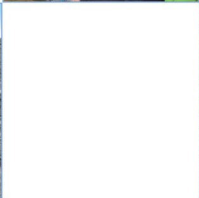
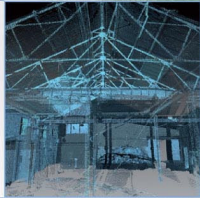
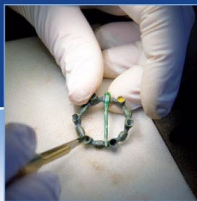


James Gillespie's, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

AOC 24363

6th August 2018



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: The City of Edinburgh Council
Level 1.6,
4 East Market Street,
Edinburgh,
EH8 8BG

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 2509 7216

AOC Project No: 24363

Oasis No: 1-324851

Planning Ref: TBC

Prepared by: Steven Watt

Illustration by: Sam O'Leary

Date of Fieldwork: 31st July to 3rd August 2018

Date of Report: 6th August 2018

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

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Date: 6th August 2018

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Date: 6th August 2018

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft

Date: 6th August 2018

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by AOC Archaeology prior to the installation of temporary classroom units at James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh.

The watching brief was undertaken in July-August 2018 and involved inspection of the ground for archaeological remains during the excavation of new service tracks and foundations. The works revealed made ground deposits over red boulder clay and bedrock to depths of 0.5m to 1.6m.

The truncated remains of a frogged brick path and manhole were uncovered in the service tracks. No significant archaeological remains were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Development Background

1.1.1 A programme of phased archaeological works was required as a condition of planning consent prior to and during the re-development of the buildings comprising James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh. The site lies within the administrative area of the City of Edinburgh Council, which is advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS). The archaeological works will be conducted in accordance with the principles as set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011* (2011) and consist an archaeological watching brief on all ground-breaking works.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The proposed development area lies wholly within the boundary of James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh and is centred on NT 2509 7216 (Figure 5).

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 The proposed development area lies within the current James Gillespie's School complex, which has occupied the site since 1966. More buildings were constructed around the historic Bruntsfield House, an A Listed building, which was established as a tower house in the 16th century. Until the development of the school in the 1960s, the house stood within its private grounds, as can be seen by the detailed historic mapping from the early 19th century to the mid-20th century (Figures 1 – 3).

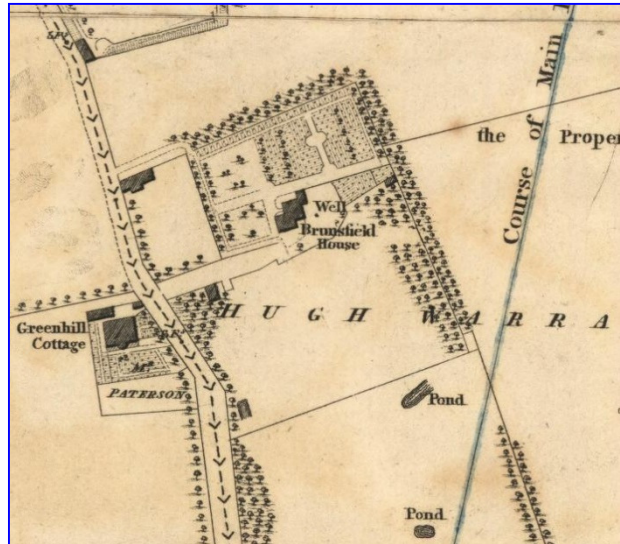


Figure 1: Extract from Kirkwood's map of the City of Edinburgh and Its Environs, 1817

