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## **Dunbar Town House Dunbar, East Lothian**

### **Phase 2 Internal Building Recording & Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 1896**

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Dunbar, East Lothian**

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& Archaeological Watching Brief**

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## **0. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A second phase of standing building survey was carried out within the interior of the Town House, High Street, Dunbar between July 2010 and May 2011 on behalf of East Lothian Council. The building survey was carried out to record significant historical architectural features brought to light during the refurbishment of the interior of the building. The programme of work was based on a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by East Lothian Council. Underpinning the WSI was the results of a rapid building appraisal survey which photographed each room within the Town House prior to its alteration. The survey was used to demarcate potential areas where more detailed recording work would need to be undertaken. The Town House and the adjoining council offices have undergone major alterations to suit the requirements of new office space and a local history museum.

The Town House is one of the most important buildings in Dunbar and is considered to be of early 16th-century date. It is a Category A Listed structure owing to its architectural character, and still forms an imposing structure within the High Street. Based on the results from dendrochronology, the primary construction is likely to have been sometime during the early 16th century which is in accord with documentary evidence which first mentions the presence of a tollbooth in Dunbar. The building has an interesting history and was formerly the town gaol and more recently council chambers. The building was last used as the town museum with adjoining local council offices. Historical research has shown a protracted history of modification and repair throughout the life of the building (Cressey 2008).

This report provides a detailed account of the survey recording work carried out on the interior of the building prior to and during its refurbishment. The recording work was carried out at various levels that included both basic and enhanced levels (Simpson and Connolly 2006), depending on the significance of the architectural or archaeological subject. A series of archaeological watching briefs were also carried out prior to the construction of a lift shaft and external stair tower. The watching brief also monitored the creation of a new doorway through what was once the north gable of the Town House. The most significant features brought to light include three fireplaces, which lay hidden behind modern wall finishes. Other recording work included the walls that were to be altered by the insertion of new openings. A flagstone floor in the former strongroom and its ceiling were recorded prior to alterations.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of a standing building survey and archaeological watching briefs carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between July 2010 and May 2011 at the Town House, Dunbar, East Lothian (NGR: NT 67931 78951, Fig. 1). The work undertaken represents the second phase of work carried out at Dunbar Town House. Previous building recording work and watching briefs were confined to the exterior of the Town House (Cressey 2008). The recent project is based on a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by Mr Andrew Robertson, at East Lothian Council's Archaeology Officer. The internal renovation has included extensive alterations to the Town House and adjoining council offices to suit the needs of modern office and community space. A new local history museum will be housed on the ground floor.

### **1.2 Background**

Located on Dunbar High Street and the corner of Silver Street, the late 16th-century Town House or Tollbooth, once acted as the administrative centre of the town. During the 19th century, the Town Council had their chambers on the top floor of the building, while the police station was on the ground floor. Until 1860, there were two small cells on the first floor, one kept for debtors and the other for petty criminals. Between 1911 and 1913 the white lime harling was removed, exposing the stone beneath. Weathering and severe erosion of the building's exterior fabric required East Lothian Council to renovate the exterior of the building between 2008-9. The work included stone replacement and re-harling and painting. Most of the work was confined to the exterior but some remedial work had to be carried out on the interior also.

The Town House is an A-listed building (HB No.24790). It is rectangular on plan and has two storeys and a dormered attic with a semi-hexagonal stair-tower capped by a slated pined roof with crow-step gables. On top of the hexagonal stair rests a lead-covered, oval-vented spire that projects from the west wall. The projecting base and two string-courses of the tower suggest a date after 1650. The building masonry is old red sandstone with moulded dressings. A late 19th-century building adjoining the Town House was greatly modified in 1927 resulting in the present day crenellated porch and shop frontage that adjoins the building's north elevation (Fig. 2a-b). The south gable fronts Silver Street and Historic Scotland's Statutory List mentions two ground floor windows and 'various early alterations'.

### **1.3 Objectives**

A staged approach was adopted in order to record the interior of the building prior to the commencement of refurbishment works. The stages included:

- **Stage 1** - To carry out an initial photographic survey supported by a tabulated report to identify all areas requiring archaeological recording/monitoring and to inform East Lothian Council's Archaeology Officer on the relative importance of the features of archaeological interest.

- **Stage 2** - Actual monitoring of features identified in the Stage 1 survey as they were revealed during the renovation work (according to the contractor's schedule).
- **Stage 3** - Monitored strip and watching briefs during excavation of the lift shaft base and external ground breaking works (according to the contractor's schedule).
- **Stage 4** - Final report(s) following the completion of all archaeological work.

#### **1.4 Layout of the report**

Section 2 provides an account of the methods used during the survey. Section 3 provides a review of the results from architectural recording. Section 4 provides an account of the results obtained from the watching brief. Section 5 discusses the results of the work. Section 6 provides a conclusion and Section 7 recommendations for further work. Section 8 provides the bibliography. Appendix 1 is a tabulated inventory of the results of the preliminary photographic survey. Appendix 2 provides lists of all the digital photographs taken. Appendix 3 is the Discovery and Excavation entry for the survey work carried out between 2010 and 2011.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 General**

CFA follows the Institute for Field Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Historic Building Survey as appropriate.

### **2.2 Building recording**

An Historic Building Appraisal was carried out according to the specification of Simpson and Connolly (2006). The results of this work and the associated photographic record is provided in Appendix 1. This provides a pre-alteration record of the building interior prior to the commencement of refurbishment work and underpinned a schedule of recording work within a separate WSI agreed by East Lothian Council.

A photographic record was maintained during the project using digital photography. A list of the digital photographs taken is provided in Appendix 2. The photographs are listed under their respective folders and contained within the enclosed CD.

Industry standard electronic surveying equipment was used to obtain a wireframe outline of certain features such as wall heads and floor levels. Off-set hand recording was confined to fireplaces and other features of architectural interest where more detail was required.

Standard building fabric recording sheets were completed as appropriate and a digital photographic record maintained as the survey work proceeded.

### **2.3 Watching Brief**

The watching brief recording methodology is described in the Project WSI and utilised standard CFA field recording methods using mainly hand off-set recording at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 as appropriate. All finds were recorded according to single context. A digital photographic record was maintained during the watching brief. Close liaison with the Main Contractor (Ashwood Scotland) and the client's architect meant that the watching brief requirement ran smoothly.

### **2.4 Desk-based survey**

A detailed desk-based analysis and comprehensive historical research has already been undertaken by Dr Aliasdair Ross and his results are presented in the first report (Cressey 2008). This second report includes copies of architect's proposals for the creation of public offices adjacent to the town house.

### **3. ARCHITECTURAL RECORDING RESULTS**

#### **3.1 General**

Each room or area subjected to standing building recording work follows the room label plan on Fig. 3. The areas subjected to archaeological watching brief are highlighted in yellow. The results are described in order, starting with the ground floor, then the first and second floors respectively.

#### **3.2 Ground Floor Recording**

The survey areas on the ground floor are shown in Fig. 3. The summary descriptions of all rooms within the ground floor of both the Town House and the adjoining offices are listed in Appendix 1. The main works scheduled for the ground floor included the refurbishment of Units 1 and 3, (the barrel-vaulted rooms) and the insertion of a new door through the former gable wall between Unit 3 and 12, the council office hallway Repairs to the passage wall (Unit 2) were also carried out.

*Unit 1: former museum display room (Fig. 3)*

Unit 1 is a barrel vaulted room measuring 5.5m x 4.6m x 2.8m and was clad with softwood tongue-and-grooved timber to dado height and surmounted by a wooden bead. The room is lit on the west wall by a 6-over-6 sash and case window. Two smaller windows are present on the south elevation and include a 6-over-6 sash and case window and a 1-paned casement window.

Following the partial stripping out of the cladding, a small fireplace (Fig. 4, Plate 1) was revealed on the north-facing elevation. The chimney piece opening measured 0.94m x 0.9m with buff-coloured sandstone comprising linear blocks of sandstone (0.9m x 0.14m) and a mantle measuring 1.24m long and 0.18m deep. All three stones had been heavily broached to accommodate the recent panel work. The fire-back had been infilled with common brick to accommodate a later grate that had a cast-iron plate within the recess. The use of cast-iron back plates is common as it protected the masonry and radiated heat (Moses 2008). It is assumed that this smaller grate had a metal canopy which was partly accommodated within the void cut into the mantle stone. The brickwork within the fireback was very crude and was probably either lined with ceramic tiles or metal cheeks simulating tiles.

The rest of the elevations were largely featureless with the exception of the doorway which still contained original probably 19<sup>th</sup> century lath and plaster walls which had been painted with a brown paint which has darkened considerably over time. At the east end of the room the position of a cupboard was demarcated by blue paint and wooden dooks that held the shelving. The cupboard appears to have been removed when the room was re-lined. This event occurred in 1975 according to graffiti on the walls. The 1975 cladding hid possibly 1960s or later brown wallpaper comprising concentric part-shaded circles.

### *Unit 2 Ground floor passage (Fig. 3)*

The vaulted passage runs from the street frontage to the yard behind the Town House. The passage allows access to the turnpike staircase leading to the first floor and Units 1 and 3, and Unit 5, a small store formerly the coal house at the rear of the building. The passage measures 11.4m long and is 1.4m wide and 2.5m high from the ground to ceiling (Fig. 5). The walls are constructed of random rubble. Exposed within the fabric towards the east end, is a blocked doorway and stone door jamb which marks the position of an earlier door that closed off the interior of the passage. Repairs and removal of the blocking work at the east end of the wall required that the south-facing elevation be surveyed to record the character of the fabric prior to its alteration.

At the west (street-frontage) end of the passage, the main door surround incorporates large blocks of sandstone with various scars and socket holes (Fig 5). Within the interior of the passage the walls are fairly featureless. A wooden door leading into Unit 3 is a recent (20<sup>th</sup> century) feature. Between this door and an earlier blocked doorway, the rubble wall is featureless. The blocked doorway measures 2m high and 1.04m wide and has well defined surrounds which are surmounted by a stone lintel. On the east side of the doorway is a stone door-jamb comprising individual blocks of moulded stone. A wooden door-frame partly masks the jamb. On the east side of the stone jamb the wall has a small rectangular blocked feature measuring c.0.9m high and 0.6m wide. This feature is probably a small window which lit the rear entrance of the passage. Above the blocked window, the wall head has been repaired with concrete. This is a recent repair carried out during the programme of external work in 2006.

### *Unit 3: former museum display room (Fig. 3)*

Unit 3 is a barrel-vaulted room measuring 3.9m long and 3.6m wide and 2.8m high from floor to ceiling. The room was clad to dado height with tongue-and-grooved panelling with a hardboard lining above. The room is lit on the east-facing elevation by a 6-over-6 sash and case window. A modern toilet and small kitchen (Unit 4) had been created by the insertion of a stud-partition wall at the east end.

Following the removal of the interior cladding the most significant feature exposed was a large blocked fireplace on the interior south-facing wall which had been infilled to accommodate a second fireplace, the opening of which was probably blocked during the 1927 phase of works (Fig. 6, Plate 2). This wall in which the fireplace had been built into was originally the main north gable of the Town House.

The early fireplace (Fig 6) comprised rectangular sandstone blocks forming the fire surrounds which stood to a height of 1.5m. A large lintel measured 1.8m long by 0.45m deep and was surmounted by a relieving arch with ten voussoirs. A series of wooden dooks had been inserted between the relieving arch and the lintel. On either side of the fireplace the walls had been built of large rectangular blocks of coursed sandstone bonded with lime mortar. A large area of lime mortar masked the lower corner on the east side of the fireplace.

The secondary fireplace was smaller and had been inserted into the opening of the earlier one. The inserted fireplace measured 1.2m high and 0.9m wide with a droved

ashlar lintel. The lintel was a re-used piece of stone. The fireplace opening had been blocked with red brick. Two ventilation bricks had been inserted below the lintel.

A new doorway was inserted through the former gable wall between Unit 3 and the hallway Unit 12 of the adjoining council offices (see position on Fig 3 and 6). This work was carried out under archaeological supervision and the results are produced in Section 4.2 below.

