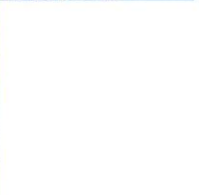
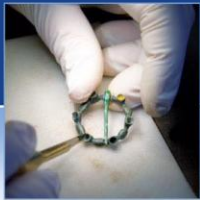


Torphichen Arms Hotel, 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder, West Lothian: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

*AOC Project 23358
12th February 2016*



Torphichen Arms Hotel, 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder, West Lothian: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

On Behalf of:	CGMS Consulting On behalf of: Mr K Clark Star Pubs and Bars The Heineken Group Broadway Park 2 - 4 South Gyle Broadway Edinburgh EH12 9JZ
National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 07550 67600
AOC Project No:	23358
Planning Reference:	0791/FUL/15
OASIS Entry No:	242851
Prepared by:	Leah Kyle
Date of Fieldwork:	1 st – 2 nd February 2016, 9 th - 11 th Feb 2016
Date of Report:	17 th February 2016

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author: Leah Kyle **Date:** 12th February 2016

Approved by: Diana Sproat **Date:** 17th February 2016

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft **Date:** 17th February 2016

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Edgefield Industrial Estate
Edgefield Road
Loanhead
EH20 9SY

Tel. 0131 440 3593
Fax. 0131 440 3422
e-mail. admin@aocarcaeology.com



Contents

	Page
List of Figures.....	2
List of Plates	2
List of Appendices.....	2
Summary	2
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Background.....	3
1.2 Location.....	3
1.3 Archaeological Background	3
2 OBJECTIVES.....	3
3 METHODOLOGY	3
4 RESULTS.....	4
5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	4
6 REFERENCES.....	5
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record.....	6
APPENDIX 2: <i>'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'</i> Report	7

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Watching Brief Area

List of Plates

Plate 1: General view of excavations showing made ground level

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Photographic Record

Appendix 2: *'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland'* Report

Summary

AOC Archaeology Group were engaged by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological watching brief on behalf of their client on all ground-breaking works in advance of the construction of a new conservatory and toilet block to the rear of the Torphichen Arms, 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder in West Lothian. The works were required as a planning condition on the new development.

The ground surface was comprised concrete blocks overlying a levelling layer of made ground, which overlay the natural subsoil. A possible buried topsoil was present in some areas. No archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered throughout the watching brief, and therefore no further archaeological works are considered necessary prior to development. This will need to be confirmed by West Lothian Council, who are advised on archaeological planning matters by the West of Scotland Archaeological Service (WoSAS).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Star Pubs and Bars to undertake an archaeological watching brief on all ground-breaking works in relation to an extension to the Torpichen Arms Hotel at 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder, West Lothian to form a new conservatory and toilet block. The works were required as a condition on the planning consent for the new development (Planning Ref: 0791/FUL/15). The watching brief was conducted in order to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, the West Lothian Council, who are advised on archaeological planning matters by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS). The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs 2016) approved on behalf of West Lothian Council by WoSAS and in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government 2014) and *PAN 2/2011 Planning & Archaeology* (Scottish Government 2011).

1.2 Location

1.2.1 The development area is located to west side of the Torpichen Arms Hotel to the south side of the B7015 and is centred on NGR: NT 07550 67600 (Figure 1).

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 The Torphichen Arms is a Category B listed building (Ref: LB14150). It was established after the arrival of the Edinburgh/Glasgow turnpike in 1763 and Bank Street was the premier throughfare at Mid Calder at this time.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief was to allow preservation by record or *in situ* as appropriate of any features of archaeology encountered and to undertake appropriate post excavation analyses (if required) and the dissemination of results.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The watching brief was undertaken by a machine excavator in shallow units/spits until the first significant archaeological horizon or natural subsoil was encountered. All machine excavation was supervised by an experienced field archaeologist and according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard operating procedures, and as per the methodology within the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2015).

