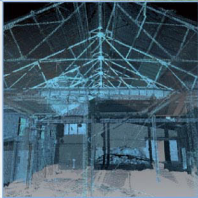
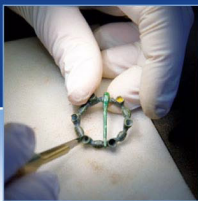


Dumfries House Adventure Playground, Archaeological Works: Data Structure Report

AOC 21411
August 2009



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Dumfries House Adventure Playground, Archaeological Works: Data Structure Report

On Behalf of:	Dumfries House Trust Dumfries House, Cumnock, Ayrshire KA18 2NJ
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NS 5415 2122
AOC Project No:	21411
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Abstract

This report documents the results of a programme of archaeological works undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group, which comprised an evaluation followed by monitoring of ground-breaking works in advance of the construction of an adventure playground within the policies of Dumfries House, East Ayrshire. The works consisted of two phases, firstly a targeted 8% evaluation which uncovered the remains of a known WWII Prisoner of War Camp (NMRS No.NS52SW 112). This led to a mitigation strategy of a watching brief on all ground breaking works. The watching brief uncovered the remains of at least 5 buildings, a network of pathways and remains of ancillary structures belonging to 'Camp 22'.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological works was required by 'The Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust' to meet the terms of a condition attached to planning consent for a proposed adventure playground development at Dumfries House, East Ayrshire (Figure 1).
- 1.2 Initially the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS), the archaeological advisors to the planning authority, had specified a watching brief as a condition on the development, though given the potential for significant survival of archaeologically sensitive material they agreed to a prior evaluation strategy (a targeted 8% sample evaluation). Following the evaluation which uncovered the remains of a known WWII Prisoner of War Camp (NMRS NS52SW 112) a watching brief on ground breaking works was quickly agreed as a suitable form of mitigation and this was conducted within days of the evaluation finishing.
- 1.3 The WoSAS Standard conditions for fieldwork were followed at all times, and the archaeological works were conducted in accordance with the principles set out in SPP 23 (2008) and PAN 42 (SOEnd 1994a).

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area is centred at c. NGR: NS 5415 2122 (Figures 1 & 2) and covers a roughly rectangular area. The site measures approximately 235 m north to south by 120 m east to west, covering a total area of c. 2.76 ha. The development area is bounded to the south and the west by existing estate/access roads. The eastern and northern ends are bounded by arable fields.

1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The proposed development area is currently an arable field with some mature tree cover lying to the north of Dumfries House on the northern side of Lugar Water. Dumfries House, (National Monuments Records of Scotland No.NS52SW 12) is an exceptionally fine Adam mansion built 1754-59 by William Dalrymple, fourth Earl of Dumfries. Within its extensive policies are a number of further sites of importance recorded by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland, (RCAHMS), these include, a sundial (NMRS NS52SW 12.01), dovecot (NMRS NS52SW 12.02), Avenue Bridge (NMRS NS52SW 12.03), Lady's Well (NMRS NS52SW 12.04), Temple Lodges (NMRS NS52SW 12.05), Waterloo Bridge (NMRS NS52SW 12.06), Ice House (NMRS NS52SW 12.07), Coach House & Stables (NMRS NS52SW 12.08), Lady's Bridge (NMRS NS52SW 12.09), watermill (NMRS NS52SW 12.10), Gateway (NMRS NS52SW 12.11), Westgates Lodge (NMRS NS52SW 12.12) and farmstead (NMRS NS52SW 12.13).
- 1.3.2 Only one site within the policies, Temple Lodges (NMRS NS52SW 12.05), is located close to the development area. This site lies outwith the development area, c.200 m to the west. The Temple Lodges are now ruinous but originally consisted of two 'battlement' square lodges, set diagonally and flanking a screen wall on either side of a large gateway which formed the termination of the avenue extending north from Dumfries House.

