61, Forrest Road *Edinburgh*

Historic Building Recording : 1st May 2019

for

Forrest Road Holdings Ltd.

May 2019



Truncated End of the Telfer Wall at 61, Forrest Road

Addyman Archaeology

Archaeology Heritage Consultancy Architecture

Addyman Archaeology

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61, Forrest Road Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh

Historic Building Recording : 1st May 2019

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May 2019

by Antoine Ruchonnet

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Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Seán Gaule, from Somner MacDonald Architects for his help arranging access and his kind understanding of the needs of historic building recording.

For Addyman Archaeology, the fieldwork was undertaken by Kenneth Macfadyen and Antoine Ruchonnet.

61, Forrest Road *Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh*

Historic Building Recording

Executive Summary

Addyman Archaeology undertook Historic Building Recording at 61 Forrest Road, Edinburgh prior to the conversion of the former bank building into a restaurant; the building is a Category C Listed Building. The southern wall of the property is on the line of the 17th century Telfer Wall, a Scheduled Monument, part of Edinburgh's Town defences, and the western wall is the eastern wall of the southern extent of the Greyfriars graveyard known as the Covenanters' Prison, a Category A Listed Building. Considering the importance of those features, historic building recording was conducted, with Structure from Motion/Multi-View Stereo model (SfM/MVS) recording of all exposed stone masonry.

It appears that the Telfer Wall was truncated when No 61 was built and no trace of it was found inside; the western wall appears to be a completely new build when it was constructed in 1872 and no evidence of the former Covenanters' Prison could be found within it. It appears likely that the western wall reused stone from these earlier features. The investigations revealed a number of features that were blocked latterly: two fireplaces, an opening for running services to the tenement above and a still in use foul water downpipe within the fabric of the wall.

1. Introduction

i. Background and previous work

Addyman Archaeology was contacted by Seán Gaule from Somner MacDonald Architects, on behalf of Forrest Road Holdings Ltd. to conduct a programme of Historic Building Recording in relation to works being undertaken at 61, Forrest Road, Edinburgh. The building is category C Listed (LB47866).

The western wall of the property is formed both by the 17th century Scheduled Monument of theTelfer Wall (SM2901), part of Edinburgh's Town defences, and the eastern wall enclosing part of the current Greyfriars graveyard known as the Covenanters' Prison (LB 27029), a Category A Listed Building.

The present proposed development involved internal stripping back of the existing former bank fittings and walls. As this might reveal and impact the historic wall on the west side of the building, City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) had recommended that historic building recording was undertaken during the works to record and protect the historic fabric of the wall. The planning application, ref. 19/00752/FUL, was granted on Wednesday 20th March 2019, with the following condition:

'No demolition/development shall take place on the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work (historic building recording, analysis & reporting) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.'

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was submitted to the Council archaeologist and was accepted on the 29th April 2019.

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A record of the building recording (OASIS ID: addymana1-350730) has been deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service and with Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland.

ii. Site location and setting

No 61, Forrest Road is part of a Category C Listed (LB47866) 4-storey and attic 5-bay bowed block with baronial details, designed by James Connel and built in 1872. The site lies at the crossroads of Forrest Road and Lauriston Place (NGR NT 25676 73126; see *Figure 1*). It is bounded by the southernmost extent of Greyfriars Kirkyard to the West, and 5 Forrest Hill to the North. The site is on the same line as the Telfer Wall, part of the 17^{th} century Edinburgh city defences.

