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FICHE 2: CONTENTS

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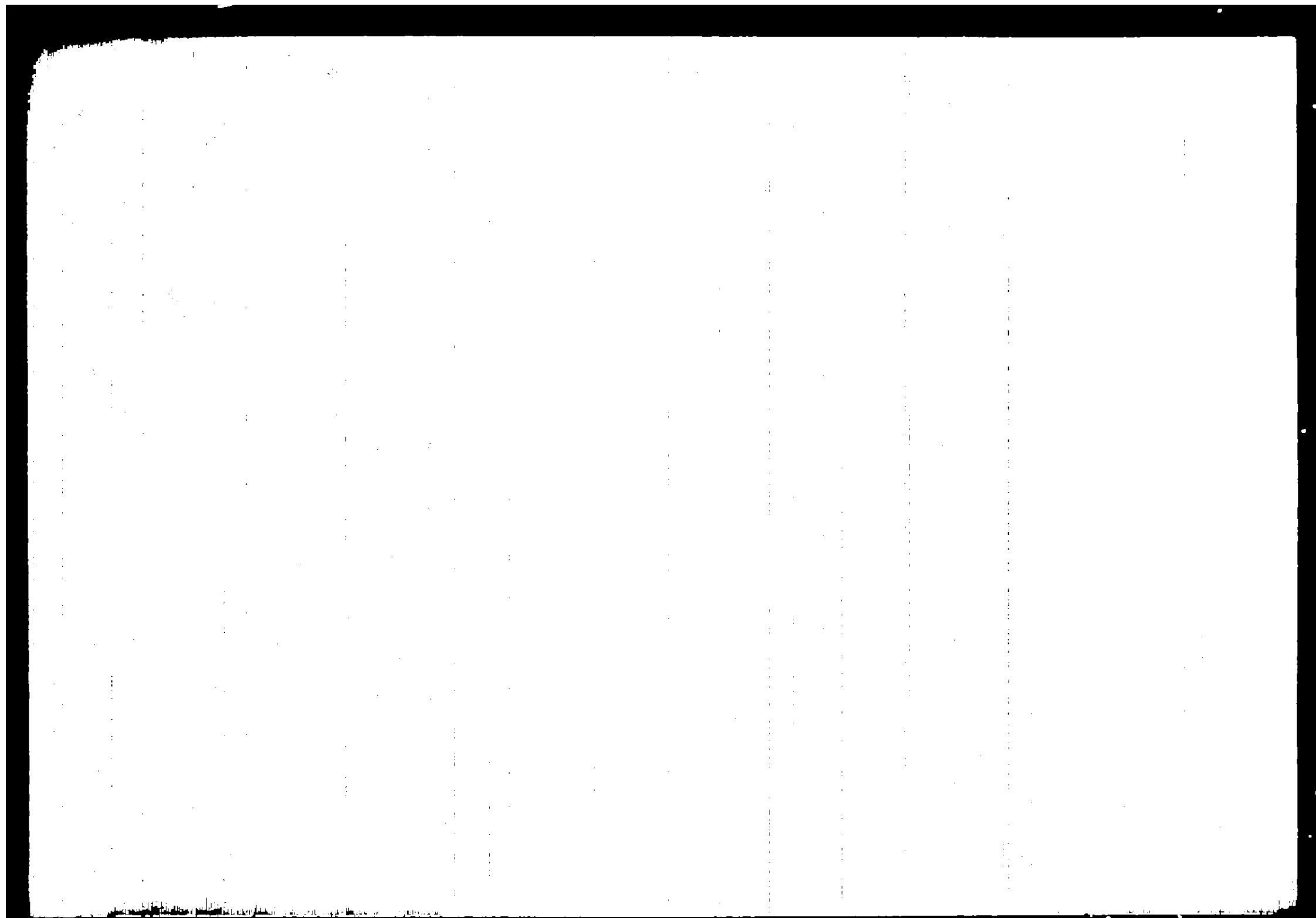
Burials of possible Romano-British date
from Inveresk, East Lothian

2:A4-14

M K Greig

Excavations at Craigievar Castle, Aberdeenshire

2:B1-C4



GALLAGHER & CLARKE

INVERESK

CONTENTS

Pottery catalogue	Dennis B Gallagher	2:A5-6
Human bone	Margaret Bruce	2:A7-13
Animal bone	Andrew Barlow	2:A14

INVERESK

POTTERY

Dennis B. Gallagher

Catalogue

All the pottery was salvaged by contractors whilst the area was being excavated by machinery. None, therefore has any individual archaeological context.

Samian ware

1. Undecorated rim sherd of a dish in form Dr. 18/31, in Lezoux ware. Mid to late second century AD, cf. Oswald & Pryce 1920, pl XLVI.3.

Coarse wares

2. Wall sherd of a beaker in orange fabric with self-coloured slip on the exterior. Possibly a Colchester product, mid second century AD.

