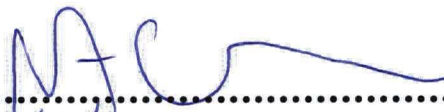


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SNY	9652
ENY	2779
CNY	4058
Parish	4035
Rec'd	16/08/2005

12 Flowergate
Whitby
North Yorkshire
NZ 8980 1100

Archaeological Watching Brief

Authorised by 

Date: 17/5/05

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May 2005

**12 Flowergate
Whitby,
North Yorkshire
NZ 8980 1100**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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**12 Flowergate
Whitby,
North Yorkshire
NZ 8980 1100**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Non Technical Summary

A Watching Brief was undertaken during the hand excavation of three areas (Testpits A-C) prior to the development of a small area of land to the rear of 12 Flowergate, Whitby on the 28th of April 2005. Excavations located a sandstone-constructed wall that survived to at least three courses in height. Deposits to the either side of this structure were completely different in origin and reflected past use of the site. Only modern pottery and brickfragments were recovered.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. at land to the south of 12 Flowergate, Whitby, North Yorkshire (Figs. 1 & 2: NZ 8980 1100). The Watching Brief took place on the 28th of April 2005.
- 1.2 The Watching Brief was carried out on behalf of, and funded by Mr & Mrs Quinn.
- 1.3 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site is situated to the rear of 12 Flowergate and in between the backyards of properties 11 and 13 Flowergate (Fig. 2). The proposed development area is bounded by brick and stone walls to the east and west and a brick and stone retaining wall to the south.

- 2.2 The site stands approximately 1.5m below No. 12 Flowergate, 0.5m higher than the Rose and Crown yard (situated behind 11 Flowergate) and c. 4m higher than Baxtergate, immediately to the south beyond the retaining wall.

3. Geology and Soils

- 3.1 The site stands on the Flint Soil Association (5721) a reddish fine loamy over clayey soil with a solid geology of reddish till (Mackney *et al.* 1983).

4. Historical Background

- 4.1 No. 12 Flowergate lies within the historic core of the medieval and later settlement of Whitby.
- 4.2 The land around Flowergate and Baxtergate is known to contain deposits and structural remains of a medieval date. Previous archaeological work in this area of the town has revealed a sequence of occupation deposits along the street frontages that date from the 12th century onwards. The modern property boundaries largely preserve the medieval pattern of burgage plot divisions.
- 4.3 Cartographic evidence for 1740 (not illustrated) shows the site as formal gardens. A plan of 1777 shows similar use of the site. A 1782 plan of Whitby records development along Flowergate with open land to the rear, some of which has been used as orchards.
- 4.4 The early 19th century maps (Fig. 3 - 1841) illustrates the increased structural activity along Flowergate. The open land to the rear of these properties had been by this time reduced considerably by the construction of ancillary buildings and residential units that reflect Whitby's economic growth in this period. At No. 12 Flowergate an area of open land is shown behind the new build.
- 4.5 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 4) shows in much greater detail back yard activity along Flowergate. Land to the rear of No. 12 appears to be delineated by an east west aligned wall. Land to the north seems to be of a

premium and extensively used whereas the land to the south is open and featureless.

4.6 The 1893 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5) also shows the wall, with a break in its alignment to the west.

4.7 Twentieth century Ordnance Survey maps continue to show open land to the rear of No. 12, but there is no depiction of a wall in the same position as that on the earlier maps.

5. Methodology

5.1 An archaeologically unsupervised Trial Hole Investigation (TH 1-3 : Fig. 6) was undertaken in July 2004. The Trial Hole logs have been made available for this report (Appendix 3). In addition, two excavations along the property boundary wall with No. 13 Flowergate were still open in April 2004 (Testpits B1 & D : Fig. 6).

5.2 The excavation of Testpits A-C was undertaken by hand and was carried out with an archaeologist in attendance. The purpose of the excavation was to determine the presence/absence of sensitive archaeological deposits. Excavation depth was therefore kept to a minimum where the potential for in situ archaeological features occurred or where modern service trenches were encountered.

5.3 A total of three testpits were excavated. Testpit A, in the north-eastern corner of the site measured a maximum of 1.7m by 0.7m. Testpit B was situated immediately to the south of Testpit A and measured 0.50m in width and 5m in length. Testpit C was excavated to assess the absence/presence of modern services and measured 0.5m by 0.5m.