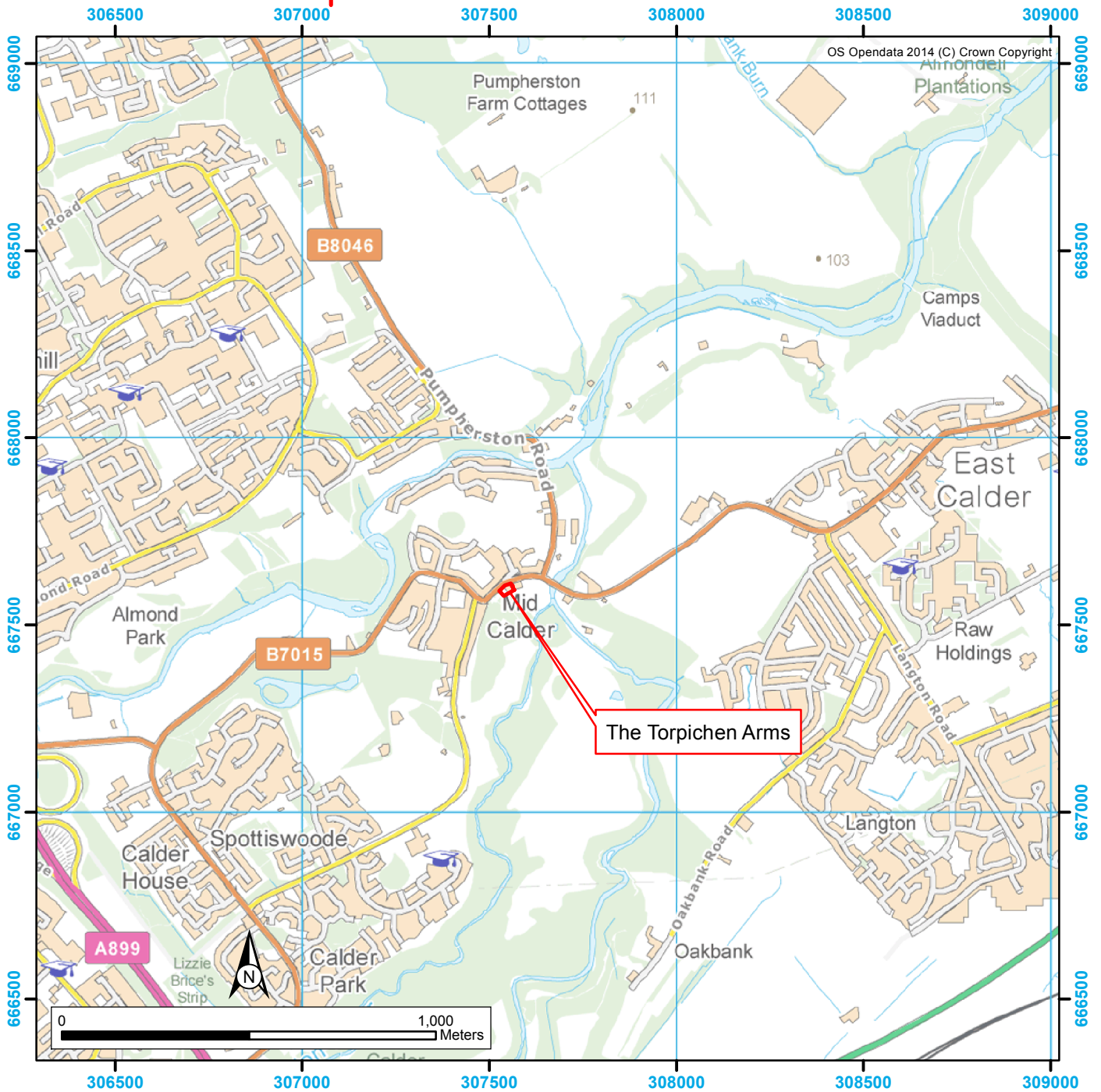
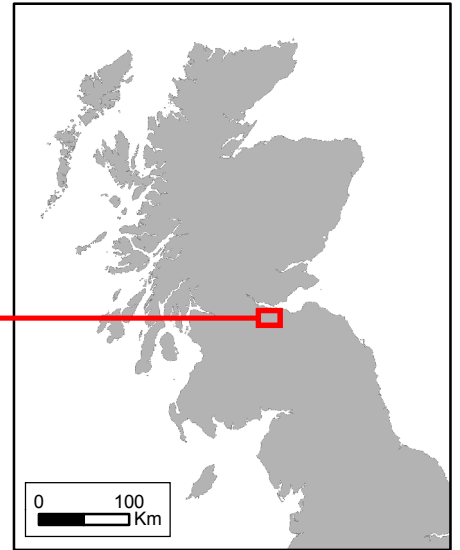
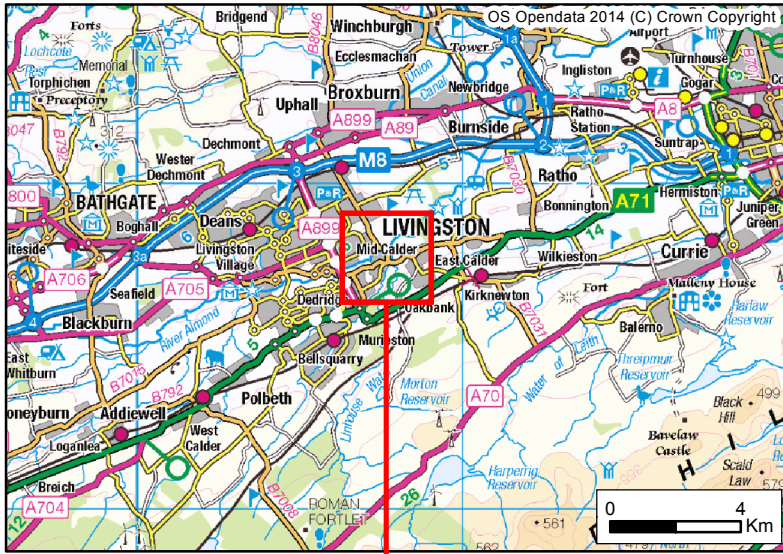


