

# BEAVERBANK PLACE, EDINBURGH

*Archaeological Trial Trenching*

*for CCG (Scotland) Ltd*

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# BEAVERBANK PLACE, EDINBURGH

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING

### PROJECT SUMMARY

*Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook trial trench evaluation of a proposed development site to the east side of Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh. The work was commissioned by CCG (Scotland) Ltd as part of the planning conditions placed on the application by the City of Edinburgh Archaeological Services (CECAS). The trial trenching was designed to inform the need for further archaeological works in relation to the development.*

*The works comprised the excavation of six 16m long archaeological evaluation trenches to provide a 10% sample of the development area. Upstanding remains were recorded in all six trenches, the majority of which relate to buildings depicted on the 1877 and 1896 Ordnance Survey maps. The most prominent features were a series of brick built pits recorded in two trenches. These included brick walls and floors and were interpreted as tanning pits associated with the 19<sup>th</sup> century Tannery. A limited number of additional brick walls relating to the tannery building were also recorded to the south half of the site. Walls associated with later phases of expansion and alteration were recorded to the north half of the development area although these were mostly limited to foundations.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This document presents the results of archaeological investigation undertaken by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd for CCG (Scotland) Ltd ('the client') at the development site on Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh.

Planning Permission was granted in 2013 for the development of 41 flats on land at Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh (13/03575/FUL). The condition attached to the planning permission stated:

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

The required archaeological works were outlined within a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd (McFarlane 2018), which was approved by the Planning Authority.

## 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed development is located immediately east of Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh (centred on NT 2551 7524; Illus 1). It is characterised by open rough ground, bound by Beaverbank Place to the west, existing industrial units to the north, a car park to the east and by properties facing onto Broughton Road and a children's playground to the south.

The underlying geology comprises levels of the Gullane Formation, a sedimentary rock of the Strathclyde group, and the overlying superficial geology comprises raised marine deposits, predominantly sands and gravels (NERC 2016).

## 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Mapping from the mid-18th century (Roy's Map, 1747-55) indicates the presence of a mill lade running from Canon Loch, through the general vicinity of the development and then on to the Water of Leith to the north. A building is shown on the south side of the mill lade at the point the lade turns to the north. This is thought to be Logie Mill, but the specific location of the structure cannot be accurately mapped. By the mid-19th century (Ordnance Survey 1852; Illus 2) the mapping is more accurate and it is clear that Logie Mill lies outside the development area to the south-east, and that the mill lade clips the southern extent of the development area.

The land to the north of the mill lade remained undeveloped until the 1870s. By 1876 (Illus 3) a tannery and skinnery occupied the southern half of the development, joined by further buildings in the north of the site by the publication of the 1896 Ordnance Survey (Illus 4). By this stage, the mill lade has been culverted within the development area, although it is presumed it survives below the tannery building.

During the 20th century the structures at the north of the area appear to have been partially demolished and a garage constructed, and those in the south-east corner are marked as a cooperage.

No intrusive archaeological works have taken place within the development area to date, however, evaluation and excavation has taken place on the ground to the west and north. This revealed that the infilled mill lade survived to the west of the current development area between Logie Green Road and Beaverbank Place. The construction cut for the lade and the lade wall itself survived well in this area,

with evidence of it having been re-cut or repaired noted. A well and sub-rectangular structure, both possibly contemporary in date with the lade, were noted to the south. A small amount of metalworking debris was found in association with the sub-rectangular structure, suggesting it related to small scale industrial activity possibly linked to the construction of the lade itself (Wilson 2014). A large cut containing late 17<sup>th</sup> century and early 18<sup>th</sup> century midden material was noted at the west of the development, south of the lade. This cut may be a substantial waste pit, but may also relate to the construction of the lade on an earlier, more southerly alignment (van Wessel 2009).

To the north of the development area, an arrangement of four tanning pits was noted. The remains of timber planks forming a channel were found in the centre of each pit. An organic deposit containing fragments of animal bone, cattle horn, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and leather fragments was also recorded to the west of the tanning pits (Scott 2011). Both these features demonstrate the potential for organic material to survive in the area to the north of the development area. The foundations of an iron foundry, along with the foundation walls of a skinnery dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> were also discovered to the north of the development area.

## 4 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The aim of the trial trenching was to record all archaeological features present on the site and to undertake sufficient intrusive excavation to enable the date, character, form and stratigraphic relationships to be understood. The intention was to determine whether future archaeological work will be required in order to mitigate the impact of the development.

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited in the Scottish National Records of the Historic Environment (SNRHE) to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

### 5.1 Trench excavations

Trenches were excavated using a JCB 3CX excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All excavation was carried out in controlled spits under direct archaeological supervision. Excavation was terminated at the top of the natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Spoil was stored at the side of the trench.

Excavation of archaeological deposits and features required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation continued by hand. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools.

Four additional test pits located at the north and south ends of the site were excavated by hand, at the request of the client. These were opened in order to identify the depth of the foundations of the boundary walls in each location, for engineering purposes. The excavation of these was terminated at the top of the first archaeological horizon in each case.

The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches and test pits, even where no archaeological deposits were identified. Due to space and health and safety concerns all trenches containing archaeology were excavated, recorded and backfilled before further trenches were opened.

## 5.2 Recording

All contexts were given unique numbers. The context numbers were issued to correspond to the trench or test pit in which they were recorded. All recording was undertaken on pro-forma record cards and digital photography was used to record any archaeological features with a graduated metric scale clearly visible.

A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and any other relevant information was recorded digitally by a Trimble R8S network GPS connected to the VRS network correction. When appropriate, sections and stratigraphic sequences were recorded digitally.

## 5.3 Reporting and Archive

The results of the works are presented below. Full descriptions and technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1. A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery & Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2) and the OASIS database (headland1-312319).

The complete project archive will be deposited with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) within six months of the completion of the project. The records (paper and digital) will be archived according to best practice guidelines set out by the Archaeological Archiving Forum (2011).

## 6 RESULTS

The work was carried out between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in dry and bright conditions. The site covered an area approximately 1510m<sup>2</sup> and was covered in tall weeds and rubble. Six 16m long trenches were excavated across the site providing a 10% sample of the site (Illus 5). The trenches were positioned to provide best coverage of the available area whilst avoiding known services (a broadband cable runs east to west across the northern part of the site. Trenches in the southern half of the site targeted the location of the 19<sup>th</sup> century tannery and mill lade.

