

## 1770

The Court Officers from October 1769:

**Dean of Guild**

William Ramsey

**Council**

John Wordie, Old Dean of Guild

Thomas Elder, merchant

George Webster, merchant

William Jamieson, mason

Alexander Ponton, wright

Thomas Herriot, wright

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1770/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 January 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 27 December 1769.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, writer.

SITE: Chambers Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about water damage from the flat above.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Butter, wright who owns the upper flat and lets it out. He complains specifically about Robert McIntosh, musician whose flat is the source of most of the water.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 January 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 6 January 1770.

PETITIONER: William Stodart, smith.

SITE: Canongate, Haliburton's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant and blocking his light.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Murray who is raising the walls of a building or cellar and blocking the light into 'the only material room in his house'. The petition was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 January 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1770.

PETITIONER: Heritors of Milns Square: Robert Arbuthnot, merchant, Thomas Stewart, secretary to the old bank, Hew Buchan, writer, Alexander Robertson WS, Alan (sic. William) MacConochie, writer, Thomas Miller, merchant, James Bauld, clerk to the Weigh house of Leith and others.

SITE: Milns (Mylne) Square.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to cellars and chimney heads.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant for repairs to the cellars but during work it was found that some of them were in danger of collapse.

DRAWINGS: None

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BOX: 1770/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 16 January 1770.

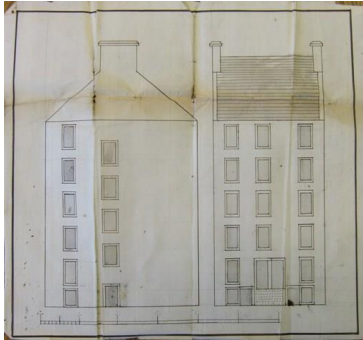
PETITIONER: John Howison, writer.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, Castle Wynd foot, east side, east and west temple lands.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is currently supported by a beam from the tenement opposite.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations to the south and west.  
Size: 28.8 x 31.5 cms.

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BOX: 1770/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1770.

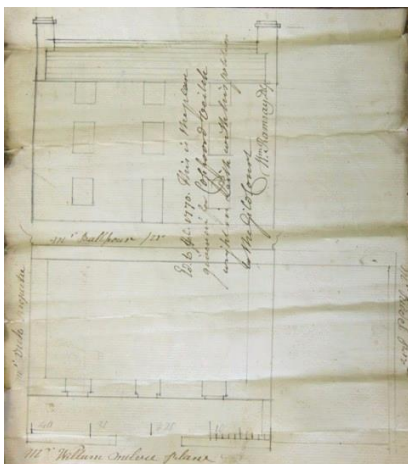
PETITIONER: Cessford Veitch, wright in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: To build a small tenement.

NOTES: The area recently feued from James Riddle Esq.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the tenement and plan of ground floor.  
Size: 21.5 x 24.4 cms.

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BOX: 1770/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1770.

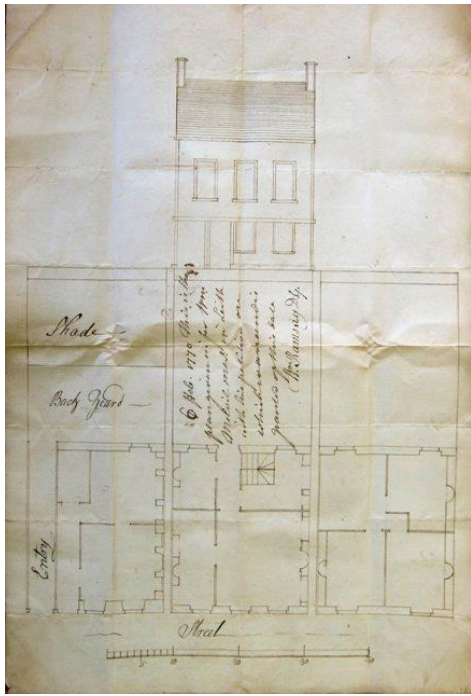
PETITIONER: William Melville, merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: To build a small tenement of three houses.

NOTES: The area recently feued from James Riddle Esq.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of one tenement and plans for three houses.  
 Size: 41.0 x 27.7 cms.

BOX: 1770/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Whitehead, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Dr. Young Street (New Street).

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner had begun work without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1770/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1770.

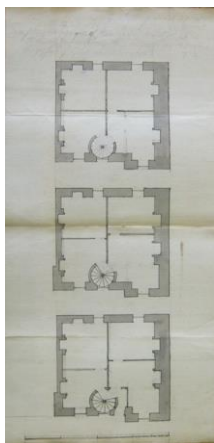
PETITIONER: James Braidwood, mason in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Dr. Young Street (New Street), foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: The petitioner had begun work without a warrant. See warrant granted 2 March 1774 (Braidwood).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of three floors.  
 Size: 32.0 x 15.5 cms.

BOX: 1770/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1770.

PETITIONER: William Reoch, wright.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, west side, foot.

PROPOSAL: To convert a window into a door.

NOTES: The window is on the east side of his property looking into the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1770.

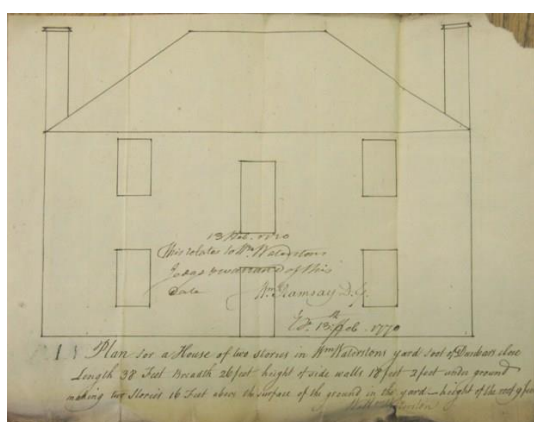
PETITIONER: William Watterston, wax chandler.

SITE: Dunbar's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

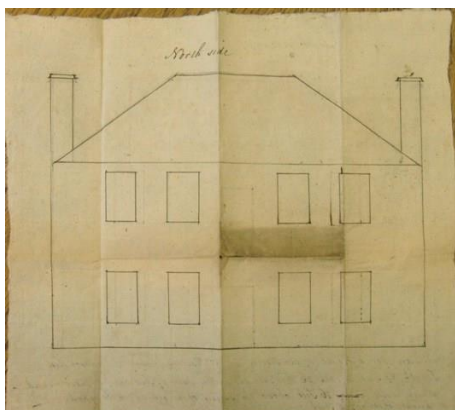
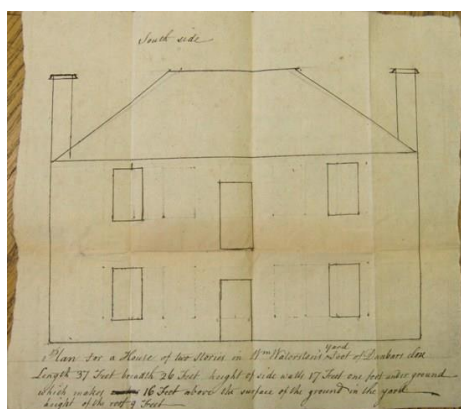
NOTES: The petitioner owns a garden at the foot of the Close on which he will build.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a house.

Size: 23.3 x 29.8 cms.



Description: b. Elevation to the south, with an elevation to the north on the reverse.

Size: 25.2 x 28.0 cms (irregular).

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BOX: 1770/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: Unknown.

PETITIONER: Alexander Smith junior, baker.

SITE: West Bow, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about neighbours throwing their waste water into an area behind his shop and blocking a sewer. The Court ordered the defenders to trellis their windows and stop throwing out waste.

NOTES: Only the warrant survives here and all of the information is gathered from it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Scott, merchant, factor for David Scott, glover, his brother and John McPherson, musician.

SITE: Bells Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a potential printing house.

NOTES: Robert Hamilton, brewer at Water of Leith is the proprietor of the upper floor and David Scott, the floor immediately below, presently possessed by Mr. Esplin, print seller. Hamilton is proposing to let his floor to Robertson, Wilson & Tennant, in company, printers. The complaint is that the tenement is 'weak and frail' and could not accommodate a printer's equipment and the Court agreed, prohibiting the proposal.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1769.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To pave the north side of the Grassmarket.

NOTES: The petition lists all of the heritors. They had applied to the Town Council to open a foot entry through the Town wall and this was approved. See warrant of 5 March 1771 (Procurator Fiscal). There is another version of this plan with the warrant granted on 3 April 1783 (Reed).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the north side of the Grassmarket, from an entry in the Town wall on the west to the foot of the West Bow on the east.

Size: 22.7 x 78.5 cms.

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BOX: 1770/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1770.

PETITIONER: Alexander Moodie, Collector of the Shore Dues at Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Broad Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a stable.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Thomson, merchant in Leith who built a brick stable 'about two years ago' on the petitioner's property and close to the back wall of his tenement. He challenged this and Thomson agreed to demolish the stable but has still not done so.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1770.

PETITIONER: William Wilson of the Customs in Leith.

SITE: South Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building close to the petitioner's wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Cairns, brewer in Leith who is building a wall in a garden, close to the petitioner's property and has screwed his windows shut.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1770.

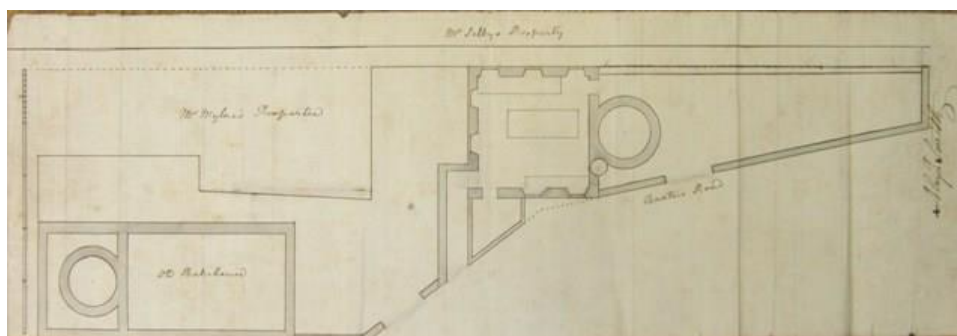
PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Bakers: Alexander Smith, Deacon and George Hardie, Treasurer.

SITE: Chalmers Close, west side, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a loaf bake house.

NOTES: Includes a detailed description of the site boundaries.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area showing the old and new bake house.

Size: 15.5 x 46.4 cms.

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BOX: 1770/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1770.

PETITIONER: Alexander Innes of Cathlaw and Robert Selby, plumber.

SITE: Baillie Fyfe's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the lack of a sewer. The petition refers to the decision of the Town Council of 6 July 1768 to shut off a Close at top and bottom, described as 'running from the foot of Baillie Fyfe's Close down to the backsides'. This was in response to a petition by Alexander Innes, Charles Congleton, surgeon and John Miln, founder. The Close was closed off but this has the effect of blocking the run of a sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 20 February 1770.

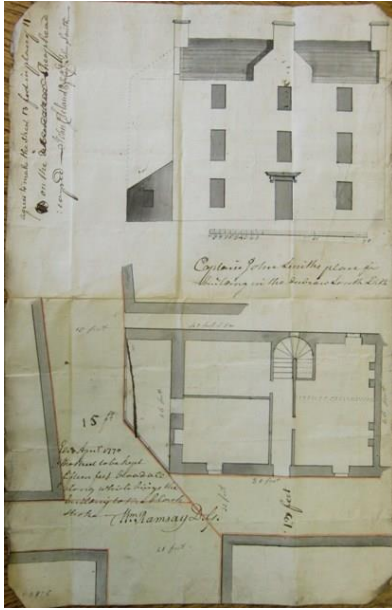
PETITIONER: John Smith, ship master in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Dubrow, Sheephead Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The warrant was granted on condition that the petitioner alter his plan to ensure that the Dubrow street should be no narrower than 15 ft. at any point.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement and a plan of the area.  
Size: 38.0 x 24.5 cms.

BOX: 1770/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 12 March 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Walker, surgeon and Walter Morton, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Celler's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a fencing school.

NOTES: The fencing school is run by John McMillan or his tenant, in the flat above the petitioners. They refer to a case in the Court of Session brought by Robert Fleming against a fencing master, which prohibited the establishment of fencing or dancing schools in upper flats. (Fleming v Ure: in which Robert Fleming, printer made a complaint to the Dean of Guild Court against Ure who had let his upper flat to a fencing master. Ure offered a bill of suspension in the Court of Session, 24 February 1750, which was refused).

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1770/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 5 March 1770.

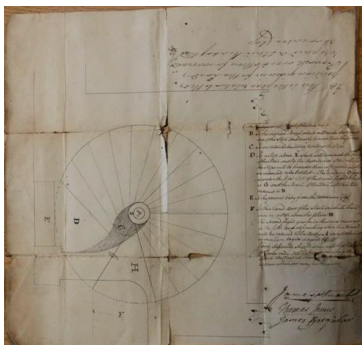
PETITIONER: James Stuart, merchant and Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Thomas Innes, WS and James Farquhar, merchant.

SITE: Luckenbooths, head of Advocates Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To repair steps in the turnpike.

NOTES: Includes an estimate for the work by William Jamieson, mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the stair.  
Size: 26.8 x 27.5 cms (irregular).

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BOX: 1770/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 10 April 1770.

PETITIONER: George Sinclair, wright and Isobel Sinclair, his daughter.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side.

PROPOSAL: Alterations, to convert a brew house into dwellings.

NOTES: The property is described as '...that middle tenement of houses entered to by both sides of the Closes and also the distillery house upon the east side of the easter Close all lying upon the southside of the Grassmarket... near to the entry of George Herriot's hospital...' They had taken a lease of four score years on the property from Robert Hamilton, brewer at the Water of Leith. The warrant allowed them to proceed under the inspection of a member of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1770.

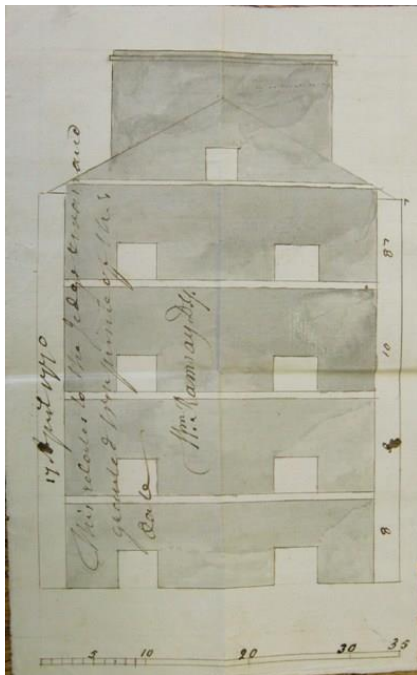
PETITIONER: William Pirnie, mason.

SITE: The east street running north from St. Andrew Square (North St. Andrew Street).

PROPOSAL: To build a mutual gable on the north.

NOTES: The petitioner feued from the Town the stance for two small houses which he has begun to build. The stance to the north has not been feued and the warrant stipulates that 'the Good Town is not to be liable for the half of the expence till they or the person who feues from them take the benefit of the said mutual gabil.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the north gable of a tenement.

Size: 20.7 x 12.7 cms.

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BOX: 1770/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1770.

PETITIONER: The heritors of the Grassmarket with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To remove rings from the fronts of houses.

NOTES: The petition refers to an Act of the Council dated 21 August to open a door through the Town wall and a warrant to pave the north side of the Grassmarket. This



work is almost complete. But to prevent horses and carts using the pavement he asks that rings may be removed. See warrant of 6 March 1770 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 April 1770 (date of order to stop work).

PETITION LODGED: 19 April 1770.

PETITIONER: John Buchanan, stabler and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, foot of Castle Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a trench across the front of the entry to his stables.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Howison, writer in Edinburgh who is in the process of taking down and rebuilding tenements at the foot of the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1770.

PETITIONER: Rt. Hon. Lady Charlotte Gordon, Sir William Maxwell and William Drummond of Callender.

SITE: Canongate, (head of Pirnie's Close).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about settlement of the tenement.

NOTES: See warrant of 8 May 1771 for a claim for rents. There is a report by a jury here and a copy of a tack between Archibald Chessels and Ebenezer McCulloch dated 7 January 1766 which describes the work he proposes to undertake.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 23 May 1770.

PETITIONER: Daniel Miller, merchant in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, head of Young Street (New Street).

PROPOSAL: To strike out a door in the gable.

NOTES: The petitioner recently purchased a house and ware room, being the flat immediately off the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 23 May 1770.

PETITIONER: James Cargile, merchant.

SITE: Beggar's Row, immediately east of the lane leading up to the Playhouse.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a well or pit for holding nastiness.

NOTES: The complaint is against Charles and William Butter who have built a tenement in Princes Street and dug a well close to the petitioner's garden wall. See plan with warrant granted on 8 August 1782 (Corbet) which helps explain the position of the tenement that lay across Princes Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 May 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1770.

PETITIONER: Proprietors of Carrubber's Close.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a new door off the Close.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Reoch, wright who has placed a large square stone in the Close, where he intends slapping out a new door. He is allowed to continue at the sight of members of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1770.

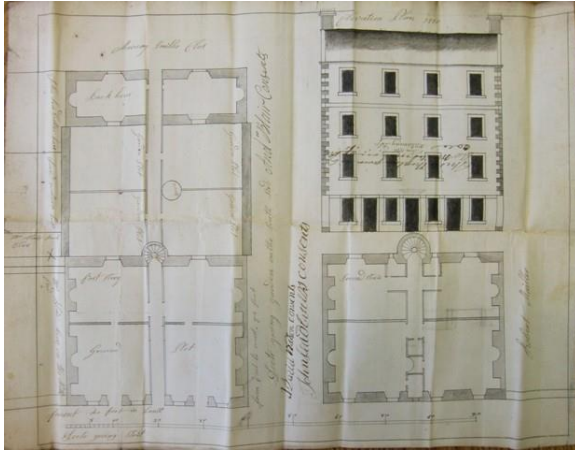
PETITIONER: Robert Mailer, mason in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of four floors.

NOTES: The plan has Mr. Blair's house, north and Dr. Young's garden on the south.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement and plans of the ground and second floors.

Size: 35.4 x 45.3 cms.

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BOX: 1770/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1770.

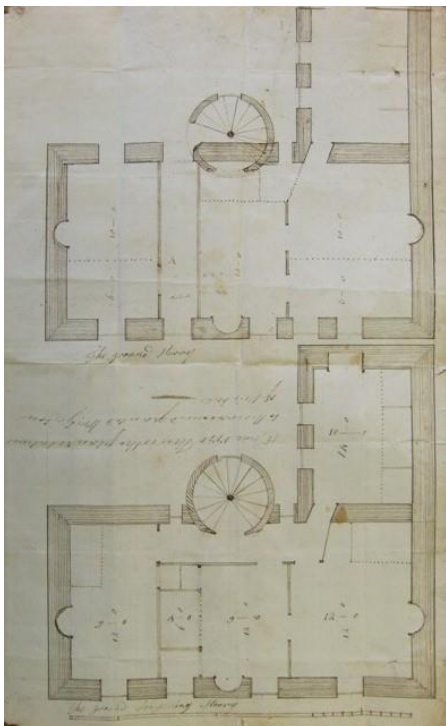
PETITIONER: William Gordon, weaver in Potterrow.

SITE: Potterrow, opposite to Elison's Court.

PROPOSAL: To build an additional floor.

NOTES: See warrant of 8 May 1771 (Gordon).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of the ground and lodging floor.

Size: 38.7 x 24.0 cms.

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BOX: 1770/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1769.

PETITIONER: John Straiton, brewer in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expence of building a dyke.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted previously to build the dyke but he cannot produce it because it was removed when the defender, Mrs. Thomas Hill went to the Sheriff Court to have the work stopped. There is an account here from Alexander Watt, mason and a measure of the work by Patrick Sibbald.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1770.

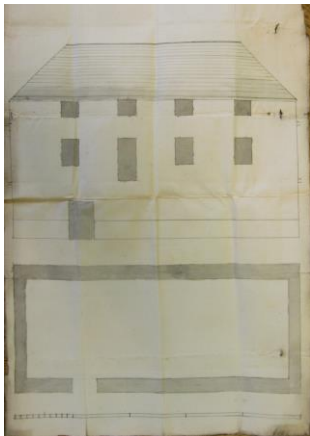
PETITIONER: Robert Jamieson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Quality Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse and other buildings.

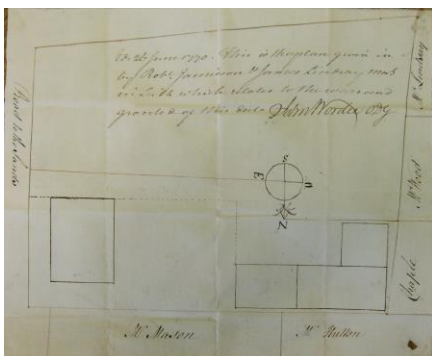
NOTES: The plan at b. shows the 'road to the sands' on the east and a chapel on the west. There is an exchange of arguments here between Thomas Wood, surgeon (who claims to live in the earliest house on land feued from the City of Edinburgh) and James Lindsay, merchant in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a warehouse and a plan.

Size: 39.5 x 25.3 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 21.5 x 26.0 cms.

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BOX: 1770/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1770.

PETITIONER: Allan Ogile, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Gullands Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a projection.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous warrant from the Court to take down a projection on a tenement belonging to Robert Walker, tanner. He has employed his men to take down the projection but seeks a warrant from the Court to continue.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 13 June 1770.

PETITIONER: The Hon. Alexander Gordon, advocate.

SITE: Castlehill.

PROPOSAL: To add a further floor to his two story tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1770.

PETITIONER: Thomas Elder, merchant in Edinburgh.

SITE: South Leith, back of the sugar house.

PROPOSAL: To build vaults and dwelling houses.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the land from Thomas and William Parker, sugar boilers in Burntisland.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1770/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1770

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1770.

PETITIONER: The heritors of the north side of the Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side of the Street.

PROPOSAL: To pave the north side with stone, five ft. wide and provide timber palls.

NOTES: The petition is signed by all of the heritors and there are two other lists. This is the division of expence for work agreed by Dean of Guild warrant of 15 April 1761 and by a Decreet in the Court of Session dated 16 October 1761. There are many papers here relating to arguments over the costs and division. The work cost £988 19s 2d which included payment to John Wallace, painter of £5 (presumably for painting the timber palls). £18 7s 6d was raised from a benefit performance in the Playhouse on 6 April 1757. There is an outstanding balance of £573 4s 9d. A complaint was made by the Procurator Fiscal, 5 March 1771 against George Ferguson (mason) for having incorrectly laid some of the pavement; he was instructed to lift it and relay.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1770/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1770.

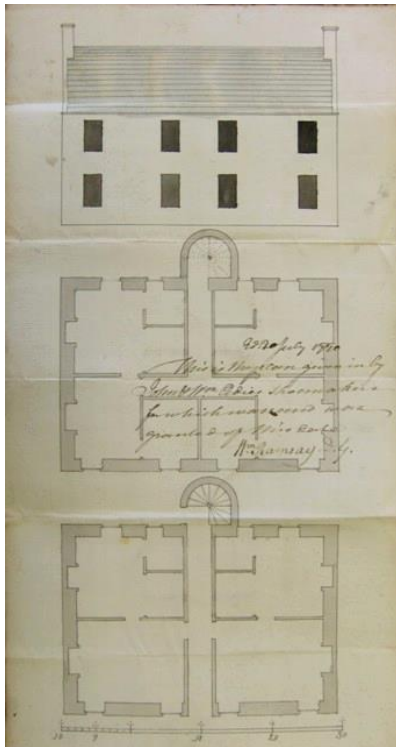
PETITIONER: John Adie and William Adie, shoemakers in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh, behind the house of the Incorporation of Shoemakers.

PROPOSAL: To build a house on waste ground.

NOTES: The plan shows the house of the Incorporation standing on the south side of 'the street leading to wrights houses', on the corner with the 'the new made road from Lauriston to Portsburgh street. The new house will have a mutual gable with a house now building by John Straiton on the south. Included here is a counter petition from the Incorporation of Shoemakers and a translation of a charter for the land, from Sir George Touris of Garmitton to John King of Craiglockhart dated 26 March 1629. It notes the previous owners and the neighbouring properties.

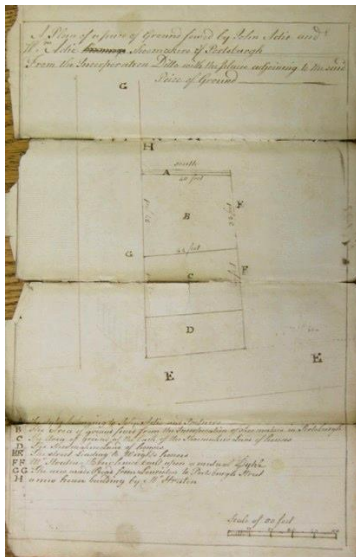
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a house and plans of two floors.

Size: 38.5 x 20.7 cms.

Watermark: W



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 32.0 x 20.1 cms.

BOX: 1770/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1770.

PETITIONER: Alexander Kincaid, His Majesty's printer and stationer in Scotland.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite to the foot of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the easter part of two half tenements; the wester part belonging to Patrick Sibbald, wright in Edinburgh, John Hunter surgeon and Alexander Chalmers, shoe maker in London. He had applied to the Court to demolish and rebuild his part (14 May 1766?) and now it appears that the wester part is also ruinous. He asks for a jury to be appointed. The Court officer summoned 24 people from whom a jury of 15 would be chosen and it is of interest that in only three cases did he have to leave his summons with a servant. This matter was in the Court of Session

on 27 June 1770 who referred it to the Dean of Guild. In an inventory of Mr. Kincaid's papers it refers to a disposition dated 13 June 1706, registered in the Burgh Court books 17 June, from Robert Pollock, barber to James Reid, bookseller and a sasine following dated and recorded on 17 June; sasine and cognition dated and recorded 16 July 1766 in favour of Helen Reid, only surviving child of said James Reid, his heir; sasine registered 17 July 1766 in favour of the deceased Alexander Kincaid, on a disposition of the same date from Helen Reid and a decret of neighbourhood by Alexander Kincaid against Helen Reid dated 14 May 1766 from the Dean of Guild Court.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Measured plan of the area.

Size: 18.8 x 30.6 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: NB. There is neither projections of fore shops nor fore stairs included in this plan. Signed William Good and Robert Burn, 30 June 1770.

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BOX: 1770/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 24 October 1769.

PETITIONER: Peter Smith, tailor in Canongate and John Wilson, gunsmith there.

SITE: Canongate, Leith Wynd, Logan's land.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs to windows and cracks in the walls.

NOTES: Included is a report from George Wilson, mason and Michael Nasmith, wright where they describe the problems and conclude that the front of the property should be rebuilt with a sufficient batter to counter the lean of several inches. The report is signed by George and John Wilson.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1770.

PETITIONER: William Wright, baker.

SITE: High Street, south side, Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the pillar on the east side of the shop door.

NOTES: The warrant notes that the pillar is of ashlar stone and should be repaired with the same. The front window and door lintols to be supported by diagonal stanchions.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Messrs. John Coutts & Co, merchants in Edinburgh.

SITE: New Town, St Andrew Square.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for building gables.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to warrants granted by the Court to Sir William Forbes, merchant, David Smith of Methven and Gilbert Mason (Meason), merchant in Leith on 11 May 1768 to build mutual gables. All three employed Duncan Drummond, wright in Canongate to build the gables. By a disposition dated 7 April 1769 he sold the three

gables (on the east of Gilbert Mason and Sir William Forbes' houses and on the west of David Smith or Catherine Campbell, his mother's house) to the petitioners as trustees (for persons listed). The petitioner now wishes to have the building accounts cognosed and declared a debt on the various properties. There are accounts here from Duncan Drummond for building gables on Gilbert Mason's house, north side of St Andrew Square and Sir William Forbes's house, west end of St Andrew Square (both dated 10 February 1769). In a further account of expence he notes his charges for Lady Methven's house, and James Hunter's house. (Sir William Forbes's house was in George Street - No. 3 until 1811, now No. 5 - it was bounded on the west by a plot feued to James Hunter and on the east by a mutual gable owned by the Town Council. Edinburgh City Archive, Charter dated 3 January 1776)  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Rebecca Allan (nee Anderson), relict of the deceased John Allan, baker.

SITE: Grassmarket, foot of Castle Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the rebuilding of a gable.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous application to the Court by John Howison, writer, to take down a mutual gable and rebuild it according to an agreement dated 8 May 1770, a copy of which is enclosed. Howison has begun building but has ignored the provisions of their agreement. The Court ordered the work to be stopped. See further warrant of 14 September 1770 (Allan).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Arbuthnot, merchant, Alexander Robertson, WS and others.

SITE: Mylne's Square, east wing.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a pile of earth on the east side of their tenements which is causing the cellars to be damp.

NOTES: See warrants granted 8 December 1769 and 15 November 1771. The papers here are inscribed with numbers which suggest they may have formed part of a process in the Court of Session.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 20 August 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about repairs without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Charles and William Butter who are carrying out repairs without warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1770.

PETITIONER: The heritors of the Midcommon Close, Canongate: Kirk Session of the Canongate and other persons.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Mid Common Close.

PROPOSAL: To repave the Close and remove projecting fore stairs and middens on both the east and west sides.

NOTES: The High School of the Canongate lies at the bottom of the Close. The owners of the fore stairs, complain about their removal and in replies for the Kirk Session they

point out that they were not part of the original tenements but have been added. They note further that there is a fashion for removing these projections and they cite examples in the west part of the Cowgate, and lately in repaving the south side of the Canongate. The Court gives the petitioner's permission to carry out all of the work if any of the heritors refuse.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1770.

PETITIONER: James Gibson, surgeon.

SITE: Canongate, Jacks land, east tenement.

PROPOSAL: To repair the stair.

NOTES: The upper flat belongs to Hepburn of Keith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Thomas Laing, edge tool maker.

SITE: New Town, east of the Playhouse.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner has taken a feu of a plot in a range of proposed buildings east of the Playhouse. His feu is immediately south of that for Thomas Hill, wright and he had an agreement with Hill to build the mutual gable. Hill employed John Cowper, the mason employed by the petitioner to build his house and they have reached two stories in height. It was agreed that the petitioner's house should be four stories in height but Hill is now insisting that he should be responsible for carrying his house up to five stories. He has instructed Cowper not to continue work until the petitioner agrees.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1770

PETITION LODGED: 15 August 1770.

PETITIONER: George Logan, heel maker in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Leith Wynd, Logan's land.

PROPOSAL: To overturn a warrant demanding repairs.

NOTES: See previous warrant of 27 July 1770 (Smith). John Wilson, gunsmith, mentioned in the previous petition has since died and the Incorporation of Barbers in Edinburgh has bought his story in the tenement. The petitioner states that he cannot afford to make the repairs and depends on the rents from the tenement for his income. He and the Incorporation suggest that the repairs are not necessary and they submit a report from Alexander Gowan, architect and James Ranken and Archibald Aitken, wrights to this effect dated 4 September 1770. The Court refuses their petition and stands by its previous warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1769.

PETITIONER: William Monteith, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate, immediately south west of the Sugar house (east side, Kirkgate).

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for rebuilding a house.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous warrant of 14 September 1768 in favour of David Dow, wright at Stockbridge. Monteith appears to have acquired right to the property on 27 January 1769. There is a statement of account here for the rebuilding totalling £590 5s but with some adjustments suggested. Also accounts from Hugh Graham for the supply of nails between 13 November 1768 and 10 August 1769. Also



an account from Adam White for locks. In answers for the partners in the Sugar house they provide information on their property and claim encroachment.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1770.

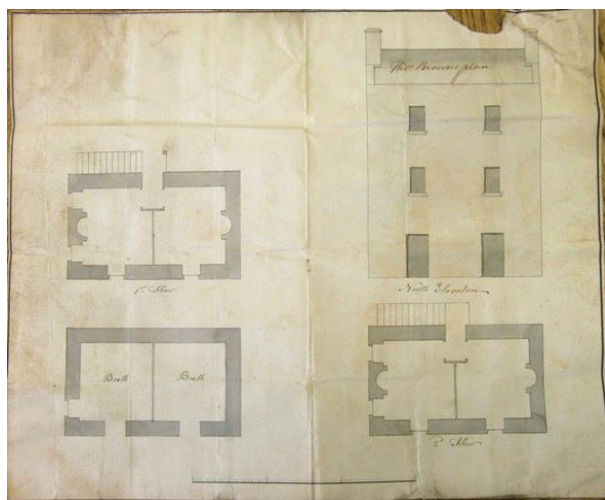
PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1770.

PETITIONER: Thomas Brown, flesher.

SITE: Side of the North Loch.

PROPOSAL: To partially take down and rebuild his flesher's booth.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a house and plans of three floors.

Size: 28.9 x 35.2 cms.

Watermark: J VILLADARY

---

BOX: 1770/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hepburn, merchant.

SITE: Castle Hill, Skinners land.

PROPOSAL: Internal alterations.

NOTES: The petitioner states that in his house in Skinners land 'two of the rooms have at present timber jambs, to wit the dining room & the petitioner's own bedroom' and the flooring is insufficient. The house is held on a tack from the Incorporation of Skinners dated 21 & 23 May 1766 in which it was agreed that the house was repaired, papered and painted on entry and that they were not to be at any further expence during the lease. The Court ordered the Incorporation to put in stone jambs within 14 days but other repairs to be at the petitioner's expence. The Incorporation appealed but was dismissed on 30 October 1770. A copy of the lease is enclosed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1770.

PETITIONER: Charles Innes, merchant and other heritors.

SITE: Mylne's Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a raised pavement.

NOTES: Some of the heritors have raised a section of pavement which is allowing water to collect. An estimate for the work by William Jamieson, mason is mentioned.

He was given authority to carry out the work. The summons lists the other heritors.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 September 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 13 September 1770.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Rebecca Allan, relict of John Allan, baker.

SITE: Grassmarket, foot of Castle Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Further complaint about rebuilding a gable.

NOTES: See warrant granted 20 August 1770. In this case the argument is about a rustic corner or pilaster and other work that has not been built according to an agreement with John Howison, writer. Work stopped yet again.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1770.

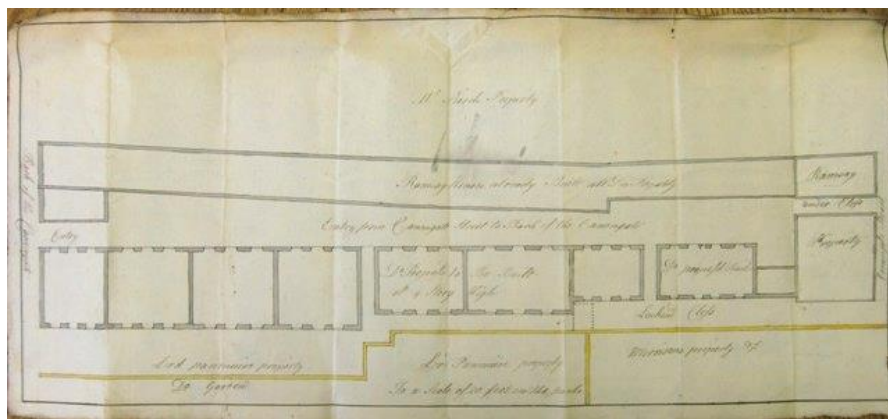
PETITIONER: James Ramsay, mason.

SITE: Canongate, Lochends Close.

PROPOSAL: To build tenements or houses.

NOTES: The petitioner received his warrant on 11 September and complaints about encroachment were dismissed on the 25th.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and ground floor plans of a terrace of houses.

Size: 22.8 x 50.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1770/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1770.

PETITIONER: Michael Nasmith, wright.

SITE: Fountain land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of expence of repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he was asked to take down two pillars in front of Fountains land and rebuild them, on the instructions of the Court. He did so but John Wight, baker refuses to pay unless compelled to do so. Includes a copy of the account dated 1 September which refers to scaffolding for the masons.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 13 September 1770.

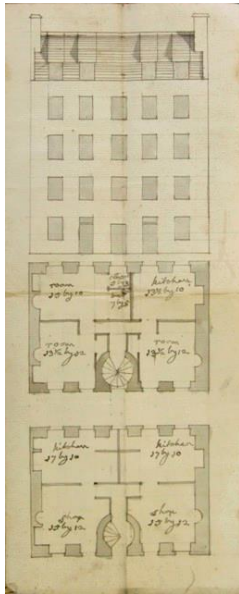
PETITIONER: William Good and Andrew Good, wrights.

SITE: Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The property belonged to the deceased William Turnbull which was disposed in 1728 to the children of Janet and Margaret Turnbull's heirs. There was an argument over a mutual gable.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement with annotated plans of the ground floor shops and an upper floor.

Size: 33.7 x 13.6 cms.

BOX: 1770/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1770.

PETITIONER: Mrs Wilson: Margaret Oliphant, relict of John Wilson, silk dyer.

SITE: Potterrow, west side.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner states that she is to employ William Good, wright, Richard Frame, mason and William Archibald, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1770/58

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 3 October 1770.

PETITIONER: John Stewart of Dalguise, writer with consent of Messrs Tait & Campbell, principal clerks of Session and Messrs Callender & Stevenson, Deputes.

SITE: Warriston's Close, at the head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of a house '... known by the name of Dalrymples office wherein are deposited papers of the greatest value.' He complains about the poor condition of the floor of the flat above, owned by John Blair, surgeon where water occasionally comes through. Defender ordered to repair the floor within four weeks.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1770/59

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 30 October 1770.

PETITIONER: William Reoch.

SITE: Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To repair the corner of his tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1770/60

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 24 November 1770.

PETITIONER: William Henry, writer.

SITE: Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the heightening of a chimney stack.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Fraser, WS who has carried out the work without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/61

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 November 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1770.

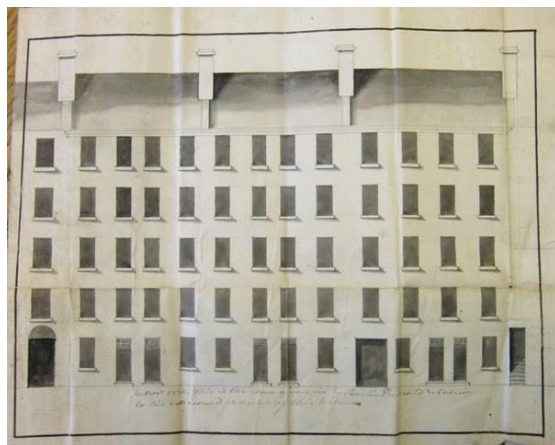
PETITIONER: Alexander Kincaid, His Majesty's printer and stationer for Scotland.

SITE: Cowgate, a little to the west of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild three tenements.

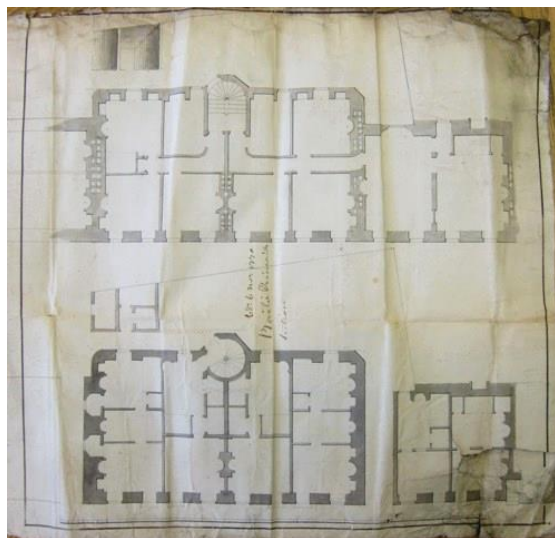
NOTES: The petitioner asked the Court to appoint an ordained measurer to measure the houses as they presently stand. The Court appointed George Cowan and William Good, and on 3 July they asked to have a plan of the intended buildings and their present situation. On 30 October the petitioner stated that he had purchased the whole property 'as far as Reoch's land and Brodies'. A warrant was granted on condition that he kept the front of his building in line with the new house built by John Caitcheon on the east and the corner of William Reoch's land on the west. A note on the petition dated 10 November 1770 records, 'Borrowed up the plans produced to be returned on Tuesday at 11 o'clock forenoon under the penalty of three guineas (signed) James Tate.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement.

Size: 28.1 x 35.0 cms.



Description: b. Plans of the old and the replacing tenement.

Size: 38.0 x 36.0 cms.

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BOX: 1770/62

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 November 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, road at the back.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a projecting stair recently built.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Hunter, brewer in Canongate. The road has recently been repaired but within the past four months the defender has built a projecting stair that encroaches on the road. Order to remove the stair within 14 days.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/63

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 December 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1770.

PETITIONER: Allan Ogile, wright in Canongate, James Ramsay, mason and William Hunter, slater.

SITE: Canongate, south side, Gullands (or Gollons) Close

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for work.

NOTES: The petitioners removed a timber projection from the house belonging to Robert Walker, tanner in Edinburgh and his creditors. There are accounts here from the three tradesman and William Rankeillor, glazier.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/64

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 December 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 9 August 1770.

PETITIONER: Robert Clidsdale, clock and watch maker in Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate head, south side, Thomson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Farquharson, merchant (silversmith, toymaker?) in Canongate. The petitioner had let his cellar to Mrs. Stewart of Torrance from Whitsun 1769 to Whitsun last but she being in the country much of the time, the defendant broke through into the cellar from his own, contiguous to it and barricaded or nailed up the original door. There are depositions here for the petitioner from Patrick Finlay, merchant in Canongate aged 50 and upwards, married; William Campbell, ale seller aged 39, married; Helen Clerk, daughter of James Clark, brewer's servant aged 17, unmarried; Janet Leslie, spouse of the preceding Patrick Finlay aged 47; William Straiton, smith aged 40 and upwards, married; James Wales, porter aged 40 married; James Hill, goldsmith aged 60 and upwards, married; Helen Bele relict of Andrew Thomson, brewer aged 78; Alexander Baillie, engraver aged 30, married. The same for the defender; Alexander Hay, wright aged 40 and upwards, married; George Begbie, smith aged 50 and upwards, widower ; William Henderson, stabler aged 40 and upwards, married; David Ivory, merchant in Crosscauseway aged 60, married and John Forbes, Chelsea pensioner in Edinburgh aged 54, married.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/65

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 December 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1770.

PETITIONER: Alexander Weir, painter.

SITE: Morrison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of his house.

NOTES: The petitioner rents a house and garden from Colin Beveridge, writer in Edinburgh, factor for the heirs of James Norrie, painter in Edinburgh. Refers to a dyke that is mutual between the heirs of James Norie and Robert Selby, plumber.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/66  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 December 1770.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 December 1770.  
PETITIONER: Andrew Bell, wigmaker.  
SITE: Writer's Court.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner owns the top story, presently possessed by Mrs. Hutton, relict of William Hutton, merchant. The garrets are owned by Mrs. Yair, bookseller and Charles Butter, merchant in Edinburgh. Warrant granted for repairs to Mrs. Yair's roof.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/67  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 December 1770.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1770.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Sheills, late farmer at Groathill.  
SITE: South Leith, Sheep's head Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner was granted a warrant on 21 August 1770 to demolish the old tenement and clear the foundations so that the Court could make another visit. He was granted a warrant to rebuild on 4 September. He then applied again in relation to a mutual gable. He mentions plans for the rebuilding and a section of the vents.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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**Unextracted Processes** (stored with the petitions above)

BOX: 1770/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2 January 1770 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 16 December 1769.  
PETITIONER: James Ranken, wright  
SITE: Between Halkerston's Wynd and the entry to the new bridge, formerly the Cape and Feather Close. McVey's land.  
PROPOSAL: To open an entry from the new bridge into a tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner owns a tenement that is being undermined by work on the new bridge and he asks to have a new entry to another tenement as compensation. There is no warrant but a note signed by William Mylne on 28 December 1769 to effect that he has no objection. There is a declaration by the petitioner that he will have no further claim on the Council dated 2 January 1770.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: January 1770 (no warrant)  
PETITION LODGED: January 1770.  
PETITIONER: Robert Baillie, merchant.  
SITE: Canongate, Jack's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against Mrs. Jack about building up a passage.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/3\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 6 January 1770.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against unfree tradesmen: Robert Robertson, Robert Torry, Angus McDonald, James McIntosh and John McGregor, all travelling chapmen or pedlars residing in Edinburgh.

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BOX: 1770/4\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 January 1770 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 24 November 1769.  
PETITIONER: John Humble, plumber.

SITE: Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: To purchase a feu.

NOTES: This is a petition to the Town Council and the petitioner states that he has a feu for an area of ground immediately east of an area feued to Charles Robertson, painter. He seeks to have a furteher feu of any ground east of his property. A Committee agreed to let him have five feet between his feu and the road to the Register office. he made an agreement to pay £40 for the additional feu.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against unfree tradesman.

NOTES: The complaint is against Hew Aitken and Samuel Carson, travelling merchants or chapmen. In answers dated 13 February they state they came from Ireland with Irish linen to sell.

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BOX: 1770/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1770 (appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1770.

PETITIONER: Matthew Pooll, Canongate and Eupham Hepburn his spouse.

SITE: Canongate, south side, Grierson's land (Playhouse Close).

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences and for loss of use of property.

NOTES: The petitioners refers to work carried out in August 1766 by Alexander Gowan, mason in Pleasance in 'Charter's area' (Francis Wemyss Charteris 1723-1808) in the course of which he undermined the property belonging to Mrs. Isobel Grierson. In an instrument of protest, enclosed, the area is specified as 'at the east end (side) of Grierson's land next the High Street of the Canongate' and that Gowan was working with George Paterson, wright. They undermined the east gable causing it to crack. The tenants in the land were Lady Mary Campbell, the Hon, Mrs. Grizel Gaskine and William Murray, merchant in Canongate. Also enclosed is a copy of a warrant from the Court dated 10 September 1766 in which it mentions that George Struthers was the overseer of the works in the absence of George Paterson. It states that a summons was served on Lady Farny, sister to George Paterson at his lodging. They were ordered to stop the work but this was lifted when they agreed to rebuild the gable on 27 August 1766. (The architect, George Paterson had a contract with Francis Charteris to build two houses in John Street, completed in 1780 but which did not sell. (Mss contract in the Wemyss papers at Gosford) They eventually agreed to have one each, on payment of £1193 by Charteris. Lady 'Farney' is probably Lady Fernie, associated in some way with Cunnoquhie house near Cupar in Fife, which stands beside Fernie Castle. See: James Paterson, *Scottish surnames; a contribution to genealogy* (Edinburgh 1866) p. 6 where he states that Cunnoquhie is now occupied by the Paterson family 'the first of whom was an architect in Edinburgh'. The Balfours of Fernie were married into the Wemyss family in the 17th century.)

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 March 1770.

PETITIONER: George Stewart, merchant.

SITE: The President's Stair in Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of dampness because of poorly laid flagstones.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 April 1770 (no warrant, remitted to the Dean of Guild).

PETITION LODGED: Unknown.

PETITIONER: Janet Young, relict of David Young, rector of the Grammar School at

Haddington.

SITE: Opposite the Bowhead Well.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about water damage.

NOTES: The water is probably from pipes probably owned by the Town Council. The property is occupied by Adam Murray, baker and others. There are three petitions here but no action was taken.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 23 April 1770.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Thomas Wemyss, relict of William Aiton, goldsmith.

SITE: Carrubbers Close, about the middle.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the sewer

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1770.

PETITION LODGED: 16 January 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against unfree tradesman.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander McAnsch who is accused of making gloves and leather britches without being a freeman. he explains that he has been working in the City for six or seven years and has employed assistants. he points out that there is no incorporation for leather britches makers and goes on to claim immunity as he has served in the 55th Regiment in Ireland. The Procurator points out that he was never in the army but followed it about hoping to be made a drum.

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BOX: 1770/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1770 (petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1770.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright.

SITE: (Shakespeare Square) near the new Theatre.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas laing, edge tool maker who has purchased a lot beside the petitioner and is building over the boundary by a foot.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 May 1770.

PETITIONER: John Hunter, apothecary, Robert Gray, writer, John Hunter, servant to Messrs. Young & Trotter, upholsterer, Rachail Thompson, Thomas Gordon and Margaret Douglas, residents in Blackfriars Wynd.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, east side, near the foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about storage of timber and noise.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hill, wheelwright in Portsburgh who has taken a flat in the tenement and is storing timber there and carrying out his trade. The claim is that the tenement is too old and crazy to bear the weight of timber.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 June 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, head of old Bakehouse Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building a chimney.

NOTES: The complaint is against (blank) Fyffe who has converted a garret into accommodation and has built a chimney without a warrant.



DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1770.

PETITIONER: John Farquharson, merchant in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate head.

PROPOSAL: To repair a shop.

NOTES: The petitioner rents a shop from the creditors of James Thomson, merchant and he wishes to repair it. The Court appointed Messrs. Jamieson, Ponton and Heriot to visit and report. There are two statements of expenditure here. one dated may 1769.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1770.

PETITIONER: John Paton Esq. of Inverask.

SITE: Back of the City Guard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent in a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Campbell in the City Guard who has made a vent and set a fire in the vaulted cellar he sublets from Mungo Reid.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1770 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1770.

PETITIONER: John Cree, horse hirer in Pleasants (Pleasance).

SITE: Pleasance.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Simpson, tailor who has erected a sign.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1770 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, south side, Cellan's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The defender has struck out an entrance with steps and a stair in the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1770.

PETITIONER: Richard Barton, merchant in Manchester.

SITE: Dixons (Dickson's) Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a house occupied by George Syme, slater. He wishes to raise the walls by four feet.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1770 (no warrant, request for titles).

PETITION LODGED:

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, writer and Mrs. Walker, relict of Alexander Walker, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: Byres Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Hay, wright who has opoed an entry from a garden belonging to Sir James Stewart into the pave court belonging to the heritors of the tenements. There ensued an argument over Sir James Stewart's legal title and it appears that he divided his property and sold that part with the entry into the Court to Sir David Dalrymple. He had a right to enter from Byres or Advocates Close and he now felt he had the right to open a new entry.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1770.

PETITIONER: Miss Grahams: Ann and Christian.

SITE: Peebles Wynd,

PROPOSAL: Complaint about refusal to leave a house.

NOTES: The petitioners own a house occupied by David Donaldson, glover. The floor is weak and is damaging the ceiling of the floor below. Donaldson refused to move to allow the work to be done. In answers for Donaldson he states that he has occupied the house since 1730 and the house below was occupied by Sir James Wemyss of Bogie who never made any complaint about the ceiling. This case is complex.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1770 (petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1770.

PETITIONER: Miss Ann Graeme, daughter of the deceased Doctor William Graeme, physician in London for herself and in name of her sister Miss Christian Graeme and James Farquharson, merchant in Leith their tenant.

SITE: Leith, head of Broad Wynd, Newland Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Grant who is building a house in the common passage. There are answers here from John Adam, architect defending, in which he refers to a disposition from John Davidson to William Adam, architect of half a great granary or store house etc. dated 2 August 1734. He claims that the petitioners do not have the servitude claimed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1770 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1770.

PETITIONER: Margaret Gifford, relict of the deceased Nicoll Somervell, painter. Also John Somervell, gunsmith in Canongate, William Gifford, smith, James Dallas, writer.

SITE: West Bow, part leading to the Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying in coals and rubbish in an open area.

NOTES: The petitioners were appointed tutors by the deceased Nicoll Sommervell to William Sommervell, his second son in a deed of settlement in favour of his children dated 27 January 1764 registered in the Town Court books, 25 June 1770. The complaint is against James Scott, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1770 (no warrant, work stopped).

PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1770.

PETITIONER: Andrew Sinclair, merchant.

SITE: Exchange.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Herriot, wright who is making a sewer or drain without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

## 1771

The Court Officers from 17 October 1770:

### **Dean of Guild**

James Stodart

### **Council**

James Ramsay, Old Dean of Guild

Thomas Elder, merchant

George Webster, merchant

William Jamieson, mason

Alexander Ponton, wright

Thomas Heriot, wright

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1771/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1771.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of old Bank Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish dangerous walls.

NOTES: The tenement was burnt to the ground on Saturday 26 January leaving walls that are in danger of falling. William Jamieson appointed to 'take down the fore stormonts and story immediately above' belonging to John Home. He is also to take down a back building. The materials to be disposed of at the sight of Messrs. Ponton and Heriot, members of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1771.

PETITIONER: William Mein, merchant.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an alteration to the entry to cellars.

NOTES: The petitioner is 'proprietor' of Hugh Campbell's house and shop with two cellars. The joint entry to the cellars has been narrowed by John Millar the other proprietor to such an extent that he cannot get in bulky goods.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1771.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Bank Close, burnt land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against the proprietors for rubbish blocking the High Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1771

PETITIONER: John Miln, founder.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Mitchell, baxter (baker) in Canongate who has built a shade on the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 3 January 1771.

PETITIONER: William Mylne, architect.

SITE: Halkerston's Wynd, head, Wylie's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expence of taking down a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted in 1767 to take down the tenement. The heritors are David Rae, advocate, Robert Scott, merchant, James Kerr, keeper of the Laigh public house, Charles Thomson, wigmaker and Miss Anne Brown. David Rae replied that he felt the account included here was too high (£19 6s 11d) and that allowance should have been made for stones and old materials taken by the petitioner. He replied that the stone was left on the ground and used by the undertaker to rebuild the tenement, the timber being sold by the other proprietors.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1770.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, paving on north side (petition says south).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying the new pavement.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Ferguson, mason who laid the pavement on the north side of the Grassmarket from John Paxton's stabling to the Town wall (on the west). He is accused of laying it below the level of the causeway which will encourage water from the street to run into the shops. In replies for 'George Ferguson and Brothers' he states that John Paxton came out and ordered him to lay the pavement the way it is. Paxton was questioned and denied this and the Court ordered the offending paving to be lifted and re-laid. See warrant of 6 March 1770 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 11 March 1771.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, south side, a little below Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: A jury was appointed which included John Horn, wright, William Butter, wright, Francis Brodie, wright, Alexander Hay, wright, William Pirnie, wright, Thomas McInnes, mason, George Hunter, mason, James Robertson, mason, David Ramsay, mason and Richard Hume, mason. They decided that the front wall to the east of the turnpike was insufficient and should be taken down.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1771.

PETITIONER: William Mackenzie, advocate.

SITE: Old Assembly Close, foot on the west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about old crazy houses with falling slates.

NOTES: Alexander Adam, slater and proprietor ordered to repair the houses within ten days on 19 February. The Court ordered the chimneys to be taken down and 'old grey slates' be replaced with 'blue slates or tyles'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1771.

PETITIONER: John Stuart, porter.

SITE: Borthwick's Close, near the foot.  
PROPOSAL: To take off the roof and rebuild about 2ft higher.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 10 December 1770.

PETITIONER: James Robertson, merchant.

SITE: Pleasance, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of expence.

NOTES: The petition refers to an earlier warrant to demolish old tenements at the foot of the Pleasance, in name of Helen Scoular, sometime spouse of Robert Hunter of Southfield and Hunter himself. The petitioner supplied stones but has not been paid.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1771.

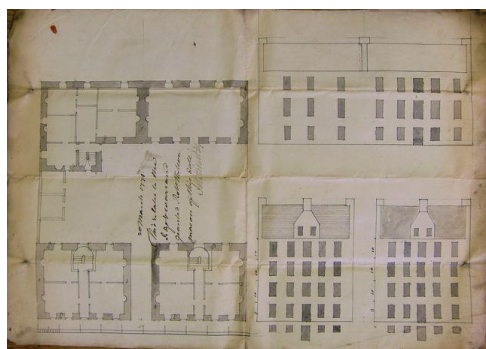
PETITIONER: Robert Watson, mason in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Young Street (New Street), west side.

PROPOSAL: To build tenements of six and three stories.

NOTES: The petitioner lately feued the land from John Grant one of the Barons of Exchequer. He had begun work without a warrant and blamed his lawyer for not having made the application.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans and elevations of three tenements.

Size: 34.2 x 48.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 28 March 1771.

PETITIONER: The heritors and inhabitants of Old Bank Close.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of old Bank Close.

PROPOSAL: To remove demolition rubbish.

NOTES: The tenement was burnt to the ground on Saturday 26 January. William Jamieson had been ordered to take down large parts of the tenement and to remove the rubbish. See warrants of 28 January and 28 February 1771.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1771.

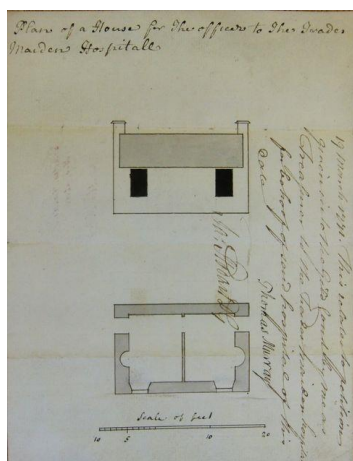
PETITION LODGED: 19 March 1771.

PETITIONER: Thomas Murray, Treasurer to the Trades Maiden hospital.

SITE: Opposite the Trades Maiden hospital.

PROPOSAL: To build a porter's lodge.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 21.0 x 16.0 cms.

BOX: 1771/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1771.

PETITIONER: John Hay of Belton and others.

SITE: High Street, south side, Forbes land.

PROPOSAL: Claims that the tenement is 'rent in the fore part and the back part much decayed' and is a danger.

NOTES: The Court decided that property was in no immediate danger.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1771/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1771.

PETITIONER: James Seton, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: To make a communication between the front shop and a room at the rear on the north.

NOTES: The Court asked Messrs. Mylne & Gowans, architects and Messrs McInnes, George Hunter and George Wilson, masons to inspect and report. The shop is possessed by Angus McDonald, merchant. The petitioner appointed William Jamieson, mason as his cautioner.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1771/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 23 January 1771.

PETITIONER: James Aberdour, founder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, between Morocco's Close and Galloway's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of repair.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted 31 May 1769 to carry out repairs. Accounts here from: Alexander Adam, slater; David Inverarity, wright; John Mathie, mason; James Hay, glazier; William Bruce, upholsterer and John Bonnar, painter. The wright's account refers to work 'on your workshop'. Accounts here from all the tradesmen, that from the upholsterer having two items deducted relating to 'putting printed furniture on a 4 posted bed' and 'putting furniture on a bed & studs'. He also supplied on 12 June 1769, 5 pieces red and white paper at 2s and on 29 August, 4¼ pieces blue flowered paper at 2s with borders and payment for hanging. The account from John Bonnar refers to work in September 1769 at 'your house at the foot of Burnets Close' where he painted the inside of 3 doors and 4 windows and 2 chimney pieces.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1771/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1771.

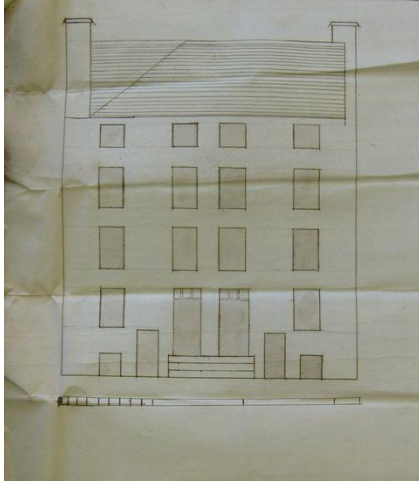
PETITION LODGED: 10 April 1771.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Cleghorn & Hotchkis.

SITE: Kings Stables, fronting West Port Street on corner with Lady Wynd.

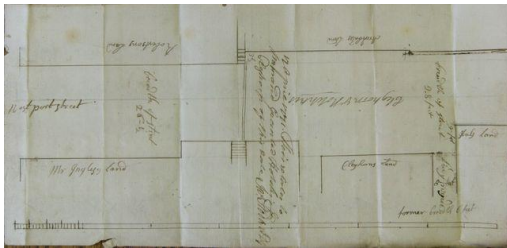
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



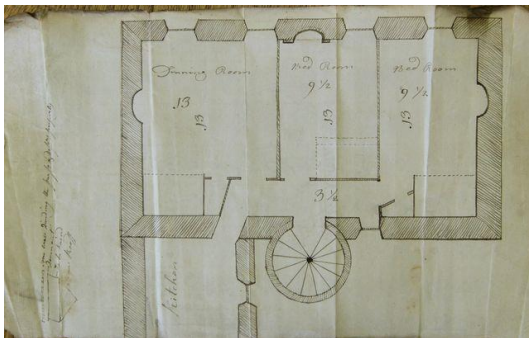
Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 37.5 x 25.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 15.3 x 31.6 cms.



Description: c. Plan of ground floor.

Size: 28.9 x 20.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1771.

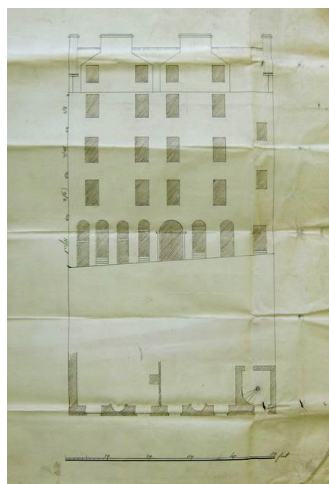
PETITIONER: Alexander Brown, merchant for Miss Clarks, James Murray, merchant and David Law, farmer at Inverleith.

SITE: Todericks Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement of five floors.

NOTES: The petitioners are acting on a complaint from the Procurator Fiscal about the insufficiency of their tenement. They submitted a second petition on 12 April to

rebuild, with a plan.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of front wall.  
Size: 44.0 x 27.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1771.

PETITIONER: Moris (Maurice) Trent of Pitcullo and John Sheriff, slater.

SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: John Sheriff is the petitioner's tenant. The complaint is against Mrs. Chrystie, relict of James Chrystie, carpenter in Leith, proprietor of the neighbouring tenement. In 1767 James Purdie, mason built a brick vent on the fore wall of her property, in place of a timber one, on the corner with the petitioner's property. He complained to the Court who ordered the work to be stopped, 14 May 1767 but decided for him on 3 June 1767. The brick chimney vent remains in place and the Court ordered its removal. Includes the original petitions of 1767.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1771.

PETITIONER: John Grieve and others with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Loch side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging out foundations for a enclosing an area.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Smith, merchant for encroaching on the property of the City.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Johnston, merchant (banker).

SITE: The Exchange, back part, part of the Customs House.

PROPOSAL: To open a small skylight.

NOTES: The request had been presented to the Town Council and they approved. There is a further complaint here from Shadrack Moyne dated 13 May 1771 that the window requested is larger than agreed and the work was stopped.

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1771/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1770.

PETITIONER: Helen Chessels only daughter of the deceased Archibald Chessels, wright in Canongate and spouse to Archibald Scott, merchant with consent of Dr. Stewart Threipland, physician, John Carmichael, merchant, Mr. (Hay or Henry) Guthrie, writer and Andrew Gairdner, brewer at (Bunou) Loch, trustees.

SITE: Canongate, head of Pirrie's Close.

PROPOSAL: Claim for rent on deserted property.

NOTES: Refers to a tenement built by Mr. Chessels at the head of the Close, parts of which he let: shop floor and two above to Ebenezer McCulloch at £70 Stg. pa. for 7 years, on 7 January 1766; third floor to Lady Charlotte Gordon at £21 Stg pa.; fourth floor and garrets to William Drummond, bookseller for £25 pa. Ebenezer McCulloch took out the brick partitions on the shop floor to create a large linen hall and he laid out large quantities of linen on the two floors above. The weight caused some settlement of the upper brick partitions. McCulloch's business failed and he went abroad. Long complaint but ended with a petition to the Court on 21 April 1770 about the poor state of the building to which they responded on 27 April with a demand that timber beams and supports be inserted. Nevertheless, three tenants left the building and refused to pay rent. See warrant granted 27 April 1770 for the background to this petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1771.

PETITIONER: David Skae, merchant.

SITE: High Street, nearly opposite the Guard.

PROPOSAL: To create a bow window.

NOTES: The Court insisted the window did not project beyond the sole of the existing.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1771.

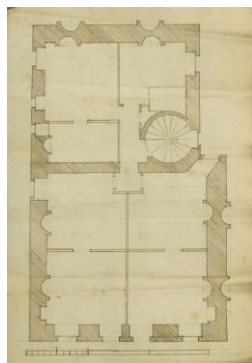
PETITIONER: William Gordon, weaver in Potterrow.

SITE: To raise the roof of the back part of his tenement and add another floor.

PROPOSAL: Potterrow, Murray's tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner had a warrant of 12 June 1770 to do the same work on the fore part of his tenement. This petition was refused on 17 April 1771. He reapplied on 1 May 1771 having begun work without a warrant and was fined £20 Scots plus expences on 8 May, to be held in the Tolbooth until he paid; the new work to be taken down.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 20.5 x 33.0 cms.

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BOX: 1771/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

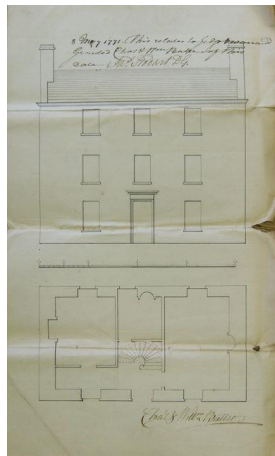
PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Charles and William Butter, wrights.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish lath and plaster walls and rebuild in stone.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of ground floor.

Size: 35.0 x 21.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1771.

PETITIONER: James Brodie, surgeon and Thomas Tulloch, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, head of Dunbars Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about works without a warrant.

NOTES: The petitioners are proprietors of a timber tenement where James Seton owns a shop and a small part to the north. Refers to the previous work in slapping out an entrance but he is now building a chimney. See warrant of 12 April 1771 (Seton).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1819/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Selby, plumber.

SITE: High Street, Chambers Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against the Incorporation of Bakers who had a warrant (no date given) to build an oven at the bottom of Chambers Close. The petitioner objected to the plan produced at the time on the grounds that it encroached on his property in Baillie Fyfe's Close and Barringers Close. The Court ordered that no timber should be stored in the Close and that the Incorporation and John Mylne, Deacon Convener should take down the little houses they have built, which obstruct the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 15 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Messrs. James McKenzie and Alexander Gardner, goldsmiths.

SITE: St Giles Church, shop beside.

PROPOSAL: To construct a spout to direct rainwater from the Church.

NOTES: The work to be undertaken by Alexander Ponton and James Scott, plumbers.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1771.

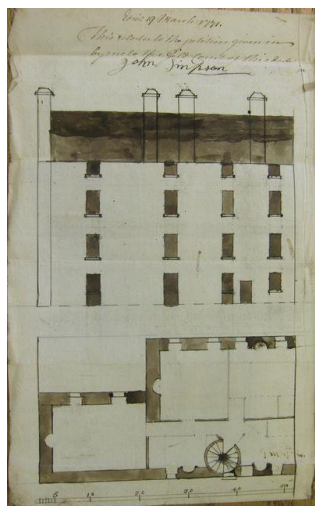
PETITIONER: John Simpson, tailor.

SITE: Fleemings Close at the foot of Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To take off the roof and raise the walls six feet in height.

NOTES: There is a note of agreement by John Caitchion and James Smelie dated 9 May 1771 giving the location and the work to be at the sight of William Johnston, mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of the ground floor.

Size: 32.0 x 20.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 7 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Murdoch Mclean, merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Trunks Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a house.

NOTES: The petitioner has a lease at £22 10s pa. from John Carnegie, deceased and asks the Court to call his son, Thomas Carnegie, brewer to undertake essential repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 5 March 1771.

PETITIONER: William Hume, upholsterer.

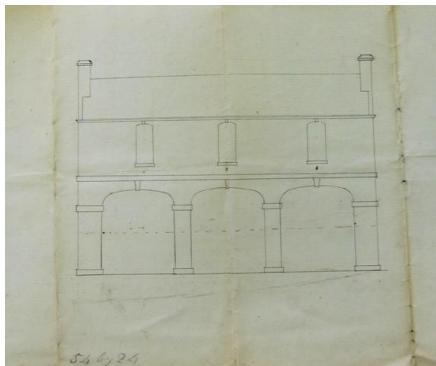
SITE: Halkerston's Wynd, between it and Drummond Street 'or the entry to the new bridge'. Shearers land which lies immediately north of the new lands or tenements.

PROPOSAL: To raise his tenement by two floors.

NOTES: There is an inventory of deeds associated with Shearer's land in Halkerston's Wynd, owned by James Shearer, son of the deceased James Shearer, barber and wigmaker. Sasine from the Baillies of Edinburgh to James Kincaid, second son of Thomas Kincaid, surgeon and apothecary proceeding on a disposition from father to son dated 14 January 1691. Sasine in favour of James Kincaid of Auchinreoch, son of the surgeon dated 5 February 1734. Then conveyances of the second floor to Andrew Stevenson, barber, 17 June 1734; from him to John Hay, merchant 25 February 1735; from him to George Boswell, writer, 13 March 1742; from his trustees to the Society of Barbers, (blank) May 1745; from them to James Shearer, 7 February 1751. Refers to a decret arbitral of John Adam, architect between the Town of Edinburgh and James Shearer, Rachel Shearer his sister and Alexander Gardner, goldsmith, his (Shearer's?) curators dated 7 February 1770. Note of other earlier deeds dated 1648, 1654, 1664 and a decret of neighbourhood dated 1660 (relating to neighbouring tenement on the

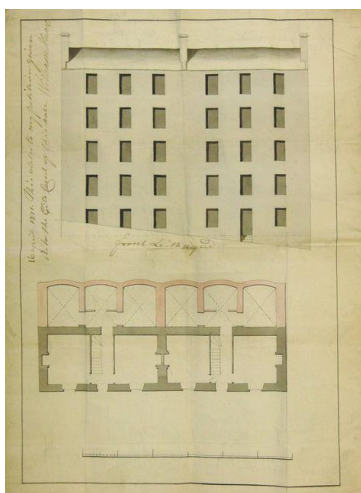
south?). Also includes an inventory of deeds for the adjoining tenement of Alexander Newlands from 1684, involving a servitude, which was dismissed. The drawing at b. appears to be for a different building and there are many alterations and additions to the copy of the scroll warrant enclosed. See petition of 22 November 1775 (Livingston), acting as trustee for William Hume, upholsterer.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 24.2 x 34.2 cms.



Description: b. Elevation and plan of a five story tenement with additional vaults.

Size: 36.4 x 27.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 16 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Islay Campbell, advocate, John Bell, WS, and George Henderson, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement recently burnt down.

NOTES: The petitioners wanted to increase the height by turning the stormont windows into a new floor but they were restricted, by the Act of 1698, to five floors from the pavement to the eve drop.

DRAWINGS: A plan and elevation mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1771/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 June 1771.

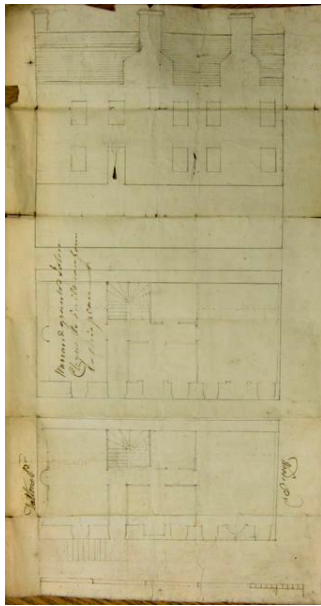
PETITION LODGED: 12 March 1771.

PETITIONER: John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, new Key.

PROPOSAL: To increase the height of a shade at the back of Reidland.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and plans of two floors.  
Size: 38.6 x 24.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1771.

PETITIONER: James Dewar of Vogrie.

SITE: Mills (Mylnes) Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John King, merchant who is breaking through into the petitioner's vent from the two shops he owns.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 3 February 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Taylor jun, baker in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, south side at the foot.

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of a tenement by 8 or 9 ft.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but is not here.

---

BOX: 1771/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: No petition.

PETITIONER: Alexander Boswell, William Good, William Mercer, Patrick Lindsay, Thomas Boswell and John Forrest.

SITE: Entry to Parliament Close, Blair's land.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs to the roof.

NOTES: Only the warrant survives here. It refers to an estimate for the repairs by William Good, wright. John Moubray, wright also carried out repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Dott, reed maker and John Howison, writer.

SITE: Castle Wynd, head on west side.

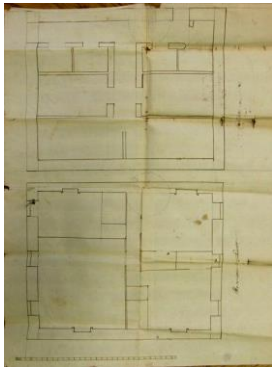
PROPOSAL: To build cellars and small houses above.

NOTES: This work was stopped on 25 July 1771. See petition of 26 July 1771 (Paxton).

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plans of ground floor and one other.  
Size: 46.1 x 37.2 cms.



Description: b. Plans of two floors noted 'cellars'.  
Size: 46.0 x 37.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1771.

PETITIONER: William Ronaldson, baker.

SITE: Lawnmarket, immediately below the burnt land (Buchanan's land).

PROPOSAL: To repair and enlarge windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1771.

PETITIONER: William Mein, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Fisher's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Kinnier who has built a small house behind the petitioner's property, taking away his light. His petition is dismissed because he had no servitude over the area. He appealed on 10 July, dismissed on 12 July 1771.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1771.

PETITIONER: George Wilson, mason, William Nichol, watchmaker and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Bells Wynd, head, the clamshell turnpike.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The petitioner's tenement is immediately below that belonging to Thomas Kerr, barber and wigmaker who has slapped out a door without warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1771.

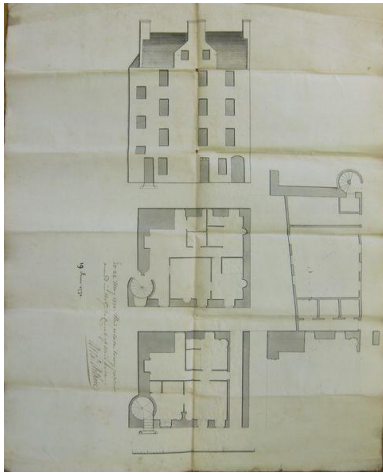
PETITIONER: Archibald Aiken, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, head of Tolbooth Wynd with an area to the north.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Having begun work before he had a warrant, he found that the mutual gables were insufficient and a jury was appointed, 10 June, to inspect. They decided that they should be taken down and rebuilt.

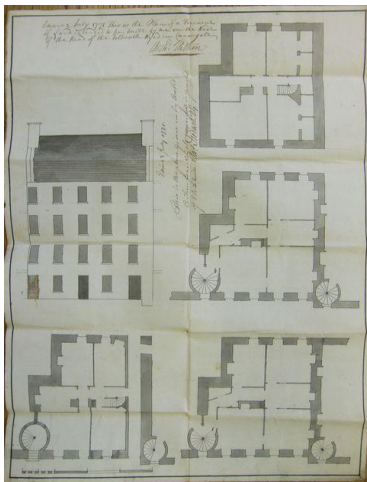
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation with plans of two floors and area to rear.

Size: 49.2 x 40.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Wrong plan, Archd. Aiken 1771



Description: b. Elevation and plans of four floors.

Size: 47.4 x 36.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1771.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ormiston, relict of William Ormiston, bookbinder with Samuel Watson, writer and William Gibb, bookseller.

SITE: Meal Market.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stacks and the roof.

NOTES: The top floor is owned by Charles Innes, linen draper who has refused or delayed doing essential repairs. He had not complied on a warrant of 10 April and the petitioner's asked James Syme to carry out the work to which the Court agreed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 July 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 10 April 1771.

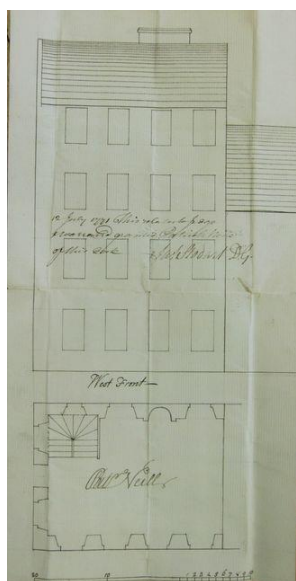
PETITIONER: Patrick Neil, printer.

SITE: Fishmarket Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: This tenement was never built. Included in the process is a memorial for the petitioner dated 23 May 1771 in which he states that he received an offer from the Town Council to buy the property, having waited two months for a warrant. He insisted on having £105 Stg for the area and £25 for the standing walls and that the area should never be built upon. The Town paid him 100 Guineas and agreed that no building should be erected on the site. He signed an alteration to this, the word 'private' inserted before building.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 34.0 x 17.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1771/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1771.

PETITIONER: William Pirnie, mason.

SITE: St. Andrew Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a gable.

NOTES: The petitioner notes that about November last he built a tenement, it having a mutual gable with another, the property of Charles Thomson, wigmaker, on the north. The upper part of this gable was scattered in a violent storm at the beginning of winter and Thomson does not respond to requests to repair it. Thomson responds that he paid Pirnie £25 stg. to build the mutual gable but Pirnie then employed two journeyman masons to hasten the work and they built the tenement in ten to twelve weeks. He accuses them of not packing the gable properly or of binding it to the side walls. There are reports here from George Hunter and John Wilson (trades not given - are they the journeyman masons?) who are involved in the rebuilding the gable and arguing against each other as to the sufficiency of the standing parts. The court ordered the gable to be taken down to the floor of the top story and rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1771.

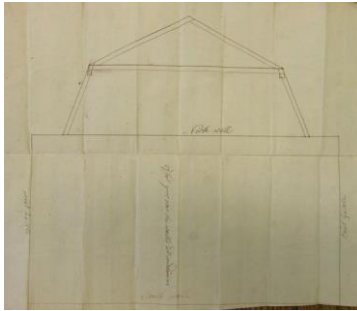
PETITIONER: Robert Hamilton, brewer at the Water of Leith.

SITE: Heriot's Bridge, to the west side.

PROPOSAL: To put on a sloping [mansard] slate roof.

NOTES: The Court granted a warrant on condition that the roof was no higher than thirteen feet and a half. Thomas Mitchell complained about the drawings which he could not understand and on 5 July the Court requested an exact plan and elevation. Two further drawings were submitted, equally difficult to understand.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



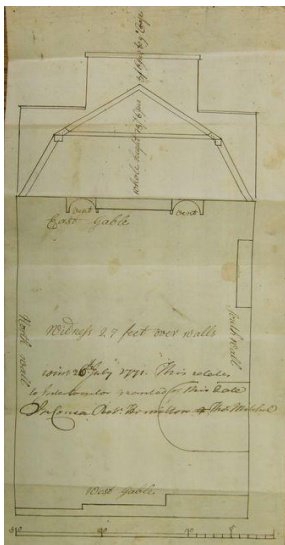
Description: a. Plan and section of intended gable (north and south).

Size: 30.0 x 36.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan and section of gable (east and west).

Size: 24.8 x 18.0 cms.



Description: c. Plan and section of gable.

Size: 35.0 x 18.2 cms.

BOX: 1771/46  
WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 July 1771.  
PETITIONER: Heritors of the stone land entering by the President's Stairs.  
SITE: President's Stairs.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/47  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 August 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1771.  
PETITIONER: James Rankine, wright.  
SITE: Skinners Close, foot.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Edwards, cape maker and his family for leaving ash, coal and barrels in the Close.  
NOTES: The petitioner, who holds a tack from the Incorporation of Skinners and Furriers, was given permission to trellis the two windows looking into the Close. The petition is noted 'That the above complaint was given in by order of the Trades' signed Alex Ogilvy; Robert Kinloch and David Lindsay.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/48  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 August 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 14 August 1771.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: High Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about sign boards projecting into the street.  
NOTES: The complaint is against John Brown, merchant; John Skirving, watchmaker; William Fraser, white iron smith; James Farquharson, merchant; James Mann, vintner; Messrs Young & Trotter, upholsterers; William Downie, watchmaker; Daniel McKinnon, wigmaker; Robert Gray, merchant; George Boyd, merchant; Mrs. Menzies, merchant; Messrs. Mountford & Co., milliners and James Aberdour, founder. The complaint is that they have erected signs projecting into the street that, among other things is 'impeding the view or prospect up and down the street...' They were ordered to take them down under penalty of £40 Scots.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/49  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 August 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 12 August 1771.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Grassmarket, south side, Crombie's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a roof, contiguous to a brewery.  
NOTES: The tenement belongs to the representatives of Henry Walker, stabler. A number of slates fell off the roof, frightening a horse and endangering a man leading it.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/50  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 August 1771.  
PETITIONER: Peter White.  
SITE: Castle Hill (inscribed on the front of the petition).  
PROPOSAL: Repairing windows on the ground floor front.  
NOTES: The work already begun and halted by order of the Court. He was allowed to continue on condition that the work be completed in stone or brick and to remain in line with tenement on the east.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1771.

PETITIONER: Christian Shean, harpsichord and Spinet maker.

SITE: Canongate, Dr. Young's Street (New Street), west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging out close to a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Porteous and James Thomson, masons who feued a piece of ground to the north of the petitioner's tenement. They are digging out an area deeper than the existing foundations. Work was stopped on 1 March and again after further complaint about digging in front, on 24 August when the Court sought a cautioner.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 26 August 1771.

PETITIONER: Colquhoun Grant WS and other proprietors.

SITE: High Street, north side, Gavinloch's land at the head of the Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the tenement.

NOTES: The Court granted a warrant for the repair of the chimneys by Richard Frame, mason but found 'no occasion for harling, pinning or pancratching the tenement...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 28 August 1771.

PETITIONER: Alexander Miller, glazier in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, west of the Tolbooth.

PROPOSAL: To build a chimney stack on the eastern gable.

NOTES: The petitioner lately purchased three stories of the tenement from John Marshal, shoemaker in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1771.

PETITIONER: William Mylne, architect in Edinburgh.

SITE: Mylne's Square, the fore land.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts of rebuilding.

NOTES: The petitioner and William McConochie, wright took down and rebuilt the gable on the fore land according to a warrant granted by the Court. The tenement belonged to John Paterson of Kirkton, lately deceased and has now passed to Duncan Forbes Paterson, Lt. in the Navy from whom they claim the expences. He did not appear to answer the petition and the matter went to the Court of Session. Accounts here from McConochie for wright work in July 1766; £51 14s 6½d and from Mylne for mason work, 19 October 1766 and July 1767; £36 11s 5½d with measures of their work by Patrick Sibbald and George Cowan. John Syme WS has paid him £20 Stg to account.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Fletcher, journeyman mason.

SITE: Halkerston's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner holds the house on a lease from Alexander Adam, slater, from Whitsun last to next at a rent of £6 Stg. The roof is in poor condition making the house uninhabitable. Adam claimed that he was only a creditor on the tenement and that it

was owned by Mrs. McCaul, widow of (blank) McCaul, merchant in Haddington, (blank) McCaul, spouse to Hay Donaldson, writer in Haddington and (blank) McCaul, spouse of George Kellie, surgeon in Leith.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1771.

PETITIONER: James Parlane, haberdasher.

SITE: At the back of the Guard.

PROPOSAL: To convert a window into a bow window.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1771 (No warrant, date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 13 September 1771.

PETITIONER: Thomas Parker, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, behind the Sugar house.

PROPOSAL: To build on the foundations of an old house.

