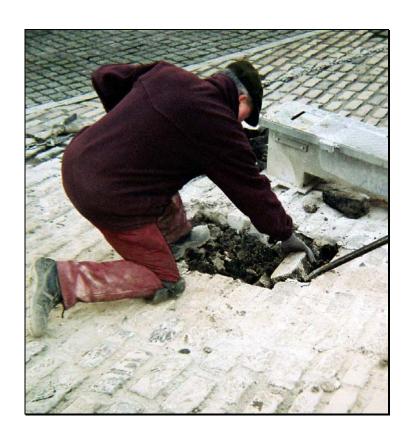
Historic Scotland Properties in Care Minor Archaeological Works 2008

# Glasgow Cathedral: Archaeological monitoring, February 2008

HS PIC Index number: 90150 Project code: HSCO-90150-2008-01



March 2008 Kirkdale Archaeology

| <u>Site</u>                       | Glasgow Cathedral         |   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| N.G.R                             | NS 602 656                |   |
| <b>Project Description</b>        | Archaeological monitoring |   |
| Project code                      | HSCO-90150-2008-01        |   |
|                                   |                           |   |
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**Summary:** A watching brief was maintained just north of the northwest corner of Glasgow Cathedral during the excavation of three small trenches. These trenches were required for the insertion of three new folding bollards. Below c 300mm of road surfacing deposits were seen which were thought to be possible graveyard infill.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Under the terms of its call-off contract with Historic Scotland, Kirkdale Archaeology was asked to undertake a short period of archaeological monitoring at Glasgow Cathedral during the installation of three folding bollards at the NE corner of the cathedral to control vehicular access to the access road running along the N side of the Cathedral to the MCU works yard. The bollards replace a moveable chain across the access road. The work was carried out by Glasgow City Council on 13th February 2008.

#### 2.0 DESCRIPTION

Work commenced with the removal of three rectangular sections of cobbles (101, 201, 301) up to 1.65m long by up to 0.60m wide. A circular saw was used to cut the cobbles, which were then prised out of the road. The holes were than excavated to a depth of 400mm using a mini excavator and a jackhammer to break through the concrete. The cobbles (101, 201, 301) were bedded in a layer of concrete (102, 202, 302) and beneath the concrete there was a layer of type 1 (103, 203, 303) then terram sheeting (104, 204, 304). Beneath the terram sheeting at a depth 300mm, there was dark brown silt (105, 205, 305) with occasion sandstone fragments. Only the top 100mm of the silt was excavated and nothing of archaeological interest was discovered within it.

#### 3.0 INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATIONS

This work revealed that the modern access road running along the N edge of the Cathedral is around 300mm thick with likely archaeological potential below this depth within dark brown silt deposit (105, 205, 305); this is probably graveyard infill.

## A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

## Trench 1

| No  | Description   |
|-----|---|
| 101 | Cobbles   |
| 102 | Concrete  |
| 103 | Type 1  |
| 104 | Terram Sheeting                                     |
| 105 | Dark brown silt with occasional sandstone fragments |

## Trench 2

| No  | Description   |
|-----|---|
| 201 | Cobbles   |
| 202 | Concrete  |
| 203 | Type 1  |
| 204 | Terram Sheeting                                     |
| 205 | Dark brown silt with occasional sandstone fragments |

## Trench 3

| No  | Description   |
|-----|---|
| 301 | Cobbles   |
| 302 | Concrete  |
| 303 | Type 1  |
| 304 | Terram Sheeting                                     |
| 305 | Dark brown silt with occasional sandstone fragments |

## A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LIST OF DRAWINGS

| No | Type | Description     | Scale |
|----|------|-----------------|-------|
| 1  | Plan | Trench location | 1:400 |

# A3.0 APPENDIX 3: LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

| #     | Description   | From | Date     |
|-------|---|------|----------|
| 3515  | Pre-ex shot   | N    | 12/02/08 |
| 3516  | Pre-ex shot.  | N    | 12/02/08 |
| 00019 | Removal of cobbles 101.                                     | SE   | 13/02/08 |
| 00020 | View of trench 1 with cobbles 101 removed.                  | W    | 13/02/08 |
| 00021 | General view of trench 1 fully excavated.                   | SW   | 13/02/08 |
| 00022 | General view of trench 1 fully excavated.                   | SW   | 13/02/08 |
| 00023 | General shot showing Trench 3, 2 and 1.                     | NE   | 13/02/08 |
| 00024 | General view of trench 2 fully excavated                    |      | 13/02/08 |
| 00025 | General view of trench 2 fully excavated                    | NE   | 13/02/08 |
| 00026 | Trench 3 showing removal of concrete 302 with a jackhammer. |      | 13/02/08 |
| 00027 | Trench 3 fully excavated.                                   | NE   | 13/02/08 |

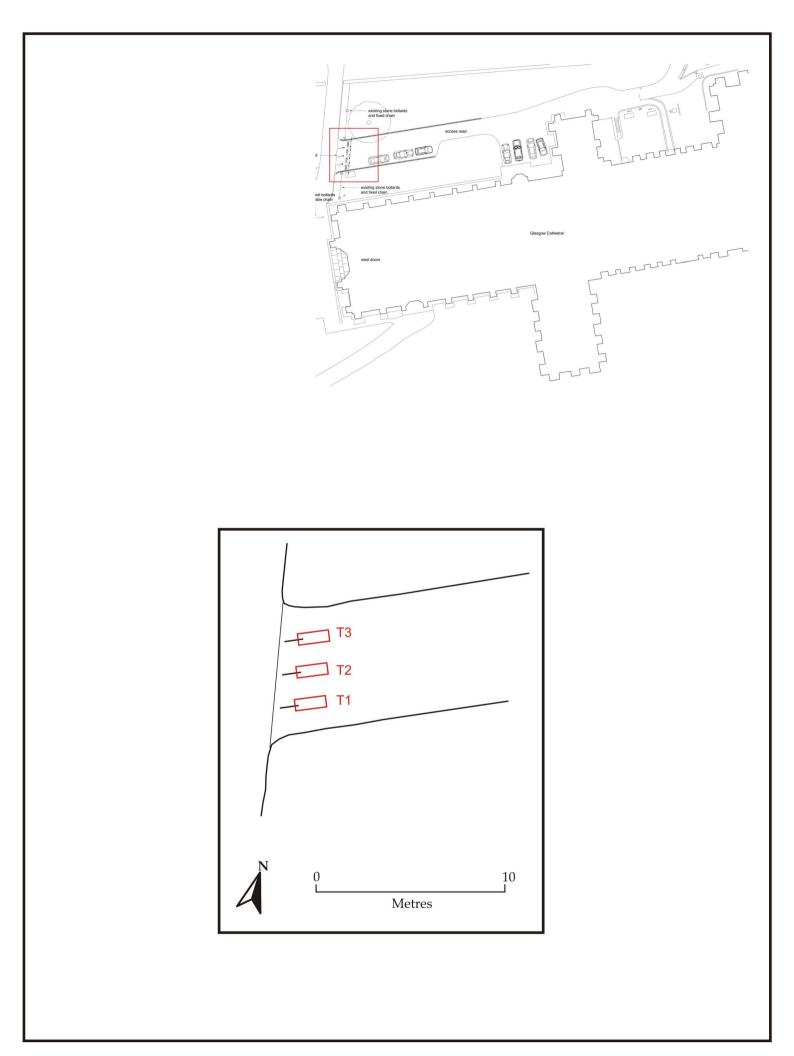


Fig. 1: Plan showing location of trenches 1-3