

Jewel and Esk College, Milton Road East:

Watching Brief Data Structure Report

On behalf of: Mackenzie Partnership
17 Young Street
Edinburgh
EH2 4HU

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 3151 7283

AOC Archaeology Project No: 20494

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Illustration by: Alan Hunter Blair

Timing: Fieldwork June-July 2007
Report – July 2007

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1 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the results of a watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of a proposed development at Jewel and Esk College, Milton Road East, Edinburgh (centred on NT 3151 7285). The watching brief was commissioned on behalf of Jewel & Esk Valley College. These works were designed to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, as advised by City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) and are in accordance with the principles inherent in NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a).
- 1.2 Prior to the commencement of the archaeological works a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2007) was approved by Mr John Lawson of CECAS. The work was completed between June and July 2007.
- 1.3 Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on behalf of the Mackenzie Partnership during the ground breaking works associated with the proposed development of a leisure centre and associated swimming pool at Jewel and Esk College, Edinburgh.
- 2.1.2 The proposed development area lies within the administrative area of Edinburgh City Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Mr John Lawson of CECAS. The work required was in accordance with NPPG 5 (SOEnD 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnD 1994a), in determining the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
- 2.1.3 The proposed development area comprises 1320 m² within the grounds of the Milton Road Campus of the Jewel and Esk College.

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 Prior to these archaeological works there were no known sites within the development area.

2.3 Site location

- 2.3.1 The proposed development site is located within the grounds of the Jewel and Esk College, Milton Road, Portobello Edinburgh (NGR: NT 3151 7285; Fig. 1).

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were to:

- i)* monitor ground-breaking works associated with the development and prevent the destruction of significant archaeological features prior to their recording;
- ii)* undertake the immediate recording of isolated finds of moderately significant archaeological material that were disturbed by construction activities;
- iii)* should significant archaeological material be discovered, the preparation of a mitigation strategy compliant with Mr. Lawson will be undertaken.

4. METHOD

4.1 The details of the archaeological watching brief, laid out below, were designed to fully meet the requirements of the planning authority as advised by Mr Lawson. All ground breaking works were carried out by means of a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation was carried out under the direct supervision of an experienced field archaeologist.

4.2 The excavated areas were cleaned where necessary and were recorded according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard practice.

5. RESULTS

5.1 The various data gathered from the evaluation are presented as a series of appendices:

- i)* Appendix 1: Context Register;
- ii)* Appendix 2: The Photographic Register;
- iii)* Appendix 3: Drawing Register;
- iv)* Appendix 4 reproduces the Discovery & Excavation entry.

5.2 The fieldwork was undertaken between the 8th of June and the 12th of July, 2007. The weather conditions varied from dry and sunny to wet and overcast during this period.

5.3 The entire site was covered by a layer of tarmac which directly overlay the natural clay. Two negative features were identified and recorded during the archaeological works and comprised a cut feature [009] and a possible ditch [011].

- 5.4 Cut feature [009] was identified in the north-facing section excavated in the pool area (Figure 4). The feature was filled with compact yellowish-brown sandy clay [010] truncating a natural sandy gravel [004]. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.
- 5.5 A possible ditch [011] was identified to the north-west of the pool area (Figure 5). The feature possessed steep sides running in to a rounded base. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 5.6 Neither of the features is considered significant and both probably originate from modern farming practices.

