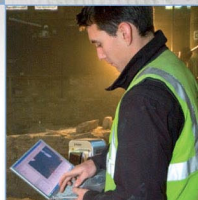
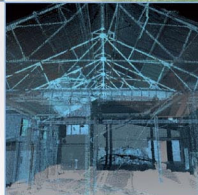
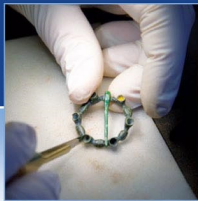


Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report

AOC 24546

13th December 2018



Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Hackland+Dore Architects Ltd
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 24009 60277 (centre)
AOC Project No:	24546
OASIS No:	1-336713
Planning Application No/LBC:	18/00494/DPP
Prepared by:	Rob Engl
Graphics by:	Sam O'Leary
Date of Fieldwork:	11 th – 12 th December 2018
Date:	13 th December 2018

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

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Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft	Date: 13 th December 2018

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SUMMARY

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Hackland+Dore Architects Ltd on behalf of their client Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological works consisting of an archaeological evaluation in advance of a new housing development at Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian.

Eight trenches totalling 175 linear metres were excavated within an area of former playing field, revealing an imported sandy loam topsoil overlying a natural of sands and gravels. A deposit of made ground was recorded in the north-west corner of the site. This was related to localised infilling undertaken in conjunction with limited escarpment in order to create and extend the former playing field. No archaeologically significant finds or features were observed.

No further archaeological work is considered necessary. This will need ratification by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service on behalf of Midlothian Council.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works comprising an archaeological evaluation was required by Hackland+Dore Architects Ltd on behalf of their client Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd prior to the construction of a proposed residential development on a land parcel at Kirkhill Road, Bilston, Midlothian (Planning Ref: 18/00494/DPP). The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works has been determined by the Midlothian Council who are advised on archaeological matters by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS).

Midlothian Council's archaeological advisors, East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS), advised that the following condition should be attached to the original consent:

'No development shall take place on the proposed site until the applicant has undertaken and reported upon a programme of archaeological (Trial Trench Evaluation) work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant (or their agent) and approved by the planning authority'

1.2 Site location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development covers approximately 0.78ha of land and is centred on former playing fields at Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian (NGR: NT 24009 60277). The site is bounded to the south and east by residential properties on Kirkhill Road and to the west by Eskmill. Kirkhill Bowling Club and tennis courts form the northern boundary (Figure 1).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- 2.1 No sites of known historical or archaeological significance are known to exist within the site boundary. However, the site lies on the edge of the historic core of Penicuik and Penicuik Conservation Area. Other heritage sites lie in the surrounding landscape, including two scheduled monument and Penicuik House Garden and Designed Landscape.
- 2.2 The scheduled monument of Uttershill Castle (SM5063) is situated approximately 800m to the south-south-west of the development area. The monument consists of a late 16th century Tower House/Mansion, built of freestone rubble once probably harled. It is oblong in plan, and has been at least three storeys high, two of which are still standing. An outbuilding once stood against the eastern portion of the south wall but has long since been removed.
- 2.3 In 1994 an excavation was undertaken at the Castle site (Alexander et al 1998), in advance of a proposed restoration programme. The interior of the castle was emptied of all deposits down to 300mm below the original floor level, and additional trenches were excavated immediately outside the south wall
- 2.4 The excavations revealed a complex structural sequence, confirming information gathered from a documentary study by Mr N Q Bogdan. The castle appears initially to have been a two-storied bastle house c.12m long by 7m wide externally, with a vaulted undercroft incorporating a central drain, built in the late 16th century. Its upper part was modified in the early 17th century before being extended to the E. This extension had a kitchen on the ground floor with a solar above and made the castle c.19.8m long externally. An integral part of this construction was a previously unknown structure c.4.1m long and at least 1.7m wide, built against the southern side of the extension. The remains of another structure, c.2.7m wide and c.2.9m

long, were found abutted against the southern side of the western end of the castle and this structure may also have been constructed in the 17th century.

