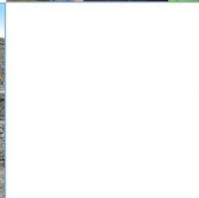
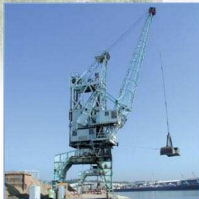
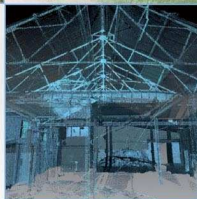
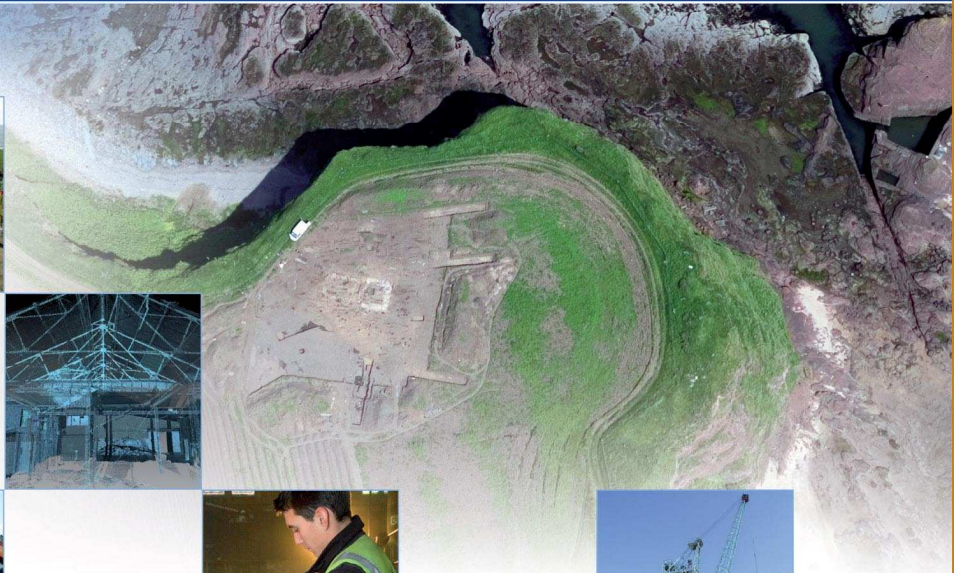
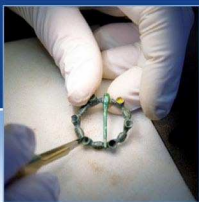


Results of archaeological trial trenching at Raw Holdings, East Calder Data Structure Report

OASIS No. aocarcha1-145722

25th March 2013



Results of archaeological trial trenching at Raw Holdings, East Calder

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: **CgMs Consulting,**
Planning, Archaeology & Historic Buildings
Consultants
9-10 St Andrew Square,
Edinburgh
EH2 2AF

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 087 674

Planning Ref No. 0081/FUL/12

AOC Project No: 22393

Prepared by: Lindsay Dunbar

Illustration by: Jake Streatfeild-James

Date of Fieldwork: 11th to 15th March 2013

Date of Report: 25th March 2013

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Date: 25/03/2013

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Date: 25/03/2013

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Contents

	Page
List of illustrations.....	3
List of plates.....	3
List of appendices.....	3
Abstract.....	4
1 INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Project Background	5
1.2 Site Location	5
1.3 Archaeological background	5
2 OBJECTIVES	5
3 METHOD	6
4 RESULTS	7
5 CONCLUSION	8
6 RECOMMENDATIONS	8
8 REFERENCES	8
APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES.....	12
APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER.....	20
APPENDIX 3: ' <i>DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND</i> ' REPORT.....	21

