

# 1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report

AOC 23589  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2017



# **1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Data Structure Report**

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**On Behalf of:** BDW Trading Ltd & Standard Life Assurance Ltd

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** NT 30135 74061

**AOC Project No:** 23589

**OASIS No.:** aocarcha1-273202

**Prepared by:** Kevin Paton

**Date of Fieldwork:** 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Date of Report:** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

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

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**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

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**Date:** 23rd January 2017

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** Draft

**Date:**

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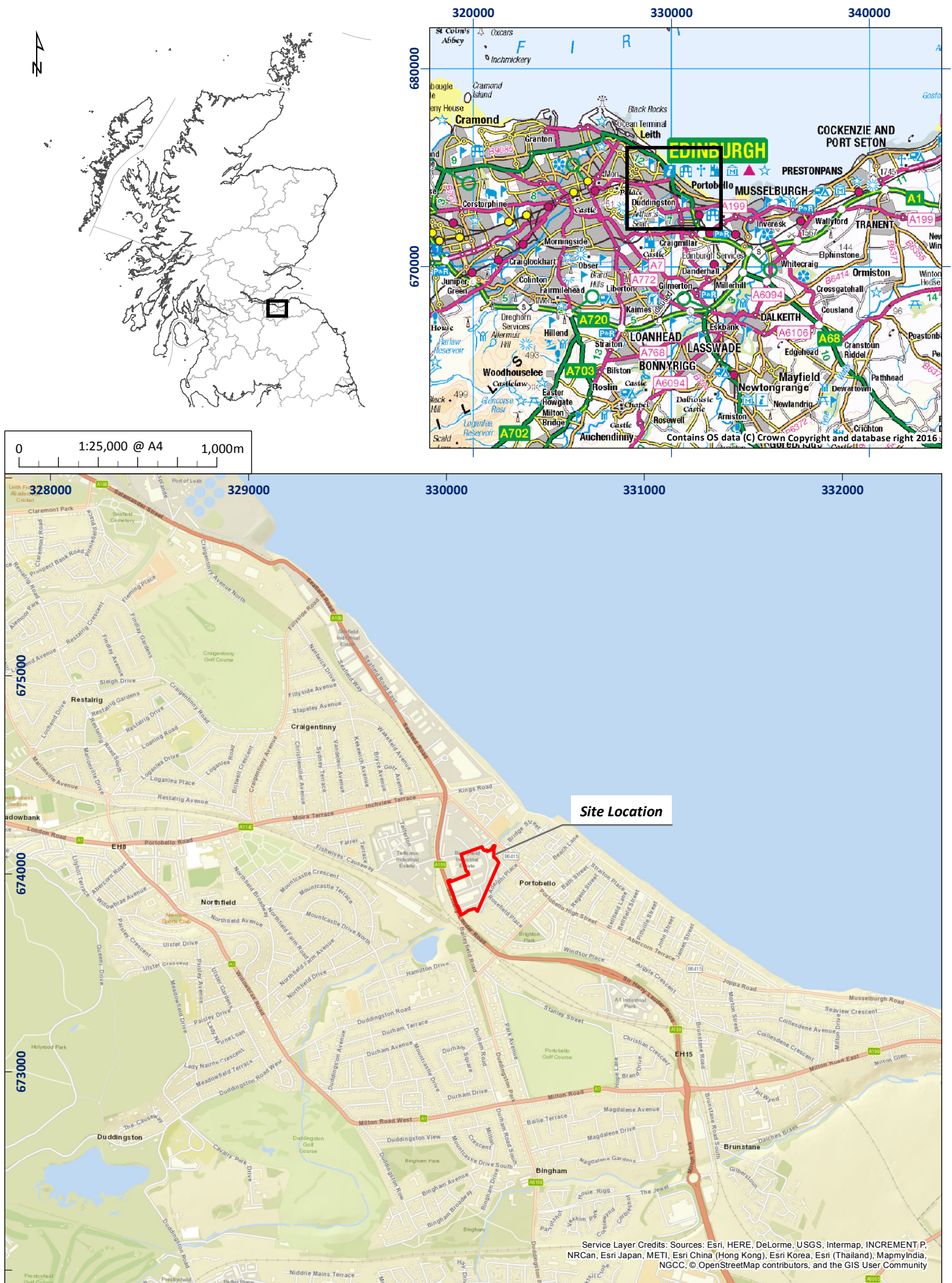


Figure 1: Site location plan

## ABSTRACT

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An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on land previously occupied by warehouses and offices at 1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh.