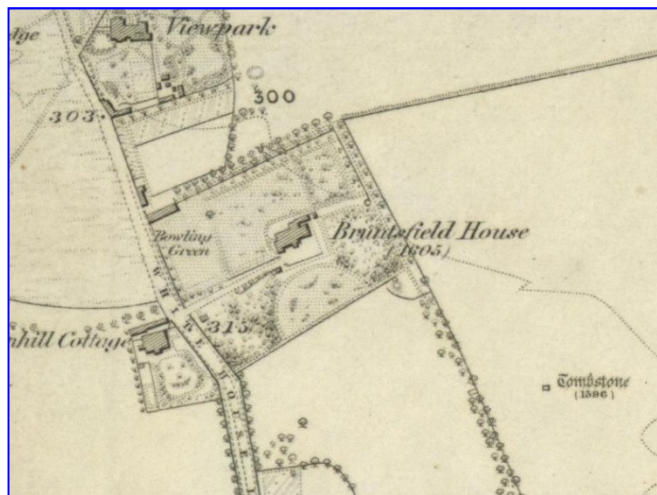


Figure 2: Extract from Ordnance Survey map (Edinburghshire Sheet 6), 1855

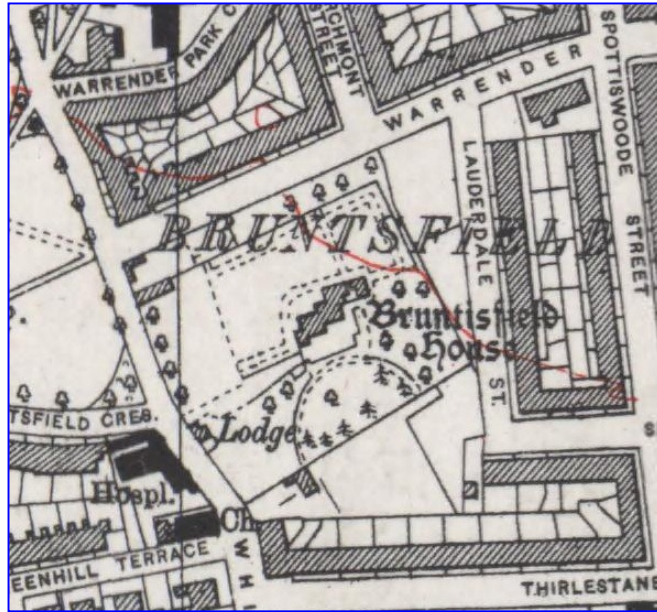


Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey map (Edinburghshire Sheet III.SE), 1944

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objective of the archaeological works is to determine the character, extent, condition, quality, date and significance of any sub-surface archaeological remains within the development area and, should significant archaeological deposits be discovered, to prepare a mitigation strategy compliant with *Scottish Planning Policy (2014)* and *Planning and Archaeology 2/2011 (2011)*.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 All ground-breaking works within the development area were supervised by an experienced field archaeologist. The works comprised the excavation of new service tracks and several foundation pads. Excavation was conducted in shallow spits with a tracked excavator equipped with a narrow toothless ditching bucket.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological watching brief was carried out on the 31st July to 3rd August 2018. The watching brief was conducted in general favourable conditions. Several service tracks measuring between 15m and 20m in length and 0.50m wide were excavated to the east of the current school building (Figure 1). The digging of twenty-eight foundation pads measuring 0.50m in diameter were also monitored.
- 4.2 The excavations revealed a soil matrix or tarmac over made ground occurring across the school playground with bedrock possibly reached in the southern end of one of the service tracks. The

made ground extended from approximately 0.5m to 0.7m with a total depth reached of 1.6m into natural boulder clay.

- 4.3 The remains of a truncated, frogged brick path measuring approximately 1.0m in width surviving as a single course running E-W. A blocked Victorian manhole was also uncovered in the service tracks.
- 4.3 No archaeologically significant remains were observed during the works.



Plate 1: General view of service track



Plate 2: Exposed brick path within service track

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 No significant archaeological remains were discovered during the groundworks. No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require ratification by CECAS on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council.

