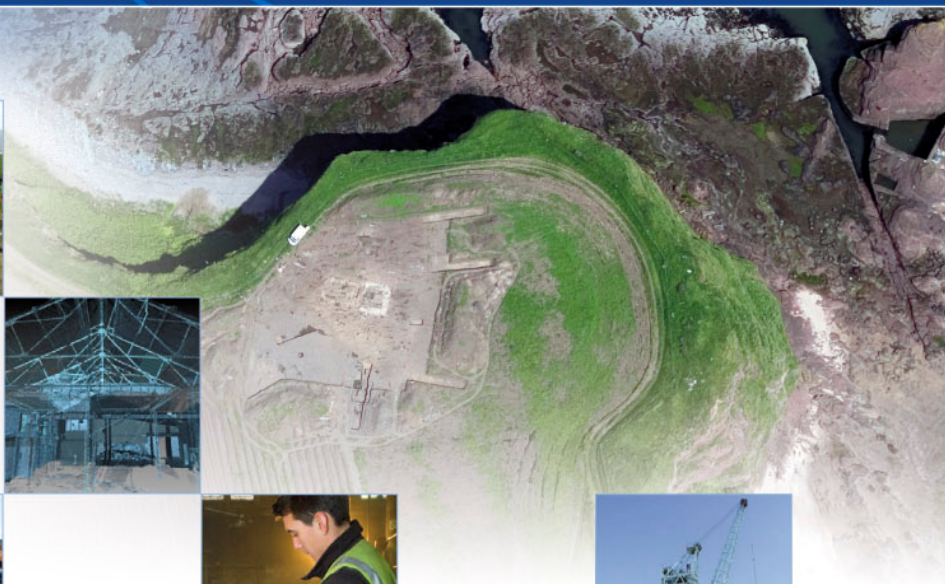
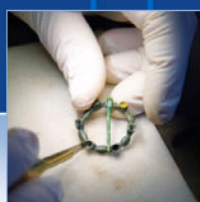


Pointhouse Quay, Glasgow: Watching Brief Report

20822
July 2008



Pointhouse Quay, Glasgow: Watching Brief Report

On Behalf of:	Culture and Sport Glasgow Riverside Museum Project Museum of Transport 1 Burnhouse Road Glasgow G3 8DP
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 5591 6596
AOC Project No:	20822
Prepared by:	Martin Cook & Joe Feeney
Illustration by:	Graeme Carruthers
Date of Fieldwork:	March to July 2008
Date of Report:	July 2008

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

Author: Martin Cook & Joe Feeney	Date: 29 th July 2008
Approved by: John Gooder	Date: 29 th July 2008
Draft Report Stage:	Date: 29 th July 2008

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



www.aocarchaeology.com

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Abstract

This report represents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by AOC Archaeology at Pointhouse Quay, Glasgow Lanarkshire (centred NGR: NS 5591 6596). The work was commissioned by Culture and Sport Glasgow, on behalf of the Riverside Museum in advance of the redevelopment of the former quayside. The archaeological works were designed to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, as advised by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) and are in accordance with the principles inherent in NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a).

The objective of the work was to prevent any negative physical impact on the archaeological resource without prior recording as derived from ground-works associated with the excavation of 'super-trenches' within the site. The work was carried out during March-July 2008 and was conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2008) which was agreed by WoSAS, and approved by the planning authority. The watching brief monitored the excavation of super trenches (for access routes) below the new buildings.

The watching brief revealed the area had been built up through the deposition of made-ground over alluvial sands. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were observed. No further archaeological works are recommended.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Culture and Sport Glasgow on behalf of the Riverside Museum, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of *super trenches* at Pointhouse Quay, Glasgow (Figure 1). The site is located within the Local Authority administrative area of the Glasgow City Council. The work was undertaken in compliance with the requirements of the planning authority as imposed by Glasgow City Council, as advised by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). All works were in accordance with the principles inherent in NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a).

