# Roslin Primary School, Midlothian: 

## Archaeological Excavation

## Data Structure Report

AOC Project 22995
$30^{\text {th }}$ November 2015


## Roslin Primary School, Midlothian: Archaeological Excavation Data Structure Report

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#### Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken in relation to a new school development at Roslin Primary School, Roslin, Midlothian.

The excavation covered the area of the proposed building footprint, measuring circa $3000 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$, currently the school playing fields. Within the excavation area a probable prehistoric palisade ditch, as well as 20 related pit features were revealed. The vast majority of the pits were out with the palisade and were covered by a possible medieval plough soil. Several of the pits contained charcoal, with six of the features also containing prehistoric pottery and probable stone tools.

The presence of these features indicates that the school playing fields were the probable site of a former prehistoric settlement. Along with the known Fort and cist to the S of the excavation area, this information adds to our knowledge of prehistoric life in Roslin.

It is recommended that no further on-site archaeological works are required. However, additional post excavation works may be required and this will be decided by Mr. Andrew Robertson of East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS) who advise Midlothian Council on archaeological matters.


## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by AHR Architects to undertake an archaeological excavation over the building footprint of a new school development at Roslin Primary School, Midlothian. The excavation was undertaken at the request of the client in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, Midlothian Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a Written Scheme of Investigation Addendum (AOC 2015) approved by ELCAS on behalf of Midlothian Council 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 primary school is located within a residential estate to the W of Roslin town centre, and the development area is to the immediate SE of the current school building, centred on NGR: NT 26882 63142 (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the SE and SW by residential housing and to the NE by local playing fields.

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 According to the National Monuments Record Scotland, the development area is immediately NW of a possible fort (NMRS No. NT26SE 26). The fort was seen in aerial photographs consisting of three ditches enclosing an area that is now covered in residential housing. Near to the forts location there are two possibly related archaeological sites in the form of the find spot of a Class 1 stone axe hammer (NMRS No. NT26SE 31), and a long cist (NMRS No. NT26SE 5) measuring 9 foot long, found by a farmer during ploughing in 1746 (NSA 1845).
1.3.2 Later archaeological sites of interest in the vicinity include a possible Deer Park (NMRS No. NT26SE 45) that was constructed in the $15^{\text {th }}$ century (Anderson 1967). These parks were game reserves constructed of a bank and ditch with a palisade on top, and the one at Roslin supposedly belonged to a gentleman named Oliver Sinclair in 1476 (Gilbert 1979).

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological excavation were:
i) To expose any further archaeological material through the application of a controlled top-soil strip measuring 50 m by 50 m around the previously exposed archaeology, recording all significant archaeological features within the area;
ii) the retrieval of a representative artefact assemblage;
iii) a proposed outreach element involving the limited participation of the primary school children

## 3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The excavation strip was undertaken by a 13 tone tracked excavator. The excavation was conducted in small squares (approx 16 m by 16 m ) in order to contain the spoil within the excavation area, allowing the SE edge of the playing field to be usable after the work was completed. 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 2015).

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The archaeological excavation was undertaken between the $9^{\text {th }}$ November 2015 and the $20^{\text {th }}$ November 2015. Weather conditions were variable and generally wet, but the gravel subsoil allowed for good archaeological visibility throughout the works. In total, an area measuring circa $3000 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ was opened (Figure 2).
4.1.2 The various data gathered from the excavations are presented as a series of appendices:

Appendix 1: Context Register;
Appendix 2: Photographic Register;
Appendix 3: Drawing Register;
Appendix 4: Finds Register;
Appendix 5: Samples Register;
Appendix 6: reproduces the 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' entry

### 4.2 Palisade ditch

4.2.1 In the south eastern half of the excavation area, a curvilinear ditch [015] was revealed. The ditch was located on a flat area at the top of a gentle slope (see Figure 2), and would most likely have been circular in plan (only half of it was revealed within the excavation area), enclosing a space of approximately 42 m diameter (Plates 1-3). The ditch varied in width and depth due to plough truncation, measuring between 0.4 m to 0.6 m wide and 0.12 m to 0.6 m deep (Figure 3), with the eastern portion becoming shallower as it left the excavation area.
4.2.2 Within the ditch, one potential post pipe [017] was noted (Plate 4) in Slot 1, but no other slots through the ditch came across other post pipes. The deposit [016] within the ditch consisted of orange/brown sandy silt with abundant gravel and large stones that may have been used as packing material. Part of the ditch in the southern corner had been truncated by a post medieval field boundary ditch [012] aligned SE-NW, with similarly aligned furrows [014] also having contributed to its denudation.

