



# CFA ARCHAEOLOGY

Professional cultural heritage consultants - branches nationwide  
enquiries@cfa-archaeology.co.uk



CAPABILITY  
FLEXIBILITY  
ASSURANCE

## Minor Archaeological Services Call-Off Contract Edinburgh Castle (PIC222)

Tunnel Control Kiosk Replacement  
Watching Brief, May 2018  
Report No. HES-PIC222-2018-01

Authors:  
John Musgrove BA



## CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Old Engine House  
Eskmills Park  
Musselburgh  
East Lothian  
EH21 7PQ

Tel: 0131 273 4380

Fax: 0131 273 4381

email: [Edinburgh@cfa-archaeology.co.uk](mailto:Edinburgh@cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

web: [www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk)

Author	John Musgrove BA
Illustrator	Shelly Werner BSc MPhil PhD MCifA
Approver	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MCifA
Commissioned by	Historic Environment Scotland
Date issued	July 2018
Version	1
Grid Ref	NT 2527 7351
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-
PIC No.	PIC222
HES Report No.	HES-PIC222-2018-01
CFA Report No.	3771

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

### **Minor Archaeological Services Call-Off Contract**

**Edinburgh Castle (PIC222)**

**Tunnel Control Kiosk Replacement  
Watching Brief, May 2018**

**Report No. HES-PIC222-2018-01**

## **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	5
3.	Archaeological Results	5
4.	Conclusions	5
5.	References	6

## **Appendices**

1.	Photograph Register	7
2.	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	7

## **Illustrations (bound at rear)**

1.	Plan of area for replacement tunnel control kiosk
2.	Post-ex view of ground breaking works
3.	General view of location of works

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Edinburgh Castle (NGR: NT 2527 7351). The work was commissioned by Historic Environment Scotland as part of the Minor Archaeological Services Call-off Contract.

The works involved the removal of the existing tunnel control kiosk at the north-west end of the Esplanade and the erection of a new kiosk in the area immediately adjacent to the existing location. The size and shape of the new kiosk is broadly similar to the existing, though it will be in a slightly different location, situated further away from the adjacent memorial obelisk. Relocation of the kiosk required the down-taking of a short stretch of low wall to the west, the installation of two concrete foundation lintels and a recess cut into the existing tarmac for a new low stone wall. See figure 1 for a plan of area.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017 was produced by CFA for this programme of works. The WSI was designed to fulfil the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) and was agreed with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) in advance of the work taking place.

## **1.2 Background**

The Esplanade was created in its present form in 1816-20, to celebrate the British Army's victory over Napoleonic France at the battle of Waterloo. For around 3000 years, this area has been one of, if not the main access routes to the summit of Castle Rock. It also has a long history as the site of numerous defences to protect this access route and the castle itself. Archaeological investigations in 1989 (Yeoman & Driscoll 1997) revealed evidence for large ditches below the western end of the Esplanade, running roughly along the natural fault line between volcanic and sedimentary rock. The ditches date back to the Iron Age, but were modified and re-used up until the 15th century. Earlier defences may have extended further to the east.

In the 1540s an elaborate defensive spur was designed and built by the Italian military engineer Ubaldini, this is shown in Gordon of Rothiemay's bird's-eye view of Edinburgh. The spur was rebuilt and modified at least once, following damage in the Lang Siege in 1573. By 1650 it was removed, under Cromwell's orders, and replaced with a new defensive work – the hornwork – which was completed in the later 17th century during the reign of Charles II. Features of these new defences included the Dry Ditch, a deep stone-lined ditch with a gatehouse immediately to the west and gun flankers.

Jacobite Risings in the late 17th and early 18th century spurred plans to improve the defences of Edinburgh Castle, as part of this designs were made for a new defensive outwork to the east of the castle in the area of the present Esplanade. There are plans of the so-called 'Grand Secret' but work was abandoned at an early stage. In 1753 the entire area was extensively landscaped and levelled to create a parade ground for the castle garrison, with the castle forming an imposing backdrop to the west. The area

was landscaped using imported earth excavated during the construction of the City Chambers and the ground was built up to the north and south to extend the platform either side. The area underwent further developments in the 1810's, when it was again widened, laid with granite setts and enclosed by low stone walls with decorative railings on the north side and dummy sentry posts on the south side. Recent excavations by CFA (Tabraham et al 2014) on the Esplanade suggest that there was further significant landscaping in the early 20th century.

