

The Franciscan Friary Precinct Survey

Looking for the Lamp of Lothian



Sunday 4th September 2022



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The Franciscan Precinct Survey- Sunday 4th September 2022

Introduction

On 4th September 2022 members of the Edinburgh Archaeology Field Society, Addyman Archaeology and the Haddington's History Society joined forces to carry out several initial surveys on the grounds of the Holy Trinity Church in Haddington, East Lothian. The intention was to evaluate the potential for further intrusive surveys and to establish the location and layout of the Franciscan Chapel demolished during the Reformation in the middle of the 16th Century.

The History of The Franciscan Friary at Haddington – The Lamp of Lothian

The Franciscan Order of Friars came to Haddington in 1258 and was bequeathed the ground between Church Street to the Gowl Close and the River Tyne to the partly built upon land (the roods) between the Friary Wall and Hardgate (NT5181 7384).

The church was later dubbed the 'Lamp of Lothian' thought to be as a result of the continual burning of candles before the altar and the magnificence of the structure of the East Window.¹ The order and the buildings never fully recovered from the ravages of the siege finally being alienated to the magistrates in 1555 in order to gain the burgh's protection during the Reformation and over the course of the following years the buildings were systematically demolished.

According to Bryce (1909: 170) the layout of the buildings within the compound is not wholly conjectural. He relates that the church was orientated on the traditional east / west line with the great east window looking over an eastern courtyard towards the river. The nave was flanked by altars to St Francis, St Duthac, St John the Baptist and St Clement as well as possibly a fifth to the Blessed Virgin. Bryce suggests that the friar's 'cemetery' was on the west side and the remaining ground up to the boundary or 'Friars Wall' was taken up by a croft or western yard². The cloister yard sat on the north side and separated the ancillary buildings from the chapel. These buildings lay 3 roods off the 'freir kirk passand north containing the chalmers hall and the kitchen'. The friary 'Stank' (open drain) ran across the site initially forming the western boundary of the the East Yard and then 'boundis the eist freir yard to thair said commone at the north part thair of'. Bryce concludes that there was no wall on this part of the north wall until 1575. The remaining ground within the plot was taken up by the 'Convent' or 'Mekill' yard, the Warden Yard and the small 'Eister Yard'. In 1878, reporters in the East Lothian Courier stated that work on a drainage ditch uncovered remains of the building and what they thought to be the Franciscan's graveyard. A section of the Friary's East yard became the garden for Elm House, the 18th Century manse, now standing adjacent to the precinct wall. A possible front entrance to the Franciscan precinct was described in the accounts of 1540 as being in the west wall (Friars Wall) (Bryce 1909: 170). However, there is little indication in Moir

¹ Some scholars dispute this on the grounds that the Franciscans were not renowned for such displays of open decadence and in fact it was St Mary's with its fine 90ft tower that was the object of the description (Bryce 1909: 169)

² The presence of a cemetery has been lately disputed with the discovery of burials in the area of the manse being those friars buried under the chapel and knave of the friary.

Bryce's account as to the size and precise location of these features in the modern landscape which would help archaeologist identify a suitable spot to excavate some trial trenches.

The Likely Layout of the Franciscan Buildings

This apparent lack of detail as the exact location of the Friary buildings and boundaries may however be mitigated by the fact that Franciscans built their friaries to a specific pattern with minimal variations incorporated to allow for local conditions. The SHRG team therefore looked for contemporary sites in Scotland and Ireland.



Figure 1 - A reconstruction of the Cork Dominican Friary provides an indication of the layout and floor plan of the Franciscan equivalent in Haddington



Figure 2 - The Franciscan Friary at Ennis in Ireland shows a 'Great East Window' which may have been similar to the design at Haddington, and which gave the building the title of the 'Lamp of Lothian'

The Desk Based Assessment - The Division of the Precinct

The SHRG have undertaken a desk based assessment of the precinct layout referring to the Burgh records held in the National Library of Scotland and the archives of the John Grey Centre in Haddington. Particular emphasis was placed on the burgh rental records and protocol books that define the location of plots of land and identify their owners. When this information is overlaid on the earliest OS map of the area it becomes clear as to which parcels of land were being allocated to which individual.

It appears after the siege and the Reformation the land was divided up between various towns people. With the demise of the Franciscan Order in Haddington, the burgesses were concerned that their land was being sold off without much due care and attention. In November 1572 the burgh council took it upon themselves to organise the division of the land around the abandoned friary. They first ordained that until further notice those persons who had already been given land in the area or who had been promised land were neither to sell or extend their plots. They then reallocated the land and began the dismantling of the remaining ruins.

This concerted re-allocation of lands is captured in the various entries in the protocol books and burgh rentals and it has been possible to reconstruct the process across the site.

