

**SUAT** Ltd

archaeological  
contractors



**Watching Brief  
Kirkgate  
Perth**

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**  
**KIRKGATE**  
**PERTH**  
**PEX170**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Scottish Water commissioned SUAT Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief in Kirkgate, Perth on 23rd, 29th and 30th January 2008. The work consisted of monitoring the excavation of a sewage pipe trench in the middle of the street and recording the exposed trench sections. The sections revealed a sequence of well-preserved medieval midden rich in leather, bone, wood and pottery which dated to the 12th-15th centuries. The west facing sections showed the midden to be separated by thin gravel layers. These layers are interpreted as either episodes of street resurfacing or possibly the forelands to buildings which would have lined Kirkgate. The watching brief recovered a medieval barrel lock and a copper alloy buckle with a foliage-type decorated buckle plate.*

*The SUAT site code was PEX170.*

## **1 Background**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Scottish Water commissioned SUAT Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief in Kirkgate, Perth. The excavations were within the historic core of the town running along the centre of Kirkgate, centred on NGR NO 1195 2360. The work (SUAT site code PEX170) was undertaken on 23rd, 29th and 30th January 2008 in fair weather conditions. The requirement was to monitor ground breaking works associated with replacement of the sewer and to record exposed trench sections. Special attention was to be paid to the dangers associated with deep excavation.

The work was undertaken in order to comply with the policies expressed in Scottish Water Solutions' guidance note No.1 (Archaeology and the historic environment).

### **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The main aim of this investigation was to establish the presence/absence, date, character and quality of any archaeological remains exposed in the trenches which were excavated by the client order to replace old sewage pipes. These aims were slightly restricted because health and safety requirements prevented the archaeologists viewing and accurately drawing some of the deposits.

### **1.3 Reporting**

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this watching brief. Copies will be sent to the client, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and the local authority Sites and Monuments Record.

### **1.4 Acknowledgements**

SUAT wish to thank, Tom Purdie, Dr Noel Fojut, Scott Reid, Allison Goodall, Sarah Winlow and Nicola Russell, for their assistance and guidance throughout this project. Scottish Water Solutions funded this watching brief.

## **2 Details of Work**

### **2.1 The Site (Illus 1)**

Kirkgate lies in the centre of Perth running northwards from St John's Kirk to High Street. The street is relatively level but descends very slightly towards St John's Kirk. Kirkgate is mainly used by pedestrians and traffic moving through Perth's one way system; however the street also provides rear access to Esprit and delivery access to shops fronting on the south side of High Street. A number of private car parks open off the street and the upper floors of several buildings are residential. At the end of the street opposite St John's Kirk is the public house, 'Half a' Tanner'.

### **2.2 Archaeological Potential**

Numerous excavations and watching briefs have been carried out in Perth since the 1970s. Together, they show that Perth has considerable medieval deposits which have a high degree of preservation.

Kirkgate is known to have deep deposits of medieval archaeology and this was first noted during a watching brief carried out in 1982 (PEX 36) during the excavation of a sewer inspection hole in the middle of the street. This watching brief noted that in the east-facing section the medieval midden was separated by gravelly layers. The archaeology was found to be at least 3m deep.

### 2.3 Archaeological Method

The excavation of Trench 1 was not archaeologically monitored as the uncovering of this section of sewer took place before archaeologists became involved in the project; however, the excavation of Trench 2 was monitored in full. The removal of deposits was carried out using a light-tracked 360 equipped with a small ditching bucket. Long trench sections, where visible, were investigated and drawn at 1:20, and photographs of the trenches and sections were taken using a Nikon D50 digital SLR. Finds and pottery which were easily loosened were retrieved for the purposes of dating, and samples of various contexts were also taken in the hope of providing additional environmental evidence. Deep excavation meant it was necessary to either fill the first third of the trench with gravel or to shore up trench edges, for health and safety reasons. These procedures made it impossible to view many areas of the trench, particularly the deepest deposits. The depth of the base of the archaeological deposits was therefore gauged by lowering a tape measure down the trench edge prior to shoring. Trench locations were measured in by long tapes from adjacent properties and depths were taken using a theodolite.

