

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

Intpretation, Design & Display

Finds/ Environmental Analysis

Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Alnwickhill Reservoir, Liberton,
Edinburgh
Boundary Wall Recording
Report No. 1868**

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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standard operating procedures.

**Alnwickhill Reservoir, Liberton,
Edinburgh
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Fig. 1 Location map showing the north boundary wall with marked sections

Fig. 2 Alnwickhill Road wall section

Fig. 3 Liberton Gardens wall section

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of a Level 1 photographic survey undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in March 2011 on a boundary wall at Alnwickhill Reservoir, Liberton Gardens, Edinburgh (NGR: NT 3271 6691). The work is associated with the Edinburgh Drinking Water Project which requires two sections of the boundary wall to be taken down and reinstated following completion of the works. The survey was commissioned by Environmental Resource management (ERM) on behalf of Black & Veatch Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA. The WSI was approved in advance by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS).

1.2 Background

The boundary wall is a Category B Group Listed structure with Alnwickhill Reservoir (HB Number 43246). Construction of the reservoir started in 1875 and was finally completed in 1888; therefore, the boundary wall is a late 19th century structure (Historic Scotland 1996).

The proposed scheme of works required two 20m sections of the wall to be taken down and later rebuilt. The sections to be removed were located near No. 67 Alnwickhill Road and at the rear of No. 50 Liberton Gardens (Fig. 1).

2. Objectives

The objectives of the archaeological work were:

1. To carry out a Level 1 (English Heritage 2006) photographic survey of the areas of wall to be taken down;
2. To produce an illustrated data structure report on the survey results.

2. WORKING METHODS

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Standing Building Recording.

A photographic survey of both sides of the wall was undertaken and was confined to the sections of wall affected by the development. The survey included recording the dimensions of both sides of the wall. Measurements and fabric detail were recorded onto standard CFA architectural recording sheets. The survey was carried out in bright sunlight.

CFA used a Digital Nikon D100 SLR to take 35mm digital photographs of the wall. Appendix 1 provides a list of the photographs taken. A set of digital thumbnail prints are bound at the rear of the report.

3. SURVEY RESULTS

3.1 General

The two sections of wall that were proposed for demolition are shown on Fig 1. The length of each section of wall was approximately 20m.

3.2 Alnwickhill Road Section (Fig. 2)

North-east facing elevation

The north-east facing elevation of the Alnwickhill Road section faced onto Liberton Public Park. The wall stood to a height of 2.1m and was constructed of coursed sandstone blocks bonded with lime-mortar. The blocks measured on average 0.4m x 0.3m x 0.2m and were laid in regular courses with no discernible break in build. The coping stones varied in size and ranged from between 0.5m to 0.30m long and were slightly elliptical in shape with a hand-tooled 'stugged' finish. The wall was 0.5m thick below the coping stones. The wall was surmounted by a c.1.5m high green-painted steel security fence.

South-west facing elevation

The south-west facing elevation of the wall was 1.2m high and the wall fabric had an almost sneaked appearance with square blocks of sandstone being more frequent. The security fence brackets had been fixed to this side of the wall. There were no discernible breaks in build or other features present.

3.3 Liberton Gardens Section (Fig. 3)

North-east facing elevation

The north-facing elevation of the Liberton Gardens section measured 2.3m high and was 0.40m wide. The wall incorporated both random and coarsely laid sandstone blocks bonded with lime-mortar. The blocks were on average 0.2m x 0.2m x 0.1m,

with occasional smaller levelling stones. The wall had noticeable banding which probably reflects the different quality of stone and its resistance to weathering rather than a seasonal break in build. The coping stones varied in size but were 0.5m to 0.2m long and slightly elliptical in shape with a hand-tooled 'stugged' finish. The wall had been heavily pointed with grey cement. The wall was surmounted by the steel security fence.

South-east facing elevation

The south-east facing elevation measured 1.5m high and was 0.4m wide below the coping stones. The sandstone blocks were the same dimension as those on the north-facing elevation and were bonded with lime mortar. The stanchions supporting the steel security fence were fixed to this side of the wall.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The wall was fairly uniform along its entire length and the variability in recorded height is a result of the changes in ground level. The wall's north-facing elevation was noticeably higher. On its south side the embankments of the Alnwickhill reservoir filter beds lie close to the wall, resulting in an artificial ground level.

No other features of architectural importance were identified during the course of the photographic survey.

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.

A summary statement of the results of this survey will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2).

5. REFERENCES

English Heritage 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

IfA Building Standard 23 1996, 'Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures'.

Historic Scotland 1996 Statutory List 'Liberton Gardens, Alnwickhill Reservoir with Boundary Walls'.

