THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY IN SCOTLAND

EAST LOTHIAN SURVEY OF GARDENS & DESIGNED LANDSCAPES
RECORDING FORM

A. GENERAL SITE INFORMATION ***(Expand boxes as necessary)***
SITE NAME: Eskgrove
ALTERNATIVE NAMES OR SPELLINGS: Eskgrove House
ADDRESS AND POSTCODE: Private ownership
GRID REFERENCE: NT 3469 7210
LOCAL AUTHORITY: East Lothian (Historical County Edinburghshire/Midlothian)
PARISH: Inveresk
INCLUDED IN *AN INVENTORY OF GARDENS & DESIGNED LANDSCAPES IN SCOTLAND*: No
TYPE OF SITE: *(eg. Landscaped estate, private garden, public park/gardens, corporate/institutional landscape, cemetery, allotments, or other – please specify)* Private garden

SITE OWNERSHIP & CONTACT: *(Where site is in divided ownership please list all owners and indicate areas owned on map if possible)*

Multiple private ownership

SIZE IN HECTARES OR ACRES:

Originally the policies extended to 12.14 hectares (30 acres) in 1778. In 1905 it was 4.25 hectares (10.5) acres but the present boundary of House, Stables and Lodge is now approximately 1.82 hectares (4.5 acres).

PUBLIC ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS/OPENING TIMES *(If any):*

None

NATIONAL & LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATIONS: *(eg. Conservation Area, Green Belt, Tree Preservation Order(s), Nature Conservation Area, etc.*

Included within Inveresk Village Conservation Area

Included within the boundary of the Battlefield of Pinkie as defined in the Inventory of Historic Battlefields: Historic Scotland 2011
http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2500:15:0::::BATTLEFIELD:pinkie

Scheduled monument: Inveresk, Roman Civil Settlement West of Inveresk Gate: Roman encampment with graves and pottery
http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/ESCHEDULE.P_ESCHEDULE_DOWNLOADFILE?p_file=3293

LISTED STRUCTURES:

Eskgrove House with Dovecot, Gatepiers and Retaining Walls Category B Listed. 22 January 1971 Ref: HB10882
http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2200:15:0::::BUILDING,HL:10882,Eskgrove

Eskgrove Lodge Category C Listed. 27 November 1990 Ref: HB10883
http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/pls/htmldb/f?p=2200:15:0::::BUILDING,HL:10883,Eskgrove

B. HISTORICAL SURVEY INFORMATION: MAPPED, DOCUMENTARY & PUBLISHED SOURCES

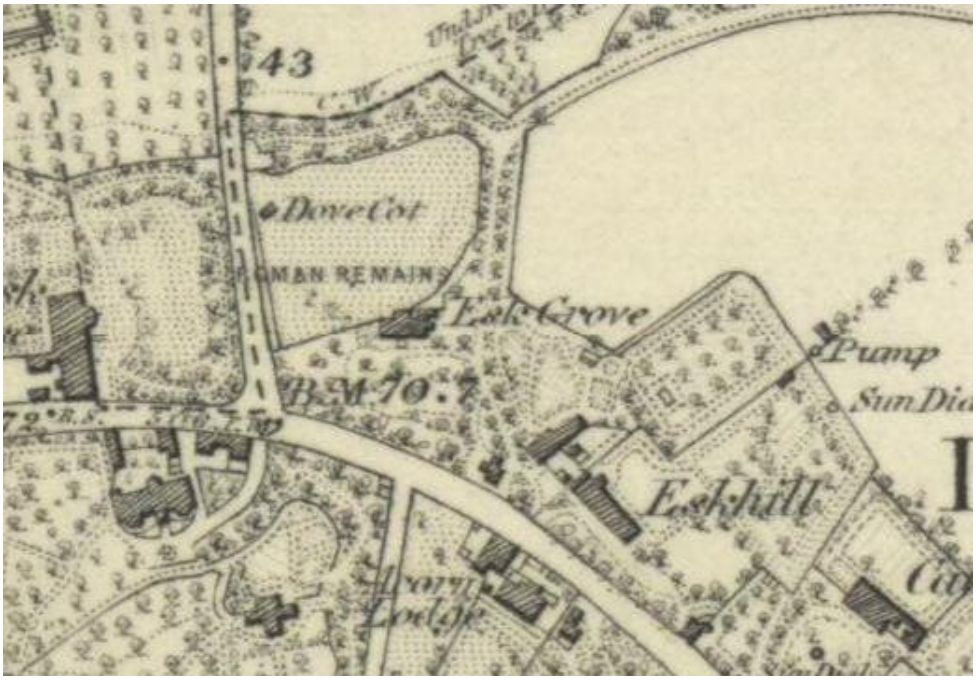
MAPPED SOURCES*: (please list maps below in date order and attach copies where possible. Give the description or title, date, maker's name if known, and for Ordnance Survey maps give the date of survey, edition number and sheet number)*

