

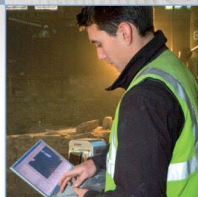
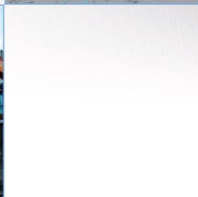
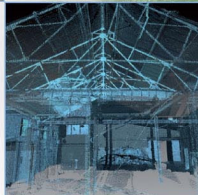
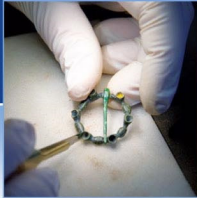
# Land at North Middleton, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation

## Data Structure Report

AOC 23709

06<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Planning Application 17/00224/DPP



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

# Land at North Middleton, Midlothian: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

<b>On Behalf of:</b>	Miller Homes Clydesdale House 30 Springhill Parkway Bailleston Glasgow G69 6GA
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	NT 36148 59135 (centre)
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	23709
<b>OASIS No:</b>	1-342038
<b>Planning Application No/LBC:</b>	17/00224/DPP
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<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
<b>Date:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2019

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

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<b>Approved by:</b> Lindsay Dunbar	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
<b>Draft/Final Report Stage:</b> Draft	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2019

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## **SUMMARY**

*AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Miller Homes Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological works consisting of an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed new housing development at Land to the north of North Middleton, Midlothian.*

*Eight trenches totalling 400 linear metres were excavated within a single sloping pasture field revealing an improved ploughsoil overlying a natural of sands and gravels. A deposit of colluvium ranging from 0.20m to 0.60m in depth was recorded across the site deepening downslope towards the north west. 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 Miller Homes Ltd in respect of a proposed residential development on a land parcel on the northern edge of North Middleton, Midlothian (Planning Ref: 17/00224/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 area is comprised of pasture situated on the north eastern edge of the village of North Middleton, (NT 36148 59135). The area consists of enclosed pasture and slopes south east to north west. It is bounded to the north west by Borthwick Castle Road, to the south by trees and vegetation surrounding Middleton North Burn. Housing borders the site to the north east and east (see Figure 1)

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 There are neither known archaeological features nor findspots recorded within the proposed development and no known previous archaeological investigations have taken place.
- 1.3.2 The location of the proposed development site lies in close proximity to archaeological sites and features recorded in the Midlothian Historic Environment Record (HER), maintained by East Lothian Council. A large prehistoric burial cairn and cists were located at Shiel Loch (HER no. MEL8232) located to the south west of the site along the Gore Water. A settlement of unknown date is also recorded in the HER (MEL8630) at Windy Law, to the south-east of the proposed development area.
- 1.3.2 In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century a collared Cinerary Urn was found again to the south west of the development at Torcraik (farm at NT 363 592) (MEL8226). The urn was donated by the Earl of Buchan in 1815. (This is doubtless one of the 'urns' noted on NT35NE 7) (NMA 1892; E D Dennison 1917; I H Longworth 1984).
- 1.3.3 North Middleton appears on the Roy map of 17 (fig 2) as a probable enclosed farm or house. However, the growth of the village appears to have occurred in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (Fig 3).



Fig 3 Extract from Roy 1747-1755



Figure 4: Extract from the Six Inch OS Map 1843-1888

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 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.

### 3 METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The current proposed development area measures c. 1.8ha. The Council required that a 5% evaluation was to be undertaken across the site. A total of 450 linear metres was therefore initially required. However, the presence of live services reduced the area available for trenching. Nevertheless, a total of 400 linear metres was excavated (see figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken with the aid of a tracked 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.
- 3.1.3 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).

### 4 RESULTS

#### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken from the 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Eighty five metre trenches were excavated within the proposed development area and fixed on different angles and alignments (Figure 2). All trenches revealed a well-sorted, improved mid orange brown sandy clay topsoil (0.30m – 0.40m in depth) [001]. The topsoil overlaid a layer of colluvium [003] that ranged from 0.20m along the crest of the ridge to 0.60m downslope towards the Borthwick Castle Road. An underlying subsoil of mid orange sands and gravels [002] was recorded in all trenches.
- 4.1.2 No significant archaeological material or features were observed.





Plate 1 Pre-excitation of the site looking west showing slope



Plate 2 Trench 4 Post excavation



Plate 3 Trench 5 west facing section showing colluvial deposit



Plate 4 Trench 8 post excavation

## 5 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological material or features. The proposed development area has been agricultural land from at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century and was gradually improved during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.2 No further work is considered necessary. However; this recommendation will need ratification by the East Lothian County Archaeological Service on behalf of Midlothian Council.

## 6 REFERENCES

### 6.1 Bibliographic References

AOC Archaeology 2017 North Middleton, Midlothian. Written Scheme of Investigation. Unpublished Client Report.

