

WHLE/01



LAND 50 METRES EAST OF 20 NEWHAVEN PLACE, EDINBURGH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd

15/02317/AMC

March 2017

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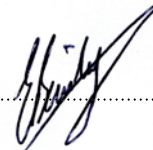
March 2017

project info

HA JOB NO. WHLE/01
NGR NT 25743 77107
PARISH Newhaven
LOCAL AUTHORITY City of Edinburgh Council
OASIS REF. headland1-269426
ARCHIVE REPOSITORY Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

project team

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ARCHAEOLOGY**
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SCOTLAND

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd were commissioned by Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation of land 20 metres east of 20 Newhaven Place, Edinburgh in response to a condition placed on the planning application (15/02317/AMC). A 10% evaluation was intended to ascertain the extent, nature and condition of any archaeological remains. Due to the depth and unstable nature of made ground deposits encountered on site this was reduced to a series of 6 trial holes. These trial holes were placed in order to achieve even coverage across the site.

The results of the trial hole evaluation revealed clean marine sands at depths of between 2.00m and 3.20m below the current ground level. These were overlain by 20th century made ground deposits predominantly comprising of boulders, rubble, bricks and demolition material. The remains of concrete foundations and utility trenches related to recent buildings were found across much of the site.

No remains of archaeological significance were encountered.

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION	1
3	AIMS & OBJECTIVES	1
4	METHODOLOGY	2
4.1	SITE WORKS	2
4.2	RECORDING	2
4.3	REPORTING AND ARCHIVES	2
5	RESULTS	2
6	CONCLUSION	3
7	REFERENCES	3
8	APPENDICES	4
	APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS	4
	APPENDIX 2 DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND ENTRY	5

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

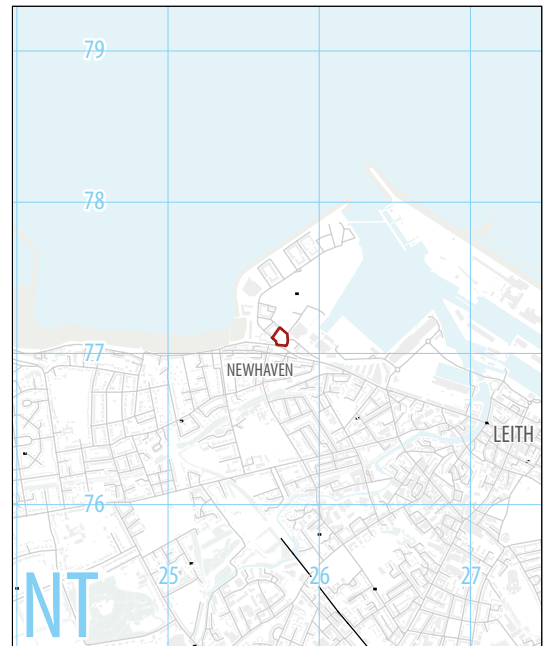
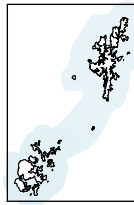
ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION	VIII
ILLUS 2 WEST FACING SECTION TRENCH 1, SOUTHERN END SHOWING BOULDERS OVER MARINE SANDS	2
ILLUS 3 NORTH EAST FACING SECTION TRENCH 2 SHOWING LOOSE MADE GROUND MATERIAL OVER SANDS	2
ILLUS 4 SW FACING SECTION TRENCH 3 SHOWING MODERN MADE GROUND LAYERS	2
ILLUS 5 SOUTH EAST FACING SECTION TRENCH 4	3
ILLUS 6 SOUTH EAST FACING SECTION TRENCH 5	3
ILLUS 7 SOUTH WEST FACING SECTION TRENCH 6	3

WHLE/01

land east of Newhaven Pl
West Harbour
Leith
Edinburgh

0 200km
1:10,000,000 @ A4

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0 50m
1:2,500 @ A4

KEY
development boundary
trench location

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ILLUS 1 Site location

LAND 50 METRES EAST OF 20 NEWHAVEN PLACE, EDINBURGH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd (the client) to undertake a programme of archaeological works in connection with a new housing development at land 50 metres east of Newhaven Place Edinburgh.

Planning permission for the development was granted by City of Edinburgh Council (15/02317/AMC.) subject to a number of conditions, including one relating to archaeological works (no.1):

No development shall take place on the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work (excavation, analysis & reporting, publication) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

In order to fulfil this condition a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Headland Archaeology (2016) on behalf of the client; setting out the proposed strategy for archaeological mitigation.

