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Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Newhaven, City of Edinburgh

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 3102

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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**Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop,
Newhaven, City of Edinburgh**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during September 2013 at Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, City of Edinburgh (NGR: NT 25751 76802) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Thompson Bethune Ltd on behalf of the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 07 March 2011 was produced by CFA and approved by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS).

1.2 Background

Planning permission (Ref. 10/01616/FUL) was granted for the construction of new premises for the existing Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop. The planning permission was subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief during all ground breaking operations.

The site of the new development is located to the south of Hawthornvale in Edinburgh and occupies a disused plot of land adjacent to the old railway, presently forming part of the landholding of the current Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, which occupies a building within the larger site area.

Between April and June 2011 a watching brief was carried out during ground works for the construction of the new Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop in the adjacent area. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified during that phase of work.

Prior to being renamed Hawthornvale in 1869 the area was known as Claypotts which was derived from the name of a local farm. The name itself is of interest in that it may point to the area being used from the medieval period as a source of clay for nearby potteries serving Edinburgh and Leith.

Later, during the 19th century, the site was used as part of the North British railway that connected with Leith docks to the east. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map showed buildings on the site apparently linked to the main line by a siding. The 2nd Edition map (Fig 2) also showed a series of buildings apparently linked to the main line by a siding. However, the buildings that were located on the site and demolished as part of the development were not shown and must post date this period.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (Watching Brief) to monitor the excavation of ground breaking that is required.

- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified through excavation and recording and production of a report.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

The terms of the WSI required an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (watching brief) to monitor all ground breaking works.

Demolition and removal of the existing workshop was done with tracked excavator fitted with a toothed bucket, given the nature of the material being moved. Further excavation was undertaken with a tracked excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket.

All discoveries including soil profiles and subsoil characteristics were recorded using standard CFA recording forms and digital photography.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The removal of the existing building foundations and concrete yard surfaces revealed recent made ground consisting of very compact mid-brown gravel, asphalt and rubble. Removal of the made ground revealed 13 railway sleepers (Plates 1-2.), it is likely that these were the surviving remains of the sidings shown on the 19th century Ordnance Survey mapping (Fig. 2).

Other ground breaking works were carried out for the excavation of manhole pits, drainage trenches and foundations. These excavations reached to a depth of 1.5m - 2m below the current site surface revealing very compact dark brownish grey clay containing cobble sized stones for the full depth of the excavations (Plate. 3). This material has been interpreted as made ground and as such it is not thought that natural deposits were revealed during these excavations.

4. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the construction of new buildings for the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop. The results were as follows:

- Nothing associated with the use of the area for potential clay pits was identified;
- None of the earlier buildings shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps that were associated with the use of the site for the North British Railway were identified.
- A number of railway sleepers probably forming part of the railway sidings shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS maps were identified.

The significant depth of the very compact made ground is indicative of large scale earthworks presumably undertaken when the railway line and sidings were constructed.

No further work is recommended, however, it is understood that the final decision lies with CECAS on behalf of the planning authority.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with CECAS.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2) and an online OASIS form will be completed.

