Brunswick Road, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report AOCarcha1-139545

AOC Project 22247

14<sup>th</sup> December 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

# **Brunswick Road, Edinburgh**

# **Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report**

On Behalf of:	Barratt East Scotland Limited, Telford House, 3 Mid New Cultins, Edinburgh EH11 4DH
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 266 747
AOC Project No:	22247
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.	
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# Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in respect of a proposed development at Brunswick Road, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 266 747).

The development area measures 1.625 ha in total of which the overwhelming majority is covered in reinforced concrete. Evaluation trenches were targeted over farm and rail buildings visible on the1<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Survey map of 1853 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897.

The evaluation revealed that the majority of the site had undergone significant truncation with no *in situ* original deposits remaining. Archaeological remains in the form of stone setts were recorded underlying the raised concrete foundation platform associated with the latest building known to occupy the site. The setts are associated with a rail shed visible on 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897. Upright supports for racking were also observed. These were also probably associated with the rail shed.

No further works are considered necessary.

### **1** INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Barratt East Scotland to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to a development at Brunswick Road, Edinburgh. The evaluation was undertaken in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, City of Edinburgh Council who are advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2012) in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2010) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).
- 1.1.2 The development area (NGR: NT 266 747; Figure 1) measures 1.625 ha in total of which the overwhelming majority is covered in reinforced concrete.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation revealed that the majority of the site had undergone significant truncation with no in situ original deposits remaining. Archaeological remains in the form of stone setts were recorded underlying the raised concrete foundation platform of the latest building known to occupy the site. The setts are associated with a rail shed visible on 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897. Upright supports for racking were also observed. These were also probably associated with the rail shed.

#### 1.2 Location

1.1 The proposed development area is located to the south-eastern side of Leith Walk with its southern boundary marked by Brunswick Road NGR: NT 266 747 (Figure 1). The northern side of site consists of buildings both residential and commercial some of which back onto Allanfield. The development area consists of a previous business site covering approximately 8500 m<sup>2</sup>, currently covered by a mixture of building foundations, concrete and tarmac.

#### 1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.2 The 1<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Survey map of 1853 shows the development area to be part of a series of regulated fields that lay to the northeast of Lover Lane an antecedent to Brunswick Road (AOC 2012; Figure 2). Positioned in what is now the eastern corner of the development area there are some farm buildings and structures associated with these fields. Further to the east one other small square structure lies within the development area.
- 1.3 The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897 shows the entire area to have been transformed onto a railway yard with the main focus of this new 'Goods Station' lying to the north of the development area (Figure 2). The development area itself is now dominated by railway sidings and two large engine sheds, aligned approximately east to west across the centre of the development area. A much smaller third building lies across the eastern boundary of the site.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:

- to determine and assess the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area through evaluation trenching;
- ii) to advise and implement an appropriate form of mitigation, such excavation, postexcavation analyses and publication, given the infeasibility of preserving the archaeological material *in situ*, should significant archaeological remains be encountered.

# 3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The details of the archaeological evaluation, laid out below, were designed to meet the requirements of City of Edinburgh Council as advised by CECAS.
- 3.2 The presence of substantial amounts of concrete and the real prospect that the most recent 20<sup>th</sup> century building may have truncated any archaeological deposits limited initial evaluation trenching to 480 m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 4). The development area measures 1.625 ha in total of which 0.625 m<sup>2</sup> was covered by the reinforced concrete foundations of the last buildings on the site. Immediately prior to the commencement of the evaluation it was evident that reinforced concrete in fact covered the majority of the site with only the extreme western part under tarmac. The trenches were carefully targeted over the farm and railway buildings identified on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey maps respectively (Figure 2). Despite the widespread presence of reinforced concrete the initial trenching plan designed and approved in conjunction with CECAS was undertaken albeit with some reduction in lengths. The presence of hitherto unknown live services within the eastern portion of the site also led to trenches one and three being abandoned.
- 3.3 The evaluation was undertaken by a 22 tonne excavator equipped with 2.0 m wide bladed and toothed ditching buckets and a breaker. Excavation was undertaken in units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures, and as per the methodology within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2012). The trenches were immediately backfilled upon completion.

## 4 **RESULTS**

4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken during the 10<sup>th</sup> December – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012. Overall weather conditions were generally dry and archaeological visibility was good.



