

WSEN-13

Planning Application Reference 10/02449/PA

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring

Waverley Station, Edinburgh

Client: Network Rail

June 2013

**Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
North**

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An application for development (13/00261/LBC), by Network Rail (the client), for the construction of two lifts at Waverley Station, Edinburgh has been submitted to Edinburgh City Council (the LPA). As a condition on the application, a programme of archaeological monitoring is required; the results of which will be used to discharge the condition.
- 1.2 The client is currently ensuring that all planning conditions are taken into account ahead of demolition & construction works. A condition relating to archaeology states: *No development shall take place on the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work (excavation, reporting and analysis) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.*
- 1.3 The client has commissioned Headland Archaeology to agree a programme of archaeological work with the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS), who advise the Local Planning Authority on archaeological matters and to encapsulate that programme within a written scheme of investigation (WSI - this document) to be submitted for agreement in line with this condition.
- 1.4 This WSI takes into account relevant IfA Standards and Guidance.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

- 2.1 The site is located at NGR NT 25972 73952.
- 2.2 The site lies around 63 m OD and is underlain by glacial till, which are Devensian in origin (British Geological Survey website; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Waverley Station was the collective name of three neighbour stations opened in 1846 and 1847. These were North Bridge opened in 1846 by the North British Railway, General Station opened by the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway in 1847 and Canal Street opened by the Edinburgh, Leith and Newhaven Railway in 1847. Following the acquisition of General Station and Canal Street by the North British Railway all three stations were demolished in 1868. They were replaced by a single station rebuilt as Edinburgh Waverley on the site. Therefore some potential for earlier phases of station construction to be present below ground.
- 3.2 Prior to the development of the railway station in the 19th century the site was occupied in the medieval period by Trinity Church and associated hospital. This indicates the potential for buried archaeological remains dating to this period to be present below ground.

4 OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 In general, the purpose of the works is to record any archaeological remains threatened by the development works and to report on the results of the works.
- 4.2 The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited in the National Monuments Record of Scotland to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Subject to receipt of the necessary approval from the curator, the archaeological monitoring is due to commence on 24th June 2013. A draft report will then be delivered to the client and, on approval, to the curator within 4 weeks of the completion of fieldwork.

6 PROJECT TEAM

- 6.1 The project will be managed for Headland Archaeology by Eddie Bailey (Project Manager); the field team will consist of a Project Officer with experience of recording historic buildings. *Curricula vitae* of key personnel can be supplied on request. The project team will familiarise themselves with the background to the site and will be aware of the project's aims and methodologies.
- 6.2 Specialist artefact analyses will be managed by Julie Franklin who is Headland's Finds Manager. Julie will undertake finds assessment within her areas of competence (medieval and post-medieval ceramics, metalwork, glassware, clay pipes, ceramic building material and other small finds) and assisted by Julie Lochrie (lithics, prehistoric pottery). Further consultation will be sub-contracted to recognised period specialists if appropriate.
- 6.3 Environmental analysis will be managed by Dr Tim Holden. Headland has in-house specialists who can undertake analysis of pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and thin sections.
- 6.4 Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd is a Registered Organisation and abides by the Codes of Conduct and Approved Practice and Standards of the Institute for Archaeologists. The company has all the necessary technical and personnel resources for the satisfactory completion of the watching brief.

7 INSURANCE & COPYRIGHT

- 7.1 Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd is fully indemnified and all necessary insurances can be presented on request.
- 7.2 Copyright will be retained by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd. Headland will licence the client, curator and other bodies as necessary for use in matters relating to the project and for use of the project archive by NMRS. This licence will also extend to non-commercial use.

8 HEALTH & SAFETY

- 8.1 All of Headland's work is undertaken in accordance with current H&S legislation. A risk assessment and method statement will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork. All staff will wear appropriate PPE and this will include high-visibility clothing, hard hats and safety footwear. Headland will make use of the main contractors site welfare facilities.

9 STRATEGY

- 9.1 The main contractor will undertake all ground breaking works under direct archaeological supervision. A toothed bucket will be used to remove any hard surfaces/demolition deposits and all soft deposits are to be removed using a flat bladed ditching bucket. The ground breaking works will be monitored by an archaeologist. The monitoring strategy will provide information on any previously unrecorded features of archaeological interest in a relatively unobtrusive manner. It should not involve major interruption to the work programme. Isolated features or artefacts will be recorded according to normal watching brief methodology. This will typically be within one hour for each feature.

- 9.2 If a significant archaeological horizon is encountered or if significant *in situ* archaeological deposits are found during the operations then all ground disturbance in the area must cease until an appropriate level of excavation and recording has been undertaken to the satisfaction of the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeologist. If appropriate a site meeting will be arranged to discuss an appropriate strategy.