6. Results

6.1 The stratigraphy revealed in Testpits A and B consisted of a deposit of sandy loam topsoil (context 1001) measuring up to 0.60m in depth. This sealed a

sandy clay deposit (context 1002), the full depth of which (0.15m), was only revealed in Testpit A. Natural clays (context 1003) were seen at the base of Testpit 3.

- 6.2 During the excavation of Testpit A a number of large sandstone blocks were exposed. To ascertain their purpose/function this trench was extended to the south (Testpit B2). Excavation showed that they formed part of a linear structure (Wall 1004) constructed of large roughly dressed unbonded blocks of sandstone. The structure was aligned north-east to south-west and continuous except where truncated by the excavation of Testpit B1 and a section of a water pipe trench (Pls. 3 & 4).
- 6.3 Wall 1004 survived to at least three courses in height and was originally of two courses wide.
- 6.4 A single stone to the south of Wall 1004, (Wall 1005) may have represented a revetment (Pl. 5). This structure appeared to be set into the in situ subsoil.
- 6.5 Material to the south of Wall 1004 consisted of a thick deposit of sandy clay (context 1006) sealed by a deep deposit of topsoil.
- 6.5 It is clear from the excavations of Testpits A and B, compared to the stratigraphy in Testpit D and Trial Holes 1 and 3, that there is a marked north-south fall across the site. It is suggested that Wall 1004 represents a 19th century boundary wall which went out of use, and was dismantled when the land to the south was artificially raised to form a level platform.
- 6.6 Excavation in Testpit C revealed deposits of disturbed topsoil and a number of modern water-pipe services. However, this excavation again illustrated the depth of modern material on the site (0.50m).
- 6.7 Finds from the excavations were restricted to modern brick fragments and an occasional sherd of 19th/20th century factory manufactured earthenware.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 The excavations revealed the substantial depth of modern deposits on the site and appear to confirm the cartographic evidence, which suggests that this area of land has not been developed in the modern period except by the construction of Wall 1004. The total lack of any earlier features or finds also suggests that this site remained unoccupied throughout the medieval period or it has been cleared in the modern period.

8. Bibliography

Primary Sources

Plan of the Town of Whitby	John Woller, c. 1740	Not to Scale
Plan of the Town and Harbour	Lionel Carlton 1778	Not to Scale
Plan of the Defences	Francis Gibbons 1782	Not to Scale
Plan of Whitby	John Wood 1828	Not to Scale
Plan of the Town and Harbour	Francis Pickerells 1841	Not to Scale
Ordnance Survey Sheet 3	Scale 1;1056 1853	
Ordnance Survey Sheet 3	1893	

Quinn A 2004 Desktop Study and Ground Investigation Report at 12 Flowergate, Whitby, North Yorkshire.

Secondary Sources

Mackney, D. 1983 Soils of England and Wales. Sheet 1: Northern England. Soil Survey of England and Wales.
et al.

APPENDIX 1

Context Listing

Context No.	Description
1001	Deposit. Topsoil. 10 YR 2/2 sandy loam
1002	Deposit. ?Subsoil. 10 YR 4/2 sandy clay
1003	Deposit. ?Natural. 10 YR 6/3.clay
1004	Boundary wall. Dry sandstone construction
1005	Wall. Sandstone - ?revetment
1006	Deposit. Made ground. 10 YR 3/3 sandy clay

APPENDIX 2

Photographic Listing

No.	Jpeg No.	Description
1.	100_1725	View of site. Facing south-east
2.	100_1726	View of site. Facing south-east
3.	100_1727	Testpit A. South-east facing section. Facing north-west
4.	100_1728	Testpit A. South-east facing section. Facing north-west
5.	100_1729	Testpit A. South-east facing section. Facing north-west
6.	100_1730	Wall 1004. Facing east
7.	100_1731	Wall 1004. Facing east
8.	100_1732	Wall 1004. Facing east
9.	100_1733	Wall 1004. Facing west
10.	100_1734	Wall 1004. Facing west
11.	100_1735	Wall 1004. Facing west
12.	100_1736	Walls 1004 & 1005. Facing west
13.	100_1737	Testpit B2. North-west facing section. Facing south-east
14.	100_1738	Testpit B2. North-west facing section. Facing south-east
15.	100_1739	Testpit C. East facing section. Facing west
16.	100_1740	Testpit D. Facing north-west
17.	100_1741	View of site, after excavations. Facing south-east
18.	100_1742	View of site, after excavations. Facing south-east

