

CREE18



63 CALTON ROAD, EDINBURGH

*Archaeological Watching Brief and evaluation
for CSD (Calton Road) Ltd*

October 2018

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Parish: Edinburgh
Council: City of Edinburgh
OASIS ref.: Headland1 - 330431
Planning Application.: 17/00861/FUL
Archive will be deposited with: HES

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Graphics: Eleanor Winter

Approved by: Candy Hatherley – Project Manager

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63 CALTON ROAD, EDINBURGH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AND EVALUATION

Technical Summary

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned to undertake a watching brief and a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to a development at 63 Calton Road, Edinburgh. The Site had formerly been the location of the 19th century Calton Hill Brewery c.1852 and more recently the location of a garage. The watching brief monitored the removal of the concrete floor slab and all modern sub-surface features. These included several man-holes and three large fuel tanks. The extent of the modern intrusions across the site amounted to approximately 50% of the area. During the watching brief a stone-lined well, a stone-lined culvert and the remains of a stone wall were exposed. These were thought to be associated with the 19th century brewery. The subsequent trial trenches exposed the full extent of the well plus a further length of the stone wall. Bedrock or geological subsoil was exposed in all trenches between 0.2m and 0.8m below the surface. No other archaeological features or deposits were identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by CSD (Calton Road) Ltd to undertake a watching brief and a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to the redevelopment of the site at 63 Calton Road, Edinburgh. The work was carried out in order to satisfy a condition of planning consent (ref: 17/00861/FUL) and adhered to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Headland Archaeology (2018) and agreed with the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) on behalf of Edinburgh City Council (the Local Planning Authority). The work was undertaken in two stages during September and October 2018.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed development is located at 63 Calton Road, Edinburgh (centred on NT 26426 73941; Illus 1 and 2). Prior to its demolition the site was a single storey, sandstone constructed building that was being used as a car parking facility, occupying an elongated strip of land on the north side of Calton Road. It is bounded to the west by a modern block of flats and to the north and east by common land comprising a raised level of bedrock and a triangular grassed area.

The underlying geology comprises of igneous bedrock of the Arthur's Seat Volcanic Formation dating to the Carboniferous Period and superficial deposits of Devensian Till-Diamicton dating to the Quaternary Period (NERC 2016). An excavation, which preceded the construction of the adjacent block of flats, noted that the soil was made up of thin, brown or reddish loamy tills with a high proportion of igneous rock within the soil matrix (Engl et al 2013).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site has previously been subject to a detailed archaeological desk-based assessment (Parsons 2015) and by a Level 2 Historic Building Survey (Sproat 2018). The results of this work are summarised below.

The proposed development site lies within the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (Id No. 728rev). It is located on the edge of the medieval Burgh of Canongate, established in early 12th century. Archaeological works at 22 Calton Road, opposite the site, found features containing 13th-15th century garden deposits and soils likely to be associated with the extent of the medieval backlands as shown on Braun & Hogenberg's map c.1582 (Jones & Holden 2003). The line of Calton Road itself ran along the former medieval boundary of 'North Back' on the outskirts of the medieval and post-medieval Old Town and was first represented on William Roy's Military map c.1747-1755.

Prior to the establishment of Calton Road, 17th century mapping depicts the site within or adjacent

to the long rear gardens of the buildings fronting onto Canongate and therefore still within the area of backlands (Adair 1682). The Canongate was incorporated into the City of Edinburgh in 1636. This area north of the Canongate continues as gardens and green spaces until it is developed rapidly in the mid to late 18th century when it is shown to contain tenements and courtyards associated with the industrialisation of the Canongate area (Kay 1836; Parsons 2015).

Although several buildings are marked along Calton Road on pre-Ordnance Survey mapping (Roy 1752-55; Laurie 1766; Knox 1812) the site is shown most clearly on Edgar's map of 1765. This area shows two courtyard buildings back to back with circular extensions on the outer walls, with the courtyard building to the west most likely to be the brewery site excavated in 2013 by AOC Archaeology (Engl, Cook & Sproat 2013). Subsequent town plans of the late 18th century show that the brewery site gains further outbuildings and extensions to the east possibly indicating the earliest building phases are likely associated with this phase of expansion (Parsons 2015).