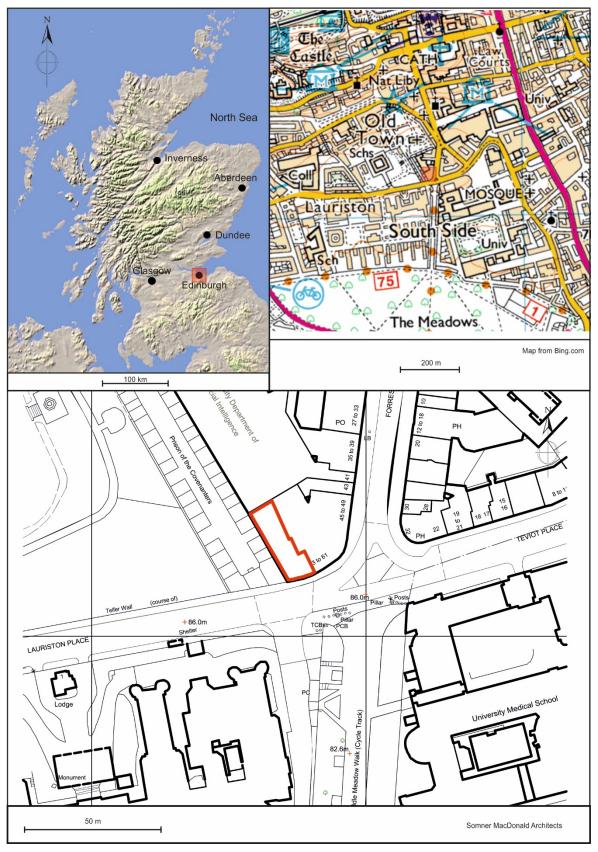


Figure 1 Site Location

2. Historical Summary

i. Historic Background

The site lies to the south of Greyfriars Kirk and associated burial ground. In 1562 the Town Council decided to use the grounds of the former friary as a burial ground (the church was not built until 1620) due to congestion at St Giles' and it soon became Edinburgh's main cemetery. The churchyard was bounded by the Flodden Wall to the east. The Telfer Wall named after its mason, John Taillefer, was built between 1628 and 1636, to the south-west of the Flodden wall and enclosed an area of land west of the churchyard (purchased by the Town Council in 1618). The west part of the plot was subsequently sold to the Heriot Trust for the erection of a Hospital (now George Heriot's School) and the east part was used as a prison for the Covenanters, after their defeat in 1679. In 1739, the Charity Work House was built on the Covenanter Prison and the strip of land separating the Hospital and Work House grounds was made part of the churchyard with the Telfer Wall surviving as the southern boundary of that section of the graveyard.

ii. Map Regression

The earliest map showing the site in detail is the *Edinodunensis Tabulam*, by James Gordon de Rothemay, published in 1647 (see *Figure 2*). The site, marked with a red arrow, is part of an empty plot of land bounded to the south and east by the Telfer Wall, Greyfriars Kirk and burial ground to the north and the grounds and gardens of the Heriot Hospital to the west. Old College and the Grassmarket are easily recognisable. This depicts the site less than a decade after the erection of the Telfer Wall.

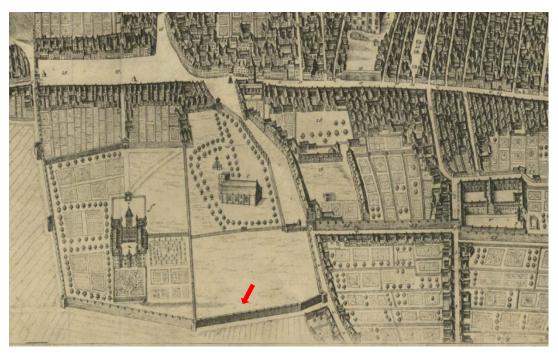


Figure 2 Edinodunensis Tabulam, 1647, James Gordon de Rothemay (NLS).

No map could be found depicting the use of the land as a prison for the Covenanters. The 1675 *Plan of the City and Castle of Edinburgh* by William Edgar (see *Figure 3*), represents the transformations the site underwent in the last century. The Charity Workhouse was built 26 years prior and the narrow strip of land, opening on Greyfriars Kirkyard separates the Hospital and the Workhouse. Meanwhile the city expanded southward greatly with tenements and formal gardens, squares and College buildings. An opening has been slapped through the Telfer Wall for access to the Charity House.

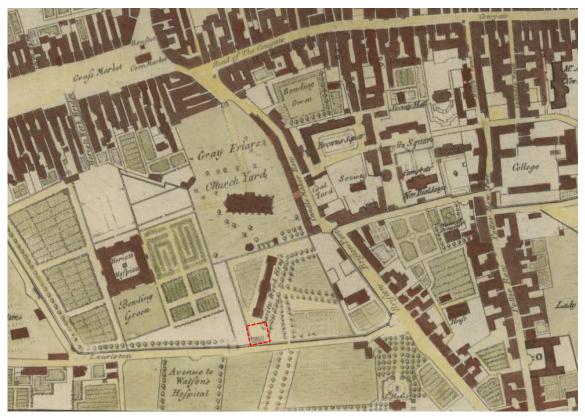


Figure 3 Plan of the City and Castle of Edinburgh, 1765, William Edgar (NLS).

The area remains unchanged until 1807 (see Figure 4 to Figure 7).

