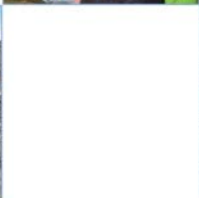
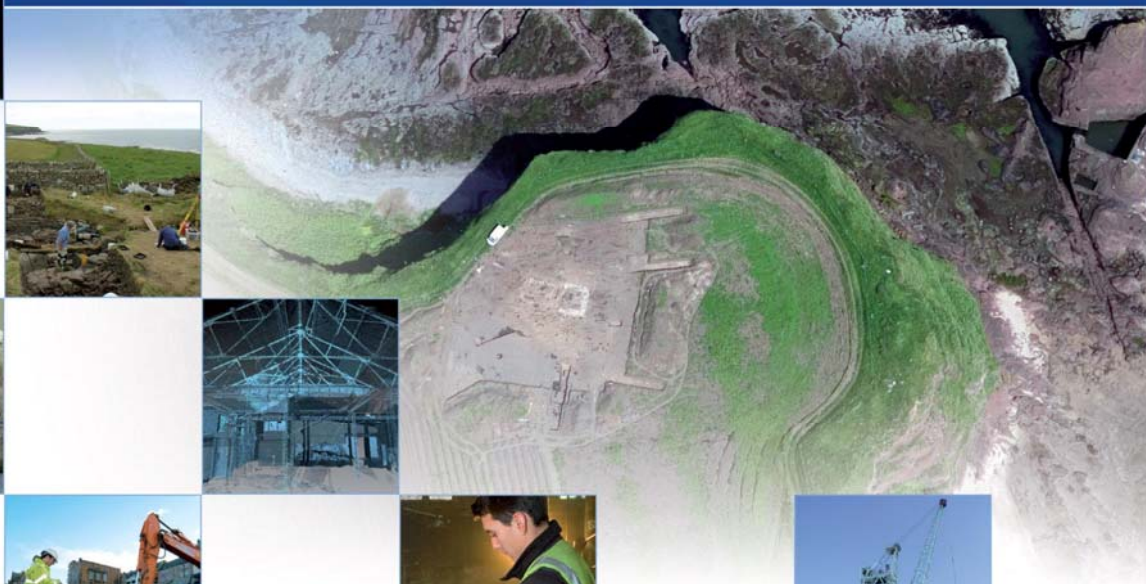


Lewisvale Park, Musselburgh: Excavation Data Structure Report

AOC 21582 / SMC APP. AMH/3612/1/1

5th August 2010



Lewisvale Park, Musselburgh Monitored Topsoil Strip & Excavation:

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	East Lothian Council Penston House Macmerry Industrial Estate Macmerry East Lothian EH33 1EX
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Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological monitored topsoil strip and subsequent excavation undertaken prior to the erection of a new cricket pavilion within the scheduled area of Lewisvale Park, Inveresk, East Lothian.

The works were undertaken as a requirement of scheduled monument consent (AMH/3612/1/1).

The excavation unearthed a highly significant suite of archaeological features including a large pit containing the formal deposition of two Roman altars and an altar base. A linear ditch and gully and a collection of pit and post-hole features were also unearthed. Both ceramic and metal artefacts were recovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required during construction works associated with a replacement cricket pavilion at Lewisvale Park, Musselburgh, East Lothian (AMH/3612/1/1). The scope of archaeological works was determined by the requirements set by Historic Scotland in allowing Scheduled Monument Consent for the development. The work undertaken was in keeping with the AM & AAA (1979) *Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act* in safeguarding the archaeological integrity of the Scheduled Roman Works & Field System (SAM 6312) associated with Inveresk Roman Fort.
- 1.1.2 The development (East Lothian Planning App 09/00433/FUL) involved the demolition of the existing remains of the former pavilion (destroyed by fire) and erection of a new pavilion. All associated groundworks (foundation trenches & service trenches) were to be subject to an archaeologically monitored topsoil strip. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2010) - based on a *brief* prepared by East Lothian Council (2010) - was approved by Historic Scotland prior to the start of on-site works. In setting out the programme of work required to meet the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent, it explained the generality of the necessary works and detailed principally the methodology to be employed in implementing the monitored topsoil strip. Upon the discovery of highly significant archaeological remains an *addendum* (AOC 2010a) to this document was subsequently submitted to, and approved by, Historic Scotland explaining the methodology to be employed in excavating these remains.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological works were funded entirely by East Lothian Council.

1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area lies within a grassed area of Lewisvale Park, Inveresk, East Lothian (centred NGR: NT 3508 7212). To the east of this location domestic properties bound the Park, with open parkland (cricket pitch) to the west and allotments to the south. The current level ground has been subject to modern landscaping however the overall aspect of the site would have been to the north where the land slopes down to the coast.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Inveresk Roman Fort

2.1.1 Introduction

The Roman fort at Inveresk, known as “*Coria*” in Roman times (Rivet & Smith 1979), has produced abundant evidence of two phases of occupation during the middle of the 2nd century AD (Antonine Period) and was closely associated with a large civil settlement and wider rural hinterland. The fort is situated at the point of convergence of the two main north/south Roman roads in Scotland, and was contemporary with the Antonine Wall.

The first occupation of the Wall is traditionally dated between the governorship of Lollius Urbicus (AD 139-42) and the latter part of that of Julius Verus (AD 154-8). There followed a brief hiatus

until a shorter secondary occupation for a few years from the late 150s to just before the middle of the 160s (Hanson & Maxwell 1983).

Inveresk was ideally located to act as a supply base and port for the Wall (Breeze 1982, Hanson & Maxwell 1983) and its hinterland, functioning as a focus for both military and civil activity in the region. It was perhaps for this reason that it attracted the presence of the chief provincial financial official, the procurator Quintus Lusius Sabinianus, who dedicated at least two altars at Inveresk, one of them to Apollo Grannus (Hassall & Tomlin 1977).

The fort and associated *Vicus* have been subject to various archaeological interventions.

- 2.1.2 Between 1991 and 2000 GUARD undertook a series of rescue excavation prior to extensions to St Michael's Churchyard, Inveresk. Structural remains associated with the occupation of the fort were found in varying states of preservation. Stretches of the *via praetorian* and *via sagularis* along with stratigraphic evidence recorded from the foundation levels of the western gate indicate 2 phases of activity. Other features revealed included the ditch, rampart base and intervallum road. Evidence exists to demonstrate at least two quite distinct constructional phases of the fort, on slightly different internal plans, with further indications which hint at further sub-phases of repair work or modifications (Leslie and Will 1999).

2.2 The Vicus

- 2.2.1 Excavation between 1996 and 2000 (Bishop 2004) built on earlier works (Maxwell 1971; Thomas 1988) in further defining the nature of the civil settlement lying to the immediate east of the fort. Three phases of civil occupation were revealed overlying earlier defences. The buildings were of post-in-trench construction in Phase 1, following by post-built structures built on the same plot boundaries in Phase 2 and stone-built buildings in Phase 3 (a rigid, albeit rudimentary street grid was maintained throughout these phases). Discovery of a timber-lined well yielded exceptional preservation of organic remains in the anoxic conditions in its water-logged base.

2.3 The wider landscape surrounding the Roman Fort

- 2.3.1 The immediate landscape has seen a number of archaeological discoveries relating to the wider Roman occupation of the locality. Aerial photography has revealed a palimpsest of Roman camps interwoven with field systems and earlier sites (see review in Brown 2002). Field systems are known at Howe Mire (Cook 2002; 2004), in Lewisvale Park (Leslie 2002) and together with temporary camps at Monktonhall (Hanson 2002), while remains interpreted as an amphitheatre have been found at Park Lane (Neighbour 2002); a ditch, associated with pits and a possible well were recorded at Eskgrove (Alexander & Dunwell 1994).

