

ODRG10/002



200 OLD DUMBARTON ROAD, GLASGOW

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

for Watkin Jones Construction

10/02945/DC

November 2011



HEADLAND
ARCHAEOLOGY (UK) Ltd



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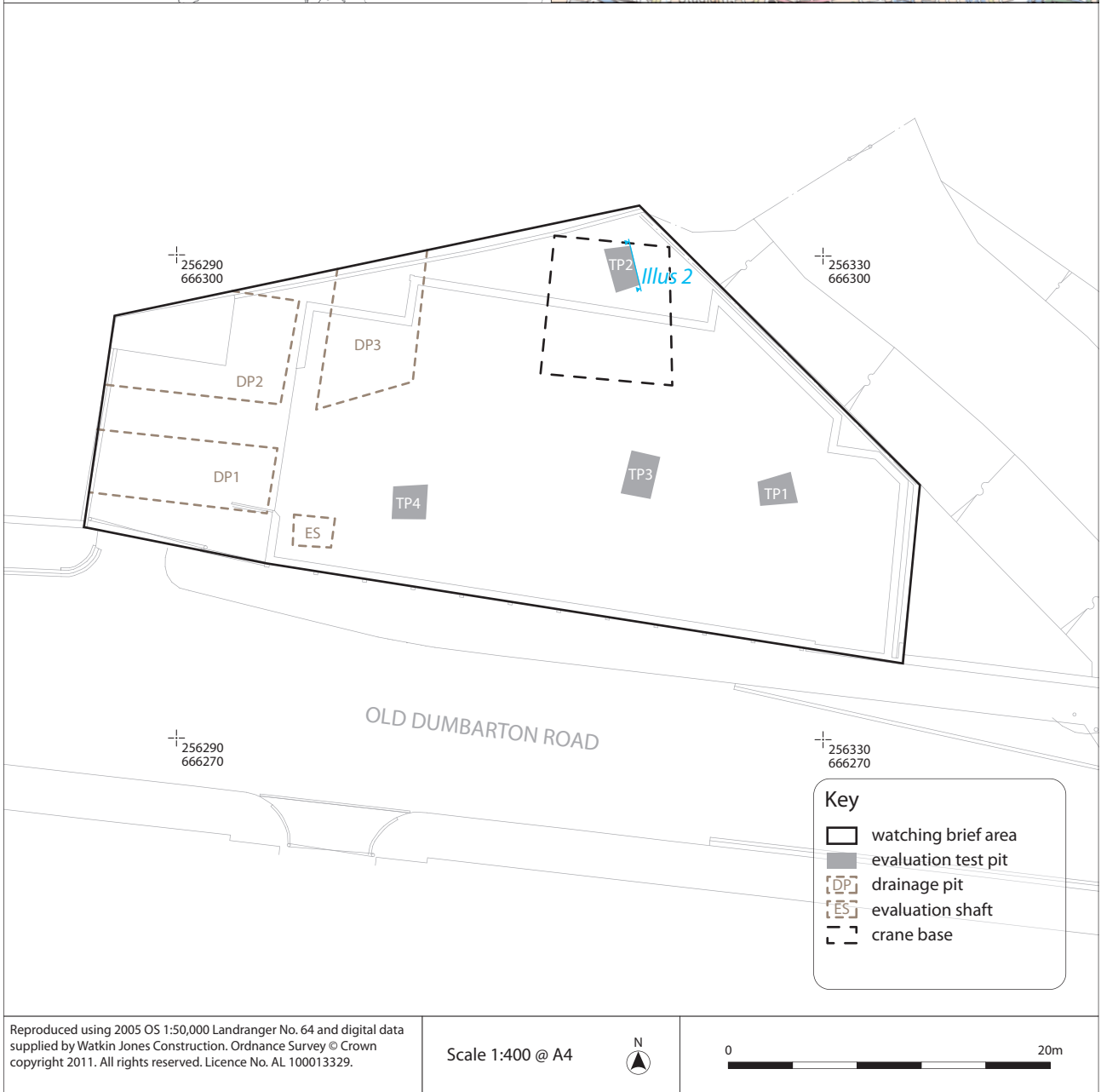
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Illus 1
Site location