List of illustrations

Figure 1: Location of the investigated area at Raw Holdings

Figure 2: Trial Trench Locations

List of plates

Plate 1: Trench 37 post-excavation

Plate 2: Trench 31 showing two stone filled drains

List of appendices

Appendix 1 Trench Summaries

Appendix 2 Photographic Register

Appendix 3 *'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'* Entry

Abstract

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, acting on behalf of their client (Walker Group Ltd), to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a proposed development site and adjacent area at Raw Holdings, East Calder, West Lothian. The investigated area was a greenfield site and comprised two separate land parcels. The larger covering c. 5 ha has outline planning consent (Planning Application No. 0081/FUL/12). The other parcel was a smaller adjacent site, 1 ha in size, which is likely to be subject to a planning application in the future. The scope of works was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) and set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2013). An 8% evaluation was undertaken across both parcels, with a total of 39 trenches covering more than 5,100 m² opened. The evaluation trenching did not uncover any significant archaeological features. A simple stratigraphic sequence of thin topsoil over clay rich subsoils with the occasional outcrop of bedrock, and in the southeastern corner an area of sands and gravels, was noted. Areas of boggy ground and the presence of field drains suggested that historically the ground has been relatively poorly drained. In summary, no significant archaeological finds or features were encountered during the evaluation and it is concluded that this reflects historic land-use being restricted to agriculture rather than settlement.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by CgMs Consulting acting on behalf of Walker Group Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a site at Raw Holdings, East Calder, West Lothian (Fig.1). The total area to be evaluated measured some 6 ha, of which the greater part (5 ha) had been granted outline planning consent (Planning Ref. No.0081/FUL/12). The remaining 1 ha is not yet subject to an application but is expected to be in the future (Fig.2). The proposed development lies within the administrative area of West Lothian Council which is advised on archaeological matters by West of Scotland Council Archaeology Service (WoSAS). WoSAS had advised that a condition be attached to consent requiring that a programme of archaeological works be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) agreed with WoSAS on behalf of West Lothian Council. WoSAS had also written a letter to West Lothian Council (29/2/12) stating that the work should comprise an evaluation by trial trenching of an 8% sample of the application area. The advice is in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2010) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning And Archaeology* (2011).
- 1.1.2 The objective of the archaeological works was to determine the existence of any buried archaeological remains within the investigated area by means of a programme of trial trenching. A Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, February 2013) outlining the programme of archaeological works was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service on behalf of West Lothian Council in advance of the evaluation being undertaken. The WSI contains details of the planning background and an assessment of the site's archaeological potential.

1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The investigated area is a greenfield site occupying agricultural land on the south side of East Calder. The area is bounded to the north by Mansefield and to the west and south by Langton Road. The eastern side is formed by East Calder Sports Centre and further agricultural fields (Fig.1). The investigated area occupied three agricultural fields separated by post and wire fencing. External boundaries were formed by a combination of hedges and post and wire fences. The topography is broadly flat around 120 m OD though it does fall away slightly towards the north.

1.3 Site & Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs, February 2013) does not note any previously recorded sites within or in proximity to the investigated area. Online databases record no previously recorded sites within 250m of the areas' boundaries. The historic settlement area of East Calder (WoSASPIN 66521) lies over 250m to the north. The former location of Calder Hall lies over 500 m to the west (Ordnance Survey 1957).
- 1.3.2 It is possible to determine the broad region occupied by the investigated area on Roy's Military Survey of 1747-55; although it is not possible to locate it with any precision. It appears to lie within arable land. The area can be identified precisely by the time of the first Ordnance Survey plans (1852). It occupies part of one large, square agricultural field. This remained the case until some house plots were created within the field (by 1957). These houses remain standing today and their plots are excluded from the proposed development. By 1966 the single large field had been subdivided into the smaller agricultural plots that survive to the present and some further construction is apparent (including a building that will be demolished in the proposed development). The plots are described as 'Holdings' on a map made in 1984 (Ordnance Survey).

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- i) to determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains that could be subject to disturbance during development;
- ii) if present to determine the nature, extent and significance of any remains in order to inform an appropriate mitigation strategy (likely to be preservation by record, ie. excavation, analysis and dissemination of results).