### **3.6 First Floor Recording (Units 7-9, Fig. 3)**

The main focus of the refurbishment works carried out on the first floor of the Town House was the demolition of the walls between Units 7- 9 (store, corridor and fireproof strongroom) to create one large room with a new suspended floor and ceiling. The rooms had been created in 1927 by compartmentalising what was then a former gaol cell. The cell's iron door is still present at the south end of the corridor (Unit 8). At the north end of the corridor the moulded surround of an ornate fireplace was left exposed during the 1927 refit; its true extent was not known as it was hidden behind the concrete cladded walls of the strong room.

#### *Unit 9: fireplace (Fig. 8a, Plate 3&4)*

The fireplace occupied three quarters of the south-facing elevation of the former strong room and measured 2.65m wide and 2.15m high. On the west side of the fireplace was a moulded sandstone column surmounted by a carved countersunk overmantle which formed the corner of the massive stone lintel. The lintel measured 2.6m long and 0.68m wide and it had large structural cracks at each end. The lintel had, at one time, a moulded margin on its top and lower edges but this had been removed using a hand chisel to create a heavily broached finish in which to key in the cement render of the strong room wall. There were no visible remains of the corresponding eastern moulded upright of the fire surround.

Above the massive stone lintel was a segmented relieving arch using sandstone blocks measuring on average 0.4m by 0.12m. Red brick had been used to infill the void between the relieving arch and the top of the stone lintel.

Below the lintel a smaller sandstone fireplace (Fig. 8a) had been inserted, comprising sandstone uprights and a large stone mantle. The mantle was covered in graffiti some of which was discernible with name and date. On the left hand (western) fire surround was carved the names *Watson 1927*, *J Jonney 176?* and *B Chevel 1767*. The blocked interior of the fireplace measured 1.05m by 0.97m and was in-filled with common brick and blocks of sandstone. Located within the brickwork was an iron ventilation grill.

There were clearly two phases of fireplace, the largest is considered to be early 16<sup>th</sup> century in date whilst the smaller insert dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### *Unit 9: flagstone floor (Fig 8b)*

The floor in Unit 9 was laid with flagstones (Fig. 8b) and it was recorded in plan prior to the installation of a new suspended floor. The size of the flagstones varied but they

were laid in regular fashion. On the east side of the room the floor was made up of irregular flagstones.

#### *West-facing elevation features (Fig. 8c)*

Following the demolition of the strong room the interior of the west-facing wall was partially exposed. Figure 8c provides an annotated montage showing the extent of the features exposed. The features present are labelled A-I and listed in Table 1.

Feature	Description
A	Concrete render formerly lining the 1927 strong room, c. 2cm thick
B	Area of brick repair work below the timber floor joists
C	Wall seam marking the position of the demolished brick partition wall
D	Possible remains of a small relieving arch for a window?
E	Large blocks of sandstone forming the remains of a relieving arch for a window?
F	Older stonework repairs below the floor joists, red-sandstone bonded with lime mortar
G	Modern repair work (post 1927) stugged blocks of cream-coloured sandstone bonded with lime mortar.
H	Faint outline in the white-washed rubble wall possibly marking the position of a blocked window.
I	Brick-blocked air vent blocked c. 1927

*Table 1 List of features visible on the west-facing interior elevation (Fig. 8b) following the demolition of the Strong room (Unit 9, Fig. 3).*

### **3.4 Second Floor Recording**

#### *Unit 11: Council Chambers floor*

The floor boards at the north end of the Council Chambers were lifted to allow the demolition of the strong room ceiling, and their removal was monitored (Plate 6). Seventeen original floor boards were aligned north-south and were nailed onto the oak floor joists that were aligned east to west. The softwood floor boards measured 0.21m wide and 0.03m thick. These had been nailed to the joists using iron hand-forged nails. The joists comprised squared-off timber with roughly dressed oak cross-braces which were bridle-jointed into the floor joists and fixed in position with iron nails (Plate 7).

During the course of the refurbishment works a series of timbers were found to be in a rotten state and requiring replacement where they entered into the wall head on the east-facing elevation. The timbers were recovered for potential dendrochronological dating.



*Unit 35: Spiral Staircase lath and plaster (Plates 009-12, Folder 5)*

Immediately outside the Council Chamber entrance leading into the spiral staircase landing (Unit 35) a section of lath and plaster had fallen away from the wall. The lath and plaster was surmounted by a piece of plaster board. The section of lath and plaster work was photographed and recorded. This probably relates to late 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century repair work carried out in the stair tower. Plaster had also fallen away from parts of the interior of the tower walls, revealing the random rubble of its construction.

## **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS**

A series of architectural and archaeological watching briefs were carried out during the Phase 2 refurbishment of Dunbar Town House. The following areas were monitored:

- (i) The insertion of the new doorway between Units 3 and Unit 11 which would impact on the former north gable of the Town House
- (ii) A lift-shaft base within the interior of the Town House
- (iii) The excavation of foundations for an external stair tower
- (iv) Service trench in the floor of Unit 2

### **4.2 Doorway insertion through the former north gable of the Town House**

A new doorway was inserted through what was the original north gable of the Town House. The position of the new door insertion is shown in Fig. 6. The door opening was cut between Unit 3, the former museum display room, and Unit 12, the ground floor hall leading to the Council offices. The void for the door-frame measured 2.5m wide and 2.5m high. Two sections were recorded when the fabric was broken out.

#### *Section A (Fig. 7, Plate 8)*

Section A measured 2.4m high and 0.92m wide and cut through the large mantel stone and the relieving arch above. The section exposed the east-facing section through a large proportion of the flue associated with the earlier fireplace (Fig. 7). The flue was c.0.5m wide and was in-filled with rubble to a height of 1.5m. The extent of the flue was visible behind the rubble where heat altered and soot-blackened stonework was present. Behind the later blocked fireplace an assortment of lime-mortar bonded stone and brickwork was present. Within the hall (Unit 12) the wall was brick-built to a width of 0.24m. The section also exposed the line of the vaulted ceiling which comprised large blocks of lime-mortar bonded sandstone.

The rubble behind the fireplace exposed in Section A must have been inserted when the 1927 wall was being constructed for the hallway (Unit 12). It would have been impossible to build up such a large area of bonded rubble from within the confines of the smaller fireplace opening. It would seem that the builders encountered a very thin wall behind the flue during the course of the removal of the earlier tenement wall. In order to block the smaller fireplace and reinforce the rear of the flue a large volume of rubble infill was incorporated into the base of the flue to lend stability to the new wall.

#### *Section B (Fig. 7, Plate 9)*

Section B measured 2.4m high and 1.4m wide and exposed the west-facing section through the former gable wall and vaulted ceiling in Unit 3 and the brick-built wall of Unit 12, the hallway. The wall and vault line fabric measured c. 0.6m thick and there was rubble infill between this and the rear brick-built 1927 wall. The brick-built 1927 wall was loosely keyed into the fabric of the Town House. The rubble infill was an assortment of sub-angular and rounded stones bonded with lime-mortar.

### **4.3 Lift-shaft base (Fig. 3, Plate 10).**

The lift shaft base was located within the ground floor of the former Council Offices, on the corner of Units 30 and 31 (Fig. 3). The lift-shaft trench measured 1.4m by 1.4m and was dug to a depth of 0.8m. Immediately below a brick floor foundation layer was very compact rubble to a depth of 0.2m. Below this layer was very compact natural gravel derived from Old Red Sandstone (Plate 10).

### **4.4 Service trench in the passage floor (Plate 001-2 Folder 6)**

A narrow service trench was hand dug in the passage floor (Unit 2). The trench measured 0.3m wide and ran the full length of the passage and was dug to a depth of 0.1m. Modern rubble hard core was present to a depth of c. 0.1m which in turn overlay natural compacted gravel. The concrete passage floor was probably laid during the 1980s and probably replaced an earlier flagstone floor.

### **4.5 The external stair tower**

The new external stair tower was situated in the yard area on the east side of the Town House (Fig. 3). The part coffin-shaped footprint of the stair tower measured 4.6m by 4.25m with the foundation trench measuring 1.12m wide (Fig. 10a). A section was dug through the stair tower foundation trench deposits (Section A-B, Fig. 10b).

The yard was covered in mono blocks laid in herringbone fashion (**001**). The mono blocks were laid on sharp sand (**002**) to a depth of 0.1m. Situated at the north-east corner of the foundation trench was a concrete foundation with a slot for a timber sill (**003**). At the centre of the trench was a disturbed area of shallow mixed clay (**004**) within an irregular cut (**005**). A ceramic waste pipe (**007**) was located within a pipe-trench measuring 0.6m wide (**006**). A second pipe (**008**) was found slightly deeper than pipe (**007**). The cut for this trench was difficult to detect owing to the disturbed nature of the underlying fills.

In the south-east corner of the trench was an area of cobbles (**009**) forming the surface of an earlier yard. Within the cobbled surface was a stone culvert (**010**) comprising three large blocks measuring 0.6m long by 0.3m wide with a central drainage channel. The channel blocks had been laid within a shallow square cut (**011**) which contained a mortar-rich fill (**012**). On either side of the gully stones was a layer of cream-coloured pea gravel (**013**). Below the culvert stones were two make-up layers (**014**) and (**015**), these were very shallow (c. 0.10m deep) and comprised an assortment of angular and sub-rounded stones in a clay matrix. Below layers **014** and **015** was a deeper layer of very mixed sandy clay (**016**) which contained an assortment of sub-rounded stones and fragments of brick mixed in very unconsolidated clay to a depth of 0.38m. Cutting layers **009**, **013**, **014** and **016** was a pipe-trench (**017**). The cut contained an assortment of angular stones and shards of broken pipe within a fairly loose sandy clay (**019**). The pipe trench was 0.6m deep and 0.4m wide. The trench contained a lead pipe (**022**) with a diameter of 20mm and at the base a ceramic waste water pipe (**018**) 150mm in diameter was found. Natural reddish clay (**021**) was recorded at a depth of c.0.5m.

### *Finds*

The only datable finds recovered from the excavated area were two clay pipe-stems and a pipe bowl recovered from context (**015**), the shallow layer below the gully stones. The pipe bowl is dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century (S. Anderson *Pers com.*).

## 5. DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Building recording

The historic architectural drawings have been useful in informing the 1927 layout of the interior of the Council offices and provided a baseline for the subsequent modifications carried out during the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is clear that some of the 1927 proposals were not carried out. For example, the strongroom depicted on the first floor plan (compare Fig. 2a with Fig. 3) was in fact much larger and included the area depicted as a *Conveyancing Room*. Nonetheless, the plans are useful as they provide the primary use of space within the 1927 core block which was created from an earlier 19<sup>th</sup> century tenement building.

#### *Unit 1 Fireplace*

The fireplace recorded in Unit 1 is probably of late 19<sup>th</sup> century in date and is of little architectural interest. However, the fireplaces recorded in Units 3 and 9 are of significance as they are fairly monumental in terms of size.

#### *Unit 3: Fireplace*

The fireplace in Unit 3 had a large opening with a massive lintel surmounted by a stone-built relieving arch. Its flue has been recorded in section and its position within the core-block of what was the north gable shows that this feature has to be early and is probably an original 16th century feature. The secondary reduced fireplace within the larger opening is probably 18th or 19th century in date and this appears to have gone out of use in 1927 when the adjoining tenement building was refurbished. The interior of the flue was probably blocked once the smaller fireplace had been bricked-up, judging by the amount of consolidated rubble that lay within the base of the flue. It is likely that the larger fireplace was used for domestic use whereas the smaller fireplace was used for heating and would have had a small iron grate and ash-pan within it.

#### *Unit 9: Fireplace*

The fireplace recorded within Unit 9 is on a monumental scale and is assumed to have been taken from Dunbar Castle, which probably acted as a local source of readily available stone for the town. The size of the stone is enormous and more in keeping with what one might expect to find within a great hall of a tower house or other large high status building. It is possible that the fireplace was originally installed into Dunbar Castle by the Duke of Albany who employed de la Tour D'Auvergne to work at the site (C McKean *Pers comm*). It is possible that the fireplace was constructed during the main construction of the Townhouse and that it was originally designed to heat a single large chamber, effectively the whole of the first floor. It is suggested that the partition wall between Units 6 and 7 is an inserted feature that was installed to create two gaol cells. This wall is not at right-angles to the surrounding elevations (Fig. 3) and it appears to have been superimposed over a possible window opening now greatly altered by repair work. Within the east-facing elevation of Unit 10 there are the remains of two relieving arches relating to different phases of windows (Cressey 2008, Fig. 8d). This strengthens the argument that the west-facing elevation

originally contained a series of windows, associated with a first floor chamber. The partition wall between Units 6 and 7 has to be a much later cell dividing wall (see Cressey 2008, Fig. 9 on phased development).

