

# GUARD ARCHAEOLOGY



## East Millichen Farm Data Structure Report Project 4313

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## East Millichen Farm Data Structure Report

**On behalf of:** Convery Prenty Architects Limited

**NGR:** NS 573 720

**Project Number:** 4313

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<b>DRAFT</b>  28/01/16	John Atkinson Managing Director	<b>FINAL</b>	
			

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

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## **Contents**

Executive Summary	5
Introduction	5
Site Location, Topography and Geology	5
Archaeological Background	5
Aims and Objectives	6
Methodology	6
Results	6
Discussion	6
Recommendations	7
Acknowledgements	7
Appendices	9
Appendix A: Bibliography	9
Appendix B: Trial pit Descriptions	9
Appendix C: List of Photographs	10
Appendix D: Project Design	11

## **List of Figures**

Figure 1: Site location	4
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## Executive Summary

- 1.1 GUARD Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Convery Prenty Architects Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground breaking works associated with site investigation work at East Millichen Farm< Balmore Road, Glasgow. This work was undertaken on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2016 and revealed no archaeological features.

## Introduction

- 2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by GUARD Archaeology, on behalf of Convery Prenty Architects Limited on a site proposed for housing development at East Millichen Farm, Balmore Road, Glasgow. During the course of the watching brief no significant archaeological features were discovered. GUARD Archaeology undertook this phase of work on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2016.
- 2.2 Both the fieldwork and report were conducted following Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidance and standards. An OASIS entry has also been produced (Reference: guardarc1-210108).

## Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1 The proposed development location lies to the south-west of Bardowie, at East Millichen Farm , just off of Balmore Road, Glasgow (NGR NS 573 720). The development area covers approximately 1.5 hectares.
- 3.2 The site is bounded by agricultural fields with Millichen Road crossing its north side and currently consists of disused farmyard and surrounding flat lands (Figure 1).
- 3.3 The underlying drift geology consists of Devensian Till and Superficial deposits, while the solid geology consists of Upper Limestone Formation ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)).

## Archaeological Background

- 4.1 A review of desk-based sources undertaken in advance of the watching brief revealed several known cultural heritage sites within a kilometre of the centre of the proposed development. Two of these sites are located within the boundary of the development area. One of them is the farmstead itself (NGR: NS57SE 51) while the other also named East Millichen includes the farmhouse as well as the farmstead (NGR: NS57SE 131).
- 4.2 Thirteen sites were recorded within three kilometres of the study area, including three Scheduled Monuments and a World Heritage site: the Antonine Wall. The three sections of the Antonine Wall known as 'field boundary S of Boclair to Crow Hill' (SAM: 7480), 'Crow Hill to Balmore Road' (SAM: 7479) and 'Balmore Road to Summerston' (SAM: 7496) are all Scheduled Monuments. All the sections were located north of the watching brief area and run from west to east. In all three areas, the Antonine Wall, consists of the rampart, the ditch, the berm (area between rampart and ditch) and the upcast mound. However, to the east of the section between Crow Hill to Balmore Road there is the site of a Roman fortlet which formed part of the Antonine Wall complex (HER: 8935; NMRS: NS57SE18). There is also a Roman temporary camp which was probably connected with the construction of the Wall in this area (HER: 8935; NMRS: NS57SE18). Both of them are named Summerston, while the fortlet post-dated the temporary camp, it measured about 30 m square within a single ditch. The temporary construction-camp on the other hand, measured approximately 170 m by 140 m (d. 2.4 ha) and showed only one phase of occupation. To the north lay a second enclosure measuring 35 m east-west by 33 m; this should probably be recognised as the ninth fortlet to be found on the Antonine Wall. The east ditch was 1.6 m wide and 0.75 m deep, but no trace of a rampart survived; a possible pot-hole was the only internal feature. Also in this area the cropmark of a round enclosure known

as Temple of Boclair was identified through aerial photographs (HER: 8944; NMRS: NS57SE26). A frontier defence site known as Antonine Wall: Bearsden - Wilderness Plantation (NMRS: NS57SE42) is also recorded within this section of the Wall, lying to the north of the fortlet, camp and enclosure.

