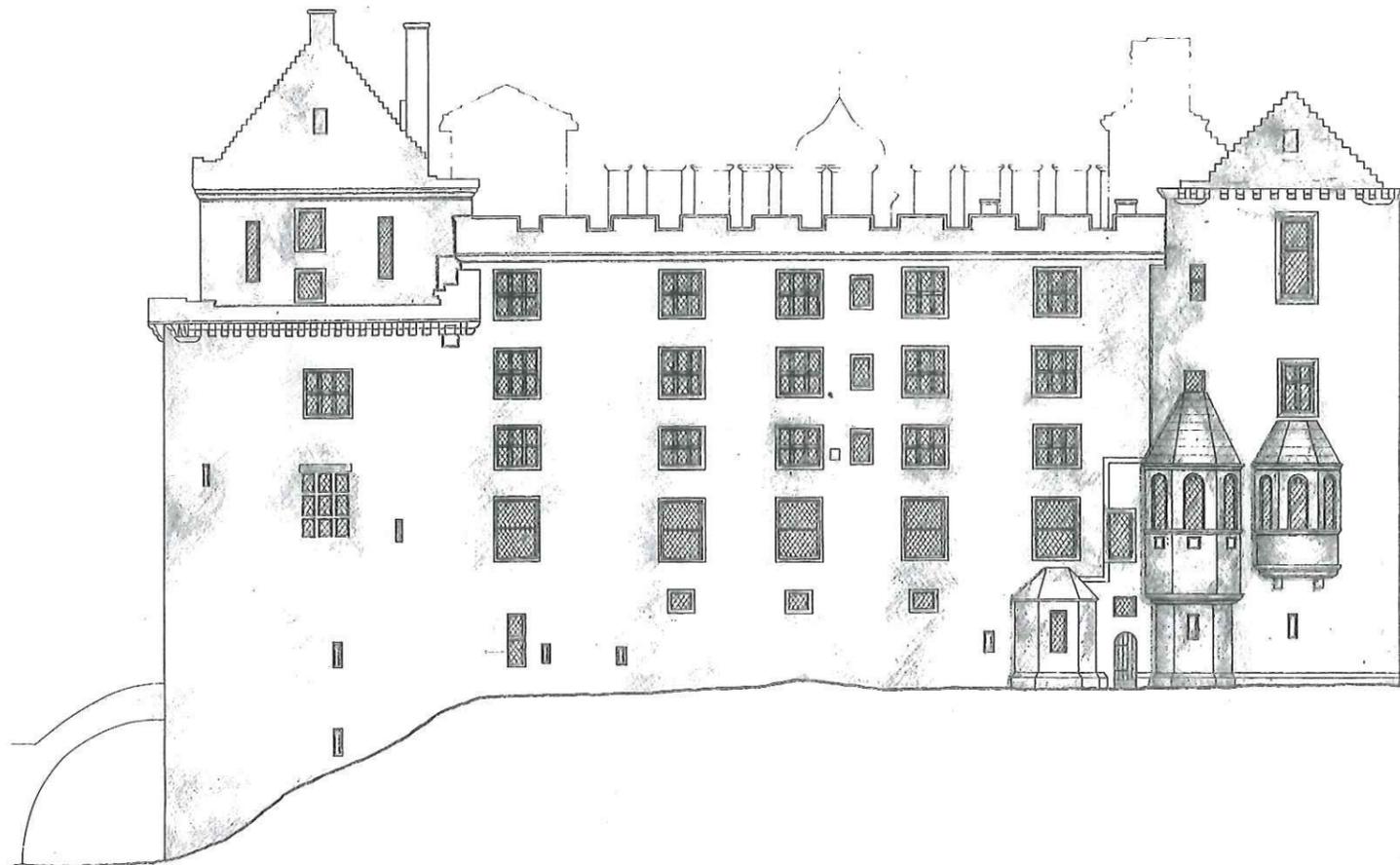
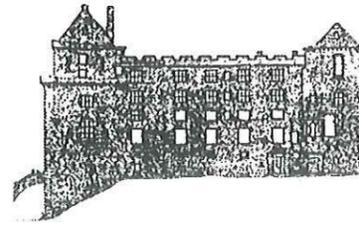


10. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

LINLITHGOW

a living palace



10. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

1001 Conclusions

This design feasibility study has covered a wide range of issues but we feel confident that we have reached a situation where we can conclude with confidence that:

- * a viable proposal has been devised
- * our approach has encapsulated the views expressed in the course of the study and it appears that the scheme is broadly acceptable
- * the proposed product mix is compatible with the status and dignity of the Palace
- * it is possible to solve the access and parking issues
- * the proposals are realistic in capital terms and it is possible to generate the funding required from a variety of sources
- * the project as a whole is viable in operational terms and will cover the cost of depreciation thereby allowing reinvestment in the product
- * a positive contribution would be made to the economic well-being of the town and West Lothian region
- * we can recommend the findings and proposals of this report.

1002 Next Steps

There are a series of actions that flow from this report:

- * confirmation of approval to the broad thrust of the report by all parties
- * the retention of the project working party to co-ordinate the process of taking the project forward
- * the need to identify a project champion with the time, the charisma and the expertise to co-ordinate the project
- * devise an action programme which can be agreed and monitored on a regular basis
- * investigate the options and establish a charitable company limited by guarantee with appropriate trustees to oversee and steer the project
- * undertake essential archaeological investigations
- * commence the fund raising process by making a series of funding applications. A key priority will be to discuss the project with the Heritage Lottery at an early stage. Similarly an early application to the ERDF Objective 2 Programme is important.