### 2.4 Results of Investigations

#### *Trench 1*

Trench 1 revealed extensive midden deposits containing medieval pottery (see Appendix 5), worked leather, wood, bone, brick and shell. These deposits (108 and 210) had been truncated to some extent by Victorian gas pipes and modern services, and the first 9m of archaeology on the east side of the street (section 2) was more truncated than that on the west (section 1).

At the south end of section 1, surviving just below modern pipe cut [017], was a pebbly layer (116) which lay on top of a group of stone blocks which seemed to form a level surface (117). Both these layers terminated a third of the way along the section in a large stone measuring 0.37m by 0.23m. Two further non-midden layers were also identified in section 1: the first consisting of a gravelly lens in between midden (108) and (110) and the other, a sandy gravel, found lower down between (110), (115) and (112).

Most of section 2 revealed a long deposit of midden (210) with few identifiable structures or layers, however the southern end of this section became more complex, with six layers surviving under modern material. The first layer below modern deposits in this area was a hard uneven layer containing fragments of sandstone (215). Below this were two gravelly, stony layers, the first, sandwiched in between midden layers (221) and (219) and the second (218) which was lower down, below midden layer (219).

## *Trench 2*

Trench 2 was excavated south of a sewer inspection hole and was essentially on the same alignment as Trench 1. Monitoring of the excavation of this trench enabled the cut of the main central sewer to be viewed and photographed in plan. The medieval midden layers revealed in this trench were of similar makeup to those in Trench 1.

The northern end of section 3 revealed a dense layer of oyster shells (301) above a layer of crushed sandstone which was located in between two layers of midden: (302) above and (300) below. Section 3 collapsed in several areas which made interpreting layers in the centre of the trench difficult, though it is possible that a pit had been cut into the midden in this area. The southern part of this section was more complex and revealed a gritty orange sandstone layer just below modern deposits (310). Below this were two layers of gravel, (305) and (308), separated by midden layer (307).

Section 4 revealed a compact orange layer (413) containing crushed sandstone and pebbles below modern deposits. At the northern end of this section, (413) merged into a thick midden deposit below (400) which contained no further structures. During post-excavation, samples of bone from these layers were radiocarbon dated for PhD research. The four radiocarbon dates obtained showed that (413) dated to the 14th century whilst (400) seemed to date from the 13th century.

## *Artefacts and Ecofacts*

The midden deposits in both the trenches produced a wealth of preserved material dating from the medieval period. Waterlogged wood was well preserved and although no large timbers were discovered, short sections of branches with evidence of cut marks were present. A small wooden object which seemed to have been worked to form a bottle stopper or bung was discovered in (210). Also discovered were at least three small carved wooden pins similar to those discovered in the Marks and Spencer's excavation in the 1970s (PHSE 1975-77).

The monitoring of the excavation of Trench 2 made it possible to investigate a small portion of midden material using a trowel. This investigation revealed that thin, compressed layers of straw, with its original yellow colouring, were preserved within the midden. Moss was also found amongst the various midden layers as well as fragments of hazelnut shell. Bone was frequent throughout the midden and much of it showed evidence of cut marks. Oyster and mussel shells were found amongst the midden deposits and a small quantity of fish bones was also recovered.

Leather was found in most of the midden layers but in some layers, such as (307), it was found in particularly high densities. Much of the leather comprised small off-cuts of very fine to very coarse leather. There were also larger pieces from shoes (including a sole for a child's shoe) and many straps and thongs. Some of the shoe soles had iron hob nails embedded in them. A single piece of well-preserved textile (probably wool) was discovered in (210) and a single clump of fibres was also recovered from the same context.

A piece of furnace lining was discovered in midden layer (108) which has copper alloy stuck to the inner surface. It is probable that this is part of a crucible for metalwork. Also present in this context was a copper alloy pin.

