

**Standing building survey  
Former police station,  
86-92 Fonthill Road,  
Aberdeen, AB11 6YA**



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# Standing building survey, Former police station, 86-92 Fonthill Road, Aberdeen, AB11 6YA

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

Cover (Top) the south facade of the Police Station; (bottom) iron base for POLICE sign

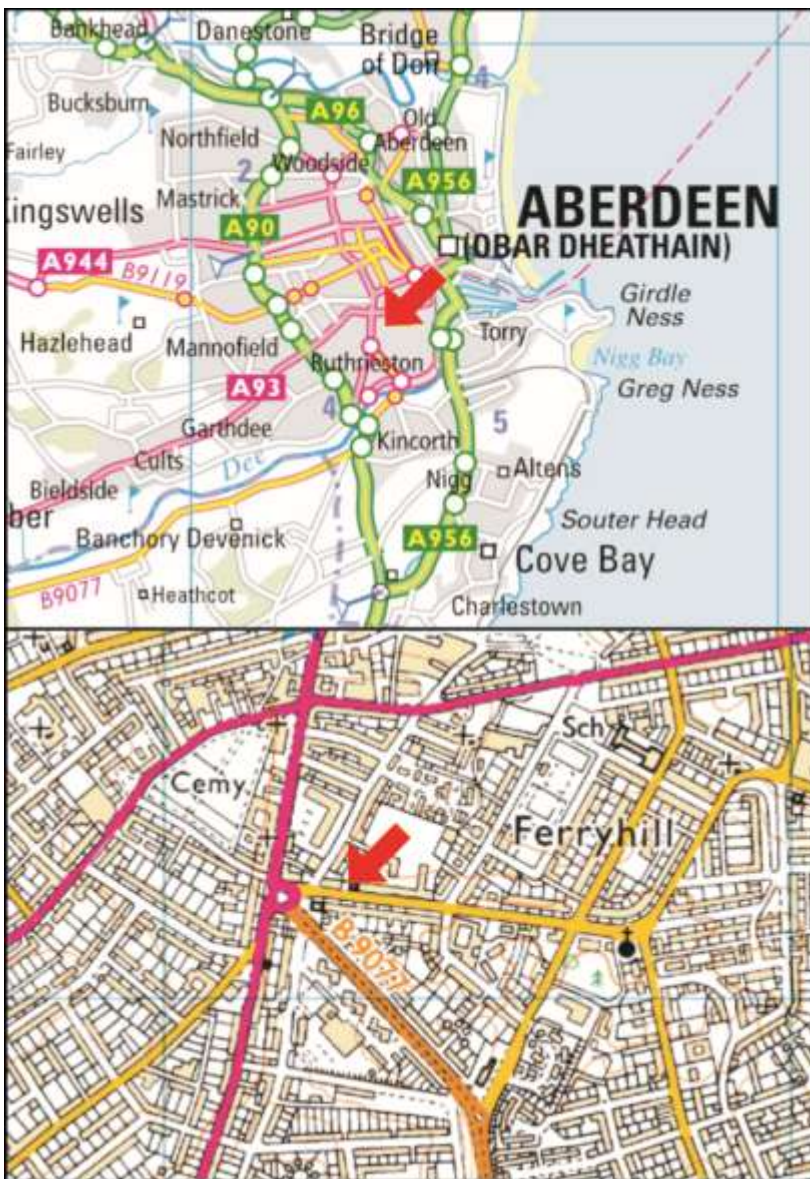
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## SUMMARY

A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out on the former police station prior to demolition for a residential development. It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during this current development.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

A former police station at 86-92 Fonthill Road is due to be demolished in advance of a residential development; the Aberdeen City Council Planning reference is P120219 and the application was passed on 9.4.2012 with Condition 1 which states that 'No development shall take place within the area indicated (in this case the area of the whole development) until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. The programme of archaeological work will include all necessary post-excavation and publication work'. The purpose of the condition in this case is to ensure that a historic building survey (English Heritage Level 1 equivalent) is undertaken before the former police station is demolished. The site is located at 25-30m OD, NJ93295 05186. This work was commissioned by Lindsay Greig, Architectural Manager, Veitchi Homes Ltd, Unit 4, Wellington Circle, Altens, Aberdeen, AB12 3JG.



Illus 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2012).



## 2 BACKGROUND

Fonthill Road was called St Machars Place on the 1867 First Edition Ordnance Survey; on the Second and Third Editions the site is a gap site adjacent to the Old Machar Poorhouse. The site lies between No 84 and No 74 and a modern block of flats at the north (Howburn Court).

