

Biggar Museum

Biggar, South Lanarkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief: January – May 2014

for

The Biggar Museum Trust

June 2014



The development area looking NE



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Data Structure Report

Job No. 1896.00

by Ross Cameron and Andrew Morrison

edited by Tanja Romankiewicz

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Biggar Museum

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Executive Summary

Addyman Archaeology were commissioned by The Biggar Museum Trust to undertake a watching brief during all ground breaking works associated with the creation of a new building for Biggar Museum at 156 High Street, Biggar.

Fronting the High Street within the historic burgh of Biggar, the site was considered one of significant archaeological potential. The present buildings on the site sit within an historic burgage plot, dateable to the medieval period. The map regression showed in detail the development of the site as it expanded from the mid 19th century as the Blacksmith became first a garage, and then a petrol station.

The watching brief demonstrated that no archaeological features of significance survive across site. Undisturbed bedrock was encountered across virtually the entire development area with no archaeological artefacts recovered which predate the late 19th century. Due to the proximity of the bedrock, any earlier structures may have been less substantial than seen elsewhere, but it seems the development of the garage buildings removed any trace of earlier occupation.

A record of the evaluation has been deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service (OASIS ID addyman1-180952) and with Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland.



*Plate 1 Pre-excavation view of the development area to the rear of the existing High Street properties
(Addyman Archaeology Photograph 045)*

1. Introduction

i. General

Addyman Archaeology were contracted by the Biggar Museum Trust (contact Michael Hunter) to undertake an archaeological watching brief on all ground-breaking works associated with the development of the new Biggar Museum on the High Street in the town of Biggar, South Lanarkshire. The project involved the demolition of a large structure to the rear of the existing building at 156 High Street, with extension and alterations to the remaining two storey building for the purposes of forming a museum.

The archaeological involvement is in response to a planning condition (Ref: CL/12/0305) placed upon the proposed development of the site by South Lanarkshire Council as advised by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS - contact Martin O'Hare).

Located in the heart of the medieval burgh of Biggar, the site was identified by WoSAS as one likely to contain significant archaeological features. As a result, WoSAS recommended that a suitable programme of archaeological works was undertaken in relation to the development in order to safeguard against damage to any known or unknown archaeological features in the vicinity. The planning condition required a watching brief during all groundbreaking works.

The archaeological condition states:

The developer shall secure the implementation of an archaeological watching brief, to be carried out by an archaeological organization acceptable to the Planning Authority during all ground disturbance. The retained archaeological organization shall be afforded access at all reasonable times and allowed to record, recover and report items of interest and finds. A method statement for the watching brief will be submitted by the applicant, agreed by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, and approved by the Planning Authority prior to commencement of the watching brief. The name of the archaeological organization retained by the developer shall be given to the Planning Authority and to the West of Scotland Archaeology Service in writing not less than 14 days before development commences.

The archaeological monitoring was completed over nine days from 9th January to the 13th May 2014 by Ross Cameron and Andrew Morrison. Weather conditions were varied, but on the whole bright and sunny.

This report contains historic maps reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland (NLS). To view these maps online, see www.nls.uk.

ii. Setting

The proposed development area is located in the town of Biggar in South Lanarkshire (*Figure 1*), at 156 High Street, and is centred on NGR NT 04384 37870 (304380 637869).

The site sits within a sub-rectangular plot aligned NNW- SSE, and is bounded by the Biggar High St. to the North, South Back Rd. to the South, and existing structures to the East and West (*Figure 2*).

Across the development area the underlying bedrock is formed by the Biggar Volcanic Formation, comprised of basaltic and Andesitic Lavas. This igneous bedrock formed approximately 411 to 419 million years ago in the Devonian and Silurian periods and indicates a local environment previously dominated by eruptions of fluid, silica-poor magma from low volcanoes and fissures associated with tectonic spreading.¹

¹ <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/09/12/13>



Figure 1 Site location



Figure 2 Detailed site location

2. *Historical summary and archaeological potential*

i. *Map regression*

Biggar is an historic urban settlement, confirmed as a burgh in 1451. A detailed map regression suggests that the proposed site has seen an evolution from a series of smaller buildings with associated backlands from the 15th to mid 19th centuries, towards their consolidation into a single, larger structure stretching from the High St. down to South Back Rd. during the 20th century.

The town appears on some of the earliest maps of Scotland, but not in sufficient detail to show the location of the development site. This applies to all the pre-Ordnance Survey maps of the area, although it is often possible to estimate the approximate location of the site from the noted landmarks and layouts of the main roads. For example, both General William Roy's Military map produced c.1750 and John Thomson's Northern Part of Lanarkshire, Southern Part produced in 1822, indicate the development site as within the built up area comprising the town of Biggar.

The Ordnance Survey begin coverage of the Biggar area with production of the 25 inch to 1 mile Lanark Sheet XXXIV.10 (Biggar) in 1864 (*Figure 3*). This area was surveyed in 1858 and shows two separate structures facing onto the High Street. These are clearly labelled as 'Smithy'. In the area comprising the burgage plot behind the High Street buildings, a larger rectangular structure stretches across the width of the site boundary. The backlands to the south contain what appears to be a pathway running roughly N-S towards two connected smaller structures facing what would become South Back Road.



