

Hillman Road, Paisley (Phase 1): Archaeological Evaluation Report

AOC Project 22948

13th August 2015



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Hillman Road, Paisley (Phase 1): Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	CgMs Consulting, 9-10 St Andrew Square Edinburgh EH2 2AF
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 45228 63559
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Contents

	Page
List of Figures.....	1
List of Plates	1
List of Appendices.....	1
Summary	2
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Background	3
1.2 Site location.....	3
1.3 Archaeological background	3
2 OBJECTIVES.....	3
3 METHODOLOGY	4
4 RESULTS.....	4
5 CONCLUSION	7
6 REFERENCES.....	7
APPENDIX 1: Trench Register	9
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register	10
APPENDIX 3: Context Register	11
APPENDIX 4: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' (DES) Report	12

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site Location map

Figure 2: Site plan, showing location on evaluation trenches

List of Plates

Plate 1: Trench 2, general post-excavation shot

Plate 2: Trench 4, general post-excavation shot

Plate 3: Trench 4, detail of the north-west facing section showing the stratigraphy

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Trench Register

Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Appendix 3: Context Register

Appendix 4: '*Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*' (DES) Report

Summary

AOC Archaeology was engaged by CgMS Consulting, on behalf of Barratt West Scotland Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at a development site in Hillman Road, Paisley. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared following a condition attached to the planning consent in principle (14/0182/PP) for the new development and this report is being submitted in support of the full planning application (15/0363/PP) for Phase 1 of the development.

A total of four evaluation trenches were excavated, consisting of an 8% sample of the Phase 1 development area, which consisted of 3,125m² of the overall 0.76ha development site.

No significant archaeological remains were noted during the evaluation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Barratt West Scotland Ltd (BWS), in respect of a proposed residential development at Hillman Road, Paisley. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared following a condition attached to the planning consent in principle (14/0182/PP) for the new development and this report is being submitted in support of the full planning application (15/0363/PP) for Phase 1 of the development. The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works was determined by the Renfrewshire Council, who are advised on archaeological matters by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS).
- 1.1.2 The programme of archaeological works was in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011* (2011) in order to record the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the development area.

1.2 Site location

- 1.2.1 The development area is located to the north-west and west of Hillman Road, Barskiven Hill, Paisley, Renfrewshire and is centred on NGR: NS 45228 63559 (Figure 1). It is bordered to the north by the A761 (Linwood Road), to the north-east by new housing and to the south-west by second phase of this development (Phase 2).

1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 The development area is shown on Roy's Map (1747-55) as uncultivated land and has remained uninhabited throughout its history. In 1810 the Glasgow, Paisley and Johnstone Canal came into operation, and this can be seen on subsequent maps. The Canal ran through the southern part of both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the development area to the south-west although this section was filled in by 1895. The Canal is clearly visible as a 1.7m high raised bank topped by a hedge.
- 1.3.2 A large industrial building was constructed to the north-west of the development area during the 1960s, and Hillman Road was created to provide access for this. This building was demolished in 2006 and the former building site is now a new housing estate.

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 inform the development of an appropriate mitigation strategy to address potential impacts upon archaeological features and deposits;
 - iii) to report on the results of the evaluation.