NOTES: In an accompanying letter dated 11 September 1771, addressed to John Pattison, Town Clerk's chamber, the petitioner states that the property will measure 63 by 21 ft. and is bounded on the south and west by the garden in the possession of James Thomson, on the east by the High Street and on the north 'by a house of my own'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/58

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Grant, WS.

SITE: Carrubbers Close, west side, head.

PROPOSAL: To heighten the toofall on the north of his property.

NOTES: Enclosed is a second petition dated 25 July 1771 from Charles Innes, merchant, for himself and as factor for his brothers, and Archibald Buchan, writer. They are proprietors of the second floor of Kincaid's land by right of title from Thomas Kincaid dating from 1724. Grant acquired right to his property in 1748 from the trustees of Thomas Kincaid. A long argument here over servitudes preventing any heightening of the property, with which the Court agreed and dismissed the petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/59

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 5 September 1771.

PETITIONER: Alexander Peacock, mason.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite the foot of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for building a shop.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted in 1760 to John Caitchen, carver in Edinburgh and James Smellie, merchant to take down the tenement and rebuild. After obtaining the warrant Smellie reached an agreement with the petitioner to build the mason work of a shop on the ground floor of the tenement. Their agreement, dated 10 October 1769 is here. James Smellie 'lately deceased' left his affairs in disorder, prompting the petition for payment of building expences from his heirs, Hugh Inglis, barber and Alexander Alison, Deputy cashier of Excise. He cites a similar process in the Court of Session between the creditors of May Drummond and Charles Mack and other tradesmen regarding a property in the Canongate. There is an account and measure of the work carried out by the petitioner.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/60

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1771.

PETITIONER: Charles Inglis, Depute Clerk to the Bills, William Muirhead, brush maker and other proprietors.

SITE: Paterson's Court and uppermost Baxter's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish and a sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/61

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 8 October 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert McClagan, writer and Mrs. Patricia Denholm, residenter.

SITE: Middle entry to the Fleshmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a cellar rented to some sootymen by Mrs. Lauder.

NOTES: They use the cellar to store soot and the complaint is that visitors or strangers may mistake the open entry to the cellar for the entrance to the turnpike and fall into the soot. Ordered to make a proper door.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/62

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 1 October 1771.

PETITIONER: William Burn, merchant, John Corbet, tailor and other proprietors.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd, Smellies land.

PROPOSAL: Chimney repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/63

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 8 July 1771.

PETITIONER: Alexander Hunter, merchant for himself and in name of the Soperie Company in Leith and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd

PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying a pipe.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas and William Parker, merchants in Leith who are laying a pipe from the cistern at the head of the Tolbooth Wynd to their 'sugarie' adjacent. An interlocutor of 17 July insisted that the work should be carried out at the sight of members of the Court. Work has gone ahead without any such supervision. In replies for 'Messieurs Thomas and William Parker' they state that they had the permission from three of the Incorporations in Leith to relay a pipe to the sugarhouse that had been in use for several years, but not to take it by a branch from the side of the main pipe, as previously, as that injured the supply to the Town.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/64

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1771.

PETITION LODGED: 28 August 1771.

PETITIONER: John Bell, WS.

SITE: High Street, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the tenement at five floors above the shops.

NOTES: See warrant of 29 May 1771 (Campbell). The petitioner claims that under the previous warrant, both he and Mr. Hume of Ninewells would be deprived of their property if the building were restricted to four floors above the shops.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/65  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 October 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 16 May 1771.  
PETITIONER: William Young, writer.  
SITE: High Street, north side, Kinloch's Close, east side at the foot.  
PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for repair of vents.  
NOTES: The petitioner holds the two uppermost floors as a heritable creditor (of Patrick Thomson?) who owns the property. An estimate here from John Draysdell.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/66  
WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 21 August 1771.  
PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Hammermen: William Armstrong, Deacon and Andrew Kinnear, Boxmaster.  
SITE: East of Magdalen Chapel.  
PROPOSAL: To build a small tenement to the east of the Chapel.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1771/67  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 November 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 October 1771.  
PETITIONER: Heritors of Miln's Square.  
SITE: Mylne's Square, east wing.  
PROPOSAL: To open a drain.  
NOTES: Refers to a previous petition to the Town Council in August 1770 remitted to the Dean of Guild on 1 August 1770. A warrant was granted on 17 August but due to a mistake, the petition lay with the Clerk and was not returned to the Council.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/68  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 November 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 November 1771.  
PETITIONER: Col. George Gordon, Alexander Whyte, merchant, other proprietors and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Chalmers Close, head.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent from a shop.  
NOTES: The shop belongs to James Anderson, merchant.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/69  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 November 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 21 August 1771.  
PETITIONER: John Dumbreck, vintner and others.  
SITE: Milne's Square, east wing, 'west of the entry to the new bridge'.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a pile of earth.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James Gosman, mason who some time ago threw out a great pile of earth from the east side of a tenement on the west of the entry to the new bridge. This has blocked the run of water and their cellars are now damp. The Court ordered the west wall complained of to be opened to allow the water to run as formerly. See warrant granted on 17 August 1770. The papers here and with that warrant have been inscribed with numbers that suggest they may have formed part of a process in the Court of Session.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/70  
WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1771.  
PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Thomas Sheills, late farmer at Groathill.  
SITE: South Leith, Sheephead Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: To cognose expence of rebuilding a gable.  
NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted on 4 September last. Includes an account from David Pitcaithly, mason for rebuilding a mutual gable between George Home, Town Clerk of Leith and Thomas Sheills.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/71  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 December 1771 (Expences).  
PETITION LODGED: 22 October 1771.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Leslie, smith in Leith Wynd, Alexander Kinloch, wright there, Archibald McNeil, labourer and others, tenants and possessors.  
SITE: Leith Wynd, Cunnyngnam's land.  
PROPOSAL: To repair or demolish a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioners hold the tenement from William Sutherland, fish hook maker in Leith Wynd. It is ruinous and there have been two fires in the building within eight or ten days. The building is owned by John Kenenmond at Wester Rossey by Auchtermughty and David Kenenmond, weaver in King Glassie (Kinglassie). They asked the Court to have time to demolish the tenement but it was ordered to be demolished on 15 November 1771. This petition is for payment of expences.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

**Unextracted Processes** (stored with the petitions above)

BOX: 1771/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1771 (date of visit)  
PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1771.  
PETITIONER: James Alexander, coach wright in Canongate.  
SITE: Canongate, foot.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Henry Gudzman, sugar boiler in Canongate who broke out a door into an area belonging to the petitioner.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1771 (date of visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1771  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Wall between Bristo and Potterrow Ports.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of wall, in danger of falling.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Lauchlan Duff, factor for the Earl of Fyfe.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/3\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 5 February 1771 (date of visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1771.  
PETITIONER: William Orr, indweller in Pleasants (Pleasance).  
SITE: Pleasance.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without warrant.  
NOTES: The petitioner complains that William Hay junior, WS has begun work on his gable without warrant. Includes a memorandum from Hay stating that he purchased the lapping (capping?) house in the Pleasance along with two coach houses from Sir Hew Crawford in 1763. About ten days ago he let the same for ten years to one Calder, a wheel wright who, without his knowledge built a vent adjoining to the subjects owned by the petitioner. He refers to a plan (left with a warrant?).  
DRAWINGS: The plan mentioned but is not here.

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BOX: 1771/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: Remitted to Dean of Guild, 13 February 1771.

PETITIONER: James Thomson and other proprietors, north side of the Grassmarket.

SITE: Grassmarket, entire north side.

PROPOSAL: To alter the level of Castle Wynd as it enters the Grassmarket.

NOTES: The petition here is addressed to the Edinburgh Town Council, the proprietors having almost completed the laying of pavement on the north side of the Grassmarket.

Included is an execution from the Procurator Fiscal, listing the names of all the proprietors and asking them to attend the Dean of Guild Court, dated 22 April 1771.

See warrant of 6 March 1770.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 8 May 1771.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith Wynd, a wall on the west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint that the ruinous wall had not been taken down.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant to demolish parts of the wall, 20 March 1771.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1771 (date of visit)

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1771.

PETITIONER: John Paxton, innkeeper.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about entry from Castle Wynd.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Howison, writer who has made the entry almost inaccessible and narrower with building works. The Court ordered work to stop on 25 July. See warrant of 19 June 1771 (Dott).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1771 (calling the defenders).

PETITION LODGED: 23 July 1771.

PETITIONER: John Patison, writer.

SITE: Smith's land, opposite the head of Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an insufficient gable.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted by the Court to the Procurator Fiscal dated 29 June 1768 to take down chimneys and rebuild part of the gable. This did not happen until John Kay, mason was appointed to undertake the work and the petitioner advanced him money from time to time to a total of £18 10s stg. he is now claiming part of this money from Miss (blank) Murray of Stormonth and John Dingwall, writer

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1771 (call to attend Court).

PETITION LODGED: 2 September 1771.

PETITIONER: John Watson, writer.

SITE: Toddrick's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about roof damage by workmen on an adjoining building.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Johnston, mason who is working on heightening the walls of a tenement immediately to the east of the petitioner. He has allowed rubbish and stones to fall and damage the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1771 (date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 13 September 1771.

PETITIONER: Thomas Parker, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, behind the Sugar house.

PROPOSAL: To build on the foundations of an old house.

NOTES: In an accompanying letter dated 11 September 1771, addressed to John Pattison, Town Clerk's chamber, the petitioner states that the property will measure 63 by 21 ft. and is bounded on the south and west by the garden in the possession of James Thomson, on the east by the High Street and on the north 'by a house of my own'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 7 October 1771.

PETITIONER: Elizabeth Orrok, leaseholder of the Exchange Coffee house.

SITE: Exchange Coffee house.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the property not being wind and watertight and with broken hearths.

NOTES: The proprietor, Mrs. Ogle has left the country without giving anyone authority to inspect the property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1771 (date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1771.

PETITIONER: Alexander Anderson, brewer in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Yardheads.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs to roof and walls.

NOTES: The petitioner holds the dwelling house, brewery, barns, stables and several small houses on a lease from the Society of Carters of Leith, who refuse to carry out the essential repairs. In replies from the Carters they state that the petitioner tried to purchase the property from them at his price but they refused. They now claim that this is an attempt to force them to sell to him stating that the Court has no jurisdiction, it being 'part of the County of Edinburgh and as such pays cess to his majesty'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1771 (date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 12 September 1771.

PETITIONER: Edward Caithness, merchant.

SITE: Potterrow Port, Home's land.

PROPOSAL: To claim expence of repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner is a heritable creditor on the property. In replies from William Home and (blank) Taylor, tailor in Potterrow he states that the tenement was built 'some few years ago' and can hardly be in need of the repairs suggested. He goes on to point out that the petitioner has been in possession of the tenement for sometime and without recourse to anyone began making extravagant alterations and decorations. Now that these are complete, he seeks to have them declared a debt on the property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1771/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (No date, no warrant).

PETITIONER: Henry, Lord Borthwick.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite to the Doctor's yards.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about signs.

NOTES: Complaint that Hugh Cowdon, baker 'has taken upon him to paint on loaves up to your petitioner's very windows and also painted on loaves on the very turnpike

of your petitioner's house. Your petitioner is advised that the defender Cowdon cannot paint on loaves or any other kind of bread above the joisting of his shop...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1771/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: No date.

PETITIONER: Robert Martine, writer and William Gibson, tenant in Westrae.

SITE: Advocates Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a confectioner's shop in a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Blair who has placed a choffer or stove in a cellar without any vent.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1772

The Court Officers from 9 October 1771:

**Dean of Guild**

James Stodart

**Council**

Charles Wright, Old Dean of Guild

John Strachan merchant

Robert Johnston, merchant

Thomas Heriot, wright

Thomas Sommers, mason

George Syme, slater

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1772/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1771.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, pavement from the Exchange to the new bridge (North Bridge).

PROPOSAL: To replace the paving, which had become defective.

NOTES: The petitioner notes that 'several people have got their legs strained or broke' due to the condition of the pavement. He also notes that the present gutter will be moved from the middle to the outside '... in the same manner as opposite the Exchange and below the entry to the new bridge'. There are signatures here from all the consenting heritors. There are also estimates from five tradesmen agreeing to work to the plan provided by George Cowan, sworn measurer: William Jamieson, mason at 8d per ft. or 7d per ft if he keeps the old stones. The paving to be of Craigleith or other good stone, to be 3½ to 5 inches (thick) the gutter stones to be 6 inches, all laid on good sand and jointed with lime. Also from James Dick; George Ferguson & brothers, masons; William Smith and William Gilbert, masons - stone from Craigleith, Ravelstone or Salisbury quarries at 5d per ft.; and William Graham, mason at the foot of the Canongate at 4½d per ft. Jamieson was given the commission on 4 February 1772.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 13 December 1771.

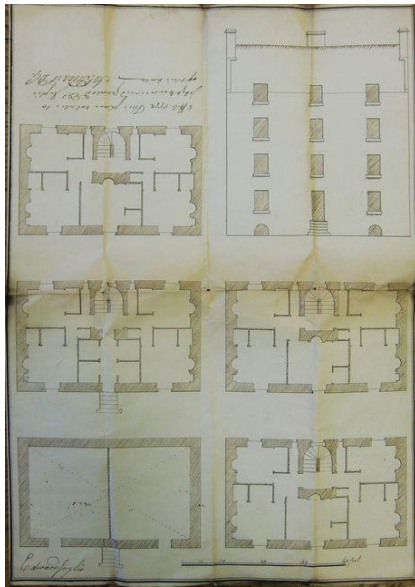
PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, druggist.

SITE: Leith, Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: Demolish and rebuild old tenements.

NOTES: The petitioner lately succeeded to the property as heir to Hugh Inglis, wright. See two unextracted petitions: 17 June 1772 (Inglis) and 10 March 1773 (Inglis, surgeon).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of five floors.  
 Size: 46.0 x 32.2 cms.  
 Draughtsman: Dexter hatching (Alexander Laing?).

BOX: 1772/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 7 January 1772.

PETITIONER: Elizabeth Johnston, relict of David Spens, WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Home's land, fifth floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The petitioner and Mrs. McPherson on the first floor are the only proprietors but Mrs. McPherson lets out rooms to others. There are two or more engravers in the garrets above her flat and they are creating a great deal of noise with a machine, from 5 or 6am to late at night. They also have a choffer or fire standing on a piece of timber in the room. The Court ordered the removal of the machine and the choffer.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1772/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1772.

PETITIONER: The inhabitants of Dons Close: Thomas Rattray, Margaret Maxwell, Francis Armstrong and Archibald Maxwell, proprietors.

SITE: Dons Close, foot, Telfer's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an adjoining tenement that is dangerous.

NOTES: The adjoining tenement belongs to John Don of Woodside (Haddington) and as he resided outside the jurisdiction of the Court, the petitioners had to raise letters of supplement. The complaint is specifically about an outshot of timber, fixed to the lowermost or north turnpike. He was ordered to remove it and not to replace it 'in all time coming'. See also an unextracted petition dated 25 February 1774 (Laing) for non payment for the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1772/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 6 December 1771.

PETITIONER: White & Mitchell, merchants.

SITE: High Street, opposite the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge the shop windows.

NOTES: The shop is owned by James Dewar of Vogrie and he had previously applied to the Court to have an alteration to his shop front. On 29 November 1768 the Court asked John Adam, William Milne and Alexander Gowans, architects to report on the

safety of what was proposed and they did so on 1 December 1768, in the affirmative. The matter went to the Court of Session in a bill of advocacy by the heritors in the flats above and they insisted on having a cautioner. Dewar wished to stand as his own cautioner but this was not accepted and his petition was refused. A drawing is mentioned in the reclaiming petition of James Dewar of Vogrie to the Court of Session, dated 16 November 1769.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1772/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 4 October 1771.

PETITIONER: George Cooper, WS.

SITE: Canongate, south side

PROPOSAL: Argument about a mutual gable and dyke.

NOTES: The petitioner complains for himself and on behalf of his brother Richard and sister Anne against Janet Sinclair, relict of George Sinclair of Ulbster, who is building a dividing wall between her property and that of the petitioners. The Court ordered the work to be stopped, 18 October 1771 and found the petitioner's property had been encroached upon. Refers to a Disposition dated 21 February 1753 and a sasine dated 17 October 1757 in favour of Richard Cooper, engraver in Edinburgh. Includes a warrant from the Dean of Guild to William Wilson dated 17 May 1758 granting him permission to take down and rebuild his tenement according to plans produced. His new tenement to be bounded on the west by that belonging to the Incorporation of Hammermen of Canongate and on the east by tenement previously owned by the Incorporation of Tailors in Canongate and now to the Cooper family. Work carried out at the sight of James Robertson and Patrick Jamison, members of the Court. A long argument ensued over an encroachment of nine inches along the boundary. This was sent to proofs and the Court eventually found in favour of the petitioners. Proofs from James Smith, slater in Canongate aged 50, married; James Aitken, wright in Canongate aged 70, married and Gilbert Duncan, mason aged 50 'solutus' (Latin for free or at large).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 12 July 1771.

PETITIONER: Archibald Campbell, brewer.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Powers Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild tenements.

NOTES: The warrant refers to a previous petition by James Forrest of Comiston dated 28 November 1730 to build and repair tenements on the same site. Also notes a disposition by James Alcorn, elder, son of the deceased Richard Alcorn, watchmaker in Edinburgh who was the heir of the deceased Henry Alcorn, essay master of H. M. Mint... to James Forrest dated 12 December 1732 (for one of the tenements on the site?) On 4 September 1771 the petitioner was asked to provide evidence that there had been other houses on the site. He was opposed by Alexander Kinkaid, H. M. Stationer and Captain Archibald Grant of Monimusk who went to the Court of Session.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1768.

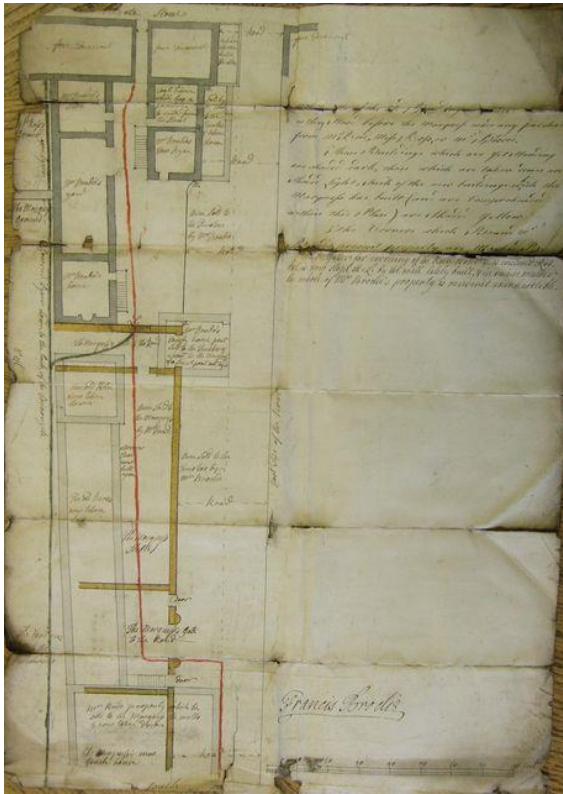
PETITIONER: Francis Brodie, wright.

SITE: Canongate, Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: There was a long running argument with William, Marquis of Lothian over the petitioner's intention to shut up a Close or passage from the Canongate and about drainage. The case went to the Court of Session and after a further petition of 17 February 1772 he was allowed to partially cover the Close, the transe being at least nine

feet high. The warrant grants permission to build according to the plan No. 5.  
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.

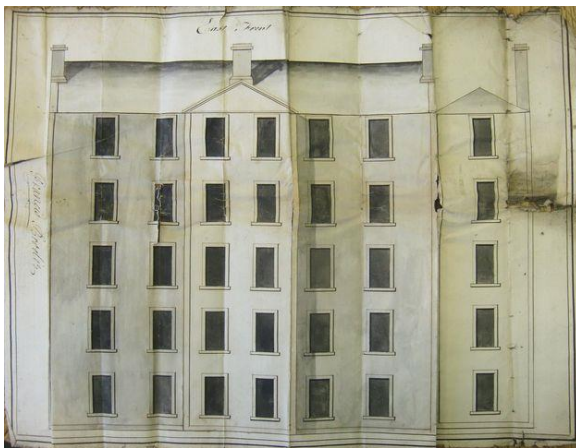


Description: a. Plan of the entire area.

Size: 45.0 x 32.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, verso: Plan No. 1 of the former & present state of the grounds and Close.

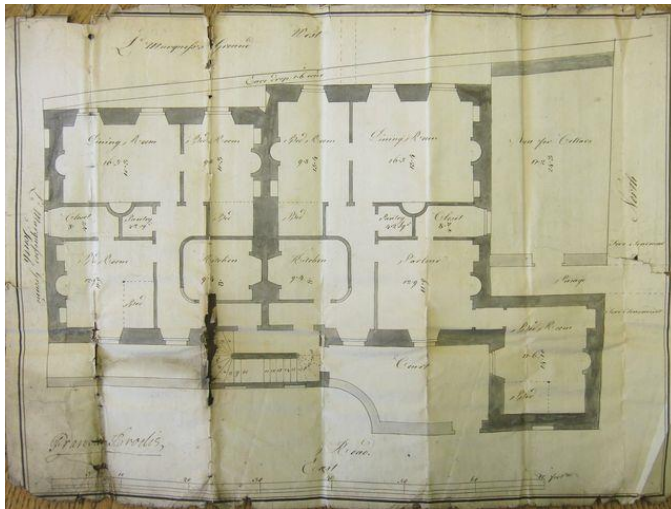


Description: b. Elevation of the east front.

Size: 35.0 x 46.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, verso: No. 2 Plan of the elevation of the building.

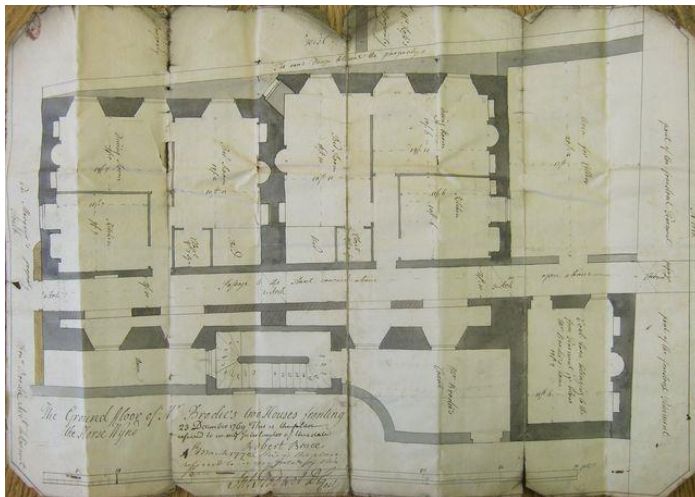


Description: c. Plan of the ground floor (as originally intended?).

Size: 34.5 x 47.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, verso: Plan No. 3 Sections of the buildings.



Description: d. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 31.5 x 45.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, recto: (Signed) Fras. Brodie Archt. deliniavit

Inscriptions, verso: No. 5 Plan of the ground floor of Francis Brodie's houses.

Architect: Francis Brodie.

BOX: 1772/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1772.

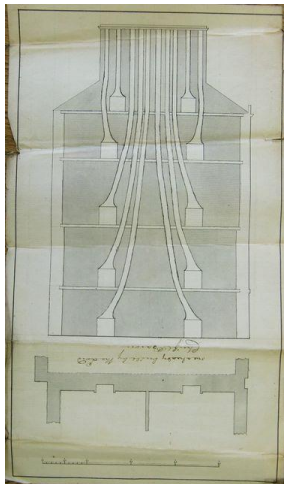
PETITIONER: Robert Hunter, late of Bengal.

SITE: Queens Row (Queen Street).

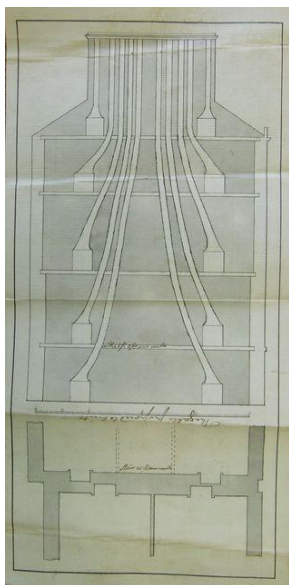
PROPOSAL: To build a mutual gable.

NOTES: Robert Hunter and John Dalrymple, Lord Provost of Edinburgh 'lately' purchased a plot of ground from Archibald Keir, late of Bengal, of 76ft and a half in front. It lies immediately east of the plot purchased by Sir John Whiteford, but as he is not yet going to build, they seek permission to build a mutual gable and have the cost cognosed. Note on the petition dated 18 May 1772 records that the section for the mutual gable was borrowed by Alexander Young and returned in 48 hours.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Section of the gable 'already built by the Lord Chief Baron'  
Size: 36.0 x 21.0 cms.



Description: b. Section of the mutual gable to be built.  
Size: 36.7 x 18.0 cms.

BOX: 1772/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 28 August 1771.

PETITIONER: Miss Clarks: Eleanora and Alison Clark

SITE: Todericks Wynd, head, Merchiston's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about overhead joisting and insufficient support below.

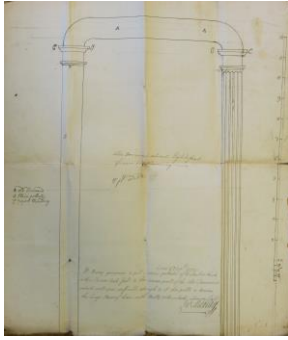
NOTES: The fore part of their tenement was recently rebuilt. They now complain that the joisting in the ceiling/floor above, belonging to David Low, is insufficient and water comes through. The owner of the flat below, James Murray has taken away a pillar and replaced it with a column of wood bound with iron. The Court issued a warrant to remedy the joisting on 9 October 1771 but Law began to divide his flat with brick partitions. There are reports here from William Dallas, wright and George Paterson, architect dated 19 February 1772, to which the final warrant is subscribed.

Also from John Young, wright and William Johnston, mason dated 8 February 1772.

See also warrants of 9 September 1772 (Johnstone) and same date (Keir). The drawing at a. was found in the 1771 box and returned here.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: Elevation of an entrance arch.  
Size: 41.8 x 36.7 cms.

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BOX: 1772/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1772.

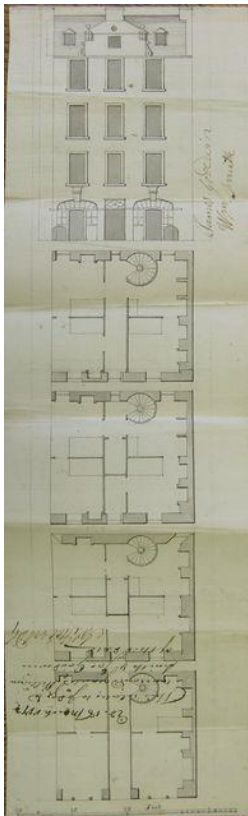
PETITIONER: Smith & Goodwin: William Smith, mason and William Goodwin, flax dresser.

SITE: West Bow, about the middle on the south side. The Temple tenement.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The papers here include the articles of roup for the sale of tenements and areas on 26 February 1772 and the sale agreements. The property previously belonged to the heirs of Robert Veitch, shoemaker. William Smith, mason began the bidding on the fore waste area at £52 but it was purchased by James Goodwin, flax dresser for £124 Stg. on Smith's behalf. David Lindsay, skinner, purchased the back area and ruinous tenement for £60 Stg. The articles referred to a requirement to provide an entry four ft. wide through to the back area. This is the central door on the drawing. See warrant of 10 June 1772 (Weir) for a drawing (c.) in a similar hand. See also an unextracted petition dated 10 February 1773 by Robert Veitch against James Goodwin for non payment of purchase price.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of four floors.  
Size 49.6 x 14.9 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1772.

PETITIONER: William Ronaldson, baker in Edinburgh, John Butter, merchant, Andrew Wilson, merchant, Francis Brodie, wright and William Mein, merchant and others.

SITE: Lawnmarket, south side (Buchanan's land and Bank Close).

PROPOSAL: Complaint against the proprietors of a burnt tenement.

NOTES: The petitioners refer to a fire 12 or 14 months ago and the reluctance of the proprietors to rebuild or move the rubbish. They also complain that there is no pavement in front of the tenement and this prevents access on this side of the street. The Court ordered that William Jamieson should lay the pavement in the meantime.

See warrant of 17 June 1772 (Jamieson) and accounts for building dated February 1772 .

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 1 April 1772.

PETITIONER: Agnes Bartleman: daughter of the deceased Robert Bartleman, mason in Canongate, spouse of James Peddie, merchant in Ayr.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a mutual gable.

NOTES: A complaint against her neighbour, James Ogilvy, shoemaker in Leith Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 March 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1772.

PETITIONER: John Andrew, merchant.

SITE: Upper entry to James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Grew (Crow?), Alexander Gillies and Robert Macdonald, porters.

NOTES: The complaint is that the porters are lounging in front of the petitioner's shop and leaving their creils (baskets), so that he cannot see his goods. The Court prohibited them from standing in front of the shop.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1772.

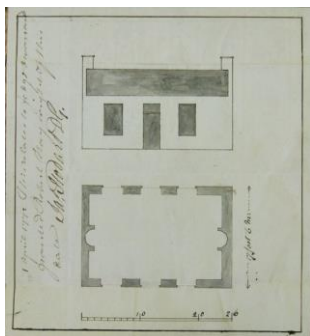
PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1772.

PETITIONER: Robert Hay, wright.

SITE: Advocates Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a small house in a garden.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of a single story house.

Size: 18.2 x 16.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 13 March 1772.

PETITIONER: William Good, wright, Richard Frame, mason, William Archibald, slater.

SITE: Potterrow, west side contiguous to the meeting house owned by Mr. Pattison.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts of repairs to a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belonged to Margaret Oliphant, relict of John Wilson, silk dyer. Accounts and measures here for slater work carried out in November 1770 and wright work on the roof in September.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1772.

PETITIONER: Incorporation of Bakers in Edinburgh: James Cunningham, Deacon and John Wight, treasurer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side at the foot of Baxter's and Moseropts (Morocco's) Closes.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the dykes around the areas.

NOTES: The property comprises two bake houses with ground that extends down to the road from the Castle hill to the New Port, enclosed and used as wood stores.

According to the plan this ground belongs to the Incorporation of Baxters. As part of the agreement the Incorporation takes on an obligation to provide an access route six feet wide, along the west side of their land, down to the road mentioned, whenever required by the Town Council. See the warrant of 4 November 1772 (Beveridge) for the full copy of the warrant granted here.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the entire area.

Size: 38.0 x 32.1 cms.

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BOX: 1772/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1772.

PETITIONER: Robert Brown founder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Galloway's Close.

PROPOSAL: To enclose his ground to the south.

NOTES: The petitioner's property is contiguous to that of the Incorporation of Bakers and he is following their example.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1772.

PETITIONER: John Anderson, coppersmith and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an enlarged vent that should not have been used.

NOTES: The petitioner had let a shop and house to Alexander Smith, baker, now deceased. He or his son, also Alexander, sub-let the premises to Peter Burns, baker, who has enlarged the borrowed vent and caused alarm in the tenement by fire. The tack still has a year to run. See also warrant granted 27 July 1774 for this tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 31 March 1772.

PETITIONER: Taylor & Smith: Robert Taylor and Gilbert Smith, founders.

SITE: St Ninian's Row, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about heaps of earth.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hill, wright, about a dyke to the west of their property, separating it from Forglen's park. Hill has built some tenements but has left heaps of earth along their dyke. The run off from the roof also runs into their garden.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1772.

PETITIONER: John Hunter, youngest son of James Hunter, wright, deceased, in name of himself and his elder brother, James Hunter, now abroad.

SITE: Niddry Wynd, about the middle, Morrison's land.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a turnpike stair.

NOTES: Not clear if the stair is to be in stone or timber. There is an argument about a small adjoining shop belonging to Major Alexander Bredin.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1772.

PETITIONER: Michael Nasmith, wright.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Young Street (New Street), east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: There are two petitions here from Walter Ross, WS, for the adjoining property on the east. This area is marked as belonging to Mr. Horsburgh on the plan. He complains about the loss of light to his factory and houses if this building should go ahead. The property to the south on the plan is noted as that of Lord Kames.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 37.2 x 39.0 cms.

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BOX: 1772/23  
WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 14 April 1772.  
PETITIONER: William Polson, merchant in Edinburgh.  
SITE: Third story below the Post Office.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the ceiling/floor above.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/24  
WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1772.  
PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: West Bow, immediately to the west of the temple tenement or ruinous area, lately sold by the Good Town.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: The tenement belongs to John Hunter, apothecary and Patrick Sibbald, wright. A jury was appointed and the members are listed.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/25  
WARRANT GRANTED: 6 May 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1772.  
PETITIONER: Gilbert Waugh, baker.  
SITE: Niddry Wynd, at the head on the west side.  
PROPOSAL: To bring forward his shop front in line with the tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/26  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 May 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1772.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Fogo, merchant.  
SITE: Exchange, shop in front.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.  
NOTES: The sign belongs to Messrs. Anthony Keeling & Co, merchants. The Court noted in its decision of 8 April 1772 'that by the custom of this City the tenants of shops & warehouses have a right to prevent their neighbours from affixing sign boards on any part of their property from the ceiling above to the flooring below...'. The defenders presented a counter petition which was refused on 13 May 1772.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/27  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 May 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 May 1772.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Gordon, advocate and Thomas Tod, merchant.  
SITE: Castlehill, north side.  
PROPOSAL: To build a stable on the east side of a park belonging to Allan Ramsay, limner, on the north of the road leading from Mr. Ramsay's property to the New Port.  
NOTES: Only the warrant survives here. John Russell WS acted for Allan Ramsay. Ramsay wrote to the Court on 28 July 1772 from London, having been in Edinburgh and examined the papers in the Court. He found that an elevation but no plan had been submitted and that the petitioners were encroaching on his property. The Court recalled the warrant granted here on 26 August 1772.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1772/28  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 May 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1772.  
PETITIONER: Patrick Sibbald, wright.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The petition by the Procurator Fiscal on or before 24 April 1772 is missing but the case can be followed in a counter petition here by Patrick Sibbald, wright in Edinburgh on or before 20 May 1772. He owned the tenement with John Hunter, apothecary and was ordered to demolish it on 29 April 1772. His appeal was refused.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 May 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 14 May 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Borthwick's Close, head, Reid's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the erection of stoves.

NOTES: The complaint against James Thomson jun, and James Thom, merchants.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 May 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1772.

PETITIONER: James Allan, brewer.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side, with the entry to Heriot's Hospital on the west.

PROPOSAL: To build tenements.

NOTES: The plan at c. does not relate to the area shown on plan a. although all three are inscribed with the petitioner's name.

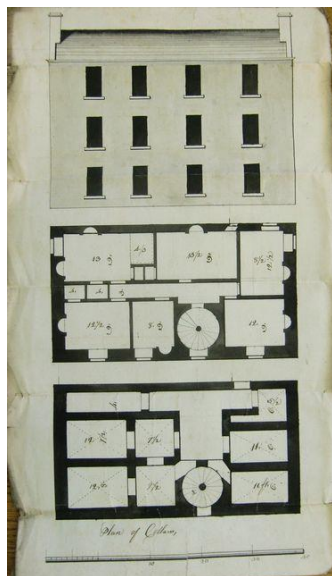
DRAWINGS: Three sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the area with pencil additions showing the interior divisions.

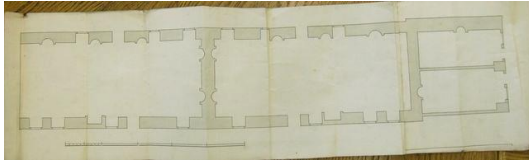
Size: 16.5 x 28.1 cms.

Watermark: countermark, PPM



Description: b. Elevation (to the Grassmarket?) and plans of two floors.

Size: 38.0 x 21.8 cms.



Description: c. Plan.  
Size: 17.5 x 62.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1772.

PETITIONER: David Simpson, baker.

SITE: College Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a mutual gable.

NOTES: The adjoining tenement previously belonged to John Meals, brewer and now to William Peaston of Sutra. The petitioner claims that the vents in the mutual gable have become deficient and that William Peaston refuses to repair them. See warrant of 2 September 1772 (Peaston).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1772.

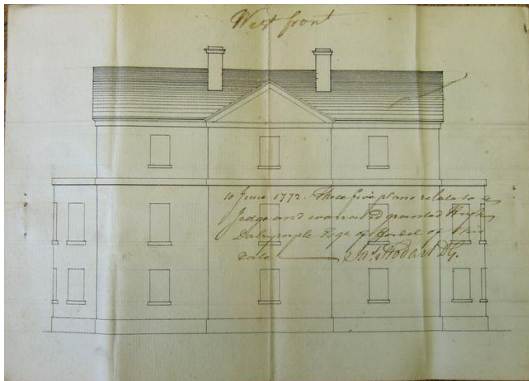
PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1772.

PETITIONER: Hugh Dalrymple of Fordel

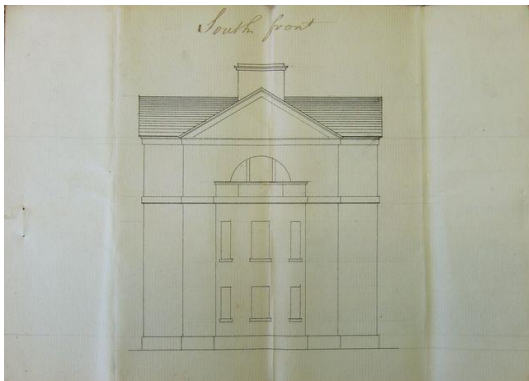
SITE: Between Potterrow and Bristo Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a house in his garden or area.

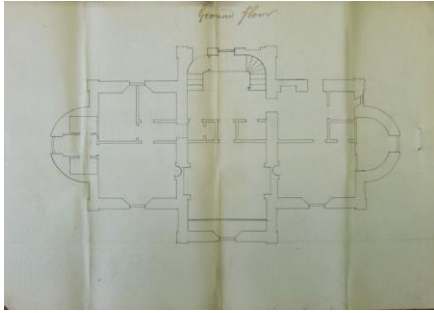
DRAWINGS: 5 sheets.



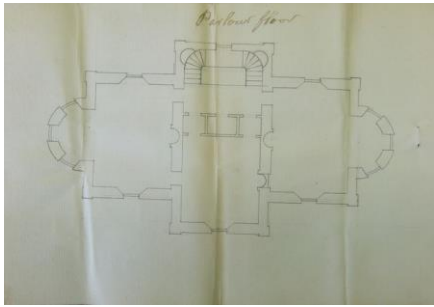
Description: a. Elevation to the west.  
Size: 18.0 x 25.5 cms.



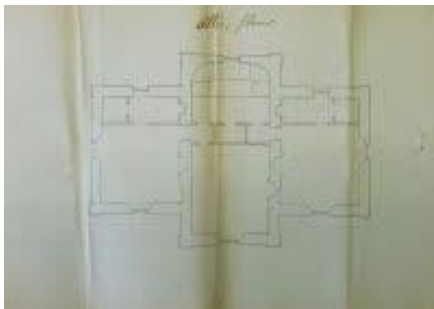
Description: b. Elevation to the south.  
Size: 18.0 x 25.5 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 18.0 x 25.5 cms.



Description: d. Plan of the parlour floor  
Size: 18.0 x 25.5 cms.



Description: e. Plan of the attic floor.  
Size: 18.0 x 25.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1772.

PETITIONER: James Weir, wright at Tollcross.

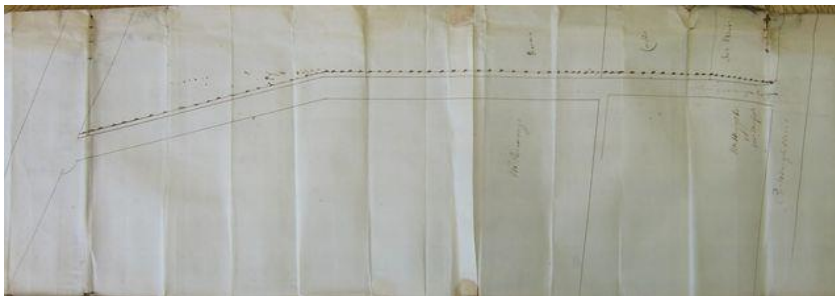
SITE: Portsburgh, corner with Lady Lawson's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build on the site of an old brewery.

NOTES: The petitioner describes his site as, Portsburgh, on the south side of the road leading to Lauriston and on the south and east side of Portsburgh.

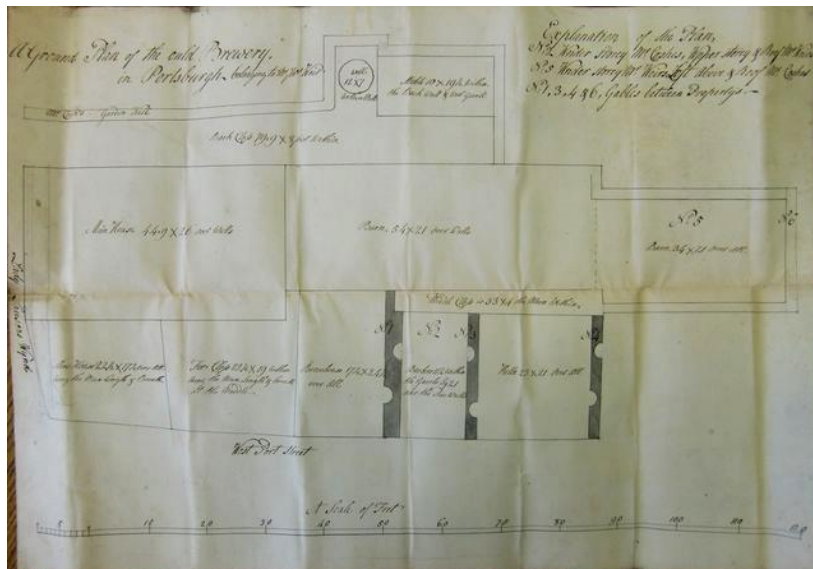
See warrant of 18 March 1772 (Smith) for a drawing in a similar hand to c. below.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

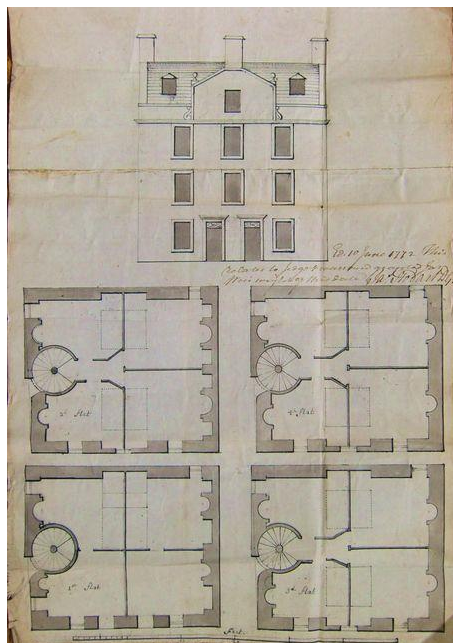


Description: a. Plan of Lady Lawson's Wynd.  
Size: 22.5 x 71.5 cms. (two sheets tipped together).





Description: b. Plan of the old brewery.  
Size: 37.0 x 52.6 cms.



Description: c. Elevation and plans of four floors.  
Size: 35.1 x 24.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1772.

PETITIONER: Robert Taylor, founder and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St. Ninian's Row.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Alexander Nisbet, merchant.

NOTES: Nisbet had begun building a small brick house without a warrant. In his answers he states that he believed he was outside the jurisdiction of the Court and notes that he is not encroaching as he is building on a wall or dyke erected last October jointly with the petitioner. Nisbet may have made a 'previous application'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 9 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Graham & Thriepland: Ann and Christian Graeme and Miss

Thriepland.

SITE: Merlin's Wynd, first and second floors.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Ruthven, writer in Edinburgh.

NOTES: Ruthven purchased the cellar below their flats and subdivided it into small apartments or 'cells' as the petitioner describes them. He asked to borrow access to an existing vent and when this was refused on the advice of tradesmen, he went ahead and slapped through a vent before 5 o'clock in the morning. Complaint dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 31 March 1772.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Bank Close and Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for rebuilding and laying pavement.

NOTES: See previous warrant of 19 March 1772 (Ronaldson and others). There are accounts here for rebuilding the upper part of the tenement by William Jamieson, mason with a scheme of division that lists proprietors.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1772.

PETITIONER: William Mathieson, late of Edinburgh now of London, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate, Chrysties land.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement and shops.

NOTES: The petitioner holds title to the site as a creditor. It is presently occupied by Thomas Ritchie, wright and others. Includes a list of all the repairs and the tenants.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 14 August 1771.

PETITIONER: Mary Cairns, relict of David Simpson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Sherriff Brae.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Drysdale for encroachment on the street.

NOTES: The work was stopped on 15 August 1771. In an argument over the width of the highway the petitioner presents proofs from: John Watson gardener in Leith aged 60, married; Euan Liddle, gardener in Leith aged 60, married; William Taylor, boat builder in Leith aged 51, widower; Richard Tod, merchant in Leith, aged 50 and upwards, married; David Thomson flax dresser in Leith aged 40 and upwards, widower. All refer to a previous owner Robert Cairns. The Court found against Drysdale, 23 October 1771, he appealed on 9 November, dismissed on 17 June 1772.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but is not here.

---

BOX: 1772/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 23 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, druggist.

SITE: Lawnmarket, uppermost Baxter's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a dyke around his area.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1772.

PETITION: Charles Wright, merchant, Colquhoun Grant, WS, William Dallas, wright and John Fyne, writer.

SITE: Kinloch's Close

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the timber plats at each entry in stone and to harl the east, south and north walls of their tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1772

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1772.

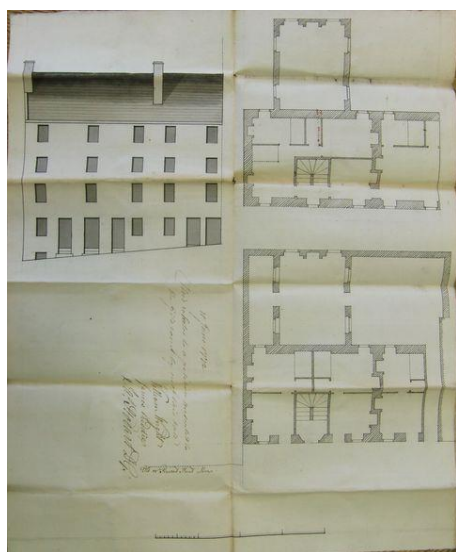
PETITIONER: William Wright, wright and James Reddie, mason both in Canongate.

SITE: Leith Wynd, middle .

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors.

NOTES: The tenement on the site, purchased from David and John Kenninmonds, had been condemned by the Court. See the warrant granted to Wright, 5 August 1779 for the same street.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 45.8 x 36.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 3 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Thomson, merchant whose chimney blew down onto the laigh roof of a property owned by John Veitch, late merchant and possessed by Mr. Murray, stabler. Brown agreed to repair the roof but on presentation of his account, the defender said it was double what he expected. Thomson's replies are very detailed in the quantity and quality of the slates used in the repair (blue slates instead of old grey ones) and the time spent. Account here from Brown for £1 1s 9d which the Court upheld.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1772.

PETITIONER: Charles and William Butter, wrights.

SITE: Princes Street, east end, cross tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Hill, wright.

NOTES: They explain that at the request of William Key, wright, their contiguous feuar to the south, they left voids in the south gable and placed vents there. Thomas Hill has

made alterations to these to the danger of both tenements. The Court ordered work by Thomas Hill in Steel & Finches shop to be stopped on 18 June 1772. Also ordered the petitioners to put in a rainwater drain and ordered Hill to build up the vent.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1772.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Milns (Mylne's) Square.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expence of repairing cellars and pavement.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted on 23 January 1770 to carry out the work

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1772.

PETITIONER: William Campbell, writer.

SITE: High Street, Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof and windows.

NOTES: The petitioner took from John Grant, writer, the flat at the top of the scale stairs, belonging to Alexander Stewart, WS.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 5 August 1772.

PETITIONER: Joseph Symington, brewer at the Abbey and George Fortune, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a house.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a lease from Robert Thomson, merchant on a shop at £12 Stg. pa, in place of £6 Stg. pa, on condition that certain repairs were carried out. The shop was formerly possessed by John Sword and is now sublet to George Fortune. The work has not been carried out. The Court ordered that Fortune could move out and not be liable for any rent and that the petitioner could re-let the shop.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1772.

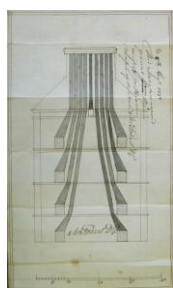
PETITIONER: James Broun, wright in Edinburgh and James Broun, wright in Dunsire

SITE: Street from the north west corner of St Andrew's Square to Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Cognose the expence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: His lot is immediately to the north of that feued by John Watson and James Donaldson. The lot to the north of the petitioner is not yet feued. The inscription on the plan states that one of these gentleman is a mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the gable.

Size: 34.0 x 20.0 cms

---

BOX: 1772/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1772.

PETITIONER: Andrew Yule, merchant.

SITE: Advocates Close, uppermost story at the head.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs on the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner rents the flat for 10 Guineas per annum to Alexander Dallas, silk dyer but he refuses to carry out the repairs. Dallas is ordered to do so within 14 days or the petitioner can do so himself and charge the amount.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1772.

PETITIONER: William Home.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: (To build a tenement).

NOTES: All of the other paperwork for this drawing is awaiting but it is inscribed with the date of the 'jedge and warrant'. An inventory of processes found in the 1784 box has been returned here and it explains that the whole process 'William Home against William Raeburn' was borrowed on 24 July 1784. It notes a 'plan of the front', 'plan of the roof' and further plans produced with triplies for William Home. It also notes a measure by Alexander Ponton and estimates from James Cairncross, slater and John Ritchie, slater. The inventory is noted 1783 on the front suggesting a long process.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation for a three story tenement.

Size: 23.2 x 26.0 cms.

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BOX: 1772/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 12 August 1772.

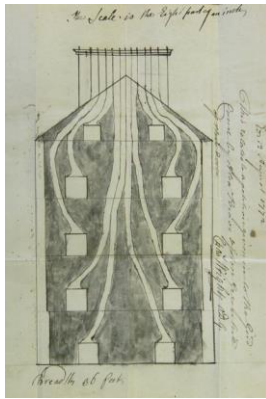
PETITIONER: Alexander Brae and John Greenhill, masons.

SITE: St Andrew Square, east side the corner next to Queens Row.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: The lot to the east is not yet feued.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the mutual gable.  
Size: 25.5 x 18.8 cms.

BOX: 1772/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1772.

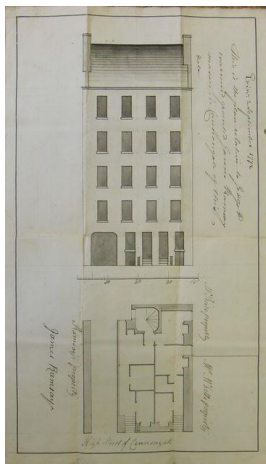
PETITION LODGED: 12 August 1772.

PETITIONER: James Ramsay, mason in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side, opposite Lord Minto's lodging.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement and plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 38.8 x 22.2 cms.

BOX: 1772/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1772.

PETITIONER: John Langlands, manufacturer in Potterrow.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Lady Stairs Close, Gladstones land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the fourth story, immediately below that belonging to James Muirhead, writer in Edinburgh, who is responsible for the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1772/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1772.

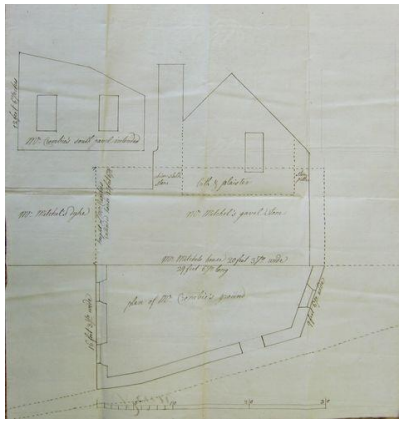
PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1772.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crombie, dyer.

SITE: Home's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade in his garden area. The drawing here is in a similar hand to those with the warrant of 13 April 1780 (Home).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.  
Size: 32.6 x 30.6 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1772.

PETITIONER: James Mitchell, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Moyes, flesher.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the first floor above the shops in the tenement some time ago from James Ramsay, mason in Canongate. This is an argument about access to a cellar. There are proofs here from John Crombie, mason aged 26, unmarried; Richard Livingston, journeyman wright aged 32, married; Arthir Giles, wright aged 40, married; James McKell, fish hook maker in Leith aged 50, married; James Ramsay, mason in Canongate aged 40, married; Alexander Alexander, wright aged 43, married and Fraser Froop, apprentice to Alexander Alexander aged 17, unmarried. The latter states that he entered his apprenticeship in February 1771. Also from Ann Gordon, servant to Lewis Grant, writer in Edinburgh aged 28, unmarried. Ann states that she served Mrs. Gordon, relict of Robert Gordon, jeweller, in Edinburgh for one year preceding Whitsunday last and that Mrs. Gordon possessed the defender's (Robert Moyes) house in Leith Wynd during that year.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1772.

PETITIONER: William Johnston, mason.

SITE: Gavinloch's land.

PROPOSAL: To call Richard Gardner, deputy comptroller of customs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1772.

PETITIONER: William Peaston of Soutra.

SITE: College Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs.

NOTES: The property is a brewery and dwelling houses which belonged to the deceased Alexander Meals, brewer, who died bankrupt. The petitioner took possession at Whitsunday last. See previous warrant of 10 June 1772 (Simpson).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1772.

PETITIONER: William Johnstone, mason, George Syme, slater and William Scott,

plumber.

SITE: Todericks Wynd, head, Merchiston's land.

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for rebuilding the two uppermost floors and roof.

NOTES: The flats belong to David Low, late tacksman of Innerleith park and now residenter in Edinburgh. Accounts here from all three petitioners. For wright work see the warrant of 9 September 1772 (Keir). See also warrant granted 9 March 1772 (Clark).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/58

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 23 June 1772.

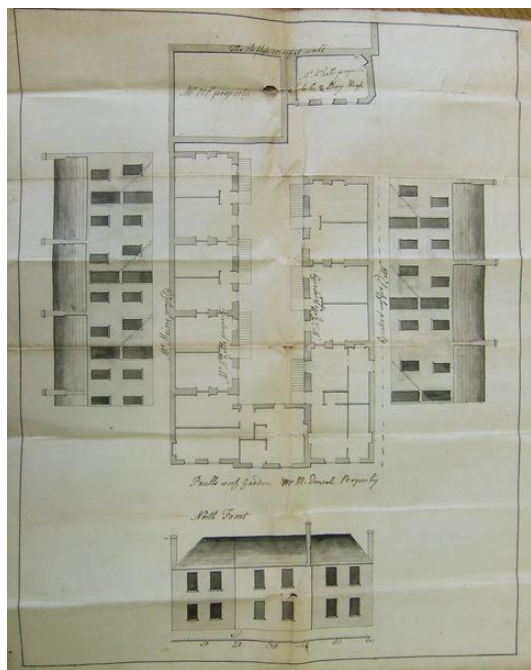
PETITIONER: James McKell, hookmaker in Leith Wynd.

SITE: Canongate, foot of Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a group of two story tenements.

NOTES: The area of land recently purchased from Walter Ross WS by disposition dated 16 June 1772. The lawyers for the previous owners could not find the title deeds for the property and they made sworn oaths to that effect. There are replies here from Mrs. Clarkson relict of Thomas Clarkson, baker who asks to see all the legal titles as she is worried out loss of light to her 'factory'. The drawing shows that the intended buildings stretch from the wall of the old Flesh market to Pauls Work garden.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations and plans of three tenements around a court.

Size: 51 0 x 45.0 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman.

---

BOX: 1772/59

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1772.

PETITIONER: Catherine Keir, relict of Robert Moubray, wright, one of the trustees and factor for Adam Keir, baker in Edinburgh, Walter Ross WS, John Nisbet, writer, Trustees of the said deceased Robert Moubray.

SITE: Todericks Wynd, head, Merchiston's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of wright work.

NOTES: An undated account and measure dated 18 June 1772 for wright work by Moubray. See also warrant granted 9 March 1772 (Clark).

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1772/60

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith Wynd, and north east corner of the laigh Fleshmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The ruinous tenement is to the north of a tenement now rebuilding. It is owned by Magdalen Henderson spouse of Edward Ramsay, smith in Leith Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/61

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 October 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 14 October 1772.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Parliament Close, the old exchange and the post office tenements.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/62

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 October 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1772.

PETITIONER: William Walker, writer and others.

SITE: Byres Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a necessary house built, blocking a drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Wright, writer in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/63

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 2 September 1772.

PETITIONER: James Beveridge and James Fyfe, merchants, James Ranken, lapidary and Alexander Grant, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Mosscroft or Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against the Incorporation of Bakers in relation to their warrant granted on 8 April 1772, a full copy is here. The complaint was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/64

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1772.

PETITIONER: Alexander Peacock, mason.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Hunter's land, opposite the Fishmarket Close and to the west of Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Cognose the expences of rebuilding a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to the petition of John Caitcheon, carver and gilder to rebuild the tenement. Peacock's account is here. There is a letter here from Caitcheon dated 19 June 1769 stating the amount he is prepared to pay and one from Peacock agreeing to finish off the work dated 21 December 1771. In Caitcheon's answers he states that he paid the mason £111 on the 22 June 1771 'when my land was not three storries built' and withheld £45 until the work was complete.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/65

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 17 November 1772.

PETITIONER: Patrick Somervell, lint dresser.

SITE: Allan's Close

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a fallen wall.

NOTES: The wall surrounding the property of Thomas Heriot, wright and Robert Johnston, merchant collapsed on the Sabbath day, 25 October last. The fall is allowing water to run from the Close into the petitioner's house.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/66

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1772.

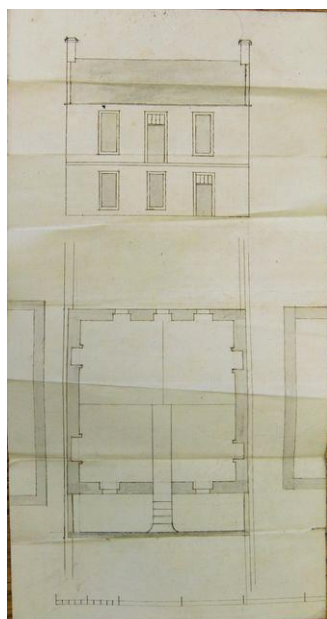
PETITIONER: Robert Brown, founder.

SITE: Galloway's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a brick house and rebuild.

NOTES: The property was purchased from trustees of the deceased David Brown merchant by disposition dated 15 April 1771. Before this the trustees had granted a lease of 21 years, commencing at Whitsunday 1760, to the now deceased Alexander Aberdour, founder in Edinburgh. Aberdour had built a brick house and shade on the area. He was bankrupt at his decease and his creditors took on the lease including James Aberdour who had a warrant from the Court on 31 May 1769 to carry out repairs on the property. A long argument ensued about encroachment on Galloway's Close and the Court decided 'that by the writings (documents) produced and by Mr. Edgar's plan of the City of Edinburgh, Galloway's Close is a public Close. Find that this close goes as far north as the tenement built by the defender. Find that this close belongs to none of the parties but to the public and that the same must be kept five feet broad..'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a two story house and plan of the ground floor and area.

Size: 32.5 x 16.6 cms.

---

BOX: 1772/67

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 December 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 9 December 1772.

PETITIONER: James Graham, late writer.

SITE: High Street, head of Forrester's Wynd, sixth floor above the shops.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner's grandfather on his mother's side, Patrick Anderson, wright, purchased the property from the deceased Alexander Govanlock, mason in Edinburgh in July 1700, the disposition registered in the Town Court books, 4 March 1706.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/68  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 December 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1772.  
PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: High Street, both sides of the entry to North Bridge.  
PROPOSAL: To lay pavement and have the expence cognosed.  
NOTES: Only the warrant survives here.  
DRAWINGS: None.

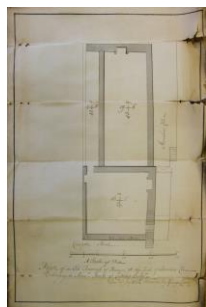
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BOX: 1772/69  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 December 1772.  
PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1772.  
PETITIONER: Elizabeth Hamilton, relict of Malcolm Gibson, advocate and Thomas Clark, leather case maker, Baillie of Potterrow with the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Fleshmarket Close  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the demolition of a vent.  
NOTES: Complains that Adam Aikman, mason, residing at the foot of Craigs Close and Robert Leighton, mason residing late in the back of Bess Wynd, now in Castle Hill did demolish the vent for her flat.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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**Unextracted processes.** (ECA: SL91/4)

BOX: 1772/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 8 January 1772 (No warrant, date of visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 7 January 1772.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Innes of Catlaw.  
SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot, fronting the Cowgate.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild two old tenements.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan.  
Size: 36.0 x 24.0 cms.  
Watermark: Countermark, W  
Inscriptions, recto: Signed and dated 22 January 1772, measured by George Cowan.

---

BOX: 1772/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 January 1772 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1772.  
PETITIONER: James Brown, glover.  
SITE: (Parliament Square?) Opposite Haddo's Hole or New North Kirk.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removing of cartloads of rubbish.  
NOTES: 'That about four months ago a large timber machine (scaffolding?) was erected and the one end of it placed on the uppermost window of the said Kirk and the other directly opposite to the petitioner's shop door and windows and the purpose of erecting it was to convey some thousand bolls of sand, lime, stones, rubbish and dust into carts from the top of the arches of the said Kirk which from time to time had been laid there for ages past.' The rubbish was to have been removed at night but now it is being done during the day, filling his shop with stour and a nauseous smell. He locked

the shop and handed the key to the Lord Provost who passed it to the City Chamberlain and he now claims damages for the future loss of use.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1772 ('continued till next Court day')

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal .

SITE: Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Guthrie, residerter and John Mathie (Matthew), mason who have begun slapping the gable of a tenement at the head of the Close, to the imminent danger of the whole building.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1772 (no warrant – appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1772.

PETITIONER: Ann Galloway, relict of James Brounlie, wright and (blank) Ronaldson, baker.

SITE: Lawnmarket, behind the new built tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building a shade or cellar encroaching on her property.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Dallas, wright who is building a shade to store wet lime against the wall of her shop and blocking the entry and her windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1772.

PETITIONER: George Fairholm, merchant

SITE: High Street, immediately above entry to Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the use of a choffer or stove without a vent.

NOTES: The shop is possessed by Margaret Hay.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 7 April 1772.

PETITIONER: James Goodwin, flax dresser and William Smith, mason.

SITE: (West) Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous gable.

NOTES: The petitioners purchased an area of land from the Town Council at a public roup but the adjoining gable belonging to John Hunter, apothecary and Patrick Sibbald, wright had been condemned by a jury and should be taken down. The defenders refuse to take it down and Sibbald writes to say that he has no right or interest in it.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against unfree tradesmen: Creech, bookseller, Archibald Cockburn, haberdasher, Robert Scyth, upholsterer, Dunbar Pringle, currier and tanner, John Mitchell, merchant, Joseph Stockdale, hosier, Walter Seaton, merchant and Messrs. Steel & Finch, confectioners

---

BOX: 1772/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 April 1772 (no warrant, appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 March 1772.

PETITIONER: James Hotchkiss and David Cleghorn, brewers.

SITE: Kings Stables.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild old houses and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 24 March 1772.

PETITIONER: Miss Paterson, daughter of deceased Sir John Paterson of Prestonhall.

SITE: Cowgate, foot, opposite to the Doctor's garden, where the new chapel is erecting.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about fallen chimney heads.

NOTES: The complaint is about the adjoining tenement belonging to the representatives of John Richardson, smith; Mrs. Syme, relict of Andrew Syme, cooper and John Cuthbert, tailor in Calton. There is a disagreement here about Robert Jamieson being factor to the children of John Richardson. He states that he is not and that Richardson died suddenly and no factor or tutor has yet been appointed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1772.

PETITIONER: David Law, late vintner.

SITE: Toddericks Wynd, head, two uppermost floors of Merchiston's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber projection at the top of a turnpike stair.

NOTES: The timber structure was erected 'some years ago' by the father of Eleanora and (blank) Clark who occupy the floor below the petitioner. It is now being repaired. The Court ordered work to stop, 13 April 1772 and produce their rights, 17 April.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1772.

PETITIONER: Alexander Learmonth tanner and James Miln, tanner.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a chimney stack erected on a mutual dyke.

NOTES: The complaint is against (blank) Gibb, relict of Robert Gibb, coachmaster and James Robertson, stabler.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 May 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1772.

PETITIONER: Margaret and Isobel Thomson, merchants.

SITE: High Street, north side, 'just under Nories colour ware room'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Inch who sells old clothes in the neighbouring shop. He hangs these outside and blocks the light to the petitioner's windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 May 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 May 1772.

PETITIONER: John Sharp, stabler in Pleasance.

SITE: Exchange, east side of the entry.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased at a public roup, the fore intersole shop, immediately above the shop purchased by Charles Butter, merchant. He let it to Walter Brunton, saddler. Butter and James Torry have erected two large signs which encroach on the petitioner's property. In their replies Butter and Torry state that the signs have been in place for at least seven or eight years.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 May 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 May 1772.

PETITIONER: Samuel Campbell, bookbinder.

SITE: West Bow head, Smellie's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner lives in the flat below the garret occupied by Mrs. Bryden, relict of (blank) Bryden, baker, who refuses to undertake repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 May 1772 (no warrant, defenders summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1772.

PETITIONER: William Home, upholsterer.

SITE: Between Halkerston's Wynd and Drummond Street, Shearer's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack on the whole tenement. And he intends replacing the defective roof, at the expence of Rachel and Elizabeth Shearer, daughters of the deceased James Shearer, wigmaker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 June 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 June 1772.

PETITIONER: David Wilson, (printer?).

SITE: Craigs Close, about the middle.

PROPOSAL: Alterations and additions to the garret story.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the old tenement from (blank) Miller, hatter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Society of Weighhousemen: James Calder, Boxmaster.

SITE: Miln's Court, a laigh cellar.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about taking down a water bargo (gutter?).

NOTES: The complaint is against Benjamin Yule, baker who purchased the shop above the petitioner's cellar. He took away the water bargo that had been there for 20 years.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, druggist.

SITE: South Leith, Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Glover, wright in Leith, tacksman of a subject contiguous to the one now building. See warrant granted 5 February 1772 (Inglis).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1772.

PETITIONER: Gabriel Peter, stationer.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, head, two shops in the stone tenement.

PROPOSAL: To replace the shop windows with bow windows.

NOTES: The petitioner holds the shops on a tack from John Carmichael of Eastend. After a visit James Telford, staymaker, Michael Nasmith, factor for John Carmichael and Andrew Gillespie, upholsterer appeared in Court and stated that the proposed alteration would damage the building and the lights of Mr. Telford, who occupies the cellar below the shops.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Watson and James (Pearson?) masons who have built a chimney in a timber tenement partly owned by Messrs. Young and Trotter. Robert Watson is also an unfreeman and continually lays down rubbish in the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1772.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason; James Tait, Town clerk and Walter, Ross, WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, upper Baxter's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against Edward Inglis, nephew and heir to Hugh Inglis, wright, deceased. The petitioner, along with James McPherson, mason and Hugh Inglis, built a stair at the foot of the Close, between a tenement belonging to the petitioners and an area of ground alleged to belong to Hugh Inglis, to form a communication with the road at the north of the Town (Bank Street). Hugh Inglis died as the staircase was complete, the petitioner awaiting payment for twelve months.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1772.

PETITIONER: David Burrell, merchant.

SITE: Backstairs.

PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to Alexander Preston, writer as factor for the deceased Baillie Thomson

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1772 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1772.

PETITIONER: Peter Wilson, innkeeper in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close, the new land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against James McKell, candlemaker (sic) hook maker in Leith Wynd who is building a tenement adjoining the petitioner's and will block his lights. The work was stopped on 16 July 1772. See warrant of 9 September 1772 (McKell).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/24\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1772 (no warrant, defenders allowed to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1772.

PETITIONER: James Edmonston, writer.

SITE: Anchor Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of a tavern occupied by Mrs. McDuffie. He proposes alterations to the kitchen with the introduction of a staircase to the cellar below. The defenders, who do not respond here, are David Rae, advocate, John Clarkson, merchant and Mrs. Johnston.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/25\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 October 1772.

PETITION LODGED: 9 September 1772.

PETITIONER: Walter Orrock, keeper of the Exchange Coffee house and Elizabeth Orrok (sic), his spouse.

SITE: Exchange Coffee house

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the building.

NOTES: The petitioner holds the shop and a dwelling house on a tack from Mrs. Ogle. The claims to necessary repairs are refuted by reference to the repairing tack, which was here but was removed, 29 November 1773. See unextracted petition of 7 October 1771 (Orrok).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/26\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1772 (no warrant, complaint dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 14 October 1772.

PETITIONER: Adam Ewart at Newbigging, William Reid, merchant, his tenant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, opposite to the Guard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a bow window.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Donald, druggist who began work on a bow window in a timber tenement on the 13th October. He was stopped by the Court but continued to complete the window. The petitioner complains about loss of light, already poor because of a six foot projection above his shop window and with the addition of a bow of 14 inches. In answers for William Hume, upholsterer and his tenant, James Douglas, he notes that the whole tenement is set back 18 inches from the line of later buildings.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/27\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1772 (no warrant, appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 November 1772.

PETITIONER: James Frood, residenter in Edinburgh.

SITE: Grassmarket, Ewe and Lamb Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the house and need for repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a lease from Robert Esplin, brewer for a house, from Whitsunday last the Whitsunday next at £3Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/28\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 3 November 1772.

PETITIONER: John Fraser, WS.

SITE: Miln's back Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.



NOTES: The property is a garret flat occupied by Helen Reid in a house possessed by William Watson and the rent is drawn by Michael Naismith, wright in Grassmarket for the proprietor who lives in the country at a considerable distance. The roof has been leaking for at least twelve months.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/29\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 November 1772.

PETITION LODGED: No date.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None specified.

PROPOSAL: Repair of chimney stacks and roofs.

NOTES: The Procurator Fiscal notes that a number of chimney stacks have fallen recently and people have been complaining about ruinous buildings. He petitions the Court to appoint five creditable tradesmen to visit and inspect chimney stacks and roofs in the City and grant warrants to take them down and repair. There is a note here from George Buchan Hepburn dated 26 November 1772 to Mr. Patison, Clerk of the Court, reporting dangerous stacks on a tenement opposite St. James's Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/30\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 November 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 20 October 1772.

PETITIONER: George Cowan, wright.

SITE: Lawnmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Henderson, merchant and William Ronaldson, baker for work carried out in the latter's shop and house in a great tenement in the Lawnmarket recently rebuilt after a fire. There is an account here from George Cowan for £14 1s 10d and a measure of the work by George Callender. The argument centres on the terms of William Ronaldson's 19 year lease at £30 Stg, under which he believed that, for such a high rental, George Henderson was to pay to furnish the shop for his business. Henderson argues that some of the work was unnecessary. He points out that he paid Cowan a total of £124 19s 9d for all the necessary work. The process ends with Ronaldson stating he would pay the first two articles of the account.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/31\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 December 1772 (no warrant, appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1772.

PETITIONER: Inhabitants: Turnbull & Carfrae Douglas Lindesay & Co. and others.

SITE: Luckenbooths, Gavinloch's land.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the roof.

NOTES: The petition refers to falling slates that almost killed a man on the pavement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/32\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 December 1772 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 16 December 1772.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, near the foot of Peebles Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Kerr, wright who is building a timber structure that encroaches on the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1772/33\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 December 1772 (no warrant, matter settled).

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1772.

PETITIONER: John Hastie, smith in Multreeshill and Thomas Hill, wright.

SITE: Road from Calton to Multreeshill, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about cutting down trees.

NOTES: The complaint is against Archibald Trotter, merchant who let to the defenders a park and some houses, from Whitsunday last to Whitsunday next. He has now begun cutting down the trees in the park, greatly damaging the grass. There is a letter here from John Hastie to Archibald Trotter stating that the petition was lodged in the Court without his knowledge. There is also a certified copy of a letter from Walter Ferguson, writer in the Canongate to Archibald Trotter, dated 17 November 1772, giving him permission 'to take away the trees presently growing on (Mr. Moubray's feu) providing you root out and carry them off between (today) and the tenth of April next'. Witnessed by James and Charles Stewart, both servants in John's Coffee house. There is also an instrument of protest by Louis Cauvin, teacher of French, for himself and as attorney for Mr. & Mrs. Edgar of Plymouth and as procurator for Archibald Trotter, merchant dated 1 December 1772 against Thomas Hill, wright. By right of the letter from Walter Ferguson they sold the trees to Thomas Moubray, wright, Patrick Bean, wright and Robert Moubray, merchant. In a complicated argument, it appears that Thomas Hill tried to influence the sale of the trees by using John Hastie's name.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1772/34\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 December 1772 (no warrant, appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 28 November 1772.

PETITIONER: David Lindsay, Boxmaster of the Corporation of Furriers in Edinburgh, for the Deacons and other members.

SITE: Todrick's Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Weir, painter and William Penicook, wright who have begun building a house adjoining the Incorporation's property. The Court ordered the work to stop on the 28 November but no warrant here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1773

The Court Officers from 14 October 1772:

### **Dean of Guild**

James Stodart

### **Council**

Charles Wright, Old Dean of Guild

Charles Innes, merchant

Thomas Heriot, wright

William Jamieson, mason

George Syme, slater

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1773/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Janet Thomson, relict of Alexander Thomson of Harperrigg.

SITE: High Street, Boyd's (now Chalmer's) Close, Scott's tenement.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

NOTES: The fore bartizan belongs to George Hepburn, writer and the back roofing to Mrs. Robertson, Canongate head, William Murray, merchant, John Robertson, writer in Edinburgh, John Richardson, broker in Canongate and the petitioner.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of parts of the bridge.

NOTES: Refers to the appointment of a jury and their report of 29 January 1773. They found that part of the east retaining wall, south end, next to Halkerston's Wynd was insufficient. They also found that the west retaining wall, on the south end, had been affected by earth and water but was in no danger. At the north end of the bridge, east retaining wall, part of the work was insufficient but in no immediate danger. The Court ordered that William Milne (Mylne) and John Wordie should take down the retaining wall next to Halkerston's Wynd and rebuild the same. Enclosed is a letter from William Mylne dated 25 January 1773 in which he notes 'Several of the Ballisters which were overturned and broke by the late hurricane I have repaired, and are in my opinion as strong as ever, and free from blemish;- To prevent more disputes I thought it proper before they were set up, to inform the Gentlemen of the Council and to know if they make any Objection to their being placed on the Bridge You will be so good to give me an answer as soon as possible whither or not you have any objection to the repaired Ballisters being set up in order that the Work may be Speedily finished...' There is also a letter from the Lord Provost, Gilbert Laurie to the Dean of Guild dated 26 January 1773 '... having received information from sundry persons that there is part of the east retaining wall of the south abutment of the Bridge bended and in a dangerous situation, I therefore desire that you will order without loss of time a proper inspection to be made and to take the proper steps for preventing any accident'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1773.

PETITIONER: The Commissioners of Excise.

SITE: The Excise office.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild the south east gable which is insufficient.

NOTES: The Court appointed a jury which included William Kay, architect.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Grace Stewart and Grizel Penman, residents.

SITE: Gosford's Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about unstable chimneys.

NOTES: The tenement complained of belongs to Dr. Hutton and William Jamieson was appointed to take the chimneys down.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1773

PETITION LODGED: 4 November 1772.

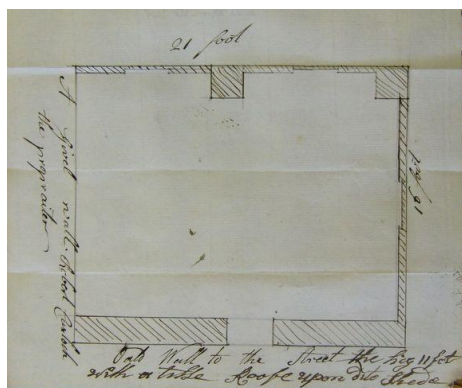
PETITIONER: David Kinnear, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, head of the Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade and repair the wright's shop.

NOTES: The petitioner holds in tack from the deceased Robert Caldcleugh, carter in Leith, a hecklers shop possessed by David Linn, ropemaker, and a cellar possessed by Robert Salton, merchant in Edinburgh and a wright shop above this cellar, possessed by the petitioner. Since the death of Robert Caldcleugh his property is in the hands of creditors, John Young, writer acting as his factor. His estimate for the repairs is included here and the amount declared a debt on the property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch plan.

Size: 31.0 x 18.7 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, S Lay

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BOX: 1773/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1772.

PETITIONER: John Davidson, WS, Treasurer to the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge in Scotland.

SITE: Castle Wynd, north side of the Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Howieson, writer in Edinburgh.

NOTES: The Society had some time ago built a chapel for the performing of Divine Service in the Erse language. John Howieson had built a tenement nearby and his digging undermined the foundations of the Chapel. He was ordered to make the repairs to the Chapel wall, 23 December 1772. Further disagreement about a room in Howieson's tenement to be given to the Society in perpetuity.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1773

PETITIONER: George Cooper, WS, for himself and Richard and Anne Cooper.

SITE: Taylor's land, Canongate.

PROPOSAL: Inspection of their tenement.

NOTES: The petitioners own all but the second floor, which is the responsibility of Thomas Cockburn, WS. Cooper, being alarmed by the 'late melancholy accidents' occasioned by falling chimney, asks the Court to inspect his tenement. It is declared sufficient.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Messrs Lamb and Scyth, upholsterers.

SITE: High Street, north side, about the middle of Grays Close.

PROPOSAL: To build warehouses.

NOTES: The petitioners have a tack on the property from Professor Stevenson for 19 years after Whitsunday 1771.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but is not here.

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BOX: 1773/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1773.

PETITIONER: James Aikman, mason in Whitehomestole.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, Carfriars Young's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about floor joisting.

NOTES: The complaint is against William McConochie, wright who owns the cellars below the petitioner. He refuses to repair the dangerous joists but was ordered to do so by the Court, within fourteen days.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Pringle, indweller.

SITE: Mylne's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous chimney.

NOTES: The petitioner states that 'the sooty men will not come near it to clean it nor can we get any person to venture up it for any money'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1773.

PETITIONER: William Trotter, merchant.

SITE: Head of the Bow.

PROPOSAL: To take down and repair the south gable.

NOTES: The court appointed a jury and their report is here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1773.

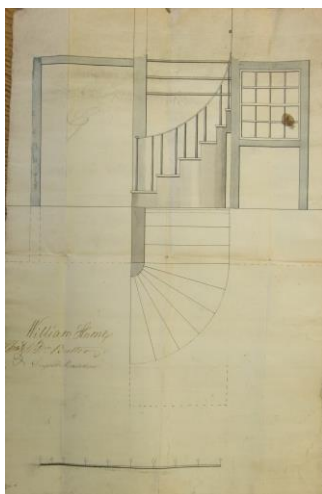
PETITIONER: David Mylne, merchant.

SITE: Canongate, north side, head of Bank Close.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the shop front for Douglas Heron & Co.

NOTES: The warrant allowed the extension but prohibited the forming of a step on the street. According to Andrew William Kerr, *History of Banking in Scotland* (London 1926) the Canongate branch opened on 31 January 1770. The bank effectively collapsed in June 1772 but struggled on until August 1773 when it was wound up.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of shop front and steps with plan of steps.

Size: 38.0 x 25.0 cms.

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BOX: 1772/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1773.

PETITIONER: William Sibbald, tailor.

SITE: High Street, adjoining the west gable of the Tron Kirk, Magdalen's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber outshot.

NOTES: The tenement is bounded by Peebles Wynd and the complaint is about a timber outshot on a tenement called the Black turnpike on the west, which leans so far across Peebles Wynd that rainwater runs from it down the side of the petitioner's tenement. The Court ordered the outshot to be taken down within 14 days.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1773.

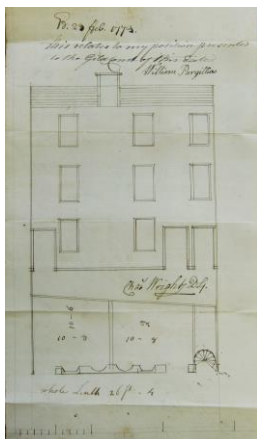
PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.

PETITIONER: William Pargollis, (signed Pargillias) flesher in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Coalhill, between the tenements of William Drysdale and Mrs. Borthwick.

PROPOSAL: Bring forward the tenement front, in line with those on each side.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

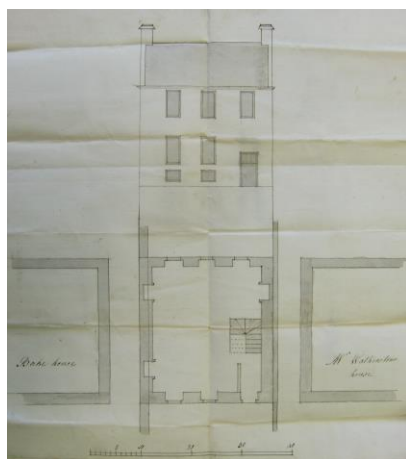
Size: 31.7 x 18.0 cms.

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BOX: 1773/15  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.  
PETITIONER: Robert Clidsdale, watchmaker and others.  
SITE: Canongate, south side, Plainstone Close.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/16  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773. (The petition is dated 4 February 1772?)  
PETITIONER: Robert Brown, founder in Edinburgh.  
SITE: Galloways Close and a yard at the foot of the Close.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a mews brick house and rebuild.  
NOTES: The petitioner purchased the property from the trustees of the deceased David Brown, merchant in Edinburgh by disposition dated 15 April 1771. The trustees had previously, 28 December 1759 granted a tack on the yard to Alexander Aberdour, founder in Edinburgh for 21 years beginning at Whitsunday 1760. Aberdour built a brick house and shade there but died as a bankrupt. James Aberdour, one of his creditors obtained a warrant to carry out repairs on 31 May 1769. There are other details here regarding the debts.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation of three story house.  
Size: 36.0 x 31.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/17  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1773.  
PETITIONER: John Dumbreck, vintner.  
SITE: Mills (Mylne's) Square  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a cobblers stall in the court, owned by James Bruce.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/18  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1773.  
PETITIONER: Peter Williamson, merchant.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, foot of Dunbars Close.  
PROPOSAL: To alter and repair shades.  
NOTES: The petitioner recently purchased a tenement and garden and the shades are on the west side of his garden. See unextracted petition dated 16 March 1774 (Young).  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1773.

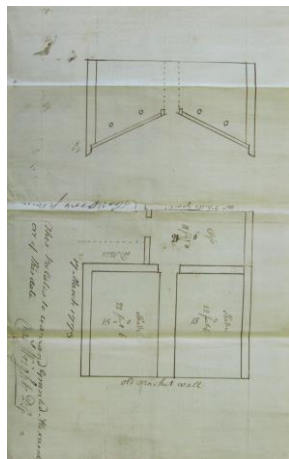
PETITIONER: Alexander Orr at Nether Libberton.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To build shades.