### 4.3 Pit features

4.3.1 Focussed more to the eastern half of the excavation area, a number of pit features, a stake hole and a possible post hole were revealed that are most likely contemporary with the palisade ditch. Two of the pits [026] and [028] were enclosed by the palisade ditch [015]. Both pits were relatively small and shallow, measuring 0.3 m to 0.5 m wide and 0.1 m to 0.2 m deep respectively (Plate 5 ). Despite their ephemeral nature they did contain some charcoal within the fills and pit [028] contained a fragment of prehistoric pottery (SF4) and a possible rubbing stone (SF5).
4.3.2 Out with the enclosure ditch, sixteen other pits were present, varying in shape and size, with some containing charcoal flecks and others being relatively sterile. All of these pit features were covered by a medieval plough soil horizon [002] that had survived on the slopes to the NW of the palisade. Pits [006], [008], and [018] were located close to the northern corner of the site and were near to
possible post hole [004] and stake hole [010]. None of these features formed a structure or pattern and were mainly devoid of anthropogenic materials, with only stake hole [010] containing reasonable amounts of charcoal (Plate 6).
4.3.3 Closer to the NW edge of the palisade ditch there were a pair of pits [022] and [024] that were filled by darker, charcoal rich deposits [023] and [025] respectively (Plate 7). Isolated pit [020] also contained more abundant amounts of charcoal. The main cluster of pits was noted immediately N of the palisade ditch and consisted of eight pits [034], [036], [038], [040], [042], [044], [046] and [048] (Plate 8). Two other pits [030] and [032] were located a little further to the NW. The pits varied in size and depth with most containing charcoal flecks and some ([036], [040], [042] and [048]) containing larger amounts of charcoal.
4.3.4 Some of the pits within the cluster contained prehistoric pottery and some possible stone tool fragments. Pits [032], [040], [042] and [048] contained very thick walled, decorated shards of prehistoric pottery, with pit [048] also containing possible quern stone fragments along with pit [046].


Plate 1 - View of palisade ditch [015] - NE


Plate 2 - View of palisade ditch [015] - SW


Plate 3 - View of palisade ditch [015] - N


Plate 4 - View of possible post pipe deposit [017]


Plate 5 - SW-facing section of pit [026]


Plate 6 - View of stake hole [010]


Plate 7 - View of pits [022] and [024]


Plate 8 - View of pit cluster to N of palisade [015]

## 5 DISCUSSION

5.1 The palisade ditch is a common feature of settlement sites that date from the late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age. Other such sites in Midlothian are the palisaded enclosure at Lugton Bogs (Canmore ID 53491) that contained a single round house in the centre, and the double palisaded enclosure at Woodhouselee Hill (Canmore ID 51775). Several other palisaded enclosures exist in the region and throughout Eastern Scotland and most can be dated to the same period.
5.2 Unfortunately, the enclosure at Roslin did not contain conclusive evidence for a structure, but this may have been located out with the excavation area. However, it is possible that the plough truncation evident within the enclosed area may mean that only the deepest features have survived modern agricultural practices, so it is not possible to state confidently that further features would be revealed within the palisade ditch. Furthermore, the palisade may have been a livestock enclosure contemporary with the fort, and may not contain any structural features.
5.3 However, from the evidence of the excavations at Braidwood Fort, Midlothian it is probable that the palisaded enclosure revealed in the excavations was an earlier settlement to the nearby fort shown in crop marks. At Braidwood, a palisade ditch was revealed within the earthworks of the fort, with round houses overlying the palisade in places suggesting it was overridden by the later fort construction (Piggott, 1957) Similarly, the palisaded enclosure found could well have been abandoned in order to increase the defences of a small settlement by placing it within a larger three ditched enclosure.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The features found by the excavation are of great archaeological significance. Not only does the palisade represent a possible settlement site that could pre-date the fort to the SE, but it is one of the first prehistoric sites to be excavated in the modern era at Roslin. Its location to the W of the medieval and current town centres may reflect the movement of a continual population along the river terraces formed by the River Esk.
6.2 No further on-site archaeological works are deemed necessary within the development area. However, given the material found during the excavation, a programme of post-excavation work may be deemed necessary in order to further understand the nature of the activity taking place on the site. The nature of any further works will be determined by ELCAS acting on behalf of Midlothian Council.