- 1.3.3 The development area in its entirety lies within the large area encompassed by a World War II prisoner of war camp (NMRS NS52SW 112), identified by aerial photographs from 1945. The camp completely extends to the west of the development area taking in the land parcel on the other side of the estate road that forms the western boundary of the development area as well as extending south towards Dumfries House. Photographs from 1945 show a double fence line enclosing the southern section of the camp, with immediately to the north of the fence accommodation units for the guards. The photograph shows more than 100 huts within the fenced compound, some with rear gardens. In the central area a group of larger huts indicates the mess, kitchens and other communal use buildings. Though clearly distinguishable in 1945, by 1951 the camp was almost totally demolished.
- 1.3.4 With the exception of the WWII Prisoner of War Camp there are no known archaeological sites or findspots within the development area, though the proximity to and the site's position within the policies of Dumfries House also warranted some form of mitigation works prior to development. Also a brief study of cartographic evidence suggests the site has traditionally been undeveloped farmland and thus the potential persisted that as yet unknown subsurface archaeological remains may have survived within the application site's boundaries.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of this work were:
- i) to record the character, condition, extent, quality and date of any as yet undiscovered archaeological remains within the proposed development area;
 - ii) should significant archaeological deposits be discovered that cannot be preserved *in situ*, to prepare and implement an appropriate mitigation strategy;

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The evaluation was achieved through the excavation of linear trenches using a JCB3CX utilising a 1.8 m wide ditching bucket. The trenches were of varying lengths and set on varying orientations across the main areas of impact and disturbance as determined by the development proposal.
- 3.1.2 The evaluation consisted of an 8% targeted sample of the development area shown in Figure 2. The total development area is some 2.0 ha however the ground impacted upon by the development covers a lesser area of some 5,300 m². Therefore the total trenching representing an 8% targeted sample constituted c.420 m² (combined basal area of all trenches).
- 3.1.3 Excavation was undertaken in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural drift geology was reached. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field

archaeologist. A full and accurate record was made of all archaeological deposits and features encountered.

3.2 Watching Brief

- 3.2.1 Following the findings of the evaluation a watching brief was undertaken on groundworks associated with the construction of the central maze feature of the play area. This was the one part of the development which would require significant ground disturbance (Figure 3).
- 3.2.2 The works involved an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of turf, topsoil and subsoil required to create a flat surface on to which the central maze feature of the play area could then be constructed. Excavation was by means of a tracked 360° excavator equipped with a 2.0 m wide ditching bucket. All ground breaking was monitored by an experienced field archaeologist.
- 3.2.3 All recording was carried out according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard practices. A black and white print and digital photographic record of the archaeological works was taken (Appendix 1).

4 RESULTS

4.1 Evaluation

- 4.1.1 The evaluation was completed over two days on the 1st and 2nd July 2009 under dry and sunny conditions. The trenches were all opened by a JCB3CX utilising a 1.8 m wide ditching bucket working under constant archaeological supervision. The various data gathered from the fieldwork are presented as a series of appendices:
- i)* Appendix 1 contains Evaluation Trench summaries;
 - ii)* Appendix 2 contains the photographic register;
 - iii)* Appendix 3 reproduces the '*Discovery & Excavation in Scotland*' entry.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation opened eight trenches totalling c.455 m². Each of the eight trenches, with the exception of Trench 8 contained some archaeological remains relating to the WWII Camp (Figure 2).
- 4.1.2 In each trench the features uncovered followed a very similar pattern of brick walls over thin concrete foundations which themselves lay within generally shallow foundation cuts which were cut into the natural subsoil. The foundation cuts were up to about 0.20 m deep with the concrete foundation often little more than 0.1 m thick. The preservation was relatively similar in each instance with often only a single course of brickwork surviving, though in places the brickwork survived to two courses high whilst in others the brick wall was fully removed leaving only the concrete pad foundation *in situ*.

4.1.3 The evaluation clearly demonstrated that the demolition of the WWII camp had not involved the grubbing up of the foundations of the buildings, but rather had been an exercise in the removal of upstanding remains and superstructure.

4.2 Watching Brief

4.2.1 The watching brief was completed over two days on the 8th and 7th July 2009 under dry and sunny conditions. The excavations covered by the watching brief were all conducted by a tracked 360° excavator utilising a 2.0 m wide ditching bucket working under constant archaeological supervision.

4.2.2 The extent of the ground breaking works was less than initially anticipated. The natural slope of the site meant that only northern half of the maze feature required excavation with the southern half requiring dumping of material to create the level surface required.

4.2.3 The excavated area revealed five distinct, recognizable structures with associated paths and ancillary structures all of which related to the use of the site as a Prisoner of War camp during WWII (Figure 3). All the structures appear to have suffered a similar level of demolition down to the final brick course or foundation level. Each will be briefly discussed in the following sections.