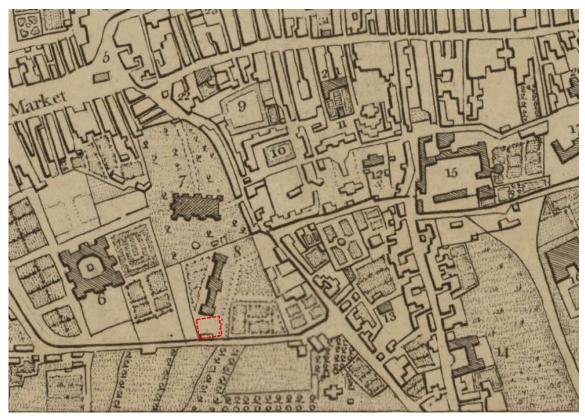


Figure 4 Plan of the City of Edinburgh, 1771, John Andrews (NLS).

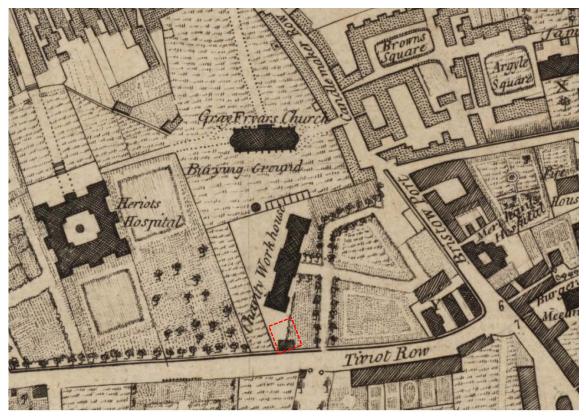


Figure 5 City of Edinburgh, 1780, John Ainslie (NLS).



Figure 6 Plan of Edinburgh City and Suburbs, 1795, John Andrews (NLS).

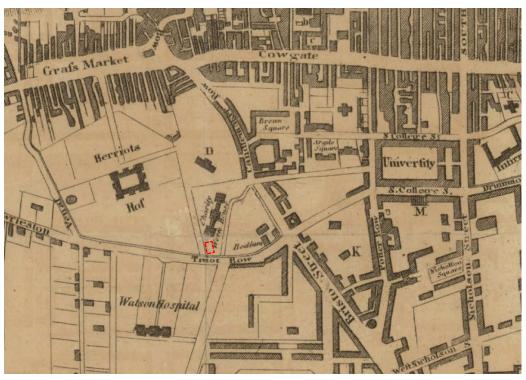


Figure 7 To the Right Honourable Lord Provost [...] This Plan of the City of Edinburgh, 1807, (NLS).

The 1817 *Plan of the City of Edinburgh and its Environs* by Robert Kirkwood (see *figure 8*) illustrates the site with greater details, with funerary monuments within the Greyfriars Kirkyard, including the strip of land separating the Workhouse and the Hospital. The Workhouse, here named Poorhouse, is shown in greater details, with a series of ancillary buildings, most notably, one at the south-east corner of the lot, directly against the Telfer Wall, here marked in a dotted line highlighted in blue.



Figure 8 Plan of the City of Edinburgh and its Environs, 1817, Robert Kirkwood (NLS).

Interestingly, a Plan of 1823, by John Wood, depicts the intended improvements of the area (see *figure* 9), with the planned erection of a triangular building in the centre of a newly created crossroads, with Teviot Row to the south, Forrest Road to the west and Bristo Street to the east. Extensive modifications were planned for the plot surrounding the Workhouse and the construction of a curved tenement row to frame the planned crossroads.

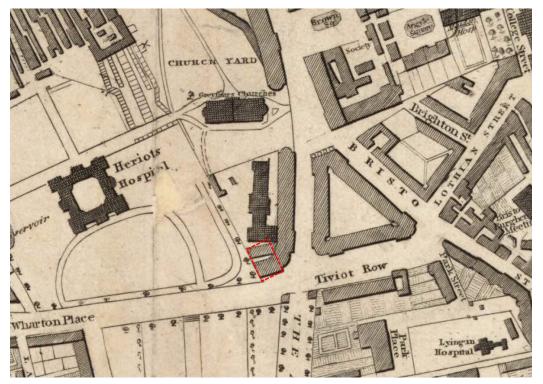


Figure 9 Plan of the City of Edinburgh, Including all the Latest and Intended Improvements, 1823, John Wood (NLS).



