

# GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



## Newcraighall North, Edinburgh Site investigation works Data Structure Report Project 3703

[www.guard-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.guard-archaeology.co.uk)

## **Newcraighall North, Edinburgh Site investigation works Archaeological watching brief**

**On behalf of:** Barratt East Scotland

**NGR:** NT 320 720

**Project Number:** 3703

**Report by:** Warren Bailie

**Illustrations:** Fiona Jackson

**Project Manager:** Ronan Toolis

**Approved by:**



**Date:**

17/06/2013

*This document has been prepared in accordance  
with GUARD Archaeology Limited standard operating procedures.*

**GUARD Archaeology Limited  
52 Elderpark Workspace  
100 Elderpark Street  
Glasgow  
G51 3TR**

**Tel: 0141 445 8800**

**Fax: 0141 445 3222**

**email: [info@guard-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@guard-archaeology.co.uk)**



**[www.guard-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.guard-archaeology.co.uk)**

## Contents

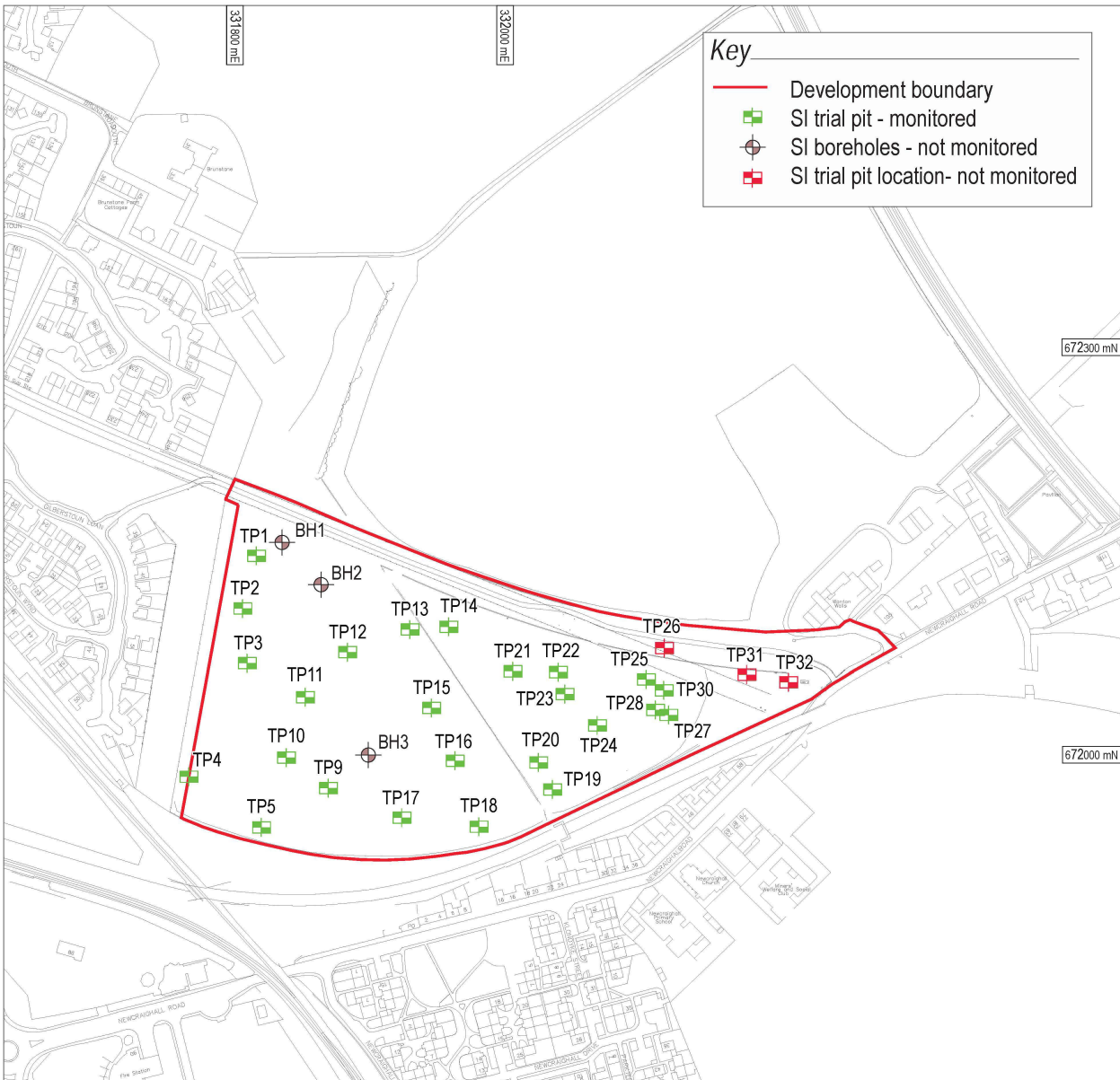
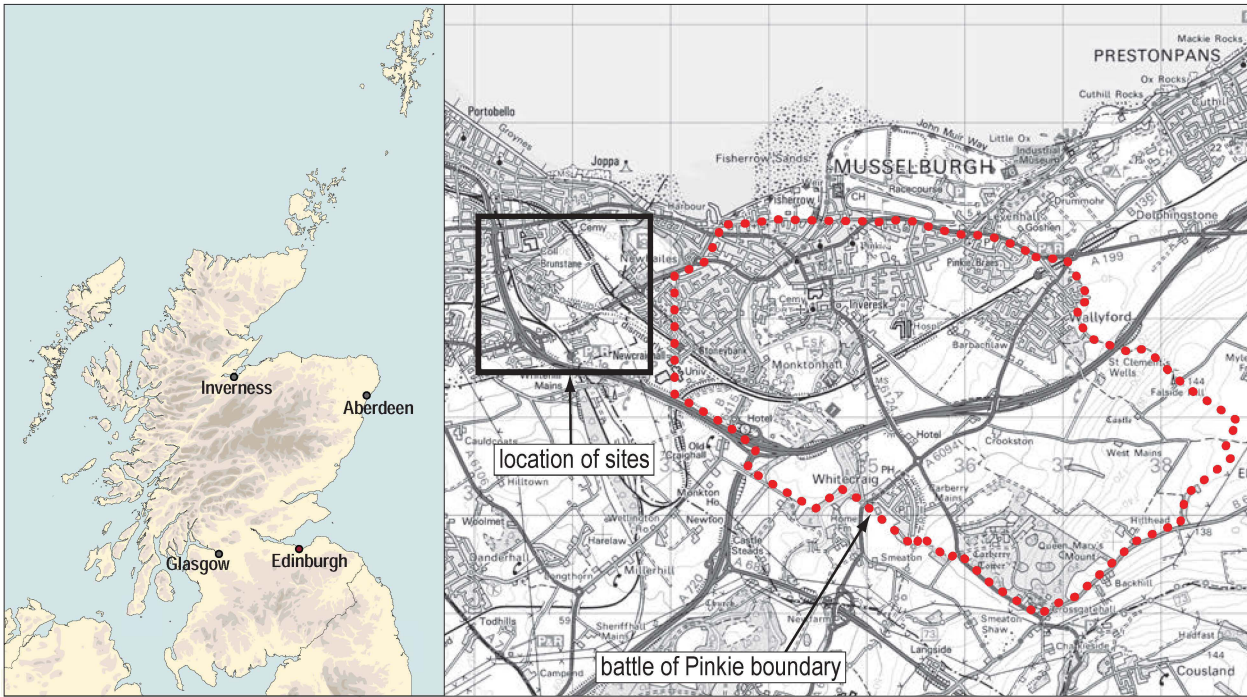
Executive Summary	5
Introduction	5
Site Location, Topography and Geology	5
Archaeological Background	5
Aims, Objectives and Scope	5
Methodology	6
Results	6
Discussion	7
Conclusions	7
Acknowledgements	8
Appendices	10
Appendix A: Trench Summaries	10
Appendix B: Context Descriptions	13
Appendix C: Photographic Record	13
Appendix D: Discovery And Excavation Scotland Entry	15
Appendix E: Written Scheme Of Investigation	16

