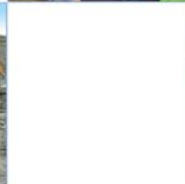
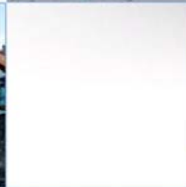


Hermiston Park & Ride Phase II (Area A) Edinburgh: Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21593
30th August 2010



Hermiston Park & Ride Phase II (Area A), Edinburgh, Evaluation: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	City of Edinburgh Council
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 1810 7010
AOC Project No:	21593
Prepared by:	Rob Engl
Illustration by:	Stefan Sagrott
Date of Fieldwork:	25th August - 27th August - 2010
Date of Report:	31st August 2010

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

Author: Rob Engl	Date: 30/08/2010
Approved by: John Gooder	Date: 30/08/2010
Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft	Date: 30/08/2010

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

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarchaeology.com



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Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of a proposed extension to the existing Park & Ride Facility at Hermiston, Edinburgh.

The archaeological evaluation was originally designed around a 7.5% trenching sample of Areas A & B (totalling 36,150 m²). However, Area B (16,950 m²) was unavailable for intrusive evaluation at this time. This led to only Area A (19,200 m²) being evaluated by means of a trenching sample of 1440 m².

A comprehensive metal detecting survey was also undertaken over both Area A and Area B.

No archaeologically significant finds or features were encountered, although there was evidence of agricultural improvement in the form of rubble and ceramic field drains.

The metal detecting survey retrieved few artefacts, and these consisted of modern material associated with farming activity. A single corroded copper alloy coin of Early Victorian date was recovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr John Lawson of the City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service (CECAS) on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council Transportation Services to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed extension to the Hermiston Park & Ride Facility, Hermiston, Edinburgh.
- 1.1.2 The proposed development lies within the administrative area of City of Edinburgh Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Mr John Lawson of the City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service (CECAS). Mr Lawson recommended a programme of archaeological works in accordance with *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government February 2010) and *Planning Advice Note 42* (SOEnd 1994) in determining the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
- 1.1.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2010) was agreed with CECAS in advance of the evaluation being undertaken. The evaluation was originally designed around a 7.5% trenching sample of two areas, Area A and Area B, with a combined land take of 36,150 m² resulting in a trenching sample of 2712 m². However, Area B (16,950 m²) was unavailable for evaluation at this time. This led to only Area A (19,200 m²) being evaluated during this current phase of work, with a 7.5% sample resulting in a trenching sample of 1440 m².

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development site (centred NGR: NT 1810 7010) is located immediately to the west of the existing Hermiston Park & Ride, Edinburgh. The site is bounded to the south and west by the Murray Burn with agricultural land to the north. The majority of the site is gently sloping towards the Murray Burn, with a ridge along the western boundary.

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 There were no known archaeological sites within the proposed development.
- 1.3.2 Previous archaeological works were conducted within the immediate vicinity by AOC Archaeology in 2004 (Cook) and 2005 (Hindmarch) during the construction of the first phase of the Park & Ride. No significant archaeological finds or features were recorded.
- 1.3.3 A Desk-Based Assessment undertaken by CECAS (Collard 1993) failed to identify any sites of potential archaeological significance (John Lawson *pers comm*). A programme of field walking aligned with an evaluation of the north-east part of the site was carried out in 1993 and failed to identify any significant archaeological features or artefacts (Collard *ibid*).

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 suggest an appropriate mitigation strategy in dealing with any archaeological remains discovered by the evaluation;
- iii)* To report on the results of the evaluation.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Evaluation Trenching

- 3.1.1 The trenching was designed to establish the extent, condition, character, quality, significance and date of any archaeological features present within the site area. The restriction of the evaluation to Area A required a sample reduction to 1440 m². The trenches, all 2 m wide, were set on varying orientations and were between 55 m and 105 m in length (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 Stripping of the overburden was by means of a single tracked excavator equipped with a 2.0 m wide toothless ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.1.3 All trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures. Upon the opening of the trenches the first 0.20 m of topsoil was placed separately from the underlying topsoil at the request of the land-owner. The trenches were carefully backfilled on completion of the evaluation.