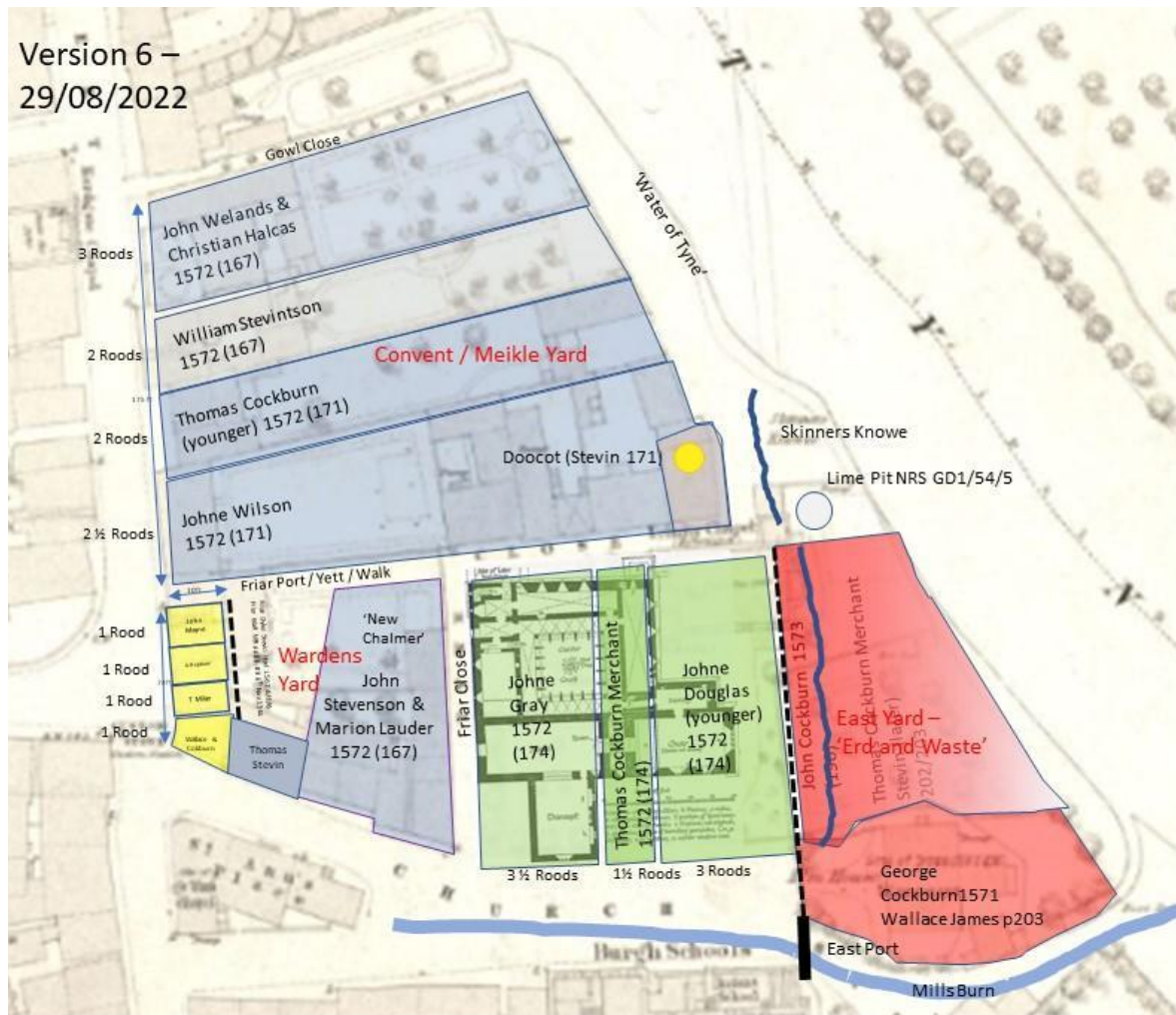


Figure 3- The allocation of Friary Precinct lands at the end of the 16thC

Although the SHRG researchers still have some queries as to the ownership and transfer of lands to the east of the precinct the names of the owners to the north of Church Street seem to be accurate. Further reviews of Burgh records then identify commentaries referring to the problems of clearing the land and controlling access and in raising the concerns with the council, the claimants make reference to the ruins of certain ecclesiastical buildings in their plots.

For example, in June 1573 the Burgh ordain that **John Gray** is to be given:

'3 rudes of the Freir Kirk passand north and containing the Chalmer Hall and Kitchen.'
 (Wallace James notes NRS GD1/413/3, HCB had/2/1/2/1, pp235-237)

Later in June 1573 it is noted that:

'John Mayne to flit and remove himself, his servants and goods, from the Chalmer volt and Cloister yard within the place sometime called the Freirs and now belonging to John Gray.'
(Wallace James)

These statements not only identify the location of the buildings as being on John Gray's land but also that there were parts of the building still standing in 1573.

It is therefore possible to identify the likely location of certain buildings in certain plots and combining this with the predictable layout of Franciscan Friaries it is possible to identify the most likely location and orientation of the Franciscan buildings within the precinct.



However, it must be noted that this theory is based upon several assumptions of which the most presumptuous is that the layout of the precinct is similar, if not identical, to those in Ireland and England. This may not be the case and only archaeological survey could determine the exact location of the buildings in this landscape.

The Friary Bastion

Previous work by SHRG into the chronology of the siege has created catalogue of references that mention the role played by the Friary precinct. The precinct became an integral part of the English fortifications in 1548. Brende's letter to Palmer dated 20th June (COSP Scot 253: 123) states that

'they [the garrison] have made 'vamures' round about, cleared their dykes and closed in the Friars'.

The construction is described as one of the four bastions by Methven and as such probably housed English guns. As a result of its fortification the enclosure took some of the heaviest bombardment

Methven writing to the Queen Dowager on 5th July 1548 states that

'the bastalze at the Frier Kirk all broken except a litill part to the west'

Later he claims that:

all niycht continwall carmosche fra the sun past till this day at iii in the morning with hackbuttis and all nycht all our greit artallzery lawborit and has dong the tolbutht and rest an pece that lay betuixt it and the kirk of the freyris.

(Cameron 1927 CLXXVI: 249)

Later in October 1548 the Franciscan quarter, St Katherine's Precinct and the East Port become the scene for the tragic 'camisade' undertaken to rest the town from the English before the winter set in.

John Knox among others described the incident vividly in his 'History of the Reformation'

The soldiers, Englishmen, were all asleep, except the watch which was slender. The shout arises 'bows and bills! Bows and Bills' which is as signification of extreme defence, to avoid present danger, in all times of war. They afraid, arise: weapons that first come to hand serve the need. One amongst many came to the East Port where lay two great pieces of ordnance, and where the enemy were known to be, and cried to his fellows that were at the yet making the defence. "Ware Before" and so fires a great piece, and thereafter another which God so conducted, that after them was no farther pursuit made. The bullets redounded from the wall of the Friar's Kirk to the wall of St Katherine's Chapel, which stood direct foreanent³ it and from the wall of the said chapel to the said Kirk wall again, so oft that there fell more than 100 of the French at those two shots only. They shot oft but the French retired with diligence and returned to Edinburgh without harm done, except the destruction of some drinking – beer which lay in the Chapel and the Kirk. This was satisfaction more than enough for the slaughter of the said Captain and Provost and such as were slain with him. This was the beginning of the French fruits. (Knox 1898 p 92)

It is therefore essential to understand the layout of the Franciscan precinct before the siege in order to assess the building work required to change this precinct into a bastion in 1548

³ prep. Over against, opposite to. Cf. [FORNENT](#) prep.

and draw any conclusion as to the nature and extent of any conflict archaeology that may remain on site today.

The Surveys

The Geophysical Survey

The survey was conducted using the TR/CIA Resistance meter in twin probe mode with 1 metre readings. Conditions were not ideal due to residual dryness from the recent heatwave and the nature of the area surveyed, being a mixture of grass lawns and gravel driveways. However, some insubstantial higher resistance anomalies were noted. The full survey diagram is shown at Appendix 1.



Figure 4 - The manse garden looking south towards Church Street which was the subject of the first geophysical survey proved to have the most enigmatic imagery.

The survey images suggested the presence of subsurface structures but failed to clearly locate any single ecclesiastical building.

The Manse Garden area provided the most encouraging information apparently defining the footings of a rectangular building orientated on an East West access. The driveway area proved to be too compact and dry to provide any information as to what lies under it. The results at the East end of the church did reveal several interesting returns that would benefit from a further investigation but

as this was confined to such a small area remote from the other sites it is difficult to assess how the features relate to those in the other areas.

