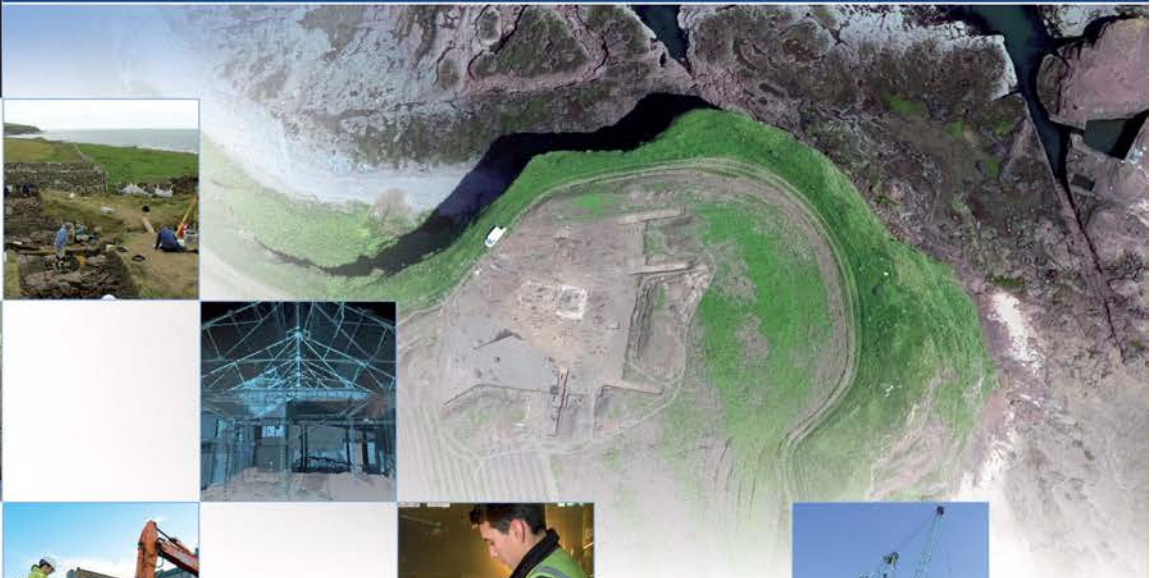


Kinleith Mill Building, Currie Historic Building Recording Report

AOC 23103

30th June 2015



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Kinleith Mill Building, Currie: Historic Building Recording Report

On Behalf of:	Cala Homes (East) Ltd Cairnlee House Callendar Road Callendar Business Park Falkirk FK1 1XE
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 18948 67908
AOC Project No:	23103
Planning Application No:	N/A
Prepared by:	Diana Sproat
Date:	30th June 2015

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

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SUMMARY

AOC Archaeology was commissioned by Cala Homes (East) Ltd to undertake an historic building survey of a former mill building adjacent to the Water of Leith, once part of the now-demolished Kinleith Paper Mills.

The work was required by the CEC Archaeology Service prior to and during its intended demolition.

The small brick building was constructed between 1915 – 1935 and formed one of the ancillary buildings associated with the mill. The function of the building is unknown, although may have been related to the railway established in the later 19th century to the side of which it was originally located (now the walkway for the Water of Leith).

No further archaeological recording works are recommended, although CEC Archaeology Service, on behalf of the CEC, has noted that it should be consulted if any further ground-breaking works after demolition to floor slab level is intended, as more below-ground monitoring may be required.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site background and location

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Cala Homes (East) Ltd to undertake an historic building survey at the site of a former mill building at the now-demolished Kinleith Paper Mills in Currie, Edinburgh. The work was required by City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) Archaeology Service prior to the building's demolition. The building was inaccessible at the time of survey as it was deemed unsafe by the CEC. It lay to the south of the main development area boundary which largely occupies the former mill complex and has now been demolished.

1.1.2 The mill building had no statutory designations and was located outwith the Currie Conservation Area.

1.2 Site location

1.2.1 The building is situated to the south side of the Water of Leith walkway and to the south of the main development area where the Kinleith Mills were once located. It is located at NGR: NT 14948 67908 (Figure 1).

2 OBJECTIVE

2.1 The objective of this survey work was to undertake a 'preservation by record' of the former mill building through written, drawn and photographic record, preceded by an element of archive research and map regression to identify a general history and development of the building.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 A detailed survey was undertaken on the building which included a general and detailed photographic, written and drawn record. A photographic record was made of the exterior and interior of the mill in colour digital using a digital SLR. A 1m or 2m ranging pole was used in all shots where access and Health and Safety allowed. A running register of all photographs taken was made on site and can be found in Appendix 1. A selection of these have been used to illustrate this report.

3.2 A written record of the mill was made using AOC's *pro forma* recording sheets which made comment on condition, construction, materials, architectural features and any evidence for phasing and function.

3.3 A drawn (elevation and plan) record was also required which was undertaken on site using a robotic total station. Interior measurements were possible by taking points through the open windows of the building and extrapolating measurements taken from the exterior.