Figure 10 Plan of the City of Edinburgh, 1834 William Lizars (NLS).

The transformation of Teviot Row was not to be done until the last quarter of the 19^{th} century, however. As the *Plan of Edinburgh* by William Lizars of 1834 shows the area yet unchanged (see *figure 10*).

By the first edition of the Ordnance Survey of 1852 (see *figure 11*), the Charity Workhouse and its ancillary buildings are shown in detail. The main range has been connected to the north ancillary building, which was modified, creating a closed courtyard against the cemetery wall. The same appears on John Bartholomew's *Plan of Edinburgh and Leith with Suburbs* of 1864 (see *figure 12*)

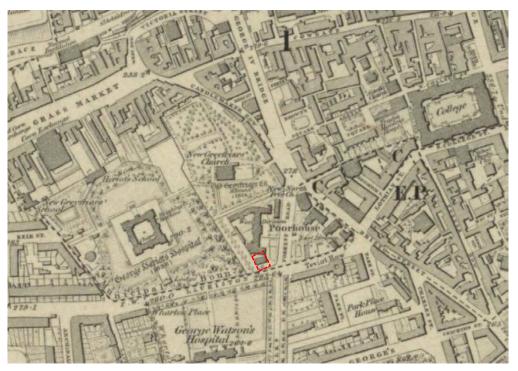


Figure 11 Ordnance Survey, 6', Edinburghshire, Sheet 2, 1852 (NLS).

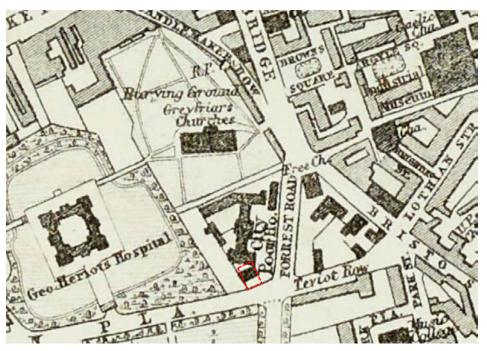


Figure 12 Plan of Edinburgh and Leith with Suburbs, 1864, John Bartholomew (NLS).

Major transformations happen in the early 1870s, as shown on the 1877 Ordnance Survey (see *figure 13*). No 61 is built in 1872 when the area is completely transformed. The Charity Workhouse is deeply modified as new developments are being done along what is now known as Forrest Road. As planned on John Wood's 1823 map, there is now a triangular block bound by Teviot Row, Forrest Road and Bristo Place.

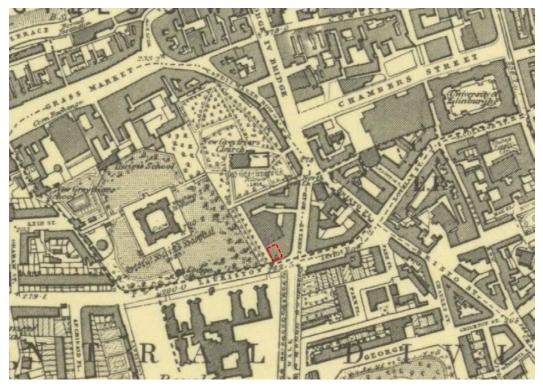


Figure 13 Ordnance Survey, 6', Edinburghshire, Sheet 2, 1877 (NLS).

The 25 inch edition of the Ordnance Survey of 1894, shows the site in great detail. The site is separated in plots, as existing today. No 5 Forrest Road behind the site is here identified as the Volunteer Drill Hall, also built in 1872, today the University department for artificial intelligence.

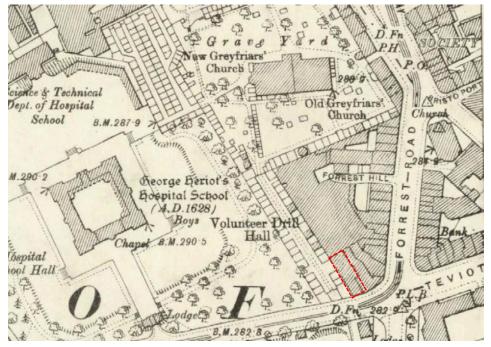


Figure 14 Ordnance Survey, 25', Edinburghshire III.7, 1894 (NLS).