Plate 1; Trench 2 Post-excavation showing upright rails

- 4.2 Trenches 1-3 were located in the eastern half of the site (Figure 2). Unfortunately due to the proximity of several hitherto unknown live services targeted Trenches 1 & 3 were abandoned. This entire portion of the site was covered by 0.30 m of reinforced concrete ranged. Trench 2 was excavated to a depth of 1.40 m. This revealed layers of Type 1 and Type 2 hardcore overlying a further metre of made ground. Natural deposits were comprised of clay sands. Two iron rails were observed against the south-west facing section. These were stood upright within the natural and may represent the remains of yard racks associated with the 19<sup>th</sup> century rail yard.
- 4.3 Trench 4 was excavated to the immediate south of the upstanding concrete base associated with the latest building to occupy the site (Figure 2). This area was again covered by reinforced concrete. The trench was excavated to a depth of 1.50 m and revealed concrete piles at 1.0 m and 5.0 m respectively. Between these piles was a deposit of made ground 1.20 m in depth. No in situ deposits or archaeological material was encountered.
- 4.4 Trenches 5 8 were excavated within the upstanding concrete base associated with the latest building on site (Figure 2). Trenches 5 and 6 revealed stone setts located 0.90 m below the existing surface. The stone setts were individually mortared and measured 0.20 m by 0.20 m in dimension. The setts were overlain by a thick layer of hardcore. No associated walls or internal structure were identified. The setts in turn overlay 1.2 m of made ground. The stone setts are associated with the position of a 19<sup>th</sup> century rail shed. Trenches 7 and 8 were excavated to 1.7 m. Both trenches revealed deposits of made ground with no *in situ* original deposits or archaeologically significant material.
- 4.5 Trenches 9 and 10 were positioned to the immediate west of the raised concrete base. This area was again covered in reinforced concrete. Excavation revealed 1.40 m of made ground overlying

boulder clay with out-croppings of bed-rock. No *in situ* original deposits or archaeologically significant material was observed.

4.6 Trenches 11 and 12 were positioned across the proposed location of earlier farm buildings, within the small tarmaced area at the west end of the site (Figure 2). Excavation revealed 1.40 m of made ground overlying boulder clay with out-croppings of bed-rock. No *in situ* original deposits or archaeologically significant material was observed.



Plate 2; Trench 5 west facing section showing stone setts

## 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The proposed development site was subject to a full and comprehensive archaeological evaluation. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were identified. However, archaeological remains relating to 19<sup>th</sup> century rail sheds as identified on the 2nd Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897 were identified during the evaluation (Figure 2). These remains were confined to the area of raised concrete foundation base, and were generally extremely truncated.
- 5.2 No other building remains were encountered anywhere across the site and no further works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by Mr John Lawson Archaeological Officer for the City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service (CECAS) on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council.

#### 6 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

AOC 2012 Brunswick Road, Edinburgh: Written Scheme of Investigation' Unpublished client report

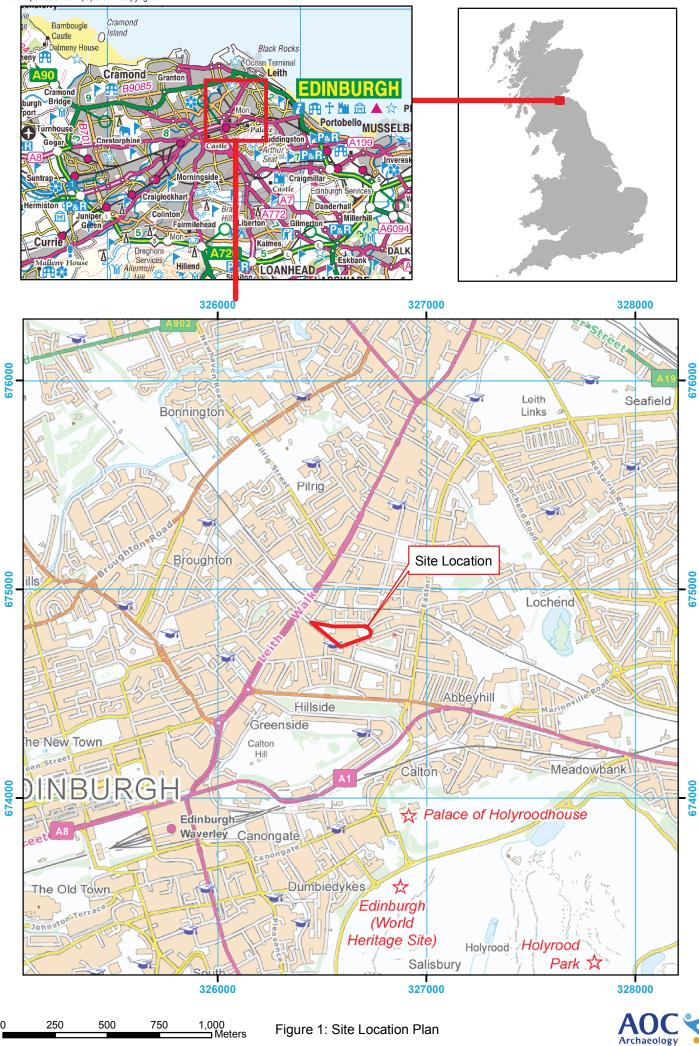
Scottish Government 2010 Scottish Planning Policy, February 2010.