3.4 As the interior of the building was inaccessible at the time of survey as the ground floor openings were blocked up. The CEC had also assigned the building as dangerous and the perimeter was fenced off to protect the public due to its location alongside the public footpath of the Water of Leith. Hence the interior was only able to be viewed during the demolition process. No access was possible to record the building during demolition other than observation and photography at a distance.

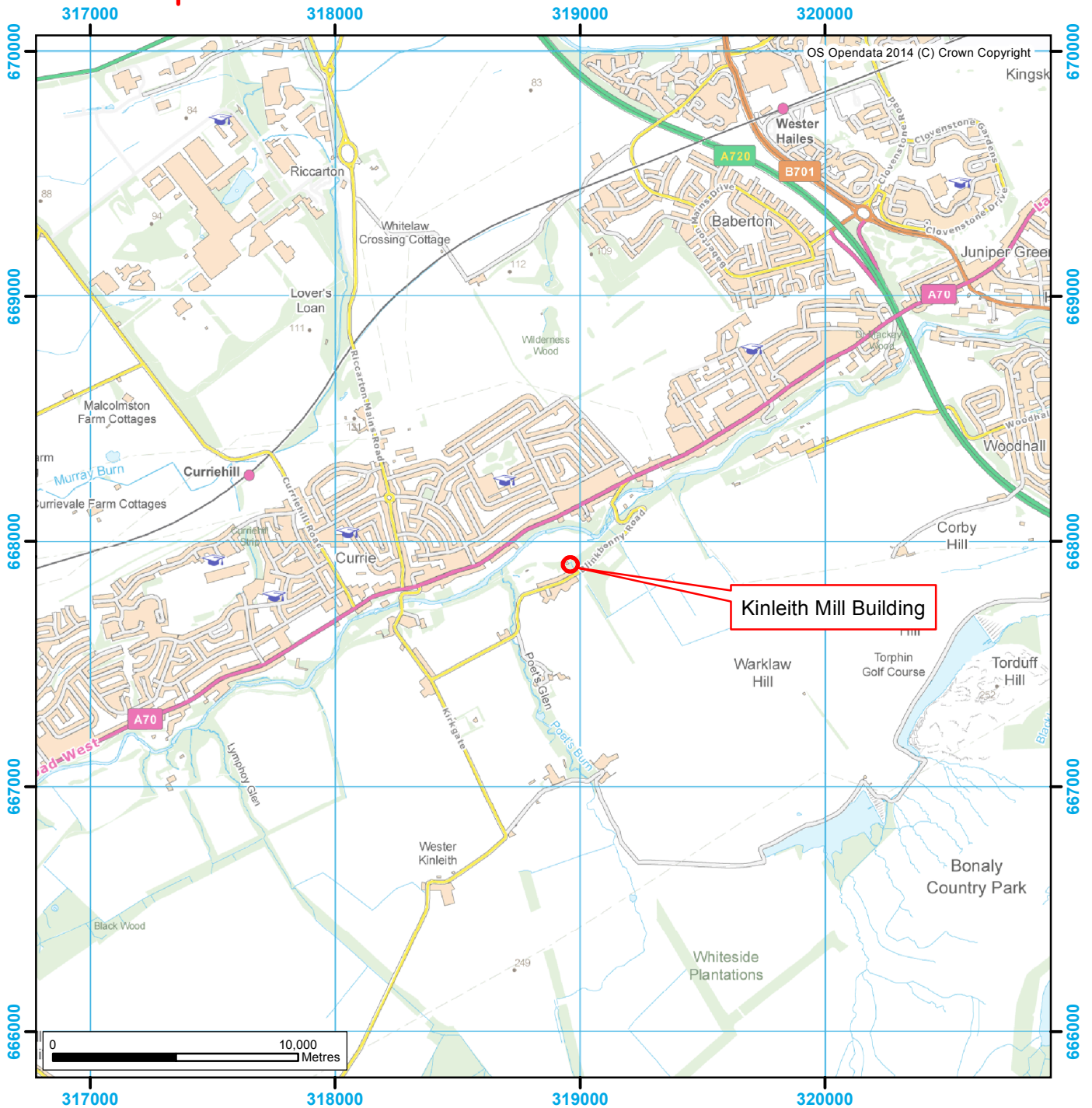
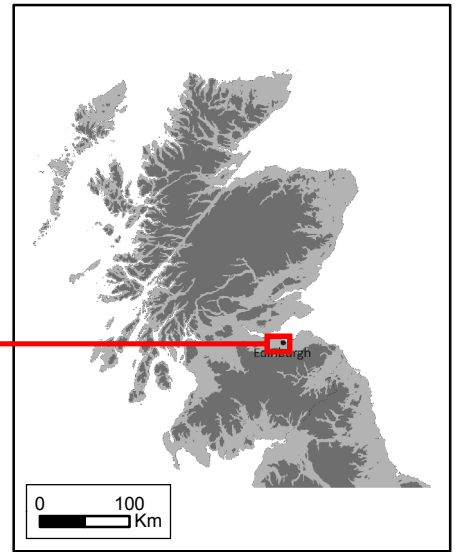
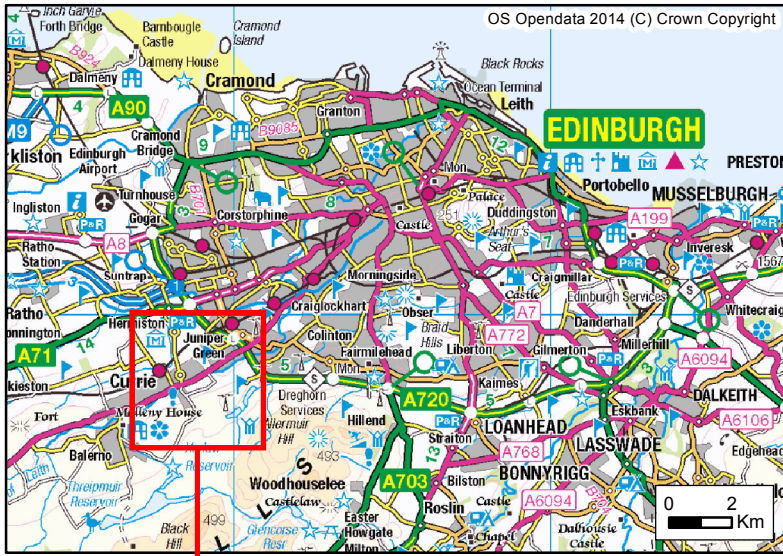