## List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location	4
-------------------------	---

## List of Plates

Plate 1: Eastern half of site taken from central path	7
Plate 2: Western half of site from central path	7
Plate 3: TP22 3.1 m deep, note sand make-up layer 005	7
Plate 4: TP 28 to 2.5 m deep, note topsoil 001, make-up layer 002 and dark grey clay 004	7



**Key**

- Development boundary
- SI trial pit - monitored
- ⊗ SI boreholes - not monitored
- SI trial pit location- not monitored

Figure 1:  
Site location.



## Executive Summary

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken GUARD Archaeology Ltd during the excavation of 25 trial pits across the proposed Newcraighall North development area. No significant archaeological remains were encountered in any of the trial pits.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief of the excavation of 25 Site Investigation trial pits undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd, on behalf of Barratt East Scotland, within the proposed Newcraighall North Development Area.

## Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The development area is located to the north of Newcraighall, Edinburgh (centred around NGR: NT 320 720) and comprises a large 8 ha field crossed by a track (Figure 1).

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A metal detecting survey, archaeological evaluation and archaeological watching brief was previously carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited of the proposed development area.
- 4.2 Instead of the expected later prehistoric and late medieval archaeology, the metal-detecting survey, evaluation and watching brief all suggest a predominance of 19th to 20th century activity across the development area, not only in quantity of artefacts and features, but in terms of the spatial distribution. The previously recorded ring-ditch crop mark was found instead to be a mine related feature, perhaps an abortive mineshaft. While many of the features were of unknown date, it is likely that these predominantly relate to modern activity too. Despite the recovery of a small assemblage of early prehistoric artefacts, none of the features appeared structural and the artefacts are likely residual rather than indicative of specific prehistoric settlement within the development area.
- 4.3 Neither was there any evidence to demonstrate that the rout from the Battle of Pinkie passed through the development area. The only possible finds that could derive from this event were an iron buckle and a lead musket ball. The simple D-shaped iron buckle is a form of buckle that could potentially date anywhere from AD 1250 – 1750. However, owing to the poor metal condition a later date for this buckle is more likely. The small musket or carbine ball had been heavily distorted due to impact with a hard surface. However, as this was an isolated find it is not possible to associate this artefact to any conflict activity such as the Battle of Pinkie, as it could as equally relate to later farming or hunting activity. The rest of the finds recovered during metal detecting ranged in date between the 17th and 20th century, with the vast majority consisting of iron fixtures, pegs and other debris dating to the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 4.4 The mine features encountered during the evaluation and watching brief, together with the spatial distribution of features containing coal and ash waste deriving from mining activity and the wide distribution of nondescript iron debris found across the development area clearly indicates that the development area has been extensively disturbed in modern times. While the precise purpose of most of these features could not be identified, the nature of the material they contained indicates that they very likely relate to mining activity, the construction of the adjacent railways and the practice of agriculture during the post-medieval and modern periods.

## Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The aims of the archaeological works are:
- to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the site investigation works within the development area, are recorded to an appropriate level.

5.2 The objectives are therefore to:

- Conduct an archaeological watching brief during the Site Investigation works to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains, and their character, date and extent if surviving;
- Undertake an appropriate level of excavation of any significant archaeological remains encountered in order to determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- On completion of the watching brief submit a data structure report to the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS).

## Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief adhered to the previously agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix E) and comprised the monitoring of the excavation of 25 Site Investigation trial-pits, excluding all boreholes (Figure 1).
- 6.2 The watching brief included the monitoring of all topsoil and/or over-burden stripping operations in each relevant Site Investigation trial pit within the development area to ensure that no significant archaeological remains were disturbed, without being recorded.
- 6.3 The proposed development area was photographed prior to the commencement of the watching brief.
- 6.4 One GUARD Archaeologist was required per machine during the Site Investigation operations. The machine excavator was fitted with a flat-bladed 600 mm wide (toothless) bucket.
- 6.5 The topsoil was removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the required depth of the Site Investigation works.
- 6.6 A trench sheet and individual context sheets were completed for each layer encountered in the Site Investigation trial-pits. The Site Investigation trial pits were also accurately located with the National Grid using a Magellan sub-metre GPS logger by the archaeologist on site.
- 6.7 The backfilling of trial pits was not supervised by the on-site archaeologist.

## Results

- 7.1 The proposed development area was photographed prior to the commencement of the watching brief (Plates 1 & 2). Twenty five Site Investigation trial pits, excavated by machine, were monitored during the watching brief (Figure 1). A further three trial pits (26, 31 & 32) were not monitored due to their position on recently disturbed ground along a former railway embankment, currently functioning as a cycle path. The locations of the Site Investigation trial pits and boreholes not monitored are also plotted on Figure 1. The following text should be read in conjunction with the full trial pit descriptions in Appendix A and the context descriptions presented in Appendix B.
- 7.2 The trial pits in each case were excavated in spits through topsoil (001) and any subsequent layers encountered up to a maximum depth of 3.0 m. The SI trial pits varied in depth from 1.5 m to 3.1 m.
- 7.3 There were a total of eight contexts recorded across the development area. Only two deposits were consistent throughout, topsoil (001) at the surface and a clay layer (004) at the base of each trial pit. The topsoil consisted of mid-grey brown silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions and this layer existed to between 0.32 and 0.45 m below the ground surface. The lower clay layer (004) consisted of very firm dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders

throughout, making it relatively impenetrable to the flat-bladed bucket of the 13 tonne machine excavator. This clay layer was encountered at between 1.0 m and 3.0 m below surface; in all cases this layer extended below the limits of each trial pit where it was encountered.

- 7.4 The other layers encountered (003 & 005-008) varied in composition and inclusions (Plates 3 & 4) but were united in the fact that they were all anthropogenically redeposited layers.



Plate 1: Eastern half of site taken from central path.



Plate 2: Western half of site from central path.



Plate 3: TP22 3.1 m deep, note sand make-up layer 005.



Plate 4: TP 28 to 2.5 m deep, note topsoil 001, make-up layer 002 and dark grey clay 004.

## Discussion

- 8.1 The watching brief encountered no features of archaeological significance within the proposed development area. The site has experienced extensive disturbance from the mining industry and the associated railways framing to the north and south. The trial pits revealed a predominance of modern man-made material across the site to a maximum depth of 3.0 m before reaching what appears to be natural boulder clay.

## Conclusions

- 9.1 The watching brief revealed no features of archaeological significance.
- 9.2 A summary of the results of the watching brief will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. A copy of this summary is included in Appendix D. The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Record for Scotland within six months.
- 9.3 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> (OASIS Reference: guardarc1-152520) will be completed within three months. Once the Data Structure Report has

become a public document by submission or incorporation into the local Historic Environment Record, CECAS will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

## **Acknowledgements**

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology thanks Andrew Rule of Barratt East Scotland, Clare Barber of David R Murray Engineers and John Lawson of CECAS for their advice and assistance during this project. Technical support was provided by Aileen Maule, John Kiely and Jen Cochrane. The watching brief was conducted by Warren Bailie. The illustrations were produced by Fiona Jackson and the report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology by Ronan Toolis.



**Newcraighall North, Edinburgh  
Site investigation works  
Archaeological watching brief**

**Section 2: Appendices**



**[www.guard-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.guard-archaeology.co.uk)**

## Appendices

### Appendix A: Trench Summaries

SI trial pit 1						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.1
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.38 m thick					
(007)	Very firm dark orange brown silty clay, freq. sandstone fragments, occas. basalt fragments, 1.37 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.75 m below surface to beyond 2.1 m below					
SI trial pit 2						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	1.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.35 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with freq. sandstone fragments, 1.15 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.5 m below surface and beyond					
SI trial pit 3						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.3
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.38 m thick					
(007)	Firm dark orange brown with occas. very large sandstone fragments, 1.32 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.7 m below surface to beyond 2.3 m below					
SI trial pit 4						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.3
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.32 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with freq. sandstones fragments, grey flecking and black dross deposits, 1.68 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.0 m below surface to beyond 2.3 m below					
SI trial pit 5						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.39 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking and freq. sandstone fragemements					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.0 m below surface to beyond 2.5 m below					
SI trial pit 9						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.3
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.35 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey mottling and occasional sandstone fragments, 1.25 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.6 m below surface to beyond 2.3 m below					
SI trial pit 10						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.42 m thick					
(007)	Firm orange brown silty clay with freq. fragments of red and white sandstone, occasional pockets of black dross and possible concrete fragments, 1.38 m thick					
(008)	Very firm dark pinkish grey sandy clay with freq. red and white sandstone fragments, 0.7 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.5 m below surface and beyond					
SI trial pit 11						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.37 m thick					

