

# Dalmeny Kirk Graveyard

*Dalmeny, South Queensferry, City of Edinburgh Council*

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*Watching Brief: November 2017*

*for*

Rosebery Estates

*November 2017*



*West-facing view of the excavations in progress*

**Addyman Archaeology**

Archaeology   Heritage Consultancy   Architecture

## Addyman Archaeology

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# Dalmeny Kirk Graveyard, Dalmeny, South Queensferry, City of Edinburgh Council

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## *Watching Brief: November 2017*

*Job number 2315.00*

*November 2017*

by Dr Tudor Skinner

### *Contents*

### *Illustrations*

### *Executive Summary*

<b>1.</b>	<b><i>Introduction</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
	<i>i. General</i>	<i>1</i>
	<i>ii. Site location and setting</i>	<i>1</i>
<b>2.</b>	<b><i>Historical Summary and Archaeological Potential</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
	<i>i. Map Regression</i>	<i>3</i>
	<i>ii. Archaeological Potential</i>	<i>3</i>
<b>3.</b>	<b><i>Archaeological Watching Brief</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
	<i>i. Methodology</i>	<i>4</i>
	<i>ii. Results</i>	<i>4</i>
<b>4.</b>	<b><i>Overall Conclusions and Recommendations</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
<b>5.</b>	<b><i>Archiving</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>
	<b><i>References</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>
<b>Appendix A</b>	<b><i>Photograph Register</i></b>	<b><i>8</i></b>
<b>Appendix B</b>	<b><i>DES entry</i></b>	<b><i>9</i></b>

***Illustrations***

*List of Figures*

Figure 1 Site location	2
Figure 2 Ordnance Survey First edition, Linlithgowshire, Sheet 3, surveyed 1854-5, published 1856, showing Dalmeny Kirk and Easter Dalmeny Cottages to south	3

*List of Plates*

Plate 1 East end of the trench prior to the commencement of works	5
Plate 2 Working section of a branching pipeline in the excavated trench	5
Plate 3 Demolition of the inspection chamber in progress	6
Plate 4 South-facing trench section on site of former inspection chamber	6

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# Dalmeny Kirk Graveyard

## *Dalmeny, City of Edinburgh Council*

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### *Watching Brief*

#### *Executive Summary*

Addyman Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief at Dalmeny Kirk graveyard, Dalmeny, in November 2017. The monitored works concerned the excavation and replacement of a drainage pipe within the graveyard.

In the course of the watching brief topsoil and subsoil associated with the graveyard was observed and recorded. A small amount of unstratified charnel was identified within the topsoil; this was not retained but was reburied within the excavations. Current and lapsed services (drainage and electrical) were also noted. The fragments of human remains (charnel) discovered in the excavations are representative of a graveyard soil. No other significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered *in situ* in the course of the watching brief.

#### *1. Introduction*

##### *i. General*

Addyman Archaeology was contracted by Rosebery Estates to undertake an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of a drainage pipe trench to the rear of 1-3, Easter Dalmeny Cottages on Main Street, Dalmeny, South Queensferry, EH30 9UE. The rear of the cottages extends into the graveyard of the Category A Listed Dalmeny Kirk (LB5570) and as a result archaeological monitoring was required by John Lawson, City of Edinburgh Archaeological Service (CECAS) Archaeology Officer. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Addyman Archaeology on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and accepted by the CECAS Archaeology Officer.

A record of the watching brief (*OASIS ID: addyman1-302600*) has been deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service and with *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland.

##### *ii. Site location and setting*

Dalmeny Kirk graveyard is located at the corner of Main Street and Bankhead Road, Dalmeny, South Queensferry (figure 1), centred on NGR NT 14458 77483. The 12<sup>th</sup>-century Category A Listed Dalmeny Kirk (LB5570) is located on the north side of the graveyard. A number of listed residences abut the southern perimeter of the graveyard, including the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century Category B listed 3, Easter Dalmeny Cottages and the early 19<sup>th</sup>-century Category C listed 1-2, Easter Dalmeny Cottages (LB5529). The excavated pipe trench was located immediately to the north of 1-2, Easter Dalmeny Cottages. The churchyard and Dalmeny village are located on the north edge of a gentle east/west aligned ridge, in an area of predominantly arable cultivation. North of the church, the land slopes down towards the Forth estuary.

