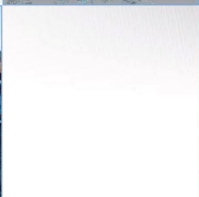
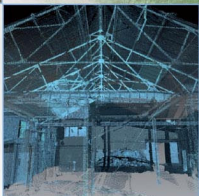
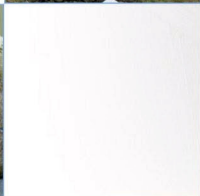
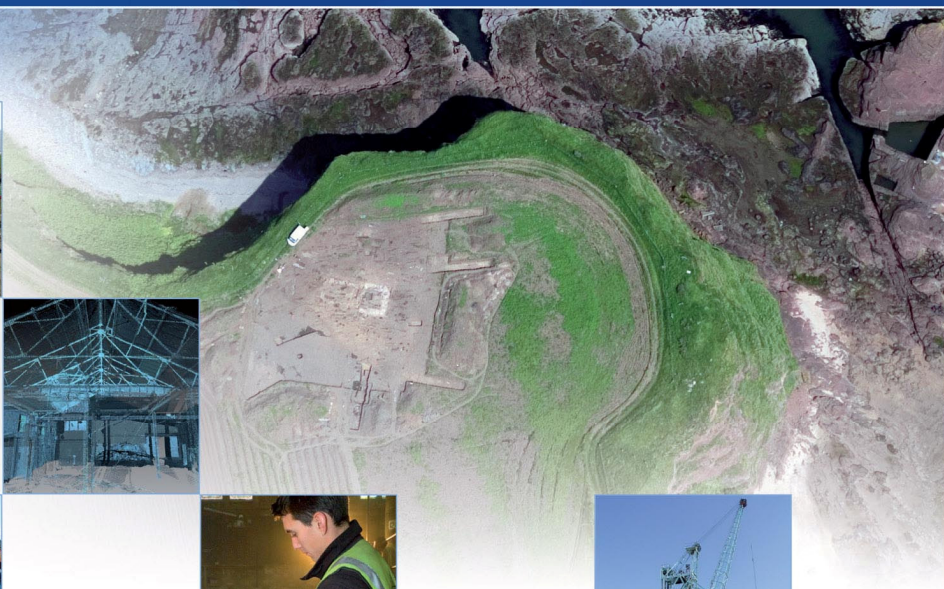
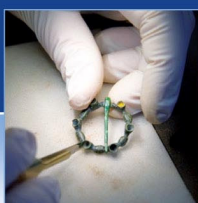


Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

9th December 2016

AOC Project No. 22995

PlanningReference.15/00712/DPP



AOC
Archaeology
Group



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	AHR Architects Floor 9 1 Cadogan Square Glasgow G2 7HF
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 22704 65783 (centred)
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AOC Project No:	22995
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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 new housing development at Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian.

The evaluation required a 5% trenching sample of the proposed development area, currently the school playing fields. The development area has a large section of made ground (1002) towards the E end of site, which most probably relates to the construction of the school playing fields which appear to have been scarped to create a level surface.

With the exception of a probable 19th/20th century field boundary, no significant archaeological remains were uncovered and no further works are recommended; however this should be confirmed by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service, ELCAS.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by AHR Architects to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a new housing development at Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian. The evaluation was undertaken 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* (AOC 2016) 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 proposed development area is comprised of grassy playing fields situated next to Paradykes Primary School, Mayburn Walk, Loanhead, Midlothian EH20 9HG, (NT 22704 65783). The proposed development is situated in a residential area and is bounded to the north by Mayburn Walk/Mayburn Avenue, to the east by George Avenue, to the south by Gaynor Avenue and to the west by the existing school buildings.

