

Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

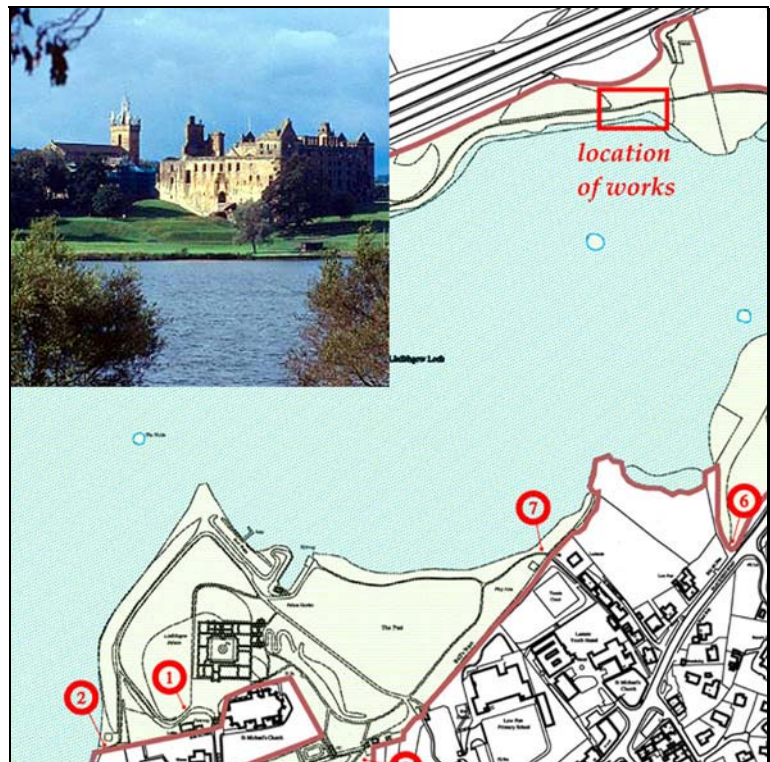
LOCAL AUTHORITY:	West Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Linlithgow Palace
PROJECT CODE:	HSCO-90201-2009-02
PARISH:	Linlithgow
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Claire Casey
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Kirkdale Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	NT07NW 9.00
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Residential/ Palace
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 0064 7788
START DATE (this season)	17 March 2009
END DATE (this season)	17 March 2009
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was maintained during an excavation near north shoreline at the east end of Linlithgow Loch (NT 0064 7788). The work was carried out in order improve drainage from the loch side path. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Historic Scotland
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

Historic Scotland
Properties in Care
Minor Archaeological Works 2008-9

Linlithgow Palace & Royal Park

Archaeological monitoring, February 2009

HS PIC Index number: 90201
Project code: HSCO-90201-2009-02



30 March 2009
Kirkdale Archaeology

<u>Site</u>	Linlithgow Palace: Royal Park
<u>N.G.R</u>	NT 00 77
<u>Project Description</u>	Archaeological monitoring
<u>Project code</u>	HSCO-90201-2009-02

Contents

1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Description	1
3.0 Interpretation and observations	1
A1.0 Appendix 1: List of contexts	2
A2.0 Appendix 2: List of photographs	2

Summary: A watching brief was maintained during an excavation near north shoreline at the east end of Linlithgow Loch. The work was carried out in order improve drainage from the loch side path. There were no finds or features of archaeological significance.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Under the terms of its call-off contract with Historic Scotland, Kirkdale Archaeology was asked to undertake a watching brief near the N shoreline at the east end of Linlithgow Loch. The work was carried out in order to put in some drainage between the loch and the loch side path in order to tackle drainage problems that had arisen on the section of path.

This worked involved the excavation of a trench that measured 6 m, in length, 500 mm in depth, and 400 mm in width. The trench itself was excavated by hand by members of the Historic Scotland's MCU.

The work was carried out on the 17 March 2009.

2.0 DESCRIPTION

The turf **(001)** was removed, which revealed a layer of black, ashy hardcore **(002)**, which formed the basis for the path which follows the circumference of the loch. The hardcore continued to a depth greater than 500 mm, the depth at which excavation stopped. Due to this the extent of the hardcore was not exposed.

At the eastern end of the trench, the trench was extended to the south, allowing for the drainage pipe that was placed within the trench to dogleg towards the loch. This was in order to allow for any surface water that would be running through this drain to go into the loch. This section of the trench was dug down 500 mm into the topsoil **(003)**.

3.0 INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATIONS

Through the whole extent of the trench, no artefacts or features of archaeological significance were uncovered during the excavation. The excavation did not penetrate beyond modern landscaping and path bedding.

