

Site & Landscape Survey

Cairnpark 2 Residential Development, Redhall House, Craiglockhart Drive, **Edinburgh**

> **Archaeological Evaluation** Report No. 2111









Fig. 3 - Trench 1 looking northwest



Fig. 4 - Flagstone floor 007 and Cobbled surface 008 in Trench 1, looking southeast



Fig. 5 - Trench 2 looking northwest



Fig. 6 - Concrete floor 003 looking north



Fig. 7 - Trench 3 looking northwest

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Cairnpark 2 Residential Development, Redhall House Stables & Carriage House, Craiglockhart Drive South, Edinburgh

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on the 13^h August 2012 at Redhall House, Craiglockhart Drive South, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 21876 70076) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Miller Homes (East Scotland).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the project was produced by CFA. The WSI was based upon documents provided by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CESAS).

1.2 Background

Planning permission (ref: 11/02576/LBC, 11/02574/FUL and 11/02575/FUL) has been granted to Miller Homes (East Scotland) to demolish a former stable block and barn formerly associated with Redhall House Drive and erect new homes on the site.

As a result, a programme of archaeological works was requested by John Lawson of City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service. Works already completed include a Desk Based Assessment (Kirby and Glendinning 2011) and a Historic Building Survey (Cressey 2012).

A targeted trail trenching evaluation was also required and the results of this are discussed below

1.3 Objectives

The Project's aims and objectives are:

- To establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development area through trial trenching.
- To establish the vulnerability of any archaeological features to the proposed development.
- To propose mitigation measures and where appropriate to avoid, reduce or offset any predicted negative impacts on the archaeological resource.

2. WORKING METHODS

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations.

The terms of the WSI required the excavation of a minimum of $47m^2$. A total of 3 trenches were excavated within the proposed development area, which amounted to $50.25m^2$ (Fig. 1).

Topsoil was removed by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator, equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment and all trenches were backfilled.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts (Appendix 1). Three trenches were excavated, the descriptions of which are detailed below.

3.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned NW-SE and measured 15m long, 1.5m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 2-3). The stratigraphy consisted of a maximum of 0.5m of dark brown sandy silt topsoil (001) which overlay the natural geology of orange sand and gravels (002).

Layer **009** was found in the SW area of the trench, underlying the topsoil and covering a flagstone surface (**007**) and a cobbled floor (**008**). It comprised black cinders and sand with no inclusions. The layer was truncated by a modern drain (**005**) on the NE side of the trench.

A flagstone surface (007) was located 4m from the SE trench terminus (Fig. 2, 4). The floor extended beyond the SW edge of the trench and on its NE side it was truncated by a modern drain (005). The surface covered an area of 1.17m² and consisted of 15 shaped rectangular sandstone blocks. The blocks measured 0.2m long by 0.1m wide and 0.1m thick and were fitted without the use of mortar. The surface overlay the natural geology.

A metalled surface (008) was located at the SE end of the trench and extended beyond the southern and eastern side of the trench (Fig. 2-4). The surface was constructed straight on to the natural geology and comprised small sub-angular stones approximately 5cm² and these were compacted together to form a metalled surface. The surface was on the same level as the flagstone surface (007), with which it was probably contemporary.

3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned NE-SW and measured 6.5m long, 3.3m wide and 0.92m deep (Fig. 5). The stratigraphy comprised 0.2m of topsoil (001), overlying 0.6m of subsoil (002) which lay above the natural geology (002). No archaeological features or deposits were found in this trench.

A 'garden wall' (004) was located along the NE edge of Trench 2 and was aligned NE-SW The wall consisted of 6 large sandstone stones and these measured between 0.25m long, 0.45m wide and 0.1m thick to 1.9m long, 0.43m wide and 0.1m thick. All the stones were either square or rectangular except one which was shaped as one side of a cylinder. This stone appears to have been re-used.

3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was aligned NE-SW and measured 3m long and 1.5m wide (Fig. 7). The stratigraphy comprised of a concrete floor (003) 0.1m thick overlying, 0.4m of made ground (010) below which was the natural geology (002).

The concrete floor (003) was located in the northern area of the site and it measured 7.85m long, 3.35m wide and 0.10m thick (Fig. 6). This overlay a layer of made ground (010) which consisted of large shaped sandstone blocks which were deposited to form a foundation for the concrete floor. The bocks used for this foundation were probably demolition rubble from the partial demolition of the surrounding structures.

4. CONCLUSION

The evaluation found two floor surfaces of probable late post-medieval date (18-19th centuries). These two surfaces are probably contemporary and relate to the surrounding ruined buildings. The evaluation uncovered no evidence for any earlier archaeological activity.

A summary statement of the results of this evaluation will submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* on completion of all mitigation works.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the City of Edinburgh Council Sites and Monuments Record.

5. REFERENCES

Kirby, M and Glendinning, B 2011 Cairnpark 2 Residential Development, Redhall House Drive, Edinburgh, Desk Based Assessment. CFA Archaeology Rpt No. 1908.

Cressey, M 2012 Redhall House Stables & Carriage House, Craiglockhart Drive South, Edinburgh. Standing Building Recording. CFA Archaeology Rpt No. 2045.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Natural geology
003	Concrete slab
004	Garden wall
005	Void
006	Void
007	Flagstone surface
008	Cobble surface
009	Cinder layer
010	Made ground

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register (Digital)

No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	Concrete slab	NE	Dull
2	Concrete slab	SW-	Dull
3	Trench 1 General view	SE	Dull
4	Trench 1 section	NE	Dull
5	Trench 1 cobbled surface	NW	Dull
6	Trench 2	N	Dull
7	Trench 2 section	NE	Dull
8	Garden wall	SW	Dull
9	Trench 1 Drain Pipe and cut	NW	Dull
10	Trench 2	S	Dull
11	Trench 1 007 and drain cut	NW	Dull
12	Trench 1 007 and 008	NW	Dull
13	Trench 1 009	Е	Dull
14	Trench 1 009	NE	Dull
15	Flagstone Floor 007	SW	Dull
16	Flagstone Floor 007	NE	Dull
17	Trench 3	S	Dull
18	Trench 3	NE	Dull