BB1

3. Basal sherd of a bowl or dish in BB1, G308/327, with wavy line decoration incised on the underside.

BB2

4. Rim sherd of a cooking pot having the rim bent out from the shoulder in a distinct quarter round (cavetto) curve, cf G139. Burnished on the rim and shoulder, with traces of acute-angled lattice on the unburnished girth.

5. Rim and wall sherd of a dish with triangular rim, in BB2, decorated with acute-angled lattice on a previously burnished exterior wall. cf Gillam & Mann 1970, fig 2.22.

6. Basal sherd of a bowl or dish, in BB2, decorated with acute-angled lattice on a previously burnished exterior, cf Gillam & Mann 1970, fig 2.23.

7. Base of a cooking pot in BB2.

8. Base of a cooking pot in BB2.

Red/orange fabrics

9. Body sherd of a flagon or jar in orange fabric, with burnished exterior. Inveresk ware, cf Swan 1988.

10. Four adjoining sherds of a flagon or cooking pot in a fine pale orange/buff fabric, with self-coloured slip on both exterior and interior surfaces. The fabric is a poorly mixed with sparse inclusions of very fine quartz.

Mortaria

11. Spout sherd in a cream fabric with quartz and flint triturations, bearing a fragment of a herringbone type stamp. A Colchester product, c 140-80 AD, cf Melvor, Thomas & Breeze 1980, 264.

All the above pottery would be compatible with a Antonine date.

INVERESK

HUMAN BONE

Margaret Bruce

The remains are those of a single individual - a young adult, probably male. The bones are in excellent condition although the following skeletal elements are missing - cervical vertebrae 3, 4, 5 and (?) 7, lumbar vertebrae 5, the sacrum, the sternum, the left innominate, patellae, fibulae and most of the manual and pedal skeleton.

Sex determination:

Non metric observations:- moderately developed supra-orbital ridges, rounded orbital margins, well developed external occipital protuberance with well marked nuchal areas, moderately developed mastoid processes; exerted gonial angles, "squared" chin; hooked sciatic notch, S-shaped iliac crest, relatively short ilium. This complex of features suggests male sex.

Metric observations:- antero-posterior diameter of the femoral midshaft is in the male range (MacLaughlin & Bruce 1985).

The remains are therefore considered to be those of a male.

Age determination:

Non metric observations:- third molars erupted, little wear on the first molars; basi-occipital/ basi-sphenoid synchondrosis fused; medial epiphyses of clavicles not started to fuse; proximal humeral epiphyses in final stages of closure; all other long bone epiphyses closed; iliac crest epiphysis fused; vertebral ring epiphyses in final stages of closure; epiphyses of heads of ribs in final stages of closure.

Age-at-death was probably late teens/ early twenties.

Stature and body build

Stature was estimated to be short at about 5' 5" (1.64m). General body build was probably quite slender since the long bones did not show prominent muscle markings.

Skull and face shape: The skull was mesocranic (cranial index 76) but high or acrocranic (breadth-height index 103, mean height index 189). The face was narrow by comparison. The narrowing was apparent in the upper facial region (fronto-parietal index 65, upper facial index 58) and overall the facial skeleton fell into the very narrow range (total facial index 96, hyperleptoropic). Nose, orbits and palate were all narrow (nasal index 43, orbital index 90, palatal index 76).

Long bone shape and proportions: The proportions of the upper limb fell within the normal range (brachial index 71 right, 74 left). The difference between right and left limbs was due to the short right radius which may have sustained a fracture some considerable time before death, resulting in shortening of the bone. There was no difference in the length or robusticity of the humeri of the right and left sides. The humeri were relatively slender and straight.

Both femora showed flattening of the proximal shaft, caused by the presence of a lateral flange of bone. Both femora were platymeric to about the same degree.

The tibia showed no medio-lateral flattening of the shaft (cnemic index 76 right, 73 left).

The tarsal bones present were small.

Cause of death/ pathology: There was no evidence to indicate the cause of death. Some considerable time before death the individual had suffered an injury to the left upper chest, resulting in fracture of the clavicle and underlying first and second ribs, and possibly the second right rib. Unfortunately the sternum linking the right and left rib cages is not present. The fractures are well aligned and well healed, with the formation of a "pseudo-joint" between the midshafts of the first and second left ribs. To achieve this satisfactory alignment and healing of the clavicle the upper limb would require to have been immobilised. The distal end of the right radius may also have been fractured in the same incident. Its final length is some 10 mm less than the left radius. The involvement of the ribs suggest the injury was the result of direct trauma, that is by force applied directly to the chest wall.

Although the individual is of short stature, the bones are well mineralised and the teeth show little evidence of enamel hypoplasia.

Dental health was good. There was no evidence of caries and no loss of alveolar bone as a result of periodontal disease. There is some evidence to suggest gingivitis had been present in the upper gums in the premolar and molar regions. Judging from the traces of calculus deposits this probably resulted from poor oral hygiene.