Greyfriars Church Science & Technical Department of Hospital School C 0 D.Fn ROAD geriot's School 28 P.O. Bk FORREST Hall War Memorial Chapel 282-9 L.B

There are no subsequent modifications to No 61 Forrest Road, as the 1931 25 inch Ordnance Survey depicts the site as it still exists today.

Figure 15 Ordnance Survey, 25', Edinburghshire III.7, 1931 (NLS).

3. Methodology

The site was recorded following completion of the internal soft strip. The site visit was conducted on the 1st of May 2019. A measured sketch was produced on site, and a series of digital photographs were taken in order to create a Structure from Motion/Multi-View Stereo model (SfM/MVS), which was in turn used to generate a drawing of the elevations. Site record photography was also taken using a digital Sony Alpha.

4. Results

i. The Telfer Wall

No traces of the Telfer Wall or the previously standing buildings were seen in the internal masonry of No 61 Forrest Road. It appears that the Telfer Wall was cut and re-quoined prior to the erection of the Forrest Road buildings (see *plate 1*). The obsolete defence wall was then partially dismantled to clear room for the new builds in the second half of the 19th century. It is, however, very likely that the dressed sandstone of the Wall were reused in the construction of the Forrest Road Buildings.



Plate 1 Eastern Extent of the Telfer Wall, at the junction with No 61 Forrest Road

ii. The Original No 61 Forrest Road Building

The internal stripping within No 61 Forrest Road, revealed three walls of sandstone masonry (see *figure 16*). All of them are related to the 1872 new build and its subsequent transformations, no earlier structure or feature were noted surviving.

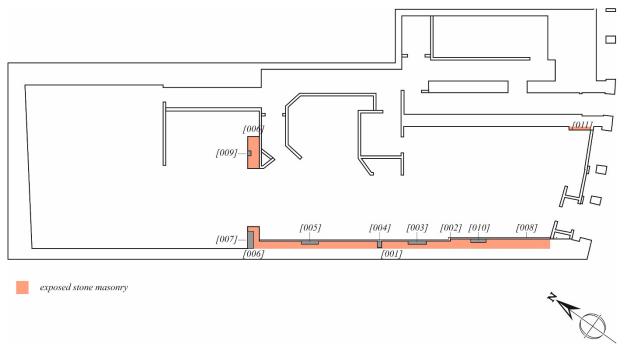


Figure 16 Site Plan showing the Exposed Stone Masonry Walls and Features.

The earliest surviving masonry was the original 1872 building, as seen on the 1894 map which remained mostly unchanged until today. The masonry of the west wall, Wall [001], was revealed for a length of 15.50m; the southern extent was hidden behind the main door case (see *plate 2* to *plate 5*). The rubble masonry was exposed to a height of 3.45m and was most likely made up of reused sandstone from the previously standing Charity Workhouse, its ancillary buildings and the Telfer Wall. The masonry was bonded by a beige-grey lime mortar dating to the second half of the 19th century. No difference in the fabric of the wall could be discerned in the main elevation, but a few features were recorded that have been blocked in the 20th century (see below).



Plate 2 Wall [001]

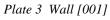




Plate 4 Wall [001]

Plate 5 Wall [001]

A few features original to the construction were noted along wall [001] and its east-west return [006] (see *figure 17* and *figure 19*). These are described below from south to north.

The first feature was a fireplace [010], original to the building, latterly blocked (see *plate 6*). The fireplace was surrounded by broached sandstone quoins and a sandstone lintel with a curved base. The opening was 0.85m wide and with a visible height of 0.4m, although it can be assumed that the opening was starting on the floor for a total height of approximately 1m.



Plate 6 Blocked Fireplace [010]

One step in the masonry [002], quoined in sandstone and stepping in 0.1m was noted (see *plate 7*). This is likely to be linked to the structure of the tenements above. The quoins are broached and the masonry is keyed in with the rest of the wall.

An opening [003], quoined in sandstone ran floor to ceiling with a visible lintel above (see *plate 8*). The opening is tied in with the rest of the masonry. Measuring 1.02m wide, 4m high and was probed through the modern block to a depth of 0.5m. Its use is unclear, it is, however likely that this was made to run services, such as water and gas to the tenements above.



Plate 7 Step in [002]



Plate 8 Opening [003]

Another opening for a foul water downpipe [004] was also quoined in broached sandstone (see *plate* 9). A cast iron down pipe ran down the middle of the opening. The sides were irregular and keyed in the surrounding masonry. The opening ran from floor to the ceiling to the tenements above, the width varied between 0.18m and 0.35m, with a depth of 0.3m. The masonry around this feature is damper than the rest of the wall and hence appears darker.