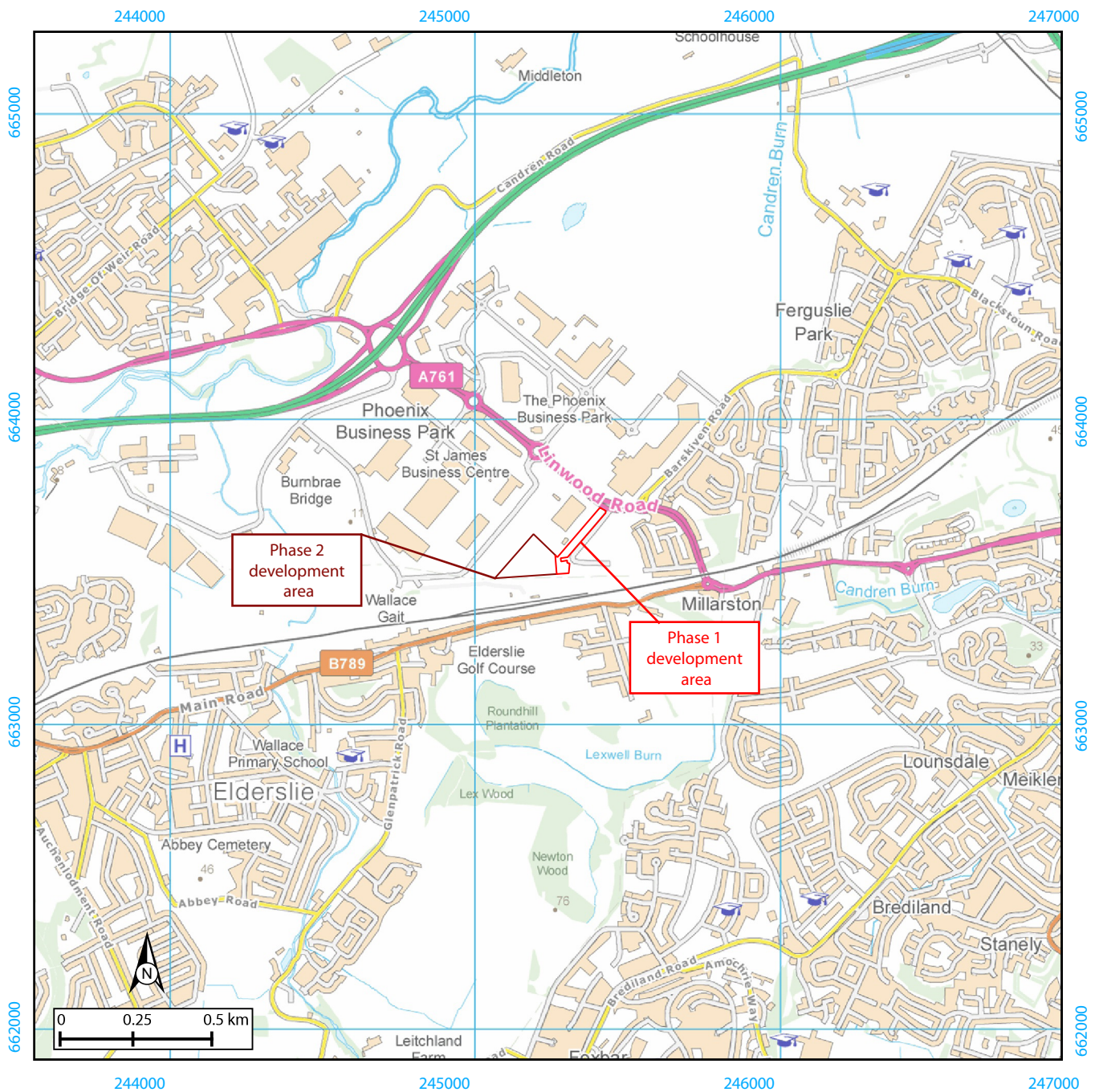
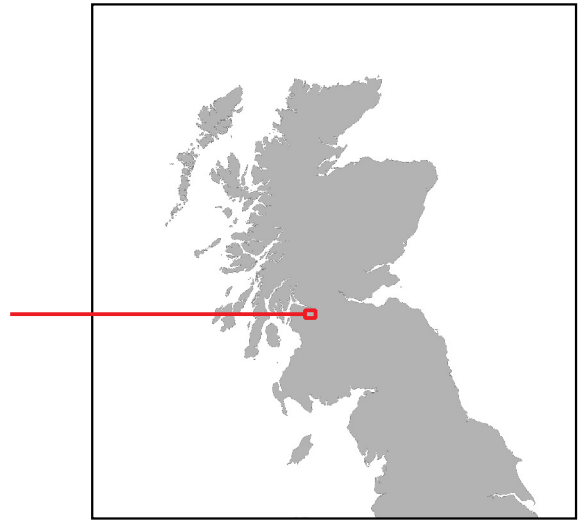
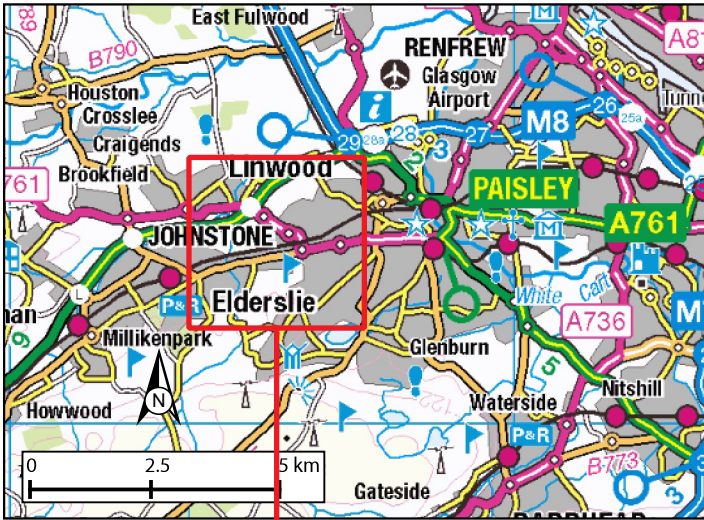