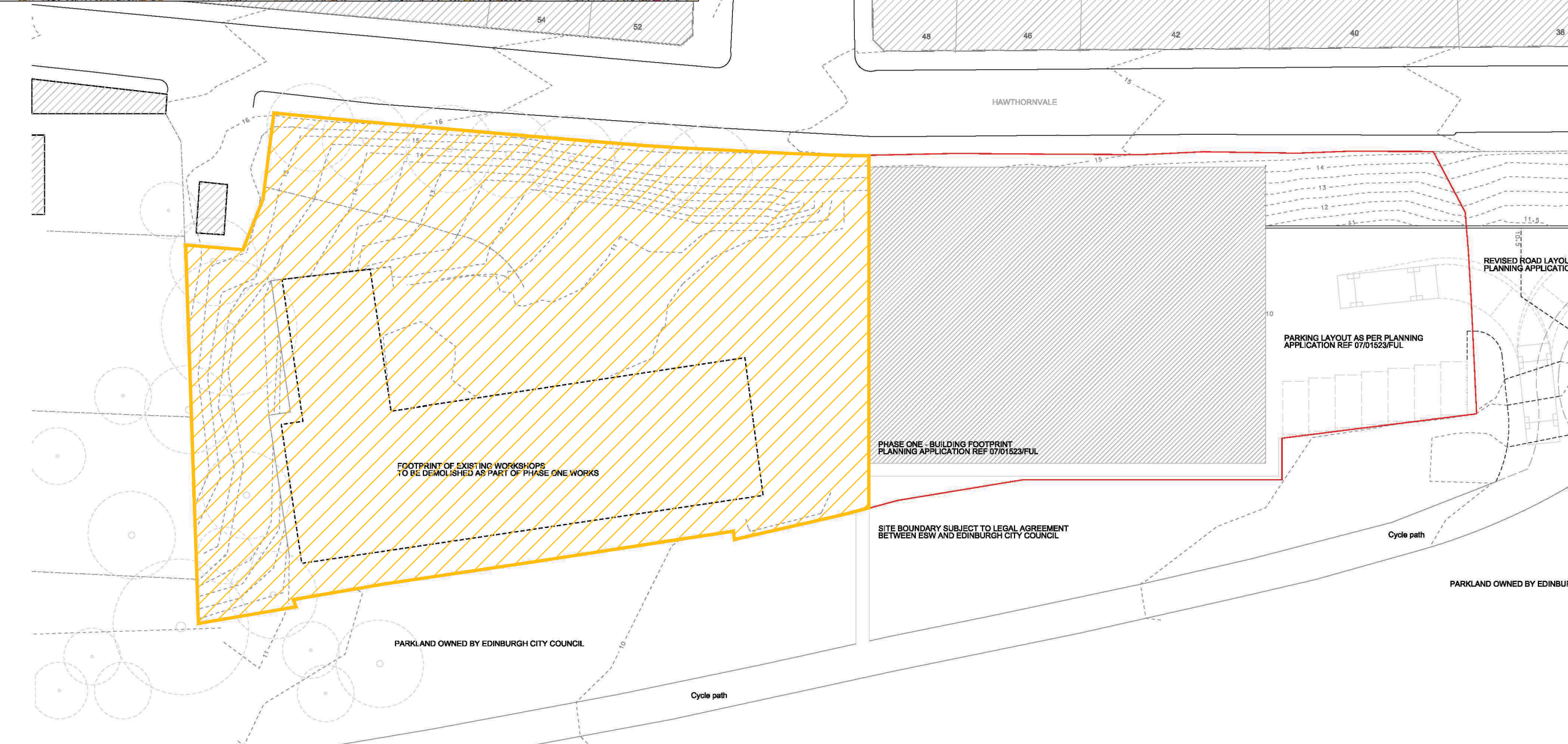
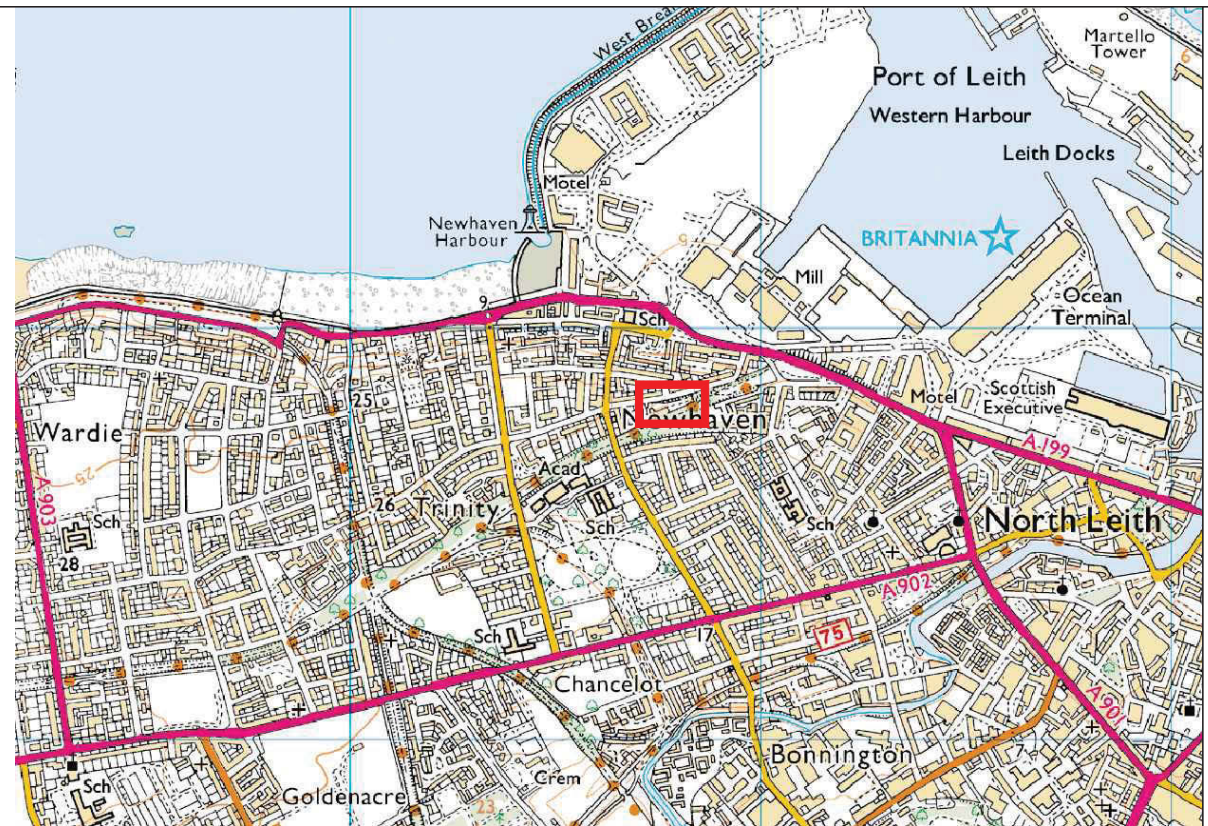
APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Pre-excavation of building footings	E	Sunny
2	Pre-excavation of building footings	E	Sunny
3	View of test pit dug to depth of c. 1 m with grey-black, sulphurous clay	S	Sunny
4	General shot of the west end of the site with concrete removed	S	Sunny
5	General shot of the site with concrete removed and rubble	E	Sunny
6	General shot of site before made ground removed	W	Sunny
7	General shot of site before made ground removed	S	Sunny
8	Brick with brick works name	-	Sunny
9	Brick with brick works name	-	Sunny
10	Brick with brick works name	-	Sunny
11	Brick with brick works name	-	Sunny
12	Brick with brick works name	-	Sunny
13	Initial strip at the east side of the site	-	Sunny
14	Initial strip at the east side of the site	-	Sunny
15	Railway Sleepers	N	Sunny
16	Location shot of sleepers	W	Sunny
17	Location shot of sleepers	W	Sunny
18	Initial uncovering of Timber 1	E	Sunny
19	Timber 1 and Timber 2	N	Sunny
20	Timber 1 and Timber 2 showing different resting surfaces	S	Sunny
21	Timber 1-13 between ranging rods	N	Sunny
22-25	Panoramic shot of railway sleepers and their location	N	Sunny
26	Close-up of south end of Timber 1 with scale	S	Overcast
27	Close-up of south end of Timber 1 without scale	S	Overcast
28	South end of Timber 1 with scale located at rivets	S	Sunny
29	North end of Timber 1 with scale located at rivets	N	Sunny
30	South end Timber 2	S	Sunny
31	Close up of south end of Timber 2	S	Sunny
32	Location of 1 st drainage trench behind spoil heap	N	Sunny
33	North-facing section of 1 st drainage trench	N	Sunny
34	Length of 1 st drainage trench from east end	E	Sunny
35	Location of sleepers and Hawthornvale Road	S	Sunny
36	South ends of Timbers 1 & 2	S	Sunny
37	South facing-section of made ground underneath Timber 1	S	Overcast
38	South facing-section of made ground underneath Timber 1	S	Overcast
39	Post-excavation shot of drainage trench	N	Sunny
40	Area of drainage trench dug without archaeological supervision	S	Sunny
41	Area of drainage trench dug without archaeological supervision	E	Sunny
42	Area of drainage trench dug without archaeological supervision	NE	Sunny
43	Drainage trench to north of NW manhole with gravel laid in base	S	Sunny
44	Trench connecting NE and SE manholes with gravel and pipe laid in base	SW	Sunny
45	Pre-excavation shot of drainage trench between NW and NE manholes	E	Sunny
46	South facing section showing end of railway sleeper set within made ground	SE	Sunny
47	South facing section showing end of railway sleeper set within made ground	S	Sunny
48	Plan of railway sleeper set within made ground	S	Sunny

