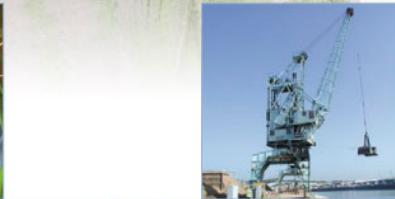
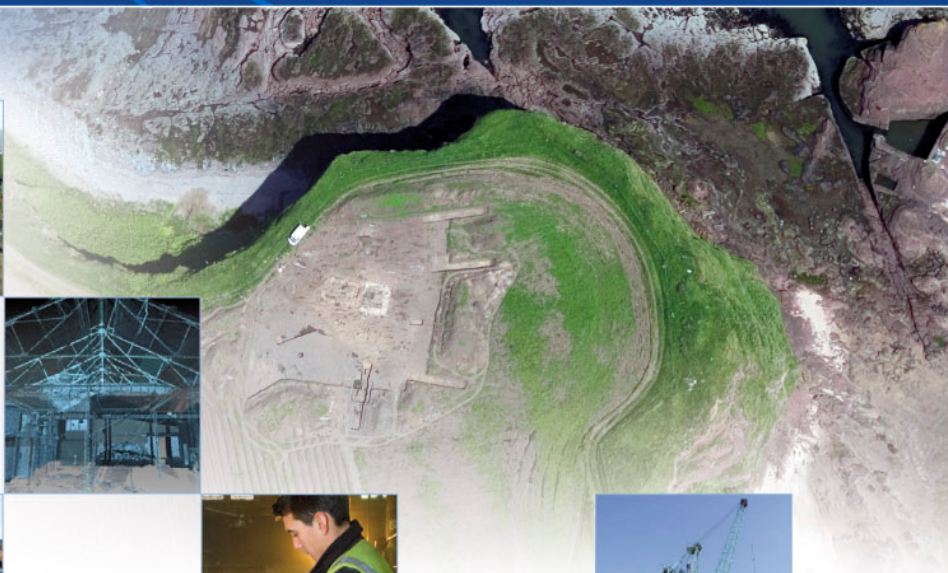


Cliftonhall School: Monitoring Visit Report (Kitchen Extension)

AOC Project Number 20999
June 2008



On Behalf of:	Cairns Ford & Yuill Architects The Lodge, Old Faskally, Killiecrankie Perth PH16 5LG
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 1096 7094
AOC Project No:	20999
Prepared by:	Alan Duffy
Illustration by:	Graeme Carruthers
Date of Monitoring Visit:	June 2008
Date of Report:	June 2008

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

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Site location plan

1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological monitoring visit carried out at Clifton Hall School, on a small plot of land adjacent to the north side of the gym hall, failed to identify any significant archaeological material.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Cairns, Ford and Yuill Architects to undertake an archaeological monitoring visit prior to the proposed development of a Kitchen Block at Clifton Hall School, Newbridge, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 1096 7094). The work was undertaken in response to a planning condition (Ref: 08/00927/Ful) set by the City of Edinburgh Council.
- 2.2 The City of Edinburgh Council is advised on archaeological matters by Mr. John Lawson, of the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). Mr. Lawson recommended a monitoring visit after the demolition and subsequent lifting of the concrete slab of a building already present on the site of the proposed new Kitchen Block. The work was undertaken in accordance with NPPG 5 (SOEnd 1994) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a), and carried out in order to determine the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