3.2 Metal Detecting Survey

- 3.2.1 The metal detecting survey (Whites M1 detectors used on regular transist lines) was undertaken to inform the distribution and placement of the evaluation trenches. Mr Lawson was informed on the distribution and description of any finds recovered during the survey.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation and metal detecting survey were undertaken between 25th August and 27th August 2010. Overall weather conditions were generally fair, and good archaeological visibility was present throughout the entire evaluation. The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Appendices 1-3, Figures 2 and Plates 1-2.
- 4.1.2 The excavation of the trenches revealed a plough-soil comprising soft, light brown, sandy, clay loam. Numerous sherds of modern white ceramic and glass were observed scattered throughout the topsoil in all of the trenches. Underlying the topsoil, natural subsoil was a uniform sandy red clay. An occasional silt interface was observed intermittently across the

site. This varied between 0.10 m and 0.20 m in thickness. Numerous small to large sized sub-rounded and sub-angular glacial erratics were present in the subsoil.



Plate 1: Trench 6 showing rubble drains

- 4.1.3 Rubble field drains were encountered the majority of the trenches. The drains ran approximately from north-west to south-east and emptied into the Murray Burn which runs along the eastern boundary of the site. Hand dug slots were excavated through linear features which were not immediately identifiable as drains; although all such features on excavation revealed themselves to be drains.
- 4.1.3 A small number of natural stone-holes caused by the displacement of boulders by agricultural activity were also present. All but the most obvious were initially treated as potentially significant features and investigated.
- 4.1.4 The metal detecting survey retrieved a small assemblage of iron, lead and copper finds. These were all modern and would appear to be related to farm machinery and general recent activity. An early Victorian half-penny was also recovered. Given the paucity of finds, the assemblage failed in informing the positioning of the evaluation trenches.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were identified during the evaluation of Area A. The evaluation of Area B is still outstanding.



Plate 2: Trench 1 showing backfilled trench

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary within this portion (Area A) of the proposed Phase II Park & Ride development area. This recommendation will require confirmation by Mr John Lawson (CECAS) on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

AOC Archaeology 2010 *Hermiston Park & Ride Phase II, Edinburgh: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpubl AOC Archive Document.

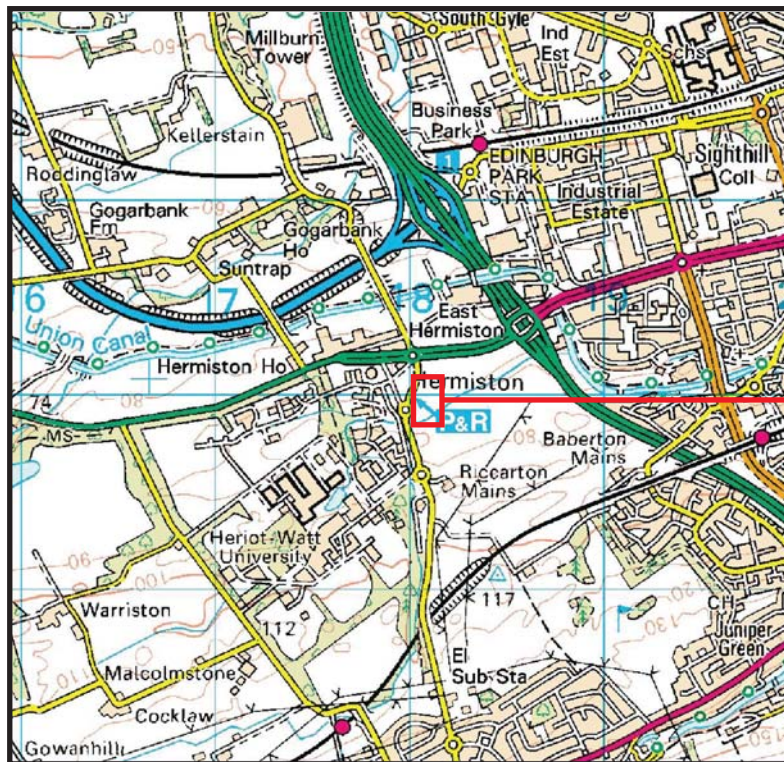
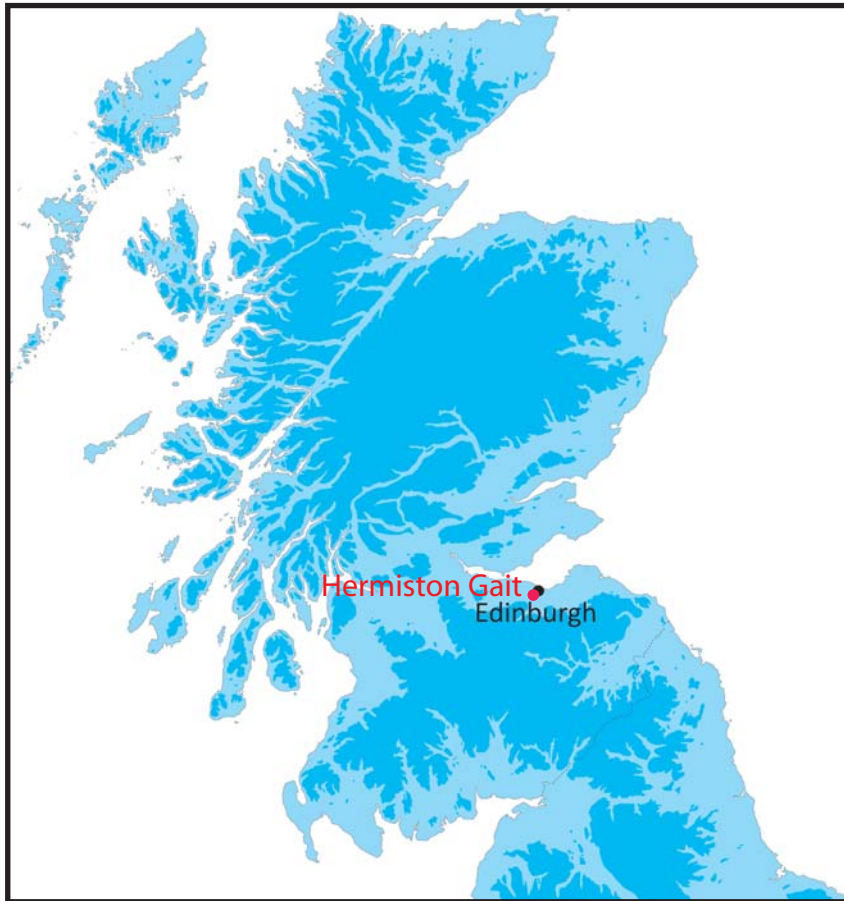
Collard M., 1993 *A71 Upgrade*. City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service unpublished report.

