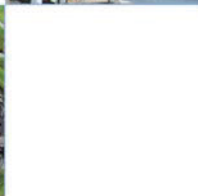
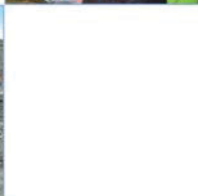
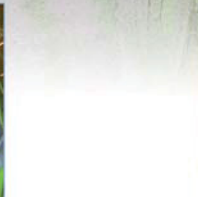
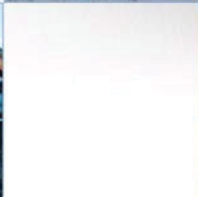
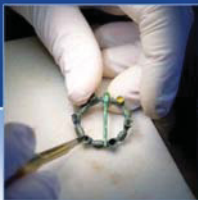


LIDL Alderston Road, Livingston: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 22851
Oasis No. aocarcha1-187960
21st August 2014



LIDL Alderston Road, Livingston: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	LIDL (UK) Ltd. 19 Worples Road London SW19 4JS
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 0460 6690
AOC Project No:	22851
Prepared by:	Kevin Paton
Illustration by:	Kevin Paton
Date of Fieldwork:	17th August 2014
Date of Report:	21st August 2014

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

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in relation to a proposed supermarket development on land at Alderston Road, Livingston, West Lothian.

The evaluation required an 8% trenching sample of the development area. A total of nine trenches of varying lengths and alignments were excavated encountering up to 3 m of made ground, most likely deposited during the construction of Alderston Road and/or the original supermarket. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were revealed.

No further works are considered necessary within the development area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by LIDL (UK) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a proposed supermarket development to be situated on land next to Alderston Road, Livingston, West Lothian. The evaluation was undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, West Lothian Council who are advised on archaeological matters by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2014) approved on behalf of West Lothian Council by WoSAS and in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

1.2 Location

1.2.1 The site (centred on NGR NT 0460 6690) lies to the immediate west of the existing LIDL supermarket and associated car park. The site is bound to the north by Almondvale Stadium Road, to the south by undeveloped land and to the west by Alderston Road (see Figure 1).

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 The development lies within an Archaeological Consultation Trigger (ACT) area, in this instance relating to an area where cist burials were found in the 18th and 19th centuries. According to the Old Statistical Account (OSA) of 1798, four large irregular mounds formerly lay on the southern bank of the River Almond, directly opposite the site of Livingston House. A large number of cists were found near the surface of two of these mounds, some containing inhumation burials. Many of the cists had no cover stone, perhaps suggesting that they had been opened previously. The OSA recorded that several other cists of the same size and type had been found in the neighbourhood, but that the main concentration was in the vicinity of the mounds noted above.

1.3.2 On the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1852, the area annotated as 'Graves Knowes' was located to the west of that proposed for development under the current application, in the area now occupied by Kaims Drive, Kaims Court, Kaims Brae, Kaims Grove and Kaims Gardens. The OS Object Name Book (ONB) of the same year stated that this applied to a slight elevation on partly plantation and partly ploughed land, and that the name derived from the fact that a number of graves had been discovered upon it. The ONB quotes a Mr Bishop of Livingston, who stated that cists had been discovered when planting trees 60 years ago (c.1792), and that more had been dug during subsequent ploughing and draining. The landowner at the time, a Mr Buchanan of Alderstone Mains, stated that over 100 cists had been found. These were usually composed of 7 or 8 stones, hammer-dressed, and arranged two on edge for each side, one at each end and one or two laid on for the lid. He further stated that in some of the cists, a portion of the bones was quite perfect, particularly mentioning the small bones of the fingers, vertebrae, etc. In others, the bodies from the abdomen downward had been burned and the ashes and remains of the body placed in the cist, though no human remains were found in the majority of cases. The reference to cremations may indicate a Bronze Age date for some of the cists, possibly associated with a later long cist cemetery.

1.3.3 After describing the cists found at Graves Knowes, the ONB also noted that other cists had been found around ½ mile to the east, on Adambrae Farm, though their exact find-spot could not be ascertained. Adam Brae was shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1852, its position lying on the eastern side of the modern Alderston Road, in the area currently occupied by the West

Lothian College, Almondvale Stadium, and the current Lidl store. There is therefore some possibility that the cemetery noted in the Old Statistical Account may have extended into this area.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:

- i) to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area;
- ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.2 The evaluation was undertaken by a 14 tonne tracked excavator with 2.0 m wide ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures, and as per the methodology within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2014). The trenches were backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

4 RESULTS

4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 17th August 2014. Weather conditions were fair allowing for good archaeological visibility throughout the evaluation. In total, 80.0 m of trenching was opened, varying in alignment and length, with trenches being placed to fit around a large bund and two ground vents (Figure 2).

4.2 The topsoil throughout the development area was a mid brown clay loam (imported) up to 0.1 m deep covering up to 3.0 m of made ground consisting of greyish brown clay with type 1, demolition material and large stones throughout (Plate 1). Where the natural subsoil was encountered it was a greyish brown sandy clay with abundant stone inclusions. No archaeological features were revealed throughout any of the evaluation trenches.