Figure 3 The developemnt area at 156 High Street (indicated in red) shown on the OS 25inch, 1st edition map, surveyed in 1858 and published in 1864. NLS

By the production of the 2nd edition OS Map in 1896/97 (*Figure 4*), the High Street properties have extended southwards, with the eastern of the two joining onto the long building to the rear visible in the first edition. These extensions essentially now cover the entire area of what was previously an enclosed backyard. A further structure has been constructed beyond these to the south, against the western perimeter of the burgage plot. The two buildings fronting South Back Road remain seemingly unaltered.



Figure 4 Ordnance Survey first edition revision, surveyed 1896. Scale: 25 inches to one mile. NLS

Little has changed by the production of the 1909/10 25 inch OS map (Figure 5). The Smithy is clearly marked referring to the easternmost building of the development area on the High Street front. The southern extension of the western of the two High Street buildings has been removed, leaving what has the appearance of a courtyard area.

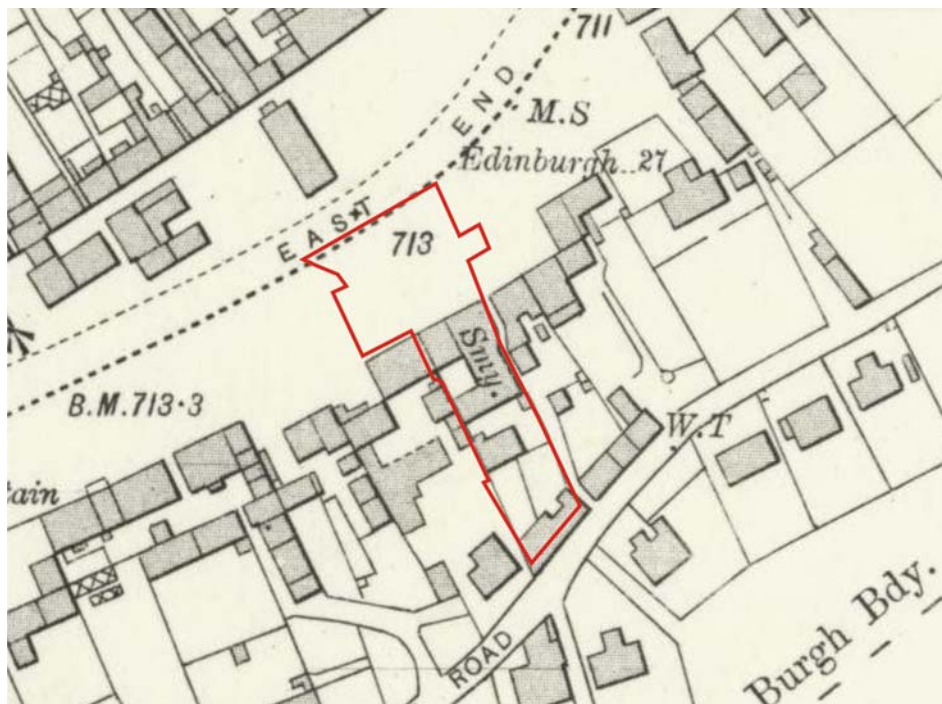


Figure 5 Ordnance Survey revision with site area indicated in red, surveyed 1909. Scale: 25 inches to one mile NLS.

The 25 inch to 1 mile 1940-47 OS map (*Figure 6*) shows that the site has taken on its recognisable modern form. The Smithy building has extended significantly southwards and presumably has now become the car garage and mechanics familiar to the people of Biggar today. The building to the south appears to have been removed or altered, with the individual buildings on site joining to form a single structure. This now reaches from the wide front façade on the high street to a tapered rear to the south. In addition, the buildings that once lined the rear of the burgage plot along South Back Road have been demolished. A line of seven small buildings backing onto the western boundary of the plot have been constructed.