The single storey building at No.63 was the subject of a Level 2 Historic Building Survey which recorded and analysed the building and its interior (Sproat 2018). It was constructed between 1836-1852 when it first appears on mapping (Ordnance Survey 1852) and is post-medieval in date. However, elements of it were possibly once part of an extension to the late 18th century brewery that occupied the adjacent area to the west (Engl, Cook and Sproat 2013).

The building had undergone much transformation since it was part of the brewery, with a new concrete superstructure supporting the roof and a smooth concrete floor (Sproat 2018).

On the basis of the previous work undertaken within and adjacent to the site it was considered to be an area of archaeological significance possibly containing deep archaeological deposits dating back to the early medieval period.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the archaeological watching brief was to record any archaeological remains threatened by the development works. More specifically this aimed to establish the location, extent, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may

have been present within the proposed development area. The results of the watching brief helped inform the location of the trial trenches.

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 of any features identified to be understood.

5 METHODS

Trenches were opened using a tracked excavator. The machine was fitted with a toothed ditching bucket to remove modern concrete and tarmac overburden. It was also used to remove highly compact sub-surface deposits. A 2m wide toothless ditching bucket was then used to remove all softer deposits. All excavation was carried out in controlled spits under direct archaeological supervision. Excavation terminated at the top of the natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Spoil was stored at the side of each trench.

Excavation of archaeological deposits and features required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation were continue by hand. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that require examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools where required. The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were identified.

All trenches were backfilled following the completion of the evaluation and all recording.

6 REPORTING AND ARCHIVES

All recording followed ClfA Standards and Guidance (2014a & b). All contexts were given unique numbers (see Appendix 1) and all recording was undertaken on pro forma record sheets. A photographic record of all contexts was taken using digital photography (see Appendix 1). The digital photographs will be submitted to Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for long-term archive storage.

A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and other pertinent information was recorded digitally and will be accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to OD. Digital

recording was undertaken using a differential GPS in order to allow data checking while in the field. The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery & Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2) and the OASIS database (headland1-330431).

The complete project archive will be deposited with 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).

7 RESULTS

The watching brief was undertaken between 25th September and 3rd October 2018 in dry and bright conditions. The subsequent evaluation was carried out on the 5th October 2018 (Illus 2).

Prior to attendance the garage building had been demolished to ground floor level with the front (south) wall removed to foundation level (Illus 3). The only remaining walls were the back (north) wall and the two (east and west) gable walls. The watching brief was carried out during the removal of the concrete floor slab and all modern (20th/21st century) sub-surface features. These included three large metal fuel tanks, several brick manholes and associated piping, numerous concrete foundations and a large brick inspection pit. The depth of these features below the surface varied between 1m and 1.8m with the manholes and pipes generally being the deepest.

The excavation of these features revealed that bedrock was only 0.2m below the floor slab across the northern 1/3rd of the site. Further to the south a dark orange/brown clayey sand with a moderate quantity of large stone inclusions was encountered, generally 0.6 to 0.8m below the surface. This formed the geological subsoil overlying the bedrock. Above this layer in all cases was made ground comprising mixed demolition material and mixed/disturbed soils.

Three potentially earlier features were encountered during the watching brief. These comprised a stone-lined well cut into the bedrock to the north-west corner of the site, a small stone-lined culvert and the foundations of a stone wall both located closer to the site's southern extent. The well (c2001) had a diameter of 1.5m and was at

least 7m deep (Illus 4). The upper part of the wall of the well was constructed of squared stone to a depth of 1.1m (Illus 5), below which the bedrock was exposed (Illus 6). This was roughly cut leaving voids in the wall. A single course of brick work at the top of the well (at a height of 41m OD) supported two horizontal iron beams that had probably been placed across the top of the well to support the concrete cap that had covered the feature. The well was likely associated with the brewery and therefore 19th century in date although it is not marked on any of the historic or Ordnance Survey maps.