Cook M 2004 *Hermiston Park and Ride* Unpubl AOC Data Structure Report

Hindmarch E 2005 *Hermiston Gate* Unpubl AOC Data Structure Report

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy* (February 2010)

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



Site Area

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Figure 1: Location of the site at Hermiston Gait

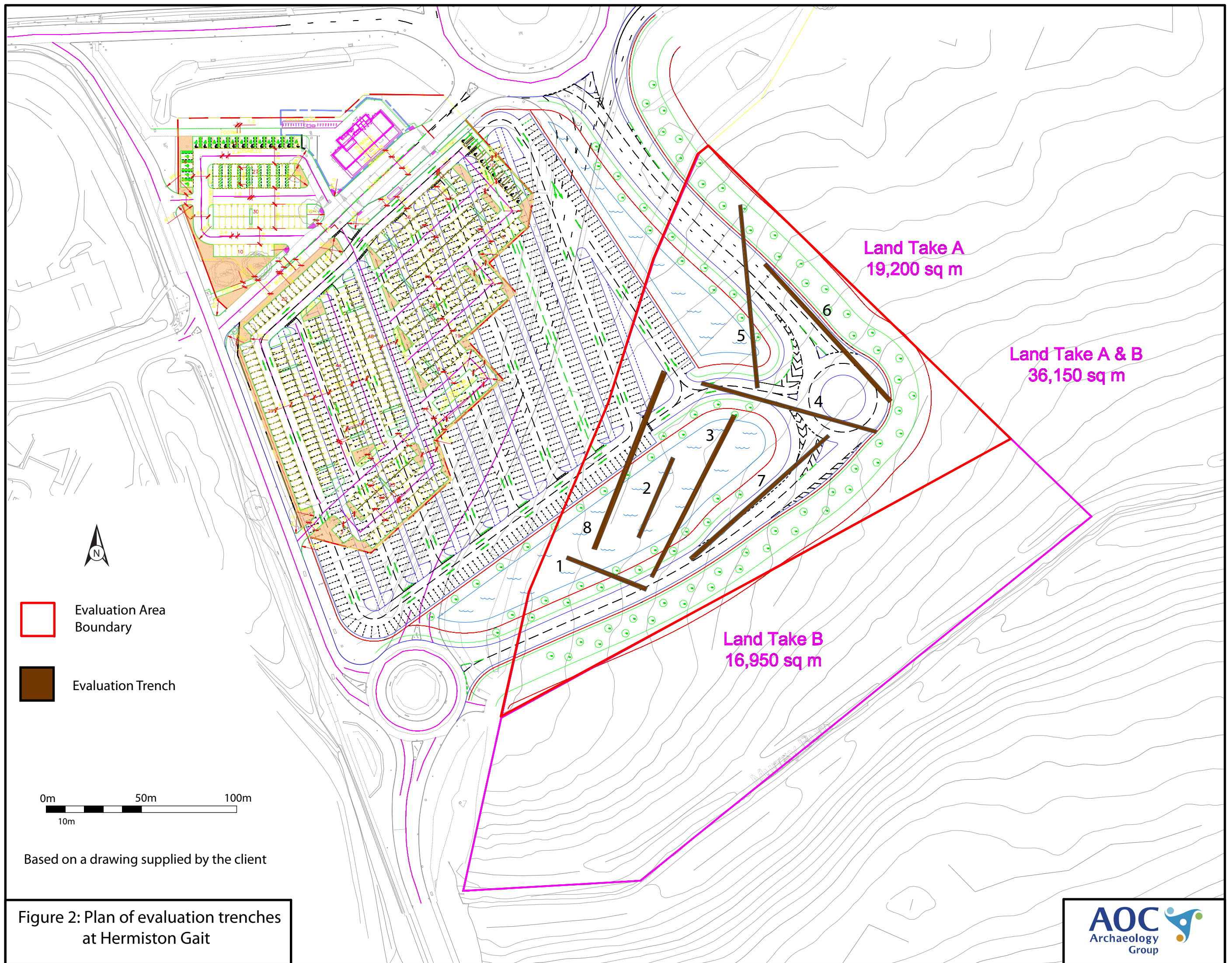


Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trenches at Hermiston Gait

**Hermiston Park & Ride Phase II (Area A), Edinburgh:
Evaluation Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	55 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	110 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	W/E
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Numerous fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass; very rare clay pipe stem fragments throughout topsoil.

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	55 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	110 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	S/N
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.35 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Clay drain at 5 m
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Moderate fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass fragments.

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	200 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	S/N
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	6 x Ceramic drains
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Frequent fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and modern glass throughout topsoil.

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	200 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	3 x Rubble drains
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Frequent fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass throughout topsoil.

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	105 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	210 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SSE/NNW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.30-0.40 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	4 x Rubble drains, 1 x ceramic drain
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Occasional fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass throughout topsoil.

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	200 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NW/SE
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.35 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	5 x Rubble drains
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Occasional fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic, and glass throughout topsoil.

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	105 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	210 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NNE/SSW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.35 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.45 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	6 x Rubble drains
