

SHEL19



15 SIDEGATE, HADDINGTON, EAST LoTHIAN

*Archaeological Evaluation
for Christopher Lamotte*

March 2019

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March 2019

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Parish: Haddington

Council: East Lothian

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Planning Application.: 16/00212/P

Archive will be deposited with: HES

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15 SIDEGATE, HADDINGTON, EAST LOTHIAN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Technical Summary

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to the construction of an extension to the rear of 15 Sidegate, Haddington, East Lothian. The Site was within the medieval core of Haddington and the listed upstanding property dates to the late 18th century. Two trial trenches were excavated exposing rubble stone and 19th century building material to a depth of 1.4m. No other archaeological features or deposits were identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Mr Lamotte (the client) to undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to the construction of an extension to the rear of 15 Sidegate Haddington. The work was carried out in order to satisfy a condition of planning consent (ref: 16/00212/P) and adhered to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Headland Archaeology (2019) and agreed with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Service (ELCAS) on behalf of East Lothian Council (the Local Planning Authority). The work was undertaken in March 2019.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed development was located to the rear of 15 Sidegate, Haddington, East Lothian (centred on NT 5169 7372; Illus 1). The footprint of the extension measured 68m² across a small area of flower beds within a large garden. The site was bounded to the south by a tall rubble boundary wall and to the east by the property itself. The garden area continued to the west and north of the proposed extension (Illus 2).

The underlying geology of the area comprises levels of the Aberlady Formation, a sedimentary rock of the Strathclyde group, and the overlying superficial geology comprises alluvium deposits, predominantly clay, silts, sands and gravels (NERC 2016).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The property itself is a listed building (HES Ref. No. 34374), being a two-storey terraced house constructed in the late 18th century. It also has an entry in the Historic Environment Record (MEL-7765). The property is located to the west side of Sidegate, one of the main streets of the medieval burgh of Haddington. Although the medieval potential of the burgh is generally recognised, there are no interventions in the immediate surroundings of the development site, so the likely survival of deposits or structures of this date was unknown.

Historic mapping of the area depicts a building in the approximate location of the house from 1773 (Armstrong - Inset on Map of the Three Lothians: NE Section) with a more accurate depiction on Wood's 1819 Plan of Haddington and Nungate. The 1853 Ordnance Survey (Illus 3) depicts the house with a path to the north side leading through to a large garden area. This map also shows a tannery to the south of the property. Further development is depicted on the later Ordnance Survey 1893 (Illus 4). This includes a large building constructed to the north side of the garden and a smaller building to the west, along the southern boundary of the property. These seem to continue in use through to at least the mid-20th century. These buildings were not present at the time of the current work.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the trial trenching was to record all archaeological features present on the site and to undertake sufficient intrusive excavation to enable the date, character, form and stratigraphic relationships of any features identified to be understood. A further aim of the evaluation was to clear the condition provided no significant archaeological features were encountered.

5 METHODS

Trenches were opened using a 1.4T tracked excavator. The machine was fitted with a 1m wide

toothless ditching bucket to remove all the overlying deposits. All excavation was carried out in controlled spits under direct archaeological supervision. Excavation terminated 0.1m to 0.2m below the maximum formation level of the proposed development. Spoil was stored at the side of each trench.

On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench were recorded from the top edge of the trench. The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were identified.

All trenches were backfilled following the completion of the evaluation and all recording.

6 REPORTING AND ARCHIVES

All recording followed ClfA Standards and Guidance (2014a & b). All recording was undertaken on pro forma record sheets. A photographic record was taken using digital photography (see Appendix 1). The digital photographs will be submitted to Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for long-term archive storage.

A site plan including all identified features, areas of excavation and other pertinent information was recorded by hand and will be accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to OD.

The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to Discovery & Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2) and the Archaeology Data Service OASIS database (headland1-344619).