Upstanding archaeological features were identified in all six trenches, primarily comprising brick walls and brick-lined tanning pits. Full descriptions and dimensions of the features recorded in the trenches is available in Appendix 1 and will not be repeated here.

The whole site was covered in demolition rubble that had been levelled to form a rough surface. The majority of the features recorded were identified below this deposit. The tanning pits provided the most prominent evidence of the remains of the tannery which was established on the site in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Tanning pits were exposed in Trenches 5 and 6 and comprised small rectangular compartments (Illus 6 & 7). These were all constructed with brick walls and floors bonded with a coarse grey cement. The survival of the walls was variable but generally they stood to a height of between 0.7m and 1.0m within the trenches. In all cases the floors of the pits included a narrow slightly sunken margin at the base of the walls, possibly for the insertion of a timber lining. The dimensions of all but one of the pits in Trench 5 were the same, being 1.70m x 1.16m ([5003] – [5008]). Pit [5009] was larger but was not fully exposed, extending beyond the western edge of the trench. The pits in Trench 6 ([6003] – [6008]) were also larger measuring up to 2.07m x 1.58m.

It was clear from the surface of Trench 5 that further pits survived to both the east and west sides of the trench; the tops of a number of walls were visible at the surface or partially exposed in the trench edge (eg Pit [5007]; Illus 8). Pit [5003] to the north end of Trench 5 included a wide diameter downpipe on its northern wall. This may imply it was the end pit of this series of pits. At least two rows of pits were also present in Trench 6 suggesting at least 12 pits in total here, although only six were exposed

and recorded. To the west side of [6003] an additional brick wall abutted the outer edge of the pit wall indicating it was the final pit in this sequence, with no further pits present to the west (Illus 9).

All the pits were filled with brick rubble with occasional timber planking evident although this was generally not in-situ. This was most obvious in [6003] where a large plank was exposed above a 0.1m thick layer of degraded timber forming the basal fill of the pit (Illus 10). A dark silty deposit was also recorded at the base and sides of many of the pits but no artefacts or organic material was identified. In pit [5009] two of the floor bricks were stamped 'Edmonstone Fire & Clay Works, Dalkeith, Patent'. These were produced between 1851 and 1884 (Scottish Brick History website) confirming that the pits do represent part of the original Tannery works.

A series of three walls at the north end of Trench 2 ([2009], [2010] and [2011]) provide further evidence of the tannery building possibly representing the eastern extent of the room containing the tanning pits. The walls represent two phases of construction with wall [2010] having been inserted between two earlier walls, represented by [2009] and [2011]. This may indicate the blocking of an original opening. At the south end of Trench 2 a series of brick walls and concrete floors ([2005] – [2007] and [2012]; Illus 11) possibly represent the southern extent of the tannery building, although this is not certain. They could represent part of the cooperage, constructed in the 1940s on the same footprint as the earlier building.

Further evidence of the original tannery building was recorded in Trench 1. This comprised the partial remains of a brick wall [1005] to the south end of the trench that had been damaged at its northern extent by modern disturbance. A part brick, part stone constructed feature [1007] and [1008] in the centre of the trench (Illus 12) may also represent part of the original tannery building. These comprised a single large machine cut stone abutted to the east side by the remains of an east/west aligned brick wall three courses thick. The stone may represent the remains of a staircase or step abutted to the east side by the wall of a building, their location representing the western extent of the tannery building. A later phase brick manhole [1006] may have led to the truncation of the northern end of [1005] in this trench.

The two trenches in the northern half of the site provided limited evidence of the buildings constructed on the site in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The remains of a corner wall [4007] at the northern end of trench 4 (Illus 13) and a wall foundation [4004] further to the south provide the best evidence of this. The corner wall [4007] had been truncated by a service pipe cut [4006] to the south that included a series of brick pads overlying a layer of clean yellow sand. Three brick features in Trench 3 ([3005], [3006] and [3007]; Illus 14) may provide further evidence of this period of expansion although they may also represent later additions associated with the 20<sup>th</sup> century garage.

Most of the features were either lying above or cut into a dark green-brown subsoil that was recorded across much of the site, generally around 0.6m below the surface (Illus 15). In Trench 1 and 3 a darker grey clay silt subsoil was recorded that may represent the remains of a pre-industrial ploughsoil. This was 0.7m below the surface and 0.3m thick. The geology was exposed in Trenches 1 - 4 at approximately 1m below the surface and comprised mid-orange brown soft clayey sand with a more gravel rich deposit (Illus 16) recorded at the south end of Trenches 3 and 4.

Four test pits were excavated by hand during this phase of investigation. The two test pits at the south end of the site (TP 1 & TP 2) excavated against the wall footings of the tenement building exposed wall foundations and the remains of what was interpreted as a heavily corroded iron support immediately below the surface (Illus 17 & 18). A small extension to TP 2 also exposed a brick floor 0.6m below the surface. These are thought to relate to the construction of the tenements in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century although the floor may be part of the tannery. The test pits to the north exposed additional late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century walls up to 0.5m below the surface.

## 6.1 Discussion

Tanning is the process of treating animal skins and hides to produce leather. This involved several stages of treatment to the hides including soaking in a variety of chemicals. The brick pits recorded during the evaluation provide the best evidence of these processes and clearly represent remains of the Tannery and Skinnery, depicted on the 1877 Ordnance Survey. At least three rows of pits were present across the area of Trench 5 and two rows of larger pits were recorded in Trench 6. Although not recorded, there was the potential for a fourth row of pits to the west of Trench 5 based on a number of walls visible at the surface. The size variation of the pits may represent the different processes taking place at the tannery.

All the recorded remains seem to represent below ground level survival of the tannery with no ground level floor surfaces surviving with the exception of a small area to the south-east corner of the site (south of Trench 2). This presented an area of concrete slab floor bounded by brick walls at surface level. These may be associated with the original tannery building, although are more likely to represent later modification to the original building. Given this, there was good survival of the below ground level features, particularly to the southern half of the area below the footprint of the 1870s constructed tannery building. Although less prevalent, the trenches and test pits to the north end of the site also provided good evidence of the survival of the foundation of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. Therefore the potential for the survival of further remains in both areas is high.

