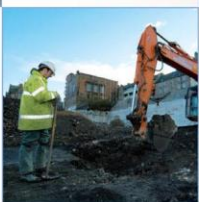
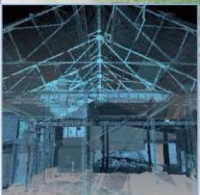
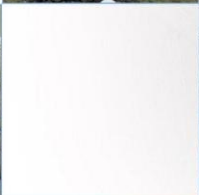
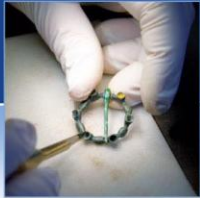


France Children's Hospital, Little France Crescent, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

AOC Project 22489
Oasis No.1-179464
30th July 2015



The Little France Children's Hospital, Little France Crescent, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: NHS Lothian

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 28986 70350

AOC Project No: 22489

Prepared by: Hana Kdolska

Illustration by: Diana Sproat

Date of Fieldwork: 25th February to 30th July 2015

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

Author: Hana Kdolska	Date: 30 th July 2015
Approved by: Martin Cook	Date: 30 th July 2015
Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft	Date: 30 th July 2015

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarchaeology.com



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Summary

AOC Archaeology Groups was commissioned by the NHS Lothian to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground-breaking works associated with the development of Children's Hospital, at Little France, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 28986 70350).

The development is located within the complex of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France Crescent, Little France, Edinburgh, and adjacent to the mid nineteenth Century Little France Steading and Mill.

The watching brief covered excavations of trenches for sewage and drainage works, new bus stop foundations, several trial pits for existing services locations, area of topsoil strip and a large area of tarmac and hardcore strip. In addition, the archaeological works also involved site visit during the phase of deep basin excavations.

No significant archaeological remains were noted during the course of the works. No further works are considered necessary.