The complete project archive will be deposited with HES within six months of the completion of the project. The records (paper and digital) will be archived according to best practice guidelines set out by the Archaeological Archiving Forum (2011).

7 RESULTS

The evaluation was undertaken on 4th March 2019 in dry and bright conditions.

Two trenches (Trench 1 and 2) were excavated to the west side of the existing property. Several factors limited the placement of the trenches; including the location of underground services cutting through the north-east side of the area. This

was concurrent with an area of stone flag paving immediately west of the property making this area unavailable for investigation. This paving was set 0.5m lower than the level of the surrounding garden and was also bounded by a stone wall (see Illus 2).

Both trenches were 6.5m long and 1m wide aligned east/west across an area of flower beds 3m from the rear of the property. These were both excavated to a maximum depth of 1.4m and presented similar results. In both cases the natural geology was not reached. This was due to both logistical and health and safety issues however, as the proposed maximum formation levels are 1.2m, we achieved a good understanding of the deposits likely to be impacted upon.

The stratigraphy in each trench was similar with 0.3m of garden soil overlying a mixed deposit of dark reddish-brown clayey sand with moderate to frequent angular stone inclusions plus occasional mortar, brick, tile and pottery fragments (Illus 5). The stone inclusions were predominately recorded closer to the base of the trenches and continued beyond the excavated depth. They were also generally more frequent and larger (up to 0.4m²) within Trench 2 (Illus 6).

The material in the trench was moderately loose with voids apparent between the stones at the base of the trench. It was estimated that these continued to a depth of at least 1.6m based on a measurement taken from within the voids, although the instability of the trench edge made excavating to this depth unsafe.

The brick, tile and pottery (not collected) was visible throughout the lower levels of the trench and was predominately 19th century in date (Illus 7).

8 DISCUSSION

The archaeological trial trenching identified that the whole area was overlain by a deep deposit of made ground, likely representing the remains of a demolished 19th century building. The 1893 Ordnance Survey map depicts two buildings close to the rear of the upstanding house. Both buildings no longer exist, and it seems likely that the deposits revealed in the trenches represents the remains of these buildings.

Given the depths of these deposits it is likely that any potential extant medieval remains associated

with the area would have been lost due to the 19th century activity. There is low potential for the survival of any in situ medieval remains.

Ordnance Survey 1853 Haddington Sheet 1
(1:1056)

<https://maps.nls.uk/view/74416004>

Ordnance Survey 1893 Sheet X6.9

<https://maps.nls.uk/view/74416013>

9 REFERENCES

Bibliographic references

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Watkinson, D & Neal, V 1998 First aid for finds: Practical Guide for Archaeologists (3rd revised edn) London

Cartographic references

Armstrong A 1773 Inset on Map of the Three Lothans (NE Section)
<https://maps.nls.uk/view/74400363>

Wood, J. 1819 Plan of Haddington and Nungate
<https://maps.nls.uk/view/74400034>

10 APPENDICES

10.1 Photographic Register

Photo	Facing	Description
SHEL-01	E	View of sunken slabbed area to south of the house
SHEL-02	SE	Pre-excavation view of site
SHEL-03	NE	Pre-excavation view of site
SHEL-04	E	West facing section of Trench 1 at the north end
SHEL-05	S	Working shot of trench excavation
SHEL-06	NE	General view of trench 1
SHEL-07	SW	General view of trench 1
SHEL-08	N	Post-excavation view of trench 1
SHEL-09	W	East facing section of trench 1
SHEL-10	E	West facing section of Trench 1 at the north end
SHEL-11	SE	Post-excavation view of trench 1
SHEL-12	N	Post-excavation view of trench 1
SHEL-13	S	Working shot of Trench 2 excavations
SHEL-14	E	West facing section of trench 2 at the north end
SHEL-15	S	Post-excavation view of trench 2
SHEL-16	N	Post excavation view of trench 2
SHEL-17	N	General view of trench 2
SHEL-18	E	West facing section of trench 2 at the south end
SHEL-19	NE	West facing section of trench 2 at the north end
SHEL-20	W	East facing section of trench 2 at the south end
SHEL-21	/	Detail of tile and pottery recovered from (002)
SHEL-22	/	Detail of tile and pottery recovered from (002)
SHEL-23	/	Detail of tile and pottery recovered from (002)
SHEL-24	S	Post-excavation view of trench 2
SHEL-25	N	Working shot of backfilling