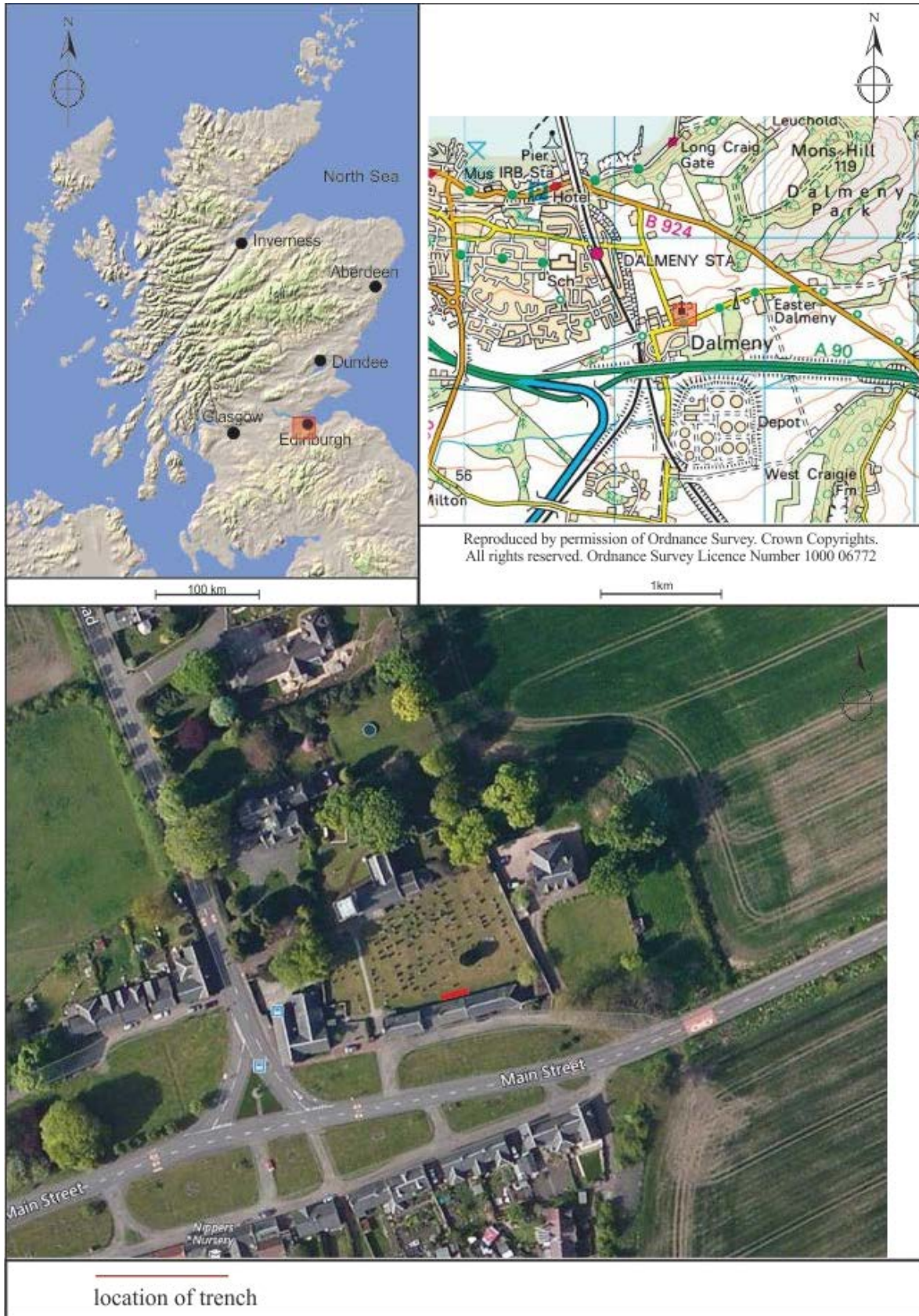