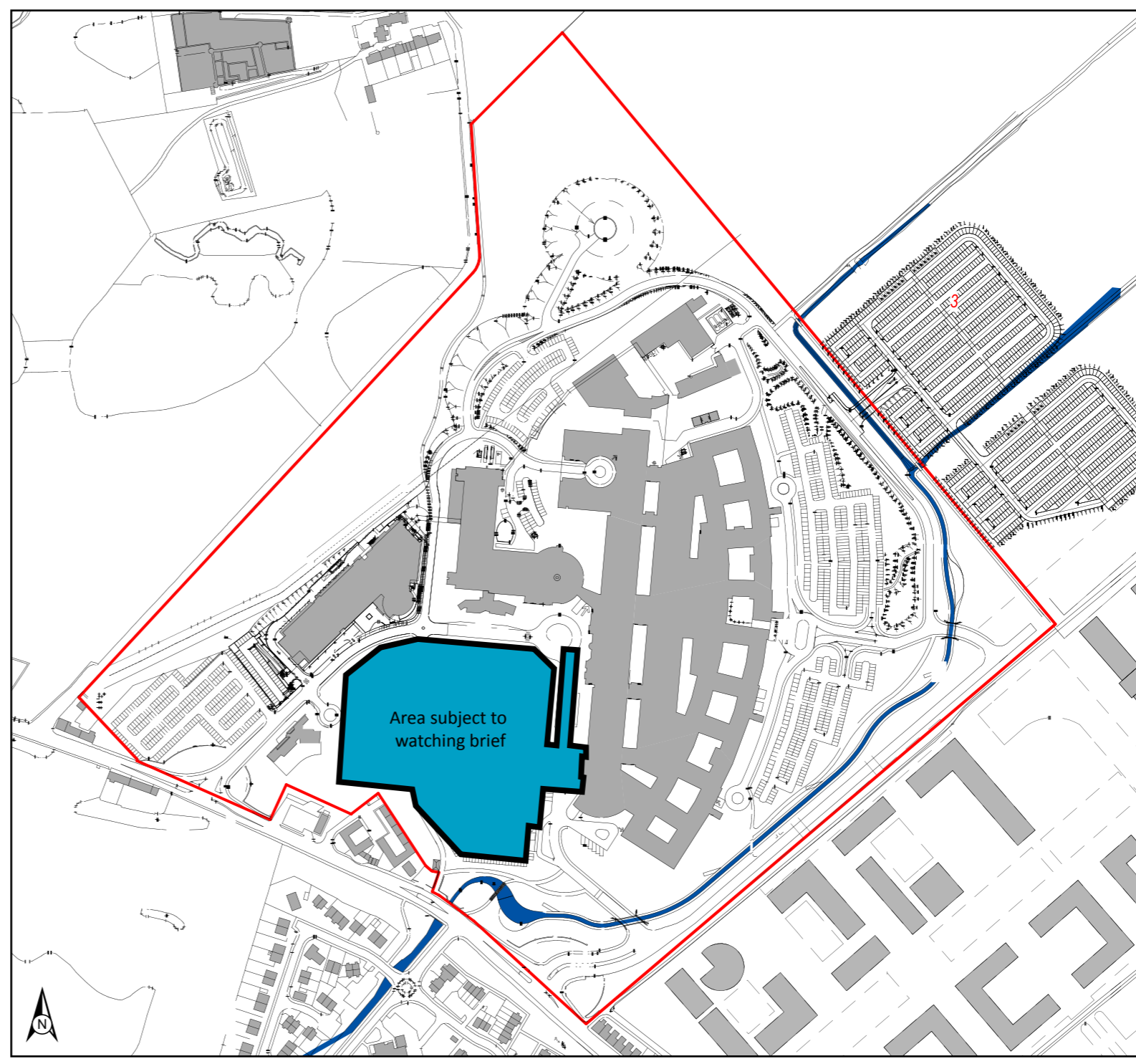
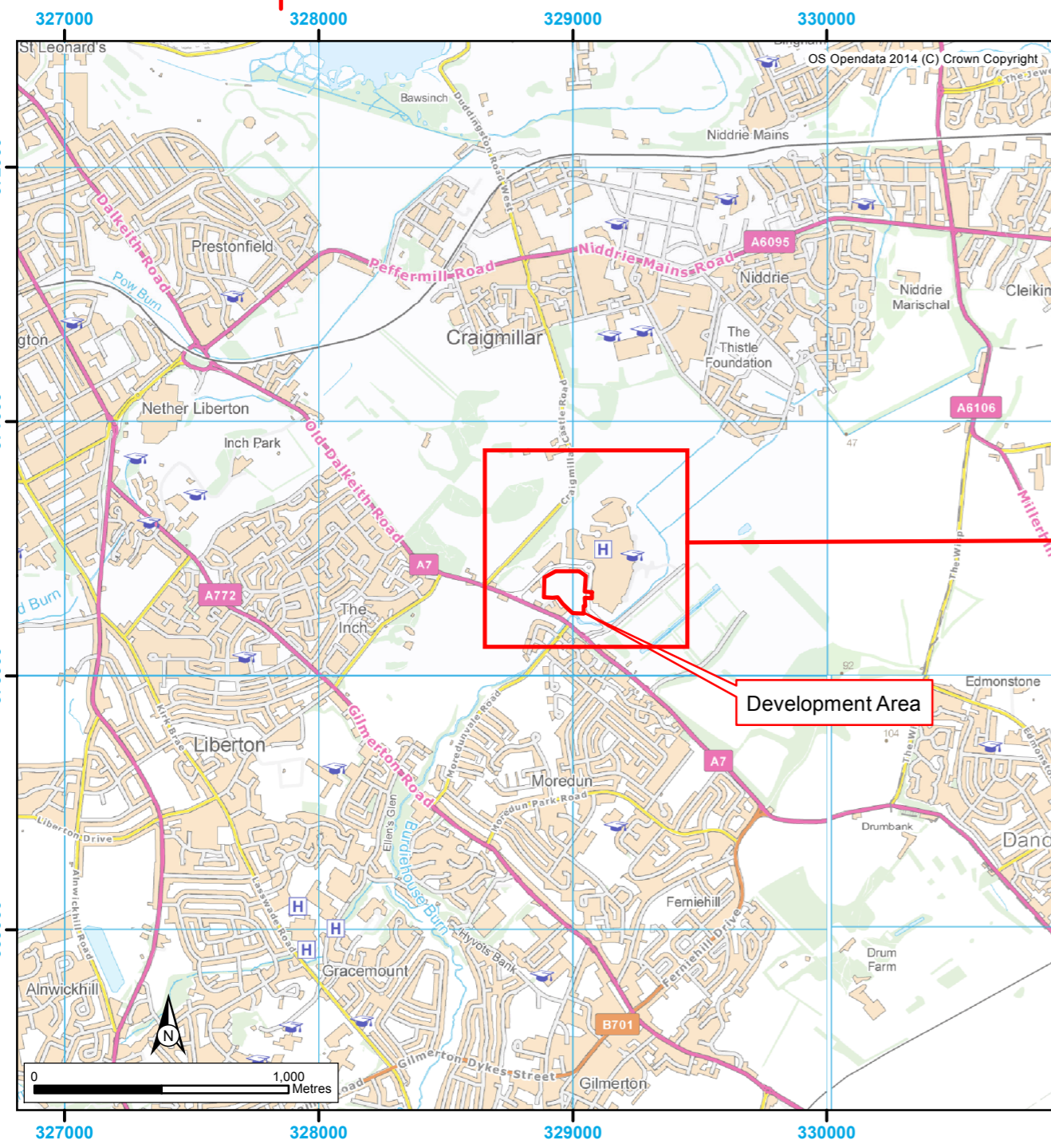