## 7 REFERENCES

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Figure 3 - Section drawings of Palisade ditch slots
Pit［018］－S－facing section




Figure 4－Sections of pit features
Pit [026] - SW-facing section

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Pit［022］－E－facing profile


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Pit［020］－E－facing section
$\underbrace{\text { Pit［032］－} \mathrm{N} \text {－facing section }}_{-}$

Pit［030］－NW－facing section
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# Roslin Primary School, Midlothian: Archaeological Excavation Data Structure Report 

## Section 2: Appendices

## APPENDIX 1: Context Register

| Context No. | Area | Description and Interpretation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 001 |  | Dark grey loam with occasional $19^{\text {th }} / 20^{\text {th }}$ century ceramics and very occasional brick fragments. Varies in depth from 0.85 m in N corner to 0.3 m along SE edge of excavation area. <br> Post-medieval manuring and plough soil |
| 002 | - | Mid reddish brown silty sand with frequent rounded and angular stone inclusions. Contains fragments of possible medieval ceramics. Measures 0.35 m in N corner and fades to nothing close to the top of the slope and the edge of the palisade ditch. <br> Former medieval soil horizon |
| 003 | - | Light yellowish brown and orange gravels in a clayey sand matrix. Natural subsoil |
| 004 | A | Sub-circular cut with steep sides and a concave base, filled by deposit [005] and measuring 0.75 m by 0.59 m by 0.43 m . Narrow base may suggest a post setting but isolation makes this improbable. <br> Probable prehistoric pit/post hole |
| 005 | A | Mid orangey brown sandy silt with a few charcoal flecks and occasional small rounded stone inclusions. Measures 0.75 m by 0.59 m by 0.43 m . <br> Fill of pit/post hole [004] |
| 006 | A | Oval shaped cut with moderate sides and an uneven, flat base. Filled by deposit [007]. Closely related to pit [008] to the immediate N and unsure as to which pit cut which. Measures approx. 1 m by 0.7 m by 0.18 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 007 | A | Light greyish brown silty sand with frequent small stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Measures approx. 1 m by 0.7 m by 0.18 m . <br> Fill of pit [006] |
| 008 | A | Sub-circular cut with moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Filled by [009]. Closely related to pit [006]. Measures 0.65 m by 0.7 m by 0.25 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 009 | A | Light greyish brown silty sand with frequent small stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Measures approx. 0.65 m by 0.7 m by 0.25 m . <br> Fill of pit [008] |
| 010 | A | Very small circular cut with steep sides and a flat base. Filled by deposit [011]. Measures 0.22 m diameter by 0.2 m . <br> Probable prehistoric stake hole |
| 011 | A | Dark grey silty sand with frequent medium rounded stones and charcoal flecks. Measures 0.22 m diameter by 0.2 m . <br> Fill of stake hole [010] |
| 012 | C,F,I | Linear cut aligned NW-SE with moderate sides onto a V-shaped base. Continues NW and SE out of excavation area. Same as evaluation context [006]. Cuts palisade ditch [015] at SE end within excavation area. Measures 50 m by 0.95 m by 0.45 m . <br> Post-medieval field boundary ditch |
| 013 | C,F,I | Dark grey loam with occasional medium stones and containing clay pipe stems and $19^{\text {th }} / 20^{\text {th }}$ century ceramics. Measures 50 m by 0.95 m by 0.45 m . <br> Fill of ditch [012] |
| 014 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \mathrm{G}, \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{I}, \\ \mathrm{~J}, \mathrm{~K} \end{gathered}$ | Linear features aligned NW-SE measuring on average 0.8 m wide and up to 0.05 m deep in some places. The features are parallel with field boundary ditch [012] and are approx. 6 m apart (centre to centre). The further SE, the more prominent the features appear as the topsoil becomes thinner. <br> Post-medieval furrows |
| 015 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { D,E,G } \\ & \text { H,I,J,K } \end{aligned}$ | Curvilinear cut with almost vertical outer edge and a steep inner edge onto a flat/slightly concave base. Measures 59 m by 0.4 m to 0.6 m by 0.12 m to 0.6 m . Impact of post medieval and modern ploughing has meant the NE end of the ditch has been truncated more severely than the SW end. The ditch enters the S corner of the excavation area aligned SE-NW and curves to the $N$ and NE before leaving the excavation area in the E corner aligned NW-SE. Internal diameter of enclosed space is 45 to 50 m and contains pits [026] and [028]. Filled by deposit [016] and [017]. <br> Probable prehistoric palisade ditch |
| 016 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \mathrm{D}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{G} \\ \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{I}, \mathrm{~J}, \mathrm{~K} \end{gathered}$ | Dark orangey brown sandy silt with abundant large rounded stone and frequent medium stone inclusions. Measures 59 m by 0.4 m to 0.6 m by 0.12 m to 0.6 m . <br> Fill of palisade ditch [015] |
| 017 | G | Mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent medium rounded stone inclusions. Visible within SEfacing section of ditch [015] - slot 1 . Measures 0.17 m by 0.15 m by 0.32 m . |


