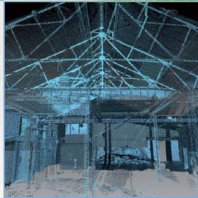
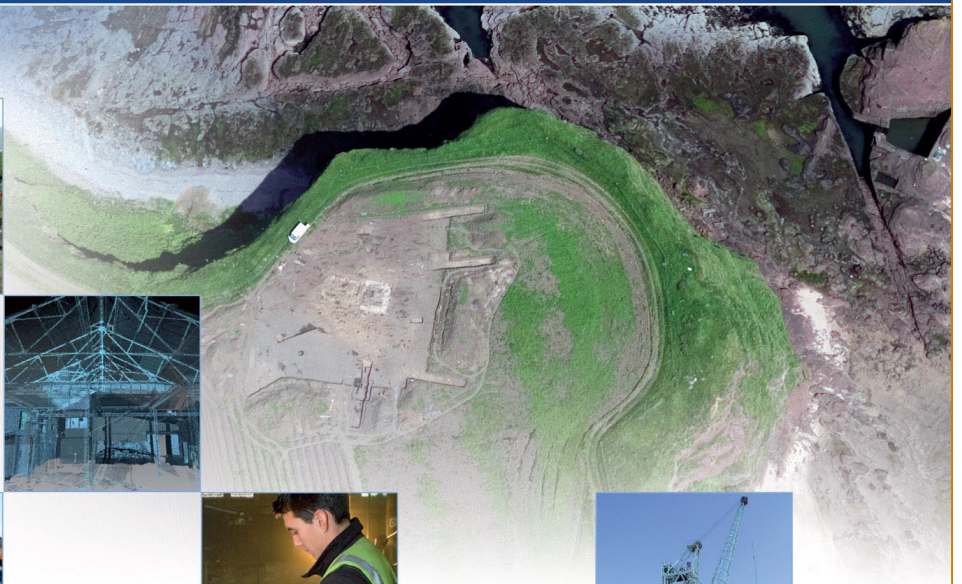
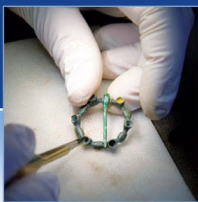


# Lochend Road South Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

AOC 21495  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2010



# Lochend Road, Archaeological Evaluation: Data Structure Report

**On Behalf of:** **The City Of Edinburgh Council**  
Property Services  
329 High Street  
Edinburgh  
EH1 1PN

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** **NT 2780 7470**

**AOC Project No:** **21495**

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**Illustration by:** **Graeme Cavers**

**Date of Fieldwork:** **25<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Date of Report:** **26<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

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

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**Draft Report Stage: draft** **Date:**

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## **Abstract**

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An archaeological evaluation was required by The City of Edinburgh Council (Property Services) prior to a proposed re-development and construction of a football pitch and access within the grounds of Lochend Park, Lochend Road, Edinburgh. Two trenches comprising a basal area of 120 m<sup>2</sup> were opened across the development area.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.

## 0 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 0.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by The City of Edinburgh Council (Property Services) within the proposed development site of a football pitch and associated access within Lochend Park, Edinburgh.
- 0.2 The proposed development lies within the administrative area of the City of Edinburgh Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by Mr. John Lawson of the City of Edinburgh Archaeology service (CECAS). The work was carried out in accordance with SPP23 (2008) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994), in order to determine the nature, extent, condition and significance of any archaeological material within the development area.
- 0.3 Two trenches comprising a basal area of 120 m<sup>2</sup> were opened across the development area. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Site location

- 1.1 The proposed development area (NGR: NT 2780 7470) is located within the grounds of Lochend Park, Lochend Road South (Figure 1). The landscaped grounds of Lochend Park form the western boundary whilst the mature trees in front of the historic Lochend House (*NMRS NT27SE 56*) mark the northern limit of the development area. Lochend Road South forms the eastern boundary of the site whilst the rear of a recent development fronting onto Marionville Road defines the southern extent of the site.

### 1.2 Development proposal

- 1.2.1 The proposed development involves the construction of a football pitch and associated access.

### 1.3 General Archaeological background (John Lawson Condition)

- 1.3.1 The proposed development occupies the southern end of a natural high ridge overlooking Lochend Loch and lies immediately adjacent to the historic Lochend House. Lochend House occupies the medieval baronial centre for the important Barony of Restalrig, formed in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and which at its height under the Logan Family controlled much of north-east Edinburgh including Leith. The original medieval castle, referred to as the "old tower" in 1495, was destroyed/damaged c.1586 by the Provost of Edinburgh. However it must have been reconstructed soon afterwards as it is specifically mentioned in the deed by which Lord Balmerino obtained the barony in 1605. This Castle/tower-house was largely demolished in 1816 to incorporate the current Lochend House.