(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. fragments of red and white sandstone and occas. black dross, 1.63 m thick					
(008)	Very firm dark pinkish grey sandy clay with freq. sandstone fragments, 0.5 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.5 m below surface and beyond					
SI trial pit 12						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	1.65
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.41 m thick					
(007)	Very firm dark orange brown silty clay with freq. sandstone fragments, 1.25 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.65 m below surface and beyond					
SI trial Pit 13						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.4
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.38 m thick					
(007)	Firm, orange brown silty clay with grey and red flecking, freq. red and white sandstone fragments and occasional pockets of black dross, 1.0 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.4m below surface and beyond					
SI trial pit 14						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.75
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay					
(005)	Firm red, grey, orange brown mix, red freq. sandstone rubble, black dross, pockets of grey clay and possible concrete dust, 0.3 m thick					
(006)	Very firm light orange brown sand with occas. angular stone fragments (possibly quarried basalt), 1.9 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.6 m below surface to beyond 2.75 m below					
SI trial pit 15						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.2
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking and freq. sandstone fragments, 1.0 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.4 m below surface to beyond 2.2m below					
SI trial pit 16						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.4
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with occasional fragments of sandstone and black dross, 1.0 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.4 m below surface to beyond 2.4 m below					
SI trial pit 17						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.0
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.39 m thick					
(007)	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. sandstone fragments and occas. black dross, 1.11 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.5 m below surface to beyond 2.0 m below					
SI trial pit 18						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick					
(007)	Firm, orange-brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. debris of sandstone fragments, black dross, 1.6 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.0 m below surface to beyond 2.5 m below					

SI trial pit 19						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.4
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.37 m thick					
(002)	Firm, bright orange brown silty clay with occas. angular stones, 0.83 m thick (Probable 19 <sup>th</sup> C white-glazed pot sherd noted from this layer)					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.2 m below surface to beyond 2.4 m below					
SI trial pit 20						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	3.0
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.38 m thick					
(002)	Firm, bright orange brown silty clay with occasional irregular stones, 0.72 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.1 m below surface to beyond 3.0 m below					
SI trial pit 21						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.8
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.42 m thick					
(005)	Very firm mix of orange brown silty clay with grey clay and black dross, freq. sandstone fragments, 2.4 m + thick					
SI trial pit 22						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	3.1
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick					
(005)	Very firm mix of orange brown silty clay with grey clay and black dross, freq. sandstone fragments, 0.4 m thick					
006	Firm, light orange brown sand with occas. coal fragments, 2.1 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 3.0 m below surface and beyond					
SI trial pit 23						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.8
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.36 m thick					
(005)	Very firm mix of orange brown silty clay with grey clay and black dross, freq. sandstone fragments and lumps of concrete, layer measured 1.84 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 2.2 m below surface to beyond 2.8 m below					
SI trial pit 24						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.9
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick					
(005)	Very firm mix of orange brown silty clay with grey clay and black dross, freq. sandstone fragments and lumps of concrete, layer measured 2.5 m + thick					
SI trial pit 25						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.5
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.42 m thick					
(002)	Firm, bright orange brown silty clay with occas. angular stones, 0.63 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.05 m below surface to beyond 2.5 m below					
SI trial pit 27						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.6
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.35 m thick					
(003)	Very firm, orange brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. debris of concrete and dross, 1.3 m thick					
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.65 m below surface to beyond 2.6 m below					
SI trial pit 28						
Dimensions	Length (m)	1.5	Width (m)	0.6	Depth (m)	2.6
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.38 m thick					

(002)	Very firm, bright orange brown silty clay with occas. angular stones, 0.62 m thick
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.0 m below surface to beyond 2.6 m below
SI trial pit 30	
Dimensions	Length (m)      1.5      Width (m)      0.6      Depth (m)      2.1
Topsoil (001)	Loose, mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.4 m thick
(002)	Very firm, bright orange brown silty clay with occas. angular stones, 0.6 m thick
Natural clay(004)	Very firm, dark grey clay with frequent stones and boulders at 1.0 m below surface to beyond 2.1 m below

## Appendix B: Context Descriptions

	Area	Description	Dimensions				Above	Below
			Height (m)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness (m)		
001	All	Topsoil, mid-grey brown silty clay	N/A	throughout	throughout	0.35-0.45	002, 003, 005, 007	-
002	TP19, 20, 25, 28 & 30	Anthropogenic make-up layer, bright orange brown silty clay, white-glazed pot sherd noted from 002 in TP19	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	0.6	004	001
003	TP27	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. red and white sandstone fragments and occas. pockets of black dross	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	1.3	004	001
004	All except TP 21 & 24	Very firm dark grey clay, occas. large stones and boulders	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	Found at 1.0 to 3.0m below and beyond to ?	bedrock?	002, 003, 005, 006, 007 & 008
005	TP 14, 21, 22, 23 & 24	Firm silty clay, mixed colours of red, grey and orange brown with rubble sandstone, dross, grey clay and occas. large rounded stones	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	0.3 to 2.5	006, 004	001
006	TP 14 & 22	Firm light orange brown sand with occas. coal fragments	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	1.9 to 2.1	004	005
007	TP 1-5, TP 9-13, TP 15-18	Very firm orange brown silty clay with grey flecking, freq. mixed fine-grained debris (red and white sandstone and dross)	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	1.0 to 1.68	004, 008	001
008	TP 10 & 11	Very firm, dark pinkish grey sandy clay with freq. fragments of sandstone and occas. concrete fragments	N/A	uncertain	uncertain	0.5 to 0.7	004	007

