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Geophysical Survey

**9 West Harbour Road, Granton,
Edinburgh**

Archaeological Investigation

**Data Structure Report
No. 3047**

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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Edinburgh**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of a programme of additional archaeological investigation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at 9 West Harbour Road, Granton, Edinburgh (NGR: 23628 77094 Fig. 1) during June 2013. The work was commissioned by Cruden Homes Ltd and was required by the City of Edinburgh Council Archaeology Service (CECAS) following on from an earlier phase of evaluation (Mitchell 2013). An addenda to the Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by CFA and approved by CECAS.

A standing building survey was previously carried out on a single-storey brick-built building that had occupied the site. The report on this was provided under separate cover (Cressey 2013).

1.2 Background

Cruden Homes has been granted planning permission from the City of Edinburgh Council for a housing development at land on 9 West Harbour Road, Granton. The terms of the planning consent required a building recording on an upstanding on site building that was to be demolished and a programme of archaeological works including a trial trenching evaluation.

The initial programme of evaluation (Mitchell 2013) identified that the foundation courses of earlier buildings survived within the development area. The remains identified along the western side of the site corresponded to buildings mapped on the 1849 Ordnance Survey Town Plan. Only the foundation courses of the walls survived and no contemporaneous internal deposits were identified. On the eastern side of the site the basal course of the foundations of another structure were identified; these roughly corresponded to the location of a Smithy that was depicted on the 1849 map (Fig. 3a). The earlier Great Reform Act Plan (1832) (Fig. 4) indicates that the site was undeveloped so these buildings are most likely to be early - mid 19th century in date. The later Town Plan of 1876-7 (Fig. 3b) showed some further development on the site with later alterations having taken place to both structures. The building along the western side of the site was remodelled at its northern end and along its eastern frontage and the Smithy building was extended to the north with 3 additional structural elements.

Following this evaluation CECAS agreed that the buildings along the western edge of the site were of sufficiently limited significance for no further work to take place. However, the Smithy because of its industrial nature and its close proximity to the shore was deemed to have some potential significance in looking at small scale industrial processes that could have a tie in with the area's maritime past. A trench based on the layout of the building as it was mapped on the Town Plan of 1876-7 (Fig. 3b) was agreed with CECAS.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the project were to conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation to record any surviving remains of the Smithy building and to provide a report on this.

2. WORKING METHODS

CFA follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance and Code of Conduct.

A single trench was excavated to a strategy agreed with CECAS (Fig. 1). The trench was designed to cover the mapped and ground truthed location of the Smithy buildings as they were mapped on the Town Plan of 1876-7 (Fig. 3b) whilst avoiding services and maintaining a minimum of 1m buffer between the trench and the surrounding boundary walls.

All trenches were excavated by machine under direct archaeological supervision to down to first significant archaeological horizon. All further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded, whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

The locations of all trenches were recorded using industry standard electronic surveying equipment.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

Numbers in bold and parentheses below refer to contexts (Appendix 1). In general, stratigraphy across the site consisted of a modern tarmac layer underneath which was a black layer of ash, rubble and modern debris. This layer (**001**) was 0.4m - 0.55m in depth. Under this was an homogenous mid-brown silt, (**002**). The structural remains of the Smithy that were identified were founded on this mid brown silt deposit.

3.2 Smithy Building Remains (Figs. 2 & 5)

The fragmentary remains of the Smithy survived just below the modern tarmac site surface. The surviving remains extended slightly further than identified in the first phase of evaluation (Mitchell 2013) but not by much.

The roughly east-west aligned wall (Figs. 5 & 6) previously identified as context **401** but here identified as **005** survived as a one course high sandstone wall which was 0.5 - 0.6m wide. In total 9.5m of this wall were uncovered. It ran out of the trench to the east but the proximity to the site boundary wall and the potential location of services meant that excavation could not continue any further in that direction. To the west a slight return formed by one stone was present and the east-west alignment continued

past this for two stones before disappearing. No trace of any mortar bonding was identified.