Figure 1: Site location

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* proposed the excavation of trenches equating to an 8% sample of the Phase 1 development area (3,125m² of the whole 0.76ha development area) thus requiring the excavation of trenching of 125 linear metres, or 250m² (CgMs 2015) (Figure 2).
- 3.2 All trenches were excavated with a JCB 3CX excavator using a 1.8m wide ditching bucket. The trench details are summarised in Appendix 1. Machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits through topsoil/overburden to the upper surface of the underlying geological deposits. The works were undertaken according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed within the agreed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs 2015).

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The various detailed data gathered from the evaluation is presented as a series of appendices, and a site plan showing the position of each trench can be found in Figure 2.
- 4.2 All of the trenches excavated during the evaluation showed a large amount of disturbance by modern drainage and services cut through the subsoil. Trench 1 had a large amount of made ground below a relatively thin layer of topsoil, directly overlying the clay subsoil (Plates 1 & 2). This aligns with what appears to be a compound or other temporary buildings seen in the historical mapping identified in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMS 2015, Figure 2b) relating to the demolition of the large industrial building. This made ground deposit also existed throughout Trenches 2 & 3
- 4.3 Live services, which were not noted in the services information provided, were encountered and avoided without incident in Trench 3. This consisted of a 4m wide modern cut with a 1m wide frogged red brick culvert at least three courses wide, the interior filled with soil and water and was likely capped with cement in places. The services were contained within this culvert. This likely relates to the erection of new housing on the site of the previous industrial building to the north-west of the development area.
- 4.4 The stratigraphy in Trench 4 (Plate 3) revealed the closest to undisturbed deposits. Above the natural clay was a colluvial deposit (401) recorded at 15m - 25m from the north-east end of the trench covered by a deposit (400) of a dark brown clayey sandy silt with occasional modern white glazed ceramics and glass noted. This deposit likely represents an earlier topsoil layer which existed before the disturbance in the area, as the layer above this is consistent with the rest of the site. There is a layer of a mix of red/pink clay, topsoil and building rubble below the present topsoil likely deriving from the disturbance and works to the northern end of the development area as noted in the previous trenches. The undisturbed deposits were still void of archaeological features.
- 4.5 A photographic record of the remains of the canal was not possible at the time of survey due to heavy vegetation and tree coverage of the area.