Unless otherwise stated all map images are reproduced by kind permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland

1766 John Laurie A Plan of Edinburgh and Places Adjacent
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74400229#zoom=6&lat=6489&lon=9205&layers=BT

1821 John Thomson Edinburghshire
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74400125#zoom=6&lat=3111&lon=5544&layers=BT

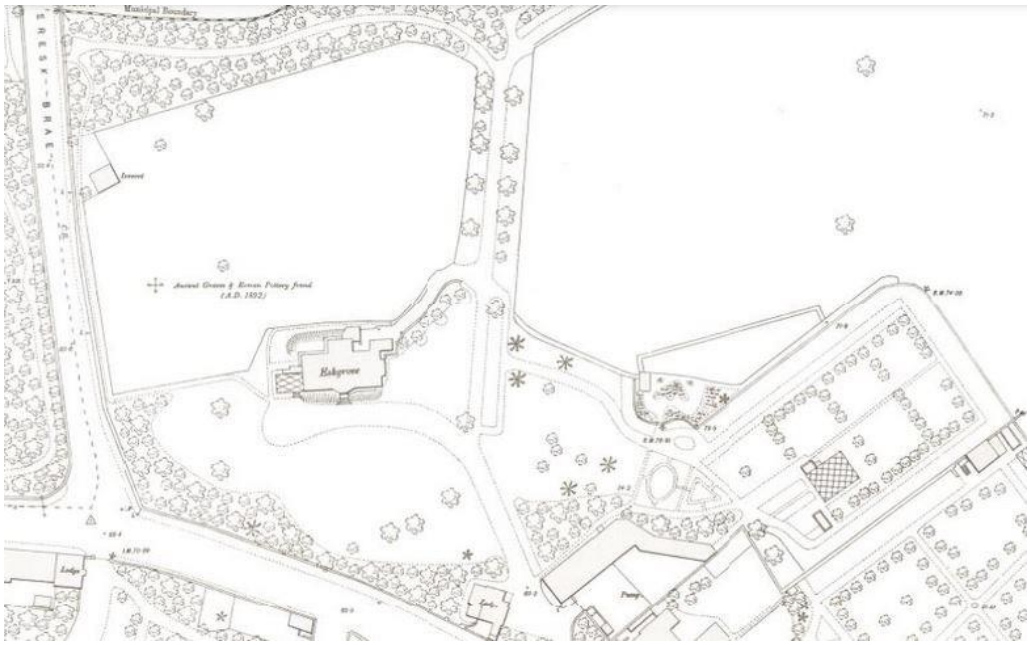
1834 J Gellatly, Gellatly's New Map of the Country 12 Miles Round Edinburgh
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74400239#zoom=6&lat=4515&lon=7279&layers=BT