The culvert was only seen in section on the southern side of the site. This was stone-lined bonded with a course grey cement 0.25m wide and 0.5m deep and lying 1.2m below the surface (Illus 7). This seemed to be capped with stone although the disturbance in this area made this difficult to confirm. The stone wall foundation was recorded in two lengths, although its exact location was not recorded as it was disturbed by the demolition works. The first length was aligned east/west and the second, located to the east, was aligned north/south. Both walls survived to only two courses high of roughly squared stone bonded with a course grey cement indicating they probably represented two parts of the same wall. They both sat over the orange/brown geological subsoil at a depth of 0.6m below the surface. The cement bonding of these walls suggest they were of 19th/20th century origin and probably relate to the brewery phase of the site. The north/south aligned wall was located close to a further length of wall recorded during the evaluation (Tr 1, c1001) and was likely to represent part of the same structure.

The demolition works also exposed the foundations to the south wall of the garage building. This revealed that they were placed upon a series of semi-circular stone blocks. These were likely to have been re-used stone probably from the demolition of an earlier building as one of the stones included an unusual profile (Illus 8). These may have originally been sections of stone columns.

Three large fuel tanks were removed during the demolition works (Illus 9). These were each sat over concrete foundations and were likely to be associated with the 20th century garage. The size of these tanks inevitably disturbed much of the surrounding area as they had been placed below ground floor level.

Four evaluation trenches were excavated across the site (See Appendix 1.1). These were positioned in an attempt to avoid the areas that had previously been disturbed by the modern features (Illus 2). As these disturbed areas covered almost 50% of the site the trenches were positioned to the central area of the site.

Trench 1 (Illus 10) was aligned east/west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m. This exposed a further length of the stone wall (c1001) initially exposed during the watching brief. The wall was aligned north/south constructed of roughly squared stone bonded with a course grey cement. It was 0.45m wide and 0.25m below the surface standing 0.6m high. The wall abutted the orange brown subsoil to the east and had made ground to the west. The remainder of the trench was excavated to the geological subsoil although areas of modern disturbance cutting this were recorded.

Trench 2 exposed the stone-lined well at the north-west corner of the site. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.7m at the south-east end revealing that almost 50% of the area had been disturbed by modern activity. The trench revealed that the well had been cut into the bedrock.

Trench 3 exposed the bedrock immediately below the surface at the north-west end. At the south-east end the trench exposed the geological subsoil at a depth of 0.5m, although some of this had been truncated by modern disturbance.

Trench 4 was located to the south side of the site and revealed the geological subsoil at a depth of 1m below the surface. Again, part of the trench exposed further disturbed ground. All the deposits above this were modern made ground. No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

8 DISCUSSION

The archaeological monitoring and trial trenching identified features likely associated with the former 19th century brewery or its later use, the most recent being the 20th century garage. Unlike the adjacent sites investigated along Calton Road, no backland garden soils were identified. The exposed bedrock to the north side of the site indicated that the buildings here had likely been cut into the slope forming the south side of Calton Hill. This was further supported by the fact that the slope of the hill to the north side of the site was approximately

4m above ground level indicating a large part of the slope had probably been removed to construct the buildings here in the 18th century.

The well was left in-situ during the demolition works and is due to be capped prior to the re-development of the site.