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development site is located at Pointhouse Quay, approximately 2.5 km to the west of Glasgow City centre on the northern banks of the River Clyde at the confluence of the rivers Kelvin and Clyde (NGR: NS 5591 6596).
- 1.2.2 The site, irregular in shape, covers an area of 11,000 m² of now derelict industrial land. The location and plan of the site is shown in Figure 1.

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 Generally, the historical importance of the area lies in its association with the Clyde shipbuilding industry. In particular, the area encompasses the former site of the Pointhouse Shipyard (*NMRS*: NS56NE 1449) which comprised a series of buildings including a sawmill, joiners shop and pattern makers shop. Shipbuilding on the River Clyde ended in the early 1960s, with the heavy industries normally associated with the trade gradually moving away from the area between the 1960s and 1980s. From the 1980s onwards the docks and quays along the Clyde have been either infilled or redeveloped, or used for storage and other mixed use developments.
- 1.3.2 The Pointhouse Quay area sits on the opposite side of the Clyde from Govan Old Parish Church, an early Christian site dating from at least the 7th century AD, and the religious centre of the Romano-British kingdom of Strathclyde until the 11th century (Glasgow City Council 2006). Doomster Hill, a presumed early medieval court hill was situated to the east of the early church site. Recent research has indicated that an early medieval royal estate lay on the northern bank of the Clyde in this area. Travel across the Clyde and Kelvin between these early secular and religious centres of power would have been feasible by ford at low tide or by ferry. The origins of the modern ferry link across the Clyde at this point are of considerable, but unconfirmed age, as is the date of first settlement at Pointhouse itself, a pre-improvement steading which formerly occupied the angle between the rivers (Glasgow City Council 2006).

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were:
- i) to monitor ground-breaking works associated with the super trench construction and prevent the destruction of significant archaeological features prior to their recording;

- ii) to undertake the immediate recording of isolated finds of minor archaeological material (including retrieval of palaeoenvironmental evidence) that will be disturbed by the development programme;
- iii) given the discovery of highly significant archaeological material in quantity that that will suffer an adverse impact from construction works (ie preservation *in situ* is impractical), the recording of all archaeological features by means of a mitigation strategy to be formulated with WoSAS.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The watching brief monitored all ground breaking works associated with the excavation of the *super trenches* across the site of the Riverside Museum (Figures 1 and 2).
- 3.2 The watching brief was conducted according to the requirements set out in the *Specifications* provided by Glasgow City Council (December 2007). Black and white print and colour slide photographic record shots were taken during the watching brief (Appendix 1).
- 3.3 An AOC surveyor visited the site intermittently to record the trench locations and depths and heights OD levels of excavations. Due to Health and Safety restrictions it was not possible to determine the OD levels of all the trench bases.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken intermittently between 3rd March and 23rd July 2008. The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Figures 2. It is not considered likely that the prevailing weather conditions during the watching brief in any way compromised archaeological visibility.
- 4.2 The excavation of the super trenches revealed the majority of the proposed development area to be made of reclaimed land comprising up to 2.50 m of made ground overlying the natural alluvial sands. Generally, the upper 1.5 m of the made ground comprised of recently laid Type 1 gravel, used to raise the building surface. Although fragments of red brick walls and concrete foundations were identified, none were *in situ* and instead relate to the dumping of material within the area. However, concrete piles identified throughout the site probably represent the remnants of the foundations of the warehouse buildings which once occupied the site.
- 4.3 Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were recovered.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were identified. No further works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require the confirmation of WoSAS.

6 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

AOC 2008 Pointhouse Quay: *Written Scheme of Investigation*. AOC unpublished client document.

Glasgow City Council, May 2006, *Pointhouse Quay Walls, Archaeological Watching Brief Specification*

Glasgow City Council, December 2007 *Archaeological Watching Brief Specification: Riverside Museum Super Trench Excavation*

SOEnd 1994 *National Planning Policy Guideline 5: Archaeology and Planning*. The Scottish Office Environment Department.

