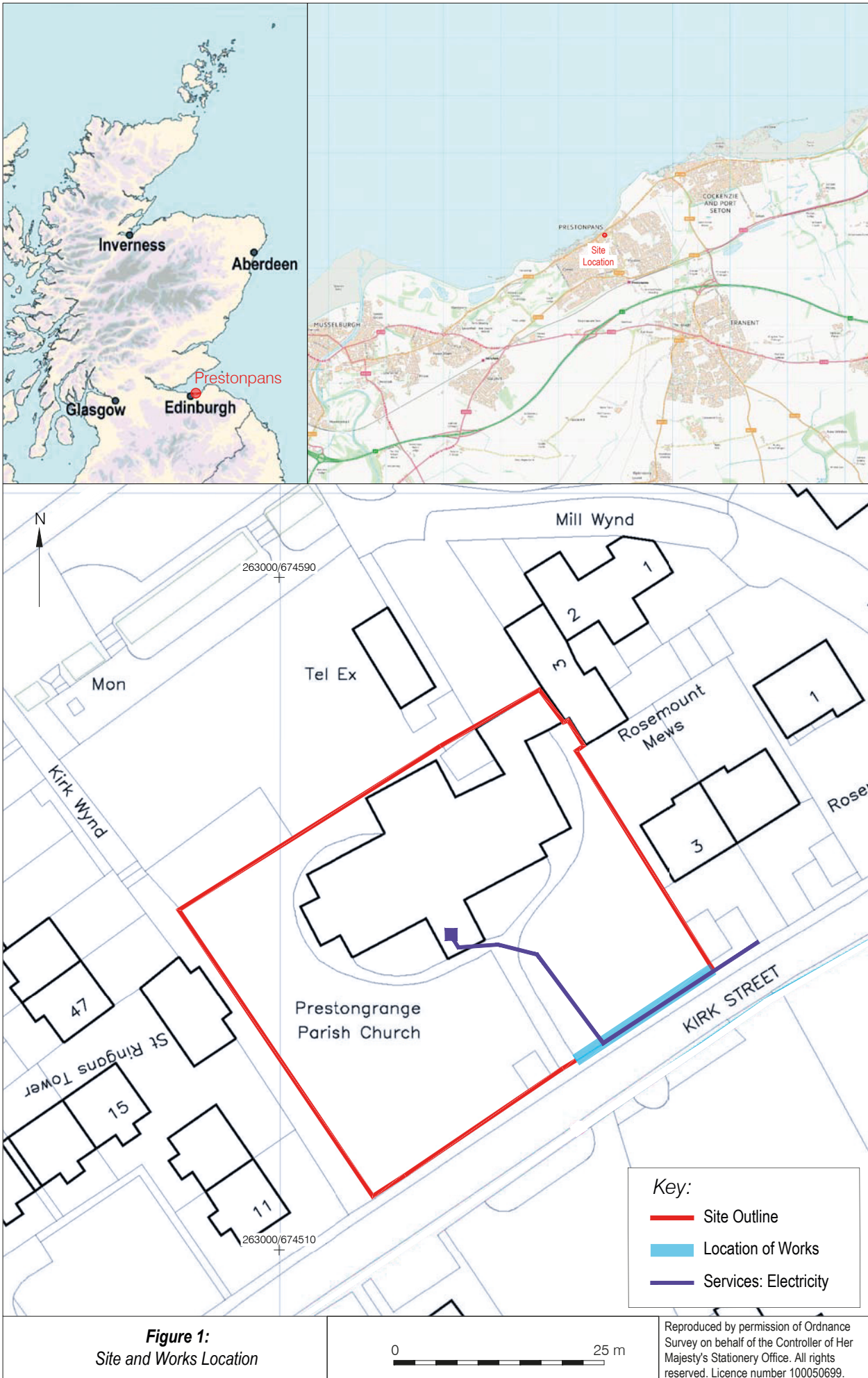


**Appendix F: Written Scheme of Investigation**

**PRESTONGRANGE CHURCH,  
PRESTONPANS, EAST LOTHIAN**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 4660



**Figure 1:**  
Site and Works Location

0 25 m

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## Executive Summary

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) outlines the precise scope and methodology for the archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the removal and rebuilding of a part of the wall of the graveyard at Prestongrange church, Prestonpans, East Lothian, as it is currently in an unsafe condition.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This WSI outlines the methodology for the archaeological watching brief at Prestongrange church, Prestonpans to be undertaken as a condition of planning consent (Planning Application 17/00074/P). These archaeological works will be undertaken to establish the presence, extent and nature of any significant archaeological remains and in particular to collect any human chanel uncovered and identify any areas of undisturbed human remain (grave cuts etc). Should significant remains be identified and it is not possible to preserve them *in situ* a further requirement for archaeological works to ensure their preservation through record will be required to meet the condition of planning consent.
- 2.2 This WSI outlines the programme of archaeological works that may be needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed development. It details the methodology to be employed in implementing these Stage 1 archaeological works. The mitigation methodology to be employed during Stage 2 excavation and Stage 3 post excavation analysis and publication, if required, will be specified in addenda documents. These addenda document, if required, will be submitted for the agreement of the client and then the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS), prior to the commencement of any such further archaeological work. All phases of work will be funded by the developer.

## Site Location

- 3.1 The watching brief area is located on Prestongrange Church, Prestonpans, East Lothian (centred at NGR NT 388745) (Figure 1). It is bordered on the east and west by housing, Kirk Street to the south and High street to the north. The site is currently used as a graveyard for Prestongrange Church.

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 Prestonpans church is an A listed building (LB: 40320; NMRS: NT37SE 18; HER id: MEL47) once a vicarage belonging to Holyrood Abbey and was burnt down in 1544. A new church was built in 1595 by John Davidson on ground granted by the laird. This church was almost certainly a rectangle with a west tower. The present church was erected in 1774, incorporating the old tower and other fragments of the earlier church. Additions and alterations were made c 1890.
- 4.2 The kirkyard contains a number of interesting gravestones, including a few carved stones of seventeenth and eighteenth century date. Notable is that to John Stuart of Phisgul ".....barbarously murdered by four Highlanders near the end of the Battle fought in the field of Preston, on the 21st September 1745". Preston Parish Church united with the Grange Church, the erstwhile Free Church in West Loan, in 1981. It is now known formally as Prestongrange Church. The churchyard of Prestonpans Parish Church contains several pre-1707 grave monuments which are set into the walls of the watch-house or in the boundary wall of the graveyard. The area of the proposed works to facilitate the repair of the boundary wall is likely to contain human remains, both disarticulated and articulated.

## Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological watching brief are as follows:
  - establish the presence or absence of any human remains, as yet unknown archaeological artefacts, features and deposits within the development area;

- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features/sites encountered.

#### 5.2 The objectives are therefore to:

- Conduct an Archaeological Watching Brief on all ground-breaking work, and during the dismantling of the lower courses of the current wall, in order to identify and record any archaeological features encountered within the development area, establishing their character, date and extent if surviving;
- Identify, record, survey, collect and report on any apparent human charnel for reburial within the excavated trench;
- Identify *in situ* burials and agree a suitable approach with the client and ELCAS for recording, and recovery, should that be necessary;
- Submit a report to data structure level for agreement to ELCAS on completion of the archaeological monitoring of all ground disturbance, which includes an outline of the scope of any further excavation and/or post-excitation works should any significant archaeology be encountered.

## Fieldwork Methodology

#### 6.1 The strategy to be employed during the watching brief will consist of the following:

- All ground disturbances will be monitored by an archaeologist assisted, where necessary, by further archaeologists under the overall guidance of an archaeological project manager.
- The number of archaeologists required during the works will be dependent on the number of areas being stripped simultaneously and the number of mechanical excavators being deployed.
- All plant will be fitted with a toothless ditching bucket for removal of any previously undisturbed overburden layers to ensure the subsoil interface is not disturbed and any archaeological features can be clearly identified.
- Overburden will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none is found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to determine the date of the deposits, their character and extent. Such features will be recorded by written description on *pro forma* recording sheets, by photograph and by measured drawing.
- Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site archaeologist(s). Should negative-cut features be encountered they will be 50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. In the event that they are deemed to be important discoveries, they will be fully excavated. Recording will include *pro forma* sheets, drawings and photographs.
- Suitable down time will be provided to the on-site archaeologists in order to fully recover any archaeological evidence from features encountered.
- In the event that particularly significant features, special finds, or complex groups of features are encountered the client and Planning Authority archaeologist will be alerted, so that a mitigation strategy can be agreed to deal with them.
- All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeological team. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context which are recovered from the overburden or from nineteenth century or later layers or deposits. Should finds be encountered that are securely stratified from earlier occupation phases they will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to up-lifting.
- All apparent human charnel will be initially identified, recorded, surveyed and then collected for reburial within the excavated trench, with its new position surveyed and located within the National Grid for future reference.

