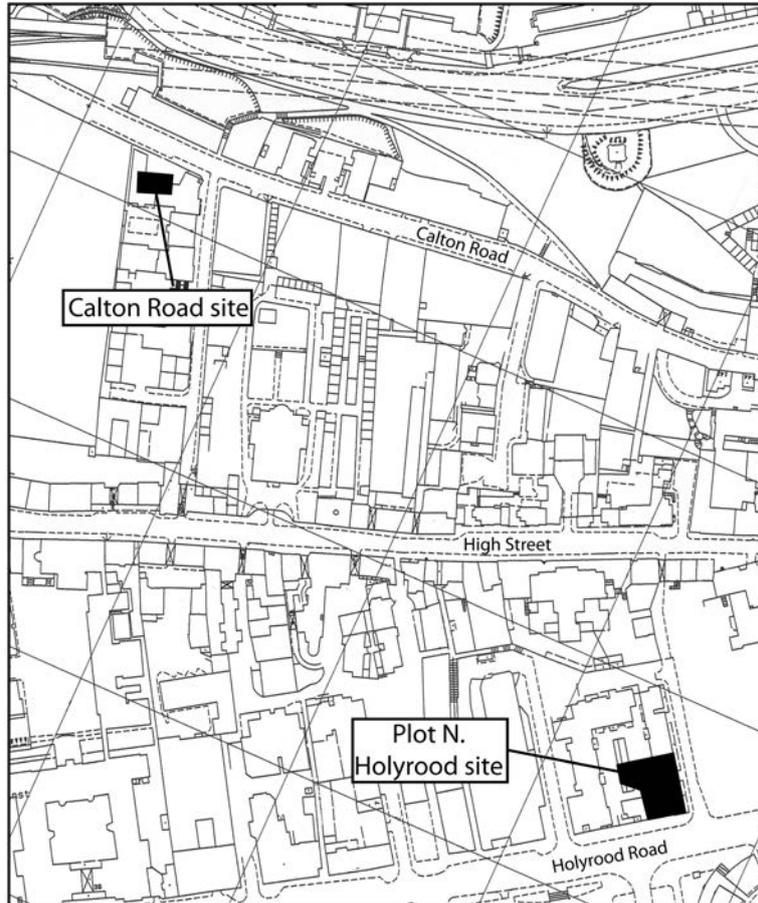

2 INTRODUCTION



Illus 1 Location of the excavation sites

Prior to residential developments, AOC Archaeology Group undertook archaeological excavations in 1999 and 2000 at two locations within the Canongate, Edinburgh (illus 1). Lying between Arthur's Seat and Calton Hill, the Canongate is situated on the lower part of the crag and tail feature created by the glacial obstruction of the Castle Rock. The main street is situated along the east to west ridge of the

tail with perpendicular slopes running down to the original limits of the burgh on the lines now occupied by Calton Road, to the north, and Holyrood Road, to the south. Both excavations were located in peripheral zones of Medieval/Post-Medieval backland activity. The excavations therefore presented an opportunity for a comparative examination of development on either side of the Canongate.