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

Dennison, E D. (1917) 'List of prehistoric relics found in Midlothian, as excerpted from the cat. of the Museum of Antiqs., Edin., being an appendix to the Chalmers -Jervise prize essay for 1916; to which have been added a list of other antiquities relating to historic times, also preserved in the Museum', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, vol. 51, 1916-17. Page(s): 238

Longworth, I H. (1984) Collared urns of the Bronze Age in Great Britain and Ireland. Cambridge. Page(s): 305, no.1907 RCAHMS Shelf Number: E.8.LON

NMAS. (1892) Catalogue of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, new ed., enl. Edinburgh. Page(s): 162 RCAHMS Shelf Number: B.4.3.ANT

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

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

### 6.2 Cartographic references

1747-1755 Roy Military Survey

1843 – 1888 OS Six Inch map

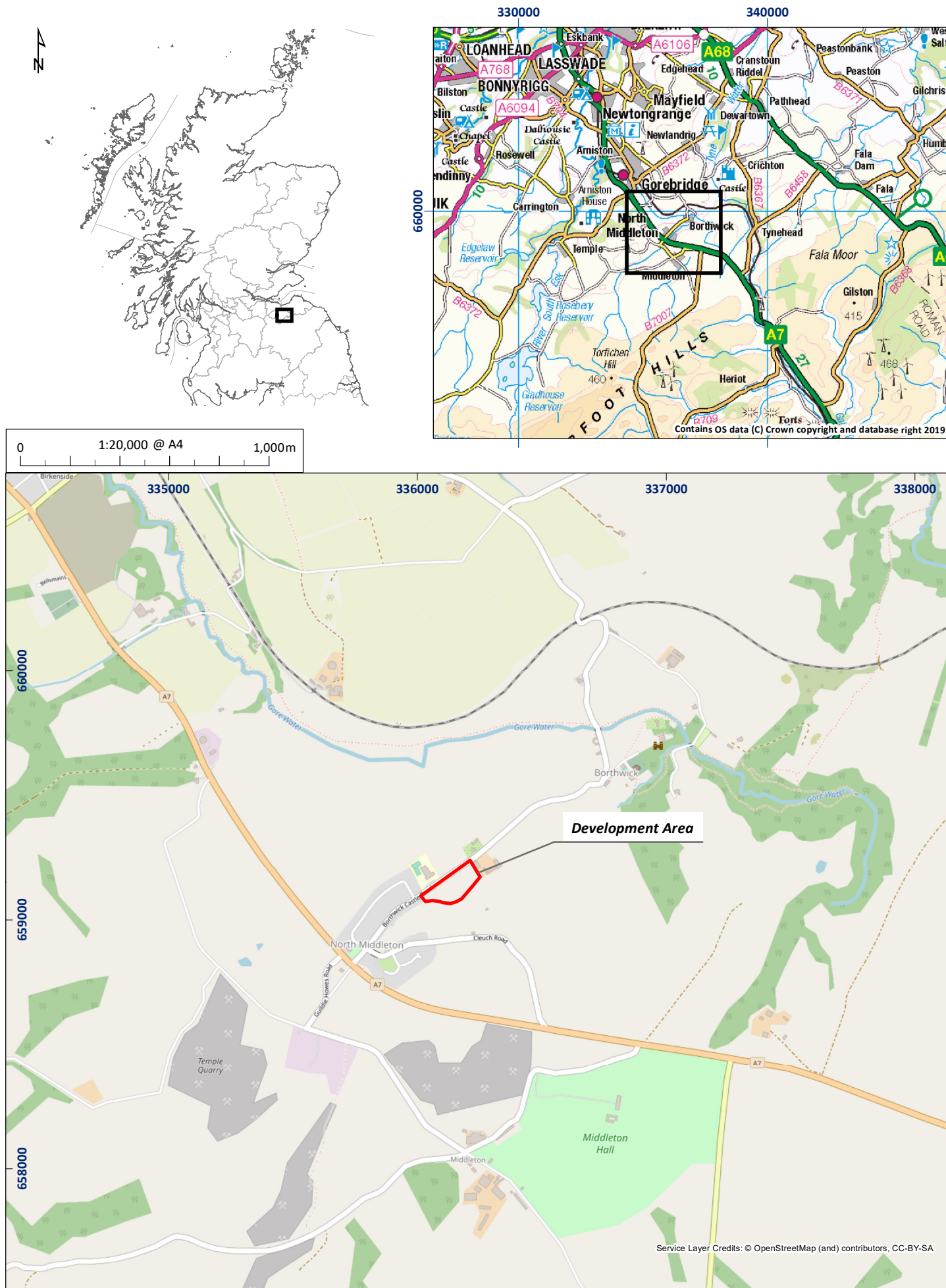


Figure 1: Site location plan



Figure 2: Trench location plan

01/23709/DSR/02/01

# **Land at North Middleton, Midlothian; Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report**

## **Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

### Archaeological Evaluation: Digital Film

No	Description	Taken From
1-4	Pre-excavation shots of site	Var
5	Post Excavation photo of Trench 1	SE
6	South facing section of Trench 1	S
7	Post Excavation photo of Trench 2	N
8	Post Excavation photo of Trench 3	N
10	Post Excavation photo of Trench 4	N
11	Post Excavation photo of Trench 5	N
11	West facing section of Trench 5	W
12	Post Excavation photo of Trench 6	W
13	Post Excavation photo of Trench 7	W
14	Post Excavation photo of Trench 8	W
15-18	Backfilled Trenches	Var

