

4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Mr. J. Martin 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh, EH4 6JN
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 18766 76557
AOC Project No:	24249
Prepared by:	Steven Watt
Date of Fieldwork:	2nd to 3rd July 2018
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Summary

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. J. Martin to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh on groundworks associated with the extension of the pre-existing building.

The hand dug foundation trench was monitored revealing a simple matrix of dark brownish-grey clayey silt over a natural of light orange greyish-brown clayey silt.

No significant archaeological find or features were uncovered during works.

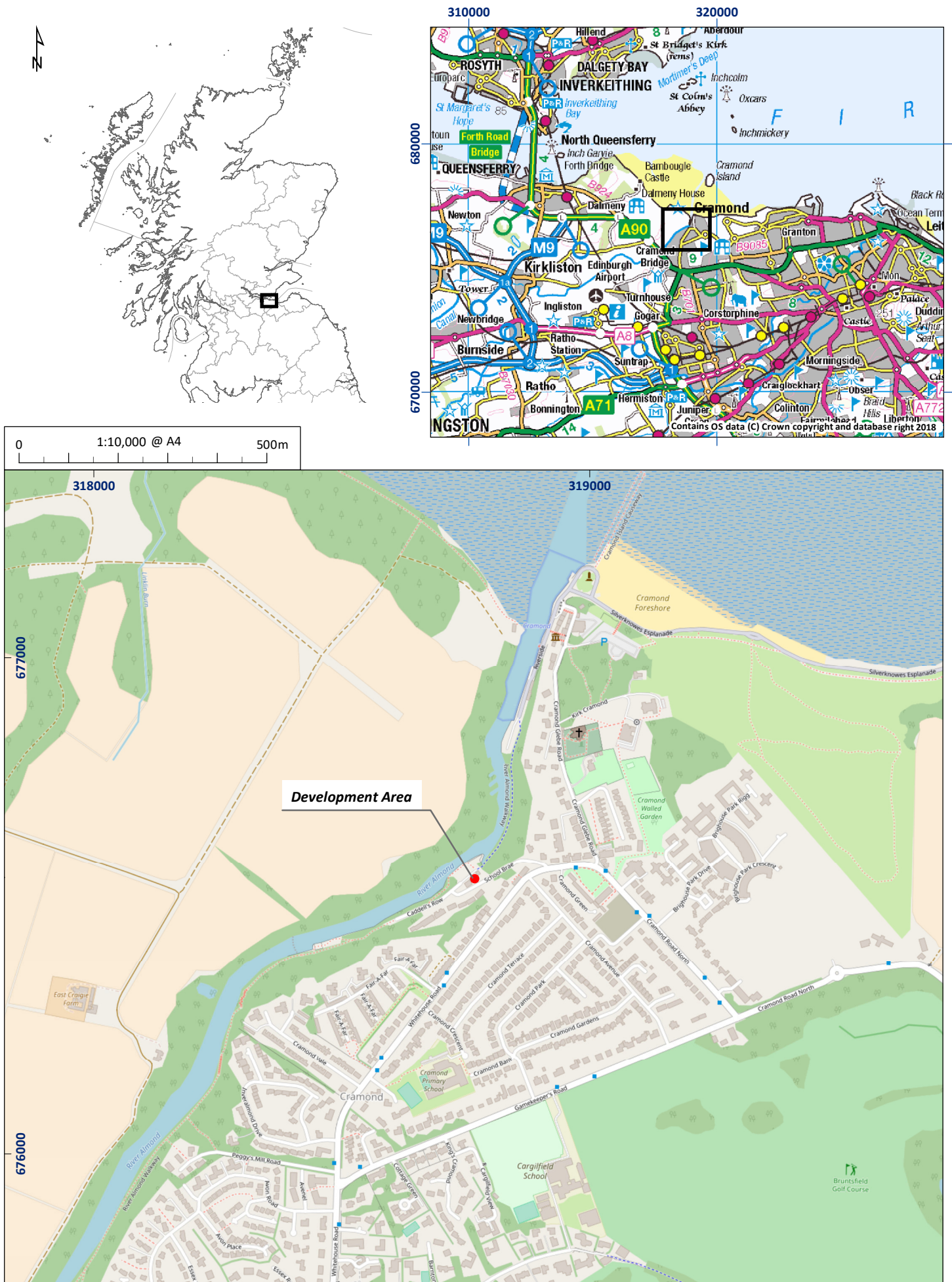


Figure 1: Site location plan

01/24296/DSR/01/01

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by Mr. J. Martin during extension works at 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh. The required archaeological works took the form of a watching brief on ground breaking works associated with the amendments to dwelling at 4 School Brae, including erection of new sun terrace and extension to sun room (Planning Ref. No. 17/05906/FUL). The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works has been determined by City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) who are advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) and detailed in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (2018).

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The site is located on the lower wynd of School Brae, located to the east of the village of Cramond, on the eastern bank of the River Almond and is centered on NGR: NT 18766 76557.

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 The site lies within an area of national archaeological significance. The development area is to the west of the Roman Road leading into the southern gate of the fort at Cramond, an area associated with the fort's annexes and potentially a graveyard.