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Edinburghshire Sheet II, 6 inch to the mile.
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Sheet II, 6 inch to the mile*.
Ordnance Survey 1904 (surveyed 1901) *Edinburgh
Sheet 32, 1 inch to the mile*

10 APPENDICES

Appendix 1

1.1 Trench register

Trench No.	Orientation	Dimensions (m)	Archaeology Present
01	E - W	16 x 2.0 x 0.8	Stone wall (1001)
02	NW - SE	12 x 2.0 x 0.7	Stone-lined well (2001)
03	NW - SE	10 x 2.0 x 0.5	No Archaeology
04	N - S	4 x 2.0 x 1.0	No Archaeology

1.2 Context registers

Context No	Description	Dimensions (m)
1000	Stone gravel	0.2 depth
1001	Stone-lined well	1.5 diameter and c.7m deep
1002	Natural geological subsoil – Orange/brown clayey sand	0.5m depth
2002	Stone wall aligned E/W	0.2 depth 0.45m wide and 0.6m high
3001	Natural bedrock	0.2m depth

1.3 Photographic Register

Photo No	Facing	Description
CREE-001	W	Pre-excavation shot of site
CREE-002	E	Pre-excavation shot of site
CREE-003	W	Pre-excavation shot of site
CREE-004	E	Working shot of slab removal
CREE-005	E	Brick work of brick chimney base - feature 10
CREE-006	E	Top of brick chimney base - feature 10
CREE-007	SE	Man-holes - features 1 and 2
CREE-008	SE	Remains of wall - feature 6
CREE-009	NW	Remains of wall - feature 7
CREE-010	NE	Removal of foundation - feature 15
CREE-011	W	Post-ex of area to west
CREE-012	W	View of stone-lined culvert - feature 12
CREE-013	W	View of stone-lined culvert - feature 12
CREE-014	S	View of stone-lined culvert - feature 12
CREE-015	S	View of stone-lined culvert - feature 12

CREE-016	NE	Exposed fuel tank - feature 13
CREE-017	N	Exposed fuel tank - feature 13
CREE-018	E	Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-019		Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-020		Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-021		Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-022	N	Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-023	NE	Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-024		Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-025		Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-026	NE	Stone-lined well - feature 14
CREE-027		Detail of well walls
CREE-028		Detail of well walls
CREE-029		Detail of well walls
CREE-030		Detail of well walls
CREE-031		Detail of well walls
CREE-032		Detail of well walls
CREE-033		Detail of well walls
CREE-034		Detail of well walls
CREE-035		Detail of well walls
CREE-036		Detail of well walls
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CREE-075		Detail of well walls
CREE-076		Detail of well walls
CREE-077		Detail of well walls
CREE-078		Detail of well walls
CREE-079		Detail of well walls
CREE-080		Detail of well walls
CREE-081		Detail of well walls
CREE-082		Detail of well walls
CREE-083	W	View of well
CREE-084	E	View of well showing location
CREE-085	N	Removal of brick pit - feature 22
CREE-086	N	Removal of brick pit - feature 22
CREE-087	W	Removal of fuel tank - feature 25
CREE-088	N	Working shot of foundation breaking
CREE-089	N	Exposed fuel tank - feature 24
CREE-090	NE	Exposed fuel tank - feature 24
CREE-091	W	Exposed fuel tank - feature 24
CREE-092	W	Removal of fuel tank feature 24 showing concrete base
CREE-093	N	Removal of fuel tank feature 24 showing bedrock cut
CREE-094	W	Removal of fuel tank feature 24 showing bedrock cut
CREE-095	N	Removal of fuel tank feature 24 showing bedrock cut
CREE-096	N	Removal of fuel tank feature 24 showing bedrock cut
CREE-097	W	Working shot of removal of stone features 26
CREE-098		View of removed stone foundation - feature 26
CREE-099		View of removed stone foundation - feature 26
CREE-100		Detail of removed stone foundation - feature 26
CREE-101		Detail of removed stone foundation - feature 26

