

HHLM/01



HOPE HOUSE, LORETTO SCHOOL, MUSSELBURGH

WATCHING BRIEF

commissioned by Loretto School

15/00626/P

December 2016

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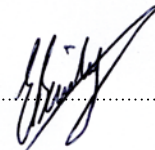
December 2016

project info

HA JOB NO. HHLM/01
NGR NT 34838 72694
PARISH parish (not Wales)
LOCAL AUTHORITY East Lothian Council
OASIS REF. headland1- 239601

project team

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 **HEADLAND
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PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a watching brief on the excavation of a pipe trench associated with the installation of two biomass buildings at Hope House, Loretto School Pinkie Campus, Musselburgh. The monitoring was undertaken in order to identify and record any archaeological remains that might be exposed during the works. The work was commissioned by Loretto School in response to a planning condition from the East Lothian Council. Monitoring was conducted in January 2016 and observed approximately 0.50m of topsoil overlying an anthropomorphic subsoil containing post-medieval pottery dating to the late 18th Century. A spread of modern building debris was noted at the western end of the trench in between the topsoil and the subsoil and may have been used to level out the lawn. No archaeological features were observed and excavations did not reach the depth of geological deposits.

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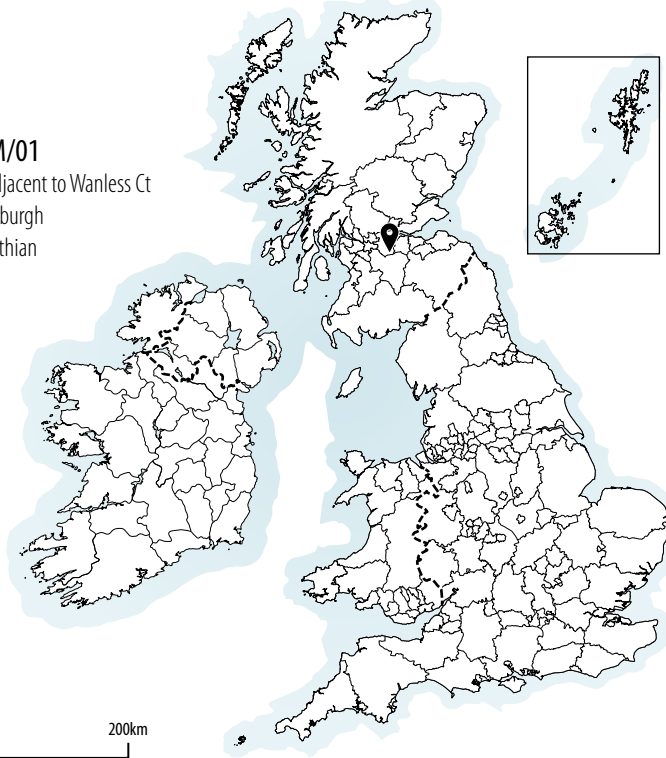
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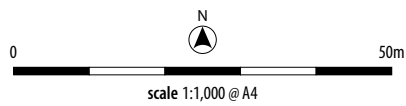
HHLM/01

land adjacent to Wanless Ct
Musselburgh
East Lothian



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- KEY**
- monitored cable route
 - unmonitored cable route
 - tree and root protection



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WATCHING BRIEF

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Loretto School to undertake an archaeological watching brief in advance of the installation of a biomass building and associated services at Loretto School, Pinkie Campus, Musselburgh. The work was required to meet a condition placed by East Lothian Council on a planning application (planning reference 15/00626/P). The objectives of the watching brief were to record any archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development works. This report details the results of the monitoring.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The site was centred at NGR NT 34838 72694 within Loretto School Pinkie Campus. The proposed biomass plant was situated on the north-west side of Hope House with the proposed service trench running eastwards from Hope House across tarmac/concrete road and open lawn to Pinkie House.

The centre of the site lay around 5.00m OD and the underlying geology was comprised of raised marine deposits of Flandrian age; Sands and gravels formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. These overlay sedimentary rock of Scottish Middle Coal Measures Formation formed approximately 310 to 312 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period (NERC 2016).