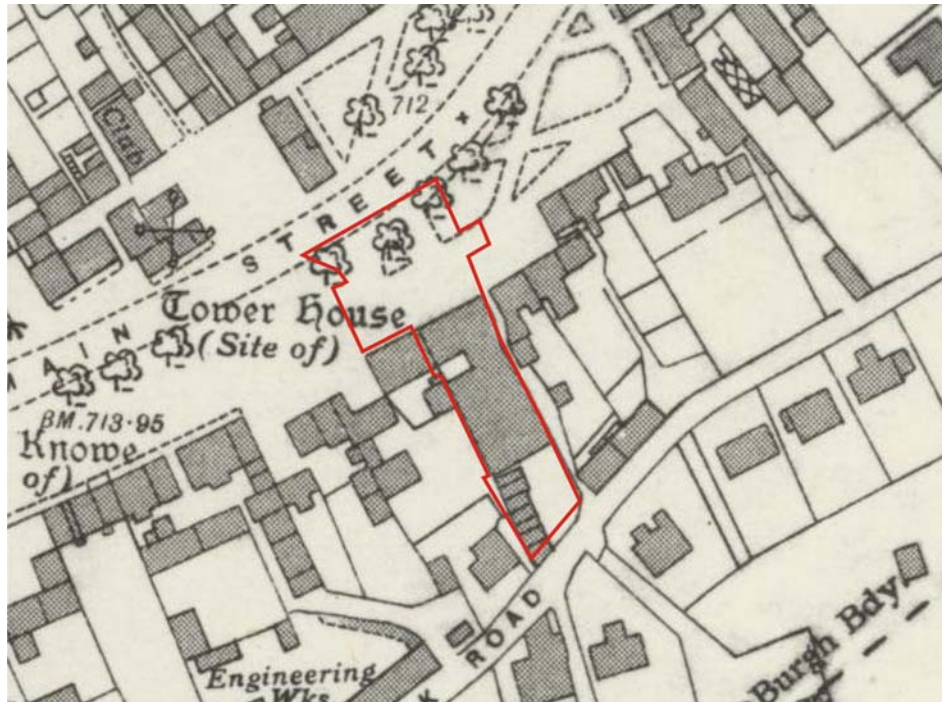


Figure 6 Ordnance Survey revision, surveyed 1940. Scale: 25 inches to one mile. NLS.

ii. Archaeological potential

The proposed development lies within an Archaeological Consultation Trigger (ACT) area that encompasses a region of increased archaeological sensitivity associated with Biggar's historic town centre. Biggar was erected as a burgh of Barony in 1451, although the existence of the settlement is likely to have been much older. Much of the modern town still retains the characteristics of the medieval settlement, with narrow burgage plots and buildings with backlands fronting onto a wide, market orientated high street. The buildings on site proposed for demolition are located in what would have been the backlands to the rear of the medieval properties. It was felt these areas possess the potential to yield medieval materials associated with domestic and light industrial use.

Fronting the site, preceding what is now the Biggar High Street, lies the probable course of the Border-Crawford-Inveresk Roman Road (WoSAS site ID: 11749). Coming from the South, the road runs past the Little Clyde Roman Camp, through the town of Coulter, across the Biggar Moss, and along the course of the Biggar High St. before turning NE, approximating the line of the A702 towards Edinburgh and the Fort at Inveresk. Though the evidence for the exact course of the road is not conclusive, its characteristics strongly suggest this road to be of Roman origin. Biggar has also, in the past, been hypothesised as the site of a Roman fort though excavations in the 1960's and 1970's yielded no evidence for this (Canmore site ID: NT03NW 25). Roman coins have also been found in Biggar town centre (WoSAS site IDs: 10872, 10876). A number of coins including one of Vespasian were recovered from the Motte; another Vespasian issue was found when the Biggar Cross Knowe

was removed from the high street in 1823. With a Roman road likely fronting the site, and Roman coins having been found in the area, it is felt that the area may hold potential for additional Roman finds to be made through the course of any groundbreaking works.

Approximately 500m east of the proposed development area, along the North side of Broughton Rd., lies the Burghmuir Farm enclosure: a prehistoric settlement and scheduled monument (SM5492). The site is identified as a series of cropmarks showing a sub-circular ditched enclosure 45m in diameter, with an adjoining 12m diameter sub-square enclosure, and adjacent 10m diameter circular enclosure. Though unexcavated, the site is of importance due to the rarity of this site-type in lowland Scotland. With known prehistoric settlements in the immediate vicinity, there is the potential for prehistoric finds to be made within the development area, though in the heart of a medieval burgh, they would most likely have seen earlier truncation and probably only exist in the form of isolated pit features.

There exists also a possible battle site in the fields approximately 350m to the South of the development area. The Battle of Biggar (WoSAS ID: 10883), supposedly fought between the English and William Wallace in 1297, is mentioned by only a single source as being situated in a marshy field SE of Biggar where fragments of armour have also been recovered in the past. Conflicting accounts, however, locate the battleground in the fields East of Biggar rather than to the Southeast. A survey undertaken in the 1970's failed to establish an exact location for the Battle of Biggar.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken for groundbreaking works associated with a small house extension, immediately South of the development area along South Back Rd., in 2005 by AOC Archaeology Group.² During the course of these works, no significant archaeology was encountered. Similarly, archaeological evaluations at Biggar Retail Park in 2000 (WoSAS event ID: 33), and at Biggar High School in 2007 (WoSAS event ID: 3617) by Headland Archaeology Ltd. revealed no finds of archaeological significance.

² Engl, R (2005) '8 South Bank Road, Biggar, South Lanarkshire (Biggar parish), watching brief', *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, vol.6.

3. Methodology

The watching brief required the monitoring of any groundbreaking works by a suitably qualified archaeologist until undisturbed natural subsoil was reached, or an archaeological horizon encountered.

The first phase of works in January 2014 involved the opening of engineering test pits designed to inform the shape and design of the proposed development. Each of the test pits was located within the existing 'shed' structure to the rear of the property and required the existing concrete surface to be broken with a pneumatic drill before excavation could proceed. The excavation of the underlying deposits was completed by the contractor using hand tools under archaeological supervision.

The main excavations were proposed to the rear of the existing structure fronting the High Street. The plans here required the reduction of the ground surface across the whole area to a point 0.40m below the existing concrete. In addition to the general reduction, underpinning of the existing wall to the east of the site, as well as the construction of a new boundary wall to the west, meant that deeper foundation trenches were dug in these areas. These ran near the length of the area to the south of the existing buildings, with a diameter of 3m. Further strip foundation trenches would also be dug, aligned west-east, anchored to the western and eastern perimeters respectively.