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Kinleith Paper Mill was founded in the 18th century, although expanded during the 19th and 20th centuries. No distinct buildings appear in its location in the 1747 – 55 map by William Roy, although by Laurie’s 1766 map, a single building is shown at the corner of the Water of Leith and Blinkbonny Burn (Figures 2 & 3). It is first annotated as Kinleith Mill in Greenwood, Fowler & Sharp’s map of 1828 (Figure 4). However, the first detailed plan of the mill shows it to have expanded into a large complex by the 1852 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 5).
- 4.2 The 1895 Ordnance Survey map shows the complex has changed enormously by the end of the 19th century, with the establishment of the railway running through the site which precipitated a large amount of expansion and rebuilding of the complex (Figure 6). The position of the mill building under investigation here is shown adjacent to a circular building (circled in Figure 6). By the 1908 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 7), the circular building has gone and the building is now an L-shape. By the 1915 map (Figure 8), the building has completely disappeared, only to be replaced in 1935 map by a smaller rectangular building with an enclosure (presumably what we can see today). This dates the building to 1915 – 1935 (Figure 9).



Figure 2: Extract from Roy’s map, ca. 1747 - 1755



Figure 3: Extract from Laurie’s map, 1766



Figure 4: Extract from Greenwood, Fowler & Sharp's map, 1828



Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1852

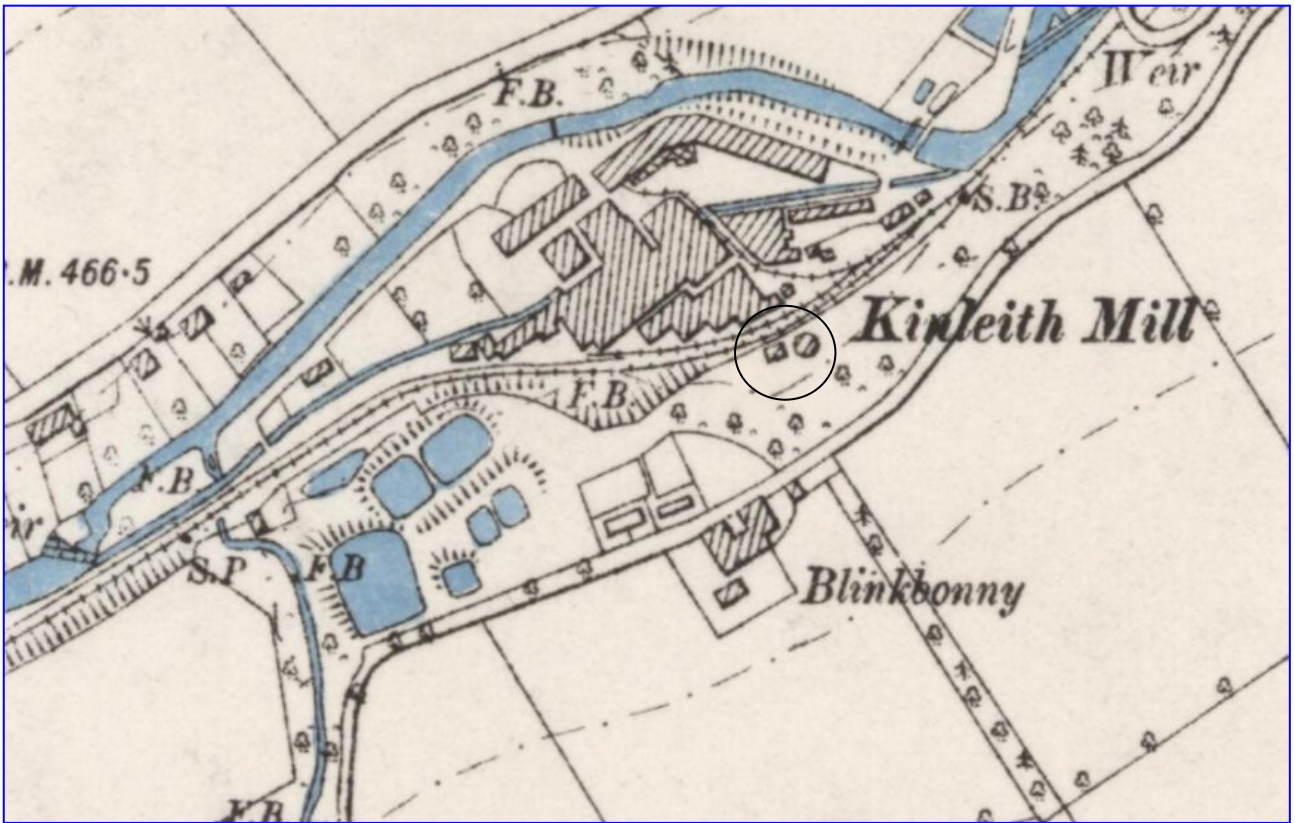