|  |  | Fill of former post slot within palisade ditch [015] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 018 | B | Oval shaped pit with very steep sides to a concave base. Long axis is E-W and it measures 0.56 m by 0.29 m by 0.24 m . Filled by deposit [005]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 019 | B | Mid to dark brown sandy silt with frequent rounded stone inclusions measuring 0.56 m by 0.29 m by 0.24 m . <br> Fill of pit [018] |
| 020 | E | Circular cut with steep but shallow sides onto a flat base. Measures 0.48 m by 0.44 m by 0.1 m . Filled by deposit [021]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 021 | E | Dark greyish brown silty sand with abundant charcoal and charcoal staining as well as frequent medium and large stones. Measures 0.48 m by 0.44 m by 0.1 m . <br> Fill of pit [020] |
| 022 | E | Sub-circular cut with steep sides and a concave/flat base. Measures 0.25 m by 0.24 m by 0.07 m and filled by deposit [023]. Adjacent to pit [024]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 023 | E | Mid greyish black silty sand with patches of medium brown sand with frequent charcoal and occasional burnt bone inclusions. <br> Fill of pit [022] |
| 024 | E | Sub-circular cut with steep sides and a concave base, filled by [025] and measuring 0.3 m by 0.25 m by 0.15 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 025 | E | Mid greyish black silty sand with frequent charcoal and occasional burnt bone. Measures 0.3 m by 0.25 m by 0.15 m . <br> Fill of pit [024] |
| 026 | H | Sub-circular cut with steep sides and a concave base, filled by [027] and measuring 0.3 m by 0.25 m by 0.1 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit within palisade |
| 027 | H | Dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel with occasional small stone and charcoal inclusions. Measures 0.3 m by 0.25 m by 0.1 m . <br> Fill of pit [026] |
| 028 | H | Sub-circular cut with steep sides and a concave base, filled by deposit [029] and measuring 0.53 m by 0.5 m by 0.2 m . <br> Prehistoric pit within palisade |
| 029 | H | Dark greyish brown silty sand and gravel with occasional charcoal flecks. Contains prehistoric ceramic (SF4) and possible stone tool (SF5). Measures 0.53 m by 0.5 m by 0.2 m . <br> Fill of pit [028] |
| 030 | D | Sub-circular cut with moderate NE side and steep SW side onto a concave base. Measures 0.59 m by 0.52 m by 0.17 m . Filled by deposit [031] and adjacent to cut [032]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 031 | D | Dark brown silty sand with frequent rounded stone inclusions. Measures 0.59 m by 0.52 m by 0.17 m. <br> Fill of pit [030] |
| 032 | D | Circular cut with moderate sides onto a concave base. Measures 0.62 m by 0.58 m by 0.17 m . Filled by deposit [033] and adjacent to pit [030]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 033 | D | Dark brown silty sand with frequent rounded stone inclusions. Measures 0.62 m by 0.58 m by 0.17 m. <br> Fill of pit [032] |
| 034 | D | Oval shaped cut with steep sides onto a concave base, aligned NE-SW. Largest of 8 pits within a cluster to the immediate outer edge of palisade ditch [015]. Measures 1.04 m by 0.82 m by 0.23 m . Filled by deposit [035]. <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 035 | D | Mid brown silty sand with frequent small rounded stone inclusions, cut by pit [036] at NE edge. Measures 1.04 m by 0.82 m by 0.23 m . <br> Fill of pit [034] |
| 036 | D | Small circular cut with steep but shallow sides onto a flat base. Cuts fill [035] and is filled by deposit [037]. Measures 0.4 m diameter by 0.05 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 037 | D | Dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional lumps and fragments. Measures 0.4 m diameter by 0.05 m . <br> Fill of pit [036] |