The first ceremonial occasion was held on the Esplanade in 1822 for George IV's visit to Scotland. Since then it has increasingly been used as a place for ceremonial events and military displays – the first performance of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo was held on the Esplanade in 1950 and has been held every year since. It has also become a stage for commemoration and memorial, housing a number of military monuments. Immediately adjacent to the kiosk stands a granite obelisk, known as the 'Afghan Monument'. It was built around 1882 and is dedicated to the men of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders who died during campaigns in Afghanistan between 1878 and 1880.

There have been a number of investigations in recent years (between 2008-2012), alongside works to improve the Military Tattoo Grandstand. Boreholes taken in 2008 revealed, albeit limited, evidence for the stratigraphy and depth of deposits across the Esplanade. Borehole no. 10 situated slightly to the southwest of the area of proposed works indicated that the upper deposits (upper 1 – 1.5m) comprised tarmac and made ground consisting of broken stone, sandstone, gravelly to fine sand and pockets of clay, with further made up ground below. Excavations between 2009-11 by CFA Archaeology uncovered evidence for the remains of the 16th-century defensive spur, and further to the east on the Esplanade they revealed evidence for an L-shaped wall line. The wall seems to be that of the westernmost building in a row of houses which once ran along the north side of Castle Hill. The investigations carried out by CFA Archaeology have provided valuable evidence on the nature of the made up ground that forms the Esplanade. Sections recorded through utility trenches running the length and width of the Esplanade indicate that the upper 0.5m of deposits comprise 20th century landscaping, and that any archaeologically significant structural remains are likely to lie at least 1.2m below the tarmac.

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken alongside works to erect a new kiosk at the eastern end of the Esplanade in March 2016. The level of intervention and depth of excavation was similar to these proposed works; no significant archaeological deposits were encountered during the work.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were:

- To conduct an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (watching brief) to monitor groundbreaking works.
- To mitigate the effects of construction on any archaeological deposits or features identified during the watching brief by excavation and recording and to produce a report on them.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

All work was conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 'Code of Conduct' (CIfA 2014), and other relevant CIfA Standards and Guidance.

### **2.2 Watching Brief**

All ground-breaking works were carried out under constant archaeological supervision.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures and by completing standard CFA record forms.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

The watching brief area consisted of two narrow slots for the installation of concrete foundation lintels, and a recess cut into the existing tarmac for a new low stone wall and cope to be erected perpendicular to the removed wall.

Due to the likelihood of modern cables and services the foundation slots were kept very shallow, 50mm, not even breaking through the tarmac surface. The recess cut for the new wall only broke through the tarmac and modern Type 1 made ground (Fig. 2-3).

No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

A watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Edinburgh Castle. The works involved the removal of the existing tunnel control kiosk at the north-west end of the Esplanade and the erection of a new kiosk in the area immediately adjacent to the existing location. Relocation of the kiosk required the down-taking of a short stretch of low wall to the west, the installation of two concrete foundation lintels and a recess cut into the existing tarmac for a new low stone wall. The ground breaking works encountered no archaeological features or deposits.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Record for the Historic Environment Scotland (NRHE) and copies of reports will be lodged with City of Edinburgh Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 2) and will also be reported on through *OASIS Scotland*.

## 5. REFERENCES

Tabraham, C, Suddaby, I, and Neighbour, T 2014 'The Spur and Esplanade', in Ewart, G & Gallagher, D *Fortress of the Kingdom. Archaeology and Research at Edinburgh Castle*. Historic Scotland, Archaeology Report no. 7.

Driscoll, S and Yeoman, P 1997 *Excavations within Edinburgh Castle in 1988-91*. Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Monograph 12.