A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

#	Description
001	Topsoil
002	Black, ashy hardcore for loch side path
003	Dark brown topsoil

A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Frame	Description	From	Date
001	Location shot of the trench	N	17/03/09
002	Base of trench during excavation and showing black, ashy hardcore	N	17/03/09
003	Same as above, taken from the W end of the trench	N	17/03/09
004	Showing length of trench	E	17/03/09
005	Dog leg in trench to allow for the drainage pipe to run towards the loch	N	17/03/09
006	Showing trench with dog leg	E	17/03/09

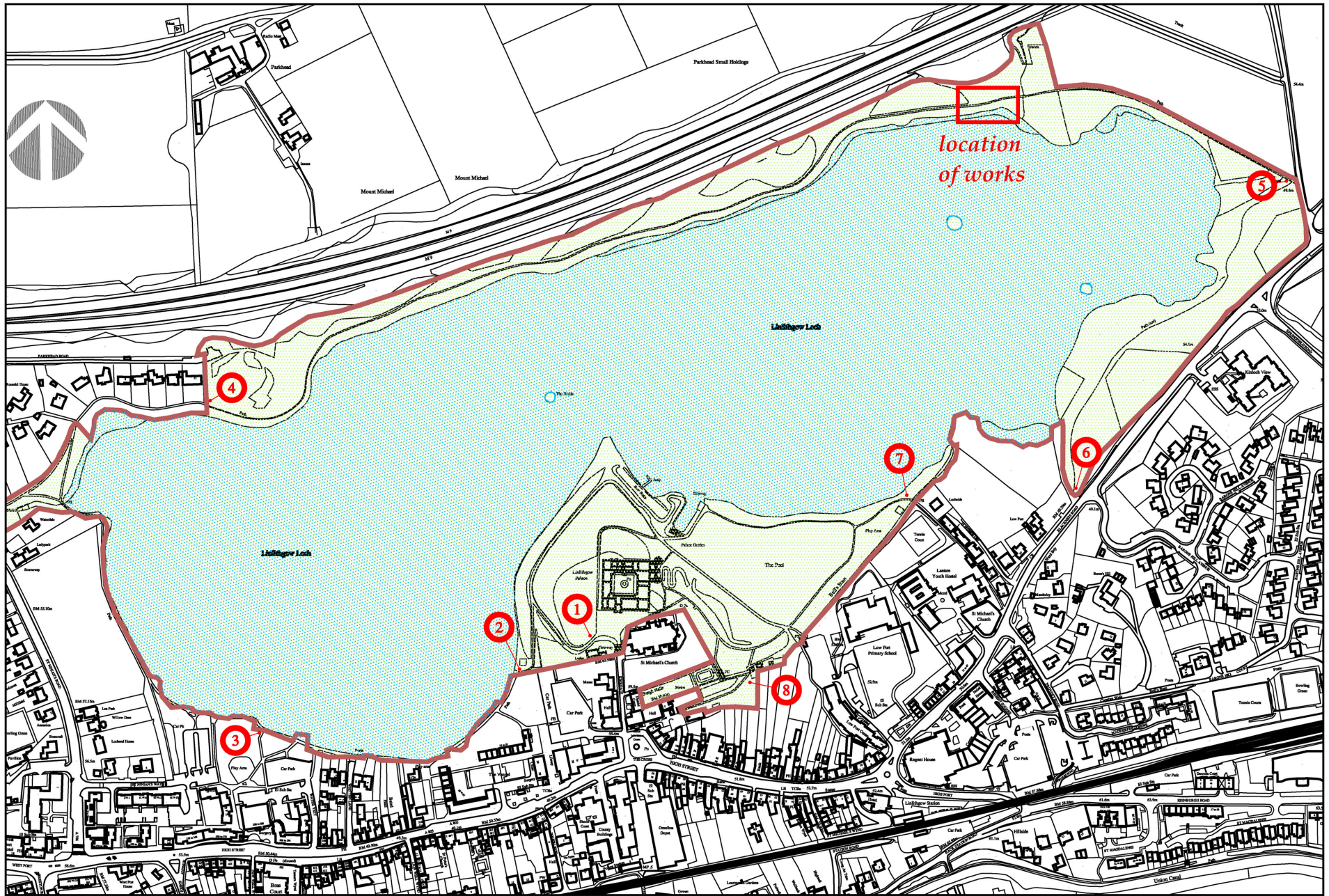


Fig. 1 : Plan (not to scale) showing location of works