49	Plan of railway sleeper set within made ground	NE	Sunny
50	Post-excavation of trench between NW and NE manholes	W	Sunny
51	Drainage trench associated with NW manhole	E	Sunny
52	1 st foundation trench fully excavated	S	Rain
53	2 nd foundation trench fully excavated	N	Rain
54	3 rd foundation trench fully excavated	N	Drizzle
55	Railway sleepers sitting on natural	S	Sunny
56	Railway sleepers sitting on natural	S	Sunny

APPENDIX 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Edinburgh
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Hawthornvale, Newhaven
PROJECT CODE:	ESCU2
PARISH:	Edinburgh (City of)
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rebecca Hunt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NT 25751 76802
START DATE (this season)	2 ND September 2013
END DATE (this season)	20 TH September 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the construction of new buildings for the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop. One of the key reasons for the archaeological interest was that prior to being renamed Hawthornvale in 1869 the area was known as Claypotts which was derived from the name of a local farm. The name itself was of interest in that it may point to the area being used from the medieval period as a source of clay for nearby potteries serving Edinburgh and Leith. Later, during the 19 th century the site became part of the North British railway. No evidence of any clay pits were identified but a series of thirteen railway sleepers were identified and could have formed part of the sidings mapped on the 1 st and 2 nd Ordnance Survey mapping for the area. There were no other features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified during the watching brief.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) City of Edinburgh Council Sites and Monuments Record (report)



Key:
 Watching Brief Area

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
 Location plan and area of watching brief

Project:
 Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Newhaven, City of Edinburgh Archaeological Watching Brief

Client:
 Thompson Bethune Ltd per Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop

Scale at A3:
 1:400 (map left)

Key

 Approximate area of watching brief



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Fig. No:	2	Revision	A
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Title
2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map overlain with aerial photograph of site

Project
Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Newhaven, City of Edinburgh

Scale at A3
not to scale



Client
Thompson Bethune Ltd *per* Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop

Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:
KH	BG	3102



Plate 1 – Railway sleepers





Plate 2 – Railway sleepers

Fig. No: Plates 1-2		Revision: A	Project: Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Newhaven, City of Edinburgh		
Drawn by: KH	Checked: BG	Report No: 3102	Client: Thompson Bethune Ltd per Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop		

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Plate 3 – Section through made ground

Fig. No: Plate 3		Revision: A	Project: Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Newhaven, City of Edinburgh		
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