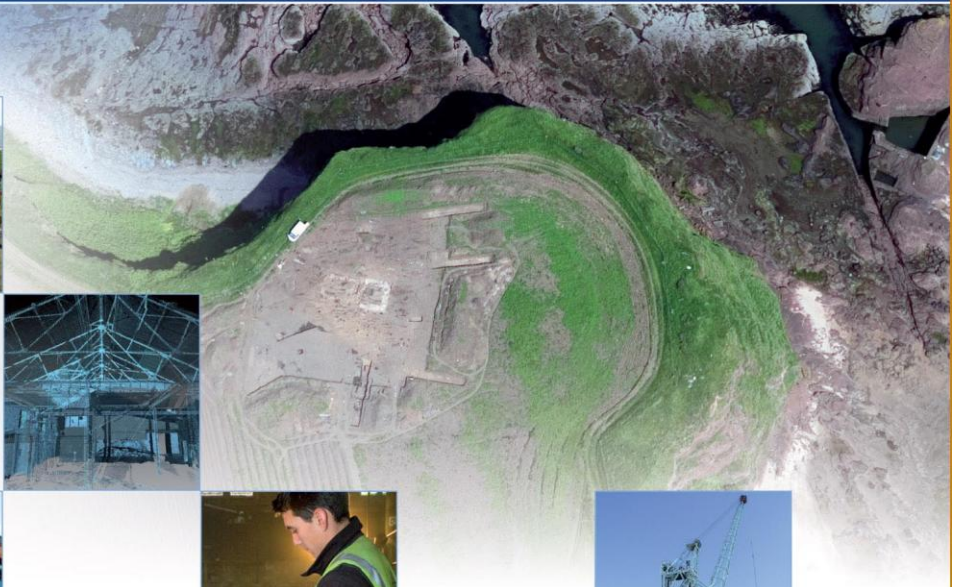
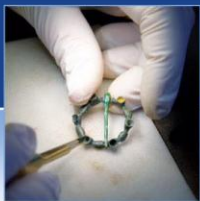


# Easter Road LIDL, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC 23641  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017



**AOC**  
Archaeology  
Group



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

# Easter Road LIDL, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

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**On Behalf of:** LIDL UK  
7 Dovecote Road  
Holytown  
ML1 4GP

**Planning Reference:** 15/04194/FUL

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** NT 27047 75097

**AOC Project No:** 23641

**OASIS No.:** aocarcha1-281156

**Prepared by:** Kevin Paton

**Date of Fieldwork:** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017

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

**Author:** Kevin Paton

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

**Approved by:** Ross Murray

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** Draft

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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

Tel. 0131 440 3593

Fax. 0131 440 3422

e-mail. [edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com](mailto:edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com)



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## ABSTRACT

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An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group prior to a supermarket development on Easter Road, Edinburgh.

The evaluation revealed that the former soil horizons relating to the post medieval period and earlier had survived the modern developments on site throughout the majority of the area. With the exception of Trench 6 in the northern edge of the site, the only archaeology revealed related to modern developments or post medieval drainage.

Within Trench 6, the base foundation slabs of a possible building were revealed that do not correlate with the cartographic evidence for the site. Some large rectangular pits were also revealed to the southeast of the foundations that could be contemporaneous.