Where possible, all deposits were stripped by a JCB 3CX fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless bucket. On occasion, the nature of the deposits meant it was necessary to switch to a toothed bucket. The topsoil was slowly removed in spits, allowing the archaeologist to spot any anomalous features and halt excavation if deemed necessary.

Any archaeological features revealed were left *in situ* and subsequently examined as appropriate by the archaeological team. Any deposits encountered were recorded as per standards established by Addyman Archaeology and The Institute for Archaeologists (*IfA*). A comprehensive digital photographic record of progress was maintained throughout the project.

4. Results

i. The Test Pits

Four test pits were opened prior to commencement of the main works in order to assess the underlying ground conditions and inform the architectural and structural plans for the site. When the Test Pits were excavated, the large 'shed' to the rear of the High Street property was still standing. The Test Pits were very limited in scope and as a result very small-scale, but it was hoped that they would provide an insight into the archaeological remains present across the plot.



Plate 2 Working shot showing Trial Pit 1 being opened (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 006)

a. Test Pit 1

Test Pit 1 (TP1) was against the eastern perimeter wall of the site and was excavated to a depth of c.0.55m. Measuring 0.60m N-S by 0.50m W-E, interpreting the deposits within TP1 was not going to provide anything other than an indication of deposits in this area. Removal of two layers of concrete flooring (101/102) revealed a mottled and mixed deposit of moderately compact mid to dark brown gritty sand (103). This deposit was abundant in small angular stones and brick and clinker fragments, clearly a disturbed backfill deposit. Further excavation revealed (103) to be packing around and existing N-S aligned salt glazed drainage pipe (104).

TP1 showed the upstanding eastern perimeter wall to be built upon a brick course, with no indication of an earlier wall alignment.

b. Test Pit 2

Test Pit 2 (TP2) lay directly opposite Test Pit 1, against the western wall of the 'shed' and was of a similar size. As in TP1, TP2 contained two layers of concrete, but the underlying stone deposit (203) was difficult to interpret in such a confined space. The upstanding wall of the structure rested directly atop (203), but it was unclear if this was natural bedrock, or a pre-existing wall.

c. Test Pit 3

Test Pit 3 (TP3) was excavated on the eastern boundary of the site, to the north of TP1. Only one deposit of concrete (301) was noted here, with the underlying deposit (302) consisting of a mixed and mottled gritty sand abundant in fragments of brick, stone, charcoal and clinker. The upstanding wall was shown to be built upon a brick course in the same manner as noted in TP1.

d. Test Pit 4

Test Pit 4 (TP4) was dug to the west of TP3 and north of TP2, thus completing the square layout for the four excavations. Like TP1 and TP2, two layers of concrete were removed to reveal a similar deposit to (302) – a mottled mid to dark brown sandy silt abundant in small angular stones, fragments of brick and flecks of industrial detritus. This was called (403).

Set within (403) was what appears to be an alignment of bricks that ran west-east (*Plate 3*). Within a trench measuring 0.65m by 0.60m with a depth of 0.32m, any conclusions must be tentative at best, but it was felt this may be the remains of stalls partitioning for horses within the smithy.



Plate 3 Post-excavation view of Trial Pit 4 showing the brick alignment (404) (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 020)

ii. Biggar High Street – Trial Pit 5

A further Trial Pit was opened on Biggar High Street, to the north of the development adjacent to the area once occupied by the concourse of the petrol station. Recorded as Trial Pit 5 (TP5), this measured 1.14m W-E by c.1.07m N-S, and had a final depth of c.1.35m.



Plate 4 Location of Trial Pit 5 looking west along Biggar High Street (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 032)

The concrete surface (505) was cut, broken by pneumatic drill and then removed to reveal a deposit 0.20m deep of mixed made ground abundant in small to medium angular stones – (502). A clear deposit of thickly compact black silt and grit (503) underlay this, possibly an earlier 20th century ground surface.

However, beneath (503), (504) comprised a deep deposit of moderately compact clay silt, abundant in fragments of 20th century brick. This also contained 1970s crisp packets, and some voids indicative of a period of non-consolidated backfilling.

The final deposit below (504) was (505), a much cleaner, firmer deposit of mid brown silty clay. The final depth of this was unrealised.

Although natural subsoil was not reached in TP5, it seems that significant landscaping work had been completed here in the 20th century, perhaps associated with the installation and operation of the petrol station on the site.



Plate 5 West facing section of Trial Pit 5 (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 025)

iii. The main excavation

As noted in the trial pits, two layers of concrete were removed to reveal a deep deposit of very mixed loose to moderately compact deposit of mid to black brown and grey mixed gritty silt and sand with abundant fragments of stone, brick and occasional 20th century detritus. This was recorded as (003).

Below (003), a tarmac surface (004) was revealed (*Plate 6*). This surface stretched across much of the development area and directly overlay the undisturbed bedrock.



Plate 6 Tarmac surface (004) being revealed across the development area. Note the orange bedrock (005) visible to the right hand side of the JCB. (004) directly overlay (005) (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 063)

Particularly along the eastern edge of the site the bedrock (005) seemed to dive away to the south, but in this area the place of the bedrock was taken by undisturbed natural subsoil (006). This was a moderately compact orange brown gritty clay sand.