NOTES: The petitioner has taken down an old tenement on instructions of the Court.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and section.

Size: 31.0 x 18.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Steel, merchant.

SITE: Marlins Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the shop front and other repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack on the property from Charles Spooner of New Norfolk Street, London, dated 14 September 1772.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Hugh Seaton of Touch.

SITE: Fortunes Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber projection on a neighbouring tenement.

NOTES: The Court ordered that the projection be taken down within ten days.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Charles Dickson and James Bessilie, masons.

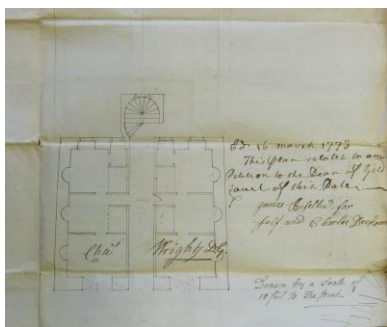
SITE: Bristoll (Bristo) Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old house and rebuild.

NOTES: The petitioners had purchased the property from Thomas Wood of Warriston. See also warrant of 28 June 1775 (Dickson & Besillie).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 37.0 x 30.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 9 March 1773.

PETITIONER: James Hardie, writer and William Trotter, merchant.

SITE: West Bow, head, Fairholme's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the paving and remove a cobblers stall which encroaches.

NOTES: '... by a cobbler's stall or booth... which is built of wood and which projects a good way into and considerably narrows the mouth of the said Close and by means thereof the benefit of the street lamps are in a great measure excluded from the Close in the night time.' In replies from Mrs. McGhie, relict of William McGhie, writer she states that she is in possession of the stall, which has stood there above forty years, and it does not encroach '...the Close is very little frequented and only about three families who enter therby..' The stall is owned by her husband's nephew, in the Island of Jamaica. Warrant granted for paving but decision delayed on the stall.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 11 March 1772.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate and John Williamson, his eldest son.

SITE: Castlehill, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer or drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against Allan Ramsay, limner whose property lies on the west of the petitioner's garden and on which he has built some chaise houses and stables. In building his stables Ramsay cut off access through a door from the garden to the Castlehill, but the petitioner made no complaint. Now there is an issue with a blocked drain and servants living above the stables throwing ashes and nastiness into the passage between the two properties. William Jamieson was appointed by warrant of this date to make the sewer in a sufficient manner at the joint expence of the proprietors. The matter had gone to the Court of Session who referred it to the Dean of Guild. There is a petition here in Ramsay's hand dated 24 May 1772 and a warrant granted on 8 July that year to make the sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1772.

PETITIONER: George Cowan, wright, Robert Dewar, glazier, George Syme, slater, David Ramsay, mason and William Crawford, smith.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Chrystie's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts for repairs.

NOTES: Accounts here from all five petitioners, some addressed to John Peat, factor for William Mathison, merchant in London. The property involved a number of houses (flats?) and a dye house. George Cowan employed a plasterer as part of his account.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1773.

PETITIONER: James Seaton, merchant, Patrick Bowie, Leonard Urquhart, WS and the heirs and trustees of the deceased Andrew Deuchar, writer.

SITE: Gavinloch's land, west side in Forrester's Wynd and Libberton's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To take down the west side wall, fronting Libberton's Wynd and rebuild.

NOTES: Report here from James Brown, George Hunter and William Pirnie.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 23 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Rigg of Morton.

SITE: Gosfords Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The mutual gable is with Dr. Daniel McQueen and Mrs Geddes of Rachon. Sir David Dalrymple of Hailes was called as a contiguous heritor. A jury including James Craig, architect was appointed and they agreed that the gables should be rebuilt. See unextracted petition dated 13 May 1773.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 23 March 1773.

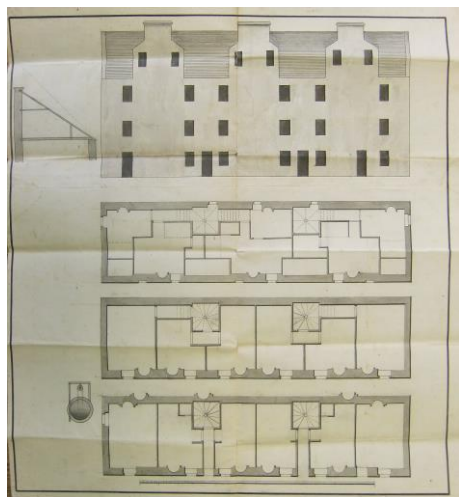
PETITIONER: James Cargill, merchant.

SITE: St Ninian's Row.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: There is an argument over boundary dykes with William Butter, wright and William Montgomery, wig maker against James Cargill.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of three floors with a section of the roof.

Size: 39.0 x 35.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1773.

PETITIONER: William Michie, merchant.

SITE: Foulis Close and Hyndeford's Close

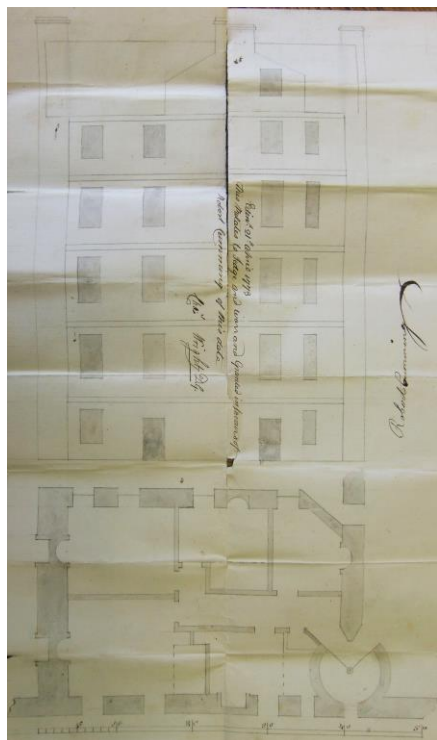
PROPOSAL: Repairs to chimneys.

NOTES: See subsequent warrant granted 4 August 1773 (Mrs Mathison).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/30  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1773.  
PETITIONER: Robert Cumming, late shipmaster in Leith.  
SITE: Old Fishmarket Close, foot.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.  
Size: 50.0 x 29.5 cms.  
Inscriptions, verso: A plan of another building in faint pencil

---

BOX: 1773/31  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1773.  
PETITIONER: Robert Baillie, mason.  
SITE: St Mary's Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of repairing chimneys.  
NOTES: The process contains a petition from Robert Jamieson, WS which refers to a warrant granted to William Burn, merchant and John Corbet, mason in October 1761 to repair the chimneys. Includes a summary of works carried out by Robert Baillie, mason dated 30 December 1771.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/32  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 24 March 1773.  
PETITIONER: Patrick Sibbald, wright.  
SITE: West Bow.  
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner submitted a plan.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1773/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1773.

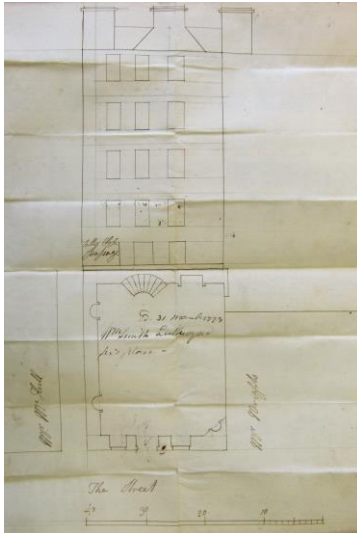
PETITIONER: William Smith, mason in Crosscauseway, Jean Shearer his spouse and Betty Shearer, residenter in Cumbertrees, near Annan.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioners refer to an order from the Court to demolish the previous tenement. The warrant was granted on condition that they keep in line with the new land on the south and Bartleman's land on the north.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of five story tenement and plan of the ground floor.

Size: 37.0 x 30.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1773.

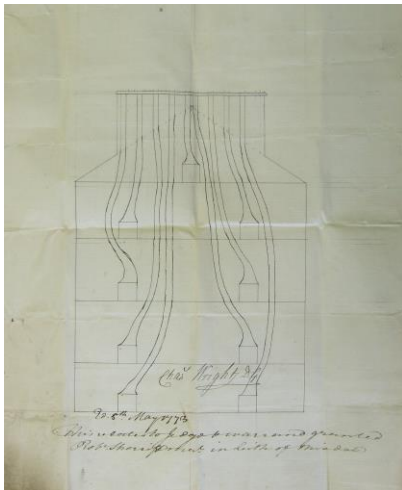
PETITIONER: Robert Sherriff, merchant in Leith.

SITE: (North St. Andrews Street?) westmost cross street leading to St. Andrews Square.

PROPOSAL: To cognoze the expence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased a 'steading' (lot or feu) from the Town Council. The steading to the north not being feued, he asks to build a mutual gable.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the gable.

Size: 43.5 x 27.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 9 March 1773.

PETITIONER: James Gosman, mason.

SITE: Mills (Mylne's) Square.

PROPOSAL: Seeking payment of expence of repairs to the tenement.

NOTES: There are accounts here for each of the heritors from the petitioner and a measure of the mason work by Patrick Sibbald, ordained measurer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1773.

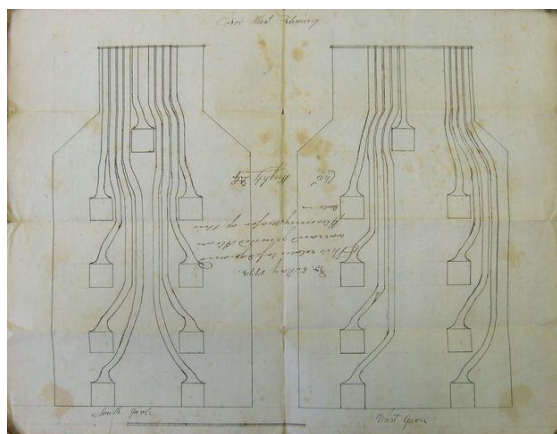
PETITIONER: Alexander Fleeming, wright at Fountainbridge.

SITE: Queen Street, 'the east corner stading' (feu or lot).

PROPOSAL: To build mutual gables and have the expence cognosed.

NOTES: The petitioner's lot is bounded on the west and south by lots not yet feued. He is having the expence of building the mutual gables recognised by the Court so that the cost can be shared with these lots, once they are complete.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the gables on the west and south.

Size: 32.0 x 41.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, HF

---

BOX: 1773/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1773.

PETITIONER: John Carmichael, treasurer to Heriot's Hospital.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Fisher's land, top floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about superstructures being built above the coping.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1773.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate.

SITE: Castlehill, north side, Semples Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney stacks.

NOTES: The tenement in question belongs to James Tait, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1773.

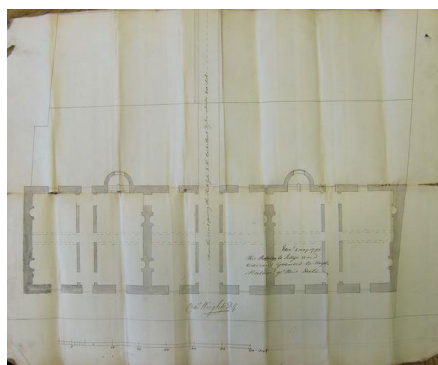
PETITIONER: Hugh Morton, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To take down some of the old tenements and build two tenements fronting the Kirkgate.

NOTES: The petitioner feued some time ago 'sundry houses, lands, tenements and areas' from Alexander Stuart, one of the ministers of the West Kirk parish. John Elliot, wright in Leith applied on 6 May to have the warrant stopped as he had recently purchased an adjoining property and he believed the proposed work encroached. His petition was refused by the Court on 16 June 1773.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of the ground floor.

Size: 43.7 x 54 cms.

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BOX: 1773/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1773.

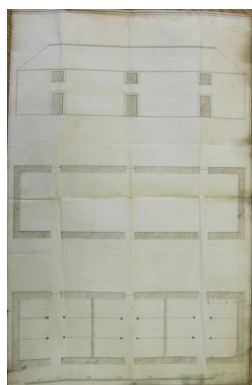
PETITIONER: James Dun, stabler in Pleasance and Helen Scoular, relict of Robert Hunter, officer of excise.

SITE: Pleasance.

PROPOSAL: To build three stables.

NOTES: The stables are to be built on land behind the tenement owned by Helen Scoular. In replies from Philip Galbraith, smith and Catherine Touch, his spouse, he refers to a charter dated 3 August 1763 granted by the Town Council of Edinburgh to Robert Chalmers of Larbert. This property was conveyed by Chalmers to Galbraith by sasine dated 24 August 1771 and he claims that it includes the area on which the stables are to be built. On examining his writs his claim was repelled and warrant granted.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors

Size: 39.0 x 25.5 cms.

Draughtsman: (Dexter hatching).

---

BOX: 1773/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1773.

PETITIONER: Andrew Kinnear, pewterer, Boxmaster to the Incorporation of Hammermen.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, near the Magdalen Chapel.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the building of a forge.

NOTES: The Incorporation own a wareroom yard and other subjects which they have let to John Thomson, carver in Edinburgh. He sublet the shop to James Auchterlony (Auchterlonie), smith who is building a forge which they consider dangerous. The warrant stopped the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 18 June 1773.

PETITIONER: Baillie John Learmonth, Thomas Matthew merchants and William Jackson, secretary in the Post Office.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Walter Scott, WS.

SITE: Presidents Stair, Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: To carry out basement repairs and re-lay pavement in the passage.

NOTES: The petition itself is missing, represented here by the fifth page, granting the warrant. There is a report on the condition of the basement by James Ramsay, George Hunter, Thomas McInnis and William Butter in which they recommend the building up of a number of windows and repairs to the pavement. See further warrant granted 28 July 1773 (Scott).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1773.

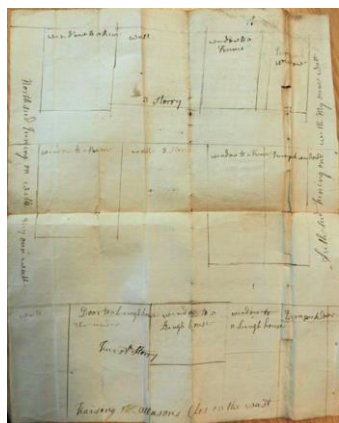
PETITION LODGED: 25 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Thomson, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate, Alison's Close.

PROPOSAL: To take down the timber front and rebuild in stone and lime.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch plan of the area.

Size: 37.7 x 30.2 cms.

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BOX: 1773/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 5 May 1773.

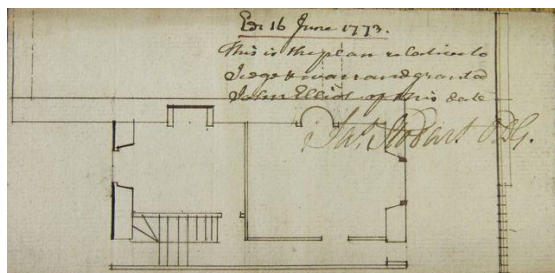
PETITIONER: John Elliot, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a ruinous tenement immediately to the south of the one recently built by William Monteith, merchant. He asks to demolish an old tenement of two stories, on the east end of the back area and to order the removal of the tenants.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 16.0 x 7.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1773/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1773.

PETITIONER: Alexander Weir, painter.

SITE: Toddericks Wynd, the upper part of a tenement.

PROPOSAL: To demolish the tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the property from the heirs of William Moffat, glass grinder. He is acting with Charles Innes, writer, factor for the trustees of the deceased Thomas Robison, writer in Edinburgh. The Court requested a plan.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1773/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1773.

PETITIONER: James Aiken stabler.

SITE: Horse Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner had an agreement with James Ramsay, slater dated 23 June 1762 to undertake all repairs on the roof for a period of nineteen years beginning Whitsunday 1760. For this he paid £1 stg. per annum and had already paid £11 stg. but he complained that Ramsay had done no more than work worth £3stg. The Court ordered Ramsay to complete the work within ten days or allowed the petitioner to employ other tradesman at Ramsay's expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1773.

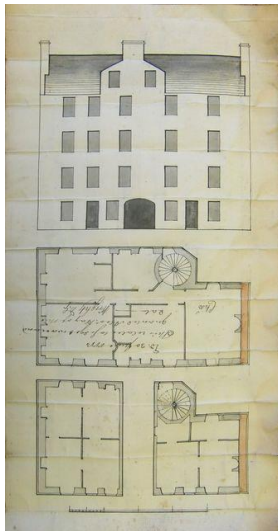
PETITIONER: Alexander Hay, wright.

SITE: Potterrow, east side, next to Alison's Square.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 44.0 x 22.9 cms.

Watermarks: JW

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BOX: 1773/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 19 January 1773.

PETITIONER: William Johnston, mason.

SITE: High Street, north side, Gavinloch's land.

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for repairs.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant granted on 4 September 1771 to carry out repairs to chimneys. The petition lists the proprietors who owe him money for the repairs.

There are eleven individual accounts here for each of the proprietors, dated 4 July 1772 and a measure of the work by William Good, ordained measurer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1773 (and 2 June).

PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1773.

PETITIONER: William, Earl of Panmure.

SITE: Canongate, Lochends Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dumping of rubbish in his yard.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Ramsay, mason who has opened a quarry and has thrown rubbish from it into the petitioner's yard. Included here is an inventory of writs associated with the property dated 1768, with a note on the front 'Edr. 5 Sept 1770 delivered the Decreet of the Dean of Guild Court for taking down the Byre, to James Ramsay, mason to put it in execution'. The inventory begins with an obligation by Lt. Col. Murray of her Majesty's Guards to Jean Mathie spouse to Hinphera (Humphrey) Milne dated 25 May 1691; a decret from the Dean of Guild to Jean Mathie relict of the deceased Humphrey Milne, watch maker in Calton against Robert Strang, presenter at Linlithgow and Patrick Jackson, cooper in Canongate, his factor, dated 3 May 1704; Disposition from Jean Mathie to Elizabeth Campbell her daughter and Matthew Mckell her grandchild dated 13 August 1713; Disposition from Jean and Patrick McKells daughters of John McKell, pewterer in Canongate and Elizabeth Campbell, his spouse to William Maule, of Panmure Esq. dated 25 April 1735, with sasine following dated 10 April 1769 and Decreet from the Dean of Guild to William, Earl of Panmure against Peter Clark, cowfeeder in Canongate dated 16 November 1768. Ramsay made a counter petition, 3 July 1773 asking Panmure to provide a plan of his dykes and the Dean of Guild confirmed the warrant with another, 7 July 1773 insisting that Ramsay rebuild the dyke from the bottom of his quarry upwards, to provide a sufficient foundation.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 July 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1773.

PETITIONER: James Dallas, writer in Edinburgh, factor for Alexander Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks and William Ayton WS, factor for Charles Congalton late surgeon and others, proprietors.

SITE: High Street, south side, Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: Disagreement about expence of chimney repairs.

NOTES: See petitions of 21 April 1773 (Michie) and 4 August 1773 (Mathison)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 July 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1773.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, about the middle.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to Thomas Letham, smith, George Begbie, smith, Thomas Laing, edge tool maker, Margaret Campbell, relict of Lachlan Campbell, writing master, Elizabeth Hay, relict of Thomas Horner, merchant, Janet Swanston, relict of Alexander Anderson, coppersmith and John Anderson, coppersmith. A jury was appointed and they recommend that the east side wall and the upper part of the south gable should be taken down and rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 July 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 23 July 1773.

PETITIONER: Walter Scott, WS as doer for John Hope, merchant, William Fraser, WS, Walter Cossar, accountant, William Scott, writer, William Henry, writer. Also Charles Esplin, printseller, as doer for Mrs. Strange (wife of Robert Strange, engraver).

SITE: President's Stairs, Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the pavement and cognose the expence as a debt.

NOTES: The petition refers to 'the pavement of the common entry and joisting below the same' being in disrepair. See previous warrant, 2 June 1773 (Scott).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 July 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 28 June 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Jamison Durham of Duntowie.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a condemned gable.

NOTES: The property is described as lying between Bartleman's land and an area belonging to William Smith, mason in Edinburgh. The petitioner mentions a previous decision by the Court regarding the mutual gable with William Smith, which was condemned but never repaired. The petitioner cannot now take down his front elevation and rebuild in line with Bartleman's land and a new tenement on the south.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 July 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1773.

PETITIONER: James Bauld, late clerk to the weigh house at Leith.

SITE: Mylnes Court, north east wing.

PROPOSAL: To alter the stair and build vaults as part of a laigh house.

NOTES: The petitioner's property is badly affected by the operations carrying on in relation to the new bridge (North Bridge). He states that he has a warrant for his purpose from the Town Council but seeks the authority of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1773.

PETITIONER: Leonard Urquhart, WS.

SITE: Nicholson Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbour's chimney stack.

NOTES: The neighbour is Frederick Arthur, druggist.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Mathison and other, heritors.

SITE: Foulis Close and Hyndeford's Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to chimneys, replacing brick with stone and cognose accounts.

NOTES: See previous warrant granted 21 April 1773 (Michie).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/58

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 9 June 1773.

PETITIONER: James Carnegie of Finhaven and Margaret Aikman, widow of Hugh Forbes, Clerk of Session.

SITE: Lady Stair's Close, west side, two upper stories.

PROPOSAL: To take down the north gable and part of the east side wall and rebuild.

NOTES: James Carnegie owns the ground, first and second stories. The Court granted a warrant on 16 June 1773 to take down immediately the north gable and part of the east side wall and rebuild. Also to summon the creditors and heirs of Hugh Forbes. The petitioners ask, in a letter of supplement dated under the signet, 20 July 1773, that William Jamieson, mason carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/59

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 3 August 1773.

PETITIONER: John Smyth, writer, Alexander Gardner, goldsmith and Robert Scott, merchant and other heritors.

SITE: High Street, Richardson's land, head of Geddes or Lord Drummor's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof and chimneys.

NOTES: The petitioner states that the tenement was built and repaired by the deceased Robert Richardson, WS before or about the year 1700. The (upper?) story and the garrets were sold to John Firesaw, merchant, now deceased. He is represented by his wife, Mary Rollo. James Ramsay, slater is mentioned in relation to the repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/60  
WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1773.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Ferguson of Craigdarroch, advocate.  
SITE: St Andrew's Square, east side  
PROPOSAL: Cognose the expence of a mutual gable.  
NOTES: The plot on the north of the petitioner's is not yet built. He includes a measurement of the work by Patrick Sibbald, ordained measurer, £106 3s 10d.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/61  
WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 July 1773.  
PETITIONER: James Kimpt, factor for Humphrey Bland, gardener.  
SITE: Canongate, Campbell's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To replace the roof and raise the walls by eight feet.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/62  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1773.  
PETITIONER: Henry Scrimgour WS and James Reoch, writer.  
SITE: High Street, south side, head of Murdoch's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the opening of a doorway.  
NOTES: The neighbouring proprietors entering by Shearers Close are opening a doorway. The Court ordered the work to stop.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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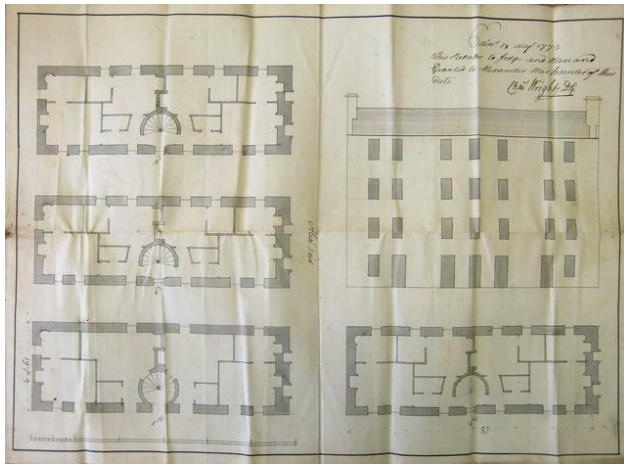
BOX: 1773/63  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1773.  
PETITIONER: William Richardson, writer.  
SITE: Borthwick Close, east side, uppermost story.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof and chimney stacks.  
NOTES: There is an unsigned estimate here.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/64  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1773.  
PETITIONER: Hugh Cleghorn, Professor of Civil History, University of St. Andrews.  
SITE: College Wynd, about the middle.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement recently condemned.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/65  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1773.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Weir, painter.  
SITE: Todrigs (Toddricks) Wynd, about the middle.  
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner was asked to supply a plan of his intended building.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of four floors.

Size: 36.3 x 49.2 cms.

BOX: 1773/66

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 August 1773.

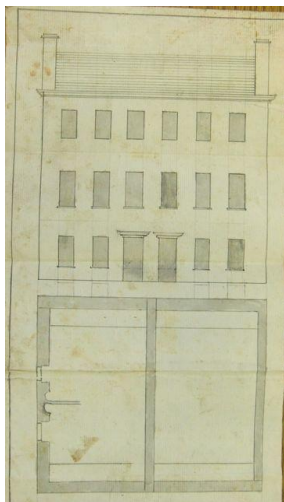
PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1773.

PETITIONER: George Steel, smith.

SITE: Young Street (New Street?), west side.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements of three stories.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and outline plan.

Size: 31.8 x 17.7 (irregular).

BOX: 1773/67

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 August 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1773.

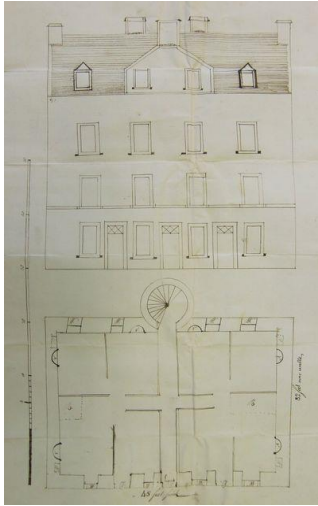
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Portsburgh High Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about stone blasting.

NOTES: The complaint is against Daniel Macfarlane, brewer in Portsburgh who is blasting for new cellars. There is a warrant for a fine of £50 Scots dated 25 August 1773. There are two further petitions from Macfarlane dated 18 and 25 August stating that he is building a new tenement but he wants to provide cellars. He notes that his blasting has not given rise to any complaint from his neighbours or any damage.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of a four story tenement and plan of the ground floor.

Size: 43.2 x 27.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, IV

BOX: 1773/68

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1773.

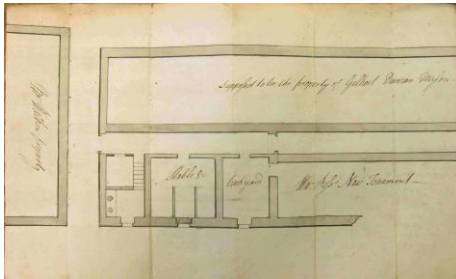
PETITIONER: Thomas Jamieson, skinner.

SITE: Cons Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to a hayloft and stable.

NOTES: The complaint is against James McPherson, mason and Walter Ross, WS, who have damaged the petitioner's stables during work on a neighbouring tenement.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 20.0 x 32.4 cms.

BOX: 1773/69

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1773.

PETITIONER: William Polson, merchant and Robert Wright, baxter.

SITE: Parliament Close, south side, 3rd and 4th stories below the Post Office or 2nd and 3rd down the scale stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about nastiness in a cellar above their flats.

NOTES: The Court ordered the petitioners to clear out the cellar.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1773/70

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 September 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1773.

PETITIONER: Janet Callendar, residenter.

SITE: Skinners Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimneys.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1773/71  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 September 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 8 September 1773.  
PETITIONER: Miss Mary Forbes, daughter of William Forbes, WS.  
SITE: Parliament Close, entry.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the chimneys.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/72  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 September 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 September 1773.  
PETITIONER: John Robertson, writer.  
SITE: Chamber's Close, head, fifth floor.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the timber and slater work on the roof.  
NOTES: The floor above belongs to William or Charles Butter, wrights who are responsible for the upkeep of the roof.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/73  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 October 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 9 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: James Ranken, wright, George Wright, tailor and Margaret Sommervell relict of Nichol Sommervell, painter.  
SITE: Canongate head, Thomson's land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against neighbours who refuse to pay for repairs.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/74  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 October 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 September 1773.  
PETITIONER: David Graham, advocate and Anthony Ferguson, merchant.  
SITE: Parliament Close, Post Office Stairs.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the chimneys.  
DRAWINGS: None.

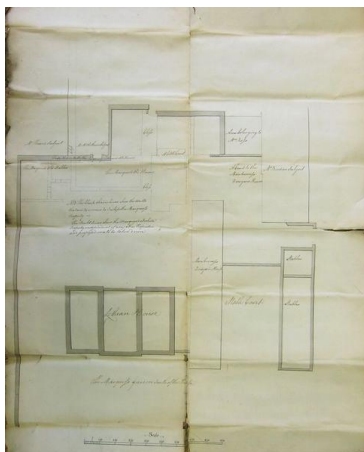
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BOX: 1773/75  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 12 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: David Rae, advocate, Betty Greig, residenter, Robert Bremner, music seller and William Wilson of Loonhope, writer.  
SITE: High Street, Old Assembly Close, head.  
PROPOSAL: To take down loose bricks, stones and timber spouts and to heighten the vents with stone and lime.  
NOTES: The other heritors including Dr. Gilbert Hamilton, minister at Cramond and his widow, Margaret Craigie, refuse to contribute.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/76  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1773.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: Rt. Hon. William Henry, Marquess of Lothian.  
SITE: Canongate, south side, foot; Chancellor's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish old houses in front of Lothian House.  
NOTES: The petition has been modified by the deletion of the line '... in order to enlarge his entry and area on the north front of Lothian House...', an alteration made by his man of business, John Watson as part of his replies of 25 October 1773. He went on to say that this was a mistake and was not the intention. In replies for Mrs. Yorston, Mrs. Valance and John McArthur they note that 'the Rt. Honourable petitioner has

thought proper to build a superb house on the back ground, adjacent to their property. For it seems to be with a view to make a spacious entry from the High Street to the Marques's Great House that this application is made... It is a common observation in our neighbouring country that nothing can be more disagreeable than to have a Great man for a neighbour... But is our happiness in this country, that the property of Individuals is so well protected by our salutary laws, that the Leiges need be under not apprehension from the vicinity of any person whatsoever.' Goes on to point out that the Marquess is out of the country and thus cannot take action in the Court. In replies for the Marquis it notes that Jane, Marchioness dowager of Lothian and Alexander Kincaid, his Majesty's printer, act on his behalf. See further petitions, 9 March 1774 (Marquis of Lothian) and 8 December 1775 (Marchioness of Lothian)  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 61.7 x 49.2 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, I Portal

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BOX: 1773/77

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1773.

PETITIONER: John Steuart, writer with John Grant, writer.

SITE: Warriston Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work on chimney stacks.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Thorburn an unfree mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/78

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1773.

PETITIONER: Allan Ramsay and others.

SITE: High Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: The original petition is missing from the process. Enclosed is an extract from a disposition on the property from James Henderson to Henry Hepburn dated 1713.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/79

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1773.

PETITIONER: Dr. Robert Walker, surgeon.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Sellars Close, west side, opposite Forrester's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous wall.

NOTES: The north gable is ruinous and the Court orders it taken down and rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/80

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 10 November 1773.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, entry into Brown Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the non removal of two spouts or iron pipes.

NOTES: Refers to several previous orders to remove the spouts which are dangerous.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/81

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1773.

PETITIONER: William Trotter, merchant.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: The chimney stacks are on a gable mutual with Sir Archibald Denham.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/82

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 10 November 1773.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Mills (Mylne's) Square, the under part of the back land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Butter, wright who had removed a partition or gable that supported the whole tenement. '... that the crime is aggravated by being committed by a freeman formerly a member of the Gild Court and who knew the law on that point'. Butter fined £24 Scots and placed in the Tolbooth prison until he paid.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/83

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 16 November 1773.

PETITIONER: John Campbell of Newfield.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about flooding.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Steel, smith who is building the neighbouring house. He has been asked to provide some sort of drain to remove the water but has not done so. The Court ordered him to make a sewer at the front of his property to communicate with that in front of the petitioner's.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/84

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 December 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 9 June 1773.

PETITIONER: William Robertson of Ladykirk and Jean Dawson, relict of Prof Dawson.

SITE: Grays Close or Mint house Close, Elphinstone's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about subsidence.

NOTES: Two petitions by tenants in the land complain that walls had settled. There is a reference to '... the fatal accident that happened last winter to Mr. Rigg's houses in the Lawnmarket...'. A jury was appointed on 9 June but there is a note here of the expence of consulting Alexander Gowans and John Wilson, masons to report on the property in May 1773 '... to save the trouble and expence of an application to the Dean of Guild...'. However a jury of 15 people was appointed and they '... having met and visited & considered the tenement they adjourned as usual to a tavern to dine and make their report, £7 17s 1d.' The upper floor and chimneys are insufficient and need rebuilding.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/85

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 December 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1772.

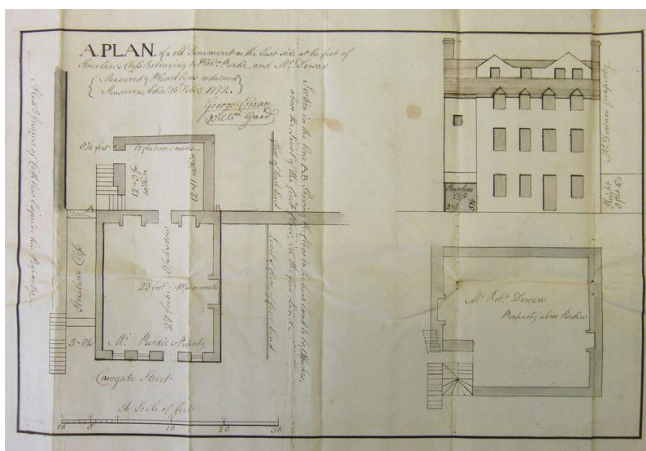
PETITIONER: James Purdie, smith or 'miln maker' and Robert Dewar, glazier.

SITE: Cowgate, fronting, east of Stevenlaws or Stonelaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The petition refers to a previous petition by Alexander Innes of Cathlaw to take down his adjoining tenement and rebuild it. James Purdie requested that a measure should be made of the existing tenement and this is probably the plan at a. James Scoular, harpsichord maker, Great Newport Street, London was summoned as one of the contiguous heritors. He did not appear and the Court requested a plan of the intended building on 8 April 1772 - the drawing at b. James Purdie complained that James Tait, wright who was rebuilding the tenement on the west (presumably for Alexander Innes) had encroached on the Close by 18 inches and on 3 October 1773 the Court allowed the encroachment to stand but fined Tait £100 Scots. After further complaint Tait took down the offending encroachment and his elevation is at c.

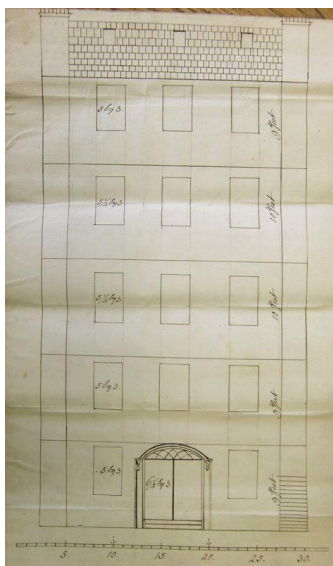
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of the building before demolition.

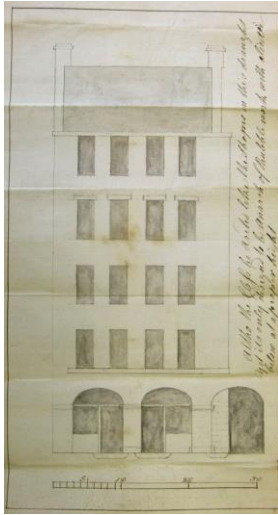
Size: 28.0 x 40.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed and dated, Edinburgh 13 February 1773, George Cowan and William Good, ordained measurers.

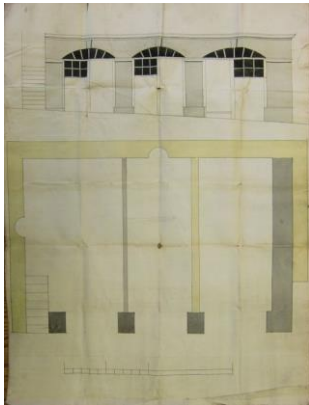


Description: b. Elevation of Purdie and Dewar's intended tenement.

Size: 31.5 x 19.5 cms.



Description: c. Elevation of the tenement built by James Tait.  
 Size: 35.5 x 18.6 cms. (cut away at the right).  
 Watermark: J Whatman



Description: d. Elevation and plan of three shops.  
 Size: 44.5 x 33.8 cms.

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BOX: 1773/86

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 December 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 25 November 1773.

PETITIONER: William Gordon, bookseller.

SITE: Smith's back land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

**Unextracted processes.** (ECA: SL91/5)

BOX: 1773/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 January 1773 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 8 January 1773.

PETITIONER: William McLaren, merchant.

SITE: Potterrow, opposite the well, Thompson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the ruinous condition of a timber tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner implies that the tenement had previously been condemned by the Court. It is occupied by him as a tenant and William Smith, mason. He refers to a 'melancholy maiming as happened in your City'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 January 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs, Jean Campbell spouse of Thomas Campbell Esq. and (blank) Scally, dancing master (her tenant).

SITE: Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous gable.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to the petitioner and Dr. Francis Home.

DRAWINGS:

---

BOX: 1773/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 January 1773 (no warrant but permission granted).

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1772.

PETITIONER: Walter Johnstone, tacksman of the mealmarket.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: To erect a steel yard to weigh hay and straw.

NOTES: The steel yard to conform to a model shown to the Dean of Guild. Permission granted on condition that the Town might take the steel yard into their own hands after a period of three years, on payment of the principal sum laid out by him.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 January 1773 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 4 January 1773.

PETITIONER: John Hope.

SITE: Hope Park.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the Meadow Cage.

NOTES: The complaint is addressed to Mr. Buchanan, City Chambers who directed the matter to the Dean of Guild on 20 January, to report on the condition of the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Jack Sommervell, sugar boiler in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Campbell's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney stacks.

NOTES: Michael Nasmith, wright is factor for the tenement in question.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1773 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Gilbert Laurie.

SITE: The Excise office.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous gable on the Excise office.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1773.

PETITIONER: William Barclay, tailor.

SITE: Advocates Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner occupies the upper story of a tenement owned by Andrew Bell, engraver and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1773.

PETITIONER: John McGrigor, chapman in Canongate, Alexander Leith, indweller there, Robert Ballantyne, plasterer there and others.

SITE: Canongate, head of Lochends Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is owned by Mrs. Munro and (blank) Ronalds, merchant in Canongate.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1773.

PETITIONER: James McDonald and others.

SITE: Canongate head, Old Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioners are tenants of James Robinson, flesher.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1773 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1773

PETITIONER: Robert Veitch.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of purchase price.

NOTES: The petitioner is the only lawful son of the deceased Joseph Veitch, sometime shoemaker and Jean (Gunson?) alias Veitch his sole curator. The land in the West Bow belonged to the petitioner as heir to Robert Veitch, pewterer, his grandfather. It was sold by public roup on 26 February 1772 to James Goodwin, flax dresser but not a penny of the purchase price has yet been paid. See warrant granted 18 March 1772 (Smith and Goodwin).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1773 (no warrant, to take replies).

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Letham, smith.

SITE: West Bow, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney vents.

NOTES: The petitioner is factor for three stories of the tenement, the other two stories are liferented by Janet Swanston relict of Alexander Anderson, coppersmith residing at Kirkbrae head. The ground floor is occupied by John (Henderson?) coppersmith. In replies from Janet Swanston she states that the petitioner is the owner, not the factor for the property and he petitioned the Court in August 1769 to have the roof and vents repaired at her expence. She paid a portion of the repair of the chimney stacks at that time. See unextracted petition of 2 March 1774 (Johnston and others) for non payment. This suggests that a warrant was granted for the work, not recorded here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Andrew Beatson, merchant, David Murray, writer and William Cumming, shoemaker.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, head of undermost Baxter's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney vents.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Elizabeth Ross, relict of William Ross, flesher and James Barrowman, shoemaker.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, foot, opposite the chapel.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous building where a chimney vent recently fell and almost killed someone.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack from Peter Baillie, writer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1773.

PETITIONER: William Good, wright and Robert Forrest, upholsterer.

SITE: Parliament Close, mouth, Blair's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the roof.

NOTES: The garret belongs to Lord Auchinleck.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Alexander Bryce, last and heel maker.

SITE: Cowgate, Alison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous house.

NOTES: The petitioner took a lease on the house from Whitsunday last from Robert Thomson, merchant. He states that the Court condemned the house many years ago.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.

PETITIONER: John Graham and Thomas Mathieson, chaise hyrers.

SITE: Cons Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the ruinous condition of the building.

NOTES: The petitioners hold a tack on a stable from Thomas Jamieson, late skinner, now residing in Bruntsfield Links.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Hendrie.

SITE: Custom house stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment of two vents.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the third story, possessed by Charles Inglis, Clerk of the Bills. He uses a room on the east overlooking the Close that enters into the Royal Bank, as a bedroom. The complaint is against Patrick Lindsay and Thomas Boswell who have erected a pair of brick chimneys on each side of the vent for this room and upon each of them 'a sugar mould as high as the building'. All of which makes the fireplace reek.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773 (no warrant, defenders summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1773.

PETITIONER: William Crooks, smith and farrier in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side near the foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the house.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack on a house and stable from Peter Ramsay, stabler. The Court officer only summoned the defenders on 1 March 1773.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Charles Wallace, merchant.

SITE: Bow head, near the entrance to James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner is factor for Thomas Davidson. William Govan, glazier was summonsed to appear.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1773 (no warrant, went for proofs).

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1773.

PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, surgeon.

SITE: Leith, between the Dubrow and the Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a fallen workshop.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Glover, wright, the gable of whose workshop has fallen against the petitioner's property and is preventing him putting in new windows. There are references here to an interlocutor from the Court dated 9 December 1772 and to action by the Procurator Fiscal regarding a passage or causeway on the east of the petitioner's property in October 1772. See previous warrant of 5 February 1772 and unextracted petition of 17 June 1772 (Inglis, druggist)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Jean Syme, relict of Andrew Syme, cooper.

SITE: Poultry market Close.

PROPOSAL: To slap through a doorway.

NOTES: The petitioner has a shop 'in that great tenement opposite the Bridge to the east of the entry to the Poultry market'. She has been forced to leave her shop and asks if she can knock through a doorway in the wall on the east of the Close to communicate with her house between the wall and Niddry Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1773.

PETITION LODGED: 13 March 1773.

PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Baxters of Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the measures used by the metsters of Leith.

NOTES: The complaint is against some 25 metsters who are accused of using measures for barley and wheat that are a full or half a mutchkin too short. Long list of names and detail of practices.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1773 (no warrant, dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1773.

PETITIONER: John Clarkson, merchant.

SITE: Canongate, Dirleton's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the insufficiency of a house.

NOTES: The petitioner is a tenant and for the first time in this series of complaints about the condition of properties, the Dean of Guild dismissed the claim after a visit.

The petition is not fully filled out with the name of the owner.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/24\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 March 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 24 March 1773.

PETITIONER: George Hunter, mason.

SITE: Libberton's Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbouring tenement.

NOTES: A complaint about a bulging tenement belonging to Leonard Urquhart, WS.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/25\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 March 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Kinnear, merchant and William McConochie, wright for Miss (Waugh?) and self and Barbara Hill, residenter.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimneys.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/26\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 April 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1773.

PETITIONER: John Watson, writer in Edinburgh.

SITE: Miln's Court at the Bow head, fourth floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stacks.

NOTES: The complaint is about an old tenement behind the petitioners'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/27\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 April 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. May Drummond, residenter in Caltoun.

SITE: Canongate, below Crichton's coach manufactory.

PROPOSAL: To build an additional floor.

NOTES: The property is below the new land built by her at the site given. The proposal is to take off the roof and build a new story in place of the old wooden one. In answers from Mrs. Morton and her husband, Robert Morton, shoemaker in St Mary's Wynd, they cast doubt on the veracity of the petition stating that that believe the person behind it is David Donaldson, wright. They point out that Mrs. Drummond's affairs are already in the hand of trustees for the behoof of her creditors.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/28\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 April 1773 (no warrant, request to produce rights).

PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1773.

PETITIONER: David Wright, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, foot of Robertson's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair a group of buildings.



NOTES: Part of the property formerly belonged to Alexander Simpson, brewer and the remainder was lately built on the ruins of a tenement belonging to the deceased Alexander Robertson. The petitioner also asks to be declared a creditor on the property. Letters of supplement here dated 11 March 1773 to call John Simpson, bleacher at Ormiston, eldest son and heir of Alexander Simpson. Also enclosed here is a warrant granted by the Court on 6 March 1754 in favour of the petitioner for the same property. This refers to previous letters of supplement dated 28 February and 1 March 1754, which must have been ignored.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/29\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1773 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1773.

PETITIONER: James Marshall, WS, factor for Miss (Andrew?) Petrie and her curator.

SITE: Burnet's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney heads.

NOTES: The complaint is against Walter Ross, WS, owner of a property to the west.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/30\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1773 (no warrant, defenders to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1773.

PETITIONER: David Orme, Martin Lindsay and William Walker, writers.

SITE: Byres Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner's are proprietors of different stories of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/31\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773 (no warrant, proof allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, surgeon.

SITE: Libberton's Wynd, west side, two upper stories.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to roof.

NOTES: The roof, recently repaired, was damaged by the scaffolding erected for the repair of chimneys. There is a letter enclosed from Alexander Adam dated 11 May 1773 stating that the roof had been repaired 'last year' but that it had now been damaged and the cost of repair would be £10-12 Stg. (This is evidence of a Court under pressure. Asking for further proof seems like a delaying tactic and this matter would have been resolved in later years without any problem).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/32\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1773.

PETITIONER: John Miller, vintner at the Golf House in Leith.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a bow window.

NOTES: The complaint is against Peter Forrester who is erecting a bow window in David Nevay's old shop, which encroaches on the petitioner's property below it.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/33\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Sheils, late farmer at Goathill.

SITE: St. Ninian's Row.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer.

NOTES: The property is 'much troubled by underwater' and they propose laying a sewer or drain along the back of a row of tenements. The Orphan Hospital has given permission but not all of the occupiers are prepared to contribute.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/34\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1773.

PETITIONER: George Hastie, stabler in Pleasance.

SITE: High School Yards.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of a building.

NOTES: The complaint is against the Royal College of Surgeons and one of their pavilions which is 'rent and cracked' and in danger of falling on top of the petitioner's property. The Court summoned William Inglis, Dean of the Faculty of Surgeons and Robert Walker, Treasurer, but they were 'absent'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/35\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Morocco's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is cracked and coming away from the one next to it.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/36\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 May 1773 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1773.

PETITIONER: Dr. Daniel McQueen, one of the Ministers of Edinburgh.

SITE: Gosford's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Rigg of Morton who had been ordered to rebuild parts of a tenement on the site. The petitioner is concerned that one of his walls is likely to be damaged. See petition of 21 April 1773 (Rigg).

DRAWINGS:

---

BOX: 1773/37\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1773.

PETITIONER: Edward Inglis, surgeon and Andrew and Adolphus Scales, ropemaker's in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, an un-named Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the vents

NOTES: Edward Inglis is proprietor of sundry lofts, vaults and cellars leased to the other petitioners. Thomas Dick, Deacon of the Incorporation of shoemakers in Leith, Peter More, Treasurer and Peter Davie (or David), slater summoned. They have slapped vents on the side wall of the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/38\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Alexander Aird, portioner in North Leith.

SITE: North Leith,

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Scott, portioner in North Leith who is building a house of two stories but is using small stones and mud. The Court ordered

the work to stop on 15 March 1773. The defender states that he did not apply for a warrant because he was not encroaching on the property of anyone else and he did not have to abide by the Act of Parliament of 1698 regarding the manner of building because it only applies to the Burgh and suburbs. In answers dated 23 March 1773 he states that the petitioner's tenant took down the hedge boundary between their respective properties but the petitioner took an action against him in the Canongate Court, for which he was fined and punished. In further answers dated 9 June 1773 the defender refers to a disposition for the property from Isobela Elliot and her husband, her father having possessed the property some forty years ago.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Sketch plan.  
Size: 12.5 x 15.5 cms (irregular).

---

BOX: 1773/39\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1773 (no warrant, an estimate sought).

PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1773.

PETITIONER: George Webster, merchant.

SITE: Mylne's Court, back part.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: Miss Erskine is another proprietor and the petitioner seeks to widen the responsibility of the necessary repairs. In replies for William Walker senior, writer dated 10 June he states that he repaired his roof the previous November and he encloses an account from Thomas Lindsay, slater for the work, partially discharged at Smiddy Green on 30 July and finally on 7 November 1772. His property was then occupied by Mrs. Anderdale.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/40\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1773 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1772.

PETITIONER: Alexander Brechin, merchant tailor and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about slapping en entry.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Yorston, brewer or resider in Canongate and Alexander Alexander, wright there. They broke out a new entry from the petitioner's turnpike, at night, between 6 and 7 August 1772. The petitioner purchased his property, 2nd, 3rd and 4th stories, from James Ramsay, mason in Canongate on 6 July 1770. There are witness statements here dated 31 August 1772: from Alexander Harper, mason aged 28, married who was employed as a journeyman by Thomas Buchan, mason in Canongate or Calton to knock out the new entry. Also from Ann Thomson servant to George McFarquhar, coach painter, aged 21, unmarried, who lived with her master in one of the houses owned by Alexander Brechin.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/41\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1773 (no warrant, remitted to tradesmen).

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Kennedy, merchant.

SITE: South Leith, both sides of Vinegar Close. Also noted as Binams(?) Close.

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for repair.

NOTES: The petitioner, the son of George Kennedy of Romano, deceased, acquired the right to the property owned by Henry Smith, merchant or vinegar maker in Leith, deceased, thereafter to Henry Smith his son. He applied to the Court (no date given) to rebuild and repair the property and he is now submitting accounts to be cognosed as a debt on the property. There is a measurement of the work, begun on 24 September 1768, by Patrick Sibbald, ordained measurer, dated 22 February 1773. This includes reference to work carried out by tradesmen employed by Robert Smith, sailor in Leith, son of the deceased Henry Smith. Total £454 18s 3½d Stg. The accounts here are for additional work carried out between 18 November 1768 and 27 February 1773: Donald Donaldson for repairing the well but he employed William Burn to clear it out, John Henderson for smith work and Stephen Jolly, wright, for a cover; Stephen Jollie, wright for new windows; David Pitcaithly, mason; James Hodge, glazier; John Couper, painter for 'colouring' 13 large windows, 8 smaller ditto, doors and shutters and whitening and colouring Mr. Hutton's house on 19 May 1772; 3 accounts from James Wright & Son for smith work including '2 frames for a smoak board for Mr. Jas. Hutton's house' and 'a press lock for ditto' on 6 July 1771 William Smith, mason; Dalrymple & Brodie, slaters; Robert Watt, mason in Leith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/42\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1773.

PETITIONER: West Digges, manager of the Theatre Royal.

SITE: (Shakespeare Square) Theatre Royal.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a midden.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hill, wright who built a wall about 2ft high behind the theatre and without the petitioner's knowledge, so that his tenants could throw their ashes and dirty water behind it. No allowance was made for the water to escape but it has seeped into the cellar below the theatre.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/43\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1773.

PETITIONER: Margaret Freer, her curators.

SITE: Head of Niddry Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an oven.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mr. Steel who occupies the ground floor and cellars of the tenement. The petitioner occupies the first flat above the street in the tenement that stretches from the Tron Kirk to the head of Niddry Wynd. The other occupiers include the Trustees of the Forfeited Annexed Estates.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/44\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 April 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Janet Callender, daughter of the deceased John Callender, skinner.

SITE: High Street, south side, bottom of Grays Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney stacks.

NOTES: The complaint is about the neighbouring tenement, belonging to John Patullo, writer who is summoned.

DRAWINGS:

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BOX: 1773/45\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1773.

PETITIONER: Jean Campbell, spouse of Captain Thomas Campbell.

SITE: Foulis Close.  
PROPOSAL: To repair chimney tops.  
NOTES: The petitioner has a right to the property by adjudication.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/46\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 25 August 1773 (no warrant, defender allowed to answer).  
PETITION LODGED: 24 August 1773.  
PETITIONER: John Wordie, Treasurer to the City of Edinburgh and Hugh Buchanan, Chamberlain and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Leith, Shore, between the great tenement belonging to John Yeats and others and the Timber Bush.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.  
NOTES: The complaint is against George Howieson, shipmaster in Leith who has taken over the side wall of the Bush and opened an entry and two windows there.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/47\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 September 1773 (no warrant)  
PETITION LODGED: 22 September 1773.  
PETITIONER: Samuel Sommervel, baker.  
SITE: Bowhead, Geddes land.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stack.  
NOTES: The petitioner has a lease on a house and shop from Mrs. Geddes, residenter.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/48\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 October 1773 (no warrant, defender to answer and appointed a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: Patrick Baillie, writer, for Alexander Forsyth, coach maker in London.  
SITE: Cowgate Port, the coal fold.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a shade with a fireplace.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James Westwater, coach maker who has taken possession of the coal hold, the property of the Town. In replies for James Westwater dated 15 October he states that he took the coal fold for one year from Whitsunday last from Mr. Davidson, cooper, the Town's tenant, at a rent of £10 Stg.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1773/49\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 October 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 19 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: Margaret Saxon, residenter.  
SITE: Cowgate, Cons Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about an illegal vent or chimney.  
NOTES: The complaint is against David Ivor, merchant at (Gros Casen?) near Edinburgh, the petitioner's landlord.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/50\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 27 October 1773 (date of a visit, no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1773.  
PETITIONER: John Davidson, vintner.  
SITE: Lyons Close, opposite the Guard.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.  
NOTES: The petitioner has taken a house from John Nicolson, shoemaker in Canongate, factor for Thomas McDonald, indweller in Edinburgh from Whitsunday last to Whitsunday next for 11 Guineas. In answers for Nicolson he states that the roof

was repaired before last Whitsunday but that the petitioner took the house for a public house and 'finding business did not answer' having already asked to let the house.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1773/51\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 October 1773 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1773.

PETITIONER: John Mylne, founder, Charles Butter, wright, Charles Livingston, writer, for William Hume, upholsterer and his creditors, George Gardiner, brewer, John Nicholson, shoemaker for Thomas McDonald, indweller and Dougald Masterton, wigmaker.

SITE: High Street, opposite the Guard, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about refusal to pay.

NOTES: The complaint is against Charles Inglis, writer who refuses to pay for agreed repairs to the vents. Includes a contract with Alexander Laing to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1774

The Court Officers from 20 October 1773:

**Dean of Guild**

Charles Wright

**Council**

Walter Hamilton, Old Dean of Guild

Charles Innes, merchant

Archibald McDowall, merchant

Thomas Heriot, wright

Thomas Sommers, mason

John Bonnar, painter

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1774/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 January 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 2 January 1774.

PETITIONER: Miss Jean Campbell of Argyle Square for herself and as factor for Captain Thomas Campbell, her husband.

SITE: Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild parts of a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is presently occupied by Mr. Seally, dancing master. William Jamieson, mason appointed to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 January 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 24 November 1773.

PETITIONER: James Arnot, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: North Leith, south side.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: There is an estimate for the repairs by an un-named tradesman.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 January 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1773.

PETITIONER: William Peaston of Sutra.

SITE: College Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for repairing a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner is a creditor on the subjects, which belonged to Alexander Meales, brewer and his son, John Meales. He refers to a warrant dated 10 June 1772, granted to David Simpson, baker in Edinburgh, proprietor of a tenement contiguous to the one formerly owned by John Meales, brewer, to have the mutual gable repaired. There are accounts here from William Jamieson for work on 'Mr. Myles brewerie, College Wynd' in 1772-3; James McLeich, glazier; Alexander Adam, slater; Hugh Gib, wright; Robert Selby, plumber and William Johnston, mason. The petitioner is described as William Peaston of Stirling in another process.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 15 November 1773.

PETITIONER: Mrs. McGhie: Jean Forbes, relict of William McGhie, writer.

SITE: West Bow, head, first floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a flue running under her floor.

NOTES: The complaint is against Arthur Miller, merchant who claims that the flue is

part of the original fabric of the tenement. The warrant allows him to erect a 'funnel' and a pipe to carry away the smoke from his basement shop and cellar. See unextracted petition dated 12 February 1777 (McGhie) complaining that the vent had been built up but re-opened again.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1773.

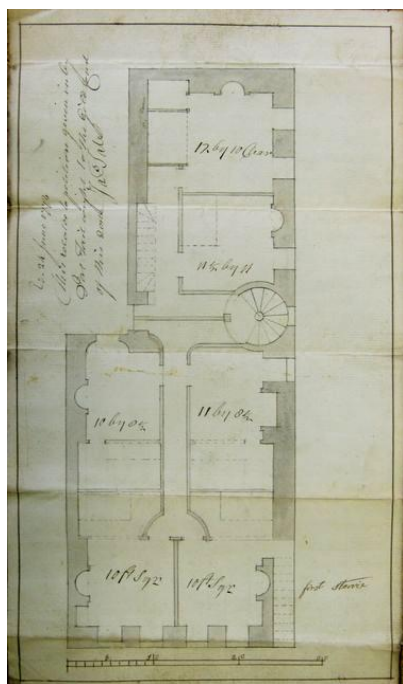
PETITIONER: James Tait (Tate), wright.

SITE: Cowgate, west side of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The property recently purchased from Alexander Innes of Catlaw. On 3 November 1773 the Court decided that the petitioner had encroached on the Close, but as he had also widened the Cowgate at the front the encroachment was allowed to remain. The work was stopped; he was fined £100 Scots and imprisoned in the Tolbooth until he paid. The warrant of 9 February records that the petitioner paid £4 3s 4d Stg. and was released. See also warrants of 30 November 1774 (Tate) and 14 December 1774 (Bruce and Gray). There is a plan of both tenements in an unextracted process dated 8 January 1772, submitted by Alexander Innes of Catlaw. The drawings is signed by George Cowan and dated 22 January 1772. Presumably he was not allowed to demolish the tenements as the Court did nothing other than visit the site.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the first floor.

Size: 35.6 x 20.6 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman.

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BOX: 1774/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 2 February 1773.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

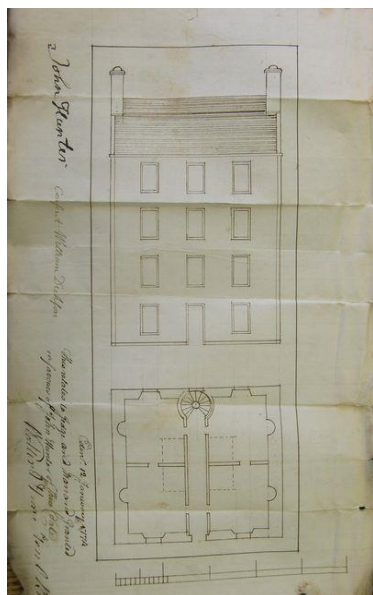
SITE: West Bow, foot (Cairns Close); south side of Portsburgh, two tenements; foot of Niddry Wynd; about the middle of College Wynd, west side and at the foot of Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about six ruinous properties.

NOTES: The petition includes a report by a jury dated 3 February 1773. The tenement at West Bow foot belonged to John Hunter, apothecary; that in Niddry Wynd to James



Reoch, writer and that in College Wynd to Hugh Cleghorn, residenter in Edinburgh. The tenements in Portsburgh belonged to William Purdie and Robert Whyte, smiths. The jury, which included James Craig, architect, found the tenement at the foot of Fleshmarket Close already being demolished. The drawing at a. was found loose among the unextracted processes but it appears to relate to this petition.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a four story tenement.  
Size: 34.5 x 22.0 cms.

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BOX: 1774/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1774.

PETITIONER: Joseph Thomson, saddletree maker.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimneys.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Corbet, tailor in St. Mary's Wynd. Robert Baillie, mason in Canongate applied to the Court for payment of expences of the repairs and this was upheld on 1 June 1774.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Margaret Pitcairn, daughter of the deceased Dr. Archibald Pitcairn, physician.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: The warrant was granted to William Jamieson, mason to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1774.

PETITION LODGED: December 1773.

PETITIONER: Thomas Jamieson, glover.

SITE: High Street, Cons Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to a hayloft and stable.

NOTES: The complaint is against Walter Ross, WS, William Moncrieff, writer and James McPherson, architect. See warrant granted 3 September 1774 (Jamieson). The defenders were ordered to repair the damage but have not done so. he submits an account from John Laing to repair 'part of the roof of a closet projecting from an

adjoining tenement'. The work carried out on 18 September and 8 October 1773. Also an account from George Syme for tiling the roof. In answers the defenders state that they act as agents for Lt. Edwin Horsburgh.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1774.

PETITIONER: William and Andrew Neil, masons in Canongate.

SITE: (New Street), west side, foot.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of building a tenement.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted to Dr. Thomas Young, physician in Edinburgh, 29 July 1767 to build a coach house and stables on the west side of the new street. Dr. Young feued the said ground to the petitioners for building thereon and they have accordingly built a tenement of four floors with garrets, bounded on the north by the public high road, by the area fronting Myres land on the south, by the tenement belonging to the representatives of David Wilson (brewer) on the west and by the new street on the east. The tenement cost £1175 16s 10d Stg. and the petitioner's account records a rubble build with 54 windows and 6 doors with polished and droved jambs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1774.

PETITIONER: James Braidwood and William Neil, masons.

SITE: (New Street), west side, near the foot.

PROPOSAL: To cognose expence of building

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted to James Braidwood, 6 February 1770 to build a tenement of four floors with garrets and a small brick house (of 4 rooms) at the back. Bounded on the south by the tenement and passage belonging to Miss Bolland; on the north by the area leading to Hyres (Myres?) land; on the west by malt barn belonging to the representatives of David Wilson, brewer, and on the east by the new street. The petition includes their account amounting to £584 3s 9d Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1774.

PETITIONER: The Marquis of Lothian.

SITE: Canongate, foot; Chancellor's Close.

PROPOSAL: To call a jury to decide on the stability of mutual gables.

NOTES: See previous warrant of 3 November 1773 and the plan there, for the owners of the adjoining properties. One of the gables is mutual with Mrs. Yorston who prevented a rushed demolition. The warrant allowed the Marquis to go ahead with the agreement of the other proprietors but if not, to have work undertaken and the expence cognosed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1774.

PETITIONER: Margaret Home, residerter, relict of Robert Ross.

SITE: South Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts for rebuilding a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted on 26 June 1754 to demolish and rebuild an old tenement and a 'warrant of appreciation' of the said old tenement dated 10 August 1757. The building work cost £827 4s 3d Stg, but as she lived in London after obtaining the warrant, she had not realised that she had to submit the accounts, until now. There is a full account here for mason and wright work by unidentified

tradesmen and a measure of the work by Archibald Aikin; of interest, enriched timber cornices.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1774.

PETITIONER: Archibald Aitkin, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of rebuilding a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted 3 July 1771 to take down the mutual gable between a tenement belonging to the representatives of the deceased John Aitkin, wright in Canongate and the petitioner's new land on the east. The work was carried out by Mr. (James?) Gowan, mason and the accounts and measure is lodged here.

James Gentle, brewer in Canongate was the assignee for John Aitken, wright.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned in the 1771 warrant.

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BOX: 1774/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 12 January 1774.

PETITIONER: John Brown, Baillie and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about water seeping through from the floor above.

NOTES: The petitioner is tenant of a shop and large warehouse. The complaint is against Mrs. Douglas, relict of William Douglas, writer and James White, barber and wigmaker, owner and tenant respectively of the house above that of the petitioner.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 April 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1774.

PETITIONER: William Davidson, cooper.

SITE: Near the Cowgate Port, adjoining Forsyth's land - the Coalfold.

PROPOSAL: To alter a shade.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 April 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1774.

PETITIONER: Andrew Laurie, schoolmaster.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To carry out internal repairs and declare the cost a debt.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 April 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1774.

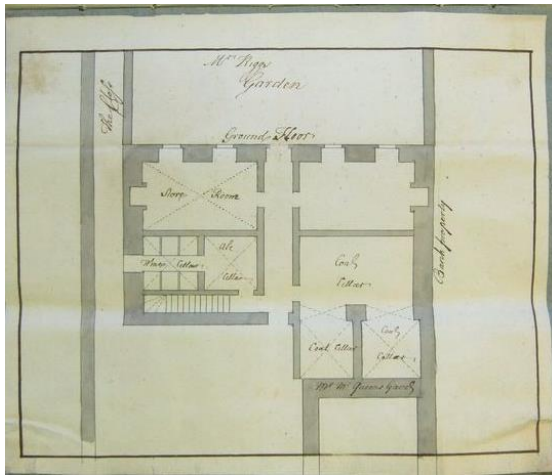
PETITIONER: James Rigg of Morton.

SITE: Cowgate, Gosfords Close, foot.

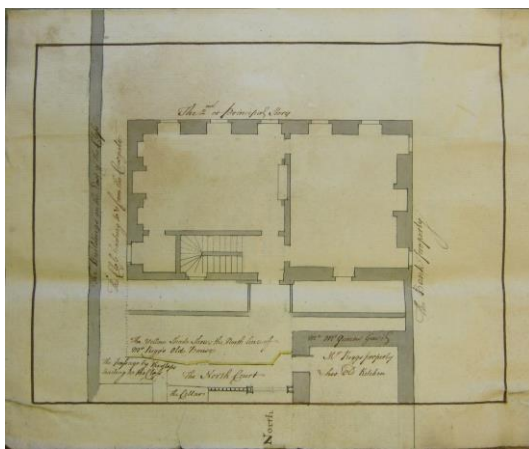
PROPOSAL: To build a lodging house.

NOTES: Among those called was James Spence, treasurer to the 'old Bank'. The plans do not seem to correspond to the north elevation.

DRAWINGS: Bound set of 4 sheets tipped down on blue paper, the final sheet with a fold out scale.



Description: a. Plan of the ground floor. 'Bank's property' on the right.  
Size: 20 x 23.6 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the principal floor.  
Size: 21.0 x 25.3 cms.



Description: c. Elevation to the north 'towards the court at the foot of Gosford's Close'  
Size: 22.0 x 19.0 cms.



Description: d. Elevation to the south.  
Size: 24.0 x 19.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1774/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 May 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert and James Mitchell, masons.

SITE: Foulis Close, Fountains Close and Hyndeford's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of repairing chimney stacks.

NOTES: The petition includes copies of warrant, one dated 4 August 1773 in favour of Mrs. Mathieson and others, heritors of tenements in Foulis and Fountain Closes and the other dated 21 April 1773 in favour of William Michie, merchant for west and east tenements in Foulis Close and Hyndeford's Close. There are a number of accounts here from Robert and James Mitchell, masons and William Archibald, slater. Also measures and divisions of the work by Robert Burn which list the heritors. There is also a note of agreement here dated 1773, between Robert and James, father and son, 'to be conjunct & several in their job at Foulis Close & all the jobs that shall come in their way to undertake for this year...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 May 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1773.

PETITIONER: William Gordon, bookseller and others.

SITE: Smith's land, opposite the head of Blackfriars Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair the east and west chimney stacks.

NOTES: The petition includes an agreement dated 9 July 1773, signed by the heritors, with Alexander Laing, mason to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1774.

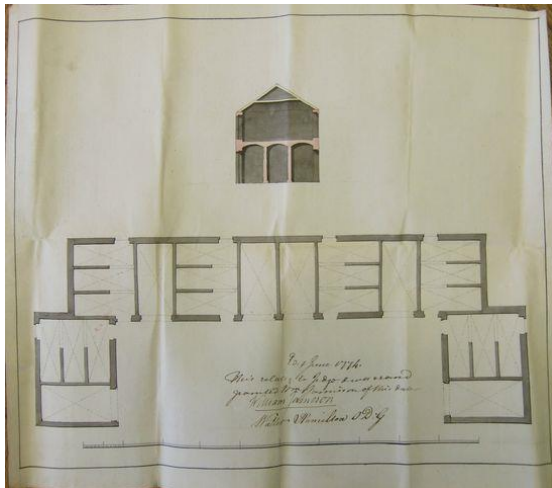
PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1774.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Canongate, south side, immediately to the east of the coach works owned by Alexander Crichton, coach maker.

PROPOSAL: To build six coach houses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Section and plan.

Size: 31.0 x 35.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1774/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1774.

PETITIONER: John Crawford, shipmaster in North Leith.

SITE: North Leith, near the end of the Bridge.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1774/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 23 May 1774.

PETITIONER: James Edmonston, writer in Edinburgh.

SITE: Anchor Close, the Anchor Tavern.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement partially destroyed by fire.

NOTES: The Court appointed John Wilson, mason to carry out emergency works to stabilise the building. The Tavern is occupied by Mrs. McDuffie, vintner and there is another petition here from Mary Tibbles, alias Johnstone, midwife in Edinburgh, in which she complains that Mrs. McDuffie was using a 'borrowed vent' for her kitchen and that she intended continuing to do so.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1774.

PETITIONER: John Liston, fisherman in Newhaven.

SITE: Newhaven, to the east of.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Peacock, vintner in Newhaven.

NOTES: The petitioner has a tack from the Magistrates of Edinburgh on an area or piece of waste ground on which the old Glass house was built, lying to the east of the town of Newhaven. He holds a tack for 100 years from Martinmas 1767, with permission to build a dwelling house, for which he paid £3 plus 1s pa as tack duty. Seven years after granting this tack the Magistrates granted a tack to Thomas Peacock of a neighbouring property. Peacock has now erected a boundary wall that encroaches on his property and he explains that he left 3ft beside his house in order to build a stair. Peacock in his answers refers to a tack he holds from the Leith Roperie Company dated 14 May 1763 for the easter and wester Links of Newhaven, with houses built thereon. This was lately possessed by Robert Gilmour, flesher in Leith. There is a dispute about the date of the tack and Peacock states that Liston had a feu from the Town Council for the property on 5 August 1767. The Court supports the petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1774.

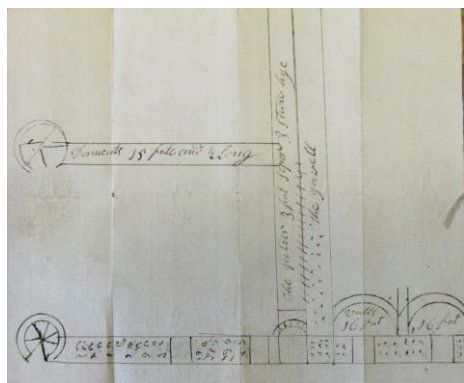
PETITIONER: James Paterson, mason.

SITE: Cowgate, foot of Blackfriars Wynd, on the east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Murray, slater who has removed a pillar from an arch adjacent to the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Sketch plan/elevation.

Size: 15.8 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1774/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Rabina Muat, relict of the deceased Andrew Muat, merchant.

SITE: Mylnes Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Mylne, architect.

NOTES: The house belongs to Mrs. Paterson Sharp, sister of Duncan Forbes Paterson of Kirkton, deceased. The petitioner pays rent of £24 Stg. pa. to Charles Livingston, writer in Edinburgh as factor for William Mylne, architect 'who is cognosed a real creditor on the subject ... for payment of certain sums due to him and William McConochie, wright in Edinburgh'. The petitioner cannot get essential repairs carried out and the Court agrees, noting that the flooring, partitions and several windows need repair or replacing and three rooms need repainting.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1774.

PETITIONER: Katherine and Agnes Stephens, milliners.

SITE: Lawnmarket, downmost Baxters Close, fourth floor of tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about insufficiency of the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against Laurence Inglis, writer, owner of the floor below and the garret above the petitioners.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 June 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Moubray (Keir), relict of John Moubray, wright.

SITE: Todricks Wynd, a yard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging out for a sewer.

NOTES: The yard is occupied by Alexander Bruce, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Mackenzie & Thomson: John Mackenzie of Dolphinton, advocate and John Thomson, writer.

SITE: Princes Street, three lower floors of a house.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the construction of a building on the back ground.

NOTES: The complaint is against Hugo Arnot of Balcormo, advocate who owns the two upper floors and has begun to erect a building a hen house in the yard. In answers for Hugo Arnot he states that he purchased the two upper floors of the tenement and the plot of ground on the east side of the entry to his house under no servitude. He used the plot as a green for laying clothes to dry until last spring when he dug it out for a cellar. He explains that his cellars contain liquor in both bottles and casks. Now he wishes to build a hut for his hens on the area. The warrant ordered work to be stopped on 5 July and a visit was arranged for 6 July.

DRAWINGS: Drawings by William Jamieson (for the cellar?) are mentioned but none here.

---

BOX: 1774/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1774.

PETITIONER: Robert Ord, Lord Chief Baron of H. M. Court of Exchequer.

SITE: (No. 8) Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of a mutual gable on the west.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted by the Court, 19 July 1769 to build a mutual gable between the plot of ground feued by James Coutts, banker in London on the west side of his lodging (No. 9 & 10). The copy enclosed states that the petitioner feued the Lot marked EE on the general plan for building and although foundations had been laid for some time, he could not go ahead with his building until agreement had been reached about the expence of the mutual gable. The petition includes a measure by Robert Burn dated 6 February 1770 of the building work carried out Duncan Drummond for James Coutts on the west and Sir John Whitefoord on the east.

DRAWINGS: A section is mentioned in the warrant of 19 July 1769 but is not here.

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BOX: 1774/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1774.

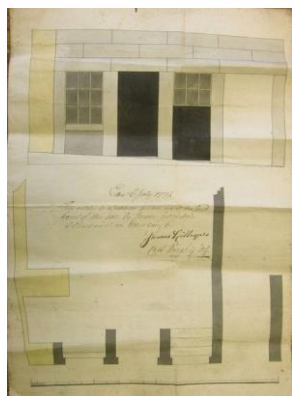
PETITIONER: James Gillespie, tobacconist.

SITE: High Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the front of his shop in line with the upper part.

NOTES: Thomas Boswell in the tenement above insists that the petitioner find caution for any damage that might occur.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of the shop front.

Size: 41.5 x 29.0 cms.

---



BOX: 1774/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Margaret Murray, daughter of the deceased Alexander Murray of Cringelty.

SITE: Canongate, head, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John McLure, writing master in the flat above.

NOTES: For at least two years past, the flooring in John McLure's flat allows ash, dust and water to fall through into the petitioner's kitchen, below. In replies for McLure, he calls the petitioner Mrs. Justice and states that her lath and plaster is not sufficient to support the deafening. The Court found in the petitioner's favour and ordered the work to be done within four days or a fine of £100 Scots would be imposed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1774.

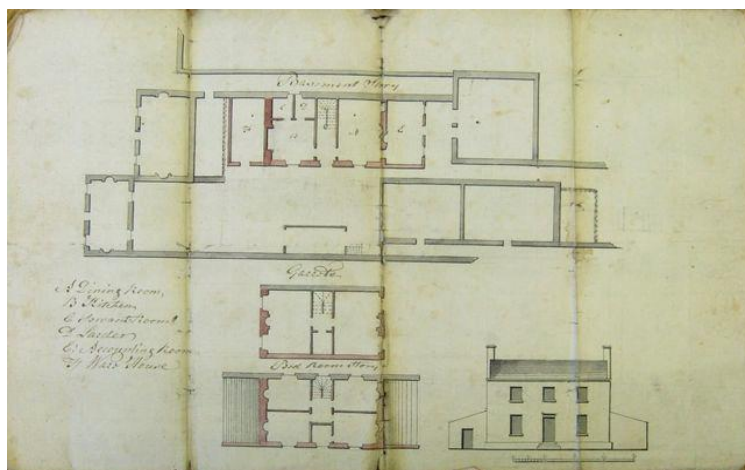
PETITIONER: Michael Anderson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, to the west of his tenement.

PROPOSAL: To build a small house.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he wants to build some shades to accommodate himself in his business.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of three floors.

Size: 19.2 x 31.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1774/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 5 April 1774.

PETITIONER: William Johnstone, mason, George Syme, slater and Michael Naismith, wright.

SITE: West Bow, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: To cognose expence of repairs.

NOTES: See warrant of 8 April 1772 (Anderson). There are accounts here from Michael Naismith dated 1 August 1773; George Syme dated 9 September 1773 and William Johnston and George Hunter dated 1773. There was an issue arising from the death of Janet Swanston, relict of Alexander Anderson, coppersmith, a life renter in the property four months after the work was complete. Her testament dated 10 February 1774 is also preserved here ad this complicated matters as she left her property to Margaret Barlass, only child of the deceased Peter Barlass, merchant in Crieff and the lately deceased Mary Caw, Keeper of the Orphans Hospital at Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 8 February 1774.

PETITIONER: David Somervell, merchant.

SITE: Baillie Fyfe's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Colin Haig, wright who has built a shade beside the petitioner's property and fixed joists to his wall. In replies, Haig stated that the shade had been erected more than twenty years previously. The Court took depositions regarding the shade and the position of a sewer from: Adam Aikman, mason aged 32, married; William Purdie, paviour aged 58, married; George Fettes, journeyman mason aged 48, married. He was employed by William Jamieson, mason about 14 months ago on the construction of the sewer; Donald McLeod, day labourer aged 30 and upwards, married also employed on the sewer; Marion Findlay, relict of James Steel, brewer at Wright's Houses aged 50; John Megget, brewer in Portsburgh aged 40, married and Robert Greenlees, merchant aged 50, married. The petitioner was granted a warrant to have the joists removed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1774.

PETITIONER: Captain Henry Descury, John Thomson, writer

SITE: Princes Street, (corner with St Andrew Street?).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on the back ground, building a stable.

NOTES: The complaint is against Hugh Maxwell, writer, proprietor of a house or back ground on Princes Street. Work ordered to be stopped.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1774.

PETITIONER: mrs. Robertson: Margaret Sampson, widow of Robert Robertson, farmer at Duddingston and Robert Robertson, wright, his son.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: To take down the roof and some side walls and rebuild.

NOTES: The tenement is occupied by Hampden Prudie, hatter and others. A warrant to take off the roof and rebuild was granted on 26 July but this was followed by a visit on the 27th and a further warrant on the 8th August.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 23 August 1774.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Geddes Close, head, Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the insufficiency of a pillar on the front of a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Gairdner, goldsmith in Edinburgh and Robert Kinnear, merchant. The Court ordered William Dallas, wright and John Wilson, mason to support the front of the tenement 'without loss of time'. There is an unsigned (scroll warrant?) dated 26 August 1774 enclosed which grants John Wilson permission to take down (the front wall?) and rebuild under the inspection of James Robertson, mason. In a marginal note it states that 'as both parties agreed to the determination of Deacon (William) Jamieson and said James Robertson:- whether Mr. Gillespie's operations there has been the cause of the failure...' then he would be liable for the expence. See warrant granted on 6 July 1774 to James Gillespie.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1774.

PETITIONER: Robert Hunter of Hunston (late of Bengal).

SITE: (No. 5?) Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner has a mutual gable with Sir John Whitefoord on the west (No. 6 & 7). He refers to a warrant granted by the Court, 4 March 1772 in which Sir John noted that he had purchased the lot of ground with the intention of building on it but being now accommodated elsewhere, he did not want to be at any expence on the site or to fix himself to any particular mode of building. He believed that there was no law to say he should build a mutual gable and indeed he, or someone purchasing the plot, might leave a space between his house and the next. The Court agreed to cognose the account of a mutual gable and declare a proportion to be a debt on the neighbouring property. There is an account here from Alexander Young for building the mutual gable dated 1 December 1772.

DRAWINGS: A section is mentioned but is not here.

---

BOX: 1774/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 29 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Michael Naismith, wright, Ann Anderson, indweller and others.

SITE: Grassmarket, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the building of vents without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Pringle, WS and Clerk of Session. In answers for James Pringle he relates the history of the site and refers to two tenements; his stone tenement and the petitioner's timber one. These were divided by a Decreet of Division, issued by the Dean of Guild Court on 31 January 1728.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 2 August 1774.

PETITIONER: James Shimlaw (he signs Shirrilaw).

SITE: Near the Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a door blocking the street.

NOTES: The complaint is about a small shop below the stair entering to Moffat's land, immediately above his shop. The door to the shop, occupied by Mrs. Robertson, jams in the open position. And she hangs a parcel of old rags there every day. The petitioner '...has lately at very great expence enlarged and beautified the front of his shop...' This may refer to the petition of 30 November 1774 (Auchinleck) for building without a warrant. The Court ordered the removal of the upper part of the door.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 14 September 1774.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is described as 'crazy and out of plumb'. A jury was appointed and their report of 16 September 1774 declares that the front wall should be taken down. This is confirmed by the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 October 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1774.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, head of St Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a hazardous tenement.

NOTES: Refers to the previous petition of 21 September 1774. It has been found that the timber tenement on the south and the tenement fronting the High Street, immediately to the west, are also in a dangerous condition. A jury was appointed and their verdict to demolish is dated 18 October 1744.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1774.

PETITIONER: Thomas Stewart, Secretary to the Bank of Scotland.

SITE: Miln's Square, west side.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof of a tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1774.

PETITIONER: James Winter, coach wright.

SITE: South side of the road leading from the Cowgate Port to the foot of the Canongate.

PROPOSAL: To claim part of the expence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner had built a tenement some time ago with a mutual gable between his tenement and an area on the east. Major Alexander Baillie of Luthrie has now built on this area but as he is outside the jurisdiction of the Court, the petitioner raised letters of supplement against him for £26 4s 5d Stg. as his contribution for the gable. The letters refer to (blank) Weir and (blank) Clarkson, masons

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1774.

PETITIONER: James Pringle, principal clerk of Session.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side, behind the meuse well.

PROPOSAL: Disagreement about repairs to a mutual gable and vents.

NOTES: In replies for Michael Nasmith, wright he notes that the two tenements on this site originally belonged to the same person. The timber foreland belonging to Nasmith is dated 1635 and the tenement belonging to Pringle is dated 1645. Both parties applied to the Dean of Guild for a decret of division, granted on 31 January 1728.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 19 October 1774.

PETITIONER: Gilbert Auchinleck, cutler.

SITE: High Street, north side, near the Netherbow (immediately west of the Netherbow Port?).

PROPOSAL: To bring forward his shop front.

NOTES: The petitioner was fined 20s Stg for having begun work without a warrant. See warrant of 22 April 1779 (Brodie).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1774.

PETITIONER: James Tate, wright and others.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To lay pavement in the foot of the Close.

NOTES: The paving to stretch from the strand on the north side of the Cowgate to the north side of the turnpike of James Tate's land. See warrants of 9 February 1774 (Tait) and 14 December 1774 (Bruce and Gray) the latter for a plan of the foot of the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 16 November 1774.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Canongate, south side, east of the property of Alexander Crichton, coach maker.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of building six stables.

NOTES: The stables were built for the Commissioners of H. M. Customs and cost £587 12s 1d Stg. There is an account here for iron work by George Steell, smith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1774.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, foot of the High School Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous timber tenement.

NOTES: A jury was appointed who decided that some parts were not ruinous but that a timber projection was an encroachment on the High Street. The Court ordered the removal of the projections on this and on High School Wynd and taking down the front of the tenement belonging to Mrs. Ann Brodie. In a petition for Michael Forrest and Patrick Baillie they complain that not all the heritors were informed of the decision, specifically the heirs of John Brodie, who are all out of the Kingdom

DRAWINGS: None

---

BOX: 1774/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 22 November 1774.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Marlin's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging out earth in the Wynd.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Laing, mason who dug a 30ft trench.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1773.