Prior to evaluation, given the purpose of the tannery the potential for survival of waterlogged and/or organic remains was considered to be high. With the exception of degraded timber at the base of a small number of the tanning pits the evaluation revealed no such deposits present. In addition to this little in the way of artefacts were recovered across the whole of the site.

No remains of the mill lade were encountered during the evaluation although the south end of both Trench 1 and Trench 2 were restricted by their proximity to the tenement. Given this, the mapping evidence seems to suggest the mill lade was located just south of the proposed development area, indicating the potential for its survival within the development boundary is low.

## 7 REFERENCES

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#### MAPS

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## APPENDICES

## Appendix 1

## Trench Register

<b>Trench</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Max depth</b>	<b>Alignment</b>	<b>Context</b>
Trench 1	15m x 1.6m	1.1m	North/South	1001 Overburden
				1002 Made ground
				1003 Subsoil
				1004 Natural
				1005 Brick wall
				1006 Brick manhole
				1007 step foundation stone
				1008 Brick wall
Trench 2	15m x 1.6m	1.2m	North/South	2001 Made ground
				2002 Subsoil
				2003 Made ground
				2004 Natural
				2005 Brick wall
				2006 Brick wall
				2007 Concrete floor
				2008 Brick manhole
				2009 brick wall
				2010 Brick wall
				2011 Brick wall
				2012 Brick wall and concrete floor
Trench 3	15m x 1.6m	1.0m	North/South	3001 Overburden
				3002 Subsoil
				3003 Natural
				3004 Natural
				3005 Brick foundation
				3006 Concrete foundation
				3007 Brick wall
Trench 4	15m x 1.6m	0.8m	North/South	4001 Made ground
				4002 Subsoil
				4003 Natural
				4004 Brick wall and concrete floor
				4005 Concrete cover
				4006 Brick pad pipe cover
				4007 Brick wall
Trench 5	15m x 1.6m	0.9m	North/South	5001 Demolition fill
				5002 Basal fill of pits
				5003 Tanning pit
				5004 Tanning pit

Trench	Dimensions	Max depth	Alignment	Context
Trench 5	15m x 1.6m	0.9m	North/South	5005 Tanning pit
				5006 Tanning pit
				5007 Tanning pit
				5008 Tanning pit
				5009 Tanning pit
Trench 6	15m x 1.6m	0.9m	East/West	6001 Overburden
				6002 Rubble fill
				6003 Tanning pit
				6004 Tanning pit
				6005 Tanning pit
				6006 Tanning pit
				6007 Tanning pit
				6008 Tanning pit

## Context Register

Context No	Area	Description
1001	Tr 1	Layer of made ground/overburden up to 0.6m deep comprising a dark grey soft loam with frequent rubble material inclusions
1002	Tr 1	Layer of made ground 0.4m thick below 1001 and over 1003. Comprised a dark grey compact loam with moderate brick, stone and service pipe frags inclusions. Recorded at the N end of the trench only.
1003	Tr 1	Layer of subsoil 0.5m thick and 0.7m below the surface. Comprised dark grey soft clayey silt with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions and small stones
1004	Tr 1	Geological subsoil comprising mid orange brown soft clayey sand. Includes occasional tree roots bioturbation 1.2m below the surface
1005	Tr 1	Brick wall aligned north/south along the east facing section of the trench measuring 1.7m long but truncated at the N end. The wall was 0.6m tall with the wall head at the surface and the base sat over 1003. The bricks were course grained fire bricks 30x13x8cm with a course grey cement.
1006	Tr 1	Brick wall aligned north/south on the east facing section of the trench meaning 1.14m long and 0.96m high to the surface, with a stepped base. The bricks were frogged measuring 23x12x7.5cm bonded with a light brown course cement. Probably a brick manhole
1007	Tr 1	Partial remains of a stone wall aligned east/west in the centre of the trench abutting 1008 to the east and 0.6m below the surface. The stone was 110x50x22cm with a smooth finish. Possibly part of a series of steps. Stones above removed by the machine.

Context No	Area	Description
1008	Tr 1	Brick wall abutting the W side of 1007. Only a short length recorded 0.6m below the surface. Bricks were red measuring 23x12x7.5cm and bonded with a light brown course cement
2001	Tr 2	Layer of made ground/overburden up to 0.8m deep comprising a dark brown soft loam with frequent rubble material inclusions
2002	Tr 2	Layer of mid-yellow brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions forming a subsoil above the natural. It was 0.2m thick and 0.8m below the surface.
2003	Tr 2	Layer of made ground 0.8m deep comprising mid-grey brown loam with mixed rubble debris. Similar to 2001 but lighter in colour. Recorded to the N end of the trench
2004	Tr 2	Geological subsoil comprising mid orange brown soft clayey sand. Includes occasional tree roots bioturbation 1m below the surface
2005	Tr 2	Brick wall exposed at the S end of the trench forming two sides to a building. The wall was T shaped on a N/S-E/W axis enclosing a concrete floor 2007 and internal wall 2006. The wall was 0.5m high from the surface and was double brick coursed with an internal cement render. The bricks were 24x12x7.5cm with a coarse light brown cement bond.
2006	Tr 2	Brick wall aligned east/west 0.5m below the surface. The wall was double coursed thick enclosing floor 2007. The bricks were the same as 2005 and part of the same construction but at a lower level. Possible part of an internal division.
2007	Tr 2	Concrete floor 0.6m below the surface and enclosed within walls 2005 and 2006.
2008	Tr 2	Brick wall exposed on the W facing section of the trench 1m wide and 1.2m high to the surface level. Poorly constructed of red bricks 25x11x9cm bonded with a grey cement. The wall is abutted by 2001 to the south and 2003 to the north. Possible 19th century manhole.
2009	Tr 2	Brick wall aligned north/south on the east facing section of the trench measuring 2m long and 0.8m high. Double bonded wall that possibly turned to the W at the S end and abutted 2010 to the north. Possibly associated with 2011 to the north with 2010 a later phase
2010	Tr 2	Brick wall L shaped on a N/S-E/W axis standing to 1.2m high and 0.34m wide and 3m long. The wall is three courses thick bonded with a fine grey cement and stepped at the base cut into 2002. Abuts 2009 to the south and 2011 to the north
2011	Tr 2	Brick wall aligned east/west at the N end of the trench standing to 0.9m to the surface with a stepped base overlying 2002. Probably same wall as 2009 being earlier than 2010
2012	Tr 2	Brick wall and floor at the S end of the trench forming a large concrete surface at surface level. The floor is bounded by 2005 to the north side and continues to the S end of the site
3001	Tr 3	Layer of made ground 0.6m thick comprising dark brown loam with frequent rubble inclusions overlying the subsoil and features.