The two most interesting artefacts recovered were a well-decorated copper alloy belt buckle (probably 13th century) found within midden (112) and an iron medieval barrel lock found in context (307). It is interesting to note that the buckle came from deposit (112) and, although the base of archaeological deposits was not seen in this area, height comparison with the earliest deposits in Trench 2 suggests that this deposit is possibly from one of the earliest periods of midden deposition.

### **3 Interpretation**

The thick build-up of midden deposits along Kirkgate reflects the intensive use of the thoroughfare in the medieval period (mainly the 13th or 14th centuries). The midden is the result of the large quantities of daily, mainly organic, refuse which was deposited over a long period of time in a street which was poorly drained. The rich assemblage of artefacts and organic remains gives a detailed glimpse of the various activities taking place in medieval Perth.

The problems encountered in observing the deepest deposits in Kirkgate have meant that the watching brief has shed little light on the earliest development of Kirkgate. The possible early precinct ditch around St Johns encountered at 80-86 High Street (PE12) was not seen during this watching brief.

Many of the features noted in the four recorded sections were difficult to interpret because they were only viewed in section and their horizontal dimensions were unknown. The most common features seen in the sections are the series of gravel layers which seem to be sandwiched in between layers of midden, mainly on the west side of Kirkgate. There are two probable interpretations for these layers, the first being that they represent gravelly/stony paths laid down to improve the condition of the street surface. This would have been a temporary solution to the problem of accumulating waste and would have needed to have been repeated at intervals. Analysis of the relative levels of gravel layers in the east-facing sections revealed three possible periods of path creation/re-surfacing, the first represented by the lowest deposits (111) and (308), the second represented by deposits (109) and (305) and a possible third represented by the uppermost deposits (116), (117), (310) and the sandstone blocks in section 3. The oyster shell layer (301) seems to have been deposited during or just after this last phase of re-surfacing, possibly to thicken the path surface or fill in a depression. A second interpretation is that many of these gravel layers represent forelands to the shops which lined the western side of Kirkgate. The forelands would have been used by traders to display wares outside the building entrance possibly on temporary structures such as wooden stalls. In this respect it is interesting to note the piece of wood which appears to have been driven through layer (109) in section 1 could possibly be the remains of such a structure.

The level arrangement of stones seen at the southern end of section 1 (117) is important as it possibly represents the remains of a structure. Similar lines of stones found during the Marks and Spencer's excavation (PES75, PES77) were shown to be the foundations for the walls of buildings, so it is possible that (117) may represent this kind of structure. If this is the case then the large stone which terminates the alignment, may be a cornerstone to a house which projected out into Kirkgate. The subsequent gravel layer (116) which was laid on top of this feature seems to be

constricted by the same stone and this could possibly reflect the continued use of this stone as a property boundary.

Previous excavations in Perth have shown that the High Street was considerably wider than it is today. With this in mind it possible that the excavation of Trench 1 may have revealed a partial cross section through the medieval High Street. The alignment of stones (117) and large blocking stone therefore, could be taken to be the remains of a property on the junction between High Street and Kirkgate. However, the fact that a lower gravelly layer (109) runs across this boundary suggests this may not be the case. Another possibility is that the stones could possibly represent the approach to the market cross which would have stood close to the junction of Kirkgate and High Street prior its demolition in 1765. Generally though, the lack of horizontal dimensions of features and the lack of sections for the deepest deposits in this area mean that further interpretation is difficult.

Taken as a whole, the evidence from the watching brief shows that the archaeological deposits differ on each side of Kirkgate, the west side showing more extensive gravelly deposits and eastern side of the street containing more deposits of uninterrupted midden. The photos taken of the otherwise unrecorded southern portions of the east and west-facing sections of Trench 2 also support this finding. There are two ways in which these differences in deposits could be explained. Firstly, if the gravel layers represent paths and/or the re-surfacing of the street surface to the west, then the east side of the street seems to have been left in a poor un-surfaced condition with possibly more refuse dumped on this side of the street. Secondly, if the gravel deposits are interpreted as the as forelands of the western street frontage, it may have been the case that medieval Kirkgate lay slightly east of its current position.