- Where in situ articulated human remains/formal burials are encountered, these will not be unnecessarily disturbed and measures will be taken to protect them. In situ human remains will be recorded using photography and pro forma skeleton sheets with their position surveyed using GPS.
  - In the event that the position of in situ human remains is disruptive to the proposed repair works, and where the removal of such remains is deemed necessary to ensure the delivery of the repair work to the required standard, an appropriate mitigation strategy will be agreed between the client and ELCAS to address this requirement.
  - All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence. This may also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues on soil development.
  - A representative section will be recorded for each section of trench denoting depth of overburden, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information will be logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.
- 6.2 On completion of the watching brief phase of work, a report suitable for submission to the Planning Authority and the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) will be produced. This report will be accompanied by the post-excavation research design and costing in order to bring the results forward for analysis and publication should this be required.

## Report Preparation and Contents

- 7.1 A report detailing the results of the archaeological fieldwork will be submitted to the client within two weeks of completion of fieldwork and, subject to client approval, then submitted to ELCAS for agreement.
- 7.2 The report will take the form of a Data Structure Report and will contain an analysis of the results of the archaeological fieldwork. The report will include a full descriptive text that will characterise the date and extent of any archaeological deposits. It will also include plans at an appropriate scale showing the area subjected to ground-breaking works, archaeological features and archiving lists of all finds, samples, field drawings and photographs.
- 7.3 The report will include the following:
- executive summary;
  - a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 8 figure central grid reference;
  - OASIS reference number; unique site code;
  - Planning application number;
  - contractor's details including date work carried out;
  - nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details;
  - description of the site history, location and geology;
  - a site plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid so that features can be correctly orientated;
  - discussion of the results of fieldwork;
  - context & feature descriptions;
  - features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format;
  - plans and section drawings of the features drawn at a suitable scale;
  - initial assessment of relevant finds/samples if appropriate;
  - recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further Stage 2 or Stage 3 works;
  - bibliography.

- 7.4 An appropriate number of hard copies and digital pdf copies of the report will be prepared for the client and ELCAS for their records.
- 7.5 The report will be presented in an ordered state and bound within a protective cover/sleeve. The report will be page numbered and supplemented with section numbering for ease of reference.

## Copyright

- 8.1 Unless otherwise agreed copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of GUARD Archaeology Limited.

## Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. In the event of minor archaeological remains being encountered during the archaeological fieldwork, it is proposed that a comprehensive report submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, will form the final publication of the site. A copy of this summary report will be included in the Data Structure Report.

## Archive

- 10.1 The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within three months of completion of all relevant work.
- 10.2 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be completed within 3 months of completion of the work. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, ELCAS will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

## Finds Disposal

- 11.1 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work will be in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia* in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent Data Structure Report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the fieldwork. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD Archaeology Limited until a decision has been made by the panel.

## Personnel and Liaison

- 12.1 The GUARD team will include the following qualified and experienced GUARD archaeologists:
  - Project Manager: Warren Bailie
  - Project Director (Lead on-site Archaeologist): TBC
  - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Aileen Maule
  - Illustrator: Gillian McSwan
- 12.2 The GUARD Project Manager, Warren Bailie, will be the point of contact for the archaeological works. A full CV for individuals concerned can be made available on request.

## Monitoring

- 13.1 The proposed start date for the archaeological watching brief is w/b 8th May 2017 and it is expected to last for three days. ELCAS will be given at least one week's notice prior to the commencement of fieldwork. ELCAS and the client will be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged.

## Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down by the CIfA. It is standard GUARD Archaeology Ltd policy, prior to any fieldwork project commencing, to conduct a risk assessment and to prepare a project safety plan, the prescriptions of which will be strictly followed for the duration of all archaeological fieldwork. Copies of the resultant project safety plan and of GUARD Archaeology Ltd's Fieldwork Safety Policy Statement may be viewed upon request.
- 14.2 GUARD Archaeology Limited also possesses all necessary insurance cover, proofs of which may be supplied upon request.

## Sources Consulted

<https://canmore.org.uk/>

[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/844/archaeology/202/historic\\_environment\\_record](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/844/archaeology/202/historic_environment_record)

<http://pastmap.org.uk/>

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