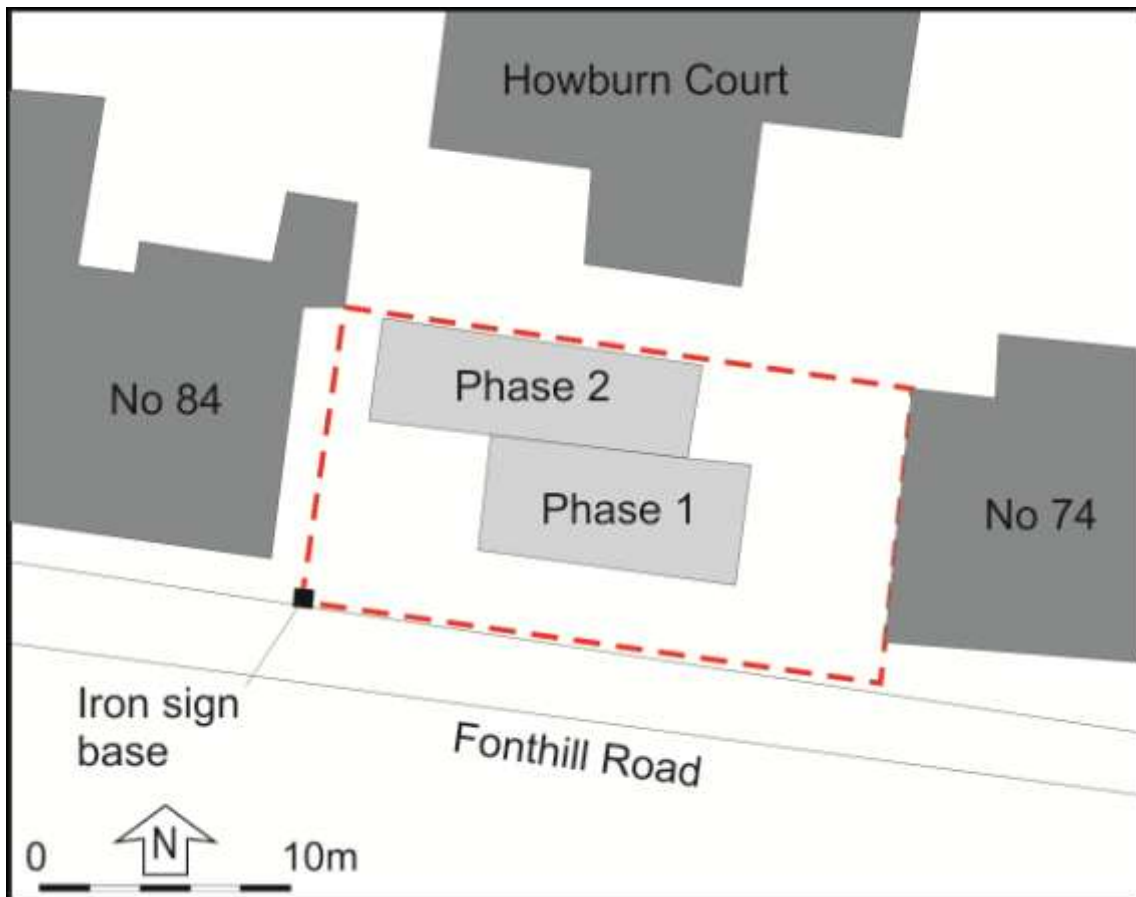
The station was therefore built after 1926 (Phase 1) and was extended in 1984 (Phase 2). The 8 October 1984 edition of The Ferryhill Focus reported

*New Police Station.*

*The newly refurbished Police Station in Fonthill Road is now the most modern in Aberdeen boasting separate showers for men and women officers.*



Illus 2 Location plan of former police station (copyright Veitchi)



Illus 3 Plan showing Phase 1 and Phase 2 buildings

### 3. THE STANDING BUILDING SURVEY

The Phase 1 section of the building is 10m long and 4.5m wide (Illus 3). It is rubble built with a granite facade and harled exterior walls (cover). It has one door and three high windows on the south (front) facade and a window in each of the side walls.

Phase 2 is built of concrete blocks with granite trim (Illus 4) and is built on to the north side of the Phase 1 structure. The interior has no period features and is plain and utilitarian (Illus 5).

On the street end of the west wall of the plot, an iron sign base survives (cover); this presumably held the POLICE sign which has since been removed or broken. It is intended to keep this feature.



Illus 4 Phase 1 building (right) and Phase 2 (left) (facing NE)



Illus 5 Phase 1 room interior; windows facing onto Fonthill Road

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out on the former police station prior to demolition for a residential development. It is recommended that no further archaeological work is required during this current development.

#### **5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I would like to thank Lindsay Greig, Veitchi Homes and Judith Stones, Aberdeen City Council.

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## APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo no	Description	Facing
DSC_0121-0135	Police station south facade Phase 1	N
DSC_0136-0140	Police station south and west facade Phase 1 (right)	NE
DSC_0141-0145	West wall of Phase 1	E
DSC_0146-0150	Granite facade Phase 1 south facade	E
DSC_0151-0155	Phase 2 (left) Phase 1 (right)	NE
DSC_0156-0160	Gatepost on west wall with fitting for POLICE sign	W
DSC_0161-0164	Gatepost on west wall with fitting for POLICE sign	NW
DSC_0166-0170	Gatepost on west wall with fitting for POLICE sign	E
DSC_0172-0181	Gatepost on west wall with fitting for POLICE sign	N
DSC_0182-0186	Police station from south side of Fonthill Rd	N
DSC_0187-0197	East facades Phase 1	W
DSC_0198-0201	Police station , east face Phase 1	NW
DSC_0339	Corridor at rear of Phase 2	E
DSC_0340	East room Phase 1	E
DSC_0341	south wall Phase 1 interior granite	SSW
DSC_0342	Centre room Phase 1	SSW
DSC_0343	Centre room Phase 1	SSW
DSC_0344	Centre room Phase 1	SSW
DSC_0345	Centre room Phase 1	E
DSC_0346	Centre room Phase 1	NNE
DSC_0347-352	Phase 1 (right) Phase 1 (left) from garden of flats to north	SSW





DSC\_0121



DSC\_0130



DSC\_0131



DSC\_0140



DSC\_0141



DSC\_0150



DSC\_0151



DSC\_0160



DSC\_0161



DSC\_0169



DSC\_0175



DSC\_0181



DSC\_0182



DSC\_0195



DSC\_0201



DSC\_0339



DSC\_0340



DSC\_0341



DSC\_0342



DSC\_0343



DSC\_0344



DSC\_0345



DSC\_0346



DSC\_0348