Lastly, there was another blocked fireplace [005], quoined and lintelled in sandstone, also blocked (see *plate 10*). The original fireplace had a rectangular lintel which was cut back on its underside to form a curved top. Considering the roughness of the cut, it is most likely that the fireplace was cut to fit an insert. The opening measures 0.9m by 0.9m and is 0.42m deep. The path of the flue is visible by the sooty deposit that permeated to the surface.





Plate 9 Opening for Downpipe [004]

Plate 10 Blocked Fireplace [005]

The north-south stone masonry return [006] of wall [001] was also exposed (see *figure 18* and *figure 19*). The return was made of large broach tooled reused stones (see *plate 11* to *plate 14*) and was exposed to a height of 4.3m. This masonry was the base of the north gable end of the tenements above.

The West pier measured 1.2m long (0.8m on the south face) and 0.65m wide. There were no features originally built in this pier.



Plate 11 Return [006]South-West Corner



Plate 12 West Return [006], North



Plate 13 East Return [006], North



Plate 14 Return [006], South East Corner

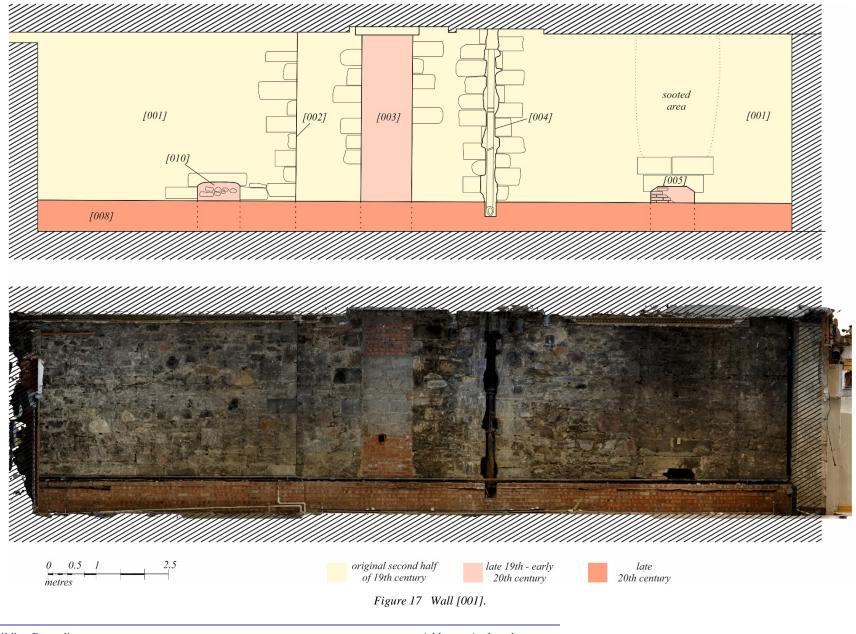
The East pier measured 1.8m long and 0.65m wide. There was a ceramic downpipe running from floor to ceiling within a 0.25m wide opening [009] on the north side of the pier (*see plate 15*). The opening is surrounded by broached sandstone quoins and is blocked by the same masonry as the one surrounding it. It appears, then, that the downpipe was installed with the original building.



Plate 15 Downpipe within Opening [010]

The last original fabric appearing after the stripping was a portion of the wall [011] in the south-east corner of the room (see *figure 20*). The wall was exposed to a height of 4.0m and a width of 1.31m. There were no features noted on this elevation.

61, Forrest Road, Edinburgh



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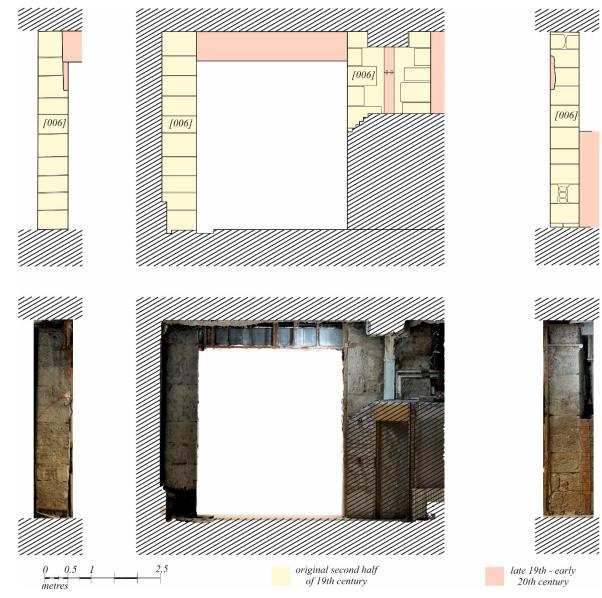


Figure 18 Return [006], West, South and East.