As excavation continued southwards, although the tarmac surface (004) did not extend across the whole site, the made ground (003) did, with the natural bedrock (005) visible across almost the entire development area (*Plate 7*).



Plate 7 Working shot looking south east and showing the JCB revealing the bedrock (005) across the site (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 101)

The north western and south eastern corners of the site were the only areas where the excavations did not reveal either bedrock or undisturbed natural subsoil. However, the south eastern part of the site had clearly undergone significant disruption during the installation of numerous drainage, waste and freshwater pipes. In addition, the deposit revealed in this area that (007) had the appearance and feel of the natural subsoil (006), with only the colour seeming different. (007) was much darker than (006), but excavation of deeper foundations (*Plate 8*) here revealed no archaeological features and confirmed that (007) is actually natural subsoil, disturbed by the installation of services and by seepage from the water carrying services.



Plate 8 Digging the foundation trenches (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 121)

A large pit (011/012] was also revealed at the north western edge of the development area, but 19th century ceramic and 19th or 20th century glass was recovered from the fill (011). Cleaning around the area revealed three salt glazed ceramic pipes meeting at this location.

iv. *The Underpinning*

The excavation across the main development area had shown there to be no significant archaeological features surviving, with the area below the existing eastern perimeter wall also appearing archaeological sterile.

In order to secure the existing wall, the contractor was required to underpin and install new foundations by digging horizontally through the ground below the wall and filling the space with a new brick foundation. This was done in blocks organised by the contractor.

One of these ‘blocks’ revealed what appeared to be a pit at the limit of excavation, essentially lying below Smiddy’s Close (*Plate 9* and *Plate 10*). This was recorded in section, and seen to measure 0.64m N-S by >0.20m W-E with a depth of 0.62m. The cut [010] had very sharp, near vertical sides, specifically to the north and west, with a less steep south side, gradually lessening towards a roughly pointed base. Lying under Smiddy Lane, the eastern side was not recorded. The fill (009) comprised moderately compact black brown and mid brown silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and small rounded stones.



Plate 9 West facing section showing (009/010] (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 058)



Plate 10 Oblique view of (009/010] looking NE (Addyman Archaeology Photograph 059)

(009) had the look of re-deposited topsoil, and did not have the feel of a medieval pit. Although no further features like this were recorded during the underpinning, water and drainage services were revealed beneath Smiddy Lane a short distance to the south. It is felt likely that the 'pit' (009/010] is actually related to the excavations associated with the services which run along Smiddy's Close.

5. *Summary and Conclusions*

The findings of the watching brief at 156 High Street were surprising. The town of Biggar retains its historic medieval layout, with the buildings fronting the High Street clearly lying within much older burgage plots. The line of the road follows the anticipated medieval or even Roman route. From at least the mid 19th century the buildings were occupied by a blacksmith and subsequently as a garage and petrol station and it was thought this light industry may have removed some of the medieval features.

However, although this proved to be the case, the lack of any vestigial archaeological features or *ex situ* medieval artefacts was unusual. Even more curious was the proximity of bedrock to the surface across the development site. This would have meant that the use of the land to the rear of the High Street properties in the medieval period would have been limited, and rendered the excavations of pits and planting of crops problematic. In light of this information it is unusual that the historic burgh continued to expand eastwards and the plots at 156 High Street remained viable. The site was home to a Blacksmith from at least the mid 19th century and the name of the lane running to the east of the site (Smiddy Close) suggests this connection was even older. It is possible that the Blacksmith workshop developed on this site due to the unusually high outcrop of bedrock making it of limited usage for anything else. Another explanation may be that it would have been located directly adjacent to the market space of the burgh. This is still visible in the wider central section of the High Street, but is also just about discernible on the General Roy's map, which shows that in c.1750 one building had encroached into the former market.³

³ Discussion with Martin O'Hare at WoSAS

6. *Mitigation and Recommendations*

The archaeological watching brief at Biggar High Street showed the site to be essentially archaeologically sterile. Natural bedrock was revealed across the development area and no significant archaeological features were noted.

Addyman Archaeology believe that the archaeological condition can be deemed as having been met, and recommend that the condition is discharged for the development.

7. *Acknowledgements*

Addyman Archaeology were commissioned to complete this project by Michael Hunter of The Biggar Museum Trust and the groundworks were completed by J & J McCann of Biggar. Both The Biggar Museum Trust and J & J McCann deserve our gratitude and respect for their commitment to, and understanding of, the archaeological resource. The need for archaeological monitoring was met with assistance and patience even in the face of disappointing results.