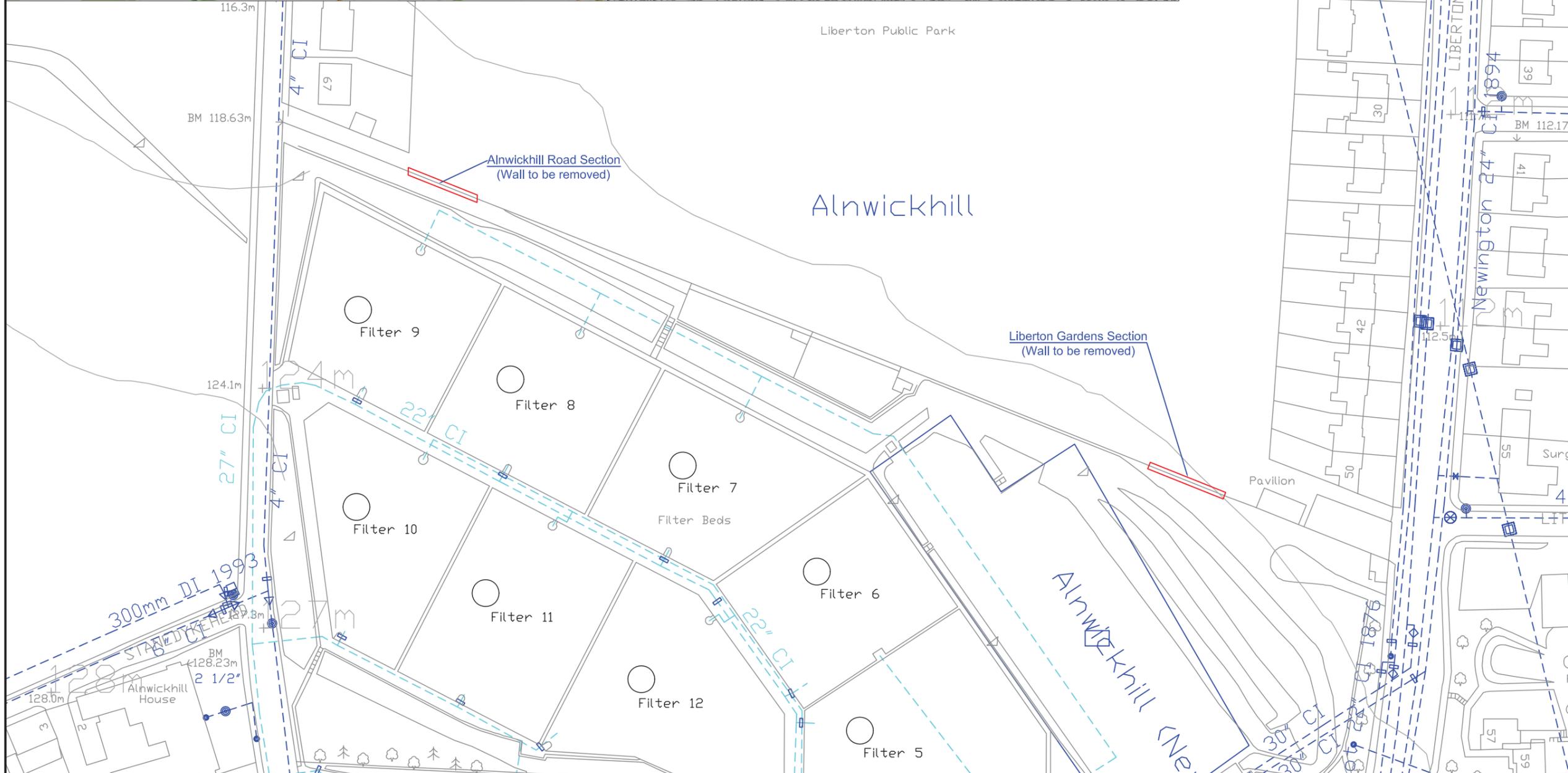
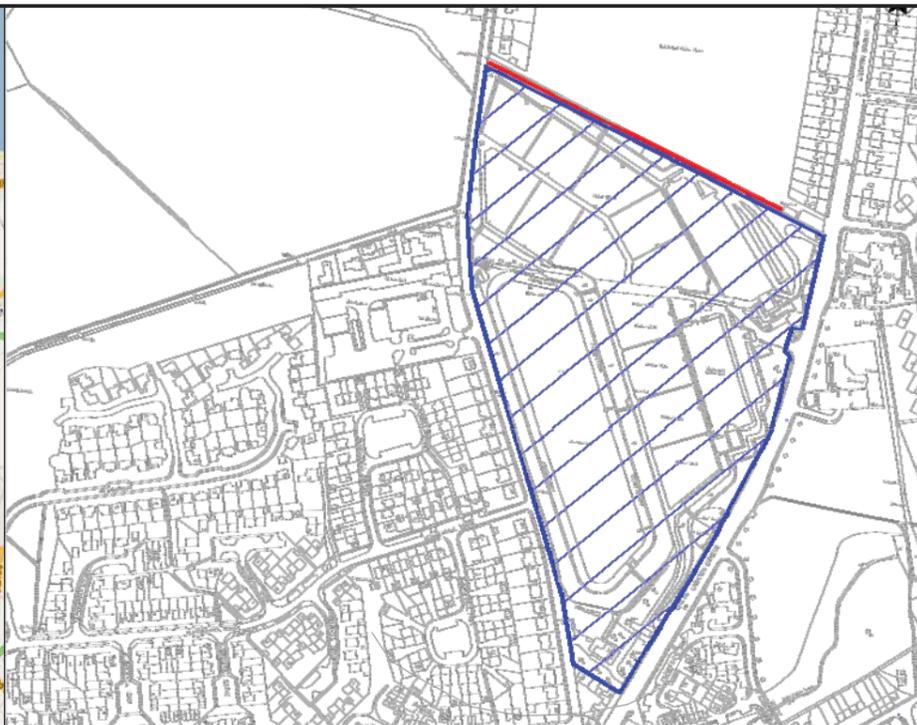
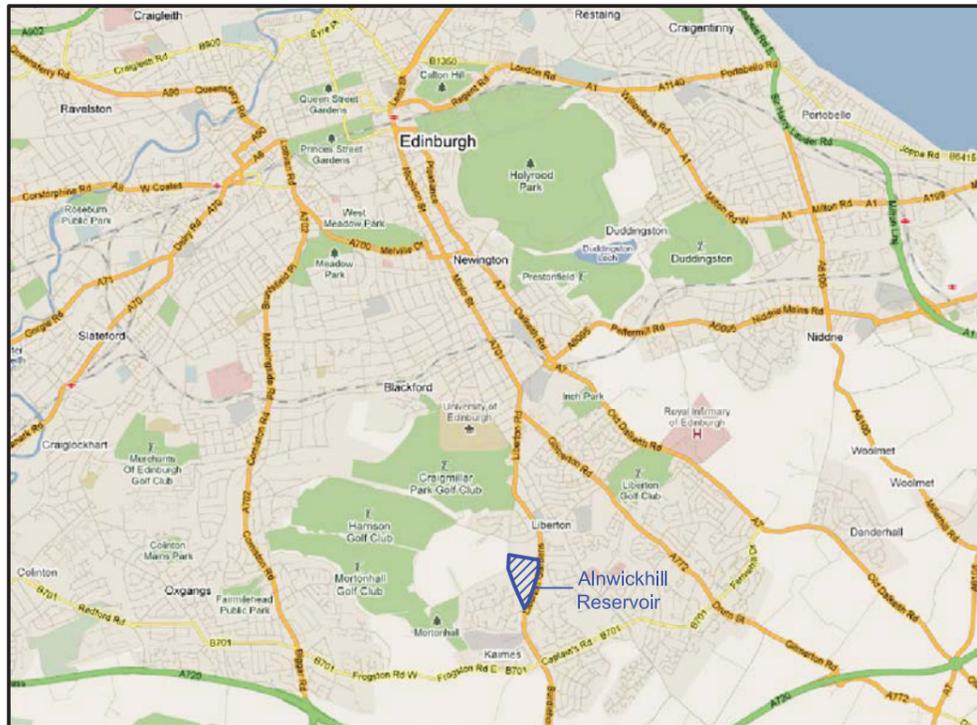
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Shot No.	Subject description	Facing	Conditions
1	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South	Bright
2	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, mid-section	South	Bright
3	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, mid-section	South	Bright
4	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, mid-section	South	Bright
5	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, mid-section	South	Bright
6	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, east end terminus	South	Bright
7	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, east end terminus	South	Bright
8	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, east end terminus	South	Bright
9	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, east end terminus	South	Bright
10	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, oblique view	South-east	Bright
11	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, oblique view	South-east	Bright
12	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, oblique view	South-west	Bright
13	Alwickhill Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view, oblique view	South-east	Bright
14	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South-west	Bright
15	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South-west	Bright
16	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South	Bright
17	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South	Bright
18	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South-west	Bright
19	Liberton Road wall section, north-facing elevation, general view	South-west	Bright
20	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general view	North	Bright
21	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general view	North	Bright
22	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general view west end	North	Bright
23	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, oblique view	North-east	Bright
24	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, oblique view	North-east	Bright
25	Alwickhill Road wall section, south-facing elevation, oblique view	North-west	Bright
26	Alwickhill Reservoir Outlet House	North	Bright
27	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, east end	North	Bright
28	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, mid section	North	Bright
29	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, mid	North	Bright