4.2.4 Buildings 1 & 2

4.2.4.1 These two structures were aligned end to end, some 3.75 m apart on an approximately east to west orientation. The buildings were identical in dimensions, measuring 11.2 m by 5.2 m. The main constituents of the building were the foundations and associated wall bases. There were no floor surfaces evident.



Plate 1 Building 2, north-west corner of building showing stepped foundations

- 4.2.4.2 The concrete foundation was between 0.50 m and 0.70 m wide by a few centimetres thick on which the brick walls had been constructed. The natural slope of the ground drops in height across the site predominantly from north to south but also to a lesser extent from east to west. This is reflected in the concrete foundations which were stepped to accommodate the slope.
- 4.2.4.3 On these foundations were then set the brick bases of the walls to buildings. In both Building 1 and 2 the first course of brick was laid perpendicular to the foundations. This was then followed by a single course of brick laid at 90° to the first course, parallel to the foundations and on the outside edge of the first course of bricks.
- 4.2.4.4 The south-eastern corner of Building 1 had been completely removed by the demolition process and the north-eastern corner of Building 2 fell beyond the extent of the excavation area. However from the portions of the buildings surviving it was clear that they had all been reduced by the demolition to the last two courses of brick.



Plate 2 Building 1 from east

- 4.2.4.5 Building 1 was approached by a concrete path passing by the western end of Building 3 and it corresponded with an appropriate break in the brick work suggesting the entrance to the building. From the south-western corner of Building 1 ran a ceramic drain.

4.2.5 Building 3

- 4.2.5.1 Compared to Buildings 1 and 2, Building 3 was a little longer and wider at 11.6 m by 6.8 m. It shared a similar east to west alignment and was positioned approximately 2.0 m to the south. Whilst the

basic construction and form of Building 3 mirrored that of Buildings 1 and 2, this structure was more substantial in other respects.

4.2.5.2 The concrete pad foundations were slightly thick and wider at nearly 0.10 m thick and up to 0.85 m wide. The foundations were stepped east to west and north to south. The surviving brickwork also displayed the more substantial aspects of this building with the north to south gable walls having double brick thick first courses. As with Buildings 1 and 2 this first course was perpendicular to the foundations. The east to west walls were identical to those in Buildings 1 and 2, a single course perpendicular to foundations.



Plate 3 Building 3 from south showing floor & stepped foundations

4.2.5.3 In the north-east corner of the building lay a remnant of a thin concrete layer which abutted the brick works and overlay the concrete foundation. This was interpreted as the remains of an internal floor surface to the building.

4.2.5.4 The concrete pathway extended around the southern frontage of Building 3 and wrapped around the western gable of the structure. It was unclear as to the exact position of the entrance to the structure.

4.2.6 Building 4

4.2.6.1 This structure was the longest on site and the most complicated in terms of layout. In total length it measured 26.20 m by 5.2 m wide. It was aligned with the other buildings on an east to orientation. The scale of the foundations matched those of Building 3 at nearly 1.0 m wide along the eastern and northern side, though to the west and south they were narrower at between 0.70 m 0.80 m. As with all the other buildings the foundations were stepped east to east and north to south.

- 4.2.6.2 As with Buildings 1 and 2, the first course of brick was laid perpendicular to the foundations. This was then followed by a single course of brick laid at 90° to the first course, parallel to the foundations and on the outside edge of the first course of bricks.
- 4.2.6.3 The building clearly had an entrance in its eastern gable. There was a suitable gap in the brickwork and the concrete pathway that ran along the northern side of the building had an extension that extended south and up to Building 3. A second entrance was hinted at by another southern extension from the concrete pathway that aligned with the centre point of the building on its northern side.
- 4.2.6.4 Building 4 was subdivided by two north to south walls, creating two equally sized rooms at the eastern and western ends, at 11.3 m long and a much smaller almost square middle room at about 6 m long (which the concrete path suggests had its own entrance on the north side of the building). The two inner walls appear to be of a slighter construction to the gable and side walls, though the brick was still present along the length of the western inner wall and it didn't show any sign of a break for a doorway.



Plate 4 Building 4 from east showing two internal walls

4.2.7 Building 5

- 4.2.7.1 This building was only partially exposed by the excavation area. A long continuous northern wall and the beginnings of two gables walls were exposed. The building measured 21.0m m long and had a construction as the other buildings of brick over concrete foundations.