200 OLD DUMBARTON ROAD, GLASGOW

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

Headland Archaeology Ltd undertook an evaluation on the site of a proposed student accommodation development at 200 Dumbarton Road, Glasgow, in order to test the archaeological potential of the area. The work was commissioned by Watkin Jones Construction and a specification for the work was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). The site is adjacent to the River Kelvin and both mill buildings and lades are shown in the vicinity on Roy's mid-18th century survey.

Four test pits were excavated across the development area. The test pits revealed a former ground surface (topsoil) at a depth of between 8.15 and 7.76m AOD across the site. This contained fragments of late 18th century clay pipe, and a concentration of pantile roof tiles, which most likely represented demolition debris from a nearby building. This layer was sealed by up to 2.5m of modern overburden which made investigating a representative sample of the former ground surface impractical. Therefore further work, a watching brief, was required during main contract bulk excavations.

The watching brief was undertaken during groundworks below 8.4m AOD to enable further archaeological examination of the former ground surface uncovered during test pitting. The foundations of a building built at some point between 1858 and 1894 were uncovered during this phase. There was no evidence for any unmapped structures or earlier activity.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation, by trial pitting, and subsequent watching brief, carried out in response to a planning condition (No.16) placed on the proposed construction of student accommodation at 200 Old Dumbarton Road, Glasgow (Planning Application No: 10/02945/DC).

The work was commissioned by Watkin Jones Construction. The evaluation sought to establish the potential for the survival of archaeological remains on the site and based on the results a further phase of watching brief was undertaken. Both phases were carried out in accordance with Written Schemes of Investigation prepared by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd and approved by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) on behalf of the local planning authority. This report contains the results of both phases of work.

2. BACKGROUND

The proposed development covers a triangular plot of land (of 975m²) stretching from Old Dumbarton Road to the River Kelvin. The site lies adjacent to the River Kelvin

between mill sites mapped on the 1858 (Illus 4) and 1894 (Illus 5) OS maps. The main archaeological potential was for the presence of earlier water management features and mill structures (email from WoSAS 3/5/11); these are shown in the vicinity of the site on the 1747–55 survey by William Roy, but cannot be located accurately.

3. METHOD

3.1 Objectives

The objectives of the evaluation were:

- to test the archaeological potential of the development area by means of intrusive test pitting
- to allow informed consideration of the potential impact of proposed construction on any archaeological remains should they survive
- to allow development of an appropriate mitigation strategy to deal with any potential impacts

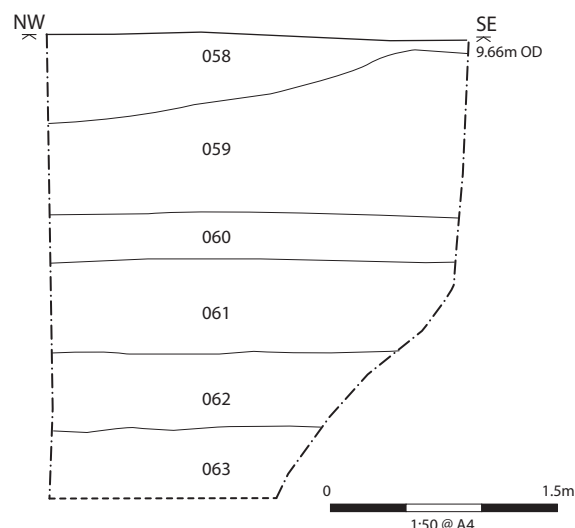


In order to do this the evaluation was designed to:

- position test pits to assess the stratigraphy of the development site and in particular to establish the date and extent of former ground surfaces within or below 'made ground'
- assess the nature and date of any ground surfaces or archaeological remains encountered and the likelihood of any archaeological remains being associated with former ground surfaces

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- to identify and record any archaeological remains exposed by the groundworks
- to report on the results of the work



Illus 2

SW facing section of Test Pit 2

3.2 Methodology

Test Pits

Four test pits were excavated using a wheeled excavator equipped with a 2m wide flat-bladed ditching bucket, working under the direct guidance of an archaeologist. A further test pit, included in the WSI, was not excavated because of site access issues; this variation was agreed with WoSAS during a site visit on the 7th of July.