The site was situated to the north of Inveresk Roman Fort, a scheduled monument (SM 3285) and associated civil settlement and field systems. It was also located within the north-eastern bounds of the Battle of Pinkie fought in 1547. This battle was the largest to take place in Scotland and the last between the nations of England and Scotland before the act of Union. It is significant for the use, by both sides, of early gunpowder weaponry in substantial quantities. The main concentration of the battle is thought to have taken place to the south of this area on open ground south-east of Wallyford but the exact locations of fighting are unknown. The Scottish camp was located to the west of the River Esk and the English camp to the east, near the area now occupied by the Royal Musselburgh Golf Course.

The Scottish rear guard are thought to have marched through Musselburgh and sustained casualties from naval bombardment before turning southwards and inland.

Pinkie House, located on the western edge of the site consists of a mansion house built in 1613 by Alexander Seton, Earl of Dunfermline. It incorporated a 16th century L-shaped house which may well include the nucleus of a still earlier Tower-house which now forms the northern end of the main block. The main block contains 3 storeys, with the square tower being 5 storeys high. An ornate draw well built in 1610 is also present to the immediate west of Pinkie House.

3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- › to record any archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development works; and
- › to report on the results of the work.

4 METHODOLOGY

The methodology involved the targeted monitoring of a cable trench running from behind Hope House where the biomass buildings would be situated to the northern wing of Pinkie House (see Illus 1). The section of cable trench to be monitored comprised a c. 40m long section which crossed an open lawn situated between Pinkie House and Hope House. Cable trench excavations outside this area were not monitored as they crossed previously disturbed ground (tarmac and concrete road surfaces). The cable trench was excavated to a depth of no greater than 1.00m and was 0.50m wide. All works were undertaken according to the methodology set out in the WSI (Headland Archaeology 2015) approved by East Lothian Council Archaeological Service.



ILLUS 2 Site overview showing cable route set out in between plywood boards

4.1 FIELDWORK

All ground breaking work where the cable trench crossed the area of lawn was monitored by an archaeologist. An excavator fitted with a flat toothed bucket was used to remove first the turf and then any soft deposits in 0.10m spits. Excavation was conducted over the course of a single day with the cable trench left open for the purpose of laying ducts.

4.2 RECORDING

All recording followed Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd standard procedures and was in accordance with the codes of practice and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological norms and all contexts were given unique numbers, a full list of which can be found in Appendix 1.

Digital photographs were taken to record archaeological contexts and to illustrate the general nature of the work. All photographs have been recorded by individual print number and include information on the context and direction taken. A full list of the photographs can be found in Appendix 1

Location sketches were drawn by hand measurements onto a plan of the development area in relation to the National Grid supplied by the client. Where appropriate, hand drawn plans of complex contexts, features or structures were produced

4.3 REPORTING AND ARCHIVE

On completion of the monitored groundworks a site archive and an archive report will be produced. An online OASIS report has been completed and is accompanied by a pdf report and boundary file (headland1-239601). A summary report has been submitted for inclusion in Discovery and Excavation Scotland a copy of which can be found in Appendix 2

The project archive will be compiled in accordance with the guidelines published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF 2011). The documentary and digital archive will be submitted to Historic Environment Scotland within six months of completion of all work on this project.

5 RESULTS

All excavations as part of the development were monitored by an experienced archaeologist.

Full context descriptions are included in Appendix 1. Contexts were assigned consecutive numbers for the whole period of works. Cut and structural features are shown as [100] whilst fills and deposits are expressed as (101). The results are described in chronological order.

Mid orange brown sandy silt subsoil (1003) was observed at a depth of 0.70m approximately 10.00m from the eastern end of the cable trench and was observed to rise gradually going west to a minimum depth of 0.50m at the western end of the trench. The full thickness



ILLUS 3 Eastern end of cable trench fully excavated



ILLUS 4 North facing section showing rubble spread (1002) in between subsoil (1003) and topsoil (1001)



ILLUS 5 Cable trench completed

of this deposit was not seen. Inclusions within the subsoil included frequent charcoal flecks and several sherds of post-medieval pottery spot dated to the third quarter of the 18th century. No material of a date later than this was observed.

Overlying the subsoil for a 5.00m stretch at the far western end of the cable trench was a light orange brown silty sand deposit containing modern brick, glass, mortar and other building rubble (1002). The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.10m. The deposit appears to be a spread of demolition material used to raise the level of the lawn area of a consistent flat surface.

The whole length of the cable trench was sealed by a dark brown loam topsoil which was thickest (up to 0.70m) at the eastern end and thinnest (0.50m) at the western end of the trench. This topsoil contained frequent modern inclusions such as modern glass, brick and plastic and metal items.