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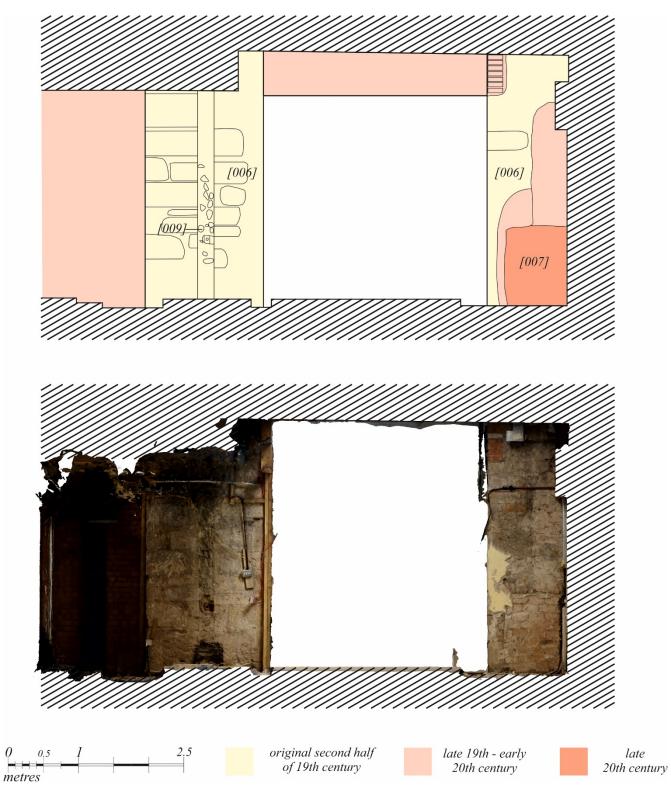
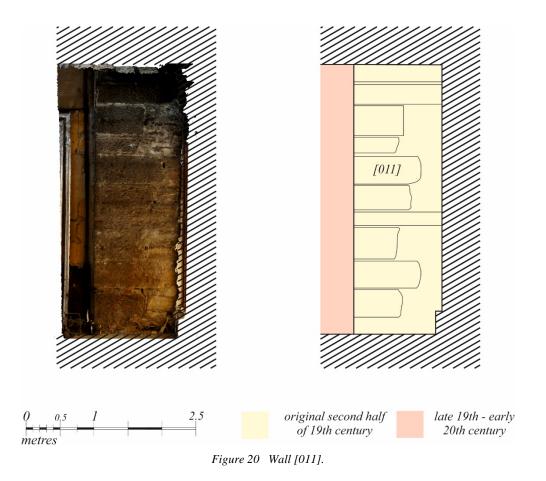


Figure 19 Return [006], North.



iii. Later Transformations

Wall [001] has undergone very few changes in the past 150 years. The two fireplaces [005] and [010] were blocked up with bricks. The same happened to the opening [003] which was blocked with bricks and concrete blocks.

More extensive work was done to the return [006], most importantly the insertion of a fireplace and flue on the north side of the west pier which was at a later date blocked with bricks (see *plate 16*). The fireplace was built in bricks with a brick arched head, measuring 1.50m by 1.0m with an opening of 1.2m by 0.9m. The flue measured 1.8m by 0.5m and ran to the west.



Plate 16 Inserted Fireplace [007] and later Blocking

The latest feature was a 0.6m high dwarf wall [008] running north-south in front and obscuring Wall [001]. This appeared to be built in the late 20th century.

5. Discussion

Archaeological investigations at No 61, Forrest Road after the building was stripped for its conversion into a restaurant did not reveal any structure pre-existing the construction of the 1872 tenement. No traces of the Telfer Wall were found inside. It is, however, extremely likely that the sandstone used in the construction of that building were salvaged from the defence wall. No traces either of the Charity Workhouse and its ancillary buildings were seen, but the stones might have been recycled as well.

The fabric of the original 1872 building remained mostly untouched with two fireplaces and an opening for services latterly blocked, a sewage downpipe within its opening, and a fireplace was slapped through the north gable west pier and subsequently blocked.