3 METHOD

3.1 To provide suitable coverage across the areas of investigation The *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs February 2013) proposed the excavation of trenches placed on varying orientations and informed by site specific factors that may suggest elevated archaeological potential (slightly higher ground levels, artefacts present in topsoil etc.). Trenching equating to an 8% sample of the area was specific requiring the excavation of up to 4,800 m² (total basal trench dimensions) comprising 4,000 m² in the larger area (5 ha) and 800 m² in the smaller area (1 ha).



Plate 1 - Trench 37 Post-excavation

3.2 In total thirty-nine trenches were excavated which totalled 5,108 m² which equates to a little over an 8.5% sample of the investigated area. Whilst there were few impediments to trenching across the site as a whole the central area, around the locations of recently removed farm structures, was avoided due to existing services and possible issues with ground contamination as noted in Site Investigation boreholes and testpits. The northeast corner of the site (the 1 ha area shown on Fig.2) was limited in size and the orientations of trenches here were somewhat limited by the need to stay the requisite distance away from fence lines and a stand of trees to the south. In the southwest corner of the site there was a small area (marked as 'inaccessible ground' on Fig.2) that was fenced off. It was clear that this area had recently contained some mature trees as evidenced by still extant

tree stumps. It had also been used for dumping, with bunds of various materials and soils present alongside rubbish and debris such as corrugated iron. For reasons of accessibility, and because of likely tree root disturbance, this area was not trenched.

- 3.3 All trenches were excavated with a 20 tonne tracked excavator using a ditching bucket measuring 2.2 m. The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil/overburden to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits. The evaluation trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures and as detailed within the *Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013)*.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The various data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices

- i) Appendix 1 contains the trench summaries;
- ii) Appendix 2 contains the photographic register;
- iii) Appendix 3 reproduces the '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' entry.

- 4.2 The works were conducted between 11th March and 15th March 2013. The weather conditions during the evaluation were cold with a heavy snowfall on the first day covering the site with a few inches of snow for the duration of the works. Overall archaeological visibility was good. In total thirty-nine trenches were opened totalling 5,108 m² (Figure 2).



Plate 2 - Trench 31 showing two stone filled drains

- 4.3 The proposed development was covered by a clay rich agricultural topsoil varying in depth from 0.25 m to 0.40 m in depth. As to be expected the topsoil was generally shallower on the higher ground and slopes to the south. In the southern area there was extensive plough scarring across most of the trenches. The geological subsoil was predominantly orange/pink/grey boulder clay with patches of

sandier material and occasional outcrops of heavily weathered bedrock. In the very southeast corner of the site the clay rich subsoil gave way to sands and gravels.

- 4.4 The site was found to contain a selection of predominantly stone filled drains alongside a smaller amount of narrower ceramic drains. The nature of the underlying subsoil means the ground across much of the site, and especially the lower lying northern areas, would be susceptible to saturation and during the evaluation, as the snow melted, there were pockets and puddles of standing water across the site.
- 4.5 No archaeological features were identified during the evaluation with the area examined proving to be archaeologically sterile. It is also of note that careful examination of the topsoil spoil as it was excavated did not yield any unstratified finds of significance, with only sporadic modern, 19th /20th century white glazed ceramics noted. The lack of any archaeologically significant unstratified finds was suggestive that little activity, other than agriculture, had occurred in this area.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The evaluation has not uncovered any significant *in situ* archaeological deposits or features. The evaluation revealed various drains, on differing alignments and of different types, suggesting at least two phases and possibly more of agricultural land improvement. The drains were especially prevalent in the lower lying northern part of the investigated area and would appear to have been inserted to help with efficient drainage.
- 5.2 The absence of any unstratified finds of archaeological significance suggests that the site has not been previously settled. Also, it is suggested that any plough truncation occurring over the site has not led to the disturbance and complete removal of any significant archaeological features.
- 5.3 The generally thin topsoil over firm, and poorly draining, glacial till appears to have limited any prehistoric and later activity on the site. The balance of probability is that the development area is archaeologically sterile and the evaluation is concluded to have established an absence of archaeological remains.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation has achieved its agreed objective, namely establishing an absence of archaeological remains within the investigated areas. Therefore, it is recommended that no further archaeological works are undertaken in connection with the planning application associated with the area. It is also recommended that no archaeological work is undertaken in connection with any future application concerning the 1 ha area also investigated.