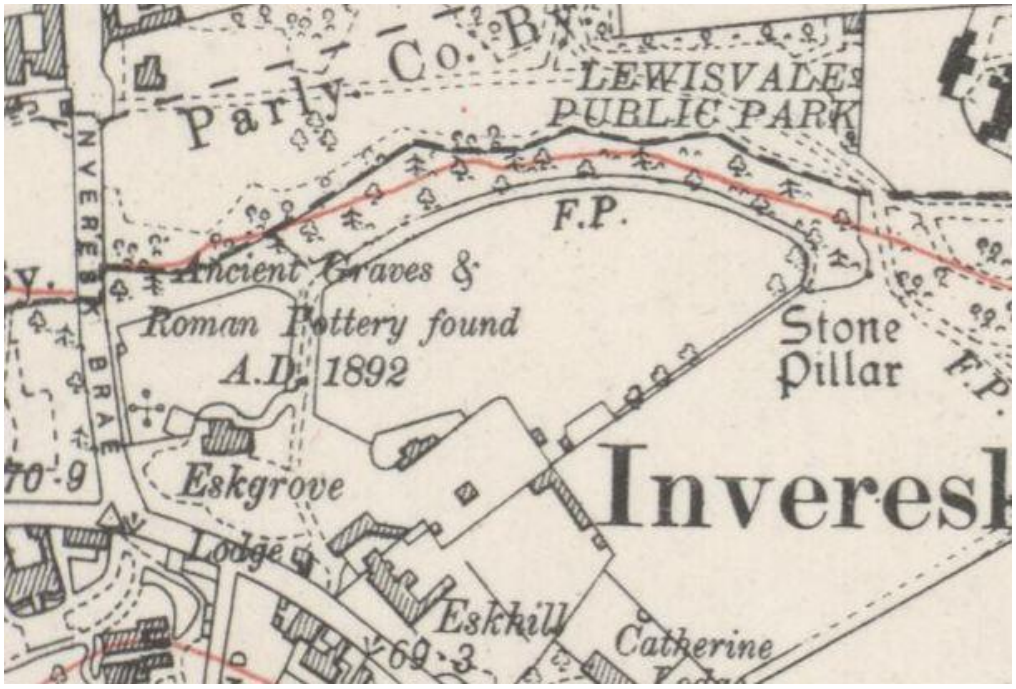
Ordnance Survey First Edition Six inches to One mile Edinburghshire Sheet 7
Surveyed 1852-53, Published 1854
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74426707#zoom=7&lat=10449&lon=9150&layers=BT

Ordnance Survey Town Map of Musselburgh Sheets 12
Scale 1:1056 Surveyed 1853
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74416180#zoom=3&lat=6554&lon=3188&layers=BT

Ordnance Survey Second Edition & Later Editions Six inches to One mile Edinburghshire
Sheet IV.SE Revised 1893, Published 1896
http://maps.nls.uk/view/75513009#zoom=6&lat=4978&lon=3600&layers=BT



Ordnance Survey Musselburgh Town Map Edinburgh Sheet IV.11.14 Scale 1:500
Surveyed 1893
http://maps.nls.uk/view/74416190#zoom=4&lat=7154&lon=10536&layers=BT



Ordnance Survey Second Edition & Later Editions Six inches to One mile Edinburghshire
Sheet IV.SE Revised 1913, Published 1919
http://maps.nls.uk/view/75513003#zoom=6&lat=5245&lon=3731&layers=BT

PRIMARY & DOCUMENTARY SOURCES: *(plans, manuscript documents and other estate records) Please list material consulted in date order and attach copies where possible. Give description of material, and location and reference number of archival holding.*

None

HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS & PICTORIAL SOURCES: *(drawings, paintings, photographs, aerial photographs etc. Include type, subject, artist, source or reference location, and date if known)*

CD of 23 late 19th century photographs taken when John Stewart (WS) was resident. Lodged at John Gray Centre Haddington

1920 image of south front house in private ownership

Vertical Aerial Photograph Collection RCAHMS:
B0017 5297-5300 SB 000389 15 April 1946
B0492 0100 F22 6 November 1960
C0278 14 June 1988/6/88

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PUBLISHED SOURCES: *(Statistical Accounts, Gazetteers, Directories, Travel Accounts etc.) Please list publications consulted in alphabetical order. Include details of author, title, journal or periodical, and date, volume/edition and page numbers where relevant.*