3 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the monitored topsoil strip and subsequent excavation were:
- i) to determine the character, condition, extent, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area;

- ii) the identification, excavation, soil sampling and recording of all significant archaeological features within the identified zone of archaeological importance;
- iii) the retrieval of a representative artefact assemblage;
- iv) upon conclusion of the excavation, prepare a post-excavation research design (*PERD*) to be agreed with East Lothian Council and Historic Scotland;
- v). the post-excavation analysis of recovered material and publication of the results.

4 METHOD

- 4.1 It was anticipated that the maximum impact on scheduled ground would be the intrusions created by foundation and utility service trenches as shown on client drawings: No. L-231 P1001 Rev B; No. L-231 P1002A and SS0305885-0.4FLD). The majority of the new building would overlie the footprint of the old building with foundations reaching a maximum depth of 800 mm. The new building would occupy a rectangular internal space of c.165 m² with external paved areas to the north, west and east.
- 4.2 All ground breaking work was actively supervised by a professional field archaeologist with ground reduction by means of a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The monitoring ceased in any one area once a clean natural subsoil surface or formation level had been reached, whichever occurred first.
- 4.3 Following the unexpected discovery of two Roman altars, on site work was temporarily halted in accordance with the requirements of the Written Scheme of Investigation. An addendum (AOC 2010a) to the original Written Scheme of Investigation was agreed with Historic Scotland following a site visit.
- 4.4 All excavation was undertaken by normal stratigraphic succession with comprehensive recording by written drawn and photographic record. Bulk soil samples (30 litres or total recovery if less) were recovered from all excavated soil contexts. Excavation and recording of the shallow pit feature containing the Roman altars comprised:
- i. Before any further excavation work occurred, the feature was cleaned, planned and photographed;
 - ii. Two slot trenches in a cruciform arrangement were excavated by hand to natural subsoil across the pit feature. These slot trenches intersected with the altars and altar base in order to ascertain their depth and location, and stratigraphic setting. The slot trenches also determined the scale of artefactual material within the pit fill and allowed profiles of the pit to be drawn;
 - iii. Following excavation of the slot trenches, the soil matrix filling the pit was removed from around the altars to free them for lifting. The actual lifting procedure was set out in a further addendum (2010b) submitted to Historic Scotland;
 - iv. All excavation work around the altars was undertaken with as little contact with the stones as possible in order to avoid any unnecessary damage to the stones.

- 4.5 Excavation and recording of the post-hole /small pit features comprised the excavation of 100% of fills by hand by the normal process of sectioning and recording.
- 4.6 Excavation and recording of the linear ditch feature comprised the excavation by hand of two slots (minimum 1 m wide).
- 4.7 A *Post-excavation Research Design* will be submitted for the agreement of Historic Scotland.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The monitored topsoil strip commenced on 22nd March 2010 with a ditch feature (013) revealed in the SW corner of the site the same day. Two sandstone blocks (003 & 004) were revealed the following morning. Historic Scotland was then contacted with a view to establishing mitigation proposals for what was appearing to be highly significant archaeological material. Formal excavation proposals were then set in place with the groundworks contractor temporarily vacating the site for the duration of the excavation.
- 5.1.2 The excavation was undertaken between 24th March and 5th April 2010. The weather conditions during the evaluation were mixed, although archaeological visibility was good. The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Appendices 1 - 6, Figures 2 - 3 and Plates 1 - 6.
- 5.1.3 The excavation area, rectangular in plan, amounted to approximately 218 m². The NE part of the area had been subject to considerable disturbance created during the building of the original cricket pavilion with the natural subsoil frequently cut by linear tranches (foundations with brick and concrete beams) or utility service trenches. Here the overburden was heavily littered with building detritus overlain with a shallow imported topsoil. Evidently construction of the original pavilion had wider impacts with ground reduction encompassing an extensive area.
- 5.1.4 The entire suite of archaeological features was situated in the western half of the site. Overburden comprised a dark brown, loamy 'garden soil' with occasional small stones overlying a natural subsoil of an orange gritty sand with rounded gravel inclusions and further coarse components ranging from grits to small rounded stones. Rare patches of fine yellow or pale brown silt lay in small areas.

5.2 Pit [006], Altar [003], Altar [004], Altar Base [007], Paving [029] & Pit [064]

- 5.2.1 A large shallow pit [006] lay in the SW corner of the site. Its exposed extent (max dimensions) measured 6.1 m east to west by 4.1 m north to south by 0.65 m deep. It possessed a steep, near vertical cut in western section but much more gradual slopes to east and NW. The feature was only partially exposed and continued into southern and western trench sections. Underlying its mid brown silty sand fill [005] lay two Roman Altars, [003] and [004], and an Altar Base [007]. All three objects were carved from sandstone. [



Plate 1: Composite image of Pit [006] during excavation

- 5.2.2 The two altars lay parallel on a NE-SW alignment, very precisely placed face-down and only some 0.10 m apart in the western part of Pit [006], close to its near vertical cut edge. Altar Base [007] sat upright, its long axis near perpendicularly placed 0.90 m to the SE of Altar [003].



Plate 2: Altar [004] (on right) & Altar [003] during excavation (from NW)



Plate 3: Altar [004] (on left) & Altar [003] during excavation (from SE)

- 5.2.3 Roman Altar [004] comprised a rectangular, carved, sandstone block measuring 1.26 m x 0.55 m x 0.26 m. It was cracked both vertically and horizontally. Its ornamentation included fluting at top of lower altar panel, lyre and jug decorated relief on one side and a 'griffin' figure in relief on other side. Its reverse had suffered some plough damage as had its top, although its crowning 'dish' was apparent. A fragment of fine moulded sandstone (SF.010) found nearby appears to fit within damage on the reverse side of Altar [004] so it would appear that its reverse has also been subject to elaborate embellishment
- 5.2.4 Roman Altar [003] was a rectangular, carved, sandstone block measuring 1.23 m x 0.55 m x 0.31 m. It was cracked entirely through both sides of its central rectangular recess; the recess measuring 0.52 m x 0.30 m x 0.13 m). Its reverse had been badly damaged by plough attrition, although relief figurative decoration and fluting on both sides survived well, as did its moulded top complete notches and central dish.
- 5.2.5 Altar Base [007] was composed of a sandstone block, 0.60 m x 0.40 m x 0.22 m, cracked obliquely on one corner on its upper surface. Fragmentary stones, once forming a lip around its edges, were disconnected although still in their original position (SF.11) with additional fragments (SF.3) in the immediately surrounding fill [005]. Chisel marks were apparent on all sides.



Plate 4: Altar Base [007] during excavation (from SE)

- 5.2.6 Excavation of a notch within the SW section to facilitate the lifting of Altar [003] exposed a small area of paving [029] formed by small flat stones lying horizontally and tightly packed together on natural subsoil below pit fill [005]. Given the limited extent of exposure definitive interpretation is problematic, particularly given its location within Pit [006].
- 5.2.7 In addition to the fragments of stone (see above) associated with the altars and altar base, artefactual material from Pit [006] included ceramic sherds (SF.1), lead fragments (SF.2 & 7) and iron nails (SF.4, 5 & 6).
- 5.2.8 Pit [064] conjoined Pit [006] in the north. Pit [064] had an irregularly shaped cut measuring 1.92 m x 1.53 m x 0.32 m with irregular sides, steep on the west, but shallow on the NW gradually sloping onto an irregular base. Much of the feature was heavily disturbed by an animal burrow. It was filled by soil [065], the differentiation of which with fill [005] of Pit [006] proved impossible. Fine, thin bodied Roman ceramic sherds, including the base of a small bowl, were recovered (SF.13 & 16) within fill [065] which may reflect a votive offering connected with the adjacent burying of the altars.