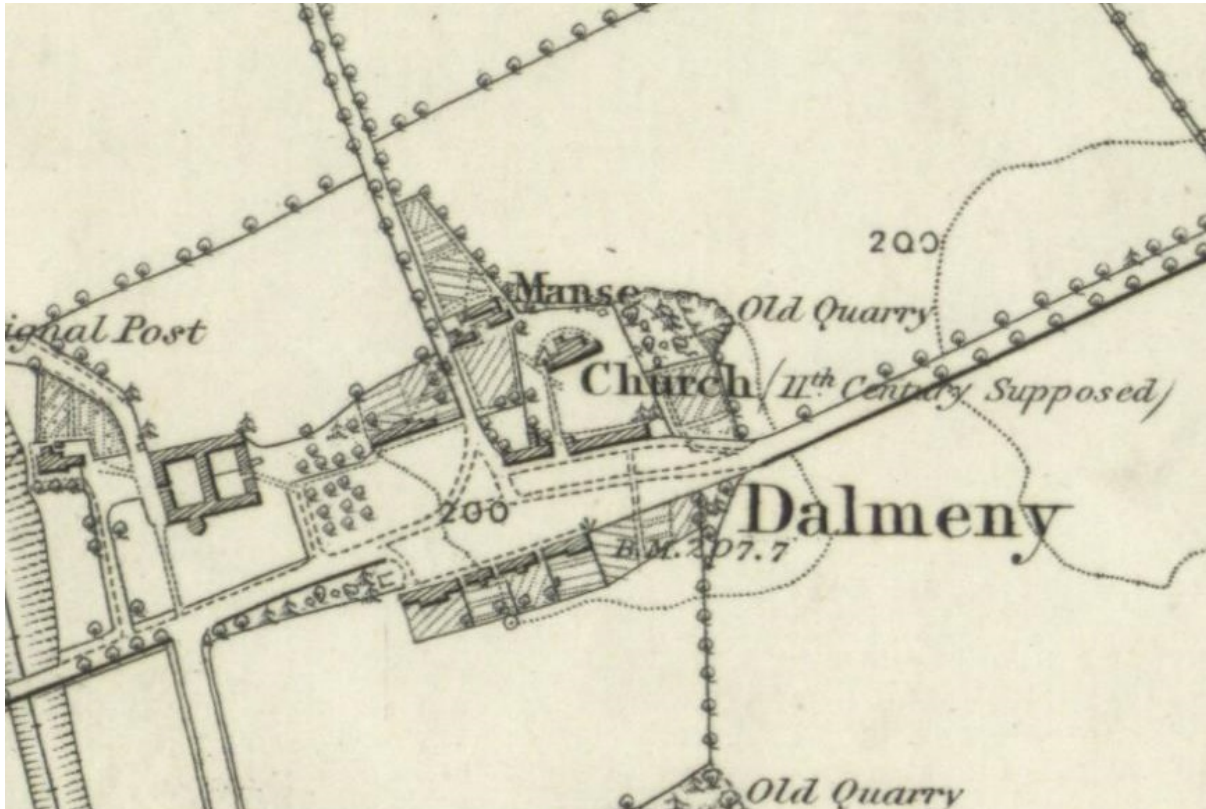