#### **4 Conclusions and Recommendations**

This watching brief provided a valuable insight into the condition and depth of the medieval archaeological deposits in Kirkgate.

The decorated buckle and other findings from the watching brief are of interest to a wider audience and for this reason SUAT recommends that the general findings of this report should published in an appropriate journal. The buckle itself is particularly well-preserved and well-decorated with an interesting foliage-type buckle plate design and therefore steps should be taken to ensure its conservation. SUAT also recommends that the piece of textile should be analysed as there have been relatively few chances to investigate well-preserved cloth from Perth.

However, the final decision ultimately rests with Sarah Winlow of the Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.



## 5 Bibliography

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## Appendix 1 Context Register

<i>No:</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Phase</i>
101	Loose broken tar.	Modern
102	Concrete, foundation for footpath.	Modern
103	Cut for plastic pipe filled with concrete (102).	Modern
104	Plastic pipe feeding into the main drain in Kirkgate.	Modern
105	Fill of pipe trench [107]. No differentiation between pipes (106) and (113).	Modern
106	Cast iron pipe.	Modern
107	Cut for pipe trench (106) (113).	Modern
108	Midden. Black, very dark greyish brown organic silt with pebbles and occasional wood fragments, smelly.	Medieval
109	Black organic silt and fine to coarse pebbles.	Medieval
110	As (108) but with patches of grey silt.	Medieval
111	Grey sand and gravel at the north end of Trench 1 becoming light brown sand and gravel to the south end of the trench.	Medieval
112	As (108) and (110) but with more structured, compressed organic material.	Medieval
113	Ceramic Pipe.	Modern
114	Cast iron pipe on E-W alignment.	Modern
115	Black organic silt and fine-coarse pebbles.	Medieval
116	Fine-medium pebbles	Unknown but probably medieval or post-medieval
117	Sandstone blocks, some set on edge, possible former street surface. Ends in large block at the north end.	Unknown but probably medieval or post-medieval
200	Kerb for footpath	Modern
201	Tarmac	Modern
202	Fill of modern pipe cut [205]. Grey sandy, clayey, gritty fill.	Modern
203	Fill of modern cut next to [203]. Grey sandy layer.	Modern

204	Angular grit and gravel below road surface, grey.	Modern
205	Cut for modern pipe (202)	Modern
206	Cut of modern feature (303)	Modern
207	Orange yellow sand, fill of pipe cut [208]	Modern
208	Cut of modern pipe (207)	Modern
209	Cast iron pipe	Modern
210	Midden. Smelly black organic silty layer. Contains frequent animal bone, stones, leather (offcuts, shoes, straps), wood, oyster shells. Occasional pottery fragments and a piece of possible textile. Wooden pins also found.	Medieval
211	Reddish angular hardcore.	Modern
212	Gritty orange sand with gravel	Modern
213	Similar to (203)	Modern
214	Layer of creamy loose sand	Modern
215	Reddish brown gritty stony sandy clayey silt with crushed fragments of sandstone merging into midden underneath.	Unknown but probably medieval or post-medieval
216	A pebbly layer with some large stones and a large crushed pot, only some of which could be extracted.	Medieval
217	A pebble rich layer 50% pebbles 1-3cm dia with the rest midden material. Pieces of pot and wood and oyster shell.	Medieval
218	Midden layer below (217) contains frequent pebbles 1-3cm dia and wood.	Medieval
219	Similar to (210) but in between pebble layers (216) and (217). Relatively few stones and finds. Very slightly redder than (210)	Medieval
220	Cut of modern pipe trench	Modern
221	Similar to (210) but fewer stones	Medieval
300	Similar to (108) and (210) but in the southern trench. Fewer pieces of leather.	Medieval
301	Grey brown silty layer: 90% oyster shell. Crushed reddened (heated?) sandstone pieces and CBM below the oyster shell.	Medieval
302	Black midden with animal bone and shell. Like other midden layers.	Medieval
303	Material inside collapsed part of trench wall. Mid brown grey gravely gritty sand. Possible fill of [306]. Could be contaminated soil dumped by digger. Not many finds and very wet.	Medieval but could be contaminated by modern material
304	Midden. Grey black organic silt with mussel shell, bone and leather.	Medieval