PETITIONER: Robert Scott Moncrieff, merchant and treasurer, Orphan Hospital.

SITE: Orphan Hospital.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to a boundary wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Scott, plumber, David Ramsay, mason and (blank) Hay, litter carrier. They are proprietors of the area to the north of the wall and have interrupted the course of the water so that it has undermined the boundary wall. In replies Ramsay states that he built a house on Forglen's park, feued from the Town Council, in accordance with plans provided by the Council and the petitioner should seek redress from the Council.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1774.

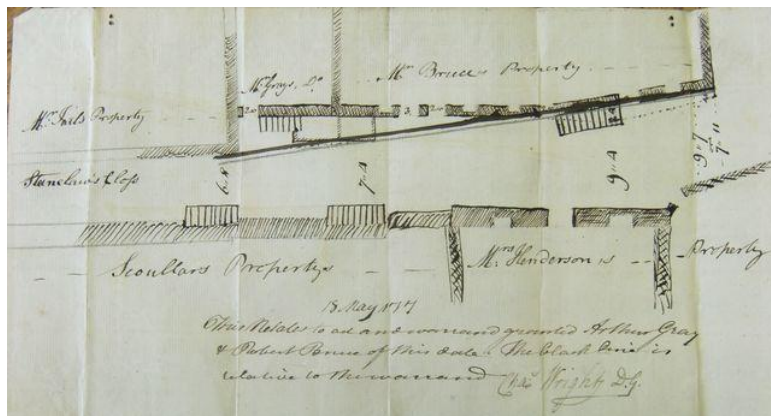
PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater and Arthur Gray, glazier.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To repair and rebuild a front wall.

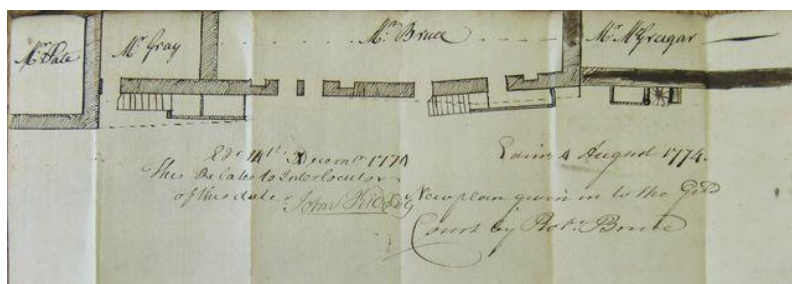
NOTES: The petitioners intended straightening out the line of their frontages and the Court jumped at the opportunity to take away a projecting fore stair. Bruce provided a new plan with less ambitious works.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the Close associated with warrant of 18 May 1774.

Size: 20.0 x 32.4 cms.



Description: b. Modified plan of the front walls.

Size: 19.8 x 32.4 cms.

---

### Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/6)

BOX: 1774/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 January 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1774.

PETITIONER: William Grant, residenter.

SITE: High Street, James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a back wall.

NOTES: The petitioner occupies a laigh cellar leased from Adam Murray, baker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 February (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1774.

PETITIONER: David Mickieson, slater in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of his property.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Stephen and James Gray, masons in Portsburgh from whom the petitioner rents a house and shop at £6 Stg. In replies for the defenders they refer to furniture being removed and other disagreements with their

tenant and his wife.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 February 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 2 February 1772.

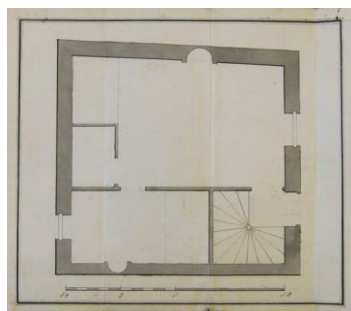
PETITIONER: William Milne, late servant to John Swinton junior of Swinton, advocate, now merchant in Nicholson Street.

SITE: Scotts Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To convert a stable into a dwelling house.

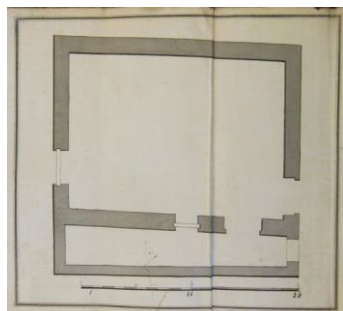
NOTES: The petitioner purchased the stable and area from James Dewar of Vogriebut found that the proprietors of 'the society hall' have a servitude over the stable which prevents him making use of it.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 19.2 x 21.8 cms.



Description: b. Plan.

Size: 19.0 x 21.0 cms.

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BOX: 1774/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1774 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 8 January 1773.

PETITIONER: Archibald Aitken, Treasurer of the Burgh of Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, south side.

PROPOSAL: Decree by the Court.

NOTES: The decree is taken out against a long list of named individuals, for payment of their share of the cost of paving the south side of the Canongate c. 1770.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1774.

PETITIONER: William Peter, tailor and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Luckenbooths, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the chimneys.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Gray, writer as factor for James Sempill of Stockroger from whom the petitioner holds a lease. The rent is collected by James Kettle, writer for Dr. Murray. The chimneys had shaken so much that the magistrates appointed two soldiers to stand guard in the street. See unextracted petition dated 12

February 1777 (Jamieson) for accounts that appear to relate to this work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1774.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Don's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Butter, wright and factor, who is collecting rents on the property repaired by the petitioner according to a warrant granted previously. See warrant of 12 February 1772 (Rattray). The owner of the property, John Don of Haddington, has died since the work was undertaken.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1774.

PETITIONER: John Hunter WS, factor for Andrew Hunter, minister at Dumfries and William Muirhead, brushmaker.

SITE: Paterson's Court, back land.

PROPOSAL: Repair to a sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1774 (no warrant, defenders did not appear).

PETITION LODGED: 12 January 1774.

PETITIONER: William Johnston, mason, John Syme, slater and Michael Naismith, wright.

SITE: West Bow, Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against the owners, identified in the unextracted petition dated 10 February 1773 as Janet Swanston, relict of John Anderson, coppersmith and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1774.

PETITIONER: Robert Thomson, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Exchange.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Chalmers, merchant who has opened a vent or chimney in the wall of the Exchange.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 March 1774 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1774.

PETITIONER: Margaret Nash, relict of Thomas Young, merchant, sometime treasurer of the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: Lawnmarket, foot of Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The complaint is against Peter Williamson, merchant who has a warrant to make alterations to shades in his garden. See previous warrant granted on 17 March 1773 (Williamson). The petitioner did not appear in Court to challenge that petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 19 March 1774 (Date of inspection)



PETITIONER: John Brough, wright in the Extended Royalty.

SITE: 'West side of Princes Street, to the north of the lodging presently building by Mr. Callendar'

PROPOSAL: To continue building a small house.

NOTES: The petitioner had purchased an area measuring 11½ft north and south by 40ft. east and west from John Callendar of Craigforth. He was ordered to stop work on 'Saturday last' because it was felt that the gable he was building at 18 inches thick, was insufficient. Alexander Reid and Thomas McInnes, masons, reported on the house which they describe as being on the west side of St Andrew's Street and that the wall will be sufficient if it is carried no higher than 36ft. They continue '& that the joists to be laid south & north at every eight feet high which will bind the wall and add greatly to its strength!'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 April 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1774.

PETITIONER: John Howieson, writer.

SITE: Mealmarket Stairs, fourth floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the property.

NOTES: The complaint is against Andrew Houston of Calderhall, landlord to the petitioner. Andrew Houston in replies notes that he let the property to the petitioner for ten years on a lease granted at Whitsunday 1768 at £14 Stg. pa., having spent £30 Stg, in alterations and repairs in January 1768. Under the lease the petitioner agreed to maintain the property but he has built a new house for himself in Castle Wynd and now cannot get a tenant for this property at the rent he agreed, because it is in need of cleaning and painting.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1774.

PETITIONER: John Syme, writer.

SITE: Peebles Wynd and Kennedy's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a projecting window.

NOTES: The complaint is against Colin Fraser, indweller who has begun alterations to his windows which project into Kennedy's Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 May 1774 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1774.

PETITIONER: Proprietors of various properties.

SITE: The lane between the Low Calton and the Comedy Hut.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: The drain was erected by William Butter and others to carry off water but it stops at the top of the lane and makes it impassable. The petition is signed by all of the proprietors in the lane. The Court ordered no further action for 14 days.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1774/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1774.

PETITIONER: John Mylne, founder.

SITE: Barringers Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer.

NOTES: The complaint is against his neighbour, David Somervell, merchant who has altered the course of a sewer, causing water to enter the petitioner's court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Robert Dewart, glazier.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, foot, east side.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs on an old tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is bounded by one owned by John Bonnar, painter on the north.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Samuel Watson, writer and factor for the heirs of the deceased Thomas Dallas, surgeon in Musselburgh.

SITE: Bells Wynd, head, on the west.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the shop front.

NOTES: The building is a timber tenement but there is a letter here from John Campbell, occupier of the cellar beneath the shop belonging to David Dow, wright, on a rental of 6 Guineas to Whitsunday next. He complains that he will have no light and a very small entrance if this work is allowed. See warrant granted on 22 February 1775 (McPherson) for more on this site.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1774.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crombie, dyer.

SITE: Cowgate, Homes Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of a sign board.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Thomson, merchant who took down a sign at the entry to Homes Close where it had been for three years. The petitioner states that the Close has always been a thoroughfare to Browns Square and he refers to the possessor of his dye works on the south side of the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 2 August 1774.

PETITIONER: George Mellis, flesher, the Incorporation of Fleshers of Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, east side, Coalston's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimneys.

NOTES: The petitioner states that slates recently fell down 'and near killed a woman in the Close'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 July 1774.

PETITIONER: James McCoul, candlemaker.

SITE: None specified.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against Charles Straiton, porter who is in possession of the cellar below the petitioner's shop. The defender is said to be raising a structure on which to sell his old clothes and this rises 9 to 15 inches above his property, obstructing

his signs and the light.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 September 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 September 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Johnstone (Mary Tibbetts), practitioner of midwifery and James Watson, writer.

SITE: High Street, north side near the Cross, Forglen's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about old bricks in a chimney.

NOTES: In replies for James Home, John Clarkson senior and junior they state that the west gable was 'built from bottom to top by the late Deacon Jamieson not many years ago'. Also notes, in a fulsome comment on repairing chimneys, that one fell down five stories during a storm in January 1773. 'It is further observable that even these additions of stone or brick buildings on the top of the chimneys in town do not cure the smoke - For many of these have got sugar canns above all, as may be seen at the Old Bank House and many other houses... it is found very easy to prevent it either by a smoke chimney or smoke fire screen with a plate of white iron and every person ought to try all methods below before troubling their neighbours ...'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 September 1774 (no warrant, letters of supplement).

PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1774.

PETITIONER: John Mossman, merchant.

SITE: Castlhill, south side of the High Street, tenement belonging to William Cochran of Rougheads.

PROPOSAL: To repair the uppermost story.

NOTES: The letters of supplement are addressed to William Paton, minister of the Gospel at Eckford, now residing at Kelso.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 September 1774.

PETITIONER: Daniel McFarlane, brewer in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh, south side of the Street.

PROPOSAL: To construct a drain along the front of his house.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/24\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 November 1774 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 November 1774.

PETITIONER: Duncan McGilvray, shoemaker.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Sherilaw, merchant his landlord, to whom he pays £5 15s till Whitsunday next. The cellar is subject to ingress of water and after spending £12 Stg. he was told by tradesman that the problem arose from the condition of the walls and that the timber supporting the flags of the Close above were insufficient.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1774/25\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1774.

PETITION LODGED: 14 December 1774.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, near Alison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on the Street.

NOTES: The defender has begun building a stair to his property that encroaches on the Street and refuses to stop until ordered to do so. He was fined £20 Scots and ordered to remove the encroachment within 24 hours.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1775

The Court Officers from 18 October 1774:

### **Dean of Guild**

John Kidd

### **Council**

Charles Wright, Old Dean of Guild

David Mill, merchant

Archibald McDowall, merchant

Thomas Heriot, wright

David Ramsay, mason

John Bonnar, painter

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Patison

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1775/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1775.

PETITIONER: Richard Tod, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith Citadel.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement was built by William Walker, wright but the east side wall was very badly damaged by 'the late swell of the sea'. Walker cannot afford to repair the tenement but as the petitioner is his considerable creditor, he has agreed to pay for the rebuilding.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1771.

PETITIONER: John Mylne, founder, James Ballantyne, wheelwright and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate head, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building a shade on a party wall and blocking a sewer.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Mitchell, baxter in the Canongate who has begun to repair or build a shade contiguous the petitioner's property. A dyke 'built by his ancestors' is being converted into a wall. In later answers the petitioner states that he purchased the property in 1765 from the Incorporation of Fleshers and Candlemakers in Canongate at a public roup. The property was bounded on the west by the Fleshmarket Close, by tenements new built on the area of the old Flesh Market by (blank) Ramsay, mason, on the north. The Court agreed that the dyke belonged to the petitioner. However, the dispute went to proofs in April/May 1771 and these are enclosed from: James Aitken, wright in Canongate, aged 60 years upwards, married; James Ramsay, mason in Canongate, aged 40 and upwards, married; Elizabeth Murray, relict of Robert Hutchison, flesher in Canongate, aged 66; Adam Aikman, mason in Edinburgh aged 30 years, married; Archibald Smith, labourer in Edinburgh aged 50, married and Andrew Hutchison, flesher in Edinburgh aged 60, widow. Also proofs for the defender from: Robert Mennons, journeyman baker in Edinburgh aged 48, married who served Robert Bartleman, baker in Canongate for 6 years about 31 years ago; William Pow, baker in Canongate aged 38, married; Jean Robertson, spouse to James Robertson, weaver in Canongate aged 38; Peter Miller, journeyman mason in Edinburgh aged 60 or thereby, married and Mary Henderson, relict of Robert Bartleman, baker in Canongate, aged upwards of 50. John Mylne petitioned again, 19 December 1774 and the Court confirmed its first decision.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 January 1775.

PETITIONER: John Crokat, slater in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Tolbooth Wynd at the head of the hill.

PROPOSAL: To build a house on his back ground and a tenement of 3 or 4 stories on the front. The expence to be a debt on the property.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but is not here.

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BOX: 1775/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 February 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 13 February 1775.

PETITIONER: Mrs. McGhie: Jean Forbes, relict of William McGhie, writer in Edinburgh.

SITE: West Bow, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous warrant granted in November 1774 (sic, 8 February 1774 on a petition lodged in November 1773). The petitioner had Mr. Laing, mason, undertake the work but Mr. Miller went to the Court of Session and re-opened the offending vent. The Court ordered the grate to be removed. The petitioner's complained, apparently unsuccessfully, about the vent on 15 February and refused to allow a pipe to be placed on their lath and plaster wall. There is an unsuccessful claim for expences related to this petition in the unextracted processes, 12 February 1777 (McGhie) which shows that the work on the vents was by Alexander Laing, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 February 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 6 December 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Forbes: Margaret Aikman, widow of Hugh Forbes, one of the Principal Clerks of Session.

SITE: Lady Stairs Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of repairs and rebuilding.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant granted on 9 August 1773 to carry out the repairs and rebuilding as a result of a Court order. Accounts here from: Thomas Heriot, wright, including 9 ft of dale (deal) for boxing a hearth stone; William Scott, plumber; George Syme, slater; William Jamieson, mason which included 9 dozen chimney tyles and squaring and setting the chimney tiles; Alexander Gowan, marble cutter in Abbeyhill including grinding and polishing a dove marble chimneypiece with paneled (panelled) mouldings £4 18s 4d. Also a portlan (Portland) stone jamb for the chimnie up stairs £3s.6d.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 February 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1775.

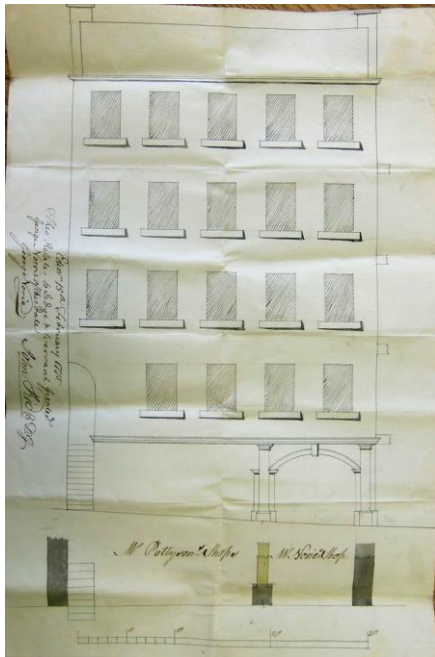
PETITIONER: George Norie, merchant (painter).

SITE: High Street, opposite the head of Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To take down the timber front of a tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: Notwithstanding the inscription, the Norie part of the ground floor appears to be an entry rather than a shop. The drawing at a. is similar in style to that with the warrant granted 3 June 1802 (Matthew & Norie).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement and plan for the shop floor.

Size: 47.5 x 31.1 cms.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)

BOX: 1775/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 February 1775 and 8 March 1775, expences.

PETITION LODGED: 9 November 1774.

PETITIONER: John McPherson, musician and others.

SITE: Bells Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber projection.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Dow, 'grocer or wright' who has made a timber projection into the street which will 'straighten the access to the public wynd'. He is in fact bringing his shop front forward in the same manner as others he points out at the head of Carrubbers Close and Niddry Wynd. The other petitioners are: William Thomson for the Society of Barbers, James Brown, James Simpson, James Ramsay, Thomas Sanderson for the Edinburgh Assembly and John Mason for the Incorporation (of Bakers?). The Court granted a warrant on 16 November 1774 fining David Dow 10s Stg for acting without a warrant and ordered him to remove the projection on 30 November 1774. He went to the Court of Session and the Lord Ordinary referred the matter to the Dean of Guild on 5 January 1775 asking him to allow proofs to be taken for the form and position of the 'antient railing' which Dow has erected in front of his new shop. The Court allowed proofs on 15 February and they are here from: John Mathie, mason aged 61, married who remembered the railing from 1729; Peter Miller, mason aged 64 or thereby, married who remembered the railing these forty years past and Daniel Wright, wright aged 75 or thereby. The Court adhered to the warrant of 16 November 1774 and on 8 March 1775 awarded the petitioner expences and allowed him to erect the railing in its old position. The defender appealed again but his petition was refused on 19 April 1775. See previous petition for this site in the unextracted process dated 20 July 1774 (Watson).

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1775/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 22 February 1775.

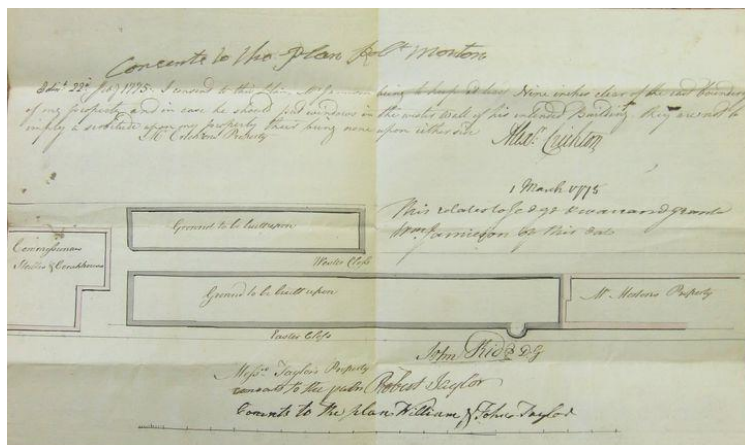
PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Canongate, south side.

PROPOSAL: To build some small houses.

NOTES: The property is a large area, recently purchased, immediately adjoining another piece of ground on which the petitioner has already built six coach houses and

stables. The drawing shows 'Commissioners stables & coach houses' already built. See the unextracted petition dated 29 November 1785 (Whitehead and Ritchie) where there is a copy of the warrant granted here with a note dated 8 March 1775, transferring it to Robert Whitehead, wright in Canongate and William Ritchie, mason there. Jamieson sold them part of the land mentioned here and gave them power to apply to the Dean of Guild to cognose the accounts for whatever they built and declare it a debt on the property. They did so but there was some reluctance to cognose the accounts.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area.  
Size: 22.4 x 36.7 cms.  
Watermark: VI

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BOX: 1775/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 March 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Robert Taylor, founder in St. Ninian's Row and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St Ninian's Row.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Hill, wright.

NOTES: Refers to a previous complaint against Hill for laying down earth and rubbish beside the dyke on the west and for throwing foul water from a tenement contiguous to the dyke. Hill ordered to remove the rubbish and pay Taylor £100 Scots plus expenses.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 March 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 6 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Robert Thomson, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Exchange.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent.

NOTES: The petitioner states that George Chalmers, merchant, slapped out a vent in the wall of the Exchange building in February 1764. This led to a complaint by the petitioner in March 1774 (no record there) and the vent was shut up, but it has now been opened again.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Margaret Hope, residenter and the other heritors.

SITE: Canongate, south side, part of Buchanan and Wilson's lands.

PROPOSAL: To repair brick chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1775.

PETITIONER: James McCoull, present Deacon of the Incorporation of Candlemakers on their behalf.

SITE: Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: To dig a well.

NOTES: 'That the inhabitants in the Candlemaker Row ly under very great inconveniences for want of water – none being nearer to them than that of Bristo Street – and the pipe at the foot of the Row on the north.' They propose to dig a well on their own property, near the door of the work house possessed by Robert Sprott and to cover it with a pump and cover.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 April 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 18 April 1775.

PETITIONER: Mrs Gascoigne, Isobell Grant, Katherine Meldrum and Isobell Lamb.

SITE: Canongate, head of St John's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 19 April 1775.

PETITIONER: Archibald Stewart, brewer in Queensferry.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, head on the west side.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs.

NOTES: The work is required 'by virtue of an adjudication which house is in great disrepair in the floors, doors, partitions, ceilings and windows...'. To be a debt on the property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1775.

PETITIONER: Charles Livingston, writer, Trustee for William Hume, merchant upholsterer and his creditors.

SITE: High Street, Peacock's land opposite to the Guard.

PROPOSAL: To repair a stone gutter on the top of the west gable.

NOTES: The petitioner is trustee for the second floor of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1775.

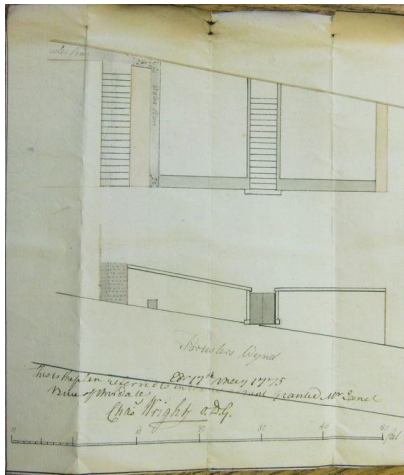
PETITIONER: Mrs Janet Bruce or Gibson, only child of the deceased Sir Edward Gibson of Kinnaird, Bt, relict of the also deceased Captain James Bruce, late of the 26th Regiment of Foot.

SITE: High Street, south side, back of Bess Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a stair to an old tenement and repair the same.

NOTES: The tenement is bounded on the west by Forrester's Wynd. The plan shows a water run above the petitioner's property. Refers to a decret of Adjudication granted to the petitioner on 7 December 1774 in the Court of Session, against Robert McGhie, eldest son of the deceased James McGhie of Jamaica who was the eldest son of Robert McGhie, sometime merchant in Edinburgh and late of Carsherd's and the also deceased Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson, daughter of the deceased Sir Thomas Gibson of Keirhill.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation to Forrester's Wynd.

Size: 23.0 x 20.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

BOX: 1775/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Dr. John Stevenson, Professor of Philosophy, College of Edinburgh.

SITE: High Street, north side, Grays Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about repair of a dyke.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a house, wright's shop and yard. The dyke is at the foot of the Close and is a boundary with Charles Butter, wright. It has given way and needs repair but Butter will not contribute to the cost. In replies Charles Butter states that in March 1748, he and George Stevenson, wright purchased two tenements at the foot of Grays Close from John Callender of Craigforth. Butter purchased the northmost and Stevenson the southmost and they built a wall between them. Dr. Stevenson sought a proof from Robert Scyth, upholsterer aged 25, married who noted that he and William Lamb, upholsterer had leased the shop and area about two or three years ago, where they dug a saw pit. Lamb is still in occupation. Also from William Auld, smith aged 40, married: George Penman, shoemaker aged 50, married and James Thomson, wright, aged 40 and upwards, married. The latter noted that he served as a journeyman with Messrs. Lamb and Scyth about three years ago. The Court ordered Dr. Stevenson to remove the rubbish which caused the fall and rebuild the wall at his own expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1775/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1775.

PETITIONER: Andrew Laurie, school master.

SITE: West Bow, foot.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts for repairs to a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a previous petition in April 1774 to carry out the repairs to the joists, partitions, roof etc. Accounts here from: Alexander Salton (glazier), George Begbie (smith), William Jamieson, mason, Robert Turnbull, slater and Thomas Heriot, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1775/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1775.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crumbie, dyer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, Craig or Homes Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Thomson, merchant (printer?).

NOTES: The petitioner had placed his name and trade on the lintel over the end of the

Close but Thomson had whitened it and painted 'R. Wilson's printing house' (?) there.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1775.

PETITIONER: James Gordon, brewer.

SITE: West of the entry to Heriot's Hospital.

PROPOSAL: To take down a ruinous tenement (part of the brewery) and rebuild.

NOTES: If the entry to the Hospital is at the right edge then this is Lauriston Place.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 22.0 x 67.2 cms.

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BOX: 1775/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1775.

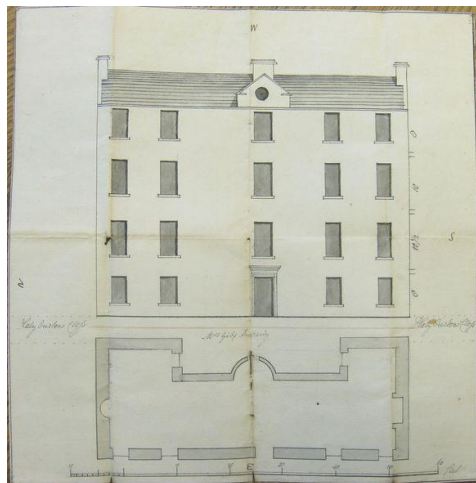
PETITIONER: William Murray, merchant in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, east side of Halyburton's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: Refers to a disposition granted to the petitioner by George Buchan of Kello (Berwickshire), 20 May 1756. There is a long argument with the 'Ladys of Traquair' over the petitioner's right to the area of land but the warrant was granted.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a four story tenement and plan.

Size: 29.0 x 28.5 cms.

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BOX: 1775/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1775.

PETITIONER: John Gordon, merchant.

SITE: Dickson's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Gilbert Waugh, baxter.

NOTES: Waugh has erected a stable and loft beside the petitioner's property without a warrant. He was fined £12 Scots on 24 May but continued with the work. The warrant

allowed him to complete the roof but not to store any combustible materials there. There is another petition here, making the same complaint, from Mrs. Callander, residenter who lives in a property in the Close owned by Miss Reynolds of Montrose.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 30 May 1775.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Brown: Elizabeth Laurie, relict of Alexander Brown saddler in Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: The Bull turnpike, opposite the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of a sign board.

NOTES: The sign was fixed above the windows of the petitioner's shop and read "Alexander Brown Saddler Cap and harness maker". It was removed, between 4 and 5 in the morning by William Johnstone, hairdresser, the new tenant of the flat above. When challenged by people in the street he gave them 'abusive language'. In his replies Johnstone noted that the sign was 'above his joists', but he was ordered to replace it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: On or before 17 May 1775.

PETITIONER: George Wilson, mason in Edinburgh.

SITE: Leith Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about payment for a sewer (also described as a spout).

NOTES: The sewer was to be in timber with a lead lining but Wilson decided to build with stone and now that the work is complete, he seeks payment. In answers from Maurice Crawford & Co., coppersmiths they point out that the decision to work in stone was made without warning and that the petitioner opened a gap the full length of their workshop, which lay open for two weeks during which time there was a great snow storm. There are accounts here from Matthew Adie for mason and slater work and Archibald Aitkin, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1775.

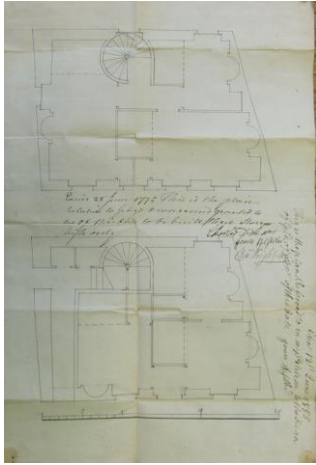
PETITIONER: Charles Dickson and James Besillie, masons.

SITE: Bristo Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three floors on the back area.

NOTES: The property had been purchased 'some time ago' from Thomas Wood, late of Warriston and the petitioners had already erected a tenement fronting the street. They proposed building on the back area occupied as a wright's shop. In answers for James Scott, senior and William Smith, merchants they state that 'in April 1741 James Wilson and James Bain purchased from Arthur Straiton, barber... an half acre of ground lying in the West Croft of Bristo upon which it was intended to erect a large meeting (Seceders) house...'. They had a warrant from the Court dated 20 May 1741 to build according to a plan produced. There is a discussion about the distance from dykes and light. See also warrant of 31 March 1773 (Dickson and Besillie).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of the ground and an upper floor.  
Size: 39.0 x 25.3 cms.

BOX: 1775/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 28 June 1775.

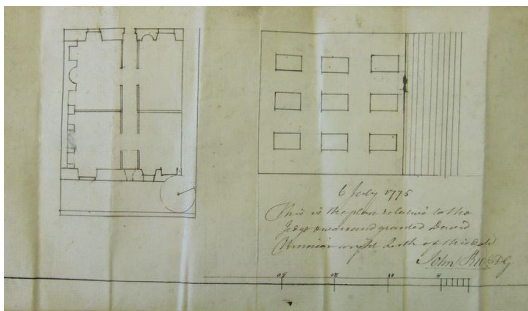
PETITIONER: David Kinnear, square wright in South Leith.

SITE: South Leith, opposite the pipes at the head of the Hill.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild an old tenement.

NOTES: There is a discussion about a servitude held by John Crockat, slater.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a three story house and a plan.  
Size: 21.0 x 34.6 cms.

BOX: 1775/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1775.

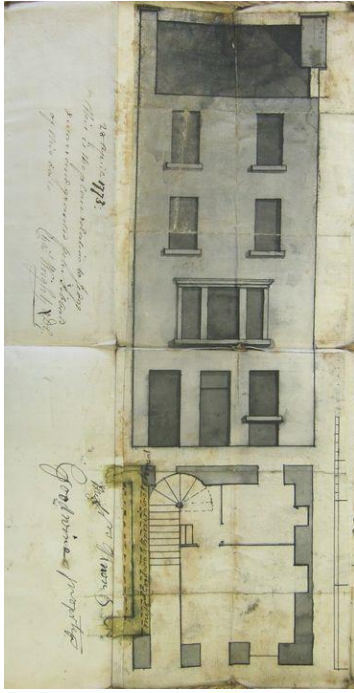
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Patrick Sibbald and Hugh Gibb, wrights and Hugh Johnston, mason.

NOTES: The builders had a warrant dated 28 April 1773 to erect a tenement but they had now added a further story. The warrant prohibits them from building stormont windows above the joisting on the fourth floor 'in that part of the street which is confined and very narrow'. Patrick Sibbald petitioned the Court to lift the interdict after he applied to the Court of Session. Lord Coulston, Lord Ordinary, visited the site with members of the Dean of Guild Court and ordered the removal of the interdict preventing further work and that the petitioner be allowed to build according to the plan and elevation submitted. All of this arose from an earlier petition by the Robert Knox: see the unextracted petition dated 24 May 1775.

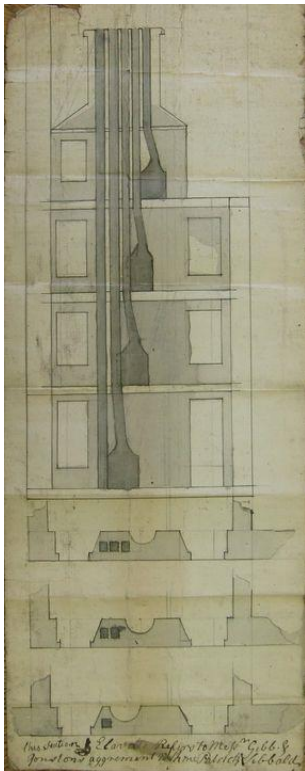
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of ground floor.

Size: 40.5 x 13.1 cms laid down on a larger sheet 41.2 x 33.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: 28 April 1773. This is the plan relative to Jedge and warrant granted Peter Sibbald of this date, Charles Wright ODG



Description: b. Section of the mutual gable showing flues, with plans at each level.

Size: 48.5 x 19.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Section and elevation of the tenement as now building. With pencil indications of an area plan.

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BOX: 1775/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1775.

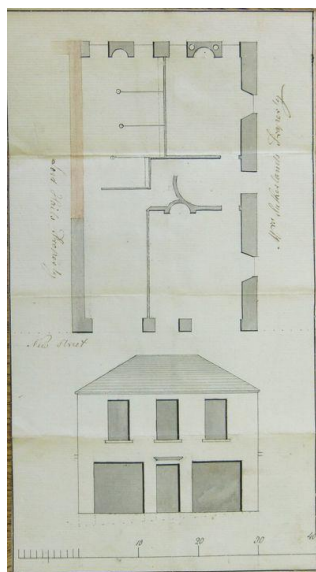
PETITIONER: John Syme, Clerk to the Signet.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: To build

NOTES: The property is bounded on the north by the property of Lord Hailes and on the south by that of Mrs. Sutherland. By the declivity indicated on the elevation, this building is proposed for the east side of new Street.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a two story house.

Size: 29.0 x 15.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1775/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1775.

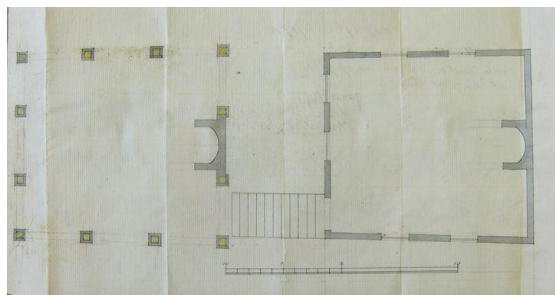
PETITIONER: Charles Dickson and James Besillie, masons in Bristo.

SITE: Bristo.

PROPOSAL: To build a wright shop.

NOTES: See previous warrants of 31 March 1773 (Dickson and Besillie) and 28 June 1775. The wright shop is to be built on the north of 'a little flower garden'. In answers for Christopher Moubray, cashier of the Friendly Insurance office, he complained about the storage of wood so close (11 ft) to the gable of the Meeting House. He notes that the upper floor is to be built of brick. He recites a history of fires in wrights shops: October 1702 which began in the shop of Deacon Robertson, in the Lawnmarket; 1739 or 1740 in the shop of Francis Brodie in the Close above the Fleshmarket; about twenty years ago (1755) a fire burnt Mr Adams wright shop to the ground and shortly afterwards the shop of Deacon Stevenson was burnt with great loss to himself and danger to the neighbourhood; Mr. (Alexander) Peter's shop at the foot of Horse Wynd was 'frequently in fire, for several years' and a most terrible fire occurred in Mr. (William) Reoch's shop in Carrubber's Close. See warrant of 14 March 1793 for a complaint about Reoch's site.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of a two story building with an open area beneath, supported on pillars.

Size: 16.3 x 30.5 cms.

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BOX: 1775/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1775.

PETITIONER: James Ranken, wright in Edinburgh.

SITE: Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about access to vents.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the third story of a tenement built by Alexander Fleeming, wright upon an area marked H in the plan of the New Town. His complaint is against William McConochie, owner of the fourth and garret floors, who refuses to allow him access to heighten his vents or have them swept. The Court ordered the defender to allow access or to take down the additional superstructure he had built. The process also contains depositions from tradesmen, owners and chimney sweeps viz.: John Hamilton, chimney sweep who keeps eight boys to sweep and that his boys can sweep a chimney 8 inches square. He is also employed by Messrs. Butter, Cowan and Brown, wrights to clear out any loose lime in new chimneys. In a deposition by the other owners it is suggested that the system of using boys is safer than the use of a brush, pulled up and down by two men. There is a measure of the height from the pavement to the upper bed of the cornice by Alexander Ponton, measurer who refers to the property, Fleemings land, on the corner with Queen Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1775.

PETITIONER: John Douglas, eldest son of the deceased John Douglas of Tillwhilly (Tilquhillie), advocate and John Douglas of Inchmarlo, his tutor.

SITE: Writer's Court, west side, fifth floor or lodging.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The owners or occupiers of the garrets include William Miller, painter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 12 July 1775.

PETITIONER: Charles Thomson, merchant and Miss Kelly Hamilton, daughter of the late captain William Hamilton of Letham.

SITE: High Street, Hamilton's land, immediately to the east of Kinloch's Close.

PROPOSAL: To alter the timber front.

NOTES: The building is timber framed and the front is supported on timber posts.

They propose bringing forward the front and building up with brick and lime.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but it was borrowed and presumably not returned.

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BOX: 1775/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1775.

PETITIONER: James Colquhoun of Luss, advocate.

SITE: Peebles Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stack in the adjoining tenement.

NOTES: The adjoining tenement belongs to James Alcern, watchmaker and is in the hands of his creditors.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1775.

PETITIONER: Hugh Inglis, barber, Charles Tait, wright, David Rattray, wright and Robert Thomson, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate head, south side, Pollocks Close.



PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Charles Tait who has recently taken down a house in the Close and is rebuilding it. He has built a vent on his boundary that encroaches on the property of the others.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1775.

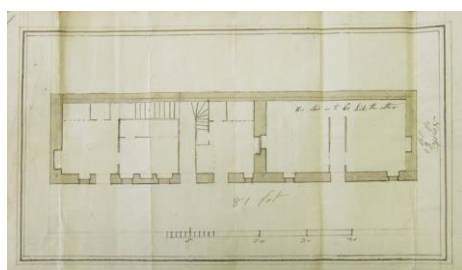
PETITIONER: George Clapperton, writer, factor for David Wilson, ship master, sometime in Leith, now in (blank).

SITE: Leith, the head of Baillie Muckle's Close, in the Yardheads there.

PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Wilson had agreed with William Hunter, wright in Leith to carry out the repairs and work had begun before being stopped.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Ground floor plan.

Size: 19.0 x 33.0 cms.

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BOX: 1775/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1775.

PETITIONER: James McKell, fish hook maker in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side, opposite to Lord Milton's lodging.

PROPOSAL: To raise the roof by a story and provide a new roof.

NOTES: His property is on the west side of the entry to the coachworks of James Reid.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 22 February 1775.

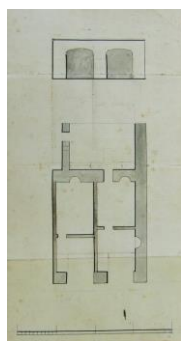
PETITIONER: William Purdie, smith.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot on east side.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The building to remain at the same height.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a single story building.

Size: 29.1 x 14.7 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, HF

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BOX: 1775/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1775.

PETITIONER: Alexander Brown senior, merchant.

SITE: Craigs Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimneys.

NOTES: Includes a letter of agreement to carry out the work by Alexander Inglis, mason dated 3 April 1775.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 September 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1775.

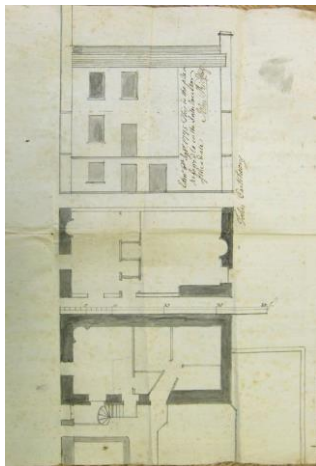
PETITIONER: John Caitcheon, carver.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite the foot of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a ruinous workshop.

NOTES: His carver's or wright's shop is described as a small subject at the back of the new buildings. It appears from the drawing that the shop is possibly two stories high and he is adding a floor, possible in timber. He asks that a timber projection erected by his neighbour, Deacon Wright, dyer, be removed. There is a further petition here from Mrs. Clerk, relict of Dr. David Clerk, physician and James Clerk, their eldest son dated 30 November about the position of windows. Also replies from John Caitcheon dated 6 December 1775, but no action is noted.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors and elevation of a three story building.

Size: 37.6 x 28.0 cms.

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BOX: 1775/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 23 January 1775.

PETITIONER: Alexander Mitchell, baker in Cowgate.

SITE: Canongate, head, Couls Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade and a staircase on garden ground.

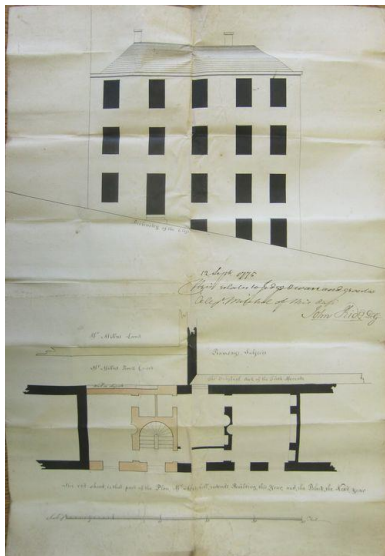
NOTES: John Mylne, founder is involved in a long discussion over boundaries. On the plan and elevation at b. the pink indicates what is 'to be erected this year' and the black, 'next year'.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



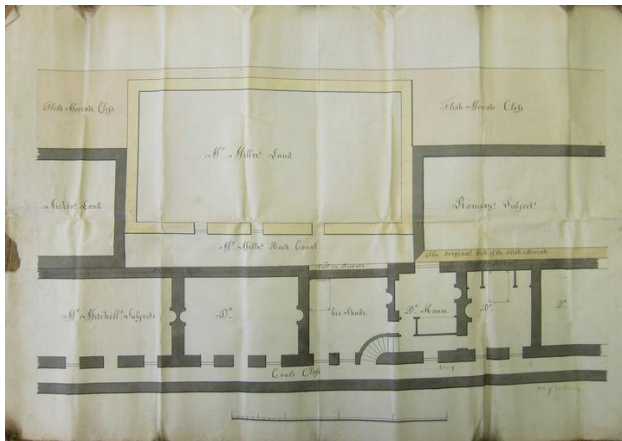
Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 34.5 x 47.0 cms.



Description: b. Elevation and plan of the proposed tenement.

Size: 50.7 x 34.7 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the area. (copy of a.?)

Size: 36.1 x 52.0 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman

BOX: 1775/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 September 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1775.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate.

SITE: South Leith.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner had an adjudication dated 19 January 1774 on the property of Henry Smith, vinegar maker in Leith.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 September 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 24 August 1774.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Campbell of Argyll Square, for herself and as factor for her husband.

SITE: High Street, south side, Foulis Close,

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for repair.

NOTES: Accounts here for work carried out in January 1774 from William Jamieson, mason; Alexander Adam, slater and Robert Whitehead, wright, who employed James Whitehead to execute plaster work. Noted: 'To lathing on cove in bedroom & closet'.

Drawings: None.

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BOX: 1775/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 4 October 1775.

PETITIONER: Alexander Brown, merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Craig's Close

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney vents.

NOTES: A brick capping on the vents to be removed and replaced with stone and lime.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1775.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Justice and others, heritors.

SITE: Canongate, north head, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney vents.

NOTES: A brick capping on the vents had been removed 'some time ago' by order of the court. Charles Robertson, painter would not agree to have his vents raised but the Court granted the warrant and instructed that he should pay his share. There is a note here signed by the other heritors, agreeing to employ William Johnston & Son to carry out the mason work on a 'droved cap'. They describe the land as 'the land west of Buchanan's commonly called Wilson's land lying at the head of Canongate and Leith Wynd'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 9 September 1775.

PETITIONER: James Simpson, residenter in Edinburgh.

SITE: Bells Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the building of a brick vent.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Campbell, officer of Excise who has erected a poorly built brick vent, the smoke from which annoys the petitioner. He notes that it is constructed through a lath and plaster and timber house 'and inside it passes close by the foot of a bed'. The defender was ordered to demolish the vent.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 4 October 1775.

PETITIONER: Alexander Hamilton, surgeon.

SITE: Not specified (Parliament Close, passage to the Cowgate).

PROPOSAL: To enlarge his kitchen into the strand or passage.

NOTES: The petitioner agreed to purchase a small area beside his house on which he would extend his kitchen. He agreed to purchase a similar area of the old ruinous property opposite, so as to widen the strand, as and when required by the Town Council. There is no petition here, just the warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 11(?) October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 4 October 1775.

PETITIONER: John Dundas, WS and Alexander Hamilton, surgeon in Edinburgh.

SITE: Parliament Close, passage to the Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge his kitchen by enclosing a part of the strand or passage.

NOTES: The Court granted a warrant on 5 October for this to go ahead on condition that the petitioner purchased the same amount of land from the ruins opposite, to widen the passage, when required by the Town Council. This led to a counter petition by John Dundas, WS, owner of a property in the back stairs who complained that the passage was now too narrow and that none of the neighbouring heritors had been called. Work was stopped on 9 October and a new warrant appears to have been granted on the 11th (although it is un-dated) after an agreement with the Town Council about the widening of the passage as required.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1775.

PETITIONER: Sarah McKenzie, milliner.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, Burn's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rainwater coming into the principal room.

NOTES: The petitioner claims that she made many applications to her landlord, James Burns, wright in Edinburgh to remove the inconvenience. She was given authority to employ tradesmen to plaster the timber south front of her lodging and to repair the timber water spout, taking the cost from her rent.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1775.

PETITIONER: John Dalrymple, merchant and late Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: Extended Royalty (Hanover Street).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a roof being raised without a warrant.

NOTES: The petition is signed by William Jamieson (mason) for the petitioner. He complains about Alexander Fleeming, wright in Edinburgh. *Williamson's directory for the city of Edinburgh, Canongate, Leith, and suburbs, from June 1775, to June 1776* (Edinburgh 1775) gives the petitioner's address as Hanover Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 November 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1775.

PETITIONER: Heritors of Carrubber's land: Thomas Thomson for trustees of late Mrs, Paul, Claud Inglis, Robert Walker, Margaret Young and Katherine Hepburn.

SITE: High Street, north side, head of Celler's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the lead roof.

NOTES: The uppermost story belongs to Mrs Gordon of Cluny but she is too poor to pay for the necessary repairs. The petition is to carry out the work and have the expence declared a debt on the upper floor. There is an estimate here from William

Scott, plumber. There are further legal papers associated with this petition in the Baillie Court papers in the City Archive. See Box 152 Bundle 397. This includes an account from John Wilson, mason and a full copy of the warrant granted here. (With thanks to William Fortescue for this reference).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 November 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 October 1775.

PETITIONER: Janet Fraser, widow of Henry Service, journeyman wright.

SITE: Niddrys Wynd, east side, that great tenement, Grierson's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof and vents.

NOTES: There are estimates here from Hugh Johnston, mason; George Syme, slater and Hugh Gib, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 November 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1775.

PETITIONER: Charles Livingston, writer in Edinburgh, trustee for William Hume, merchant upholsterer in Edinburgh and his creditors.

SITE: High Street, opposite the Guard, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations.

NOTES: The complaint is against the petitioner's tenant, James Donald, druggist who occupies a house and wareroom previously occupied by William Hume. He has divided the ware room into a number of apartments and taken away another room, without any permission or warrant. In answers for Donald he states that he has a tack for 17 years at £40 Stg. pa. and that the petition arose because he was seeking repairs to the property. The petition was dismissed on 30 August and the petitioner ordered to carry out the necessary repairs. There is a report of the work required here from Arthur Giles, wright and Alexander Laing, mason dated 17 April 1775. They reported again on 21 September 1775. This is a complicated process with claim and counter claim about the amounts spent on repairs. There are accounts here from Archibald Cameron (painter) dated 28 June 1772 for painting the shop and outside of the front 'Pea green measuring 22 yds, £2 7s 10d' To ditto bright red in varnish 9s 6d, To ditto yellow in the passages 6s, To whitewashing the kitchen, closets and passages and back stair, To ditto painting the middle room 2 coats oil white 1s.4d; George Smith, plasterer dated 12 June 1772; Alexander Laing, mason dated 16 November 1773; William Hume, upholsterer dated 25 April 1774 for 2 pieces stone ground paper @ 4s 6d, 2 dozen borders for ditto @ 1s, paste and putting up 2s, all for Mr. Donald's bedroom; William Scott, plumber, October 1774; James Ranken, wright dated March 1775; Arthur Giles, wright March & April 1775; John Brotherston (upholsterer) dated April 1775 for wallpaper for the 'new fore room' and Archibald Cameron (painter) dated 20 April 1775 for painting in white, whitewashing and seizing.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 11 October 1775.

PETITIONER: James Dean surgeon.

SITE: St Andrews Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about smoke.

NOTES: The petitioner claims that his neighbours placed 'several earthen cones' on their chimneys which rendered his house uninhabitable. The Court ordered removal.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/54  
WARRANT GRANTED: 8 December 1775.  
PETITION LODGED: 6 December 1775.  
PETITIONER: The Marchioness of Lothian.  
SITE: Canongate, Chancellor's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To enclose an area with a stone wall about nine feet high and a gate.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/55  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 December 1775.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 December 1775.  
PETITIONER: John Milne, founder and Mrs. Ramsay, widow of (James?) Ramsay, slater in Canongate.  
SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about an obstruction.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Archibald Aitken, wright, who has placed posts under a timber projection hanging over the Close. He is said to be planning to build a wall in stone and lime to support the overhang and thereby increase the size of his shop. The Court ordered the removal of the posts.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/56  
WARRANT GRANTED: 27 December 1775.  
PETITION LODGED: 11 December 1775.  
PETITIONER: James Thomson late brewer in Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Halkerston's Wynd, McVey's land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James Harper, mason who is said not to be a freeman. He has broken out some windows in a tenement belonging to the petitioner. Harper was fined £1 stg. with threat of prison and the petitioner was asked to produce his titles. This may not be as clear as it appears. The petitioner stated that he was planning to knock out windows towards South Bridge 'about flitting time'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted Processes.** (ECA: SL91/7)

BOX: 1775/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1775 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1775.  
PETITIONER: James Gillespie, merchant.  
SITE: High Street.  
PROPOSAL: Request to cancel a bond.  
NOTES: The request relates to a bond the petitioner entered into 'for maintaining and upholding the land immediately above his shop' during its reconstruction 'last autumn'. The land is possessed by Samuel Brown, watch maker and John Clark, optician and others. Referred to William Dallas, wright who oversaw the work.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1775.  
PETITIONER: Lieut. Edwin Horsburgh, portioner of Canongate.  
SITE: Canongate, near head of New Street, Jack's land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a well.  
NOTES: The petitioner acts for his father, William Horsburgh, in Ireland. He notes that the well which stood at the head of New Street was moved further east and positioned beside the gable of the property he leases at £150 Stg. pa. It is leaking water into his

gable and he has spent in excess of £30 Stg. constructing drains, without success. He further complains of the noise of people at the well, beside his door and that this endangers a rental of £30 rent for the lodging there.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1775.

PETITIONER: Charles Guthrie, writer for Daniel Stewart, surgeon in Dominica.

SITE: High Street, south side, a Close next to where the Netherbow stood.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a roof.

NOTES: The property formerly belonged to Alexander Erskine sometime factor for the Marquess of Tweeddale, thereafter merchant and Burgess of Edinburgh. On the failure of all the sons of the said Alexander Erskine the property passed to Daniel Stewart his only grandson and it is now possessed by Jane Erskine, only daughter of Alexander and mother of Daniel. Jane is cousin German to the petitioner. The property had been roofed with lead and this had been replaced with paper but now requires replacement again, with wood.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 7 December 1774.

PETITIONER: William Bruce, upholsterer.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous chimney and floor.

NOTES: The petitioner rents his house from James Ramsay, slater and he considers the overhanging chimney to be a danger. He also notes that the flagstone floor is causing the ceiling below it to sag. He wrote to Mr. Ramsay in October 1774 and he promised to undertake the repairs. The Court had arranged a visit on 14 December.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 January 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1775.

PETITIONER: Maurice Crawford & Co., coppersmiths in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of a roof.

NOTES: The petitioners own a workshop and the complaint is against George Wilson, mason, who laid open the roof of the workshop, from end to end, to lay a gutter for his own tenement. He did this without a warrant or the knowledge of the petitioner who was unable to carry on his trade due to the weather.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 January 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1775.

PETITIONER: Lady Lovat.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd the first turnpike in the pend, second story.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of an adjoining tenement.

NOTES: The petition is presented by Mr. McNachton and the adjoining tenement is owned by Lady Dyefield(?). There is a note stating that the gable of the tenement is insufficient and should be taken down and that the adjoining cellar belongs to Sir Archibald Denholm.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).



PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1775.

PETITIONER: Andrew Main, weaver.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the property.

NOTES: The complaint is against his landlord, Andrew Moyes, merchant who agreed to keep the house wind and water tight.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 8 February 1775.

PETITIONER: William Purdie, smith.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot on the east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish in the Close.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Tate, wright who owns the tenement on the west side of the Close. The rubbish he laid in the Close had caused a 'perpetual stagnation' of the water which had undermined his tenement, causing him to remove the roof 'yesterday afternoon'. The Court ordered a visit.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 February 1775 (no warrant)

PETITION LODGED: 8 February 1775.

PETITIONER: John Johnstone, writer John Jenkins and Andrew Scott.

SITE: Cowgate, Shaws land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the tenement.

NOTES: In replies for James Balfour, writer he notes that the petitioner's motive is to avoid paying any rent, Mr. Johnstone owing £8 Stg, being a full years rent and Mr. Jenkins £4. He suggests that William Dallas, wright and Alexander Gowan, mason be allowed to inspect the tenement and report.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 March 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1775.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: High Street, Carrubbers Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Grant, WS who refuses to pay £2 6s 1½d unless compelled. The petitioner states that Baillie John Learmonth, merchant and others made an application to the Court in May 1773 (See warrant of 2 June 1773) for a warrant to repair chimney stacks. In replies for Robert Grant he states that he was not party to this warrant and was never summoned. He further notes that he paid William Johnston, mason to carry out work on his gutters and chimneys on 22 May 1773. It appears that Jamieson's men carried out unnecessary work on Robert Grant's chimneys. Accounts here from William Johnston who supplied '2 shougar (sugar) moulds' for the chimneys; from William Jamieson to Mr. Sommers dated August and October 1773, discharged on 25 January 1775. Also a measure by Robert Burn for the entire work dated 13 July 1773 and which lists the occupiers as Messrs. Thomson, Carmichael, Jackson, Matthews, Learmond, Telford, Grant, Hamilton and Miss Clark.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Andrew Tennent, stabler in Portsburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Wester Portsburgh, north side of the street, to the west of the westmost Close leading to the back of the castle.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against his landlord, Henry Anderson, shoemaker and the petitioner asks for half his years rent, damages of £10 Stg. and a fine of £10 to the Procurator Fiscal.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1775.

PETITIONER: Francis Strachan, WS.

SITE: Luckenbooths, north side, east side of Roxburghs Close and Dons Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about waste water.

NOTES: The complaint is against the occupiers of the neighbouring tenement, Thomas Rattray, writer and Mrs. Babie Dunbar, daughter of the deceased John Dunbar, glover and on one floor and above them, William Butter, wright (as doer for John Don). They are all allowing their foul water from their kitchens to pour into the narrow paved area between the tenements, designed to carry off rain water. In their replies the defenders state that in each of their kitchens there is a jaw hole or basin of stone from which there is a hole bored through the stone of the wall, an inch in diameter, only for the draining of water and that these have been in use as long as the tenement has stood.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 4 April 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the storage and sale of gunpowder.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Cargill, Walter Scott, James Scott, William Spottiswood & Son, James Thomson, James Henderson, Robert Foord, William Murray merchants in Edinburgh and William Murray, merchant in Canongate. Five of the defenders appear in the Court; Cargill and Murray refusing to swear an oath, Henderson, Foord and Thomson denying the charge. Those absent were warned. The Procurator Fiscal refers to Acts of the Town Council dated 14 August 1702, 8 June 1705 and 18 March 1728 prohibiting the import, storage or sale of more than four pounds of gunpowder, the Council having built a house for such storage without the City.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the storage and sale of gunpowder.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Storie, John Calder, Andrew Murray, mark Watt, Alexander Carrick, John Spottiswood, William Hunter, Messrs, Burton & Inglis, Donald Mclean, Peter Forrester, Robert Allan, John Alston, James Goldie and David Robertson, merchants in Edinburgh. When they appeared, Calder refused to swear, Burton and Allan denied the charge and all the others admitted the charge. The Procurator Fiscal refers to Acts, as above

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1775.

PETITIONER: David Neilson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, fronting the Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Michael Anderson, merchant in Leith who is building on a mutual dyke (wall). The petitioner purchased his property at a recent judicial sale and it has a garden, formerly belonging to John Crawford, coppersmith in Leith. The work was stopped by warrant of 3 March 1775 and both parties were asked to produce their rights on 31 March. The petitioner did not do so and the stop on the work was lifted. In replies from Michael Anderson he refers to the property purchased from the deceased John Paterson having no yard. This yard was taken off the lot purchased by Major Balfour's factor, Thomas Rattray in order to encourage the sale. Letter here from Michael Anderson to Col(in) Grant, WS dated 17 March 1775, setting this out.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1775.

PETITIONER: John Watson, writer.

SITE: High Street, first Close below Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about repairs to a ceiling.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Graham, journeyman baker who leases a laigh house 12ft. sq. from the petitioner for 30s yearly. The flat immediately above this is occupied by John Smeaton, musician and he wishes to lath and plaster the ceiling below to make his flat warmer. He bought the materials to carry out the work but now John Graham, having previously agreed, now refuses to allow him access to carry it out.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 April 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 April 1775.

PETITIONER: William Hutchison, apothecary.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Candlemaker Row, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment by a shade.

NOTES: The complaint is against Allan McConochie, advocate and Miss (blank) Young, daughter of the deceased (blank) Young who have built a shade, now a hay loft, against the side wall of the petitioner's property. This shade was built before the petitioner's recent purchase of the property from Janet Lithgow, relict of the deceased Jerome Butter, apothecary. The area is described as '...upon the south side of the High Street of the Cowgate, of the same side (as) the Greyfriars upon the east part of the vennel of the same, betwixt the lands sometime pertaining to David Fairie and thereafter to umql. (deceased) John Pillans and Walter Carmichael upon the east side of the common High street upon the west; the lands of umql. James Brenton on the north and the lands of umql. James Simpson, carpenter on the south parts upon one and other sides'. The petitioner wished to demolish and rebuild his tenement but cannot do so until the encroachment has been removed. Daniel Kerr, goldsmith is summoned to appear with his wife.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1775 (no warrant)

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1775.

PETITIONER: The Poultry merchants, represented by William Williamson.

SITE: Cowgate, the market possessed by Mr. Stirling, fishmonger.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the lack of a shade for the egg sellers.

NOTES: This was originally a complaint to the Town Council but was remitted to the Dean of Guild on 25 April. The poultry market had been moved from their old place but the new market does not have a shade for the convenience of those coming from the country, for bread and the egg sellers. This has given rise to people selling poultry in a clandestine manner. The petition of 10 May 1775 below (Procurator Fiscal) suggests

the new market was in the Cowgate opposite the foot of Niddry Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1775 (no warrant, the defender denied the complaint and a visit appointed).

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stonlaws (Stevenlaws) Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying down rubbish and stones.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Bruce, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, opposite the foot of Niddry Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Gibson, surgeon, proprietor of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1775.

PETITIONER: Walter Johnston, and John Andrew, merchants.

SITE: Grassmarket, steel yard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about another proposed steel yard.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Dunn, wright who is erecting another steel yard in Portsburgh. This was originally a petition to the Town Council, remitted to the Dean of Guild on 12 May 1775.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 May 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 17 May 1775.

PETITIONER: Robert Knox, Master of Heriot's Hospital and James Goodwin, merchant in West Bow.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Patrick Sibbald, wright, who is building the adjoining tenement on the west. The Court stopped the work on 17 May and appointed a visit on 24 May 1775. This matter may have been resolved in the Court of Session: see warrant of 5 July 1775 (Procurator Fiscal). Sibbald petitioned the Court on 31 July 1775 to lift the stop on the work but no response is recorded.

DRAWINGS: See warrant of 5 July 1775 above.

---

BOX: 1775/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 May 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 May 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Helen Gib, relict of (blank) Gib, lint dresser and John King, wright in Leith who made alterations to windows and doors without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/24\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 31 May 1775.

PETITIONER: Agnes Jamison, wife of Thomas Jamison, skinner.

SITE: Parliament Close, President's Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a built up window.

NOTES: The window faced out into Bank Close but the Court refused permission to re-open it as it had been built up for the safety of the whole tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/25\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1775.

PETITIONER: Jean Maxwell of Dalswinton.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a house.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Grant, indweller, her landlady who has allowed the roof and walls to deteriorate, damaging her furnishings.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/26\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1775 (No warrant – date of summons)

PETITION LODGED: Before 22 August 1775.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright

SITE: Theatre (Shakespeare Square).

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he purchased a strip of land lying along the east side of the Theatre from David Ross, comedian. He complains that West Diggs, comedian, has begun to open holes in the east side wall of the Theatre and he supposes that these are to be windows, which would interfere with his proposed building on the site. The work was stopped on 22 August 1775.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/27\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 September 1775 (no warrant, an advocation).

PETITION LODGED: (September 1775).

PETITIONER: (The Procurator Fiscal and James Stirling, City Treasurer).

SITE: New Town.

PROPOSAL: (Complaint about encroachment).

NOTES: This is a copy of an Advocation from the Court of Session for William Montgomery, wigmaker, Katherine Walker, his spouse, John Tait, WS, Thomas McInnes, mason in Pleasance and Thomas Sibbald, smith. It refers to a complaint to the Dean of Guild by James Stirling, City treasurer and the Procurator Fiscal, that on 31 August last the petitioners had enclosed an area of ground with stones and iron rails, in front of a house in the New Town, owned by William Montgomery and possessed by John Tait. The complaint appears to have been that they had no right to the area enclosed. 'Before any of the Feus of the Extended Royalty of Edinr. were given off, a plan was exhibited in which were delineated not only the different Streets, but also the mode in which the Buildings were to be erected. Upon the faith of this plan the house belonging to the said William Montgomery was built by Thomas Lancashire, his author, and the cellars belonging to the house are carried out below the ground at the front of said house for about 12 ft.' It was the intention to rail in this area as others in the street had done but Mr. Lancashire's circumstances prevented this at the time of building. There is an indication here that the petitioners may have paved an area outside their property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/28\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1775 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 23 October 1775.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, printer.

SITE: Cowgate, the common passage by the back stairs to...

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Hamilton, surgeon and William Dick, WS who are building an additional floor on a tenement to the south, contrary to a servitude held by the petitioner. His servitude is dated 18 January 1699, registered in the books of Council and Session 17 June 1700, entered into between Thomas Robertson of Lochbank and William Law (Low) goldsmith, Burgess of Edinburgh on the other. Law bound himself not to raise his building above the height as existed at the date of the servitude and this is the tenement now owned by Hamilton and Dick. Work was stopped by the Court on 23 October 1775 and a visit appointed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/29\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1775 (no warrant, defence allowed)

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1775.

PETITIONER: William Greig, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of buildings.

NOTES: The complaint is against Gavin Kemp factor appointed by the trustees of the deceased Andrew Reid, brewer, now his landlord. He holds the buildings in a tack. The Court asked for an estimate and this is here, from Alexander Alexander, wright in Canongate for £17 14s 6d. There are replies here from Kemp dated 12 October but on the 18 October the Court demanded answers 'in a legible hand'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/30\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 October 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 10 October 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Libbertons Wynd and the foot of West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about pile of rubbish and stones.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Reid, mason and Robert Bruce, slater. The defenders appeared and admitted the offence, ordered to remove.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/ 31\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1775.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, north side, head of Bulls Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Syme, slater, William Reid, merchant and Mrs. Manning, relict of Captain Manning. William Reid appeared and agreed to make repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1775/32\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 November 1775 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 25 November 1775.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Netherbow, Baron Maules Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a chimney stack.

NOTES: The complaint is against Gilbert Auchinleck, cutler, John Wright, baker, John

Tait, WS as doer for Mrs. Thomson.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/33\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1775

PETITION LODGED: 14 November 1775.

PETITIONER: John Macdonald of Logan.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner wished to rebuild his tenement but it has a mutual gable with another tenement owned by William Eason, merchant in London and Arthur Giles, wright his factor (undermost flat), John Adam, architect (second flat), William Davidson, cooper (third) and Mrs. Veitch, shopkeeper in Leith (garrets). In answers for the other proprietors they state that the gable is in a goods condition and should not be demolished. The Court supported this view and dismissed the petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1775/34\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 December 1775 (No warrant - date of instruction for Richard Tod to produce his rights to the subjects).

PETITION LODGED: 16 October 1775.

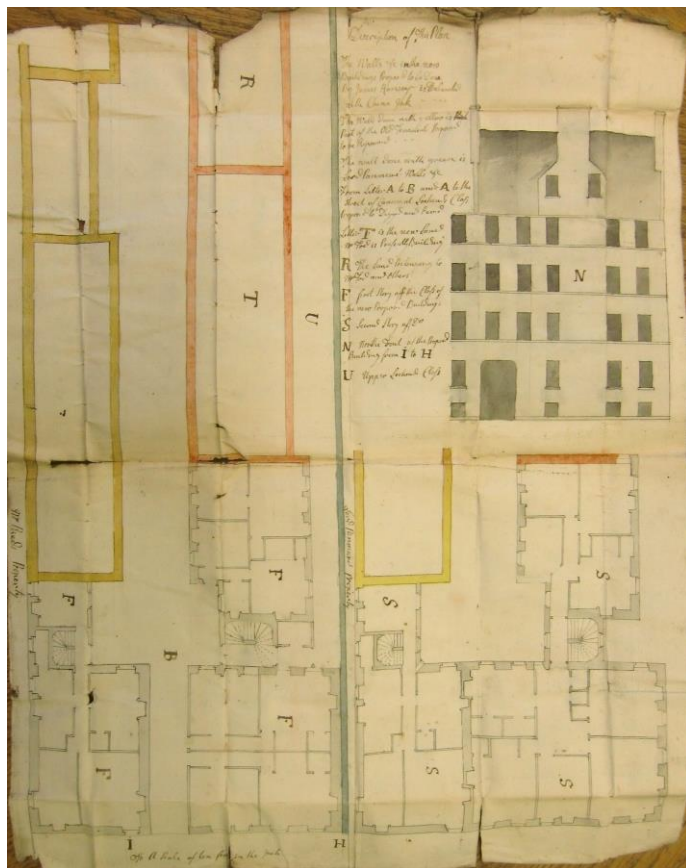
PETITIONER: James Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Lochends Close

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild tenements.

NOTES: See warrant granted 25 September 1770 (Ramsay). Also an unextracted petition by Alexander Dundas and James Ramsay dated 7 August 1776 for this site where he had a warrant to demolish and rebuild, granted on 3 April 1776.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation to the Canongate and plans of tenements on either side of the Close.

Size: 50.0 x 39.0 cms.

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## 1776

The Court Officers from 11 October 1775:

### **Dean of Guild**

John Kidd

### **Council**

David Forrester, Old Dean of Guild

David Mill, merchant

Archibald McDowall, merchant

Francis Brodie, wright

David Ramsay, mason

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1776/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 January 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 13 December 1775.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Service (Janet Fraser), widow of Henry Service, journeyman wright.

SITE: Niddry Wynd, east side, Grierson's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts for repair of chimneys.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant dated 2 November 1775 for the repair work. There are accounts here from George Syme, slater; Hugh Gibb, wright and William Johnston & Son, masons for harled brick work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 January 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 22 December 1775.

PETITIONER: Andrew Balfour, advocate and John Welsh WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Fisher's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about smoke in both flats caused by modifications to the vent.

NOTES: Andrew Balfour owns the first floor and Welsh is tenant on the third.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 13 December 1775.

PETITIONER: The Heritors of Carrubber's land.

SITE: Carrubber's land, north side of the High Street, head of Seller's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognosed accounts for repair of the roof.

NOTES: There are accounts here from William Scott plumber and Robert Hay (wright), addressed to Thomas McInnes and Claud Inglis.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1776.

PETITIONER: Captain Archibald Grant of Money Musk.

SITE: Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To keep a cow in one of the low apartments on the north side of the gateway that leads to his dwelling house.

NOTES: The petition describes the property as that house and ground near the Horse Wynd of Edinburgh & in the same which lately belonged to Lord Minto. '...in order to prevent any inconveniency to the public or to himself (he) proposes to carry off anything wet that may come from the said apartment by a drain therefrom...'

DRAWINGS: None.



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BOX: 1776/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 February 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1776.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Isabella Gibson, grocer.

SITE: West Bow, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John McDonald, mason.

NOTES: McDonald, who occupies a laigh cellar below the petitioner's shop is using a stove or grate without any vent or chimney. The petitioner and her servant slept in a back room for several years but her servant became ill as a result of the smoke coming up through the floor.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 February 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1776.

PETITIONER: George Innes, factor for Major Bryden.

SITE: Niddry Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber railing erected in front of a shop.

NOTES: Major Bryden has a house in Niddry Wynd, possessed by James Erskine (Erskine) of Grange.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 21 June 1775.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side between Writer's Court to Mills Court at the Bow head.

PROPOSAL: To repair the pavement between these two Courts with Craigleith stone.

NOTES: The area was divided into divisions and there are estimates here from David Ramsay for division 1: from the west corner of the new land in the Luckenbooths to the first fore stair above Gavinloch's land. The same for division 2: from the first fore stair above Gavinloch's land to the middle of Baxter's Close and division 3: from the middle of Baxter's Close to Lady Stairs Close. William Jamieson provided an estimate for the area of James's Court, Stairs Close and the front lands opposite James's Court. There are individual executions here listing all of the owners/tenants of the properties in question in July and August 1775.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1776.

PETITION LODGED: No date given.

PETITIONER: Dr. Thomas Powley, physician, then residing in Canongate, now deceased; James Riddle, smith there (Canongate?) and David Bryden, mason there, husband of Mrs. Watson, relict of Robert Watson, mason there.

SITE: Canongate, ground to the east of a garden sometime belonging to Dr. Young and others, now to George Steell, smith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachments and boundary dykes (in Young Street?)

NOTES: This is the warrant only, with no supporting petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1776.

PETITIONER: Miss Grahams; Jean, Nelly and Isobel Graham.

SITE: Galloways Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbour striking out a new door.

NOTES: The neighbour is James Seton, merchant who is proprietor of a property

immediately to the east of Galloways Close and the new entry comes out into the Close.  
He was ordered to build up the opening.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1776.

PETITIONER: Deacon Thomas Jamieson.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a mutual gable with (William) Purdie (blacksmith) and James Tait (wright) who wish to have vents in the same.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The property in question belongs to James Tait, wright and William Purdie, smith James Caslin and Thomas Chalmers own an adjoining ruinous tenement on the east. A jury was appointed, named here, and they suggested the demolition of the west gable and front wall. See the unextracted petition below dated 27 March 1776 (Fairweather) where this action began.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1776.

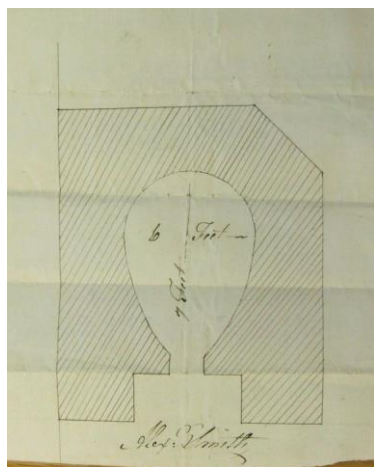
PETITIONER: Alexander Smith, baker.

SITE: (Lawnmarket) Riddles land.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: The other proprietors and residents; William Burn, merchant, Samuel Mitchison jun. WS, Dr. (John?) Neilson, Mrs. McHarg, relict of Archibald McHarg, writer, Mrs. McGill, Thomas McGrugar, merchant, Miss Gordon, Andrew Balfour and John (D?)inton complain about the disadvantages of allowing an oven. The petition is refused.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of an oven.

Size: 18.0 x 18.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1776/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1776.

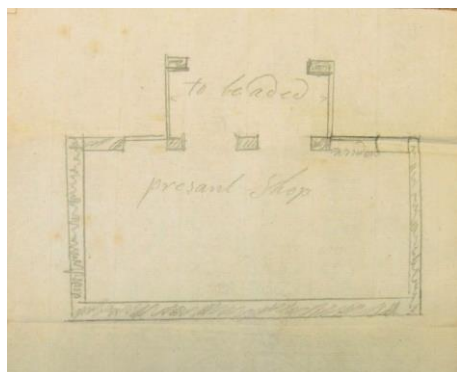
PETITIONER: Allan Maconochie, advocate factor for Miss Bridget Allan, indweller.

SITE: Tweeddale's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: The present shop is beneath pillars eight feet from the street and he wishes to extend the front forward to provide an entrance porch. The petition was refused.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Sketch plan.

Size: 20.0 x 18.7 (irregular)

---

BOX: 1776/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1776.

PETITIONER: Thomas Tulloch, merchant.

SITE: Head of Libberton's Wynd?

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Reid, grocer who erected a 'voluminous' sign on the front of the petitioners property, but above the level of the joists in his flat. The petitioner visited the Court on the 27th March and together with the Court officers, visited the site that day, and the sign was ordered to be taken down to the correct level. Nothing happened so the petitioner arranged for George Penman, the officer of the Court to watch while tradesmen took down the sign and place it in Mr. Reid's shop. Reid visited George Penman on the night of the 30th March, between 10 and 11 o'clock and 'bullied and threatened him being then in bed, and to the great terror of Mrs. Penman and the family'. He put the sign back up, but still not in the correct position and the warrant here ordered its removal at the sight of Messrs Brodie and Ramsay, members of the Court. Reid was fined £40 Scots. See warrant granted 8 May 1776 (Tulloch)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1776.

PETITIONER: Baillie Blinshall, saddler.

SITE: High Street, south side, head of Covenant Close, Ainslie's land.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs and have the expence cognosed should the lease expire before the work is done.

NOTES: The petitioner has a repairing lease on the fourth story at £10 stg. pa. He has found that Major Charles Lumisden, residing in London and Walter Ainslie, merchant have an interest in the property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1775.

PETITIONER: William Waite, residing in the New Town and William and George Veitch, masons there.

SITE: New Town, two areas on the west side of the west entry leading from St. Andrew Square to Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith for encroaching on the back lane as laid down in the plan of the extended royalty.

NOTES: George Steell 'well known in your Lordships Court' feud an area on the west side of the meuse lane, immediately opposite the petitioner's property. He began building a dyke leaving a lane less than ten feet wide. He was ordered to stop work on 13 December 1775 and take down the dyke. He began work on another dyke and was ordered to stop on 5 April 1776 and pay a fine of £1 stg. On the 17 April he began work again and on 22 April the Court demanded his imprisonment, along with the mason doing the work (John Simpson), in the City guard. Expences were awarded to the petitioner on 19 June 1776. The petition includes a detailed measure of the area by Alexander Ponton, ordained measurer. This argument continued in October 1776 with a disagreement about a mutual gable.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1776.

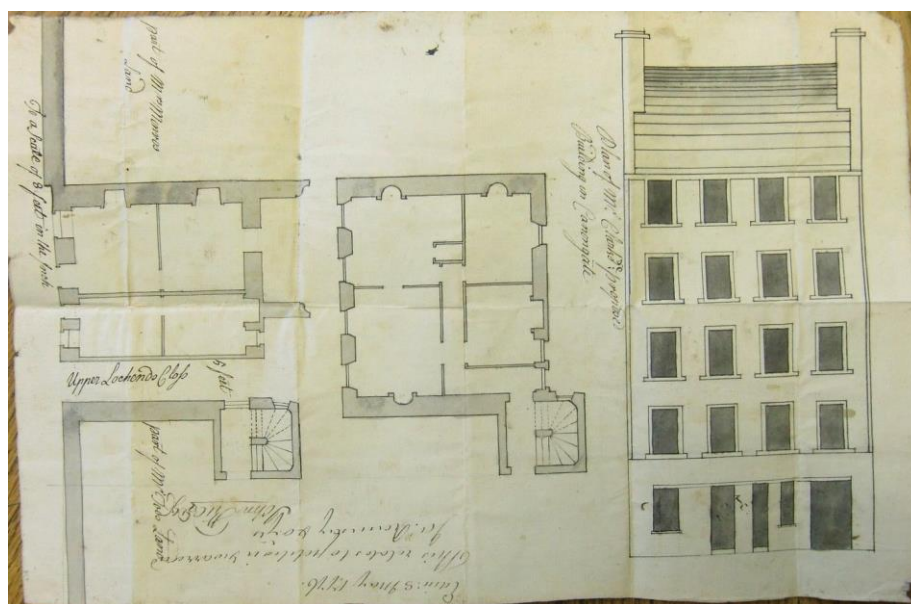
PETITIONER: James Clark, glazier in Canongate, Alexander Dundas indweller there and James Ramsay, mason residing at Cross Causeway.

SITE: Canongate, head of Lochends Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The property on the east belongs to Richard Tod, merchant in Leith and on the west to the heirs of (blank) Monro, musician in Edinburgh. He proposes to build a mutual gable between his house and the Monro tenement. Alexander Dundas is a joint proprietor of the old tenement. There was a further disagreement in June 1776 which stopped the work. See also unextracted petition of 7 August 1776 (Ramsay).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 25.2 x 39.0 cms (irregular).

---

BOX: 1776/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater and other heritors.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To remove several steps or one flat of stairs near the foot of the Close.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a number of people who have fallen down the steps two of whom broke legs and one of whom died in the Infirmary as a result. There is an argument about who should pay for the work and this is left until after the work is carried out.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1776/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 29 April 1776

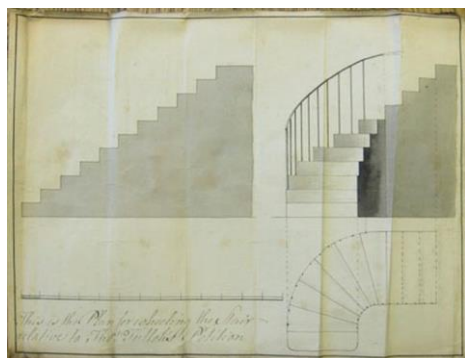
PETITIONER: Thomas Tulloch, merchant.

SITE: head of Libberton's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To alter the fore stair.

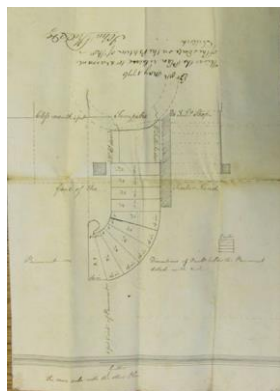
NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the first flat of the fore land on the eastward of the fore stair leading thereto, opposite the head of Libberton's Wynd. The stair is described as g between Dunbar's and Galloways Closes. There is an argument about which way the stair should wheel or turn with drawings for both and for straight stairs. David Ramsay, mason to take down the old stair and build a new one turning to the west. The process includes a letter from James Brodie dated 1 May 1776, stating that he cannot attend as he is not well in health. See warrant granted on 10 April 1776 (Tulloch).

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



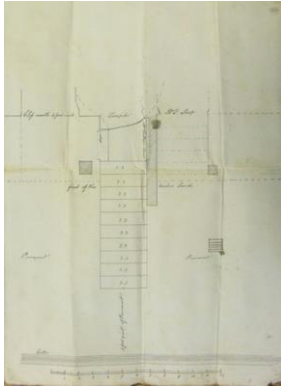
Description: a. Plan, elevation and section of the stair.

Size: 21.0 x 27.5 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the stair.

Size: 39.0 x 25.4 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the straight stair.  
Size: 39.0 x 25.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1776/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, stair leading to the Sheriff Clerk's office.

PROPOSAL: To take down the old stair and build a new one wheeled to the east.

NOTES: David Ramsay, undertaker for the paving, to take down and rebuild as suggested.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 14 May 1776.

PETITIONER: David Porteous, painter and Charles Oliphant, perfumer.

SITE: High Street, north side, Smiths land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 8 April 1776.

PETITIONER: David Wight, writer.

SITE: St Andrew Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about broken railings.

NOTES: This petition refers to the railing placed around the area in the centre of the Square, which had been levelled and enclosed for 'a very large sum of money'. The complaint is against William Smith, mason who piled up timber along the west side of the Square, which broke 'several of the iron stenchers'. On requesting that the railings be repaired, Smith 'gave him very impudent language' and refused. Thomas Sibbald, smith made the repairs and William Smith was ordered to pay 3s 6d for the work. There is an account enclosed, dated 20 May 1776 for repairs to three balusters.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1776.

PETITIONER: William Young, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Dunbar's Close, east side and Carrubber's land.

PROPOSAL: To erect a lead gutter

NOTES: The petitioner complains of the tenants in Carrubber's land throwing out water and ashes into the gutter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1776.

PETITIONER: Thomas Stewart, secretary to the Bank of Scotland.

SITE: Miln's Square, west side.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expence of roof repair against other proprietors.

NOTES: The petitioner had a warrant dated 16 November 1774 for the repairs but the other heritors refused to pay him. Account here from George Chalmers, plumber for quantities of lead and from George Syme for slater work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1775.

PETITIONER: James Aitken, stabler.

SITE: Head of Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Ramsay, slater.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to an agreement with James Ramsay, slater in Edinburgh dated 23 June 1762 to maintain the roofs of houses at the head of Horse Wynd and keep them watertight, commencing at Whitsunday 1760. The petitioner applied to the Court on 2 June 1773 to have the roof repaired and if not with one month, to employ other tradesmen at Ramsay's expence. On 2 August 1775 the Court ordered that Ramsay carry out the work within eight days or face a fine of £50 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building contrary to a plan agreed in articles of roup.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Steel, smith in Calton who purchased a plot on North Bridge from the Council. He built a tenement of three stories and garrets but added two windows that project onto the Bridge by 'above four inches' and obstruct the pavement. The Dean of Guild ordered them to be removed by Steel went to the Court of Session where his Bill of Suspension was refused. He was ordered to remove the windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1776.

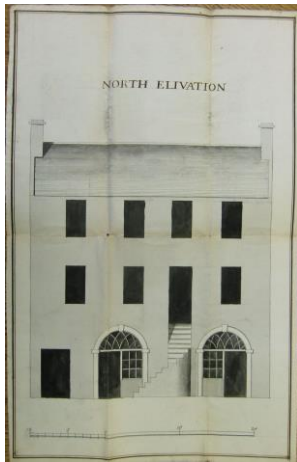
PETITIONER: William Smith, mason in Bristo.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, near the foot of Blackfriars Wynd

PROPOSAL: To demolish timber shops and parts of a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the property from Patrick Baillie, writer in Edinburgh as factor for Ann Forsyth, alias Brodie, baker London on 14 April last (1776). The Court noted that he had taken down part of the timber front already and they prohibited him from erecting the fore stair shown in the drawing. He was to build the stair within the building.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. North elevation.

