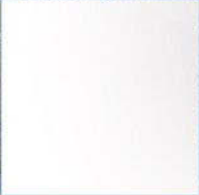


Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOCarcha1-149396

AOC Project 22011

2nd May 2013



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: **Springfield Properties Ltd**
Springfield House
3 Central Park Avenue
Larbert
Falkirk

National Grid Reference (NGR): centred on NT 2569 7541

Planning Application No: 11/03374/FUL

AOC Project No: 22013

Prepared by: Rob Engl

Illustration by: Jacob Streatfeild-James

Date of Fieldwork: 29th April – 1st May 2013

Date of Report: 2nd May 2012

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author: Rob Engl **Date:** 2nd May 2013
Approved by: Martin Cook **Date:** 2nd May 2013
Draft/Final Report Stage: **Date:** 2nd May 2013

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarchaeology.com



Contents

	Page
List of illustrations	3
List of plates	3
List of appendices	3
Abstract.....	4
1 INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Background.....	5
1.2 Location	5
1.3 Archaeological background.....	5
2 OBJECTIVES	5
3 METHODOLOGY	6
4 RESULTS	6
5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	7
6 BIBLIOGRAPHY	8
7 CARTOGRAPHIC BIBLIOGRAPHY	9
APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions	11
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record	13
APPENDIX 3: Context Record	14
APPENDIX 4: ' <i>Discovery and Excavation in Scotland</i> ' Report.....	15

List of illustrations

- Figure 1 Site Location
- Figure 2 Trench Location Plan
- Figure 3 Evaluation superimposed on 1908 OS Map

List of plates

- Plate 1 Trench 1 Post-excavation south-west facing section showing depth of made ground
- Plate 2 Trench 4 showing brick features [401] & [402]
- Plate 3 Trench 9 south-west section showing brick surface [901]

List of appendices

- Appendix 1 Trench Descriptions
- Appendix 2 Photographic Record
- Appendix 3 Context Record
- Appendix 3 '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' Report

Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken as part of a phased response in respect to a proposed development at Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh (centred on NGR: NT 2569 7541).

The development area measures approximately 6220 m² in total and at the time of the works was predominantly occupied by standing buildings. A 10% sample of the available area was investigated by the evaluation.

The evaluation was restricted to the large area of car-park covering the southern half of the site, due to the presence of upstanding buildings, restricted access and live services.

Several truncated archaeological remains in the form of brick structural elements were recorded. These included the remains of a building visible on the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1908. A further small brick surface was also revealed along the southern boundary of the site. This was directly overlain by concrete and formed a layer of hard-standing, capping a deposit of made-ground. The disturbed remains of this hard-standing was visible in several trenches along the south-eastern boundary of the site. No archaeological remains pre-dating the late 19th/early 20th centuries were recorded.

Due to the truncation recorded across site, no further works are considered necessary.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Springfield Properties Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to a development at Beaverhall 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 (centred on NGR: NT 2569 7541; Figure 1) measures 6,220 m² in total of which approximately 50% is occupied by upstanding buildings. In addition, a series of known and unknown services occupy parts of the development, while access to the north was further restricted by poor access.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation was therefore restricted to an open car-park area covering the south-eastern part of the site. Trenching revealed that this area had undergone significant truncation, which had removed both the original ground surface and upper subsoil layers and so only limited archaeological deposits remained.
- 1.1.4 Few archaeological remains in the form of brick structural elements were recorded. These included the heavily truncated remains of a building visible on the OS map of 1908. A further small brick surface was also revealed along the southern boundary of the site. This was directly overlain by concrete and formed a layer of hard-standing, capping a deposit of made-ground. The disturbed remains of this hard-standing was visible in several trenches along the south-eastern boundary of the site.

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area is located within the Powderhall area of Edinburgh, (centred on NGR: 2569 7541; Figure 1). It is bounded to the south by Beaverhall Road and to the north and east by Powderhall Road. A mix of commercial properties forms the southern boundary. The development area consists of a variety of commercial buildings, warehouses and open car park covering approximately, 220 m².

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 The development site lies within the former grounds of the 18th century Beaverbank House, of which no upstanding evidence now exists. During the 18th and 19th century, the general area was subsumed through industrial use, with a series of factories being built. This included the Beaver Tanning Company (NMRS: NT27NE455), the Waterstones' Printing Works (NMRS: NT271415), the Logie Green Saw Mills (NMRS: NT27SE860), the Blandfield Chemical Works (NMRS: NT27SE890).
- 1.3.2 There are no other known sites of archaeological, historical or architectural significance within the development area. However, similar re-development sites along the banks of the Water of Leith have revealed sub-surface survival of highly significant archaeological features and small finds relating to the post-medieval development of the city.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:

- i) 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, post-excavation 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 evaluation was based on the trenching of a 10% sample of the 6220 m² development area. However, the presence of numerous buildings upstanding at the time of the works restricted the evaluation to the car park area located within the southern part of the site. This area covered approximately 3000 m². The presence of hitherto unknown live services within the car park portion of the site also led to the re-positioning and reduction of the trench plan previously agreed with CECAS
- 3.3 The evaluation was undertaken by a 22 tonne excavator equipped with 2.2 m wide bladed and toothed ditching buckets. 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 2013). The trenches were immediately backfilled upon completion.