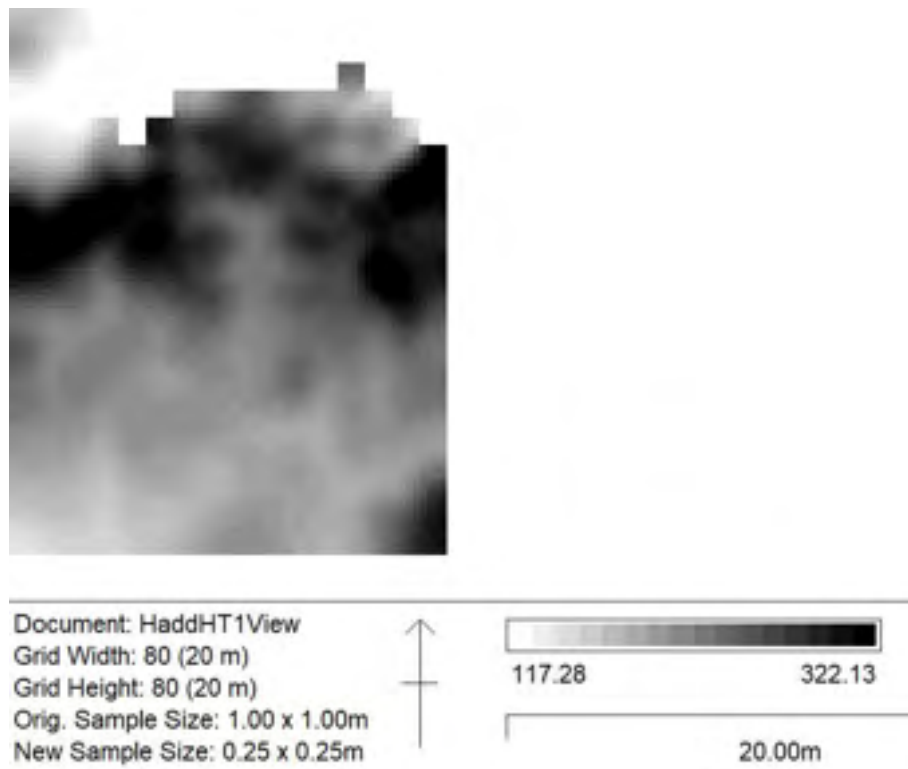


Figure 5 - The unrefined resistivity survey image of Area 1 the Manse garden (Courtesy of EAFS)

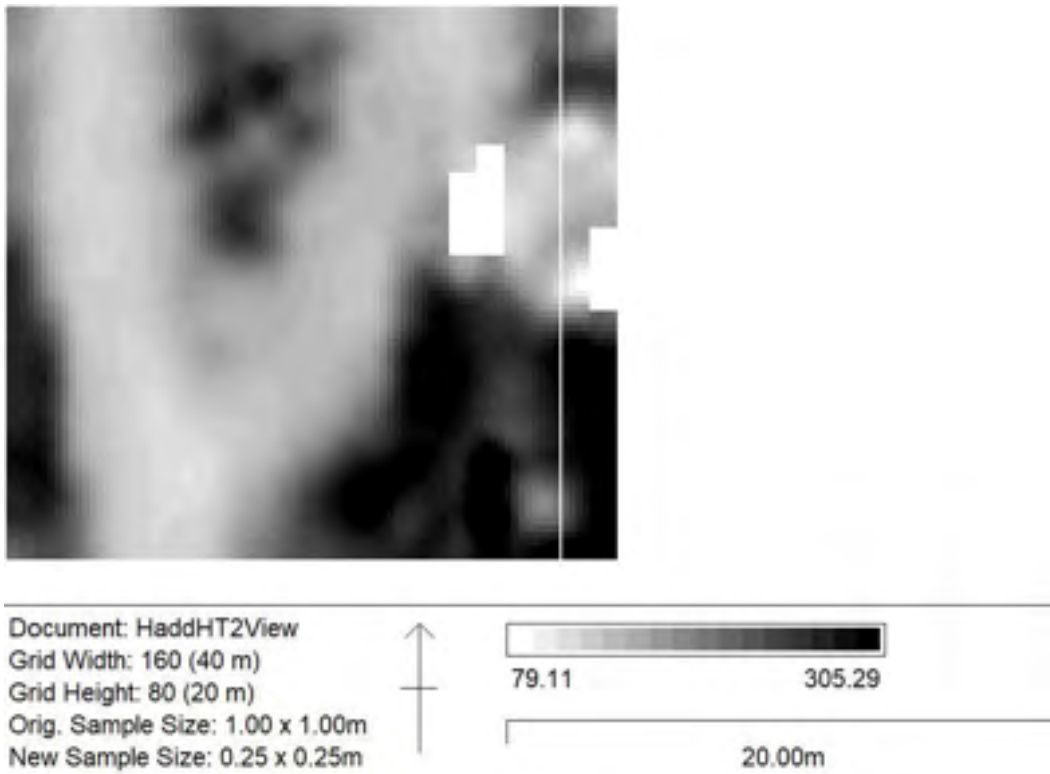


Figure 6 - The unrefined resistivity survey results for area 2 - the Driveway

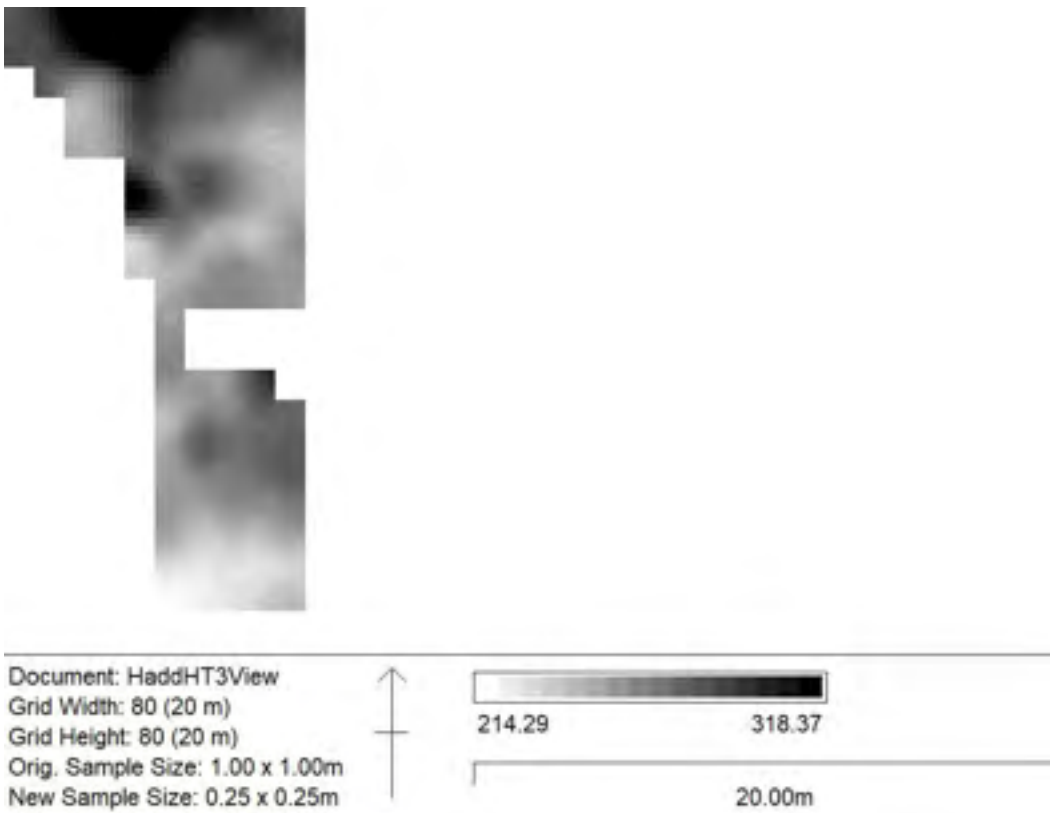


Figure 7 - The unrefined resistivity survey results for area 3 - The East side of Episcopal Chapel.

