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Site & Landscape Survey


Geophysical Survey

**Speaker Martin Loch
Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas
Glasgow**

Archaeological Recording

Report No. 3121

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

Speaker Martin Loch
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Port Dundas
Glasgow

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of archaeological recording work undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 12th February 2014 at Speaker Martin Lock, Forth and Clyde Canal, Glasgow (NGR: NS 58818 66548) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mackenzie Construction Ltd on behalf of Scottish Canals.

Following consultation with Historic Scotland a job specification, dated 10 February 2014 was produced by Chris O'Connell, Heritage Advisor for Scottish Canals for the archaeological recording of the original line of the canal wall.

Background

The Forth and Clyde Canal is a Scheduled Monument (SM no. 6771) and Scottish Canals were upgrading the footpath alongside Speaker Martin Lock at the Speirs Wharf end. During the works a section of the original canal wall was uncovered (Fig. 2). This was an unexpected discovery and the opportunity was taken to record it.

Groundbreaking works within the Scheduled Monument was undertaken under Scheduled Monument Consent.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological recording on the remains of the original canal wall.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance and all work was undertaken in accordance with the Scheduled Monument Consent.

2.2 Archaeological Recording

The archaeological recording consisted of cleaning the length of original canal wall that was uncovered (16.5m), excavating a test pit on the back-face and producing a photographic and textual record, including scaled drawings. The test pit was excavated by mechanical plant to a depth of 0.7m and measured 1.7m by 1.4m in plan.

All discoveries were recorded using standard CFA recording forms and digital photography.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

The original line of the canal wall (Fig. 2) was situated to the west of the Speaker Martin Lock on the Forth and Clyde Canal at Speirs Wharf. The modern gravel and hardcore surface was removed to reveal the original curved wall of the canal (**002**) (Figs. 3-5). The remains survived to a length of 16.5m, having been truncated previously on its north and southeast ends by works associated with the construction of a new Lock during the regeneration works carried out for the millennium link project.

The front face of the wall was made of dressed ashlar blocks although the top course of capping stones no longer survived. It is likely that these capping stones were removed during the millennium link works to reduce the height the wall projected above the surface and allow it to be covered over with a modern level surface. To the rear of the front face of the wall a second row of sandstone blocks was present. These only survived as a single course. The wall appeared to have been built with a dark reddish brown cement or mortar bonding material (**003 & 010**)

Approximately 5m from the southeast end of the surviving length the original wall a lime mortar scar (**004**) was identified on top of the surviving wall (Fig. 6). This may have been the location for some form of equipment base.

A test pit (Fig. 3) was dug 10m from the southeast end of the existing original wall (**002**) to reveal that the rear row of stones survived to one course and overlay 150mm of dirty sand (**006**). This in turn was overlying blue-grey clay (**009**) which was presumably the waterproof lining for the canal. This was not bottomed in the test pit.

In addition to the canal wall a separate sandstone block was recorded (Fig. 7). This appeared to be a loose block so not *in situ*. It was c. 1m² and appeared to be a base or plinth for some form of equipment possibly associated with the canal and its operation. It is possible that this base was once located where the mortar scar (**004**) was identified and that it was removed along with the capping stones when the canal wall was reduced in height. It could have been left behind as its unusual shape would have meant it had a limited resale / reuse value when compared with the more regular capping stones.