| 038 | D | Circular cut with steep but shallow sides onto a flat base. Filled by deposit [039] and measures 0.44 m in diameter by 0.07 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 039 | D | Mid to dark brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks measuring 0.44 m diameter by 0.07 m . <br> Fill of pit [038] |
| 040 | D | Sub-circular shaped cut with steep NW side and moderate SW side onto a concave base. Filled by deposit [041]. Measures 0.5 m by 0.4 m by 0.1 m . <br> Prehistoric pit |
| 041 | D | Dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional lumps and fragments. Measures 0.5 m by 0.4 m by 0.1 m . Contains prehistoric ceramics (SF 8). <br> Fill of pit [040] |
| 042 | D | Sub-oval shaped cut aligned E-W with steep NE edge and a moderate SW edge onto a flat base. Filled by deposit [043] and measures 0.64 m by 0.5 m by 0.08 m . Prehistoric pit |
| 043 | D | Dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional lumps and fragments. Measures 0.64 m by 0.5 m by 0.08 m . Contains prehistoric ceramics (SF 9). <br> Fill of pit [042] |
| 044 | D | Sub-circular cut with moderate SE side and steep NW side onto a concave base. Filled by deposit [045] and measures 0.44 m by 0.3 m by 0.08 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 045 | D | Dark brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent rounded stone inclusions. Measures 0.44 m by 0.3 m by 0.08 m . <br> Fill of pit [044] |
| 046 | D | Sub-circular shaped cut with moderate to steep sides onto a concave base. Filled by deposit [047] and measures 0.56 m by 0.4 m by 0.13 m . <br> Probable prehistoric pit |
| 047 | D | Dark brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded stones and occasional charcoal inclusions. Measures 0.56 m by 0.4 m by 0.13 m . Contains possible quern stone fragment (SF 7). <br> Fill of pit [046] |
| 048 | D | Circular cut with steep sides onto a flat and slightly concave base. Filled by deposit [049] and measures 0.66 m by 0.6 m by 0.25 m . <br> Prehistoric pit |
| 049 | D | Dark grey sandy silt with frequent shattered stone fragments (including SF11 and SF12), rounded stone and charcoal flecks and fragments. Measures 0.66 m by 0.6 m by 0.25 m . Contains prehistoric ceramics (SF 10). |

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

## Digital Photographs

| Frame | Area | Description | From | Date |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $1-2$ | A | E-facing section of pit [004] | SE | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $3-4$ | A | E-facing section of pit [004] | SE | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $5-6$ | A | Plan view of pit [004] post-ex | SE | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $7-8$ | A | Plan view of pit [004] post-ex | SW | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $9-11$ | A | General shots of Area A | Var | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $12-13$ | A | NE-facing section of pits [006] and [008] | SE | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $14-15$ | A | Plan view of pits [006] and [008] | E | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $16-17$ | A | NW-facing section of stake hole [010] | NW | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $18-19$ | A | Plan view of stake hole [010] | NW | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $20-22$ | G | General shot of Area G | Var | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| $23-24$ | $G$ | Palisade [015] pre-ex | SE | $10 / 11 / 15$ |
| 25 | G | Palisade [015] pre-ex | N | $10 / 11 / 15$ |