- 4.3 Another possible Roman fortlet, Summerston (HER: 8957; NMRS: NS57SE5), between the north bank of the Kelvin River and Summerston Farm, or at the Farm itself, has been suggested by Anne Robertson on the basis that it would have been advisable to guard the crossing by placing a fort (Balmuldy) on one side of the river and a fortlet on the other.
- 4.4 Other Roman spot finds included two distance slabs known as East Millichen (NMRS: NS57SE1) and Summerston (HER: 8937; NMRS: NS57SE2) respectively.
- 4.5 The rest of the sites are post-medieval. They include West Millichen Farmhouse and Farmstead (NMRS: NS57SE132) to the west of the site, East Millichen Cottages (NMRS: NS57SE 131.1) to the east side, and Summerston Cottages (NMRS: NS57SE 130.1) to the north-east.

## Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological watching brief were as follows:
  - establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains during the ground works for the development;
  - determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
  - excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features/sites encountered.

## Methodology *(Figure 1)*

- 6.1 All ground disturbances were conducted using a mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. The topsoil was removed in spits to the surface of the subsoil. All on-site recording, written, drawn and photographic, was to the standards normally pertaining in archaeological fieldwork following Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidance.
- 6.2 Conditions for the watching brief were cold but dry.

## Results

- 7.1 A total of 10 trial pits were stripped of topsoil to reveal generally grey brown silty clay (see Appendix B for detail description). Over the majority of the area topsoil deposits were 0.3 to 0.6 m thick. During the course of the watching brief no features of archaeological significance were encountered.
- 7.2 During the watching brief a background scatter of artefacts were noted from topsoil deposits across the area, including modern glass, china and demolition material.

## Discussion

- 8.1 The watching brief identified no significant archaeological features. It seems likely that the topsoil and intermediate made-ground deposits encountered and recorded on site relate to the use of the site during the post-medieval or modern periods.

## Recommendations

- 9.1 The watching brief work has proved that no archaeologically sensitive deposits or features exist within the development area. In consequence, no further archaeological work is required in relation to the deposits encountered during this phase of investigation.
- 9.2 GUARD Archaeology would stress that these recommendations are intended for guidance only. While the recommended mitigation strategy was developed following consultation with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) acting on behalf of the Planning Authority, final decisions on the nature and extent of any future archaeological work rest with the planning authority.

## Acknowledgements

- 10.1 GUARD Archaeology would like to thank Steve Convery of Convery Prenty Architects Limited for his assistance. Plant and drivers were supplied by the client. Technical support was from Aileen Maule. The illustrations were produced by Diarmuid O Connor. The report was desk top published by Gillian McSwan. The project was managed for GUARD Archaeology Limited by John Atkinson.

**East Millichen Farm  
Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**



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## Appendices

### Appendix A: Bibliography

National Monuments Record for Scotland, [www.rcahms.gov.uk](http://www.rcahms.gov.uk)- accessed on the 25th January 2016.

Pastmap, [pastmap.org.uk](http://pastmap.org.uk)- accessed on the 25th January 2016.

<http://bgs.ac.uk>- accessed on the 25th January 2016.

West of Scotland Archaeology Service, [www.wosas.net](http://www.wosas.net)- accessed on the 25th January 2016.

### Appendix B: Trial pit Descriptions

TP No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Intermediate	Subsoil	Details
1	1.85	0.6	2.9	Moderately compacted mid grey gravelly silt with moderate inclusions of angular cobbles. 0.3 m thick.	Moderately compacted reddish grey sandy clay with frequent inclusions of angular pebbles. 0.25 m thick- Made up ground.	Moderately compacted reddish brown sandy clay with some big boulders.	No archaeology.
2	1.7	0.55	0.6	Moderately compacted mid grey silty clay with occasional brick and modern china, glass and sub-angular cobbles. 0.6 m thick.	-	-	No archaeology. Stopped after breaking drain and water flooded pit.
2B	1.9	0.6	2.9	Loose grey brown ashy silt with frequent bricks/ debris throughout. 1.6 m thick- Demolition layer.	-	-	No archaeology. Stopped after flooded with water.
3	2	0.8		Moderately compacted mid grey brown silty clay with moderate inclusions of angular pebbles and occasional modern glass. 0.3 m thick.	Moderately compacted dark grey mixed with light brown gravelly silt with moderate inclusions of debris. 0.5 m thick- Made up ground.	Moderately compacted dark grey sandy clay.	No archaeology.
4	1.5	0.6		Moderately compacted dark grey brown silty clay. 0.3 m thick.		Moderately compacted reddish brown silty clay.	No archaeology.
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	Cancelled
6	1.5	0.6	0.5	Tarmac. 0.3 m thick.	Hardly compacted mid grey brown gravelly clay with frequent angular pebbles and occasional bricks. At least 0.5 m thick- Made up ground.	-	No archaeology. Stopped after flooded with water.
7	1.6	0.6	2.5	Hardly compacted mid grey brown sandy clay with frequent stones of varying sizes and few bricks. 1.1 m thick- Made up ground.	-	Moderately compacted yellowy brown clay.	No archaeology.