4. CONCLUSION

A section of the original canal wall was uncovered during the upgrading of the public footpath on the west side of Speaker Martin Lock on the Forth and Clyde Canal at Speirs Wharf. The remains survived to a length of 16.5m, having been truncated previously to its north and southeast ends. The canal front wall was 1 row of stones wide and backed against a clay waterproof liner. A second row of stones behind the front wall only stood to 1 or 2 courses high.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4) and an online OASIS form will be completed.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, plans and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland and reports will be submitted to Scottish Canals, Historic Scotland and the City of Glasgow Council.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

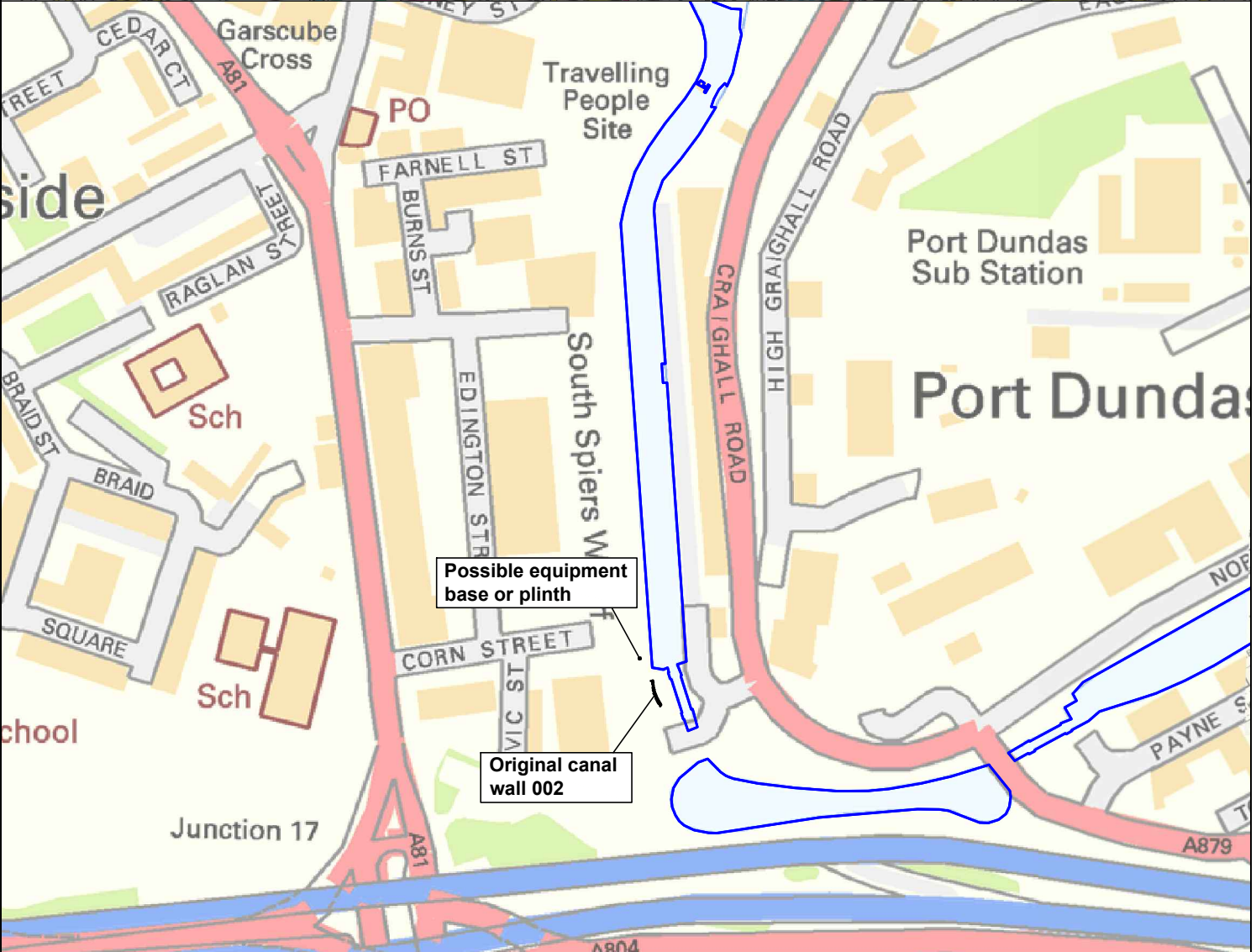
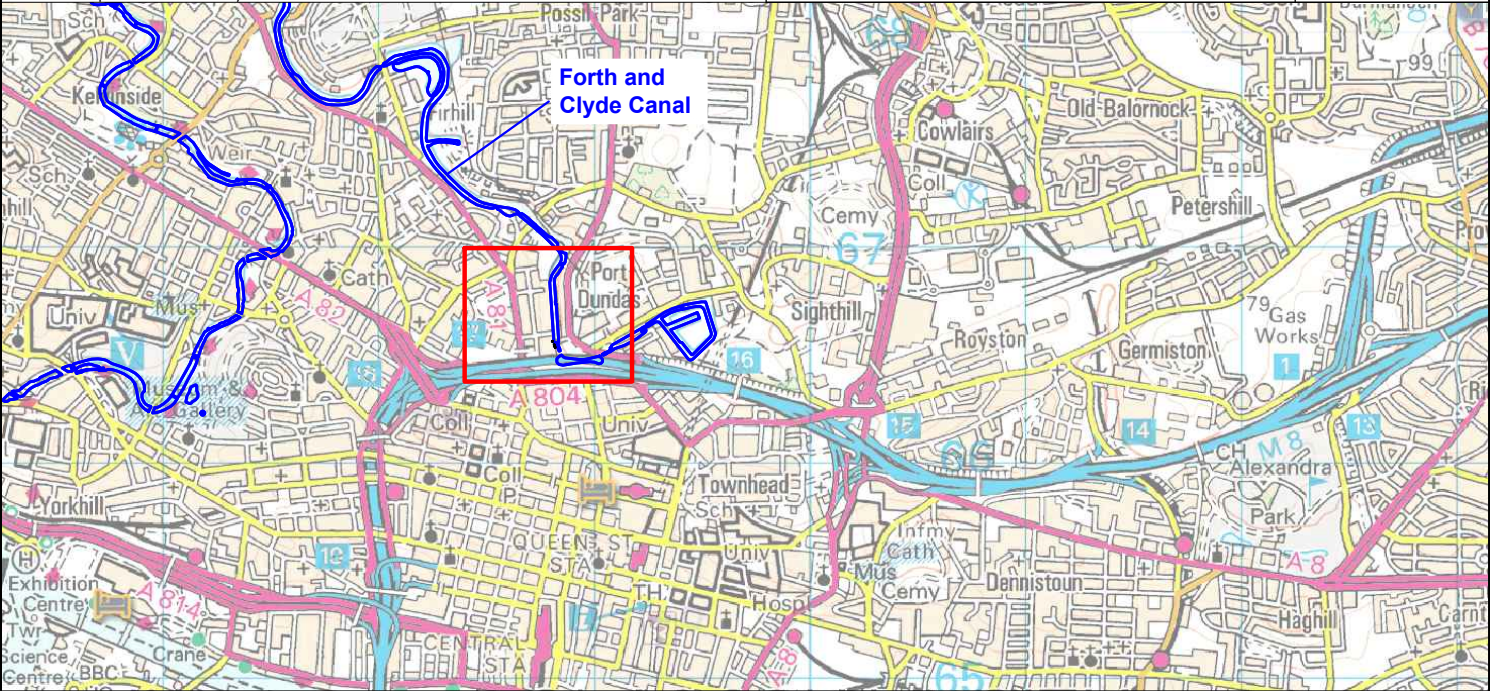
Context No.	Description
001	Large Stone, not <i>in situ</i>
002	Canal Wall e
003	Dark red brown Cement / Mortar on upper surface of 002
004	Rectangular Mortar Scar
005	Firm area of clay to SW of 004
006	Made ground over clay liner of canal underlying rear of wall 002
007	Modern infill to east of wall 002
008	Modern cut where wall 002 had been truncated at each end
009	Blue-grey clay waterproof liner for canal
010	Dark red brown Cement / Mortar between stones of 002
011	Concreted modern gravel


APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

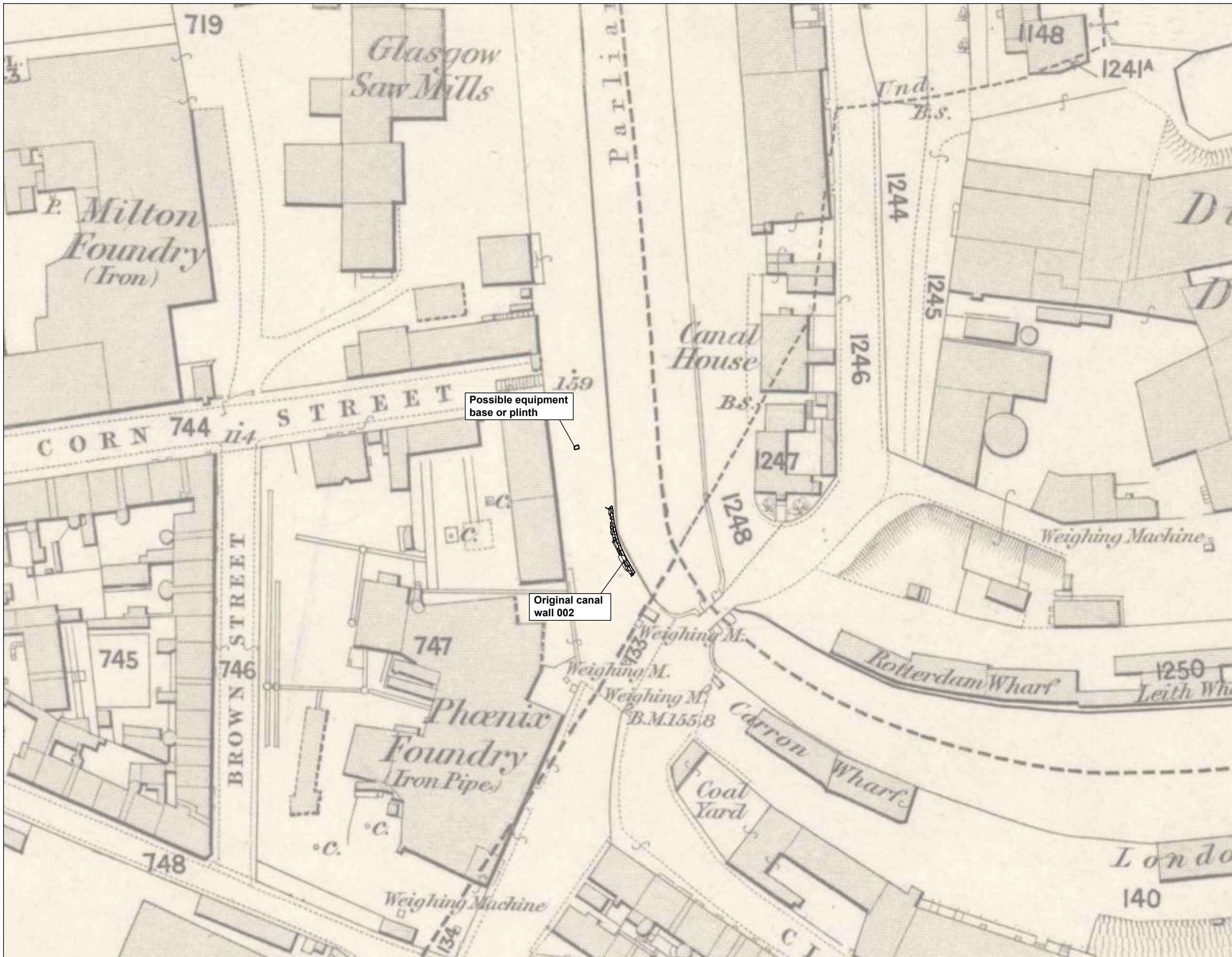
No.	Description	From	Conditions
001	Large stone 001 cleaned prior to removal		Overcast
002	Large stone 001 cleaned prior to removal		Overcast
003	Large stone 001 cleaned prior to removal		Overcast
004	Large stone 001 cleaned prior to removal, general view	S	Overcast
005	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	SE	Overcast
006	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	SE	Overcast
007	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	SE	Overcast
008	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	S	Overcast
009	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	N	Overcast
010	Canal Wall 002 , cleaned	N	Overcast
011	Centre part of Wall 002 , cleaned	N	Overcast
012	Centre part of Wall 002 , cleaned	N	Overcast
013	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	SW	Overcast
014	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	SW	Overcast
015	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	NE	Overcast
016	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	NE	Overcast
017	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	SW	Overcast
018	Centre of base of possible canal furniture	SW	Overcast
019	Damaged/removed section of back wall of 002	WSW	Overcast
020	Damaged/removed section of back wall of 002	WSW	Overcast
021	Damaged/removed section of back wall of 002	NW	Overcast
022	General View of the Site	SE	Overcast
023	General View of the Site	SSE	Overcast
024	General View of the Site	S	Overcast
025	Canal wall showing coping stone edge	S	Overcast
026	Canal wall showing coping stone edge	S	Overcast
027	General View of the Site	N	Overcast
028	WSW-facing section of test pit against 002	WSW	Overcast
029	WSW-facing section of test pit against 002 , close up	WSW	Overcast
030	WSW-facing section of test pit against 002	WSW	Overcast
031	General View of the test pit.	NW	Overcast