Plate 5: Paving [029] with Altar [003] to right (from SE)

5.3 Ditch [013]

- 5.3.1 Linear ditch [014] crossed the NW corner of the excavation area. Aligned NNE-SSW it was exposed for a maximum distance of approximately 11 m. The feature was investigated by two sections (A & B) during the excavation, amounting to roughly 40% of the exposed length. Its width varied from 1.35 m to 1.50 m. and in depth from 0.45 to 0.70 m. In slot A the ditch profile had a sharp break of slope to a flattish base, the NW side running at c. 40° with a slight break; with a steeper 60° slope on the SE side (Figure 3). In Slot B it was shallower at 0.47m and less steep, the slope angles being slightly concave c. 30° on the east and c. 50° on the west (Figure 4). It was filled by a firm, mid brown-grey slightly sandy silt [014] from which Roman ceramics were retrieved (SFs.8 & 18).

5.4 Gully [053], Pit [051], Pit [040], Pit [069], Pit [071] & Posthole [030]

- 5.4.1 Gully [053] paralleled the course of Ditch [013] at a distance of 2.2 m to the SE. Averaging 0.46 m wide (except at pit intersection where it was 0.50 m wide) and 0.20 m deep, the feature ran for 6 m from Pit [051] in the NE before entering the SW trench section. Its fill [054] contained two sherds of ceramic tile (SF.15) and was indistinguishable from that (052) of Pit [051] comprising a mid brown silty sand with frequent rounded gravel and small rounded stone

inclusions. Two posthole features [069] and [071] lay 0.6 m apart within the base of gully [053] on its SE side. Pit [051] was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.00 m by 1.15 m, with steep sides running into a flat base at a depth of 0.37 m. Pit [040] lay immediately adjacent on the SE (near conjoining) at the juncture of Gully [053] and Pit [051]. Posthole [030] lay between Pit [051] and Ditch [013].



Plate 6: Ditch [013] from SW

- 5.4.2 The function of Gully [053] is open to interpretation. It may be a simple drain, although its course paralleling Ditch [013] may be evocative of a boundary function (a bedding trench for a wall?) in controlling access to ground with Pit [051] or Posthole [040] acting as the foundation setting for a gate post. Whereas posthole features [069] and [071] may have acted as an integral part of any such structure, their stratigraphic relationship with Gully [053] was unresolved. Alternatively both these postholes together with Posthole [040] may represent elements of a non-contemporaneous roundhouse structure (see below).

5.5 Spread [050/055] & Pit 056

- 5.5.1 Soil spread [050] was composed of medium brown sandy silt with some gravel inclusions. Heavily bioturbated by roots and burrows, the fill was finer and siltier towards the centre. Numerous heavy coarse ceramic sherds were recovered (SF.12). Spread [050] filled a slight hollow [055], apparently formed by a downward slope of soft sand meeting a low ridge of hard gravel, in the NW. Spread [050] also overlay Posthole [056] whose orange/brown sandy silt fill [057] contained similar coarse heavy fabric ceramic sherds (SF.14) to those found in Spread [050].

5.6 Pits & Postholes

- 5.6.1 A further fifteen small pits or postholes occupied the area between Pit [006], Gully [053] and Spread [050/055]. The features varied in size but they all had simple fills. Interpretation of this distribution of features is open to various hypotheses, including both curvilinear and rectilinear structures - but the chronological relationship with other elements of the site is problematic at present. A curving arc of features - 025, 020, 021, 023, 060, 073, 069, 040, 044, 056 and 048 - could form the greater part of a later prehistoric roundhouse with the western portion surviving in the form of foundation pits for a roundhouse's upright timbers, the eastern part having been lost to modern development. The overall diameter of the group of features at approximately 8 m would accord well with the average size of an LBA/Iron Age roundhouse.

5.7 Artefactual evidence

- 5.7.1 A selection of ceramic, metal artefacts (lead fragments and iron nails) and a fragment of decorated stone carved in relief (SF.010) were recovered by the excavation. All the metal finds came from Altar Pit [006]. Pit [006] and conjoined Pit [064] together with Ditch [013] all contained a small assemblage of Roman pottery sherds.
- 5.7.2 Another chronologically/culturally distinct pottery collection (far greater in size than the Roman material) was spatially focused on Spread [050/055], Pit [034] (fill 0350 and posthole [056] (fill 057).
- 5.7.3 The altars, altar base and carved stone fragment are carefully drying in controlled conditions within AOC's Loanhead facility. Given the fragmentary state and large size of the altars they remain in their original face-down situation awaiting cleaning and conservation. AOC conservators continue to monitor their condition. Lifting, turning, temporary support and cleaning of the stones will be discussed with the client and Historic Scotland during formulation of the PERD.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The excavation has unearthed a highly significant data set relating to the Roman occupation of Inveresk.
- 6.2 Roman altars have previously been found at Inveresk. An example found in 1565 (now lost) was dedicated to Apollo Grannus by Quintus Lusius Sabinianus, the Imperial Procurator. A second altar, discovered during grave-digging in 1976 was also dedicated by Quintus Lusius Sabinianus. Only the lower portion of this altar survived with the original inscription over-written by a later Roman text (Hunter 1992, 78-79).
- 6.3 The national importance of the Roman Altars should be stressed in terms of:
- their intrinsic value as relatively well-preserved antiquities of museum display standard;
 - the research potential they provide in examining the deities worshipped, the motives of devotees and the iconography used within a military frontier setting and therefore the cultural and ethnic origins of the Roman forces stationed at the fort;

- the research potential they provide in examining their construction and sourcing (local?) and in final decoration (painted?);
- their value as historical texts should, as is anticipated, inscriptions/dedications be found on the fronts of the altars. In a period of very limited textual evidence these altars may provide important references to contemporary events and figures in the wider Roman world.
- the research potential they provide in examining the methods and motives for their deposition,