APPENDIX 3
Test Hole Logs



ARP GEOTECHNICAL LTD

Site
CRACKERJAQS, FLOWERGATE, WHITBY
Trial Pit Number
TH2

Excavation Method HAND EXCAVATION	Dimensions	Ground Level (mOD)	Client MR J A QUINN	Job Number QUN/01
	Location	Dates 20/06/2004	Engineer ARP GEOTECHNICAL LTD	Sheet 1/1

Depth (m)	Sample / Tests	Water Depth (m)	Field Records	Level (mOD)	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Description	Legend	Water
0.10-0.30	D				(0.30)	Brown, slightly gravelly TOPSOIL with brick		
0.40-0.70	D				0.30 (0.50)	MADE GROUND: Firm, brown, sandy clay with brick and layers of light grey sand and black ash		
0.90-1.20	D				0.80 (0.40)	Stiff, red brown, slightly sandy, slightly gravelly CLAY. Gravel is rounded to angular, fine to coarse, occasionally to cobble size and of sandstone and mudstone		
1.30-1.50	D				1.20 (0.35)	Moist, dark grey, angular, tabular mudstone GRAVEL in a grey and brown sandy clay matrix with occasional gravel and cobbles of sandstone and layers of sand. Occasional thin layers of coal (Weathered bedrock)		
					1.55	Complete at 1.55m		

Plan

Remarks

- The excavation sides remained stable
- No groundwater was encountered
- On completion the trial hole was backfilled with arisings

Scale (approx) 1:25	Logged By JDQ	Figure No. QUN/01.TH2
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Scale 1:25,000

