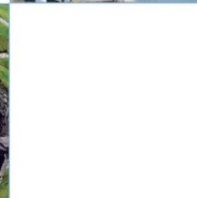
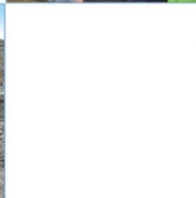
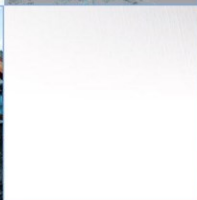
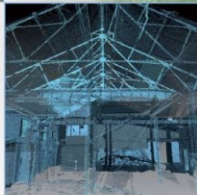


# Duddingston Primary School, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

Planning Ref: 14/04060/FUL

OASIS ID – aocarcha1-208394

AOC Project: 22951



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# Duddingston Primary School

## Archaeological Monitored Topsoil Strip Data Structure

### Report

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**On Behalf of:** Morrison Construction  
Grange House  
West Mains Road  
West Mains Road Industrial Estate  
Grangemouth  
FK3 8YE

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** NT 29408 73322

**AOC Project No:** 22951

**Prepared by:** Stuart Wilson

**Illustration by:** Jamie Humble

**Date of Fieldwork:** March 2015

**Date of Report:** 08/04/2015

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

<b>Author:</b> Stuart Wilson	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2015
<b>Approved by:</b> Martin Cook	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2015
<b>Draft/Final Report Stage:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2015

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## Summary

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*This report presents the results of an archaeological monitored watching brief on behalf of Morrison Construction by AOC Archaeology Group on the site of Duddingston Primary School, Edinburgh which lies within City of Edinburgh Council.*

*The monitored topsoil strip was required prior to the development of a new building at Duddingston Primary School. The development consisted of a single area measuring 480 m<sup>2</sup> for a new nursery. Several foundation trenches were excavated to an approximate depth of 1.3 m.*

*No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed throughout the watching brief. No further works are considered necessary within the development area. This recommendation requires the approval of the City of Edinburgh Archaeology Service (CECAS).*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works comprising of a watching brief is required by Morrison Construction, during construction of a new building at Duddingston Primary School, Edinburgh (NGR NT 29408 73322). This work is required as a condition of planning consent on the development (Ref: 14/04060/FUL). The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works had been determined by the City of Edinburgh Council who are advised on all archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) and are in accordance Scottish Planning Policy (2014) and PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology (2011).

## 1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The development area is located wholly within the grounds of the existing Duddingston Primary School and centred on NGR NT 29408 73322.

## 1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 The development area lay to the immediate north-east of the Duddingston Conservation Area. The Royal Commission of Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) record no historic sites or monuments within the development area. However, the area is known to have been a focus for settlement and industry since the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Most notably the site for Duddingston Mill (NT 29280 73240) and nearby cottages to the south-west of the development area.

# 2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the watching brief were:

- i) to safeguard the archaeological resource from inadvertent destruction by development impacts;
- ii) to undertake the immediate recording of isolated finds of moderately significant archaeological material that may have been disturbed by construction activities;
- iii) given the discovery of highly significant archaeological material in quantity that would have suffered an adverse impact from construction works (ie, preservation *in situ* is impractical) the recording of all archaeological features by means of a mitigation strategy

### **3 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council Archaeological Service (CECAS) requested an archaeological monitored topsoil strip of the footprint for a new building being constructed within the ground of Duddingston Primary School due to its proximity to the Duddingston Conservation Area.
- 3.2 The ground to be stripped was covered by playground tarmac and it was apparent that several services including gas and water were running through the site. Stripping was done by a 360° type excavator equipped with a 0.6 m wide toothed bucket for removing tarmac and a 0.6 m toothless bucket for excavating to the foundation level. Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the required foundation level had been reached at 1.3 m. All machine excavations were supervised by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.3 All archaeological work was undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures.

### **4 RESULTS**

- 4.1 The archaeological works were undertaken in March 2015. The weather was bright and clear for the most part meaning that archaeological visibility was very good throughout the watching brief.
- 4.2 The watching brief revealed that the area has been heavily altered by modern development. All deposits revealed were discovered to be made ground created during the original construction of the school playground. The deposits consisted of a layer of tarmac overlying Type 1 (Plate 1). This overlay a dark grey silty clay deposit with flecks of coal and modern rubble which came down onto a layer of yellow sand. The natural was grey sandy clay at a depth of 1.3 m beneath the tarmac (Plate 2 & Plate 3).



Plate 1: Pre excavation shot removing tarmac



Plate 2: Exterior foundation trench running NW-SE





Plate 3: Interior foundation trench running NW-SE

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary within the development area. This recommendation will require confirmation by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeological Service.

## 6 REFERENCES

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

Scottish Government 2011 *PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology*.

## APPENDIX 1: COLOUR DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

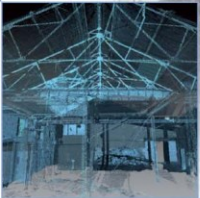
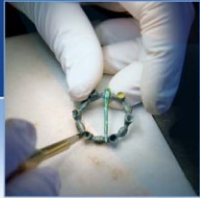
Ref No	Description	From	Date
1	Removal of Tarmac	NW	18/3/15
2	Removal of Tarmac	W	18/3/15
3	Exterior Foundation Trench	NW	19/3/15
4	Exterior Foundation Trench	NE	19/3/15
5	Exterior Foundation Trench	NW	20/3/15
6	Exterior Foundation Trench	SE	20/3/15

## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Feature	Description
[001]	Tarmac	Playground tarmac approximately 0.18 m.
[002]	Type 1	Standard type 1 with some modern demolition debris approximately 0.02 m.
[003]	Dark grey silty sand	Made ground mixed with demolition debris and coal flecks approximately 0.40 m.
(004)	Yellow Sand	Deposit of yellow sand overlying sand approximately 0.70 m.
[005]	Natural Clay	Natural grey clay at 1.3 m from surface.

## APPENDIX 3: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND (DES) REPORT

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Duddingston Primary School
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	22951
<b>PARISH:</b>	Edinburgh
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Stuart Wilson
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching brief
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 29498 73322
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	24 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief on the site of Duddingston Primary School, Edinburgh which lies within City of Edinburgh Council. The watching brief was required prior to the development of a new building at Duddingston Primary. An area of 480m <sup>2</sup> within the development site was stripped until a suitable layer for laying foundations was reached. Excavations revealed that the site was heavily affected by modern construction of the school. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed throughout the topsoil strip.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Morrison Construction
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@aocarchaeology.com">admin@aocarchaeology.com</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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