

## **Addendum: Revised Application Boundary - Heritage Statement**

Submitted 21 September 2012 - Headland Archaeology

A revised site boundary of the proposed development at 396-410 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh is to be submitted to Edinburgh City Council by the client (Covell Matthews Architects on behalf of Chamic Demolition Services Ltd). Headland Archaeology was asked to provide a brief heritage statement (to be submitted as an addendum to the archaeological evaluation report).

The objective of this document is to assess any new impacts upon known heritage assets in light of the revised site boundary.

The new site boundary reduces the size of the area impacted upon by the proposed development, especially to the west. The new proposed development will now not impinge on the two upstanding buildings to the W side of the original development area or the area of land located between these two buildings.

The revised site boundary will now include the currently standing buildings to the south of the development area, fronting onto Gorgie Road. These buildings include the remains of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century mill that formed part of a larger mill complex originally owned by J & G Cox Ltd. The company was originally set up in 1725 although it was unclear what land the company owned at this time and what buildings they were using. Records indicate that by 1799 the Robert Cox had purchased the surrounding lands around and including Gorgie House. From this period onwards the company expanded building the glue and gelatine factory to the south side of Gorgie Road.

Maps from the 18th century onwards (Laurie 1766 & 1786; Kirkwood 1817; Thompson 1821) show a gradual increase in the number of buildings around the site, although little reliable detail of its layout. On Knox's plan of 1816 the lade runs through a building. The first large scale mapping of the area was the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition of 1855 (Illus 12 in the DSR; Murray 2012) which depicts a range of structures associated with Gorgie House and the mill complex. To the south of the site, Cox's glue works, established by 1799, has a substantial presence. By the early 20th century, the glue manufactory had taken over the entire site north of the road, and had installed turbines within the mill building in order to run some of their industrial processes (RCAHMS: Cowie & Seaton collection). The mill lade ran through the building, with an overflow culvert around the western side. When photographed in 1967 the mill was

under the ownership of the Didcock Brothers' upholstery business (RCHAMS archive photo SC590225).

Despite recent demolition work which has removed, without record, most of the original Industrial period mill the site still retains significant historic built heritage, principally the surviving eastern range of the main mill building and the 19<sup>th</sup> century mill-house/offices. These surviving 19<sup>th</sup> century mill buildings must be considered to be of regional archaeological and historic significance, as monuments to Edinburgh's and Scotland's industrial and economic past.

Given that the proposed development will require these buildings to be demolished it is recommended that a suitable programme of archaeological works should be put in place in order to fully record the upstanding remains of the mill buildings (Historic Building Survey to a Level 2 RCHME standard).

At present a number of the upstanding buildings are vacant with the rest used by Chamic Industrial Services.

Murray, R 2011 *396-410 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh; Archaeological Evaluation*.  
Unpublished Data Structure Report- Headland Archaeology Ltd

Laurie, J. *A plan of Edinburgh and places adjacent*. 1766

Laurie, J. *A plan of Edinburgh and the country adjacent*. 1786

Knox, J. *Map of the Shire of Edinburgh* 1816

Kirkwood, R. *A map of the environs of Edinburgh*. 1817

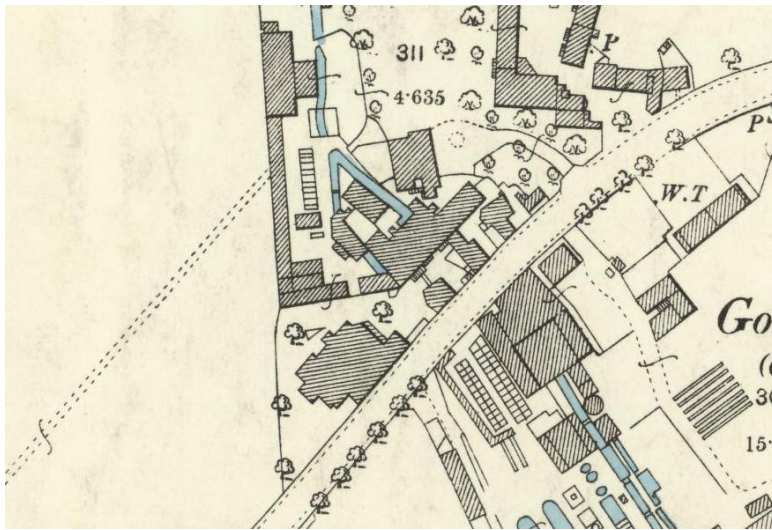
Thompson, J. & Knox, J. *Edinburgh Shire*. 1821

Ordnance Survey, *Edinburghshire, 6" to 1 mile, sheet 6*, 1855

Ordnance Survey, *Edinburghshire, 6" to 1 mile, sheet 6*, 1896



Extract from Knox's map of 1816



Extract from 1896 Ordnance Survey