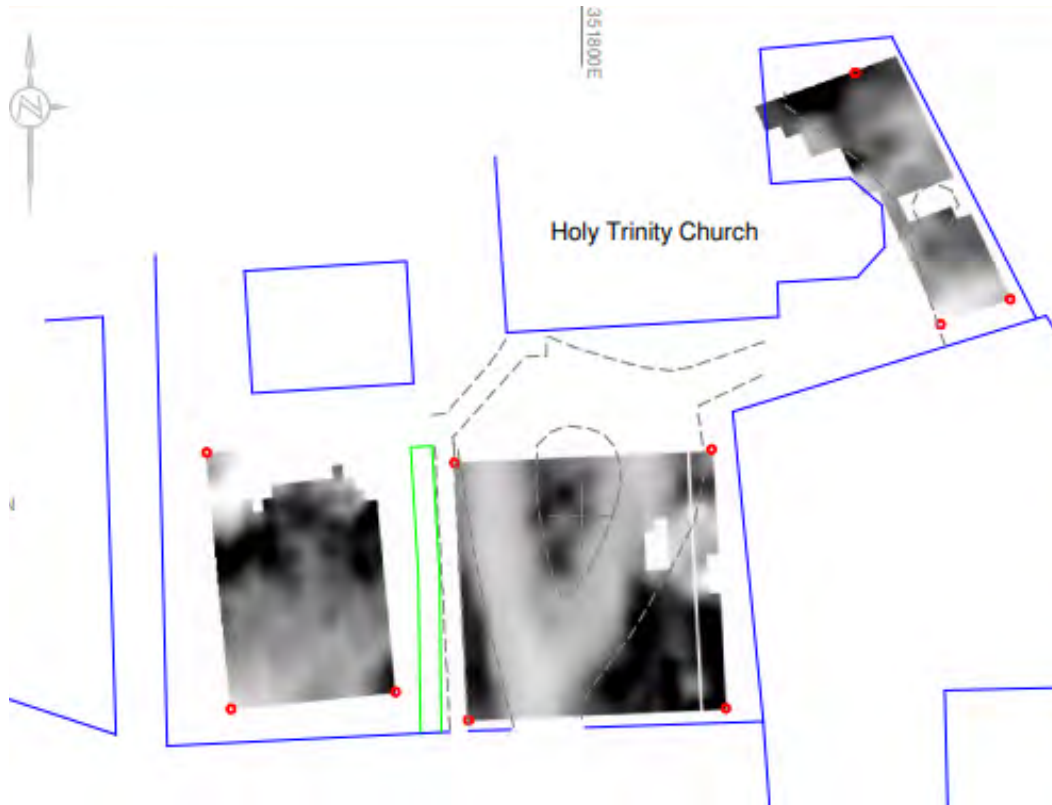


Figure 8 - The survey plan of the site showing the location of the survey areas



Figure 9 - The Manse Garden geophysical survey image located on the 1893 OS map – This image suggests that there are features to be investigated underneath the lawn of the manse. They appear to be orientated on an East / West plan well south of the new manse house.

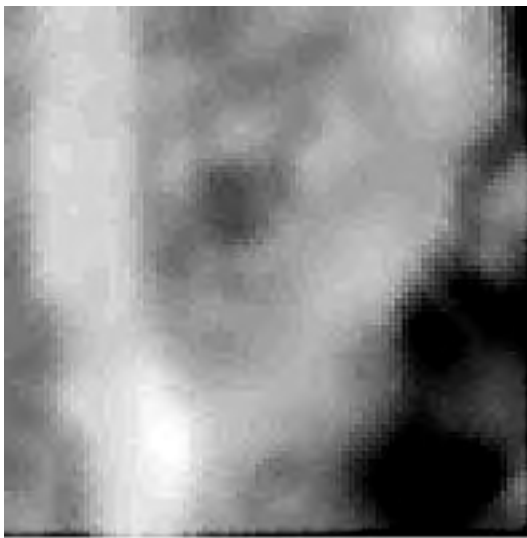
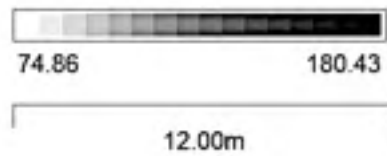
As the consensus on the results of the first Geophysical survey was that it could have been better had it not been for the preceding weeks of hot weather and drought, it was decided to return to the site later in the year after a wetter period. This transpired to be on Friday 21st September when Jon Cooper and Neil Simpson from EAFS returned to undertake a second resistivity survey and a magnetometer survey.

This time around it had been raining for many days before hand and the ground was much wetter than on the previous occasion. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of the team, the magnetometer refused to pass the calibration stage and no further readings could be taken. Readings were consistently outwith the limits. It was speculated, with perhaps a degree of humour, that this was due to the uncommon amount of lead, be it roof lining or lead piping, in the area, something which had been noted in the metal detecting finds.

However, the resistivity survey was completed without any other issues and the results were compared to the original survey.



Document: 20View2
Grid Width: 48 (12 m)
Grid Height: 80 (20 m)
Orig. Sample Size: 1.00 x 1.00m
New Sample Size: 0.25 x 0.25m



Document: 19View4
Grid Width: 80 (20 m)
Grid Height: 80 (20 m)
Orig. Sample Size: 1.00 x 1.00m
New Sample Size: 0.25 x 0.25m

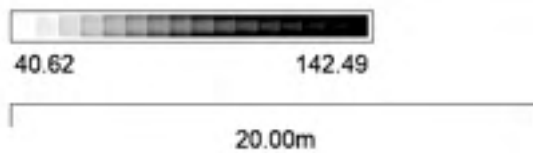


Figure 10 - The results of the second geophysical survey data carried out on 21/10/2022