- 6.4 The contextual significance of the two altars and altar base - formal deposition face down in Pit [006] within the immediate hinterland of the fort is an extremely significant find. Altar discoveries often occur outwith their original context either as unstratified stray finds within later soils or as re-used stonework that has been salvaged and integrated into later buildings. The unearthing of two altars still within a contextual milieu expressive of ritual disposal is an exceptionally rare event. The further study of their location on the inter-site level (their relationship with each other, Altar Base [007], Paving [029], Pit [006], Pit [064] and Ditch [013], and within the local Roman setting (the fort, the amphitheatre, the *Vicus* and the wider agricultural landscape) would be a key aspect of further study. Inveresk has provided more evidence for extramural activity connected with a Roman fort than any other in Scotland (Breeze 2002, 3). Unfortunately the full exposure of Pit [006] was not possible and numerous questions remain; for example why was Pit [006] so large? If only dug to receive the altars it appears over-sized. Perhaps the presence of paving [029] reflects an original function (secular or religious?) with the burying of the altars in this location either merely opportunistic or defined by custom as happening at, or near, the location of the shrine.
- 6.5 The unearthing of ditch [013] was hardly surprising given the site lay within the scheduled area of the Lewisvale Park field systems. Perhaps analogous boundary features have been revealed near Crookston Road (Leslie 2002, 63) and slightly further west by Wilson (1966). That said, temporary Roman camps are known in the wider area (1 km to south) at Monktonhall (Hanson 2002) so the possibility arises, albeit on tenuous evidence, that Ditch [013] may represent part of yet another camp. The close paralleling of Ditch [013] by gully [053] also suggests a degree of ordered complexity beyond a simple boundary ditch.
- 6.6 The contemporaneity of the various site elements is still to be established and this compromises any consequential discussion of the site. Not all the nominally Roman elements of the site need be contemporary. Indeed the final act of disposing of the altars would, by its very nature, be a short-lived event. Ditch [013] and Gully [053] may well prove to be disparate events unrelated to Pit [006] and the altars. Spread [050/055] with crude, coarse pottery and the contiguous arc of posthole features (probable post-built roundhouse) immediately suggests a working hypothesis of a pre-Roman native settlement, conceivably just a single roundhouse. Nevertheless the coincidence of Spread [050/055] containing native Iron Age (?) pottery with other, obviously Roman features, rather than denoting chronologically distinct episodes of on-site activity could be reflective of Roman - Native interaction. Any level of this interaction accepting for the moment that these suites of features are contemporary (or near contemporary as measured in up to a few years), is not readily apparent prior to post-excavation analyses being undertaken. Critically two things must be considered; firstly, Roman finds appear in no great numbers indicating a lack of intensive localised activity over a long period of time (or good house-keeping

in the area around a shrine) and, secondly, there was no mixing of Native and Roman material within features.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORKS

7.1 This Data Structure Report is both preliminary and provisional, with many issues raised by the excavation data still to be addressed. In ascertaining a fuller knowledge of the excavation results, and in fulfilling the requirements of Scheduled Monument Consent, a post-excavation research design (PERD) will be prepared in consultation with East Lothian Council for approval by Historic Scotland. In addition to describing the necessary programme of conservation works on the two altars and altar base the PERD will describe all necessary and appropriate assessment processes and consequent post-excavation analyses together with publication proposals for the final report. This report will integrate the stratigraphic, contextual and descriptive data from the excavation with specialist post-excavation analyses covering dating, palaeoenvironmental and economic issues, culminating in an article fit for academic publication.

7.2 Key aspects of the post-excavation works would include:

- The conservation of the altars, decorated stone fragment (SF 10) and altar base (this is critically important to their long term stability;
- The gleaning of historic texts from the altars and inferences;
- The undertaking of a programme of dating (pottery analysis and radiocarbon dating) in establishing the site chronology;
- Other analyses of recovered artefacts, paint analysis of altars, etc
- Comparative analysis with similar altar finds within the Roman world, considering both the altars as artefacts, possible historical texts and the depositional location and character of their find.
- The placing of the excavation results with their local context as a further building block in more fully understanding the Roman occupation at Inveresk.

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Lewisvale Park, Musselburgh: Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context Number	Type	Description
001	Layer	Dark brown, loamy 'garden soil' – silty sand with occasional small stones.
002	Layer	Orange gritty subsoil with rounded gravel inclusions and further coarse components ranging from grits to small rounded stones. Rare patches of fine yellow or pale brown silt.
003	Structural	Roman Altar. Rectangular, carved, sandstone block measuring 1.23 m x 0.55 m x 0.31m. Discovered lying face down within feature [006], cracked entirely through the centre. Rectangular recess in centre of block (measuring 0.52 m x 0.30 m x 0.13 m). Dished top with carved relief and fluting on either side. Notches on either side of the 'dish'. Within cut [006] and underlies [005] & [008].
004	Structural	Roman Altar . Composed of a rectangular, carved, sandstone block measuring 1.26 m x 0.55 m x 0.26 m. Found lying face down within feature [006]; cracked vertically and horizontally. Fluting at top of lower altar panel lyre and jug decorated relief on one side. Possible 'griffin' figure on other side. Damaged top although 'dish' is apparent. Within cut [006] and underlies [005].
005	Fill	Fairly compact mid brown silty sand. Occasional small stones and occasional rounded gravel inclusions. Fill of [006], overlies [003], [004], [007] & [029]
006	Cut	Cut of large pit containing Roman Altars [003] & [004] and altar base [007]. Its exposed extent (max dimensions) measured 6.1 m east to west by 4.1 m north to south by 0.65 m deep. Filled by [005]. Steep cut in western section (feature only partially exposed as continues into southern and western trench sections) around area of Altars [003] and [004]; but much more gradual slope to E and NW. the feature. Small finds include ceramic sherds, lead fragments and iron nails.
007	Structural	Roman Altar base lying upright within [006]. Composed of a sandstone block, 0.60 m x 0.40 m x 0.22 m, cracked on base. Some fragmentary stones broken off and possible chisel marks visible on sides. Lies SE of Altars [003] and [004] with its long axis near perpendicular to those of the Altars.
008	Fill	Fill of rectangular recess within Altar [003]. Fill same as [005]
009 - 012		Non features
013a	Cut	Cut of linear ditch, running N-S (visible in Slot A), measuring 1.6 m in width and 0.70m deep. The ditch cuts through the natural subsoil and is filled by [014]. The break of slope to a flattish base on both sides is sharp; the western side running at c. 40° with a slight break; with a steeper 60° slope on the east .
013b	Cut	Ditch same as [013a] visible in Slot B. It differs from [013b] in that is it shallower, at 0.47m and less steep. The slope angles are a slight concave ca. 30° on the east and ca. 50° on the west.
014	Fill	Mid brown-grey slightly sandy silt. Firm, with rounded and sub-rounded stones (less than 0.05 m in size) and occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (0.05-0.12 m in size). Very occasional flecks and small fragments of charcoal. Fill of ditch [013a] & [013b]. Roman ceramics recovered from the fill (SF.8 & 14).
015	Fill	Dark red-grey sand containing some moderate-small rounded stones. The fill becomes more sandy towards the base of the feature. Fill of small pit /posthole [016]
016	Cut	Sub-circular small pit /posthole. Measures roughly 0.38 m in diameter and 0.18 m in depth. Sharp break of slope at top and at base of feature, with near vertical sides to rounded base. Filled by [015] and lies 0.25 m SW of feature [018]
017	Fill	Dark red-grey silty sand with some moderate-small rounded stones. Fairly humic texture. Fill of [018]
018	Cut	Small pit, measures 0.70m in diameter by 0.20 m deep. Sharp break of slope at top and base, with near vertical sides, except in the east, and a flat base. Filled by [017] and lies 0.25m NE of feature [016].
019	Fill	Dark brown/black fine sticky silt with frequent gravel and grit inclusions filling [020].
020	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.54 m E-W and 0.45 m N-S, 0.32m deep. Steep sloping, almost vertical, sides run into concave base. Filled by [019].
021	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.60 m N-S and 0.55 m E-W, by 0.60 m deep. Steep sides run to a concave, almost U-shaped base. Filled by [022]
022	Fill	Fine, grey sticky silt with some gravel and grit inclusions. Small fragments of charcoal visible within the fill, and evidence of root action. Fill of posthole [021]