Appendix A:
Context Register; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief

Context recorded from the Trial Pits:

Context No.	Initial	Date	Trench	Type	Description	Comments
101	RC	09/01/14	TP1	Deposit	Concrete floor of 20 th century garage. Depth: 0.125m	
102	RC	09/01/14	TP1	Deposit	Primary concrete floor surface below (101). Depth: <0.20m	
103	RC	09/01/14	TP1	Deposit	Mottled and mixed deposit of moderately compact mid to dark brown gritty sand abundant in small angular stones, brick and clinker fragments. Depth: <0.25m	
104	RC	09/01/14	TP1	Deposit	N-S aligned salt glazed service pipe. No cut visible.	
201	RC	09/01/14	TP2	Deposit	Concrete floor of 20 th century garage. Depth: 0.125m	As (101)
202	RC	09/01/14	TP2	Deposit	Primary concrete floor surface below (101). Depth: <0.20m	As (102)
203	RC	09/01/14	TP2	Deposit	Fractured masonry, likely to be bedrock, but possibly faced to east and stepped forward 0.25m	Shown during excavation to be natural bedrock
204	RC	09/01/14	TP2	Deposit	Mottled and mixed deposit of moderately compact mid to dark brown gritty sand abundant in small angular stones, brick and clinker fragments. Depth: <0.25m	As (103)
301	RC	09/01/14	TP3	Deposit	Concrete floor of 20 th century garage. Depth: 0.125m	As (101)
302	RC	09/01/14	TP3	Deposit	Very mixed and mottled gritty sand abundant in fragments of brick, stone, charcoal, clinker etc.	
401	RC	09/01/14	TP4	Deposit	Concrete floor of 20 th century garage. Depth: 0.125m	As (101)
402	RC	09/01/14	TP4	Deposit	Primary concrete floor surface below (101). Depth: <0.20m	As (102)
403	RC	09/01/14	TP4	Deposit	Mottled mid to dark brown gritty sand abundant in small angular stones, fragments of brick and flecks of industrial detritus.	
404	RC	09/01/14	TP4	Structure	Brick alignment running W-E. 2 full brick and one half brick visible set end to end. 0.28m long and 0.08m wide.	Interpreted as possible stalls for horses. Shown during the excavation to be coincidental.
501	RC	16/04/14	TP5	Deposit	Concrete base / floor and associated bedding of angular cement and hardcore. Depth: c.0.16m	
502	RC	16/04/14	TP5	Deposit	Moderately compact mottled grey brown, black brown gritty silt abundant in small to medium angular stones. Depth; c.0.20m	Mixed deposit of made ground.

Context No.	Initial	Date	Trench	Type	Description	Comments
503	RC	16/04/14	TP5	Deposit	Thickly compact black silt and grit abundant in small circular stones. Depth: 0.27m	Earlier 20 th century ground surface?
504	RC	16/04/14	TP5	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey brown clay silt abundant in fragments of 20 th century brick marked 'Auchinlee'. Depth: 0.40m	Contains voids indicative of hurried and non-consolidated backfill.
505	RC	16/04/14	TP5	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions. Depth: Unrealised. >0.20m	

Contexts recorded during the main Watching Brief:

Context No.	Initial	Date	Trench	Type	Description	Comments
001	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Deposit	Upper concrete (ground surface)	Same as (101), (201), (301) and (401)
002	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Deposit	Lower concrete	Same as (102), (202) and (402)
003	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Deposit	Loose to moderately compact very mixed and mottled black brown, grey and mid brown mixed gritty silt, sand and rubble abundant in fragments of stone, bricks and occasional 20 th century industrial detritus. Depth: c.0.30m	Mixed made ground between surfaces. Same as (103) and (204), (302) and (403)
004	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Deposit	Tarmac surface	
005	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Bedrock	Bedrock	Natural bedrock. Same as (203)
006	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Natural	Moderate to firmly compact orange brown gritty silty sand abundant in broken angular stones and fragments of bedrock.	Natural subsoil.
007	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Deposit	Moderate to softly compact mid brown gritty silty sand with frequent medium angular stones.	Grubby disturbed natural subsoil.
008	RC	28/04/14	N/A	Feature	Upstanding E wall	
009	RC	30/04/14	2A	Fill	Moderately compact black brown / mid brown silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and small rounded stones.	Fill of pit beneath {008}, fill of [010]
010	RC	30/04/14	2A	Cut	Cut for (009)	Filled by (009)
011	RC	30/04/14	N/A	Fill	Loose to moderately compact mottled dark brown and black with occasional areas of grey black gritty silt, ash and sand. Abundant in small fragments of angular blackened stone and occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar.	Large clearly defined pit containing 19 th and 20 th century material. Meeting point of 3 services. Fill of pit [012].
012	RC	30/04/14	N/A	Cut	Cut for (011)	

<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Initial</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
013	RC	30/04/14	N/A	Feature	Services feeding into (011)/ elsewhere	Same as (104)
014	RC	30/04/14	1B	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silty sand / loam with frequent root intrusions.	Deposit (topsoil?) behind {008} and (013)
015	RC	30/04/14	1B	Cut	Possible cut for (014)	
016	RC	01/05/14	2C	Deposit	Moderately compact mid-dark brown sandy silt. Re-deposited natural. Backfill associated with services	
017	RC	01/05/14	2C	Deposit	Dark brown grubby gritty silt. Re-deposited (016) associated with services	
018	RC	01/05/14	2C	Cut	Probable cut for (017)	Cut for repair and replacement of primary services.
019	RC	01/05/14	2C	Deposit	Rubble/ topsoil spread	Dirty topsoil spread cut by [018]
020	RC	01/05/14	2C	Deposit	Tarmac service capping	

Appendix B:
Finds Register; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief

<i>No.</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initial</i>
001	011	2	Fe	2 Fe objects		30/04/14	RC
002	011	1	Glass	Bottle base marked 'Milton Bridge'		30/04/14	RC
003	011		Ceramic	Various		30/04/14	RC

Appendix C:
Sample List; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief

<i>Sample Number</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initial</i>
001	009	1 Med bag	Black brown loam	Fill of [010]	30/04/14	RC

Appendix D:
Drawings Register; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief

<i>Dwg No.</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Drawn by</i>	<i>Sheet</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	1:20	Section	30/04/2014	RC	001	W and S facing section of box 2A showing (009)[010]
002	1:20	Section	30/04/2014	RC	001	E facing section of box 1B, showing (014)[015]
003	1:20	Section	01/05/2014	RC	001	E facing section of box 2C

004	1:20	Section	02/05/2014	RC	001	E facing section of box 1D
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Appendix E:
Photographic Register; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief

<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Direction Facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
001	NE	09/01/2014	TP1, Pre-ex	RC
002	NW	09/01/2014	TP2, Pre-ex	RC
003	SE	09/01/2014	TP3, Pre-ex	RC
004	NW	09/01/2014	TP4, Pre-ex	RC
005	NE	09/01/2014	TP1, Working shot	RC
006	NE	09/01/2014	TP1, Mid-ex	RC
007	E	09/01/2014	TP1, Post-ex	RC
008	N	09/01/2014	TP1, Post-ex, S facing section	RC
009	N	09/01/2014	TP1, Post-ex, S facing section, Detail	RC
010	E	09/01/2014	TP1, Post-ex, W facing section	RC
011	W	09/01/2014	TP2, Post-ex	RC
012	V/S	09/01/2014	TP2, Post-ex	RC
013	N	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, S facing section	RC
014	E	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, W facing section	RC
015	E	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, W facing section	RC
016	SE	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, N facing section	RC
017	N	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, Overall	RC
018	N	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, Overall	RC
019	N	09/01/2014	TP3, Post-ex, Overall	RC
020	SE	09/01/2014	TP4, Post-ex, N facing section	RC
021	W	09/01/2014	TP4, Post-ex, E facing section	RC
022	W	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Mid-ex	RC
023	SW	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Mid-ex	RC
024	W	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Mid-ex	RC
025	W	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Mid-ex	RC
026	N	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Mid-ex	RC
027	S	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
028	S	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
029	W	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
030	N	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
031	N	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, "AUCHINLEA" Bricks	RC
032	W	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
033	N	16/04/2014	TP in front of Museum, Post-ex	RC
034	S	28/04/2014	Underpinning Trench, Post concrete removal	RC

<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Direction Facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
035	NE	28/04/2014	Underpinning Trench, Post concrete removal	RC
036	NW	28/04/2014	Site Overall, showing concrete pad	RC
037	NW	28/04/2014	Site Overall, showing concrete pad	RC
038	SW	28/04/2014	Site Overall, showing concrete pad	RC
039	NW	28/04/2014	Wall stub of W wall, at houses to N	RC
040	N	28/04/2014	Wall stub of W wall, at houses to N	RC
041	SW	28/04/2014	Wall stub of W wall, to S	RC
042	SE	28/04/2014	Cleaning underpinning trench w/ bladed bucket	RC
043	SE	28/04/2014	Cleaning underpinning trench w/ bladed bucket	RC
044	N	28/04/2014	View of houses from rear	RC
045	N	28/04/2014	View of houses from rear	RC
046	SE	28/04/2014	Underpinning trench, N end, showing natural	RC
047	SE	28/04/2014	Underpinning trench excavation, w/ toothed bucket	RC
048	NE	28/04/2014	Saltglazed service pipe, S-end underpinning trench	RC
049	SW	30/04/2014	Concrete pad removal, N end	RC
050	SW	30/04/2014	Concrete and overburden removal, N end	RC
051	SE	30/04/2014	N-end cleaned down onto secondary surface	RC
052	E	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 2A, Post-ex	RC
053	SE	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 2A, Post-ex	RC
054	SE	30/04/2014	Overall, showing location of segment 2A	RC
055	SW	30/04/2014	Overall view, concrete and overburden removal	RC
056	NE	30/04/2014	Overall view, concrete and overburden removal	RC
057	NE	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 2A, Post-ex, feature [010]	RC
058	E	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 2A, Post-ex, feature [010]	RC
059	NE	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 2A, Post-ex, feature [010]	RC
060	SE	30/04/2014	Site overall, S half, E wall	RC
061	NE	30/04/2014	Site overall, N half, E wall	RC
062	SE	30/04/2014	Stripping, NW corner	RC
063	SE	30/04/2014	Cleaned on to primary concrete	RC
064	E	30/04/2014	Reveal of mechanic's pit	RC
065	E	30/04/2014	Primary concrete between mechanic's pit and wall base	RC
066	NE	30/04/2014	Wall removal, S end of building	RC
067	NW	30/04/2014	Wall removal, S end of building	RC
068	S	30/04/2014	Spoil removal	RC
069	N	30/04/2014	Fireplace, S facing, upper storey	RC
070	SE	30/04/2014	Wall removal, from interior	RC
071	NE	30/04/2014	Removal of primary concrete, NW corner	RC
072	NE	30/04/2014	Pit feature at NW corner	RC