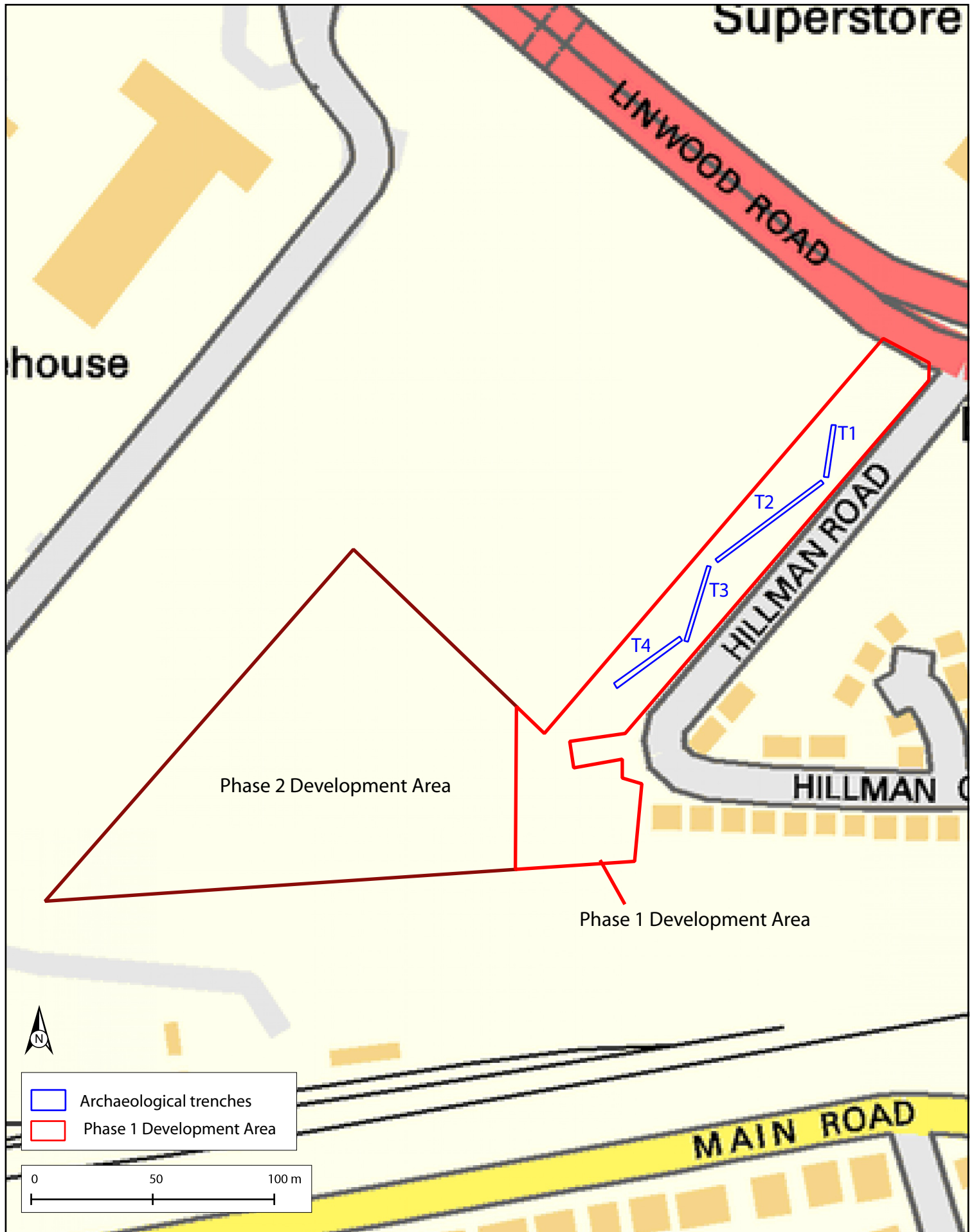


Figure 2: Site plan showing the location of the evaluation trenches



Plate 1: Trench 2, general post-excitation view



Plate 2: Trench 4, general post-excitation view



Plate 3: Trench 4, detail of the north-west facing section showing the stratigraphy

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The evaluation trenches excavated during this phase of works has revealed a high level of modern disturbance to the area. Trench 4 is the only trench to reveal undisturbed deposits below the topsoil. However no significant archaeological remains were discovered.

6 REFERENCES

CgMs 2015 *Land at Hillman Road, Barskiven, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Phase 1: Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished Client Report.

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*.

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

Hillman Road, Paisley: Evaluation Report

Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Trench Register

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	25m by 1.8m
<i>Total Area</i>	48m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE-SW
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Drains</i>	Two ceramic drains aligned N-S and one E-W aligned, 11.1m, 15.2m and 14m respectively from the NE end of the trench
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	52m by 1.8m
<i>Total Area</i>	93.6m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NW-SE
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Drains</i>	Ceramic drains aligned N-S recorded at 6m, 8.8m, 10.4m, 15.1m, 32.9m, 36m, 37.4m, and 41.8m from NW end of trench. Ceramic drains aligned E-W recorded at 12.2m and 19.2m and one new polythene drain aligned NE-SW at 25.3m from the NW end of the trench.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	30m by 1.8m
<i>Total Area</i>	54m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NNE-SSW
<i>Significant Features</i>	Large modern service cut with live services recorded from 18-22m from NNE end of trench 1.1m wide.
<i>Drains</i>	Ceramic drains aligned NW-SE recorded at 4.5m, 7.5m, 11.4m, 12.1m, 17.2m, 23.7m and 28m from NNE end of trench.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	32m by 1.8m
<i>Total Area</i>	57.6m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SW-NE
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Drains</i>	One large drainage cut aligned N-S 1.8m from NE end of trench. Ceramic drains aligned NW-SE 9m, 11.5m, 15.1m, and 21m from NE end of trench.
<i>Finds</i>	None