10.2 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Report

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	15 Sidegate, Haddington, East Lothian
PROJECT CODE:	SHEL19
PARISH:	Haddington
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Donald Wilson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 5169 7372
START DATE (this season)	04/03/2019
END DATE (this season)	04/03/2019
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching prior to the construction of an extension to the rear of 15 Sidegate Haddington, East Lothian. The Site was within the medieval core of Haddington and the listed upstanding property dates to the late 18th century. The two trial trenches exposed rubble stone and 19th century building material to a depth of 1.4m. No other archaeological features or deposits were identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Lamotte
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	13 Jane Street, Edinburgh. EH6 5HE
EMAIL ADDRESS:	office@headlandarchaeology.com
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Historic Environment Scotland

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION

ILLUS 2 VIEW FACING SOUTH-WEST SHOWING THE PROPOSED EXTENSION AREA WITH THE REDUCED LEVEL STONE FLAG FLOOR IN THE FOREGROUND

ILLUS 3 EXTRACT FROM THE 1853 ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP

ILLUS 4 EXTRACT FROM THE 1893 ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP

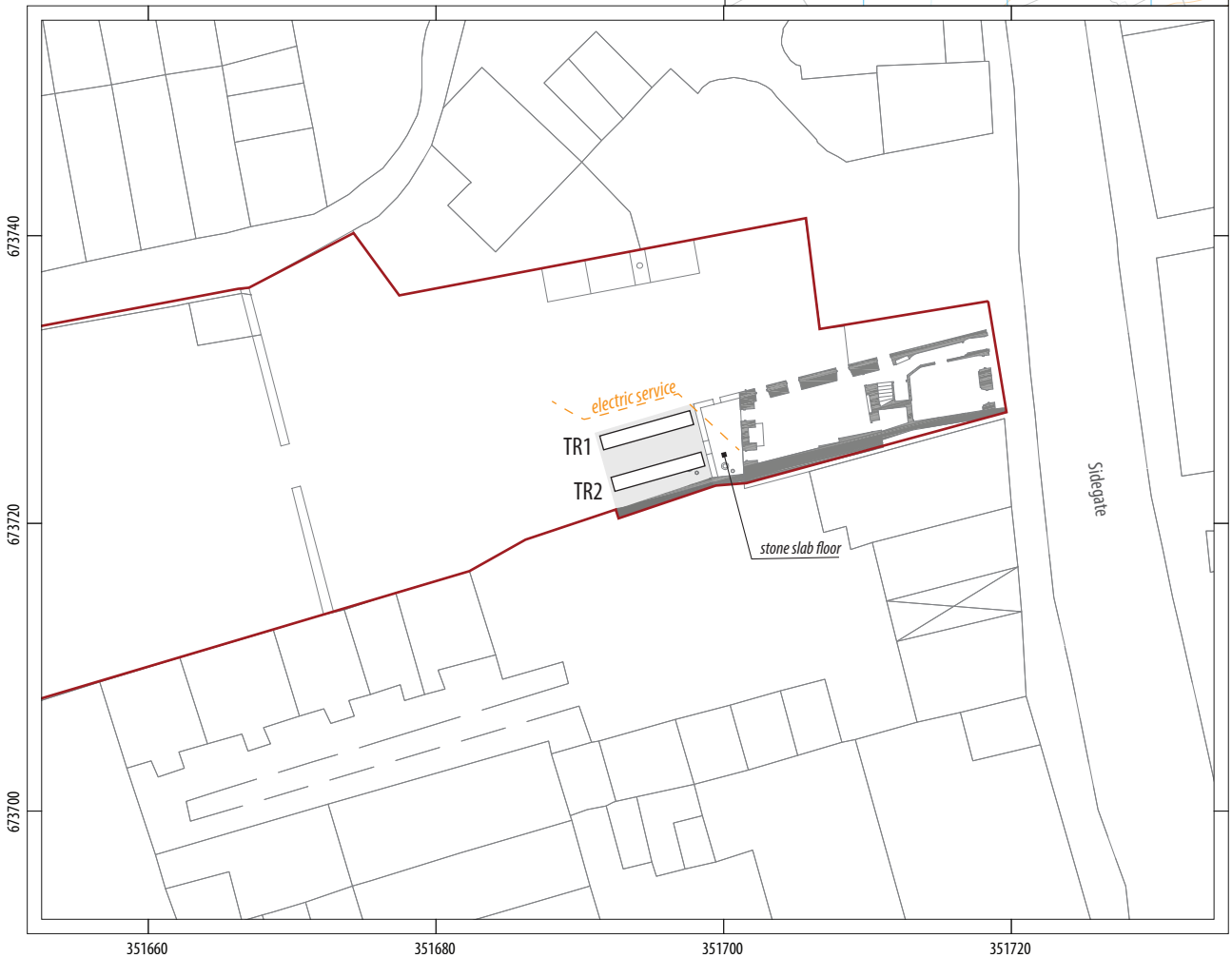
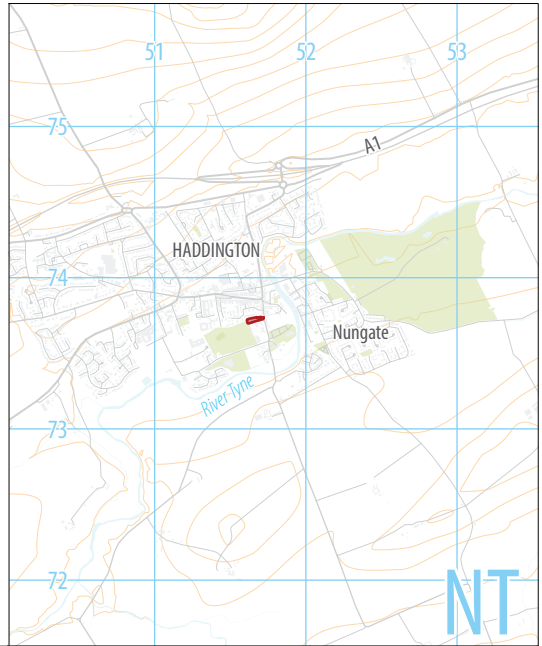
ILLUS 5 SOUTH FACING SECTION AT THE WEST END OF TRENCH 1