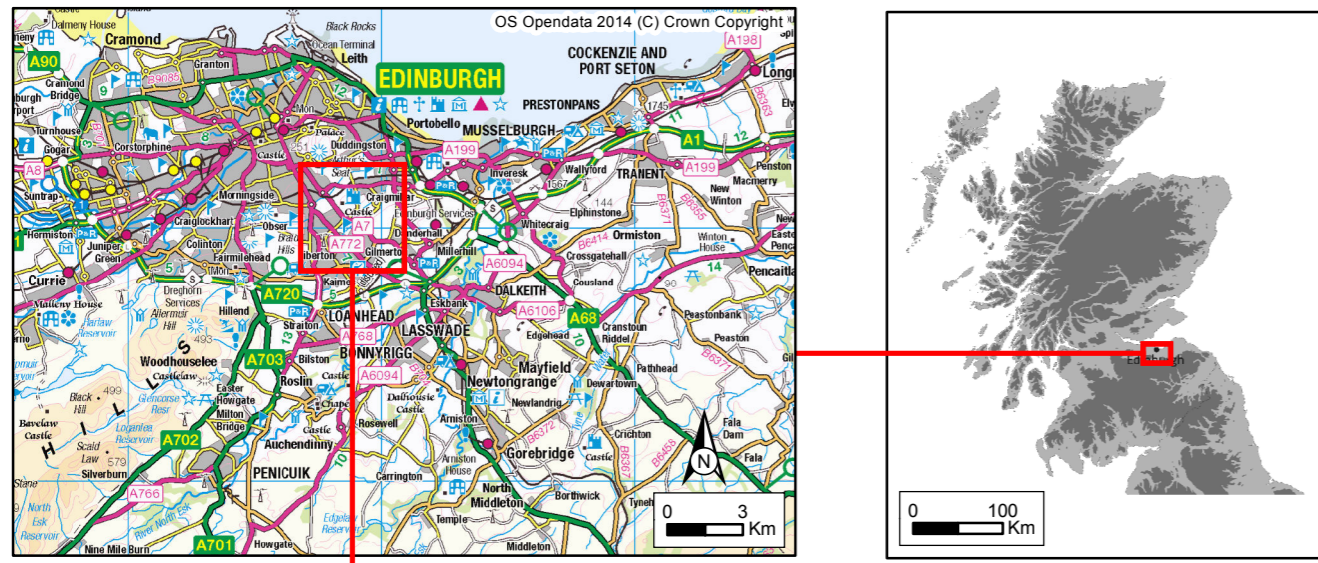