Size: 39.0 x 24.6 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman.

---

BOX: 1776/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1776.

PETITIONER: (James) Lumsdaine of Strathtyrum.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an insufficient gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Steel, smith who built a house and sold it to the petitioner in March 1775. The south gable was finished in a temporary thin wall of brick, about nine inches thick and the petitioner was assured that a new tenement would soon be built alongside his. This did not happen and during the winter rain came through the wall and he had to employ tradesmen to repair the damage. Steel was ordered within ten days to 'put up timber boards of a foot broad and inch thick and to overlap the same on the ends on the south east corner of the gavel betwixt the joinings of the stone and brick walls'. See warrant granted 21 January 1778 (Lumsdaine).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 5 April 1775.

PETITIONER: John Howison, writer, Robert Dott, reedmaker in the Grassmarket and William Dickson, one of the managers of the Society for propagating Christian knowledge.

SITE: Castle Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: There is no petition here, only the warrant. The complaint is against Mrs Paxton, relict of James Paxton, vintner in Edinburgh and James Paxton, coachmaker in Edinburgh, her son. It relates to an access from Mrs. Paxton's garden into Castle Wynd. William Forsyth, mason was prevented for continuing the work begun. Refers to a previous warrant granted to James Lithgow, merchant in Edinburgh dated 20 November 1751 (1771?) to build a garden dyke. Howison and others are cited as the defendants and they are required to take down a door and allow Mrs. Paxton her access as previously. The warrant has not been signed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 July 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1776.

PETITIONER: Archibald Megget, tutor and curator for the children of the deceased, John Megget, late brewer in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh.



PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of a property.

NOTES: The deceased Mr. Sheils, brewer in Portsburgh took a lease from a certain proprietor of a brewery in Portsburgh, eleven years of which is still to run. By this lease the holder became bound to carry out repairs. This lease was assigned by the heirs of Mr. Sheils to the deceased John Megget and since his death, to Morris Thomson, brewer. The buildings are in such disrepair that the tenant refuses to pay rent and the complaint is against the proprietor, Hugh Inglis, barber in Portsburgh to have the work done. The Court orders him to make the repairs. There is a report here from George Hunter, mason, Alexander Adam, slater and John Russel, wright dated 4 July 1776 and addressed to Captain Archibald Megget.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1776.

PETITIONER: Dr. Thriepland, physician.

SITE: High Street, north side, between north Gray's Close and Morrison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the uppermost story. The roof is covered with lead and is in disrepair so he wants to replace it with a slate roof on new timbers. The plan states that the house belongs to Sir Stewart Thriepland.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of one gable and section of the roof.

Size: 17.8 x 20.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, SP

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)

---

BOX: 1776/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 23 July 1776.

PETITIONER: Francis Brodie, wright and Gilbert Auchenleck, cutler.

SITE: High Street, south side, Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous gable.

NOTES: The petitioners are clearing out the foundations of their property in order to rebuild it and found that the mutual gable on the property to the west is insufficient. A jury is appointed and they decide that part of the gable must be taken down. See a further warrant dated 18 June 1777 (Scott) for this property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 6 September 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, Walker's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about falling slates.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Walker, relict of Hugh Walker, stabler.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 September 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 25 September 1776.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate.

SITE: Leith, Vinegar Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted 27 September 1775 to repair several subjects in Vinegar Close. There are accounts from John Sherriff, slater; James Wright & Son, smiths; David Pitkethly, mason; James Hodge, glazier and Stephen Jollie, wright and plasterer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1776 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 10 July 1776.

PETITIONER: William Dawson, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Gladstones land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about water entering his cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is centred on the external stair and a sewer or drain beneath it which is channelling rain water into his shop and cellar. The court granted a warrant on 28 August 1776 and ordered the sewer to be moved to the west by a foot and to be relaid with a proper gutter. He claimed and received the expences of the action. The heritors summoned were William Spence, painter, Alexander Duncan WS as factor for the Rev. Collin Campbell at Renfrew and Miss Ferguson, residenter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 5 September 1776.

PETITIONER: John Hunter, WS, factor for Andrew Hunter, minister at Dumfries and of Charles Inglis, Depute Clerk of the Bills.

SITE: Paterson's back Court.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 November 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 20 August 1776.

PETITIONER: John Caddel, merchant.

SITE: High Street, north side, Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the disrepair of the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a lease dated 12 May 1768 on the second story and garret, from William Loch, writer for 13 years from Whitsunday 1768. In answers from Robert Scyth, upholsterer he recounts that on the decease of Mr. Caddel the tack devolved on his widow, now spouse to John Barclay, preacher of the Gospel in Edinburgh. It was then subset to Scyth from Caddel and his partner, William Lamb (upholsterer). No repairs are mentioned in his tack but they were noted in the original tack. He was granted a warrant to carry out the repairs and retain the amount from his rent.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 November 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1776.

PETITIONER: John Sinclair of Freswick.

SITE: Society.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the erection of a chimney.

NOTES: The petitioner lives in his house and his neighbour, Alexander Greenshields, wright, has erected a chimney that infringes a servitude the petitioner has on the

property about the height of the walls. He explains that the whole of the ground occupied by himself and Greenshields previously belonged to John Cleghorn, brewer in Edinburgh. The wrights shop and other buildings were previously occupied by Alexander Crichton, coachmaker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 November 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1776.

PETITIONER: The Ladys of Traquair.

SITE: Canongate head, Inglis's land.

PROPOSAL: To make repairs to the cellars and the pavement in the entrance to the tenement, damaged by flooding from above.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1776.

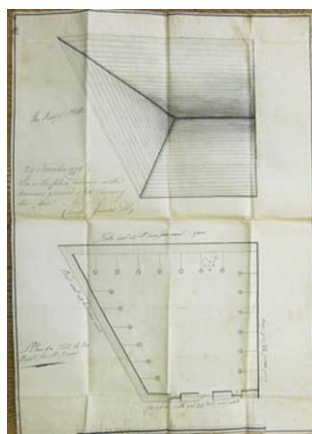
PETITIONER: James Ferrier, tanner at the Grange.

SITE: Bristo Port.

PROPOSAL: To build a stable and hay loft in the area behind his lodging and stables.

NOTES: The building will provide stalls for 18-20 horses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of ground floor and roof.

Size: 39.9 x 28.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1776/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1776.

PETITIONER: Charles Anderson, writer.

SITE: Forrester Wynd, Gandielochs land, north side of the scale stair.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the ingress of water.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the third story and his complaint is against Mrs. Grisel Marjoribanks, relict of John Grant of (Delnato?), writer, owner of the fourth story, occupied by Walter Ruddiman, printer. He complains about the ingress of water, 'and some kind of stuff' stored in tubs or troughs above his kitchen. A warrant was granted to carry out repairs to the floor/ceiling.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 December 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 3 December 1776.

PETITIONER: Alexander Smith, baker.

SITE: (West) Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about storage of flax and oil in a cellar.

NOTES: Refers to a fire on Monday 2nd December which was speedily extinguished by the neighbouring tenants. The complaint is against James Thomson iron monger and Mrs. Kilty, relict of John Kilty, white ironsmith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 December 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an attempt to steal the Town's water.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Steel, smith in Edinburgh who had opened the pavement above the main water pipe with the intention of making a connecting pipe to his tenement. Steel in his reply dated 18 October stated that he had asked two labourers to make the connection because he believed he was able to do so under the terms of the disposition for his property, from the Town Council. He also notes that he is owner of four elegant tenements on the east side of the south abutment of the Bridge, the other three belonging to Messrs, Joseph Pym, Colin Lauder and Thomas Herriot respectively, who have piped the water to their properties. The main pipe was laid by William Scott, plumber to whom Steel paid £6 3s Stg. as his share. Believing he was entitled to take the water he caused the pavement to be opened but 'was interrupted by the Dean of Guild Officer, who brought a band of the Town Guard soldiers to his assistance and dragged the respondent to the Town Guard like a common felon...'. The papers include a Bond of caution dated 18 October 1776 signed by Steel and William Young, wright, to effect that Steel will appear before the Town Council in the matter now before the Baillie Court. His house was secured on a penalty of 600 merks. Also a copy of the disposition from the Town Council to Steel dated 31 January 1776. Steel offered £355 Stg. for lot 3 at the public roup held on 26 June (1775). The property was bounded on the south by the 'lot of building' belonging to Thomas Herriot, wright, on the north by the 'lot of building' belonging to William Jamieson, mason, on the east by Halkerston's Wynd, on the west by the Bridge Street. It is stipulated that the 'windows of the middle story are to be seven feet high by three and a half feet wide, And the windows in the attick story are to be four feet high by three feet and a half wide...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 December 1776.

PETITION LODGED: 11 December 1776.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Luckenbooth.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Pillans, shipmaster in Leith proprietor of the house and James Buchan, mason, who have begun to remove a pillar which supports the front of the tenement, and insert a vent. The work was ordered to be stopped on 11 December and the pillar rebuilt on 30th.

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted Processes. (ECA: SL91/8)**

BOX: 1776/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 March 1776.

PETITIONER: George Penman, shoemaker.

SITE: Libbertons Wynd, Bruce's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water.

NOTES: The complaint is against Hay Guthrie, writer, proprietor of the second floor in

the tenement, occupied by Mrs. Turnbull, residenter. The water is coming down from Mrs. Turnbull's kitchen.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 March 1776.

PETITIONER: James Innes, wigmaker and Mrs. Pearson, residenter.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite the foot of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alteration to vents (chimneys)

NOTES: The complaint is against John Caitcheon, carver who has joined two vents without a warrant. A warrant was issued to stop the work and Caitcheon summoned, after which a visit was appointed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1770/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 March 1776

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against unfree tradesmen: William White, smith.

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BOX: 1776/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1776 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1775.

PETITIONER: David Fairweather, merchant in Pleasance.

SITE: Cowgate (near Stevenlaws Close).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to his gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Tait, wright who has begun to demolish his tenement without consulting the petitioner. The Court decided that the tenement was dangerous and ordered the Procurator Fiscal to take action. See warrants of 27 March (Jamieson) and 3 April 1776 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 March 1776 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1775.

PETITIONER: Charles Tait, wright.

SITE: Cowgate head, Pollock's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Thomson, merchant who has built a brick shade against the petitioner's gable. In replies for the defender he describes his property as lying on the north side of the head of the Cowgate, on the east side of the Close and the whole breadth of the Close and the lands on the west of it are also his property by ownership or tack, dating from 1756.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1776.

PETITIONER: James Rig, merchant.

SITE: Forresters Wynd, west side, head, entering from Turks Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign board.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Auld, printer who has erected a sign at the head of the Close and driven 'large balls of iron' into the keystone, endangering the building and darkening the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1776 (No warrant, date of diligence)

PETITION LODGED: 4 March 1776.

PETITIONER: George Bathgate, writer.  
SITE: Libberton's Wynd, a Close immediately below the foot.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Chalmers, smith who acts for Mrs. Bruce (wife of?) (blank) Bruce, founder, now in London. Chalmers had replaced timber facings with brick and had opened windows all without a warrant. There are proofs here from James Walker, mason aged about 37, married who carried out the work; William Young, wright in Potterrow aged 62, married who assisted Walker; John Govan, tailor aged 66, married and Peter Wood, residenter aged 66, unmarried.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/8\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1776.  
PETITIONER: John Hay, factor to John Newlands of Lochead, Ensign in the 16th Regiment.  
SITE: Bridge Street.  
PROPOSAL: To construct a bow window.  
NOTES: The petitioner states that he is having difficulty letting his shop unless he constructs a small bow window.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/9\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1776 (no warrant, parties to produce rights).  
PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1776.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Robertson, WS, doer for William Mercer of Adie.  
SITE: Netherbow.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.  
NOTES: The complaint is against William Hume, upholsterer who has opened a new window in his gable. Mr Mercer purchased a house from Baron Grant which had a large area to the east, running along the wall in Leith Wynd and which has a wall on the south thereof, the property of Mr. Mercer. Some time ago (three years) William Hume built a new house to the south of Mr. Mercer's property but recently he has taken down part of the wall and opened a new window. In his replies Hume notes that he spoke to Mercer's mason, Mr. Hunter, who assured him that Mercer only had a right to a wall of seven feet and so his windows did not encroach.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/10\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1776 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 23 April 1776.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Halkerston's Wynd, on the Bridge.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a pile of rubbish.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Joseph Pym, merchant, Collin Lauder, surgeon, Thomas Herriot, wright and George Steell, smith in Calton.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/11\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1776 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1776.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: None.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about false measures.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James Clerk, smith and ferrier and a list of stablers in Edinburgh: Duncan McFarlane, James Paxton, John Campbell, William Lyon, James Aiken, Archibald Crichton, Thomas Archibald, William Hall, Alexander Menzies, Robert Cleghorn, George Warden, Matthew Baillie, (blank) relict of James Gibson, John

Cockburn, James Stewart, Peter Ramsay and James Boyd, stabler at the head of Canongate. All appeared a swore oaths and some were fined £1 Stg.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 May 1776 (no warrant, defender allowed to reply).

PETITION LODGED: 14 May 1776.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about false measure.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Gray, baker. In his replies he states that the Town's cooper is making measures that are not accurate.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1776 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1776.

PETITIONER: Crichton Prophet, skinner and Margaret Hope, relict of Captain Francis Manning, sometime residenter in Edinburgh.

SITE: High Street, north side, Bulls Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Reid, tobacconist who owns the undermosnt and the garret floors and is responsible for the roof. Reid also has a toofall erected at the entry to the Close that is a nuisance. Reid agreed to repair the roof and a visit was appointed to look at the toofall. In his replies he stated that the toofall appeared to have been part of the original tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1770/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1776.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against unfree tradesmen: Messrs Allan and Lauriston, Robert Gourlay, William Law, John Pugin, Angus McDonald, James McNab, Bernard Henderson, John Wilson, John Leighton, Alexander Hutchison, Francis Blair and James Laing. John Leighton and John Wilson not being twelve months in business were excused and Phin & Patison only being in business three weeks excused for twelve months. Law, Blair, Henderson, Laing and McNab appeared but the rest were absent.

---

BOX: 1776/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1776.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Heart.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to her property and rubbish in the sewer.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Dickson, dyer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 July 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 9 July 1776.

PETITIONER: John Moncrieff, writer.

SITE: Forresters Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about hanging out clothes.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Fitch, bookbinder, his tenant who has been hanging clothes under the bartizan (outshot) and laying lumber and rubbish there which is a nuisance to the petitioner and his tenants.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1776 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1776.

PETITIONER: James Young, shipmaster in Leith and his spouse, Isabella Symonds.

SITE: North Leith, High Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Liddel, shipmaster in North Leith who has been carrying out building works that encroach on the petitioner's property. The Court granted a warrant to stop the work on 24 May 1776. On 27 July the parties met in Leith and to save the expence of proofs the petitioner agreed to drop his complaint if the new work is 18 inches from his wall. In replies for John Liddel he cites a Sasine dated 24 August 1679 in favour of James Bonden, 'one of his ancestors'. Some years ago Liddel's property belonged to Lady Balmerino, to whose sister he is married.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1776.

PETITIONER: James Ramsay, mason and Alexander Dundas, coach wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Lochends Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to the warrant granted on 8 May 1776 (Clark, Dundas and Ramsay) to carry out the work. Notes that he believed the gable on the west belonged to the heirs of (John) Monro, musician, for whom Walter Scott WS acted here. On taking down this gable it was realised that it had been built as part of his property and that the Monro tenement had simply been built against it. The appointment here to visit was combined with a request for a plan and section of the mutual gable.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1776.

PETITIONER: Thomas Laing, tool maker.

SITE: Shakespeare Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hill, wright who is building a new tenement but has deviated from the plan he gave in for building a mutual gable in 1770. See warrant granted 21 August 1770 (Laing). The matter went to arbitration at that time and Thomas Herriot and Alexander Ponton, wrights reported and a copy of their decret is here. The Court granted a warrant to stop the work on 3 September 1776.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1776/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 10 September 1776.

PETITIONER: Sir Stewart Thriepland, surgeon.

SITE: High Street, north side, Grays Close, Bishop's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the vents.

NOTES: The lodging is in Bishop's land which backs onto Grays Close. There is a letter here from Steuart Thriepland to Alexander Laing (mason) dated 9 September 1776, asking him to petition the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 October 1776.

PETITIONER: Thomas Wilson, wright.



SITE: St. Mary's Wynd, west side, adjacent to the Cowgate Port.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to his wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against John McDowal of Logan who is erecting a building and putting dormont or girder into the petitioner's wall. There are robust answers here from John Emslie for John Buchan, 'doer for Logan'. He states that John McDowell is heir of taillie to the deceased Lord Banktoun and that he inherited a piece of ground at the foot of Leith Wynd (sic) where a stable and coach house stood, now repairing. 'His radical right flowing from the Town of Edinburgh in 1697, is herewith produced and it bears no sort of restriction or limitation whatever, yet he meets with repeated insulting interruptions from pretended proprietors both to the north and south of his property...'  
The first of these had already gone to the Court of Session where a bill of suspension had been refused and now Wilson pretends to have an interest.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 November 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 8 November 1776.

PETITIONER: James Fyfe, junior, merchant.

SITE: Libbertons Wynd, east side near the head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to his roof and a timber spout.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Burn, merchant who lives in the house on the opposite side of the Close. He has recently repaired his roof and slates falling from it have damaged the petitioner's roof and gutter. Mr. Burn made repairs but replaced the petitioner's blue slates with grey ones and he refuses to repair the spout.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1776 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1776.

PETITIONER: Alexander Donaldson.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a stove or choffer.

NOTES: The petition is damaged ad a section is missing. The complaint is against William Begg, grocer who sublets from Mr. Clark.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1777

The Court Officers from 16 October 1776:

**Dean of Guild**

Charles Innes

**Council**

John Kidd, Old Dean of Guild

James Hotchkis, merchant

William Galloway, merchant

Charles Howison, wright

George Syme, mason

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1777/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1776.

PETITIONER: James Duncan, baker in Portsburgh and others.

SITE: Pleasance, west side, beside the Town Wall.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about undermining the Town Wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Steell, smith in Pleasance. In his replies he states that he has a tack with 19 years to run, from William Hall, for a piece of ground opposite to Mr. Robertson, vintner. He had permission to build a small house there. On 30 December 1776 the Court ordered him to build a stone wall along the Town Wall, behind his proposed house and replace the earth in a solid manner. In an unusual action, George Penman, the Court officer ordered him to complete the wall within 48 hours on the 5th January, under a penalty of £100 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 6 January 1777.

PETITIONER: James Hotchkis, brewer.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side.

PROPOSAL: To have in inspection of a gable.

NOTES: The building had been damaged by a fire in the neighbouring tenement on Sunday morning, 5th January. The damaged house belongs to Mrs. Newton and the Court considered the standing walls to be dangerous and to be demolished.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1776.

PETITIONER: David Wallace, writer.

SITE: Cowgate head, Mclellans land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a jack on a scaffold behind the lodging of Mrs. Sime.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1776

PETITIONER: Robert Thomson, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Luckenbooth.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a shop bow window.

NOTES: The window was erected without a warrant by William Stewart, wright. The shop belongs to John Hathom of Airies and Alexander Fraser, writer acts for him. The Court decided that the bow interfered with the light in the petitioner's shop below it

and that it should be taken down. He was allowed to 'bring out a window as far as the range of the building, the shutters always being in a line therewith'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1776.

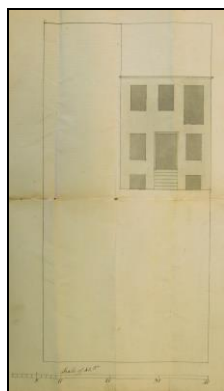
PETITIONER: Alexander Hay, wright.

SITE: Anchor Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of a laigh house by three feet.

NOTES: The petitioner owns an area in the Close on part of which is a laigh house which was occupied for many years by Charles Robertson, painter as a paint shop. In answers for Archibald Shiells, portioner in Inveresk he states that his property and that of the petitioners, previously belonged to Thomas Kincaid, surgeon apothecary. He sold the yard or area to George Porteous by disposition dated 15 June 1688 (registered in the Burgh Court books, 7 June 1690) and placed a servitude on the property that nothing should ever be built that would affect the lights of Sheills' property. The petitioner countered with a letter, enclosed, from Archibald Sheills (senior) dated 11 April 1749, written when he built the laigh house, in which he was granted permission to build as long as he observed certain boundaries. The Court refused his petition.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and outline plan of the area.

Size: 40.0 x 23.0 cms.

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BOX: 1777/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1776.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, north side, above Lochends Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Ramsay, mason in Canongate. In reply Ramsay states that he had a warrant dated 8 May 1776. He then goes through the history of the various complaints against his work and defends the quality. The work was stopped on 27 September 1776 and here the stop was lifted.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1777.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Stewart relict of the deceased Daniel Stewart, Supervisor of Excise in Edinburgh.

SITE: High Street, Netherbow, a small Close on the south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the Close being blocked.

NOTES: The complaint is against Gilbert Auchinleck, cutler and John Muat, merchant and others who are proprietors of ruinous tenements on the north and east of the petitioner's property. They have allowed stones to fall into the Close, blocking it and

other people have been easing themselves in the old houses there.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 February 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 3 February 1777.

PETITIONER: James Scott, WS.

SITE: Not specified.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences.

NOTES: The claim relates to a previous petition by James Scott against James Hamilton, Precentor in the new Church of Edinburgh, on behalf of Mrs. Christie, with regard to a borrowed vent that had to be built up.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 20 January 1777.

PETITIONER: David Graham, advocate, William Inglis, surgeon and others.

SITE: Parliament Close, the Post office tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the stone steps of the scale stair.

NOTES: The petition includes a letter of contract between the heritors and Alexander Laing, mason, to carry out the work, dated 9 January 1777. This is signed by the petitioners and William Polson, Roderick Macleod for Mrs. Macleod of Cadboll, William Spence and Robert Wight.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1777.

PETITIONER: Patrick Crawford, merchant, James Spaden, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, north side, Bulls land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a brewery in a cellar.

NOTES: The petitioner is the proprietor of the first flat where James Spaden lives as his tenant. The complaint is against James Stewart, druggist who is using the cellar below as a brewery where he lights great fires, day and night and causes heat and steam to rise through the flat above. Spaden has been informed by his surgeon, Alexander Wood, that this is bad for the health of him and his family. The petitioner states that James Stewart had to leave his last premises in a cellar in the same Close, below James Dickson, vintner, because he caused a fire. The Court prohibited the use of the cellar as a 'Brewerie or Stellhouse'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Laurie, accountant in the Excise Office, Edinburgh.

SITE: Brysons Close, foot, commonly called undermost Trunk Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a tenant in the first flat.

NOTES: The petitioner owns all but a flat on the first floor, which belongs to the representatives of the deceased Mr. Antonius, wright in Edinburgh and presently occupied by Charles Nisbet, confectioner. Mr. Nisbet has erected a stove or 'chauffer' in his flat which is sending up steam and smoke so as to make his second flat uninhabitable. The Court order the removal of the stove.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March and 30 May 1777

PETITION LODGED: 18 March 1777.

PETITIONER: James Lumsdaine, late of Strathtyrum.

SITE: New Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith in Calton.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased his house from George Steell who has built another house to the south of the petitioner's. He has built a stone wall that allows all the rain water to run onto the petitioner's roof. Steell claims in his answers that he has not yet put on his slates and he is the injured party - a claim rejected on 30 May 1777. See warrant granted 21 January 1778 (Lumsdaine).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 April 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1777.

PETITIONER: Patrick Walker, factor appointed by the Court of Session on the estate of the deceased Robert Ranken, ship carpenter in Inverkeithing.

SITE: Bridge Street.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to windows and doors.

NOTES: The factory is dated 23 December 1775. There is a report here dated 1 April 1777 by John Wilson and Alexander Laing, masons on behalf of themselves and John Adam and James Craig, architects, having inspected the tenement in Bridge Street and declared the intended work to be safe.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 April 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1777.

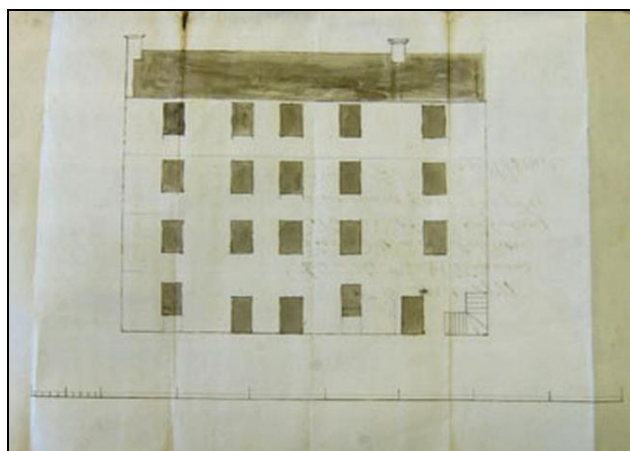
PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater.

SITE: Stevenlaw's Close, foot, east side.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild his tenement.

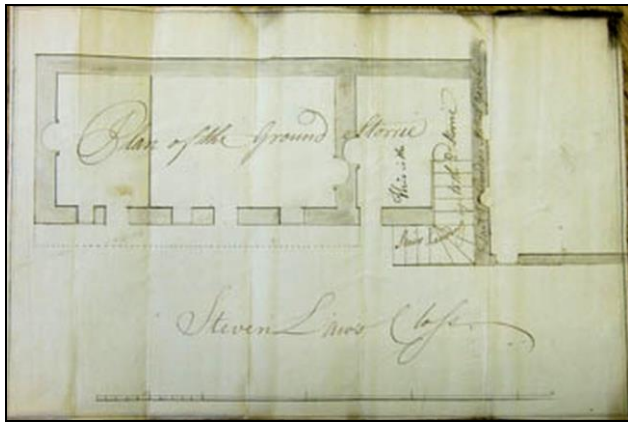
NOTES: The petitioner refers to the tenement to the south of his, owned by William Purdie, blacksmith and James Tait senior, wright in Edinburgh, with a disputed cellar in between. This tenement has been demolished by order of the Court and is being rebuilt. The petitioner asks to rebuild his tenement and he is granted a warrant on condition that he incorporate a cellar for William Purdie, of exactly the same measurement as current. See further warrant of 29 October 1777.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a four story tenement.

Size: 19.6 x 31.3 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor  
Size: 20.2 x 30.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1777/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1777 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1777.

PETITIONER: Thomas Smith, writer as factor for Mrs. Ann Don at Haddington.

SITE: Don's Close and Roxburgh's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of boxing for a Jack stone.

NOTES: The upper flat is occupied by Mrs. Laing, vintner. The complaint is against William Cowan, merchant who occupies the lower flat which enters from Roxburgh's Close. He has taken away the box for the Jack stone to come down from the flat above and blocked up the hole. The Court ordered the reinstatement of the hole on 23 April 1777 and William Cowan claimed legal expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 7 May 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Cairns, Assistant Register General of Tobacco in Scotland. Also described as late distiller in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Sheriff Brae.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a large tenement and brewery. The wall of the lofts belonging to the brewery run a great way along the east side of Kings Street, between part of which wall and the street there is a ruinous tenement. This tenement has not been claimed by anyone for many years. The Court officer served notice on Robert Trotter WS, doer for the creditors of James Addison, late ship master in Leith and Mrs. Addison, his relict. They did not respond and the Court ordered the demolition of the tenement, the expence to be cognozed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 19 March 1777.

PETITIONER: James Boswell, advocate, Janet Mansfield, relict of Mr. Mansfield, banker and Dougald Masterton, schoolmaster and others, heritors.

SITE: Jackson's Close, north side of the street opposite the Guard and communication on the east with the Flesh market.

PROPOSAL: Chimneys had been repaired with brick but are now ruinous. Sentries had been placed opposite the land to prevent people passing.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 June 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1776.

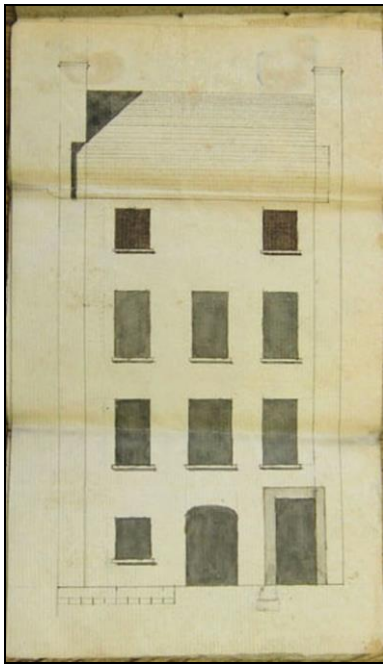
PETITIONER: William Hutchison, apothecary.

SITE: Foot of Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement that is ruinous and too small.

NOTES: The petitioner was asked to provide a plan on the 7 February 1776. He tried to come to an agreement with Allan McConochie, advocate to take on some of the area behind his ruinous tenement, without success and reapplied to the Court on or before 16 April 1777, with the intention of rebuilding on his old foundations. Most of the drawings have pencil alterations and the elevation has been added to the bound set of plans with sealing wax.

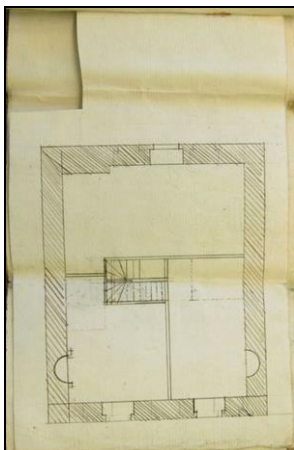
DRAWINGS: Bound set of five sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a four story tenement.

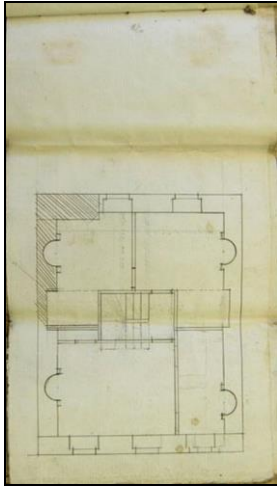
Size: 22.8 x 13.5 cms.

Watermarks: Countermark, IV

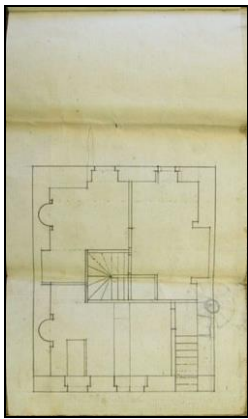


Description: b. Plan of fourth floor.

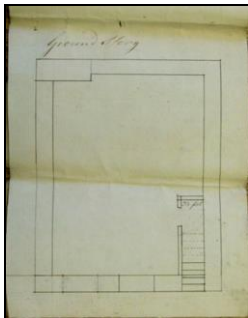
Size: 25.2 x 13.0 cms (irregular).



Description: c. Plan of upper floor.  
Size: 25.2 x 13.0 cms (irregular).



Description: d. Plan of upper floor.  
Size: 25.2 x 13.0 cms (irregular).  
Watermark: C Taylor



Description: e. Plan of ground floor.  
Size: 25.2 x 13.0 cms (irregular).

---

BOX: 1777/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 June 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1777.

PETITIONER: John Dunbreck, vintner.

SITE: Dunbreck's Tavern.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water from the house above.

NOTES: The petitioner complained in May 1777 against Miss Chalmers, milliner when after a visit, promised that the flood of water would stop. The problem continued and the Court ordered the repair of the floor above on penalty of £100 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 June 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1777.

PETITIONER: The doers for Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Scott: Thomas Tod, WS, doer for Mrs. Scott of Craigintinnie, William Aytoun, WS, and Mrs. Agnes Brown, heiress and executor of the deceased Hew Brown.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Further demolitions.

NOTES: This petition follows a warrant granted on 11 September 1776 to Francis Brodie and Gilbert Auchenleck to demolish and rebuild a tenement. The work has progressed but the building is still unsafe and a jury decided that the gable should be taken down to its foundations. The Court asked for a plan and elevation of the proposed new building on 29 March 1777 and asked again on 2 April, mentioning Alexander Laing as the tradesman doing the work. The warrant of 18 June insisted that the demolition should go ahead and appointed David Ramsay, mason to carry out the work if the petitioners failed. This matter came to the Court again in December 1777, for which there are papers here but no action is noted.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 June and 25 July 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 31 December 1776.

PETITIONER: John Milne, founder and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Mitchell, baker in Edinburgh who had a warrant dated 13 September 1775 to build a tenement beside the petitioner's property. He produced a plan with no windows overlooking it. However, in the middle of the night, 19-20 December 1776 he slapped out six holes in the side wall. This work aroused some of the neighbours and as an application could not be made to the officer of the Court, soldiers were called and the tradesmen went away. In the morning an order was obtained from the Court to prevent the work but the tradesman returned and turned the holes into six windows. In replies Mitchell explains that there had been a dispute about boundaries and he had left blind windows in his gable to be altered later. The matter eventually came down to an argument about a water spout.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1777/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1777.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate.

SITE: Between Vinegars Close on the east and Binnings Close on the west.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the passage of carts through Vinegar Close.

NOTES: Notes that Mrs. Smith had some china knocked down by carts bumping into the walls. She provided a list of names of the offending carters; Peter Gardner, Archibald Anderson, William Lumsden, Alexander Jamison and Robert Forrest, and they were ordered 'upon their peril' not to make use of the Close. David Pitkeallie (Pitkethly), mason was also ordered to bring back stones to rebuild a wall.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 July 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 2 July 1777.

PETITIONER: Sir William Forbes, merchant (banker), in name of himself and in name of the committee for seeing the plan of the new High School executed.

SITE: High School (Yards?)

PROPOSAL: To build a wall to the north of the new High School.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Dunbar's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous chimney stack and gable.

NOTES: The Court ordered an inspection by George Syme and William Jamieson and they reported on 11 July with Alexander Laing and John Wilson that an arch across the Close with 'long stones from side to side' would strengthen the gable and chimney.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1777.

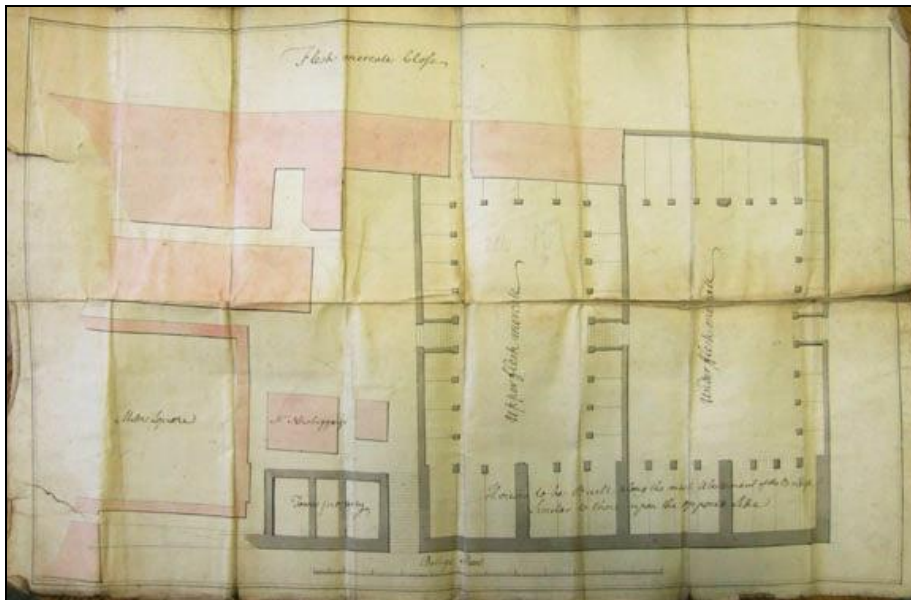
PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1777.

PETITIONER: John Mosman, Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: North Bridge, west side of the south abutment.

PROPOSAL: To build several buildings

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the upper and lower Fleshmarkets

Size: 40.0 x 62.0 cms

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1777/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 July 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1777.

PETITIONER: John Bayle, vintner.

SITE: (North) Bridge Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: To construct a lead spout to carry off water.

NOTES: The petitioner leased George Steell's new built tenement for three years beginning at Whitsun 1777. The Court ordered Steell to erect the water spout.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1777.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright.

SITE: Methodist Chapel.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work going on to the injury of the petitioner's property.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1777.

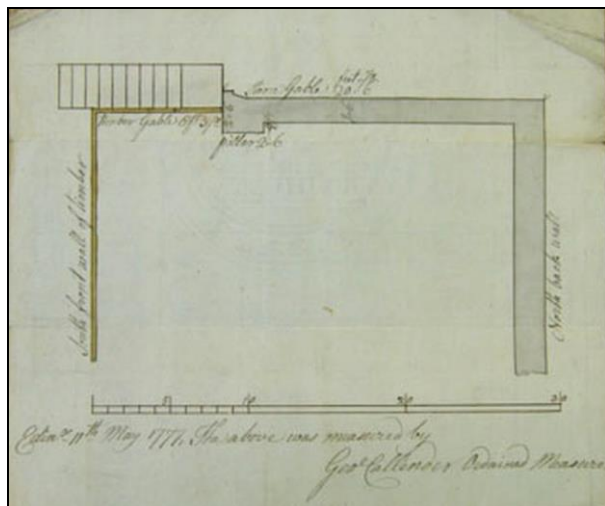
PETITIONER: William Watson, smith in Musselburgh.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Disagreement about a mutual gable of a timber frame tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner's gable had been taken down as it was ruinous but there is a problem with rebuilding and the relationship with the property of Robert Bruce, slater.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

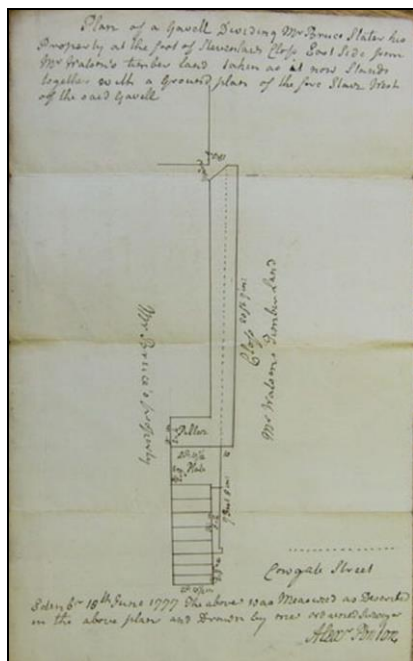


Description: a. Measured plan of the gable.

Size: 15.4 x 18.4 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Dated: 11 May 1777

Draughtsman: George Callender, ordained measurer.



Description: b. Measured plan of the Close and Cowgate.

Size: 30.6 x 18.7 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Dated: 11 May 1777

Draughtsman: Alexander Ponton, ordained surveyor.

---

BOX: 1777/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 August 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1777.

PETITIONER: Andrew Steuart junior, WS.

SITE: Monteith's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a house.

NOTES: The petitioner had purchased a house from Robert Pringle of Edgefield, senator of the College of Justice, deceased. In a note on the petition it states that the plan and elevation was borrowed by 'the mason in Edinr', on 5 September 1777 and to be returned in three days. Signed by David Ramsay.

DRAWINGS: None here.

---

BOX: 1777/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 August 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1777.

PETITIONER: George Grindlay, merchant, John Buchanan, stabler and John Russell, wright in Portsburgh.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, Wallaces's Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof.

NOTES: The first petition here is from John Russell himself stating that he had begun to make repairs to the roof and removed the tympany (pediment). A jury was appointed to inspect and the court ordered further demolition of parts of the west wall on 13 August 1777. Alexander Laing, mason is a member of the jury.

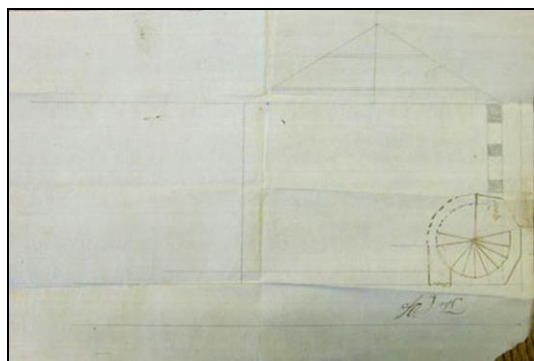
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the land taken down.

Size: 25.5 x 22.5 cms.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)



Description: b. Sketch plan (and section?).

Size: 31.8 x 21.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1777/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 12 August 1777.

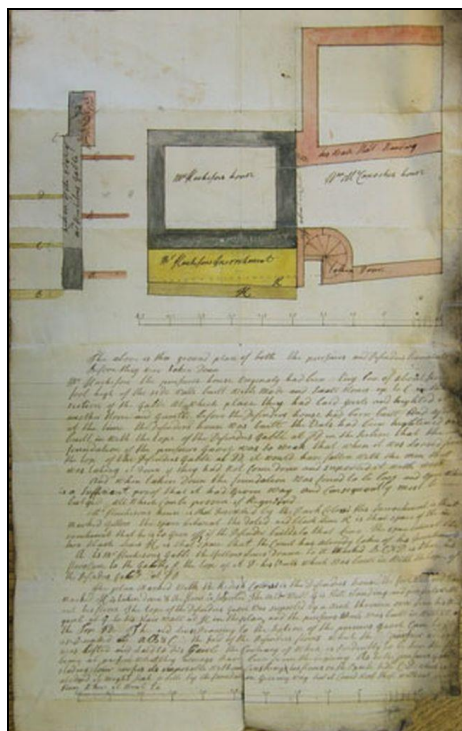
PETITIONER: William Hutchison, apothecary.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William McConochie, wright regarding the rebuilding of a mutual stair.

NOTES: The drawings have elaborate descriptions of the lines of division.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 38.7 x 24.0 cms



Description: b. Plans of the gable.

Size: 38.0 x 24.0 cms. (half of a folio sheet)



Description: c. Plan of the foundations (?)  
Size: 38.0 x 24.0 cms. (half of a folio sheet)

---

BOX: 1777/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 27 August 1777.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Port, a little without, on the north.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The Court ordered an inspection by a jury. The tenement belongs to James Watson, wigmaker, residenter in Canonmills. On 3 September William Weemyss, buckram maker at (Pandeloch?) Hall Park, son in law to James Watson, stated that Watson was a poor man who depended on the rents from the tenement under inspection. The jury decided that the tenement was in no danger of falling down.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 25 September 1777.

PETITIONER: Alexander Dallas, 'silk dyer in Edinburgh and Esqr. of North Newton'.

SITE: Toddericks Wynd

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a pile of rubbish in the Close and a shade.

NOTES: Refers to an adjoining house owned by the heirs of Thomas Walker and occupied by George Cameron, engraver. The complaint is against James Ramage, merchant, who has blocked a sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 October 1777 (no warrant, jury appointed).

PETITION LODGED: 2 October 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Church.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the roof of the new Church.

NOTES: That on Sunday 28 September 1777 during the time of Divine service in the New Church of Edinburgh a piece of plaster fell from the ceiling in the roof of said Church which alarmed the congregation so much that they left the Church. On inspection it appeared that some of the flagstones on the roof had become wasted and allowed water to penetrate into the ceiling. A jury appointed to inspect the new Church and other contiguous churches and their report is here. William Jamieson, mason and Thomas Heriot, wright asked to report on the necessary work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1777.

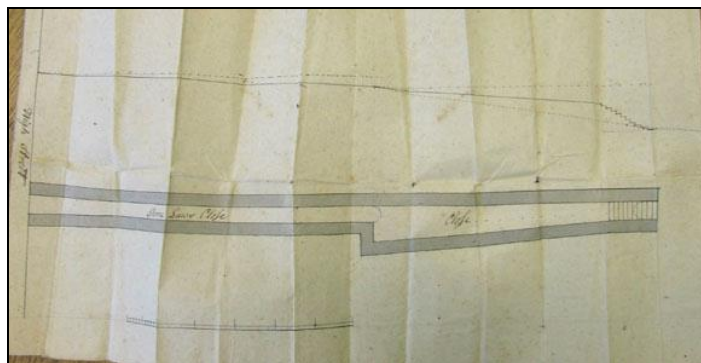
PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater.

SITE: Stevenlaw's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence for repaving the Close.

NOTES: Refers to earlier warrant granted 9 April 1777. Some spirited objections from James Tait (or Tate), wright and other heritors regarding the work carried out by Bruce 'who is not a Burgess'. There are accounts here from Arthur Giles, wright; John McRobie, causeway layer and Alexander Reid, mason. There is also a list of owners and tenants. The Close is noted as 'Stone Laws Close' on the plan.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the Close.

Size: 26.8 x 51.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1777/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 7 October 1777.

PETITIONER: Thomas Beath, writer.

SITE: Canongate, Hammermen's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Innes, Cashier of the Royal Bank and the now deceased William Wilson of Soonhope, writer, owners of the property. A previous application had been made to the Baillie Court when the defenders did not appear. There is further detailed information in answers for the defenders.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 November 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1777.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, painter.

SITE: Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to tenement and chimneys.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the two upper stories in the tenement on the east side of the passage leading from Parliament Close to the Meal market.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 November 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 22 September 1777.

PETITIONER: James Dewar of Vogrie, advocate

SITE: Head of Horse Wynd (Trades Maiden Hospital).

PROPOSAL: To build stables on a back court.

NOTES: James Cunningham, baker in Edinburgh, treasurer of the Trades Hospital petitioned the Court about the proposed stable, adjoining their property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





BOX: 1777/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 December 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 26 August 1777.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Craigs Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant dated 30 August 1775 for the repairs. This is a specific claim against William Taylor, writer in Edinburgh for payment of his share, as he lives in the country, outside the jurisdiction of the Court. Laing's account is here for repairs to chimneys giving Taylor's share at £9 10s 1d.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 December 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 30 October 1777.

PETITIONER: David Ramsay, mason.

SITE: Shakespeare Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Hill, wright about a railing.

NOTES: Thomas Hill is building a tenement but his cellars project further under the pavement and any railing will encroach on the public street. The Court ordered that The petitioner, Thomas Hill and Thomas Laing bring their whole railing into a straight line from north to south as far as their tenement extend, leaving always 48ft between it and the east side of the Theatre Royal. The railing and pavement to be laid under the direction of John Wilson, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 December 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 22 September 1777.

PETITIONER: Alexander Ferguson of Craigdarroch, advocate.

SITE: St Andrew Square, east side

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on a boundary wall.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he feued a lot from the Town Council and built a house on it. As was customary where the adjoining lots were un-feued, he built a mutual gable on the north, 4ft thick and a boundary wall around his garden. George Steel has purchased the lot to the north and agreed to pay for his share of the gable. Steel's house was to be deeper than the petitioner's and they agreed that it could be 4 or 5 feet at most and rest on his garden wall by half its thickness. During the petitioner's absence from Town, Steel has built eight feet beyond the back wall and has built over the full thickness of the garden wall - a wall that was never meant to carry the weight of a full tenement. Steel employed Thomas Wallace, mason in Leith and other tradesmen in the work. Work was stopped on 22 September 1777 but Ferguson petitioned again on 28 October, stating that work was still proceeding. The Court ordered the work to stop again on 28 October with the treat to imprison Steel if he did not. On 17 December, after replies from Steel in which ha agreed to build on his half of the wall, the Court decided that no encroachment had been made.

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/9)**

BOX: 1777/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1777.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Lauder for non payment of her share of repairs

to the chimney stacks. See unextracted petition dated 16 February 1774 (Peter). There is an account here from William Jamieson and a measure of the work by Robert Burn, ordained measurer relating to Mrs. Lauder and Miss Hepburn.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1777 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1777.

PETITIONER: Mrs. McGhie, relict of William McGhie, writer.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about reopening of a vent.

NOTES: See previous petition of 8 February 1774 (Jean Forbes, Mrs. McGhie) complaining that Arthur Miller, merchant had opened a flue into her vent. He closed it up but has since re-opened the offending flue. After vigorous replies from Arthur Miller the petition was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1776/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 February 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 14 December 1776.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about false measures.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Paxton, relict of John Paxton, stabler and James Paxton, his son for the use of a false measure for corn. They had used the measure to feed the horses of Mr. Campbell of Glenure and were fined £5 Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 April 1777 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 April 1777.

PETITIONER: Rev. John Warden, minister of the Gospel in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north side (Lochend Close).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on the High Street.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Ramsay, mason who is building a new tenement. He asks for Ramsay to take down the front of his tenement and rebuild it in line with the large tenement on the east.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1777 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1777.

PETITIONER: James Duncan, baker in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh 'on the north side of the walk leading by the back of the castle'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Jean Johnstone, relict of James Johnstone, wright or her tenant, James White, candlemaker, who is building close to the petitioner's side wall. He is concerned about tallow work so close to his property. Work was stopped on 16 June. In answers for the defenders dated 20 June they state that their property is entirely on the Castle bank, not in Portsburgh and is therefore not within the jurisdiction of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1777 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1777.

PETITIONER: Hugh Inglis, wig maker in Portsburgh.

SITE: West Port, near.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased an old tenement about two years ago from Messrs. Hodgcase & Cleghorn, which is now taken down with a design to rebuild the same. The old tenement on the west belonging to James Watson, wigmaker is ruinous and it should also be taken down and rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1777 (no warrant, petitioner allowed to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1777.

PETITIONER: William Drysdale, stabler.

SITE: Potterrow Port, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: To open a passage into an area.

NOTES: The petitioner has a tack from James Dewar of Vogrie of the ground floor of the tenement and an area and stables behind. He wishes to open an entry so that he can park his carts and chaises off the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1777 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 27 August 1777.

PETITIONER: John Ronaldson, merchant.

SITE: High Street, north side, Blew land, opposite the fountain well.

PROPOSAL: To remove a stone pillar.

NOTES: The pillar stands in the middle of his shop and 'goes no higher than the floor above the shop'. He asks to replace it with a timber one.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1777.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen: Robert Anderson, Angus Mcdonell, Charles Robertson, William Bald & Company, Roderick Fraser, Hendry Watson, John Luchton, James Thomson, jun. and James Goldie, all merchants.

---

BOX: 1777/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1776 (no warrant - request for a plan).

PETITION LODGED: 10 September 1776

PETITIONER: William Dallaway, japanner in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a dwelling house.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he purchased a small area of land from James Reid, coachmaker and that he submits a plan. There is no warrant here, but there is a request on 23 October that he produce the plan.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 November 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 4 November 1777.

PETITIONER: James Brodie, surgeon.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Dunbar's Close, west side, a cellar.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Seton, proprietor of the two uppermost floors of the tenement, who has removed the roof. A pile of rubbish prevents access to his cellar and he understands that the roof is to be left in its present state 'partly covered in dry tiles and no rigging stones...'. In his replies James Seton explains that while taking off the roof of his tenement he found the walls to be insufficient and he petitioned the Court to demolish and rebuild. He does not wish to do so until the Spring and notes that the petitioner very rarely uses his cellar. Indeed, he has allowed Mr. Hardie, a

baker to keep swine opposite to his cellar door for the past twelve months. See warrant of 18 July 1777 (Procurator Fiscal) which seems to relate to the same property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1777/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 November 1777.

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1777.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ann Don, residing at Haddington.

SITE: Dons Close, between it and Roxburgh Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer.

NOTES: The complaint is against Daniel Seton, merchant who refuses to maintain the mutual sewer. In his replies he refutes the claim that it is mutual.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1778

The Court Officers from 15 October 1777:

**Dean of Guild**

Charles Innes

**Council**

John Grieve, Old Dean of Guild

David McPherson, merchant

William Galloway, merchant

Charles Howison, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1778/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 January 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1777.

PETITIONER: James Lumsdaine late of Strathtyrum.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a water spout.

NOTES: Refers to a previous petition (20 March 1777) against George Steele, smith in Calton. Steele owns the adjoining(?) house.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Netherbow, World's End Close, Browns land,

PROPOSAL: To take down the east gavel and front of the plain stone tenement to the west of Brown's land.

NOTES: Refers to a report by a jury on 26 March 1777 that this land was ruinous and that the east gable and the whole of the front should be taken down and rebuilt.

Alexander Laing, mason began work but became concerned for the safety of the plain stone tenement to the west. A further jury of David Henderson, architect, John Wilson and David Ramsay, masons reported on 8 September 1777 that this tenement to the west was also insufficient. There is a petition from the proprietors of the plain stone tenement: Allan McConochie, advocate, dame Elizabeth Wood, relict of Sir James Wood Bt., Captain John Plenderleith of Kello, Maitland Ballantyne, John Thomson and James Cumming, merchants in Edinburgh and James Harper, mason there. See also: Unextracted petition of 1 July 1778 (Procurator Fiscal), the warrant of 22 October 1778 (Aytoun) where there is a drawing and warrant for payment, 24 April 1783 (Laing).

DRAWINGS: None here.

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BOX: 1778/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1778

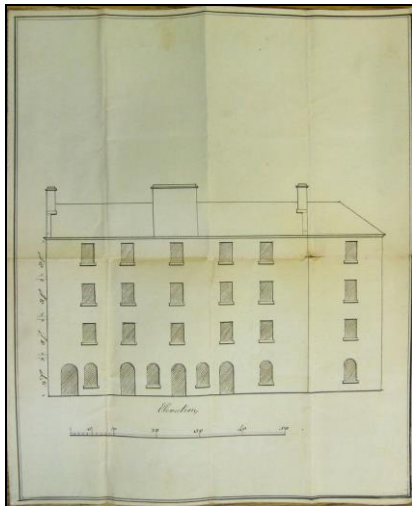
PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1778.

PETITIONER: Robert Selby, plumber.

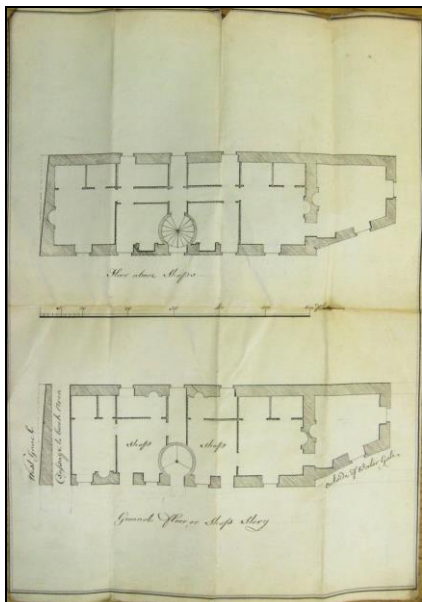
SITE: Canongate foot, north side, adjoining the Watergate.

PROPOSAL: To take down the front wall and a small house and rebuild a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of four story tenement.  
 Size: 36.6 x 30.3 cms.  
 Architect: (Alexander Laing?)



Description: b. Plans of the ground or shop floor and the floor above the shops.  
 Size: 41.3 x 29.5 cms.  
 Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman  
 Architect: (Alexander Laing?)

BOX: 1778/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1778.

PETITIONER: William Hutchison, (surgeon) apothecary.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build up the fore wall 'which at present is lying down'.

NOTES: States that he purchased the tenement adjoining his some time ago, from William McConochie and it is this he intends rebuilding.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1778/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1778.

PETITIONER: Alexander Ferguson of Craigdarroch, advocate.

SITE: St Andrew Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work on a mutual gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Steel, mason who has begun taking down

part of a mutual gable with the petitioner. He is ordered to rebuild the same at sight of Charles Howison and William Jamieson (mason), members of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1778.

PETITIONER: Alexander Smith junior, baker.

SITE: West Bow, shop flat of Anderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer.

NOTES: He cites the other heritors: Mrs. Clerk, seedswoman, Hugh Rutherford, writer, James Thomson, wright, (blank) Laik?, merchant, James Hardie, trunkmaker, James Hamilton, residerter, Simon Fraser white iron smith and Thomas Fairholme, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 5 December 1777.

PETITIONER: John Caitcheon, carver.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite the foot of the Fish market.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences to demolish and rebuild a small tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner had a warrant granted on 6 September 1775 to demolish the tenement which lay at the back of new buildings in the Cowgate. He had been using the building as a carvers or wrights shop but had to remove himself. He employed John Mathie, wright to carry out the work. Accounts here from John Mathie, George Dobie, mason, John Humble (plumber?),

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1778.

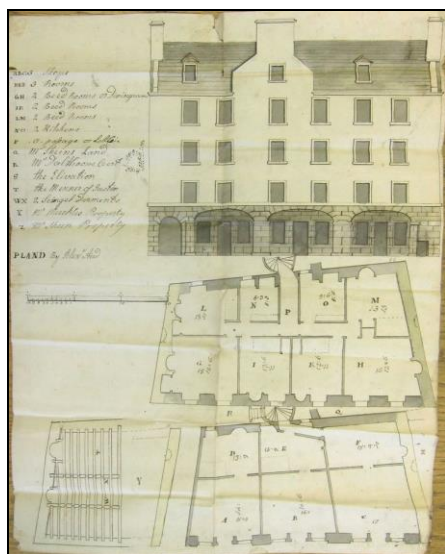
PETITION LODGED: 11 February 1778.

PETITIONER: Robert Dalton, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Shore.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a timber tenement and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of ground and an upper floor. With a plan of the joisting.

Size: 48.0 x 37.3 cms.

Inscriptions recto: 'Pland by Alex Aird'.

Watermark: C Taylor & Son

Draughtsman: Alexander Aird.

---

BOX: 1778/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 20 January 1778.

PETITIONER: James Beveridge, merchant and others.

SITE: Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a smoking vent.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Brown, founder who has a vent or chimney in a to-fall at the foot of the Close on the east side. It is below the level of the houses further up the Close and causes a nuisance. The vent runs under a timber outshot and is also dangerous. Mr. Beveridge dies before the replies of Robert Brown on 11 February, in which he notes that the vent was long in place before he purchased the subject from John Brown, merchant and had been in use by Alexander Aberdour, founder from at least 1760. The Court ordered the removal of the vent.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 February 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 3 February 1778.

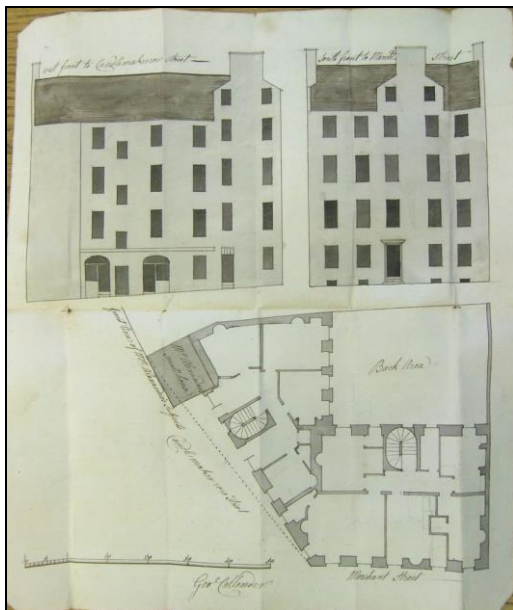
PETITIONER: George Callender, wright.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, east side, corner with Merchant Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of six floors.

NOTES: The petitioner sought to bring forward the front of his building in line with a small house belonging to Robert Alexander, clock and watchmaker in Leith. Alexander complained of loss of light and the Court ordered the petitioner to keep to the line of the old foundations.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations to both streets and a plan of the ground floor.

Size: 38.5 x 32.7 cms.

Draughtsman: (George Callender?)

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BOX: 1778/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 March 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1778.

PETITIONER: Dr. Alexander Hunter, physician in York and Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a door slapped out in the side wall.

NOTES: Dr. Alexander Hunter acquired right to the property from his deceased father,



John Hunter, apothecary in Edinburgh  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 1 April 1778.

PETITIONER: Alexander Thomson, merchant.

SITE: Grassmarket, south of the meuse well.

PROPOSAL: To repair a timber fronted tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner intends to replace a timber projection with an ashlar stone wall to support the timber front above. The Court insisted that the work be measured and allowed him to spend no more than £400 Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1778.

PETITIONER: James Ferguson of Pitfour, advocate and John Goodwillis, writer.

SITE: Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: To reharl and repair the tenement

NOTES: Ferguson owns two floors and Goodwillis one floor in the tenement which fronts onto the Luckenbooths and was built by the deceased Robert Menzies of Coulterallers (WS) in 1742. He refers to 'the most enormous stalks' (chimney stacks) on the east and west gables made of brick and in a tottering condition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1778.

PETITIONER: Francis Jeffrey, wigmaker.

SITE: Cowgate, near the foot of Niddry Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a Decree of Adjudication from the Court of Session dated 30 July 1777 against James Thomson, barber and wigmaker in Edinburgh whereby the petitioner became owner of the property. There is an estimate here from Thomas Heriot, wright and Robert Bruce, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 22 April 1778.

PETITIONER: William Armstrong, coppersmith.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To reconstruct a bow window with less projection into the street.

NOTES: The petitioner has a tack or lease on the shop.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1777.

PETITIONER: John, Earl of Hyndeford.

SITE: St. John Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked sewer.

NOTES: The process contains letters of instruction from Dr. James Gregory, Mr. James Rocheid of Inverleith. Also a report from David Ramsay, mason and John Young, wright dated 12 April 1777 into the condition of the drain. A boy had been sent up the drain and found that the bottom of the drain at Mr. Weems (Wemyss) court was about 18 inches lower than the rest which caused a backing up. Mentions Lord Selkirk's and

Sir Robert Henderson's back courts.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1778.

PETITIONER: John Bell, bookseller.

SITE: Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: To construct a bow window in his shop.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of a lodging immediately above (beside?) a shop possessed by Charles Elliot, bookseller. He wants to turn part of his lodging into a shop. His warrant allows him to proceed as long as the window projects no further than 9 inches from the front wall. Richard Richardson for the Charity Workhouse, complained to the Court on 10 June 1778 that the petitioner was digging away part of the wall belonging to John's Coffee house. Work was stopped and there is no indication of the eventual outcome.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1777.

PETITIONER: William Campbell, writer and James Craig, baker.

SITE: St. Andrew Square, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the erection of presses in the common stair.

NOTES: The complaint is against George McQueen, merchant. In his replies he notes that although they share the building, the petitioner has a separate entry from the Square. He had created the press by erecting a timber screen for the area under the common stair where the other occupiers agreed they could store unwanted items of furniture, now they seem to have changed their minds. This version is disputed and he is ordered to remove the presses as the stair is common property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 May 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1778

PETITIONER: Miss Wilsons: Janet, Susanna and Betty Wilson, mantua makers.

SITE: High Street, north side, Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair garret floor where joisting has given way.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1778.

PETITIONER: William Aytoun WS for Mrs. Brown of Bishoptoun and John Wright, baker.

SITE: Netherbow, World's End Close, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: To take down a further part of the tenement.

NOTES: The tenement was previously demolished by order of the Court but the back wall is insufficient and should also be taken down. See other warrants of 11 February 1778 (Procurator Fiscal) and 22 October 1778 (Aytoun).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 20 May 1778.

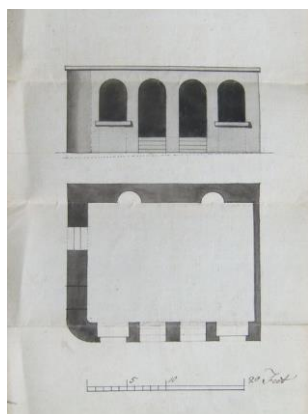
PETITIONER: John Muat, merchant.

SITE: Netherbow, corner with St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the shop floor.

NOTES: 'The tenement long ago was taken down'. Enclosed is a note signed by John Laurie giving the dimensions of the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of shop floor. Verso, partial elevation of a four story tenement.  
Size: 28.5 x 19.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1778/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1778.

PETITIONER: David Stewart, writer and William Inglis, surgeon.

SITE: Parliament Close, Post office Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to the stair by collapse.

NOTES: Part of the stair had fallen down at eight in the morning. The petitioners own the first and third stories. A jury was appointed and they decided that the arches supporting the stair were dangerous, except those below the Post Office 'recently replaced'. Thomas Heriot, wright was appointed to support the stair with timbers.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 14 April 1778.

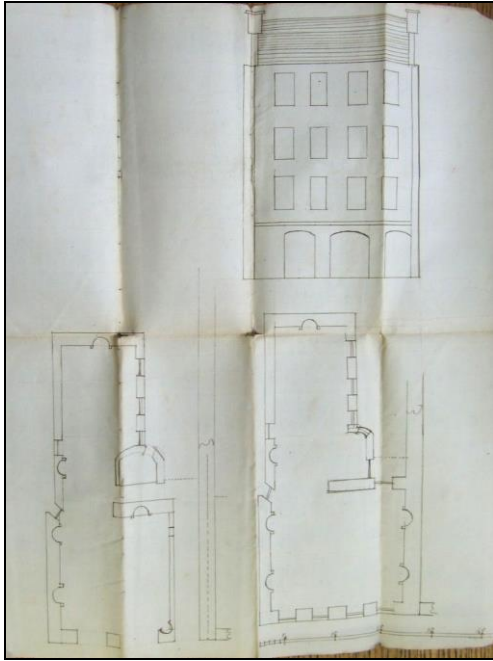
PETITIONER: Walter Scott WS.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Monro's Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a ruinous tenement.

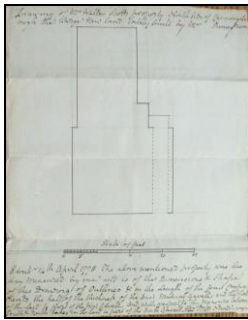
NOTES: The petitioner recounts that he had an agreement with James Ramsay, mason in Edinburgh to take down a ruinous tenement and rebuild the same. The building was then to be sold to Ramsay for a payment of £130 Stg. and an annuity of £8 pa. Ramsay took down all but a gable and sold off the materials including windows and doors before leaving the work for more than twelve months. Having heard from Ramsay that he could not complete the bargain, the petitioner is going ahead with the rebuilding himself. Ramsay provided the drawing at c. below with his answers on 27 April 1778. He refers to the contract between himself, Walter Scott and Mary Straton, relict of (blank) Monro, musician in Edinburgh dated August 1776 to rebuild Monro's land, to be complete by Martinmas 1777. Ramsay and his son had feued the land and built a tenement to the east of Monro's waste tenement and the contract arose during a dispute over boundaries. All differences were to be submitted to William Jamieson and George Hunter masons but Hunter had since died. He asked to have another arbiter but the Court considered the contract void and allowed the petitioner to proceed.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a four story tenement and plans of two floors as proposed to be built by Scott.

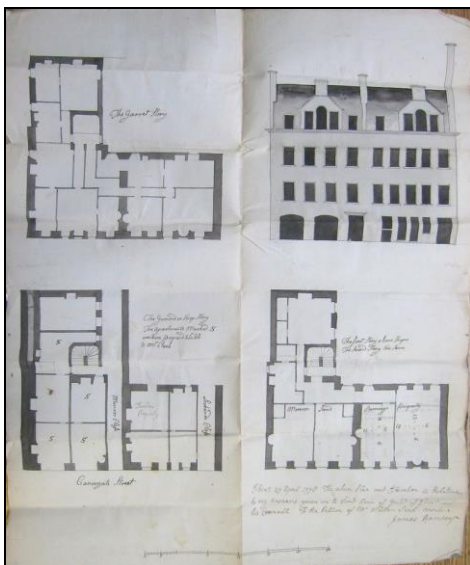
Size: 38.9 x 31.8 cms.



Description: b. Measured plan of the area dated 14 April 1778.

Size: 24.2 x 19.4 cms.

Draughtsman: Alexander Ponton, ordained measurer.



Description: c. Elevation of two, four story tenements with plans of three floors, as proposed to be built by Ramsay.

Size: 47.6 x 39.0 cms.

Watermark: C Taylor

BOX: 1778/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1778.

PETITIONER: William Inglis, surgeon.

SITE: Parliament Close, south side.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the staircase, replacing arches to the landing.

NOTES: The heritors (listed here) met on 18 June and agreed the work to be carried out by Robert Hunter, 'architect' and under the inspection of John Wilson, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1778.

PETITIONER: Charles Thomson, wigmaker, factor for Alexander Thoires of Jamaica.

SITE: Halkerston's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of rebuilding a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner is a factor along with David Rae, advocate. He refers to a warrant to demolish the tenement dated 4 May 1768. There are accounts from James Robertson, mason, George Syme, slater and others for work on Halkerstons Wynd. These include an account for a lodging belonging to Lady Christian Carnegie. There are other accounts, perhaps misplaced, for work on a new tenement on the east corner of Bridge Street (1770) from: Alexander Cairns, wright, Leith, David Urquhart, smith, James Reikie, glazier. There are still further accounts for a tenement on the east side of Drummond Street (1770)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1778.

PETITIONER: John Sprott, candlemaker.

SITE: Bess Wynd, opposite the Tolbooth, west side.

PROPOSAL: Repair of walls and chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 22 October 1778.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Mansfield Hunter & Company, bankers.

SITE: Leith, east side of Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a heritable bond dated 24 May 1762 registered 17 February 1764 granted by Mary (Muter?), wife of John Clelland then writer in Edinburgh in favour of the petitioner. There is a full estimate here with the names of the occupants of the flats.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1778.

PETITIONER: Adam Murray, baker.

SITE: Middle entry into James's Court, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a new window.

NOTES: The petitioner owns all except one story, the property of Thomas Tod, tanner, possessed by John Thorburn, mason. Thorburn has slapped out a window without a warrant. He was fined £12 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1778.

PETITIONER: John Paton of Inveresk and James Murray, merchant.

SITE: High Street, west side of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward a shop front to enclose the area supported by columns.

NOTES: John Paton owns the shop and cellars occupied by James Murray. A warrant was granted on 22 April 1778 followed by a second petition on 17 July 1778 with a request to insert a new column and dormant (beam) and remove the originals, these being found wanting in terms of foundation and strength.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 July 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 11 July 1778.

PETITIONER: John Muat, merchant.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish preventing access to build.

NOTES: The petitioner wants to rebuild his tenement and the complaint is against William Loch, writer who owns the ruinous tenement to the south. A pile of rubbish prevents the petitioner gaining access to build his gable. In answers for William Loch he states that he applied to the Court about ten years ago to rebuild two tenements but he was asked by the Town Council to delay, as they intended purchasing the property. This related to matters concerning the building of the North Bridge. His tenements were demolished in the summer of 1774 while he was away from Town as a result of an accident. He was ordered to remove the earth, by warrants on the 15th and 22 July.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1778.

PETITIONER: Alexander Dallas, silk dyer.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without warrant.

NOTES: His complaint is against John McRabie and his mason, William McAllan who began to work on a mutual gable without a warrant. The gable is with a laigh house in Crinzians land. The work was stopped on 24 June but the complaint was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1778.

PETITIONER: John Mylne, founder and David Comb, merchant, his tenant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the display of goods.

NOTES: The complaint is against Helen Bele who owns the laigh cellar below the shop possessed by David Comb. She is hanging her goods from nails on two timber supports in front of the petitioners shop. The complaint was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 14 July 1778.

PETITIONER: James Weir, only son of the deceased Adam Weir, wright in Leith, Alexander Hunter, merchant, David Neilson, merchant in Leith, William Hamilton, wright there and James Nicol, farmer at Haviot (Daviot?) Miln, his curators and William Douglas, merchant in Leith their factor.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate, opposite the sugarhouse.

PROPOSAL: To take down ruinous 'cat and clay vents'.

NOTES: The complaint is about the tenement to the southeast, which has external clay vents in need of repair. This old tenement belongs to the heirs of Gilbert Story, portioner in Leith. Robert Syme collects the rents but he states that he acts as factor for Thomas Paterson, sometime ropemaker in Leith, thereafter in Baltimore, Maryland and leaseholder on the old tenement. The Court allows them to take down the vents.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1778.

PETITIONER: William Ranken junior, present Deacon and George Wright, present Boxmaster to the Incorporation of Tailors in Potterrow.

SITE: Potterrow, Scoon's land.

PROPOSAL: Repair to a mutual gable and complaint about a mutual dyke.

NOTES: The gable is shared with David Clark, leather case maker in Bristoe.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 24 July 1778.

PETITIONER: William Gordon, bookseller and other heritors of Henderson's land.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof of staircase.

NOTES: Their tenement is situated between the foot of Forrester's Wynd and the scale stairs leading from the Cowgate to the Edinburgh Friendly Insurance office.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1778.

PETITIONER: John Bonnar, painter for Miss Clark, Alexander Laing, mason for Lady Wood, and Innes Cumming, heritors.

SITE: Netherbow, Plainstone tenement.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a gable and shop front.

NOTES: Refers to an interlocutor of the Court of '11 February last' to take the east gable and front wall down to the foundations. The petitioner's have employed Alexander Laing, mason to rebuild the same. The elevation at a. below notes the 'Marquis of Tweedles (Tweeddale's) Entry' on the left. On the reverse is a note regarding the placing of one of the pillars of the front, signed by Alexander Ponton, ordained surveyor. This arose because Miss Clark took advantage of the work to bring forward the front of her shop to the pavement and include the area previously arcaded.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of the shop floor and the one above.

Size: 34.7 x 22.5 cms.

Architect: (Alexander Laing?)

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BOX: 1778/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 10 July 1778.

PETITIONER: Janet Good, widow of William Good, wright.

SITE: Parliament Close, east side of the entry, old Custom House stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about storage of coal and sheep in a garret.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the top flat, occupied by Mr. Gloag with garrets above owned by the proprietor of the third floor, Charles Inglis, Depute Clerk to the Bills. He has begun to store coal in one of his garrets, above the bedroom and has taken live sheep up there. In replies for Inglis he states that he has stored two cartloads of coal in the garret and was in the process of adding a third when he was stopped by the officer of the Court. He has taken sheep there but these have been killed by a flesher and hung on cleats overnight. The Court ordered him to cease storing coal and butchering sheep under a penalty of £50 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1778.

PETITIONER: Thomas McGibbon, porter.

SITE: Leith Wynd, Ramsay land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a shade (shed).

NOTES: The complaint is against Richard Kyles, merchant who has erected a shade behind the petitioner's property which obstructs the light in his window. In his replies, Richard Kyles describes his house as a laigh house and shop in the 'new land', adjoining the petitioner. He notes that Maurice Crawford, coppersmith lives immediately behind his house.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 21 July 1778.

PETITIONER: John Gow, wright.

SITE: Castlehill.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased from John Williamson of Claythorn, a small garden behind the tenement on the north side of Castlehill belonging to Patrick Hutchison, coppersmith in Edinburgh and Mary Clerk, his spouse. He also has right to another piece of ground beside the garden, by contract with the said John Williamson and Robert Wemyss, silk dyer and Alexander Borthwick, merchant

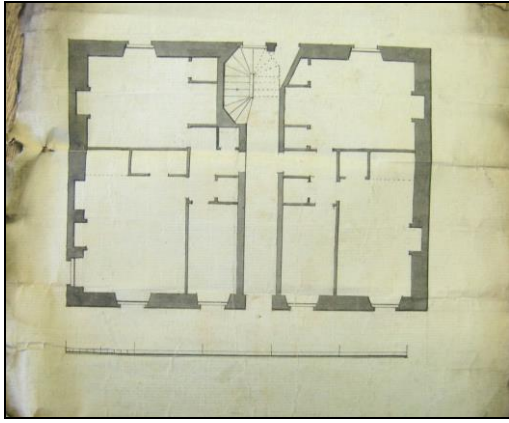
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement

Size: 27.5 x 23.8 cms.





Description: b. Plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 19.2 x 23.1 cms.

---

BOX: 1778/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 27 August 1778.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, foot, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the pavement. The Court ordered that the pavement and gutter stones should be re-laid from the corner of the large building on the north side of the Grassmarket, up to the West Bow so far as the present pavement goes.

NOTES: Lists some of the proprietors.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 September 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1778.

PETITIONER: William Simpson, cashier in the Royal Bank of Scotland.

SITE: Close leading to Royal Bank of Scotland.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber water spout throwing water into the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 September 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1778.

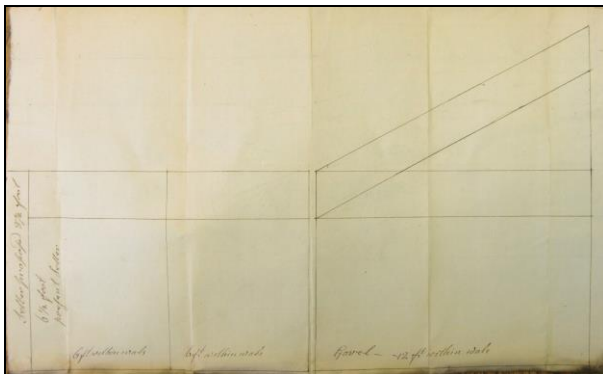
PETITIONER: John Turnbull of Abbey St. Bathans.

SITE: Cowgate head, McClellan's land.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild cellars.

NOTES: There are replies from Mrs. Murray of Cringletie, neighbouring heritor.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and section of two cellars.  
Size: 20.8 x 33.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1778/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 September 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 5 August 1778.

PETITIONER: Thomas Catanach, merchant in Rotterdam and Agnes McPherson, tailor, his factor.

SITE: Turk Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a wooden paling.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Thomson, merchant in the new Exchange who is the proprietor of a cellar, a little below the area occupied by the petitioner. He has erected a paling around the area and taken it for his own use. The property had been let to the now deceased William Auld, printer. The Court ordered the removal of the paling as it enclosed a common area on 27 August 1777 but there must have been further action as they upheld their decision on 16 September 1778.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 October 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 21 October 1778.

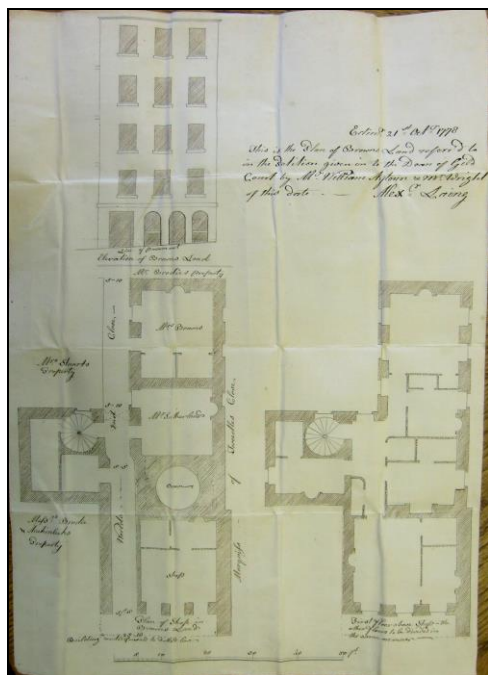
PETITIONER: William Aytoun WS, factor for Mrs. Brown of Bishopstoun and Ian Wright, baker.

SITE: Netherbow, World's End Close, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement of five floors.

NOTES: The petitioners note that they took down their old tenement on the orders of the Court and had tried on several occasions to have permission to bring forward the front of the shop to the pavement. This had been rejected and this application is to build on the old foundations. See previous warrants granted 11 February 1778 (Procurator Fiscal), 14 June 1778 (Aytoun) and an unextracted process (bottom of the page here) dated 10 December 1778 (Procurator Fiscal). This tenement today has four bays of windows on the upper floors but is set back from the line of the street on the west, as shown on the plan.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the entire tenement and plans of the ground and first floors.

Size: 46.1 x 32.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. 21 Oct 1778. This is the plan of Browns land referred to in the petition given in to the Dean of Guild Court by Mr. William Aytoun & Mr. Wright, of this date - Alexr. Laing.

Watermark: J Whatman

Architect: (Alexander Laing?)

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BOX: 1778/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 October 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 9 September 1778.

PETITIONER: William Inglis, surgeon and the other heritors.

SITE: Parliament Close, south side, Post Office Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Repair of stairs and arches under landings.

NOTES: A jury (John Wilson, James Salisbury, Alexander Reid and Alexander Laing, masons) was appointed and they reported on 19 September. The Court appointed Robert Hunter, architect to execute the work under the inspection of John Wilson, mason in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 14 October 1778.

PETITIONER: James Buchanan, writer, factor appointed by the Lords of Session in the sequestrated subjects of James Alecorn, watchmaker.

SITE: Marlins Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To reharl a tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 December 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1778.

PETITIONER: David Miln, merchant, William Chalmers, surgeon, John Dundas, WS, and Mrs. Chalmers, relict of John Chalmers, WS, with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Campbell's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Jamieson, bookseller in Edinburgh for placing a large quantity of hay in the first floor.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1778.

PETITIONER: Heritors of Campbell's Close.

SITE: Cowgate, Campbell's Close.

PROPOSAL: Repair of the pavement.

NOTES: The proprietors of the greatest part of the subjects in the Close are: Mr. William Tytler, Alexander Campbell and the now deceased, James Rattray, brewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1778.

PETITIONER: Alexander Thomson and others.

SITE: Niddry Wynd, head, between it and Merlines Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an open drain.

NOTES: The open drain was cut across the pavement outside their properties by Robert Steele, confectioner. In his replies he refers to an earlier complaint by the petitioners on 31 August 1778. It had been agreed with the proprietors of the tenement that he would create a spout and drain for rainwater but he has opened the pavement and left it this way. He refers to having employed 'the Town's mason' (William Jamieson?) and accepts that the drain may be too wide and too deep.

DRAWINGS: None.

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**Unextracted processes (ECA: SL91/10)**

BOX: 1778/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1778.

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1778.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen: John Sinclair, seedsman; John Spottiswood & Son; Reid & Elder in Company, merchants; William Hutchison, druggist; James Mcleish, bookseller; James Clark, merchant; James Maltsman, druggist; Mills(?) Thomas, merchant; man & Lauriston, merchants; George Ranken, porter; William Raeburn, perfumer; William Coulter, hosier; John Watson, merchant; Robert Clark, bookseller and John Leighton, merchant. The warrant states that John Alston, John Dowie, James Maltman, John Spottiswood, James Mcleish, Reid & Elder and James Clark are willing to enter as Burgess but the others did not appear and were fined 10s Stg.

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BOX: 1778/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1778 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 January 1778.

PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, foot of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL:

NOTES: As a result of disputes between the petitioner and William Watson, smith over their properties, they agreed to submit to arbitration on 9 and 10 December 1777. The matter was referred to Alexander hay, Alexander Ponton and John Young, wrights and Thomas McInnes, mason in Canongate. The argument centred on rebuilding their contiguous tenements with a mutual gable and a new turnpike stair. A decret arbitral was produced on 8 January 1778 but this does not appear to have settled the matter. The Court stopped work on the 3 February and appointed a visit on the 11th. There are further replies here from both parties dated 16 and 21 February 1778.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1778 (no warrant, parties did not appear).

PETITION LODGED: 10 November 1777.

PETITIONER: Maurice Crawford & Co., coppersmiths in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close, west side, bottom.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about throwing out foul water.

NOTES: The complaint is against the tenants of a newly built tenement fronting Leith Wynd, particularly those in the flat belonging to James Mckell, fish hook maker, who are throwing their foul water onto the roof of the petitioner's laigh house. There are answers here from John Mitchell, merchant who states that he does not throw out his foul water and nor does his servant. Also from James Murray, proprietor of the 3rd floor and landlord to John Mitchell. Also from William Wight, occupier of the first floor who states that his windows are level with the roof in question and that the petitioner's broke some of his windows, for which he took them before the Magistrates of Canongate and they paid for the repair. This is disputed by the petitioners.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1778 (no warrant, plans requested).

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1778.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rebuilding without a warrant.