Watching Brief

Given the results of the test pitting a further stage of work was deemed appropriate and a WSI for a watching brief was submitted and agreed with WoSAS. This stipulated that all groundworks which took place below 8.4m AOD were to be monitored so as to fully identify and record to an archaeological standard any features that would be affected by the development. The watching brief was undertaken in three stages and areas. Firstly the northern half of the site was lowered to the developer's formation layer and a crane base was excavated down to bedrock. Secondly the southern half of the site was also lowered down to the developer's formation layer, and finally, excavation of three drainage pits and an elevator shaft were excavated down to bedrock. At this stage in the programme a further variation was agreed with WoSAS (email from H McBrien, 22/9/11): given that around 80% of all relevant excavations had been completed with no exposure of unmapped structures it was agreed that further site work was not necessary.

3.3 Recording

All recording was in accordance with the current standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All

test pits and contexts were given unique numbers and all recording was undertaken on *pro forma* record cards that conform to accepted archaeological norms. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

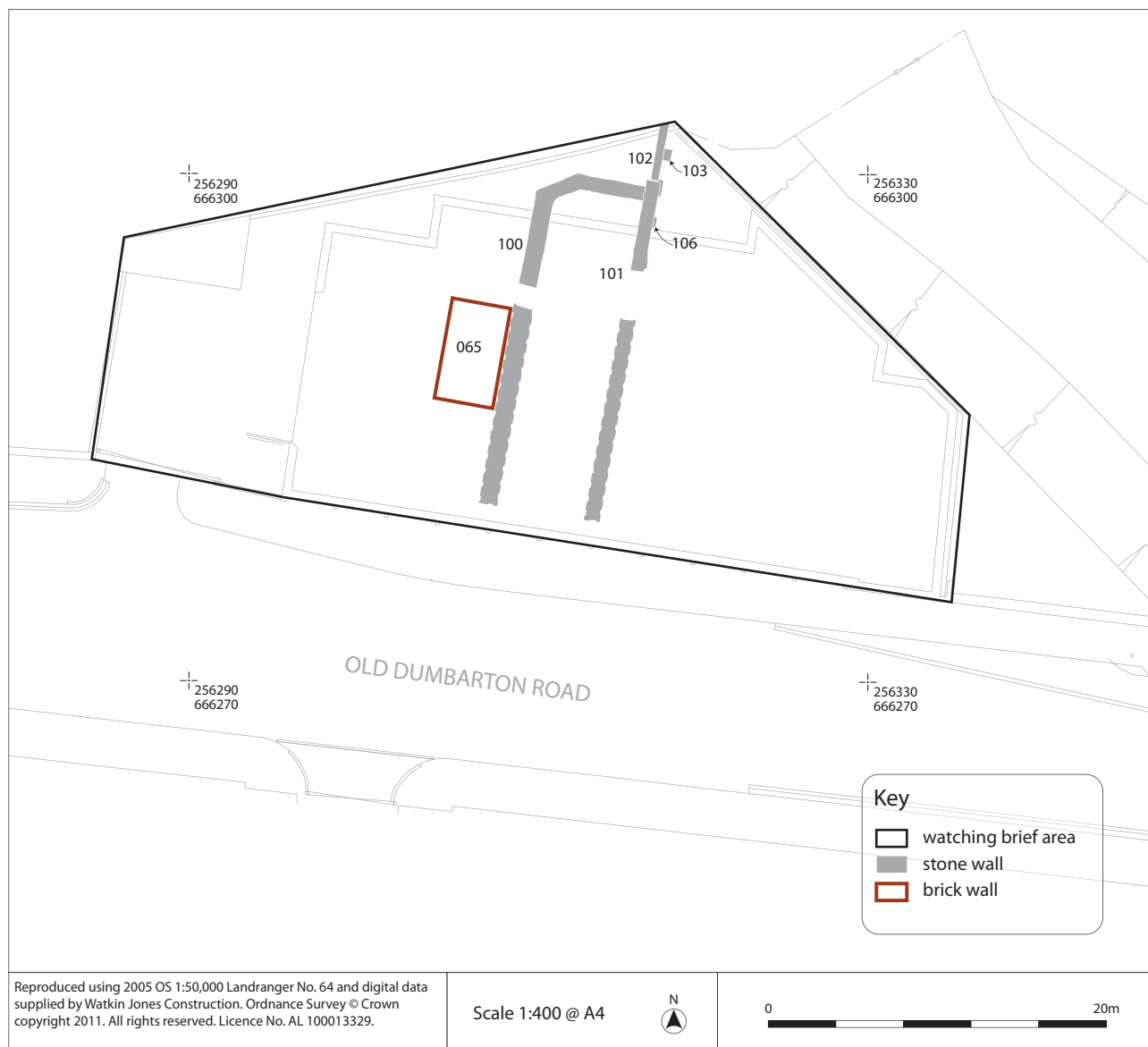
A full photographic record using colour slide and black and white film, supplemented by digital photographs was taken. All photographs were recorded by individual print number and included information on the context and direction taken.