Abutting the southern face of wall (005) was a possible wall (006) (Fig. 6) previously identified as context 403. This was only partially uncovered in the initial evaluation and had a full dimensions of 1.6m wide by 1.7m long. It was constructed from sandstone like wall 005 and again survived to and one course high. (006). Slight traces of mortar bonding were identified on the upper faces of the stones. It is also possible that this was a base for an internal feature as it does not align with any mapped walls (Figs. 3a-e) and it is quite wide in comparison to the Wall 005 which is a known structural wall.

On the north side of wall 005 a square concrete floor surface (003) was present. This measured 2.7m square and directly abutted the north face of (005). The concrete surface had been laid over a levelling / formation deposit of broken brick and rubble (007).

The eastern side of the concrete surface (003) (Figs 5 & 7) was bounded by a brick wall (004) (Figs 5 & 7). Almost parallel with the northern end of the surface the wall turned through 90° to run approximately to the east away from the surface. The wall ran for 1.7m before running out of the trench to the east and could not be followed due to the presence of the site boundary. The wall (004) was 1 brick wide and between 1 and 2 bricks high.

All of the surviving structural remains were founded on to the underlying homogenous mid-brown silt, (002) that in turn overlay natural.

From an assessment of the map evidence (Figs. 3a-e) it is clear that Wall (005) is the original northern wall of the Smithy with the single stone set at a right angle to this being the remains of the western end the original building (Fig. 3a). The two stones to the west of the right angled stone are part of later extension work (Fig. 3c) dating to before 1908. The concrete surface (003) and brick wall (004) appear to be part of a northern extension to the structure dated to sometime between 1908 and 1933 (Figs. 3c & d).

4. CONCLUSION

This programme of work uncovered slightly more of the remains of the Smithy. However it was extremely fragmentary with only the very bases of the foundations surviving. No contemporary deposits were identified and no features that could definitively be associated with the structures functional use as a Smithy were identified. However, it is certain that the some of the features identified were indeed the remains of the Smithy dating to before 1849.

CFA Recommend that no further work is required in mitigation and that this report along with the *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* entry will be sufficient to disseminate the results.

A summary statement of the results of this work along with the results of the evaluation will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*.

The project will be reported on through the online OASIS reporting protocol.

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 the City of Edinburgh Council Sites and Monuments Record.

5. REFERENCES

Bibliographic

Cressey, M. 2013. *9 West Harbour Road, Granton, Edinburgh, Historic Building Survey*. CFA unpublished Report No. 2167.