The vertebral column shows numerous lesions - Schmorl's nodes - on the superior and inferior surfaces of the vertebral bodies from the level of the sixth thoracic vertebra to the fourth lumbar vertebra. (The fifth lumbar vertebra and sacrum are missing). These lesions have been associated with heavy manual work, of the kind which involves compressive loading of the vertebral column, in early life (Saluja, et al 1985).

There may have been an injury to the right temporal region of the skull. If so, it is well healed.

The base of the skull showed some evidence to suggest an inflammatory reaction around the apex of the petrous bone particularly on the left side and in the region of the external auditory meatus. There was also some suggestion of an inflammatory response of lesser extent over the glabellar area.

Non-metric observations: Wormian bones present on the right and left sides of the lambdoid suture; no metopic suture beyond 1 cm of nasal root; asymmetry of nasal bones with right extending to left side of midline superiorly; traces of pre-maxillary suture on either side of incisive foramen; H-type pterion; "plate ossicle" in right parieto-temporal suture (this may be the result of injury); jugular bulb very markedly *enlarged on the right*; left pterygoid plate larger than right; nasal septum deviates to the right near floor of the nasal cavity; supra-orbital foramen on left, notch on right; bridging anterior to foramen orale; small parietal foramina on left and right; mastoid sutural foramina; posterior condylar foramina on right and left; double zygomatic foramen on right; external gonial tubercles with left more marked than right; traces of the mandibular symphysis superiorly and externally; double facet on right occipital condyle on atlas; some asymmetry in cervical and thoracic processes; *asymmetry of rib head facets on first thoracic vertebral body*; canal osteophytes from third thoracic to eleventh thoracic vertebra, forming overhanging "restraints" for intervertebral facet joints; laminar osteophytes throughout thoracic column; absence of canal osteophytes in lumbar region; hypotrochanteric fossa on right femur; lateral flanges on right and left proximal femoral shafts; pilastering in right and left femora.

Metric observations

Skull

Maximum length	194	mm
Maximum breadth	147	mm
Basio-bregma height	152	mm
Minimum frontal breadth	95.1	mm
Upper facial height	73.4	mm
Total facila height	122	mm
Basion-nasion	108	mm
Bregma-nasion	122	mm
Bizygomatic breadth	(127)	mm
Bimaxillary breadth	85.6	mm
Nasal height	53.3	mm
Nasal breadth	23.1	mm
Orbital height	36.8	mm
Orbital breadth	40.7	mm
Patatal Height	45.4	mm
Palatal breadth	34.3	mm
Foramen magnum length	36.8	mm
Foramen magnum breadth	29.0	mm

Indices

Cranial index	75.7
Length-height index	78.3
Breadth-height index	103.4
Mean height index	89.1
Fronto-parietal index	64.6
Total face index	95.9
Upper face index	57.8
Nasal index	43.3
Orbital index	90.4
Palatal index	75.6

Mandible

Bicondylar breadth	104 mm
Bigonial breadth	97.2 mm
Ascending ramus height	61.6 mm
Minimum breadth ramus	32.0 mm
Symphyseal height	32.8 mm

Appendicular skeleton

	R	L
Clavicle length (max)	144 mm	(133) mm
Humerus length (max)	321 mm	321 mm
Humerus midshaft diam. max	21.2 mm	19.6 mm
Humerus min. shaft diameter	15.8 mm	16.2 mm
Humerus least circum. shaft	59.0 mm	58.0 mm
Radius max. distal width	311 mm	288 mm
Scapula length spine	127 mm	-----
Scapula max. length	99.6 mm	101 mm
Femur length (max.)	----	(435) mm
Femur max. head diameter	----	43.4 mm
Femur max. prox. ant-post. diam.	30.8 mm	31.0 mm
Femur max. shaft diam.	30.2 mm	31.2 mm
Femur bicondylar	----	72.5 mm
Femur midshaft AP diameter	----	30.8 mm
ML diameter	----	72.5 mm
Tibia bicondylar diameter	----	72.5 mm
AP diameter at nutrient foramen	30.0 mm	32.5 mm
ML diameter at nutrient foramen	25.0 mm	23.8 mm

Indices

Humerus robusticity	18.3	18.1
Brachial index	70.7	73.8
Platymeric index	74.7	75.3
Cnemic index	75.7	73.2

Stature estimation (based on femoral length, Trotter & Gleser 1977).

$$2.38 \times 43.5 + 51.41 = 164.9 \pm 3.27 \text{ cm}$$

ANIMAL BONE

Andrew Barlow

The animal bone comprised 3.8 kg and was in general in good condition. Identification by species showed the presence of cattle, pig, deer, sheep/ goat and horse with cattle being dominant. No quantification of minimum number of individuals was undertaken due to the small number of the sample and the uncontrolled nature of recovery. Some of the cattle bone showed evidence of butchery.

Mammal bone quantities

Cattle	50	2320 g
Pig	4	129 g
Deer	3	92 g
Sheep/ goat	3	47 g
Horse	2	42 g
Unidentified	92	1242 g