1.3.2 Cramond Roman fort is located to the north, on the site of current Parish Church and was constructed in c.140AD as part of the Antonine Wall border system. The fort was extensively re-occupied during the Severan invasion of Scotland in the early 3rd century AD. Excavations to the north of the site in recent years have uncovered deep archaeological deposits including the remains of the Roman Road, Outer-fort defensive ditch, external Roma and possible prehistoric ditches/pits and evidence for 7-10th century occupation.



Figure 2 Ordnance Survey Published 1853

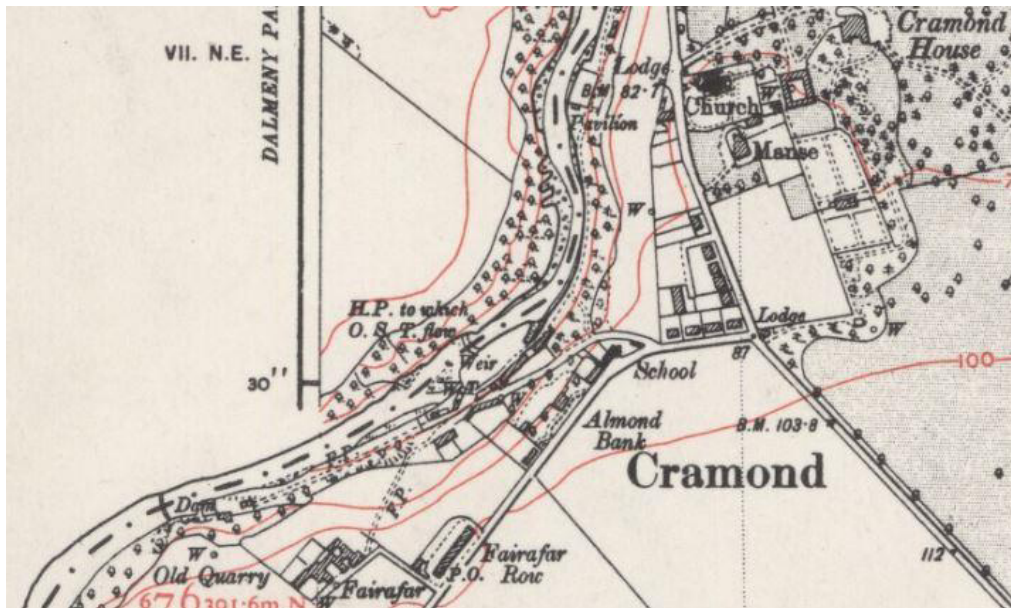


Figure 3 Ordnance Survey Published 1947

1.3.3 Upon consultation of Ordnance Survey maps, the area was unchanged from the period between 1853 and 1947. The site can be seen to the East of the Weir on the maps from 1853 and 1947.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works are:

- i) to monitor all ground-breaking works undertaken as part of the alterations to dwelling house at 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh;
- ii) to liaise with CECAS and the client in the event of significant archaeological features and/or small finds being unearthed as to the most appropriate response in safeguarding these features either by preservation *in situ*, if at all feasible, or by archaeological recording;
- iii) to report on the results of the watching brief.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The Watching Brief consisted of the monitoring of hand dug foundations. The area was reduced in spits to the required depth using shovels and a pick axe.

4 RESULTS

4.1 The various detailed data gathered from the watching brief is presented as a series of appendices:

- Appendix 1 Photographic Register;
- Appendix 2 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

4.2 The watching brief occurred on the 2nd and 3rd July 2018, with favourable weather conditions.

- 4.3 The watching brief comprised the monitoring of the hand dug foundations, 6.0m x 3.1m, for a new extension onto the existing building at School Brae to the depth of c.0.7m. The top soil was a dark brownish-grey clayey silt with frequent stone inclusions and occasional brickwork, this varied in depth from 0.4-0.7m. This overlay a sub-stratum of light orange greyish-brown clayey silt only visible in the western portion of the trench.



Plate 1 View of foundation trench from West



Plate 2 West facing section showing depth of Topsoil

4.4 No significant archaeological finds or features were recovered during works.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 The works at 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh have shown that no archaeological remains are present in the affected development area.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. The recommendation will require confirmation by CECAS.

7 REFERENCES

AOC 2018, *4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh Archaeological Watching Brief: Written Scheme of Investigation* Unpublished Client Report

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

4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

Section 2: Appendices

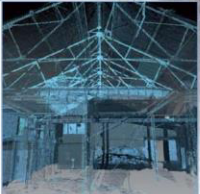
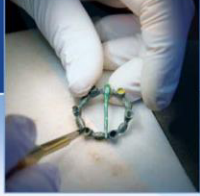
APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Digital

Frame	Description
1	Registration
2-3	Service Track
4	Decking posts
5-6	Pre-excavation views
7-8	Mid-excavation views
9	View at end of day
10-18	Post-excavation views of foundation trench

APPENDIX 2: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' (DES) REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	24296
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Steven Watt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 187 765
START DATE (this season)	2 nd July 2018
END DATE (this season)	3 rd July 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p><i>AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Mr. J. Martin to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 4 School Brae, Cramond, Edinburgh on groundworks associated with the extension of the pre-existing building.</i></p> <p><i>The hand dug foundation trench was monitored revealing a simple matrix of dark brownish-grey clayey silt over a natural of light orange greyish-brown clayey silt.</i></p> <p><i>No significant archaeological find or features were uncovered during works.</i></p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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