- 2.5 The scheduled monument of St Kentigern's Church and Clerk Mausoleum (SM2145) lies approximately 400m to the south-west of the site, comprising the ruins of the old parish church, and burial ground. Dating to the 17th Century the ruins of the old church still stand within the grounds of the current parish church.
- 2.6 Located approximately 2.5km to the south-west of the site lies the Penicuik House Garden and Designated Landscape (GDL00311) and is considered to be a fine example of the work of Sir John Clerk during the 18th Century.
- 2.7 The Penicuik House Garden and Designated Landscape includes the Category A listed Penicuik House and covers an area of approximately 561ha. The gardens and designated landscape include fine examples of architecture, scenic and nature conservation elements from the 18th century.
- 2.8 Located directly south of the Site on Kirkhill Road lies the Category C listed buildings of the former Kirkhill School and School House (LB52343), dating to the early 19th Century with further additions taking place in 1859 and 1880.
- 2.9 The former Kirkhill School is considered to be an early example of a purpose build school, constructed as a school for children from families of the workforce of the nearby Esk Mills paper mill, now demolished.

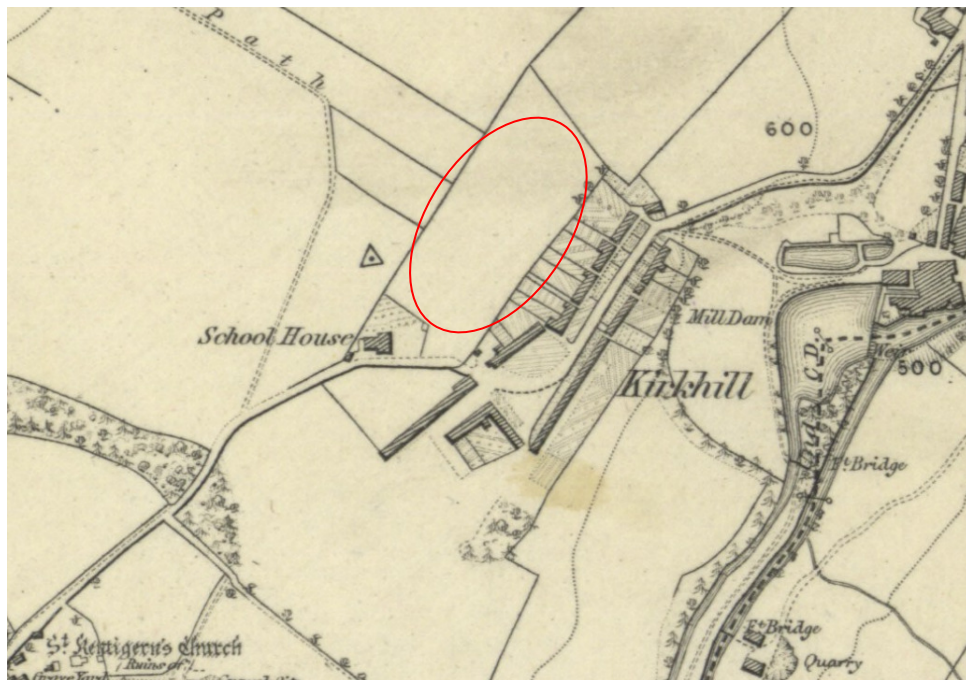


Figure 3: Extract from OS Six Inch map 1st edition 1843-1882



Figure 4: Extract from the Six Inch OS Map 2nd and later editions 1892 - 1960

3 OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works 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 strategy compliant with *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011* (2011), such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.
- iii) to report on the results of the archaeological evaluation.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological Evaluation

4.1.1 The current proposed development area measures c. 0.78ha. The Council required that a 5% evaluation was to be undertaken across the site. A total of 390 linear metres was therefore initially required. However, the presence of live services and sloping ground reduced the area available for trenching. Nevertheless, a total of 175 linear metres was excavated (see figure 2).

4.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken with the aid of a JCB excavator equipped with a 2.0m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through the topsoil to the upper surface of the underlying drift geology. All excavation was monitored by an experienced archaeologist.

- 4.1.3 Each trench was recorded according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC Archaeology 2018) and CIFA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIFA 2014).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken from the 11th-12th December 2018. Eight trenches ranging from 10.0m to 25.0m in length were excavated within the proposed development area and fixed on different angles and alignments (Figure 2). All trenches revealed an imported, well-sorted mid orange brown sandy clay topsoil (0.20m – 0.30m in depth) [001]. With the exception of the north-west area of the site this deposit directly overlay a natural subsoil of mid orange sands and gravels [002].
- 5.1.2 The evaluation revealed that the area had undergone significant previous alteration, with evidence of escarpment to the north and south. The north-west of the area (Trenches 2&3) had been built up with a mixed deposit of subsoil and topsoil (003) in order to extend and level the area during the creation of the playing fields. This deposit ranged from 0.25m to 0.90m in depth.
- 5.1.3 No significant archaeological material or features were observed.



