

In the village of Twechar, in an open field between the church, leisure centre, and the houses on Burnbrae Road, is the site of a Roman temporary camp.

The camp is sometimes visible on aerial photographs, but there are no visible remains on the ground today. Part of the camp is currently built over by the houses on Burnbrae Road. The camp is located about 300m south of the line of the Antonine Wall.

HISTORY OF DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION:

The temporary camp at Twechar was first identified on aerial photos in 1976-77. It continued to be visible in aerial photography through the 1980s and was visited on the ground by the Ordnance Survey in 1980. No excavations have been carried out at the site.

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION:

Examination of aerial photographs reveals that the camp is oriented on a north-east to south-west axis. The camp's south-east side is fully visible in aerial photographs, measuring 144m long, with about 60m visible on the north-east and somewhat less visible on the south-west before its defences disappear underneath the modern housing. It is unknown

if the camp was rectangular or square, but it probably enclosed about 2ha (5 acres). There is a possible entrance gap in the centre of the south-east defences. With another temporary camp already known at the site of the nearby Bar Hill fort, the Twechar camp was probably used as a temporary base for the legions who were constructing the Antonine Wall.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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