6 CONCLUSION

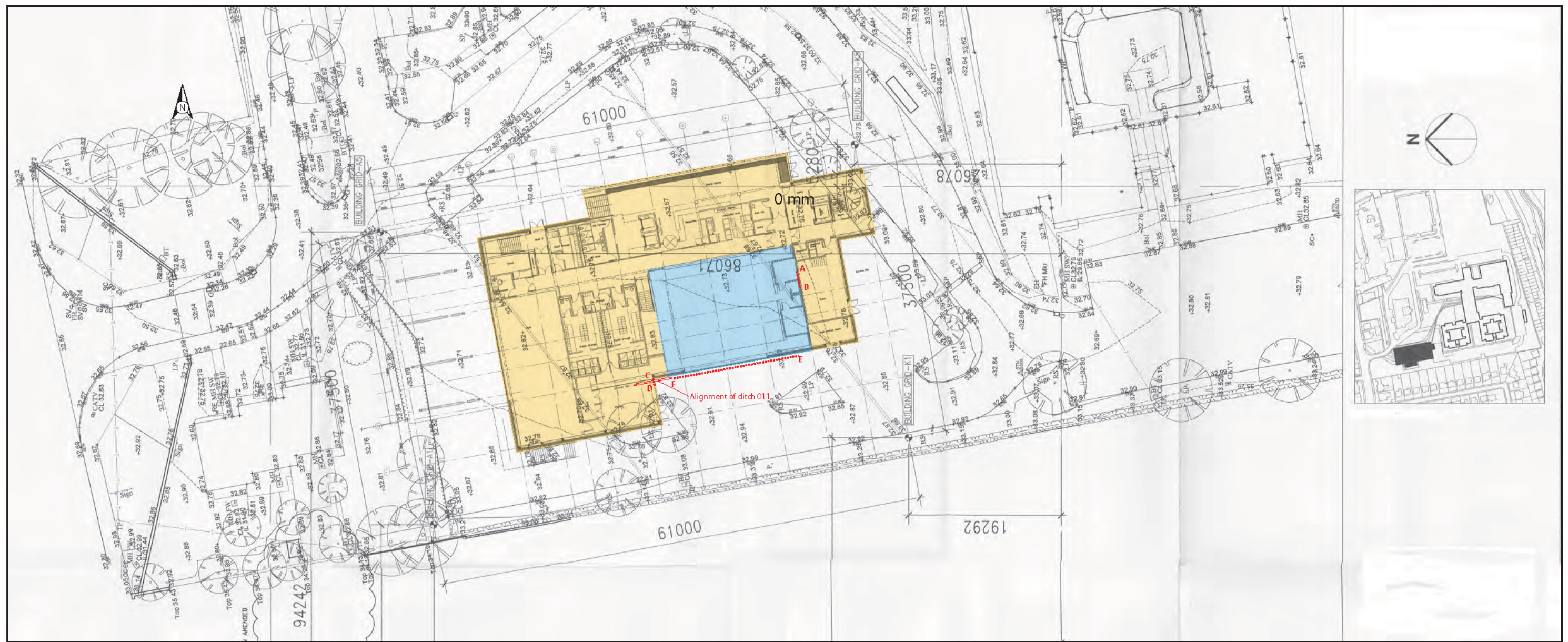
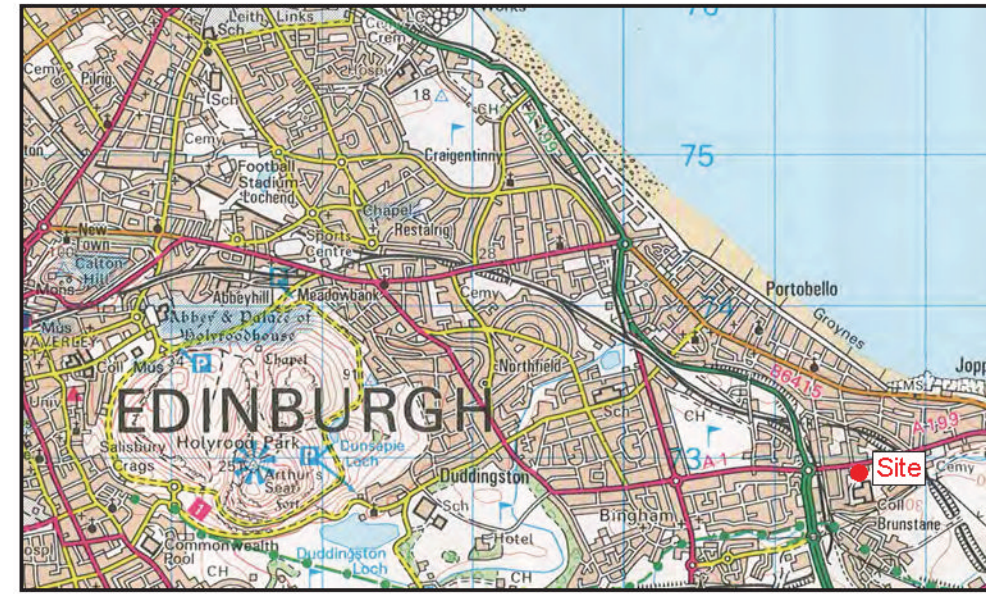
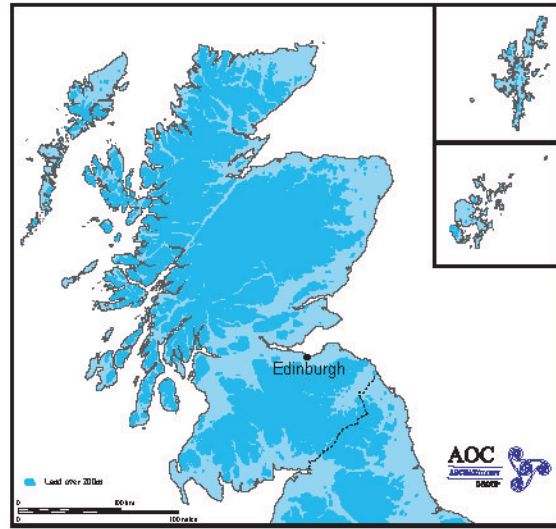
- 6.1 No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified during the works. No further archaeological works are considered necessary.

