112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh Watching Brief: Data Structure Report

AOC Project No: 24555 4th December 2018





112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief

Data Structure Report

On Behalf of: Euro-Tel Design Ltd,

2 Charnwood House

Marsh Road Ashton Bristol BS3 2NA

National Grid Reference (NGR): NT 27996 76097

AOC Project No: 24555

Prepared by: Rob Engl

Date of Fieldwork: 20th November – 26th November 2018

Date of Report: 4th December 2018

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

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Draft Report Stage: Draft Date: 4th December 2018

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Summary

AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Euro-Tel Design Ltd to monitor groundbreaking works associated with the erection of a data centre cabin (class 6), generator/enclosure, meter/enclosure, six air conditioning units and a compound enclosure at 112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh.

The works revealed the truncated remains of a brick built boundary wall. The wall is likely to be of 19th century date and is part of the boundary wall enclosing the site from the Ropeworks that existed to the south of the site.

No further significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by Euro-Tel Design Ltd on behalf of their client, during the erection of a data centre cabin (class 6), generator/enclosure, meter/enclosure, six air conditioning units and a compound enclosure at 112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh. The required archaeological works took the form of a watching brief on all ground-breaking works associated with the development. The need for, and scope of, the archaeological works was determined by City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) who are advised on archaeological matters by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS).
- 1.1.2 The programme of archaeological works is in keeping with the policies outlined in *Scottish Planning Policy* (2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning and Archaeology* (2011) in order to record the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the development area and was further detailed in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (2018).

1.2 Site location

1.2.1 The development area lies on the south side of Salamander Street, Leith (NT 27996 76097). The site is rectangular in plan and was the site of a former BT mast. The site is currently vacant and covers approximately 0.043 hectares (Figure 1).

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The site lies along the historic foreshore of Leith Links to the east of the medieval port of Leith. This area was extensively developed for industry from the 18th century onwards. Nineteenth century mapping place the site over a probable industrial building situated at the end of the 18th century ropeworks (Figures 2 & 3).



Figure 2: Kirkwood 1817 extract

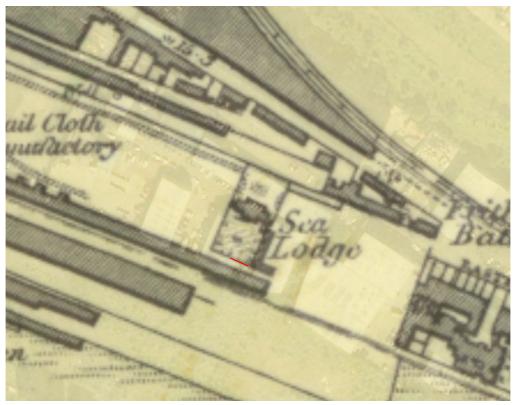


Figure 3: OS 1st edition 1852 extract

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
 - to safeguard the archaeological resource from any adverse impacts created by groundworks associated with the development at 112-114 Salamander Street, Leith;
 - 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 machine excavation was conducted in shallow units/spits where possible. This was achieved using a tracked excavator. The Watching Brief was undertaken

according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures as detailed with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2018).

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 was conducted between the 20th and 26th November 2018 in overcast conditions with archaeological visibility remaining favourable.
- 4.3 The groundworks revealed a made ground ranging from 0.20m to 0.60m in depth. The made ground contained dumps of Niddrie bricks, rubble and scrap metal.
- 4.4 The truncated remains of a brick boundary wall were exposed during the machine excavation of a cable duct. The wall ran along the eastern edge of the area and was visible for 4.6m. The wall survived to a depth of 0.60m and was composed of relatively modern 'frogged bricks' bonded with cement. A small brick buttress was also revealed. The wall may relate to the Sea Lodge boundary wall as shown on the OS 1st edition map of 1852 (Fig 3) or it may be part of the later boundary wall shown on 20th century mapping (Fig 4).

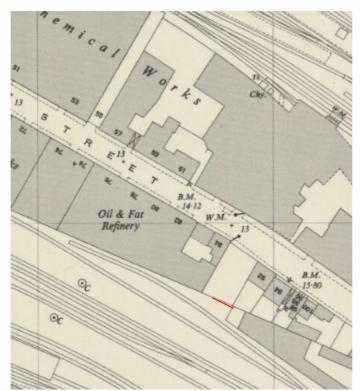


Figure 4: OS 1:250 edition 1948 extract showing position of brick walls

- 4.5 The excavation of a duct within the southern end of the site revealed the remains of a concrete floor surface. Large fragments of re-barred concrete were also exposed. This suggests that the boundary wall was incorporated into a later structure during the 20th century.
- 4.6 With the exception of the brick walls no further significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered during the works.



Plate 1 Brick Boundary Wall fragment



Plate 2 Brick wall and concrete floor fragment

5 **CONCLUSION**

5.1 The archaeological watching brief undertaken on groundworks at 112-114 Salamander Street, revealed the truncated foundation of a likely 19th century boundary wall. No other archaeologically significant remains were uncovered within the development area.