Plate 1: Trench 1 Post-excavation south-west facing section showing depth of made ground

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken during the 29th April – 2nd May 2013. Overall weather conditions were dry and archaeological visibility was good.
- 4.2 The car park was covered with a thick 0.10 m layer of tarmac which directly overlaid a 0.30 m thick deposit of type 2 hardcore.



Plate 2: Trench 4 showing brick features [401] & [402]

- 4.3 Trenches 1-3 were located in the north-eastern half of the car-park (Figure 2). This portion of the site had been previously truncated. Made ground was removed to a depth of 2.10 m. This deposit was heavily contaminated with diesel in its upper half. The made ground directly overlaid a natural of orange brown boulder clay. No *in situ* original deposits or archaeologically significant material was revealed.
- 4.4 Trenches 4-9 were excavated along the southern boundary of the site. Trench 4 revealed a small section of loosely mortared brick setts [401] which relates to a now demolished section of this building (Figure 3). The structure was formed by a single course of fire-bricks stamped 'Whitehill'. These bricks were also visible within the aforementioned upstanding building to the east of the trench. The bricks most probably represent the remains of a wall foundation. This foundation was 0.50 m wide and aligned north to south across the trench. A further small area of bricks [402] 0.50 m in diameter is the probable remains of an associated floor surface. Both structural remains directly underlie a 0.20 m thick demolition layer of brick and mortar [403]. This deposit probably relates to the demolition of the building.
- 4.5 The demolition layer [403] is also present within Trenches 5 – 8, directly overlying the natural. In Trench 9, the fragmentary remains of a brick surface [901] set in a 'herring bone' pattern was recorded capping a 0.20 m thick deposit of made ground (Plate 3). The bricks forming the surface were again stamped 'Whitehill'. The brick surface was directly overlain by a 0.20 m thick layer of concrete.
- 4.6 Despite Trenches 5-9 being excavated across the location of buildings recorded on the 1908 OS Map (Figure 3), no other building remains were encountered, demonstrating the depth of truncation across the site.



Plate 3: Trench 9 south-west section showing brick surface [901]

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The southern half of the proposed development site was subject to a full and comprehensive archaeological evaluation. However, given the limitations imposed by the present buildings and services to the north, this area was not subject to such a thorough survey. Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts pre-dating the late 19th/ early 20th century were identified. Archaeological remains relating to commercial/industrial buildings as identified on the Ordnance survey map of 1908 were identified during the evaluation (Figures 2 and 3). These remains were confined to the southern boundary of the site and were extremely truncated. No archaeological remains or deposits were encountered within the northern portion of the evaluation area.
- 5.2 Despite Trenches 5-9 being excavated across the location of buildings recorded on the 1908 OS Map (Figure 3), 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 *Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh: Written Scheme of Investigation* Unpublished client report

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*, February 2010.

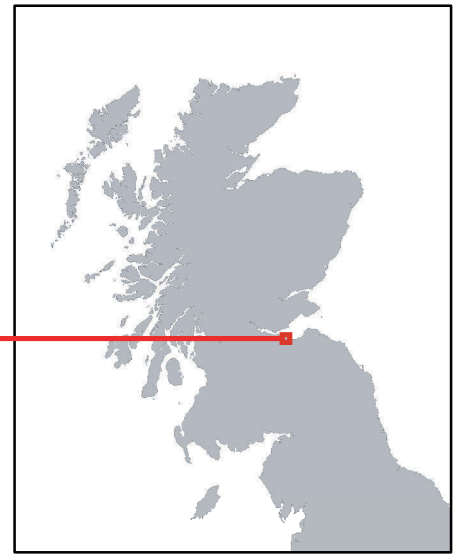
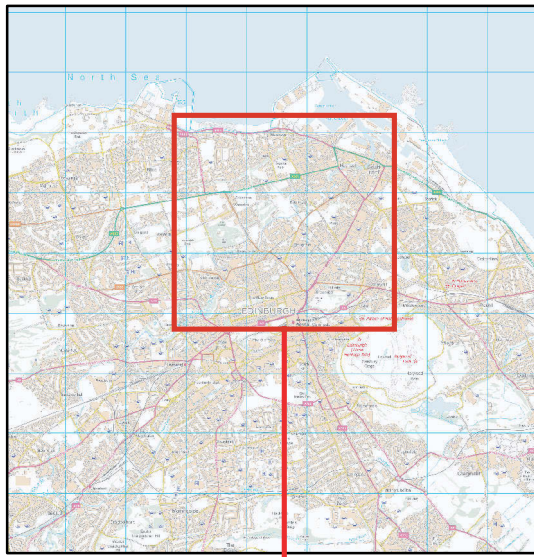
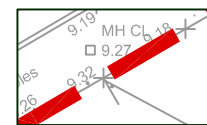
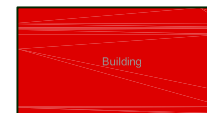


Figure 1: Site location map

north



INDICATES SITE BOUNDARY



INDICATES BUILDINGS TO BE REMOVED



SERVICES BUFFER



EVALUATION TRENCH

Buried Service Detected During Works

Overhead Services

Figure 2: Proposed evaluation trench layout Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*.