023	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.50m N-S by 0.60 E-W, and 0.57m deep. Steep, almost vertical sides run into an almost flat base (0.2 m across). Filled by [024]
024	Fill	A dark brown sandy silt with gravel and grit inclusions. Occasional small sub-angular stones. Root action evident. Fill of [023]
025	Cut	Circular small pit / posthole measuring 0.60 m in diameter by 0.56 m deep. Sharp and steeply sloping sides run to a narrow, flat base. Filled by [026]
026	Fill	Medium grey-brown sandy silt with gravel inclusions. Fill of [025]
027	Cut	Circular posthole measuring 0.35 m in diameter by 0.28m deep. Sharply defined, steeply sloping sides run into a gently rounded base measuring 0.15m in diameter. Filled by [028].
028	Fill	Medium grey-brown sandy silt with some gravel inclusions. Limited root action visible. Fill of [027]
029	Structural	Small flat stones lying horizontally and tightly packed together on surface of natural subsoil within pit [006], below pit fill [005]. Visible from notch cut into SW trench section of and lying immediately adjacent to Altar [003]. Probable path or surface (?).
030	Cut	Circular posthole measuring 0.40 m in diameter and 0.28 m in depth. Steeply sloping sides run into a narrow rounded base. Filled by [031].
031	Fill	Medium grey-brown sandy silt with some gravel inclusions becoming more frequent towards the base of fill. Fill of [030]
032	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.57 m by 0.2 m by and 0.32 m deep. Steeply sloping sides, of about 80° to an irregular flat base 0.2 m in width. Filled by [033]
033	Fill	A dark black sandy silt with inclusions of gravel, grit and occasional sub-angular stones. Fill of [032]
034	Cut	Shallow, irregular oval pit measuring 1.4 m (E-W) by 0.7 m (N-S) to maximum depth of 0.10m. Gentle break of slope at top and base, except in east where both are sharp. Filled by [035]
035	Fill	A mid reddish-brown silty sand containing occasional small rounded stones forms a fill of [034].
036	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.37 m by 0.35 m. Steep sides run to a depth of 0.22 m and form an irregular base, 0.15 m wide. Filled by [037]
037	Fill	Fill of [036] composed of a dark brown sandy silt with gravel, grit and occasional inclusions of small sub-angular stones.
038	Cut	Sub-rectangular small pit / posthole measuring 0.40 m by 0.29 m, with steep, near vertical sides running to a concave base, at a depth of 0.28 m. Filled by [039]
039	Fill	Fill of [038] composed of a dark brown fine silt, with rare grit and gravel inclusions. Some evidence of root action.
040	Cut	Sub-circular cut immediately adjacent to [051] measuring 0.54 m by 0.48 m. Steep sides run to a rounded base at a depth of 0.37 m. A slight step occurs in the NW side near adjacent features, pit [051] & gully [053].
041	Fill	Moderately compact, dark brown sandy silt with frequent pebbles and small rounded stones. Fill of [040]
044	Cut	Sub-circular posthole measuring 0.35 m x 0.40 m with steep, almost vertical sides running down to a narrow rounded base at a depth of 0.22 m. The feature was heavily truncated by animal burrows and root action. Filled by [045]
045	Fill	Fill of [044] composed of a medium grey-brown sandy silt with a few gravel inclusions.
046	Cut	Cut of a rectilinear feature aligned N-S, measuring 1.20 m by 0.33 m. A broad box profile with a flat base at a depth of 0.10m. Filled by [047] Probable modern feature. Not illustrated.
047	Fill	Fill of [046] compose of fairly loose, dark brown coarse sand with frequent small stones. Finds of 2 shards of modern white glazed ceramics
048	Cut	Oval pit / posthole cut measuring 0.50 m by 0.60 m, steeply sloping sides run to a narrow rounded base at a depth of 0.40 m. Animal burrow disturbance on the north edge. Filled by [049]
049	Fill	Fill of [048] composed of a dark brown silty sand, with some gravel inclusions. Evidence of root activity.
050	Spread / Fill	Spread in slight hollow [055] composed of medium brown sandy silt with some gravel inclusions. Heavily bioturbated by roots and burrows, the fill is finer and siltier towards the centre. Numerous heavy coarse ceramic sherds recovered (SF.12).
051	Cut	Pit feature at NE end of linear feature [053]. Sub-circular in plan measuring 1.00 m by 1.15 m, with steep sides running into a flat base at a depth of 0.37m. Filled by

		[052]
052	Fill	Fill of pit [051] composed of a mid brown silty sand with frequent rounded gravel and small rounded stone inclusions. Bioturbation apparent, with the fill becoming richer in gravel and small stones with increasing depth.
053	Linear cut / gully	Cut of a linear feature, running SSW to NNE averaging 0.46 m wide (except at pit intersection where it is 0.50 m wide) and 0.20 m deep. The feature runs for 6 m in length from the pit [051] into the southern baulk. Two features [069] and [072] are located on the south eastern side of the feature. Filled by [054]
054	Fill	Fill of linear feature [053], same composition as [052]. Finds include two fragments of ceramic building material (SF.15).
055	Cut	Cut of hollow filled by layer [050]. The hollow appears to be natural formed by the downward slope of soft sand meeting a low ridge of hard gravel to the north.
056	Cut	Roughly circular cut measuring 0.38 m in diameter. Straight sides meet a fairly flat base at a depth of 0.24m. Filled by [057]
057	Fill	Fill of feature [056] composed of an orange/brown sandy silt with around 5% small gravel stone inclusions. Some flecks of charcoal were visible within the fill, as was some bioturbation. Ceramic sherds recovered (SF.14) of similar coarse heavy fabric as found in overlying [050].
58-59		Numbers not used
060	Cut	Irregular oval shaped pit measuring 0.61 m E-W by 0.38 m N-S. Uneven stepped southern side, steep northern side to narrow flat base 0.23m deep. Filled by [061]
061	Fill	Fill of feature [060], brown gritty sand with c. 5% gravel. Occasional charcoal flecks with rare stones measuring c. 0.1 m x 0.1 m x 0.05 m.
061- 062		Not used
064	Cut	Irregular shaped cut, roughly sub-oval, but truncated (?) by feature [006] to the south. Measuring 1.92 m x 1.53 m x 0.32 m. Irregular sides, steep on the west, but shallow on the north west gradually slope onto a fairly flat, irregular base. Much of the feature was heavily disturbed by an animal burrow. Filled by [065].
065	Fill	Fill of feature [064] comprises a firm mid brown to grey sandy silt. Moderate quantities of small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones with occasional medium sub-rounded stones. A few flecks and small fragments of charcoal were visible throughout. Fine bodied ceramic sherds recovered (SF.13 & 16).
066		Not used.
067	Cut	Posthole measuring 0.28m in diameter, steep sides onto a rounded base at a depth of 0.22 m. Filled by [068]
068	Fill	Fill of feature [067], dark orange/brown sandy silt with gravel and small stone inclusions. A few flecks of charcoal were noted.
069	Cut	Posthole (?) feature 0.30 m in diameter. Steep sides run into a flat base 0.30m in depth. Located on the SE side of linear gully [053]. Filled [070]
070	Fill	Fill of [069] composed of a mid brown soil with occasional small to very small rounded stones.
071	Cut	Posthole (?) feature 0.55 m by 0.45 m. Steep sides run into a flat base, 0.31m in depth. Located on the SE side of feature [053] and is filled by [071]
072	Fill	Fill of [071] composed of a mid brown soil with occasional small stones and pebbles.