CREE-102	E	Trench 1 from the west
CREE-103	E	Stone wall 1001 in Tr 1
CREE-104	S	Stone wall 1001 in Tr 1
CREE-105	E	Stone wall 1001 in Tr 1
CREE-106	W	Trench 1 from the east
CREE-107	NW	Trench 2 from the SE
CREE-108	NW	Trench 2 from the SE
CREE-109	W	Stone-lined well 2001
CREE-110	NW	Stone-lined well 2001
CREE-111	SE	Stone-lined well 2001
CREE-112	E	Stone-lined well 2001
CREE-113		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-114		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-115		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-116		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-117		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-118		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-119		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-120		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-121		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-122		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-123		Detail of walls of the well 2001
CREE-124	N	S facing section of wall 1001
CREE-125	N	S facing section of wall 1001
CREE-126	SE	Trench 3 showing bedrock
CREE-127	NW	Trench 3 showing bedrock
CREE-128	NW	Trench 3 showing bedrock
CREE-129	N	Trench 4
CREE-130	E	Trench 4 showing section
CREE-131	E	Trench 4 showing location

Appendix 2

Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh Council
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	63 Calton Road, Edinburgh
PROJECT CODE:	CREE18
PARISH:	Edinburgh
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Donald Wilson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief and excavation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 26426 73941
START DATE (this season)	Sept 2018
END DATE (this season)	Oct 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned to undertake a watching brief and a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to the redevelopment at 63 Calton Road, Edinburgh. The development had formerly been the location of the 19th century Calton Hill Brewery c.1852 and more recently had been the location of a garage. The watching brief monitored the removal of the concrete floor slab and all modern sub-surface features. These included several man-holes and three large fuel tanks. The extent of the modern intrusions across the site amounted to approximately 50% of the area. The trial trenches revealed a 19th century stone-lined well, a stone-lined culvert and the remains of a stone wall that were likely associated with the brewery. No earlier features were identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	CSD (Calton Road) Ltd.
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	13 Jane Street, Edinburgh. EH6 5HE
EMAIL ADDRESS:	office@headlandarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Historic Environment Scotland