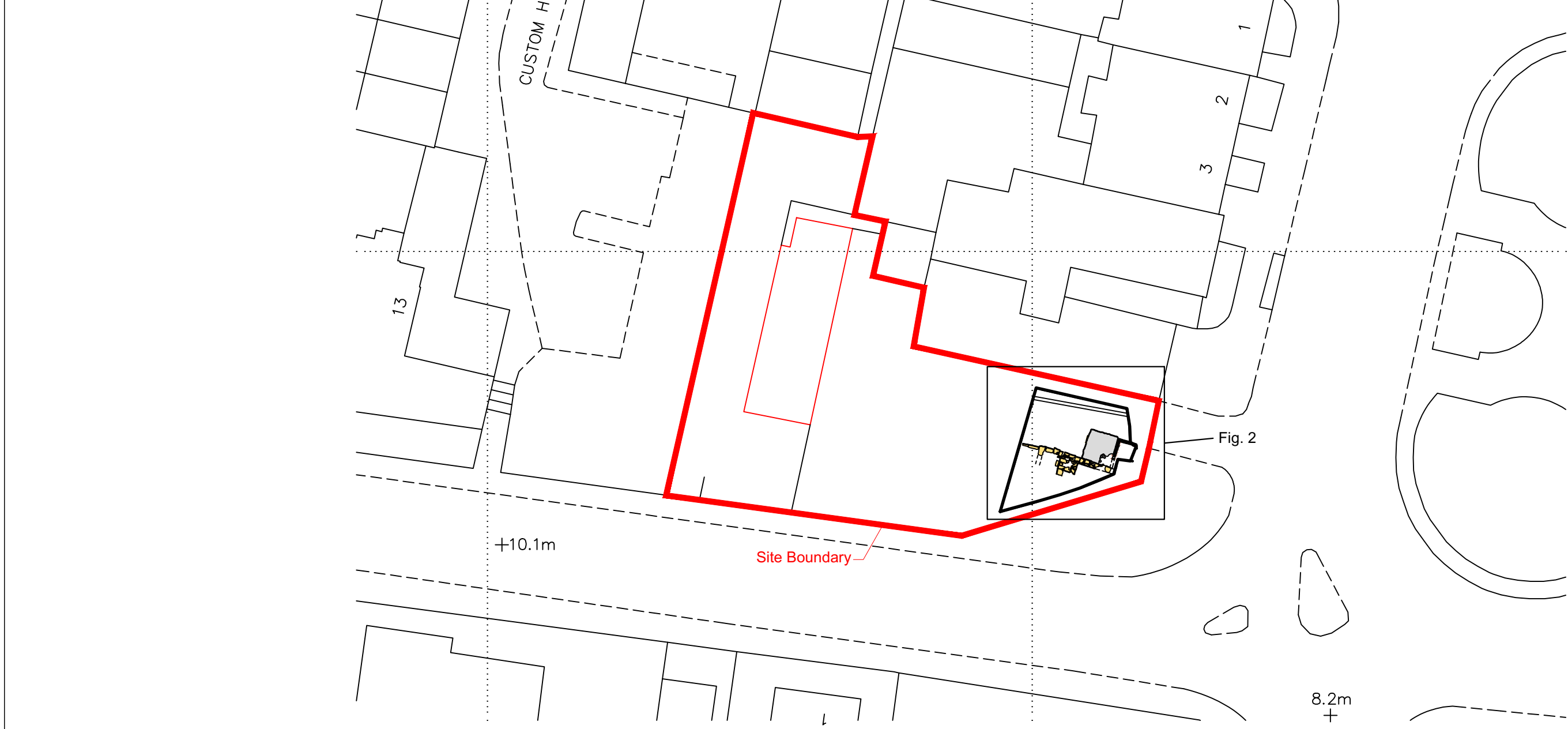
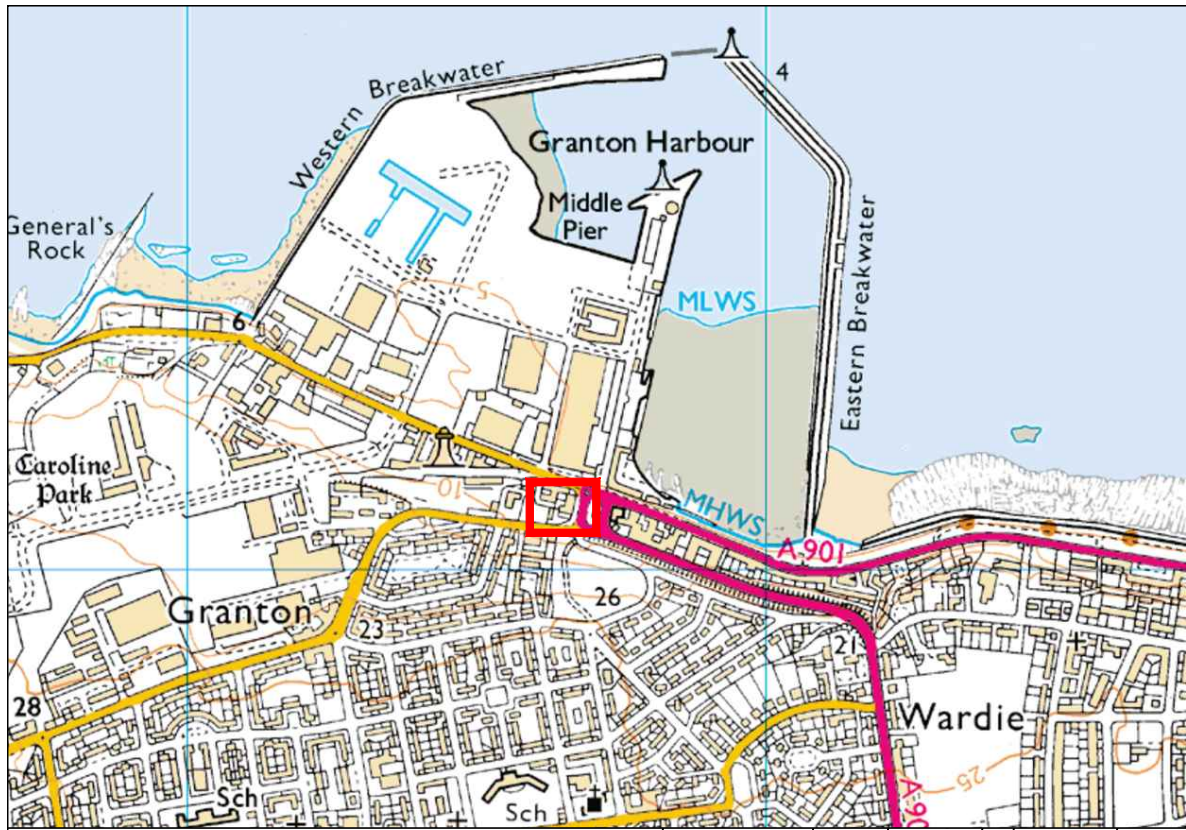
Mitchell, S. 2013. *9 West Harbour Road, Granton, Edinburgh, Trial Trenching Evaluation*. CFA unpublished Report No. 3036