Burnet, Jane E M *The Reason for Inveresk* 1999 Courtyard Press p 39-50

McWilliam, Colin *Lothian Except Edinburgh: The Buildings of Scotland Series* 1978 p267-268

East Lothian Fourth Statistical Account 1945-2000 Volume 5 *The Parishes of Inveresk (with Musselburgh), Prestonpans, Tranent (with Cockenzie and Port Seton)*
Pages 11 and 33

Inveresk Conservation Area Appraisal East Lothian Council & Inveresk Village Society 2010 East Lothian Council.
http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/4890/inveresk_conservation_area_character_appraisal

Robertson, A Niven *Old Dovecots in Scotland* 1945 Old Edinburgh Club p79

The East Lothian News 24 March 2004 Design Award

PRINCIPAL PERIODS OF DEVELOPMENT:

1740-1743 house built and estate laid out with drive from the north
By the 1853 Ordnance Survey the drive has moved to the south on Inveresk Village Road and the wall to Inveresk Brae has been blocked for carriages.
Lodge on Inveresk Village was built in 1830.
1910 Part of the estate was made over to the Town Council to create Lewisvale Park
1990 Caledonian Properties broke up the estate and applied for permission to build five houses in the wider landscape.

PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS ASSOCIATED WITH SITE: *(please reference source of information)*

None

ORAL RECORDS/REMINISCENSES *Please include a list of any people interviewed during the course of research/survey work. Include name and role of interviewee (eg. family member, former employee, local resident), date of conversation and major dates, features or events recalled. Attach a transcript of the conversation if possible.*

None

C. SITE SURVEY *Use map provided to mark positions and boundaries. Take photographs where possible.*

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS ***Note the materials used, the dates and styles of various phases of development, and category of listing if appropriate***

PRINCIPAL HOUSE OR BUILDING:
Circa 1740 with 19th century additions. two storey and basement, five-bay villa. Sandstone rubble, heavily pointed and lined, with ashlar dressings. South elevation doorway added circa 1800. Earlier 19th century porch added at head of stone steps.

See image below

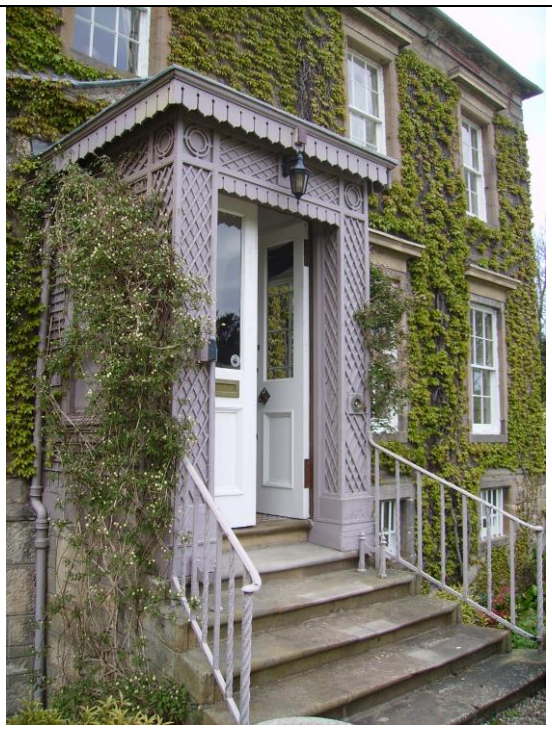
OFFICES *(stables, outbuildings, etc):*

Stable block now converted into private house.

See image below

HOME FARM OR MAINS:

None



Regency Porch

Sables From West

BOUNDARIES *(External & internal; estate walls, ha-has, park fences etc.):*

Eight foot stone sandstone rubble walls with ashlar copings to south side and 20 foot

retaining stone rubble walls to west side of estate. North side embanked and metal fence.