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



Pointhouse Quay, Glasgow: Watching Brief Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1

Photographic Record

Black & White Print Film 1

Frame	Area	Description	From
1-2		Registration	
3-4		Working shots of Area 1	W
5		Working shot of super trench	SW
6		Working shot of south-east area of site	SW
7		Working shot of super trench	SW
8		Working shot of wooden pile	W
9		Working shot of wooden pile	N
10		Working shot of wooden pile	S
11-12		Working shot of trench excavation	S
13		Working shots of type 1 material being excavated	E
14		Working shot of trench excavation	S
15-16		Working shot of trench excavation	E
17-18		Detail of sandstone foundation	S
19-20		Working shot of type 1 material being excavated	S
21-22		Detail of sandstone foundation	S
23-24		Detail of sandstone foundation	E
25		Working shot of trench excavation	N
26		Detail of sewer pipe	S
27		Working shot of trench excavation	S
28		Working shot of type 1 material being stripped	S
29-30		Working shot of trench excavation	S
31		South facing section of trench	S
32-33		Detail of man-hole and sewer	SW
34		Detail of man-hole being excavated	S
35-36		Detail of brick support structure	S

Black & White Print Film 2

Frame	Area	Description	From
1-2		Registration	
3-4		Shot of industrial remains	S
5-6		Detail of service pipe in section	E
7-8		Detail of sandstone wall foundation	S
9-10		Detail of sandstone block	W
11-12		Detail of sandstone block	SW

Black & White Print Film 3

Frame	Area	Description	From
1-2		Registration	
3		West-facing section through trench	W
4		General shot of trench excavation	W
5		South-facing section through spur trench	S
6		South-facing section through spur trench	S
7		Working shot of spur excavation	S

8		Working shot of spur excavation	S
9		Working shot of spur excavation	S
10		Working shot of spur excavation	W
11		Working shot of spur excavation	N
12		Working shot of spur excavation	N
13		Detail of red brick wall	SW
14		Working shot of spur excavation	S
15		South-facing section of spur	S
16		West-facing section through spur	W
17		West-facing section through spur	W
18		Detail of excavation of lift shaft	

APPENDIX 2

Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Glasgow City Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Pointhouse Quay
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 20822
PARISH:	Glasgow
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Martin Cook & Joe Feeney
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 5591 6596
START DATE (this season)	3 rd March 2008
END DATE (this season)	23 rd July 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was conducted during the excavation of a series of super trenches associated with the construction of the Riverside Museum. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified during the work.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	--
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Culture and Sport Glasgow
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