6 DISCUSSION

The results of the monitoring of the cable trench at Loretto School revealed a buried subsoil that most likely had not been disturbed since the late 18th century. This period is significant to the history of Pinkie House as it was during this time that Charles Edward Stuart commandeered the building for use as a residence and a field hospital in the aftermath of the battle of Preston Pans and that the last significant alterations to the fabric of the building were made

prior to its becoming part of Loretto School. Whilst no archaeological features were identified the results have shown that undisturbed deposits remain beneath a significant overburden of topsoil.

7 REFERENCES

- Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) 2011 *Archaeological Archives A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2nd edn) [online document] Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA): Reading, available from www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/aaf_archaeological_archives_2011.pdf
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014a *Code of Conduct* [online document] available from www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CodesofConduct.pdf
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014b *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* [online document] available from www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GFieldevaluation_1.pdf
- Headland Archaeology 2015 *Loretto School, Hope House, Musselburgh; Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief* Headland Archaeology: Edinburgh (HHLM/01)
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) 2016 *British Geological Survey* [online] accessed 20 January 2016 from www.bgs.ac.uk/

8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Context register

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION
1001	Topsoil. Dark brown grey loam with occasional charcoal and modern debris. Average thickness of 0.50m up to 0.70m
1002	Rubble spread at western end of trench. Approximately 5.00m long and 0.10m thick. Comprised of a light orange brown silty sand with frequent brick rubble fragments and occasional modern glass and metal
1003	Subsoil. Mid orange brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional post-medieval pottery

Appendix 1.2 Photographic register

PHOTO	DIRECTION	DESCRIPTION
01	E	Setting shot of Pinkie House to the East
02	SE	Setting shot of Pinkie House looking South-East
03	NW	Lawn and route of cable set out inbetween plywood boards
04	NW	Start of cable route as it comes out of road onto lawn
05	E	Route of cable trench along road
06	S	North facing section of trench as it enters lawn area
07	S	North facing section of trench as it enters lawn area
08	S	North facing section of trench showing topsoil down whole profile
09	SW	General working shot
10	E	Completed Eastern section of lawn area. Still in topsoil throughout
11	E	Subsoil appearing at depth of 0.70m
12	E	Working shot with subsoil showing in foreground
13	S	North facing section showing rising subsoil
14	S	North facing section with 1.00m scale
15	W	Cable trench nearing completion with 1.00m scale
16	S	North facing section with 1.00m scale
17	S	North facing section with 1.00m scale
18	E	Working shot of trench looking East
19	W	Western end of trench nearly at road
20	S	North facing section showing layer of rubble spread separating topsoil from subsoil at western end of trench. 1.00m scale
21	S	North facing section showing layer of rubble spread separating topsoil from subsoil at western end of trench. 1.00m scale
22	E	Cable trench completed with 1.00m scale

PHOTO	DIRECTION	DESCRIPTION
23	SW	Working shot
24	E	Setting shot of completed trench

APPENDIX 2 DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION SCOTLAND

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Hope House, Loretto School, Musselburgh. Archaeological Watching Brief
PROJECT CODE:	HHLM15
PARISH:	Musselburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Matthew Ginnever
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	—
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	—
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	—
NGR (2 LETTERS, 8 OR 10 FIGURES)	NT 34838 72694
START DATE (THIS SEASON)	20th January 2016
END DATE (THIS SEASON)	20th January 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (INCL. DES REF.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (MAY INCLUDE INFORMATION FROM OTHER FIELDS)	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a watching brief on the excavation of a 40m stretch of pipe trench, where it crossed an area of undeveloped land, associated with the installation of two biomass buildings at Hope House, Loretto School Pinkie Campus, Musselburgh. The monitoring was undertaken in order to identify and record any archaeological remains that might be exposed during the works. The work was commissioned by Loretto School in response to a planning condition from the East Lothian Council. Monitoring was conducted in January 2016 and observed approximately 0.50m of topsoil overlying an anthropomorphic subsoil containing post-medieval pottery dating to the late 18th Century. A spread of modern building debris was noted at the western end of the trench in between the topsoil and the subsoil and may have been used to level out the lawn. No archaeological features were observed and excavations did not reach the depth of geological deposits.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	—
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Loretto School, Musselburgh
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (INTENDED/DEPOSITED)	HES



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