The evaluation revealed that the phase 1 area consists of modern hard standing covering over 4 m of dumped material that dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The trenches and test pits conducted found numerous dumped deposits throughout the evaluation area, with tip lines present throughout each trench indicating that the dumped material was being brought into the site from the northern edge.

A probable brick floor relating to a late 19<sup>th</sup> century building was also revealed within trench 5 at a depth of 3.1 m. Some samples of the pottery and glass that were contained within some of the dumped horizons have been recovered for further analysis.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was required by BDW Trading Ltd & Standard Life Assurance Ltd. on land due to be developed at 1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh. The scope of the works was determined by The City of Edinburgh Council as 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 2016), approved on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council by CECAS and in accordance with *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning And Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

## 1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the western edge of Portobello and extends across approximately 4.2 hectares, centred on NT 30135 73955 (Figure 1). It is bordered by Fishwives Causeway to the north, the Figgate Burn to the southeast and both the Evans Halshaw Ford dealership and the A199 Sir Harry Lauder Way to the west. The site is currently occupied by industrial warehouse units comprising the Baileyfield Industrial Estate, through which Baileyfield Crescent runs.

## 1.3 Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The site has been occupied since at least 1824 and historic map regression suggests that settlement encroached southwards from the Fishwives Causeway frontage (Figure 2). The site was initially occupied by a brick and tile works and subsequently a glassworks, producing bottles for the alcohol trade. The origins of Fishwives Causeway are unknown, although a parish boundary ran along it which suggests that it could have had medieval origins.
- 1.3.2 Historic map evidence indicates that the brick and tiles works developed southwards from Fishwives Causeway. Buildings shown within the central part of the site on the 1894 Ordnance Survey map are shown within depressed topographical ground (Figure 3). This suggests that the buildings were built at the base of a small valley associated with the Figgate Burn which was gradually filled as the works progressed, or that clay extraction had artificially deepened the area, or more probably a combination of the two. There is a high potential for early 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century remains associated with both the two glassworks and the Abercorn Brick and Tile Works being encountered during the course of the development.
- 1.3.3 Pre-industrial evidence is limited to an isolated Roman coin and a hoard of medieval coins recovered from Portobello during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These most probably represent individual acts of loss, or in the case of the medieval hoard, deposition and they consequently may not necessarily represent direct evidence for occupation. Consequently the potential for pre Post-Medieval remains to exist on the site is considered to be low. Although the risk is elevated along the northern site boundary due to its proximity to Fishwives Causeway, the origins of which are potentially medieval.