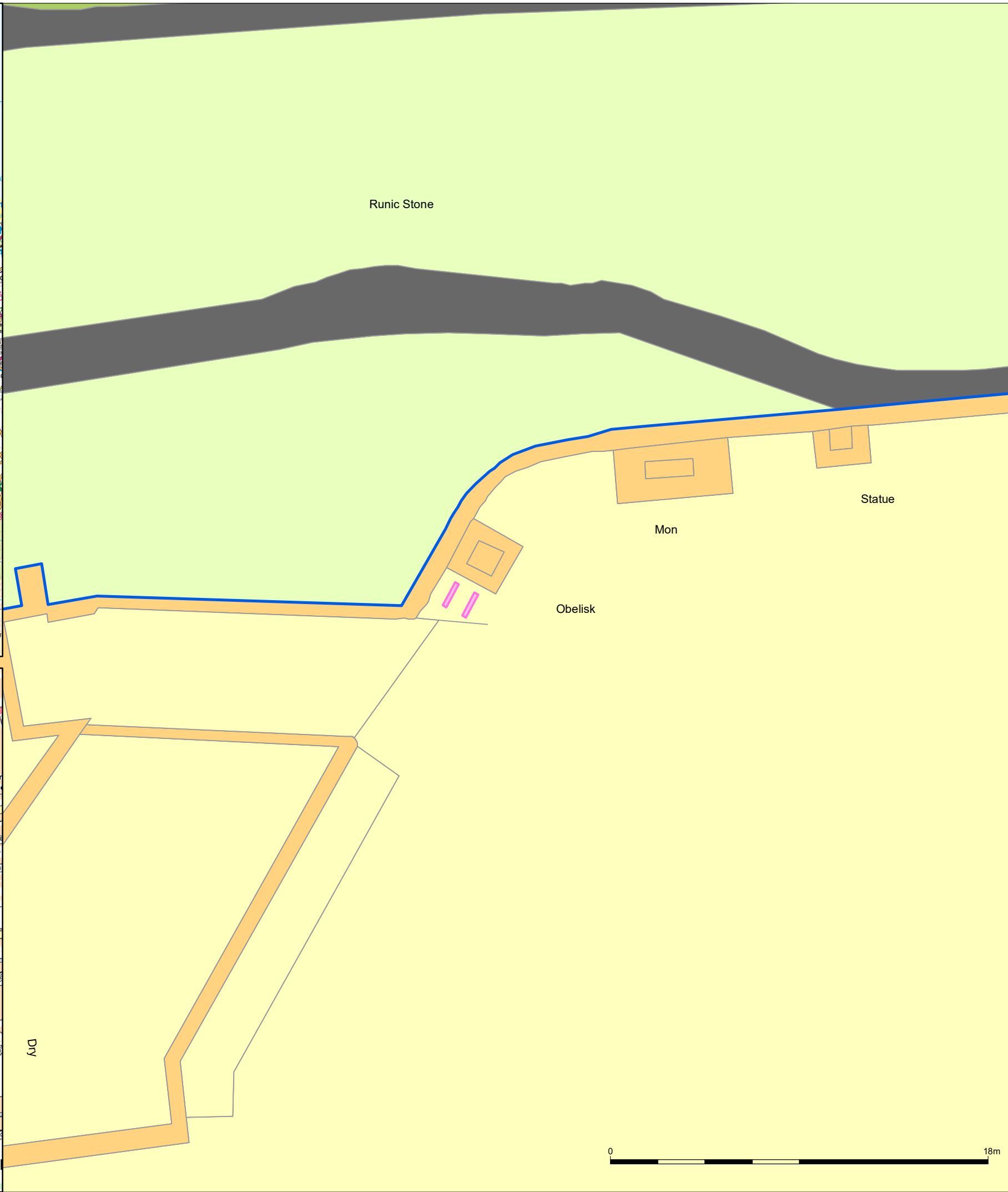
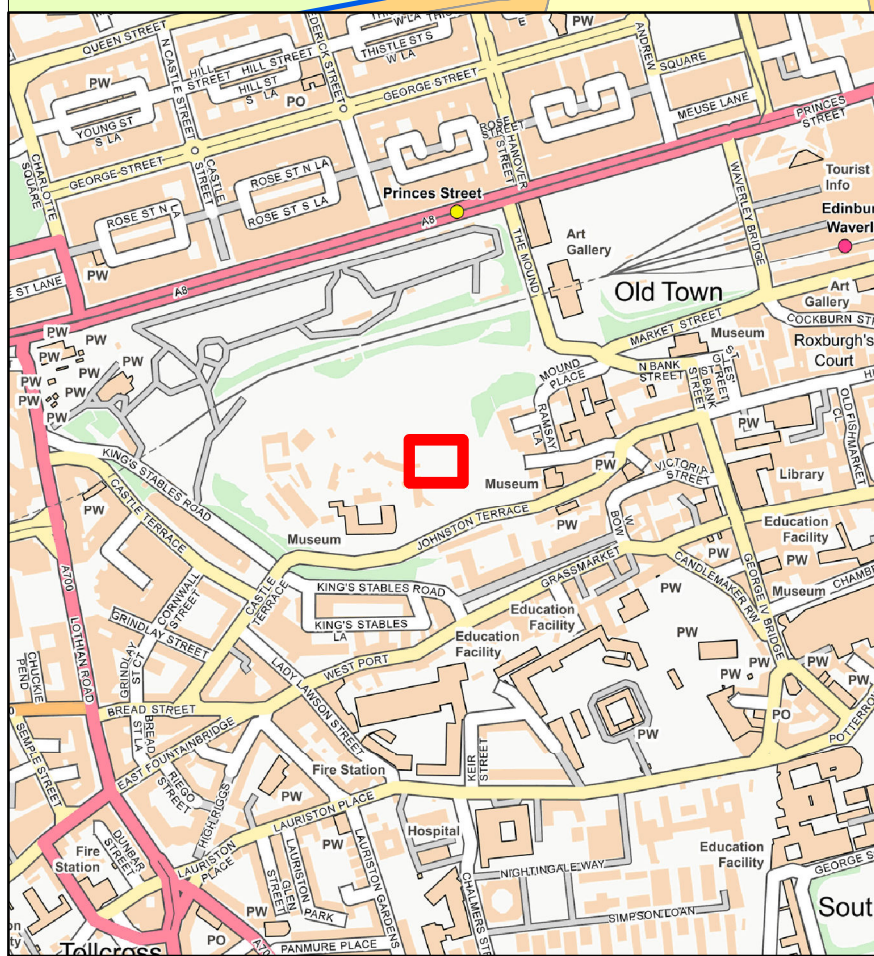
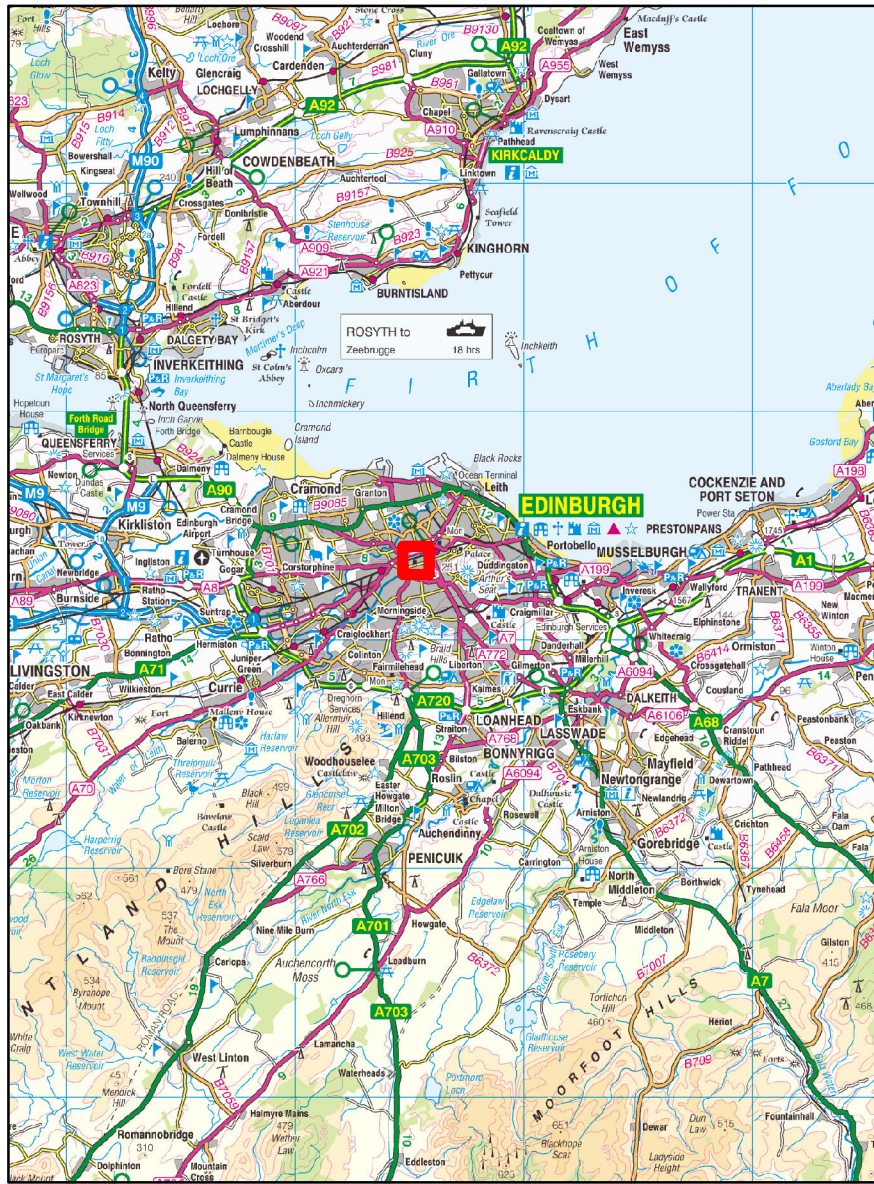
## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Facing
1	General shot of area	N
2	General shot of area	S
3	General shot of area post-ex	N
4	General shot of area post-ex	N
5	General shot of area post-ex	W
6	General shot of area post-ex, with castle	W