Context No	Area	Description
3002	Tr 3	Layer of subsoil 0.5m thick and 0.5m below the surface and below 3001. Comprises a dark grey brown soft sandy loam with frequent stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Possible plough soil with heavy bioturbation. All features cut into this deposit.
3003	Tr 3	Geological subsoil at a depth of 1m below the surface comprising a mix of mid yellow brown clayey sand and lenses of gravels, particularly to the N end of the trench.
3004	Tr 3	Geological subsoil orange brown stone rich gravels recorded at the S end of the trench 1m below the surface
3005	Tr 3	Brick foundation sat over 3002 0.34m tall and 0.1m below the surface. The feature was not fully exposed but measured 1.76m x 1.4m with the main brick construction forming an L shape with a central void 0.6m x 0.5m. Frogged bricks 23x11x7.5 bonded with course yellow cement. The walls are 0.6m thick made up of 5 bricks and four course high to 0.34m. Includes a series of internal bricks that had no bonding.
3006	Tr 3	Large concrete foundation in the E facing section of the trench. The foundation was 1.45m wide and 0.48m high 0.15m below the surface but not fully exposed. The two exposed corners included brick inserts holding iron fittings. The concrete included brick fragment inclusions.
3007	Tr 3	Brick manhole remains in the E facing section of the trench 1.33m wide and 0.9m high to the surface. Constructed of red bricks 24x11.5x9 cm stamped HAILES and ETNA. Walls were double coursed walls 0.25m thick and bonded with yellow sand. Filled with rubble brick.
4001	Tr 4	A layer of made ground comprising dark grey loose and friable mixed loam with rubble debris inclusions. 0.6m deep at the N end to 0.4m at the S end.
4002	Tr 4	A layer of subsoil comprising mid greenish brown soft clayey sand with frequent charcoal fleck inclusions. Between 0.2 and 0.4 m thick below 4001. Probably an old plough soil overlying the natural geology
4003	Tr 4	Geological subsoil at 0.8m below the surface comprising a soft yellow brown sand that changes to a more gravel rich deposit at the S end of the trench
4004	Tr 4	Brick wall foundation aligned east/west across the trench 0.1m below the surface. Comprised of a double thick course of bricks sitting over a concrete foundation. The wall was 0.36m wide and two courses of brick high. The foundation was 0.7m wide and 0.35m thick of course concrete with brick inclusions. To the south side of the wall was the remains of a thick concrete floor with a maximum width of 1.4 m and 0.1m thick sat over 4002.
4005	Tr 4	Concrete slab/cover aligned east/west across the trench. The slab was 0.7m wide and 0.4m thick 0.2m below the surface. This was likely to cover a 20th century service pipe.
4006	Tr 4	An east/west aligned service pipe cover comprising a series of brick pads 0.3m x 0.3m and 0.05m thick sat over a bed of yellow fine sand 0.8m wide and 0.55m thick. The remains of a brick wall survived to the north side of the sand bed but only seen in the trench sections. The service possibly truncated the south end of wall 4007 but this was not certain.

Context No	Area	Description
4007	Tr 4	Brick wall at the north end of the trench, L shaped forming a corner section of a building. Constructed of red course grained brick with a soft light yellow brown course cement. Single brick width wall 0.52m high and 0.25m below the surface. The south end of the wall was truncated, probably by 4006.
5001	Tr 5	Layer of overburden comprising brick rubble and soil and forming the main fill of the brick lined pits 5003-5009.
5002	Tr 5	Basal deposit at the base of the tanning pits 5003 to 5009. Comprising black organic loam and degraded timber. Very soft and loose with occasional brick and timber fragments. Generally 0.1m thick but up to 0.25m around the edges of the pit bases.
5003	Tr 5	Brick-lined pit 1.64m x 1.16m and 0.86m deep with a brick floor. Bricks were very dense (heavy) and not frogged measuring 23x11.5x8cm. The walls were double coursed thick 0.24m and bonded with a fine grey cement. The north wall of this pit included a large 0.2 m diameter pipe in a buttressed wall. The floor includes a narrow margin around the edges of the wall, possibly for a timber lining.
5004	Tr 5	Brick-lined tanning pit 1.7m x 1.16m and 0.9m deep with 5003 to the north and 5005 to south. Likely to be more pits to the east and west.
5005	Tr 5	Brick-lined tanning pit 1.7m x 1.16m and 0.9m deep with 5004 to the north and 5006 to south. Likely to be more pits to the east and west.
5006	Tr 5	Brick-lined tanning pit 1.7m x 1.16m and 0.9m deep with 5005 to the north and 5007 to south. Likely to be more pits to the east and west.
5007	Tr 5	Brick-lined tanning pit 1.7m x 1.16m and 0.9m deep with 5006 to the north and 5009 to south. Likely to be more pits to the east and west.
5008	Tr 5	Brick-lined tanning pit to the north side of 5009 but unexcavated. Full of brick rubble with further pits to the east and west
5009	Tr 5	A larger sunken pit between 5007 and 5008. this was not fully excavated but measured 1.75m wide and at least 2.14m long and 1.06m deep, It had the same brick floor with two stamped bricks
6001	Tr 6	Layer of overburden covering the whole area of the trench and same as 5001
6002	Tr 6	Fill of tanning pits comprising brick and timber rubble with some corrugated sheeting also present. Fills pits 6003 - 6008. The deposit at the base of the pits included more timber material and organic loam deposits up to 0.2m thick.
6003	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit 1.95m E/W x 1.58m N/S and 0.77m deep. Bricks were course grained measuring 24x11.5x8cm bonded with a grey cement. Coursing was mainly stretchers with occasional headers in no distinct pattern. Fill included a large timber plank and matted timber on the floor. To the west side of the west wall was an addition brick wall with a small buttress indicating this was the end of the pits on this side.
6004	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit 2.04 x 1.58 and 0.7m deep although the north wall only survived up to 0.5m.
6005	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit 2.04 x 1.58 and 0.7m deep although the north wall only survived up to 0.5m.