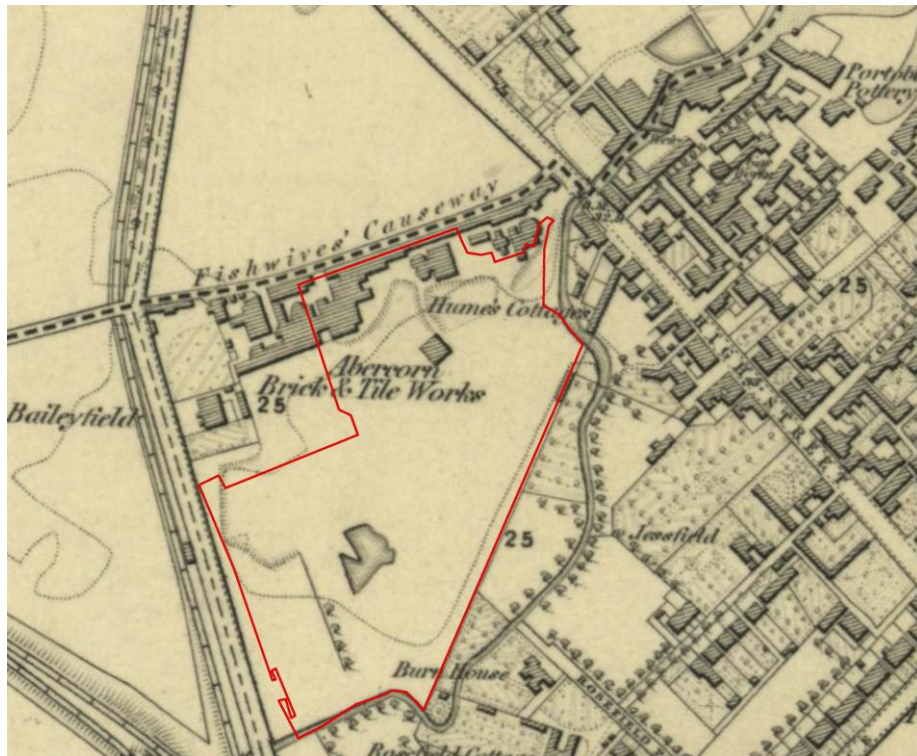


Figure 2: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1854

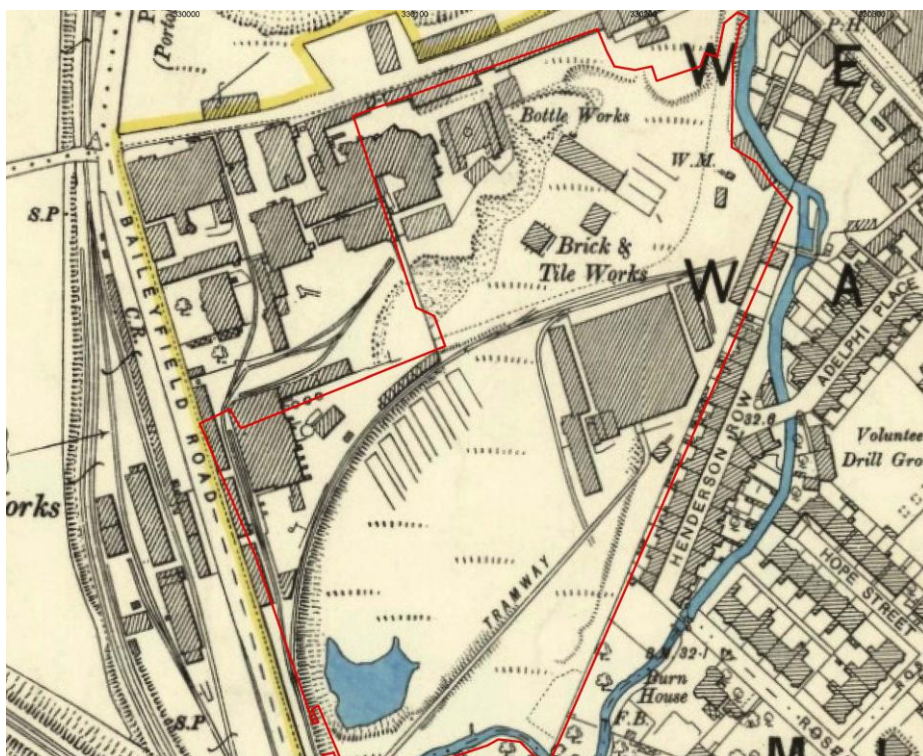


Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1896



## 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 as 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 evaluation consisted of seven trenches and test pits of varying length and alignment, equating to 108 m<sup>2</sup> of linear trench (Figure 4). The number of trenches was reduced due to the presence of unknown services in many of the areas previously thought to be available for the evaluation. The work was conducted utilising a 16 tonne wheeled excavator equipped with breaker and a bladed ditching bucket, operating under the constant supervision of an experienced field archaeologist. Each trench was recorded using AOC *pro forma* trench record sheets. Due to the depths of the trenches it was impossible to further investigate any features found beyond visual inspection and description.

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 All archaeological works were conducted on the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Weather conditions were fair throughout the course of the work conducted meaning that archaeological visibility was good. The various data gathered from the evaluation are presented as a series of appendices:

Appendix 1: Evaluation trench descriptions  
Appendix 2: Context Register;  
Appendix 3: Photographic Register;  
Appendix 4: Finds Register  
Appendix 5: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' entry

- 4.2 Seven trenches were excavated in total (Figure 4) and in all but Trench 6, they encountered 0.5 m to 1 m of tarmac/concrete covering modern type 1 stone. Under the modern hard standing Trenches 1-3 contained over 4.2 m of dumped sand, ash and clay, some of which contained ceramics and bottles (SF 1-3). Tip lines were visible in the trench section that indicated this area of the quarry was being filled from the N and NE (Plate 1). None of these trenches were able to reach the natural subsoil.
- 4.3 Trench 4 contained a more homogenous deposit of sand and clay lumps with occasional brick fragments, wood and metal rods. This 2.6 m thick deposit overlay a thin made ground layer which in turn overlay the natural sandy clay subsoil at a depth of 4.2 m. Trench 7 also contained a more homogenous deposit of very compact purple and grey clay and rubble that in turn overlay a very compact ashy clay and rubble. The natural subsoil was not reached in this trench and was abandoned at 3.5 m in depth.
- 4.4 Features related to the 19<sup>th</sup> century use of the site were revealed within Trench 5 and 6. The most northerly trench, Trench 6 revealed the probable edge of the quarry cut [601] with deposit [602] to

the immediate S consisting of ash to depths of 2.1 m (Plate 2). Trench 5 revealed a probable brick floor [501] at a depth of 3.1 m that most likely corresponds to the large 19<sup>th</sup> Century building depicted on the 1896 Ordnance Survey (Figure 3).