The large fireplace would therefore have been a central feature of the town's court pre-dating the more recent panelled Council Chamber on the second floor. Historical accounts mention that the first historical reference to a town tollbooth occurs in 1539, and again in 1545, where the town court was held (Ross 2008).

The floor joists between the first and second floors appear to be original oak beams with cross-braces inserted to support the plank-built floor of the Council Chamber. These joists appear to share the same characteristics as those observed in Unit 6, the former prison cell, although the latter were re-aligned north to south when the partition wall was put in. It is possible that these timbers are all original and date to the primary construction of the Town House; however, dendrochronological dating would be required to be absolutely certain to determine the felling date of the timbers and, importantly, if the timbers were imported from Scandinavia. Previous dendrochronological dating carried out during the Phase 1 works (Crone 2006) on three floor joists obtained from the exterior south-facing gable (second floor level) confirmed that Sample DTH3 was likely to have been felled sometime between AD 1524 and AD 1539. A calendar date could not be obtained from DTH1.

<b>Timber</b>	<b>No. rings</b>	<b>h/s</b>	<b>Calendar date</b>
DTH1	121	/	/
DTH2	91	/	1360 - 1450 AD
DTH3	140	h/s	1370 - 1509 AD

*Table 2 Dendrochronology results from Dunbar Town House in 2008*

The building survey confirmed that no significant architectural features survived within the former tenement building adjoining the Town House. The historical architectural drawings (Figs 2a-b) show the proposed alterations intended to be undertaken in 1927. Much of this work was carried out resulting in the complete re-modelling of the interior of the building which removed all significant features one might expect within a tenement building (eg room partitions, fireplaces and the common staircase).

#### *Watching brief*

The archaeological watching brief has recorded the thickness of the original north gable on the ground floor during the insertion of a new doorway. The core fabric was rubble framed within the outside wall and inner barrel vault. The chimney behind the fireplace on the south-facing elevation of Unit 3 was also exposed and the results re-enforce the potential early 16<sup>th</sup> century date for its construction.

The monitoring of the lift-shaft base confirmed that there were no archaeological deposits below the position of the lift-shaft and that the building at this location had floor foundations of rubble.

The watching brief carried out on the rear of the building on the site of a new external stair tower provided evidence of earlier cobbled yard surfaces and a stone-built drain. Finds (clay pipes) suggest that the cobbled surface was laid sometime after the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) services have impacted on the deposits below the present yard.

## 6. CONCLUSION

All the objectives have been fulfilled and the building survey has provided a detailed architectural inventory of the internal features at the Category A Listed Dunbar Town House prior to its refurbishment.

The survey has also brought to light hitherto unrecorded features. These are the three fireplaces in Units 1, 3 and 9 respectively. The fireplace in Unit 1 is probably 19<sup>th</sup> century in date whereas those recorded in Units 3 and 9 are likely to be original early 16<sup>th</sup> century features. The ‘grand’ fireplace in Unit 9 is typically French in design and was probably robbed from Dunbar Castle in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. This fireplace heated a single open chamber that was used as a formal court or meeting room that is recorded in historical accounts. Following the conversion of the first floor into two gaol cells probably in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Council Chamber was then moved upstairs to the second floor and afforded a more salubrious setting with wood panelled walls and fireplaces, one of which was surmounted by an armorial painting (RCAHMS Ref NT67NE, Image SC335534).

The proposed phased development plan of Dunbar Town House that was compiled during the first phase of the project (Cressey 2008 Fig. 9) is substantiated by the results of the internal survey work.

The watching brief was successful in recording the actual thickness of the original north-gable of the Town House. The yard at the rear of the building was found to have been surfaced with cobbles post-dating the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

All areas identified in the WSI have now been monitored and specific feature recording carried out. No further on-site archaeological recording work is required.

The results will be summarised in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland and through the on-line OASIS archaeological reporting protocol.



## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Given that the Town House is an A Listed building and one of Dunbar's pre-eminent historical and administrative buildings, it is recommended, subject to East Lothian Council approval, that further work be carried out. It is recommended that a new programme of dendrochronological dating be carried out on the timbers recovered from the timber ceiling above Unit 9 for the following reasons:

- additional dendrochronological dating will provide a more robust tree-ring chronology which at the present is based on only two timbers.
- the calendar dates will provide the precise year of felling of the timbers and the period at which they were installed into the second floor above Unit 9
- the results will confirm if these joists have been hewn from timber that was imported from Scandinavia (Crone 2002a & 2002b)
- all the dendrochronological results should be published as part of the final publication
- It is recommended that the results of both the Phase 1 external survey work and the internal Phase 2 survey be united in one formal publication which should disseminate the key results in an academic journal or other suitable outlet so as to share these important results to a wider public audience. However the decision on whether the results merit formal publication rests solely with East Lothian Council.

## 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX 1

Tabulated inventory of the initial photographic survey, with room dimensions and general descriptions (Units 1-35), recommendations and Standing building recording levels. Unit numbers shown on Fig. 1. Digital thumbnail photographs are shown in Folder 1 on the CD

Unit No	Last Function	Dimensions (L x B x H)	Architectural features	Recommendations	SBS Recording level	Digital Photo No (direction facing)
1	Museum display	5.2 x 4 x 2.9	Barrel-vaulted room clad with softwood tongue-and-groove timber. Lit on west wall by a 6-over-6 sash and case window. A 6-over 6 window is on the south wall and 1-over -1 painted casement.	Record all features of historical interest that are exposed when the wall cladding is removed	Enhanced	1-4 (NESW)
2	Pend	11.4 x 1.4 x 2.5	Passage or pend on the ground floor providing access to the vaults rear yard and frontage clock-tower. Exposed rubble walls with blocked entrance on south-facing wall, at east end. Wall thickness 1.10m (south end) and 0.70 (north end).	Record pend walls prior to re-pointing and removal of the blocking work at east end.	Enhanced	5-8 (N) 9 (E) 10-14 (S)
3	Museum display	3.9 x 3.6 x 2.8	Barrel vaulted room with tongue-and-grooved plank lining to dado height with hardboard lining above. Lit on the west wall by a 6-over-6 sash and case window.	Record all features of historical interest that are exposed when the wall cladding is removed	Enhanced	19-22 (NESW)
4	Kitchen & Toilet	4.2 x 1.1 x 2.7	Kitchen and toilet separated by a partition wall at east end of Unit 3. Press on south wall is an earlier blocked doorway (modern brick infill).	Record any features exposed when brickwork is removed	Enhanced	23-26 (NESW)
5	Old coal house	Not recorded	No interior access.	This Unit was recorded during Phase 1 works	None	N/a
6	Museum (former jail cell)	5.7 x 4.1 x 3	Cream painted rubble walls. Beam and plank ceiling. Flagstone floor. Fireplace on south wall is now much reduced to hold a small grate. Wall thickening in NE corner. Forged iron-	Record all features of archaeological interest when walls are cleaned of thick paintwork	Detailed	27-30 (NSEW) 31-32 (ceiling) 33 iron-clad door

Unit No	Last Function	Dimensions (L x B x H)	Architectural features	Recommendations	SBS Recording level	Digital Photo No (direction facing)
			clad wooden cell door. 6-over-6 sash and case on west wall.			
7	Store (former jail cell)	5.7 x 1.5 and 3.1	Narrow store area formed by the insertion of a brick-built partition wall in 1927. Four-panelled door to hall. The east wall has a stone relieving arch and rubble infill (of unknown date) visible. Oak joist and plank ceiling running behind partition wall. Floor artificial. Accessed by forged iron-clad wooden door.	Record relieving arch features and blocking work when the brick partition wall is removed. Record timber work and retain any removed timbers for inspection.	Enhanced	34-35 (N) 36-37 (E) 38 (NE) 39 (W) 40 (ceiling)
8	Hall (part of former jail cell)	4.7 x 1.5 x 2.7	Hallway leading to Council offices lit by two 6-over-6 windows in an earlier 16 <sup>th</sup> -century (re-used) mullioned stone surround. Splayed ingos on interior. Four panelled door. Stone fireplace (end of) exposed on east wall.	Record any fabric exposed during take-down work (east wall) and record fireplace. Record timbers if these are exposed when partition wall removed. Record timber work prior to take-down/repairs	Enhanced	41 (N) 42-44 (E)
9	Strong Room	3.8 x 3.8 x 2.3	Plain plaster walls lined with Dexion shelving. Concrete floor and steel-reinforced ceiling. Blocked (re-used) fireplace on north wall (probably robbed from Dunbar castle). The strong room was created in 1927 by partitioning off a large former jail cell (debtors cell?).	An archaeological watching brief is recommended to monitor the removal of the immediate blocking work (probably brick) and to ensure the contractor does not damage/remove any historical internal features within the fireplace.  Record fireplace when fully exposed.	Comprehensive (including scaled drawings and moulding profiles)	45-46 (N) 47 (W) 48 (S) 49 (W)
10	Store	No access	Recorded during Phase 1 works.	None	None	N/a
11	Council Chambers	10.2 x 5.4 x 3	Ornate panelled chamber with fireplace at each end surmounted by armorial plaques (now removed). Early plank-built door on west wall. Lit by dormer windows.	None	None	50 (N) 51-52 (E) 53 (S) 54-55 (W)

Unit No	Last Function	Dimensions (L x B x H)	Architectural features	Recommendations	SBS Recording level	Digital Photo No (direction facing)
12	Council offices vestibule and main hallway	9.1 x 2.2 x 2.8	Hall leading to stairway. South wall former Town House gable. Painted plaster walls with a simple cornice.	Record area of wall exposed prior to slapping through the new doorway through former gable.	Enhanced	56-57 (Entrance) 58 (S) 59-60 (E) 61 (W)
13	Toilet	2.4 x 2.3 x 2.7	1927 fit out with period fittings and fixtures. Cornice and panelled cubicle.	None	None	62 (Door) 63 (E) 64 (cubical) 65 (S)
14	Lower and upper landing/stairs	2.7 x 1.5 x 2.5	Landing lit by ornate window in cast-iron frame. Cast-iron balustrade, wooden hand rail. South wall former gable of Town House.	Record any features exposed on south wall of stairs landing	Enhanced	66 (N) 67-68 (E) 69 (up-stairs) 70 (N) 71 (upstairs) 72 (S) 73 (W)
15	Registration/reception	5.2 x 3 x 2.8	Plain walls. Frosted glass panelled door to hall. Boxed in fireplace on south wall. Arched opening with door to hall and strong room. South wall is original gable of Town House.	Record any features on the gable if exposed through soft-strip	Enhanced	75 (E) 76-77 (S) 78 (W)
16	Reception room	5.4 x 4.6 x 2.8	Plaster-lined wall, chimney breast on north wall. Moulded cornice, box skirtings. Lit on west wall by three 1-over-1 sash and case windows.	Record any earlier fire place features exposed following soft-strip	Detailed	79-82 (NESW)
17	Hallway	2.9 x 1.4 x 2.9	Plain plaster walls, access to three offices. A doorway leads off to main stairs.	None	None	83-86 (NESW)
18	Office	3.8 x 2.7 x 2.8	Plaster board lined walls, moulded cornice, lit on the north wall by 1-over 1 sash and case window.	None	None	87-90 (NESW)
19	Office	4.3 x 3.5 x 2.8	Office lit by two 1-over-1 sash and case windows on south wall. Simple box skirting and cornice.	None	None	91-94 (NESW)
20	Landing	2.4 x 2.4 x 2.6	Landing to ladies toilet lit by a very large window in cast-iron frame with heraldic motif.	None	None	95-98 (NESW)
21	Ladies Toilet	2.5 x 2.4 x 2.6	Toilet lit on east wall by 1 over 1 sash and case window (1927). Modern cubical and sanitary wares.	None	None	99-102 (NESW)
22	Landing	4.5 a 1.3 x 2.9	Tiled floor (parquet) cornice and	Record any features exposed on	Enhanced	98 (W)