Figure 6: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1895



Figure 7: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1908

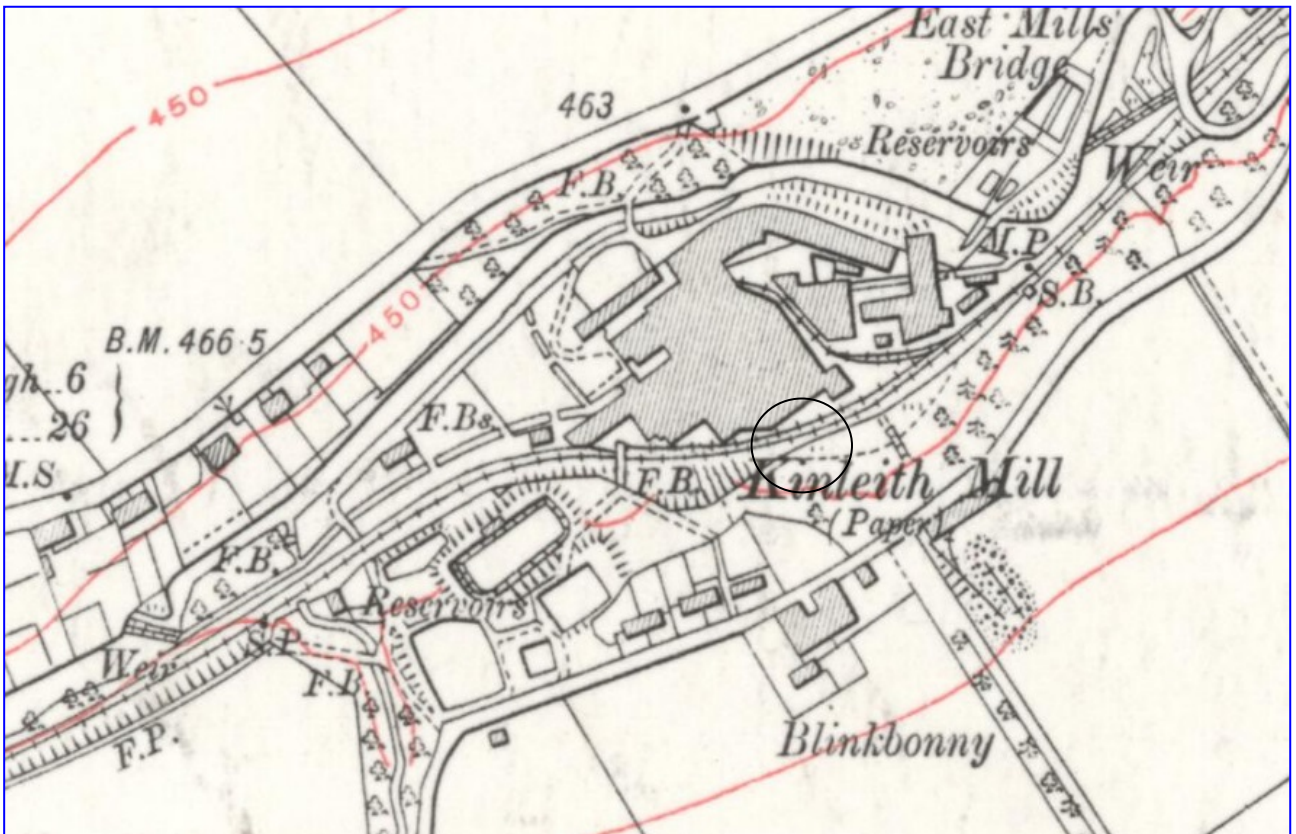


Figure 8: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1915

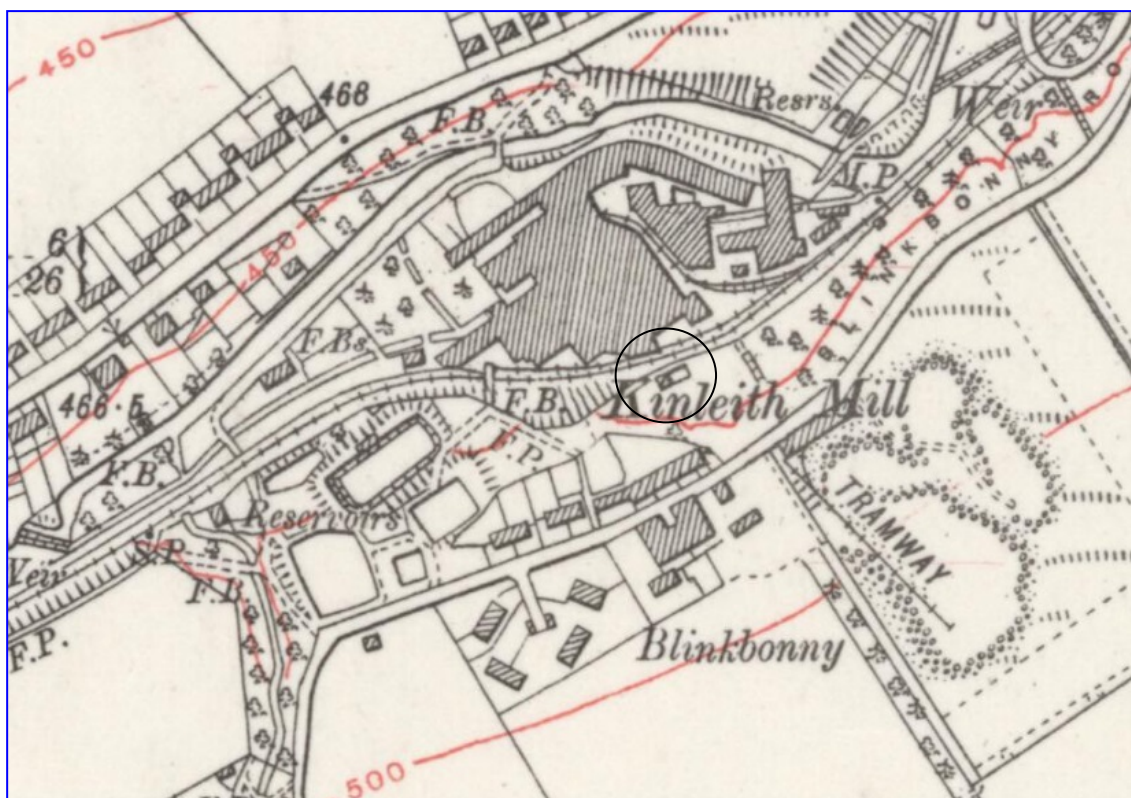


Figure 9: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1935

5 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTIONS

- 5.1 The mill building was a two by two bay three-storey brick-built former mill building with a pitched corrugated iron and steel-framed roof (the western part of this had collapsed) with a raised timber vent at the apex (Figures 10 & 11; Plates 1 & 2). Its main north elevation would have faced the former works and had a large double loading door to the west side of the ground floor (Plate 3). A single window was then located at first floor level above this with a clear line of division between the treatment of the brickwork; below this the brickwork was originally white-washed. There were two smaller windows to the second floor level (Plate 4). The upper part of the north gable here has a steel framing exposed on the exterior of the brickwork to support the roof. Two brick enclosures are located to the east and west respectively.
- 5.2 The east elevation was plain with an additional side wall of a lean-to the south side. The west elevation was identical, although has two first floor windows with scar for a roof above, with a rotting timber exposed. There was clearly once another small building attached to it here (Plates 5 & 6). Another lean-to could also be seen to the south side abutting the rear of the building.