7 REFERENCES

CgMs February 2013 *Raw Holdings, East Calder Written Scheme of Investigation*, CgMs Consulting client report

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

Scottish Government 2011 *PAN 2/2011 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology*.

Cartographic

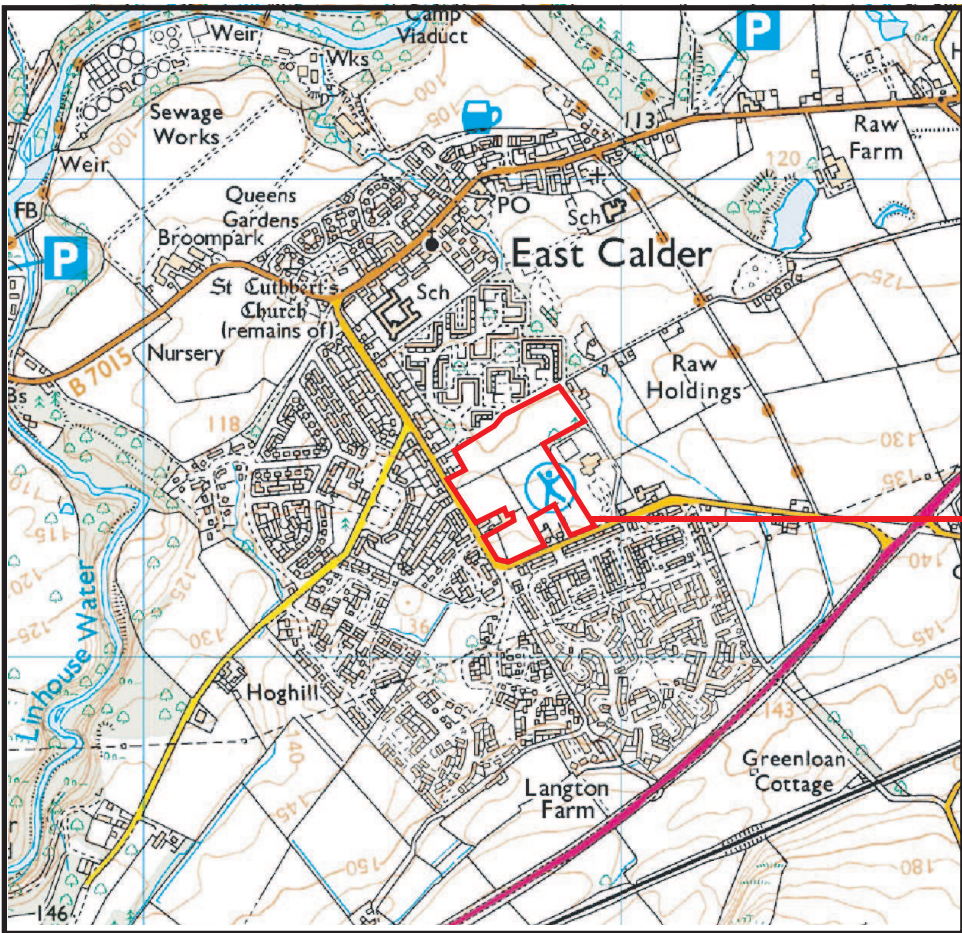
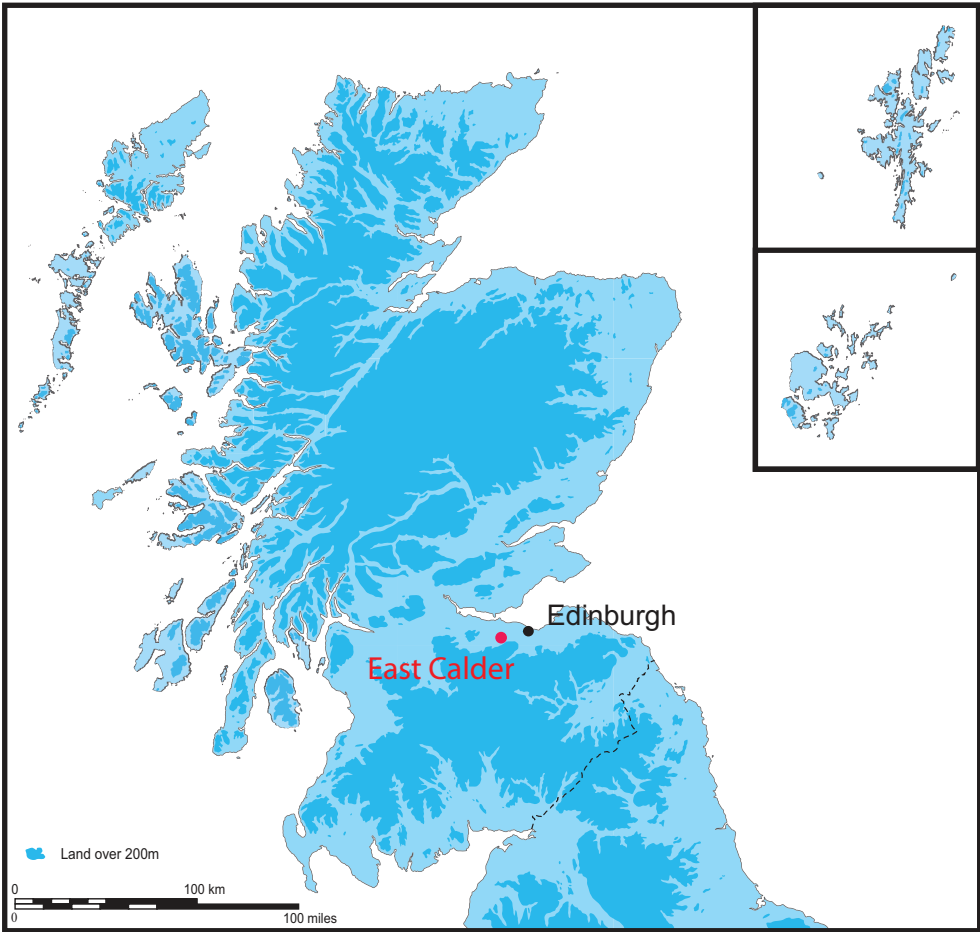
W Roy 1747-55 Military Survey of Scotland