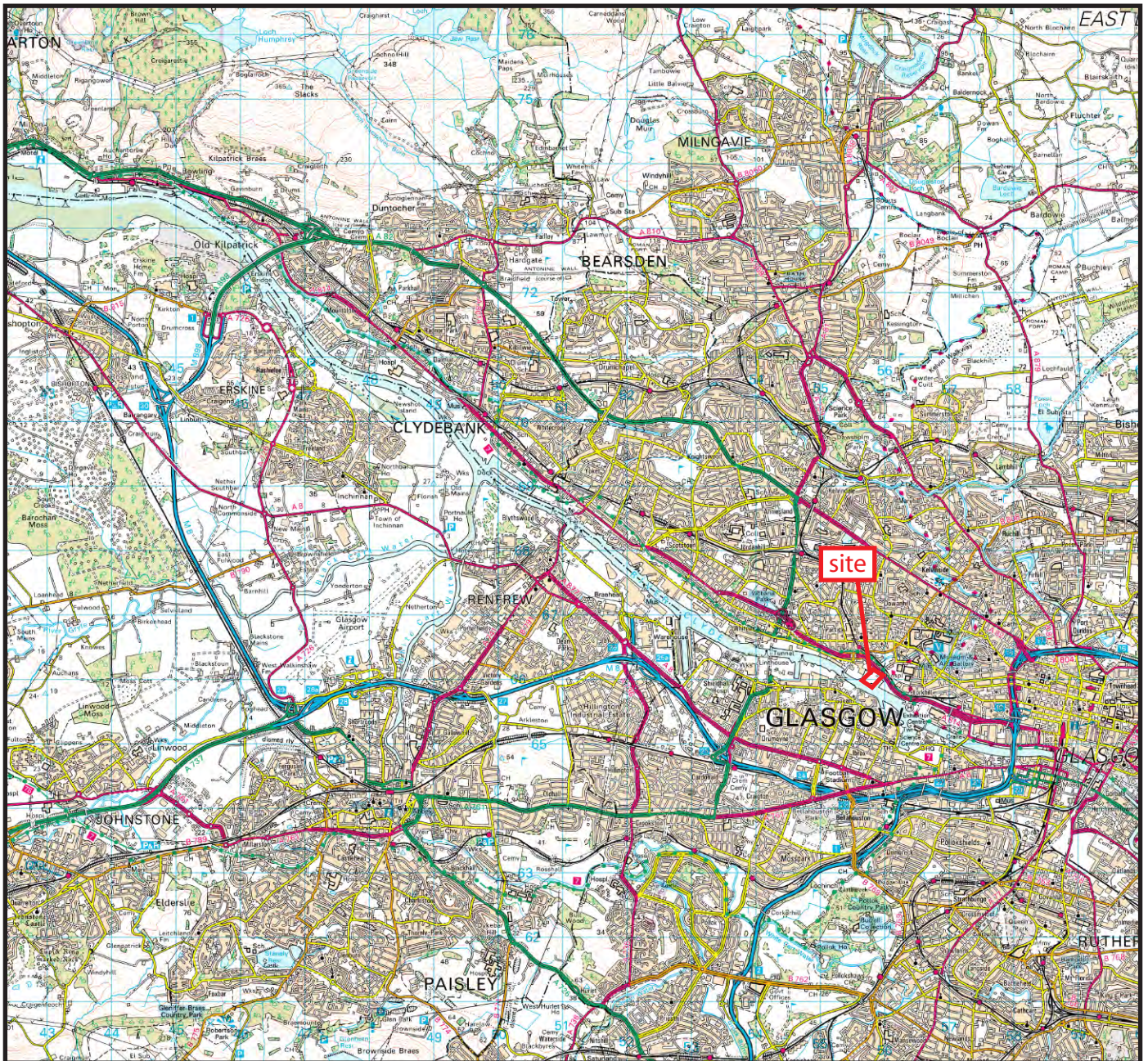
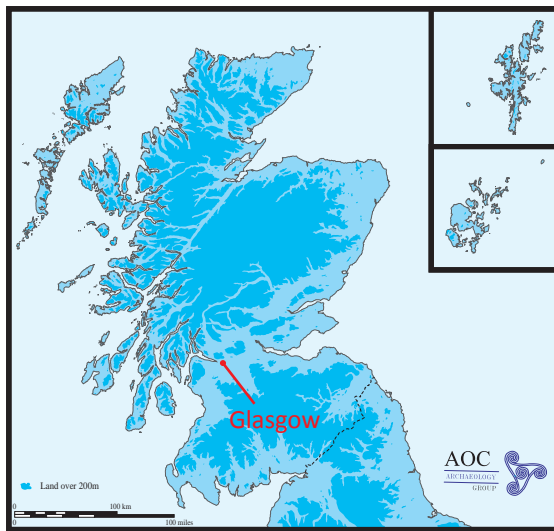