305	Gravelly layer like (303) but more compressed and drier and slightly redder. Contains occasional oyster shell. Merges into (303).	Medieval
306	Possible cut for pit containing grey gravelly layer (303). Difficult to analyse properly because collapse hides deposits nearby.	Possibly medieval
307	Midden. Dark, slightly greenish organic silt. Contains large quantities of leather and quite a bit of moss. Medieval barrel lock also found in this layer and wood.	Medieval
308	Orange sandy gravel layer. Gravel 1-2cm dia, sub rounded.	Medieval
309	Midden. Similar to (300).	Medieval
310	Brown layer, slightly orangy gritty. Contains frequent blocks of sandstone (orange)	Medieval
400	Midden. Black greyish brown organic silt with cobbles, stone, pottery, wood, leather, mussel shells and oyster shell.	Medieval
401	Hardcore fill for inspection hole.	Modern
402	Cut of trench for inspection hole	Modern
403	Broken tarmac	Modern
404	Fill of modern pipe trench	Modern
405	Cut for modern pipe trench	Modern
406	Pebbles/gravel at the top of the trench	Modern
407	Sand	Modern
408	Greyish brown silty clay.	Modern
409	Modern hardcore; angular stones.	Modern
410	Cut for hardcore	Modern
411	Modern sand layer	Modern
412	Greyish brown sand and silt	Modern
413	Greyish brown sandy silt with frequent coarse pebbles. The crushed sandstone gives a dappled orange look to this layer. Merges into midden. Contains pottery, bone, leather and oyster shell.	Medieval

## Appendix 2 Photographic Register

### Folder: Kirkgate photos, northern trench sections 23.01.08

<i>Frames</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
0001-0009	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section, N end	E
0010	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section, N end. Animal rib showing.	E
0011-0012	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section, N end. Piece of wood showing.	E
0013-0014	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section. Probable textile and wooden pin showing (textile next to pin).	E
0015-0019	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section.	E
0020-0021	N Trench. General shot of workers and trench..	S
0022-0024	N Trench. General shot trench.	N
0025-0027	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section, S end next to shoring.	SE
0028	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section, S end next to shoring.	SW
0029	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section, probable former road surface at top of shot. Large blocking stone can also be seen.	SW
0030	Medieval layers in the E facing section.	SW
0031-0033	Medieval layers in the E facing section. Leather and plant matter can be seen in these shots.	SW
0034-0036	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section. To the bottom is a possible former road surface, a gravel.	NW
0037-0042	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section.	NW
0043-0045	Medieval layers in the E facing section, N end of trench.	W
0046-0047	N Trench. S facing section of the trench showing cuts for the sewage pipe and other services.	N
0048-0049	N Trench. Medieval layers in the W facing section, N end. Flash photos enhanced.	E

0050-0054	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section, N end. Flash photos enhanced. Leather visible.	W
0055-068	Medieval layers in the W facing section. Flash photos enhanced.	E
069-098	N Trench. Medieval layers in the E facing section. Flash photos enhanced.	W
0099	N Trench. View of the E facing section from street level, N end.	NW
0100-0101	N Trench. View of the E facing section from street level.	NW
0102	N Trench. View of the E facing section from street level. S end next to shoring.	W
0103	N Trench. View of the W facing section from street level. S end next to shoring.	E
0104-0105	N Trench. View of the W facing section from street level.	E
0106	N Trench. View of the W facing section from street level. N end.	E
0107-0111	Overall view of N trench from street level.	S
0112-0113	General shot of N trench from High Street.	S
0114	General shot of N trench from corner of Kirkgate and High Street	SW
0115-0116	General shot of N trench from Kirkgate	NW
0117-0118	Looking down into the shored up part of the N trench (S end).	SW