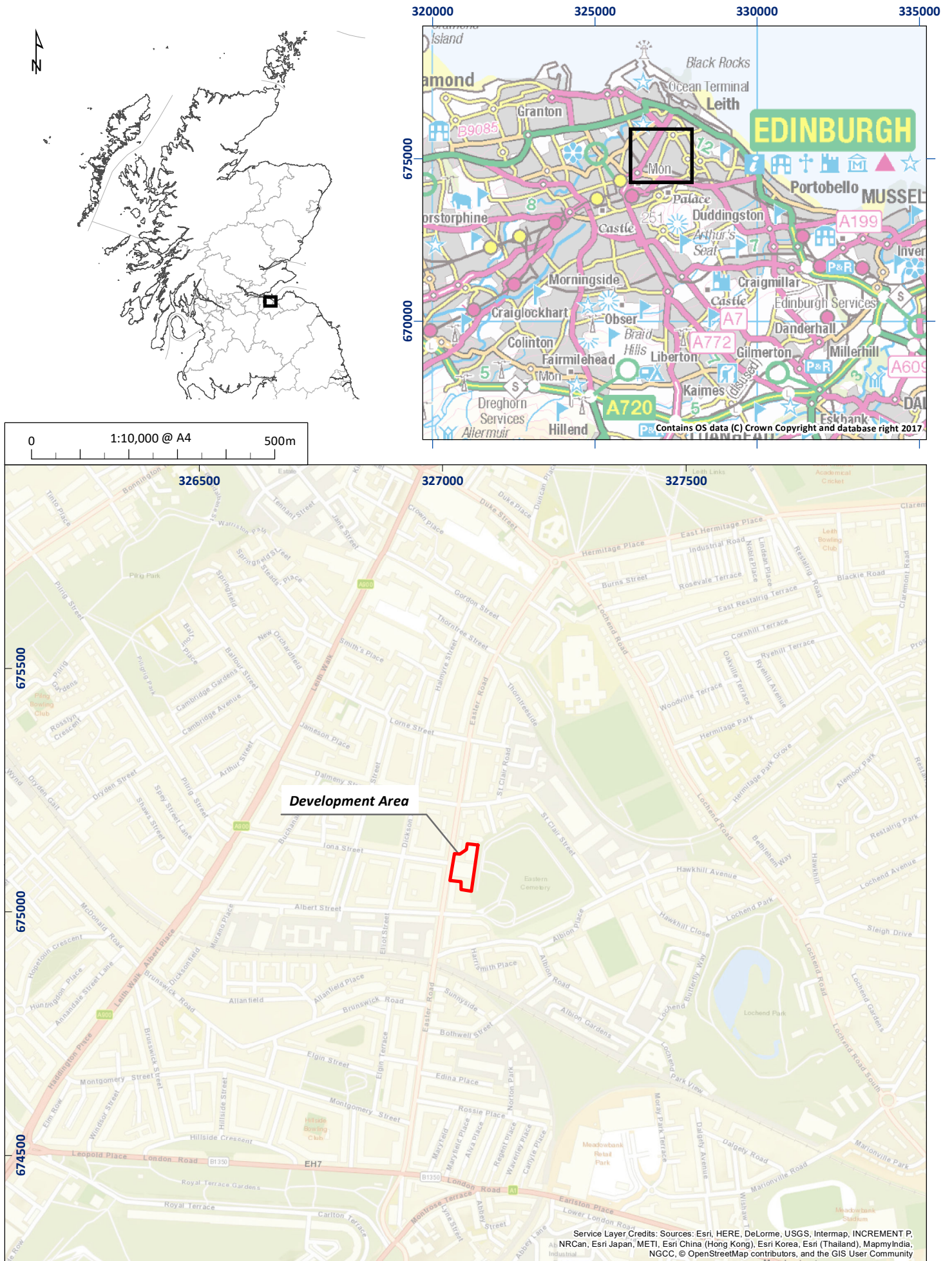


Figure 1: Site location plan

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was required by LIDL UK prior to a supermarket development on Easter Road, Edinburgh. The scope of the works was determined by the City of Edinburgh Council as advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2016), approved on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council by CECAS and in accordance with *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning And Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

### 1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The development area is located on the east side of Easter Road, Edinburgh and recently comprised of a DIY warehouse (now demolished) and associated car parking (NGR: NT 27047 75097; Figure 1). The site is bounded by residential properties on Easter Road to the north and south with the Eastern Cemetery to the east.

### 1.3 Historical Background

1.3.1 The National Monuments Register shows no sites existing within the sites boundaries. The nearest sites noted are the Eastern Cemetery to the immediate east, several listed buildings to the south and west, and 17<sup>th</sup> century plague burials to the south.