NOTES: Alexander Gow, mason, James Cumming, Lady Wood, relict of Sir James Wood, Allan McConochie, advocate as doer for Miss Allan, William Walker, writer as doer for Mr. Plenderleith, John Thomson, writer and James Ballantine, writer as doer for Maitland Ballentine were summoned as heritors. See warrants of 11 February 1778

(Procurator Fiscal) and 22 October 1778 (Aytoun) for the drawings. Also unextracted petition, below of 10 December 1778 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1778 (no warrant, the defender allowed to reply)

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1778.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Purdie (Jean Wilson), relict of the deceased William Purdie, smith.

SITE: Cowgate, Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of rental.

NOTES: As a result of actions in the Court by Robert Bruce, slater, the petitioner has lost £10 Stg, in rent and has legal expences, the total being £19 10s 2d and she seeks redress. No response here from the defender.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1778/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1778 (No warrant, date of replies)

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1778.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Netherbow, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work on the lintel of a shop.

NOTES: The petition refers to previous verbal petitions and warnings issued by the Court on 21 November 1778 about the level of the lintel into the bake house being too low. The lintel is the entry to a shop owned by Alexander Sutherland of Woodend and John Wright, baker, his tenant. They complained about the work undertaken by Alexander Laing, mason, his servant, journeyman mason, William Neal. The work was stopped by warrant on 23 November but the work continued. In detailed replies for Alexander Laing, dated 8 December he apologises for continuing the work but claims that his servant did not tell him of the Court's decision. Mr. Giles, wright is factor for Mr. Sutherland.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1778/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 December 1778 (No warrant, date of verdict and order to support with timber).

PETITION LODGED: 12 December 1778.

PETITIONER: Francis Strachan, WS and others with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Warriston's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Alexander Laing, mason having 'a few days ago taken down part of the stone front' of two old tenements belonging to the Rev. Peter Robison, minister of Eddleston and Mrs. Ann Cheisly, it is now in danger of collapse. A jury is appointed who recommend the demolition of the turnpike front and inner stone walls of the south-most tenement. In replies for 'Rev. Mr. Patrick Robertson' he states that he has given in a petition to rebuild on the old foundations and have the expence declared a debt on the subject 'which land has stood for double the years of prescription if not four times'.

DRAWINGS: None.

1779

The Court Officers from 15 October 1778:

**Dean of Guild**

John Grieve

**Council**

Charles Innes, Old Dean of Guild

John Forrest, merchant

David McPherson, merchant

John Bonnar, painter

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, Robert Gray

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1779/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 10 December 1778.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Janet Wilson with Susan and Elizabeth Wilson, manuta makers; Walter Ferguson, writer, factor for Mrs. Dowsie of Salisbury and John Smith.

SITE: High Street, Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts for repair.

NOTES: The three ladies own two thirds of the uppermost story, Mrs. Dowsie the other third and John Smith acts as factor for the garrets above. Refers to a previous warrant (granted 6 May 1778) to carry out the repairs, the ladies having acquired the property from the heirs of William Dalrymple. There are two accounts here from Hugh Gibb, wright for work between April and July 1778; Patrick Tayler, smith, Alexander Laing, mason for a hearth stone; Robert Ford, iron monger; Robert Grieve, glazier and John More, painter. The latter charged for 'painting the dining room fine blue 2 coats primed in oil, finished in varnish, 72 yds at 6d, £1 16s'; painting the laigh passage stone colour in size 16yds at 2d, 2s 8d. Also for windows, inside and out but no colour specified.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 9 December 1776.

PETITIONER: Sir James Dunbar of Mochrum Bt.

SITE: New Street.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of building two houses and declare it a debt on the properties.

NOTES: Refers to previous warrant (copy enclosed) to build two houses dated 24 April 1765. The land 'being part of that garden which formerly belonged to Mistress Margaret Clark', was purchased from Dr. Thomas Young. There is a full set of accounts here for the building and decorating both houses, the second occupied by Lord Cranstoun. Total cost of building £2644 18s 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d Stg, including interest from 31 January 1766 when the work was complete. The houses were built by David Henderson, 'Architect' who also charged for the internal plastering and timber lining. Accounts here from John Richardson, smith; William Kendall, slater; John Humble, plumber; Robert Selby, plumber (lead for roof); Alexander Nicholson, plumber; James Wylie marble cutter; John Veitch, marble cutter; Peter Robertson, iron founder in Leith; Thomas Ainslie, smith in Calton; Duncan Cameron and William Walker, cason (pavement) layers; James Caddell, upholsterer (receipted by Isabel Caddell); John Murray, smith; Robert Mailler, mason (brick work); William Hamilton, wright and upholsterer; John Thomson, ornamental carver; William Reoch, stuccoist; William Richardson, stucco firing; J. Coney, Mr. Oswald and Mr. Watson, plasterers; John Bonnar of Bonnar & More, painters; Archibald Wilson, painter and Elizabeth Miller, painter. There is also an account for a proportion of the paving 'of making the street from Mr. Butter's house to the north of Mr. Stelles dwelling house' half payable by Dr. Young and the remainder divided into three shares between Sir James (Cobran

Cochran?), Sir James Dunbar and Mr. Campbell, being 80 lineal ft. in front of Sir James Dunbar's property. Mr. Campbell is notes as 'opposite' Sir James's property but this can occasionally mean beside.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1779.

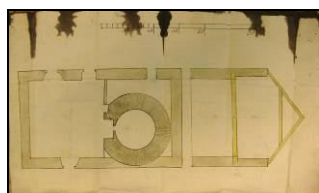
PETITIONER: Patrick MacVicar, writer.

SITE: Grassmarket, east corner, back of Warden's, stabler.

PROPOSAL: To build a bakehouse and 'pye oven'.

NOTES: The previous building was accidentally burnt down, 'some years ago'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and section.

Size: 30.5 x 18.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1779/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 March 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1779.

PETITIONER: Alexander Tait and Archibald Campbell, Principal Clerks of Session.

SITE: Warriston's Close, head, first story.

PROPOSAL: Alterations.

NOTES: The petitioners use two apartments for their office (Dalrymple's office according to the warrant of 5 April 1779) and they wish to remove the wall between them, including the vents in the wall. The vents had become unstable and jury was appointed who agreed and ordered demolition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 11 March 1779.

PETITIONER: George Chalmers, merchant.

SITE: Exchange, east front.

PROPOSAL: To convert two shops into one.

NOTES: The petitioner wants to remove a wall between his shops, currently occupied by James Carfrae and Robert Johnston, merchants.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1779.

PETITIONER: Patrick Robertson, minister of the Gospel.

SITE: Warriston's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner notes that he and Miss Chesley have taken down the front of their tenement. The court requested a plan of the building to be given in on 28 January. There are accounts here from Arthur Giles, wright, Alexander Laing, mason and James Russell, upholsterer for wallpaper. He supplied 6 pieces stone ground paper at 3s; 5 dozen yards borders at 1s; 6¼ pieces white ground paper at 2s 6d; 5½ dozen yds borders at 1s and putting up 12 ¼ pieces of paper at 8d. Total £2 12 s 3½d.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but none here.

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BOX: 1779/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1779.

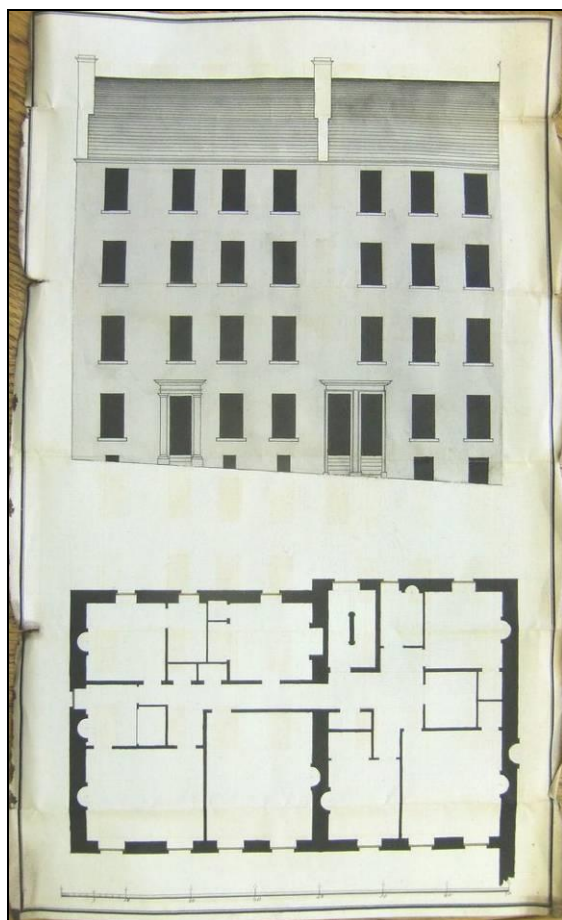
PETITIONER: Robert Burn, mason and James Brown, wright in Bristo.

SITE: Merchant Street.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements.

NOTES: The petitioners state that they purchased the property from the Merchant Company, next to the lot purchased by Patrick Taylor, smith. See warrant of 8 April (Taylor) and an unextracted process dated 5 August 1779 (Crombie); the drawing here may show Taylor's tenement. The tenement on the right here with the pair of entrances may have been demolished to make way for George IV Bridge, before 1829. The tenement on the left is still standing.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of two, five story tenements.

Size: 36.7 x 22.2 cms.

Architect: Robert Burn.

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BOX: 1779/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 4 March 1779.

PETITIONER: Patrick Taylor, smith.

SITE: Merchant Street.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to warrant granted on 1 April to Robert Burn.

NOTES: This petition follows from that of 1 April (Burn) and 8 April 1779 (Taylor). See also an unextracted process dated 5 August 1779 (Crombie)

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1779.



PETITIONER: John Coldstream, writer for the proprietors.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Erving's land, east side, a timber tenement.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a mutual gable.

NOTES: There is a previous petition here by George McQueen, merchant where he stated that he had lately taken possession, for use as the Cess office, a house previously used as the Sheriff Clerk's office, belonging to Mr. Belshes of Invermay. During repairs to this tenement by John Miln senior, he found the mutual gable insufficient and asked to rebuild it. The heritors of the (adjoining?) tenement asked John Wilson, mason and Thomas Heriot, wright to report and this is also here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1778.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright.

SITE: Behind the Theatre.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about slapping an internal door.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Leggat, vintner, to whom the petitioner sold the ground floor shop in his large tenement. Leggat opened a new doorway in a brick wall between two rooms in his shop and the petitioner claimed that this endangered the entire tenement. The Court agreed and on 19 August they ordered the door to be built up within 24 hours. The petitioner complained again on 25 August that this had not been done and the Court granted a warrant on 26 August for John Wilson, mason to build up the door and fined Leggat £100 Scots. Leggat went to the Court of Session where it is clear that he had some long standing quarrel with the petitioner. Lord Braxfield refused the petition and remitted the matter back to the Dean of Guild suggesting that proofs should be taken. Alexander Hay, wright aged 50, married and Alexander Reid, mason aged 26, married, both deponed that the new doorway, having a proper lintel in no way endangered the building. The Dean of Guild finally agreed that the work was not dangerous but that the defender had acted illegally in striking out the door and was thus not entitled to expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 31 March 1779.

PETITIONER: John Stewart, and other proprietors.

SITE: Warriston's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild the west gable.

NOTES: This petition follows from that of 10 March 1779 (Tait and Campbell) where the jury there found the gable of this tenement to be unsafe. Tait and Campbell had employed Robert Hunter, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1779.

PETITIONER: Patrick Taylor, smith.

SITE: Merchant Street, behind Brown's Square.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the land from the Merchant Company. He proposes to have entries from Hume's Close and Candlemaker Row. A note on the front to the petition states that the plans were borrowed on 20 April. See warrant of 1 April 1779 (Burn); the drawing there may relate to this tenement. This tenement appears to have been at the centre of an action by the Procurator Fiscal on 12 October 1779 in the Baillie Court against the petitioner and Thomas Wallace, mason in Leith. He acted 'in absence of the Dean of Guild' to summon a jury and they declared that the east gable of the new

tenement was insufficiently built and was dangerous. It was ordered to be demolished.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1779/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 17 March 1779.

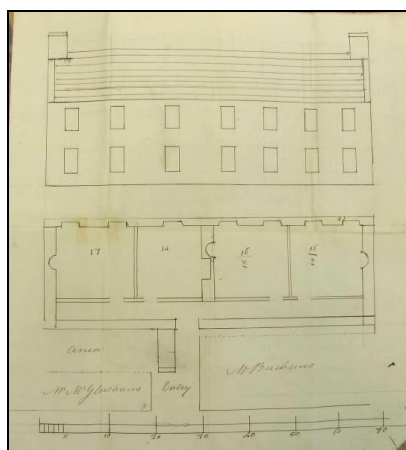
PETITIONER: William Robertson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Bernard's Street.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements.

NOTES: The petitioner owns two areas of land in the street.

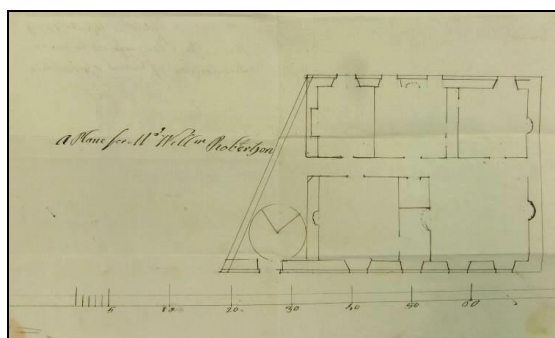
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of two story tenement.

Size: 31.6 x 28.5 cms.

Watermark: countermark, W Wilmott



Description: b. Plan.

Size: 19.5 x 30.0 cms.

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BOX: 1779/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1779.

PETITIONER: Jean Erskine, widow of Daniel Stewart, Supervisor of Excise.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work in the Close.

NOTES: The complaint is against Francis Brodie, wright who is building a tenement to the east of the petitioner's property (the Close) and is building cellars beneath it. The petitioner lays claim to the Close and cites her legal title, a disposition granted by Sir James Stonefield of Newmillns and Dame Alison Syme, his spouse dated 15 and 18 March 1678, registered in the Burgh Court book of Edinburgh, 5 April 1678. In spirited replies, Francis Brodie notes that he has no interest in the Close and is content if the petitioner erects a door there. 'Mrs Stewart's house as appears by her rights was formerly a stable and afterwards (to my personal knowledge) was used as a work house by the late Deacon Robert Moubray, wright, and, is now converted into a very superficial house'. He also admits that he is constructing cellars below the Close but

that it will be supported on stone arches. The Court ordered the work to stop on 12 April and lifted the stop on the 22nd. See warrant of 22 April 1779 below.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1779.

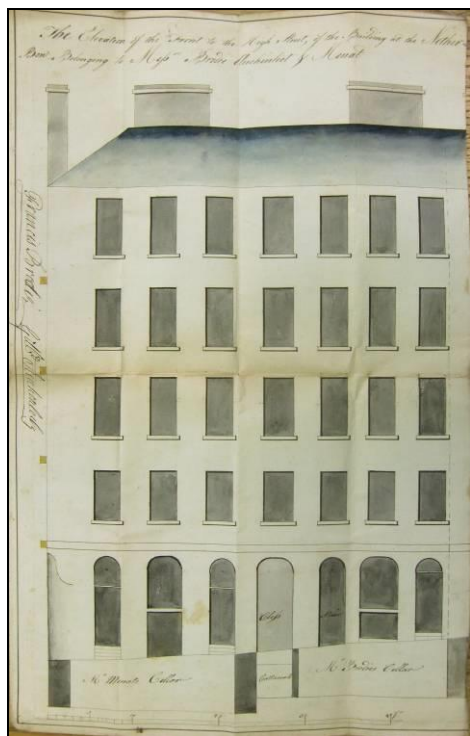
PETITIONER: Francis Brodie, wright and Gilbert Auchinleck, cutler there.

SITE: High Street, north side, Netherbow, corner with St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To complete the building of a tenement.

NOTES: Work has already begun on the shop floor and cellar by John Mowat, merchant in Edinburgh. This petition is for the upper floors. On the plan below there is a lodge marked on the opposite side of the High Street, 48ft from the tenement. St. Mary's Wynd is 22ft 7in wide narrowing to 20 ½ft. See warrants of 23 July 1776 (Brodie and Auchinleck), 22 April 1779 (Erskine) and 16 August 1781 (Brodie). The drawings here are ascribed to Francis Brodie as architect, on the basis of the signed drawing with a warrant of 4 March 1772 (Brodie).

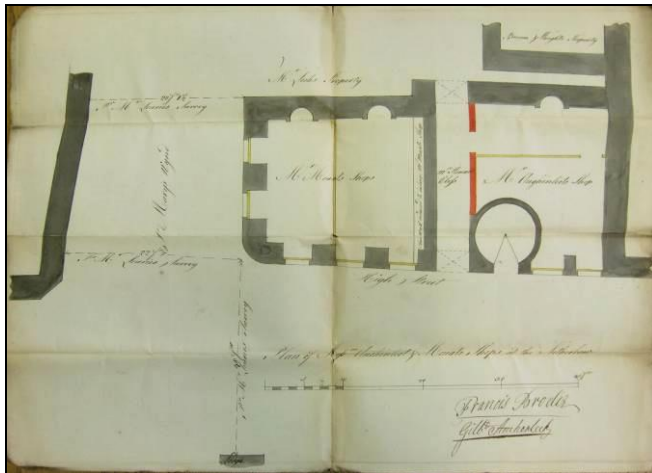
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement with cellars below.

Size: 47.0 x 30.0 cms.

Architect: (Francis Brodie).



Description: b. Plan of the tenement and the area.

Size: 33.5 x 46.5 cms.

Architect: (Francis Brodie).

BOX: 1779/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1779.

PETITIONER: John Milne, founder and Patrick Bowie, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, head of Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a stone front to their shops.

NOTES: The petitioners own two laigh and two high shops in a timber tenement. The stone front will bring the fronts forward and come up as high as the timber projection.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1779/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1779.

PETITIONER: James Johnstone, cooper in Canongate.

SITE: Adjoining the Canongate Tolbooth on the west.

PROPOSAL: To build a house on waste ground behind his shop.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

BOX: 1779/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 May 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1779.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, writer.

SITE: Canongate, foot of Morocco's Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild the roof with a wall raised to the height of the present stormont windows. To build another two story house fronting the Close, in place of a tofall wing and stables.

NOTES: His property is bounded on the south by Hugh Kinloch, merchant in Canongate, on the east by a tenement formerly belonging to the banking company of Douglas Herron & Co. now to George Home WS, and on the west by the said Close.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned on the front of the petition as borrowed, 8 May 1779.

BOX: 1779/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 May 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 4 March 1779.

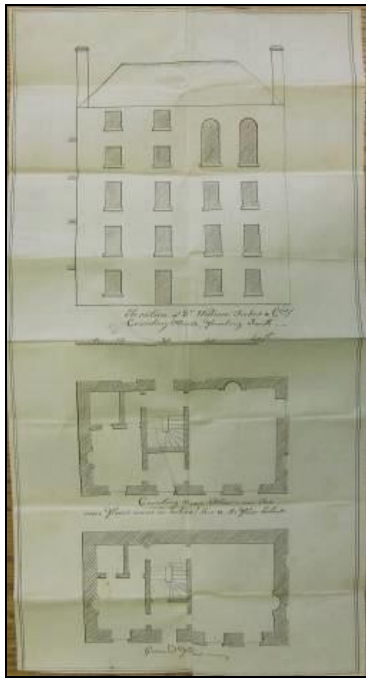
PETITIONER: Sir William Forbes, James Hunter Blair and Company, bankers.

SITE: Back of Parliament House.

PROPOSAL: To build a counting house.

NOTES: See warrant granted 6 May 1784 (Forbes).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement and plans of two floors.

Size: 49.7 x 26.0 cms.

Architect (Alexander Laing?)

BOX: 1779/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 May 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1779.

PETITIONER: William Murray, baker.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: The petitioner leased the property from Robert Gray, writer in Edinburgh who acts as factor for Dr. Alexander Hunter, physician in York. He proposes to build his oven on the garden behind the property. The drawing is in the same hand as the sheet with a warrant granted on 18 February 1779 (MacVicar).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the shop (? which may be on a corner) and oven.

Size: 20 x 32.5 cms.

BOX: 1779/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 June 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 27 May 1779

PETITIONER: John Reid, mason in the New Town and Richard Thomson, mason in Bristo.

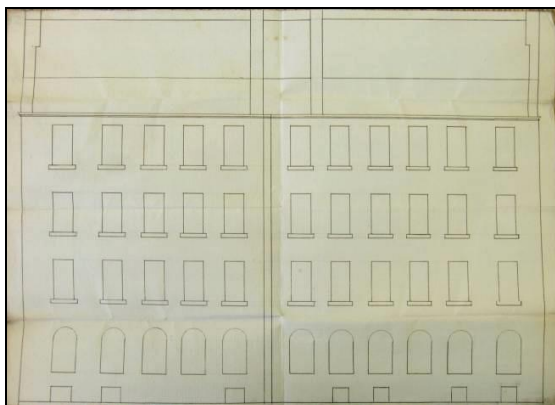
SITE: St. Ninian's Row.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements of 5 floors.

NOTES: The area is described as 80ft in length and 40 ft in breadth, part of 37 fall of garden ground of James Cargill, merchant in Edinburgh, his property holding of Pauls Work lying on the south side of the road from the new Bridge to Leith in the St Ninian's Row. As indicated by the border on the plan at b. below, the sheet appears to have been cut down. It is also not clear how the elevation relates to the plan although

both are annotated as related to this petition. This building probably removed for Regent Bridge and Waterloo Place.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of two tenements.

Size: 24.2 x 34.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, W



Description: b. Plan (of five tenements?).

Size: 24.7 x 43.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: John Reid's plan.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1779/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 June 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1779.

PETITIONER: George Grindlay, merchant.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of rebuilding a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner was one of those who had a warrant of 27 August 1777 to demolish and rebuild the tenement. This is his share of the expences. Accounts and measures here from Alexander Laing, mason for work carried out between 27 September and 11 December 1777; Robert Tarbet, smith; John Russell, wright. John Hastie, painter was paid 5s but his account is not here. Total £63 11s 9d stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1779.

PETITIONER: William Young, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Dunbar's Close and Cellars Close.

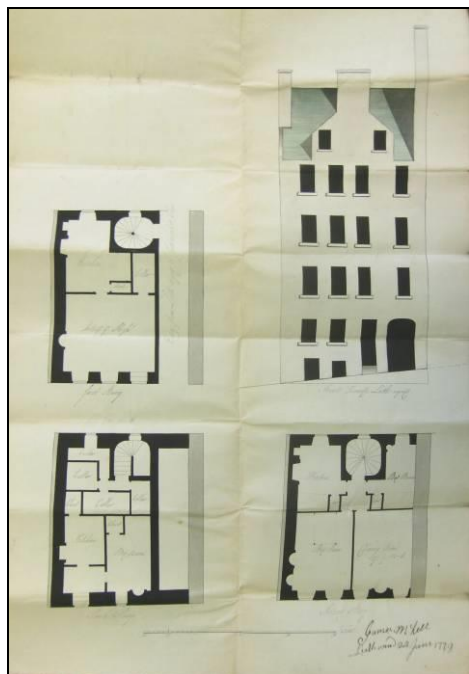
PROPOSAL: To construct a wooden spout and gutter.

NOTES: The petition includes an account from William Scott, plumber.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/24  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1779.  
PETITIONER: James McKell, fish hook maker.  
SITE: Leith Wynd, east side.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a six story tenement and plans of three floors.  
Size: 54.5 x 37.9 cms.  
Watermark: J Whatman.

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BOX: 1779/25  
WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1779.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Cowgate, Magdalene Chapel.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work on an arch supporting the tower.  
NOTES: The complaint is against John Thomson, carver and gilder in Edinburgh who employed James Williamson, journeyman mason in Hyndeford's Close to carry out the work. He was fined £5 stg. plus £1 5s stg. expences.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/26  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 July 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1779.  
PETITIONER: Janet Thomson and others.  
SITE: Canongate head, south side of the high street.  
PROPOSAL: To repair chimney heads.  
NOTES: Includes an agreement between the heritors and Hugh Johnstone, mason to complete the work and to cope the vents with a brotched stone cope.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/27  
WARRANT GRANTED: 29 July 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1779.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous gable belonging to John Miln, founder, the heirs of James Beveridge, merchant and Alexander Grant, writer.

NOTES: Includes a Report from the jury appointed to inspect. They agree that the building is stable but they condemn the pillar on the corner with the street on the east and part of the lower gable. The work is to be carried out at the sight of William Jamieson, mason.

DRAWINGS: No drawings submitted but there is a sketch of the gable on the verso of the Report.



Description: a. Pencil sketch of the gable.

Size: 31.0 x 18.8 cms.

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BOX: 1779/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 28 July 1779.

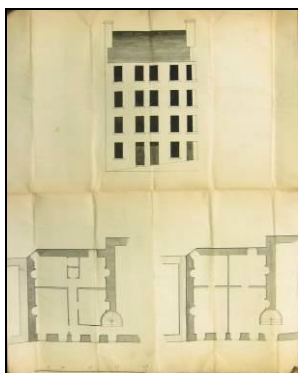
PETITIONER: William Wright, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Leith Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the property from David Kinninmon, weaver in Kinglasy.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of a 4 story tenement and plans of ground and first floors.

Size: 45.0 x 35.8 cms.

Watermark: C. Taylor, countermark.

---

BOX: 1779/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 12 July 1779.

PETITIONER: Walter Porteous, mason in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Young (New) Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building in the back area.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Cumming, painter who has begun to build on a shared back area. Cumming points out that he purchased one and a half stories in a tenement from his brother in 1772 with the remaining parts, up to three fifths of the whole, in 1773 and 1777. He claimed that this gave him the right to build on the larger part of the back area. The Court stopped the work on 15 July and dismissed the claim and then removed the stop on 22nd.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/30  
WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1779.  
PETITIONER: William Lamb, upholsterer.  
SITE: Morrison's Close, foot.  
PROPOSAL: To build additional buildings.  
NOTES: The neighbouring heritors did not appear so a warrant was granted.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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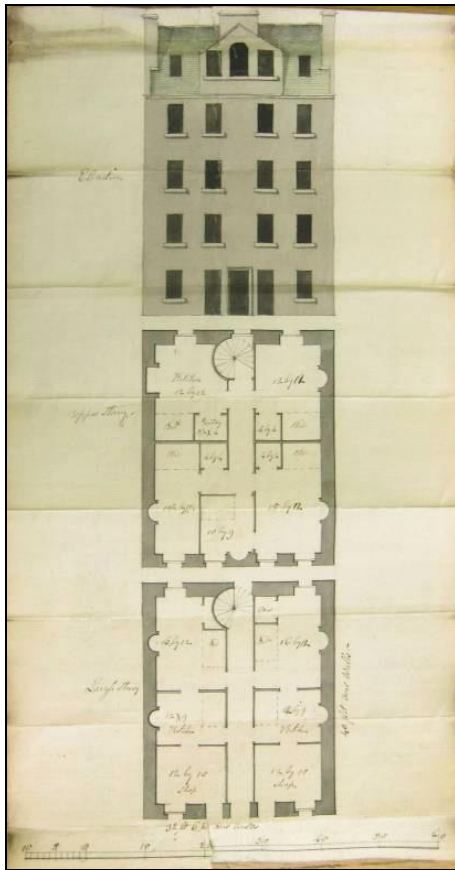
BOX: 1779/31  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1779.  
PETITIONER: William Polson, merchant.  
SITE: Potterrow, east side, the northmost fore tenement.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.  
NOTES: The property had been offered for public roup and sale on 8 January 1761 by Thomas Cockburn, WS. It had previously belonged to George Lamb, wright in Potterrow. The petitioner purchased the ground floor and the upper floor and garrets. Adam Keir, baxter purchased the second floor and James Lamb, wright, the third. The Court requested George Syme, slater to give in an estimate and this is here.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/32  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 August 1779.  
PETITIONER: James Stewart, druggist.  
SITE: High Street, north side, against the salt Tron.  
PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.  
NOTES: See warrant of 30 May 1782 (Stewart) for cognition of expences. Included here is an estimate from William Jamieson for mason work and a measure by James Tate.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/33  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1779.  
PETITIONER: William Archibald, slater.  
SITE: Leith, Dubrow.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.  
NOTES: The feu purchased from the Incorporation of Cordiners of Edinburgh by contract dated 15 May 1779.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement with plans of the ground and an upper floor.  
Size: 38.4 x 20.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1779/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1779.

PETITIONER: John Russell, wright in Portsburgh.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of rebuilding a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant dated 27 August 1777 for rebuilding the front wall and gable. There are accounts and measures here from John Russell, wright, Robert Bruce, slater and Alexander Laing, mason. His account includes 'strong Craigleith pavement' in front of the new land.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1779.

PETITIONER: David Lindsay, writer for the heirs of John Paton, sometime bookseller and John Mosiman, merchant, late Treasurer to the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: Castlehill, south side, Old Cochrane's or Roughsoles Close. The first Close above the Weigh house. Described as Lindsay's Close in one estimate.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: The property had been purchased at Whitsunday 1719 by John Paton from the petitioner's father. At some point the roof became stripped of slates. There are estimates here from William Jamieson, mason, Mrs. Syme, slater, William Crawford, locksmith, James Tate junior, wright and John Spence, painter. James Tait's estimate for the new windows includes a comment about the type of glass to be used: Common glass, £10 17s, crown glass, £18(?) 14s... 'as there is old glass for lead windows if any of the windows are done with lead will make addition' £2.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 September 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 8 September 1779.

PETITIONER: Ann Cheisley and Henry Duncan, merchant.

SITE: Warriston Close.

PROPOSAL: Repair and rebuilding of roof.

NOTES: Refers to previous warrant of 1 April 1779 (Robertson) to carry out work. Ann Cheisley states that she is a poor old woman and cannot afford to complete the repairs demanded by the Court, so she entered into a bargain with Henry Duncan that he would lay the joists immediately above the story built by her, add a further story and put on a roof. He agreed to the upkeep of the roof and she agreed to sell the upper floors to him.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 September 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 14 July 1779.

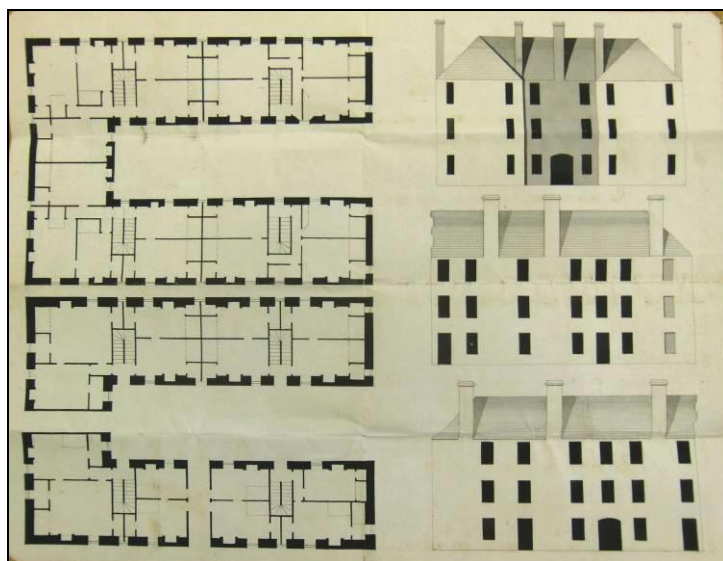
PETITIONER: James Dun, stabler in Princes Street.

SITE: South side of the Nor Loch.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three stories.

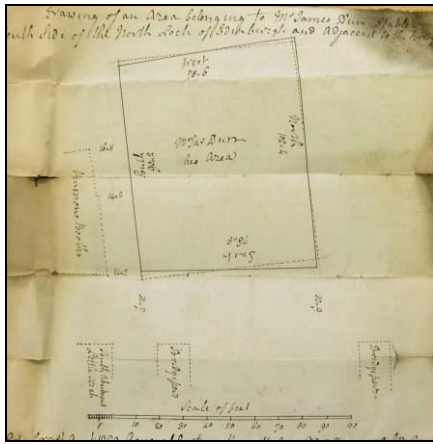
NOTES: This is a long process with papers from earlier disputes. It begins with a complaint from the Procurator Fiscal dated 21 June 1774 against a group of proprietors: Janet Thomson, Walter Hog one of the clerks in the British Linen office, James Williamson, flesher, Peter Newbigging, hatter, Andrew Bell, engraver, James Penman, late physician at Gibraltar, William and Thomas Tod, tanners, Miss Margaret Hope, daughter of the deceased (blank) Hope, surgeon, Dr. John Hope, physician and Allan Ramsay of Kinkell, residenter in Edinburgh. His complaint is that they have been encroaching on land beside the Nor Loch 'taking possession of parts thereof, labouring the same, turning it into garden ground and filling up parts thereof with earth, rubbish, bark and other garbage and inclosing parts thereof with stone dikes and timber palings and making roads through the same...' Some of these defend their positions, Andrew Bell pointing out that his title includes an area behind his house 'to the centre of the Nor Loch'. James Dun first applied to build stables and a coach house on 17 September 1776. The petitioner had purchased his area of land on the west side of the new bridge (North Bridge) being that (fold?) or avenue lately belonging to the heirs of Thomas Williamson, flesher in Edinburgh. He had begun work and on 5 October 1776 his mason, James McFerson (McPherson) was ordered to stop.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevations and plans of two floors.

Size: 25.6 x 33.8 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 38.3 x 24.0 cms.

Draughtsman: Alexander Ponton, ordained measurer.

---

BOX: 1779/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 October 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 8 September 1779.

PETITIONER: William Aytoun WS, Factor for Mrs. Brown of Bishopton and John Wright, baker.

SITE: Tweeddale's Close, Netherbow, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an outshot from a tenement, across the Close.

NOTES: Lady Wood and others respond and Mrs. Cumming is ordered to take down the outshot within twenty four hours or John Wright, wright is to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 October 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 5 January 1779.

PETITIONER: William Gordon, bookseller.

SITE: Henderson's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognose accounts for repair of roof.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted on 12 August 1778 to repair the roof of the staircase. There are accounts here from Arthur Giles, wright, Robert Bruce, slater and Robert Dewar, glazier. Includes a list of proprietors, tenants and a copy of the warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1779.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith, who is building a tenement in a 'superficial manner'.

NOTES: The Court ordered the work to be stopped and Steell answered on 29 October to the effect that there was nothing wrong with the building and asking for an inspection by recognised tradesmen. This was followed by a further petition on 2 November 1779 from James Craig, architect, Alexander Greig, flesher, William Pirnie, mason, John Wilson, mason, William Butter, wright and George Ranken, merchant, pointing out that they purchased lots on the west side of the new Bridge on which they are building 'houses of great value'. Steell purchased 'the southmost lot excepting one' which he disposed to William Hunter, farmer at Gilmerton. He is building a tenement in a superficial manner. Steell was allowed to answer on 3 November but there is no further action on this petition. See warrants granted on 27 April, 12 May and 18 August 1780 (Procurator Fiscal)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 October 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1778.

PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater.

SITE: Cowgate, Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences of building tenements.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to warrants granted on 9 April and 13 August 1777 to build several tenements on the east side of the foot of the close. There are accounts here for slater work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 21 October 1779.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, Hume's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the quality of building in a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Patrick Taylor, smith and Thomas Wallace, mason. They were ordered to take down the entire east gable and did not do so. The court allowed the petitioner to arrange the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 1 October 1779.

PETITIONER: John Cree, stabler in Pleasance.

SITE: Canongate, Gibb's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Peter Wilkie, coach maker for encroachment.

NOTES: The petitioner has a lease from Mr. Wilkie who leases other contiguous property from Mrs. Gibbs, indweller. Mr Wilkie is building without a warrant. He was ordered to stop work on 1 November 1779. See warrant of 5 November 1779 (Wilkie).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1779/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 28 October 1779.

PETITIONER: Dr. Joshua Mckenzie, physician and other heritors.

SITE: McLellan's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous chimney stack.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 November 1779.

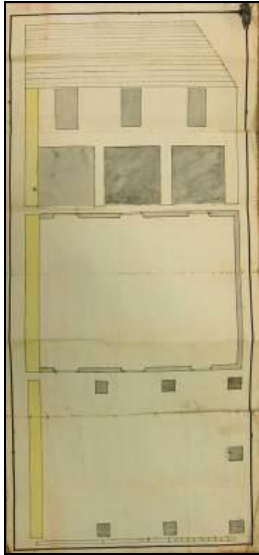
PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1779.

PETITIONER: Peter Wilkie, coach maker.

SITE: Canongate, Gibb's Close.

PROPOSAL: To add a floor to a small shade.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plans of two floors and elevation.  
Size: 36.7 x 16.9 cms.

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BOX: 1779/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 November 1779.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1779.

PETITIONER: Alexander Campbell, writer and messenger.

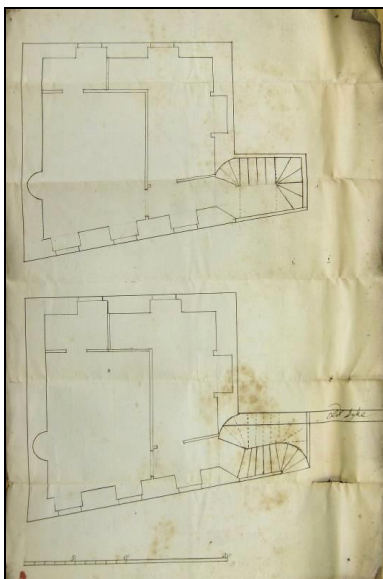
SITE: Bruntsfield Links.

PROPOSAL: To build two small rooms on a piece of ground behind.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the first flat above the ground floor of 'that great house called Foxton or Golfhall, lying in Bruntsfield Links and a small piece of ground at the back thereof having an entry from said Bruntsfield Links'. He also proposes to build a stair on a small piece of ground that is currently a midden and is a nuisance.

The warrant was granted subject to the stair being built in terms of an Act of the Town Council dated 3 November 1779. See the Town Council minutes for this date, pp. 144-48 where the Magistrates decided to charge him £3 3s for the right to use the area of land. The minutes also note that the petitioner purchased the property from the creditors of Thomas Comb, clubmaker at the Wrights houses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors.  
Size: 37.5 x 24.9 cms.

Watermark: countermark, C Taylor

---

BOX: 1779/47  
WARRANT GRANTED: 9 December 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 17 November 1779.  
PETITIONER: John Dundas, WS.  
SITE: Parliament Close, east side, north half of the uppermost story.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the roof and share the expence.  
NOTES: Enclosed is an account from James Ramsay, slater for work carried out on the roof on February and March 1780.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/48  
WARRANT GRANTED: 16 December 1779.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1779.  
PETITIONER: Dr. William Chalmers, surgeon, John Dundas, WS and others.  
SITE: Meal market, north end.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted processes (ECA: SL91/11)**

BOX: 1779/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1779 (no warrant, date of visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1779.  
PETITIONER: Proprietors of Browns land.  
SITE: Netherbow, Browns land.  
PROPOSAL: Argument about the south gable.  
NOTES: The gable is claimed by Mrs. Stewart and cannot be demolished.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1779/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 January 1779 (no warrant, date of dismissal of complaint).  
PETITION LODGED: 3 November 1778.  
PETITIONER: Hugh Johnston, mason, son of the deceased William Johnston, mason.  
SITE: Cowgate.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked sewer.  
NOTES: The petitioner refers to a deed of servitude dated 17 April 1760 by William Johnston, mason to Robert Bruce, founder in London. This allowed a sewer from the Quaker's yard down to the Cowgate. A tenement has been built over the sewer by Robert Bruce, slater, which blocks it.  
DRAWINGS: None.

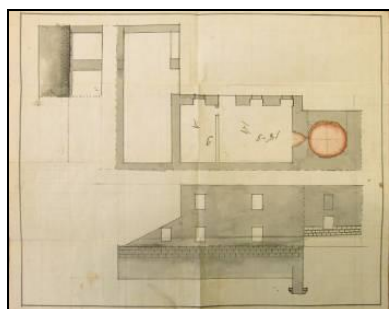
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BOX: 1779/3\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 9 March 1779.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
PROPOSAL: Prosecuting unfree tradesmen: Gavin Aulston, printer; William Couper, upholsterer; Robert Spottiswood, merchant; John Stepinson, merchant; Robert Jamieson, book seller and Allan & Lauriston, merchants.

---

BOX: 1779/4\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 29 July 1779 (no warrant, production of missives).  
PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1779.  
PETITIONER: Robert and Alexander Cleghorn, bakers in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about an irregular sale of property.  
NOTES: The petitioners state that they purchased a bake house and offices from William Bruce, residing in Leith, now in Edinburgh in 1777 for £350. Bruce tried to set

aside the sale and the petitioners went to the Court of Session who found no grounds for doing so. They were not to pay until certain encumbrances had been removed by Bruce and this has not been done. They submit plans to improve the bake house with a new oven and biscuit house, the cost of the work not to exceed £200 Stg.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevations and plan.

Size: 25.8 x 32.4 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, Taylor (& Co)

---

BOX: 1779/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 August 1779 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 28 July 1779.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crombie, dyer.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Cowans Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment and to rebuild a gable.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased tenements on each side of the Close from Thomas Mitchell, minister of the Gospel at Lamington and Alexander Cathie, portioner of the Bridge end of Musselburgh. Patrick Taylor, smith purchased an area to the south of these from the Merchant Company, where he is building a stone tenement. See warrants granted on 1 April 1779 (Taylor) (Burn) and 8 April (Taylor).

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1779/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1779 (no warrant, to see title deeds).

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1779.

PETITIONER: John Riddell, smith and farrier in Canongate, Richard Tod, merchant in Leith and Betty Gordon, relict of the deceased Lewis Gordon, upholsterer.

SITE: Canal Street.

PROPOSAL: To enclose drying greens.

NOTES: Refers to David Inverarity, wright in the New Town feuing from the Town Council a lot of ground in Canal Street, on which he built a tenement. The petitioners purchased all of this except a small part of the ground floor, occupied by James Webster, cook to General Abercromby. The other inhabitants of Canal Street have enclosed the areas in front of their tenements as drying greens but the obstinate Mr. Webster refuses to contribute his share. This was probably never carried out.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of two drying greens.

Size: 16.8 x 28.1 cms.

---



BOX: 1779/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 November 1779 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 12 November 1777.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ramsay (Jean Walker) relict of Alexander Ramsay, slater in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, south side, head of School Wynd

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Archibald Hope and the managers of the Royal Infirmary about access to a great yard.

NOTES: Refers to a disposition for this tenement by George, Viscount Tarbat to Alexander Brand, merchant dated 15 August 1690.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1780

The Court Officers from 21 October 1779:

### Dean of Guild

John Grieve

### Council

Charles Innes, Old Dean of Guild

John Forrest, merchant

Charles Wallace, merchant

Francis Brodie, wright

William Govan, jun., glazier

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

Dean of Guild Officer, George Penman

---

BOX: 1780/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 January 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1778.

PETITIONER: Robert Bruce, slater.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of rebuilding

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant in April 1777 to rebuild the tenement. Part of the ground floor belonged to the late William Purdie, smith and the petitioner carried out work on his vents or chimneys, for which he now seeks payments from Purdie's representatives. He had the work measured by a sworn measurer 'but who was no tradesman' and this was rejected. The work has now been measured by George Callender, sworn measurer and 'wright for Mr. Purdie's heirs' and he ordered Alexander Purdie, journeyman mason to attend. This Mr. Purdie objected to Mr. Callender's method of measuring and declined to give in a report. The Court ordered Alexander Ponton, sworn measurer to report. There are papers missing from this petition as indicated by the numbers 20 and 21 on the five surviving processes. Date of warrant taken from later inscription on front of petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1779.

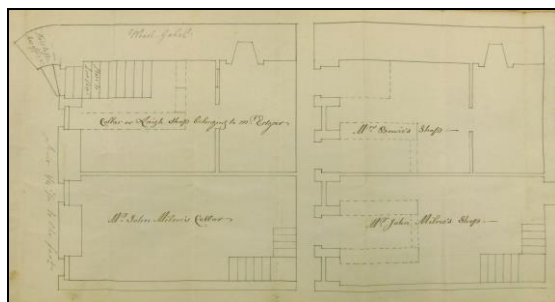
PETITIONER: Deacon John Miln, founder, for heirs of the deceased Alexander Edgar.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Morocco's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the shop front.

NOTES: The petitioners wish to bring forward the front wall of their shops to the projection of the timber land and build a stone front. They also complaint about an encroachment on Mr. Edgar's shop by Mrs Bowie, widow of Patrick Bowie, merchant in Edinburgh who died on 22 April 1778 but who did not object to their proposal.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plans of two floors.

Size: 19.0 x 36.5 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1780/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1779.

PETITIONER: Charles Walker, vintner and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Writer's Court, back.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on their light.

NOTES: The petitioners have a number of windows looking north. They refer to the warrant granted to Henry Duncan and Mrs. Ann Chiesly on 9 September 1779 to build an additional floor on a tenement in Warriston's Close. They have employed Alexander Laing, mason but are building a floor above the level granted in their warrant. The warrant is for costs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 13 November 1779.

PETITIONER: Andrew Waugh, flesher in Leith.

SITE: Leith, King Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a shade being built.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Cairns, assistant Register General of Tobacco in Scotland who is building a shade close to his tenement and obstructing his windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1780

PETITIONER: William Thomson, merchant.

SITE: Cowgate head, Scott's land.

PROPOSAL: To divide the first floor into two lodgings.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the shop floor and the one above.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1780.

PETITIONER: John Carmichael, merchant and members of the Society of Writers to the Signet.

SITE: Writer's Court, area behind.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against heritors not prepared to pay for repairs to a dyke.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 29 December 1779.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: No site given (Society?).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the raised level of the street and the lack of a parapet.

NOTES: The Court ordered that a parapet should be built in stone with an iron or timber rail to prevent people falling (into a basement area?). The street is opposite a tenement built by William McConochie, wright and possessed by John Pringle, WS. The tenants and heritors are listed. *Williamson's Directory of Edinburgh 1780-1781* (Edinburgh 1780) gives John Pringle, advocate living in Society.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1779.

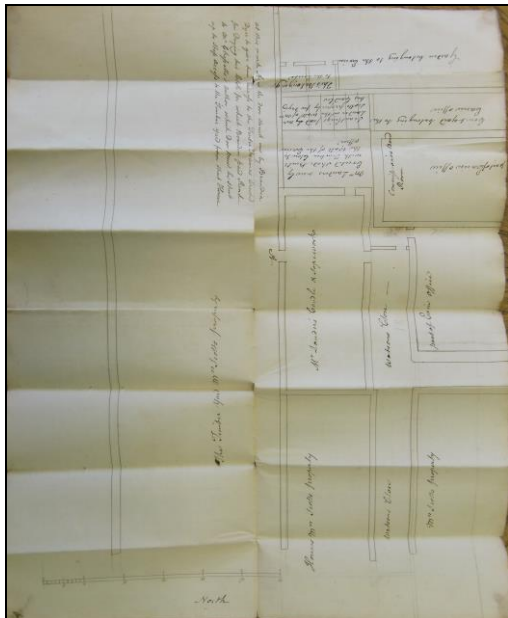
PETITIONER: Mrs. Helen Chessells, only child and disponee of the deceased Archibald Chessells, wright, residenter in Canongate head, now spouse to James Scott, merchant.

SITE: Canongate head, foot of Watson's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Andrew Lauder, candlemaker and soap boiler in Canongate.

NOTES: Thomas Rattray writer is a further petitioner as factor for the other trustees of Archibald Chessells by factory in the Burgh Court books, 12 February 1771. This petition relates to a shade erected by Andrew Lauder which encroached on the wall of Mrs. Scott's property. The process also contains a petition by Mrs. Scott, originally lodged with the Baillie Court on 18 December 1775 who produced an interlocutor on 22 January 1776 allowing the Clerk of the Court to examine witnesses and take statements. There was a difficulty in identifying the owner of Lauder's property. The petitioners quoted an Act of H M Privy Council, ratified by Parliament, James VI of 1621 relating to candlemakers having to provide themselves with houses for melting their tallow, remote from the common street and Closes of the town. One of the buildings affected was the Excise Office and there are depositions here from the members of staff.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the area around Watson's Close.

Size: 50.0 x 39.0 cms.

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BOX: 1780/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 April 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 7 March 1780.

PETITIONER: John Wilson and William Pirnie, masons.

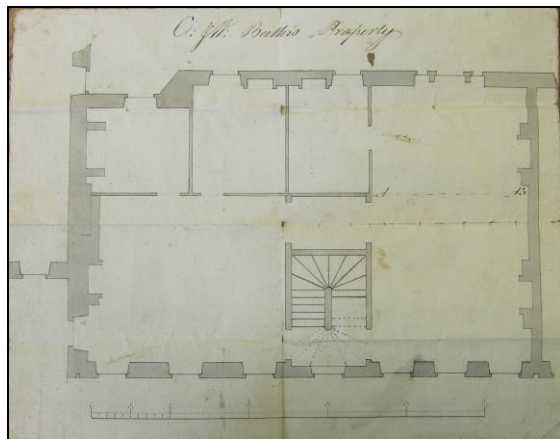
SITE: North Bridge, west side, southmost tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about William Butter, wright

NOTES: Butter owns the story above the shops, below that of the petitioners, who own the two uppermost floors. Butter is not erecting proper supports for the partitions to be erected in their property. The Court decided that the brick arches erected by Butter were not sufficient and that he had removed a timber beam that extended from gable to gable, below which he was going to erect some pilasters or columns. Ordered him to reinstate this and support with pillars or pilasters. Butter makes very robust answers where he cites a number of other projects in which he was involved. The papers include proofs regarding the timber beam by: Thomas Arnot, wright, aged 30 years and upwards, servant to William Butter (Thomas Arnot was William Butter's apprentice,

discharged on 19 May 1787. See reference below); James Russell, wright aged 20 years lately employed by Mr. Butter to work in this tenement; George Ranken, merchant aged 40 and upwards, married – noted that he heard Mr. Butter say that 'he intended to make his house a dancing school by way of a joke to which the deponent answered he would get a coppersmith and give him music with his dancers'; and David Paton, mason aged 36, married. See: Edinburgh City Archive, Minutes, Incorporation of Mary's Chapel, Vol. 1784-96 p. 114.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of floor owned by William Butter.

Size: 21.0 x 26.2 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Plans of a staircase.

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BOX: 1780/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 April 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1780.

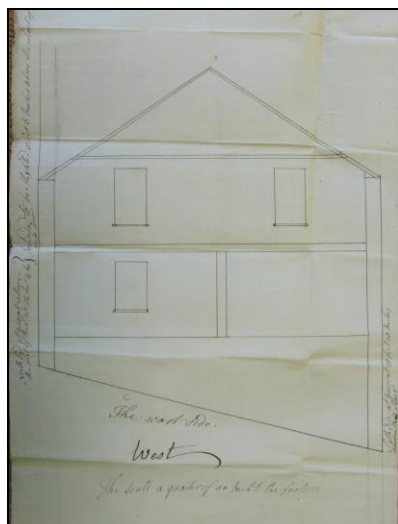
PETITIONER: John Home, coach maker.

SITE: Princes Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of a shade.

NOTES: The petitioner owns several houses and a yard with a shade. The drawings here are in a similar hand to that with the warrant of 26 August 1772 (Crombie).

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation to the west.

Size: 39.0 x 24.0 cms.

Watermarks: C Taylor



Description: b. Elevation to the east.  
Size: 27.4 x 24.5 cms.



Description: c. Elevation to the south.  
Size: 25.1 x 23.0 cms.  
Watermarks: TW

---

BOX: 1780/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 13 January 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith.

NOTES: Mr. Steell is obstructing a street with piles of stone. See further complaint, 19 August 1780 below.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 15 March 1780.

PETITIONER: John Lithgow, shoemaker, doer for John Paterson, mason, presently in the country and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Bruce, slater.

NOTES: Bruce is building on an area behind the tenement without a warrant. In answers for John Paterson and the Society of Water Bearers of Edinburgh, he states that 'within these few years (marginal note: 25 August 1778) he built a land for the respondent (Robert Bruce, slater) at the bottom of Stevenlaws Close, fronting the Cowgate. In this land the petitioner bought from the respondent the third floor above the ground as it then stood unfinished... behind the above tenement there was a back land of four stories also belonging to Mr. Bruce of which he disposed (marginal note:

12 June 1779) the third story to the petitioners, the Society of Water Bearers and their disposition is produced, having their entry at Whitsunday 1779'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 May 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1780.

PETITIONER: Samuel Watson, writer, John Monro, merchant and others.

SITE: West Meal Market Stairs (west turnpike of the large building south of the meal market).

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: Enclosed is a letter signed by all the heritors to Alexander Laing, mason asking him to undertake the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 May 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1780.

PETITIONER: Cooper & Bruce, merchants.

SITE: Bridge Street, east side of the corner.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front; a new door fronting Bridge Street.

NOTES: They hold a tack on the property from David Scott, glover in Edinburgh. 'Some time after Mr. Scott's death [the shop was] disposed by his heirs to David Sommervail, tobacconist...'

DRAWINGS: Mentioned in the warrant but not here.

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BOX: 1780/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 May 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith, resider late in Calton who is building higher than he is allowed and is not conforming to the agreed style.

NOTES: The petitioner states that by a disposition from the Magistrates of the Town Council, Steell was obliged to build the front of his tenement 'in the stile and form of the building lately erected on the opposite side of the Bridge'. The warrant stops the work but there is no decision here regarding the style or height of the building.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 10 May 1780.

PETITIONER: John Mossman, merchant.

SITE: back of the Bughths (from the corner of the Customers house to the plain stones leading to the north of the small port thro' the City wall).

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of a building for a chaise house.

NOTES: The petitioner employed William Jamieson to build a brick wall to make a proper declivity for the water... this was 'violently demolished' by John Keggie, stocking maker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1780.

PETITIONER: John Miln, senior, merchant (founder), Robert Murray, merchant in Canongate, William Monro, grocer there and others and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, north side between Fleshmarket Close and Couls Close, at the back of that large double tenement, Buchanan's land, fronting the High Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about neighbours and foul water.

NOTES: The neighbours, including Robert Clelland, silversmith have been in the habit of throwing foul water, ashes and other filth from their windows into the passage. The solution proposed 'the back windows of said land to be tirlaced (trellised) or otherwise secured at least the under part of the chess prevented from moving up and the upper half made to descend so as to admit air...'. In their defence the neighbours point out that there are regulations in place to fine servants who throw foul water from windows and that these should be applied. The argument descended into claim and counter claim.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 7 March 1780.

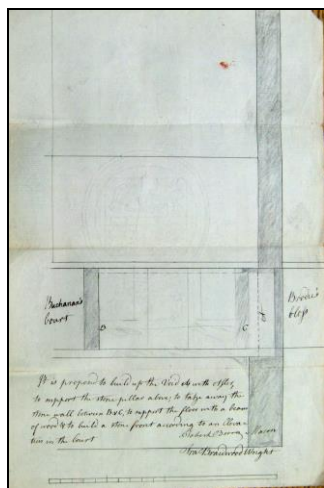
PETITIONER: John Fairbairn, clerk to Alexander Donaldson, bookseller.

SITE: Lawnmarket, south side between Buchanan's Court and Brodie's Close

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: The shop is presently possessed by John Little and at Whitsunday he becomes proprietor 'at a high price' of the vault immediately below the shop. The upper part of the tenement is timber fronted and is supported by a stone wall and timber dormant and posts. The warrant required them to take down part of the wall in Brodie's Close and rebuild it, attached to the proposed pillar.

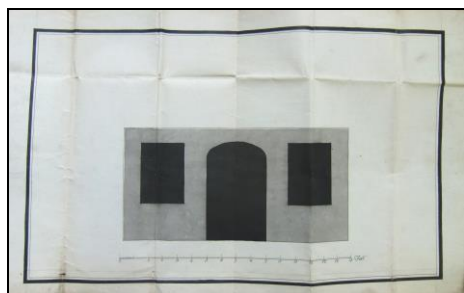
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Sketch elevation.

Size: 27.5 x 18.8 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: 'It is proposed to build up the void etc with ashlar, to support the stone pillar above; to take away the stone wall between B & C, to support the floor with a beam of wood & to build a stone front according to an elevation in the Court. Robert Burn, mason Francis Braidwood, wright'.



Description: b. Elevation of the shop front.

Size: 26.0 x 43.0 (irregular).

Watermark: J Whatman

Draughtsman: (Robert Burn?)

---



BOX: 1780/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 31 May 1780.

PETITIONER: Andrew Cassels, shipmaster in Leith and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, St Bernard's Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Sherriff, merchant in Leith.

NOTES: Sherriff has altered a building without a warrant. He admits his error and notes that he employed James Barclay and George Boss, masons to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1780.

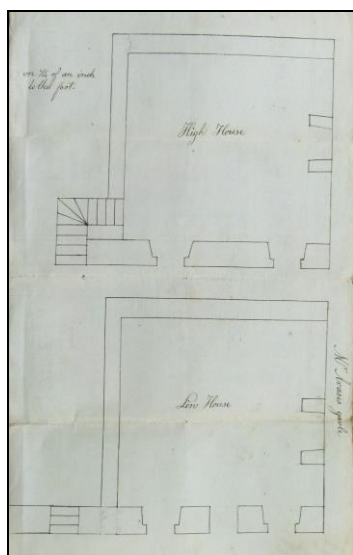
PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1780.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Scougal, relict of Richard Scougal, shipmaster in Leith and George Scougal, his son.

SITE: Leith, Todshole Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a small house.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors.

Size: 30.5 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1780/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 July 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1780.

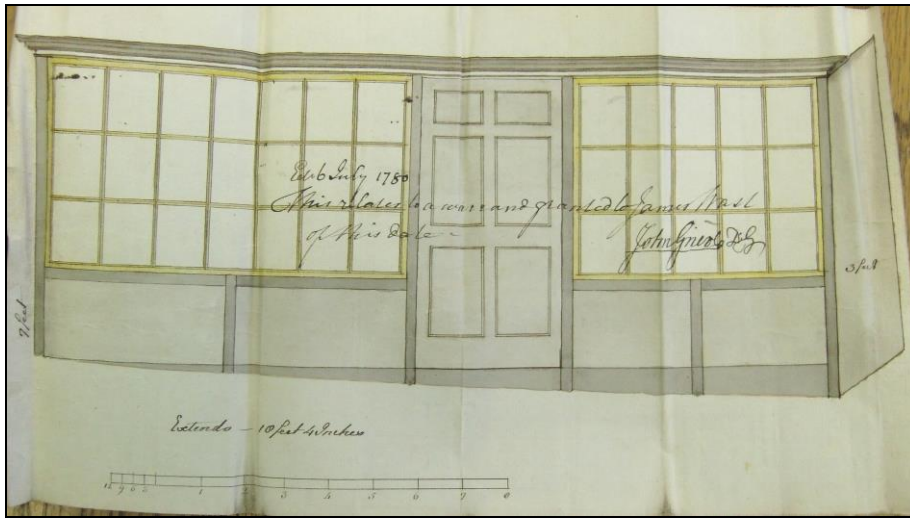
PETITIONER: James West, shoemaker.

SITE: (Netherbow?)

PROPOSAL: To take down a two shop fronts and rebuild.

NOTES: The building is a timber framed tenement. *Williamson's Directory for the City of Edinburgh ... from June 1784 to June 1785* (Edinburgh 1784) p. 104. James West shoe and leather cutter, warehouse, Netherbow.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Perspective elevation.

Size: 18.0 x 32.5 cms.

Watermark: R Williams

BOX: 1780/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 July 1780

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1780.

PETITIONER: William Fettes, merchant.

SITE: Baillie Fife's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1780/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 July 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1780.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Mansfield, Hunter & Co., bankers.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate, east side.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of accounts for rebuilding.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted on 8 July 1778 to take down and rebuild several subjects in the Kirkgate and to a heritable bond granted by Mary Multer, wife of John Cleland, writer in Edinburgh. Other documents refer to the heirs of the deceased Robert Mutter, brewer in Leith. There are accounts here from George Syme, slater; William Glover, wright; David Pitkethly, mason and James Hodge, glazier.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1780/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1780.

PETITIONER: George Fairholm of Greenhill.

SITE: Paterson's Court, head.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild the west gable.

NOTES: There are a number of petitions in this bundle. The building is a timber land and David McKain, proprietor of the first floor petitioned to the Court that the entire building should be taken down and rebuilt. The warrant required the petitioner to also take down the roof and the wall of the upper three stories of the back land.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1780/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 11 July 1780.

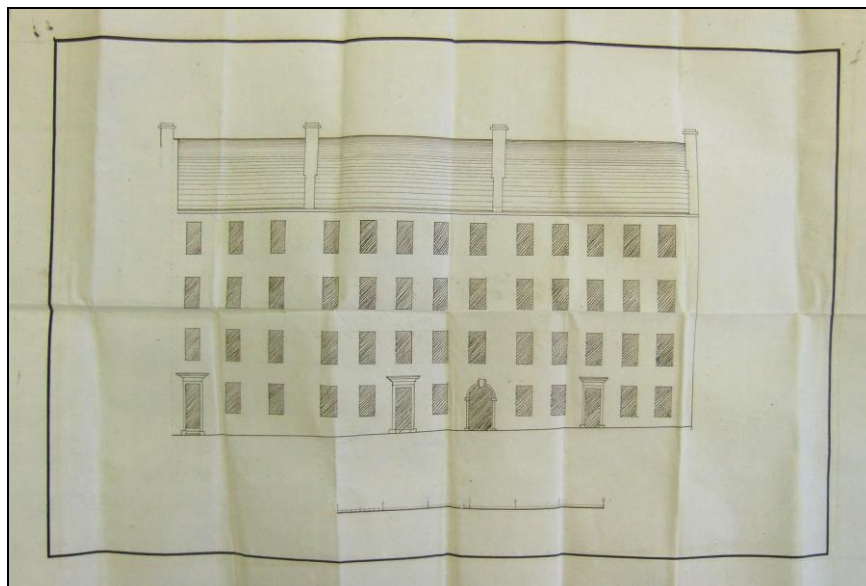
PETITIONER: Robert Burn, mason.

SITE: Merchant Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of four floors.

NOTES: The petitioner notes that he purchased the land from the Merchant Company, on part of which he has already built a tenement. Parts of this tenement may still be standing but with modifications made when George IV Bridge cut through Merchant Street before 1829.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of three tenements of four floors each.

Size: 36.0 x 52.0 cms.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)

---

BOX: 1780/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 July 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1780.

PETITIONER: James Whyte, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, part of the marble works.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: The papers include a complaint by the Procurator Fiscal against White for building a house on the south east corner of his property without a warrant and encroaching on the public road. He was fined £40 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1780.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Smith's land (foot of Niddry Wynd, corner with Cowgate?).

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.

NOTES: The petition includes a letter from the heritors agreeing to the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 29 July 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, a lane adjacent to the Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Watson, cooper in Leith.

NOTES: letter from John Patison saying that the work has been stopped and the tradesmen are idle because Mr. Watson is not in town. Watson had purchased the area from the Town Council and he did not think it necessary to have a warrant. Patison asks if work on the dyke and building can proceed. Watson fined £3 6s 8d Stg. See

further warrant dated 17 August 1780 (Watson) below.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Yardheads Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Matthew Comb jun., brewer in Leith.

NOTES: Comb is building a large tenement of land without a warrant. He is fined £3 6s 8d. See petition of 3 August 1780 (Comb) below.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith Links.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against David Ogilvy, shipmaster in Leith.

NOTES: Ogilvy has begun to build a large tenement on or about the Links of Leith, without a warrant. Fined £2 10s. See warrant of 10 August 1780 (Ogilvy) below.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1780.

PETITIONER: Thomas Heart, wright in Leith.

SITE: North Leith, near the bridge.

PROPOSAL: Complaint regarding unpaid building accounts.

NOTES: Heart is factor for the deceased Jean Foulis relict of the deceased James Law of Hillhousefield. He had a warrant from the Court dated 11 June 1755 to carry out repairs to the tenement belonging to Jean Foulis and 'he has continued ever since to repair the same' under decreets from the Court dated 8 December 1756 and 26 August 1761 and for which work he is still owed £145 9s Stg. This debt on the property is still outstanding. He complains that William Brugh, only son of the deceased Thomas Brugh, shipmaster in Leith and Katherine Law his spouse, as representative of Jean Foulis, refuses to redeem the subjects. The building is now in disrepair again and Heart submits an estimate for work totalling £15 10s 7d, to be added to the debt. Brugh in his response notes that James Law of Hillhousefield died about 1745 and that the estate was sold to Mr. Robertson

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1780.

PETITIONER: Matthew Comb jun., brewer in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Yardheads Street, Hendry Hays Close

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement

NOTES: George Muckle, brewer is a neighbouring proprietor.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



BOX: 1780/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1780.

PETITIONER: Robert Sherriff, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith (Bernard Street?).

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a tenement flat.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the upper floors of the tenement, the lower belonging to Andrew Cassells, shipmaster in Leith. He lists his proposals and the Court allows some of the work. In replies from Cassells he notes that the petitioner had previously knocked through into one of his vents and stoned rolled down and into the middle of his parlour. He did not complain because Sherriff's father, 'a worthy man and a good neighbour' apologised. He notes that the tenement was built in 1654 and that he bought his share in a judicial sale from the Court of Session. He refuses to allow Sherriff to remove the stone (chimney) jambs but has no objection 'to his fixing marble slabs to the old ones if he pleases'. *Williamson's Directory for the City of Edinburgh*, (Edinburgh 1784) lists Robert Sherriff as a wood merchant at the Sawmill. He is listed in the 1775-6 Directory at Bernard Street. Andrew Cassells is listed in both Directories at Bernard Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Fleshmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Bain, flesher.

NOTES: Bain has been slaughtering beasts in the upper Fleshmarket for some time, contrary to an Act of the Town Council of 18 April 1764. He was fined £20 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1780.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Steell, smith in Edinburgh.

NOTES: Steell is continuing to pile stones in the street. See complaint, 27 April 1780.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 August 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 14 August 1780.

PETITIONER: George Paterson, mason.

SITE: St John Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build houses.

NOTES: The petition is signed by John Lorimer for George Paterson on 14 August and by Paterson himself on 17 August. He states that he has been in a distant place of the country and forgot to make an application to build. In a note on the front of the petition; 'Edinb. 26 August 1780. Recd. Up the two plans which were shown the Dean of Guild but not meant to be lodged herewith, John Lorimer'.

REFERENCES: There is a contract in the Wemyss family archives, Gosford house, between George Paterson, architect and Francis Charteris of Amisfield, dated 18 March 1784 in which it is noted that the two houses built by Paterson on the west side of St John Street were complete by Whitsunday 1780, but did not sell. The agreement was that they share the building and finishing costs and split any profit after sale. The lower house (towards the Cowgate) was occupied at that date by Sir William Maxwell of Sprinkell. It was agreed between them that Charteris would have the upper house

and Paterson the lower.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1780/41  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1780.  
PETITIONER: Andrew Cassels, shipmaster in Leith.  
SITE: Leith (Bernard Street?).  
PROPOSAL: Alterations, striking out a window.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/42  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1780.  
PETITIONER: Patrick Crawford, late merchant, James Steuart, druggist and heritors.  
SITE: High Street, north side, a little below the City Guard.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney stacks.  
NOTES: The Court appointed William Jamieson to carry out the work. The petition is signed by James Spadin for Peter Crawford, James Stewart (sic) and George Hamilton.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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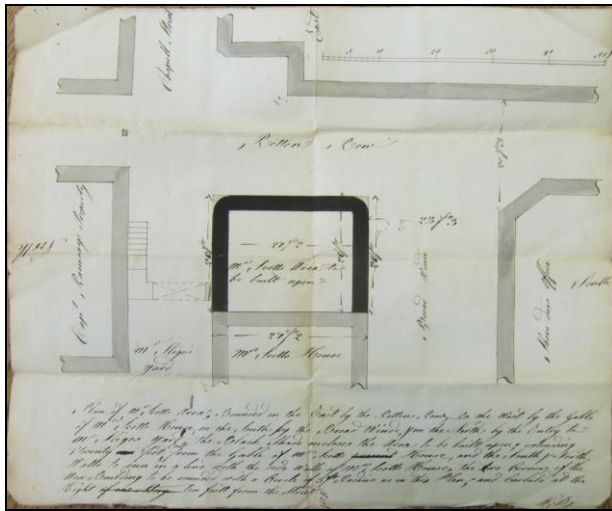
BOX: 1780/43  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1780 (no warrant, appointed a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1780.  
PETITIONER: Messrs. Brodie & Tulloch: James Brodie, surgeon, David Lindsay, writer, Thomas Tulloch, merchant and John Paterson, tailor.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, north side above and to the west of Dunbar's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To take down ruinous parts of the tenement and rebuild?  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/44  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 16 August 1780.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Miller, Baillie and glazier in the Canongate.  
SITE: Canongate, adjacent to the Tolbooth, first tenement to the west.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a chimney in a new building.  
NOTES: James Johnstone, cooper in Canongate built on the area behind the petitioner's tenement but his chimney is too low and the smoke is causing a nuisance. Johnstone ordered to build a higher chimney. Enclosed with the papers is a copy of the Disposition from James Johnstone to Alexander Miller dated 1779.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/45  
WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1780.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Scott, wife of Ebenezer Hannah, shipmaster in Leith and Sarah Scott, widow of Mungo Scott, late glazier, liferenters of the subjects.  
SITE: Leith, Broad Wynd, head, fronting Rotten Row.  
PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a tenement.  
NOTES: The petition includes an account from William Brodie, dated 8 September 1780. 'To taking a survey of your property... and making a plan & copie of the said subjects per order of the Dean of Guild & Council', £1 1s. I recd. payt of the above from Capt. Hana'. The signature of William Brodie crossed through. The Court ordered that the corners of the tenement should be rounded and corbelled at the height of ten feet from the street.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 31.2 x 37.5 cms.

Watermark: C Taylor

Draughtsman: William Brodie

BOX: 1780/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1780.

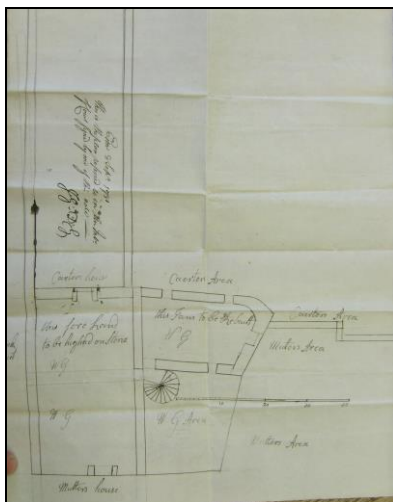
PETITIONER: Convener William Glover, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To take down a ruinous stable, rebuild and raise the front tenement by one story.

NOTES: The plan shows Kirk Street with 'carters house' and 'Mutters house' on either side of the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 36.7 x 30.5 cms.

BOX: 1780/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 5 August 1780.

PETITIONER: William Young, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, east side of Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the west gable.

NOTES: The Court ordered that it be taken down and rebuilt and that Alexander Ponton, wright and sworn measurer to report on the cost.

DRAWINGS: None.



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BOX: 1780/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 31 August 1780.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, opposite the Canongate Church.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the erection of a timber shade.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Prentice, wright and Peter Taylor, painter who have erected a timber house or shade opposite the Canongate Church. The warrant simply orders them to stop work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 September 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1780.

PETITIONER: David Mckain, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, to the west of Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: Request for appointment of a jury to consider the condition of a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the first and part of the second floor of Paterson's fore land. In a copy of a Bill of Advocation dated 14 September 1780 before the Court of Session, the petitioner argued that after the back wall and the west gable were taken down to the foundations and that the east wall was also unstable, only the timber front remained. He is suggesting that the entire tenement should be taken down and rebuilt. A jury was appointed and agreed but there seems to be an issue here that is not fully recorded.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 27 May 1779.

PETITIONER: Peter Ramsay, Innkeeper at the Cowgate Port.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the stables.

NOTES: The petition refers to a tack of 27 years dated 31 January 1751 between John McMillan now deceased, only lawful son to the deceased John Macmillan, stabler, Burgess of Edinburgh and the petitioner for 'that Great Inn and stabling' at the foot of St. Mary's Wynd. There is a report here from Alexander Ponton, wright on the expence of repairing the stables.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 October 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 24 September 1780.

PETITIONER: David Miln, merchant.

SITE: High Street, north side, opposite the Cross.

PROPOSAL: To create a safe.

NOTES: 'That in the back wall thereof there was originally (parts crossed through) a vent for a goldsmith's forge'. The petitioner wants to remove this and create a safe with an iron door for the storage of books and papers safe from fire.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 and 26 October 1780 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 7 September 1780.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate head, Plainstones Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of an old tenement.

NOTES: A jury was appointed and they decided the tenement was ruinous and should be demolished. The proprietor, Henry Duncan, dyer in Edinburgh, asked James Gray and Thomas McInnes, masons to report and they stated that the tenement was sufficient but that the staircase was not. The Court ordered the tenement to be demolished.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1780.

PETITIONER: Alexander Sprott, and John and John Learmonth, tanners.

SITE: Canongate, south back.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to parts of his property during rebuilding.

NOTES: A neighbouring tenement belonging to John Sharp, stabler in Edinburgh was burnt down and rebuilt, during which stables and office houses were damaged.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1780.

PETITIONER: Francis Clark, wright.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbouring tenement.

NOTES: The neighbouring tenement, property of David Wright, distiller is bulging into his wood yard and he is fearful it may fall.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 November 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 8 November 1780.

PETITIONER: David Wright, distiller.

SITE: Hastie's Close, about the head.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belonged to the petitioner's deceased father, John Wright, merchant and it lies opposite the College wall. There is a report here by Alexander Laing (mason) and Arthur Giles (wright).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 7 December 1780.

PETITIONER: Captain Eaglesfield Griffiths.

SITE: Canongate head, corner with St Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair tenements.

NOTES: Refers to a Decreet and Adjudication of 1768 in favour of the petitioner's mother, Mary Hamilton against John Hamilton of Craigrethie whereby she acquired right to the property. Enclosed is a detailed estimate by Alexander Bruce to carry out the repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1780.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Between Milns Square and Bull Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The Court ordered the gable, part of a side wall and vents to be taken down

and repaired.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/58  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1780.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Stewart, Secretary of the Bank of Scotland.  
SITE: Miln's Square, uppermost story on the east side.  
PROPOSAL: Claim for expence of repairing the roof.  
NOTES: The petitioner obtained a warrant for the repair of the roof 'about 6 years ago'. The work was carried out by George Syme, slater and George Chalmers, plumber whose accounts were cognozed by the Court, 26 June 1776. He complains that he has not been paid and that the roof is now insufficient again.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/59  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1780.  
PETITIONER: William Steuart, writer.  
SITE: Turk's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a large can placed on the chimney stacks.  
NOTES: The complaint refers to a can placed on the chimney stack by the lately deceased James Thomson, merchant. His wife is ordered to take down the can.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/11)**

BOX: 1780/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1780 (no warrant – date of visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 1 March 1780.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal for the public interest.  
SITE: High Street, north side, opposite the City Guard.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about insufficiency of chimney stacks.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1780/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1780.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1780  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesman.  
SITE: None.  
PROPOSAL: Prosecution of unfree tradesmen: Thomas Mills, stone ware merchant; Gavin Alston, printer; Robert Spottiswood, merchant; John Stevenson, merchant; Allan & Laurison, merchants; William Couper, upholsterer; Francis Buchan, merchant; Storrock & Wilson, merchants; Peter Lee, vintner and (blank) Neil junior, merchant.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/3\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1780 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 12 October 1780.  
PETITIONER: John Black, merchant.  
SITE: Old Physic Garden.  
PROPOSAL: To build a small brick house about ten feet high.  
NOTES: The petitioner joins with William Auld, smith in Edinburgh, tacksman of the Old Physic Garden in his request. The house is to be laid to the Town Wall.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 15 November 1780.

PETITIONER: Mungo Punton, farmer in Backgreen, Francis Trells, farmer in Saughton Hall and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Firlot testing.

NOTES: The Bakers have procured two new firlots and they wish to have them tested. They are kept at the mill on the Water of Leith. Enclosed is a detailed report by Professor John Robison who tested the beer measure, pint measure and the new firlots.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1780/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 December 1780.

PETITION LODGED: 22 December 1780.

PETITIONER: John Stevenson and Bryce Kerr, agents for the Society of Air (Ayr) & Renfrew, merchants.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about obtaining a standard yard.

NOTES: The petitioners state that they recently came to Edinburgh to obtain a standard, stamped and authenticated yard. William Crawford, locksmith made them a steel yard and when they went to have it stamped they were told this could not be done, except at certain times. The Dean of Guild inspected the yard and had an engraver mark it with the initials JW DG 1780 (John Wardie, Dean of Guild).

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1781

The Court Officers from 6 October 1780:

**Dean of Guild**

John Wordie

**Council**

John Grieve, Old Dean of Guild

Francis Shand, merchant

William Smith, merchant

William Butter, wright

William Govan, jun., glazier

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1781/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 January 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 21 December 1780.

PETITIONER: Ann Chisley, residenter and Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Warriston's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of repair.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted on 1 April 1779 to carry out the work. Account here from Alexander Laing, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 January 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1781.

PETITIONER: James Mitchell (William on front of petition), merchant in Leith and Peter Forrester, merchant.

SITE: Part of the sands of Leith.

PROPOSAL: To build a porter's lodge and counting room

NOTES: The property is part of the sands adjoining the property of John Wordie, present Dean of Guild.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 February 1781 and 21 June 1781 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1780.

PETITIONER: Jonathan Pew, maltman in Leith, tenant in Easter Drylaw and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate,

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a water spout.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Tod, mason in Leith, owner of the property to the north. He is building a new tenement and the rain water will fall into the petitioner's property. This is a lengthy process and includes a copy of a disposition dated 18 August 1722 and registered in the Sheriff Court books of Edinburgh, 7 April 1775 from Alexander Laing, sometime master of the Grammar School in the Canongate to John Pew of the property in question.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 February 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 16 October 1780.

PETITIONER: William Campbell, WS, factor for the deceased John Veitch, tenant at Sheriffhall.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The other proprietors are listed with valuations. The petition includes an estimate made out by John Ritchie for Alexander Adam, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 February 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 4 December 1780.

PETITIONER: Lord Westhall (David Dalrymple), Senator of the College of Justice.

SITE: Advocate's Close, near the foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the use of his roof.

NOTES: The house has a flat roof covered with lead, which is accessible from the window of a house to the south. This house is owned by Mrs. Murray who lets it out and her lodgers are in the habit of 'taking the air' on his roof. Mrs. Murray has also fixed ropes for the drying of linens and 'on Friday 1 December she turned out all her carpets upon the said roof and then sent out two porters to dust the carpets there, that they made a horrid noise and disturbed the petitioner's whole family and at the same time covered the house with a cloud of dust'. The lead has also been damaged and parts removed, costing £5 to repair. The Court ordered a 'stencil or cross bar' for the window

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1781.

PETITIONER: James Cairncross, slater.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair and rebuild the roof.

NOTES: The tenement was burnt down 'some time ago'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1780.

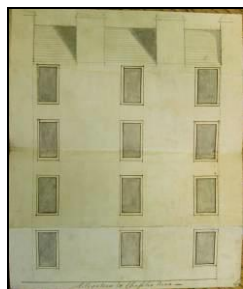
PETITIONER: Henry Duncan, merchant.

SITE: Canongate, Plainstones Close, west side, fronting Chessels Court.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a ruinous two story tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner's building had been recently condemned. Enclosed is an account from James Tate, sworn measurer, to Henry Duncan dated 2 January 1781; 'To making out a plan of his old tenement of houses in Plainstones Canongate also of the Close 10s 6d; To making out a new plan and elevation for rebuilding the same 10s 6d. These drawings were requested by the Dean of Guild on 23 November 1780 and were accompanied by observations by James Tate. The Court granted a warrant to build on 1 February 1781 which was contested on the grounds of loss of light and this may have resulted in a reduction in height although the challenge was dismissed.

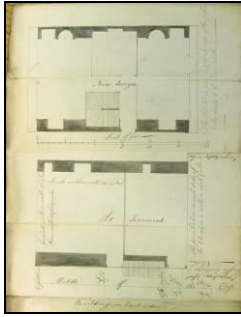
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation 'to Chassles area' of a four story tenement.

Size: 20.4 x 16.7 cms.

Draughtsman: James Tate

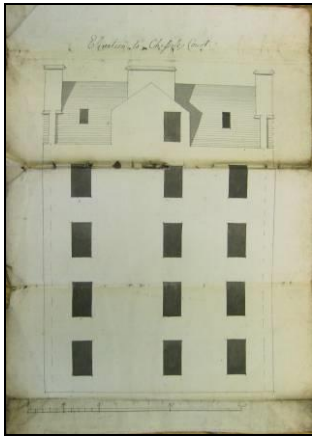


Description: b. Plan of the old tenement with a plan of the 'new design'

Size: 27.5 x 21.2 cms.

Draughtsman: James Tate

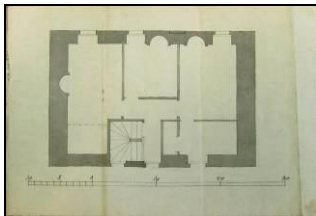
Watermark: J Whatman



Description: c. Elevation to Chessels Court of a four story tenement with attics.

Size: 20.4 x 16.7 cms.

Draughtsman: (James Tate?)



Description: d. Plan of an upper floor.

Size: 16.0 x 25.0 cms.

Draughtsman: (James Tate?)

---

BOX: 1781/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1781.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Carrubber's land, on the west of Gavinloch's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the tenement being ruinous.

NOTES: William Smith, William Jamieson, Alexander Laing and Thomas McInnes, masons asked to report. They suggest that the front wall should be supported while the gavel and staircase are taken down and rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 20 February 1780.

PETITIONER: Sir William Forbes, James Hunter & Co., bankers and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Parliament Close, west side of the entry.