6 REFERENCES

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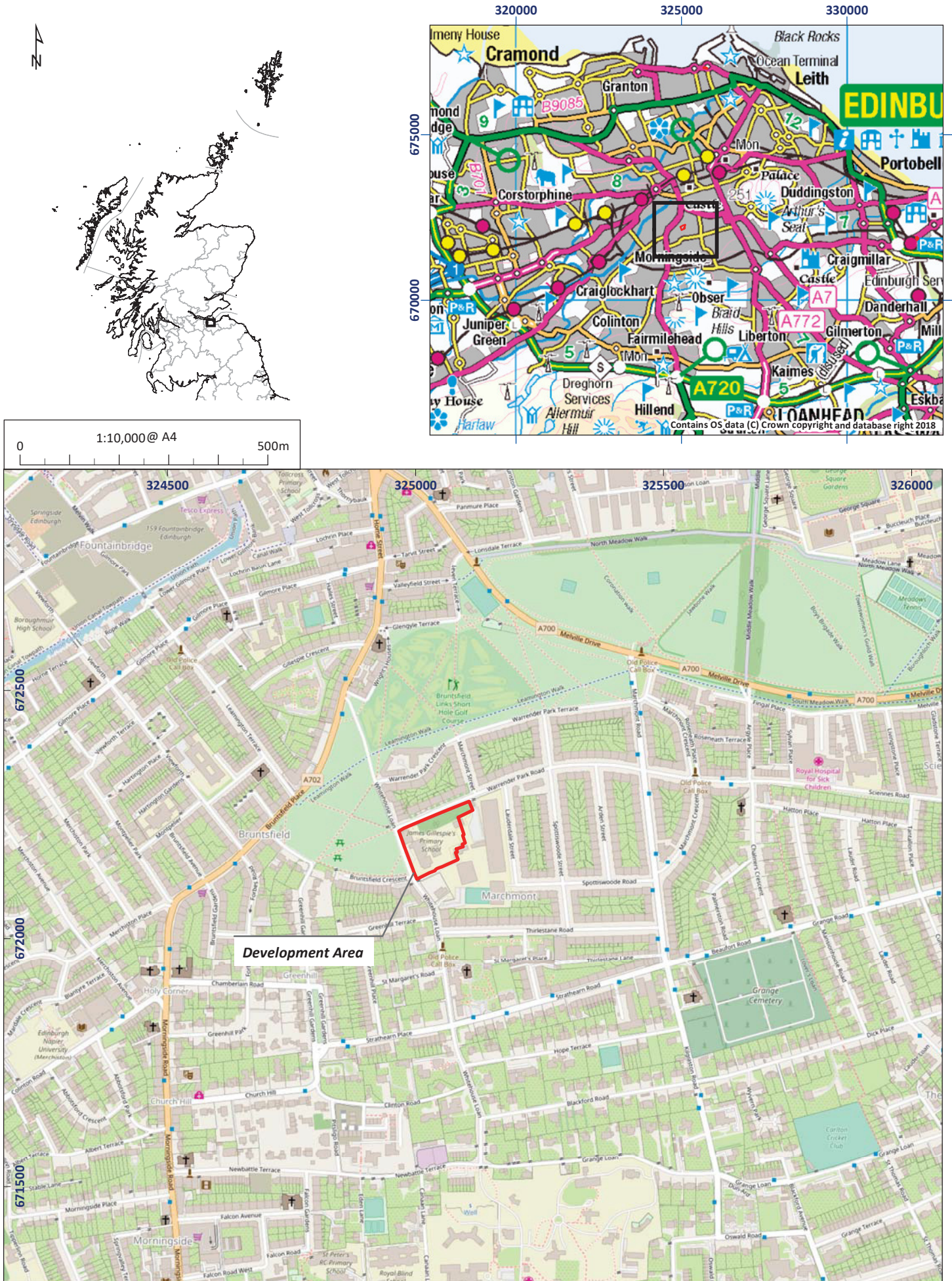


Figure 5: Site location plan

01/24363/DSR/05/01

**James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh:
Archaeological Watching Brief
Data Structure Report**

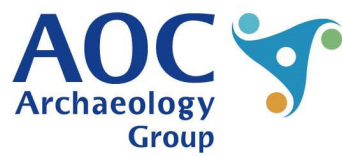
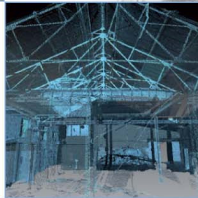
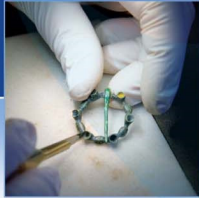
Section 2: Appendices

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER**Digital**

Frame	Description	From
1	Registration Shot	-
2-5	Pre-excavation views	Various
6-14	Views of manhole and first cut	Various
15-18	Views at end of first day	Various
19-21	Plan view of pavement feature	N
22	Section view of pavement feature showing single course	N
23-25	Plan view of bedrock at south end of service trench	N
26	Plan view of strip of concrete running N-S	N
27	Section of concrete	E
28	Fully excavated service trench	N
29-30	Square of possible Victorian bricks on strip of concrete	N
31	Section view of bricks	E
32	View of singular brick, showing the word 'Niddrie'	-
33	Fully excavated service trench	W
34-35	Victorian manhole	Various

APPENDIX 2: 'DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND' REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	James Gillespies, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief
PROJECT CODE:	24363
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Steven Watt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NA
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	NA
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 2509 7216
START DATE (this season)	31 st July 2018
END DATE (this season)	3 rd August 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (inc DES)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p><i>An archaeological watching brief was carried out by AOC Archaeology prior to the installation of temporary classroom units at James Gillespie's Primary School, Edinburgh.</i></p> <p><i>The watching brief was undertaken in July-August 2018 and involved inspection of the ground for archaeological remains during the excavation of new service tracks and foundations. The works revealed made ground deposits over red boulder clay and bedrock to depths of 0.5m to 1.6m.</i></p> <p><i>The truncated remains of a frogged brick path and manhole were uncovered in the service tracks. No significant archaeological remains were present.</i></p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRATIONS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	The City of Edinburgh Council
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group
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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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