7 CARTOGRAPHIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

1908 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Midlothian Sheet III.3 1: 2500

Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	1.70 m (top 0.50 m of deposit contaminated by diesel)
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2.20 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	White ceramics

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	1.70 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.80 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	12.0 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	1.70 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	2.00 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange boulder clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	10.0 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	E-W
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	None
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.50 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	Brick setts forming wall foundation and flooring [401] & [402] set within demolition deposit [403]
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	12.0 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Demolition layer</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.80 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None

<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	10.0 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Demolition layer</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.80 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	18 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	SE-NW
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.40 m
<i>Depth of Demolition layer</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.90 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	Concrete pad at 11.0 m with lead pipe
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	6 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Tarmac/Type 2 Depth</i>	0.10 m
<i>Concrete</i>	0.30 m
<i>Depth of Demolition layer</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	0.10 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	0.70 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand & clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 9

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2.2 m
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Tarmac</i>	0.10 m
<i>Concrete</i>	0.30 m
<i>Brick setts</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Made Ground</i>	0.20 m
<i>Depth of Excavation</i>	1.00 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	Single course of brick setts forming hard-standing [901]
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Orange sand & clay
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

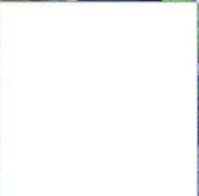
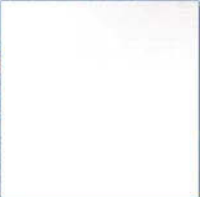
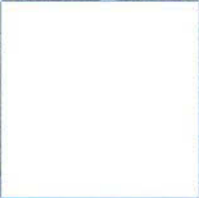
Frame	Description	From
1	Registration	-
2	South facing section Trench 1	S
3	Trench 1 working shot	NE
4	Trench 1 Post ex	SW
5	East facing section Trench 2	E
6	Trench 2 Post ex	NE
7	Trench 3 south facing section	S
8	Trench 3 Post ex	E
9	Trench 4 brick setts [401] & [402]	E
10	Trench 4 brick setts [401] & [402]	NE
11	South facing section Trench 5	S
12	Trench 5 Post ex	NE
13	Trench 6 Post ex	NE
14	West facing section Trench 7	W
15	Trench 7 Post ex	SW
17	Trench 8 West facing section showing brick floor [901]	SE
18	Trench 8 Post ex	N

APPENDIX 3: Context Record

Context	Trench	Description
[401]	4	Brick structure consisting of a single course of loosely mortared fire-bricks stamped 'whitehill'. The structure was 0.50 m in width and ran north to south across the trench. The structure was a possible setting for a wall foundation and is overlain by the demolition deposit [403]. The structure is probably associated with [402]. It is cut by modern services.
[402]	4	Remnant of a single course brick surface or floor 0.50 m in diameter. This is possibly related to [901]. The floor is directly overlain by the demolition deposit [403]
[403]	4	Deposit of demolition/ brick rubble probably related to [401] & [402]. The deposit is very mixed and consists of fire-brick, red-brick, mortar and clay.
[901]	9	Single course of 'whitehill' stamped bricks set in herring bone pattern. The bricks are directly overlain by a 0.10 m thick layer of concrete. The bricks and concrete form a deposit of hard-standing capping a deposit of made-ground. The bricks measured 0.24 m by 0.11 m by 0.08 m individually and were visible in both trench sections.

APPENDIX 4: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 22011
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 th /20 th century industrial
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Brick foundations of late 19 th /early 20 th century building
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 2569 7541
START DATE (this season)	29 th April 2013
END DATE (this season)	2 nd May 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in respect of a proposed development at Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh (NGR: NT).</p> <p>The evaluation revealed that the majority of the site had undergone significant truncation with limited surviving <i>in situ</i> original deposits remaining.</p> <p>Several truncated archaeological remains in the form of brick structural elements were recorded. These included the remains of a building visible on the 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1908. A further small brick surface was also revealed along the southern boundary of the site. This was directly overlain by concrete and formed a layer of hard-standing, capping a deposit of made-ground. The disturbed remains of this hard-standing was visible in several trenches along the south-eastern boundary of the site. No archaeological remains pre-dating the late 19th /early 20th centuries were recorded.</p> <p>No further works are considered necessary.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	---
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Springfield Properties Limited
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Rob.Engl@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com