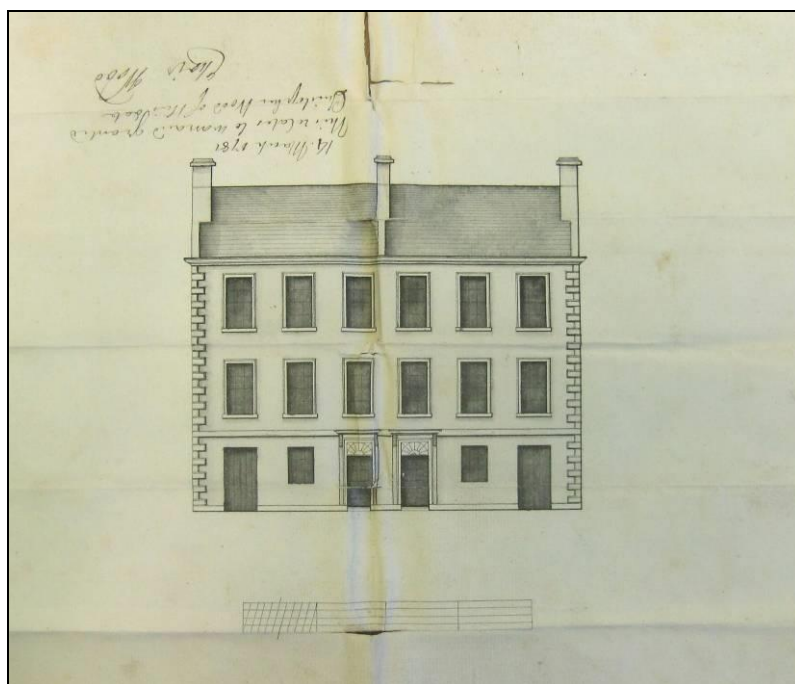
PROPOSAL: To complete work on rebuilding the tenement, particularly the vaults.  
NOTES: Refers to a complaint by Robert Gray (Procurator Fiscal) to the Court on 9 October 1780 about the insufficiency of a tenement and vaults.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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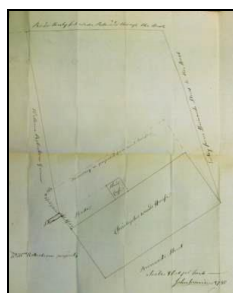
BOX: 1781/10  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1781.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Stewart, Secretary to the Bank of Scotland.  
SITE: Miln's Square, east side.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.  
NOTES: Account from William Scott, plumber.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/11  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 September 1780.  
PETITIONER: Christopher Wood, merchant in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, Timber Bush, fronting Bernard Street.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild a tenement of two houses.  
NOTES: The house to be demolished is shown with a staircase behind and is noted on the plan at b. 'Christopher Wood's House'.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation (to Bernard Street?)  
Size: 26.0 x 33.6 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.  
Size: 37.0 x 30.0 cms.  
Inscriptions, recto: Scale of 8ft per inch / John Laurie, 1780



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BOX: 1781/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1781 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1781.

PETITIONER: George Steel, merchant in Leith.

SITE: The Bush of Leith (on the sands?)

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light by a timber shade being erected by William Robertson, merchant and James Scott, watchmaker.

NOTES: The complaint dismissed on 14 March.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1781.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stonelaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Downie and James Traquair, journeyman masons and servants to John Paterson, mason. They had begun to demolish a chimney.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1781

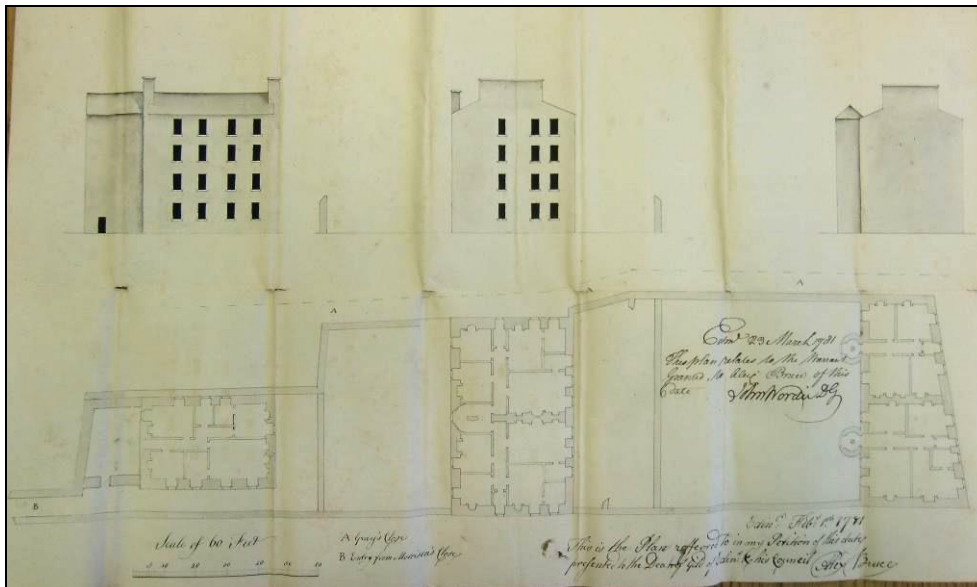
PETITIONER: Alexander Bruce, cabinet maker.

SITE: Morrison's Close, foot. Between it and Gray's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build three tenements of four floors.

NOTES: In the inventory of processes there are few details but it notes rights dating back to 1726 and a Disposition between George Norrie to Alexander Bruce, a Sasine in favour of George Norrie, Sasine in favour of James Norrie and a Sasine in favour of Robert Tait and his children. See further warrant for this site, 3 April 1788 (Bruce).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of three tenements.

Size: 35.2 x 59.4 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, (LAVILA)DARY

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BOX: 1781/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 3 January 1781.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Society, south side.

PROPOSAL: To cognose the expence of a parapet wall and rail to the front of houses.

NOTES: The petition includes accounts from Alexander Laing, mason, for a wall of 'droved cope and pillar, 191 ft 7in '; Andrew Bell, smith 2 May 1780 for an iron rail 'for a parapet at Brown Square' and John Bonnar, painter 18 July 1780 'to painting thrice in oil an Iron railing on south side of Society green'. The list of proprietors here: John Pringle, writer £440, John Sinclair £800, John Davidson, £420, William McConochie, £560, Mrs. Hamilton of Fairholme, £280, James Trail, £200, James Walker, £240 and Mrs Bannatine £280 all £ Scots. Expences granted 30 April 1781.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1781.

PETITIONER: Charles Thomson, merchant, factor for Sir James Johnston, Mrs. Beatrix Sheills, residenter and Hugh Inglis, barber, as present Praeses of the Society of Barbers. Also Mrs. Baxter, relict of Gilbert Baxter as factor for the heirs of the deceased Robert Blyth, trunk maker.

SITE: Sandilands Close.

PROPOSAL: Repair of a stone arch.

NOTES: This petition originated in a complaint from the Procurator Fiscal, here. A jury was appointed and their report is also here. The work was probably carried out by William Jamieson but the instruction to him of 5 April 1781 has been crossed through.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1781.

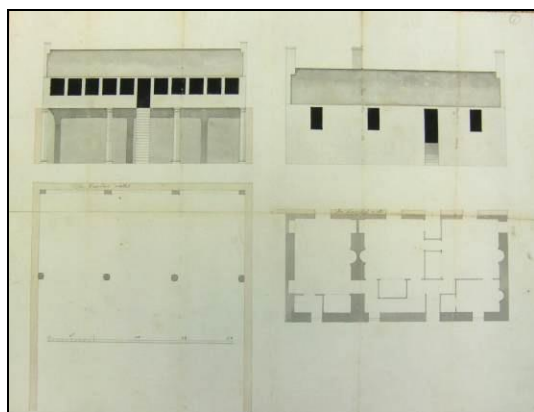
PETITIONER: Archibald Hunter, wright.

SITE: East side of the Merchant Maiden Hospital.

PROPOSAL: To build a wright's shop. Disagreement about mutual walls.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased his property from James Sprott, tanner in Portsburgh. I was occupied by a dwelling house that recently burnt down.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet. Stored in the encapsulation folder.



Description: a. Elevations and plans, noted along back wall 'The Hospital wall'.

Size: 32.4 x 42.4 cms.

Watermark: T French and a monogram, CB(?) 32.4 x 42.4 cms.

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BOX: 1781/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 12 March 1781.

PETITIONER: George Fairholm of Greenhill.

SITE: Lawnmarket.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished and question about a mutual gable.

NOTES: A jury of tradesmen decided that the gable was ruinous.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1781

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1781.

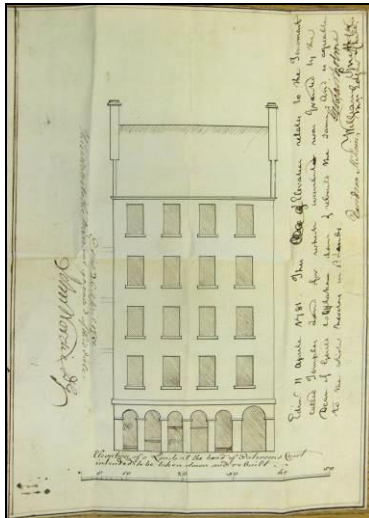
PETITIONER: George Fairholm of Greenhill and William Sprott, solicitor, factor for Mr. Edgar residing at Hamilton.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Temples land, west side of passage to Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished and question about a mutual gable.

NOTES: A jury of tradesmen decided that the gable was ruinous.

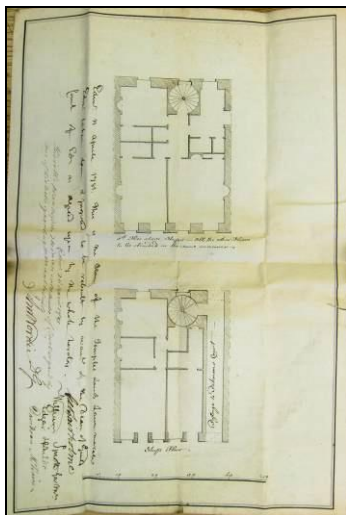
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement.

Size: 32.0 x 23.0 cms.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)



Description: b. Plans of ground and first floor.

Size: 44.0 x 30.0 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?).

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BOX: 1781/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 17 April 1781.

PETITIONER: Sir James Fowels (Foulis) of Collington (Colinton).

SITE: Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: To open a new vent for a second fireplace in a shop or small house.

NOTES: The present fireplaces share a flue. The petition is signed by William Dallas, wright in Edinburgh for Sir James.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 April 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1781.

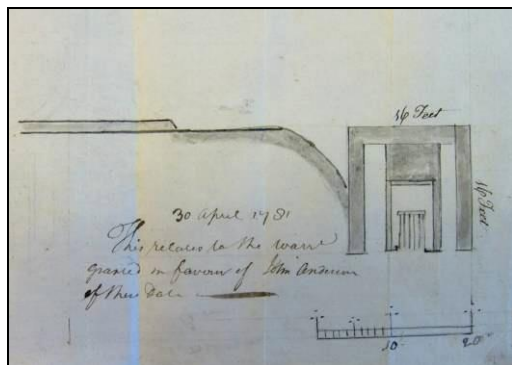
PETITIONER: John Anderson, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: North back of Canongate.

PROPOSAL: To build a malt kiln.

NOTES: The Court asked to have a plan on 19 April.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan (or elevation?).

Size: 17.3 x 21.0 (irregular).

---

BOX: 1781/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1781.

PETITIONER: Jean Sime and others.

SITE: head of Niddry's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair the steps in the turnpike.

NOTES: They intend employing Alexander Reid, mason for the purpose.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1781.

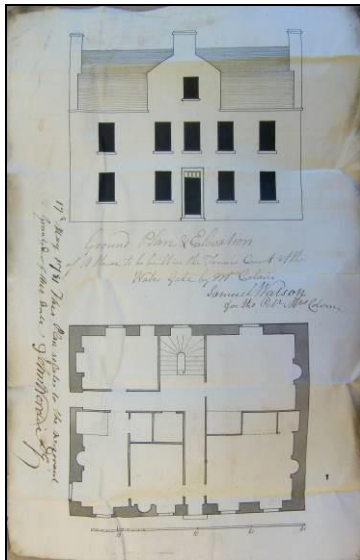
PETITIONER: Mrs Colvin: Ann Ritchie, widow of John Colvin, candlemaker in the Abbey of Holyroodhouse.

SITE: The Watergate.

PROPOSAL: To build a dwelling house.

NOTES: The property '...lately purchased from George Wilson, grandson and heir of the deceased George Wilson, mason in Edinburgh, an area at the Water gate now waste, formerly occupied as a Tennis Court, and thereafter used as a manufactory, and last possessed by Wm Cheap, linen merchant in Edinburgh, and sometime ago laid waste by fire.' A note on front of the petition records that there were two elevations, one of which was retrieved on 30 May 1781, 'the rectified one being left.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of a three story house  
 Size: 38.4 x 24.7 cms.

BOX: 1781/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 8 May 1781.

PETITIONER: Joseph Williamson, advocate.

SITE: Leith, Vinegar Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof of a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner is a 'considerable creditor' of Robert Kennedy, late grocer in Edinburgh who owned the property. Estimate here from John Sherriff, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1781/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 May 1781.

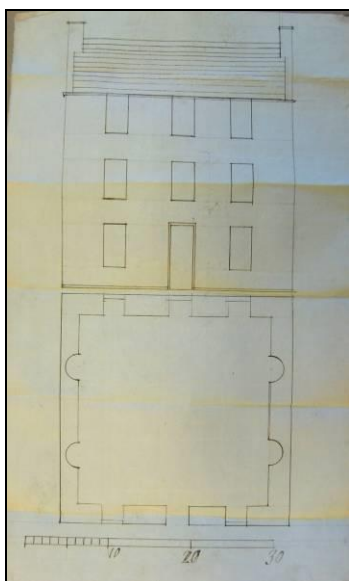
PETITION LODGED: 9 May 1781.

PETITIONER: James Lumsden, wright in Leith.

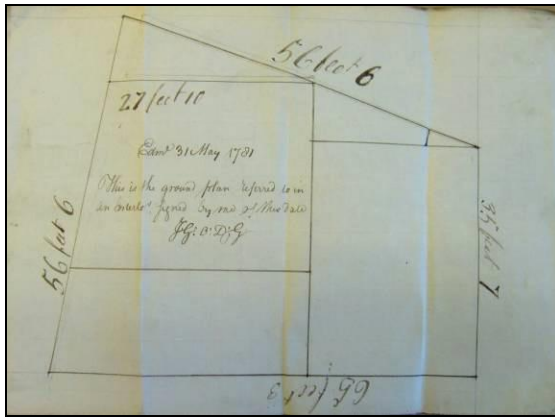
SITE: Leith Walk, foot (east side?)

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three floors.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.  
 Size: 32.5 x 20.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 20.0 x 27.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark I Taylor

BOX: 1781/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1781.

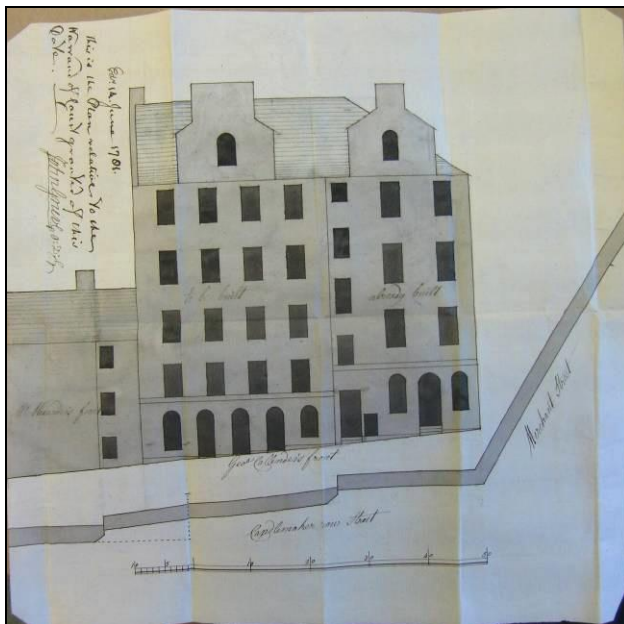
PETITIONER: George Callender, wright.

SITE: Candlemaker Row

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors and attics.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant to build two tenements in merchant Street and Candlemaker Row. The latter site had been occupied by a stable and coach houses but he now wishes to build here. The tenement to the right (north?) is marked on the drawing as 'already built'. The petition refers to the removal of an unsightly timber overhang.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of two tenements and plan of front line.

Size: 30.0 x 31.0 cms.

Watermarks: Countermark, CC

BOX: 1781/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1781.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of paving in parts of the New Town.

NOTES: The complaint is about specific areas in Princes Street, St Andrew Square, St.

David's Street, Thistle Court and down to Queen Street. There are lists of approximately 90 proprietors with their addresses but no specific street numbers. Their alternative addresses in the Old Town also given.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1781.

PETITIONER: Isobel Thomson, relict of Robert Gordon, late carpenter in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Yard heads.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a staircase.

NOTES: The petitioner has a lease on a house from Mrs. Forsyth, spouse of Andrew Forsyth, sailor in Leith. The house is about seven steps from the ground, of stone but with a timber stair head. This is in disrepair and the defender refuses to repair it.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 31 May 1781.

PETITIONER: Jonathan Pew, tenant at Easter Drylaw.

SITE: Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Tod, mason in Leith.

NOTES: John Tod had begun to raise the walls of a building behind his property, without a warrant. The complaint was dismissed

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1781.

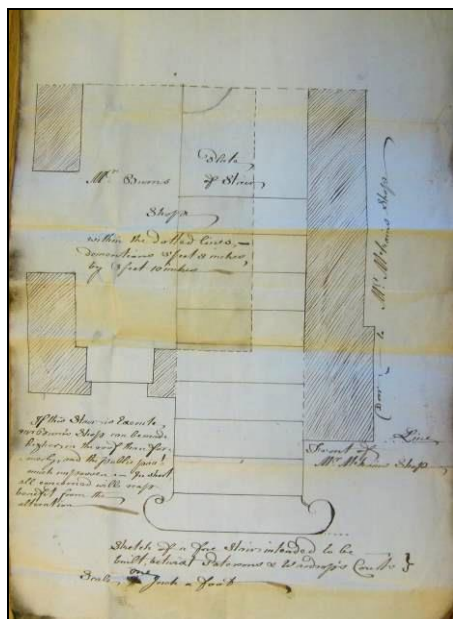
PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Temple land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild and re-orientate the outside stair.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to George Fairholm of Greenhill. See previous petitions of 12 and 26 April 1781 (Fairholm).

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the outside stair as proposed by Alexander Laing, mason.

Size: 38.0 x 24.7 cms.





PROPOSAL: To repair chimney vets on west side of tenement.  
NOTES: The Court noted in the warrant that a timber projection should be removed and they appointed William Jamieson to do the mason work and William Butter to carry out the timber work.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/33  
WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 27 June 1781.  
PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.  
SITE: Sandilands Close.  
PROPOSAL: To cognose expenditure of repairs.  
NOTES: See previous petitions of 22 March 1781 (Procurator Fiscal) and 12 April 1781 (Thomson). Accounts here from William Jamieson, mason, refers to 'an ashlar pillar built to support the east wall of your tenement'; Francis Braidwood for wright work.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/34  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 July 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1781.  
PETITIONER: Archibald Scott, brewer in Potterrow for himself an on behalf of other creditors of David Graham, barber and periwig maker.  
SITE: High Street, north side, Bryson's Close, opposite the Fountain Well.  
PROPOSAL: To repair the tenement before letting.  
NOTES: The tenement formerly belonged to David Graham and his spouse, Margaret Buchan, formerly widow of William Boyd, pursuivant. Petition included a report by Alexander Adams, slater.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/35  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 4 April 1781.  
PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, the pavement from the head of Forrester's Wynd to the West Bow.  
PROPOSAL: Order for the repair of the pavement.  
NOTES: The petition includes a list of the heritors of all the lands and their tenants including Sir James Wemyss, a few lawyers and many merchants and trades people.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/36  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 31 May 1781.  
PETITIONER: William Archibald, slater.  
SITE: Leith, Dub Row.  
PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of building.  
NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant granted on 19 August 1779 to build a tenement. The cost of £577 14s 11½d Stg. to become a debt on the property. Tradesmen including William Jamieson, mason and William Butter, wright inspected and found that the petitioner had overcharged. They reduced the account to £500. The full account is here.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/37  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 4 April 1781.  
PETITIONER: John Anderson, coppersmith.  
SITE: West Bow, laigh shop.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of a shade in front, that protected his wares.  
NOTES: The petitioner complains about the actions of George Begbie senior, smith in

Edinburgh who owns the floor above the shop. This floor is presently possessed by Alexander Maitland, grocer. The Court found against Begbie and Maitland on 12 April and ordered them to erect a timber spout to carry off the rainwater. They did not comply and the Court allowed the petitioner to do the work and charge it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1781/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1781.

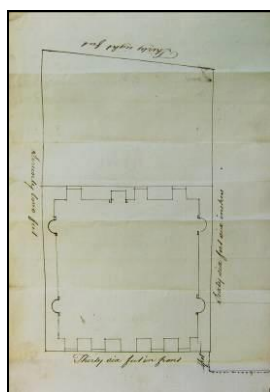
PETITIONER: Thomas Wallace, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, head of Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the land from John Pew, later merchant in Leith and it adjoins the property of John Lumsden, wright in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 32.5 x 20.0 cms.

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BOX: 1781/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1781.

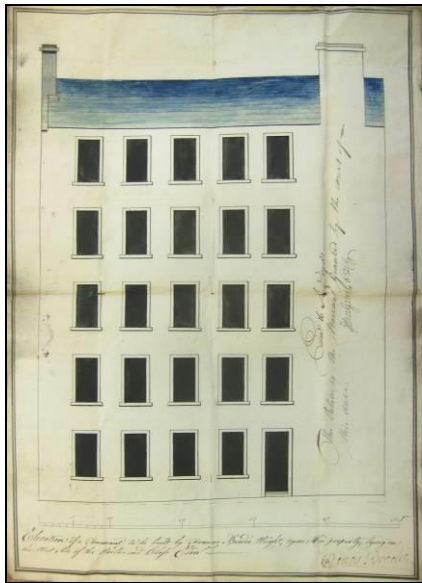
PETITIONER: Francis Brodie, wright.

SITE: World's End Close, middle of the west side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The property is bounded on the north by a tenement recently built by John Wright and Mrs. Brown, on the south by the old part of the Marquis of Tweeddale's house, on the west by the Marquis's court and on the east by the Close. Many papers here in a discussion with the Marquis of Tweeddale about height and light. In Additional duplies for the Marquis dated 25 July 1781 he refers to a disposition dated 20 February 1713, registered (blank) July 1781 granted by John, then Marquis of Tweeddale to Charles, then Lord Hay of Yester and afterwards Marquis of Tweeddale, his son. A plan and elevation of the ruinous tenement proposed to be rebuilt and of the other adjoining tenements and an associated warrant granted to the marquis, 26 June 1765. This drawing is no longer here. The Marquis claims a right of servitude over the entire Close. See also warrant granted 22 April 1779 (Brodie and Auchinleck). The drawings here are ascribed to Francis Brodie as architect, on the basis of the signed drawing with a warrant of 4 March 1772 (Brodie).

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

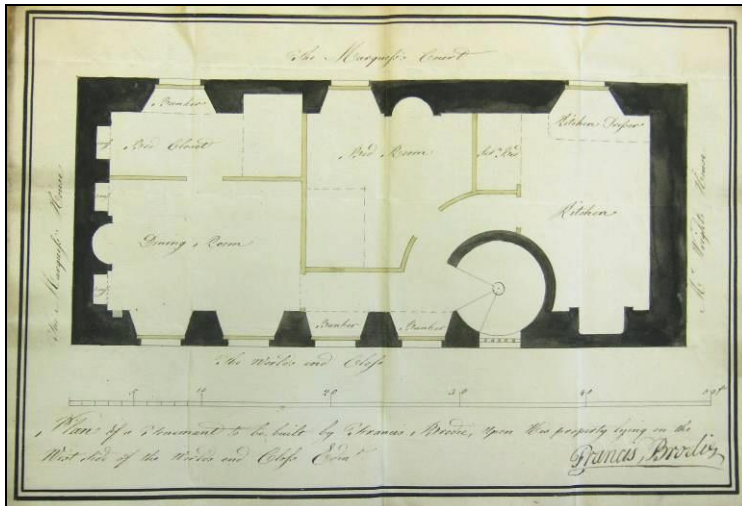


Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement.

Size: 45.3 x 33.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Architect: (Francis Brodie).



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 22.2 x 33.0 cms.

Architect: (Francis Brodie).

BOX: 1781/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1781.

PETITIONER: Janet Gloag, relict of William Good, wright.

SITE: Potterrow, west side, contiguous to the meeting house belonging to Mr. Patison and others.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences outstanding since 1772.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant to cognose expences, granted to William Good and William Archibald, slater on 10 September 1772. Archibald conveyed the expences due to him, to William Good, by assignation dated 30 June 1773. After collecting some rents from the property the petitioner is still owed around £46 Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1781/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1781.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, about the middle on the west side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 2 August 1781.

PETITIONER: Captain Eaglesfield Griffith.

SITE: Canongate, St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair houses.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to an adjudication in 1768 against John Hamilton, deceased to his mother, Mary Hamilton, also deceased when she acquired right to the tenement in the petition. The petitioner acquired right by an assignation from his mother dated 1 April 1778. There are accounts here from Alexander Bruce, cabinet maker for wright, glazing and plaster work. Also an account from John More, painter for work carried out in may 1781: Painting part of the east fore room 3 coats in oil on new wood, 4s 6d; painting in three rooms silver grey in varnish, £2 15s 1½d; Size yellow and red in passage, 4s 5d; Whitening the house and garret, 15s 3½d.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1780.

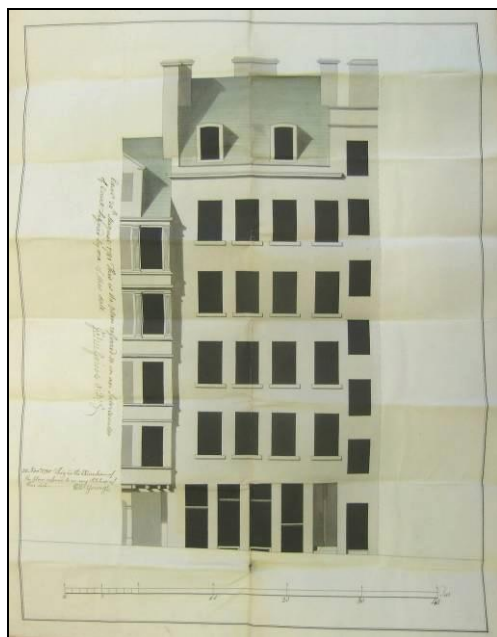
PETITIONER: William Young, WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, immediately east of Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a timber tenement and rebuild with an ashlar front.

NOTES: Refers to a previous warrant to take down the western gable. The Court ordered George Callender, ordained measurer to make a plan or section to identify the contiguous heritor's properties. This is not here and there are notes on the front of the petition stating that it was borrowed in April and May 1781. There is a detailed response from John Hamilton on behalf of Thomas Tulloch and James Brodie, neighbouring heritors. See previous warrants dated 31 August 1780 (Brodie) and 8 September 1780 (Young).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 55.5 x 42.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman.

---

BOX: 1781/44  
WARRANT GRANTED: 6 September 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1781.  
PETITIONER: Incorporation of Fleshers of Edinburgh.  
SITE: At the side of the North Loch.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a mutual dyke or wall.  
NOTES: Thomas Brown, of a neighbouring house, has cut an opening in the wall.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/45  
WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1781.  
PETITIONER: John Wilson, mason and Daniel Lamb, wright.  
SITE: Between McLellan's land and Carrubber's land.  
PROPOSAL: To complete the rebuilding of a condemned tenement.  
NOTES: The warrant refers to a previous petition by the Procurator Fiscal and to John Wilson to take down and rebuild a gable. Daniel Lamb is here given permission to fit out and repair the roof of the upper two stories.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/46  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 21 August 1781.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Laing, edge tool maker.  
SITE: (Shakespeare Square) east of the Theatre Royal.  
PROPOSAL: To build cellars under the pavement opposite his tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted 5 September 1781 to carry out this work; he feued his property from the Town Council. The petition was accompanied by 'a plan of the buildings at the back of the theatre' but this was borrowed on 27 October 1781. For a plan of the area see warrant of 8 August 1782 (Corbet). The matter of building the cellars went to the Court of Session and Thomas Hill, wright, states here that Laing gave up the idea of building cellars. The process may have begun with a petition from Thomas Hill dated 21 August 1781.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/47  
WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 10 October 1781.  
PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Luckenbooths, Browns Close, foot.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous chimney heads.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Smeeton, bookbinder, Mrs. Margaret Bell, residenter, head of Dickson's Close, George Boyd, merchant, James Brown, bookseller and Charles Findlater, minister of the Gospel at Linton.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/48  
WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 29 November 1781.  
PETITIONER: William Sprott the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, immediately west of Gavinloch's land, Carrubber's land.  
PROPOSAL: Expenditure of petition.  
NOTES: Refers to a previous petition regarding the demolition of a gable and stair.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/49  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 December 1781.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1781.

PETITIONER: David Lindsay, writer.

SITE: High Street, first close above the Weigh house.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences for repair of tenement.

NOTES: In 1719 the petitioner's father sold the upper floor and garrets to John Paton, bookseller, deceased. Refers to a previous petition in May 1779 to carry out repairs and his warrant to go ahead and carry out the work. Accounts here from James Tait, junior, wright, William Jamieson, mason, Mrs Syme and John Baxter, slaters, Robert Dewar, glazier and John Spence, painter. His account includes payments for work carried out on 15 April 1780: 82½yds Flanders Yellow in the under part of the whole transes & outer stair at 2d per yard; painting the outside of 6 large new windows oil white; 378½yds silver grey in oil in 4 rooms and part of a passage at 6d per yard; to painting the new wood in another room thrice over in silver grey in oil; to the inside of the cupboard (buffet niche) in the dining room Verdigrease green in oil, 9½yds at 10d per yd; painting the outer doors in rid (red) and other similar work in April 1781.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 December 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1781.

PETITIONER: Archibald Scott, brewer in Potterrow for himself and on behalf of the other creditors of David Graham, barber and wigmaker.

SITE: Bryson's Close, opposite the Fountain well.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repairing the roof.

NOTES: Account here from George Ogston, slater.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1781.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Mylne's Court, rear.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the parapet leading to the Court having fallen down and damaged pavement.

NOTES: There is a minute here of a meeting of the heritors of Milns back court, 3 December 1781.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 December 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 12 September 1781.

PETITIONER: Thomas Heart, wright in Leith, factor for Mrs. Jean Foulis relict of the deceased James Law of Hillhousefield.

SITE: Near the Bridge, North Leith.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair to a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted 11 June 1755 to carry out the work. Also to two further decreets from the Court dated 8 December 1756 and 26 August 1761. There is a measurement of the work carried out by Andrew Low, ordained measurer. This includes: blue painting in size at 2½d per yd, buff colour in size at 2d per yd

DRAWINGS: None.

---

### **Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/12)**

BOX: 1781/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 January 1781 (no warrant, allow defenders to respond)

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1780.

PETITIONER: Thomas Russell, plasterer in Canongate, Miss Martha Edmonstone, residing there, William Dempster, goldsmith, Robert Clidsdale, watchmaker, Thomas

Ruthven writer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, head of Plainstones Close, Thomson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Henry Duncan, dyer who owns the partly adjoining, old tenement south. He has begun to raise his roof and make other alterations. The work was executed by William Thomson and James Findlay, journeymen masons. The work was stopped on 16 June and he was later fined £12 Scots but this became an inconclusive argument about ownership of the gable.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 17 May 1781.

PETITIONER: James Thomson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on his garden.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack or lease on a house and garden. His complaint is against Alexander Napier, smith, who has knocked a hole through a mutual wall into his garden in order to put out hot iron. In his answers, Napier explains that he has a tack on a small brick building from Hugh Morton, wright but that it is not big enough for his work, so occasionally he needs to have long pieces of iron protrude through the hole in the wall. This, he states cannot damage the bushes in any way and in any case, Mr. Morton gave the petitioner a liferent on the garden.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1781 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1781.

PETITIONER: James Gordon, brewer in Grassmarket, trustee for the heirs of (blank) Gordon of (Kelluth?) and James Brown, merchant in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Stevenson, wright in Portsburgh who has begun to build a stone dyke around some land on which he proposed to build.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1781 (no warrant - date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 June 1781.

PETITIONER: Misses Barbara Erskine, Margaret Colzier, indwellers and John Monro, merchant, Alexander Campbell and James Aird, brewers.

SITE: Cowgate, Campbell's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a flax dresser.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Inglis, lint dresser who is dressing flax in a cellar beneath their properties. They refer to a Decreet of the Court 14 years ago to lath and plaster the ceiling of the cellar. The cellar belongs to William Tytler of Woodhouselee, WS and Inglis states that it was used as a stable before he took it on.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1781.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1781.

PETITIONER: Duncan McFarlane, stabler in Pleasants.

SITE: Pleasance, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the disrepair of the property.

NOTES: The petitioner holds a tack or lease on a house or tavern and other property, at the foot of the Pleasance from William Crawford, son of the deceased John Crawford, stabler in Edinburgh 'of his second marriage with (blank) Duncanson, who liferents the

said property. There was an argument about who was liable to undertake the repairs and on 20 December the Court decided in favour of the petitioner, allowing him to undertake the work. This was challenged by William Sprott, solicitor, as factor for William Crawford but no action taken by the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1781/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 16 August 1781.

PETITIONER: James Neilson, wigmaker, residing in Saint Mary's Wynd.

NOTES: The petitioner has been summoned before the Court at the instance of the Procurator Fiscal because he is not a Burgess. He states that as he is in want of money and cannot afford to enter as a Burgess, he requests twelve months grace.

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## 1782

The Court Officers from 11 October 1781:

**Dean of Guild**

Thomas Cleghorn

**Council**

Archibald McDowall, Old Dean of Guild

John Hutchison, merchant

William Smith, merchant

William Brodie, wright

George Chalmers, plumber

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1782/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 January 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 22 December 1781.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Wilson & Hunter: John Wilson and Robert Hunter, builders.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of repairing a mutual gavel.

NOTES: Refers to the late George Hutchinson, painter having a dwelling house or story in the tenement and the petitioners seek payment from his representatives. Account here from Wilson and Hunter for repairs, discharged 9 November 1779.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 January 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1779.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Hutchison: Agnes Brand, relict of George Hutchison, painter.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Morocco's Close.

PROPOSAL: To cognose expences of repair her tenement damaged during repairs to the stair and mutual gavel.

NOTES: Estimate and account here from Francis Braidwood for wright and other work carried out between 11 March and 9 September 1780. This also includes amounts for oil white painting in June, yellow in the passages, 3 pieces of paper at 3s 6d each and 3 dozen borders at 8d per dozen, putting up at 8d (per dozen?) and further oil white painting in September.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1782.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Dunbar's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to James Seton, merchant. As a consequence of his taking it down the north gable of the timber land fronting the High Street has now become dangerous. Court ordered the north gable to be taken down within eight days. On 31 January the Court approved John Wilson, mason to carry out work and on 8 February also approved John Mathie, wright. See warrants granted 26 September and 21 November 1782 (Seton).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 28 November 1781.

PETITIONER: Heritors of Carrubber's land: James Fyfe, merchant, John Jamieson,

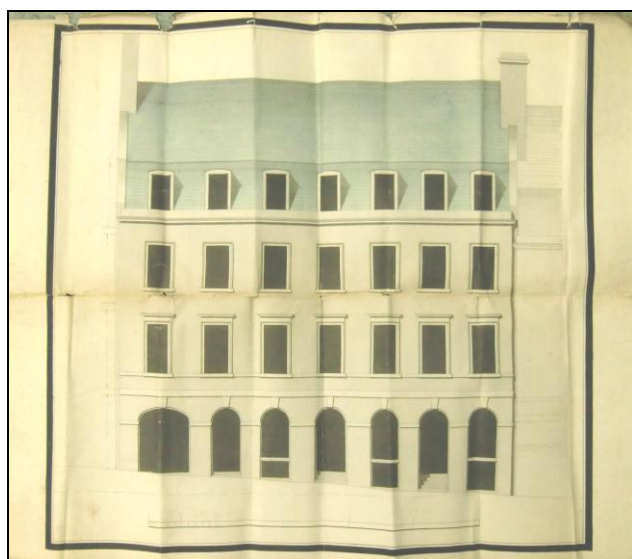
Supervisor of Excise, Robert Bowie, merchant, Mrs Young, Katherine and Margaret Hepburns and Robert Walker, surgeon, (Gavin Alston, printer).  
SITE: High Street, Carrubber's land, on the west of Gavinloch's land, opposite the head of Forrester's Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repairing the roof.  
NOTES: Estimate here from William Brodie for wright and slater work for sheet lead.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/5  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 February 1782.  
PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Bow head, Miln's fore land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous vents  
NOTES: The Court appointed William Jamieson, mason to take down and rebuild the chimneys which were out of plumb and dangerous. He was to sett or posses the tenement until the work was paid for.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/6  
WARRANT GRANTED: 7 and 30 March 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 8 October 1781.  
PETITIONER: Messrs. Wilson & Pirnie: John Wilson and William Pirnie, masons.  
SITE: South Bridge Street (south-most tenement, west side of the south abutment)  
PROPOSAL: Claim against William Butter, 'Kings Carpenter for Scotland'.  
NOTES: The petitioners claim for the expence of chimney heads, vents, a proportion of the cellarage account and a common stair leading to the Fleshmarket. Butter claims that he paid the petitioners £226 7s 5d for the work they carried out in building the walls of the second story of the tenement. He notes that the shop floor was purchased by Mr. Lauder, surgeon 'subject to a reservation of a gateway of ten feet wide for the purpose of a communication by a stair from the Bridge to the Fleshmarket'. Butter owned the floor above the shop floor and the petitioners, the two top floors. Lauder was prevailed upon by the petitioners to give up his purchase to George Ranken. Ranken had applied to the Council to build a flat under the arch but this was refused. The papers include the articles of roup (sale) including prices for the tenement which was offered on 27 January 1779.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation to South Bridge.  
Size: 44.8 x 52.0 cms.  
Watermark: countermark, J Whatman & Co

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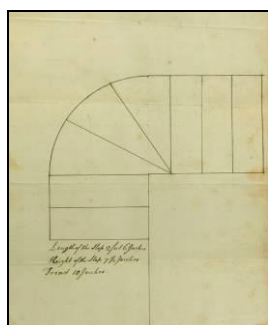
BOX: 1782/7  
WARRANT GRANTED: 7 March 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 29 September 1781.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Leitch, porter in Leith.  
SITE: Kinloch's Close, east side, head.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about water flooding his shop.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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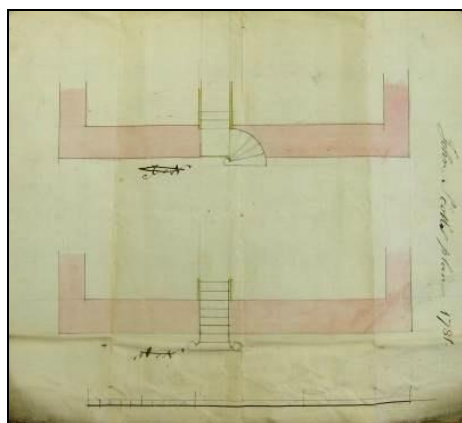
BOX: 1782/8  
WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1782. (No warrant, appointed a visit)  
PETITION LODGED: 29 February 1780.  
PETITIONER: William Charles Little of Libberton.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, foot of Fishers Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a brick wall being erected at the bottom of the close.  
NOTES: The petitioner refers to his property as lying in the Close occupied by Francis Brodie, wrights.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/9  
WARRANT GRANTED: 4 April 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 8 February 1782.  
PETITIONER: John Scott, flesher.  
SITE: High School Wynd, east side.  
PROPOSAL: To create an entrance to the second story of his house on the south.  
NOTES: This petition includes an earlier one to the Lord Provost and Magistrates dated June 1781 for the same work, as a result of 'late alterations and improvements to High School Yards'.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of curved stair.  
Size: 23.0 x 18.0 cms.



Description: b. Plans of the front wall with steps.  
Size: 28.0 x 25.0 cms.

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BOX: 1782/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 April 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1782.

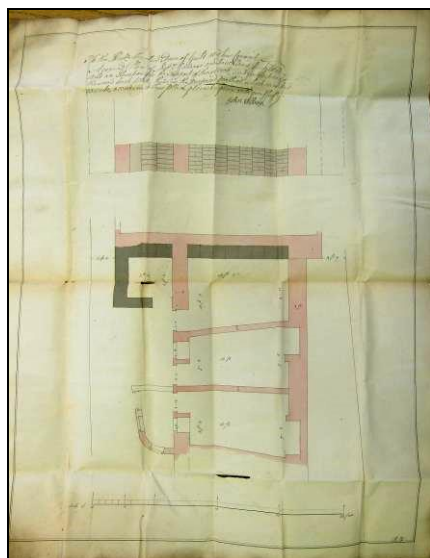
PETITIONER: James Seton, merchant.

SITE: Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment on his property.

NOTES: The petitioner's tenement is being taken down along with the back wall of the tenement fronting the (High) Street, belonging to Thomas Tulloch, merchant and others. See warrants of 24 January 1782 (Procurator Fiscal), 26 September and 21 November 1782 (Seton).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the ground floor and elevation of the back wall.

Size: 55.0 x 43.5 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, recto: Initialled, lower right, RK.

Architect: (Robert Kay?).

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BOX: 1782/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 April 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1782.

PETITIONER: Miss Sarah Crawford, daughter of Patrick Crawford of Auchinames.

SITE: St Andrew Square, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about sharing cost of a gable.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a coach house situated on the east side of the range of houses on the east side of St Andrew's Square. It was built by John Brough on land feued from the City. The complaint is against Alexander Purdie, mason who is now building a house on the north side of the coach house and is incorporating its wall into his building. He refuses to pay half the cost of the gable. He was ordered to pay one third of the cost, Alexander Reid and Alexander Laing, masons to determine this.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1782.

PETITIONER: Duncan Mcfarlane, stabler.

SITE: Balfour's Coffee house.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge the kitchen vent and other repairs.

NOTES: He proposes carrying on the business of a tavern.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 3 October 1781.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal for the public interest.

SITE: Peebles Wynd, immediately above the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the causeway in disrepair.

NOTES: The Court appointed Thomas Stevenson, mason and overseer of the City's pavers to give in an estimate. An estimate of stone is enclosed by James Tate, measurer and an estimate for the work by Stevenson dated 1 May 1782, 'but in regard to the sewer that comes from the head of the Quaker's Meeting house Close it is proposed to be cut below ground...'. The petition includes a list of occupiers.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1782.

PETITIONER: Robert Calder, mason residing in St. David's Lane, William Inglis, porter, John Hendry residenter.

SITE: St. David's lane.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the building of an oven on the ground floor.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Greig, baker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 16 November 1779.

PETITIONER: Edward Bruce, WS as heir to Janet Gibson, his mother, relict of the deceased Captain James Bruce late of the 26th Regiment of Foot.

SITE: Back of Bess Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Repair of a tenement under a warrant granted to Janet Gibson, 17 May 1775.

NOTES: The warrant also covered the removal of a large pile of rubbish and to build a new stair on the vacant ground. The accounts enclosed total £200 5s 3d and she considered the charges to be extravagant. The impetus for this may have been Edward Bruce as there are a number of letters here from Bruce to James Ramsay saying that he cannot make payments because he is waiting for money himself. James Ramsay slater was asked to produce accounts for the slater work, glazing, mason and painter work. James Richardson, slater was asked to appear to answer questions. Many accounts here including a large one from James Ramsay: of interest, 27 feet of mahogany rails (for the stair) and 32 mahogany stinchell balusters at 1/3 each. Other accounts from James Hay, glazier, John Baxter, slater although the account is for glass too, Robert Whithead, wright, James Richardson, slater, James Watson, painter, including painting the dining room and cupboard once over in oil and painting the laigh passage yellow, in March 1780, George Laing, wright, John Finlay, smith, John Hamilton for repairing vents, William Hamilton & Son wrights and upholsterers in Canongate for work carried out between 22 October 1776 and 27 February 1779 (James Hamilton is noted as one of the partners). There is a measure of the painter work carried out by David Scott, for the lodging possessed by Mr. Taylor, writer which notes: 87 yds of bleu painting in oil once over; c.18 yds ditto 8 times over; c.143 yds oil gray once over; c.8yds varnish green in cupboard; 3 yds mahoganie painting in stair case; c.57 yds size bleu and c.83 yds size yellow. There is a further measure of paint work by Scott which notes: c. 19 yds oil painting upon the outside of the house door & barge over ditto and on two stincial doors upon the stair foot and c. 28 yds varnich green upon the stincial railing, 31 July 1776. William Hamilton, wright and Thomas Ponton, measurer certified that the work had been carried out at the proper rate, some of them 'below the current prices'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 May 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 15 May 1783.

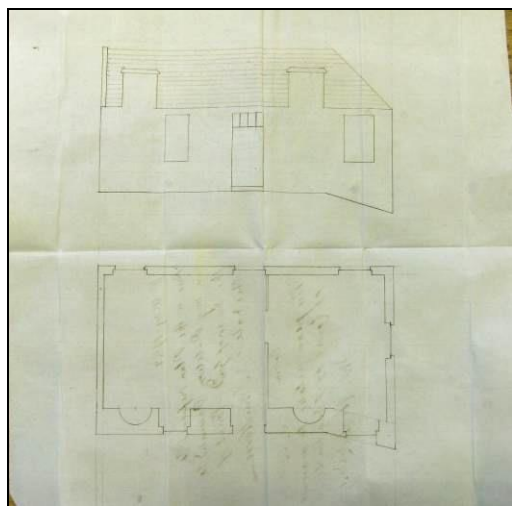
PETITIONER: John Horn, wright in Calton.

SITE: Monteith's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To complete building a work house.

NOTES: He had begun work, not realising he had to apply to the Court and a complaint had been lodged by James Syme of Northfield, believing he was encroaching on his property. He has built over the water pipe supplying Trinity Hospital but he is building walls to protect it.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 31.8 x 31.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1782/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 8 May 1782.

PETITIONER: James Kettle, writer as factor for James Syme of Northfield.

SITE: Monteith's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Horn, wright. See warrant granted 16 May 1782 (Horn). The Court ordered the work to stop on 9 May and this is an argument over the expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1782.

PETITIONER: James Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Monteith's Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof of Mr. Ancrum's property.

NOTES: The estimate enclosed refers to gray slate and blue slate.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1782.

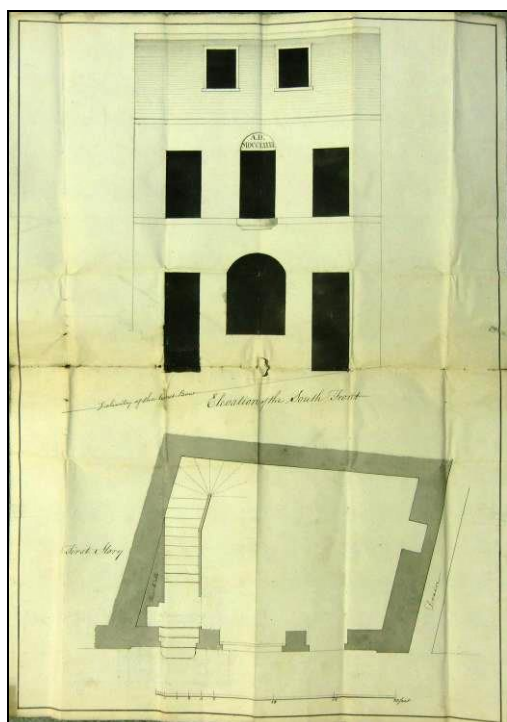
PETITIONER: Robert Milne, architect in London and Robert Selby, plumber, his trustee.

SITE: West Bow, middle of the north side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The drawing at a. is almost certainly not by Robert Mylne. See the drawing

with a warrant granted 20 July 1786 (Brown) which is probably his work.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the south front and a plan.

Size: 50.0 x 35.0 cms.

Watermarks: T French

---

BOX: 1782/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 16 May 1782.

PETITIONER: John Ronaldson, tobacconist and merchant.

SITE: Mint Close, head of, on west side.

PROPOSAL: To build up the space between pillars below his property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1780.

PETITIONER: James Stewart, druggist.

SITE: Opposite the salt tron.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.

NOTES: The petitioner has right to a decret of adjudication obtained before the Court of Session at the instance of James Steell, saddler in Beltonford against James Oliphant, limner at Fort St. George in the East Indies for the second story or house in the turnpike of the new tenement lying opposite to the salt tron for payment of £134 16s stg. He applied to the Court to carry out repairs and he encloses the accounts. Accounts or measures here for work by William Stewart, wright, Thomas Clayton, plasterer dated 1 November 1779, William Jamieson, mason and William Scott, plumber. The latter's account includes an amount for 'putting on the bead on the bow window'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/22

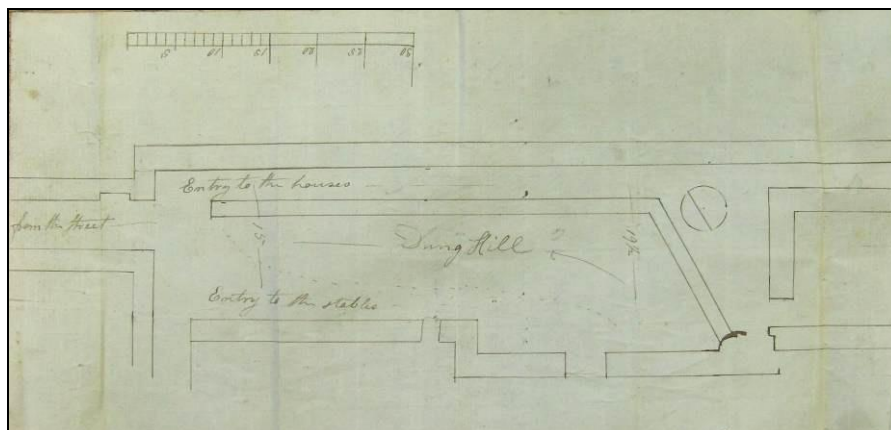
WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1782.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, solicitor at law.

SITE: Grassmarket, stables.

PROPOSAL: To build a wall in the Close to enclose the dung heap.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the Close.

Size: 14.6 x 30.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1782/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 28 November 1781.

PETITIONER: William Finlay, brewer and distiller at Croftangry.

SITE: High Street, south side, Watson's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against his landlord for the ruinous state of his property.

NOTES: Refers to a 19 year tack entered into on 11 February 1769 by himself and Patrick Finlay, merchant with James Scott WS. The dwelling house then occupied by John bell, journeyman upholsterer and a work house and pit well occupied by John Clark, weaver. The petitioner fears he will now be in trouble with George Wilson, hairdresser in Canongate and Adam Hunter, weaver there, to whom he has sett the property. Enclosed is a report on the property by Robert Weir, mason, James Smith, slater, both in Canongate and Michael Nasmith, wright in Edinburgh dated 24 January 1782. The Court found the defender liable for the repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1782.

PETITIONER: John Dundas, Clerk to the Signet.

SITE: Parliament Close, President's stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a wright's shop.

NOTES: The petitioner owns one of the uppermost flats and his complaint is against Andrew Baxter, journeyman wright, who has rented one of the garrets above him and works there, occasionally at night by candlelight. He cites the Police Act as prohibiting such work in garrets. Having challenged Baxter he refuses to 'give over'(stop). The Court ordered him to cease his trade in the garret.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 30 May 1782.

PETITIONER: William Crawford, son of the deceased John Crawford, slater. Also John Black, merchant and Thomas Allan, brewer, curators appointed to the petitioner.

SITE: Castle bank, south side, foot and at the back of the Bughts.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a great pile of earth.

NOTES: The earth has been piled against a tenement owned by the petitioner and possessed by Rd (Roderick?) Chalmers, lint dresser and others. His father had feued out a piece of land at the back of this tenement to James Reikie, glazier, on which he had lately built some houses. He had piled up earth and recent rains had caused this to



damage the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 June 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1782.

PETITIONER: William Muir, head brush maker and George Boyd, merchant.

SITE: Paterson's Court, stair, back part and east side.

PROPOSAL: Repair of burst sewer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1782.

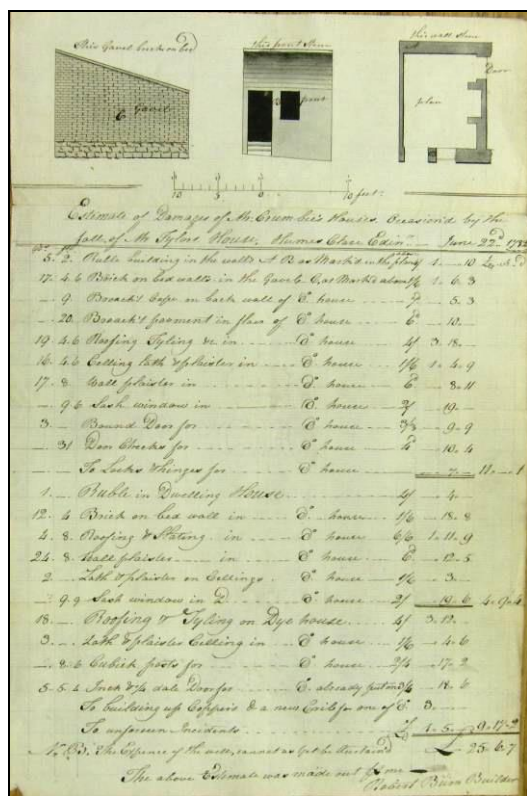
PETITIONER: Andrew Crumbie, dyer.

SITE: Hume's Close.

PROPOSAL: Repair of a dwelling and a dye house.

NOTES: Refers to a previous action in the Dean of Guild Court against Patrick Tayler, smith, Thomas Wallace, mason in Leith, Alexander Reid, mason in Edinburgh and Richard Thomson, mason residing in Calton. They had built a tenement adjoining the petitioner's property and this had fallen down, damaging his property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations and a plan as part of an estimate.

Size: 28.9 x 19.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Robert Burn, builder, lower right.

Architect: Robert Burn.

---

BOX: 1782/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1782.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Rachel McQueen, relict of the deceased Duncan McQueen, white iron smith.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: To take down an internal wall and erect a bow window.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 30 May 1782.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate head, south side, being the corner land turning from the Cowgate into Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is owned by Robert Thomson, late merchant in Edinburgh now residing near the Grange Toll and he carried out the repairs by 4 July.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1782.

PETITIONER: James Thomson, merchant and insurance broker.

SITE: Carrubbers Close, foot, a room in Butter's land.

PROPOSAL: Alteration, a new window.

NOTES: The room presently occupied by George Leslie, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 8 April 1782.

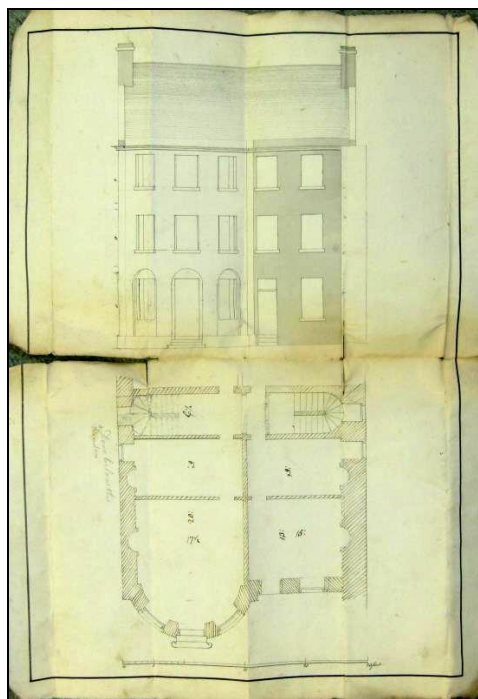
PETITIONER: Thomas Potts, merchant.

SITE: Bristo Port, east side within.

PROPOSAL: To demolish the houses next the high Street and rebuild.

NOTES: Old tenements purchased from William McConochie, wright. The elevation at c. shows the Town wall forming part of the side wall of the tenement and with windows knocked through it. The area at the rear is occupied by the old buildings, also with windows through the City wall.

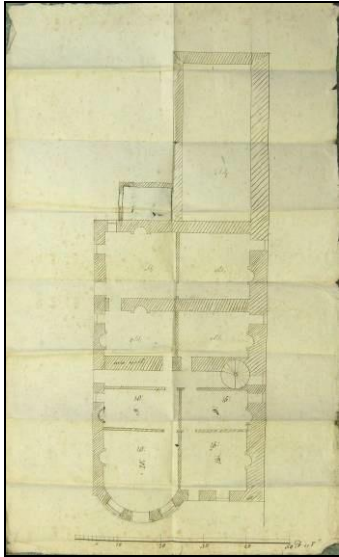
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



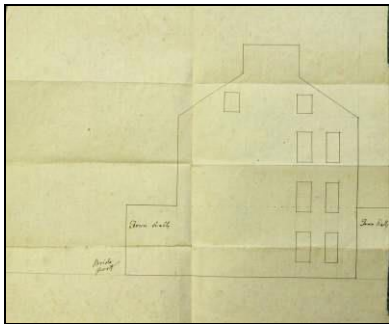
Description: a. Elevation to the street.

Size: 48.7 x 34.6 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman.



Description: b. Plan.  
Size: 57.4 x 34.6 cms.



Description: c. Elevation to the right side of the part being rebuilt.  
Size: 28.8 x 34.5 cms.

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BOX: 1782/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 19 December 1781.

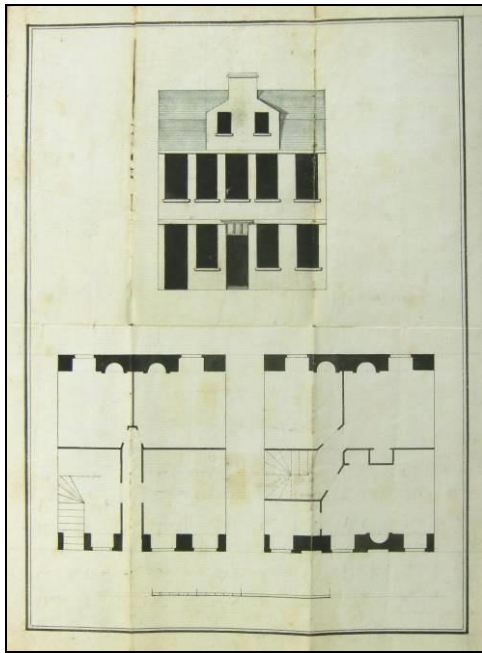
PETITIONER: William Hay, WS.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd, east end.

PROPOSAL: To take down the coach house and build a small tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased the coach house on the site from Mrs. Clark, wife of Dr. Clark residing in London on 15 September 1781. She held the property as general disponee to the Hon. John Maul, deceased, one of the Barons of Exchequer. The petition to build three stories according the drawing at b. below was refused on 31 January 1782. In replies from Misses Ann and Jean Bruce, daughters of the deceased John Bruce, minister of the Gospel they note that they are proprietors of a large tenement on the south side of St. Mary's Wynd 'of old called the chapel of St. Mary'. They refer to disposition from John Home to Baron Maule with the stipulation that he could not build anything on the site higher than the coach house. They complain that a three story tenement would obscure their view to St Mary's Wynd. Enclosed is a further petition by Alexander Leggat, broker dated 20 June 1782 to take down a coach house and rebuild as a small tenement. He is proprietor of (the same?) coach house in St Mary's Wynd, east side, recently repaired by John Home coachmaker in Edinburgh. He states that it was originally built by the Earl of Tweeddale and had been acquired by John Home from Archibald Shiels, merchant in Edinburgh. Leggat was granted a warrant to proceed on 11 July 1782.

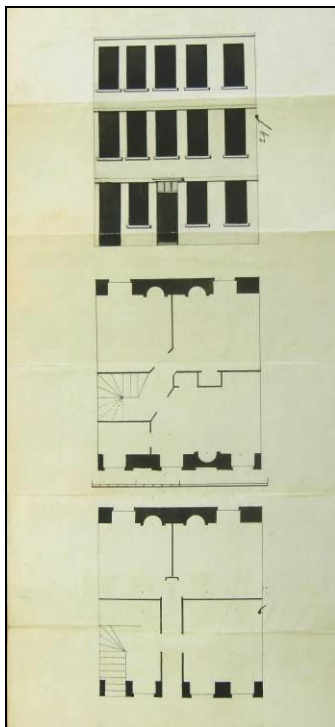
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a two story tenement with attics.

Size: 30.4 x 22.5 cms.

Watermark: S Lay



Description: b. Elevation of a three story tenement.

Size: 35.3 x 16.1 cms.

---

BOX: 1782/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1782.

PETITIONER: Robert Kay, drawing master.

SITE: Sandiland's Close, bottom.

PROPOSAL: To take off part of the roof of the area across the Close and the back wall and rebuild higher.

NOTES: The flat above Kay's house is occupied by Peter Sangster, bookbinder.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/34  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1782.  
PETITIONER: William Gibb, merchant (bookseller), Samuel Watson, solicitor and Sophia Christie, spouse of William Chrystie, bookbinder.  
SITE: Cowgate, Mealmarket, easter tenement.  
PROPOSAL: Repair of chimney vents.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/35  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 January 1782.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Meuse lane leading from the Register Office to St. Andrews Square.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Brough, wright in the new extended Royalty.  
NOTES: Brough has encroached on the public footpath with a pile of wood, carts, ash, building stones and other nuisances, for the past six months or more.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/36  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1782.  
PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Libberton's Wynd, west side, Burns land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Burns, merchant and David Sommerville, tobacconist.  
NOTES: The complaint relates to a door leading to the cellars under Burns land, which has been carried away. The area is now a public nuisance.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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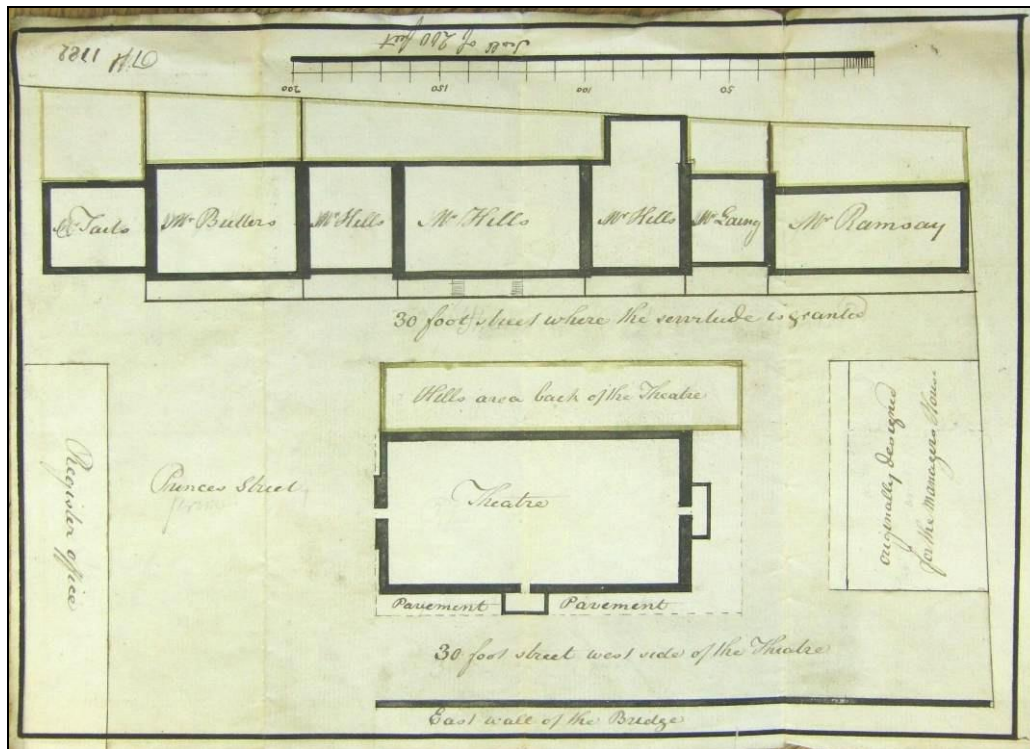
BOX: 1782/37  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1782.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Scott: Helen Chessels, wife of James Scott, merchant.  
SITE: Canongate head, south side, Pirrie's Close  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous condition of neighbouring tenement.  
NOTES: The neighbouring tenement belongs to John Skeene, wright and it has a thatched roof. He is re-thatching the roof 'contrary to the police of the City...'. He replies that the roof was covered in straw thatch and he is at liberty to repair it with the same materials, under the Act of Parliament of 1621 cap. 26. which ordains that 'the heritors of such houses as are already thatched with thack and straw (if the same thack and straw roofs shall hereafter at any time become ruinous) shall be  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/38  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1782.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1782.  
PETITIONER: Heritors of Granger's land: James Dewar, merchant.  
SITE: High Street, immediately below and adjoining the Tron Kirk.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against Edward Innes, confectioner.  
NOTES: Dewar is proprietor of the first flat above the cellars and other proprietors are listed. Innes leases the cellars and has placed two stoves there without any vents. The smoke just pours out through the entrance. He also stores spirits in the cellar. On 25 May the cellar was set on fire but quickly extinguished by the City Guard. Dewar states in his answers that he has been working in this way for twelve years without complaint. The complaint is dismissed.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 19.7 x 27.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: TH 1782

Draughtsman: (Thomas Hill?).

BOX: 1782/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 August 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1782.

PETITIONER: William Scott the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, high street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous mutual gable.

NOTES: The tenement on the east belongs to Walter Scott WS and on the west to the deceased Miss Mary Drummond and her factor, William Ramsay WS. A jury decided the gable was dangerous and should be demolished immediately.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1782/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 August 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 11 July 1782.

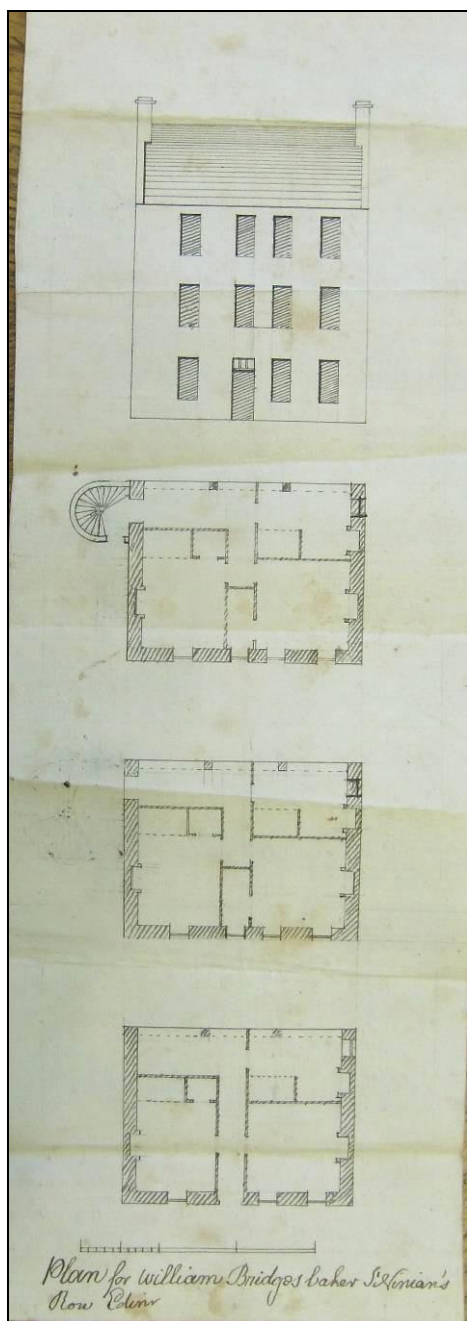
PETITIONER: William Bridges, baker in St Ninian's Row.

SITE: Dickson's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The drawing has been altered with a larger staircase at first floor level erased.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of three floors.

Size: 43.0 x 14.2 cms.

Draughtsman: (Alexander Laing?)

Watermark: countermark, T French

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BOX: 1782/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 August 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1782.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Elizabeth Moncrieff.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Repair of chimneys.

NOTES: John Ritchie, slater appointed to inspect the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1782/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 September 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 29 August 1782.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, the 'meuse lane south west of the Physician's Hall'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the height of intended building.

NOTES: The Procurator Fiscal notes that 'if such a building was allowed to be erected it would destroy the plan of the building in the new extended Royalty and being expressly prohibited by sundry Acts of Council as well as the regulations for building there...' The complaint is against William Smith and Robert Wright, masons who are building a tenement. The land had been feued by William Smith in March and he complains in his answers that he is not aware of any regulation that prohibits him from doing exactly as his neighbours have done. There are replies here from the Procurator Fiscal and William Thomson, the City Treasurer in which they point out that the general plan of the New Town and various regulations 'which are taken notice of in every charter, the meuse lanes are set off and appropriated for stables and coach houses to the front buildings and cannot be converted to any other purpose or built higher than the other offices adjoining'. The Court allowed the defenders to finish their building 'they keeping the side walls no higher than eighteen feet to the easing and no storm windows to be in the roof...'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 September 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1782.

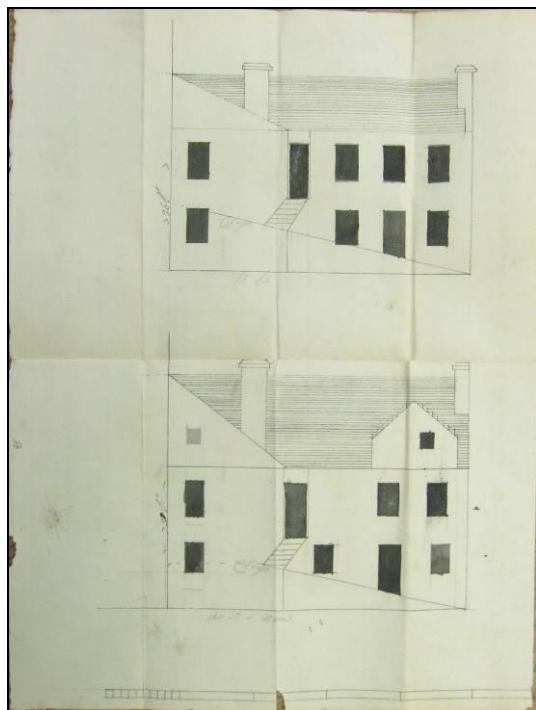
PETITIONER: William Scott, vintner.

SITE: Roxburgh's Close, west side

PROPOSAL: To take down a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The elevations are noted 'to be' (top) and 'as it is' (bottom).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations.

Size: 36.7 x 27.5 cms.

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BOX: 1782/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 September 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1782.

PETITIONER: Captain John Niccol in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a grate over a hole in a boundary wall.

NOTES: The petitioners house belonged to William Stewart, writer. The complaint is against Robert Kerr, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 September 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 1 April 1782.

PETITIONER: James Seton, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, fronting the High Street with Dunbar's Close on the east and Galloway's Close on the west.

PROPOSAL: To take down a timber tenement of seven stories and rebuild in stone.

NOTES: The petitioner occupies part of a wooden fronted tenement, part of which has been taken down. The other proprietors; John Paterson, David Lindsay, James Brodie, William Walker, Thomas Tulloch and Joseph Lachlan for Alexander McCulloch in Glasgow, point out that James Seton owns only a small shop His petition to rebuild the front wall was dismissed. See warrants of 24 January 1782 (Procurator Fiscal), 13 April and 21 November 1782 (Seton). This tenement was probably not rebuilt at this time. See warrant granted 21 August 1806 (Cameron) in which there is a statement to this effect.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 September 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1782.

PETITIONER: James Hay, later servant to Miss Brodie of Lethem, now servant to Commissioner Edgar.

SITE: New Town, George Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building behind his basement flat.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased two rooms and a cellar from John Sutter, 'wright and mason' by disposition dated 10 June 1780, with consent of Alexander Purdie and Adam Gilles, masons. The low house and cellar is presently occupied by William Kay, wright. According to a servitude '...no building shall be raised opposite to the back window ... nearer than the south wall enclosing the back ground now disponded to Lachlan Duff, WS...'. Duff replies that Sutter sold him the first story in the (same) tenement and the whole back ground on the south (sic.) side by disposition dated 23 May 1780 and he holds a Charter from the Town Council for the same dated 14 June 1780. The only restriction placed on him was that he could build offices no higher than an existing wall. The Court threw out the complaint and awarded Duff expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 October 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 10 October 1782.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Syme, relict of Andrew Syme, cooper.

SITE: Niddry Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair a floor.

NOTES: The property is presently possessed by Mr. James Baker, confectioner in Edinburgh and Mr. Nimmo, spirit dealer there. The petitioner notes that 'the hearth and floor of the kitchen of the house possessed by Mr. Innes is gone into disrepair, the hearth having fallen down into the possession of Mr. Nimmo and the floor in danger of coming down also'. William Jamieson, mason appointed to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 October 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1782.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Queen Street, behind.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a coach house that is dangerous.

NOTES: The petitioner notes the coach house was recently built by George Steel, smith. In his answers Steel notes that the neighbouring coach house, owned by John Hunter WS and let to the Lord Provost, David Stewart, proved unable to accommodate his large coach and so it was heightened without any warrant, and this work damaged the petitioner's coach house. The Court appointed an inspection by Alexander Laing and Alexander Reid, masons.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 November 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 24 October 1872.

PETITIONER: John Carnegie, grocer in Leith.

SITE: Portsburgh, north side, Bunton's land.

PROPOSAL: To build a garden wall on the west side.

NOTES: The petitioner's property was purchased from Helen Bunton, widow of Robert Goodlet, tanner in Portsburgh and only child of James Bunton, tanner there.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 November 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1777.

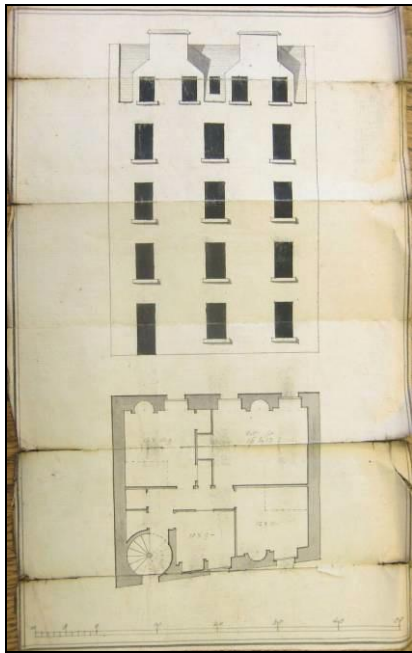
PETITIONER: James Seton, merchant.

SITE: Dunbar's Close, west side, between it and Galloway's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a tenement.

NOTES: The petition is dated 26 November 1777 but the earliest actions of the Court are dated 12 September and 24 November 1777. The petitioner had begun to make alterations. An inventory of writs notes: Decree of Adjudication James Aitchison, merchant against Robert Murray son of William Murray, WS dated 2 and 10 January 1724; disposition by James Aitchison in favour of John Brown and David Miln dated 26 December 1728, recorded in Burgh Court books, 19 February 1732; disposition by David Miln, son of David Miln, tailor in favour of James Seton dated 19 February 1776; disposition by Catherine Brown, spouse of Peter Fyfe, vintner in favour of James Seton dated 26 January 1776 and Sasine following recorded in Edinburgh Sasines, 26 February 1776. There is a long running argument here with 33 numbered processes, some of which are missing, the most frequent being with James Brodie, surgeon and William Young, writer. The warrant itself is a 65 page document. There are pursuer's proofs here from John Bennet, wright, head of Leith Walk; John Johnston, journeyman mason with Alexander Laing, aged 42 or thereby, married; Charles Elphingston, journeyman mason aged 40 and upwards who works with Alexander Laing, mason; George Callander, wright and ordained measurer aged 42, married. The latter declares that he drew the plans numbered 11 and 14 here. There are defenders proofs from: James Crichton, journeyman mason aged 36 or thereby, married; George Knox, mason aged 22, unmarried; James Gray, wright aged 28, married. See previous warrants: 24 January (Procurator Fiscal), 13 April, 26 September, 21 November 1782 (Seton).

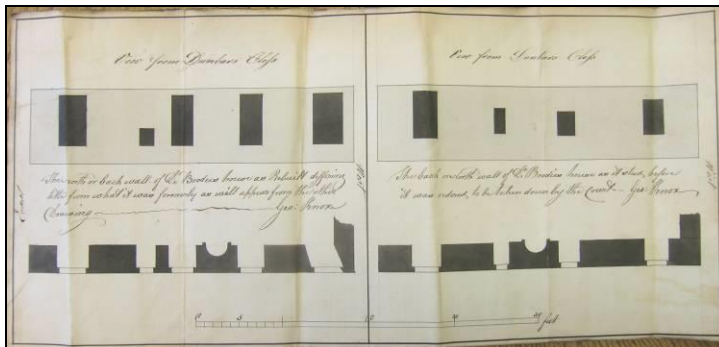
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a five story tenement.

Size: 36.5 x 22.5 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Edr. 26 November 1777. This is the plan referenced in my petition of this date.

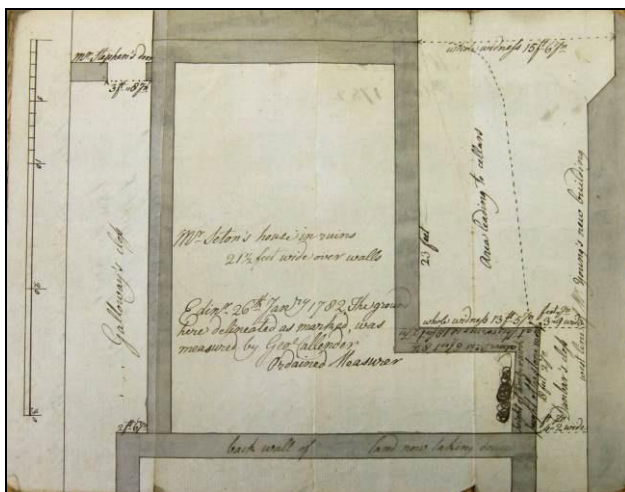


Description: b. Elevations and plans of the ground floor, as it was and as rebuilt.

Size: 21.7 x 47.2 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: produced with Mr. Brodie's replies, No. 29.

Watermark: I Taylor

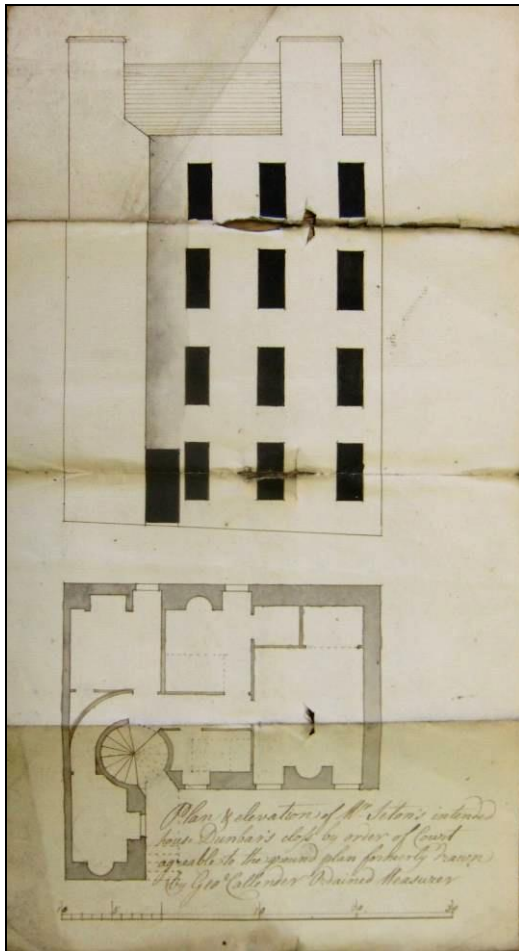


Description: c. Plan of the area.

Size: 24.1 x 19.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: No. 11. Edinr. 30th July 1782. This relates to the witness oaths of this date, (signed) John Bennet, John Johnston and Charles Elphinstone.

Draughtsman: George Callander.



Description: d. Plan and elevation of a four story tenement.

Size: 34.5 x 18.1 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: No. 14. Edinr. 30th May 1782. This is the plan referred to in an interlocutor of Court signed by me of this date, Thos. Cleghorn.

Draughtsman: George Callander.

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BOX: 1782/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 December 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1872.

PETITIONER: Jonathon Townsend, basket maker.

SITE: Cowgate, north side, foot of Forrester's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the erection of wooden scaffolding, shade, grindstone and trough.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Davidson, cooper, tenant of George Bathgate.

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/13)

BOX: 1782/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 January 1782 (no warrant, date of visit)

PETITION LODGED: 9 January 1782.

PETITIONER: Thomas Ruthven, writer.

SITE: Canongate, Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stacks.

NOTES: The chimneys are on the west wall of a tenement in Coul's Close belonging to James Ballantyne, wheelwright, James Robertson, weaver and Alexander Mitchell, baker, all in Canongate and William Fettes, merchant in Edinburgh and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1782 (no warrant, case continued)

PETITION LODGED: 29 November 1781.

PETITIONER: John Grieve, merchant.

SITE: Entry to the Exchange, a shop being the third above the entry.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant and a change of plans by the builders of the Exchange.

NOTES: The magistrates altered their plan to have a stair within the area of her shop to the one above it, replacing this with an external stair from the street to the shops above. During internal alterations she removed this redundant internal stair and John Grieve made a complaint against her for continuing to make alterations to the inside of her shop, the warrant of the Dean of Guild having been suspended in the Court of Session. She was ordered to stop the work and to appear but William Findlayson, writer appeared on her behalf and the case was continued with no outcome noted here. The tradesman employed in the work was George Anderson, journeyman wright. The petition includes a bill of Advocation by Sibilla Hutton against John Grieve, merchant, listed 4 December 1781 with Lord Braxfield.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1782 (no warrant, request to produce titles).

PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1782.

PETITIONER: Robert and Alexander Sherriff, merchants in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Quality Street and Leith Links.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment and nuisance; a proposal to demolish and rebuild cellars and a proposal to build on Leith Links.

NOTES: The petitioner's purchased their cellars, lofts and vaults from William Bell, merchant in Guernsey. The complaint is against the proprietors of the tenement to the west. They also ask to build on an area of Leith Links, to plans produced, permission having been granted by John Patison.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1782/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 2 May 1782.

PETITIONER: Richard Gardiner of the Custom House, Edinburgh.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Dunbar's Close on the west side.

PROPOSAL: To provide light to his cellar by a grate in the pavement.

NOTES: No action recorded here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 June (no warrant, appointment of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 20 May 1782.

PETITIONER: Alexander Whyte, merchant.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, foot, in Hodges Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the garrets.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the flat below the garrets and has laid out considerable sums in repairing the house and garrets. The complaint is against Alexander Dallas, dyer who has allowed the garret to fall into disrepair and rain is entering the petitioner's property. In his replies Dallas states that the roof 'which is covered in the best blue slates', was damaged during the repairs, made by Mr. Duff. He has been called again to remedy the present fault.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1782.

PETITIONER: The heritors of the Lawnmarket and Castle Hill of Edinburgh.

SITE: Nor Loch (Mound).

PROPOSAL: A bridge from the Lawnmarket to Princes Street.

NOTES: The petitioners refer to a proposal to build a bridge cross to Princes Street. They ask that the area should be staked out 'without dealy' and that all the earth from the foundations of the Assembly room and other buildings in the New Town along with all the rubbish in the Old Town, should be carried into the area marked off. The petition is signed in the name of the petitioners by Will Young, Praeses.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1782/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1782.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney vents.

NOTES: The only process to survive from this petition is answers from Alexander Brown, merchant for himself and William Inglis.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1782/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 October 1782 (no warrant, appointment of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 October 1782.

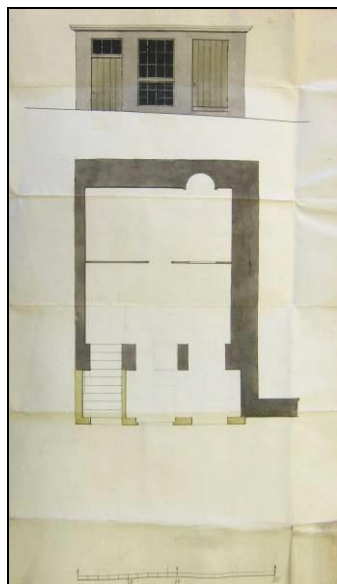
PETITIONER: Alexander Ritchie, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of old Baxter's Close.