Figure 1. Site Location



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Figure 2. Development Area

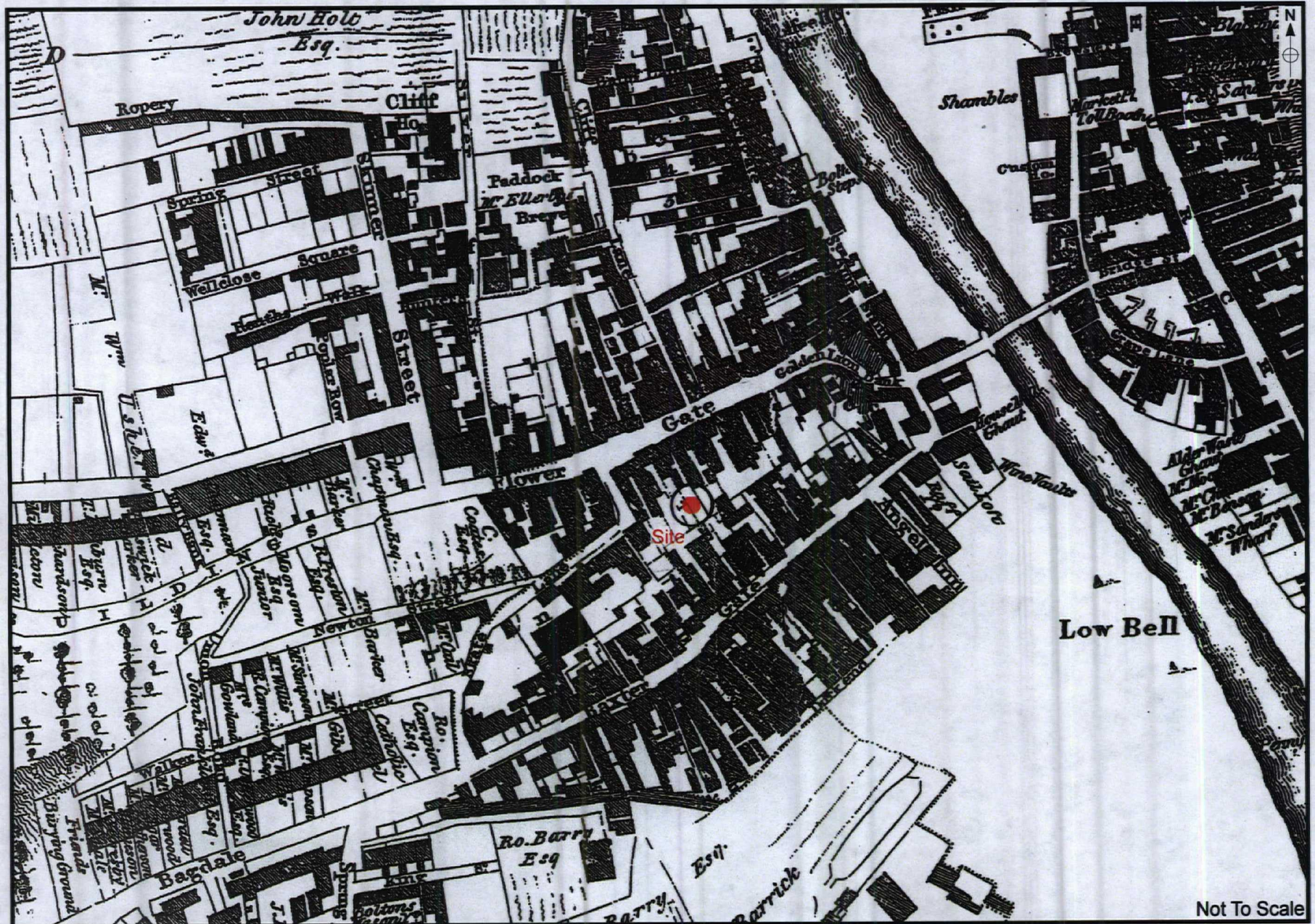


Figure 3. Extract from John Wood's Plan of Whitby, 1828