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on 1st-2nd, 9th – 11th February 2016. Weather conditions were fair allowing for good archaeological visibility throughout the works.
- 4.2 The ground surface comprised concrete blocks lying on top of levelling made ground material. This overlay a made ground/levelling deposit consisting of dark brown/black sandy silt with infrequent stone inclusions and modern debris. Underlying this was yet another layer consisting of light brown silty sand with infrequent stone inclusions (Plate 1). Given the limited access to the excavations a comprehensive interpretation of the lower deposit was not possible but it is likely to be either a previous episode of levelling/landscaping or the remnants of a buried topsoil.



Plate 1: General view of the excavations showing made ground levels

- 4.3 The maximum depth of excavation was 1.5m below the concrete block level, where the natural sand was encountered.

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 There was no topsoil present due to the old concrete slab floor surface and the deposits uncovered beneath contained modern material which suggests that the area had been levelled in recent years. A deposit present beneath the levelling may represent a buried topsoil. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed throughout the watching brief.

6 REFERENCES

CgMs 2016 *Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation, Torphichen Arms, 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder EH53 0AR*

Scottish Government 2014 *Scottish Planning Policy, 2014*

Scottish Government 2011 *Planning And Archaeology 2/2011*

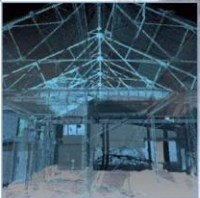
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record

Digital Photographs

Frame	Description	From	Date
1-7	General area shot	Various	1/2/16
8-15	Exploratory trenches for foundations requested previously by engineers	Various	1/2/16
16-19	Live gas main	Various	1/2/16
20-23	General working shots	Various	1/2/16
24-25	Found trench along wall	SSE	1/2/16
26-28	Found trench extending ENE – WSW	ENE	1/2/16
29-30	Deeper section 1 to expose found	Various	1/2/16
31-32	Deeper section 2 to expose found	Various	1/2/16
33-39	Detailed shots showing no archaeology found	Various	2/2/16
40-43	Completed machine works / close of site	Various	2/2/16
44-45	General area shot of conservatory founds	SW + NW	9/2/16
46	Toilet founds	SSE	9/2/16
47-49	Gas pipe removal	NNE	9/2/16
50-52	General area shot of conservatory area	Various	10/2/16
53-54	Re-excavation of old drain pipe	SW +NW	10/2/16
55-56	General area shot of marked area of conservatory founds	SW + NE	10/2/16
57-60	Area shots showing no archaeology uncovered	Various	11/2/16
61-63	Close down shot	Various	11/2/16

APPENDIX 2: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Torphichen Arms Hotel, Mid Calder
PROJECT CODE:	AOC 23358
PARISH:	Mid Calder
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Leah Kyle
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	AOC Archaeology Group
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S)	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NT 075550 676000
START DATE	1 st February 2016
END DATE	11 th February 2016
PREVIOUS WORK	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:	<p>AOC Archaeology Group were engaged by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological watching brief on behalf of their client on all ground-breaking works in advance of the construction of a new conservatory and toilet block to the rear of the Torphichen Arms, 36 Bank Street, Mid Calder in West Lothian. The works were required as a planning condition on the new development.</p> <p>The ground surface comprised concrete blocks overlying a levelling layer of made ground, which overlay the natural subsoil. No archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered throughout the watching brief.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Stars Pubs and Bars
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
EMAIL ADDRESS:	admin@aocarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



AOC Archaeology Group, Edgefield Industrial Estate, Edgefield Road, Loanhead EH20 9SY
tel: 0131 440 3593 | fax: 0131 440 3422 | e-mail: admin@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com