7 REFERENCES

AOC Jewell and Esk College: Written Scheme of Investigation. Unpublished Client Report.

NPPG 5 National Planning Policy Guideline NPPG 5. Archaeology and Planning. January 1994. The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994.

PAN 42 *Planning Advice Note 42. Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled Ancient Monument Procedures*. January 1994. The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994.



Based on a drawing supplied by client

Figure 1: Site location and areas monitored during watching brief

- Area monitored by watching brief
- Area excavated for swimming pool
- F G Sections



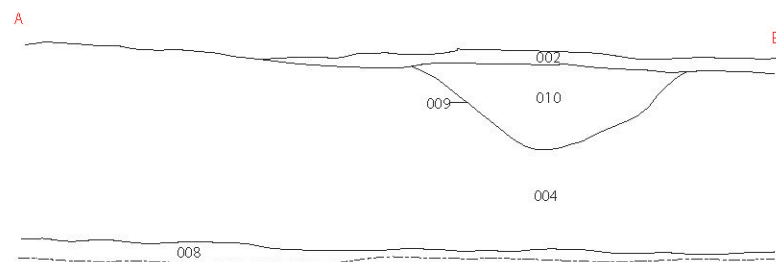


Figure 2: North facing section through ditch 009

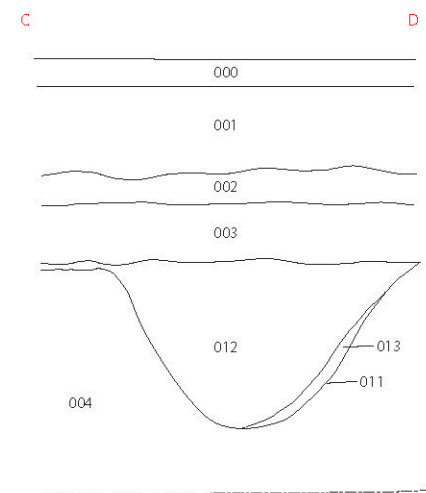


Figure 3: North facing section through ditch 011

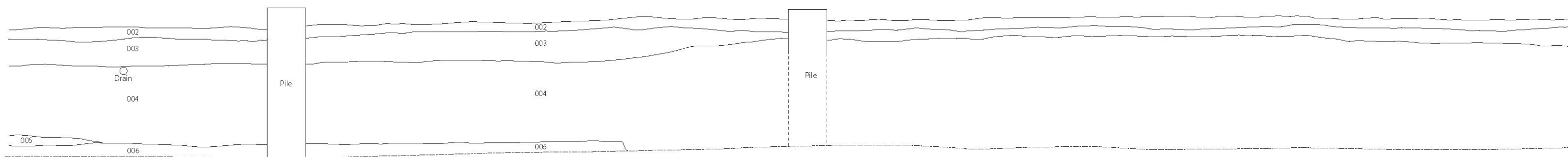


Figure 4: East facing section through deposits in swimming pool trench

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARIES

Context Number	Above	Below	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Type	Description	Interpretation
000	000	n/a	0.10	46.0 +	Layer	Compact black material	Modern tarmac from car park.
001	002	000	0.30	46.0 +	Layer	Compact light brown gravel	Bedding for tarmac.
002	003	001	0.30	46.0+	Layer	Compact, very coarse red gravel	Levelling deposit or bedding for tarmac
003	004	002	0.20	c.8.0	Layer	Compact dark brown clay with frequent sand and gravel inclusions	Buried soil horizon. No dating evidence.
004	005,007 008	009 (cut by)	1.10	c.8.0	Layer	Compact sandy gravel	Natural
005	006	004	0.10	0.50+	Layer	Compact brown coarse sand	Lens of natural sand, same as 007 and 008
006	n/a	005	0.08	3.20	Layer	Compact dark grey clay	Natural boulder clay
007	n/a	004	0.25	2.30	Layer	Compact brown coarse sand	Natural, same as 005 and 008
008	n/a	004	0.06	2.00+	Layer	Compact brown coarse sand	Natural, same as 005 and 007
009	004	010	0.50	0.70	Cut	U-shaped cut with rounded base and sides. 0.50 deep by 1.40 wide	Cut of ditch or pit. Only visible in section so further interpretation not possible
010	009	002	0.50	0.70	Fill	Compact yellowish brown sandy clay.	Fill of cut 009. No artefacts recovered
011	004	012, 013	0.20	0.80	Cut	U-shaped cut with rounded base and sides. 0.20 deep by 0.80 wide	Cut of ditch or pit. Only visible in section so further interpretation not possible
012	011	012	0.45	0.80	Fill	Compact yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel inclusions	Fill of cut feature 011

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013	011	012	0.45	c.0.05	Fill	Dark brown deposit	Primary fill of 011
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APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Digital photographs

No.	Description	From
1	Swimming pool area.	E
2	Swimming pool area, general.	N
3	Swimming pool area, general	E
4	General view of area to south (carpark area)	S
5	General view of area to south (carpark area)	W
6	General view of area adjacent to carpark area	W
7	Foundation excavation, south end	E
8	Section 2	S
9	Section 3 showing pit/ditch 009	N
10	Section 1	E