Plate 1 Pre-excavation of the site looking south-west showing slope



Plate 2 Trench 2 Test dig showing mixed infilling deposit (003)



Plate 3 Trench 3 showing natural slope at north-western end



Plate 4 Trench 4 post excavation



Plate 5 Trench 8 post excavation



Plate 6 backfilled trenches 2&3 showing built up level of playing field against natural slope.

6 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation revealed that the proposed development area had been previously scarped, infilled and levelled in order to create the former playing fields. No *in situ* deposits were observed, with the topsoil having been imported after the creation of the fields. The area to the north-west of the site had been raised and levelled, with between 0.25m and 0.90m of mixed topsoil and subsoil being deposited. This is most apparent in plate 6 where the mid 19th century boundary wall running along the western edge of the site can be seen sloping away beneath the present level of the field.
- 6.2 No further work is considered necessary. However; this recommendation will need ratification by the East Lothian County Archaeological Service on behalf of Midlothian Council.

7 REFERENCES

7.1 Bibliographic References

AOC Archaeology 2018 Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian. Written Scheme of Investigation. Unpublished Client Report.

CIFA 2014 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

Scottish Government 2011 *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology*.

7.2 Cartographic references

1843 – 1882 OS Six Inch map

1892 – 1960 OS Six Inch map

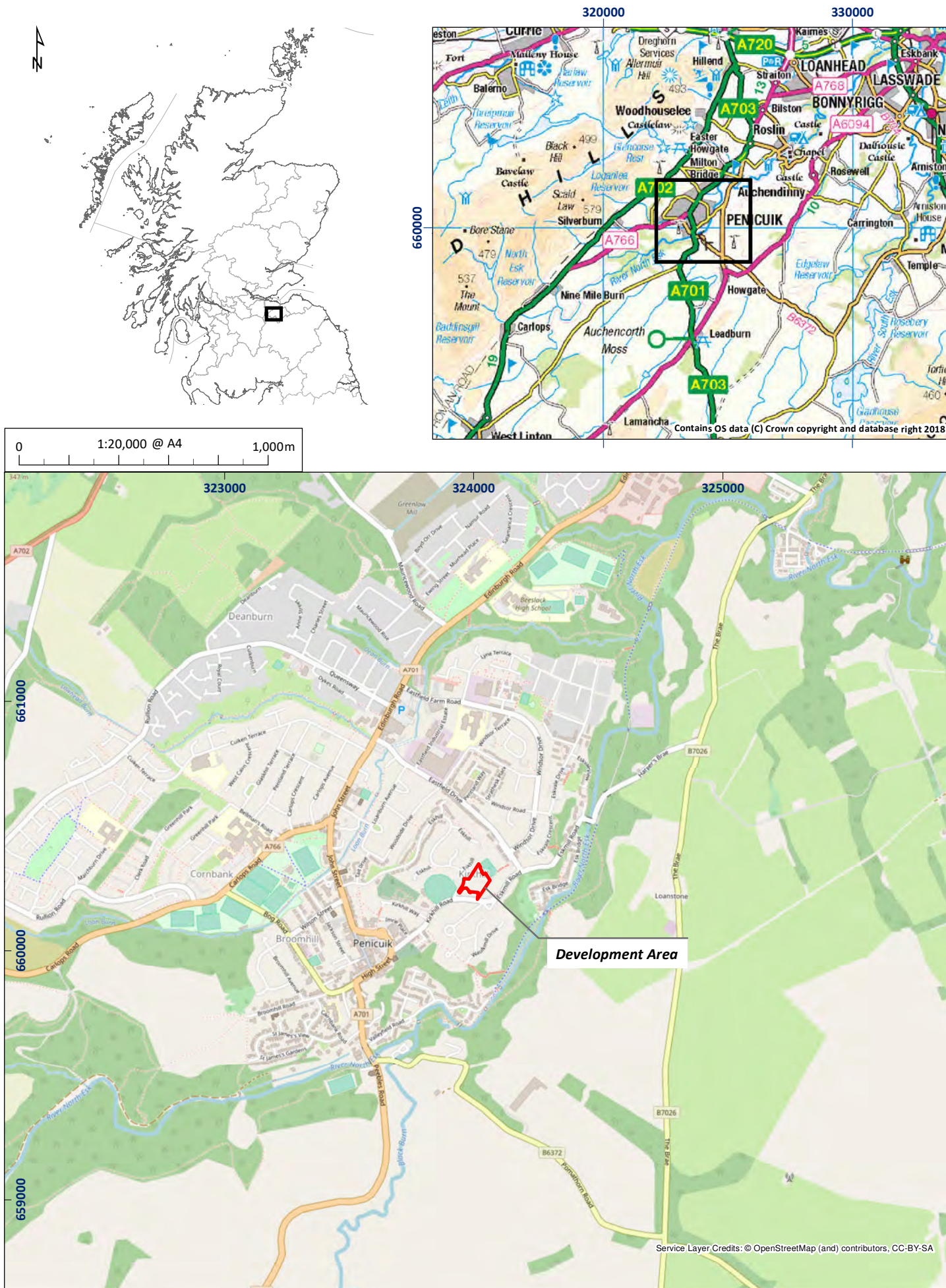


Figure 1: Site location plan

01/24546/DSR/01/01



Figure 2: Trench location plan

01/24546/DSR/02/01

Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian; Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archaeological Evaluation: Digital Film

<i>No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken From</i>
1-7	Pre-excavation shots of site	Var
8-9	Post Excavation photo of T1	E
10	Trial excavation within Trench 1	S
11	South facing section Trench 2 showing made ground (003)	S
9	Post Excavation photo of T2	E
10	Post Excavation photo of T3	S
11	Trial excavation within Trench 2 showing natural (002)	S
11	Post Excavation photo of T4	SE
12	Post Excavation photo of T5	E
13	Post Excavation photo of T6	E
14	Post Excavation photo of T7	SSE
15	Post Excavation photo of T8	N
16	Shot of 19 th century boundary wall & built up ground at NW of site	S
17-20	Backfilled Trenches	Var

APPENDIX 2: TRENCH REGISTER

Trench 1:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	W/E
Depth of Topsoil	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel
Finds	None

Trench 2:

Total length	10m by 2m
Orientation	NW/SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel
Finds	None

Trench 3:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	SE/NW
Depth of Topsoil	0.25m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel. Ground drops away at 7.50m and is infilled with (003)
