

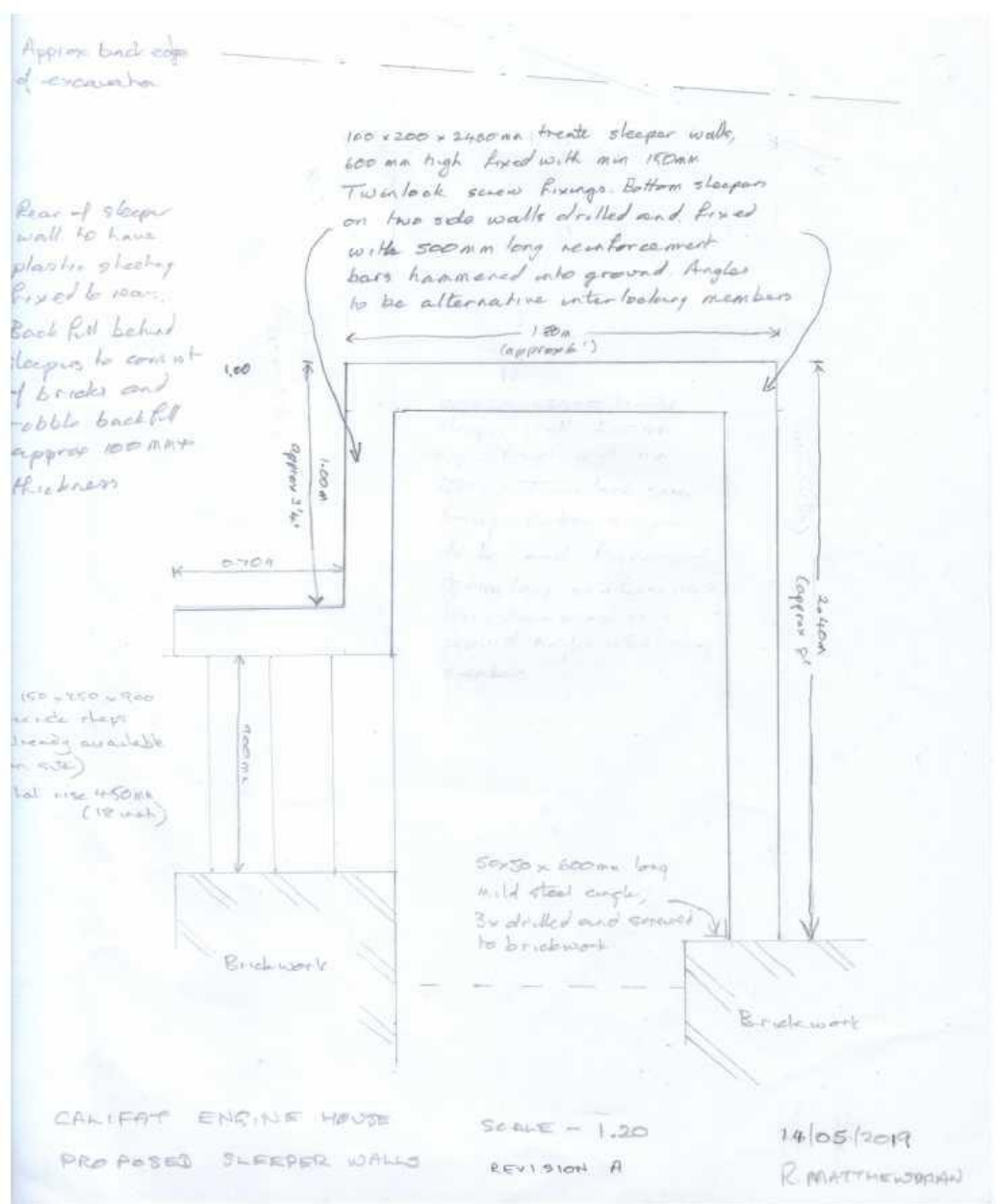
Photographic Report Of LIHS Excavation - May 2019

The Excavation

Swannington Heritage Trust own the Califat Spinney, which is the site of the Califat Coal Mine (1855-1873). Leicestershire Industrial History Society have led the monthly excavation of the coal mine buildings near the Califat winding shaft since June 2006.

Swannington Heritage Trust produce this monthly photographic report for the benefit of SHT and LIHS, so that they can share it with their members, volunteers and supporters. LIHS make the technical recordings of the dig and will produce a report at the end of the excavation.

Engine House and Boiler House



The main activity was removing the weeds.

Arrangements were finalised for the retaining walls of wooden sleepers to be installed at the June dig. A simple wall along the north end of the winding drum void, plus walling around the coal storage pavement as shown in the above diagram.

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Miners' Cottages



Diggers continued to work towards the north west corner of the east room, as well along the east wall. Some of the east pavement was also uncovered.



The exciting find was uncovering the remains of some sort of collapsed wall in the north west corner. This will be excavated further during the June dig.

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Miners' Cottages - Artefacts



It was particularly obvious in May that the bricks were of different sizes, shapes and thickness. Also the black soot of the fireplace bricks.

Best Dressed Digger



White is such a practical colour for working on an archaeological excavation!