11	General working shot	N
12	West facing section of excavated foundation	W
13	North facing section of excavated foundation	N
14	Shot of east-west aligned foundation slot with concrete pillars	W
15	East facing section of foundation slot	E
16	South facing section of foundation slot	S
17	West facing section of foundation slot	W
18	South facing section of foundation slot	S
19	General working shot	E
20	North-west corner of swimming pool area	S
21	General working shot	S
22	North facing section of foundation slot	N
23	General working shot	W
24	East facing section of foundation slot	E
25	General working shot	S
26	West facing section of foundation slot	W
27	East facing section of foundation slot	E
28	East facing section of foundation slot	E
29	South facing section of foundation slot	S
30	General working shot with machine	S
31	North facing section of foundation slot	N
32	General working shot	E
33	Machine working in north-east corner of site	W
34	North facing section of foundation shot	N
35	General working shot	N
36	Excavated foundation slot	N
37	General working shot	W
38	South facing section of foundation slot	S
39	East facing section of foundation slot showing possible ditch	E
40	East facing section showing possible ditch feature	E
41	South facing section of foundation slot	S
42	General working shot	S
43	East facing section of foundation slot	E
44	South facing section of foundation slot	S
45	East facing section of foundation slot	E
46	South facing section of foundation slot	S
47	West facing section of foundation slot	W
48	General working shot	E

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49	North facing section of foundation slot	N
50	South facing section of foundation slot	S
51	West facing section of foundation slot	W
52	North facing section of foundation slot	N
53	General working shot	S
54	East facing section of foundation slot	E
55	South facing section of foundation slot	S
56	South facing section of foundation slot	S
57	South facing section of foundation slot	S

APPENDIX 3: DRAWING REGISTER

Figure	Description
1	Site location
2	North facing section through ditch 009
3	North facing section through ditch 011
4	East facing section through deposits in swimming pool trench

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APPENDIX 4: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Edinburgh City Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Jewel and Esk College, Milton Road East, Edinburgh Watching Brief
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 20494
PARISH:	Brunstane
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	David Simon
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 3151 7285
START DATE (this season)	8 th June 2007
END DATE (this season)	12 th July 2007
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was completed on all ground breaking works associated with the construction of a proposed leisure complex and associated swimming pool within the Jewel and Esk College, Milton Road, Edinburgh. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Jewel & Esk Valley College
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocscot.co.uk