## Appendix C: Photographic Record

### Digital File No 1

No.	Area/SI trial pit	Description	From
1	-	ID shot	-
2	1	W half of site from central path	E
3	1	SW part of site from central path	NE
4	1	N part of site from central path	S
5	1	NE part of site from central path	SW
6	1	E part of site from central path	W
7	TP27	TP27 position	SW
8	TP27	View of section 1.0 m down	N
9	TP27	View of TP 27 2.0 m down	N

No.	Area/SI trial pit	Description	From
10	TP27	View of TP 27 3.0 m down	N
11	TP28	View of TP28 to layer 002	N
12	TP28	View of TP28 to 2.5 m	N
13	TP30	View of TP30, transition to layer 002	N
14	TP25	View of transition to layer 002	N
15	TP25	View of TP25 at 2.5 m down	N
16	TP24	View of TP24, layer 002	N
17	TP24	TP24 full depth	NW
18	TP23	TP23 position	N
19	TP23	TP23 topsoil removed	N
20	TP23	Bottomed-2.8 m	N
21	TP22	Topsoil removed	N
22	TP22	3.1 m down	N
23	TP21	Topsoil removed	W
24	TP21	2.8 m down	W
25	TP19	Topsoil removed	N
26	TP19	Full depth	N
27	TP20	Topsoil removed	N
28	TP20	Full depth	N
29	TP14	Topsoil removed	N
30	TP14	2.75 m depth	N
31	TP18	Topsoil removed	N
32	TP18	2.5 m down	N
33	TP16	Topsoil removed	N
34	TP16	2.4 m down	N
35	TP15	Topsoil removed	N
36	TP15	TP15 full 2.2 m depth	N
37	TP13	TP13 topsoil removed	N
38	TP13	TP13 full 2.4 m depth	N
39	TP17	TP17 topsoil removed	N
40	TP17	TP17 bottomed 2.0 m	N
41	TP9	TP9 topsoil removed	N
42	TP9	TP9 down to 2.0 m	N
43	TP10	TP10 topsoil removed	W
44	TP10	TP10 full depth	W
45	TP10	TP10 full depth	W
46	TP5	TP5 topsoil removal	S
47	TP5	TP5 full depth, 004 visible at depth	N
48	TP4	TP4 topsoil removed	N
49	TP4	TP4 full depth	S
50	TP11	TP11 topsoil removed	E
51	TP11	TP11 full depth 2.5 m	E
52	TP12	TP12 topsoil removed, geologist sampling	W
53	TP12	TP12 full depth 2.2 m	W
54	TP3	TP 3 topsoil removed	W
55	TP3	TP3 full depth 2.3 m	W
56	TP2	TP2 topsoil removed	S
57	TP2	TP2 1.5 m down	S
58	TP1	TP1 topsoil removed	W
59	TP1	TP1 2.1 m down	SW

**Appendix D: Discovery And Excavation Scotland Entry**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Newcraighall North
PROJECT CODE:	3703
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Warren Bailie
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	GUARD Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	n/a
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	n/a
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	n/a
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 320 720
START DATE (this season)	03/06/13
END DATE (this season)	05/06/13
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	Previous metal-detecting survey, evaluation and watching brief (Blair, Bailie & Ferguson, <i>DES</i> 2011, 77-78)
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by GUARD Archaeology Ltd of an area proposed for development at Newcraighall North. The watching brief monitored the machine excavation of 25 Site Investigation trial pits. No significant archaeological remains were encountered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Barratt East Scotland
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	52 Elderpark Workspace, 100 Elderpark Street, Glasgow, G51 3TR
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Bob.will@guard-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

**Appendix E: Written Scheme Of Investigation****NEWCRAIGHALL NORTH, EDINBURGH**

SITE INVESTIGATION WORKS

WATCHING BRIEF WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 3703



## Contents

1.0	Executive Summary	1
2.0	Introduction	1
3.0	Site Location	1
4.0	Archaeological Background	1
5.0	Aims, Objectives and Scope	2
6.0	Fieldwork Methodology	2
7.0	Report Preparation and Contents	3
8.0	Copyright	3
9.0	Publication	3
10.0	Archive	3
11.0	Finds Disposal	4
12.0	Personnel and Liaison	4
13.0	Health & Safety and Insurance	4
14.0	Monitoring	4