4. RESULTS

4.1 Test Pits (Illus 1)

Test Pits 1, 3 and 4 were located in the east, the middle, and the west of the site respectively, and within the footprint of a recently demolished building. Test Pit 2 was located to the north of the site outwith the footprint of the building. All the test pits were excavated down to the natural bedrock [055], and measured on average 2.5 by 2.5m in plan.

The natural bedrock [055] was reached at approximately 2.7m below ground level (7.57m AOD) within Test Pit 1. This was sealed by a 0.4m thick layer of brownish black sandy loam [057], which was interpreted as a sealed, former ground surface. A fragment of late 18th or early 19th clay pipe was recovered from this layer, along with late 19th century pottery. Two similar layers [056] and [054], consisting of a dark brownish black silty loam and measuring 0.1 and 0.3m in depth respectively were visible sealing this layer. A further four layers [053], [052], [051], and [050] comprising 19th and 20th century waste and demolition rubble sealed these deposits.



Illus 3
Wall Location

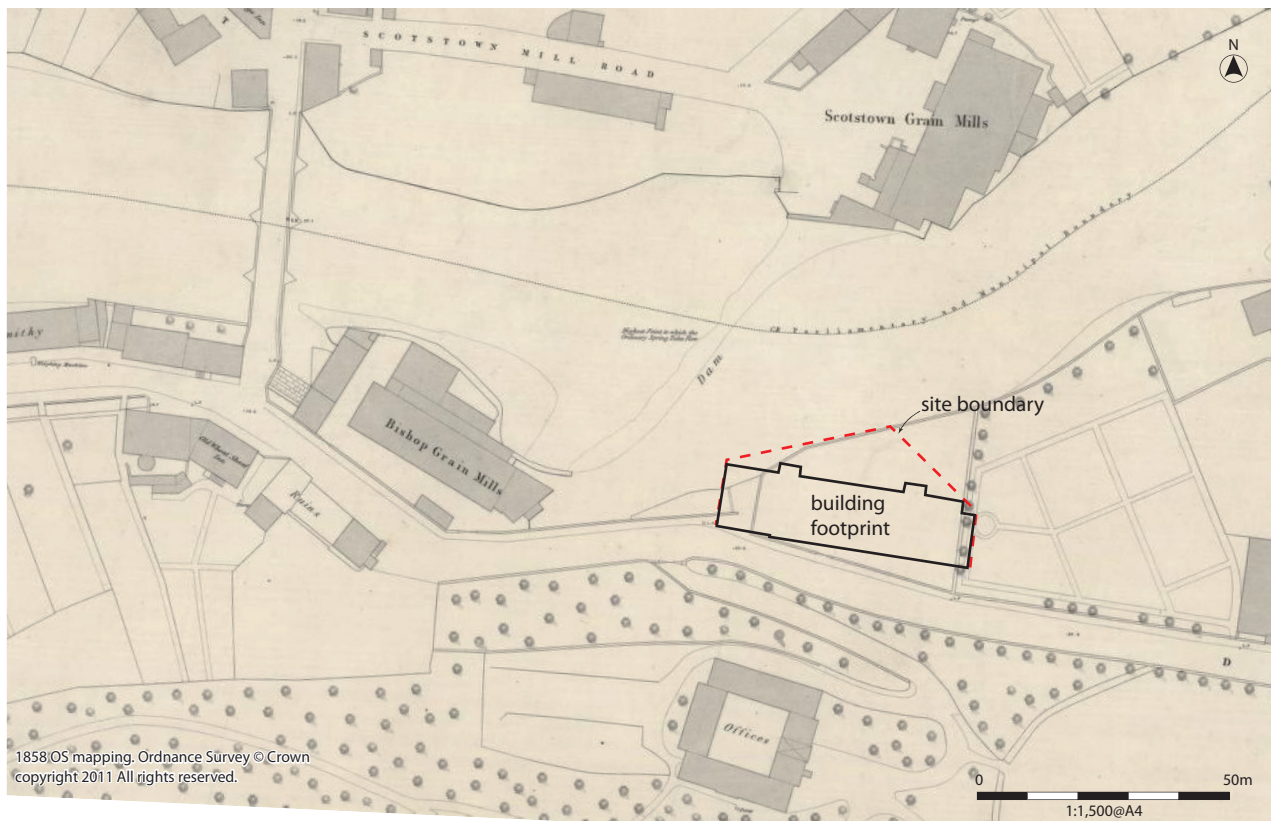
Excavation within Test Pit 2 (Illus 2) revealed the natural bedrock at 3.1m below ground level (6.56m AOD). This was sealed by a 0.4m thick layer of light brown sandy loam [063], containing a concentration of pantile roof tiles and sandy mortar. A dark brown sandy loam [062], 0.5m thick, sealed this layer and was in turn sealed by a 0.6m thick layer of sandy loam and demolition debris [061]. A further three layers [060], [059], and [058], comprising 19th and 20th century demolition debris sealed this layer.

Within Test Pit 3, the natural bedrock was reached at 3.05m below ground level (7.77m AOD) and was sealed by a 0.5m thick layer of dark brown sandy loam [068] similar to that seen in Test Pits 1 and 2. This was sealed by a layer of black silty loam [067], 0.6m thick, which may represent a levelling layer for the construction of a brick wall [065] which was visible in the western side of the test pit. Layer [067] and brick wall [065] were both sealed by modern demolition debris [064], 1.4m thick.

The natural bedrock was reached at approximately 2.15m below the ground level (7.16m AOD) within Test Pit 4. This was sealed by a 1.0m thick layer of dark brown sandy loam [076], which was in turn sealed by a thin layer of dark grey sandy loam [075] and a brownish pink sand [074], 0.6m thick. A thin levelling layer [072] for a single course of black stone setts [071] forming an earlier ground surface was visible sealing this layer. Sealing the stone setts was a layer of reinforced concrete [070], which was in turn overlain by modern demolition rubble and another concrete surface (the current ground surface).