Unit No	Last Function	Dimensions (L x B x H)	Architectural features	Recommendations	SBS Recording level	Digital Photo No (direction facing)
			architrave. Door to council chambers. Iron stair balustrade wooden hand rail.	the south wall if affected by soft strip (former gable of the Town House)		
23	Stores	3.2 x 2.6 x 2.9	Wooden fireplace on south wall with softwood surrounds blocked with a red tiled panel. Lit by 6 paned casement window. Modern fitted cupboards on north wall.	None	None	103-106 (NESW)
24	Hallway	5.4 x 1.4 x 2.9	Featureless panelled walls, (modern).	None	None	107 (N) 108 (S)
25	Office	4.5 x 3.6 x 2.9	1927 period fireplace on north wall nearly at the centre of a larger room (including Unit 26). Lit by sash-and-case windows on west wall. Featureless lined plaster-board walls. Moulded cornice (1927).	Record any earlier features behind current fireplace	Detailed	109-112 (NESW)
26	Store room	3.1 x 1.7 2.9	Partitioned from Unit 25. Cornice (1927) carried round store room. Featureless.	None	None	113 (E) 144 (S)
27	Office	4.3 x 2.8 x 2.9	Modern office lit by 1-over-1 sash and case window on north wall.	None	None	115-118 (NESW)
28	Office	4.3 x 2.8 x 2.9	Modern office lit by 1-over 1 sash-and-case window on east wall. Door on west wall.	None	None	119 (E) 120 (Vertical on yard) 121 (E), 122 (W) 123 (N)
29	Reception/Office	5.9 x 3.9 x 2.6	Cast-iron window frame forming shop frontage. Plaster-board walls. Featureless.	None	None	124-127 (NESW)
30	Middle Office	3.9 x 3.4 x 2.4	Modern office lit on north wall by 1-over-1 sash and case window. Otherwise featureless	None	None	128-132 (NESW)
31	Rear Office	3.0 x 2.9 x 2.3	Featureless modern office lit on east wall by two 1-over1 sash and case windows.	None	None	133-136 (NESW)
32	Hallway	8.8 x 1 x 2.3	Modern lined hallway with fitted	None	None	137 (W) 138 (E)

Unit No	Last Function	Dimensions (L x B x H)	Architectural features	Recommendations	SBS Recording level	Digital Photo No (direction facing)
			cupboards on south wall.			
33	Store cupboard	2.0 x 1.0	Featureless walls with shelving. Stairs above.	None	None	149 (S) 150 (ceiling)
34	Kitchen and toilet	3.8 x 1.6 x 2.0	Modern fitted kitchen lit by window on the east wall.	None	None	139-142 (NESW)
35	Clock tower stairs	N/a	Rubble-built walls below exfoliating plaster. Stone turn-pike steps to first and second floors.	None	None	143-148

## APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER OF IMAGES ON CD

Folder 1 (19/6/10) Shot Nos	Description	Conditions	Taken From
	Initial Survey Report: Interior photos of Units 1-35 (Fig *)	Flash	See Appendix 1

Folder 2 (19/6/10) Shot No	Description	Conditions	Taken From
1-45	Unit 2, S-facing elevation, consecutive shots of the wall fabric	Flash	South
46-48	Unit 12, N-facing elevation, inspection panel on former north gable showing fabric detail	Flash	North
49-50	Unit 3, S-facing elevation, inspection panel showing fabric detail	Flash	South
51	Unit 3, S-facing elevation, void between FP lintel and segmented arch, general shot	Flash	South
52	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing fireplace partly exposed	Flash	South
53	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing inserted fireplace partly exposed	Flash	South
54	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing inserted fireplace partly exposed at a distance	Flash	South
55	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing inserted fireplace partly exposed at a distance with upper lintel exposed during demolition works	Flash	South

Folder 3 (4/10/ 10) Shot No	Description	Conditions	Taken From
1-6	Unit 11, Council chamber floor prior to uptake	Flash	South
7	Unit 9, floor joists supporting second floor	Flash	South
8	Unit 9, floor joists supporting second floor	Flash	North
9	Unit 9, S-facing elevation, fireplace lintol	Flash	South
10-11	Unit 9, W-facing elevation, moulded fire surround during strongroom demolition	Flash	South-west
12	Unit 9, S-facing elevation, fireplace and segmented relieving arch above	Flash	South
13	Unit 9, acro-props and floor joist beams	Flash	East
14	Unit 9, floor joist beams and boards at the S-end of Unit 9	Flash	East
15-19	Unit 12, N-facing elevation, exposed fabric for new door opening	Flash	North
20-21	Unit 11, Exposed floor beams in the Council Chamber	Flash	West
22-23	Unit 11, Exposed floor beams in the Council Chamber	Flash	South
24-27	Unit 9, S-facing elevation. Detailed shot of the inserted fire surround	Flash	South
28-31	Unit 3, S-facing elevation showing the fabric and vault after the wall plaster removal	Flash	South
32-33	Unit 11, floor boards in the Council Chamber prior to uplift	Flash	South

Folder 4 (15/10/10) Shot No	Description	Conditions	Taken From
1-5	Unit 3, S-facing elevation, heavily shored vault	Flash	South



	and wall marked up for new door insertion		
6-7	Unit 9, S-facing elevation, graffiti on fire-surround	Flash	South
8-9	Unit 9, S-facing elevation, large lintol over blocked fireplace	Flash	South
10-12	Unit 9, S-facing elevation, wall fabric on east side of fireplace	Flash	South
13-15	Unit 9, W-facing elevation, consecutive shots of the wall fabric following strong room ceiling removal	Flash	South
16-17	Unit 9, test-pit opening on the floor to east of fireplace	Flash	South
18-19	Unit 3, S-facing elevation marked-up for cutting new door opening	Flash	South
20	Unit 12, N-facing elevation, marked up for cutting new door opening	Flash	North
21-25	Unit 9, floor-joists exposed following strongroom ceiling removal	Flash	West
26-28	Unit 9, floor joists exposed flowing strongroom ceiling removal, distance shots	Flash	South-west

<b>Folder 5 (16/2/11)</b> <b>Shot No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Taken From</b>
1	Unit 3, S-facing elevation with newly inserted opening through the wall	Flash	South
2-3	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing large fireplace lintel with tie rods inserted for support	Flash	South
4-5	Unit 9, south-facing elevation, overmantel on the moulded fire surround	Flash	West
6-7	Unit 9, S-facing elevation showing large fireplace lintel with tie rods inserted for support	Flash	South
8	Unit 9, new false ceiling plates hiding floor timbers	Flash	Vertical
9-10	Unit 35, clock tower entrance, second floor, showing lath and plaster	Flash	North
11	Unit 35, clock tower entrance, second floor, showing lath and plaster	Flash	East
12	Unit 35, clock tower entrance, second floor, showing lath and plaster	Flash	East
13-14	Unit 6, N-facing elevation and floor joist repair	Flash	North

<b>Folder 6 (16/3/11)</b> <b>Shot No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Taken From</b>
1-2	Unit 2, service trench route cut into concrete floor	Flash	East
3-8	Unit 9, flagstone floor prior to recording	Flash	North
9	Unit 11, S-facing elevation, modern wooden fire surround to be replaced	Flash	South

<b>Folder 7 (28/4/11)</b> <b>Shot No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Taken From</b>
1-4	Unit 1, N-facing elevation, fireplace behind wall cladding	Flash	North
5-8	Unit 1, N-facing elevation after the removal of wall cladding	Flash	North
9-12	Unit 1, E-facing elevation after the removal of the wall cladding	Flash	East
13	Unit 1, S-facing elevation showing plaster above the doorway	Flash	South

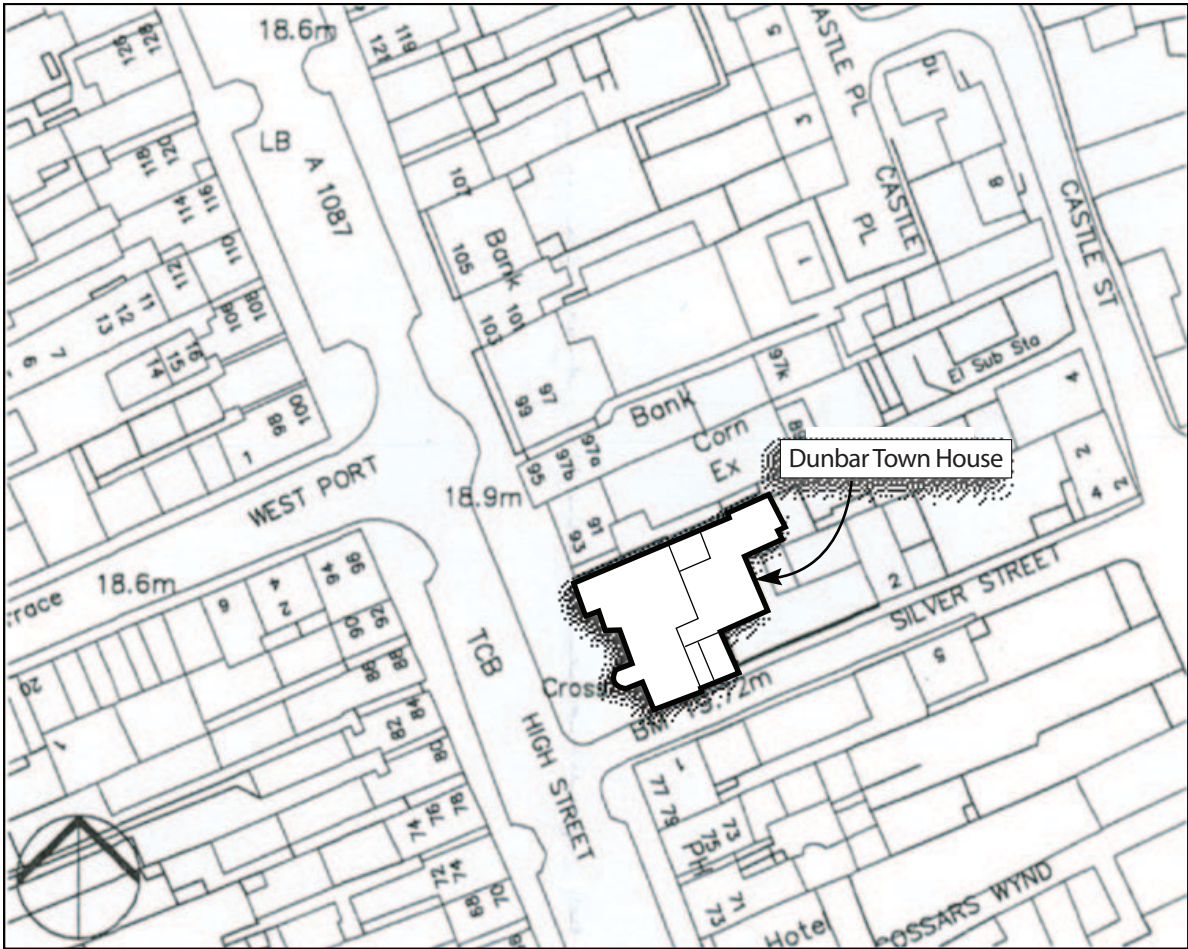
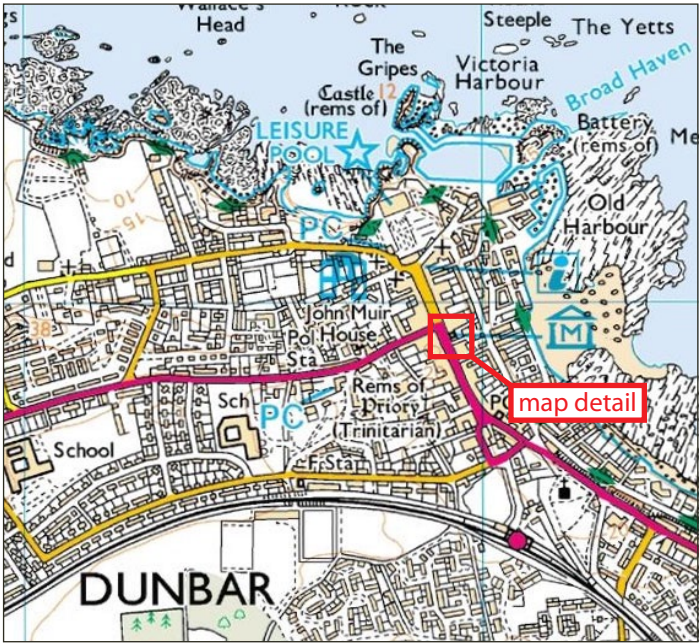
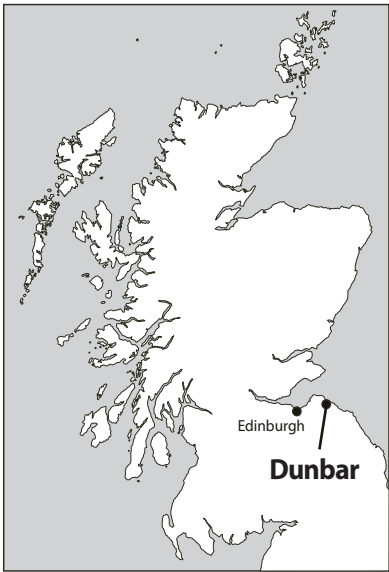
14-15	Unit 1, W-facing elevation showing cupboard scar	Flash	West
16	Unit 1, S-facing elevation after removal of the wall cladding	Flash	South
17-40	Unit 2, S-facing elevation consecutive shots of the elevation following repair work	Flash	South