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Occasional fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass throughout topsoil.

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	100 m by 2 m
<i>Total Area</i>	200 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.35 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.40 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Red clay sand with numerous small to large sub-rounded glacial erratics.
<i>Finds</i>	Occasional fragments of 19 th century and later white ceramic and glass throughout topsoil.

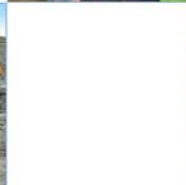
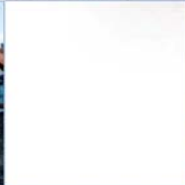
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Black & White Print/ /Digital Film 1

Frame	Trench	Description	From
0-2		Registration	
2-3	1	General post-excavation shot. Trench 1	N
4-5	2	General post-excavation shot. Trench 2	E
6-7	3	General post-excavation shot. Trench 3	E
8-9	4	General post-excavation shot. Trench 4	N
10-11	5	General post-excavation shot. Trench 5	E
12-13	6	General post-excavation shot. Trench 6	S
14-15	7	General post-excavation shot. Trench 7	E
16-17	8	General post-excavation shot. Trench 8	S
18-23	-	General shots of site	SW

APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Hermiston Park & Ride Phase II (Area A) Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21593
PARISH:	Currie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rob Engl
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:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 1810 7010
START DATE (this season)	25 th August 2010
END DATE (this season)	27 th August 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	Cook M, 2004 Hermiston Park & Ride, Evaluation, <i>Discovery Excav Scot, vol. 5: 59</i> Hindmarch E 2005 Hermiston Gate, Edinburgh, Watching Brief <i>Discovery Excav Scot, vol. 6: 69</i>
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to the construction of a proposed extension (Phase II, Area A) to the existing Park & Ride Facility at Hermiston, Edinburgh. The archaeological evaluation was designed around a 7.5% trenching sample (1440 m ²) of Area A (19,200 m ²). A comprehensive metal detecting survey was also undertaken over Area A and a later phase of Park & Ride development, Area B (16,950 m ²). The evaluation revealed no archaeologically significant finds or features, although there was evidence of agricultural improvement in the form of rubble and ceramic tile field drains. The metal detecting survey retrieved a single corroded copper alloy coin of Early Victorian date.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Archaeological evaluation of Area B
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	City of Edinburgh Council
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocscot.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	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: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com