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	City of Glasgow
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Speakers Martin Loch, Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow. Archaeological Evaluation
PROJECT CODE:	WARF
PARISH:	Glasgow
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Rebecca Hunt
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Canal
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	Original Canal Wall
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NS 58818 66548
START DATE (this season)	12/02/2014
END DATE (this season)	12/02/2014
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>(NARRATIVE)</p> <p>A section of the original canal wall of the Forth and Clyde Canal was uncovered during the upgrading of the public footpath on the west side of Speaker Martin Lock at Speirs Wharf.</p> <p>The remains of the wall survived to a length of 16.5m, having been truncated previously to its north and southeast ends by works associated with the construction of a new Lock during the regeneration works carried out for the millennium link project. The front of the wall was made of dressed ashlar blocks. The top course of capping stones no longer survived. A test pit revealed the of clay waterproof lining for the canal.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	N/A
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Canals
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) Historic Scotland and SMR (reports)



Key:	Fig No: 1	Revision: A	Client: Mackenzie Construction Ltd per Scottish Canals
	Title: Location Map		
Scale at A4: 1:35,000 and 1:4000	Project: Speakers Martin Loch, Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow		
	 <p>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ t: 0131 273 4380 f: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk</p>		
	Drawn by: TB	Checked: MJ	Report No: 3121



Key:

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Fig. No: 2 Revision: A

Title:
OS 1st edition map, 1865

Project:
Speakers Martin Loch,
Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas,
Glasgow