Context No	Area	Description
6006	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit close to the W end of the trench. Not fully excavated or exposed but 1.58m wide
6007	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit 2.08m long and 1.58m wide with walls surviving up to 0.95m, only 0.1m below the surface
6008	Tr 6	Brick-lined tanning pit at the E end of the trench. Not fully excavated or exposed

## Photo Register

Photo	Facing	Context	Description
1	SE		Blocked entrance
2	SE		Blocked entrance
3	N		Pre excavation shot of area
4	SE		Pre excavation shot of area
5	NE		Pre excavation shot of area
6	E		Pre excavation shot of area
7	N		Working shot of trench excavation
8	N	Tr 1	Trench 1 from the south end
9	N	Tr 1	Trench 1 from the south end
10	SE	Tr 1	Trench 1 from the north end
11	E	1005	Wall at the S end of Trench 1
12	E	1006	Wall on the west facing section of Trench 1
13	NE	1008	Wall 1007 and 1008 in centre of Trench 1
14	W	Tr 1	W facing section at the S end of Trench 1
15	SW	1007	Walls 1007 and 1008 in Trench 1
16	E	Tr 1	W facing section at the N end of Trench 1
17	S	Tr 2	General shot of Trench 2 from the N end
18	N	Tr 2	General shot of Trench 2 from the S end
19	S	2007	Walls 2005 and 2006 plus floor 2007 at the S end of Trench 2
20	SW	2007	Walls 2005 and 2006 plus floor 2007 at the S end of Trench 2
21	N	2005	Walls 2005 and 2006 plus floor 2007 at the S end of Trench 2
22	E	Tr 2	W facing section close to N end of Trench 2
23	W	2009	Wall 2008 in Trench 2
24	W	2010	Wall 201 in the west side of Trench 2
25	S	2011	Walls 2011, 2010 and 2009 at the N end of Trench 2
26	NW	2009	Walls 2011, 2010 and 2009 at the N end of Trench 2
27	N	2011	Wall 2011 at the N end of Trench 2
28	E	Tr 2	W facing section of Trench 2 at the N end
29	S	2010	top of Wall 2010 in Trench 2
30	W	2012	Floor and wall 22012 at the S end of Trench 2
31	SW	2012	Floor and wall 22012 at the S end of Trench 2
32	N	Tr 2	General view of Trench 2
33	W	3006	Brick foundation 3006 in Trench 3

Photo	Facing	Context	Description
34	NW	3006	Brick foundation 3006 in Trench 3
35	N	Tr 3	General view of Trench 3 from the south end
36	E	3005	brick foundation 3005 in Trench 3
37	N	3005	brick foundation 3005 in Trench 3
38	W	3005	brick foundation 3005 in Trench 3
39	W	3005	brick foundation 3005 in Trench 3
40	S	Tr 3	General view of Trench 3 from the north end
41	W	3007	Brick manhole 3007 in Trench 3
42		3007	brick stamps on 3007
43	E	Tr 3	W facing section of Trench 3 at the north end
44	E	Tr 3	W facing section of Trench 3 at the south end
45	SW	Tr 3	General view of features at N end of Trench 3
46	S	Tr 3	General view of features at N end of Trench 3
47	SE	Tr 3	General view of features at N end of Trench 3
48	NW	Tr 3	General view of features at N end of Trench 3
49	W	4007	Wall at the N end of Trench 4
50	S	4006	Service cover 4006 in Trench 4
51	W	4006	Service cover 4006 in Trench 4
52	S	4005	Concrete foundation in Trench 4
53	N	4004	Wall foundation 4004 in Trench 4
54	S	4004	Wall foundation 4004 in Trench 4
55	NW	4004	Wall foundation 4004 and floor in Trench 4
56	N	4004	Wall foundation 4004 and floor in Trench 4
57	W	Tr 4	E facing section of Trench 4
58	W	Tr 4	E facing section of Trench 4
59	S	Tr 4	General view of Trench 4 from the N end
60	N	Tr 4	General view of Trench 4 from the S end
61	S	Tr 5	View of Trench 5 from the N end
62	N	Tr 5	View of Trench 5 from the S end
63	NE	5003	Brick pit 5003 from the south
64	NW	5003	Brick pit 5003 from the south
65	E	5003	Brick pit 5003 from the south
66	E	5003	Brick pit 5003, detail of E wall
67	NE	5003	Brick pit 5003, detail of N wall
68	S	5003	Brick pit 5003, detail of N wall pipe
69	S	Tr 5	General view of the tanning pits
70	N	Tr 5	General view of the tanning pits
71	NE	Tr 5	General view of the tanning pits
72	N	5009	View of brick pit 5009
73	E	5009	View of brick pit 5009
74	E	5009	View of brick pit 5009
75	N	5009	View of brick pit 5009
76	N	5009	Stamped brick on the floor of pit 5009



Photo	Facing	Context	Description
77	N	5009	Stamped brick on the floor of pit 5009
78	E	Tr 5	Area to the west side of pit 5007
79	S	Tr 5	Area to the west side of pit 5007
80	N	Tr 5	General view of tanning pits in Tr 5
81	W	TP 1	Location shot of TP 1
82	S	TP 1	View of TP 1
83	E	TP 1	View of TP 1
84	E	TP 1	View of TP 1
85	S	TP 1	View of TP 1
86	S	TP 2	Location shot of TP 2
87	S	TP 2	View of TP 2
88	S	TP 2	View of TP 2
89	E	TP 2	View of TP 2
90	E	TP 2	View of TP 2
91	E	TP 2	Detail of bricks in TP 2
92	SE		Working shot
93	W	Tr 6	View of Tr 6 from the E end
94	E	Tr 6	View of Tr 6 from the W end
95	NW	Tr 6	View of the tanning pits in Tr 6
96	W	Tr 6	View of the tanning pits in Tr 6
97	SE	Tr 6	View of the tanning pits in Tr 6
98	S	6008	Timber beam in pit 6003
99	W	6008	View of pit 6003 floor
100	W	6008	View of pit 6003 floor
101	W	Tr 6	General view of pits in Tr 6
102	E	6008	View of Pit 6003
103	W	6005	View of pit 6006
104	E	6004	View of pit 6005
105	E	6008	View of pit 6003
106			Working shot of site
107			Working shot of site
108	W	6008	West end wall of pit 6003
109	E	6008	West end wall of pit 6003
110			Working shot
111	SE	Tr 6	General view of tanning pits in Tr 6
112	E	Tr 6	General view of tanning pits in Tr 6
113	N	TP 3	View of Test Pit 3
114	N	TP 3	View of Test Pit 3
115	N	TP 3	View of Test Pit 3
116	E	TP 3	View of Test Pit 3
117	E	TP 3	View of Test Pit 3
118	E	TP 3	Location shot of TP 3
119	W	TP 3	Location shot of TP 3