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Modern tarmac and overburden across the site
002	Mid brown silty sand garden soils
003	Concrete floor
004	Brick wall
005	East to West aligned sandstone wall
006	North to South aligned sandstone wall or stone built base for an internal feature
007	Broken brick and rubble levelling under (003)

APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

No.	Description	From	Conditions
1	General pre-excavation photo of site	E	overcast
2-3	General trench shot	N/W	sunny
4	Detail of concrete floor (003)	W.	sunny
5	Detail of re-used dressed sandstone block within (007)	W	sunny
6	Detail of brick wall (004)	S/E	sunny
7	Eastern end of sandstone wall (005)	S	sunny
8	Wall (006)	S	sunny
9-10	Western end of sandstone wall (005)	S-N	sunny
11	Eastern end of sandstone wall (005)	N	sunny
12	North facing section of floor (003) and levelling surface (007)	N	sunny
13	Modern service running along N edge of site	N/E	sunny
14	General trench shot	N/E	sunny
15	Detail showing brickwork change from 1 course to 2 on wall 004	N	sunny
16	Site after backfilling	N/E	sunny



Key:

Site boundary

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
Site location plan and location
of excavation trench

Project:
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Archaeological Excavation






Client:
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Scale at A3:
1:400





Key:

-  Site boundary
-  Excavation area
-  Concrete
-  Sandstone
-  Brick



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Fig. No: 2 Revision: A

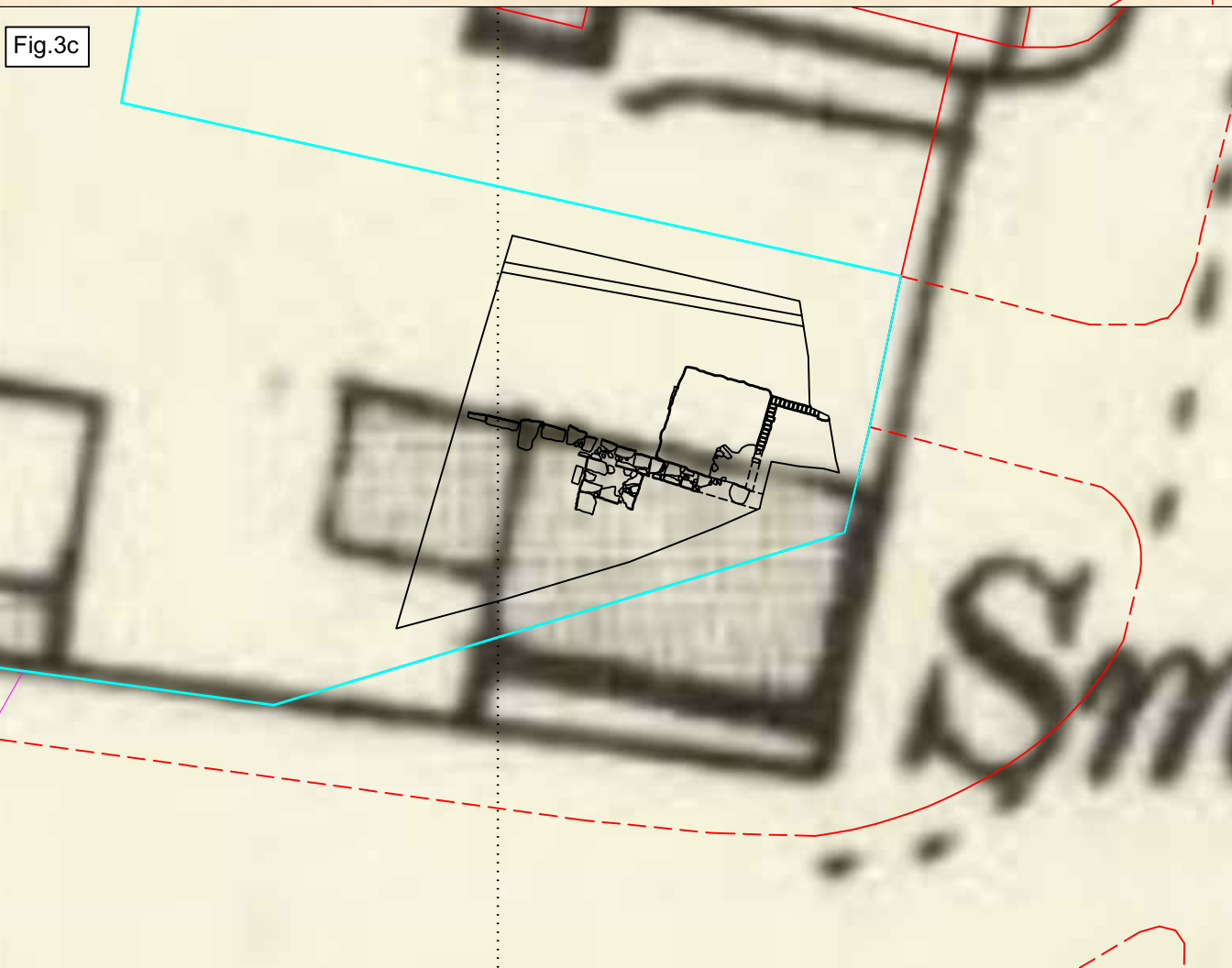
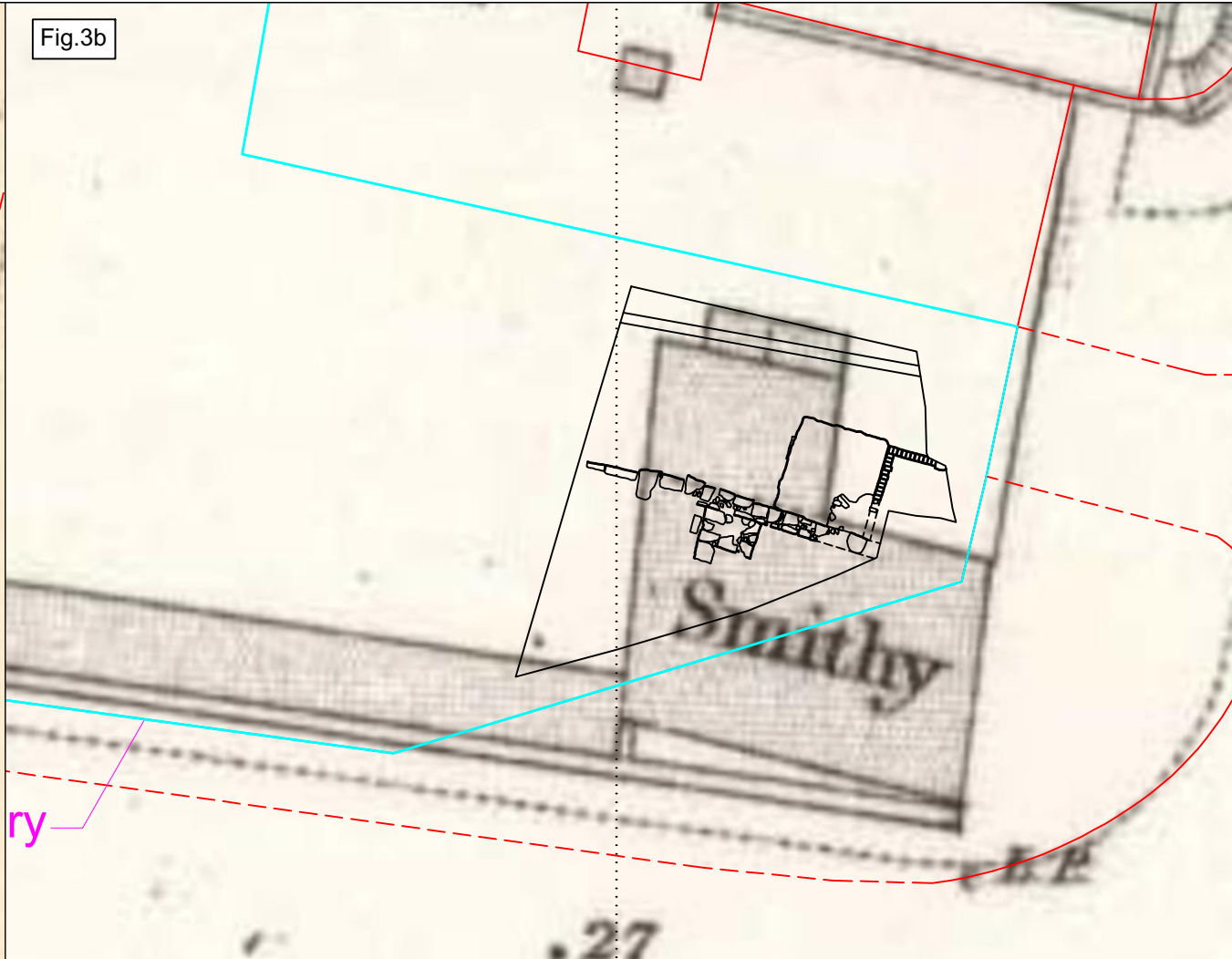
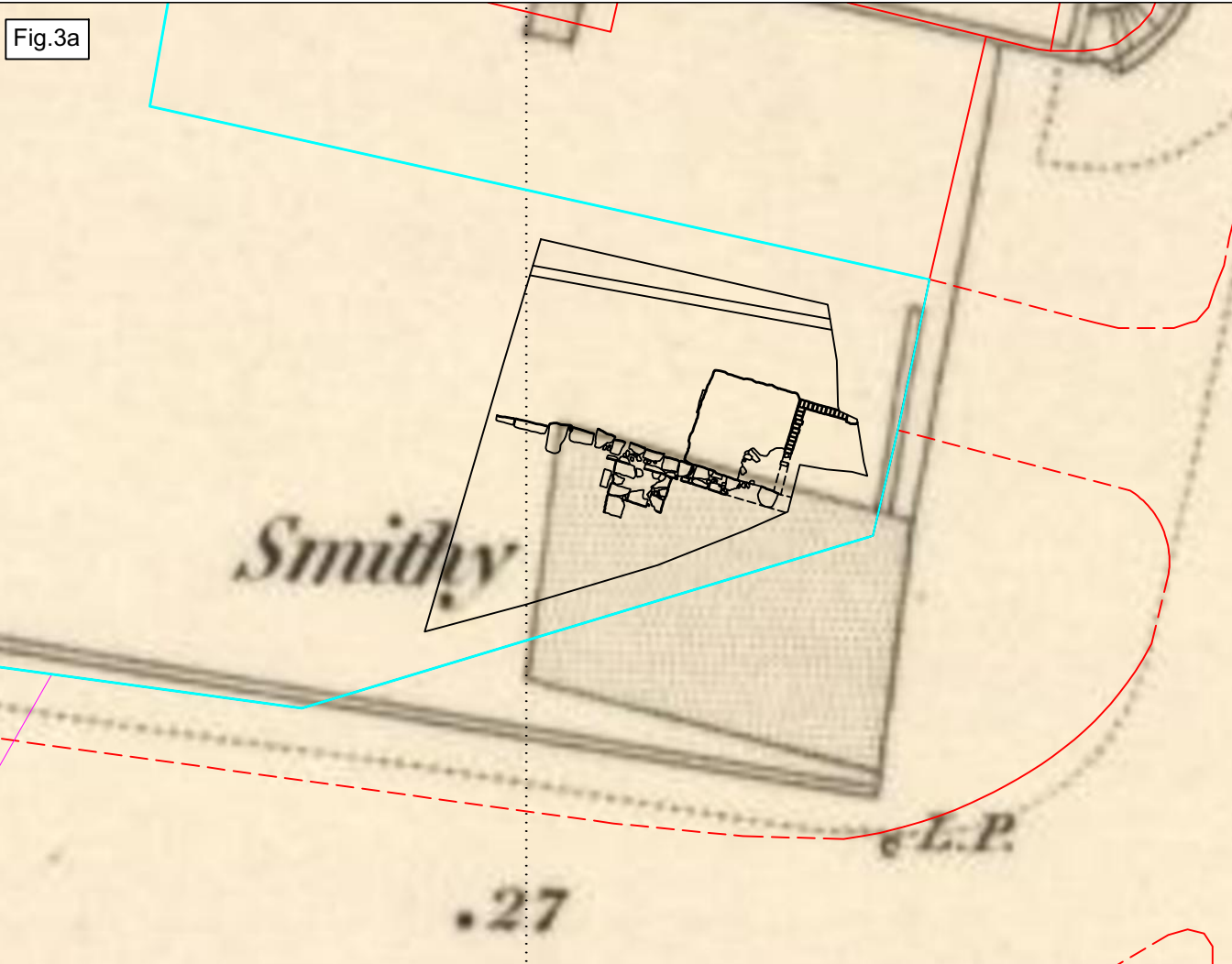
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Archaeological features

Project:
9 West Harbour Road,
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Archaeological Excavation

Client:
Cruden Homes Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:50





Key:

- Site boundary
- Archaeological features

Fig. 3a Ordnance Survey map, Town Plan, 1849

Fig. 3b Ordnance Survey map, Town Plan, 1876

Fig. 3c Ordnance Survey map, 3rd Edition, 1908

Fig. 3d Ordnance Survey map, 1933

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Fig. No: 3a-d Revision: A

Title:
Archaeological features over historic maps

Project:
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Client:
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Scale at A3:
1:200





Fig. 4. - Great Reform Act Plan, 1832.


 Site boundary



Fig No: 4		Revision: A	Project: 9 West Harbour Road, Granton, Edinburgh Archaeological Excavation
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Fig. 5 - Remain of Smithy structures



Fig. 6 - Wall 005 and Feature 006




Fig No: 5-6		Revision: A	Project: 9 West Harbour Road, Granton, Edinburgh Archaeological Excavation
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Fig. 7 - Concrete floor slab 003 and wall 004

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