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 From the trenches excavated it has been demonstrated that the development area has been used as a dumping ground, most likely for the construction of the road and/or nearby supermarket and stadium. These levels of made ground compare with those found during a development across the west side of Alderston Road (AOC 2013). No significant archaeological features or artefacts were revealed throughout the evaluation.

5.3 No further archaeological works are deemed necessary within the development area. These recommendations will have to be approved by WoSAS on behalf of West Lothian Council.

6 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2013, *Alderstone Road West, Livingston: Evaluation & Watching Brief Data Structure Report* Unpublished AOC client report

AOC Archaeology 2014, *Alderston Road, Livingston: Archaeological evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation* Unpublished AOC project design

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*, 2014

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*



Plate 1 - General view of Trench 1

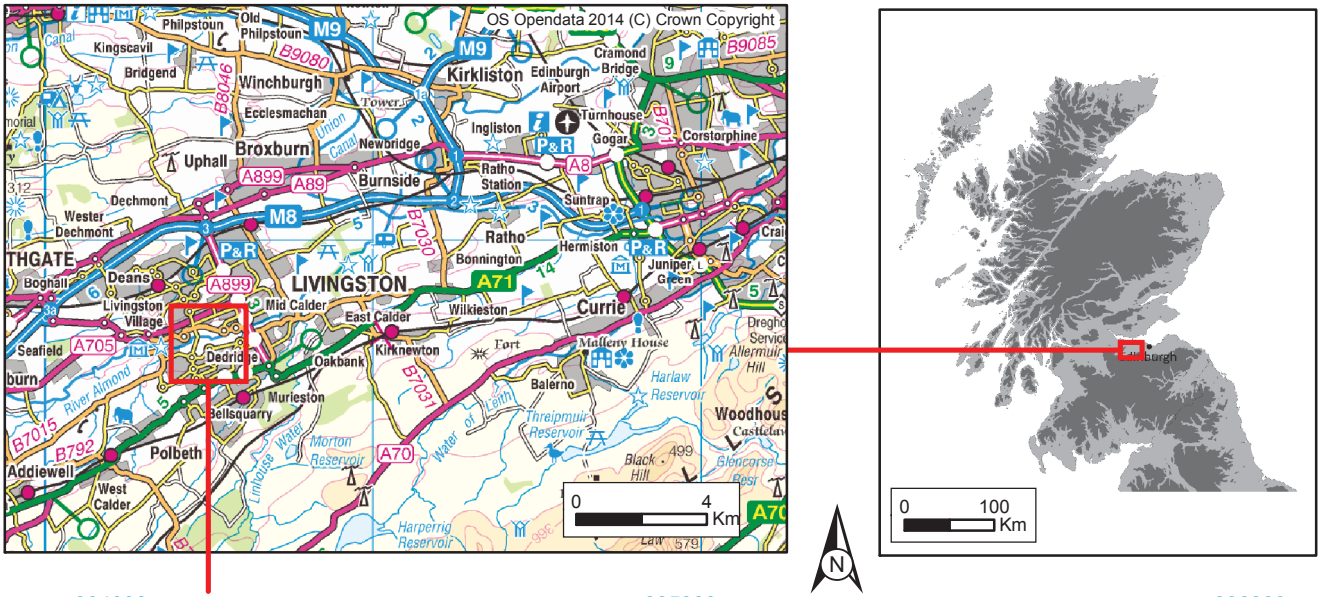
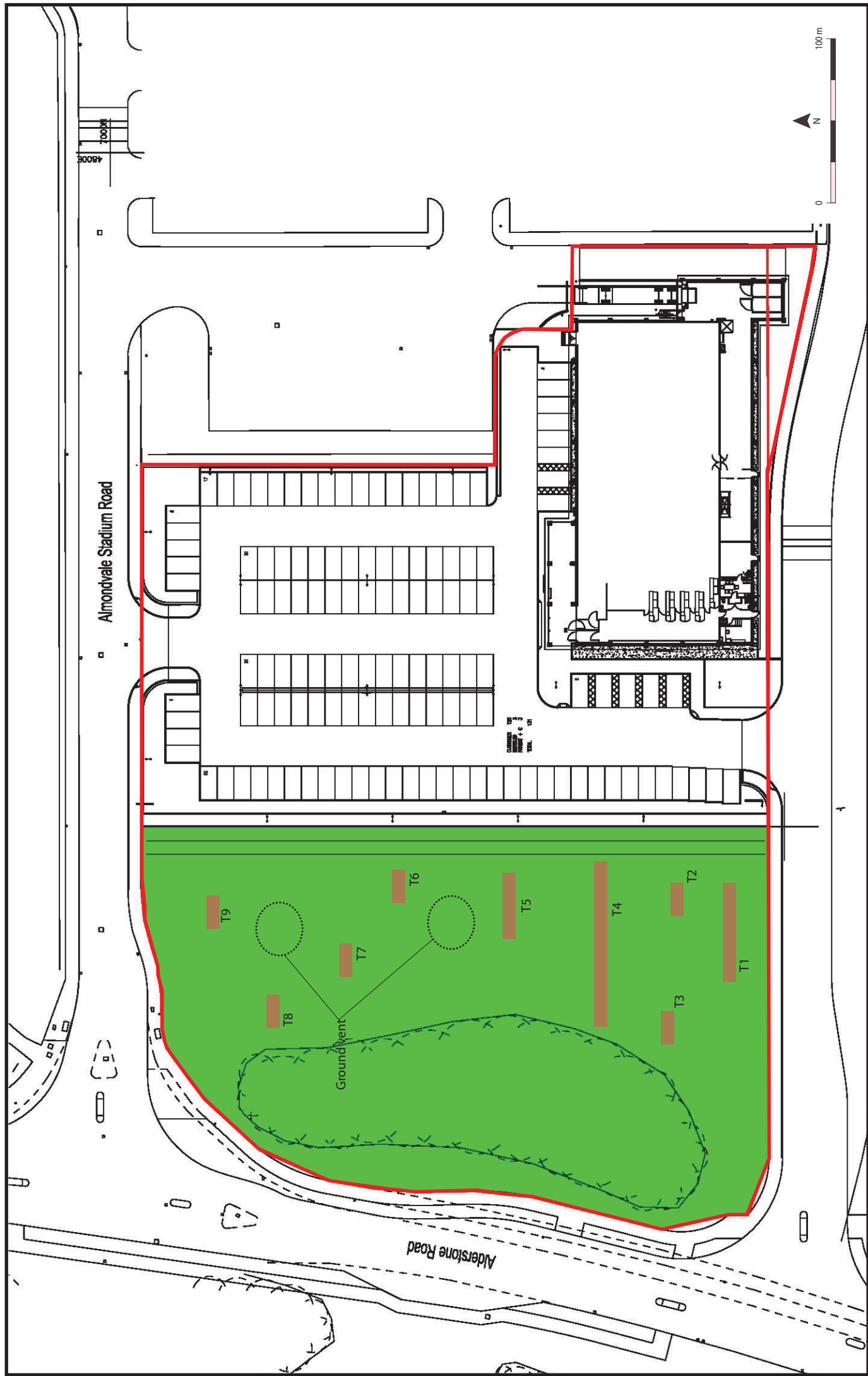