Photo	Facing	Context	Description
120	W	TP 3	View of TP 3
121	S	TP 3	View of TP 3 in plan
122	S	TP 3	View of TP 3 in plan
123	N	TP 4	View of TP 4
124	NW	TP 4	Location shot of TP 4
125	S	TP 4	View of TP 4
126	S	TP 4	View of TP 4
127	E	TP 4	View of TP 4
128	NE	TP 4	View of TP 4
129	E	TP 4	Location shot of TP 4
130	S	TP 2a	View of brick floor to E side of TP 2
131	E	TP 2a	View of brick floor to E side of TP 2
132	E	TP 2a	View of brick floor to E side of TP 2

## APPENDIX 2

## DES Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh Council
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	TTBP18/001
<b>PARISH:</b>	Edinburgh
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Wilson, D
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Headland Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NT 2551 7524
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	08.03.2018
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	14.03.2018
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	N/A

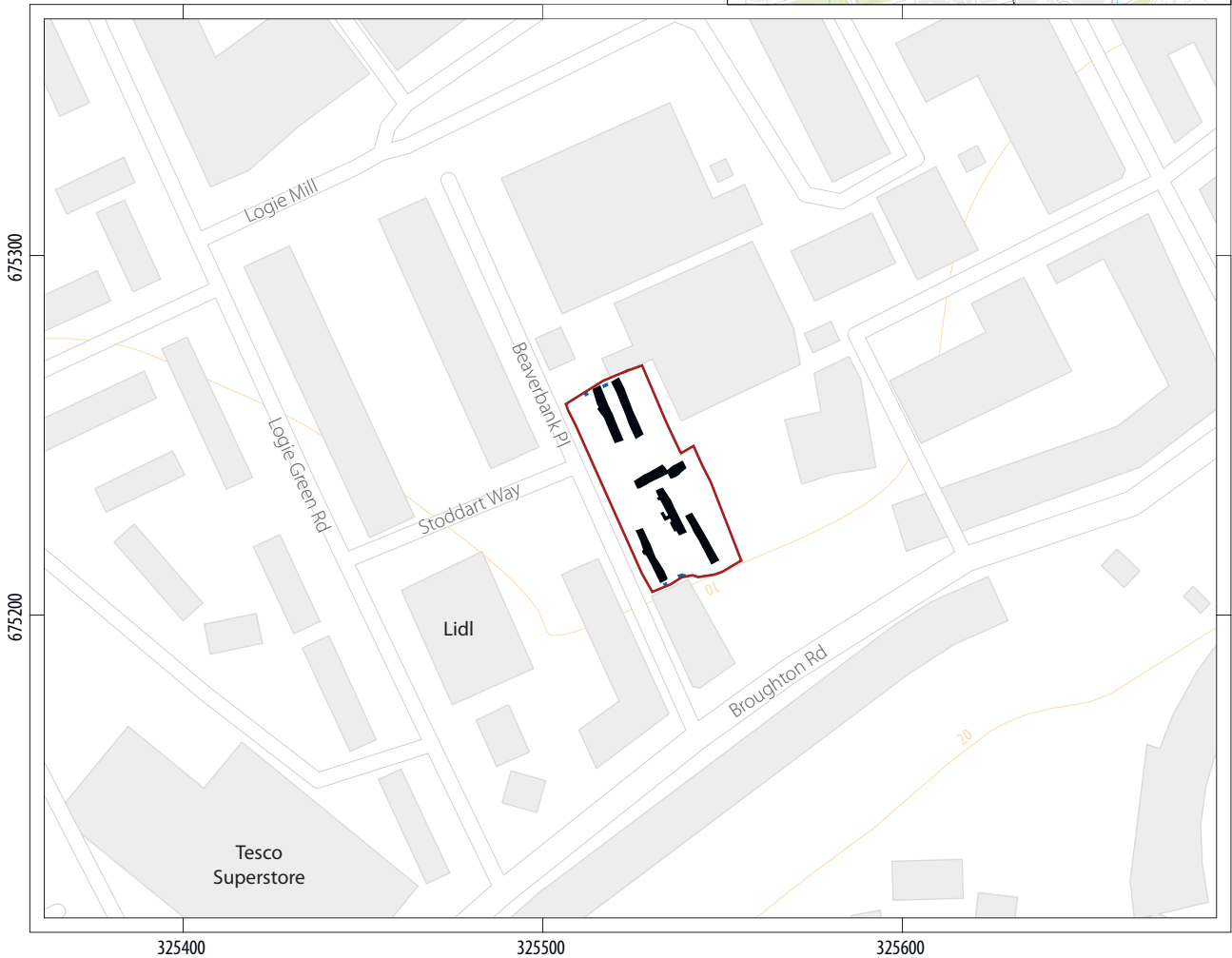
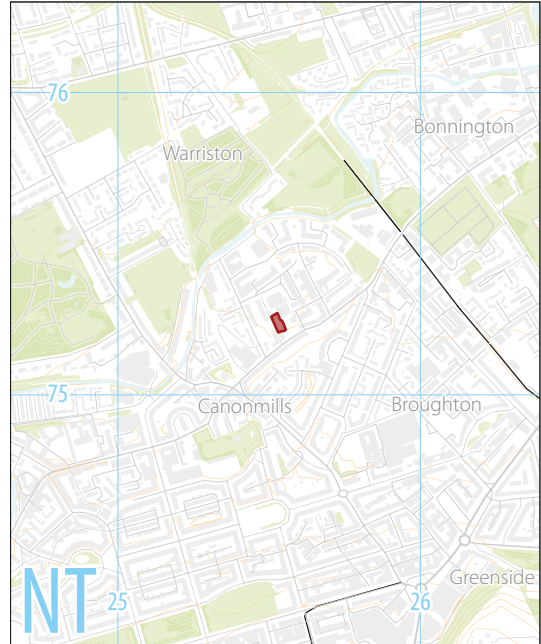
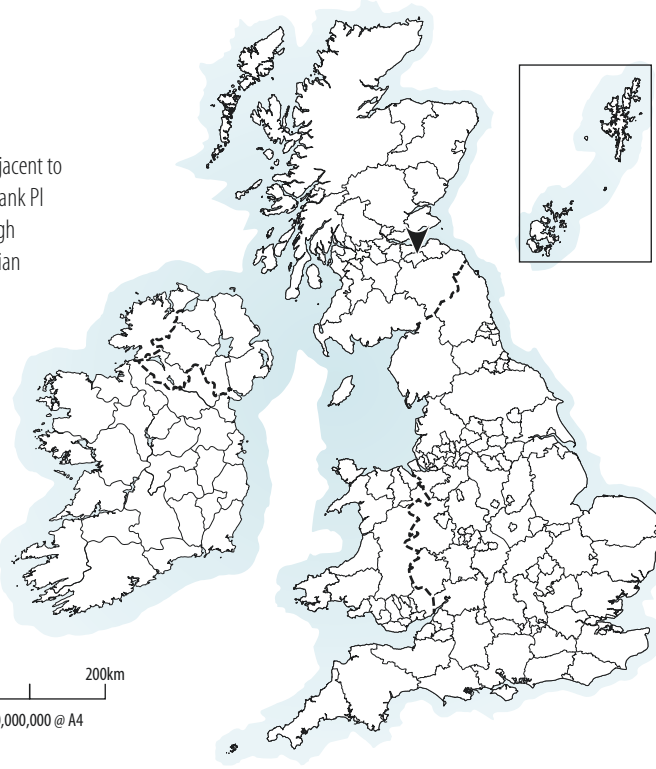
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a trial trench excavation on a proposed development site to the east side of Beaverbank Place, Edinburgh. The work was commissioned by CCG (Scotland) Ltd as part of the planning conditions placed on the application by the City of Edinburgh Archaeological Services (CECAS). The trial trenching was designed to inform the need for further archaeological works in relation to the development.</p> <p>The works comprised the excavation of six 16m long archaeological evaluation trenches to provide a 10% sample of the development area. Upstanding remains were recorded in all six trenches the majority of which relate to buildings depicted on the 1877 and 1896 Ordnance Survey maps. The most prominent features were a series of brick built pits recorded in two trenches. These included brick walls and floors and were interpreted as tanning pits associated with the 19th century Tannery. Additional pits were also observed beyond the limits of the trenches. A limited number of brick walls relating to the tannery were also recorded to the south half of the site. Walls associated with later phases of expansion and alteration to the site were recorded to the north half of the development area.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Yes
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	CCG (Scotland) Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	13 Jane Street, Edinburgh. EH6 5HE
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	office@headlandarchaeology.com
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	HES