Figure 1: Site location plan and site plan showing location of watching brief area (main site plan provided by client)

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was required by NHS Lothian during ground breaking works associated with the development of a new children's hospital at Little France, Edinburgh. The work was required as a condition of planning consent on the development (Ref:11/12454/PPP). The need for, and scope of the archaeological works was determined by the City of Edinburgh Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by Mr John Lawson of City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2013) approved by CECAS and in accordance with the principles set out in Scottish Planning Policy (Scottish Government 2010) and PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology (Scottish Government 2011).

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The development is located within the complex of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France Crescent, Little France, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 28986 70350) (Figure 1). It is located in the position of a current large car park (Car Park 'B') to the south-east of the main hospital building near to the Old Dalkeith Road).

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The site is adjacent to the Little France Steading and Mill, which is recorded to have been in operation by the mid-18th Century (Lawson, pers comm.). The surviving range of buildings may date to this period and are visible on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1855 (**Figure 3**). The map shows a mill dam, which may extend into the development site together with the canalised route for the Niddrie Burn.



Figure 2. Extract from Ordnance Survey map (Edinburghshire Sheet 6), 1855

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the watching brief were:

- i) to safeguard the archaeological resource from inadvertent destruction by development impacts;
- ii) to undertake the immediate recording of isolated finds of moderately significant value and to prevent the destruction of significant archaeological features prior to their recording;
- iii) given the discovery of highly significant archaeological material in quantity that will suffer an adverse impact from the construction works (i.e. preservation in situ proves impractical), the recording of all archaeological feature by means of a mitigation strategy to be formulated with CECAS.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The archaeological works were carried out between 25th February 2015 and 30th July 2015. Weather conditions were generally good, and good archaeological visibility was maintained throughout the watching brief. All groundbreaking works were conducted with excavators of varied sizes, using both smooth bladed ditching buckets and tooth buckets. Some hand-excavations were also undertaken due to the close proximity of live services in some excavations. All excavations were monitored by an experienced field archaeologist and all recording was carried out according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard practices.

3.2 A digital photographic record was kept during the groundbreaking works (Appendix 1).

4 RESULTS

4.1 The area watched as part of this programme of works can be found in Figure 1 and included primarily the former Car Park 'B' (Plate 1) associated with the Royal Infirmary Hospital. Four trenches in total were excavated: three within the area of car park 'B' (TR2-TR4) and one out-with (TR1) (Plate 2). TR1, a drainage trench, was 148.0 m long and mainly 1.40 m wide, with maximum depth of 1.50 m. It started at an existing roundabout in front of the hospital's main entrance (NE from the site/Car Park 'B'), continuing across the road and underneath current road and footpath surface towards south. At the roundabout TR1 consisted of area 8.0 m by 5.0 m and exposed existing drainage pipe and a manhole. TR2 was excavated near the temporary compound (NW edge of the site/ Car Park 'B') as a foundation trench for a new bus stop and attained final length of 41.0 m. Trench 2 was 6.80 m wide and on average 1.10 m deep. TR3 comprised a sewage works trench, again located near the NW corner of the site/ Car Park 'B' and running approximately E-W and then N-S. It was dug to divert existing sewage pipe and was 72.50 m long, 2.0 m wide (in areas between manholes) and 3.0 m wide (manhole pits), with maximum depth of 2.50 m. TR4 was adjacent to TR3, running approximately NE-SW between both ends of TR3, with the works consisting of

exposing old sewage pipe, which was removed and then the trench backfilled. TR4 was 30 m long, 2.0 m wide and approximately 1.40 m deep.