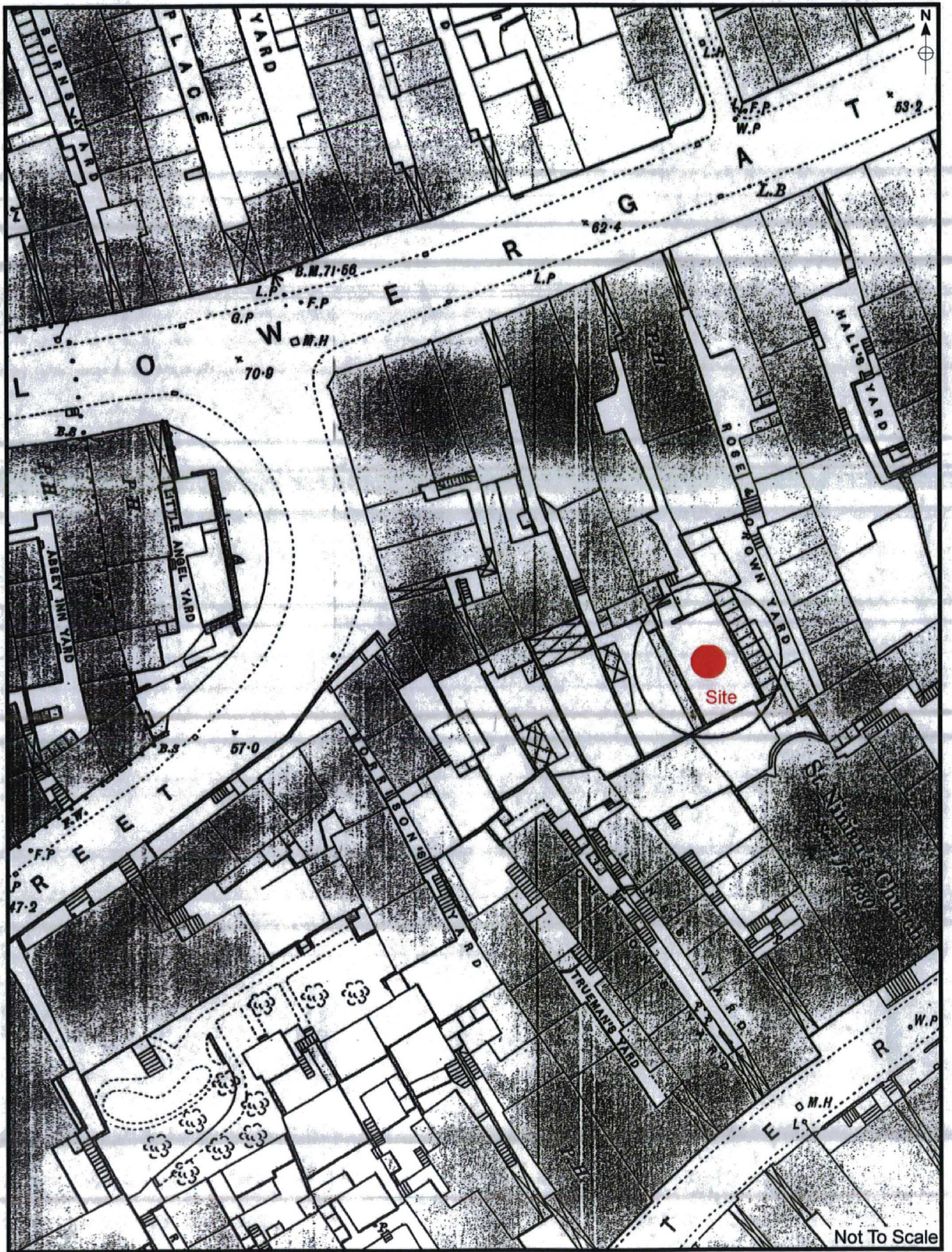


Figure 5. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map, 1893

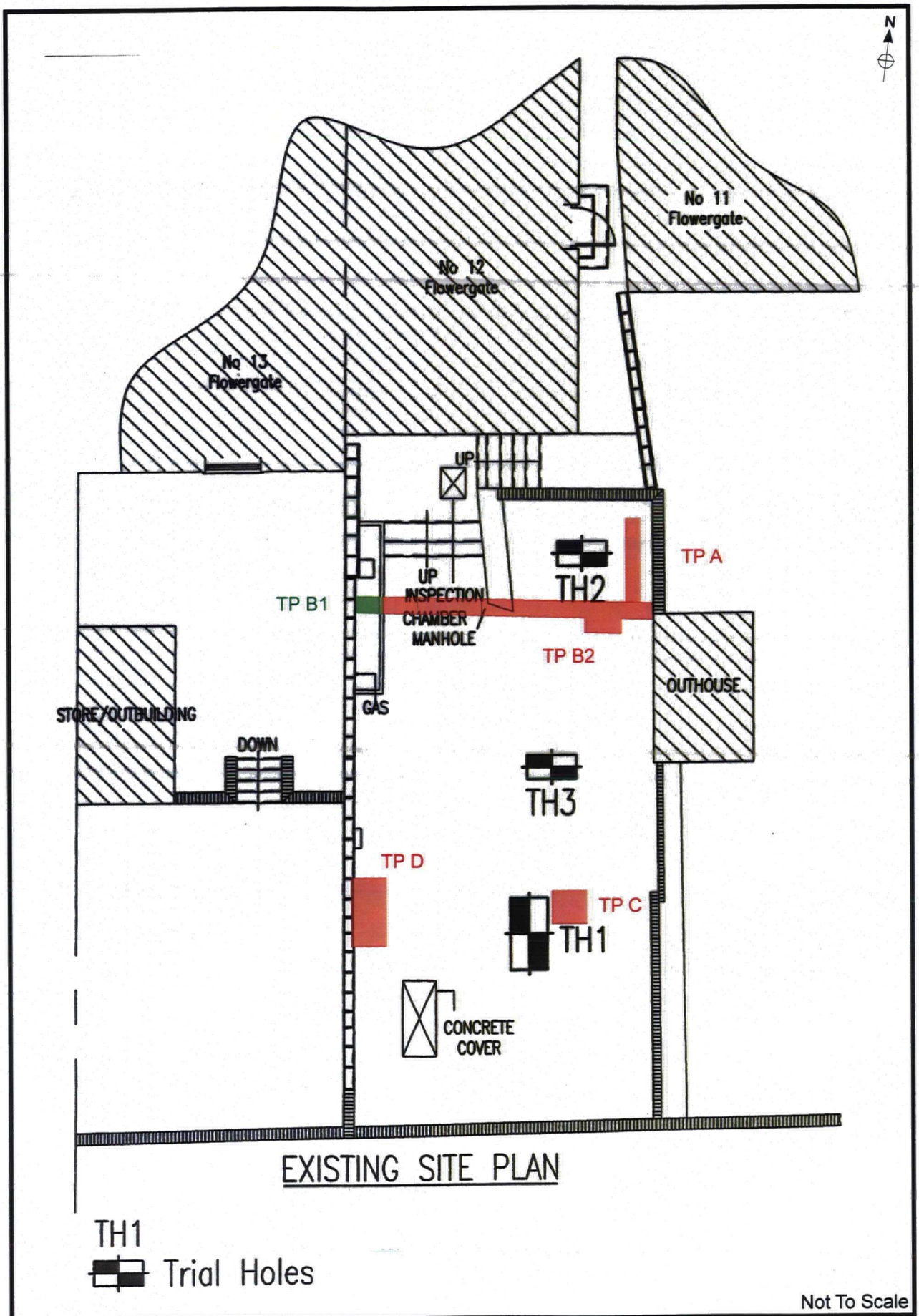


Figure 6. Test Hole and Test Pit Location Plan