Scottish Government 2011 Planning And Archaeology 2/2011.

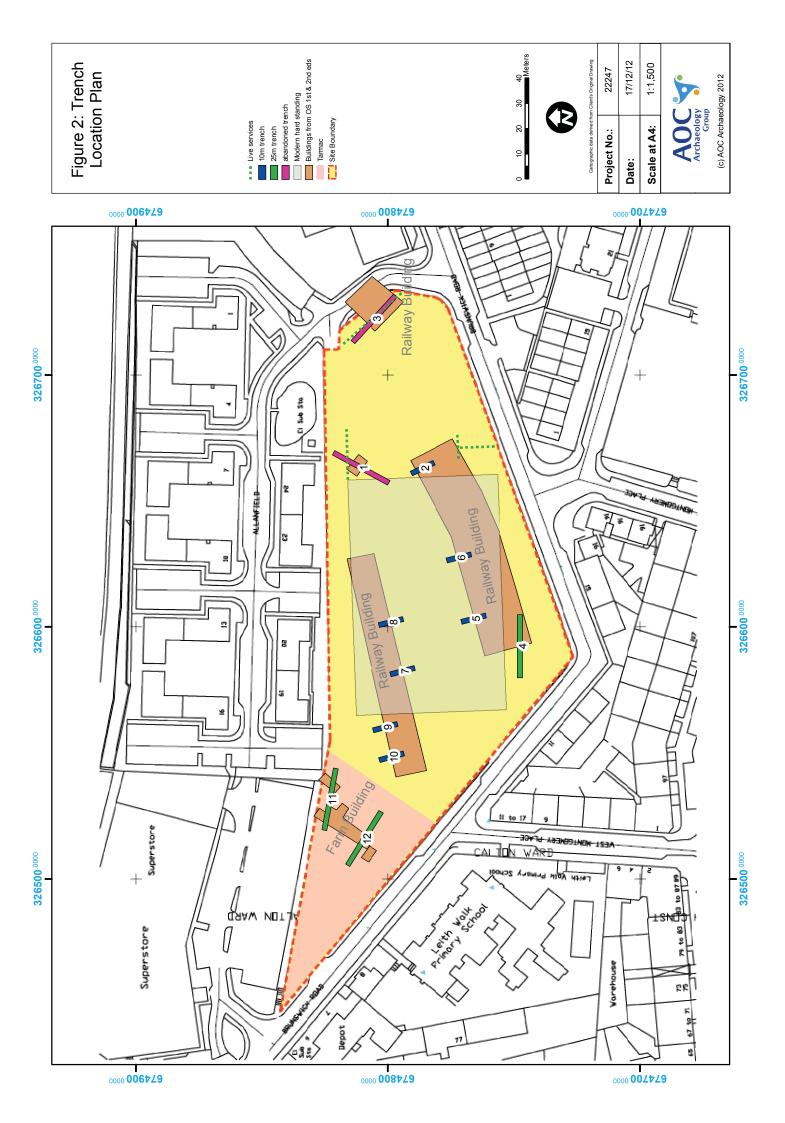
# 7 CARTOGRAPHIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Survey map of 1853
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897

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Brunswick Road, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

**Section 2: Appendices** 



# **APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions**

## Trench 1

#### Abandoned

#### Trench 2

Dimensions	10 m by 2 m
Orientation	NW-SE
Concrete Depth	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.20 m
Depth of Excavation	1.50 m
Significant Features	Remains of 19 <sup>th</sup> racking associated with rail shed
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

Abandoned

#### Trench 3

#### Trench 4

Dimensions	25 m by 2 m
Orientation	W-E
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.30 m
Depth of Excavation	1.60 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

#### Trench 5

Dimensions	10.0 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.40 m
Depth of Excavation	1.70 m
Significant Features	Stone setts 0.20 m by 0.20 m in size
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

#### Trench 6

Dimensions	10.0 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.40 m
Depth of Excavation	1.70 m
Significant Features	Stone setts 0.20 m by 0.20 m in size
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

#### Trench 7

Dimensions Orientation 10.0 m by 2 m NE-SW

Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.40 m
Depth of Excavation	1.70 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

#### Trench 8

Dimensions	10.0 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.40 m
Depth of Excavation	1.70 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand
Finds	None

#### Trench 9

Dimensions	10 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	0.90 m
Depth of Excavation	1.30 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand and bedrock
Finds	None