## APPENDIX 2: TRENCH REGISTER

### Trench 1:

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	NW/SE
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	Occasional white ceramic

### Trench 2:

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	N/S
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	None

*Trench 3:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	N/S
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sands and gravel with small patches of coal/manganese
Finds	Occasional white ceramic

*Trench 4:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	N/S
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	Occasional white ceramic

*Trench 5:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	N/S
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.20m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	None

*Trench 6:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	E/W
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.60m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	Occasional white ceramic

*Trench 7:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	E/W
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.50m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	Occasional white ceramic

*Trench 8:*

Total length	50m by 2m
Orientation	E/W
Depth of Topsoil	0.35m-0.40
Colluvial Deposit	0.50m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Mid orange sandy clay with occasional patches of gravel
Finds	Occasional white ceramic



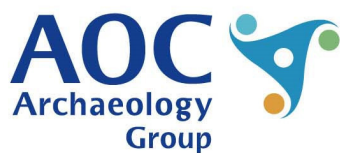
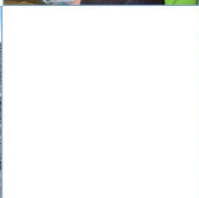
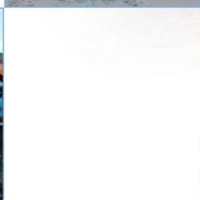
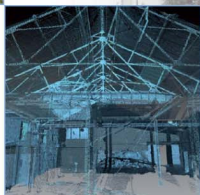
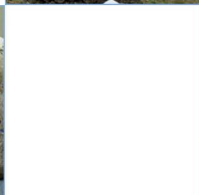
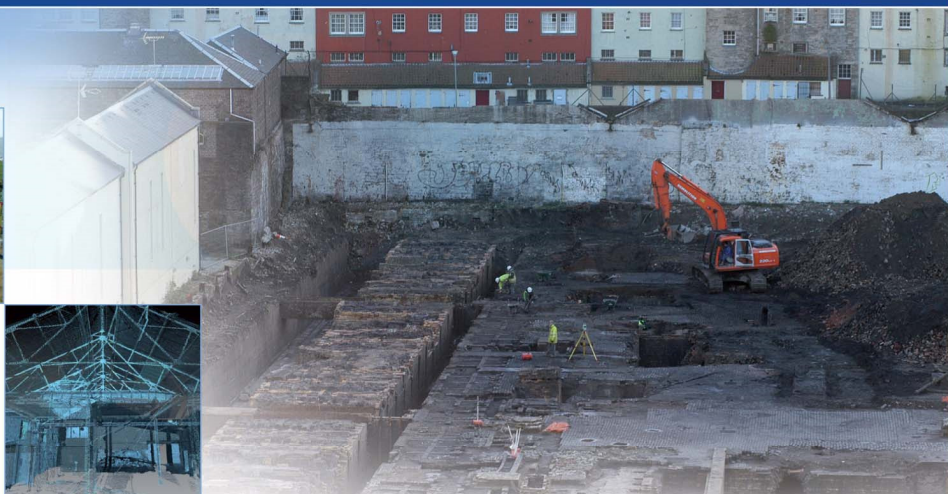
**APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT REGISTER**

<i>Context</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	All	Topsoil	Improved medium orange brown sandy clay – Agricultural soil
002	All	Natural	Mid orange mottled sandy clay with patches of sands and gravels
003	All	Colluvial Deposit	Red brown sandy silt

**APPENDIX 4: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND (DES) REPORT**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Midlothian Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Land at North Middleton, Midlothian
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC 23709
<b>PARISH:</b>	Borthwick
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Rob Engl
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>NRHE NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b>	NT 36148 59135 (centre)
<b>START DATE</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
<b>END DATE</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b>	<p>AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Miller Homes Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological works consisting of an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed new housing development at Land to the north of North Middleton, Midlothian.</p> <p>Eight trenches totalling 400 linear metres were excavated within a single sloping pasture field revealing an improved ploughsoil overlying a natural of sands and gravels. A deposit of colluvium ranging from 0.20m to 0.60m in depth was recorded across the site deepening downslope towards the north west. No archaeologically significant finds or features were observed.</p> <p>No further archaeological work is considered necessary. This will need ratification by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service on behalf of Midlothian Council.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Miller Homes Ltd
<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





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