Finds	None

Trench 4:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	W/E
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel
Finds	None

Trench 5:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	W/E
Depth of Topsoil	0.40m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel
Finds	None

Trench 6:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	W/E
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel
Finds	None

Trench 7:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	SW/NE
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel

Trench 8:

Total length	25m by 2m
Orientation	S/N
Depth of Topsoil	0.30m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy gravel

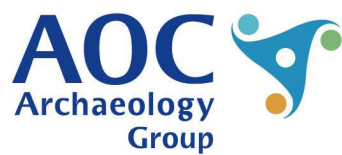
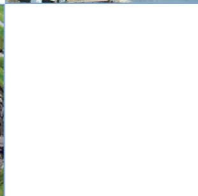
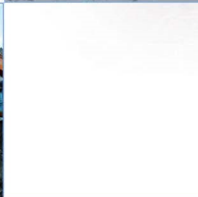
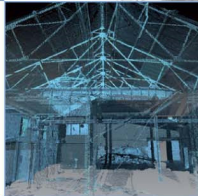
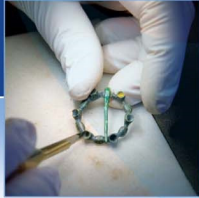
APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT REGISTER

<i>Context</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	All	Topsoil	Imported friable, well-sorted mid orange brown sandy loam
002	All	Natural	Mid orange mottled sandy gravel
003	2&3	Made ground	Mixed deposit of sand, gravel and topsoil overlying natural in NW of

			site. Ranges between 0.25m and 0.90m in depth.
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APPENDIX 4: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Midlothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Kirkhill Road, Penicuik
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 24546
PARISH:	Penicuik
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rob Engl
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 2580 6520 (centre)
START DATE	11 th December 2018
END DATE	12 th December 2018
PREVIOUS WORK	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:	<p><i>AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Hackland+Dore Architects Ltd on behalf of their client Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological works consisting of an archaeological evaluation in advance of a new housing development at Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian.</i></p> <p><i>Eight trenches totalling 175 linear metres were excavated within an area of former playing field, revealing an imported sandy loam topsoil overlying a natural of sands and gravels. A deposit of made ground was recorded in the north-west corner of the site. This was related to localised infilling undertaken in conjunction with limited escarpment in order to create and extend the former playing field. No archaeologically significant finds or features were observed.</i></p> <p><i>No further archaeological work is considered necessary. This will need ratification by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service on behalf of the Midlothian Council.</i></p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Hackland+Dore Architects Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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