Plate 1: General view from the north-east

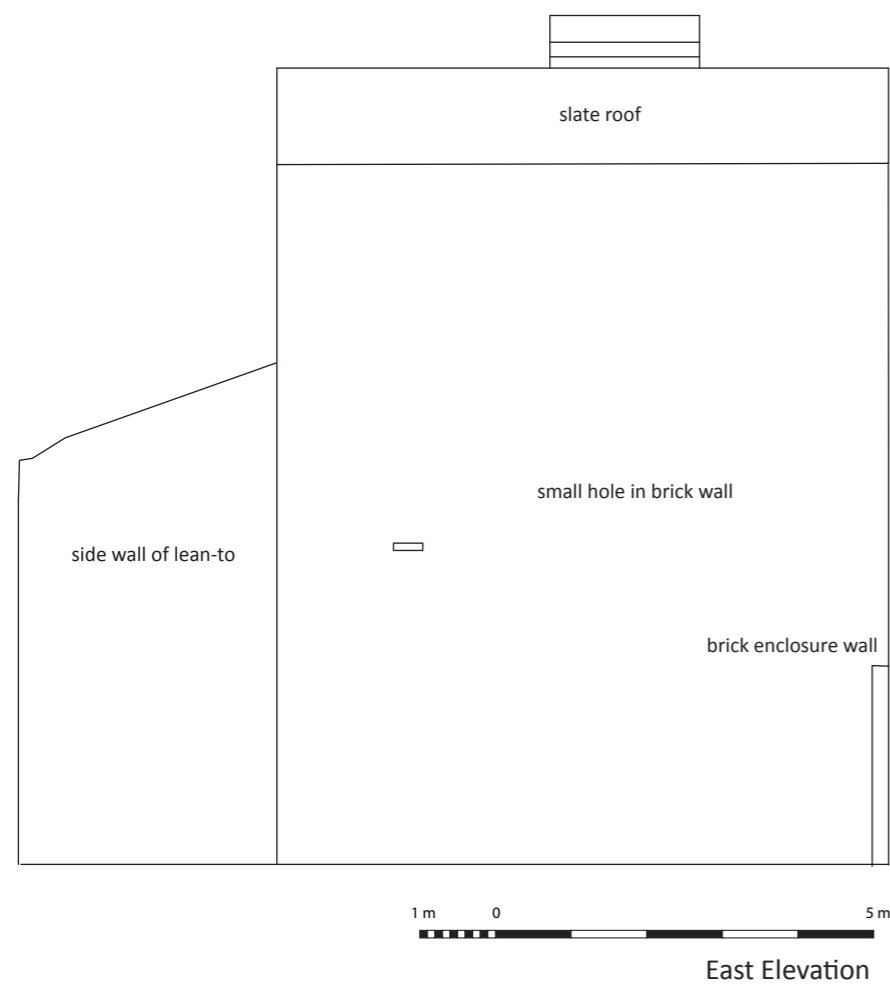