ILLUS 6 NORTH FACING SECTION AT THE WEST END OF TRENCH 2

ILLUS 7 DETAIL OF A SELECTION OF TILE AND POTTERY FRAGMENTS FOUND WITHIN TRENCH 2

Land at 15 Sidegate
Haddington
East Lothian

0 200km
1:12,500,000 @ A4



0 10m
1:500 @ A4

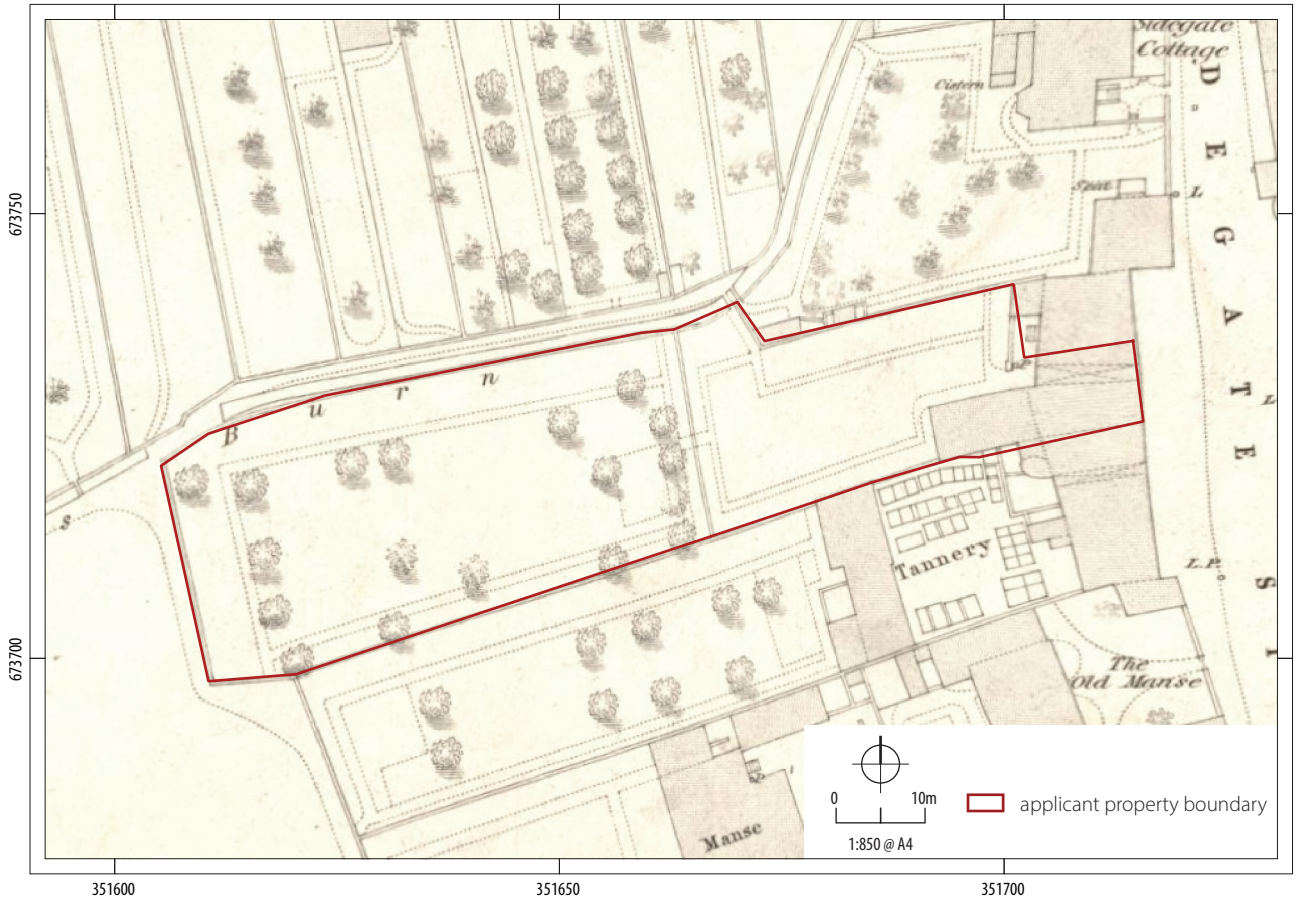
- applicant property boundary
- trench location
- proposed extension footprint