4.2.8 Pathways & Ancillary Structures

- 4.2.8.1 As previously mentioned the excavation area exposed a number of concrete paths between the buildings. These were very similar to the concrete foundations, 0.75 m wide and consisting of a thin, less than 0.10 m thick layer of concrete. The paths contained more gravel, presumably to aid grip, than the foundations and possessed a slight camber presumably to aid water run off.
- 4.2.8.2 Two small single-brick wide square structures were exposed lying immediately to the south of the concrete path between Buildings 3 and 4. They were identical in size measuring 1.35 m by 0.85 m.
- 4.2.8.3 In the extreme west of the excavation were situated the remnants of two sections of brick wall and a pad of concrete.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The buildings that were exposed form a clear pattern that can be easily identified on the APs. The remains correspond very well, but for Building 4 which on the APs looks like two separate rectangular buildings. As mentioned in the description of Building 4, the better preserved of the 'dividing walls', the western wall does not show a gap in the brickwork. It is possible that this is a gable wall. Along the north and south long walls of Building 4 there was a lot of brickwork surviving; however the middle sections contained no brick. It is possible that the foundations were poured as a continuous line but that the middle section was never built upon leaving two separate buildings matching the AP image.
- 5.2 All of the buildings followed a very similar simple and effective form of construction. Given the use of single wide courses of brickwork and the general lack of substantial amounts of brick debris on the site it is believed that the majority of the super structure of the buildings would be constructed from wood. The extra large gable foundations and walls of Building 3 may point to some form of chimney for a stove or fire.
- 5.3 The general levels of survival would seem to indicate the remainder of this field would contain equally well preserved building remains. The change to the proposed development will mean that the southern half of the Adventure Playground area will not require any ground breaking works and that even across the northern area approximately half of the excavated area will be built over so that sections of the exposed buildings will still survive following the construction of the Adventure Playground.

6 REFERENCES

Scottish Planning Policy SPP23. Archaeology and Planning. Nov.2008.

The Scottish Office Environment Department 1994a. *Planning Advice Note 42. Archaeology – the Planning Process and Scheduled Ancient Monument Procedures.* January 1994.

Appendix 1

Trench Register

Trench 1

<i>Dimensions</i>	16 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	30 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	SE/NW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.24-0.35 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	A section of brick wall over concrete foundation
<i>Subsoil</i>	Light orange brown friable sandy gravel with moderate small (0-0.10 m) angular and sub-angular stones and occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 2

<i>Dimensions</i>	46 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	83 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	NE/SW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.23-0.32 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	Numerous sections of brick wall over concrete foundation
<i>Subsoil</i>	Light orange brown soft sand and patches of mid orange friable gravel with occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones sub-angular and sub-rounded.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 3

<i>Dimensions</i>	65 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	117 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	ESE/WNW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.26-0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	Numerous sections of brick wall over concrete foundation including Building 5
<i>Subsoil</i>	Light orange brown friable sandy gravel with moderate small (0-0.10 m) angular and sub-angular stones and occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 4

<i>Dimensions</i>	27 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	49 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	ESE/WNW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.23-0.26 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	A section of brick wall over concrete foundation from Building 4 and part of concrete pathway
<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid orange brown coarse sand and gravel with frequent small (0-0.10 m) and medium (0.10-0.30 m) angular and sub-angular stones and occasional large angular boulders (up to 0.55 m).
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 5

<i>Dimensions</i>	37 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	67 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	ENE/WSW
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20-0.30 m

<i>Significant Features</i>	Numerous sections of brick wall over concrete foundation including Building 2, 3 & 4 and concrete pathway
<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid orange brown friable coarse sand with frequent small (0-0.10 m) angular and sub-angular stones, occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 6

<i>Dimensions</i>	18 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	32 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.22-0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	A section of brick wall over concrete foundation
<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid orange brown friable coarse sand with frequent small (0-0.10 m) angular and sub-angular stones, occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 7

<i>Dimensions</i>	20 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	36 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.20-0.31 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	A section of brick wall over concrete foundation
<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid orange brown friable coarse sand with frequent small (0-0.10 m) angular and sub-angular stones, occasional medium (0.10-0.30 m) stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Trench 8