This comprised a 10% evaluation of the development area, consisting of 5 trenches each 50m long and 2m wide. The WSI was submitted to and agreed with City of Edinburgh Council Archaeological Service (CECAS) who advise Edinburgh City Council on archaeological matters. This report details the results of the work.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The site is located here (NGR: NT 25743 77107; Illus 1). It is currently industrial waste ground, comprising scrub vegetation and tarmac and concrete surfaces. It is bounded by Sandpiper Road to the north and east, by Goosander Street to the north-west, Newhaven Place

to the south-east and Lindsay Road to the south. It lies between 6.25 AOD at street level around the edges and 5.20 AOD throughout much of the middle of the site. It is underlain by sand and gravel beach deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the quaternary period (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

Although forming part of the 20th century western harbour to Leith, historically the development site was situated across the foreshore of the historic harbour and fishing village (Newhaven Fisherman's Guild est 1572) of Newhaven.

Forming part of the lands associated with the adjacent medieval burgh of North Leith, this area was chosen by James IV in 1504 to build a royal dockyard to construct naval vessels including his flagship the (Great) Michael (constructed between 1507 and 1511). The Royal Charter of 1510–11 giving the settlement to Edinburgh describes the harbour and settlement as including both a harbour and separate shipyard with the adjacent foreshore being used for tying up vessels. Although the site of the main harbour and shipyards are historically centred on the existing Newhaven harbour, the full extent of the shipbuilding works have not been archaeologically determined.

What appears to be a manmade inlet in the vicinity of the site is apparent on Kirkwood's 1817 map of the area.

3 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In line with the WSI the main objectives of archaeological works were:

- › to establish the location, extent, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the accessible areas targeted for trenching; and



ILLUS 2 West facing section Trench 1, southern end showing boulders over marine sands material over sands **ILLUS 3** North east facing section Trench 2 showing loose made ground material over sands **ILLUS 4** SW facing section Trench 3 showing modern made ground layers

- › to establish the integrity and state of preservation of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the accessible areas.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 SITE WORKS

Trenches were opened with a tracked excavator fitted with a flat bladed ditching bucket as per the WSI. The work was unable to be undertaken as specified in the WSI. Upon opening the first trench it became apparent that the depth of made ground deposits was too great and the material too difficult and loose to continue linear trenches across the site.

After consultation with the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeologist it was agreed to open a series of test holes evenly spaced around the site. These were opened to ascertain the depth of made ground deposits and modern truncation across the site and to explore the nature of any underlying deposits.

4.2 RECORDING

All aspects of the work were undertaken in accordance with the current Standards and Guidance for archaeological evaluations of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

4.3 REPORTING AND ARCHIVES

The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2) and the OASIS database (headland1-269426).

The complete project archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) within six months of the completion of the project. The records (paper and digital) will be archived according to best practice guidelines set out by the Archaeological Archiving Forum (2011).

5 RESULTS

A total of 6 trial holes were opened across the site (Illus 1–7).

Uniformly clean marine sands were revealed at depths of between 2.00m and 3.20m. These were overlain by 20th century made ground material consisting of large boulders, chunks of concrete, bricks and ash and tar crush. Bottle glass, metal items and plastics were recovered from all 6 trenches. Depths of made ground deposit were greater towards the southern end of the site.

The made ground was also disturbed by concrete foundations and modern utility trenches in trenches Trench 2 (Illus 3), Trench 3 (Illus 4) and Trench 6 (Illus 7).



ILLUS 5 South east facing section Trench 4 **ILLUS 6** South east facing section Trench 5 **ILLUS 7** South west facing section Trench 6

The whole site was sealed by 0.20m of tarmac surfacing which has become broken up and overgrown by weeds and scrub plants and trees.

6 CONCLUSION

The clean marine sands across the site showed no evidence for pre-20th century archaeology or of the manmade inlet suggested by Kirkwoods 1817 map.

The depth of made ground deposits, especially towards the south of the site was unexpected and suggests that a certain amount of truncation may have taken place during the construction of recent buildings on the site.