**Folder: Kirkgate photos, excavation of southern trench 29.01.08**

<i>Frames</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
0001-0002	Start of excavation.	SE
0003	Start of excavation; removal of the old iron gas pipe.	SW
0004 - 0005	Excavation continuing. Photo shows cut of sewage pipe [501] on right and cut of another service trench on the left. An area of midden survives in the middle (400).	S
0006 - 0007	Excavation continuing. Photo shows cut of sewage pipe [501] on right and cut of another service trench on the left. An area of midden survives in the middle.	SW

0008 - 0009	Excavation continuing.	SW
0010	Removal of concrete surrounding BT inspection hole.	S
0011	Removal of concrete surrounding BT inspection hole.	SE
0012	Removal of concrete surrounding BT inspection hole.	S
0013	Photo shows the cut of the sewage pipe (brown) [501] and the midden on the left (400).	SW
0014 - 0015	Close up of the sewage pipe cut [501] with midden on the left (400).	S
0016	Close up of the west side of the sewage pipe cut [501]. The midden on the west side of the trench can be seen (300).	NW
0017 - 0018	Excavation continuing. The midden on the left (400) is clearly distinguishable from the pipe cut fill on the right (500).	SW
0019	Excavation continuing. The midden on the left (400) is clearly distinguishable from the pipe cut fill on the right (500).	S
0020 - 0021	Excavation continuing. The pipe cut fill (500) can be seen in between the midden : (300) on the right and (400) on the left.	S
0022 - 0023	A patch of blue clay encountered whilst excavating the the midden on the east side of the trench - (300).	SE

### Folder: Kirkgate photos, southern trench sections 30.01.08

<i>Frames</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
0001 - 0004	The S end of the E facing section, before further extension of the trench south. 19 <sup>th</sup> century pipe cut clearly shown cutting through two gravel layers. Shot taken before shoring up.	SW
0005 - 0006	The E facing section. At least two gravel layers can be seen in between midden layers. The orange natural can also be seen just above the water level. Shot taken before shoring up.	SW
0007	The E facing section near the 19th century pipe cut. View looking up to BT pipe and the top of trench. Shot taken before shoring up.	SW
0008	Part of the E facing section that was drawn. Midden (309) at bottom, then gravel layer (308), then midden (307), then gravel layer (305), then midden (304), then crushed stone layer (310), then BT pipe cut (left) and BT box cut (right).	SW
0009	Same as 0008 but looking up.	SW
0010	Same as 0008 but looking down. The collapsed part of the trench wall	SW

	can be seen to the right. This was pit [304] cut into 307 and 300.	
0011	Looking straight at (307). Note the greenish tinge and the large quantities of leather. This is also where the moss (probably the equivalent of toilet paper) came from.	W
0012 - 0014	Looking at the collapsed part of the trench, pit [304] with fill (303).	NW
0015 - 0016	Looking at the northern part of the east facing section. Midden (300) and the oyster rich layer above (301)	NW
0017	Close up of the oyster rich layer (301).	NW
0018	Looking at the northern part of the east facing section. Midden (300) and the oyster rich layer above (301)	SW
0019	The north part of the west facing section. Midden (400). The inspection hole brickwork can be seen to the left.	NE
0020	Same as 0019 but shot looking up.	NE
0021	Same as 0019 but shot looking down.	NE
0022 - 0023	The west facing section. Midden (400).	SE
0024	Same as 0022 but shot looking up.	SE
0025	Shot looking down into east facing section. In the centre of the shot is (307).	SW
0026	Shot looking down into east facing section. The right hand side of the photograph shows the area that was drawn in section. The east side of the photograph shows the area that was hidden after shoring was put up.	W
0027	The middle of the east facing section. The 19th century pipe cut is visible.	W
0028	The southern end of the east facing section. This area could not be drawn due to H&S reasons and later partially collapsed. The photo shows the continuation of layers of gravel in between deposits of midden. However, the deposits look more complex than those to the north.	SW
0029	The west facing section next to the shoring. Midden (400).	SE
0030	Same as 0029 but shot looking up.	SE
0031	The west facing section next to the shoring. Midden (400).	SE
0032	Shot of continuing excavation to the south.	S
0033 - 0035	The west facing section next to the shoring. Midden (400).	E