Plate 1. Site view showing area of Car Park B

- 4.2 The groundbreaking works also included an area of deep basin excavations in the centre of the site, as well as machine and hand excavations of several trial pits to locate existing services (TP1-TP6) and. TP1-TP3 were located near the SW edge of Car Park 'B', NE from a former fuel station. All were dug to expose gas pipe and were of varied dimensions: TP1 (1.20 m by 2.0 m by 2.5 m deep); TP2 (1.3 m by 2.1 m by 2.9 m); TP3 (3.0 m by 1.2 m by 0.50 m). TP4 and TP5 were dug for the same purpose in the area adjacent to TR3 and measured 4.0 m by 4.0 m by 1.05 m and 3.5 m by 3.8 m by 1.10 m respectively. TP6 comprised a trial trench (12.0 m by 4.0 m by 2.0 m deep) excavated in the area of a former crèche to locate existing sewage pipe.
- 4.3 Additionally, the watching brief also consisted of regular checks of tarmac and underlying hardcore strip in a large portion of Car Park 'B' and a supervision of a topsoil strip in a small area (2.2 m by 3.5 m by 0.45 m deep) of the NW part of Car Park 'B'.
- 4.4 The deposits encountered during excavations were all of recent origins: consisting of varied types of made ground and most associated with the initial Royal Infirmary construction works. Topsoil was encountered in the area of topsoil strip of the NW part of Car Park 'B', in the area of roundabout within TR1 and in small part of TR2, as well as in TP6. It consisted of dark to medium dark greyish brown silty clay loam and was clearly imported and used for the landscaping works associated with the Royal Infirmary construction. The depth of topsoil varied between 0.20 m (TR1) to 0.40m (TP6). Subsoil, comprising sandy clay, with occasional gravelly sand pockets was encountered in trenches 1 and 3. In TR1 it consisted of medium light beige brown sandy clay and was encountered at a depth of c. 1.10 m, directly underneath made ground, separated from it by a synthetic membrane. The natural/virgin ground was more securely reached in TR3 at a depth of c. 1.0 m, consisting of three sandy clay deposits of varied colour: medium dark brown on top; light orange/beige in the middle and light grey at the bottom. Finally, the deep basin excavation works revealed natural of varied types: including primarily sand and gravel, clay, and peat in places.



Plate 2. TR1: South-facing section showing made ground and beige clay



Plate 3. TR 3: East-facing section showing made ground and clay at the bottom

- 4.4 The watching brief did not encounter any archaeological remains: artefacts or features.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 No significant archaeological features or artefacts were revealed during the groundbreaking works. No further archaeological works are considered necessary within the development area. This recommendation will require confirmation by CECAS.

6 REFERENCES

AOC 2014 Little France Children's Hospital, Edinburgh: Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation – Unpublished Client Report

Scottish Government 2010 Scottish Planning Policy.

Scottish Government 2011 PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology.

Little France Children's Hospital, Little France Crescent, Edinburgh: Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Digital Photographic Register

Frame	Area/Trench	Description	From
1		General shots of the site	S
3-9		General shots of tarmac stripped area	Various
10-11		General shots of the SW corner of tarmac stripped area	SW
12		Terram covered drain in SW corner of stripped area	SW
13	TR1	Pre-ex of drainage trench location	W
14-15		General shots of tarmac stripped area	N
16-18		General shots of made ground under tarmac stripped area	W
19-20	TP1	Post-ex	S/E
21-23	TR1	Drainage trench – general shots	E/S/NNE
24		Working shot of the site	E
25		Made ground under tarmac	W
26		General shots of the site	ENE
27-33		General shots of the site	Various
34-36		General shots of tarmac stripped area	WSW
37-39	TR1	East facing section of today's excavations	ENE
40	TR1	Drainage trench- general shot	S
41	TR1	Drainage trench- general shot	E
42-44		General shots of tarmac stripping	E/N
45	TR1	Drainage trench extension –East facing section	E
46	TR1	Detail of made ground and possible natural clay	E
47	TR1	East facing section	NE
48	TR1	General shot of extension	N
49	TR1	Drainage trench extension –East facing section	NE
50	TR1	Drainage trench -General shot of extension	N
51	TR1	Drainage trench – post-ex	S
52	TP5	Post-ex	N
53	TP4	Post-ex	N
54-5		Topsoil strip near the compound + gas pipe backfill	W
56		Topsoil strip near the compound	W
57	TR1	Drainage trench – East facing section	E
58-64	TR1	Drainage trench extension- general shot	N
65-66	TP6	Post-ex	E/NE
67		Gas pipe excavations	W
68-69		General shots of area of tarmac strip	S
70-71		Works around 'crèche' area	SSE/NNE
72	TP6	Sewage trial pit	NNE
73-4	TR2	Bus stop foundations trench	E
75	TP6	General shot	N
76	TR2	General shot	E
77	TR2	Made ground including blaze material	NE
78	TR2	Made ground including blaze material	E
79	TR2	NNE- facing section	NNE

LITTLE FRANCE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LITTLE FRANCE, EDINBURGH:
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT

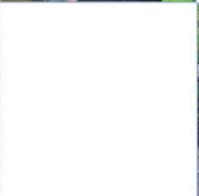
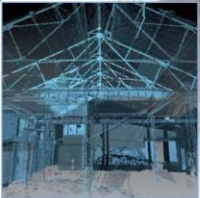
80	TR3	Sewage trench-General shot at 1 m depth of the first manhole excavations	W
81	TR3	Sewage trench-Detail of sandy clay (natural) and existing sewage pipe	W
82	TR3	Sewage trench-Detail of sandy clay (natural) and existing sewage pipe	SSE
83-4	TR3	NNE-facing section	NNE
85	TR2	General shot showing blaze material and services	NE
86	TR2	Made ground detail	E
87	TR2	Post-ex of current extension	ENE
88-91	TR2	NW- facing section	NW
92	TR2	SE- facing section	SE
93	TR2	Post-ex	WSW
94	TR1	Extension across road	N
95	TR1	W- facing section of extension across road	W
96	TR1	Post-ex	N
97-101	TR3	Sewage trench extension: N-facing section	N
102	TR3	General shot	W
103-104	TR2	Detail of N-facing section	N
105	TR2	Post-ex	E
106-107	TR3	Detail of S-facing section	S
108	TR3	S-facing section with disused gas pipe	ESE
109	TR3	S-facing section with disused gas pipe	WSW
110	TR3	N-facing section	WNW
111	TR3	Post-ex of extent to date	E
112-113	TR3	Second manhole excavations: E-facing section	E
114-115	TR1	Post-ex of extension	N
116	TR1	W-facing section	W
117-119		General shots of the site	Various
120-121	TR1	Second manhole excavations	W
122	TR3	Extension from the second manhole: S-facing section	S
123	TR3	Third manhole excavations: E-facing section	E
124	TR3	Third manhole: N-facing section	N
125	TR3	Third manhole excavations: post-ex	NE
126	TR1	Today's extent: post-ex	NNW
127	TR3	West-facing section of today's excavations	WNW
128	TR3	Post-ex	NNW
129	TR3	Location shot	W
130	TR3	West-facing section	W
131	TR1	General shot of current section + services	N
132	TR3	E-facing section	ENE
133-134	TR1	General shot of portion cleared of tarmac	S
135	TR3	Excavations around existing manhole and sewage pipe	W
136	TR1	West-facing section: today's dig	W
137-138	TR1	Today's portion: general shot	WNW
139-140	TR4	Exposure trench of existing sewage pipe: post-ex	N
141-142	TR4	Post-ex of today's portion	N

LITTLE FRANCE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LITTLE FRANCE, EDINBURGH:
DATA STRUCTURE REPORT

143	TR1	West-facing section of the final portion	WSW
143	TR1	West-facing section of the final portion	WSW
144	TR1	Southern end: post-ex	S
145-152	Car Park B	General site shots	Various
153-154	Car Park B	Deep basin excavations- working shots	S
155	Car Park B	Stratigraphy of deep basin excavations	S
156-163	Car Park B	Deep basin excavations- working shots	Various
164-168	Car Park B	Stratigraphy of deep basin excavations	Various
169-170	Car Park B	Crane station foundation trench	WNW

APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Little France Children's Hospital, Little France Crescent, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	22489
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Hana Kdolska
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE[S] OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO[S]	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE[S]:	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR [2 letters, 6 figures]	NT 28986 70350
START DATE [this season]	25 th February 2015 – 30 th July 2015
END DATE [this season]	30 th July 2015
PREVIOUS WORK [incl. DES ref.]	Watching Brief 2014 (AOC 2014)
MAIN [NARRATIVE] DESCRIPTION: [May include information from other fields]	<p>An archaeological watching brief was required by NHS Lothian during groundbreaking works associated with the Little France Children's Hospital, at Little France, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 28986 70350).</p> <p>The development is located within the complex of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at Little France Crescent, Little France, Edinburgh, and adjacent to the mid 19th Century Little France Steading and Mill.</p> <p>No archaeological remains were noted during the course of the works.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION[S] FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	NHS Lothian
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION [intended/deposited]	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com