TP No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Topsoil/Overburden	Intermediate	Subsoil	Details
8	1.5	0.6	0.5	Tarmac. 0.15 m thick.	Moderately compacted dark grey gravel with frequent angular pebbles and debris. At least 0.5 m thick- Made up ground.	-	No archaeology. Stopped after flooded with water.
9	1.8	0.7	2.8	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of modern rubbish. 1.4 m thick- Made up ground.	Loose blueish grey gravelly ashy clay with some modern debris. 0.5 m- Made up ground.	Moderately compacted reddish brown sandy clay with some big boulders.	No archaeology.
10	1.8	0.7	2.5	Tarmac. 0.1 m thick.	Moderately compacted light grey sandy gravelly clay with frequent inclusions of sub-rounded cobbles. 0.2- 0.35 m thick- Made up ground.	Moderately compacted reddish brown sandy clay with some big boulders.	No archaeology.

### Appendix C: List of Photographs

Frame	Area	Context No.	Subject	Taken from
1	-	-	ID shot	-
2	TP1	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
3	TP1	-	Post-ex of trial pit	W
4	TP1	-	N facing section	N
5	TP10	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
6	TP10	-	Location shot of trial pit	N
7	TP10	-	Post-ex of trial pit	S
8	TP10	-	E facing section	E
9	TP9	-	Location shot of trial pit	W
10	TP9	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
11	TP9	-	Post-ex of trial pit	S
12	TP9	-	S facing section	S
13	TP7	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
14	TP7	-	Post-ex of trial pit	S
15	TP7	-	E facing section	E
16	TP7	-	Working shot	S
17	TP8	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
18	TP8	-	Post-ex of trial pit	W
19	TP8	-	S facing section	S
20	TP6	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
21	TP6	-	Post-ex of trial pit	W
22	TP6	-	S facing section	S
23	TP2	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
24	TP2	-	Post-ex of trial pit	S
25	TP2	-	W facing section	W
26	TP2B	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
27	TP2B	-	Post-ex of trial pit	E
28	TP2B	-	N facing section	N
29	TP3	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
30	TP3	-	Post-ex of trial pit	N
31	TP3	-	E facing section	E
32	TP4	-	ID shot of trial pit	-
33	TP4	-	Post-ex of trial pit	W
34	TP4	-	S facing section	S

Appendix D: Project Design

# EAST MILLICHEN FARM, GLASGOW: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT DESIGN

PROJECT 4313

### 1.0 Introduction

This document sets out GUARD Archaeology's watching brief methodology. The watching brief strategy includes monitoring of all overburden removal and machine dug trenches undertaken during ground breaking works associated with SI work at East Millichen Farm, Glasgow and hand excavation and recording of any archaeological features encountered (Planning Reference **15/02722/DC**).

On completion of all excavation works a report to data structures level and an accompanying post-excavation research design (PERD) and costing (if required) will be submitted for agreement with the client and the Planning Authority archaeologists. The PERD will also outline arrangements for final publication of the project should this prove necessary.

### 2.0 Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the archaeological watching brief are as follows:

- establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains during the ground works for the development;
- determine the character, extent and significance of any archaeological deposits encountered;
- excavate and salvage any information possible from any significant features/sites encountered.