Appendix A Context Register

Context No.	Recorded by	Date	Description	
001	KmF	01/05/2019	Structural. Linear, N-S rubble masonry wall, bonded in beige-brown mortar (reused stone)	
002	KmF	01/05/2019	Quoined step in masonry	
003	KmF	01/05/2019	Quoined opening, running from floor to ceiling, blocked with modern brick	
004	KmF	01/05/2019	Sandstone quoined opening for foul water pipe, 0.3m deep	
005	KmF	01/05/2019	Sandstone lintelled fireplace, original, square lintel cut back on underside to form curved top	
006	KmF	01/05/2019	Masonry return of Gable (reused stones)	
007	KmF	01/05/2019	Inserted brick fireplace into north of west [006], brick arched head and inserted flue above, running to exterior	
008	KmF	01/05/2019	Brick dwarf wall, 0.6m high, late 20th century	
009	KmF	01/05/2019	Foul water pipe at rear of [006] east	
010	KmF	01/05/2019	Blocked fireplace	
011	AR	01/05/2019	Sandstone quoined wall in SE corner	

Image No.	Original No.	Date	Direction	Description
001	8444	01/05/2019	W	Wall [001], General view
002	8445	01/05/2019	W	Wall [001], General view
003	8446	01/05/2019	W	Wall [001], General view
004	8447	01/05/2019	W	Wall [001], General view
005	8448	01/05/2019	W	Wall [001], General view
006	8449	01/05/2019	NW	Return [006], West jamb
007	8450	01/05/2019	W	Return [006], West jamb
008	8451	01/05/2019	S	Return [006], West jamb
009	8452	01/05/2019	S	Return [006], East jamb
010	8453	01/05/2019	Е	Return [006], East jamb
011	8454	01/05/2019	Е	Return [006], East jamb
012	8455	01/05/2019	NE	Return [006], East jamb
013	8457	01/05/2019	N	Telfer Wall, Exterior, showing cut for buildings
014	8458	01/05/2019	N	Telfer Wall, Exterior, showing cut for buildings
015	8459	01/05/2019	W	Step in masonry [002]
016	8460	01/05/2019	W	Blocking [003]
017	8461	01/05/2019	W	Sewage Down Pipe [004]
018	8463	01/05/2019	W	Blocked Fireplace [005]
019	8464	01/05/2019	S	Blocked Fireplace [007]
020	8465	01/05/2019	S	Downpipe [009]
021	8482	01/05/2019	W	Blocked Fireplace [010]
-	8466- 8481	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Wall [001]
-	8483- 8675	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Wall [001], Continued
-	8676- 8744	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Return [006], South
-	8745- 8776	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Return [006], West
-	8777- 8820	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Return [006], East
-	8821- 8910	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Return [006], North
-	8911- 8922	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Return [006], South continued
-	8923- 8948	01/05/2019	-	Photogrammetry of Wall [011]

Appendix BPhotograph Register

Appendix C DES entry

City of Edinburgh		
61, Forrest Road		
AA2385.00		
Edinburgh		
Kenneth Macfadyen, Antoine Ruchonnet		
Addyman Archaeology		
Historic Building Recording		
Canmore ID: 258731		
Bank (Financial)		
None		
NT 25678 73130		
1 st May 2019		
1 st May 2019		
None		
Addyman Archaeology undertook Historic Building Recording at 61 Forrest Road, Edinburgh prior to the conversion of the former bank building into a restaurant; the building is Category C Listed. The southern wall of the property is on the line of the 17th century Telfer Wall (SM2901), a Scheduled Monument and part of Edinburgh's Town defences, and the western wall is the eastern wall of the southern extent of the Greyfriars graveyard known as the Covenanters' Prison, Category A Listed Building. Considering the importance of those features, historic building recording was conducted, with Structure from Motion/Multi-View Stereo model (SfM/MVS) recording of all exposed stone masonry. It appears that the Telfer Wall was truncated when No 61 was built and no trace of it was found inside; the western wall appears to be a completely new build when it was constructed in 1872 and no evidence of the former Covenanters' Prison could be found within it. It appears likely that the western wall reused stone from these earlier features. The investigations revealed a number of features that were blocked latterly: two fireplaces, an opening for running services to the tenement above and a still in use foul water downpipe within the fabric of the wall.		
None		
N/a		
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NRHE (intended)		