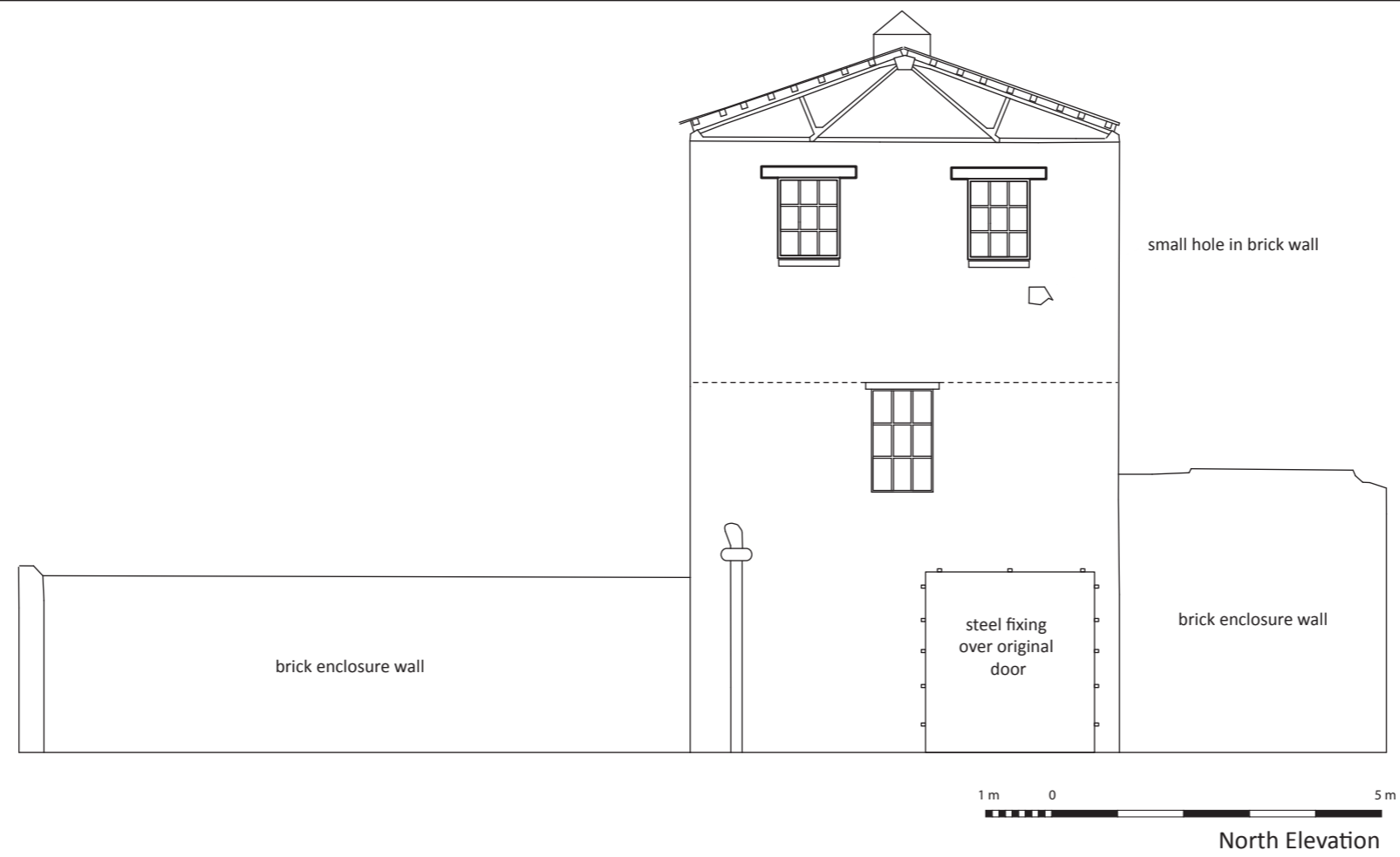
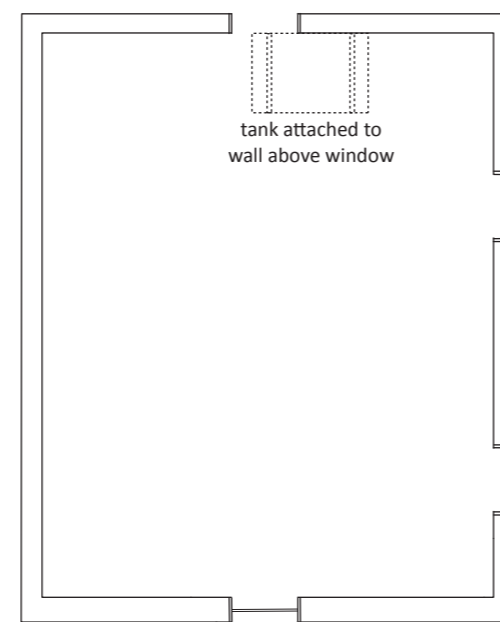