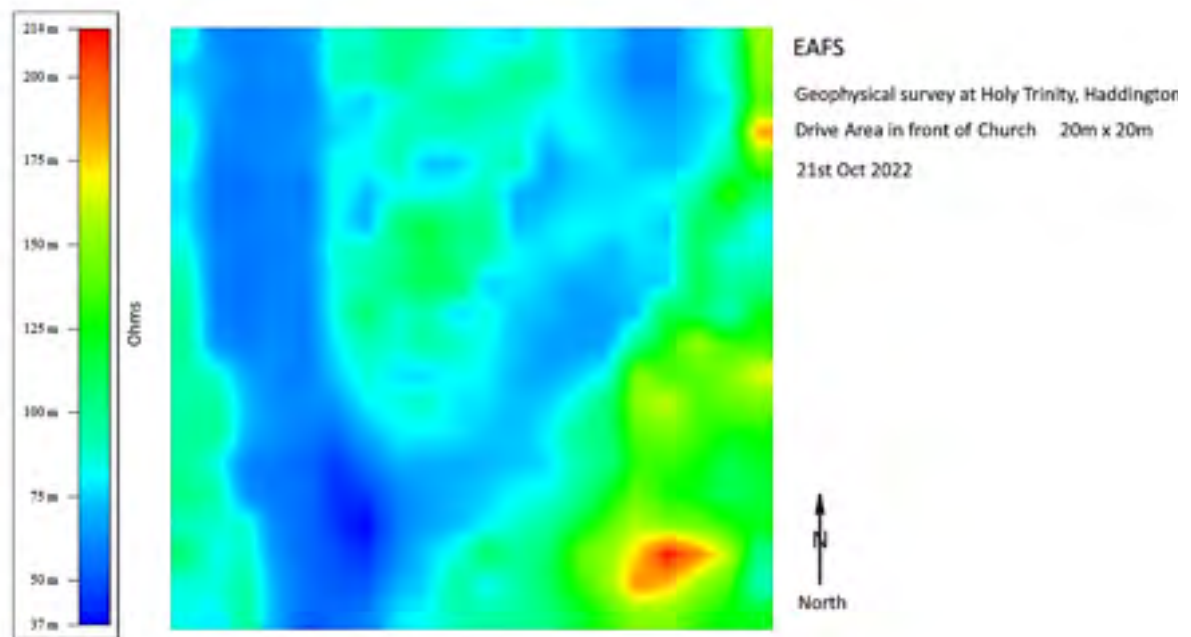
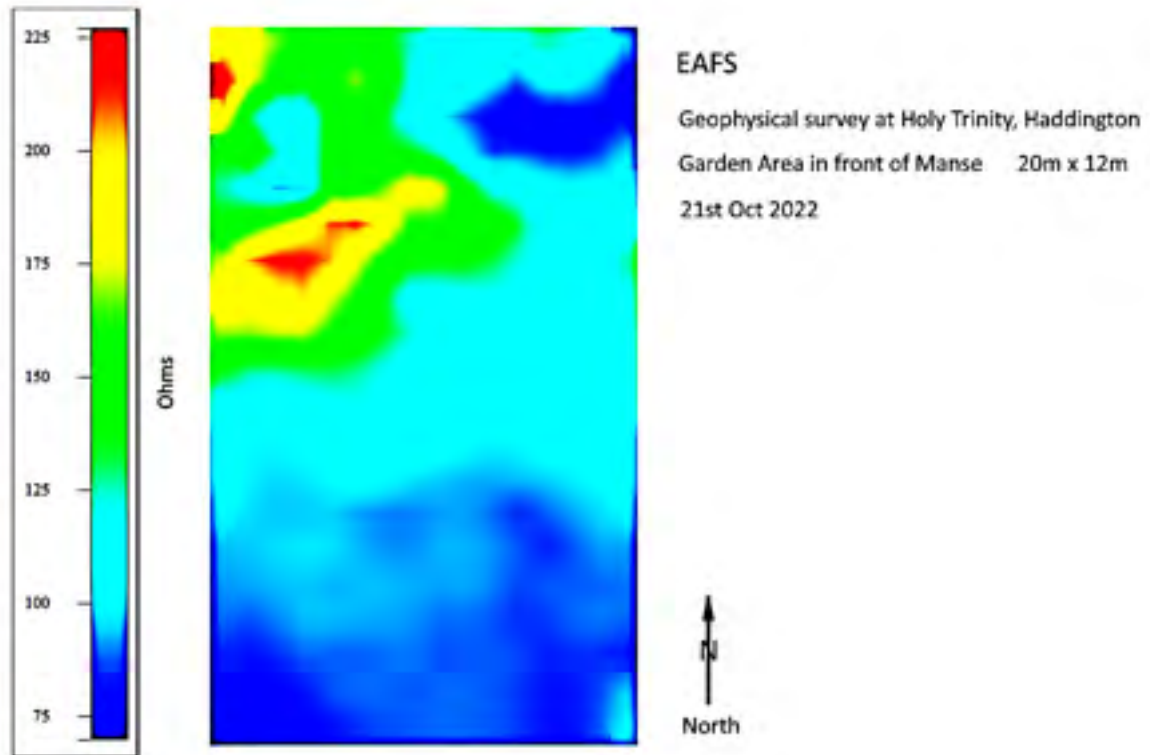


Figure 11 - The second geophysical survey data processed through the Snuffler software.

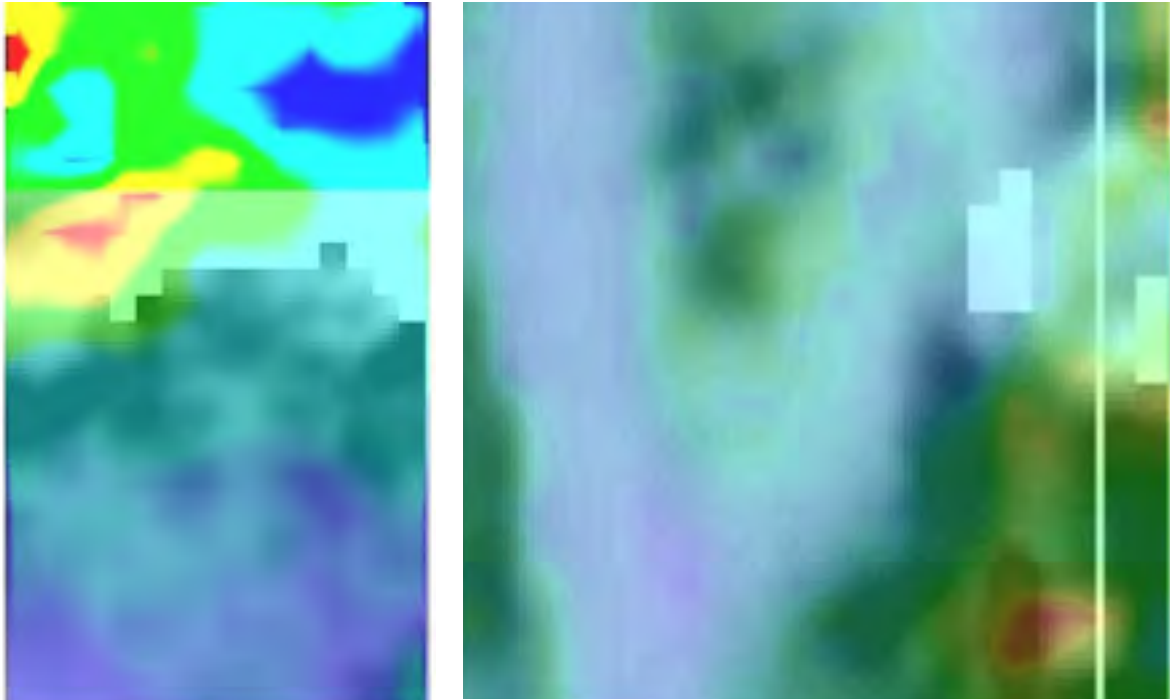


Figure 12- Images of survey areas 1 (garden) and 2 (driveway) from both surveys overlaid at 50% transparency

Conclusion

The results of the geophysics remain inconclusive. Although there are clearly features to be found under both the driveway and the manse garden it is unclear as to what they could be. However, should the desk-based analysis be believed then there is every reason to believe that some or all these features are associated with the remains of the Franciscan Friary.

Overlaying the image of Muckross Abbey onto the geophysical surveys suggests that the features under the manse garden could be the remains of the transept with the knave to the north in the area of the driveway just in front of the Manse house.

The next step therefore would be to excavate some test pits in the manse garden area at the most likely location of significant and definite features of a Franciscan chapel complex.

The Metal Detecting Survey

It was never the intention to carry out a full metal detecting survey of the grounds in such a brief time on site. The idea was to carry out a prospecting survey to sample the typology of artefacts being found under the grassed and garden areas of the precinct. As work began early on the geophysical survey of the manse garden there was an opportunity to metal detect on the embankment adjacent to the southeast corner of the precinct. However, the number of hits meant that this work took all day to complete with the final items being catalogued and recovered as the Geophysics team worked around the detectorists. Fortunately, there was an opportunity to detect the manse garden area a few weeks later. The results of both surveys are discussed below.