	section		
30	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, west end	North	Bright
31	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, west end	North	Bright
32	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general oblique view	North-west	Bright
33	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general oblique view	North-west	Bright
34	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, fabric detail	North	Bright
35	Liberton Road wall section, south-facing elevation, general oblique view	North-west	Bright

APPENDIX 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Alnwickhill Reservoir, Liberton Road
PROJECT CODE:	EDWP
PARISH:	City of Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	M Cressey
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Level 1 Building recording (photographic survey)
NMRS NO(S):	NT26NE 8700
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Reservoir boundary walls
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 32718 66915
START DATE (this season)	2 March 2011
END DATE (this season)	2 March 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	-
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>A Level 1 standing building survey was carried out on the northern boundary wall of the Alnwickhill Waterworks, Liberton Road, Edinburgh. The boundary wall is a category Group B Listed Structure with the Alnwickhill Waterworks. The wall was constructed in circa 1888.</p> <p>The wall is to be taken down as part of the Glencorse Water Treatment works. Two sections of wall, each measuring 20m are located near No. 67 Alnwickhill Road and No. 50 Liberton Gardens. The wall is constructed of coursed sandstone blocks bonded with lime mortar. The coping stones are elliptical and have been 'stugged' using a hand tool. The height of the wall on the north-facing elevation ranged between and 2.3m and 2.1m. The wall measures between 1.5m and 1.2m on its south-facing elevation. The wall is surmounted by a steel security fence.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Commissioned by ERM on behalf of Black & Veatch
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Old Engine House, Eskmills Business Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	NMRS/City of Edinburgh SMR



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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

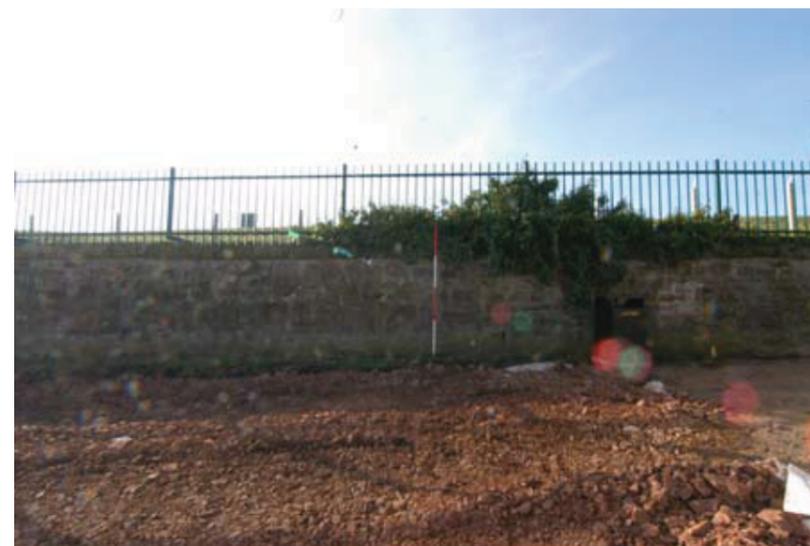
Title:
 Location map showing the north boundary wall with marked sections

Project:
 Alnwickhill Reservoir, Liberton, Edinburgh
 Boundary Wall Recording

Client:
 ERM

Scale:
 1:1250 A3

Key:



Alnwickhill Road wall section, southwest-facing elevations



Alnwickhill Road wall section, northeast-facing elevations

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Fig. No:	2	Revision:	A
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Title:

Project:
**Alnwickhill Reservoir,
 Liberton, Edinburgh
 Boundary Wall
 Recording**

Scale:

Client:
ERM

Drawn by: LW Report No: 1868

Key:



Liberton Gardens wall section, southwest-facing elevations



Liberton Gardens wall section, northeast-facing elevations

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Fig. No: **3** Revision: **A**

Title:

Project:
**Alnwickhill Reservoir,
 Liberton, Edinburgh
 Boundary Wall
 Recording**

Scale:

Client:
ERM

Drawn by: **LW** Report No: **1868**



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EDWP 003.jpg

EDWP 004.jpg

EDWP 005.jpg



EDWP 006.jpg

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