| 26 | G | Palisade [015] pre-ex | S | 10/11/15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 27 | G | Palisade [015] pre-ex | NW | 10/11/15 |
| 28-29 | C | General shots of Area C | N | 11/11/15 |
| 30-31 | C | Detail of post-med ditch [012] | NW | 11/11/15 |
| 32 | C | SW-facing section of Area C | W | 11/11/15 |
| 33 | C | Post-ex shot of stake hole [010] | NW | 11/11/15 |
| 34 | C | Post-ex shot of stake hole [010] | SW | 11/11/15 |
| 35 | B | [001] and [002] in SW-facing section of Area B | SW | 11/11/15 |
| 36 | C | NE-facing section showing [001] in Area C | NE | 11/11/15 |
| 37 | 1 | SE-facing section showing [001] and [002] in Area I | SE | 11/11/15 |
| 38 | 1 | SW-facing section showing [001] in Area I | SW | 11/11/15 |
| 39 | G | SW-facing section showing [001] in Area G | SW | 11/11/15 |
| 40 | G | SE-facing section showing [001] in Area G | SE | 11/11/15 |
| 41 | A | SW-facing section showing [001] and [002] in Area A | SW | 11/11/15 |
| 42 | 1 | NW-facing section of ditch [012] | NW | 11/11/15 |
| 43-44 | G | Post-ex view of ditch [015] in Area G | E | 11/11/15 |
| 45 | G | Plan view of Slot 1 in ditch [015] | S | 11/11/15 |
| 46 | G | Plan view of Slot 1 in ditch [015] | W | 11/11/15 |
| 47 | G | W-facing section of ditch [015] - Slot 1 | W | 11/11/15 |
| 48 | G | E-facing section of ditch [015] showing probable post slot - Slot 1 | E | 11/11/15 |
| 49 | 1 | SE-facing section of ditch [012] and [015] - Slot 2 | SE | 11/11/15 |
| 50 | 1 | SE-facing section of ditch [012] | SE | 11/11/15 |
| 51 | 1 | SE-facing section of ditch [015] - Slot 2 | SE | 11/11/15 |
| 52 | 1 | General view of ditch [012] and [015] in Area I | S | 11/11/15 |
| 53 | 1 | General view of ditch [012] and [015] in Area I | N | 11/11/15 |
| 54-55 | B | General views of Area B stripped | Var | 11/11/15 |
| 56-57 | G | E-facing section of ditch [015] - Slot 1 | E | 12/11/15 |
| 58-59 | G | Views of ditch [015] in Area G | E | 12/11/15 |
| 60 | 1 | S-facing section of [015] - Slot 3 | S | 12/11/15 |
| 61 | 1 | N-facing section of [015] - Slot 3 | N | 12/11/15 |
| 62 | G | View of furrow "shadow" in Area G | SE | 13/11/15 |
| 63 | G | View of furrow "shadow" in Area G | SW | 13/11/15 |
| 64 | G | View of possible post slot after [017] removed | N | 13/11/15 |
| 65-67 | G | View of possible post slot after [017] removed | E | 13/11/15 |
| 68 | E | E-facing section of pit [020] - mid ex | E | 13/11/15 |
| 69 | E | View of pit [020] - mid ex | N | 13/11/15 |
| 70 | E | View of pit [020] - mid ex | S | 13/11/15 |
| 71 | E | S-facing section of pit [024] and pit [022] | S | 13/11/15 |
| 72 | E | Plan view of pits [022] and [024] | SW | 13/11/15 |
| 73-74 | E | SW-facing section of ditch [015] | SW | 13/11/15 |
| 75 | E | NE-facing section of ditch [015] | NE | 13/11/15 |


| 76 | - | Areas A, B, and C backfilled | NE | 13/11/15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 77-78 | E | General view of palisade in Area E | W | 13/11/15 |
| 79-80 | E | General view of palisade in Area E | E | 13/11/15 |
| 81 | E | Post-ex view of pit [020] | NE | 13/11/15 |
| 82-83 | E | Post-ex view of pits [022] and [024] | NE | 13/11/15 |
| 84-85 | E | Post-ex view of pits [022] and [024] | NW | 13/11/15 |
| 86-87 | F | Continuation of ditch [012] in Area F | SE | 16/11/15 |
| 88 | H | SW-facing section of pit [026] | SW | 16/11/15 |
| 89 | H | Post ex view of pit [026] | NW | 16/11/15 |
| 90 | H | Post ex view of pit [026] fully excavated | SE | 16/11/15 |
| 91 | H | Post ex view of pit [026] fully excavated | SW | 16/11/15 |
| 92 | H | Furrow running through Area H | SE | 16/11/15 |
| 93 | H | Slot through furrow in Area H | SE | 16/11/15 |
| 94 | H | Central furrow in Area H | SE | 16/11/15 |
| 95-96 | H | Palisade ditch [015] in Area H | - | 16/11/15 |
| 97-98 | H | S-facing section of pit [028] | S | 16/11/15 |
| 99-100 | H | Post ex plan view of pit [028] | W | 16/11/15 |
| 101-102 | H | Post ex plan view of pit [028] fully excavated | SW/N | 16/11/15 |
| 103 | D | NW-facing section of pit [030] | NW | 16/11/15 |
| 104 | D | View of pit [030] | SW | 16/11/15 |
| 105 | D | N-facing section of pit [032] - overcut!! | N | 16/11/15 |
| 106 | D | View of pits [030] and [032] | E | 16/11/15 |
| 107 | D | View of pits [030] and [032] | S | 16/11/15 |
| 108 | D | Pit [032] fully excavated | S | 16/11/15 |
| 109 | D | NW-facing section of pits [034] and [036] | NW | 17/11/15 |
| 110 | D | W-facing section of pit [038] | W | 17/11/15 |
| 111 | D | SW-facing section of pit [040] | SW | 17/11/15 |
| 112 | D | Section of pit [046] | - | 17/11/15 |
| 113 | D | Section of pit [044] | - | 17/11/15 |
| 114 | D | Section of pit [042] | - | 17/11/15 |
| 115 | D | Section of pit [048] | - | 17/11/15 |
| 116 | D | General view of pit cluster [034]-[048] | E | 17/11/15 |
| 117 | D | General view of pit cluster [034]-[048] | SE | 17/11/15 |
| 118 | D | General view of pit cluster [034]-[048] | S | 17/11/15 |
| 119 | D | View of palisade [015] in Area D | SW | 17/11/15 |
| 120 | D | View of [048], [040] and [042] post-ex | N | 17/11/15 |
| 121 | D | View of [048], [040] and [042] post-ex | NW | 17/11/15 |
| 122 | J | NW-facing section of ditch [012] | NW | 18/11/15 |
| 123 | J | View of palisade cut [015] cut by [012] | NW | 18/11/15 |
| 124 | J | NW-facing section of ditch [012] | NW | 18/11/15 |
| 125-126 | K | General view of palisade [015] in Area K | SE | 19/11/15 |