- 1.3.2 In addition to the medieval and later occupation of the site, evidence suggests that the site was occupied during the prehistoric period. A newspaper article (NMRS Ref; NT27SE 437) in the Scotsman dated to 27<sup>th</sup> March 1871 recount the discovery of a probably medieval wooden trackway discovered during drainage works to the Loch along its western edge. Although undated such trackways across marshy ground are known from Neolithic/Bronze Age periods onwards. The discovery of a perforated prehistoric stone tool in 1915 in the area further supports the idea that the area was occupied in prehistory. Indeed it would be unusual for such a prominent high ridge such as that at Lochend not to have been occupied during this time.
- 1.3.3 The site had formally been used as a bowling green, a caravan site and a carpark.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- i) to determine the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the development area by means of an intrusive field evaluation;
  - ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such as excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

## 3 METHOD

- 3.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009) proposed the excavation of trenching totalling 150 m<sup>2</sup>, within the footprint of football pitch and access. The WSI stated the trenches were to total a minimum 10% sample of the development area. Due to the presence of unmarked and possibly live services, the evaluation trenching was restricted to 120 m<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.2 Both trenches were excavated with a JCB 3CX wheeled excavator using a 1.6 m wide ditching bucket. The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits. The evaluation trial trenching was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed within the Method Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009).



## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The weather conditions during the evaluation were overcast but dry. Overall archaeological visibility within both trenches was good.
- 4.1.2 The various data gathered from the excavation are presented as a series of appendices. Appendix 1 contains the trench summary descriptions, Appendix 2 the photographic register, with Appendix 3 reproducing the '*Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*' entry.



**Plate 1: Post-excavation shot of Trench 1**

- 4.1.3 Trench 1 was covered in a layer of tarmac overlying a deposit of ash, which varied in depth from 0.20 m to 0.30 m. Both deposits clearly originate from the sites use as a carpark and bowling green. The subsoil was consistent across the trench and comprised a dark brown silt, with few stone inclusions. No evidence was identified for plough scarring on the surface of the natural subsoil. A single drain which houses an electric cable was identified running

east to west across the trench. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefactual material was unearthed by the evaluation.

- 4.1.4 Trench 2 was covered in a thin layer of building debris which overlay a thin topsoil, which itself overlay the natural. No evidence was identified for plough scarring on the surface of the natural subsoil. A gas main was identified running east to west across the trench. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefactual material was unearthed by the evaluation.



**Plate 2: Working shot of Trench 2**

## **5 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The evaluation has revealed that the site directly impacted upon by the development is apparently free from any significant archaeological material. The significant balance of probability is that the development area is archaeologically sterile. We would consider any further archaeological investigation, should the development proceed, as unnecessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by Mr John Lawson (CECAS) on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council. .



## 6 REFERENCES

AOC 2009 *Lochend Road Archaeological Works: Written Scheme of Investigation* AOC Archaeology Client Report

*Scottish Planning Policy SPP23. Archaeology and Planning.* Nov.2008.

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

## APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

### Trench 1

Dimensions	30.0 m by 1.6 m
Orientation	N-S
Depth of Trench	0.40 m to 0.50 m
Features	None
Subsoil	Dark brown silt
Finds	None

### Trench 2

Dimensions	30 m by 1.6 m
Orientation	E-W
Depth of Topsoil	0.20
Features	None.
Subsoil	Dark orange sand
Finds	None

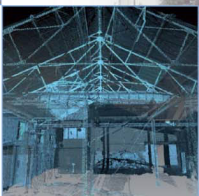
## APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

### Digital Record

Frame	Area	Detail	From
1	-	Registration	-
2	Tr.1	Post-excavation shot of trench	N
3	Tr.2	Post-excavation shot of trench	E
4	-	General shot of backfilled trenches	E

**APPENDIX 3: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Lochend Road Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21495
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Martin Cook
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 2780 7470
START DATE (this season)	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2010
END DATE (this season)	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken within the proposed development site of a football pitch at Lochend Park, Lochend Road South, Edinburgh. Two machine excavated trenches totalling a basal area of 120 m <sup>2</sup> were opened. Neither significant features nor artefacts were identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	n/a
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	City of Edinburgh Council (Property Services)
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	C/o AOC Archaeology Group
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