APPENDIX 2: Finds Register

Find Number	Context Number	Type	Description	Date
1	005 (Slot 1)	CE	Ceramic sherds	Roman
2	005 (Slot 1)	PB	Lead fragment	Roman
3	005 / 007	ST	Sandstone fragments found adjacent to Altar Base [007]	Roman
4	005 (Slot 2)	FE	Iron nail (?)	Roman
5	005 (Slot 1)	FE	Iron nail (?)	Roman
6	005 (Slot 2)	FE	Iron nail (?)	Roman
7	005 (Slot 1)	PB	Lead fragment	Roman
8	014	CE	Ceramic sherds (3x small thin sherds)	Roman
9	035	CE	Ceramic sherds (2 x thick, coarse body sherds)	Prehistoric
10	005	ST	Fragment of decorated sandstone found near Altar [004]	Roman
11	007	ST	Sandstone fragments once attached to Altar Base [007]	Roman
12	050	CE	Heavy coarse ceramic sherds (x26)	Prehistoric

13	065	CE	Ceramic sherds (5 x small thin body sherds)	Roman
14	057	CE	Ceramic sherds (2 x body sherds; 1 x rim sherds - thick, coarse fabric)	Prehistoric
15	054	CE	Ceramic tile fragments (x2)	Roman (?)
16	065	CE	Ceramic base	Roman
17	005	ST	Sandstone block lying adjacent to Altar [004]	Roman
18	014	CE	Ceramic sherd (1 x Samian)	Roman

APPENDIX 3: Drawing Register

Drawing Number	Type	Feature Number	Description	Scale
1	Plan	[006]	Plan of SW corner of site showing altars and base	1:20
2	Section	[006]	South facing section in Slot 1	1:10
3	Section	[006]	North facing section in Slot 1	1:10
4	Section	[006]	West facing section in Slot 1	1:10
5	Plan	[006]	Overlay plan for Drawing #1	1:20
6	Section	[016]	South East facing section of posthole	1:10
7	Section	[018]	North facing section of posthole	1:10
8	Plan	[016]+[018]	Plan of postholes [016]+[018]	1:20
9	Section	[020]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
10	Section	[021]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
11	Section	[023]	South facing section through posthole	1:10
12	Section	[032]	South facing section through posthole	1:10
13	Section	[034]	South facing section through pit	1:10
14	Section	[036]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
15	Section	[038]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
16	Plan	[006]	Post-excavation plan of altar area and surrounding features	1:20
17	Section	[025]	North facing section through posthole	1:10
18	Section	[027]	South facing section through posthole	1:10
19	Section	[030]	South East facing section through posthole	1:10
20	Section	[044]	North East facing section through posthole	1:10
21	Section	[040]	South facing section through posthole	1:10
22	Section	[048]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
23	Section	[050]	North facing section through layer	1:10
24	Section	[051]	North East facing section through pit	1:10
25	Section	[060]	East facing section through pit	1:10
26	Section	[067]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
27	Section	[056]	East facing section through posthole	1:10
28	Section	N/A	East facing section through site showing cut of ditch [013]	1:10
28	Section	[055]+[050]	East facing section through hollow and fill	1:10
30	Section	[013a]	South West facing section through Slot A	1:10
31	Section	[013a]	North facing section through Slot A	1:10
32	Section	[013b]	South facing section through Slot B	1:10
33	Section	[013b]	North facing section through Slot B	1:10
34	Section	[053]	South East facing section through Slot 2	1:10
35	Section	[053]	South East facing section through Slot 1	1:10
36	Section	[069]	South East facing section through posthole	1:10
37	Section	[071]	South East facing section through posthole	1:10
38	Section	[064]	South West facing section through pit''	1:10

APPENDIX 4: Photographic Register

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 1

Frame	Description	From
1-6	Altars [003] & [004] after initial cleaning	NW
7-12	Altars [003] & [004] after initial cleaning	SW
13-18	Altar Base [007]	SE
19-22	Altars [003] & [004] after initial cleaning	NW

23-26	General shot of altars & pit [006]	SE
27-30	General shot of altars & pit [006]	NE
31-34	Altar [004] detail	SE
35-39	Altar [003] detail	SE

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 2

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration Shot	N/A
2-5	Altar [003] detail	SE
6-9	Altar base detail	NE
10-13	Altar finds after excavation of Slots 1&2	NW
14-17	Detail of altars after excavation of Slots 1&2 including interior recess of [003]	NW
18-21	As above	SE
22-25	Detail of Altar base [007]	SE
26-27	Postholes [016]+[018]	SE
28-29	Posthole [016], half-section	SE
30-31	Posthole [018], half-section	N
32-33	East facing section through posthole [020]	E

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 3

Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration	N/A
3-4	East facing section through posthole [021]	E
5-6	South facing section through posthole [023] section view	S
7-8	South facing section through posthole [023] plan view	S
9-10	Post-excavation shot [020]	E
11-12	General shot of feature [029]	W
13-14	General shot of feature [029]	W
15-16	Pit in base of [006] NE of [029]	W
17-18	General shot of feature [029]	SE
19-20	North facing section of posthole [025]	N
21-22	General shot of postholes [016]+[018]	SW
23-24	Post-excavation shot of posthole [021]	E
25-26	Post-excavation shot of posthole [023]	S
27-28	South East facing section of posthole [030]	SE
29-30	General shot of posthole [032]	S
31-32	South facing section of hollow [034]	S
33-34	Post-excavation shot of posthole [032]	S
35-36	East facing section of feature [038]	E

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 4

Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration	
3-4	East facing section of posthole [036]	E
5-6	Post-excavation shot of feature [038]	E
7-8	Post-excavation shot of feature [036]	E
9-10	North facing section of [025]	N
11-12	South facing section of [025]	S
13-14	Post-excavation shots of [025]	N
15-16	Post-excavation shots of [025]	E
17-18	South East facing section of [030]	SE
19-20	Post-excavation shots of [030]	S
21-22	South facing section of posthole [040]	S
23-24	North East facing section of posthole [044]	NE
25-26	Post excavation shot of posthole [040]	S
27-28	Rectilinear section of [046]	S
29-30	East facing section of [048]	E

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 5

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration	
2-3	Pre-excavation shot of spread [050]	N
4-5	North facing section of spread [050]	N
6-7	East facing section through spread [050]	E
8-9	North east facing section through pit [051]	NE
10-11	East facing section through hollow [055] and spread [050]	E
12-13	Boundary of pit [051] and linear feature [053]	NE
14-15	Post-excavation shot of pit [051]	NE
16-17	East facing section through posthole [056]	E
18-19	Post-excavation shot of posthole [067]	E
20-21	Post-excavation shot of posthole [056]	E
22-23	East facing section of pit [060]	E
24-25	Post-excavation shot of pit [060]	E
26-27	South east facing section of ditch [013] Slot A	SE
28-29	North West facing section of ditch [013] Slot A	NW
30-31	South east facing section of ditch [013] Slot N	SE
32-33	North West facing section of ditch [013] Slot B	NW
34-35	Post excavation shot of ditch [013]	SE

Black & White Print, Colour Slide and Digital Film 6

Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration shots	N/A
3-4	Linear feature [053]	SE
5-6	South East facing section of feature [053] Slot 2	SE
7-8	South East facing section of feature [053] Slot 1	SE
9-10	Post-excavation shot of linear feature [053] and half section of postholes [069]+[071]	SE
11-12	Excavation of posthole [069]	SW
13-14	Excavation of posthole [071]	SW
15-16	Feature in SW corner of site	NE
17-18	South west facing section of feature [064]	SW
19-20	Post-excavation shot of feature [064]	S
21-22	East facing section of [006]	E
23-24	East facing section of [006]	E

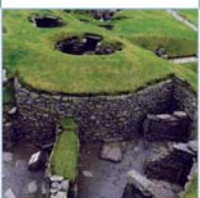
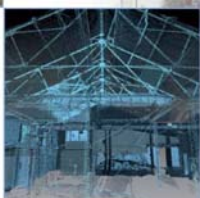
APPENDIX 5: Sample Register