Figure 13 – An aerial view of the driveway to the Episcopal church. The shaded area shows the garden that was subject of the metal detector survey.

The Equipment and Methodology

A White's Prizm Mk II was used for the metal detector survey. It was set to maximum sensitivity, but the discrimination function was set to include ferrous materials and smaller non-ferrous items. Depth indicator was checked against the first isolated finds but the concentration of hits in amongst the building material meant that the depth readings became superfluous. Large ferrous items lying deeper in the earth tended to return a cluster of 'non-ferrous' readings or masked the returns from smaller non-ferrous material on the surface. This meant that several sweeps of the more densely populated areas were undertaken to ensure as many of the artefacts as possible were recovered.



Figure 14 - Each item was carefully excavated to ensure there would be little damage to the turfed area.

Good use was made of a handheld pinpointer; a Garrett Pro-pointer. As many of the artefacts were found to be on or very near the surface and in very close proximity the excavators found it easier to follow the signals given on the handheld pinpointer rather than using the larger and bulkier Prizm Mk II.

As there proved to be a good number of potential hits, a grid was laid out extending along the length of the east wall with distances taken off the to the west. The following items were recovered:

Item Number	Distance along wall	Distance off wall	Description
001	9.22	2.31	Coin
002	10.5	0.17	Coin
003	7.04	8.06	Brass Fitting
004	7.10	1.36	Ceramic Item
005	5.56	4.28	Lead Strip
006	5.30	4.69	Pulley
007	5.00	5.65	Lead
008	4.70	8.11	Pottery and Nail
009	3.80	5.15	Lead Strip
010	3.80	4.87	Plastic and Foil
011	2.25	11.33	Coin – George III penny
012	1.00	5.55	Lead & Glass
013	1.00	6.20	Lead Strip
014	1.00	2.00	2 metallic pieces
015	0.30	11.10	Lead Strip

Items of Interest

Melted Lead (Item 007)

One piece of melted lead was recovered from the site (Item 007). Although the Franciscan buildings had been burnt on several occasions in the medieval period it was thought this was a more modern deposit.



Figure 15 - Item 007, the piece of molten metal.

Lead Strips

Six lead items were found during the survey. These were thought to be scraps off the roof lining of the new church.



Figure 16 - Pieces of Lead (Item 005 left and Item 015 right) appear to be waste from the lining of the Church roof.

Coins

Three coins were recovered during the survey: a ½ p dated 1971, a 2p piece also dated 1971 and an 1807 George III Penny.



Figure 17 - Item 011 - George III Penny

Brass Fittings

Two brass fittings were found: a pulley wheel possibly from a curtain fitting and a hose attachment. Neither of the items could be dated.



Figure 18 - Brass fittings - a pulley wheel and a hose attachment

Non Metallic finds

Ceramics were also recovered from the excavations during the metal detecting survey. It appeared that the area had been used as a dumping ground during a period of reconstruction. It was noted that there were a number of large lead deposits in the area which were not excavated.



Figure 19- One large lead piece was identified but not excavated as it was thought to relate to a possible burial or lead pipework.



Figure 20 - Item 004a and b -Two pieces of ceramics were recovered from the same location. They were thought to be a piece of pipework and mortar and tile.

The Manse Garden Metal Detector Survey

A second opportunity arose to return to the manse on 23rd September to carry out a further survey of the front garden. Two transects were laid out across the garden to sample the area. A preliminary survey was also carried out on the ground to the east of the Holy Trinity church.



Figure 21 - T1 (top) and T2 (bottom) on the Manse Garden

Distances were measured from the south boundary of the lawned area of the garden and either left or right of the centre line of the transect marked by a tape and post.

The following items were recovered:

Transect Number	Item Number	Distance up	Distance left and right	Item Description	Notes
001	001	0.92	0.39l	2p piece	
001	002	1.39	1.50l	SEGA Token	1980's
001	003	4.91	1.52r	Three pence piece	1944

001	004	8.05	0.16l	2p piece	
001	005	9.91	1.16r	Penny	1913
001	006	10.68	0.12l	Metal washer	55cm dia
001	007	11.42	0.29l	1/2 Penny	1792 Irish
001	008	11.85	0.12l	Pin	
001	009	12.10	0.75l	20p piece	
001	010	12.23	0.49l	£1 Coin	
001	011	12.87	0.53l	2p piece	
001	012	13.25	0.30l	Nail	
001	013	13.19	0.20r	Hook & Handle	
002	001	0.15	0.70r	2p piece	
002	002	2.61	0.49l	George VI Coin	1944
002	003	2.72	1.44r	1p coin	
002	004	3.90	0.31r	5p Coin	
002	005	5.70	1.50l	Ring	
002	006	6.07	0.69r	1p piece	
002	007	6.52	0.36l	Metal square plate	
002	008	7.00	0.66r	2 x 1p pieces	
002	009	7.30	0.00	Round Brass plate	Backplate of a time piece
002	010	7.80	0.90r	1p piece	
002	011	11.30	1.20r	Tin Can	Golf hole liner
002	012	11.30	1.20r	Coin	
002	013	11.30	1.20r	Decorative thin metal	Furniture plate
002	014	13.30	0.21r	Metal strip	
002	015	13.47	1.10l	Penny Coin	Irish 1935

Interesting artefacts – Manse Garden

Irish Coins

Two Irish coins were found onsite. The first was an unusual well- worn coin of 26mm dia. After careful cleaning it was revealed to be an Irish ½ penny dated 1794. Remarkably the obverse image is of William Shakespeare.



Figure 22- The late 18th Century Irish coin depicting the head of William Shakespeare. The lower image shows a better example for comparison.

This item however is not a coin per se but, a provincial token or 'Conder' tokens.⁴

Conder Tokens are a form of privately minted token coinage struck and used during the latter part of the 18th century and the early part of the 19th century in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

⁴ Conder tokens are named after a renown and numismatist and cataloguer, James Conder (1761–1823). He became interested in coins after discovering an ancient hoard ten feet under his doorstep when his house was demolished.

The driving force behind the need for token coinage was the shortage of small denomination coins for everyday transactions. However, the demand was fuelled by other factors such as the Industrial Revolution, population growth, and the preponderance of counterfeit circulating coins. Because the government made little effort to ameliorate this shortage, private business owners and merchants took matters into their own hands, and the first tokens of this type were issued in 1787 to pay workers at the Parys Mine Company. By 1795, millions of tokens of a few thousand varying designs had been struck and were in common use throughout Great Britain. (Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conder_token).

The second Irish coin to be found was a more recent example of a 1d Coin dated 1938



Figure 23 - A 1 Penny Irish coin dated 1938

There was also a selection of 20thC British coins including a 1912 1 penny, a 1942 threepenny bit and a 1944 halfpenny.