Figure 1 Site location

## **2. Historical Summary and Archaeological Potential**

### *i. Map Regression*

The Kirk and cottages are shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 (*figure 2*); there has been no change to the layout of the immediate area since then.



*Figure 2 Ordnance Survey First edition, Linlithgowshire, Sheet 3, surveyed 1854-5, published 1856, showing Dalmeny Kirk and Easter Dalmeny Cottages to south*

### *ii. Archaeological Potential*

Dalmeny Kirk, dedicated to St Cuthbert, is the most complete Romanesque church in Scotland; it is still in ecclesiastical use. Built in the 12th century, it originally consisted of a West tower, now demolished, an aisleless nave, chancel and apse. The Rosebery aisle was added in 1671 and rebuilt in the early 19th century. The church was restored in 1937 and a new West tower by Alfred Greig was added on the foundations of the old tower, which had been demolished.

The churchyard has some very good examples of 17th and 18th century gravestones, including the supposed coffin of the church's builder, a huge structure with a head-cavity, and carved with winged beasts and religious figures. Some 18th century stones bear mason's tools. The earliest noted gravestone is of 1678.

The Kirk forms a B Group Listing with, among others, 1-3 Easter Dalmeny Cottages. 1-2 Easter Dalmeny (LB5528) are Category C Listed and date to the earlier 19th century. They comprise a pair of single storey asymmetrical vernacular cottages, built of random rubble with droved dressings and harled at the rear. 1 Easter Dalmeny Cottages has a 7-bay principal (south) elevation, and a 5 bay rear (north) elevation; the west elevation is obscured by the adjoining terrace. 2 Easter Dalmeny Cottages has a 6-bay principal elevation to the front and rear, with west and east elevations adjoining cottages either side.

3 Easter Dalmeny Cottages is Category B Listed (LB5529), with a date of 1772 on the skewputt. It is a 2-storey, 3-bay house and is harled, with ashlar sandstone dressings and comprises the only 2-storey house on the Main Street of Dalmeny village. It comprises the west end of the group of cottages, with the west elevation joined to the churchyard wall to the outer right; most of this elevation and the entire north elevation is within the churchyard. In recent years a full-height wall head stack set to the right of the north elevation has been removed.

Any excavation in the graveyard is likely to disturb upper graveyard soils and charnel (disarticulated human remains) is likely to be present within the graveyard soil.

### ***3. Archaeological Watching Brief***

#### *i. Methodology*

The watching brief was undertaken on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The pipe trench was excavated parallel to 1-2, Easter Dalmeny Cottages, by a mini-digger with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Where existing services posed an obstacle, hand tools were used to assist the excavation. The trench was 9.02m in length, with a minimum width of 0.3m. The width of the trench was extended at the eastern and western ends, to allow for pipe replacement and the demolition of a redundant inspection chamber, respectively. A small extension was also excavated between the course of the trench and No 1, Easter Dalmeny Cottages, to facilitate the replacement of a branching drainage pipe. Within the excavations ground level was reduced to a depth of approximately 1.0m, to the base of the existing drainage pipework. The location of the excavated trench is indicated in figure 1.

The watching brief was conducted in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2014).

#### *ii. Results*

Within the excavated trench, topsoil (001) was identified overlying subsoil (002). No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified. The topsoil (001) comprised a loose dark brownish-grey silty clay loam with inclusions of frequent, large, well-sorted sub-angular pebbles. It extended to an average depth of 0.4m below the present ground level. A small quantity of charnel was also identified in the topsoil at the eastern end, which included the upper part of a femur; human remains were not retained but were reburied within the excavations. The subsoil (002) also comprised a loose dark brownish-grey silty clay loam. It was distinguished from the topsoil by way of relatively meagre inclusions, marginally more compaction and a slightly stronger brown hue. The subsoil deposit was at least 0.6m in thickness, extending beyond the limit of the present excavations. No finds were found in association with the subsoil.

The cut of the previous pipe trench was not observed in the course of the works. The natural substrate was not identified at any point in the trench. In addition to the existing pipework within the trench, fragments of earlier drainage piping were identified, demonstrating an earlier phase of repair and replacement. An insulated electrical cable was also identified running in parallel to the drainage piping, as was a buried inspection chamber.

### ***4. Overall Conclusions and Recommendations***

The archaeological monitoring of the groundworks revealed fragments of charnel within the topsoil, which is typical of a graveyard soil. The excavations did not reveal any *in situ* archaeological features or deposits. The excavated area had evidently been significantly disturbed by earlier phases of installation and replacement of drainage pipework.