1.3.2 The cartographic sources show that the site was part of a field system in 1766 (Laurie; Figure 2) to the north of a tree lined property, later noted as belonging to J. Sligo Esq (Ainslie 1804). There is no development on the site until 1853 when boundaries and fields related to the Drum House Nursery are placed through the area. There are also two new cottages located to the immediate northwest of the site, labelled as Quarryholes Cottages (Ordnance Survey 1853; Figure 3).

1.3.3 By 1894 (Ordnance Survey; Figure 4) the nursery has been replaced by the Eastern Cemetery and the street front of Easter Road now contains numerous residential properties. The development site now also contains a large rectangular building to the north, a large open yard area along Easter Road and some smaller buildings along the east edge next to the cemetery. This large rectangular building remains in place into the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the remainder of the site changing slightly and Edina Copper Works being constructed after 1912 (Ordnance Survey).



Figure 2: Extract from Laurie's 1766 map





Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1853



Figure 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1894

## 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 through evaluation trenching;
- 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

- 3.1 The 8% evaluation of the 0.3 hectare development area originally required the excavation of 300m<sup>2</sup> of trench. However, due to a number of power signals along the western edge of the site (15-20m from street front) the area available for trenching was reduced.
- 3.2 In total, the evaluation consisted of six trenches of varying length and alignment, equating to 161.5m<sup>2</sup> of trench (Figure 5). The work was undertaken with a 6-tonne excavator, equipped with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, operating under the constant supervision of an experienced field archaeologist. Each trench was recorded using AOC *pro forma* trench record sheets and any potential features investigated further to assess their character and date.

### 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 All archaeological works were conducted on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Weather conditions were fair throughout the course of the work conducted meaning that archaeological visibility was good. The various data gathered from the evaluation are presented as a series of appendices:

Appendix 1: Evaluation trench descriptions  
Appendix 2: Context Register  
Appendix 3: Photographic Register;  
Appendix 4: Drawing Register  
Appendix 5: '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' entry

- 4.2 The overburden throughout the majority of the development area consisted of hard core and red blaes overlying a dark greyish brown sandy clay (Plate 1). Trenches located within the former DIY store footprint (Trench 3-5) encountered a number of modern service tracks, and two modern brick walls (Plate 2). Throughout all of the trenches excavated the former soil horizon [613] was seen to have survived the modern developments. This soil was a mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent coal lumps and flecks and occasional stone.
- 4.3 The only archaeological features revealed in Trenches 1-5 were ceramic tile drains that would typically date to the post medieval period. However, Trench 6 revealed the base foundation course of four sandstone walls [601]-[604], as well as four large rectangular pits [605], [607], [609] and [611]. Walls [601] and [603] were both aligned E-W with N-S wall [602] connecting them both (Figure 6; Plate 3). These three walls all consisted of sandstone slabs, one course wide and one course high measuring 0.45 m to 0.55 m in width. Wall [604] was aligned NE-SW and consisted of sandstone blocks, and was aligned with the remainder of a sandstone wall that serves as part of the current boundary. All of the walls were bonded with sand and lime mortar and were built into the top of soil horizon [613].
- 4.4 Several pits were located to the southeast of wall [604] and none of them were fully exposed within the trench extents (Plate 4). They were all filled with dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. Pit [605] was partly excavated revealing steep sides onto a flat base measuring 0.23 m deep. A few sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century white glazed ceramic were found within the pit fill [606] (not retained).



Plate 1: General view of Trench 2



Plate 2: General view of Trench 5





Plate 3: General view of foundations in Trench 6



Plate 4: General view of pit [605]