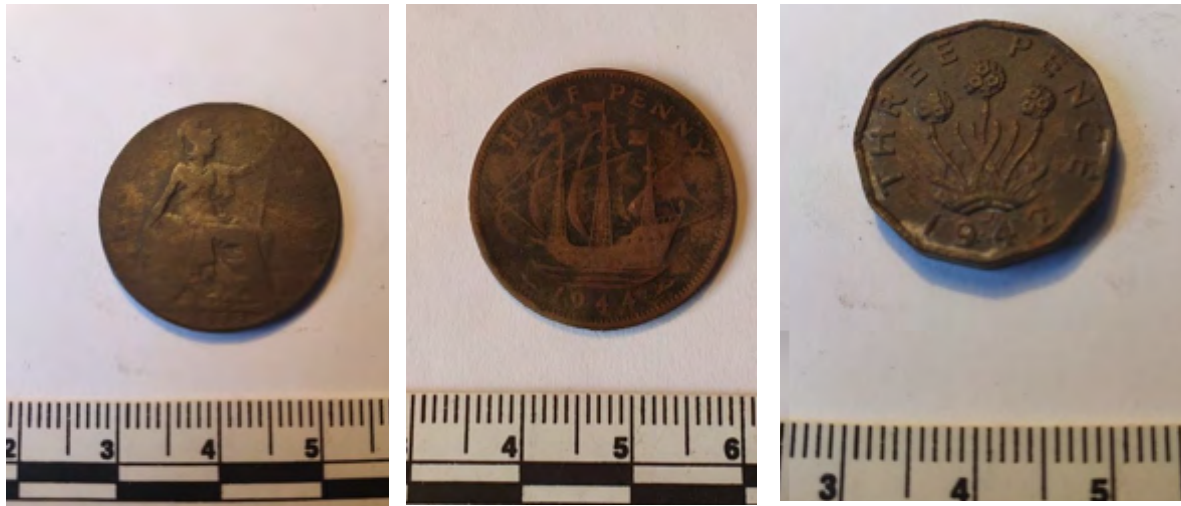


Figure 24 – Three of the early 20th Century coins found during the metal detecting survey.

It was speculated that high percentage of coins recovered was indicative of the space being used for summer fetes and fund-raising events. Why particularly old Irish coins should be found in the small sample recovered remains a mystery.

The Seal Matrix

The most enigmatic artefact recovered was what appeared to be a seal matrix. The metal item is 20mm high from the round base to the top of the ring. The ring has an outer diameter of 15mm and an inner diameter of 10mm – possibly too small to use as a ring stamp. The head of the stamp is 16mm in diameter. It was found on the surface without the aid of the detector at the edge of the garden adjacent to the north boundary wall of the garden.



Figure 25 - The 'Stamp' was found in the garden in the East end of the Church (T3)

The stamp appears to show a tree bearing fruit or nuts hanging from the boughs. There is a distinct dark area halfway down the tree trunk. Lettering over the tree around the rim of the stamp is indistinct but an 'h', 'r' and possibly a 'o' is discernible.



Figure 26 - A close up of the stamp showing the possible lettering 'HRO, the hanging fruit or nuts and the dark area through the trunk of the tree and what could be a frame saw.

The nearest equivalent image is that of the badge of the Hamilton family.

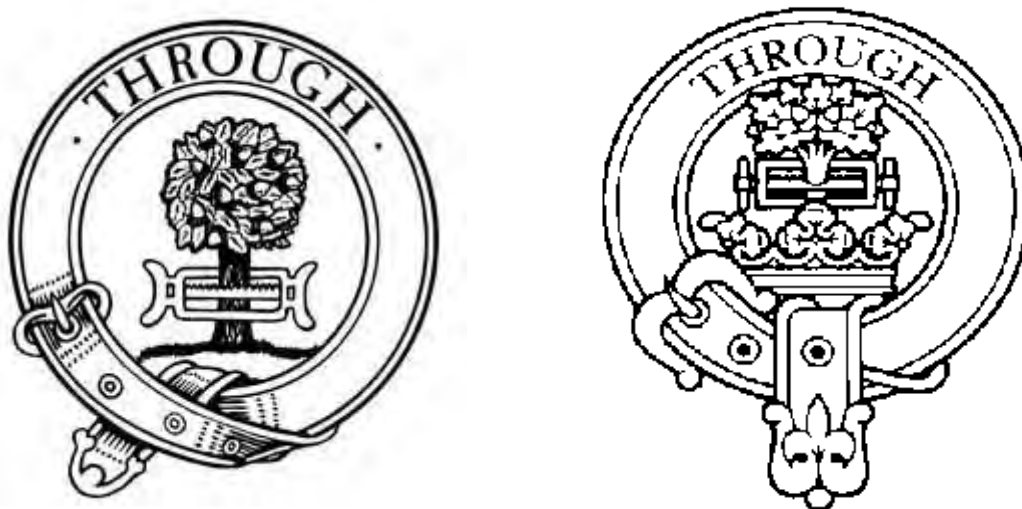


Figure 27 - Two depictions of the Hamilton Family Badge - the later version shows the added coronet which is not present on the stamp

A ducal coronet appears on later imagery and is thought to have been added in the early when the James Hamilton the 2nd Earl of Arran became the Duke of Châtellerauld in 1549.

Small stamps like these were carried of the belt straps to be used to add wax seals to official documents. This not only identified the sender but also the integrity of the sealed message. As this seal does not bear the coat of arms of the Hamiltons but the family crest then it could be assumed it was used for less formal duties not associated with the duke.

The Wall Survey

In 2018 the Siege of Haddington Research Group set about investigating an alternative theory to the location of the English fortifications. They concurred that it would seem likely that, at the time of the building of the town wall in 1590's, the most logical place to construct the boundary would be along the lines of the pre-siege Burgh boundaries which in turn may have also been the chosen location for the outer works of the fortification.

For example, according to the local historian Martine, there once existed a series of 'double dykes' that extended along what is now Victoria Street. Martine suggests that these features were in some way related to the ditches and embankment constructed to defend the Westport of the town. Certain historians have subsequently suggested that the line of the later town wall went along this same road. Whether this is by coincidence or design is not stated.

This would in theory make perfectly good sense as by the time of the siege the boundaries marked out by the 'head rooms' at the end of the riggs had not only been strengthened by constructing walls fences and ditches, but the land beyond was primarily agricultural and free of construction thereby providing ideal fields of fire for the artillery. It would have been a natural decision to build the new fortifications along this pre-existing clearly defined boundary.