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- ILLUS 1** SITE LOCATION
- ILLUS 2** EXTRACT OF THE 1852 OS
- ILLUS 3** EXTRACT OF THE 1877 OS
- ILLUS 4** EXTRACT OF THE 1896 OS
- ILLUS 5** TRENCH LOCATION AND FEATURES
- ILLUS 6** TANNING PITS IN TRENCH 5 FROM THE SOUTH END
- ILLUS 7** TANNING PITS IN TRENCH 6 FROM THE WEST END
- ILLUS 8** VIEW OF ADDITIONAL PITS TO THE WEST OF TRENCH 5
- ILLUS 9** VIEW OF THE WEST WALL OF [6008]
- ILLUS 10** VIEW OF THE TIMBER PLANK AND FILL OF PIT [6008]
- ILLUS 11** WALLS [2005 AND 2006] WITH FLOOR 2007 AT THE SOUTH END OF TRENCH 2
- ILLUS 12** STONE STEP [1007] AND WALL [1008] IN TRENCH 1
- ILLUS 13** WALL [4007] AT THE NORTH END OF TRENCH 4
- ILLUS 14** FEATURES [3005, 3006 AND 3007] IN TRENCH 3
- ILLUS 15** WEST FACING SECTION OF TRENCH 2 AT THE NORTH END
- ILLUS 16** SECTION SHOWING GRAVEL GEOLOGY
- ILLUS 17** DETAIL OF TEST PIT 1
- ILLUS 18** DETAIL OF TEST PIT 2

Land adjacent to  
Beaverbank Pl  
Edinburgh  
Midlothian

0 200km  
1:10,000,000 @ A4



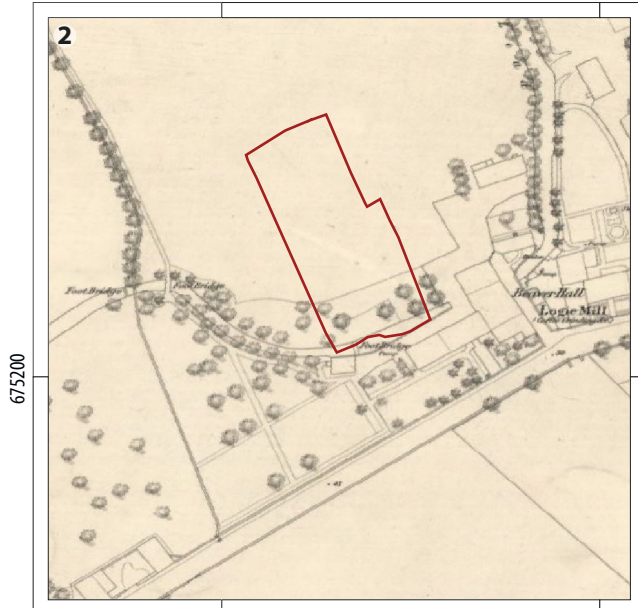
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development boundary test pit location  
trench location