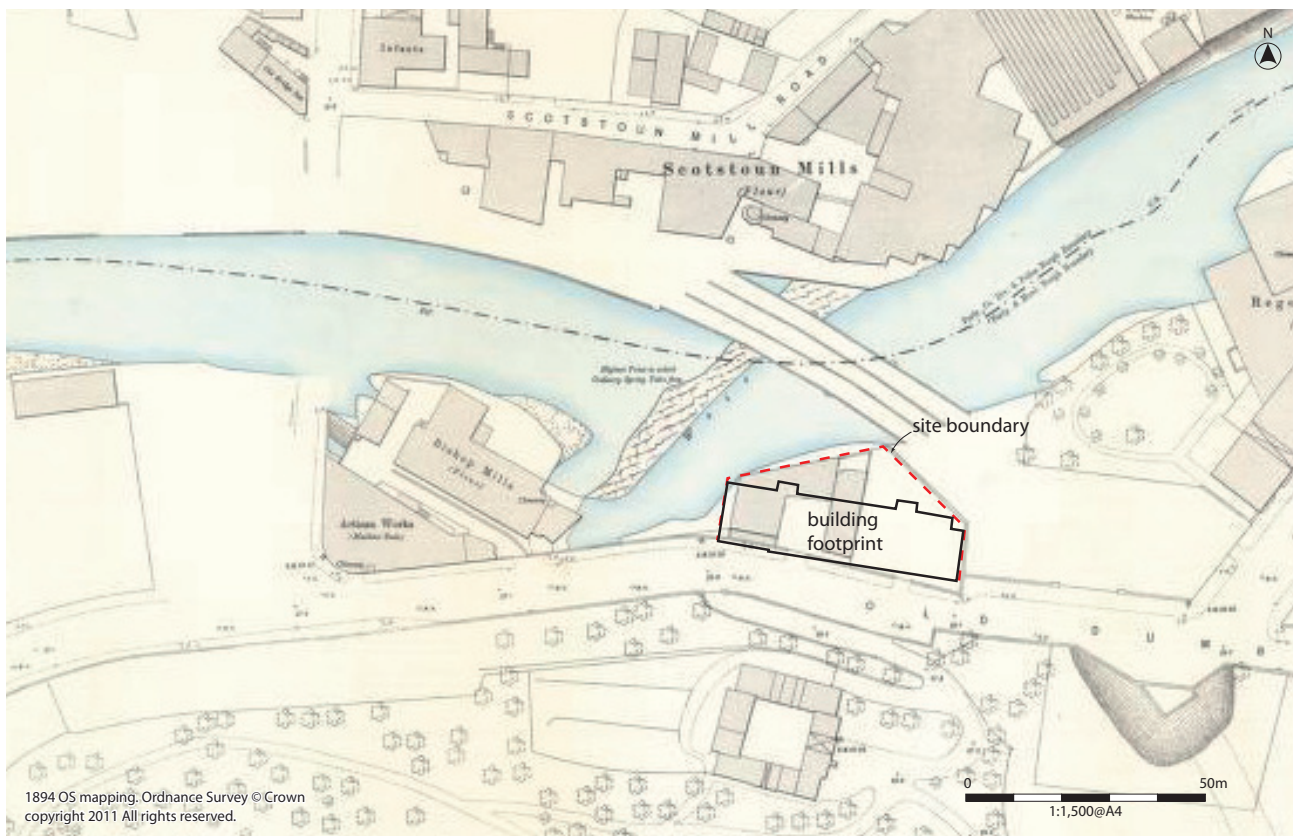
5. WATCHING BRIEF

In the north of the site and at a depth of approximately 2m below ground level, three wall foundations were revealed [100], [101] and [102] (Illus 3 & 6). These were cut into a layer of black loose silty sand [106] which sealed layer [068] (the old ground surface noted above).



Illus 4
1858 OS map

4



Illus 5
1894 OS map



5

Illus 6

Walls [100], [101] and [102]

Wall [100] ran NNE-SSW, turning onto an ESE-WNW alignment at the NNE end, forming a rough L shape and bonded into Wall [101] at the ESE end. Wall [101] was aligned NNE-SSW, and both walls measured between 0.8 and 1.0m in width and were constructed of sandstone blocks sitting on a brick cement base 0.2m thick. The continuation of these walls to the southwest, along with a brick structure abutting Wall [100] to the WNW was observed during the watching brief during excavations of the southern half of the site.