# NEWCRAIGHALL NORTH, EDINBURGH

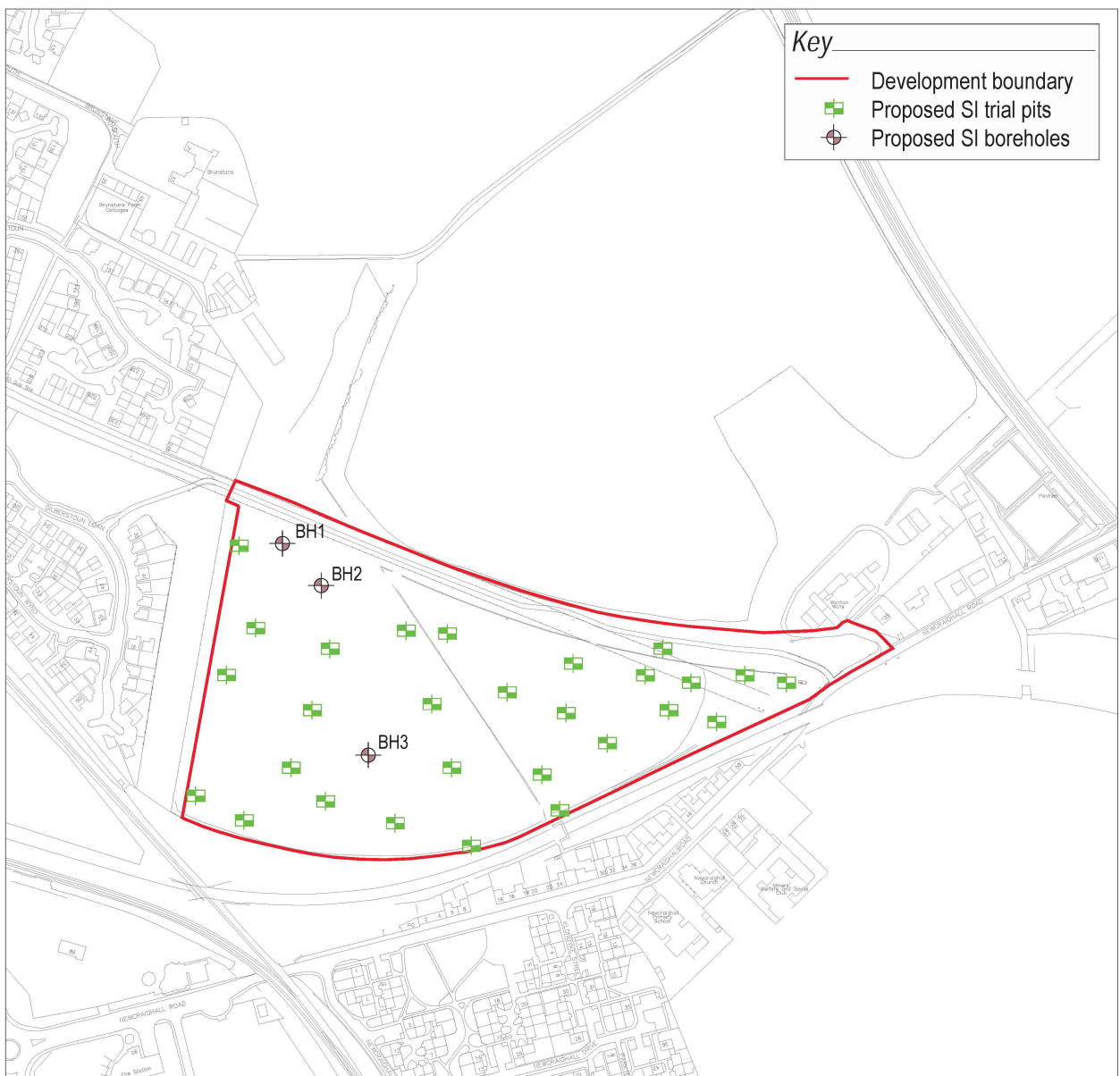
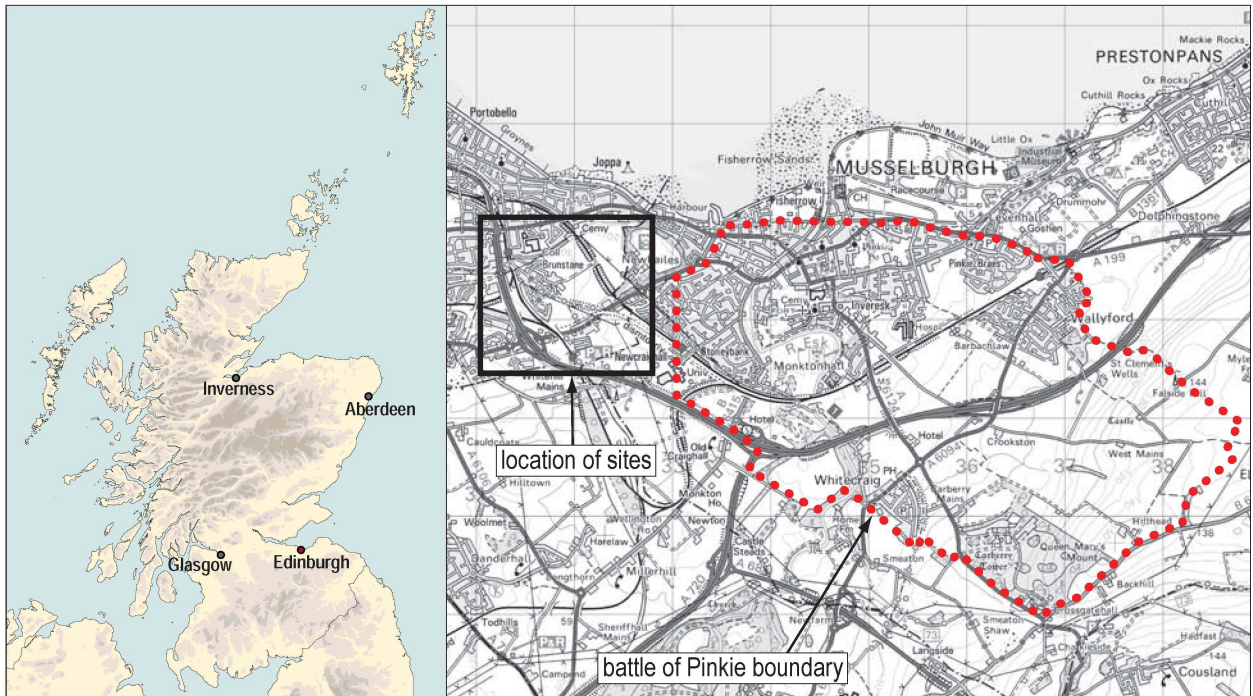
SITE INVESTIGATION WORKS