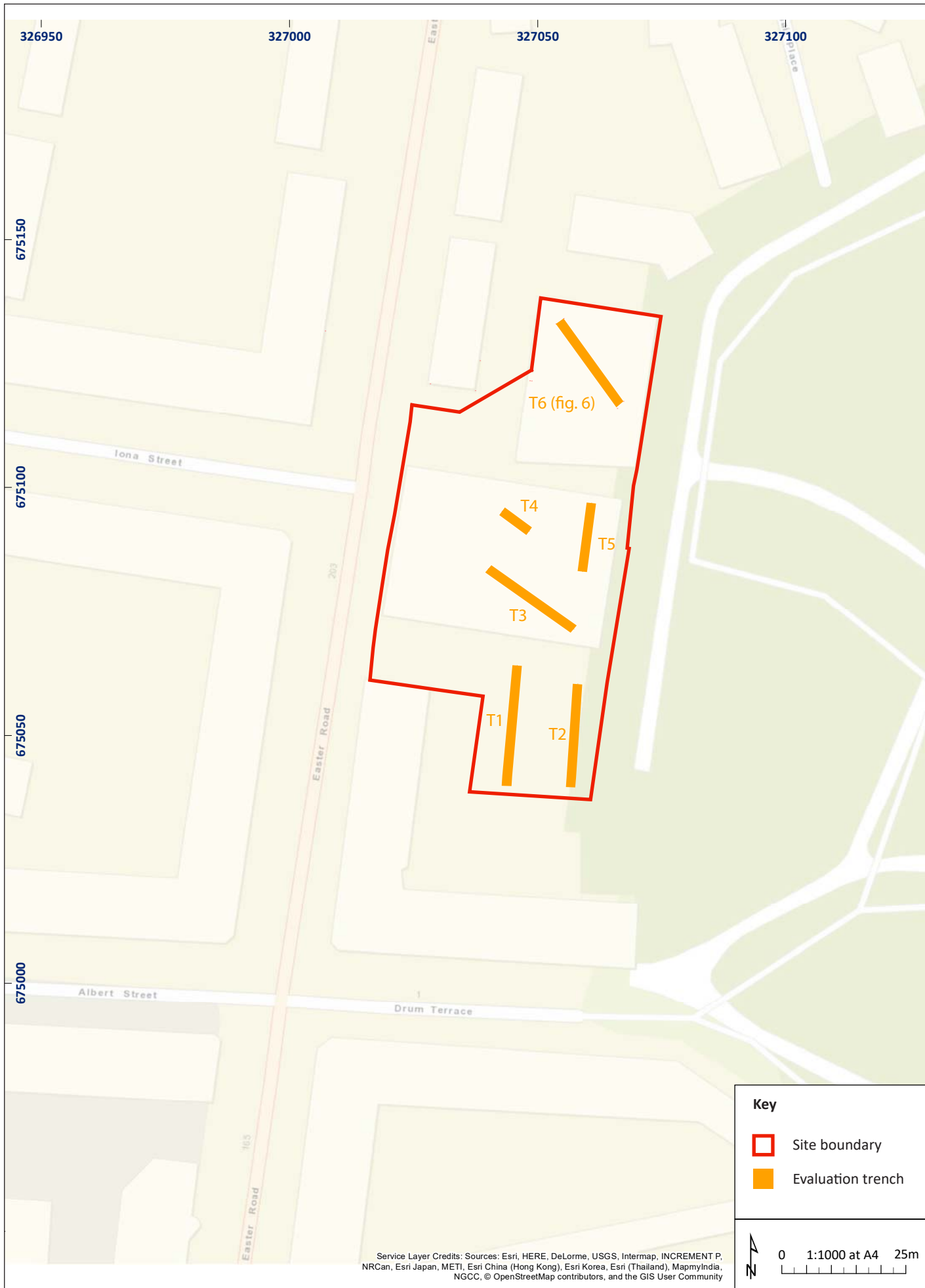


Figure 5: Evaluation trench location plan

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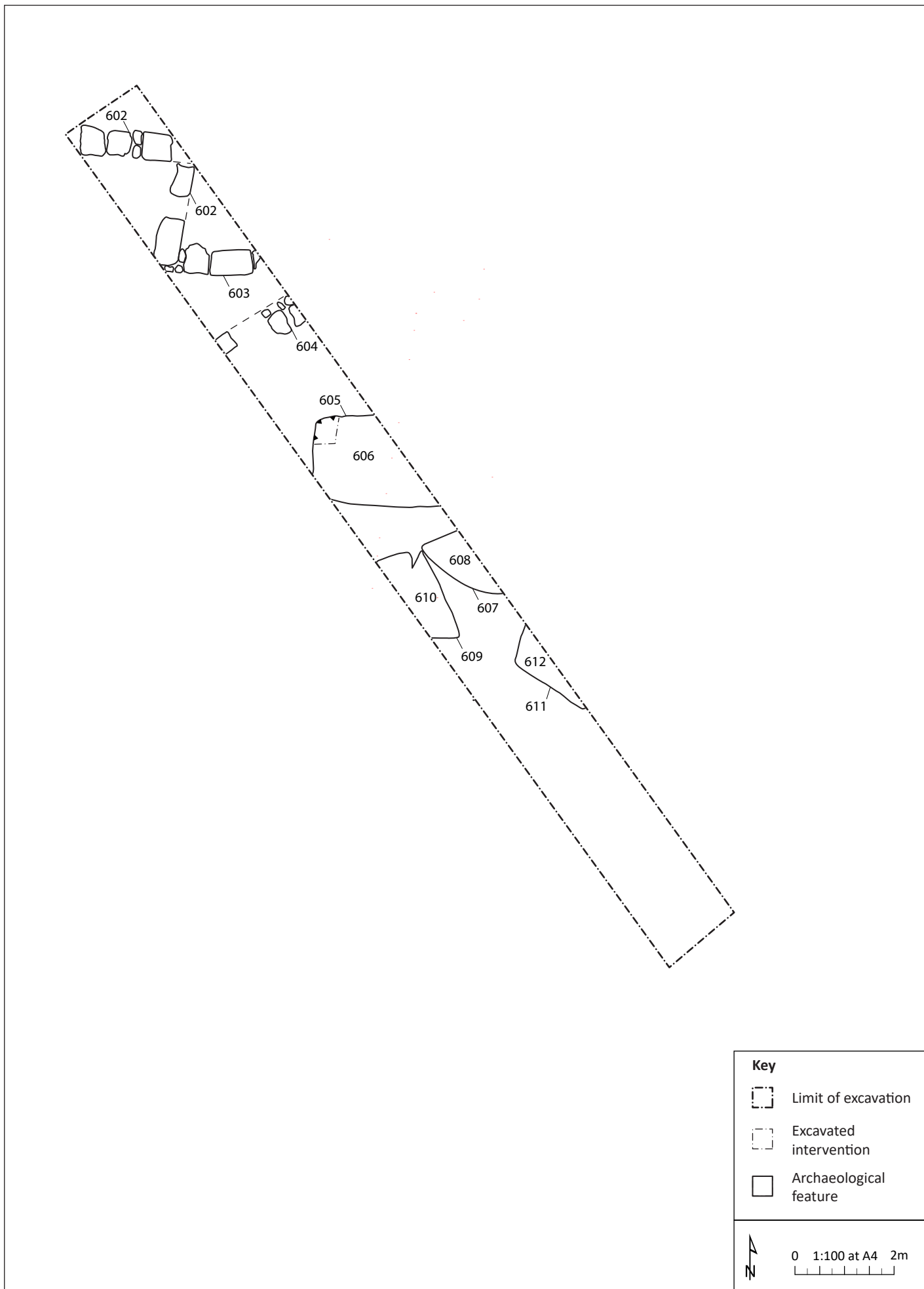


Figure 6: Detailed view of features in Trench 6

01/23641/REP/06/01

## 5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The walls found within Trench 6 do not appear to relate to any structures shown on early maps of the site. Due to the shallow depth at which they were present, it is unlikely that they relate to any structures that would predate the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century mapping of the area that shows the site as part of a field system (See Figure 2). Furthermore, they were directly underneath the former floor surface of the later rectangular building so most likely relate to the period just prior to its construction.
- 5.2 The cartographic evidence demonstrates that the period prior to the construction of the large building saw the site used as part of the Drum House Nursery. If the walls relate to this period they could have been boundary walls at the edge of the nursery or for use in dividing some of the different areas shown on the 1853 map (Figure 3). However, it is also possible that they relate to a structure that was built and demolished in the short periods between the Ordnance Survey maps of the area.
- 5.3 It is likely that the pits to the east of the walls in Trench 6 relate to the use of the site as part of the Drum House Nursery. The rectangular shape and flat base of the cuts is suggestive of planting beds.