Figure 10: Kinleith Mill building, exterior elevations



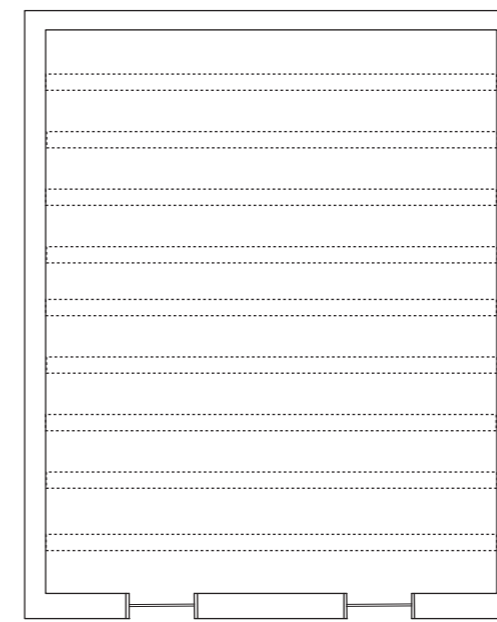
1 m 0 5 m

Ground Floor Plan



1 m 0 5 m

First Floor Plan



1 m 0 5 m

Second Floor Plan

approximate position of steel roof beams



Figure 11: Kinleith Mill building, floor plans



Plate 2: North elevation, general view from the north-west



Plate 3: North elevation, general view from the NNE just prior to demolition



Plate 4: North elevation, detail of the second floor windows from the north



Plate 5: West elevation, general view from the west



Plate 6: West elevation, detail of the ground floor window from the west

- 5.3 As access to the interior was impossible, the building was viewed from a distance during the demolition phase (Plate 6). It revealed that the interior of the building was bare to the whitewashed brick and also that there were two additional windows to the rear (south) elevation (Plates 7 - 9). The steel superstructure of the building was also exposed supporting the pitched roof (Plate 10).



Plate 7: General view of the building just as it was being demolished, from the north-east



Plate 8: General view of the building after the demolition of the north wall exposing the white-washed brick interior, from the north-east