### 3.0 Methodology

The strategy to be employed during the watching brief will consist of the following:

- All ground disturbances will be monitored by an archaeologist assisted, where necessary, by further archaeologists under the overall guidance of an archaeological project manager.
- The number of archaeologists required during the works will be dependent on the number of areas being stripped/trenched simultaneously and the number of mechanical excavators being deployed.
- All plant will be fitted with a toothless ditching bucket for removal of any previously undisturbed overburden layers to ensure the subsoil interface is not disturbed and any archaeological features can be clearly identified. A toothed bucket may be used for previously disturbed layers.
- Overburden will be removed in spits to the first archaeological horizon or, where none is found, to the natural subsoil. Any archaeological features encountered will be cleaned by hand to determine the date of the deposits, their character and extent. Such features will be recorded by written description on *pro forma* recording sheets, by photograph and by measured drawing.
- Any significant archaeological features encountered will be dealt with by the on-site archaeologist(s). Should negative-cut features be encountered they will be 50% excavated in order to determine their significance, date and function. In the event that they are deemed to be important discoveries, they will be fully excavated. Recording will include *pro forma* sheets, drawings and photographs.
- Suitable down time will be provided to the on-site archaeologists in order to fully recover any archaeological evidence encountered.
- Should more substantial remains be encountered, additional downtime may be required and will be agreed in writing with the client and Planning Authority archaeologists prior to proceeding.
- In the event that particularly significant features, special finds or complex groups of features are encountered the client and Planning Authority archaeologists will be alerted, so that a mitigation strategy can be agreed to deal with them.
- WoSAS acting on behalf of the Planning Authority will have final say on whether or not features will require full excavation.
- All archaeological finds will be dealt with by the on-site archaeological team. The general practice will be to bulk recover all artefacts by context which are recovered from the overburden or from nineteenth century or later layers or deposits. Should finds be encountered that are securely stratified from earlier occupation phases they will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to up-lifting.

- All excavated feature fills and horizons will be sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence. This may also include micromorphological sampling in order to address key issues on soil development.
- A representative section will be recorded for each section of trench denoting depth of overburden, any stratigraphy present and the nature of the soil. This information will be logged in the day book together with a sketch drawn to scale and a photographic record of deposits.

On completion of the watching brief phase of work, a report suitable for submission to the Planning Authority and the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) will be produced. This report will be accompanied by the post-excavation research design and costing in order to bring the results forward for analysis and publication should this be required.

#### **4.0 Products**

The products of a programme of work can be:

- a preliminary data structure report, after completion of all fieldwork suitable for submission to the client, Planning Authority, the NMRS and the local Sites and Monuments Record;
- a brief summary of results of the fieldwork will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* ;
- a brief summary of results of the fieldwork will also be added to the OASIS online database;
- Post-excavation and publication of the results of the watching brief within an academic journal, should this be necessary;
- Preparation and disposal of the site archive and finds.

#### **5.0 Archive Arrangements**

Once all fieldwork is completed, all materials from the programme of work will be prepared to the appropriate archive standard. GUARD Archaeology will undertake to deposit the resultant archive to the NMRS on completion of the report for publication.

All finds will be reported to the Treasure Trove Advisory Panel, and GUARD Archaeology will undertake to ensure their safe deposition within the designated museum at the appropriate time.

#### **6.0 Timetable**

The initial phase of work is proposed to commence on agreement of the method statement with the planning authority archaeological advisers. A report to data structures (DSR) level will be produced within two weeks of completion of the watching brief. If required a Post-Excavation Research Design (PERD) will be produced within one month of the DSR and the PERD analysis and reporting within one year of commissioning.

#### **7.0 Staffing**

The watching brief will be conducted by one of GUARD Archaeology's experienced Project Supervisors. A CV for the individual can be provided on request.

#### **8.0 Health and Safety and Insurance**

All archaeological working practices will be subject to a risk assessment prior to commencement of the work where likely health and safety issues associated with the site can be highlighted.

GUARD adheres to all standard Health and Safety regulations governing fieldwork projects. GUARD also possess appropriate third party/public liability insurance cover, proof of which may be supplied upon request.

#### **9.0 Monitoring Procedures**

All work on site will be internally monitored by John Atkinson, GUARD Archaeology's Managing Director.

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