#### Trench 10

Dimensions	10 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Concrete	0.30 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.40 m
Depth of Excavation	1.70 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	None
Subsoil	Red brown sand and bedrock
Finds	None

#### Trench 11

Dimensions	25 m by 2 m
Orientation	E-W
Tarmac	0.05 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.20 m
Depth of Excavation	1.20 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Clay drain at 1.20 m & 5.0 m
Subsoil	Red brown sand and bedrock
Finds	None

#### Trench 12

Dimensions	25 m by 2 m
Orientation	NE-SW
Tarmac	0.05 m
Depth of Made Ground	1.20 m
Depth of Excavation	1.20 m
Significant Features	None
Other Features	Clay drain at 2.0 m
Subsoil	Red brown sand and bedrock
Finds	None

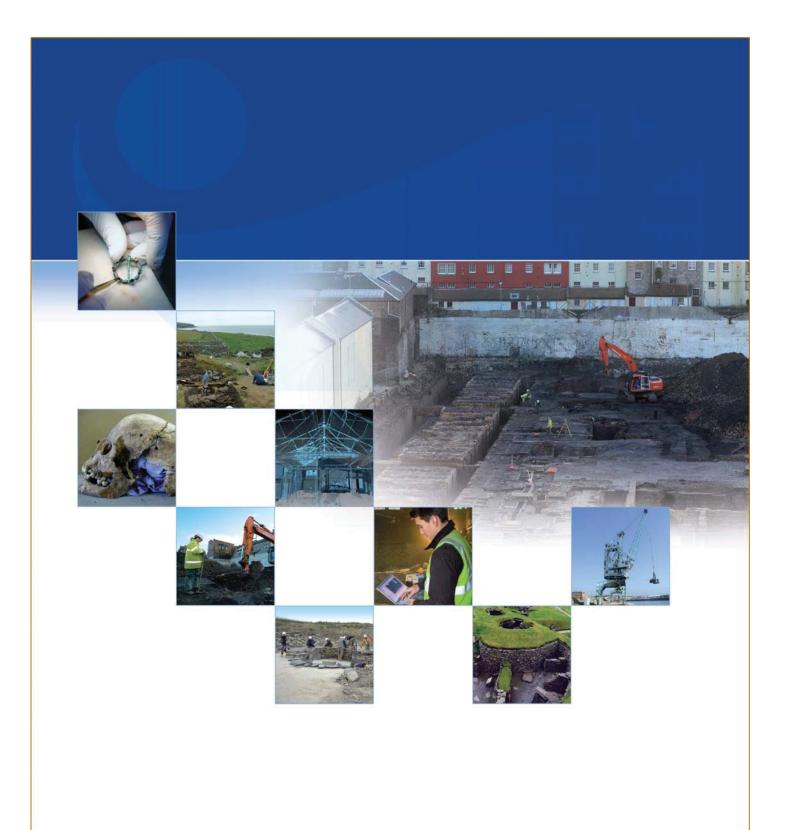
# APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration	-
2	South facing section Trench 11	S
3	Trench 11 Post ex	W
4	Trench 11 Post ex	E
5	South facing section Trench 12	S
6	Trench 12 Post ex	SW
7	Trench 4 Post ex	W
8	North facing section Trench 4	Ν
9	Trench 10 Post ex	Ν
10	East facing section Trench 10	E
11	Trench 9 Post ex	N
12	East facing section Trench 9	E
13	Trench 6 Post ex	SE
14	East facing section Trench 6	E
15-16	East facing section Trench 5 showing stone setts	E
17	Trench 5 Post ex	SE
18	Trench 5 Post ex showing upstanding rail racks	SW
19	Trench 7 Post ex	SE
20	Trench 8 Post ex	SE
21-24	Site views	Var

<b>APPENDIX 3: 'Discover</b>	y and Excavation in	Scotland' Report
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LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Brunswick Road, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22247
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rob Engl
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	19 <sup>th</sup> century industrial
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Flooring of 19 <sup>th</sup> century rail shed
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 266 747
START DATE (this season)	10 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
END DATE (this season)	12 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in respect of a proposed development at Brunswick Road, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 266 747). The development area measures 1.625 ha in total of which the overwhelming majority is covered in reinforced concrete. Evaluation trenches were targeted over farm and rail buildings visible on the1 <sup>st</sup> Ordnance Survey map of 1853 and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897. The evaluation revealed that the majority of the site had undergone significant truncation with no <i>in situ</i> original deposits remaining. Archaeological remains in the form of stone setts were recorded underlying the raised concrete foundation platform associated with the latest building known to occupy the site. The setts are associated with a rail shed visible on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance survey map of 1897. Upright supports for racking were also observed. These were also probably associated with the rail shed.
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