Ordnance Survey 1853 (surveyed 1852) Edinburghshire Sheet 4 (1:10560)

Ordnance Survey 1957 1:10560

Ordnance Survey 1966 1:10560

Ordnance Survey 1984 1:10000



Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright [2009] All rights reserved. Licence number 100023757.

Figure 1: Location of the investigated area at Raw Holdings



Land at Raw Holdings, East Calder

Figure 2: Trial Trench Locations

AOC22393



Results of archaeological trial trenching at Raw Holdings, East Calder Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30 m to 0.37 m
Features	None
Drains	Single stone filled drain aligned E/W
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays
Finds	None

Trench 2

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.28 m to 0.32 m
Features	None
Drains	Single stone filled drain aligned N/S
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays
Finds	None

Trench 3

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.27 m to 0.30 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 4

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.26 m to 0.31 m
Features	None
Drains	A stone filled drain aligned N/S and another aligned E/W
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 5

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.38 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of weathered stone and bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 6

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
------------	---------------

Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.25 m to 0.28 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/ pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 7

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.34 m to 0.40 m
Features	None
Drains	Single E/W aligned stone filled drain
Subsoil	Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 8

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.28 m to 0.30 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 9

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.25 m to 0.27 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 10

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.28 m to 0.35 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 11

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.37 m to 0.40 m
Features	None
Drains	N-S aligned stone filled drain and every 6 m a NE/SW aligned stone filled drain

Subsoil Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 12

Dimensions 50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.27 m to 0.31 m
Features None
Drains N-S aligned stone filled drain and every 6 m a NE/SW aligned stone filled drain
Subsoil Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 13

Dimensions 50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.30 m to 0.32 m
Features None
Drains N-S aligned stone filled drain and every 6 m a NE/SW aligned stone filled drain
Subsoil Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 14

Dimensions 50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.29 m to 0.35 m
Features None
Drains None
Subsoil Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 15

Dimensions 50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.26 m to 0.34 m
Features None
Drains None
Subsoil Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 16

Dimensions 50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil 0.28 m to 0.36 m
Features None
Drains None
Subsoil Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds None

Trench 17

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.28 m to 0.33 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 18

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.N-S
Depth of Topsoil	0.26 m to 0.30 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/grey clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 19

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.26 m to 0.31 m
Features	None
Drains	Single E/W aligned stone filled drain
Subsoil	Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 20

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.27 m to 0.29 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 21

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.33 m to 0.39 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/grey/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 22

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.28 m to 0.32 m
Features	None

Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 23

Dimensions	50 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.32 m to 0.38 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 24

Dimensions	67 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.35 m to 0.37 m
Features	A geotechnical testpit was visible within the SW end of trench
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 25

Dimensions	70 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.34 m
Features	None
Drains	Single E/W aligned stone filled drain and a single N-S aligned ceramic drain
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 26

Dimensions	88 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30 m to 0.35 m
Features	None
Drains	Single N-S aligned ceramic drain
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 27

Dimensions	68 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.35 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 28

Dimensions	91 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30 m to 0.34 m
Features	None
Drains	A N/S and NE/SW stone filled drains
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 29

Dimensions	85 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.29 m to 0.34 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 30

Dimensions	105 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.29 m to 0.33 m
Features	None
Drains	A NE/SW stone filled drain
Subsoil	Orange/pink/brown clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 31

Dimensions	100 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.30 m to 0.32 m
Features	None
Drains	Two stone filled drains aligned N/S and NE/SW and a single NW/SE aligned ceramic drain
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 32

Dimensions	81 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.30 m to 0.34 m
Features	None
Drains	Three stone filled drains aligned N/S, NW/SE and NE/SW

Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 33

Dimensions	82 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NNE-SSW
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.32 m
Features	None
Drains	Three stone filled drains two aligned NE/SW and one NW/SE
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone
Finds	None

Trench 34

Dimensions	88 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.31 m to 0.33 m
Features	None
Drains	Three stone filled drains aligned NW/SE
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 35

Dimensions	83 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.27 m to 0.31 m
Features	None
Drains	Four stone filled drains aligned NW/SE
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 36

Dimensions	71 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.29 m to 0.37 m
Features	None
Drains	Two stone filled drains one aligned c.NE-SW and the other NW/SE
Subsoil	Orange/pink clays with patches of sand and weathered stone/bedrock
Finds	None

Trench 37

Dimensions	53 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NE-SW
Depth of Topsoil	0.29 m to 0.34 m
Features	None
Drains	Single N-S aligned ceramic drain
Subsoil	Orange/brown/pink clays with patches of sand
Finds	None

Trench 38

Dimensions	41 m by 2.2 m
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Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.32 m to 0.37 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown sands and gravels
Finds	None

Trench 39

Dimensions	100 m by 2.2 m
Orientation	c.NW-SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.34 m to 0.37 m
Features	None
Drains	None
Subsoil	Orange/brown sands and gravels at NW end of trench becoming increasingly clay rich at SE end of trench
Finds	None Orange/brown sands and gravels

APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

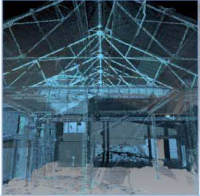
Black & White Print Film 1 & Digital

Frame	Trench	Description	From
1-2		Registration Shots	-
3	Tr.1	Post-excavation view of Trench 1	NE
4	Tr.2	Post-excavation view of Trench 2	E
5	Tr.3	Post-excavation view of Trench 3	NW
6	Tr.4	Post-excavation view of Trench 4	E
7	Tr.5	Post-excavation view of Trench 5	NE
8	Tr.6	Post-excavation view of Trench 6	E
9	Tr.7	Post-excavation view of Trench 7	SW
10	Tr.11	Post-excavation view of Trench 11	SW
11	Tr.24	Post-excavation view of Trench	SW
12-13	Various	General view of site from Western corner	W/SW
14	Tr.25	Post-excavation view of Trench 25	SE
15	Tr.26	View of Trench 26 under excavation	NE
16	Tr.26	Post-excavation view of Trench 26	SW
17	Tr.27	View of Trench 27 under excavation	SW
18	Tr.27	Post-excavation view of Trench 27	SW
19	Tr.28	Post-excavation view of Trench 28	SE
20	Tr.29	Post-excavation view of Trench 29	SW
21	Tr.30	View of Trench 30 under excavation	NW
22-23	Tr.30	View of stone filled drain, Trench 30	NW
24-25	Tr.30	View of stone filled drain, Trench 30	NE
26	Tr.30	Post-excavation view of Trench 30	SE
27-28	Tr.31	View of stone filled drains, Trench 31	NE
29-30	Tr.31	View of stone filled drains, Trench 31	SE
31	Tr.31	Post-excavation view of Trench 31	NE
32	Tr.32	View of Trench 32 under excavation	E
33	Tr.33	Post-excavation view of Trench 33	N
34	Tr.34	View of Trench 34 under excavation	SW
35	Tr.34	Post-excavation view of Trench 34	NE
36-37	Various	General view of backfilled trenches	S/SW
38	Tr.35	Post-excavation view of Trench 35	SW
39	Tr.36	View of Trench 39 under excavation	SW
40	Tr.36	Post-excavation view of Trench 36	NE
41	Tr.36	View of stone filled drains, Trench 36	NW
42	Tr.37	Post-excavation view of Trench	E
43	Tr.38	View of Trench 38 under excavation	N
44	Tr.38	Post-excavation view of Trench 38	S
45	Tr.39	View of Trench 39 under excavation	SE
46	Tr.39	Post-excavation view of Trench 39	NW

APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Raw Holdings, East Calder
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22393
PARISH:	Kirknewton (West Lothian)
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Lindsay Dunbar
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 087 674
START DATE (this season)	11 th March 2013
END DATE (this season)	15 th March 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, acting on behalf of their client (Walker Group Ltd), to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a proposed development site and adjacent area at Raw Holdings, East Calder, West Lothian. The investigated area was a greenfield site and comprised two separate land parcels. The larger covering c. 5 ha has outline planning consent (Planning Application No. 0081/FUL/12). The other parcel was a smaller adjacent site, 1 ha in size, which is likely to be subject to a planning application in the future. The scope of works was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) and set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2013). An 8% evaluation was undertaken across both parcels, with a total of 39 trenches covering more than 5,100 m ² opened. The evaluation trenching did not uncover any significant archaeological features. A simple stratigraphic sequence of thin topsoil over clay rich subsoils with the occasional outcrop of bedrock, and in the southeastern corner an area of sands and gravels, was noted. Areas of boggy ground and the presence of field drains suggested that historically the ground has been relatively poorly drained. In summary, no significant archaeological finds or features were encountered during the evaluation and it is concluded that this reflects historic land-use being restricted to agriculture rather than settlement.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CgMs Ltd on behalf of Walker Group Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY

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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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