0036	Shot of work in progress. Overall view of the southern trench.	S
0037	Shot of work in progress. Overall view of the southern trench.	SW
0038	Shot of work in progress. Overall view of the southern trench	S
0039	Shot of work in progress. Overall view of the southern trench	SE
0040 - 0041	View of shoring being inserted.	SE
0042	Looking down into the northern end of the southern trench.	E
0043	Overall view of the southern trench.	SE
0044	Looking down into the northern end of the southern trench.	SW
0045	Overall view of the southern trench.	SW
0046	Overall view of the southern trench, looking across at digger.	S
0047	Looking at shoring.	SE
0048	Looking into collapsed part of trench wall.	E
0049	The north facing section.	SE
0050 - 0052	Overall view of the southern trench.	N

### Appendix 3 Drawing Register

<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	The east facing section (N end) of the northern trench.	1:20
2	The west facing section of the northern trench.	1:20
3	The east facing section (S end) and the location plan for the northern trench	1:20, 1:100
4	Notes and sketches taken when watching the excavation of the southern trench	-
5	The east facing section and the location plan of the southern trench	1:20, 1:100
6	The west facing section of the southern trench	1:20

## Appendix 4 Samples Register

<i>Sample No..</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Size</i>
1	210	Soil	Large
2	108	Soil	Large
3	110	Soil	Large
4	112	Soil	Large
5	216	Soil	Large
6	300	Soil	Large
7	301	Soil	Large
8	304	Soil	Large
9	307	Soil	Large
10	309	Soil	Large
11	400	Soil	Large
12	307	Moss	Small
13	307	Moss	Small

## Appendix 5 The Pottery

**Derek Hall**

This watching brief produced 165 sherds of medieval pottery. All the sherds have been identified by eye and where possible identified to a recognised fabric name.

### *Scottish Redware*

This fabric has long been identified as a Scottish product produced in the vicinity of the major river systems (Hall 1996; Chenery, Phillips and Haggarty 2001; Chenery, Haggarty, Hall, Murray and Thoms 2004). From the late 12th/early 13th centuries it is the most common local product in the major burghs which do not have an adequate local supply of white firing clay. There are 67 sherds in this assemblage from splash glazed jugs.

### *Scottish White Gritty Ware*

This fabric represents Scotland's earliest medieval pottery industry, operating between the 12th and 15th centuries. Recent chemical sourcing and associated typological analysis have suggested that it was produced more widely across the country than had previously been suggested (Jones et al 2006). The vessels from this excavation were probably manufactured

in Fife, which was the closest production area. There are 54 sherds from both cooking vessels and glazed jugs.

#### *Yorkshire Type Ware*

These very distinctively green glazed vessels were very popular imports in most of the Scottish East Coast burghs in the 13th and 14th centuries (McCarthy and Brooks 1988). There are 31 sherds in this assemblage.

#### *Unidentified*

There are 11 sherds which are too small to accurately identify their provenance.

#### **Discussion**

The presence of Yorkshire Type wares in most of the excavated layers would suggest that they date to around the 13th or 14th centuries.