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital Film

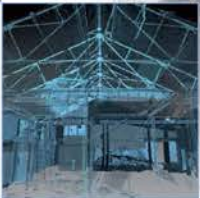
Frame	Trench	Description	From
01	T1	Start of Trench 1	NE
02	-	Pre ex site photo	-
03	T1	Disturbance in T1	NE
04	T1	Disturbance in T1	NE
05	T1	Post Ex Trench 1	NE
06	T2	Natural wood in natural clay in T2	-
07	T2	Post ex Trench 2	SE
08	T3	Post Ex Trench 3	SSW
09	T4	Post ex Trench 4	SW
10	T4	Stratigraphy in Trench 4	NW
11	T4	Sign near Trench 1	-
12-14	T4	Back filled trench areas	Various

APPENDIX 3: Context Register

Context	Trench	Context Type	Description
100	1	Deposit	Dark brown silty clay 0.05m in depth. Topsoil.
101	1	Deposit	Made ground containing moderate inclusions of red and grey 'Type 1' with additional inclusions of ceramic building material, stone and waste. Between 0.05m in depth. Between 0.45m – 0.60m in depth. Made ground.
102	1	Natural subsoil	Dark grey clay. Two ceramic drains aligned N-S and one E-W aligned, 11.1m, 15.2m and 14m respectively from the NE end of the trench Natural Subsoil.
200	2	Deposit	Mid-brown sandy silt between 0.03m – 0.05m in depth. Topsoil.
201	2	Deposit	Dark grey silty clay matrix containing a mix of demolition rubble become less concentrated to the base of the deposit; modern white glazed ceramic and glass inclusions 5m from the NW end of the trench. Between 0.35m – 0.75m in depth. A sequence of ceramic drains run through the deposit. Made ground.
202	2	Natural subsoil	Mid brown/greyish clay. Ceramic drains aligned N-S recorded at 6m, 8.8m, 10.4m, 15.1m, 32.9m, 36m, 37.4m, and 41.8m from NW end of trench. Ceramic drains aligned E-W recorded at 12.2m and 19.2m and one (very) modern polythene drain aligned NE-SW at 25.3m from the NW end of the trench. Natural subsoil.
300	3	Deposit	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing some fragments of ceramic and building material. 0.55m in depth. Topsoil.
301	3	Natural subsoil	Light yellow/pink clay with infrequent inclusions of medium to large sub rounded stones. Changes to yellow/grey clay 12m from NNE end of trench. Ceramic drains aligned NW-SE recorded at 4.5m, 7.5m, 11.4m, 12.1m, 17.2m, 23.7m and 28m from NNE end of trench. Natural subsoil.
302	3	Cut	Construction cut 1.1m in width containing fringed bricks and filled with stagnant water. Brick sides at least 3 courses high and capped with cement. Cut for modern services (not excavated).
400	4	Deposit	Dark brown clayey sandy silt with occasional modern white glazed ceramics and glass. Between 0.10m – 0.20m in depth. Topsoil.
401	4	Deposit	Mid brown clayey silt containing a mix of topsoil material and building demolition rubble. Between 0.20m – 0.40m in depth. Subsoil.
402	4	Natural subsoil	Dark pink/grey clay. Ceramic drains aligned NW-SE 9m, 11.5m, 15.1m, and 21m from NE end of trench. Natural subsoil.
403	4	Cut	Construction cut located 1.8m from the NE of the trench, approximately 3m in width filled with 'Type 1' and slag material and stone fragments. Cut for modern services (not excavated).

APPENDIX 4: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' (DES) Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Renfrewshire Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Hillman Road, Paisley
PROJECT CODE:	AOC22948
PARISH:	Paisley
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Jessica Lumb
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS 45228 63559
START DATE (this season)	10/08/2015
END DATE (this season)	10/08/2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>AOC Archaeology was engaged by CgMS Consulting, on behalf of Barratt West Scotland Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at a development site in Hillman Road, Paisley. A Written scheme of Investigation was prepared following a condition attached to the planning consent in principle (14/0182/PP) for the new development and this report is being submitted in support of the full planning application (15/0363/PP) for Phase 1 of the development.</p> <p>A total of four evaluation trenches were excavated, totalling 250.2m², consisting of 8% of the total 1.2 hectare development area.</p> <p>No significant archaeological remains were noted during the evaluation.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CgMs Consulting
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	NMRS



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