1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The location of the proposed development is situated immediately adjacent to an area of recorded crop-mark sites, of probably prehistoric date. These include enclosures and circular features (MEL9393); a further enclosure is record at Bilston Lodge (MEL8083) to the south-east. Evaluations undertaken at Straiton Park and Ride (Curtis & White 2005) to the north-east (EEL344) and Dryden Bank to the south-east did not uncover any significant archaeological remains.
- 1.3.2 While no cropmarks were recorded in the area of the development there remained the possibility that the evaluation would uncover some hitherto unknown archaeological remains.

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

- 3.1 The evaluation was undertaken by an 8 ton machine with 1.6 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 2015).

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 12th December 2016. Weather conditions were fair allowing for good archaeological visibility throughout. In total, 200 m of linear trench was opened, avoiding an area of subsidence and a water pipeline running roughly E-W across the development area. The amount of trenching was therefore reduced from the original 250 m required.
- 4.2 Topsoil ranged from 0.10m to 0.30m across the site, and was composed of mid brown silty sand. The topsoil overlay a deposit of made ground (1002) in Trenches 1-3. This deposit consisted of a mix of red blase and stony, silt clay. The made ground ranged from 0.25m to 0.80m in depth.
- 4.2.1 A further deposit of made ground (1009) was revealed within Trench 3. This underlay (1001-1002) and was composed of a compact layer of black silty sand. The probable remains of hard standing created during the construction of the school.
- 4.2.2 A dump of demolition rubble (concrete – 1007) was also revealed 28.0m from the south-west end of Trench 1. Again this is the likely to be linked to the creation of the Primary School.
- 4.2.3 The remains of a truncated buried agricultural soil (1003) were revealed in all four trenches. This deposit, ranged from 0.10m to 0.35m in depth, and consisted of medium brown sandy silt with inclusions of stone and charcoal flecks.
- 4.2.4 A field boundary ditch [1005] was recorded running across Trench 1. This feature was aligned NNW-SSE and measured 0.4m in width. The ditch was 0.20m in depth and produced a V-shaped profile. The ditch was filled with by a single deposit of mid brown silty clay with very frequent small stone inclusions. Several sherds of 19th century white ceramics were observed within the fill. It is likely that the ditch is the remains of a truncated field boundary of the 19th/20th century.
- 4.2.5 Natural was reached in all four evaluation trenches. This varied across the site ranging from mixed orange sandy gravel to orange grey clay. Several clay and rubble field drains were cut into the natural.



Plate 1 Trench 3 post excavation



Plate 2 Trench 3 north facing section



Plate 3 Boundary Ditch [1005]

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The development area has a large section of made ground (1002) occupying the eastern end of site, this probably relates to the construction of the school playing fields which seem to have been scarped to create a level surface.
- 5.2 Remnants of the original agricultural soil were observed across the site. This had been truncated during the construction of the school and the associated playing fields.
- 5.2 With the exception of the 19th century field boundary, no significant archaeological remains were uncovered and no further works are recommended; however this should be confirmed by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service, ELCAS.

6 REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2015, *Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian: 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