Figure 1: Site Location Plan



Based on a drawing provided by the client.

Figure 2 - Trench location plan

LIDL Alderston Road, Livingston: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	15 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	30 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 2 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2.1 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 1.7 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.8 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Pale brown sandy clay and fragmented rock (Possibly still made ground)
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 3 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	3.1 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Pale brown sandy clay and fragmented rock (Possibly still made ground)
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	25 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	50 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 0.9 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	20 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 1 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.1 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 1.9 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Pale brown sandy clay and fragmented rock (Possibly still made ground)
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 0.7 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.8 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Cut for modern service revealed at 0.8 m so trench abandoned
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 2.4 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2.5 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Pale brown sandy clay and fragmented rock (Possibly still made ground)
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
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<i>Total Area</i>	10 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E to W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay loam (imported) – max depth 0.1 m; Made ground – Compact greyish brown clay sandy clay wth type 1, stone, demolition material, red brick and modern rubbish – max depth 2.6 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2.7 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Pale brown sandy clay and fragmented rock (Possibly still made ground)
<i> Finds</i>	None

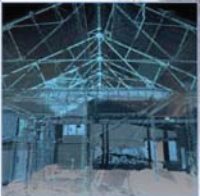
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From	Date
1	Registration shot	-	17/8/14
2-3	Trench 1 – over 2 m deep	E, W	17/8/14
4-5	Trench 2 – post ex	E, W	17/8/14
6-9	Trench 3 – post ex	Var	17/8/14
10	Trench 4 – post ex	E	17/8/14
11	Plastic conduit in Trench 4	E	17/8/14
12-13	Trench 5 – post ex	E	17/8/14
14	Rocks at bottom of Trench 6	E	17/8/14
15-16	Trench 6 – post ex	E	17/8/14
17-18	Trench 7 – service cut	Var	17/8/14
19-23	Trench 8 – post ex	Var	17/8/14
24	Ground vent	-	17/8/14
25-28	Trench 9 – post ex	Var	17/8/14

APPENDIX 3: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	LIDL Alderston Road
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22851
PARISH:	Livingston
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Kevin Paton
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 0460 6690
START DATE (this season)	17 th August 2014
END DATE (this season)	17 th August 2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in relation to a proposed supermarket development on land at Alderston Road, Livingston, West Lothian.</p> <p>The evaluation required an 8% trenching sample of the development area. A total of nine trenches of varying lengths and alignments were excavated encountering up to 3 m of made ground, most likely deposited during the construction of Alderstone Road and/or the original supermarket. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were revealed.</p> <p>No further works are considered necessary within the development area.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	LIDL (UK) Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Kevin.paton@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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