Plate 1: General view of tip lines in Trench 1



Plate 2: General view of cut [601] in Trench 6

## 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The archaeological evaluation has determined the presence of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century industrial structures within the Phase 1 development area. Further archaeological evaluation works are still to be conducted once the current warehouses at the north end of the site have been demolished which will enable a better view of the areas of survival within the site as a whole.
- 5.2 Upon the completion of all the evaluation works, areas shown to contain significant archaeology will be subject to further mitigation works, most likely taking the form of an open area excavation. The scope and nature of any further works such will be detremined by the City of Edinburgh Council as advised by CECAS.

## 6 REFERENCES

### 6.1 Bibliographic References

AOC 2016 1-7 *Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh: Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished client report

Scottish Government 2014 Scottish Planning Policy.

Scottish Government 2010 PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology.

### 6.2 Cartographic References

1854 Ordnance Survey *Edinburghshire Sheet 3*

1896 Ordnance Survey *Edinburghshire Sheet IV.NW*



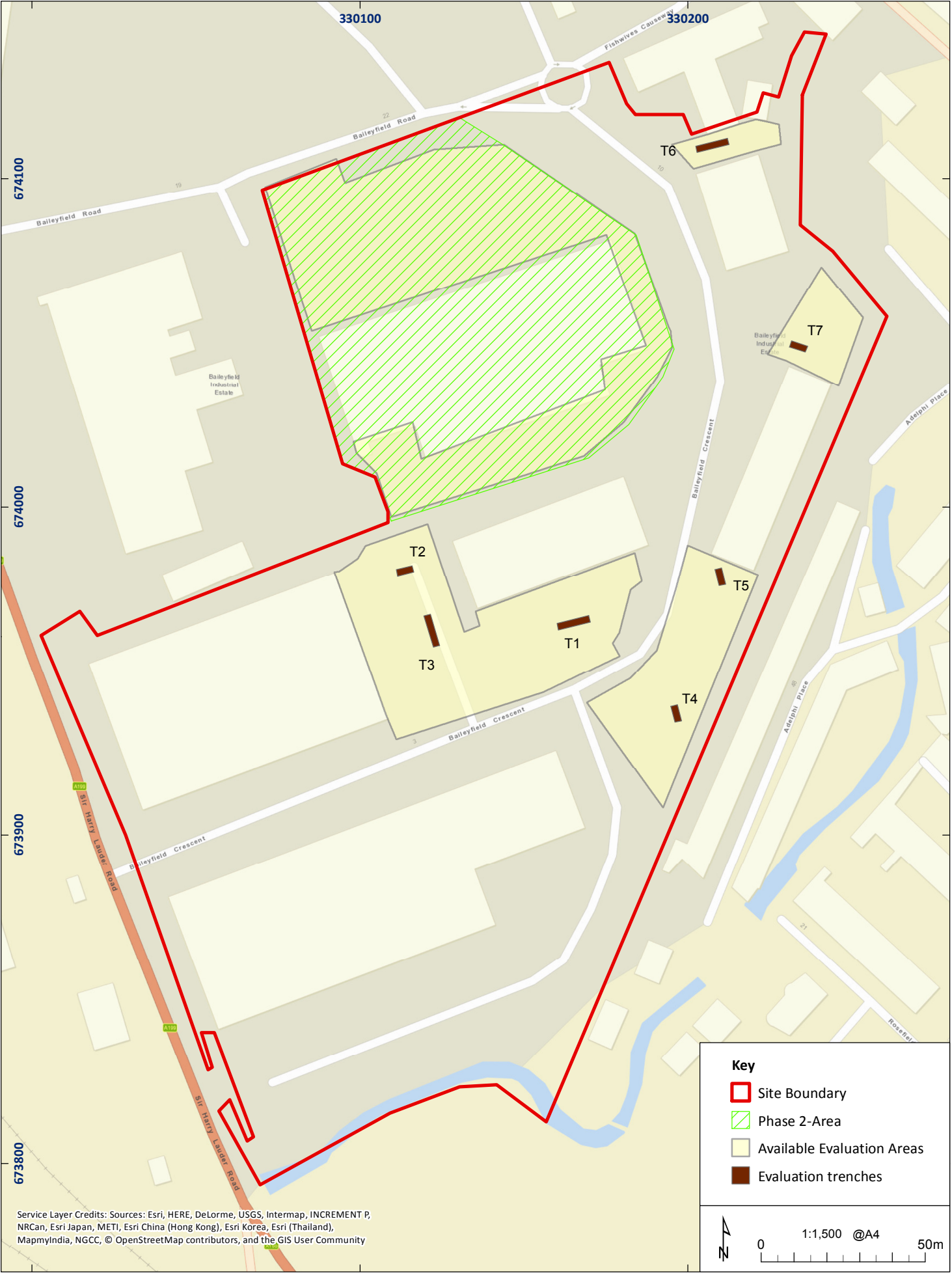


Figure 4: Evaluation trench location plan

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Archaeological Evaluation  
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**Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: EVALUATION TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

### Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	20 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	NE to SW
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Hard standing – tarmac over type 1 stone – 0.5 m Tip line 1 – purple clay and ash with brick, concrete, plastic and stone. Overlies tip line 2 to NE – 0.6 m Tip line 2 – Sand with ceramic dumps, brick, stone and other rubbish and demolition materials. Overlies tip line 3 to NE – 1.1 m (+) Tip line 3 – Clay and sand containing wood and asbestos sheeting. Overlain to SW by tip line 2. Full depth not exposed. Tip line 4 – Lenses of sand, crushed glass, bottle dumps and ash. Up to depth of 3 m and still continuing.
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	Ceramic and Glass

### Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	4 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	8 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	W to E
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Hard standing – concrete slab over type 1 stone – 0.9 m Tip line 1 – purple and grey clay with brick, and stone rubble. Overlies tip line 2 to the south – 0.8 m Tip line 2 – brown clay and rubble. Overlies tip line 3 to the south – 1 m (+) Tip line 3 – Grey clay with occasional wood and metal within. Overlain by tip line 2. Full depth not exposed. Trench stopped at 3.3 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	10 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	20 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	NW to SE