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION

ILLUS 2 SITE PLAN

ILLUS 3 GENERAL PRE-EXCAVATION VIEW OF THE SITE

ILLUS 4 VIEW OF THE STONE-LINED WELL

ILLUS 5 DETAIL OF THE WALL OF THE WELL

ILLUS 6 DETAIL OF THE LOWER HALF OF THE WELL WALLS

ILLUS 7 VIEW OF STONE-LINED CULVERT

ILLUS 8 DETAIL OF STONE FOUNDATION WITH CUT PROFILE

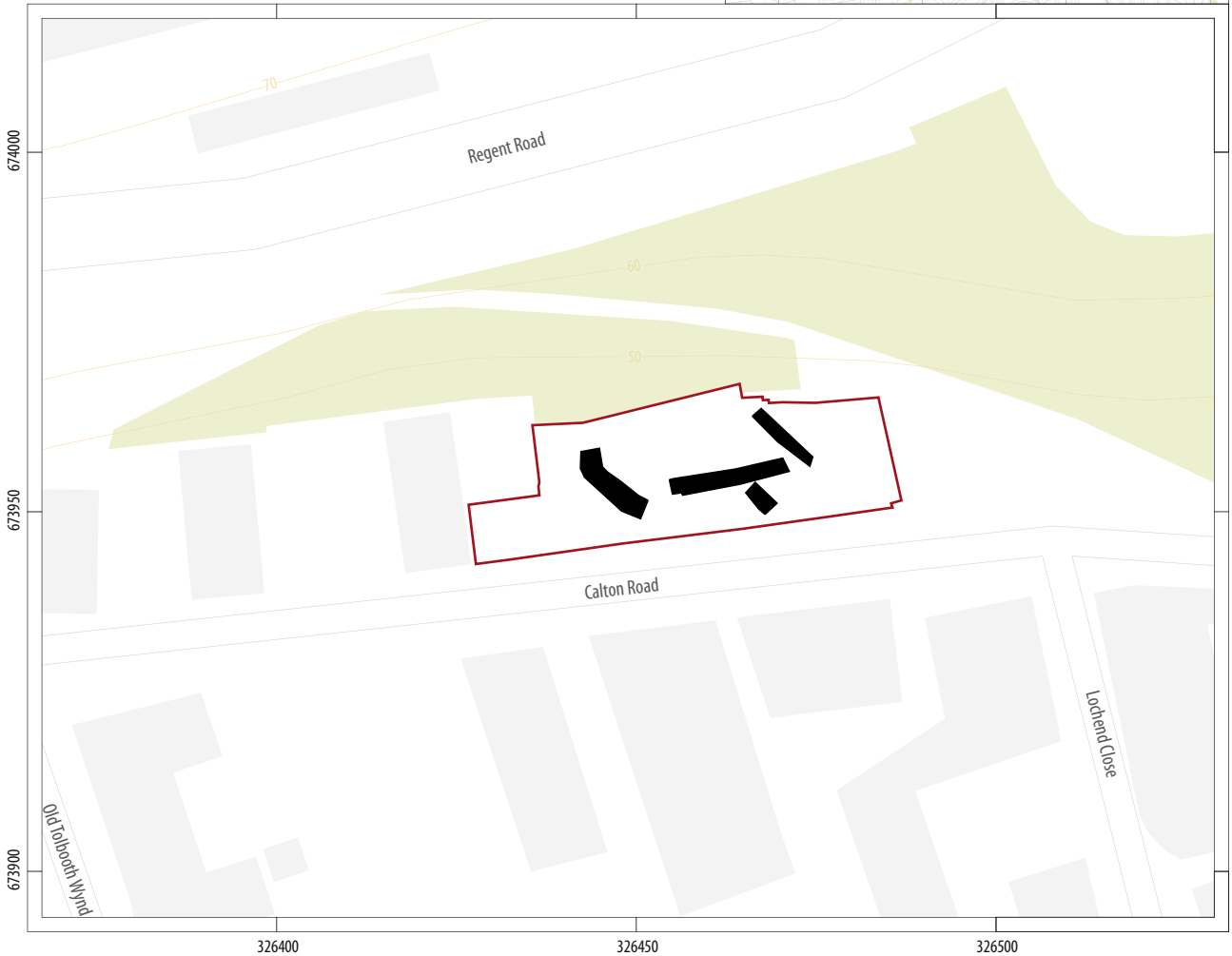
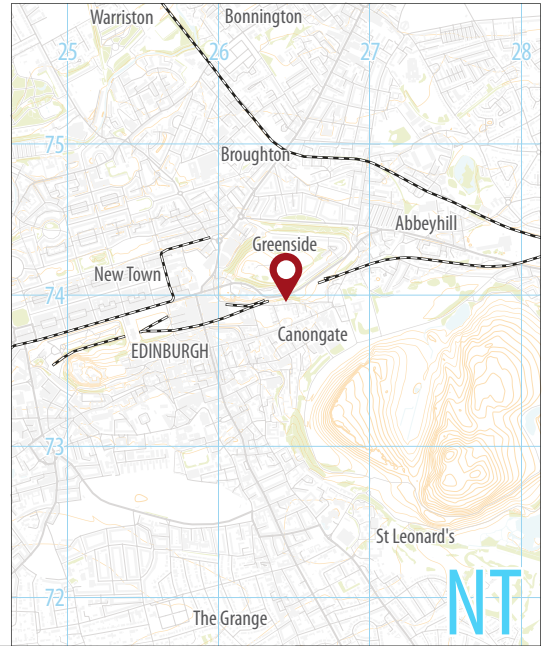
ILLUS 9 VIEW OF THE FUEL TANK EXCAVATIONS