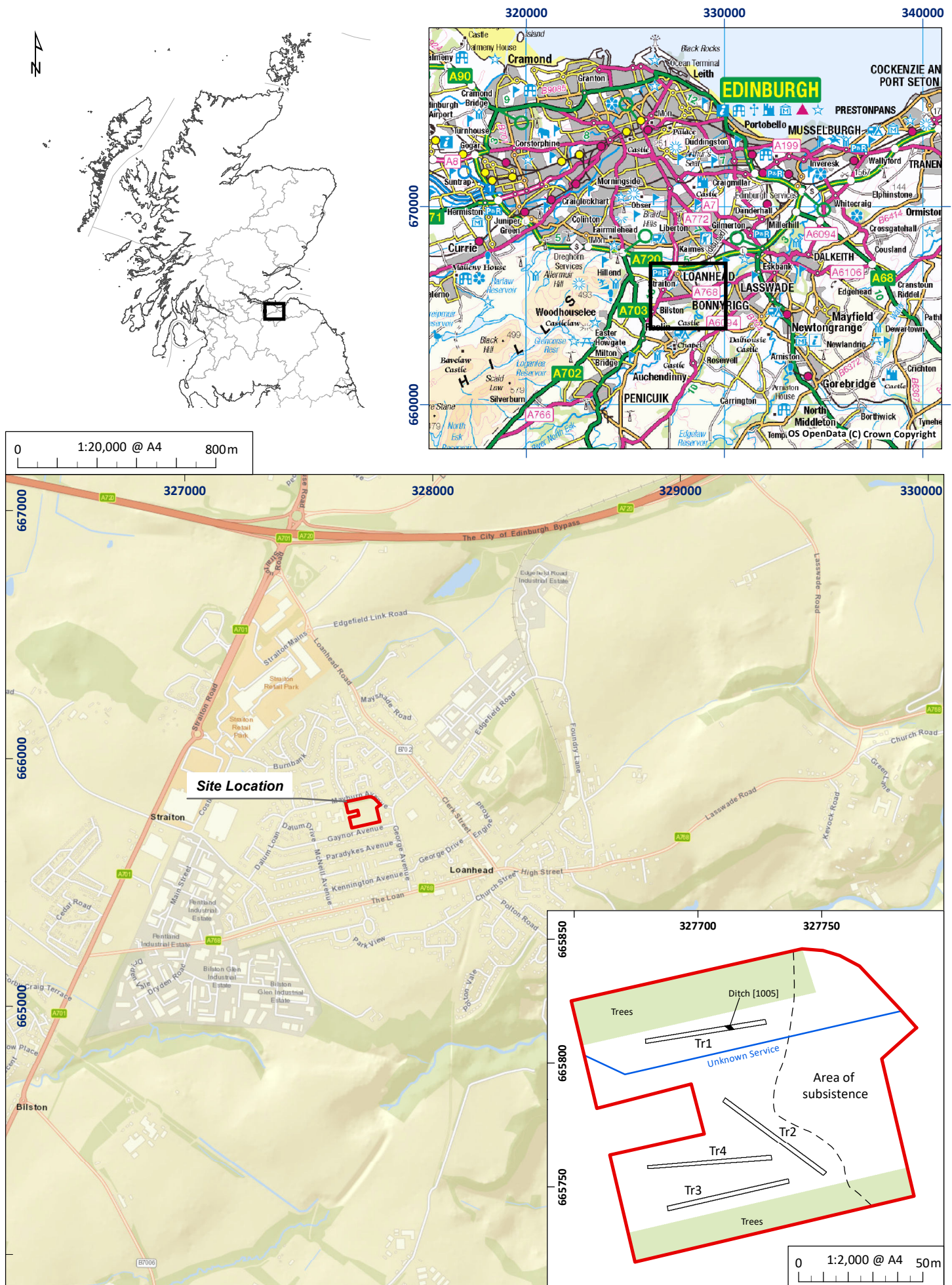


Figure 1: Site and Trench location plan

01/22995/REP2/01/01

Paradykes Primary School, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	50m x 1.6m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	ENE-WSW
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil: 0.15m Made Ground (1002): 0.8m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.95m
<i>Significant Features</i>	Ditch [1005] Field Boundary
<i>Other Features</i>	Ceramic field drains (1004) 9m, 203m, 31m and 43m from WSW Deposit of concrete (1007) 24m-28m from WNW
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Mixed orange yellow sand with frequent small stone inclusions
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	50m x 1.6m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	NW-SE
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil: 0.1m (1002): 0.7m (1003): 0.2m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Ceramic field drains (1004) 15.5m from NW
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Mixed orange yellow sand with frequent small stone inclusions
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	50m x 1.6m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil: 0.3m (1002): 0.25m (1003): 0.35m (1009): 0.30m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.9m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Ceramic field drain (1004) 48.5m from W
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Mixed orange yellow sand with frequent small stone inclusions
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	50m x 1.6m
<i>Total Area</i>	80 m ²
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	W-E
<i>Soil Make-up</i>	Topsoil: 0.35m (1003): 0.1m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Ceramic field drain (1004) 4m from W Rubble field drain (1008) 16.4m from W
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Mixed orange yellow sand with frequent small stone inclusions turning into orange grey clay