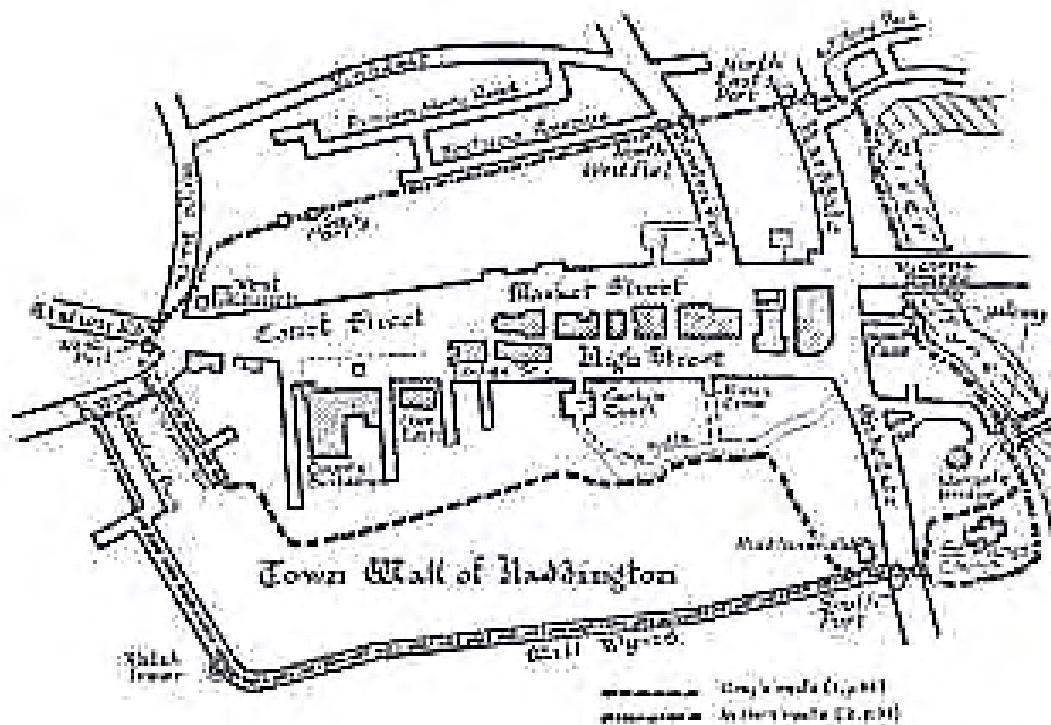


Figure 28 - Two theories as to the line of the town wall according to Forbes- Gray and Miller in the Lamp of Lothian

Subsequently when the borough decided to build a town wall some fifty years after the siege, they also would take advantage of the existing boundary, which was by then defined by the abandoned line of filled in ditches and levelled embankments created at the time of the destruction of the 'Trace Italienne' fortress in 1549.

This theory is best demonstrated in the incorporation of the Franciscan Friary precinct into what became known by the Scots as the 'Franciscan Bastion'. The English instead of flattening this important location and building a brand-new line of ditches and embankments decided instead to 'mure' up the existing walls and create gun platforms within the defined precinct area. As this boundary lies very close to the River Tyne, it was an obvious choice on which to build the later town wall again helped by incorporating the existing precinct wall structure. It is therefore possible that there remains in the stonework clues as to the relationship between the old walls the fortified area and the subsequent town wall which could provide indicator as to a similar process being adopted along other lengths of the wall.

Likewise, the burgh authorities after the siege believed it necessary to enclose areas of the town which were known to be out with the line of the English fortifications. It is possible that the construction of this section of the wall is different to that constructed upon the old defences. These variances may then be an indicator to the history of other sections of the wall where the course of the construction is less well known.

The purpose of this survey was not only to identify the path of the original town wall but also determine its relationship with the remains of the fortifications and pre-existing boundaries. Tom Addyman from Addyman Archaeology took the opportunity of joining the survey teams at the church to carry out a preliminary view of this proposed work so as to develop a methodology for the more extensive survey still to be sanctioned and funded.

Methodology

Tom Addyman and Tim Holden undertook a preliminary survey of critical sections of the Franciscan precinct wall. As the intention of any full survey is to create a virtual reconstruction of the significant wall areas and analysis identify the process of construction and repair throughout the lifetime of the wall it was necessary to determine the accessibility and amount of wall that would need to be surveyed.

The team viewed the walls, taking photographs of the more revealing sections and noting differences in the layers of brickwork. Particular attention was paid to the where the walls butted up against other walls, thereby revealing which wall came first.



Figure 29 - By studying the layering of the stonework in various sections of the wall it should be possible to work out the history of each wall section.

It was clear the walls around the precinct had been reconstructed and repaired many times with the stones being reused from other buildings. In particular, the team found individual pieces of stonework which were highly worked, some engraved.



Figure 30- This piece of stonework had been added to the west wall of the precinct. It appears to contain a slot for a pane of glass and distinct carvings on the window frame.



Figure 31 - A sample of carved stonework incorporated into the wall structure. Here what appears to be a carved rose can be found in the north wall of the friary precinct along Tyne Close.

Of particular interest were two pieces of stone found in the grounds of the manse that appeared to be lintels to windows or doorways and predating the current buildings on the site. Nothing was known as to how the two pieces had arrived in this location however it was assumed that they belonged to the old Friary.



Figure 32 - The two lintels spotted in the grounds of the manse during the surveying of the manse garden.



Figure 33 – Whereas shot holes are easily found on the buttresses the Nungate Bridge (right) finding similar evidence of war damage in the Friary precinct wall is difficult to spot as much of the stonework has been covered over with mortar or replaced. Here potential shot hole has been found in the south wall of the precinct, an area which witnessed heavy fighting on 10th Oct 1548

As this visit was a proof of concept for future work there were no conclusions drawn from these preliminary observations.

Conclusions

These surveys were carried out as part of the East Lothian Archaeology & Heritage Fortnight for 2022. As such it was considered a great success with over 100 visitors and team members visiting the survey site through the course of the day. In addition, a presentation of the findings a week later brokered more interest into the 16thC history of the town. The survey is part of a wider initiative to research the siege running under the Haddington's History Society to promote the rich heritage of Haddington throughout the community. This includes but not limited to the history of the siege.

In addition, the interest created in the surveys has promoted further investigations into the Franciscans in Haddington and the location of the fabled 'Lamp of Lothian'. Despite the apparent lack of substantive evidence of the whereabouts of the old friary there was enough tantalising leads to warrant and inspire the next round of new surveys. The fact that the most enigmatic of the finds, the Hamilton stamp matrix, was found on the surface with no recourse to digging or surveying has left the heritage and archaeology teams full of confidence that there will be more to recover within the precinct walls and any meaningful results were discovered at all in the course of a day's work is in itself a notable indication as to the potential of the site.

It was always thought that this survey would be the opening salvo in a long campaign to trace the whereabouts of the English bastion and the demolished Franciscan ruins. This was a great start, but the benefit of the work will only be truly realised if it inspires and promotes more work in the area over the coming years.

The preceding desk-based analysis, map regression and historical appreciation of the precinct that identified the heritage potential of the site in the first place is worthy of note and an important piece of work on the history of the burgh. The work undertaken by Tom Addyman and Tim Holden on the survey of the precinct walls was an important 'proof of concept' for a wider investigation of the entire town's walls. The first geophysical survey, although carried out in far from ideal climatical conditions, have shown tantalising indications of something tangible below the lawns and gardens of the church precinct warranting further excavations. The second geophysical survey under better conditions added more detail to the original results. The metal detecting and field walking sampled a rich collection of finds which are to be found on or just under the surface, each with their own fascinating story to tell. Certainly, this preliminary survey has endorsed the fact that Haddington is blessed by a rich vein of archaeology lying inches beneath the ground and that the local community is keen to explore some more.

Much credit and thanks must go to all the volunteers who came to help on the day and who continue to promote Haddington's heritage throughout the year. Thanks must also be given to Rev Liz O'Ryan who kindly let us into her garden and church to carry out the surveys and to the team at the East Lothian Archaeology for running the ELAHF and supporting all the local community heritage groups in their ongoing research and investigations.

Appendix 1 – Geophysical survey results – Holy Trinity Church, Haddington