Figure 1: Site location

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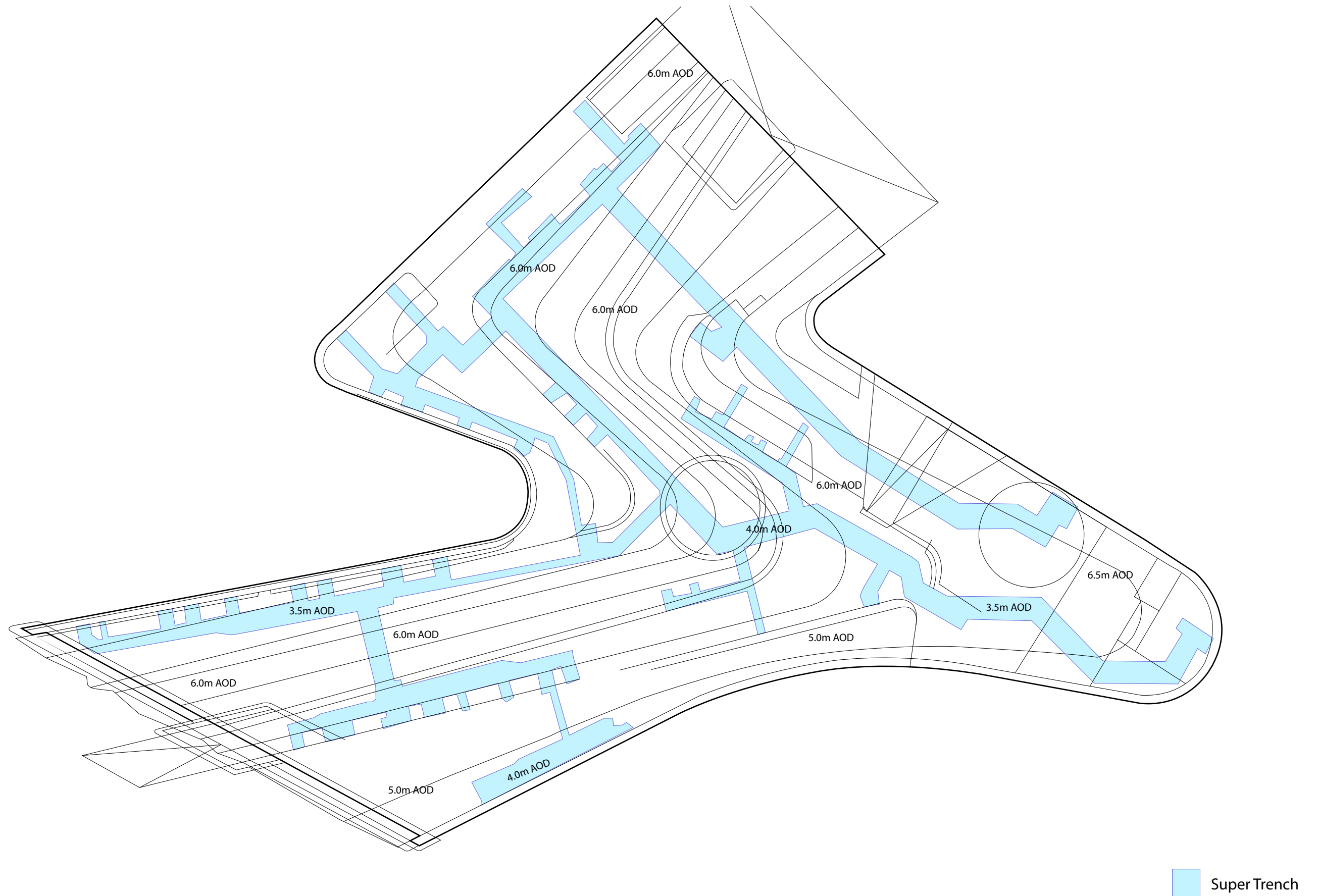
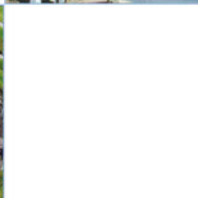
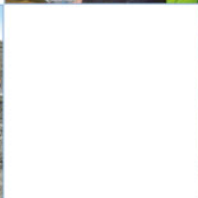
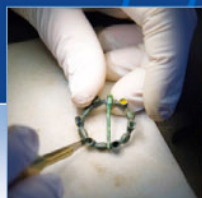


Figure 2: Location plan of super trench



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY

tel: 0131 440 3593

| fax: 0131 440 2491

| e-mail: edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com