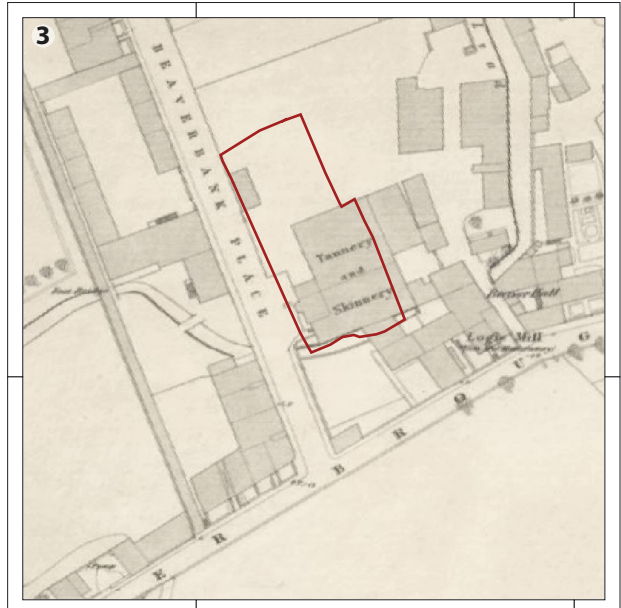
**HEADLAND**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY**

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ILLUS 1 Site location



675200



325500

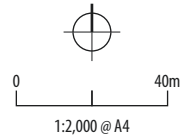
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325600

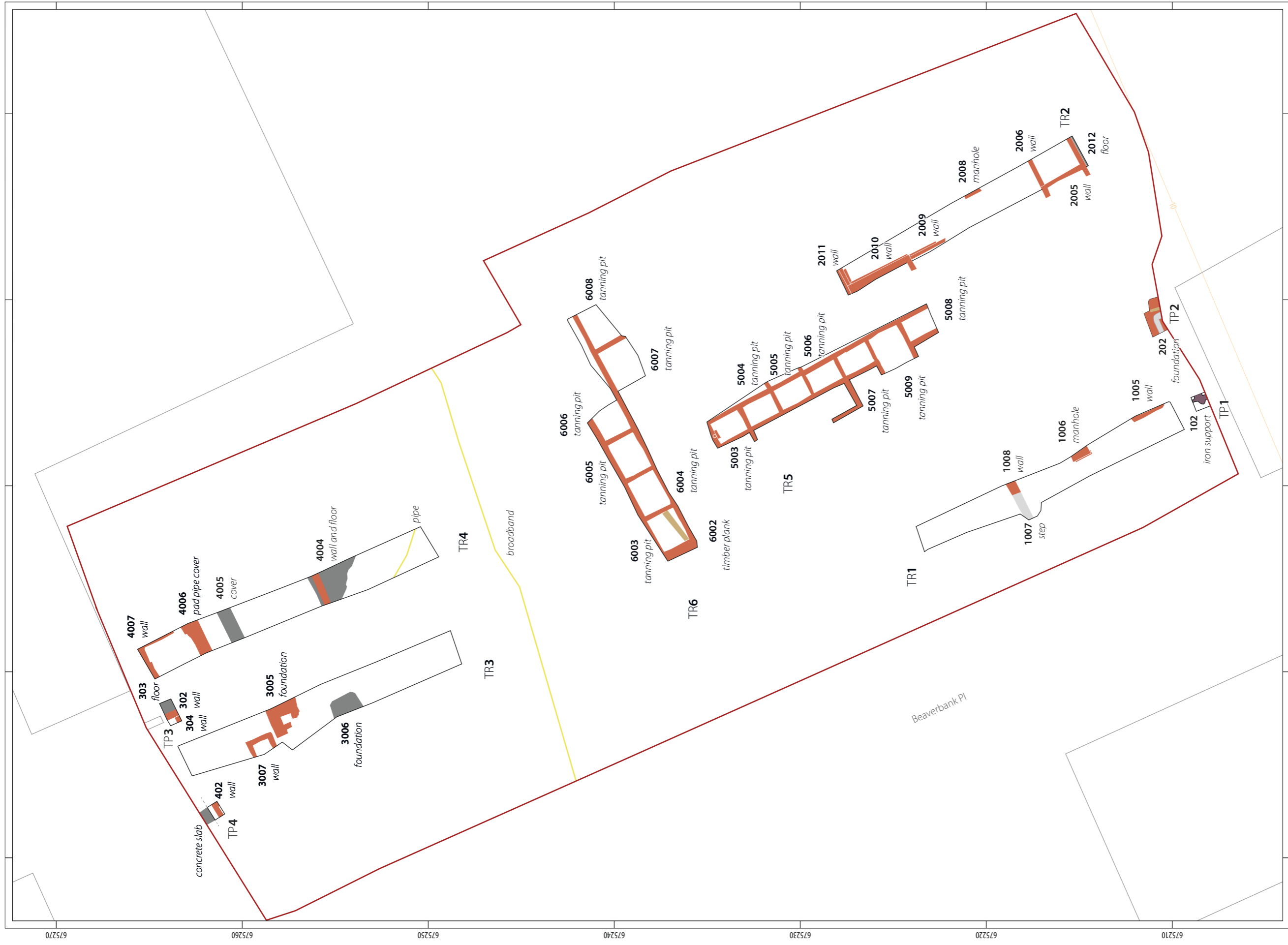


**ILLUS 2** Extract of the 1852 OS

**ILLUS 3** Extract of the 1877 OS

**ILLUS 4** Extract of the 1896 OS





ILLUS 5 Trench location and features







**ILLUS 6** Tanning pits in Trench 5 from the south end



**ILLUS 7** Tanning pits in Trench 6 from the west end



**ILLUS 8** View of additional pits to the west of Trench 5



**ILLUS 9** View of the west wall of [6003]    **ILLUS 10** View of the timber plank and fill of pit [6003]    **ILLUS 11** Walls [2005 and 2006] with floor 2007 at the south end of Trench 2    **ILLUS 12** Stone step [1007] and wall [1008] in Trench 1



**ILLUS 13** Wall [4007] at the north end of Trench 4

**ILLUS 14** Features [3005, 3006 and 3007] in Trench 3

**ILLUS 15** West facing section of Trench 2 at the north end  
**ILLUS 16** Section showing gravel geology



**ILLUS 17** Detail of Test Pit 1    **ILLUS 18** Detail of Test Pit 2