No further archaeological involvement in groundworks is anticipated.





*Plate 1 East end of the trench prior to the commencement of works*



*Plate 2 Working section of a branching pipeline in the excavated trench*



*Plate 3 Demolition of the inspection chamber in progress*



*Plate 4 South-facing trench section on site of former inspection chamber*

## **5. Archiving**

Both a hard copy and a digital copy of this report in its final form will be submitted to the NRHE as held by HES. This will be accompanied by the project archive including selected email correspondence, site records, and digital copies of all site photographs.

A copy of this report will also be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) for inclusion in their Historic Environment Record.

An entry has been created on the online OASIS platform to ensure public access to the research and an entry will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, the annual journal produced by Archaeology Scotland charting fieldwork across Scotland.

## **References**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014 *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* <[http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIAS&GWatchingbrief\\_2.pdf](http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIAS&GWatchingbrief_2.pdf)> (Accessed 28/11/17)

**Appendix A Photograph Register**

<b>Image No.</b>	<b>Direction Facing</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Portrait / Landscape</b>	<b>Initials</b>
2315-1	NW	28/11/2017	Dalmeny Kirk	L	TS
2315-2	SW	28/11/2017	East end of excavations, prior to the commencement of works	L	TS
2315-3	S	28/11/2017	Drainage pipe abutting 1-2 Easter Dalmeny Cottages, prior to the commencement of works	L	TS
2315-4	SW	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-5	SW	28/11/2017	NE-facing section of branching pipework excavation	L	TS
2315-6	SW	28/11/2017	NE-facing section of branching pipework excavation	L	TS
2315-7	NE	28/11/2017	Inspection chamber during demolition	L	TS
2315-8	N	28/11/2017	Section along main pipe trench	L	TS
2315-9	N	28/11/2017	Section along main pipe trench	L	TS
2315-10	SE	28/11/2017	Branching pipework excavation	L	TS
2315-11	SE	28/11/2017	Branching pipework excavation	L	TS
2315-12	SE	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-13	SE	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-14	E	28/11/2017	Gravestone to east of works	L	TS
2315-15	W	28/11/2017	Charnel identified in the course of works	L	TS
2315-16	W	28/11/2017	Charnel identified in the course of works	L	TS
2315-17	W	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-18	W	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-19	N	28/11/2017	Trench section (former inspection chamber)	L	TS
2315-20	N	28/11/2017	Trench section (former inspection chamber)	L	TS
2315-21	N	28/11/2017	Trench section (former inspection chamber)	L	TS
2315-22	E	28/11/2017	Working shot	L	TS
2315-23	E	28/11/2017	Working shot (former inspection chamber)	L	TS
2315-24	E	28/11/2017	Working shot (west end of trench)	L	TS
2315-25	E	28/11/2017	Working shot (east end of trench)	L	TS
2315-26	NE	28/11/2017	Working shot (mid-trench)	L	TS
2315-27	NW	28/11/2017	Working shot (west end of trench)	L	TS

## Appendix B DES entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Dalmeny Kirk Graveyard
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	2315
<b>PARISH:</b>	Dalmeny
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Tudor Skinner
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Addyman Archaeology
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NT17NW 29; 50567
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Graveyard
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	Charnel, reburied on site
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NT 14458 77483
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>Addyman Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief at Dalmeny Kirk graveyard, Dalmeny, in November 2017. The monitored works concerned the excavation and replacement of a drainage pipe within the graveyard.</p> <p>In the course of the watching brief topsoil and subsoil associated with the graveyard was observed and recorded. A small amount of unstratified charnel was identified within the topsoil; this was not retained but was reburied within the excavations. Current and lapsed services (drainage and electrical) were also noted. The fragments of human remains (charnel) discovered in the excavations are representative of a graveyard soil. No other significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered <i>in situ</i> in the course of the watching brief.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	none
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	-
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Rosebery Estates
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Printworks, 77a Brunswick Street, Edinburgh EH7 5HS
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	tudor.skinner@addyman-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	NRHE (intended)