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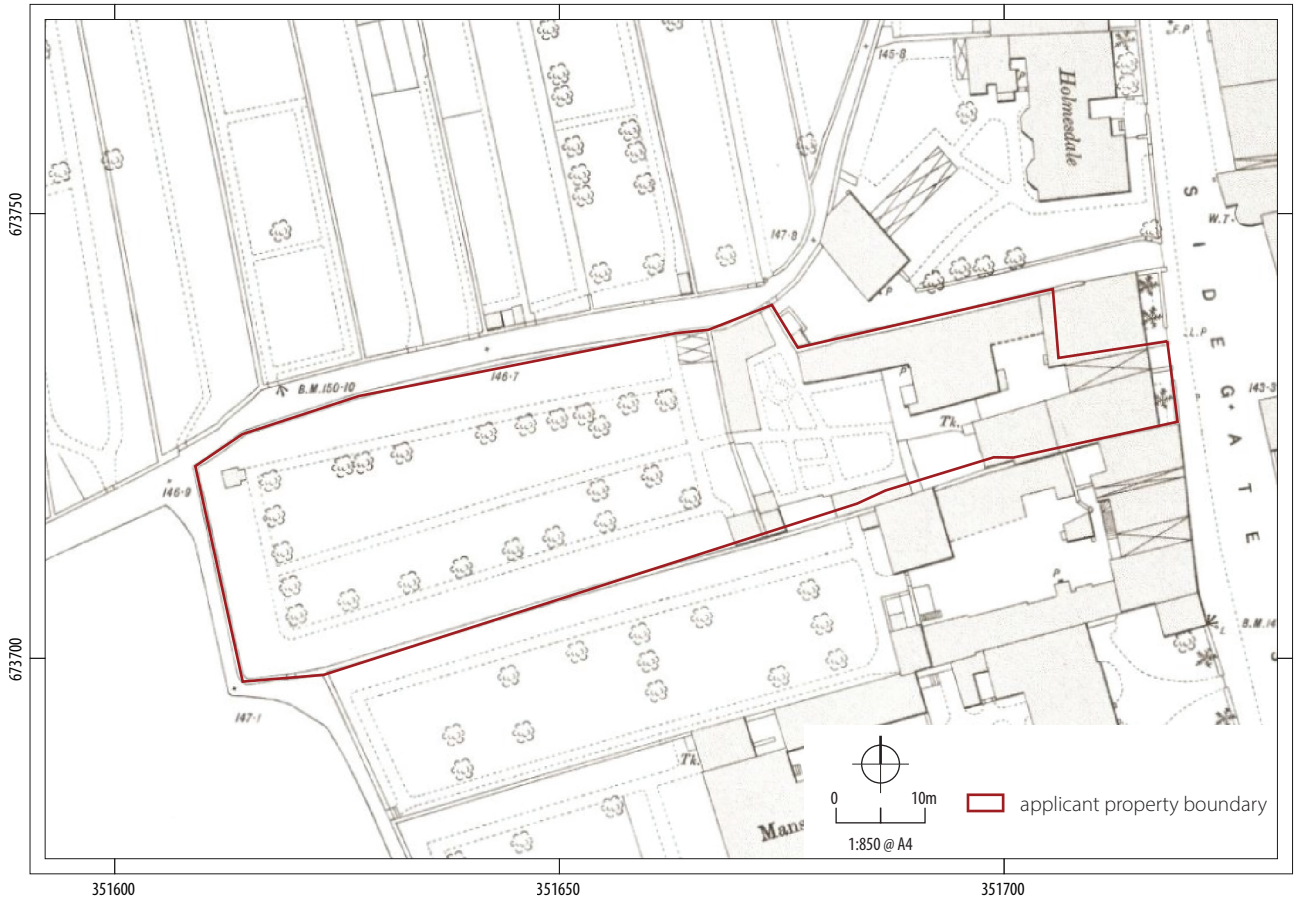
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ILLUS 2 View facing south-west showing the proposed extension area with the reduced level stone flag floor in the foreground



ILLUS 3 Extract from the 1853 Ordnance Survey map



ILLUS 4 Extract from the 1893 Ordnance Survey map



ILLUS 5 South facing section at the west end of Trench 1 **ILLUS 6** North facing section at the west end of Trench 2 **ILLUS 7** Detail of a selection of tile and pottery fragments found within Trench 2