6 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

7 **REFERENCES**

AOC 2017 112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh: Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation, Unpublished Client Report

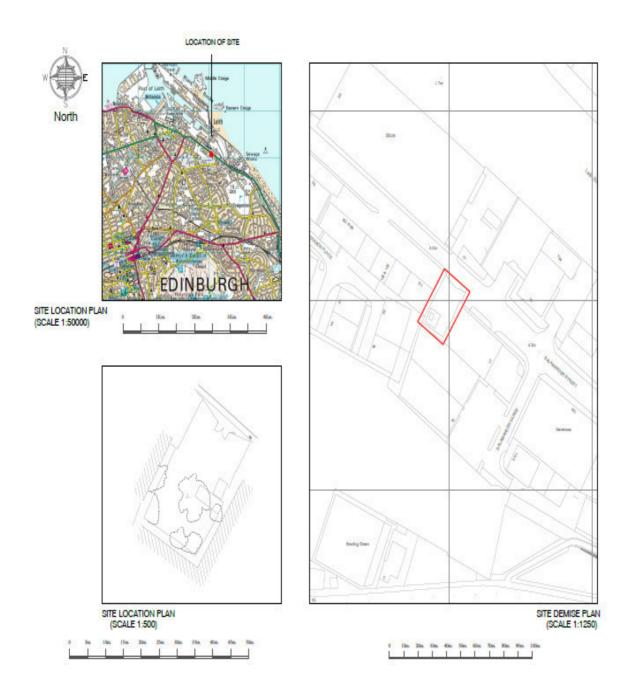


Figure 1: Site Location

Scottish Government 2014 Scottish Planning Policy, April 2014.

Scottish Government 2011 PAN 42 Planning and Archaeology 2/2011.

112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh: **Archaeological Watching Brief Data Structure Report**

Section 2: Appendices

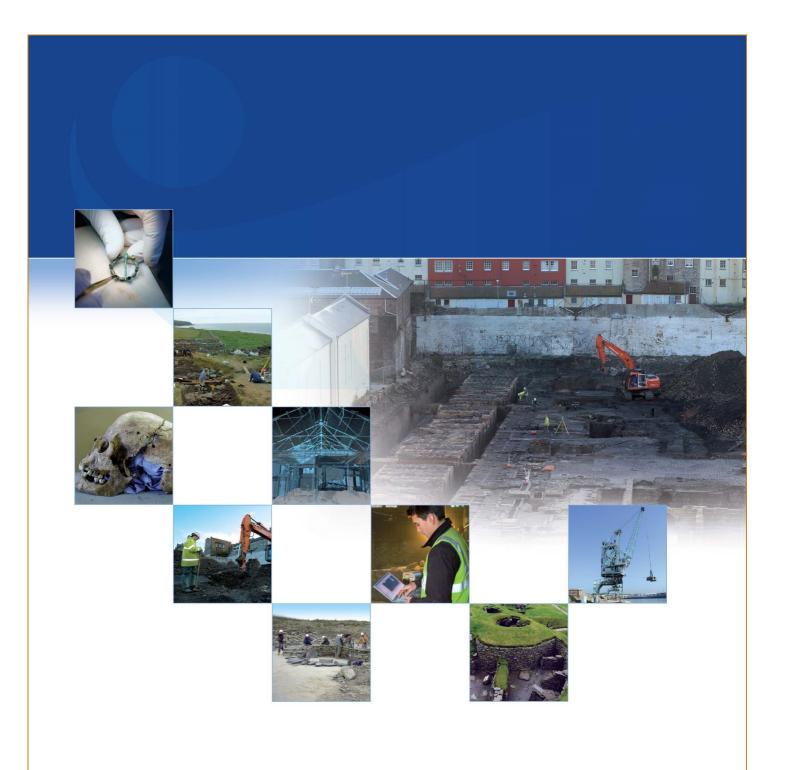
APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Digital

Frame	Description	From
1-8	Brick wall foundation and concrete surface	N
2	Concrete surface	E
3	General shot of site	NE
4	Shot of brick wall foundation	N
5	Buttress on brick wall	E
6	Working shot to the north of the brick wall	E

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

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh Archaeological Watching Brief
PROJECT CODE:	24555
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Sam Kinirons
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 279 760
START DATE (this season)	20 th November 2018
END DATE (this season)	26 th November 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Euro-Tel Design Ltd to monitor groundbreaking works associated with the erection of a data centre cabin (class 6), generator/enclosure, meter/enclosure, six air conditioning units and a compound enclosure at 112-114 Salamander Street, Leith, Edinburgh. The works revealed the truncated remains of a brick built boundary wall. The wall is likely to be of 19 th century date and is part of the boundary wall enclosing the site from the Ropeworks that existed to the south of the site. No further significant archaeological finds or features were uncovered.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Euro-Tel Design Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group; Edgefield Road Industrial Estate; Loanhead. Midlothian, EH20 9SY
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ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NM





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