2.3 Site location

- 2.3.1 The site lies within the grounds of Clifton Hall School, formerly Clifton Hall, a country house centred at NGR: NT 1096 7094. The site is bounded by the Union Canal to the south and the M8 spur road to the north (Figure 1).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The grounds of Clifton Hall School contain four known sites of archaeological interest, relating to both the Clifton Hall country house and isolated findspots.
- 3.2 Clifton Hall (NMRS: NT17SW 39.00) is a Victorian country house currently occupied by the Clifton Hall School. Apart from the main house, the stables and dovecot (NMRS: NT17SW 39.01) and the east lodge (NMRS: NT17SW 44) also survive.
- 3.3 Clifton Hall was sold in 1761 to Thomas Gibson of Pentland and the lands passed to Alexander Charles Maitland on the marriage of Helen Gibson Wright in 1786. The house was sold circa 1880. A house probably existed on the lands from the later 16th century, and there is the shell of an earlier house within Clifton Hall. The stables and lodge date from the early 19th century. Clifton Hall now serves as a school; most of the outbuildings having been converted to classrooms. The older stable block is in a ruinous state. .
- 3.4 A Cinerary Urn (NMRS: NT17SW 20), comprising an unburnt clay vessel containing ashes, and dating to the Neolithic period was found within the Clifton Hall grounds, as was a Robert II gold coin (NMRS: NT17SW 84) identified during the construction of the Union Canal.
- 3.5 In addition, Mr John Lawson of the City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service conducted a brief walkover survey of the area, and identified areas of undulation which may represent the remains of prehistoric or medieval activity.

- 3.6 An archaeological evaluation (AOC 2008) was completed prior to the construction of a sports pavilion (Ref: 08/00927/Ful) at the school in May 2008.

4. Objectives

- 4.1 The objectives of the archaeological monitoring visit were:
- i) to determine 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, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

5. Method

- 5.1 Initially the proposed development was to be the subject of an archaeological evaluation. However, due to the presence of hard standing concrete foundations this mitigation was no longer suitable.
- 5.2 In consultation with Mr John Lawson of CECAS, a monitoring visit was instead organised, in which a Watching Brief Officer monitored part of the excavations.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1 The area of the proposed new Kitchen Block was inspected after the demolition and subsequent lifting of the underlying concrete slab of the building previously present on the site. This had been a flat roofed building, used as a store room for the gym.

Inspection revealed an underlying layer of made ground which included general building rubble, bricks and large pieces of concrete, and imported aggregate. A small hole dug in the south eastern corner of the area revealed this deposit to be 0.40 – 0.50 m deep.

- 6.2 Black and white print and colour slide photographs were taken at the time of the monitoring visit (Appendix 1).

7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The area monitored in relation to the development of the site showed no trace of archaeological features, deposits or artifacts.
- 7.2 As any further works associated with the new development will go no deeper than 0.20 m, and therefore will be limited to the made ground horizon, no further work on this part of the development area is considered necessary.

8. REFERENCES

AOC 2008, Cliftonhall School: Evaluation Data Structure Report (Sports Pavillion),
Unpublished Client Report

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

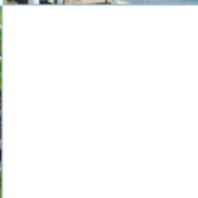
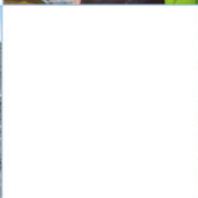
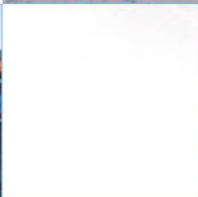
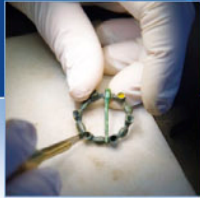
SOEnd 1994a National Planning Policy Guideline NPPG 5. Archaeology and Planning. January
1994. The Scottish Office Environment Department.

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From</i>
1-2	Registration	
3-4	General shot – central area	N
5-6	General shot – northern side	W
7-8	General shot – southern side	W
9-10	General shot – eastern side	N
11-12	General shot – excavated hole in south-eastern corner	NW

APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND ENTRY

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Clifton Hall School Pavilion archaeological evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	20999
PARISH:	Kirkliston
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Alan Duffy
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Monitoring visit
NMRS NO(S):	NT17SW 20, NT17SW 39.00, NT17SW 39.01, NT17SW 84 and NT17SW 44
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Listed buildings
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 121 733
START DATE (this season)	13 th June 2008
END DATE (this season)	13 th June 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological monitoring visit carried out at Clifton Hall School prior to the development of a new kitchen block, failed to identify any archaeological features within the proposed development area.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Cairns Ford and Yuill Architects
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS.



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