Finds

None

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context No.	Area	Description and Interpretation
1001	Tr1 – 4	Mid brown sandy silt with frequent small stone inclusions Topsoil
1002	Tr1 - 3	Mixed layers of blaze and dark brown sandy silty clay with very frequent stone inclusions Made ground
1003	Tr3	Mid brown sandy silty with frequent small stone inclusions and frequent charcoal flecks. Buried topsoil
1004	Tr1 -4	Red ceramic drains on a NW-SE alignment filled with Type 1 / gravel Ceramic field drains
1005	Tr1	Linear feature on NNW-SSE alignment, measuring 1.2m wide x 0.4m x 0.20m deep with a V-shaped profile Cut of ditch.
1006	Tr1	Mid brown grey silty clay with very frequent small stone inclusions Fill of ditch [1005]
1007	Tr1	Concrete
1008	Tr4	Rubble field drain
1009	Tr3	Very hard compact mixed black silty sand with frequent charcoal Made ground / construction material

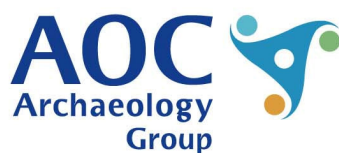
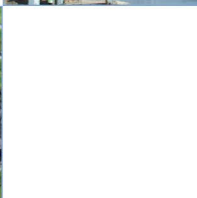
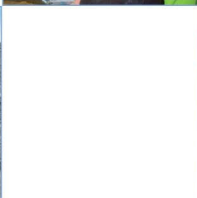
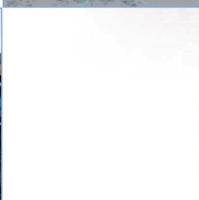
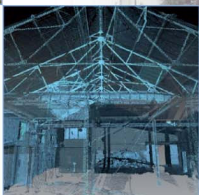
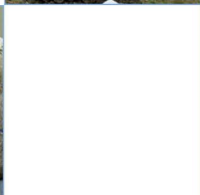
APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register

Digital Photographs

Frame	Trench	Description	From	Date
1	-	General shot of area	-	12.12.16
2-3	1	Trench 1	ENE-WSW	12.12.16
4-5	2	Trench 2	NW-SE	12.12.16
6-7	3	Trench 3	E-W	12.12.16
8-9	4	Trench 4	E-W	12.12.16
10	4	N facing section of Trench 4	N	12.12.16
11	4	Rubble drain in Trench 4	NW	12.12.16
12	3	N facing section Trench 3	N	12.12.16
13	2	NE facing section Trench 2	NE	12.12.16
14	1	N facing section Trench 1	N	12.12.16
15-17	1	Boundary Ditch [1005]	S-SW	12.12.16
18-20	-	General shot of backfilled trenches	NW	12.12.16
21	4	Trench 4 backfilled	-	12.12.16
22	3	Trench 3 backfilled	-	12.12.16
23	2	Trench 2 backfilled	-	12.12.16
24	1	Trench 1 backfilled	-	12.12.16

APPENDIX 4: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Midlothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Paradykes Primary School, Midlothian
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22995
PARISH:	Lasswade
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Leah Kyle
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 227 657
START DATE (this season)	9 th December 2016
END DATE (this season)	9 th December 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology in relation to a new housing development at Paradykes Primary School, Loanhead, Midlothian.</p> <p>The evaluation required a 5% trenching sample of the proposed development area, currently the school playing fields. The development area has a large section of made ground (1002) towards the E end of site, which most probably relates to the construction of the school playing fields which appear to have been scarped to create a level surface.</p> <p>With the exception of a probable 19th/20th century field boundary, no significant archaeological remains were uncovered and no further works are recommended; however this should be confirmed by East Lothian Council Archaeology Service, ELCAS</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	AHR Architects
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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