Context	Sample Type	Volume (Litres)
005 (Slot 1)	SBS	30
005 (Slot 2)	SBS	30
008	SBS	10
014 (Slot A)	SBS	30
014 (Slot C)	SBS	30
015	SBS	30
017	SBS	30
019	SBS	30
022	SBS	30
024	SBS	30
026	SBS	30
028	SBS	30
031	SBS	30

022	SBS	30
033	SBS	20
035	SBS	20
037	SBS	20
039	SBS	30
041	SBS	30
045	SBS	10
049	SBS	30
050 (upper)	SBS	30
050 (base)	SBS	30
052	SBS	30
054 (Slot 1)	SBS	30
054 (Slot 2)	SBS	30
057	SBS	30
061	SBS	30
065	SBS	30
068	SBS	10
070	SBS	10
072	SBS	30

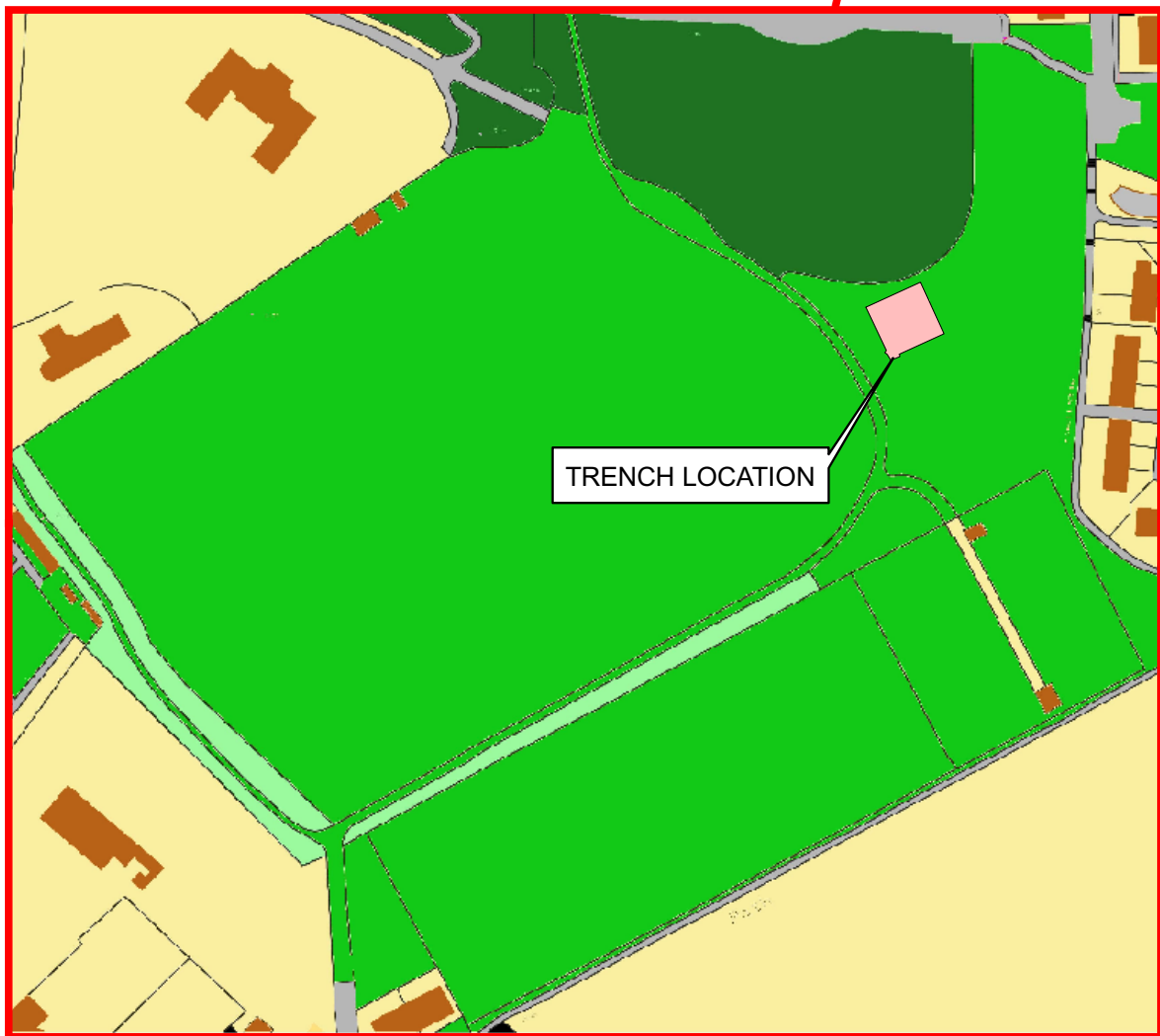
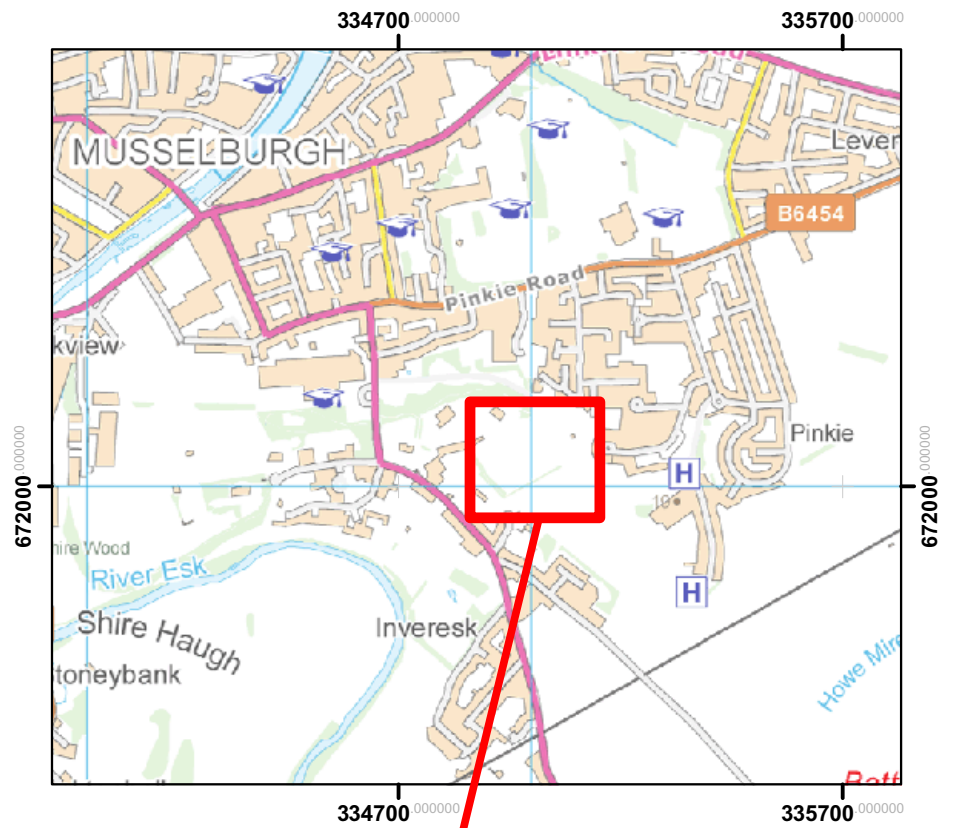
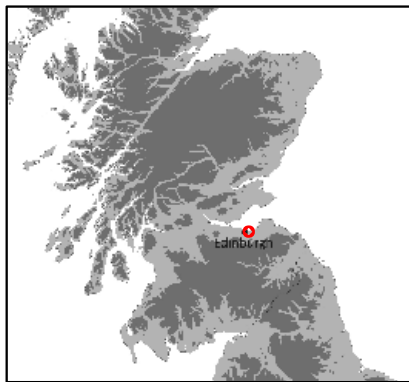
APPENDIX 6: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Lewisvale Park Cricket Pavilion
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21582
PARISH:	Inveresk (East Lothian)
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	John Gooder
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Excavation
NMRS NO(S):	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Roman ritual deposition, Roman ditch & structural post-holes
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Roman Altars and Base
NGR:	NT 3508 7212
START DATE (this season)	22 nd March 2010
END DATE (this season)	5 th April 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological monitored topsoil strip and subsequent excavation was undertaken prior to the erection of a new cricket pavilion within the scheduled area of Lewisvale Park. The works were undertaken as a requirement of scheduled monument consent (AMH/3612/1/1).</p> <p>The excavation unearthed a highly significant suite of features including a large pit containing the formal deposition of two Roman sandstone altars and a sandstone altar base. A linear ditch and gully and a collection of pit and post-hole features were also unearthed. Both ceramic and metal artefacts were recovered.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Conservation of sandstone altars, post-excavation analyses & publication
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	East Lothian Council
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com