7 REFERENCES

- Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) 2011 *Archaeological Archives A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2nd edn) [online document] Institute for Archaeologists: Reading, available from www.archaeologyuk.org/archives/aaf_archaeological_archives_2011.pdf
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* [online document] Accessed from www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GFieldevaluation_1.pdf
- Headland Archaeology 2016 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Land 50 Metres East of 20 Newhaven Place, Edinburgh* [unpublished document] Ref. WHLE/01

8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Photographic register

PHOTO	DIRECTION	DESCRIPTION
01	S	Pre-condition shot of area for proposed Trench 1
02	SE	Working shot Trench 1
03	SW	East facing section, northern end of Trench 01
04	S	Trench 01 record shot
05	E	West facing section Trench 1
06	E	West facing section Trench 1, southern end showing boulders over marine sands
07	E	West facing section Trench 1, southern end showing boulders over marine sands
08	SW	Location shot of Trench 2
09	NE	Working shot of Trench 2
10	NE	Working shot showing loose rubble made ground in Trench 2
11	SE	North west facing section Trench 2 showing concrete at base overlying marine sands
12	SE	North west facing section Trench 2 showing concrete at base overlying marine sands
13	SW	Northeast facing section Trench 2 showing loose made ground material over sands
14	SW	Northeast facing section Trench 2 showing loose made ground material over sands
15	NW	Record shot Trench 2 showing made ground material over sands
16	NW	Record shot Trench 2 showing made ground material over sands
17	NW	Sands at base of Trench 2
18	NE	SW facing section Trench 3 showing modern made ground layers
19	NE	SW facing section Trench 3 showing modern made ground layers
20	N	SW facing section Trench 3 showing modern made ground layers
21	NE	SW facing section Trench 3 showing modern made ground layers
22	SW	NE facing section Trench 3
23	W	Trench 3 post excavation
24	W	Working shot Trench 3
25	N/A	Shot of utility discovered during machining
26	NW	South east facing section Trench 4
27	NW	South east facing section Trench 4
28	N	Trench 4 working shot
29	SE	Sand at base of Trench 4

PHOTO	DIRECTION	DESCRIPTION
30	S	Trench 4 record shot
31	NW	South east facing section Trench 5
32	NW	South east facing section Trench 5
33	W	Trench 5 working shot
34	S	Trench 5 working shot
35	SE	North west facing section Trench 5
36	NW	Working shot Trench 6
37	NW	Working shot Trench 6 showing concrete and pipe trench
38	NW	Sands at base of Trench 6 showing loose made ground material
39	NW	Sands at base of Trench 6 showing loose made ground material
40	NE	South west facing section Trench 6
41	NE	South west facing section Trench 6
42	N	Trench 6 working shot
43	NW	Trench 6 record shot
44	S	Trench 6 record shot
45	S	Sand at base of Trench 6

Appendix 1.2 Trench register

TR	ORIENTATION	D (M)	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSIONS (M)
1	NE-SW	2.20	Tarmac and crush (0.20m) over 2.00m of made ground consisting of large boulders, brick and crush. Natural sands visible at base	17.00 x 2.00
2	NE-SW	2.30	Tarmac and crush (0.20m) over 2.00m of made ground consisting of large boulders, brick and crush. Natural sands visible at base	6.50 x 2.50
3	NW-SE	3.20	Tarmac and crush (0.15m) over 3.00m of made ground consisting of alternating brick crush and dark ashey crush, including bricks, concrete and stone. Natural sands visible at base	5.40 x 2.50
4	NW-SE	2.10	Tarmac and crush (0.20m) over 1.90m of made ground consisting of large boulders, brick and crush. Natural sands visible at base	5.70 x 2.50
5	NE-SW	2.80	Made ground (0.30m) over Tarmac and crush (0.20m) over 2.05m of made ground consisting of large boulders, brick and crush. Natural sands visible at base	6.30 x 2.50
6	NE-SW	2.00	Tarmac (0.20m) over gravel levelling (0.30m), over 0.60m mixed made ground (crushed brick, silty sands, grey-brown, concrete, bituminous material, broken stone); at the SSE extent a reinforced concrete slab was found under the tarmac layer.	7.00 x 2.60

APPENDIX 2 DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND ENTRY

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land 50m East of 20 Newhaven Place Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	WHLE16
PARISH:	Newhaven
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	M Ginnever
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 LETTERS, 8 OR 10 FIGURES)	NT 25743 77107
START DATE (THIS SEASON)	21 October 2016
END DATE (THIS SEASON)	21 October 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (INCL.	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd were commissioned by Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation of land 20 metres east of 20 Newhaven Place, Edinburgh in response to a condition placed on the planning application (15/02317/AMC). A 10% evaluation was intended to ascertain the extent, natures and condition of any archaeological remains. Due to the depth and unstable nature of made ground deposits encountered this was reduced to a series of 6 trial holes. These trial holes were placed to get good coverage from across the site.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	No
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Hart Builders (Edinburgh) Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	13 Jane Street Edinburgh EH6 5HE
EMAIL ADDRESS:	office@headlandarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (INTENDED/DEPOSITED)	Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

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