## 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The evaluation revealed that there are archaeological remains within the northern edge of the development area that could date to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. There may be the need for further mitigation works. This will be decided by CECAS who advise the City of Edinburgh Council on archaeological matters.

## 7 REFERENCES

### 7.1 Bibliographic References

AOC 2016 *Easter Road, LIDL, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished client report

Scottish Government 2014 Scottish Planning Policy.

Scottish Government 2010 PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology.

### 7.2 Cartographic References

1766 Laurie, J *Plan of Edinburgh and places adjacent from an actual survey*

1852 Ordnance Survey *Edinburgh Sheet 22*

1894 Ordnance Survey *Edinburgh 1894 Sheet III.4.18*

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# **Easter Road LIDL, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report**

## **Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: EVALUATION TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

### Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	34 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	S to N
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Hard core and red blaes – 0.36 m Made ground (2) (from 0 m to 17.6 m) – dark grey clayey sand – 0.15 m Former soil (from 0 m to 15 m) – dark brown silty sand – 0.45 m Yellowish brown sand – impacted by made ground at 17.6 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern brick manhole at 1.2 m to 2.3 m along W edge of trench. Ceramic tile drain at 18.4 m to 20 m aligned SE-NW
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	18 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	30.6 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	S to N
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Hard core and red blaes – 0.28 m Made ground (2) (from 0 m to 14 m) – dark grey clayey sand – 0.2 m Former soil (from 0 m to 5 m) – dark brown silty sand – 0.2 m Yellowish brown sand – impacted by made ground at 14 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern pit filled with Made ground (2) at 13 m to 14.6 m. Modern pit filled with sandstone and mortar rubble at 14.9 m Ceramic tile drain at 11.7 m to 13.3 m; 14.2 m to 14.9 m (truncated) aligned SE-NW
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	34 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	WNW-ESE
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Red blaes – 0.3 m Made ground (2) (from 0 m to 11 m) – dark grey clayey sand with rick and sandstone inclusions – 0.8 m Former soil (from 9 m) – dark brown silty sand – 0.4 m Yellowish brown sand – only seen from 9 m onwards
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern brick manhole at 0 m to 1.5 m along SW edge of trench. Modern service track at 8 m to 8.5 m Electric cable at 5.7 m to 6 m Modern drain at 15.7 m to 18 m aligned to sewer manhole to N Ceramic tile drain at 2.7 m; 11 m to 13.6 m aligned SE-NW
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	8.5 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	WNW to ESE
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Red blaes – 0.5 m Made ground (2) – dark grey clayey sand with brick and stone rubble (smell of oil or tar) – 0.6 m (+)
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not seen
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Modern cast iron pipe at depth of 1.1 m
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	12 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	20.4 m <sup>2</sup>