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00.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 km

Figure 1: Site Location

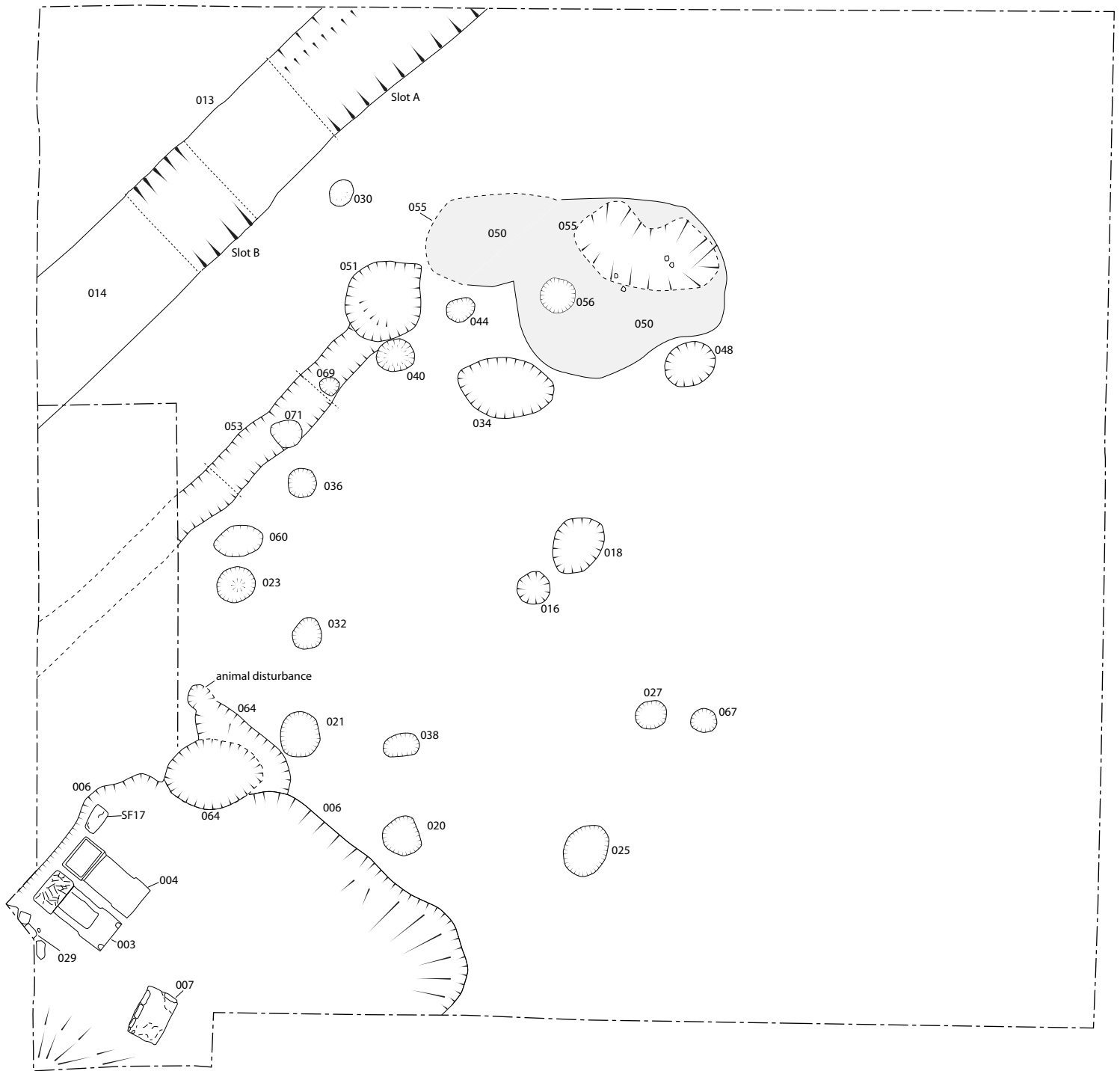


Figure 2: Plan of excavations

0 2 m





Figure 3: North-East facing section through ditch [013] Slot A

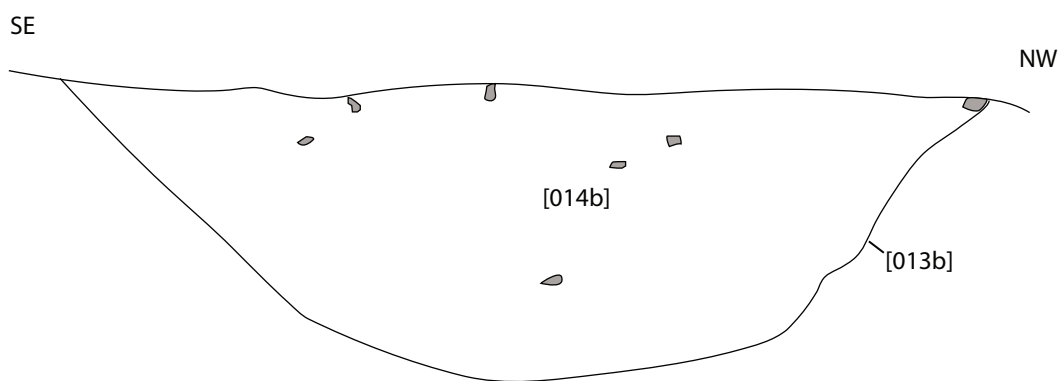


Figure 4: North-East facing section through ditch [013] Slot B

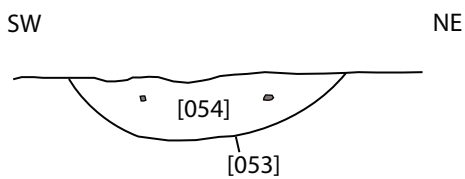


Figure 5: South East facing section through gully [053] in Slot 1

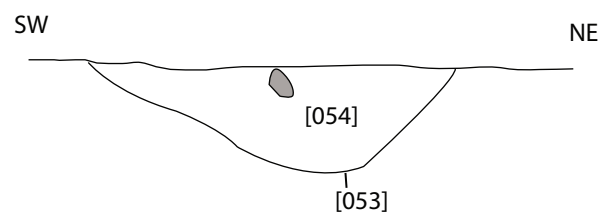


Figure 6: South East facing section through gully [053] in Slot 2



Figures 3, 4, 5 & 6 Sections through ditch [013] & gully [053]