A further sandstone wall [102], with a stone buttress [103] was encountered abutting Wall [101] to the NNE running into, and truncated the retaining wall for the River Kelvin. This wall also had a brick cement base and is likely to be contemporary with the other walls noted above.

The watching brief undertaken during the excavation of the crane base, and three drainage pits revealed parts of the former ground surface uncovered within the test pits. This layer was sealed by modern overburden, which contained brick walls [120], [126], and [127]. No evidence of any earlier structures or features were visible associated with the former ground surface.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 Evaluation

The dark brown sandy loam which was uncovered near the base of all of the test pits would appear to be an original sealed, ground surface or topsoil, preserved beneath subsequent levelling. The original ground surface sloped up from approximately 7.76m AOD in the north of the site, outside the recently demolished building, to an average of 8.15m AOD within it. This original ground surface contained fragments of late 18th century clay pipe and a large concentration of pantile roof tiles, which were first imported into the country during the late 17th century. The high concentration of the pantiles would suggest that they are from the demolition of a nearby building. This layer was sealed by up to 2.5m of modern overburden which made investigation of the former ground surface difficult within the test pits. The presence of this layer along with the probable demolition debris from a post-medieval structure suggested that there was potential for archaeological evidence surviving



on the site, and therefore a watching brief on work at or below this level was undertaken.

6.2 Watching Brief

The wall foundations (Illus 3) located during the watching briefs on the southern and northern halves of the site, relate to the building shown on the 1894 OS map (Illus 5). This building was built at some point between 1858 and 1894 as it is not shown on the 1858 OS map (Illus 4) of the area. These foundations were built into a levelling layer which sealed the former ground surface revealed during the test pitting. No evidence for any earlier or unmapped structures were revealed during the watching brief.

7. REFERENCES

Headland Archaeology, 2011 *200 Old Dumbarton Road, Glasgow: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation, Unpublished client report.*

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Site registers

Context register

Context no.	Area	Description
050	TP1	Rubble/ Demolition layer
051	TP1	Demolition layer
052	TP1	Demolition layer
053	TP1	Demolition layer
054	TP1	Sand and demolition debris
055	TP1	Bedrock
056	TP1	Black sandy loam
057	TP1	Brown sandy loam - original ground surface?
58	TP2	Topsoil and demoltion debris
59	TP2	Light brown sandy loam
60	TP2	Dark brown sandy loam with root disturbance
61	TP2	Light brown sand demolition layer
62	TP2	Brown sandy loam - original ground surface?
63	TP2	Demolition layer with pantiles
64	TP3	Demolition layer
65	TP3	Brick wall
66	TP3	Brick wall foundation
67	TP3	Black silty sand
68	TP3	Brown sandy loam - original ground surface?
69	TP3	Bedrock
70	TP4	Concrete Floor
71	TP4	Stone Setts
72	TP4	Levelling layer
73	TP4	Demolition layer
74	TP4	Modern build up layer
75	TP4	Thin, dark grey sandy loam
76	TP4	Brown sandy loam - original ground surface?
100	WB (North)	Stone Wall
101	WB (North)	Stone Wall
102	WB (North)	Stone Wall
103	WB (North)	Stone buttress

Context no.	Area	Description
104	WB (North)	Cut of foundation trench
105	WB (North)	Fill of foundation trench
106	WB (North)	Levelling layer
120	WB (South & DPs)	Brick Wall
121	WB (South & DPs)	Demolition deposit
122	WB (South & DPs)	Demolition deposit
123	WB (South & DPs)	Demolition deposit
124	WB (South & DPs)	Old ground surface
125	WB (South & DPs)	Bedrock
126	WB (South & DPs)	Brick Wall
127	WB (South & DPs)	Brick Wall
128	WB (South & DPs)	Made ground