## Easter Road LIDL, Edinburgh

<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	N to S
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Red blaes – 0.8 m Made ground (2) (from 0 m to 8 m) – dark grey clayey sand and rubble – 0.26 m Former soil – dark brown silty sand – 0.7 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Yellowish brown sand
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Brick wall at 6.4 m aligned E-W and 0.6 m wide. Rectangular brick wall at 7.7 m. Ceramic tile drain at 0.6 m to 2.9 m Modern drain at 9.2 m to 12.5 m
<i>Finds</i>	None
<b>Trench 6</b>	
<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 1.7 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	34 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	NW to SE
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Made ground (1) – Type 1 stone, rubble and soil – 0.38 m Former soil – dark brown silty sand – 0.5 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Yellowish brown sand
<i>Significant Features</i>	Walls [601], [602], [603], and [604] from 0 m to 5.3 m Pits [605]-[611] between 7.5 m and 15 m
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Area	Description and Interpretation
601	T6	Single course of sandstone slabs with sand and lime mortar. Aligned E-W, abutted by wall [602] on S face. Measures 2.2 m (+) by 0.55 m by 0.1 m. Sits within soil [613]. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century wall foundation</b>
602	T6	Single course of sandstone slabs with sand and lime mortar. Aligned N-S, abutting S face of [601] and keyed into N face of [603]. Measures 1.7 m by 0.45 m. Sits within soil [613]. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century wall foundation</b>
603	T6	Single course of sandstone slabs with sand and lime mortar. Aligned E-W, with [602] keyed into N face. Measures 2.2 m by 0.5 m. Sits within soil [613]. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century wall foundation</b>
604	T6	Sandstone blocks with sand and lime mortar aligned NE-SW (potentially in line with site boundary to the SW). Measures 1.7 m by 0.7 m by 0.2 m. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century wall foundation</b>
605	T6	Rectangular shaped cut with steep sides onto a flat base – only partially exposed in trench. Measures 2 m (+) by 1.8 m by 0.23 m. Se of wall [604]. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century pit</b>
606	T6	Dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. <b>Fill of pit [605]</b>
607	T6	Rectangular shaped cut only partially exposed in trench. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century pit</b>
608	T6	Dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. <b>Fill of pit [607]</b>
609	T6	Rectangular shaped cut only partially exposed in trench. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century pit</b>
610	T6	Dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. <b>Fill of pit [609]</b>
611	T6	Rectangular shaped cut only partially exposed in trench. <b>19<sup>th</sup> century pit</b>
612	T6	Dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. <b>Fill of pit [611]</b>
613	T6	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with occasional stone and coal lump inclusions. Up to 0.5 m thick. <b>Former ploughed soil horizon</b>

**APPENDIX 3: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTERS**

Frame	Description	From	Date
1-5	Pre-ex views of site	Var	30/3/17
6	Post-ex view of T1	N	30/3/17
7	Post-ex view of T2	S	30/3/17
8	Post-ex view of T3	ESE	30/3/17
9	S-facing section of T4	S	30/3/17
10	E-facing section of T5	E	30/3/17
11	Modern wall in T5	W	30/3/17
12	Rectangular wall in T5	W	30/3/17
13	Southern half of T5	S	30/3/17
14	Northern half of T5	S	30/3/17
15	Post-ex view of T6	SE	30/3/17
16-17	General view of [601]	Var	30/3/17
18-19	General view of [602]	Var	30/3/17
20-21	General view of [603]	Var	30/3/17
22	General view of [604]	SW	30/3/17
23	General view of foundations in T6	SE	30/3/17
24	General views of pit [605]	NW	30/3/17
25	General views of pit [607] and [609]	NW	30/3/17
26	General views of pit [611]	W	30/3/17
27	General views of pit [605] depth	SW	30/3/17
28-32	Post-ex views of site	Var	30/3/17

**APPENDIX 4: DRAWING REGISTER**

Drawing No.	Details	Scale
1	Plan of Trench 6	1:50

**APPENDIX 5: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Easter Road LIDL, Edinburgh
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	23641
<b>PARISH:</b>	Edinburgh
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Kevin Paton
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 27047 75097
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2017
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2017
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (inc DES)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group prior to a supermarket development on Easter Road, Edinburgh.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed that the former soil horizons relating to the post medieval period and earlier had survived the modern developments on site throughout the majority of the area. With the exception of Trench 6 in the northern edge of the site, the only archaeology revealed related to modern developments or post medieval drainage.</p> <p>Within Trench 6, the base foundation slabs of a possible building were revealed that do not relate to the cartographic evidence for the site. Some large rectangular pits were also revealed to the SE of the foundations that could be contemporaneous.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Yes
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRATIONS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	LIDL UK
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group Edgefield Road Industrial Estate Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	admin@aocarchaeology.com
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b>	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: [edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com](mailto:edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com)

[www.aocarchaeology.com](http://www.aocarchaeology.com)