WATCHING BRIEF WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

PROJECT 3703

by

Ronan Toolis



**Key**

- Development boundary
- Proposed SI trial pits
- ⊕ Proposed SI boreholes

## Executive Summary

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation forms the archaeological watching brief method statement for the Newcraighall North Development Area Site Investigation Works. This Written Scheme of Investigation will require to be agreed with the local authority archaeologist prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out the methodology for the archaeological watching brief required for the Site Investigation works within the Newcraighall North Development Area.
- 2.2 This WSI outlines the programme of archaeological works that may be needed to mitigate the effects of the proposed site investigation works. It details the methodology to be employed in implementing Stage 1 archaeological works. The mitigation methodology to be employed during Stage 2 excavation and Stage 3 post excavation analysis and publication, if required, will be specified in further WSIs. These WSIs, if required, will be submitted for the approval of the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS), prior to the commencement of any archaeological work. All phases of work will be funded by the developer as required by the Planning Authority.

## Site Location

- 3.1 The development area is located to the north of Newcraighall, Edinburgh (centred around NGR: NT 320 720) and comprises a large 8 ha field crossed by a track (Figure 1).

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A metal detecting survey, archaeological evaluation and archaeological watching brief was previously carried out by GUARD Archaeology Limited of the proposed development area.
- 4.2 Instead of the expected later prehistoric and late medieval archaeology, the metal-detecting survey, evaluation and watching brief all suggest a predominance of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century activity across the development area, not only in quantity of artefacts and features, but in terms of the spatial distribution. The previously recorded ring-ditch crop mark was found instead to be a mine related feature, perhaps an abortive mineshaft. While many of the features were of unknown date, it is likely that these predominantly relate to modern activity too. Despite the recovery of a small assemblage of early prehistoric artefacts, none of the features appeared structural and the artefacts are likely residual rather than indicative of specific prehistoric settlement within the development area.
- 4.3 Neither was there any evidence to demonstrate that the rout from the Battle of Pinkie passed through the development area. The only possible finds that could derive from this event were an iron buckle and a lead musket ball. The simple D-shaped iron buckle is a form of buckle that could potentially date anywhere from AD 1250 – 1750. However, owing to the poor metal condition a later date for this buckle is more likely. The small musket or carbine ball had been heavily distorted due to impact with a hard surface. However, as this was an isolated find it is not possible to associate this artefact to any conflict activity such as the Battle of Pinkie, as it could as equally relate to later farming or hunting activity. The rest of the finds recovered during metal detecting ranged in date between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the vast majority consisting of iron fixtures, pegs and other debris dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 4.4 The mine features encountered during the evaluation and watching brief, together with the spatial distribution of features containing coal and ash waste deriving from mining activity and the wide distribution of nondescript iron debris found across the development area clearly indicates that the development area has been extensively disturbed in modern times. While the precise purpose of most of these features could not be identified, the nature of the material they contained indicates that they very likely relate to mining activity, the construction of the adjacent railways and the practice of agriculture during the post-medieval and modern periods.

## Aims, Objectives and Scope

- 5.1 The aims of the archaeological works are:
- to ensure that any surviving archaeological remains, encountered during the site investigation works within the development area, are recorded to an appropriate level.
- 5.2 The objectives are therefore to:
- Conduct an archaeological watching brief during the Site Investigation works to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains, and their character, date and extent if surviving;
  - Undertake an appropriate level of excavation of any significant archaeological remains encountered in order to determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
  - On completion of the watching brief submit a data structure report to CECAS.

## Fieldwork Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief will monitor the Site Investigation excavations of trial-pits in Area 1 but will exclude boreholes (Figure 1).
- 6.2 The watching brief will include the monitoring of all such topsoil and/or over-burden stripping operations by machine within the development area, and excavation and recording of any feature encountered to ensure that no significant archaeological remains are disturbed, without being recorded.
- 6.3 The proposed development area will be photographed prior to the commencement of the watching brief.
- 6.4 One GUARD Archaeologist will be required per machine during the Site Investigation operations. The machine excavator will be fitted with a flat-bladed (toothless) ditching bucket.
- 6.5 The topsoil will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none was found, to the required depth of the Site Investigation works. If archaeological remains are observed, the watching brief archaeologist will instruct the machine plant operator to cease excavation immediately.
- 6.6 Suitable down time will be provided to the on-site GUARD Archaeologist in order to investigate and record any archaeological features encountered on site. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand by the on-site Archaeologist to determine their character and extent. Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site Archaeologist. Should negative-cut features be encountered, a representative sample will be 25-50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. A full record of excavated features will be made using a single context recording system using pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs. All archaeological features will be photographed and recorded at an appropriate scale. Sections will be drawn at 1:10, and plans at 1:20. All levels will be tied into Ordnance Datum and the test-pits accurately located with the National Grid by the Site Investigation Contractor.
- 6.7 If any archaeology encountered is sufficiently significant or complex to require more than one day to excavate and record, an alternative location for the trial pit will be sought with the agreement of the Site Investigation Contractor. If no suitable alternative location can be agreed, the client and CECAS will be contacted to agree appropriate further mitigation measures. Such measures will likely comprise the excavation of any significant archaeological remains by the on-site Archaeologist and an appropriate number of Assistant Archaeologists. Recording will include pro forma sheets, drawings and photographs. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context.
- 6.8 Should human remains be revealed by the excavation, the local police, the client and CECAS will be informed immediately. Any human remains will be accurately recorded, but left in situ, pending the agreement of the police, the client and CECAS on an appropriate mitigation strategy.