## APPENDIX 2: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	City of Edinburgh
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Edinburgh Castle Esplanade: Replacement of Control Kiosk
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	MINA21
<b>PARISH:</b>	Edinburgh
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	John Musgrove
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	N/A
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NT 2527 7351
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	May 2018
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	May 2018
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Edinburgh Castle. The works involved the removal of the existing tunnel control kiosk at the north-west end of the Esplanade and the erection of a new kiosk in the area immediately adjacent to the existing location. Relocation of the kiosk required the down-taking of a short stretch of low wall to the west, the installation of two concrete foundation lintels and a recess cut into the existing tarmac for a new low stone wall. The ground breaking works encountered no archaeological features or deposits.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Historic Environment Scotland
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk">cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Archive to be deposited with NRHE, reports lodged with SMR.





Key:

- PIC Boundary
- Trench Location

Contains Historic Environment Scotland data  
 © Historic Environment Scotland  
 © Crown copyright and database rights [2017] Ordnance Survey [100057073]. You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form



**CFA**  
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
 The Old Engine House  
 Eskmills Park  
 Musselburgh  
 East Lothian, EH21 7PQ  
 T: 0131 273 4380  
 F: 0131 273 4381  
 info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
 www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Title:  
**Plan of area for replacement tunnel control kiosk**

Project:  
**Edinburgh Castle**

Client:  
**Historic Environment Scotland**

Scale at A3:  
**1:200**

Drawn by: SW	Checked by: MJ	Date: 13/07/2018
-----------------	-------------------	---------------------

Report No: 3771	Fig. No: 1
--------------------	---------------





Fig.2 - Post-ex view of ground breaking works.



Fig. 3 - General view of location of works

Project:  
Edinburgh Castle



**CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**  
The Old Engine House  
Eskmills Park  
Musselburgh  
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ  
T: 0131 273 4380  
F: 0131 273 4381  
info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk  
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Client:  
**Historic Environment Scotland**

Drawn by: <b>AN</b>	Checked: <b>SW</b>	Date: <b>31/05/2018</b>
Report No: <b>3771</b>		Fig. No: <b>2-3</b>



**CFA** ARCHAEOLOGY  
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**HEAD OFFICE - Musselburgh**

Old Engine House  
Eskmills Park, Musselburgh  
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ

t: +44 (0) 131 273 4380  
e: enquiries@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Leeds**

Offices C1 & C2  
Clayton Business Centre, Midland Road  
Leeds, LS10 2RJ

t: +44 (0) 113 271 6060  
e: yorkshire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Manchester**

44G9, Europa Business Park  
Bird Hall Lane, Cheadle Heath  
Manchester, SK3 0XA

t: +44 (0) 161 428 8224  
e: manchester@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Milton Keynes**

Suite 11, Letchworth House  
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall  
Milton Keynes, MK6 1NE

t: +44 (0) 1908 226 124  
e: miltonkeynes@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Carlisle**

Warwick Mill Business Village  
Warwick Bridge, Carlisle  
Cumbria, CA4 8RR

t: +44 (0) 1228 564 531  
e: cumbria@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Sheffield**

Office 5, Ecclesfield Business Centre  
46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield  
Sheffield, S35 9YT

t: +44 (0) 114 327 1108  
e: sheffield@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Leicester**

Business Box  
3 Oswin Road, Brailsford Industrial Estate  
Leicester, LE3 1HR

t: +44 (0) 116 279 5156  
e: leicestershire@cfa-archaeology.co.uk

**Hertfordshire**

Amwell House  
9 Amwell Street, Hoddesdon  
Hertfordshire, EN11 8TS

t: +44 (0) 845 017 9847  
e: herts@cfa-archaeology.co.uk