#### **References**

Chenery, S, Phillips, E and Haggarty, G 2001 'An evaluation of geochemical fingerprinting for the provenancing of Scottish Redware pottery', *Medieval Ceramics* Volume 25, 45-53

Chenery, S, Haggarty, G, Hall, D W, Murray, J C and Thoms, L 2004 'Sourcing Scottish Redwares' report prepared for Historic Scotland

Hall, D W 1996 'Blind Date—Scottish medieval pottery industries' *Tayside and Fife Archaeological Journal* Vol 2, 126-12

Jones, R, Will, R, Haggarty, G and Hall, D W 2006 'Sourcing Scottish White Gritty ware' *Medieval Ceramics* Volume 25/27 (2003)

McCarthy, M and Brooks, C 1988 *Medieval Pottery in Britain*

## **Appendix 6 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry**

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth and Kinross
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Watching Brief in Kirkgate, Perth
PROJECT CODE:	PEX170
PARISH:	Perth
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Tam Barton
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	SUAT Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief

NMRS NO(S):	NO12SW 105, NO12SW 127, NO12SW 150
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Medieval street
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Decorated buckle, barrel lock, crucible fragment, textile, leather, worked wood
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	Site centred on NO 1195 2360
START DATE	23 January 2008
END DATE	30 January 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	PEX 36, DES 1982, 34.
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>Scottish Water commissioned SUAT Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief in Kirkgate, Perth on the 23rd, 29th and 30th January 2008. The work consisted of monitoring the excavation of a sewage pipe in the middle of the street and recording the exposed trench sections. The sections revealed a sequence of well-preserved medieval midden rich in leather, bone, wood and pottery which dated to the 12th-15th centuries. The west facing sections showed the midden to be separated by thin gravel layers. These layers are interpreted as either episodes of street resurfacing or possibly the forelands to buildings which would have lined Kirkgate.</p> <p>The watching brief recovered a medieval barrel lock and a copper alloy buckle with a foliage-type decorated buckle plate.</p> <p>The site code was PEX170</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water
CAPTIONS FOR ILLUSTRS	-
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	SUAT Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended)	NMRS
EMAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:Director@suat.co.uk">Director@suat.co.uk</a>

## Appendix 7 Standard Terms of Reference for all Fieldwork

### 7.1 Recording Methodology

SUAT employs a Single Context Recording System that allows full cross-referencing of stratigraphy, finds and environmental samples, as well as site-wide phasing. All features will be planned at scale 1:20, and sections drawn at scale 1:10. Sections and profiles will be drawn and all features will be photographed with metric scale included. Environmental samples will be taken from archaeologically significant contexts, if the analysis of these samples would aid significantly in the interpretation of any features identified.

### 7.2 Human Remains

If human remains are encountered they will be left in situ and the local police will be informed. If removal is required this will take place in compliance with Historic Scotland's Policy Paper *The Treatment of Human Remains in Archaeology*.

### 7.3 Products and Reporting

A Data Structure Report will normally be prepared within a period agreed within the Written Scheme of Investigation/ Project Design, after the completion of the fieldwork. This forms the basic level of reporting. Further reporting may be required on the basis of discoveries made during excavations.

A copy of the report and the project archive will be deposited in the NMRS. Further copies will be sent to the client, LAAO and others, as appropriate.

### 7.4 Artefacts

Finds of objects will be subject to the Scots Laws of Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia*. SUAT will report such finds, if recovered, with supporting documentation to the Secretariat of the Treasure Trove Panel for disposal to the appropriate museum.

### 7.5 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

A brief summary of the results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*.

### 7.6 General Conditions and Health and Safety

SUAT adheres to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

SUAT has public liability insurance of £5,000,000. Details of this can be provided on request.

SUAT operates a strict health and safety policy and conforms to the Health and Safety at Work Act. SUAT undertakes Risk Assessments on all fieldwork carried out.

All SUAT representatives will at all times wear protective footwear, high visibility clothing and other appropriate clothing. Hard hats will be worn if there is active plant on site or at all times if the site is deemed a hard hat area.

If lightly contaminated deposits are uncovered disposable boiler suits and gloves will be worn. A source of clean water will be made available for staff to clean hands with. If the health risk posed by site contamination is felt to be too high all further archaeological work will stop in that area.