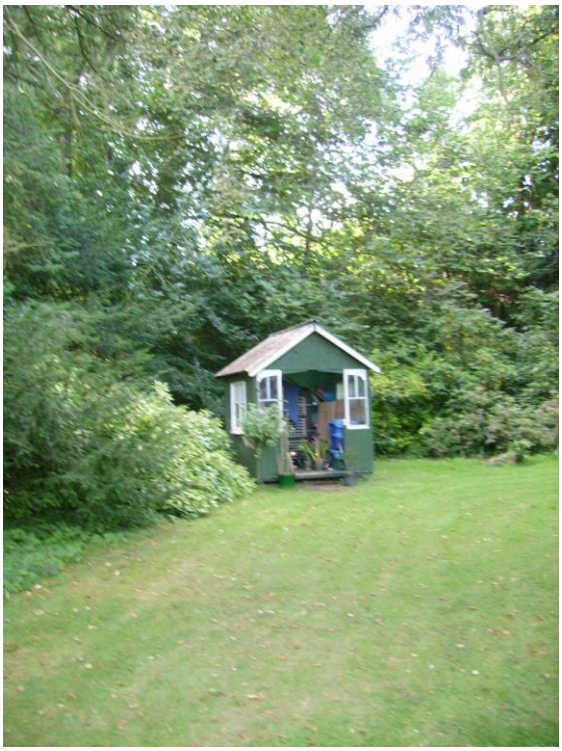
GATES/GATE LODGES:

Corniced Column Ashlar Gatepiers with Ball Finials to South Drive (Present Entrance)

Lodge From East: Low-pitch Cottage of circa1830

GARDEN BUILDINGS *(Summer houses, view houses, temples, grottoes etc):*

Revolving summerhouse by Boulton & Paul Ltd, Norwich England. (Boulton & Paul began making revolving summerhouses in the 1920's). A revolving summerhouse appears in a catalogue dated 1938 and at that time cost £29.10 carriage paid to any address in England or Wales.



Summerhouse

CHAPELS/MAUSOLEUMS/BURIAL GROUINDS:

Roman remains on north lawn

CONSERVATORIES/FERNERIES:

Late 19th century conservatory addition on rubble base with panelled base course and decorative cast iron ridge ornament. This is shown on the Ordnance Survey Musselburgh Town Map 1893 Sheet IV.11.14

The conservatory has been re-glazed but its metal roof adornment remains original

Conservatory

GARDEN STATUARY *(Fountains, statues, sundials, monuments etc.) Note any inscriptions:*

Sundial shown on 1853 Ordnance Survey Sheet 12. Early 1900 image shows a sundial pedestal with gnomon missing in different position. Now no longer in garden.

Statue of deer on north lawn 2010

BURIAL GROUNDS/CEMETERIES *(Fountains, statues, sundials, monuments etc.) Note any inscriptions:*

None

BRIDGES:

None

TERRACES *(Including steps & stairways):*

None

WALLED GARDENS *(Including potting sheds, bothies, glasshouse ranges etc.):*

The original walled garden has two houses built into it. On reported: Design award for Inveresk house (2004) by Musselburgh Conservation Society. An excellent example of "progressive architecture" the house at 11a Inveresk Village designed by local architect George Grams. Built into an existing old garden wall, with part of the house on one side of the wall and part of it on the other side.

Award Winning House Set into Walled Garden Wall

AVENUES, CARRIAGE DRIVES, ORNAMENTAL WALKS, SERVICE DRIVES ETC:

The carriage drive entering the policies from the North (off Inveresk Brae) still exists The entrance is now walled up but the original opening is visible. The original drive ran East and then curved South up to the house. Large evergreen shrubs and trees indicate Victorian plantings and now obscure the view to the North originally seen in 1900 photographs.

Former Carriage Entrance on Newbiggin Hill Road

ROCKERIES:

None

WATER FEATURES *(natural & man-made including rivers, cascades, lochs, pools etc.):*

Well on site of former pump (recorded on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Musselburgh, 1853) uncovered in 1968 when a tree blew over.

Well From the West

ANY OTHER FEATURES NOT INCLUDED ABOVE *(Include any historic or modern feature and indicate past or current use where possible):*

Dovecot. Later 17th century. All walls are the same thickness, with the back wall being 34 feet high. The gables are crow-stepped and there is an oval light in the centre of the south wall. Inside there are 281 nests and the pigeons enter by ten openings in the slated roof.