Client:
Mackenzie Construction Ltd per
Scottish Canals

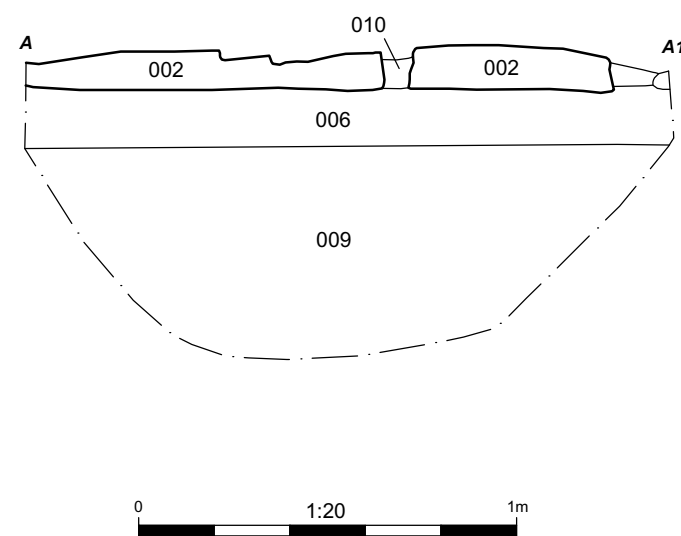
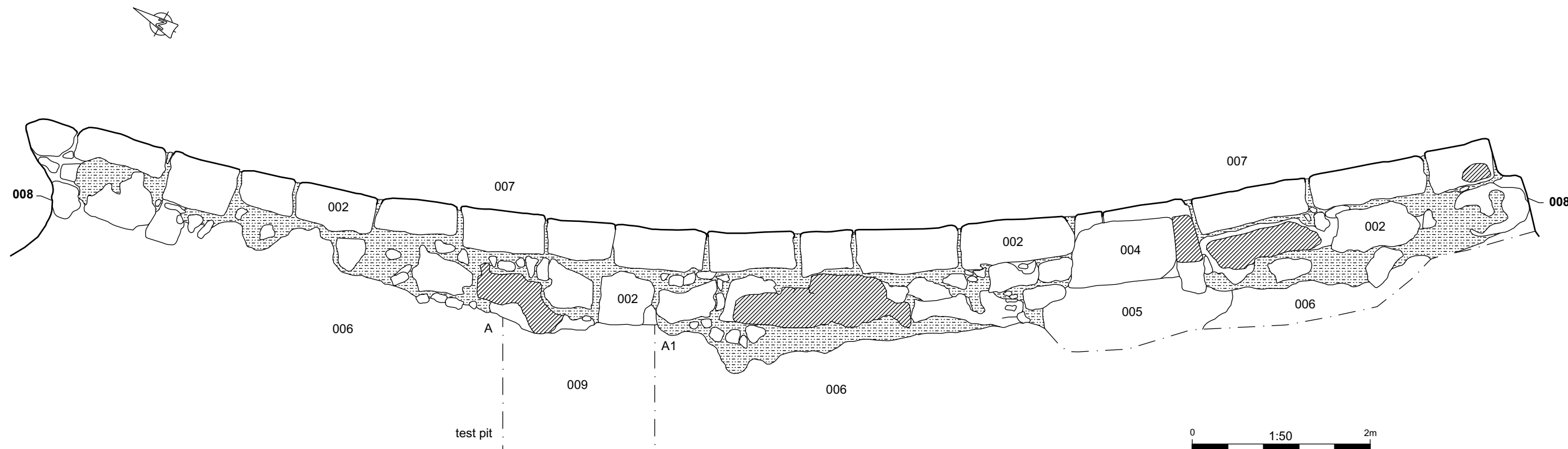
Scale at A3:
1:800

Drawn by: TB Checked: BG Report No: 3121



Key:

-  010
-  003



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Fig. No: **3** Revision: **A**

Title:
Plan of original canal wall and section of test-pit

Project:
Speakers Martin Loch, Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow

Client:
Mackenzie Construction Ltd per Scottish Canals



Scale at A3:
**Plan 1:50,
 Section 1:20**



Fig. 4 - The original canal wall from the south



Fig. 5 - Original wall from the west canal

Fig. No: 4-5		Revision: A	Project: Speakers Martin Loch, Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow		
Drawn by: TB	Checked: BG	Report No: 3121	Client: Mackenzie Construction Ltd per Scottish Canals		



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Fig. 6 - Mortar scar possibly indicating former location of equipment base



Fig. 7 - Possible equipment base or plinth

Fig. No: 6-7		Revision: A	Project: Speakers Martin Loch, Spiers Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow		
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