- 6.9 The backfilling of trial pits will not be supervised by the on-site archaeologists, unless significant archaeology has been encountered at these locations and therefore requiring supervision to ensure preservation in situ.

## Report Preparation and Contents

- 7.1 A report detailing the results of the watching brief will be submitted to the client within two weeks of completion of fieldwork and, subject to client approval, then submitted to CECAS. The report will take the form of a Data Structure Report and will contain an analysis of the results of the watching brief. The report will include a full descriptive text that will characterise the date and extent of any archaeological deposits. It will also include plans at an appropriate scale showing the proposed development area, Site Investigation trial pits, archaeological features and archiving lists of all finds, samples, field drawings and photographs.
- 7.2 The report will include the following:
- executive summary
  - a site location plan to at least 1:10,000 scale with at least an 8 figure central grid reference
  - OASIS reference number; unique site code
  - Planning application number
  - contractor's details including date work carried out
  - nature and extent of the proposed development, including developer/client details
  - description of the site history, location and geology
  - a site plan to a suitable scale and tied into the national grid so that features can be correctly orientated
  - discussion of the results of field work
  - context & feature descriptions
  - features, number and class of artefacts, spot dating & scientific dating of significant finds presented in tabular format
  - plans and section drawings of the features drawn at a suitable scale
  - initial assessment of relevant finds/samples if appropriate
  - recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work
  - bibliography
- 7.3 An appropriate number of copies of the report will be prepared for the client as required and a further one including a digital PDF copy sent to CECAS.

## Copyright

- 8.1 Unless otherwise agreed copyright for any report resulting from the archaeological work undertaken as part of the project will be deemed the intellectual property of GUARD Archaeology Limited.

## Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the project results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*. A copy of this will be included in the Data Structure Report.

## Archive

- 10.1 The archive for the project, including a copy of the report, will be submitted to the National Monuments Records for Scotland within three months of completion of all relevant work.

- 10.2 The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be completed within 3 months of completion of the work. Once the Data Structure Report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the SMR, CECCA will validate the OASIS form thus placing the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.

## Finds Disposal

- 11.1 The arrangement for the final disposal of any finds made in connection with the archaeological work, will be deposited in keeping with Scottish legal requirements as set out in the Treasure Trove Code of Practice published by the Scottish Government in December 2008. The laws relating to Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia* in Scotland apply to all finds where the original owner cannot be identified. This includes all material recovered during archaeological fieldwork. Accordingly, all assemblages recovered from archaeological fieldwork are claimed automatically by the Crown and must be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel through its secretariat, the Treasure Trove Unit. In the event of the discovery of small finds, a filled-out copy of the form "Declaration of an Archaeological Assemblage from Fieldwork" and two copies of the pertinent Data Structure Report will be submitted to the Panel at the conclusion of the fieldwork. The Panel will then be responsible for recommending to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer which museum should be allocated the finds. All artefacts will be temporarily stored by GUARD until a decision has been made by the panel.

## Personnel and Liaison

- 12.1 The GUARD team will comprise the following qualified and experienced GUARD archaeologists:
- Project Manager: Mr Ronan Toolis
  - Project Director (on-site Archaeologist): Mr Alan Hunter Blair
  - Finds and Environmental Support and Conservation: Ms Aileen Maule
  - Illustrator: Ms Gillian McSwan
- 12.2 The GUARD Project Manager, Mr Ronan Toolis, will be the point of contact for the archaeological works. A full CV for individuals concerned can be made available on request.

## Monitoring

- 13.1 The proposed start date for the watching brief will take place on Wednesday 29 May 2013. CECAS will be given notice prior to the commencement of fieldwork and will be informed of the site mobile phone number prior to the start date so that monitoring visits can be arranged.

## Health & Safety and Insurance

- 14.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited adheres to the guidelines and standards prescribed for archaeological fieldwork set down by the Institute for Archaeologists. It is standard GUARD policy, prior to any fieldwork project commencing, to conduct a risk assessment and to prepare a project safety plan, the prescriptions of which will be strictly followed for the duration of all archaeological fieldwork. Copies of the resultant project safety plan and of GUARD's Fieldwork Safety Policy Statement may be viewed upon request.
- 14.2 GUARD Archaeology Limited also possesses all necessary insurance cover, proofs of which may be supplied upon request.

**GUARD Archaeology Limited  
52 Elderpark Workspace  
100 Elderpark Street  
Glasgow  
G51 3TR**

**Tel: 0141 445 8800**

**Fax: 0141 445 3222**

**email: [info@guard-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@guard-archaeology.co.uk)**



**[www.guard-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.guard-archaeology.co.uk)**