| 127 | K | General view of palisade [015] in Area K | W | 19/11/15 |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 128 | K | NW-facing section of [015] - Slot 6 | NW | $19 / 11 / 15$ |
| 129 | K | SE-facing section of [015] - Slot 6 | SE | $19 / 11 / 15$ |
| 130 | K | Plan view of Slot 6 in ditch [015] | SW | $19 / 11 / 15$ |
| $131-134$ | - | General views of excavation area | Var | $19 / 11 / 15$ |

## APPENDIX 3: Drawing Register

| Drawing No. | Area | Details | Scale |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | A | Plan of pit [004] | 1:20 |
| 2 | A | SE-facing section of pit [004] | 1:10 |
| 3 | A | Plan of pits [006] and [008] | 1:20 |
| 4 | A | E-facing section of pits [006] and [008] | 1:10 |
| 5 | A | Plan of stake hole [010] | 1:20 |
| 6 | A | NW-facing section of stake hole [010] | 1:10 |
| 7 | G | Plan of Slot 1 through palisade [015] | 1:20 |
| 8 | G | E-facing section of Slot 1 through palisade [015] | 1:10 |
| 9 | 1 | SE-facing section of Slot 2 through ditch [012] and palisade [015] | 1:10 |
| 10 | 1 | Plan of Slot 2 through ditch [012] and palisade [015] | 1:20 |
| 11 | 1 | Plan of Slot 3 through palisade [015] | 1:20 |
| 12 | 1 | N -facing section of Slot 3 through palisade [015] | 1:10 |
| 13 | E | Plan of pits [022] and [024] | 1:20 |
| 14 | E | Profile of pit [022] | 1:10 |
| 15 | E | SE-facing section of pit [024] | 1:10 |
| 16 | E | Plan of pit [024] | 1:20 |
| 17 | E | E-facing section of pit [020] | 1:10 |
| 18 | E | SW-facing section of Slot 4 through palisade [015] | 1:10 |
| 19 | E | Plan of Slot 4 through palisade [015] | 1:20 |
| 20 | H | Plan of pit [026] | 1:20 |
| 21 | H | SW-facing section of pit [026] | 1:10 |
| 22 | H | S-facing section of pit [028] | 1:10 |
| 23 | H | Plan of pit [028] | 1:20 |
| 24 | D | NW-facing section of pit [030] | 1:10 |
| 25 | D | N-facing section of pit [032] | 1:10 |
| 26 | D | Plan of pits [030] and [032] | 1:20 |
| 27 | D | NW-facing section of pit [034] and [036] | 1:10 |
| 28 | D | W-facing section of pit [038] | 1:10 |
| 29 | D | SW-facing section of pit [040] | 1:10 |
| 30 | D | SSW-facing section of pit [042] | 1:10 |
| 31 | D | NE-facing section of pit [044] | 1:10 |
| 32 | D | E-facing section of pit [046] | 1:10 |
| 33 | D | NE-facing section of pit [048] | 1:10 |
| 34 | D | Plan of pit cluster [034] to [049] | 1:20 |
| 35 | J | NW-facing section of ditch [012] showing palisade [015] - Slot 5 | 1:10 |
| 36 | J | Plan of Slot 5 in ditch [015] | 1:20 |
| 37 | K | NW-facing section of ditch [015] - Slot 6 | 1:10 |
| 38 | K | Plan of Slot 6 in ditch [015] | 1:20 |