<b>Folder 8 (13/8/10 – 4/11/10) Shot No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Taken From</b>
1-5	Units 3 & 12 W-facing cut through the former gable wall	Flash	West
6-7	Units 3 & 12m E-facing cut through the former gable showing the flue behind fireplace	Flash	East
8-9	Units 3 & 12m E-facing cut through the former gable showing flue behind fireplace	Flash	East
10	Unit 3, vault line in ceiling	Flash	East
11	Unit 12, hall staircase scar following removal	Flash	North
12	Unit 3, acro props supporting the fireplace segmented arch stones after cutting new door opening	Flash	South
13-14	Lift shaft opening on ground floor in progress	Flash	West
15-22	Lift shaft sections and plan view following excavation	Flash	North
23	Cobble surface (009) and drain (***) post excavation	Bright	West
24	Section through cobble surface, post excavation	Bright	West
25	North-facing section and drainage pipe in situ	Bright	North
26	Cobble yard surface post excavation	Bright	East
27	Drainage pipes in situ on north side of stair tower foundation trench	Bright	East
28	Cobble surface post excavation	Bright	West
29	General shot of cobble yard in section	Bright	West
30	Lead water pipe exposed in the south-facing section of the stair tower foundation trench	Bright	South
31	General shot of the cobble yard surface	Bright	North
32	Drainage pipes at the west end of the stair tower foundations	Bright	South
33	Concrete footings at the east end of the foundation trench	Bright	North
34	Exposed cobble surface in section	Bright	West
35	Exposed cobble yard surface	Bright	West
36	Concrete footings at the east end of the foundation trench	Bright	North
37-39	Exposed cobble yard surface in section	Bright	West
40	Pipe trench cutting through south-facing section of the stair tower foundation trench	Bright	South
41	General view of the excavated stair tower foundation trench	Bright	East
42-43	Service pipes at the west end of the stair tower foundation trench	Bright	South
44	Cobble surface, post excavation	Bright	East
45	Lead water pipe exposed in the south-facing section of the stair tower foundation trench	Bright	South

### APPENDIX 3: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND ENTRY

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	East Lothian
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Dunbar Town House/Toll Booth Historic Building Survey.
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	DUTO2
<b>PARISH:</b>	Dunbar
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	M Cressey
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Buildings Appraisal
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	NT67NE 6
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Historic Building
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/a
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 67931 78951
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	July 2010
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	May 2011
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	Cressey, M Town House Dunbar, Historic Building Appraisal, Report No. 1280 Unpublished CFA Report.  Cressey, M Cressey, M 2008 Town House, Dunbar Historic Standing Building Survey CFA Report No. 1430 Unpublished
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>The Category Grade A Listed Dunbar town house was the town's tollbooth for civil administration and housed the town's gaol in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The building is rectangular on plan and has two storeys with two vaulted prison cells above which is a dormered attic. A semi-hexagonal stair tower is capped by a slated peined roof with lead-covered spire. The masonry is of local red sandstone and is built of rubble with cream coloured sandstone edging on the lower portions of the tower and crow-steps. The building was stripped of its harling in c.1920 leaving the fabric exposed to the elements, the results of which have resulted in serious erosion over much of the buildings exterior. Repairs and re-harling work was carried out between 2007 and 2008 and the exterior of the building was recorded stone by stone (Level 4). Three floor joists were subjected to dendrochronological dating and a felling date of sometime between AD 1524 and AD 1539 places the construction of the Town House shortly before the latter date which, is in accord with the earliest historical reference for the building for the same year (1539).</p> <p>Major alterations and refurbishment within the interior of the building has warranted a new programme of building recording mainly to Enhanced level during works carried out at specific locations previously identified during an initial photographic survey. An archaeological watching brief during the installation of a stair tower and new lift shaft base was also carried out, along with a new door opening within the former north gable of the Town House.</p> <p>The survey results confirm the presence of three blocked fireplaces. Two of these were recorded on the ground floor and one on the former north gable is potentially of early 16<sup>th</sup> century date and had a large lintel surmounted by a segmented stone relieving arch. The second is probably 19<sup>th</sup> century in date judging by the presence of a cast-iron fire-back.</p> <p>On the first floor hidden behind the concrete wall of a 1927 fireproof strongroom was a massive fireplace more in keeping with a great hall.</p>

	<p>This fireplace was reduced in size with a smaller fireplace with stone surrounds. These were heavily inscribed with names and 18<sup>th</sup> century dates probably associated with the inmates of the gaol. The strongroom had earlier been one of two prison cells situated on the first floor.</p> <p>The watching brief provided evidence of the nature of the fabric used to construct the former north gable. This comprised a rubble core contained within the main random and coursed rubble built walls of the ground floor vault and external wall. The cobbled surface of an earlier yard was recorded and found to probably post-date the 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	East Lothian Council
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	mccressey@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.



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Key:		Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A	Client:	East Lothian Council						
		Title:											
		General site location											
Scale:		Project:											
		Dunbar Town House Phase 2											
							<p>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ</p> <p>t: 0131 273 4380 f: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk</p>						
		Drawn by:		GC		Checked:		LW		Report No:		1896	





Fig. No:	2A	Revision:	A
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Title:

Historical floor plans, 1927.  
Ground floor

Project:

Dunbar Town House Phase 2

Scale:

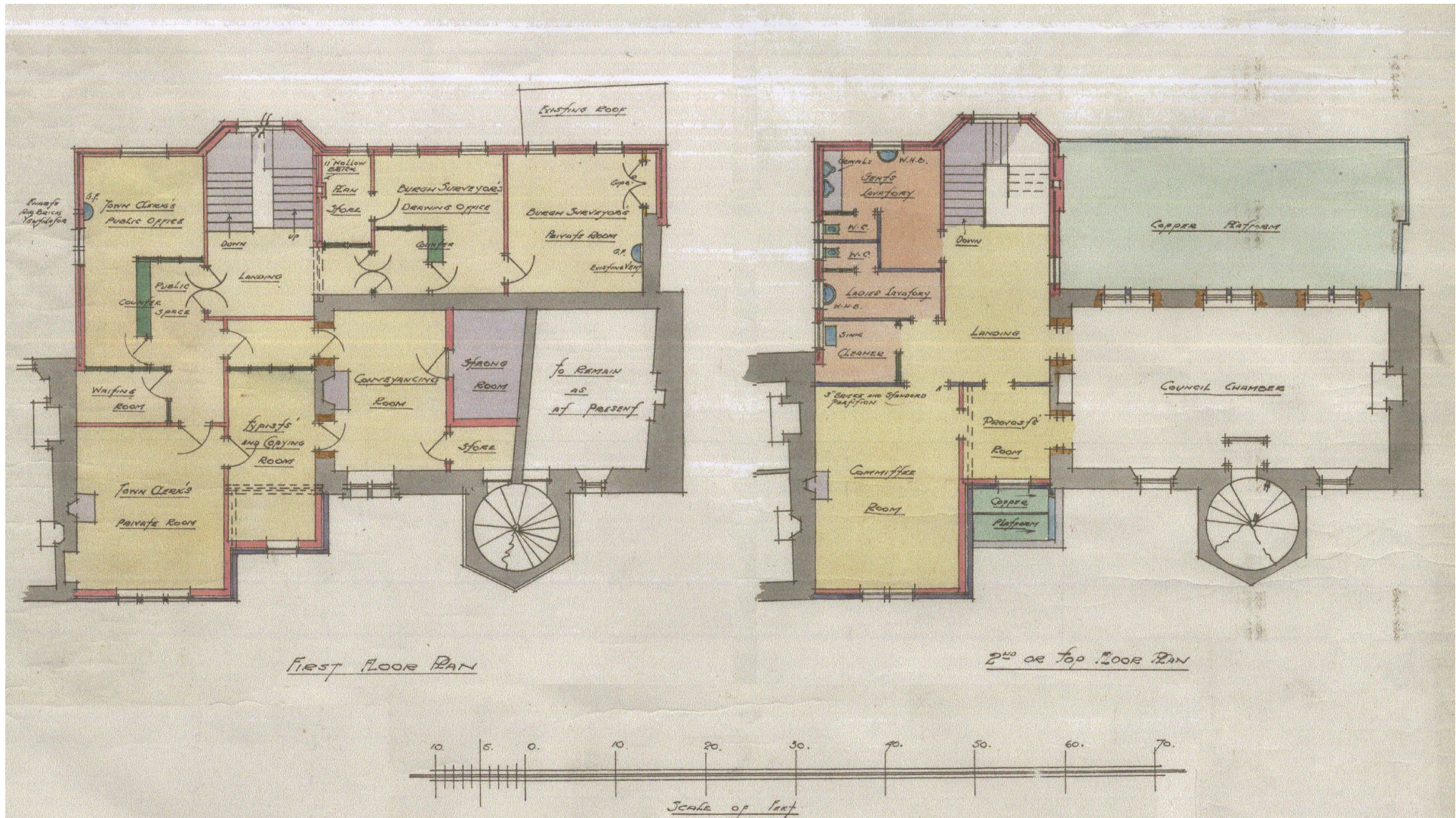
Client:

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Drawn by: GC	Checked by: LW	Report No: 1896
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Key:





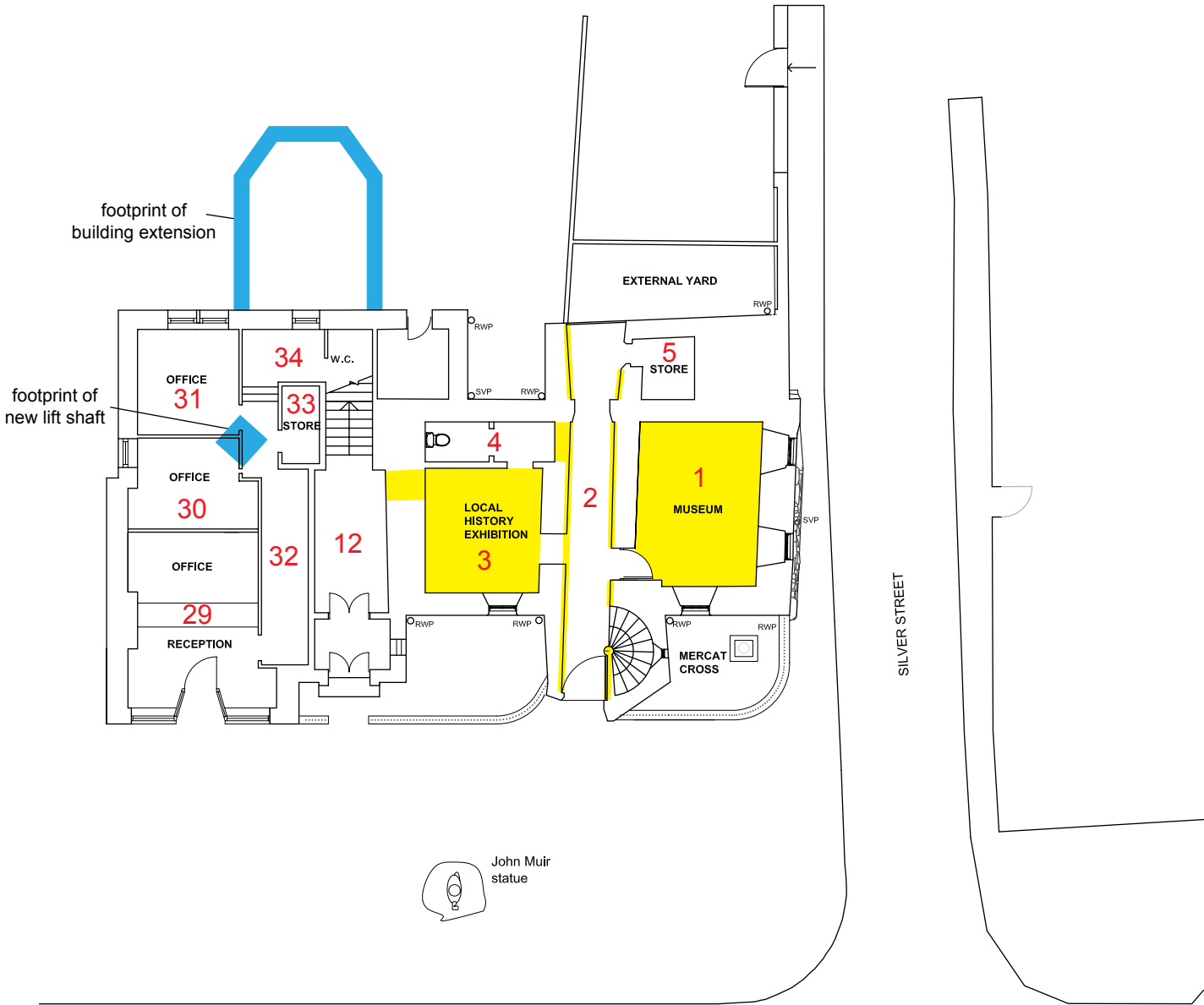


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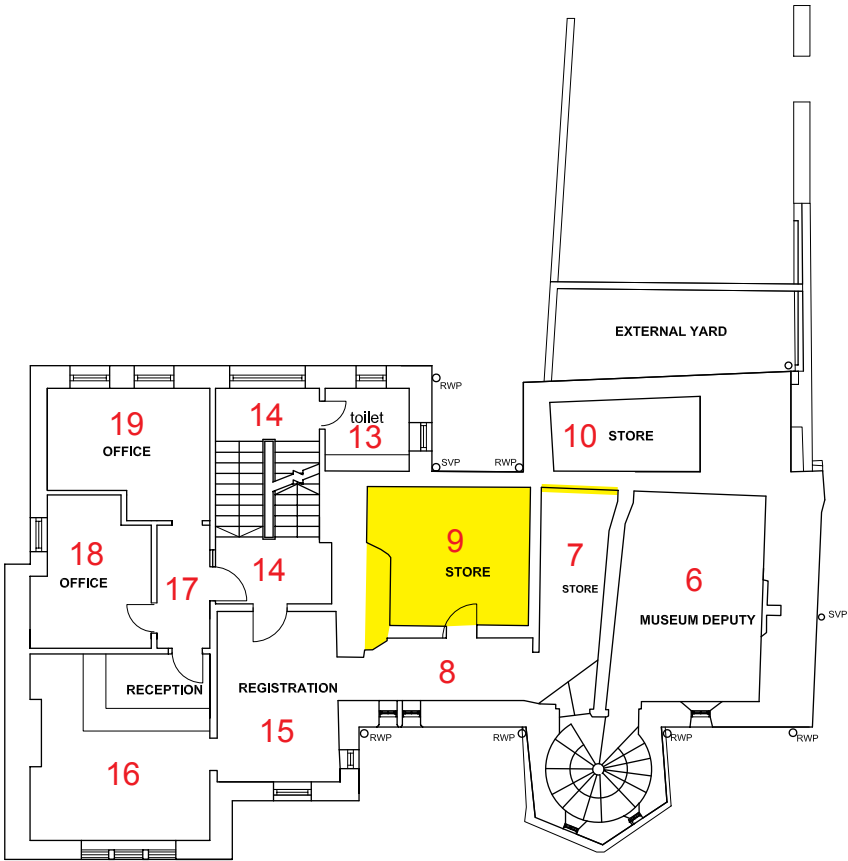
25 Unit numbers

Areas of Historic Building recording

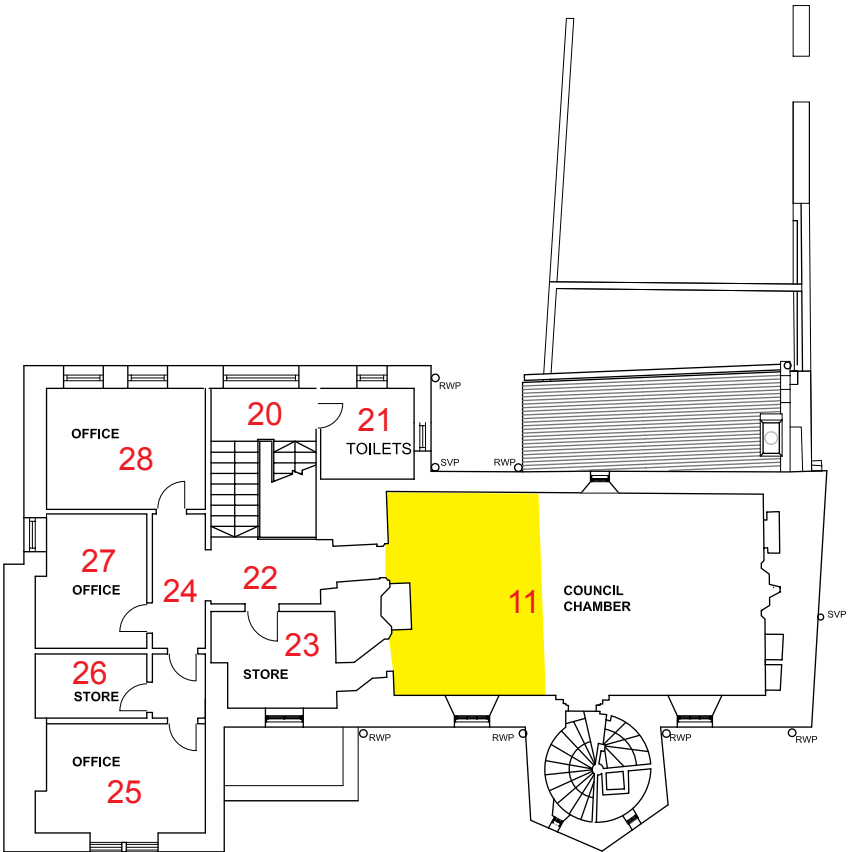
Areas of Archaeological Watching Brief



Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan



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Fig. No:	3	Revision:	A
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Title:  
Floor layout plans

Project:  
Dunbar Town House Phase 2

Scale at A3:  
1:200

Client:  
East Lothian Council

Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:
GC	LW	1896



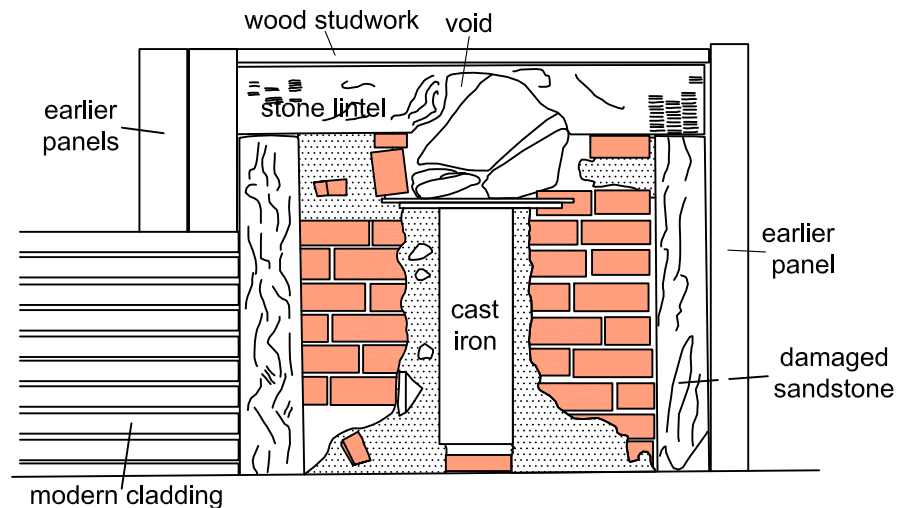


Fig. 4 Unit 1, fireplace on the north-facing elevation

Key:

- brick
- lime mortar
- wooden doors
- concrete repair

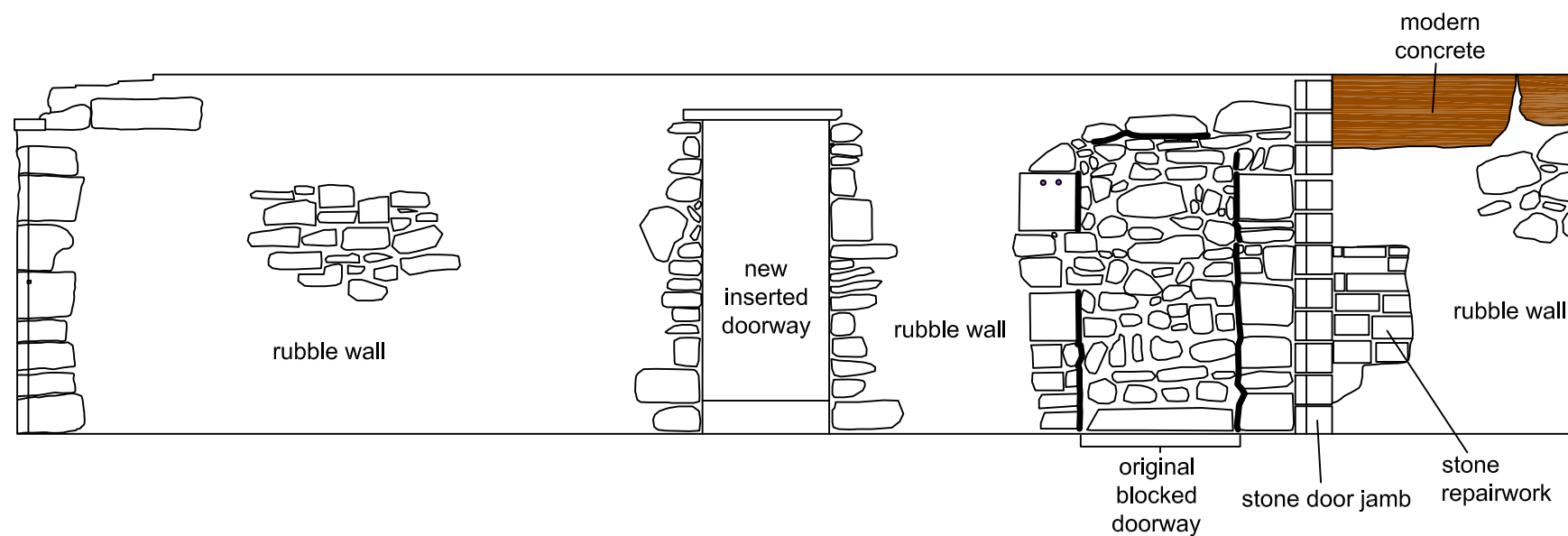
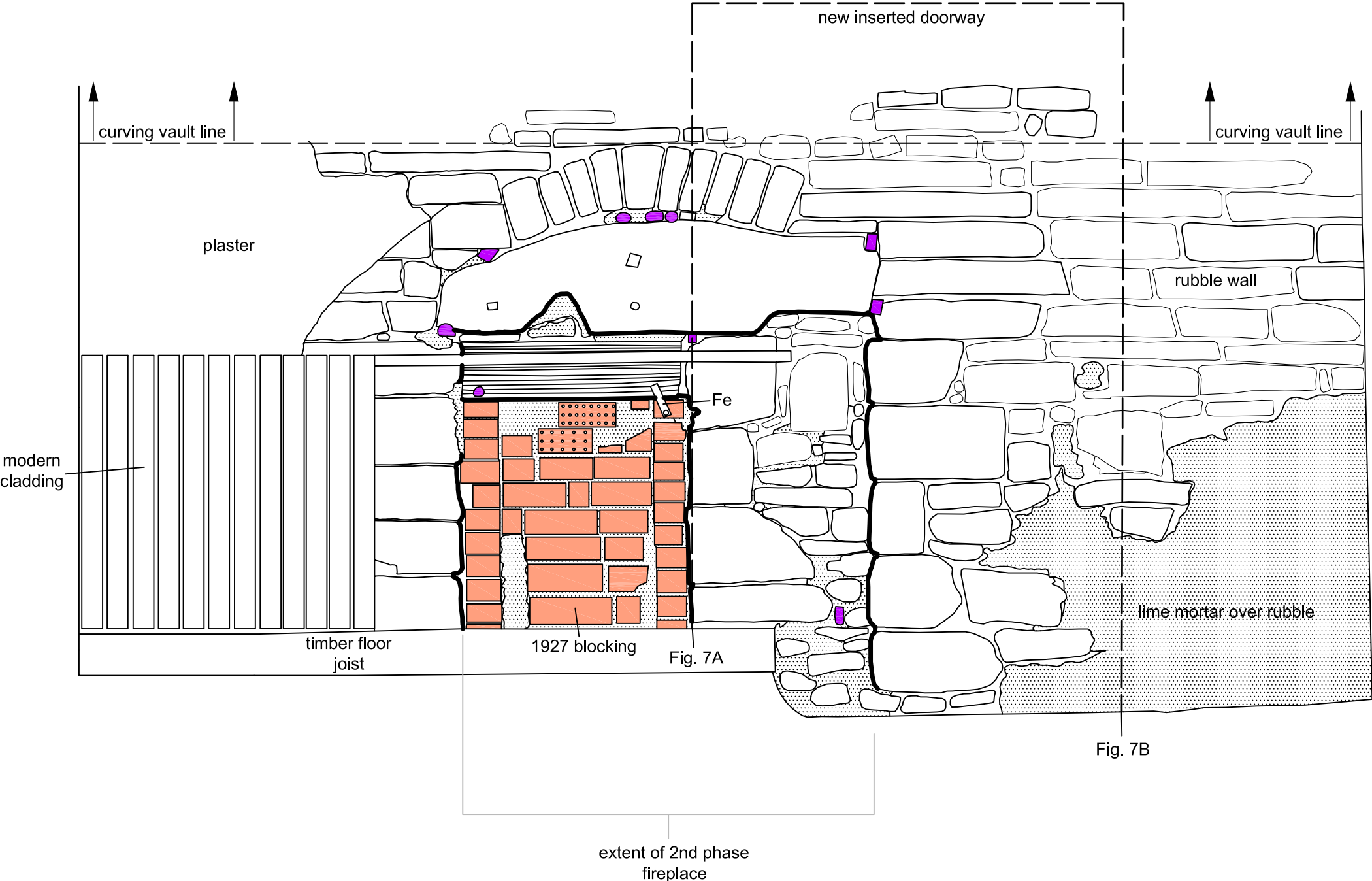


Fig. 5 Unit 2, south facing elevation of passage wall

Key:

- brick
- lime mortar
- wooden dooks



Key:

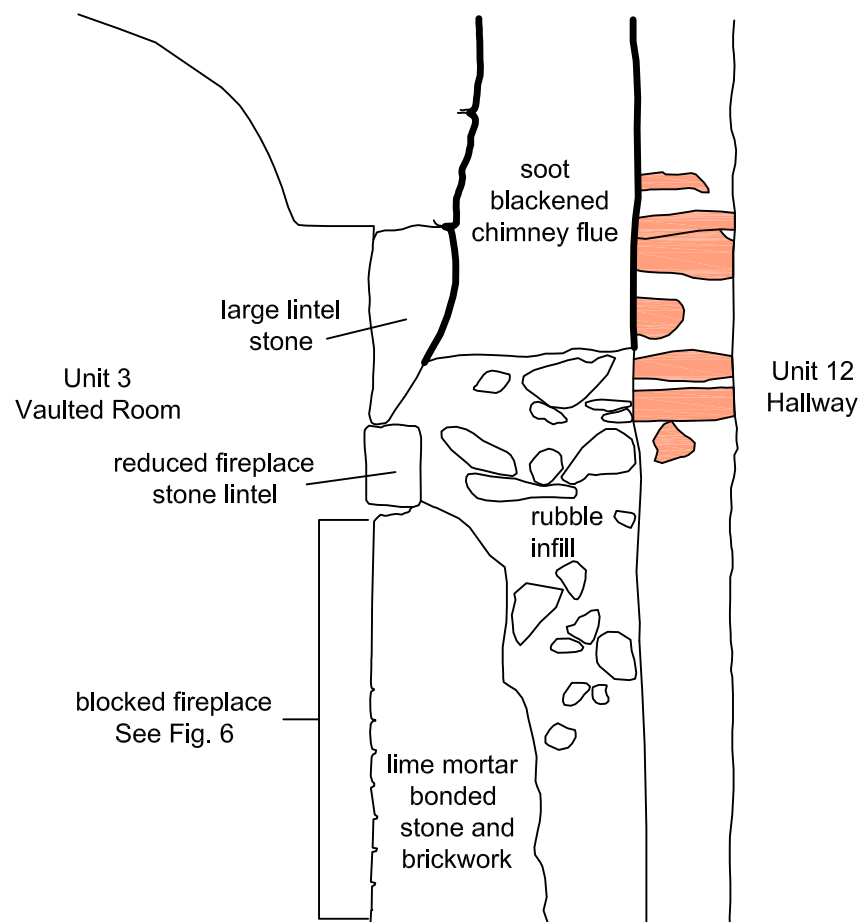


Fig. 7A East-facing elevation of new slapped doorway between units 12&3

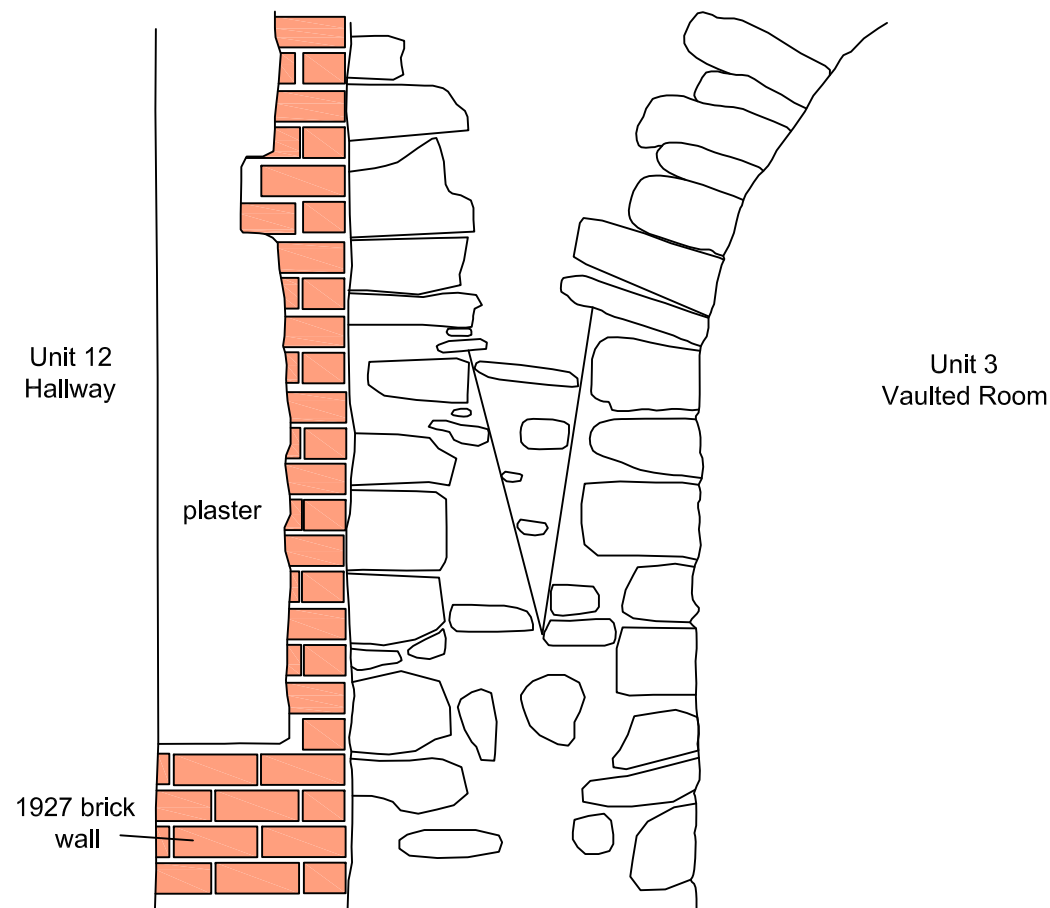


Fig. 7B West-facing elevation of new slapped doorway between units 12&3

- [illegible]

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Fig. No: 8A

Revision: A

**Title:**

Project:  
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Phase 2

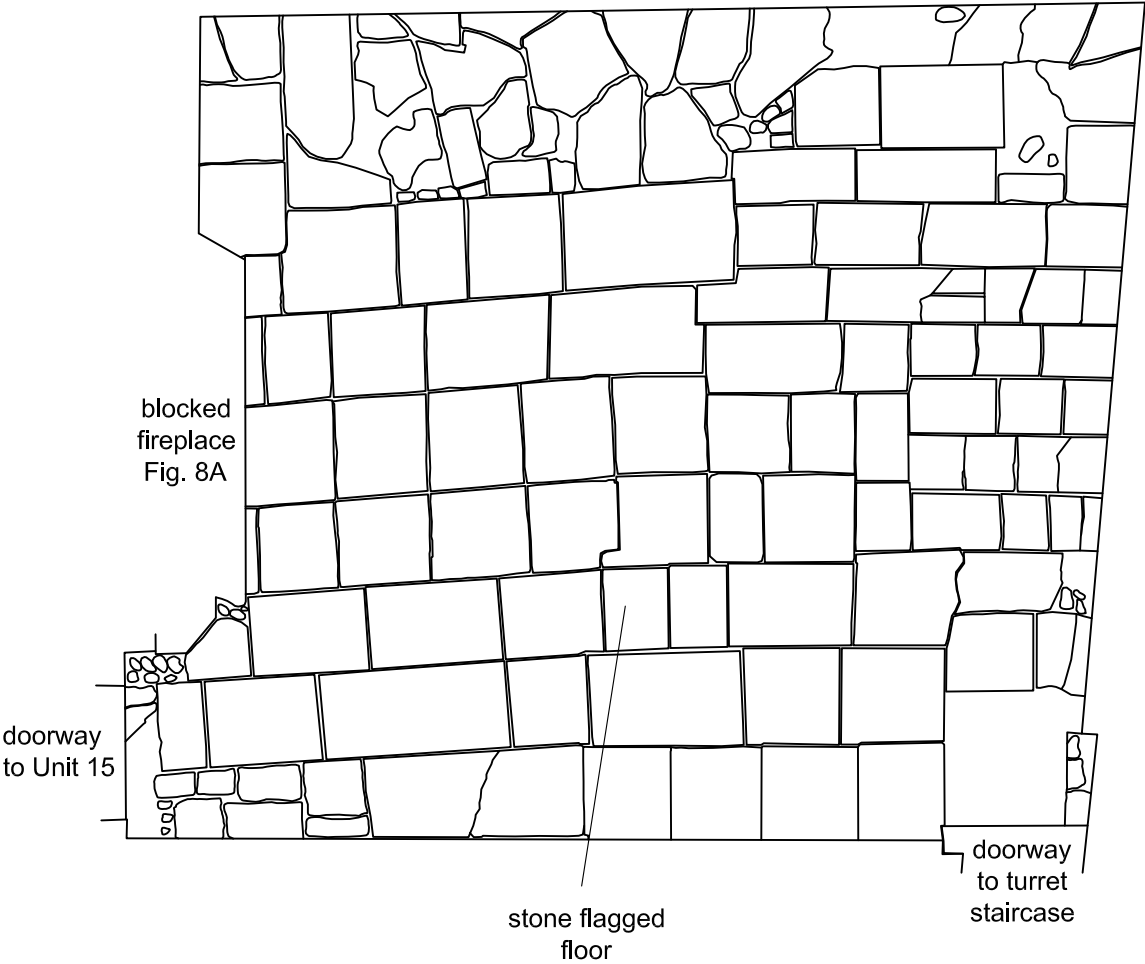
Client: **East Lothian Council**

Scale at A3:  
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Key:





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Fig. No: 8B	Revision: A
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Title:  
Unit 9, Strong Room  
Floor plan

Project:  
Dunbar Town House  
Phase 2

Client:  
East Lothian Council

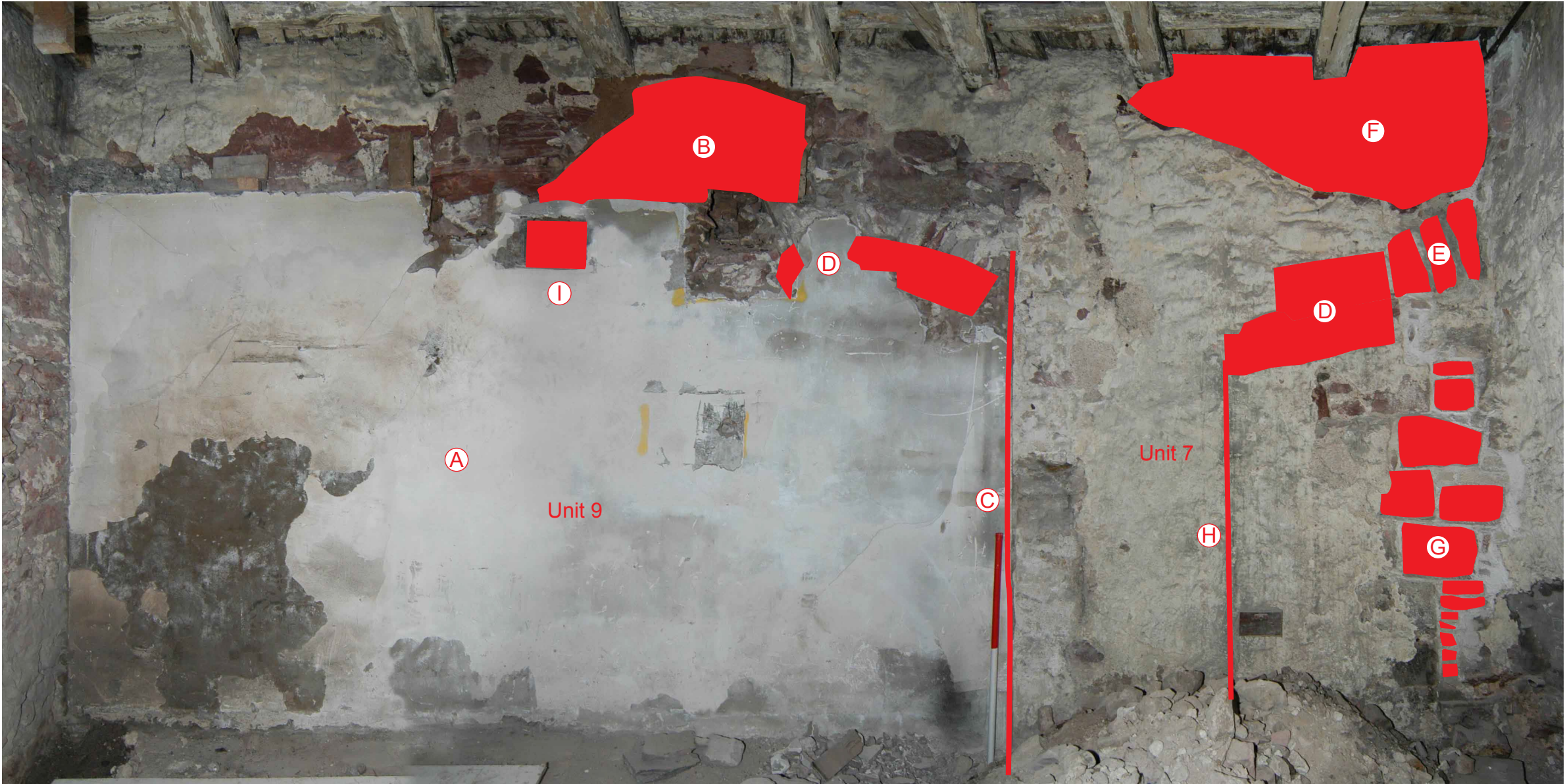
Scale at A3:  
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Key:



- A. Concrete render formerly lining the 1927 strongroom, 2cm thick

B. Area of brick repair work below the timber floor joists

C. Wall seam marking the position of the demolished brick partition wall

D. Possible remains of small relieving arch for window?

E. Large blocks of sandstone forming the remains of a relieving arch for a window
- F. Older stonework repairs below the floor joists, red sandstone bonded with lime mortar

G. Modern repair work (post 1927) stugged blocks of cream coloured sandstone bonded with lime mortar

H. Faint outline in the whitewash rubble wall possibly marking the position of a blocked window

I. Brick-blocked air vent c. 1927


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Fig. No:	8C	Revision:	A
Title:			
Photo montage of exposed west-facing elevation following demolition of the strongroom			
Project:			
Dunbar Town House Phase 2			
Scale:			
Client:			
East Lothain Council			
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:	
GC	LW	1896	

Key:

 concrete

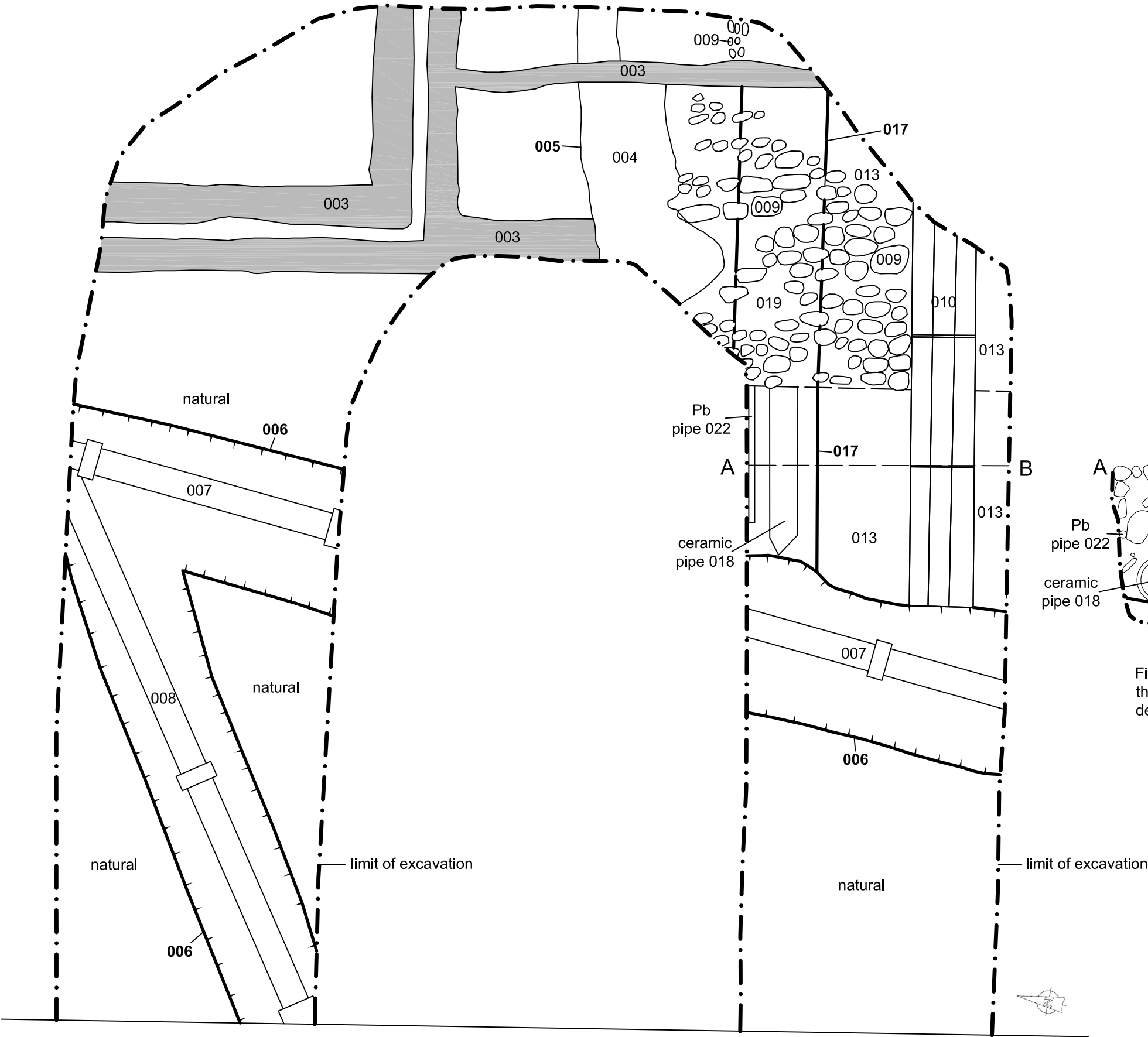


Fig. 9A Plan of the excavated external stair tower foundations

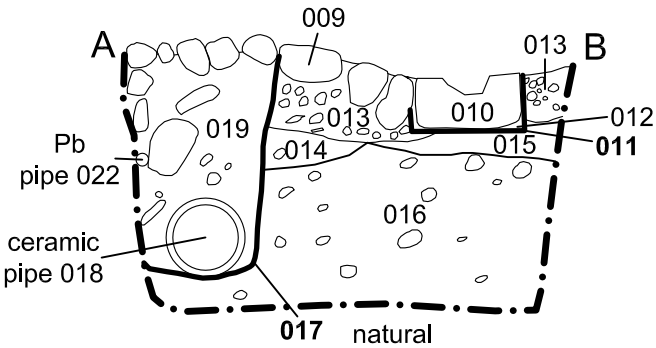


Fig. 9B South west-facing section through cobble surface 009 and deposits below





Plate 1. Unit 1, exposed fireplace on the north-facing elevation



Plate 2. Unit 3, exposed blocked fireplace on the south-facing elevation


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	Title:			
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Scale:	Dunbar Town House Phase 2			Drawn by: GC Checked: LW Report No: 1896





Plate 3. Unit 9, exposed fireplace on the south-facing elevation of the former strongroom



Plate 4. Unit 9, moulded ashlar stone surround on the west side of the fireplace exposed during the demolition of the strongroom


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	Title:					
	Project:					
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Plate 5. Unit 9, the fireplace in context with the enlarged room created following the demolition of the strongroom



Plate 6. Unit 9, oak floor joists above the former strongroom


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Plate 7. Unit 11, exposed floor joists following the partial removal of the Council Chamber floor



Plate 8. Unit 3 and 21, exposed east-facing section through the former north gable of the Town House, see Fig. 7A


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	Title:			
	Project: Dunbar Town House Phase 2			
Scale:				<div>Drawn by: GC</div> <div>Checked: LW</div> <div>Report No: 1896</div>





Plate 9. Unit 11 and 12, exposed west-facing section through the former north gable of the Town House, see Fig. 7B



Plate 10. Exposed section on the lift shaft showing natural gravel



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	Title:			
	Project:  Dunbar Town House Phase 2			
Scale:				Drawn by: GC    Checked: LW    Report No: 1896





Plate 11. Exposed cobble yard surface recorded during the excavation of the foundation trench for the new external stair tower at the rear of the Town House

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	Project:  Dunbar Town House Phase 2			
Scale:				Drawn by: GC Checked: LW Report No: 1896