<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Direction Facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
073	NW	30/04/2014	Pit feature at NW corner	RC
074	SW	30/04/2014	Pit feature at NW corner	RC
075	NE	30/04/2014	Pit feature at NW corner	RC
076	E	30/04/2014	Mechanic's pit	RC
077	S	30/04/2014	Mechanic's pits	RC
078	E	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 1B, Post-ex	RC
079	E	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 1B, Post-ex, detail	RC
080	NE	30/04/2014	Underpinning segment 1B, Post-ex, detail	RC
081	E	01/05/2014	Underpinning segment 2C, Working shot	RC
082	SE	01/05/2014	Pecking concrete, NW end	RC
083	N	01/05/2014	Fe stanchion detail, Hoist shaft?	RC
084	W	01/05/2014	Fe stanchion detail, Hoist shaft?	RC
085	NE	01/05/2014	Underpinning segment 2C, Post-ex	RC
086	N	01/05/2014	Bricking up of S end of building	RC
087	NE	01/05/2014	Hoist shaft	RC
088	SE	01/05/2014	Hoist shaft removal	RC
089	NE	01/05/2014	Hoist shaft removal	RC
090	SW	01/05/2014	View of site from main street	RC
091	E	01/05/2014	Underpinning segment 2C, post-ex	RC
092	E	01/05/2014	Underpinning segment 2C, post-ex	RC
093	SE	01/05/2014	E wall base, S of 2C	RC
094	E	01/05/2014	E wall base, S of 2C	RC
095	NE	01/05/2014	E wall base, S of 2C	RC
096	E	02/05/2014	Underpinning segment 1D, feature [010]	RC
097	E	02/05/2014	Underpinning segment 1D, feature [010], S half	RC
098	E	02/05/2014	Underpinning segment 1D, feature [010], Detail	RC
099	NE	02/05/2014	Stripping of central area	RC
100	NW	02/05/2014	Stripping of central area	RC
101	SE	02/05/2014	Stripping of central area	RC
102	S	02/05/2014	Stripping of central area	RC
103	SE	02/05/2014	Stripping of central area	RC
104	E	02/05/2014	Underpinning segment 4C, Post-ex	RC
105	E	02/05/2014	Underpinning segment 4C, Post-ex	RC
106	NE	06/05/2014	Underpinning segment 3F, Pre-ex	AJLM
107	NE	06/05/2014	Underpinning segment 3F, Pre-ex	AJLM
108	N	06/05/2014	Site overall, from segment 3F	AJLM
109	N	06/05/2014	Site overall, from segment 3F	AJLM
110	E	06/05/2014	Segment 3F, post-ex, showing natural	AJLM

<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Direction Facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
111	NE	06/05/2014	Segment 3F, post-ex, showing natural	AJLM
112	SE	06/05/2014	Segment 3F, post-ex, showing natural	AJLM
113	V/E	06/05/2014	Segment 3F, post-ex, showing natural	AJLM
114	S	13/05/2014	Working shot - stripping concrete	RC
115	SE	13/05/2014	Working shot - stripping concrete	RC
116	WSW	13/05/2014	E facing section	RC
117	WNW	13/05/2014	E facing section	RC
118	W	13/05/2014	E facing section	RC
119	NW	13/05/2014	Working shot - strip foundations	RC
120	NE	13/05/2014	Working shot - strip foundations	RC
121	NE	13/05/2014	Working shot - strip foundations	RC
122	N	13/05/2014	Working shot - strip foundations	RC

Appendix F:
Photographic Thumbnails; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief



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Appendix H:**Provisional Discovery and Excavation Scotland (DES) entry; Biggar Museum – Watching Brief**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	South Lanarkshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Biggar Museum
PROJECT CODE:	AA 1896
PARISH:	Biggar
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Ross Cameron
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Addyman Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 04384 37870
START DATE (this season)	09/01/14
END DATE (this season)	13/05/14
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>Addyman Archaeology were commissioned by The Biggar Museum Trust to undertake a watching brief during all ground breaking works associated with the creation of a new building for Biggar Museum at 156 High Street, Biggar.</p> <p>Fronting the High Street within the historic burgh of Biggar, the site was considered one of significant archaeological potential. The present buildings on the site sit within an historic burgh plot, dateable to the medieval period. The map regression showed in detail the development of the site as it expanded from the mid 19th century as the Blacksmith became first a garage, and then a petrol station.</p> <p>The watching brief demonstrated that no archaeological features of significance survive across site. Undisturbed bedrock was encountered across virtually the entire development area with no archaeological artefacts recovered which predate the late 19th century. Due to the proximity of the bedrock, any earlier structures may have been less substantial than seen elsewhere, but it seems the development of the garage buildings removed any trace of earlier occupation. The proximity of the bedrock to the surface is curious for a location with such a long history. This would have meant that the use of the land to the rear of the High Street properties in the medieval period would have been limited, and rendered the excavations of pits and planting of crops problematic. In light of this information it is unusual that the historic burgh continued to expand eastwards and the plots at 156 High Street remained viable.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	-
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	The Biggar Museum Trust
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	St. Ninian's Manse, Quayside Street, Edinburgh, EH6 6EJ

EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@addyman-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	NMRS and WoSAS SMR (intended)