Dovecot and Wild Flower Meadow from South

PLANTED ELEMENTS: ***The garden or park should divide up naturally and historically into different areas, e.g. ornamental gardens, parkland, walled garden, policy planting. Each area should be delineated on a plan and current use noted.***

1. ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS

GRASSED AREAS *(Lawns, meadows, terraces):*

Large grassed area to north of house is shown on all the maps. Current owners have planted a wild flower meadow sown in 1999 because being an archaeological site tree planting is not allowed.

FLOWER BEDS *(Indicate theme or type – parterres, perennial herbaceous border/annual bedding where possible. Note whether significant plant collection):*

None visible today but on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Musselburgh 1853 (see above) an intricate pattern of paths and flowerbeds is shown. By the 2nd edition of 1893 these are significantly reduced.
The early 1900 photographs show view a view of the house from the east with paths and flower beds in the foreground in a different configuration. It appears to be perennial herbaceous planting.

SHRUBBERY INCLUDING HEDGES & TOPIARY *(Include details of height, species etc. if possible):*

A Victorian shrubbery bounds the South of the policies, containing a selection of old Rhododendrons, Yew, Holly and Irish Yew.
Another evergreen shrubbery bounds the north drive

ORNAMENTAL TREE PLANTING *(Single specimens, groups, woodland gardens – include details of age and species if possible):*

Significant planting of large mature trees has been carried out within the policies, mainly Lime, Sycamore, and Beech. Many of these are still standing today, but some have been lost including four in front of the house that blew down in 1968.
Photographs from the early 1900 show a very tall Monkey Puzzle tree no longer standing. However the Cedar has grown into a very large specimen now in the grounds of the Stables.

Cedar Now in Garden of Stables

AVENUE *PLANTING (May also cross parkland and policy planting. Note predominant species and whether single or double planted if possible:*

Remnants of the Sycamore/Lime/Beech avenue running north/south to east of the house along the drive seen in 1900 photographs

Remnants of North-South Beech Lime Sycamore Avenue

ANY OTHER ORNAMENTAL PLANTING FEATURE NOT COVERED ABOVE:

Victorian planting of mixed Holly, Yew, Rhododendron is evident.
Double laurel hedge lines the drive to the new houses, separating the newly defined house/land boundaries. This cuts across the original north/south avenue so that original views south are now lost.

Laurel Hedge Running North-South

2. KITCHEN GARDENS AND ORCHARDS

KITCHEN GARDENS *(walled, hedged or other boundary. Note any other historical features and current use)*

Kitchen garden now built on with two houses, within the walls.

ORCHARDS *(walled, hedged or other boundary. Note any other historical features and current use)*

The current owner has planted an orchard to the east of the house. See image below

3. PARKLAND

GRASSED *AREAS (Note current use, amenity grassland, agricultural use – grazing, cultivation etc.):*

Parkland to the East of the house was agricultural grazing. A good example is shown on 1900 photograph of sheep grazing in the snow.
The parkland is now built on with three houses.

New Orchard to East of House

TREE PLANTING *(Individual specimens, clumps, belts, roundels etc. Note species if possible, and whether fenced):*

A full tree survey has been undertaken by the current owner

ANY OTHER PARKLAND FEATURE NOT INCLUDED ABOVE:

None

4. POLICY WOODLAND PLANTING

COMPOSITION (Note composition of woodland; deciduous/coniferous/mixed, and principal species if possible. Note current use eg. commercial timber cropping/amenity woodland):

None

ANY OTHER POLICY WOODLAND FEATURE NOT INCLUDED ABOVE:

None

5. VIEWS, VISTAS, BORROWED LANDSCAPE & PERIPHERAL AREAS,

KEY VIEWS *(please note views inwards to the house, outwards from the house, and internally within the landscape):*

Significant view to south over stone wall past lodge to Lammermuirs, now lost.