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Hard standing – concrete slab over type 1 stone – 1 m Tip line 1 (SE) – Compacted brick and stone demolition layer with ash underlying – 2.2 m Tip line 2 (SE) – Ash and glass deposit – 1 m Tip line 1 (NW) – purple and grey clay with brick, and stone rubble. Overlies tip line 2 to the south – 0.8 m Tip line 2 (NW) – brown clay and rubble. Base not reached at 3.8 m as sides collapsing – 1.8 m (+) Possible grey clay but unsure due to depth of trench
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	None
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	Ceramic

### Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	6 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	12 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	S to N
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Hard standing – tarmac over type 1 stone – 0.7 m Made ground – purplish grey clay with brick and stone – 0.6 m Made ground – Brown sand and grey clay lumps with occasional brick and stone – 2.6 m Made ground – Grey clay with stone and brick inclusions – 0.3 m Pale grey sandy clay @ 4.2 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	

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<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	4 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	8 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	N to S
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Hard standing – tarmac over type 1 stone – 0.7 m Modern made ground – purple and grey clay with reinforced concrete and brick rubble – 0.8 m Made ground – Brown sand and clay – 1.1 m (+) Made ground – Dark grey clay with rubble inclusions – 0.4 m
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Significant Features</i>	Probable brick floor [501] – exposed at depth of 3.1 m so unable to be recorded
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

### Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	15 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	30 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	W to E
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Imported topsoil – Brown sandy loam – 0.2 m Made ground – brick and stone rubble within a grey clay – 0.4 m Yellowish brown clayey sand
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Irregular cut [601] and fill [602]
<i>Significant Features</i>	
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	Ceramics from deposit [602]

### Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	5 m by 2 m
<i>Excavated Area</i>	10 m <sup>2</sup>
<i>Excavated Orientation</i>	ESE to WNW
<i>Soil make-up</i>	Tarmac and type 1 stone – 0.6 m Made ground – very compact purplish grey clay with abundant brick, stone and cobbles – 2.2 m Made ground – very compact black ashy clay and brick rubble – 0.7 m (+)
<i>Natural Subsoil</i>	Not reached
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Other Features</i>	None
<i>Finds</i>	None

## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTERS

Context No.	Description and Interpretation
501	Brick floor exposed at 3.1 m within trench 5. Not possible to access the trench to record. <b>Floor of late 19<sup>th</sup> century building</b>
601	Irregularly shaped, steep sided cut with a flat base. Depth varies from 0.8 m at W end of T6 to 2 m at E end. Filled by deposit [602]. <b>Probable cut for quarry</b>
602	Mixture of grey and black ash containing brick, stone and ceramic fragments. Between 0.8 m and 2 m deep. <b>Fill of quarry</b>

**APPENDIX 3: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTERS**

Frame	Description	From	Date
1-4	Pre-ex views of Area 1	Var	10/1/17
5-12	Pre-ex views of Area 2	Var	10/1/17
13-16	Working shots of T1	Var	10/1/17
17-18	Profile of Trench 1	N	10/1/17
19-20	Asbestos in Trench 1	N	10/1/17
21-24	Working shots of Trench 1	W	10/1/17
25-26	Profile of Trench 1	N	10/1/17
27	Trench 1 backfilled	W	10/1/17
28-29	Trench 2 working shots	NW	10/1/17
30-33	Trench 2 working shots	NW	10/1/17
34	Profile of Trench 2	SW	10/1/17
35	Profile of Trench 2	W	10/1/17
36-37	Profile of Trench 2	NW	10/1/17
38	Trench 2 backfilled	NW	10/1/17
39	Working shot of T3	SW	10/1/17
40-43	Profile of deposits in T3	SW	10/1/17
44-45	General shots of T3	NW	10/1/17
46	T3 backfilled	SE	10/1/17
47	Area 1 closed off at end of day	-	10/1/17
48-49	Ceramic layer in T3	NW	11/1/17
50-51	View of deposits in T3	NW	11/1/17
52-53	W-facing section of T4	SW	11/1/17
54	S-facing section of T4	S	11/1/17
55	E-facing section of T4	SE	11/1/17
56-57	General shots of T5	Var	11/1/17
58	General view of T6 post-ex	E	11/1/17
59	S-facing section of T6 (E end)	S	11/1/17
60-61	Deposits within pit [601]	S	11/1/17
62	T4 backfilled	W	11/1/17
63	T5 backfilled	SW	11/1/17
64	T2 & T3 backfilled	S	11/1/17
65	T6 Backfilled	SW	11/1/17
66-68	General view of T7 & T8 area	Var	12/1/17
69-71	Views of T7 post-ex	Var	12/1/17
72	T7 backfilled	W	12/1/17

**APPENDIX 4: FINDS REGISTER**

Finds No.	Context No.	Description
1	T1 (1.5 m)	Mixed ceramics
2	T1 (2.5 m)	Glass bottles
3	T3 (2.5 m)	Ceramic fragments
4	602	Ceramic fragments

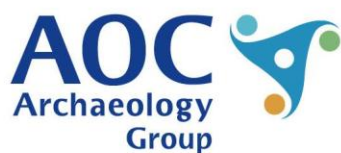
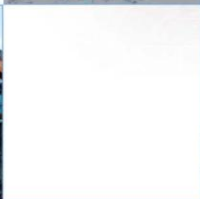
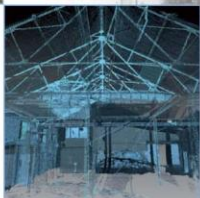
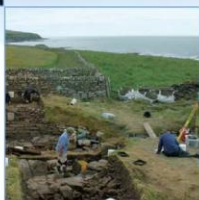


**APPENDIX 5: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	23589
<b>PARISH:</b>	Portobello
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Kevin Paton
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 30135 74061
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (inc DES)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on land previously occupied by warehouses and offices at 1-7 Baileyfield Crescent, Portobello, Edinburgh.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed that the phase 1 area consists of modern hard standing covering over 4 m of dumped material that dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The trenches and test pits conducted found numerous dumped deposits throughout the evaluation area, with tip lines present throughout each trench indicating that the dumped material was being brought into the site from the northern edge.</p> <p>A probable brick floor relating to a late 19<sup>th</sup> century building was also revealed within trench 5 at a depth of 3.1 m. Some samples of the pottery and glass that were contained within some of the dumped horizons have been recovered for further analysis.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Yes
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRATIONS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	BDW Trading Ltd & Standard Life Assurance Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	AOC Archaeology Group Edgefield Road Industrial Estate Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY

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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b>	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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