## APPENDIX 4: Finds Register

| Finds No. | Context No. | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 1 | 002 | Ceramic fragments in Area A soil horizon |
| 2 | 002 | Ceramic fragments in Area G |


| 3 | 013 | Ce pipe stem and Ce fragment |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 029 | Prehistoric ceramic fragment |
| 5 | 029 | Possible coarse stone tool - rubbing stone |
| 6 | 033 | Decorated prehistoric ceramics |
| 7 | 047 | Possible quern stone fragment |
| 8 | 041 | Prehistoric ceramic fragments |
| 9 | 043 | Prehistoric ceramic fragments |
| 10 | 049 | Prehistoric ceramic fragments |
| 11 | 049 | Possible quern stone fragments (mixed stone) |
| 12 | 049 | Possible quern stone fragments |

APPENDIX 5: Sample Register

| Context No. | Area | Quantity (litres) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 002 | A | 10 |
| 005 | A | 10 |
| $007 / 009$ | A | 10 |
| 011 | A | 10 |
| $016-$ Slot 1 | G | 10 |
| $016-$ Slot 2 | I | 10 |
| $016-$ Slot 3 | I | 10 |
| $016-$ Slot 4 | E | 10 |
| $016-$ Slot 6 | K | 10 |
| 017 | G | 3 |
| 021 | E | 5 |
| 023 | E | 2 |
| 025 | E | 3 |
| 027 | H | 3 |
| 029 | H | 10 |
| 031 | D | 10 |
| 033 | D | 10 |
| 035 | D | 3 |
| 037 | D | 5 |
| 039 | D | 5 |
| 041 | D | 5 |
| 043 | D | 5 |
| 045 | D | 5 |
| 047 | D | 5 |
| 049 | D | 10 |

## APPENDIX 6: ‘Discovery and Excavation in Scotland’ Report

| LOCAL AUTHORITY: | Midlothian Council |
| :---: | :---: |
| PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME | Roslin Primary School, Midlothian |
| PROJECT CODE: | AOC 22995 |
| PARISH: | Penicuilk |
| NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR: | Kevin Paton |
| NAME OF ORGANISATION: | AOC Archaeology Group |
| TYPE(S) OF PROJECT: | Archaeological Excavation |
| NMRS NO(S) | N/A |
| SITEIMONUMENT TYPE(S): | N/A |
| SIGNIFICANT FINDS: | Prehistoric ceramic and possible stone tools |
| NGR (2 letters, 6 figures) | NT 2688263142 |
| START DATE (this season) | $9^{\text {th }}$ November 2015 |
| END DATE (this season) | $20^{\text {1/ }}$ November 2015 |
| PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.) | Archaeological Evaluation (Paton 2015) |
| MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: <br> (May include information from other fields) | An archaeological excavation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology in relation to a new school development at Roslin Primary School, Roslin, Midlothian. <br> The excavation covered the area of the proposed building footprint, measuring circa $3000 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$, currently the school playing fields. Within the excavation area a probable prehistoric palisade ditch, as well as 20 related pit features were revealed. The vast majority of the pits were out with the palisade and were covered by a possible medieval plough soil. Several of the pits contained charcoal, with six of the features also containing prehistoric pottery and probable stone tools. <br> The presence of these features indicates that the school playing fields were the probable site of a former prehistoric settlement. Along with the known Fort and cist to the $S$ of the excavation area, this information adds to our knowledge of prehistoric life in Roslin. <br> It is recommended that no further on-site archaeological works are required. However, any post excavation works will be decided by Mr. Andrew Robertson of East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS) who advise Midlothian Council on archaeological matters. |
| PROPOSED FUTURE WORK: | Post-excavation work |
| CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS: | --- |
| SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY: | AHR Architects |
| 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 |




[^0]:    This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.
    Author: Kevin Paton

    Approved by: Martin Cook
    Date: 30 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ November 2015

    Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft
    Date: $3^{\text {rd }}$ December 2015