BORROWED LANDSCAPE *(please note any features, natural or man-made, lying outside the designed landscape which act as eye-catchers or contribute to the outward views):*

None

PERIPHERAL AREAS *(please note any features lying outside the main landscape but which are clearly designed eg. regularly spaced roadside/field boundary trees, estate walls etc.):*

None

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON CURRENT CONDITION OR CARE OF THE LANDSCAPE

Garden around the house and stable are well maintained. However the shrubberies area a little overgrown.

SURVEY DRAWINGS AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHS

Please include a list and copies where possible of any drawings, photographs made/taken during the ground survey.

A selection of survey photographs is included in this document. A full set of photographs is available, together with a paper copy of this recording form, in the John Gray Centre, Haddington.

D. SUMMARY HISTORY OF THE SITE

This section should be set out in chronological form and should include information on the way the site has developed and changed since it was first recorded, using dates and maps where possible. The names of owners, architects or designers involved, and relevant historical events should be recorded, and the sources noted.

Eskgrove House was built in 1740 on land belonging to Alexander Hay, bought from Inveresk House. In 1742 a canal was cut from the River Esk to the foot of Inveresk Hill to drain the coalworks at Pinkie. The former north entrance to Eskgrove House is recorded on the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1852-53.

In 1761 the house was sold to Sir David Rae (later Lord Eskgrove) *'mansion house and garden enclosure or park, pigeon house and office houses'*. On his death in 1804 the estate was made over to his eldest son Sir David Rae. Following his death in 1815 the estate was made over to his daughter Elizabeth Colt Rae until her death in 1872.

At the beginning of the 19th century the drive was probably changed to the south side of the house and the Regency portico built.
The circular turning area in front of the house is shown on the 1853 Ordnance Survey. A great many formal pathways and flowerbeds are marked, along with many new trees and shrubs. The walled kitchen garden to the east is laid out with small trees in rows – perhaps an orchard- with a pathway round its perimeter and a small summerhouse in the centre. A Sundial is marked due east of the house and a pump to the south (where a well was uncovered in 1968 when tree blew over). The Steading in the south-west corner of the policies has been removed. The Stable block and Lodge house are shown.

In 1872 John Stewart WS bought Eskgrove including *'the mansion house, garden inclosure of park, pigeon house and office houses on the East side of Inveresk.'* On his death in 1890 his eldest son, Charles Stewart, inherited the estate. Charles Stewart died in Edinburgh in 1927 but is presumed to be in the 1900 photographs of the garden.

The 1893 Ordnance Survey Town Plan shows a conservatory attached to the west side of the house. The turning circle in the drive is no longer visible and the formal paths and flower beds are much reduced. The kitchen garden has a large greenhouse and a different tree configuration. The sundial and the pump are no longer on the Ordnance Survey map indicating that the well is not being used, but there is a new pump in to the south-east of the stables.

In 1905 the Mansion House, Policies, Gardens, Conservatories, Lodge, Stables and Offices extending to 10.5 acres were sold to General Henry Alexander Cockburn for £4500, and the remaining ground bought by the Council for Lewsivale Park. An extension added to the east side of house.

Archibald John Cockburn inherited from his father, Henry Alexander in 1921 until his death in 1950.

From 1950 Dr John Riddell lived at Eskgrove until his death in 1989. 1951 the stables sold to Dr Margaret Chapman for £499 18sh 4d.

In 1968 a January gale brought down four large trees in front of the house (Sycamore, Beech, Oak). This exposed an old well, twelve feet deep and four feet wide, which is thought to be older than the house, and a stone passageway 32 inches high and 18 inches wide the date and purpose of which is not known.

In 1990 – 7.79 acres was transferred to Caledonian Property Group with the consent of D'Agostino with the balance being transferred to Gerard and Adelin D'Agostino.

In 1998 Eskgrove was purchased by the current owners. Eskgrove Lodge was sold in 2004 and the Stable in 2009.

Name:

Deborah MacKay, East Lothian Gardens and Designed Landscapes Recording Project under the auspices of The Garden History Society in Scotland
http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org

Dates of ground survey work:

2012

Date research completed:

2013