10 METHOD

- 10.1 The main contractor will undertake all ground breaking works. A toothed bucket will be used to remove any hard surfaces/demolition deposits and all soft deposits are to be removed using a flat bladed ditching bucket. The ground breaking works will be monitored by an archaeologist. The monitoring strategy will provide information on any previously unrecorded features of archaeological interest in a relatively unobtrusive manner. It should not involve major interruption to the work programme. Isolated features or artefacts will be recorded according to normal watching brief methodology. This will typically be within one hour for each feature. If a significant archaeological horizon is encountered or if significant *in situ* archaeological deposits are found during the operations then all ground disturbance in the area must cease until an appropriate level of excavation and recording has been undertaken to the satisfaction of CECAS. If appropriate a site meeting will be arranged to discuss and appropriate strategy.

RECORDING

- 10.2 All recording will follow IfA Standards and Guidance for conducting archaeological excavations. All contexts, small finds and environmental samples will be given unique numbers. All recording will be undertaken on *pro forma* record cards. In the event that stratified deposits are encountered, a 'Harris' matrix will be compiled. 35mm colour transparencies and prints will be taken; a graduated metric scale will be clearly visible. Digital images may be taken for illustrative purposes.
- 10.3 A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and other pertinent information will be recorded digitally. The site plan will be accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to OD. Where appropriate, sections and stratigraphic sequences will be recorded digitally. Digital recording will be undertaken using a differential GPS or an EDM linked to a hand-held computer in order to allow data checking while in the field. If additional detailed recording of features and sections is required (i.e. where their complexity means that archaeological information could be lost if recorded digitally) then plans and sections will be hand-drawn on permatrace at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections).
- 10.4 Headland maintains a digitally-based library of guidance documents that includes information on field evaluation and recording. Relevant parts can be forwarded on request.

SAMPLES AND ARTEFACTS

- 10.5 Finds will be routinely recorded by context and recorded 3-dimensionally where appropriate (i.e. where their position within a context can provide further significant information or the find is of particular significance). Any artefacts retrieved during the evaluation will be cleaned using appropriate techniques and packaged and stored in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 1998). All artefacts recovered during the evaluation will be cleaned, marked and catalogued. Headland's in-house finds specialists will be available to provide advice remotely or on site if necessary. Conservation will be undertaken by Scottish Conservation Studio (for metalwork) and AOC Ltd (for organics).

- 10.6 Deposits identified as archaeologically significant will be sampled for environmental material and other finds (e.g. bone, pottery etc.). Bulk samples will be taken from selected deposits for wet sieving and floatation in order to recover any environmental material. A bulk sample will typically be 40 litres. However, where large deposits are encountered more than one bulk sample may be taken. Similarly, small deposits such as the fill of postholes may contain less than 10 litres of sediment and will be fully sampled. A representative proportion of samples taken on site will be processed and assessed with the results and recommendations for any further work included in the evaluation report.
- 10.7 Where waterlogged deposits are encountered (such as peat) appropriate sampling techniques will be employed so as to maximise the environmental information gained from such deposits. This may include the taking of monolith or core samples for pollen and non-pollen palynomorphs (e.g. testates and fungal spores) and large specialist samples for plant macrofossil, wood (including waterlogged wood) and insect analyses.
- 10.8 Headland's Environmental Specialist, Dr Tim Holden, will liaise with site staff to ensure an appropriate strategy for the recovery and sampling of environmental remains develops in tandem with fieldwork results.

11 MONITORING

- 11.1 Access to the site will be afforded to the curator for monitoring purposes.

12 REPORTING AND ARCHIVE

- 12.1 On completion of the evaluation Headland will produce a site archive and an archive report that includes all relevant specialist assessments of excavated material. An online OASIS report will be completed and will be accompanied by a PDF report and boundary file. A summary report will be submitted for inclusion in *Discovery and Excavation Scotland*.
- 12.2 Final report contents and format will be in line with IfA standards & guidance and curator requirements. Copies of the report will be sent to the client for onward transmission to the local planning authority; copies (paper & electronic) will also be submitted to the curator, to be deposited in the HER. Draft reports will be submitted within 4 weeks of the completion of fieldwork.
- 12.3 The project archive will be compiled in accordance with the guidelines published by the Institute for Archaeologists on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum (July 2007). The documentary and digital archive will be submitted to RCAHMS within six months of completion of all work on this project. All finds will be reported to the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel, which will determine the ultimate destination of the material archive. Once this is determined, and within three months, arrangements will be made with the specified museum for transfer of material and title.

13 HUMAN REMAINS

- 13.1 If encountered human remains will not be excavated until reported to the client, curator and local police and a strategy for excavation agreed with all parties. None will be excavated during the course of the present program of work. If human remains are to be excavated during subsequent work all excavation and treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains will be undertaken in cognisance of IfA Technical Paper Number 13 (Brickley & McKinley & 2004) and relevant Historic Scotland policy on the treatment of human remains.

14 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Archives Forum Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (published by the IfA 2007).

Brickley M & McKinley J 2004 Guidelines to the standards for recording human remains (IfA Paper No 7).

IfA Standards and Guidance for archaeological excavation (revised October 2008).

SPP: Scottish Planning Policy (February 2010;
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/02/03132605/0>)

Watkinson D & Neal V First aid for finds, (Third Edition 1998).