<i>Dimensions</i>	23 m by 1.8 m
<i>Total Area</i>	41 m ²
<i>Orientation</i>	E/W
<i>Depth of Topsoil</i>	0.22-0.30 m
<i>Significant Features</i>	None
<i>Subsoil</i>	Light orange coarse sand with frequent small (0-0.10 m) and medium (0.10-0.30 m) angular and sub-angular stones.
<i>Finds</i>	None

Appendix 2 Photographic Register

Colour Slide Film 1

Photo No	Description	From
1-2	Registration shots	-
3-4	General view of excavation area	N
5-6	General view of excavation area	S
7-9	General view of excavation area stripping completed	S
10	General view of Building 1	S
11	General view of Building 2	S
12	General view of Building 3	S
13-14	General view of Building 4	S
15	Building 1 from East	E
16	Building 1 from West	W
17	Building 1 detail of stepped foundations	W
18	Building 1 detail of brick showing 1 st and 2 nd course of brickwork	S
19	Building 2 from West	W
20	Building 2 from East	E
21	Building 2 detail of eastern wall	S
22	Building 2 details of western wall	W
23	Building 2 showing path	N
24	Building 3 from West	W
25	Building 3 from East	E
26	Building 3 detail of stepped foundations in eastern wall	S
27	Building 3 detail of stepped foundations in southern wall	W
28	Ancillary Building 2 detailed shot	N
29	General view of Ancillary Buildings 1 and 2	W
30	Building 4 from East	E
31	Building 4 view of internal walls/gables	E
32	Building 4 detail of southeast corner	N
33	Building 5 from West	W
34	General view of main concrete footpath	E
35	Detail of concrete pathway up to Building 4	SE
36	General view of site showing Building 4	SE

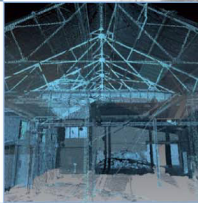
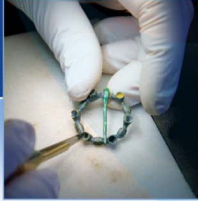
Digital Photographic Register

Photo No	Description	From
1-2	Registration shots	-
3-4	General view of excavation area	N
5-6	General view of excavation area	S
7-9	General view of excavation area stripping completed	S
10	General view of Building 1	S
11	General view of Building 2	S
12	General view of Building 3	S
13-14	General view of Building 4	S
15	Building 1 from East	E
16	Building 1 from West	W

17	Building 1 detail of stepped foundations	W
18	Building 1 detail of brick showing 1 st and 2 nd course of brickwork	S
19	Building 2 from West	W
20	Building 2 from East	E
21	Building 2 detail of eastern wall	S
22	Building 2 details of western wall	W
23	Building 2 showing path	N
24	Building 3 from West	W
25	Building 3 from East	E
26	Building 3 detail of stepped foundations in eastern wall	S
27	Building 3 detail of stepped foundations in southern wall	W
28	Ancillary Building 2 detailed shot	N
29	General view of Ancillary Buildings 1 and 2	W
30	Building 4 from East	E
31	Building 4 view of internal walls/gables	E
32	Building 4 detail of southeast corner	N
33	Building 5 from West	W
34	General view of main concrete footpath	E
35	Detail of concrete pathway up to Building 4	SE
36	General view of site showing Building 4	SE
37	Concrete pathway showing step between Buildings 4 and 5	W

Appendix 3 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Summary

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Dumfries House Adventure Playground Archaeological Works
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 21411
PARISH:	Auchinleck
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Lindsay Dunbar
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NS52SW 112
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	WWII Prisoner of War Camp
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Remains of five camp buildings and associated paths
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	c. NS 5415 2122
START DATE (this season)	1 st July 2009
END DATE (this season)	7 th July 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	AOC Archaeology Group, undertook an evaluation followed by monitoring of ground-breaking works in advance of the construction of an adventure playground within the policies of Dumfries House, East Ayrshire. The works consisted of two phases, firstly a targeted 8% evaluation which uncovered the remains of a known WWII Prisoner of War Camp (NMRS No.NS52SW 112). This led to a mitigation strategy of a watching brief on all ground breaking works. The watching brief uncovered the remains of at least 5 buildings, a network of pathways and remains of ancillary structures belonging to 'Camp 22'
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	'The Great Steward of Scotland's Dumfries House Trust'
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY.
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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