ILLUS 10 TRENCH 1 FACING EAST



Land at 63 Calton Road
Edinburgh
Lothian



0 200km
1:12,500,000 @ A4

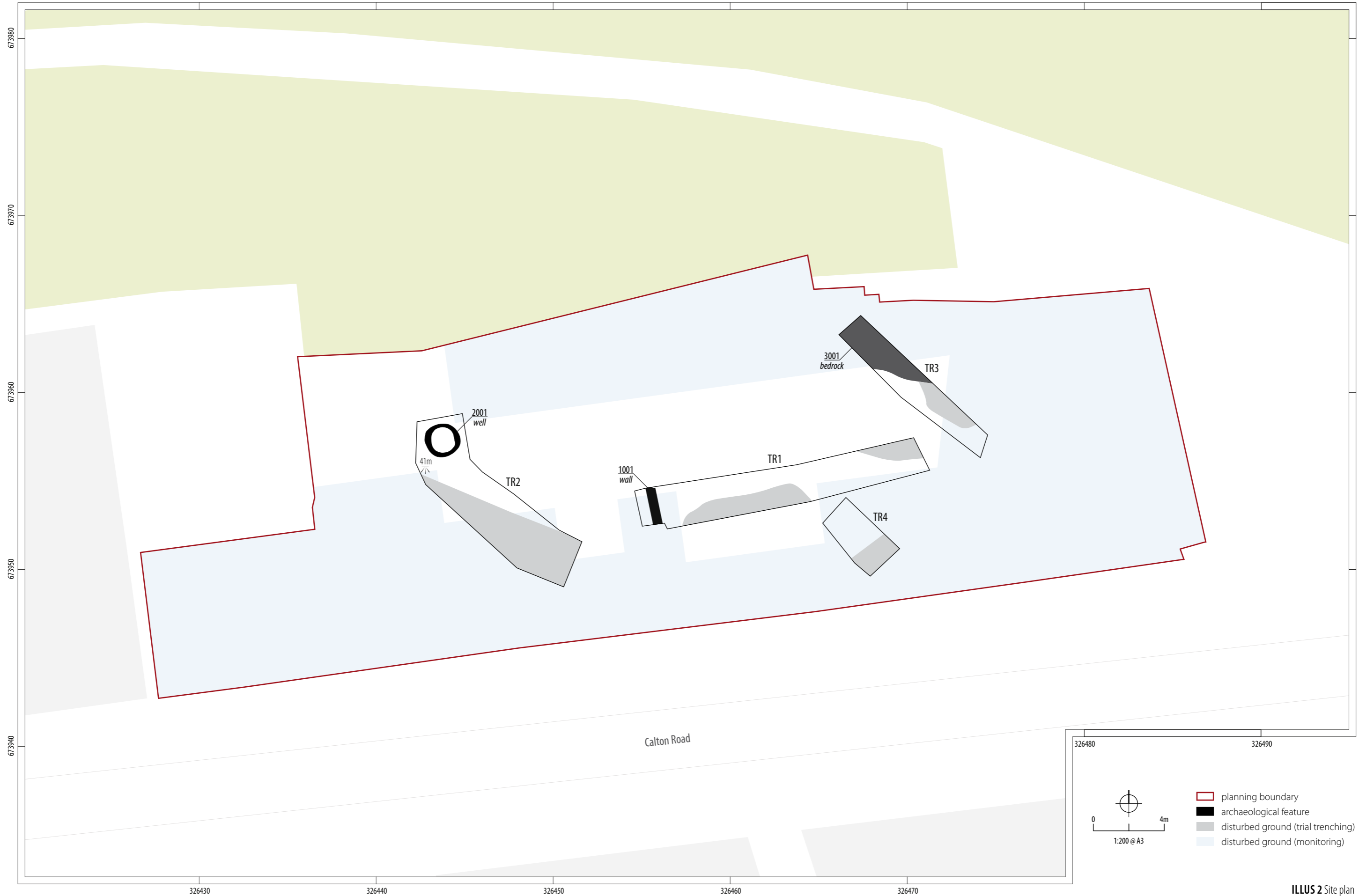


0 20m
1:1,000 @ A4

 planning boundary
 trench location

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w www.headlandarchaeology.com





ILLUS 3 General pre-excitation view of the site



ILLUS 4 View of the stone-lined well **ILLUS 5** Detail of the wall of the well **ILLUS 6** Detail of the lower half of the well walls



ILLUS 7 View of stone-lined culvert **ILLUS 8** Detail of stone foundation with cut profile **ILLUS 9** View of the fuel tank excavations **ILLUS 10** Trench 1 facing east