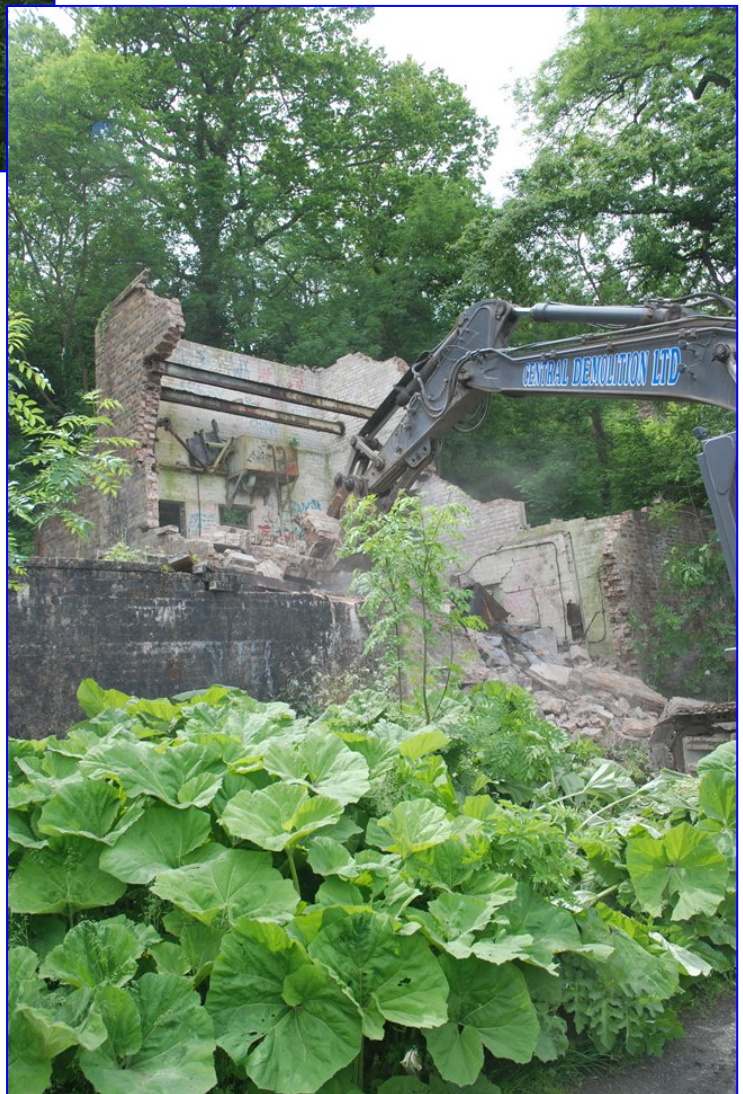


Plate 9: General view of the demolition showing the rear south elevation with first floor windows and tank above, from the NNE



Plate 10: General view of the demolition showing the steel beams supporting the roof from the NNE

6 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 It is difficult to identify the function of this small building, taken out of context now with the removal of the rest of the Kinleith Paper Mill. The interior also did not give many clues to its original function as it had been stripped out prior to or soon after its abandonment. However, we can identify looking at the historical mapping that it was one in a succession of at least two other buildings in the same position dating back to the late 19th century and thus may have been associated in some way with the railway to the side of which it was located. It may have therefore been some kind of storage or goods shed.
- 6.2 This report has successfully record the building for the archive prior to and during its demolition and no further archaeological recording works are recommended, although CEC Archaeology Service, on behalf of the CEC, has noted that it should be consulted if any further ground-breaking works after demolition to floor slab level is intended, as more below-ground monitoring may be required.

7 REFERENCES

7.1 Bibliography and bibliographical references

Scottish Planning Policy SPP23. 2008 *Archaeology and Planning*. Scottish Government Nov 2008.

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

7.2 Cartographic references

1747 – 55	William Roy	<i>Military Map of Scotland</i>
1766	John Laurie	<i>A Plan of Edinburgh and the Country Adjacent</i>
1828	Greenwood Fowler & Sharp	<i>Map of the County of Edinburgh</i>
1852	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet 5</i>
1895	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet VII.NW</i>
1909	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet VII.NW</i>
1915	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet VII.NW</i>
1922	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet VII.NW</i>
1944	Ordnance Survey	<i>Edinburghshire Sheet VII.NW</i>

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Black & White Print & Colour Digital Film #1

Frame	Elevation/Area	Description	Taken From	Date
1 – 26	-	Unassigned	-	06/07/2014
27	-	General view from Bonnyhill Bridge	NE	06/07/2014
28	-	General view	NW	06/07/2014
29	W Elevation	General view	W	06/07/2014
30	W Elevation	Detail of window	W	06/07/2014
31	W Elevation	General view	W	06/07/2014
32	W Elevation	Detail of ground floor	W	06/07/2014
33	W Elevation	Detail of first floor	W	06/07/2014
34	N Elevation	Detail of second floor	W	06/07/2014
35	N Elevation	General view	NW	06/07/2014
36	-	General view	NE	06/07/2014

Colour Digital Film #2 (demolition)

Ref	Elevation/Area	Description	Taken From	Date
1 – 4	-	General view just prior to demolition	NE	29/06/2014
5 – 8	N Elevation	General view just prior to demolition	N	29/06/2014
9	-	General view just prior to demolition	NE	29/06/2014
10 – 12	E Elevation	General view just prior to demolition	NEE	29/06/2014
13	W Elevation	General view just prior to demolition	NW	29/06/2014
14 – 24	-	General view of demolition taking place	NE	29/06/2014
25	-	Detail of the metal being removed from the building (side of a metal tank)	NE	29/06/2014
26 – 33	-	General view of demolition taking place	NE	29/06/2014
34	-	General view of demolition taking place	NNE	29/06/2014

APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND (DES) ENTRY

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Kinleith Mill Building, Currie
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23103
PARISH:	Currie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Diana Sproat
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Historic Building Recording
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Mill
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Mill remains (ruin)
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 18948 67908
START DATE (this season)	06/05/2015
END DATE (this season)	06/05/2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None.
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology was commissioned by Cala Homes (East) Ltd to undertake an historic building survey of a former mill building adjacent to the Water of Leith, once part of the now-demolished Kinleith Paper Mills. The work was required by the CEC Archaeology Service prior to its intended demolition on the grounds that it was unsafe.</p> <p>The small brick building was constructed between 1915 – 1935 and formed one of the ancillary buildings associated with the mill. The function of the building is unknown, although may have been related to the railway established in the later 19th century to the side of the which it was originally located (now the walkway for the Water of Leith).</p> <p>No further archaeological recording works are recommended, although CEC Archaeology Service, on behalf of the CEC, has noted that it should be consulted if any further ground-breaking works after demolition to floor slab level is intended, as more below-ground monitoring may be required.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None.
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None.
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Cala Homes (East) Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	edinburgh@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION: (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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