Photographic register

Photo no.	Direction	Description
001	WSW	Evaluation first stage pits
002	WSW	Evaluation first stage pits
003	ESE	Evaluation first stage pits
004	SSE	Evaluation first stage pits
005	NNW	Evaluation first stage pits
006	ESE	Evaluation first stage pits
007	–	ID Shot
008	W	Layer [054]
009	NW	Section of TP1
010	W	Plan of TP1
011	E	Section of TP2
012	SE	Plan of TP2
013	SW	Section of TP3
014	S	Plan of TP3
015	SW	Section of TP4
016	N	Plan of TP4
017	–	ID Shot
018	NE	NW area Excavated
019	NW	N Area Excavated



<i>Photo no.</i>	<i>Direction</i>	<i>Description</i>
020	–	Piling Rubble
021	–	Drains in Kelvin River Wall
022	–	Drains in Kelvin River Wall
023	–	Stripped area
024	–	Stone Base/ Support
025	–	Stone Base/ Support
026	–	Stone Base/ Support
027	–	Stone Base/ Support
028	–	Stone Base/ Support
029	–	Stone Base/ Support
030	WNW	Wall [102] & Buttress [103]
031	NNE	Wall [102] & Buttress [103]
032	NNE	Wall [101] & [102]
033	WNW	Wall [101] & [100]
034	WSW	Wall [101]
035	NNE	Walls [100], [101], [102]
036	NNE	Wall [100]
037	SSW	Wall [101] Section
038	SSW	Wall [100] Section
039	–	ID Shot?
040	E	General Site Shot
041	W	General Site Shot
042	NE	Working shot SW corner of site
043	NE	Working shot SW corner of site
044	W	Working shot SW corner of site
045	SW	Working shot SW corner of site
046	E	Working shot of stripped area
047	E	Working shot of stripped area

<i>Photo no.</i>	<i>Direction</i>	<i>Description</i>
048	NW	View of site & section through layers
049	N	View of s facing section
050	N	View of site
051	NW	View of site
052	SW	View of site
053	E	View of site
054	E	View of site
055	S	Section
056	N	shot of [120]
057	E	General shot
058	NW	General shot
059	N	Test Pit 1
060	S	Shot of [126]
061	S	Shot of [126]
062	S	Shot of [126]
063	E	Section of TP2
064	W	Section of TP2
065	S	Section of TP2
066	S	Shot of TP2
067	S	Shot of TP2
068	W	Shot of [127]
069	W	Shot of [127]
070	N	Shot of [127]
071	–	DP 1
072	–	DP 2
073	–	DP 2
074	–	DP 3

Appendix 2 – Discovery and Excavation in Scotland entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Glasgow City Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	200 Old Dumbarton Road, Glasgow
PROJECT CODE:	ODRG10
PARISH:	Glasgow
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Dave McNicol
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation and Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Post-medieval ground surface; modern buildings
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 25631 66629
START DATE (this season)	June 2010
END DATE (this season)	September 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>Headland Archaeology undertook an evaluation on the site of a proposed student accommodation development in order to test the archaeological potential of the area. A specification for the work was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) in order to satisfy a planning condition. The site is adjacent to the River Kelvin and both mill buildings and lades are shown in the vicinity on Roy's mid-18th century survey.</p> <p>Four test pits were excavated across the development area. The test pits revealed a former ground surface (topsoil) at a depth of between 8.15 and 7.76m AOD across the site. This contained fragments of late 18th century clay pipe, and a concentration of pantile roof tiles, which most likely represented demolition debris from a nearby building. This layer was sealed by up to 2.5m of modern overburden which made investigating a representative sample of the former ground surface impractical. Therefore further work, a watching brief, was required during main contract bulk excavations.</p> <p>The watching brief was undertaken during groundworks below 8.4m AOD to enable further archaeological examination of the former ground surface uncovered during test pitting. The foundations of a building built at some point between 1858 and 1894 were uncovered during this phase. There was no evidence for any unmapped structures or earlier activity.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Watkin Jones Construction
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/ deposited)	NMRS



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