PROPOSAL: To bring forward the shop front and alter the stair.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the shop and cellar below. He proposes bringing his shop front forward to the line of the timber projection above his shop.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description:

Size: 36.7 x 22.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1782/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 December 1782 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 9 October 1782.

PETITIONER: Robert Gray, solicitor at law.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked sewer and payment to clear.

NOTES: The complaint is against Samuel Gilmour, rope maker who refuses to pay his share of the work carried out by David Paton, mason and John Campbell causey (causeway) layer whose accounts dated June 1782 are lodged here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1783

The Court Officers from 10 October 1782:

### Dean of Guild

Thomas Cleghorn

### Council

Archibald McDowall, Old Dean of Guild

James Fyffe, junior, merchant

William Smith, merchant

William Brodie, wright

George Chalmers, plumber

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1783/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 January 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 December 1782.

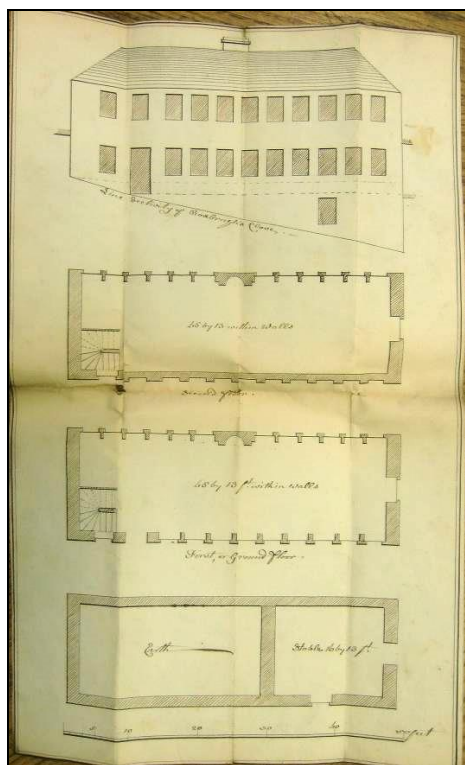
PETITIONER: William Coulter, hosier.

SITE: Roxburgh's Close, a yard at the foot on the west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a work house and stable.

NOTES: Petition includes a missive letter between Coulter and William Young dated 14 December 1782, agreeing to the sale of the yard for £17 10s, with agreed height restrictions on the proposed work house.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of three floors.

Size: 46.2 x 28.4 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1783/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 January 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 18 December 1782.

PETITIONER: Alexander McDougall of the Exchequer in Scotland, Mrs. Bannerman relict of the deceased George Bannerman, later merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Forglen's land, near the Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a bow window

NOTES: The complaint is against John Gardner, pewterer who had tradesmen construct the window during the night. His landlord is Mrs. Colville, candle maker and soap boiler at the Water gate. Gardener claims in his answers that Mrs. Bannerman is proprietor of the neighbouring shop and that she created a bow window without the consent of her landlady. '...the respondent did no more than has been done in a thousand instances within this City without a warrant, he covered a former window with a beaux, of small projection, which in place of deformity, is graceful & ornamental, both to the tenement and to the public street...'. The complaint was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 3 October 1782.

PETITIONER: Henry Arnot, coal merchant in London and Edward Bruce, WS.

SITE: Holyrood Palace precinct.

PROPOSAL: Cost of repairs a preferable debt on the property.

NOTES: The petitioners obtained right before the Court of Session to the house with waste area and stables, lying within the precinct of Holyrood Palace that previously belonged to Lady Mary, widow of the deceased Francis, Lord Napier. The house was occupied by Captain Henry Rutherford but is now empty and in disrepair. Enclosed is an estimate of repairs to be carried out by William Hamilton and Charles Steedman, wrights. Their estimate includes the following: Refers to the 'dining room storrie', crown glass 23 panes in four windows in the dining room storrie and 9 panes in 3 windows in the lodging storrie, a garret storrie and a lumber garret (later: '8ft of sash window glazed with crown glass for the entry door head'). Under mason work; workmanship in fixing some of the marbles (chimneypieces) and repairing the brick in the northmost chimney head of the lodging and repairing the parapet in the fore area and pointing about the entry door stair. Under wright and upholstery work: 6 pieces of paper for the dining room @ 4s 6d per piece £1 7s; 8 doz. Yds of bords (borders) for ditto @ 8d per doz, 5s 4d; To hanging ditto paper 4s 6d; 5½ pieces of paper for the small bedroom ;2s 6d per piece, 13s 9d; 5 doz of yards of bords for ditto @ 8d per do, 3s 4d; To hanging ditto paper, 4s 6d; To sizing both the room(s) for the paper 3s; to 45 yds of blew size culler in the dining room@ 2d per yard, 7s 6d. Also a wooden rail and ballesters for the main entry stair.

REFERENCES: *The Gentleman's Magazine* Vol. 44, (London 1774) p. 334. 11 July. Death notice of Mary Anne, Lady Napier at Lord Napier's house in the Abbey of Holyrood House. Sister of present Lord Cathcart, she married Lord Napier in 1754. Daniel Wilson *Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time* (Edinburgh 1872) pp. 307-8.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 February 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 September 1782.

PETITIONER: Thomas Stevenson, causeway layer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Peebles Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Division of expence of £33 15s.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted to the Procurator Fiscal on 2 May 1782 to carry out repairs to the paving in the Wynd. The petition includes a list of all the proprietors in the Wynd. Mr. William Miller is cited 'for the Quakers' with a valuation of £100.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 and 27 February 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 20 January 1783.

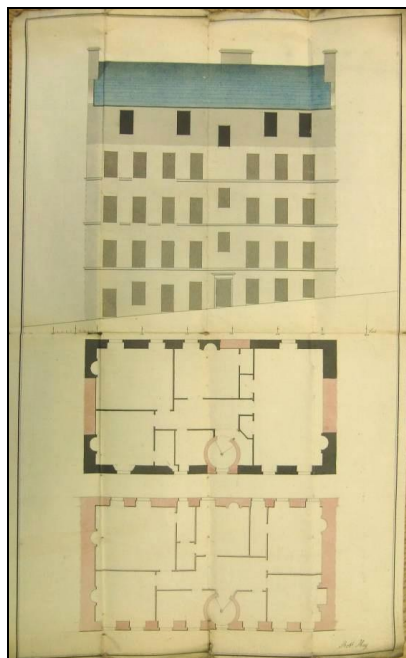
PETITIONER: John Christie, wright.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, about the middle of the west side.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the uppermost story, purchased from Alan Buchanan, lace weaver in Edinburgh. The present roof is a platform covered in lead and he proposes to take off the roof, add another story of about 9ft and put on a new slate roof. The plans indicate areas rebuilt on the 4th floor.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 46.0 x 28.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed Robt. Kay (Robert Kay)

Architect: Robert Kay.

---

BOX: 1783/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1783.

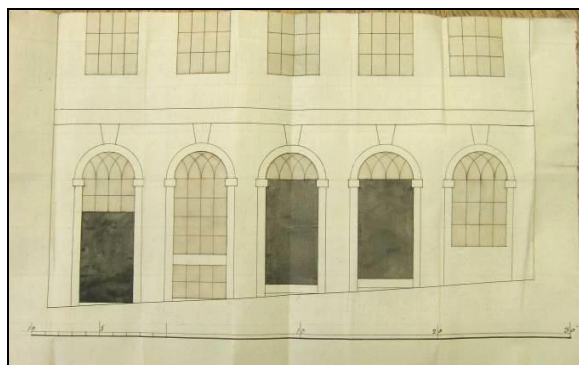
PETITIONER: Hugh Buchan, writer and Thomas Herriot, wright.

SITE: Bridge Street, southmost of the new tenements on the east side.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to shop windows.

NOTES: There is a stair in the tenement that leads down to Halkerston's Wynd. This had become a public nuisance so the petitioner blocked it off with wooden doors but these have been destroyed. The shop is occupied by Alexander Dickie, watchmaker.

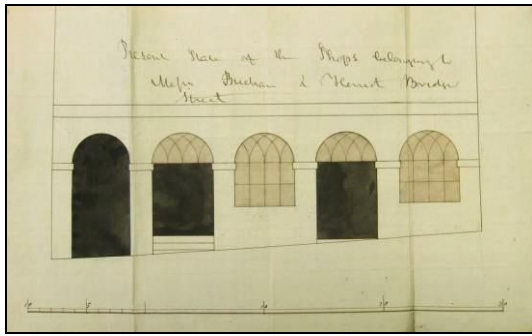
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of shop floor as presently.

Size: 19.0 x 31.5 cms.

Watermark: R Williams



Description: b. Elevation of shop floor as proposed.  
Size: 19.0 x 31.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1783/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1783.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Riddle's Close, east side, next to the Tolbooth.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dyke belonging to the Custom's House of Leith which encloses the garden and offices.

NOTES: The court called George Fairholme of Greenhill, George Fullerton, Collector of Customs at Leith and George Middleton, Comptroller of the customs there.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 March 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 8 November 1782.

PETITIONER: William Walker, attorney in the Exchequer.

SITE: Strichen's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner is a heritable creditor of John Cumming Ramsay of Preston, advocate, proprietor of the house in Strichen's Close presently occupied by John Grieve, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh. Accounts here from Arthur Giles, wright; Robert Cavinton, smith; John Clark, mason; Alexander Miller, glazier in Canongate; David Bruce, slater and William Sommerville, painter. The only colours mentioned other than whitewash in the latter, refer to a cupboard, possibly a buffet niche, being painted 'fan (fern?) green' and 'gilding on the arises of a cupboard'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1783.

PETITION LODGED: On or before 12 June 1782.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crumbie, dyer.

SITE: Hume's Close and Cowan's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a falling gable.

NOTES: Refers to the building of a tenement in Hume's Close, opposite that of Andrew Crumbie, begun around 1779. The foundations were laid over a well and they became unstable, leading to a complaint. The builders did not act on the instructions of the court to take it down so Robert Burns was asked to undertake the work. The tenement was rebuilt but on 3 June 1783 part of the east gable collapsed and on the 4th the north wall fell. The tenement was built by Patrick Taylor, smith, Thomas Wallace, mason in Leith, Alexander Reid, mason in Edinburgh and Richard Thomson, mason, residing in Calton Hill. The petition includes an estimate and account for repairs by Robert Burn.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1783.

PETITIONER: John Lithgow, shoemaker and Alexander Duff, stabler.

SITE: West Bow, north side, laigh house above the cellars and three upper floors of a tenement.

PROPOSAL: To repair the chimney heads.

NOTES: The property purchased from Walter Scott WS.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 5 December 1782.

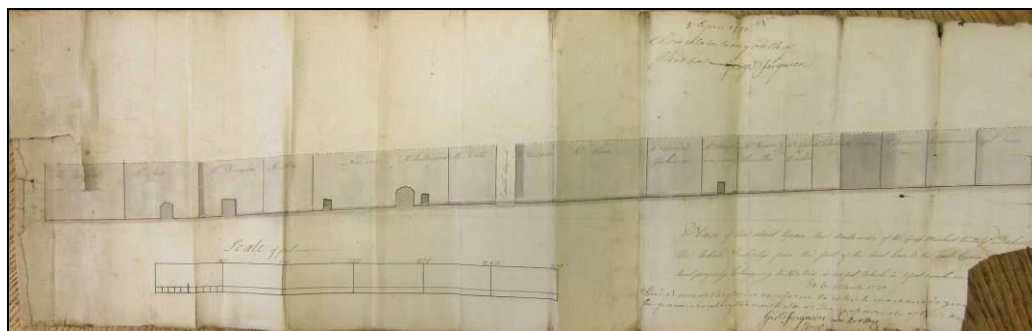
PETITIONER: Robert Dott, reedmaker in Grassmarket.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side pavement.

PROPOSAL: Final reckoning for expences.

NOTES: The plan to pave the north side of the Grassmarket began in 1770 with all the heritors agreeing to contribute. Now that the work is complete and all accounts in, it appears there is an outstanding balance of £413s 8d Stg. Some of the heritors have not paid and he is owed money. 'It is a matter much to be regretted that, in carrying through every public undertaking there will always be found some peevish disposed person, who endeavours to frustrate the scheme...'. There are many papers in this process including lists of heritors, valuations, accounts and amounts paid. Also a printed subscription dated 29 August 1769 and a letter of undertaking by George, Robert and Pringle Ferguson dated 21 February 1770. There is another version of this plan with the warrant granted on 6 March 1770 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the pavement, north side of the Grassmarket.

Size: 21.0 x 69.0 cms.

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BOX: 1783/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 and 24 April 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1783.

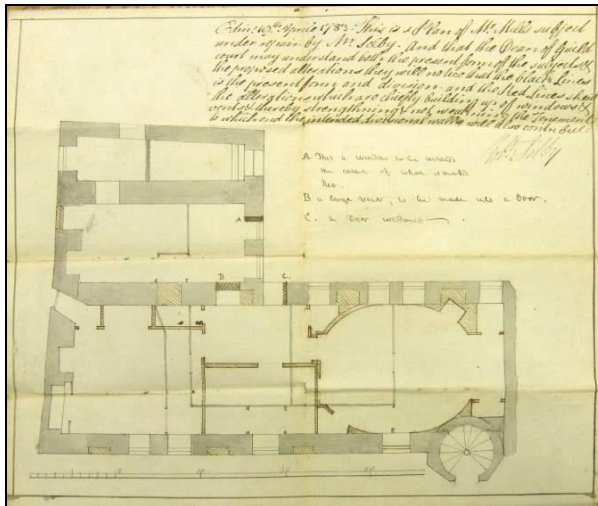
PETITIONER: Mrs. Christian Nasmith, residenter.

SITE: Between Grays Close and Skinners Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Selby, plumber.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the third story of a tenement, the lower floor of which is possessed by William Mylne, late architect in Edinburgh. Robert Selby, who is doer for William Mylne has begun operations in digging out earth in Skinner's close and building a high stone wall, without a warrant. Selby made a counter petition on 9 April 1783, stating that the alterations were internal and accompanied by a plan of the lower floor. The court orders that the work will be undertaken at the sight of Messrs. Smith, Jamieson and Brodie, mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 30.3 x 36.0 cms.

BOX: 1783/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 April 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 8 April 1783.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Brough, builder.

NOTES: The builder, John Brough is completing a house and laying the pavement in front, but not in a proper manner. 'The said John Brough has formerly committed the same fault in different places of the Extended Royalty'. In his replies, dated 14 April, Brough states that he has built no less than twenty houses in the New Extended Royalty and 'He has a present upon his hands sundry buildings to the amount of about £5000 Sterling. He might therefore reasonably expect to meet with encouragement from the good Town...' He stated that he had consulted the overseer, Thomas Stevenson about the correct level and took this from the houses on the east 'of many years standing'. The Court allowed him to continue.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1783/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 14 March 1783.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laing, mason.

SITE: Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Claiming payment for repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner was asked to demolish and rebuild a gable according to a warrant granted 19 August 1778 and a plan submitted then. See 11 February 1778 (Procurator Fiscal). He seeks payment from James Cumming, late of Breda. Includes a list of interested parties.

DRAWINGS: None here.

BOX: 1783/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1783. No petition here.

PETITION LODGED: Unknown.

PETITIONER: John Baxter (architect?).

SITE: Milne Square.

PROPOSAL: Unknown.

NOTES: There is a small note in the box which suggests the petition was borrowed on 2 March 1899. It is no longer here. See: Edinburgh City Archive, Mss 'Index to the Dean of Guild Court 1762-1863'.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1783/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 March 1783.

PETITIONER: John Wilson, builder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Payment of expences of repairs.

NOTES: The tenement belonged to John Milne, founder, deceased, James Beveridge, merchant also deceased, Alexander Grant, writer and others. The gable was declared ruinous, to be repaired one month from 27 July 1779, at sight of William Jamieson, mason. The petitioner carried out the repairs and sought payment from Francis Jeffrey, John Milne, founder, eldest son of the deceased John Milne and others. Includes an account from Thomas Heriot, wright and a letter from Francis Jeffrey stating that he paid Mr. Wilson and Mr. Heriot some years ago, more than he is now being asked.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 May 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1783.

PETITIONER: George Fairholme of Greenhill.

SITE: Lawnmarket.

PROPOSAL: Claiming expences of repair.

NOTES: See warrant granted on 12 April 1781 to take down and rebuild a gable. They employed Alexander Laing, mason and Hugh Gibb, wright whose accounts are enclosed. All have paid except Edward Inglis, druggist and James Summers, writer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 10 May 1783.

PETITIONER: William Robertson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Bernard Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a small house.

NOTES: The petitioner's property lies between the houses of David Oliphant, merchant and Andrew Peacock, tobacconist.

DRAWINGS: A note on the petition states that the plan was borrowed on 5 June 1783.

---

BOX: 1783/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Cairns, Assistant Register General of Tobacco in Scotland.

SITE: Leith, King Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and expence of a dyke.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant dated 30 May 1777. There is an account here from David Pitkethly, mason in Leith dated 25 July 1777 to build a dyke around the ground and from George Neilson (wright) for a large gate. There is a note of rental of the ground from Robert (Burn?) between 1778 and 1783.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1783.

PETITIONER: Alexander Ogilvie, glover.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: Alexander Reid had been employed to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/21  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1783.  
PETITIONER: John Patison, Town Clerk.  
SITE: Niddry, Wynd, opposite to the Concert hall.  
PROPOSAL: To make an alteration to windows and doors on the front.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/22  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 29 May 1783.  
PETITIONER: George Lothian, merchant.  
SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, east side, fifth floor of Bain's land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water from flat above.  
NOTES: The complaint is against (blank) Loch of Drylaw who was ordered to have the ceiling whitened where the water came through.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/23  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1783.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, head.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Black, grocer.  
NOTES: Black has knocked down four pillars in his shop without a warrant. He was fined £12 Scots.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/24  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1782.  
PETITIONER: Messrs. Wardrop & Michie: Andrew Wardrop, surgeon and William Michie, merchant.  
SITE: High Street, south side between Lord Strichen's Close (east) and Cant's (west).  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against Miss Monro.  
NOTES: Miss Monro of Skinner's Close has taken possession of a cellar under his tenement, stating that it belongs to members of her family in the upper floors.  
DRAWINGS: None.

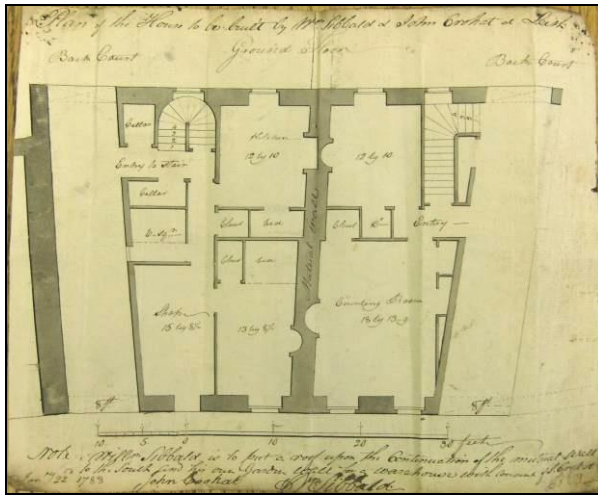
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BOX: 1783/25  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1783.  
PETITIONER: James Walker, Clerk to the Signet, factor for Rev. Walter Young.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, north side at the head of the wester entry to James's Court.  
PROPOSAL: To bring forward the front of a shop occupied by David Findlay.  
NOTES: The property is a timber tenement and shop in the east is leased by David Findlay, wig maker and that on the west to Adam Murray, baxter.  
DRAWINGS: Note states the plan was borrowed on 30 July 1783 by William Brodie.

---

BOX: 1783/26  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1783.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1783.  
PETITIONER: William Sibbald, merchant in Leith and John Crockat, slater there.  
SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.  
PROPOSAL: To build two tenements with a mutual gable.  
NOTES: The Procurator Fiscal had acted against the petitioner on 19 June 1783.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Plan of ground floor of two houses with shop and counting room

Size: 21.0 x 25.6 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Jany, 22d 1783 RB.

Architect: (Robert Burn)

BOX: 1783/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1782.

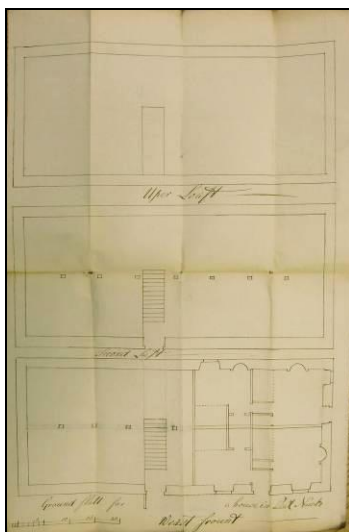
PETITIONER: Hugh Morton, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Peat Nook or Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old tenements and build a loft and granaries.

NOTES: The property had been purchased from the Kirk Session of North Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of three floors.

Size: 41.0 x 26.5 cms.

Watermark: countermark, I Taylor

BOX: 1783/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 8 July 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Milne's Court, Bow head .

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stacks.

NOTES: There is a note enclosed where the proprietors agree to employ William Jamieson to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1783/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

SITE: Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To remove encroachments on their property.

NOTES: The property is a house that previously belonged to Lord Covington and was lately possessed by the Post Office. The encroachments are: a parapet wall at the foot of new bank Close; a little house erected behind the said parapet; a common sewer which runs uncovered from the foot of new Bank Close to the Poultry market and has no outlet; a window facing east in the adjoining tenement has been turned into a door – to be blocked up and finally, a number of holes in the boundary wall with the Poultry Market. The court agrees with all but the issue of the window/ door.

DRAWINGS: A plan is mentioned but is not here.

---

BOX: 1783/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1783.

PETITIONER: William Butter, wright, Janet Dick, relict of deceased John Dick, mason.

SITE: Borthwick's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish blocking the Close between their property and Fishmarket Close.

NOTES: William Jamieson asked to construct a stone gutter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, foot of Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Pew rope maker in Leith who is building a work house or shade. A warrant ordered the work to stop. Pew stated that he did not know he required a warrant and submitted himself to the Court. He was fined 15s Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Simpson, wheel wright in Leith who was building or altering a house stated that he did not know he required a warrant and submitted himself to the Court. A warrant was granted to stop the work and the petitioner fined 15s Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July and 7 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1783.

PETITIONER: Miss Nicholsons (Katherine Francis and Ann Nicholson), daughters of the deceased George Nicholson of Gerviswood and Allan Maconochie, advocate.

SITE: South St. David's Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about signs on the entrance to the back stair, put up by Aeneas McKay, habitmaker. The court orders it to be removed.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 2 January 1783.

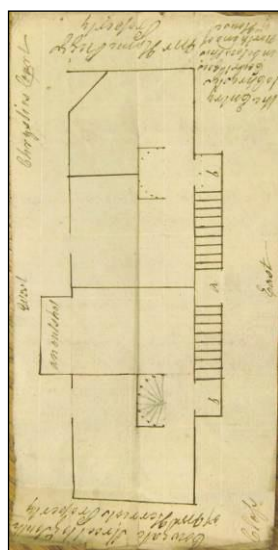
PETITIONER: James Webster, portioner.

SITE: Christies Court, west side of Libbertons Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To create two sets of stairs in the entry to the Court.

NOTES: The petitioner was allowed to complete the stairs he had begun but prohibited from placing hearthstones on the joists. There is an inventory of writs attached which refers to a disposition from George Paterson, jeweller to James Paterson, his son dated 24 May 1706; Retour to George Paterson as heir to his deceased mother, Agnes Brown dated 19 November 1710; Sasine of same dated 22 July 1710; Disposition by James Paterson to James Christie, merchant and Jean Gourlay his spouse dated 23 August 1710, registered in Burgh Court books, 18 January 1711; Contract of marriage between James Christie and Jean Taylor, daughter of James Taylor of Taylors Croft dated 11 September 1734; Disposition from James Christie to Jean Taylor his spouse dated 11 February 1711, registered 13 January 1736; Contract of marriage between John Greig, litster and the said Jean Taylor, relict of James Christie dated 24 February 1739 registered 25 August 1742; Disposition from Jean Taylor to John Greig dated 6 October 1768 registered 4 March 1774;... retour to Jean Christie as heir to her grand uncle before the Baillies of Canongate dated 16 February 1776;... Disposition by said John Greig, dyer and Jean Christie, only surviving child of the deceased Alexander Christie some time Musick Master at Fochabers thereafter at Inverness in favour of George McGrigor merchant in Canongate dated 9 February 1776...etc. etc.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the entry.

Size: 10.0 x 20.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1783/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1783.

PETITIONER: John Macdonald, indweller.

SITE: Christies Close and Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The petitioner complains about his landlord, Webster Cook, who owns other houses in the Close and is making alterations to them that are detrimental to his tenants. He is informed that the houses in question were condemned by the Dean of Guild thirty years ago. Webster produces a copy of the lease where he is allowed to make whatever alterations he pleases. The petition was dismissed on 26 June, the warrant is for legal expenses.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 and 31 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1783.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the dangerous state of the pavement in the Close.

NOTES: Petition includes a list of all the proprietors with values. John Clark, mason is chosen by the heritors to undertake the repairs. 'But in respect that the said John Clark is not a freeman of the Incorporation of Mary's Chapel, they ordain him to produce a consent from the Deacons or Boxmaster.... Edinburgh 31 July 1783 The Treasurer of the Incorporation... agrees that John Clark may execute the work...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1783.

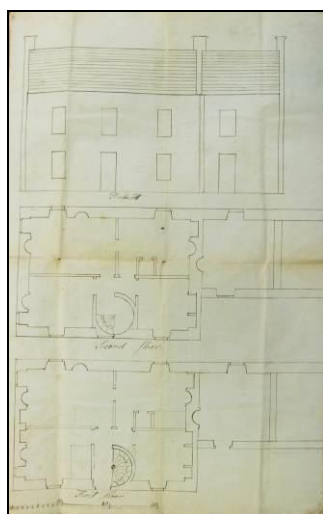
PETITIONER: William Couper, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: North Leith, back of North Leith Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To build a house of two floors.

NOTES: The petition includes an inventory of his titles: Feu contract with the deceased James Lane(Law?) of Hillhousefield and the deceased Peter Couper, carter in Leith dated 20 December 1731. Feu contract between William Brugh, merchant in Leith nephew and heir of James Lane of Hillhousefield and William Couper, son of the deceased Peter Couper where Brugh disposed the property to Agnes Stewart, relict of the deceased Peter Couper in liferent and to William Couper in fee the same piece of land and another piece to the north, bounded on the north and west by the Kings highway, dated 15 March 1783. Also a Sasine registered the same date.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 38.8 x 24.5 cms.

Watermark: C. Taylor

---

BOX: 1783/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1783.

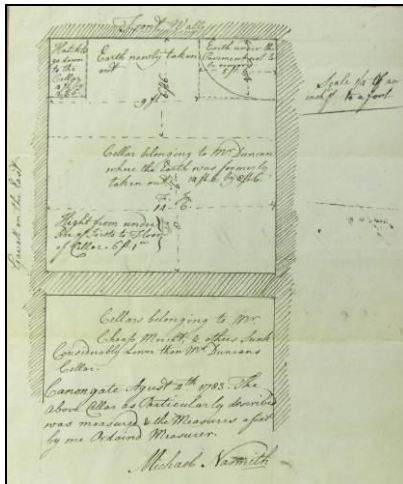
PETITIONER: John Duncan, meal seller in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, bottom of Jack's land.

PROPOSAL: To dig out a cellar.

NOTES: This petition follows a complaint to the Court from Mr. Cheap, manufacturer and merchant against the petitioner and Neil Stewart, mason for digging out a cellar.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 21.2 x 17.6 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Canongate, August 4th 1783 The above cellar as particularly described was measured & the measures affixed by me, ordained Measurer, Michael Nasmith.

BOX: 1783/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Marlin's Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Laing, mason who took down a high wall on the east side of the Close. He was fined £12 Scots plus expenses of 10s Stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1783/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1783.

PETITIONER: Archibald Nisbet of Carphin and John Moir, WS his factor.

SITE: Bells Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to chimney heads and remove rubbish in the back parts.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1783/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1782.

PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1783.

PETITIONER: Alexander Crichton, coachmaker in Canongate.

SITE: Between the Society of Edinburgh and Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge and improve two small shops.

NOTES: He formerly held the buildings on the site as a coach works on a sixty two year lease beginning at Whitsunday 1757. There are many papers in this process relating to an argument with Andrew Stewart over the terms of the lease. The area is described as 'that area lying in the Society of Edinburgh known by the name of the old coal field as the same is at present possessed by Alexander Peter, wright in Edinburgh and the other undertakers for building the new Exchange within the City... bounded on the west by the street leading from Bristo Port down the Candlemaker Row; on the north by the passage covered by a pend that leads from thence into the Society; on the east by the piece of ground planted with trees known by the name of the Avenue or entry to the house belonging to the creditors of the deceased John Drummond, merchant in Edinburgh and on the south by the stable and haylofts lately built by ..the Lord Chief Baron and baron of His Majesty's Exchequer. Surrounded by walls on the east, west and north by walls 13 and 14ft in height.

DRAWINGS: mentioned but not here.

BOX: 1783/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1783.

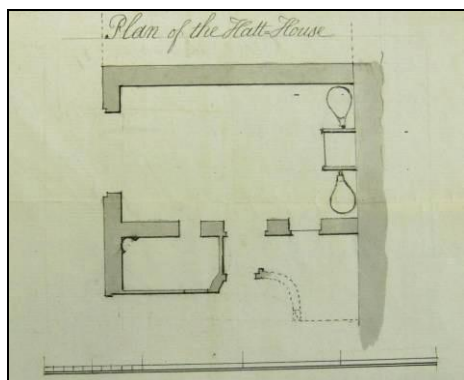
PETITIONER: William Michie, merchant, factor for Miss Agnes Robertson, daughter of the deceased William Robertson of Bells Law.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a forge and take down part of the front wall.

NOTES: Agnes Robertson owns half of the property, the other half to William Anderson, carter at Libberton. The petition includes his instructions to Michie regarding the property lately occupied by Mr. Izet, hatter in which he wishes to build up vents for a forge.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the forge.

Size: 12.4 x 20.3 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

---

BOX: 1783/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1783.

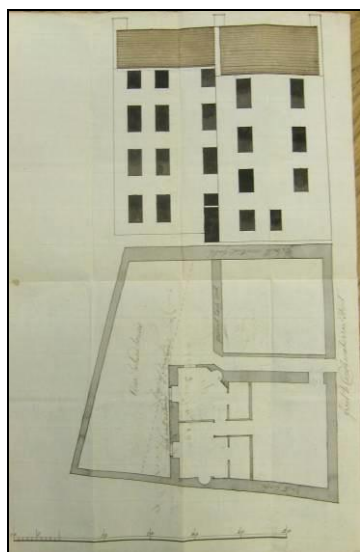
PETITIONER: George Callender, wright and portioner of Merchant Street.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, east side.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The property is held on a tack from Francis Kemptie, merchant in Edinburgh. Includes descriptions of the lease and boundaries with other tack holders.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation to Candlemaker Row.

Size: 38.4 x 24.5 cms.

Watermarks: Countermark, R Williams

---

BOX: 1783/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: John Pattison, Town Clerk of Leith, factor for the representatives of (blank) Purdie and Angus McPherson, merchant tailor for the creditors of William Ballantyne, later pewterer.

SITE: College Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs.

NOTES: The petition includes a note of the work required in each flat with the names of the tenants, signed by Will: Reid.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 27 August 1783.

PETITIONER: Robert Burns, merchant, James Fergusson, chair master, John Low, merchant and James Douglas, musician.

SITE: Skinner's Close, Callender's land at the head of the Close.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a water spout and drains.

NOTES: The tenement on the east belongs to Crichton Prophet, skinner, residing in Borthwick's Close. In answers from Robert MacIntosh, musician who occupies the upper floor and garret of the tenement and he complains about having to contribute to the cost of these repairs when he is responsible for the repair of the roof. He cites Mr. Erskine in his Small Institute under servitudes 'where different floors or stories of the same house belong to different persons as is frequent in the city of Edinburgh the property cannot be said to be entirely divided - the roof remains a common roof to the whole and the area on which the house stands supports the whole: so that there is a communication of property; in consequence of which the proprietor of the ground floor, must, without the constitution of any servitude uphold it for the support of the upper, and the owner of the highest story must uphold that as a cover for the lower'. The petitioners and the defenders were found to be proportionally liable.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1783.

PETITIONER: Archibald Scott, brewer in Potterrow for himself and on behalf of the creditors of David Graham, wigmaker.

SITE: Bryson's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: The petitioner adjudged a tenement belonging to Margaret Ricken, spouse of the said David Graham on 2 December 1772. He afterwards obtained a decret of Mails and Duties on 19 April 1774 and has been in possession of the tenement since then.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1783.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Good (Janet Gloag), relict of the deceased William Good, wright.

SITE: Potterrow, west side, contiguous to Mr. Patison's Meeting House.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted on 23 August 1781 to carry out repairs on property, to which she acquired right as a creditor of Peter Wilson dyer. The property previously belonged to Margaret Oliphant, relict of John Wilson, silk dyer and is now said to belong to Peter Wilson, silk dyer. Accounts here from David Bruce, slater, Alexander Miller, glazier, Arthur Giles, wright, and John Clark, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September and 16 October 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1783.

PETITIONER: David Neilson, merchant in Leith and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Shore of Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous neighbouring tenement.

NOTES: The petition refers to a garden behind the property stretching to Rotten Row and a tenement on the south side of it, fronting Willie Water's Close. This belongs to Francis Sheils, baker in Edinburgh and he refuses to demolish it. He defends himself by stating that he only inherited responsibility in March last on the death of his father.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 9 September 1783.

PETITIONER: James Seton, merchant.

SITE: Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build cellars before building a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner has a warrant 'after an obstinate litigation' to rebuild a tenement but he requires the owners of the cellars to rebuild before he can proceed. They are instructed to do so before the middle of March next or the petitioner can go ahead and charge them for the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1783.

PETITIONER: Subscribers for building the Assembly Rooms in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Constitution Street.

PROPOSAL: To build the Assembly rooms.

NOTES: The petition refers to building rooms 'conform to plans produced' (erased).

DRAWINGS: None here.

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BOX: 1783/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 October 1783.

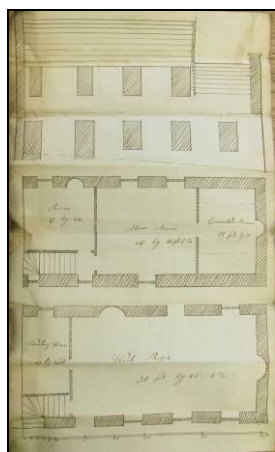
PETITION LODGED: 25 September 1783.

PETITIONER: Andrew Bell, smith in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Rae's Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair and convert a house to a workshop.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 39.8 x 23.5 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

---



BOX: 1783/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 November 1783.

PETITION LODGED: 5 November 1783.

PETITIONER: Duncan Murray, merchant.

SITE: High Street, north side, head of Morrison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about insufficiency of the back wall.

NOTES: The shop and cellar were recently rebuilt by George Norrie, farmer near Collinsburgh and sold by him to the petitioner. The shop is presently possessed by John Mason, baker and Peter McGregor, spirit dealer. William Jamieson, mason appointed by the court to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 November 1783.

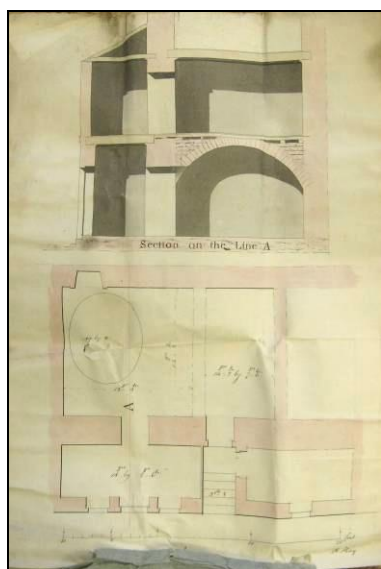
PETITION LODGED: 12 November 1783.

PETITIONER: Edward James junior, baker.

SITE: Niddry Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: To convert a cellar into a bake house.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets bound within a blue cover.



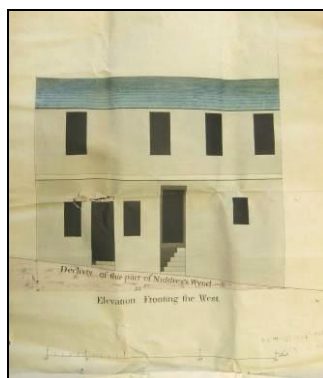
Description: a. Plan and section.

Size: 32.7 x 22.7 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

Inscriptions, recto: R Kay

Architect: Robert Kay.



Description: b. Elevation to the west.

Size: 32.7 x 22.7 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

Architect: (Robert Kay).

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### Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL/91/14)

BOX: 1783/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1783 (petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1783.

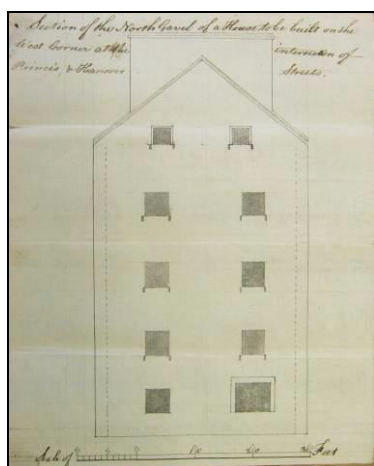
PETITIONER: William Butter, His Majesty's Carpenter for Scotland.

SITE: Princes Street, south west corner with Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expence of the north gable.

NOTES: The petitioner is 'about to build' on the lot feued from the City and he asks the Court to declare the expence of half the north gable a debt on the proprietor there, whenever that house is built. In replies from the William Thomson, City Treasurer ( who was called before the Court) he states that when Butter took out his feu, 'no particular mode of building was dictated to him but what is usual in such feus, namely that he should adhere to the plan of the New Royalty... On the contrary they do consider that to subject them to this expence or confine them to any plan of building that Mr. Butter may determine upon... might prevent the ground from being feued out...'. It is interesting that it is the Town officer, William Crookshank who issues the summonses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Section of the north gable.

Size: 23.0 x 16.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1783/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Sherriff Brae.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Cundell, brewer in Leith who had built a house or houses 'within these few years'. Cundell stated that he did not know he required a warrant and submitted himself to the Court. No action taken.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, near the Glass house.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Wilson, wright in Leith who had built a house or houses 'within these few years'. No action taken.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, near the Links.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Sherriff, merchant in Leith who had built a house or houses 'within these few years'. No action taken.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 June and 3 July 1783 (claim dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: On or before 6 March 1783.

PETITIONER: David Graham, late merchant in the Grassmarket now residing in the Lang Causeway and the Procurator Fiscal for the public interest.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Michael Carmichael.

NOTES: Carmichael owns a house and shop in the Grassmarket which Graham had leased for near forty years. The house had been declared ruinous and unsafe and Graham had been asked to leave at short notice. He seeks compensation for the removal.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, St. Bernard Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James White, merchant in Leith who had built a house or houses 'within these few years'. The defender submitted himself to the Court and he was fined 15s Stg. See further unextracted petition dated 28 August 1783.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783 (case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 23 July 1783.

PETITIONER: James Anderson, writing master.

SITE: High Street, between Marlines and Peebles Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about trespass.

NOTES: The property belongs to James Rothead of Inverleith and the under part is let to Duncan MacDonald, with entry from Peebles Wynd through a small court. Keith Dunbar, WS has a lodging which enters from the same court and he has placed a lock on the door into the court, preventing any access. There is a petition here from Keith Dunbar quoting his title dated 8 December 1780 when he bought his lodging from Sir James Colquhoun of Luss. Included in this purchase was an area formerly waste called the Heather yard which had been owned by James Black, baxter, thereafter by Andrew Ferguson and his spouse, thereafter by John Jackson, merchant. Thirty years ago when his lodging was rebuilt this area was enclosed and paved and a locked gate placed there. His neighbour James Rothead had been in the habit of using this entry if the gate had accidentally been left open. The new tenants use the gate, which is not theirs. The Court asked to see titles and ordered the gate to be left open in the meantime, without prejudice.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1783/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1783.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen (two lists).  
(blank) Carfrae, coach maker, south back of the Canongate.

John Black, grocer, John Pollock, grocer, David Gordon, brewer, Mr. Dempster, druggist, David Ramsay printer, William Sibbald, bookseller, George Goodlet, saddler, Robert Jamison, bookseller. John Black craved a delay of eight days and this was allowed. There are a number of names crossed through: James Mason, (?) merchant, James Thompson flesher, Nicol Sommervell, haberdasher, Theophilus Chaterlay, china merchant and Thomas patch, grocer.

---

BOX: 1783/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1783 (no warrant)

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1783.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: High Street, north side, below the City Guard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of an account.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a warrant granted to him on 31 August 1780 (enclosed) to repair the chimney stacks on the property belonging to Patrick Crawford, later merchant, James Stewart, druggist, George Hamilton, tailor and others. Everyone except Hamilton has paid. The last action noted here is for a visit by two members of the Court to cognose the accounts. A note on the front of the petition states that the petitioner took away the accounts.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 August 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 28 August 1783.

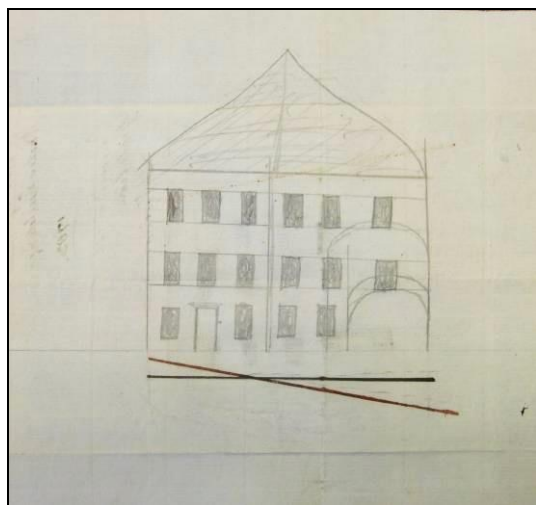
PETITIONER: James Whyte (White), merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Weighouse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a parapet wall.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he has just completed the building of a tenement of houses and he wishes to build a parapet wall with railings, parallel to the front. However, this is not the line of the street, shown in red on his elevation. See the warrant granted

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation (or perspective view?).

Size: 18.6 x 20.0 cms.

Watermark: C Taylor

---

BOX: 1783/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1783.

PETITIONER: Robert Dundas, advocate, Lewis Grant, accountant, William Cumming, banker, William Dick, WS, Samuel Watson, solicitor, George Cairncross, writer and Andrea Petrie, spouse of Thomas Potts, tenant at Oxnam.

SITE: Parliament Square, leading from the President's Stair.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks and declare the expence a debt.

NOTES: There are answers here from John Dundas, Clerk to the Signet who claims that he has an action in the Court against the petitioners regarding a roof they are erecting, which will necessitate the heightening of the chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 October 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 21 October 1779.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Parliament Close, the entry leading to the Cowgate with a vaulted arch.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: This is a long process, all of the papers for which have been gathered here although decisions were made at various stages. The issue appears to be that the City owns part of the derelict property. The first petition by the Procurator Fiscal was presented on 20 October 1779 and a jury was appointed. They decided the tenement should be demolished. He petitioned the Court again on 15 February 1781 and the Court ordered the demolition on 22 March 1781. The heritors went to the Court of Session for a Bill of Suspension, which was granted. Still nothing happened so he petitioned again on 20 October 1783 and on 21 October 1783 a jury was appointed, who decided that the tenement should be demolished but that the stair and arch, belonging to the heritors, was not dangerous and should be supported. City Treasurer became involved and there is a suggestion that nothing should be demolished until the heritors purchase the property owned by the City. The last word here appears to rest with the City Treasurer on 31 October 1783. Mention is made here of a new tenement being erected by Sir William Forbes & Co. on the south of the tenement in question. The warrant granted 23 June 1785 (Dundas) may relate to this building. There is also a note from Hugh Penman, to the effect that he does not own any property in the Parliament Square but that his son James has a shop there.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1783/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 November 1783 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1783.

PETITIONER: James Kettle, factor for Beeches subjects and the heritors and factors of the other properties.

SITE: High Street, south side, pavement between the Tron church and the Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Request for an inspection.

NOTES: The petitioners refer to an advertisement in the press by the Procurator Fiscal, to effect that the plainstones and gutters in front of their properties were in a dangerous state and needed repair. They note that 'interested persons' are circulating subscription papers for the work to be carried out by unfree tradesmen. They ask for an inspection and the Court appointed Alexander Reid, mason. There are replies here from William Turner, mason 'sometime soldier in His Majesties land forces' along with a list of heritors who state that the subscribers appointed him to carry out the work. He points out that Mr. Kettle is factor for two tiny shops. He observes that having served His Majesty a considerable time in wars he is free, by statute, to carry on business in any City in Britain and he has no objection to his work being overseen by Mr. Reid. The Court allowed Mr. Kettle to respond but no further action is noted.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1784

The Court Officers from 9 October 1783:

### Dean of Guild

Archibald McDowall

### Council

Thomas Cleghorn, Old Dean of Guild

George Campbell, merchant

William Smith, merchant

William Brodie, wright

Thomas Hill, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1784/1.

WARRANT GRANTED: 19th February 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 26th December 1783.

PETITIONER: Isaac Salter, brewer.

SITE: Cowgate, east side of Robertson's Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the upper part of a tenement, formerly a brew house and other repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1784/2.

WARRANT GRANTED: 19th February 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 25th February 1783.

PETITIONER: John Wilson, mason versus Margaret Walker.

SITE: Lawnmarket, above Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Seeking payment for share of a repair bill.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1784/3.

WARRANT GRANTED: 23rd March 1784.

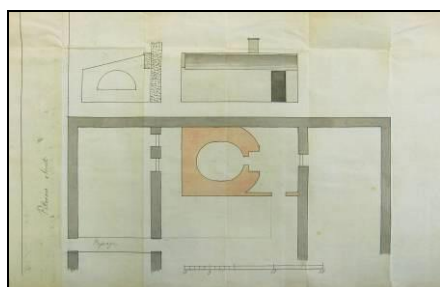
PETITION LODGED: 28th February 1784.

PETITIONER: William Smith, baker in Potterrow.

SITE: Oliphant's Close, Potterrow.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven and bakehouse.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan, elevation and section.

Size: 22.3 x 34.9 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed? M Gowan or McGowan, top left corner.

Draughtsman: Gowan or McGowan.

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BOX: 1784/4.

WARRANT GRANTED: 29th March 1784.

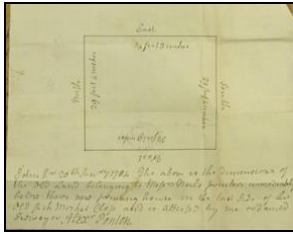
PETITION LODGED: 24th March 1784.

PETITIONER: Adam Neal, printer.

SITE: Old Fish Market Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement and build a stair to the present printing house.

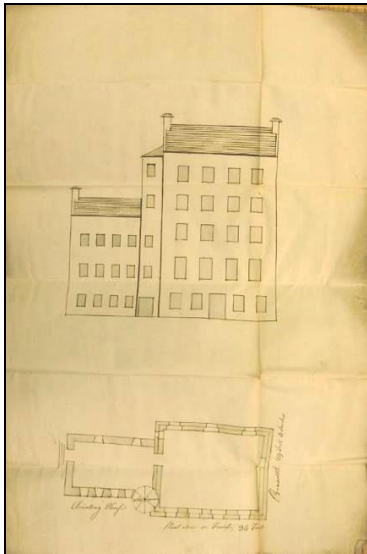
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 15.2 x 19.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed: Alexr. Ponton, Ordained Surveyor.



Description: b. Plan and elevation of tenement and printing house.

Size: 43.5 x 28.4 cms.

Watermarks: Portal.

---

BOX: 1784/5.

WARRANT GRANTED: 8th April 1784.

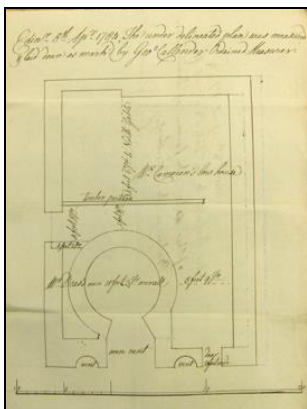
PETITION LODGED: 5th March 1784.

PETITIONER: David Daes, baker in Inverkeithing.

SITE: Cowgate, head, bottom of Vetch's Land.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild an oven.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of house and oven.

Size: 25.6 x 19.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed: Geo. Callender, Ordained Measurer.

---

BOX: 1784/6.

WARRANT GRANTED: 8th April 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 24th February 1784.

PETITIONER: John Johnston, baker in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Rottenrow.

PROPOSAL: Alteration, to raise stone walls, roof and use as a granary.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/7.

WARRANT GRANTED: 8th April 1784.

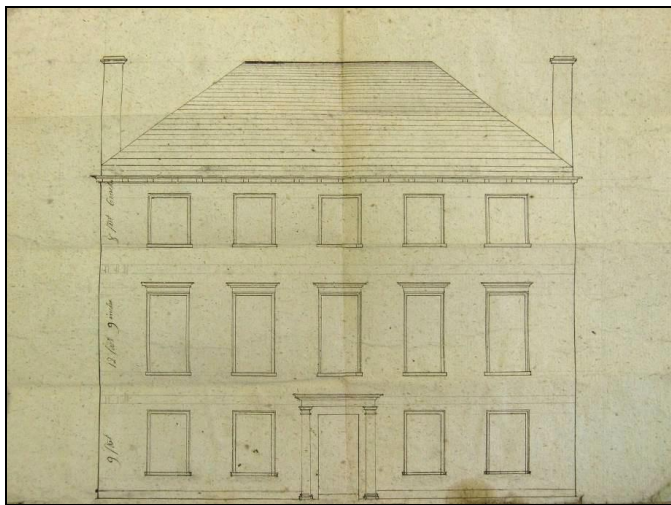
PETITION LODGED: Around 8th April 1784.

PETITIONER: John Jamison, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith Links, feued from the Town.

PROPOSAL: To build 'a house of three storys in the centre of my ground'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 26.8 x 36.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 April 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1784.

PETITIONER: Alexander Weir, painter.

SITE: Toddricks Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is about the tenement on the north, occupied by Mr. Cameron, engraver and others. In answers for Walter Scott, Clerk to the Signet he states that he owns the petitioner's tenement and Mr. Weir is being pursued for rent. There is a letter here to Mr. Weir dated 23 March 1784 stating that the tenement does have a serious bulge, signed by John Wilson, Thomas Ramsay and Robert Hunter. The Court ordered the gable to be harled and pinned.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 22nd April 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 25th March 1784.

PETITIONER: Archibald Scott, brewer and creditors of David Graham, baker.

SITE: Brysons Close.

PROPOSAL: Repair expences declared a burden on the property.

NOTES: Refers to warrant of 11th September 1783. Also here, accounts for William Jameson and John Spence, painter.

DRAWINGS: None.



---

BOX: 1784/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 15 March 1784.

PETITIONER: Heritors of a tenement, head of Fleshmarket Close.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, head, a great stone tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an oven.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Rule, baker who was seen carrying bricks into his shop, below the shop of Samuel Watson tobacconist. On being challenged he stated that he had no intention of building an oven, but he did so in a clandestine manner. The Court ordered their officer to arrange for the demolition of the oven.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 6th May 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 15th May 1784.

PETITIONER: Barry Sarsfield, vintner in Leith and his spouse, Ann Wall, relict of Alex Ritchie, shipmaster.

SITE: Shore of Leith, a tavern.

PROPOSAL: To repair floors and have expence paid by landlord.

NOTES: The landlord had tried to evict Ann Wall on the grounds of re-marriage. Not upheld and had to pay costs as well.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 6th May 1784.

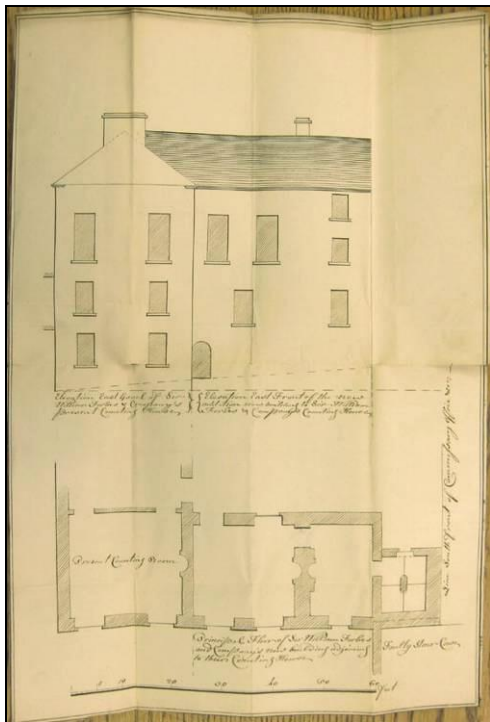
PETITION LODGED: 16th February 1784.

PETITIONER: Sir William Forbes, James Hunter and Company, bankers.

SITE: Parliament Stair. Entering from the stair leading from Parliament Square to the Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement adjoining the counting house.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 44.0 x 30.2 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman.

Architect: (Alexander Laing?).

---

BOX: 1784/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 10th May 1784.

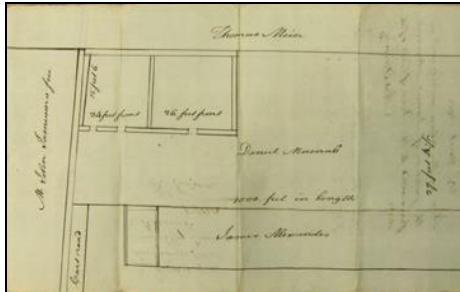
PETITION LODGED: 29th April 1784.

PETITIONER: Daniel Macnab, ropemaker in Leith.

SITE: Leith Links, south.

PROPOSAL: To build a boiling house and work houses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of area.

Size: 19.6 x 32.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 17th May 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 1st March 1784.

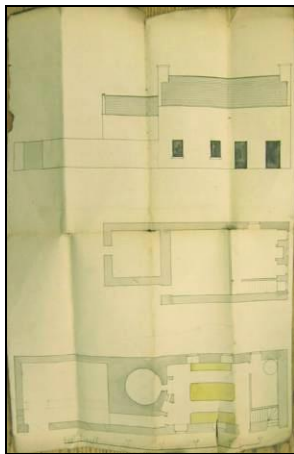
PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Bakers in the Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, Hammermen's Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a bakehouse with a convening room above.

NOTES: There are clearly some drawings missing from this petition.

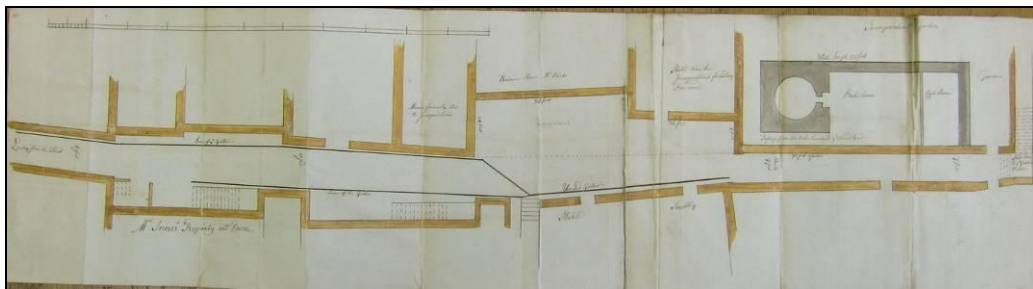
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 43.2 x 28.5 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: 'No. 3'.



Description: b. Plan of entire Close.

Size: In two pieces; 17.7 x 65.8 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: 'New Plan'.

---

BOX: 1784/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1784.

PETITIONER: William Reoch, wright and upholsterer.

SITE: High Street, Carrubbers Close, west side, Foggo's land, off a paved court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the heritors of the tenement above his lodging.

NOTES: The heritors have constructed a drain or funnel to direct water and waste away from their tenement but the effect is to flood his lodging.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 10th June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 3rd June 1784.

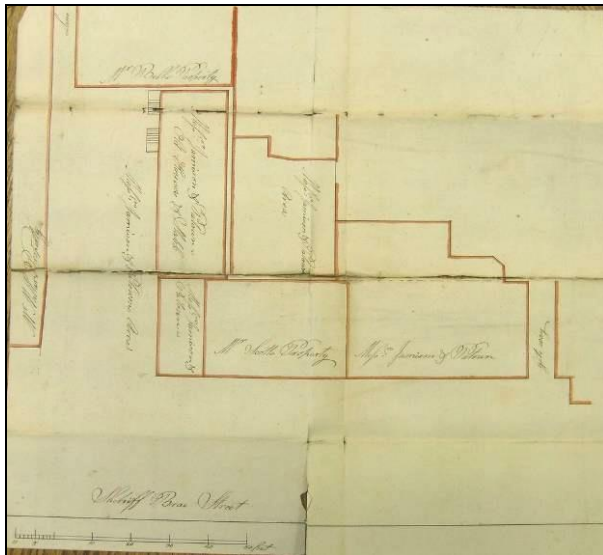
PETITIONER: Messrs. Thomas Jameson and Thomas Paton, soapboilers in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Sherriff Brae.

PROPOSAL: To build.

NOTES: Refers to an earlier petition, lodged on 1st April 1784 (not here) and objected to by Andrew Bell, engraver. They have bought his property and present a new petition.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

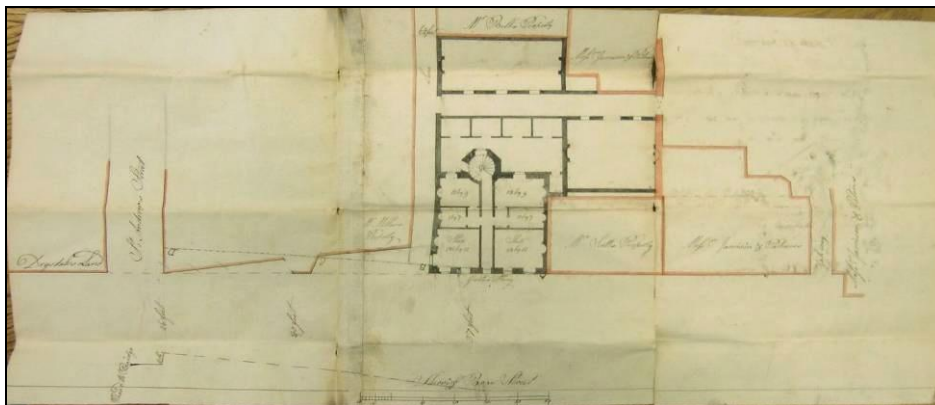


Description: a. Plan of area as at present.

Size: 29.1 x 31.8 cms.

Watermarks: S. Lay

Inscriptions, verso: 'No. 2'.

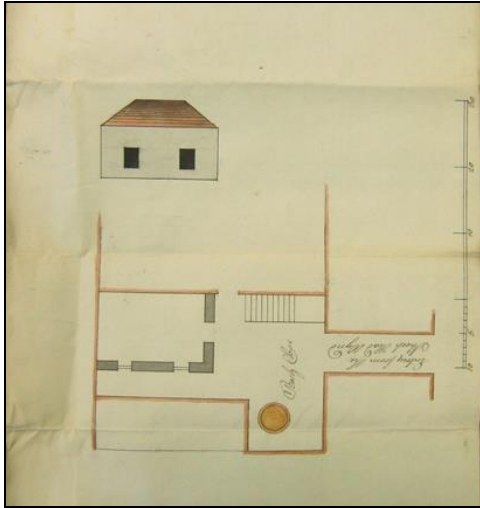


Description: b. Plan of entire area with proposed buildings.

Size: In two parts, joined; 25.9 x 59.8 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman

Inscriptions, verso: 'No. 3'.



Description: c. Plan and elevation of building on Mr. Bell's property.  
Size: 25.9 x 25.0 cms.

BOX: 1784/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 17th June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 19th May 1784.

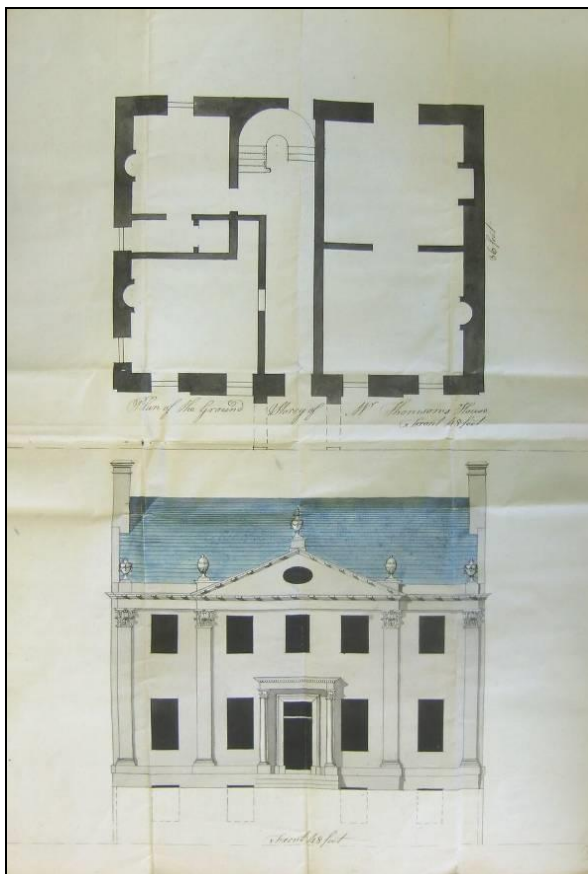
PETITIONER: John Thomson jun., merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, to the north of the new Church. (Possibly Weir's Close OS map 1852, demolished)

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: He began work without a warrant and building is quite advanced.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Watermarks: I Taylor

Inscriptions, recto: Signed: (With a monogram 'c?').

BOX: 1784/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 17th June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 10th June 1784.

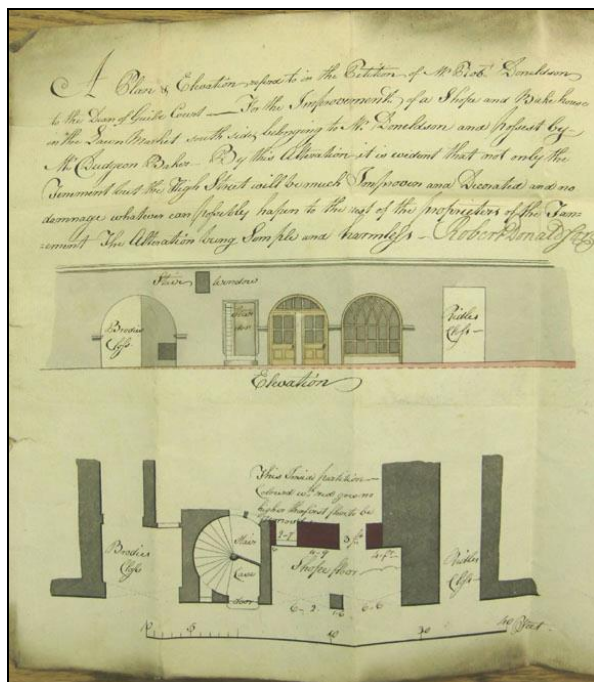
PETITIONER: Robert Donaldson, WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, south side, between Riddle's and Brodie's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: The warrant includes a declaration not to cause any damage, signed by William Pirnie, mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of shop.

Size: 27.7 x 45.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 24th June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 10th June 1784.

PETITIONER: William Ritchie, mason.

SITE: Canongate, south back, Bulls Close.

PROPOSAL: To have accounts cognozed.

NOTES: Refers to the purchase of the land by William Jameson in 1775. The petitioner bought part of this land and has built a tenement on it at a total cost of £255.1.0.

Accounts enclosed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 24th June 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 26th February 1784.

PETITIONER: John Wilson, builder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Carrubber's Land.

PROPOSAL: Claim for payment.

NOTES: Refers to a petition by the Procurator Fiscal to have a ruinous tenement demolished, dated 23rd August 1781.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1784.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, immediately north of the entrance to Greyfriar's Church.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Burn, architect who is building without a warrant. The Court ordered him to remove the stones and rubbish laid down in the churchyard, stopped his operations and fined him £50 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 22nd July 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 7th July 1784.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Ramsay, relict of deceased Alexander Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Borthwicks Close, head of on west side.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 30th July 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 19th May 1784.

PETITIONER: John Davidson. Deputy Keeper, Society of the Writers to the Signet.

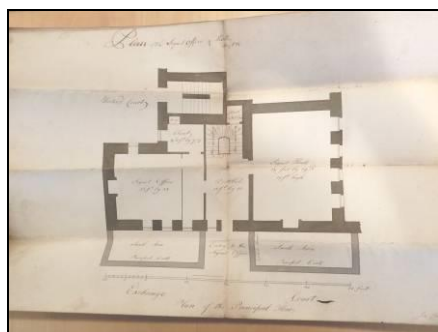
SITE: Writer's Court.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to interior and access from a stair.

NOTES: The petitioners had purchased the floors above and below their own. There is a letter to the Town Council, remitted to the Dean of Guild on 2 June 1784. The Society presently occupies a floor in the stair in Writer's Court. They have purchased the floors above and below and wish to connect these by an internal stair. They also wish to convert a window into an entry from the west side of the Royal Exchange with access to the middle floor. 'It will be necessary to throw an arch over the (blank) Close which they flatter themselves will be no detriment to the public; on the contrary as they mean to put some ornaments on their entry, it will improve the appearance of the Exchange. They require a room for the Signet office, a hall for their meetings and repositories for their records and books. Included is a report, dated 14th June 1784 by Michael Nasmith. He states that he made an exact copy of the plans produced and that the floors would sag, causing damage; '...what is more worthy of observation is that to complete their Great Room one floor must be wholly cut out'.

REFERENCES: Signet Library, sederunt books of the Commissioners of the Writers to the Signet, 29 April 1784 and others.

DRAWINGS: These are two drawings currently with the Signet Library which formed part of this petition and a note on process numbered 12, dated 20 January 1785 states that they were borrowed, 'to be returned on demand'.



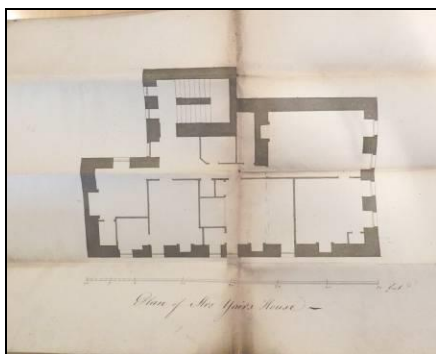
Description: a. Plan of the principal floor.

Size:

Inscriptions, recto: Plan of the Signet office and Hall, May 1784. Signed Jas. Craig.

Inscriptions, verso: No. 2.

Architect: James Craig.



Description: b. Plan of Mrs. Yair's house.

Size:

Inscriptions, recto: Plan of Mrs. Yair's house.

Inscriptions, verso: No. 7. This plan made out and given in Court in terms of the Ld. Dean of Guild's Interlo(cutor) 24th of June 1784.

---

BOX: 1784/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 12th August 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 20th July 1784.

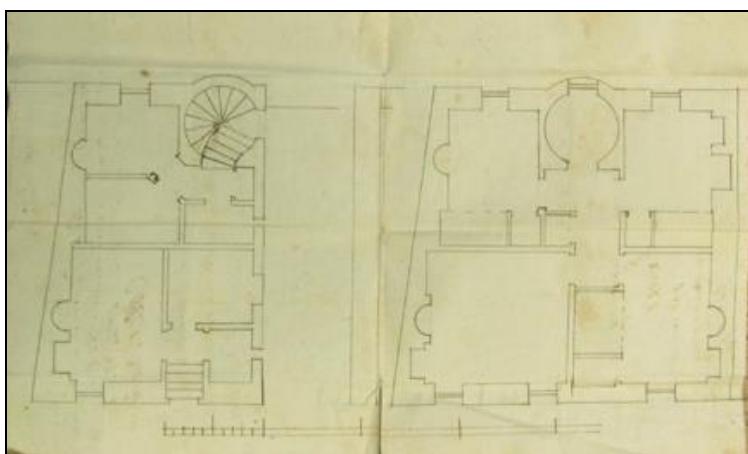
PETITIONER: Alexander Cowan, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, opposite to Constitution Hill.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner has already built on land purchased in 1771 from Robert Jamison.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet



Description: a. Plans of two floors.

Size: 15.0 x 24.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1784.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous tenements.

NOTES: Two adjoining tenements, the first owned by William Anderson at Libberton and Agnes Robertson, daughter of the deceased William Robertson at Bellslaw; formerly used as a hatter's work house. The second is owned by Mrs. Hamilton of Belhaven and was formerly a coach house and is now a stable. In replies from Mrs. Hamilton dated 2 September 1784 there is reference to a previous petition by Mr. Ruthven who is building on a site adjoining the stable. Her suggestion that the stables need repair, not demolition, appears to have been ignored.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 19th August 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 19th July 1784.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, the Procurator Fiscal versus William Cumming, banker, factor for the owner in London.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a dangerous chimney stack.

NOTES: William Jamieson, a member of the Court, empowered to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1784/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 26th August 1784.

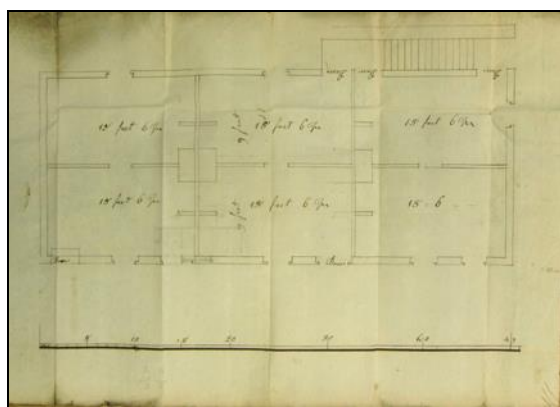
PETITION LODGED: 7th July 1784.

PETITIONER: John Kidd, late Baillie of Edinburgh.

SITE: In the Close leading from Cowgatehead to the West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To build.

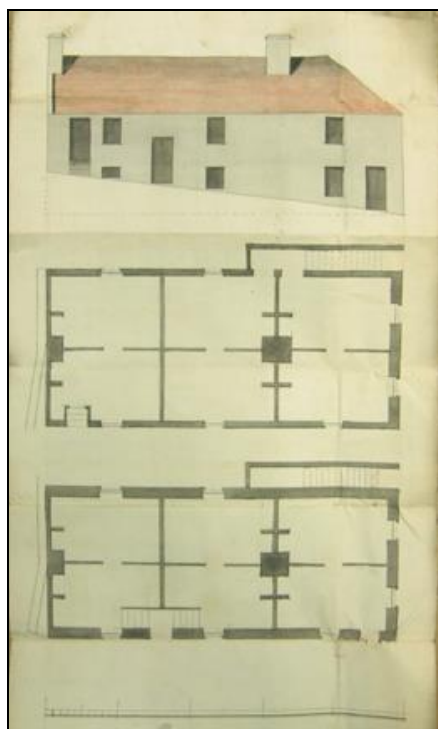
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 26.0 x 38.0 cms.

Watermarks: J Bigg



Description: b. Plans of two floors and elevation.

Size: 11.0 x 24.0 cms.

---



BOX: 1784/28  
WARRANT GRANTED: 12th August 1784.  
PETITION LODGED: 30th June 1784.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Mary Hamilton of Belhaven against John Milne.  
SITE: Hogs land and Bishop's Land, a lodging above the shops.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Milne for making alterations without a warrant.  
He had removed the belt course below her windows.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/29  
WARRANT GRANTED: 12th August 1784.  
PETITION LODGED: 22nd July 1784.  
PETITIONER: John Hamilton, late Cornet of Dragoons versus William Peacock,  
tobacconist.  
SITE: Canongate, south side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without permission.  
NOTES: See petition of 20 October 1785.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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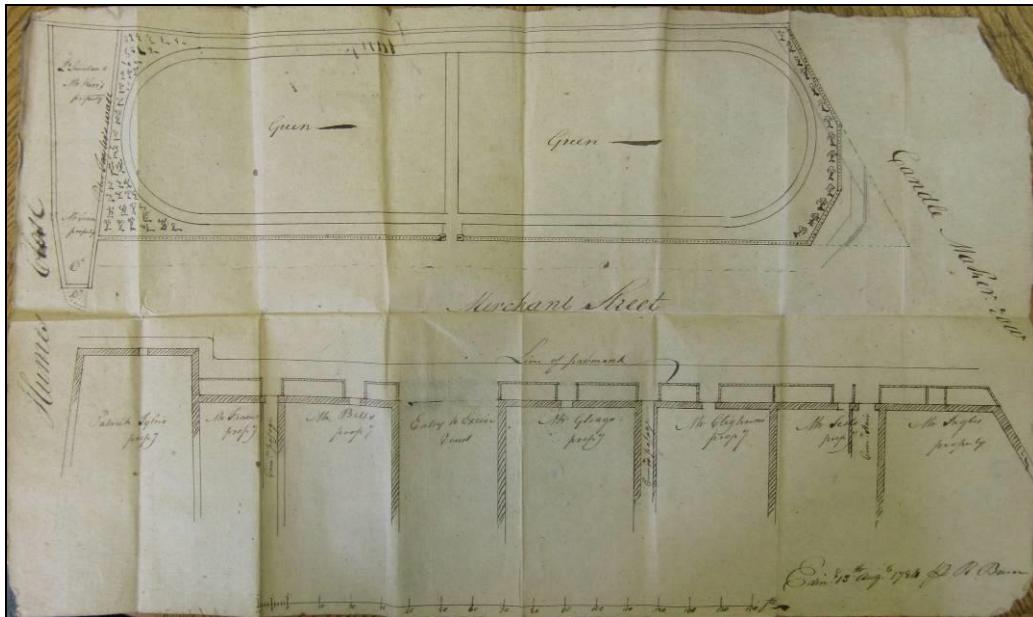
BOX: 1784/30  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2nd September 1784.  
PETITION LODGED: 9th July 1784.  
PETITIONER: Mrs Mary Hamilton of Belhaven versus William Fraser, iron smith.  
SITE: Luckenbooths, north side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations to the iron railings on the stair, '...and carried  
off the pillar at the stair foot on the west side, all most riotously and illegally...'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/31  
WARRANT GRANTED: 9th September 1784.  
PETITION LODGED: 9th August 1784.  
PETITIONER: The Candlemakers of Edinburgh.  
SITE: Candlemaker Row, south side of entry to Greyfriar's Churchyard.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: Plans borrowed on 5th October 1784 by the Procurator Fiscal with the  
comment, 'I shall return within eight days'.  
DRAWINGS: None here.

---

BOX: 1784/32  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21st October 1784.  
PETITION LODGED: 1st September 1784.  
PETITIONER: William Craig, and John Anstruther, advocates, Thomas Cleghorn,  
merchant and William Scot, solicitor and the proprietors of Merchant Street.  
SITE: Merchant Street.  
PROPOSAL: To level and enclose the area in front of the houses.  
NOTES: There was a minor problem with the rights to the eastern end of the area.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of house fronts and the area of ground, laid out as a green (north at bottom)

Size: 32.0 x 55.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinb. 13th August 1784. R. Burn.

Architect: Robert Burn.

BOX: 1784/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 21st October 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 28th June 1784.

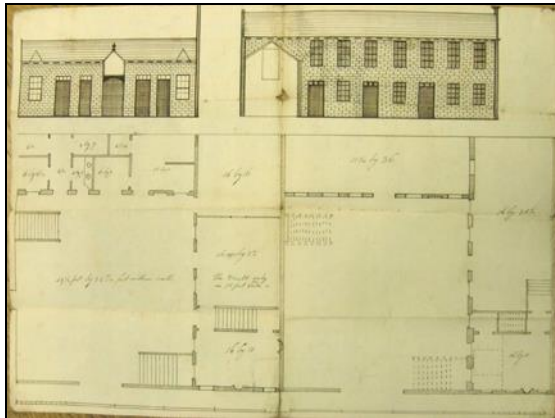
PETITIONER: William Douglas, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Quality Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild small houses.

NOTES: The property consists of a large dwelling house of two floors, cellars and garrets 'lately built by said Alex. Bryce'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevations.

Size: 30.0 x 39.6 cms.

BOX: 1784/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 28th October 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 26th August 1784.

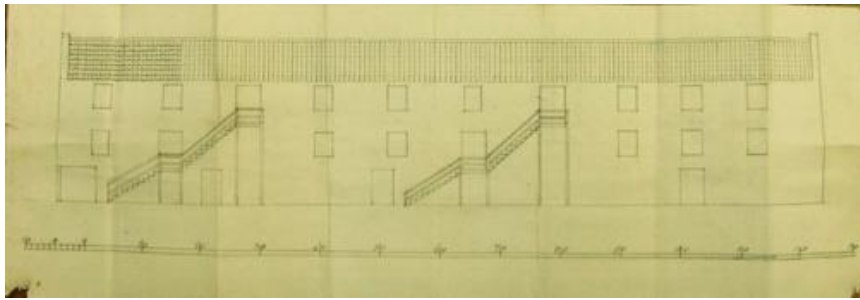
PETITIONER: Alexander Moubray, merchant.

SITE: Leith, Quality Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild, a range of vaults and lofts.

NOTES: Work already begun.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 13.4 x 39.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 November 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 20 October 1784.

PETITIONER: William Gibb, Guild Brother of Edinburgh (bookseller).

SITE: Meal market, adjoining.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a lodging on the second floor, the floor above being owned by Samuel Watson, solicitor but possessed by James Hunter, merchant in the Parliament House. There is a reference to an earlier warrant forcing Watson to carry out repairs. The Court ordered a repair and prohibited any further ingress of water on a penalty of £20 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 2nd December 1784.

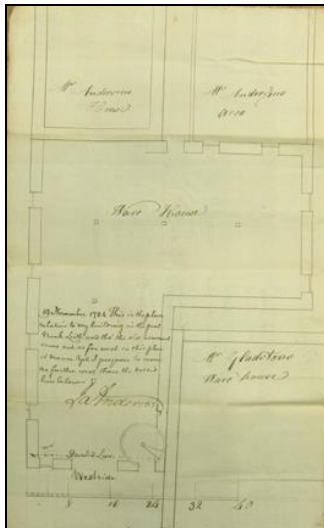
PETITION LODGED: 10th November 1784.

PETITIONER: James Anderson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, the Peat Muck(?)

PROPOSAL: To demolish old houses and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.  
Size: 32.0 x 19.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 2nd December 1784.

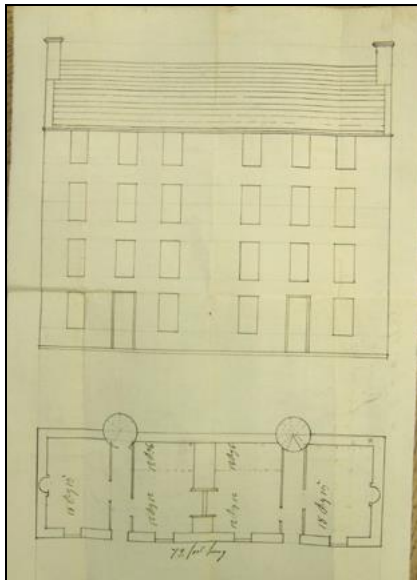
PETITION LODGED: 3rd November 1784.

PETITIONER: Hugh Morton, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith Links, on west.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 33.7 x 23.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1784/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 16th December 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 18th November 1784.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Seton, relict of John Chisholm, mariner in Leith and her son, Robert Chisholm, engraver.

SITE: Clam Shell Turnpike.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about works without warrant, removing a pillar.

NOTES: '...that the front of the said house had been originally extended towards the Street a few feet within which there is a stone pillar, which originally divided the window of said house and reaches no higher than the ceiling of the petitioner's property'. Work allowed to proceed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 16th December 1784.

PETITION LODGED: 21st October 1784.

PETITIONER: Thomas Matheson, vintner.

SITE: Kennedy's Close, a tavern.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

### Unextracted processes (ECA: SL91/15)

BOX: 1784/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 April 1784 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1778.

PETITIONER: John Crawford, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Catchpile (tennis court).

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Baird, brewer in Leith and Margaret Clerk, shopkeeper (jeweller in some papers) in Leith. The petitioner 'within these few years' purchased the lands of Catchpile and a brewery at a judicial sale in the Court of Session. Both of these were lately possessed by the deceased William Crouden and his widow, he being proprietor of the Catchpile and tacksman of the brewery. Crouden had made a gap in the dyke between the two and built a cinder house and stable. As part of his tack he was obliged to build up the gap and surrender the buildings, when required by the proprietor of the Catchpile. The defenders have refused to comply, in

actions that date from 1774, copies of which are here. The warrant granted 1 June 1774 (Crawford) may be relevant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1784/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 7th July 1784.

PETITIONER: Thomas Alves, Writer.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild walls on each side of the stable door.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 August 1784 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1784.

PETITIONER: Thomas Humble, cabinet Maker in London and John Eiston, solicitor.

SITE: Princes Street and the meuse lane behind.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the height of a proposed tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner is heir to his brother, John Humble, plumber in Edinburgh, deceased. His complaint is against John Brough, wright in St Andrews Street who is building a tenement to the north of the petitioner's property, on the opposite side of the meuse lane. He quotes from Brough's charter for his property, dated 22 July 1778, a copy of which is lodged here. This has very detailed stipulations about the dimensions of any building on the side and the width or roads etc.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1784 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 2 September 1784.

PETITIONER: James Goodsman, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the storage of wood.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Stevens, trunkmaker. He notes in his replies that he uses rough skins to cover his trunks and in order to make them supple he soaks them in water for 12 to 24 hours.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1784 (no warrant, date of request for estimate).

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1784.

PETITIONER: James Loch, WS.

SITE: Netherbow, north side, fronting 'up streets next the to the Fountain well'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a rood in disrepair.

NOTES: There is an estimate here for repairs, measured by James Tate, 'ordained measurer for the City work'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 October 1784 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1784.

PETITIONER: William Hastie, surgeon.

SITE: Cowgate, Hastie's Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Farquharson, accountant, proprietor of one of the houses in Adam Square on the opposite side of Hastie's Close, separated by a 12 ft. wall. Farquharson has a door through this wall into Hastie's Close but he has now opened a hole for a drain or sewer. Hastie complains that this will damage his property and become a nuisance to pedestrians on their way from the Cowgate to 'Jamaica Street

(Infirmary Street) where the College stands'. Farquharson had purchased his house from Lord Gray.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1784 (no warrant, rights of parties reserved).

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1784.

PETITIONER: Anderson & Cundle, merchants in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dyke wall.

NOTES: The petitioners have 'lately purchased the Sugarhouse of Leith, garden and whole houses and buildings...'. The complaint is against Hugh Morton, wright in Leith, contiguous heritor on the south who has begun to build on the dyke wall without a warrant. The work was stopped on 27 September and allowed to continue on 29 October without prejudice.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1784/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1784 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1784.

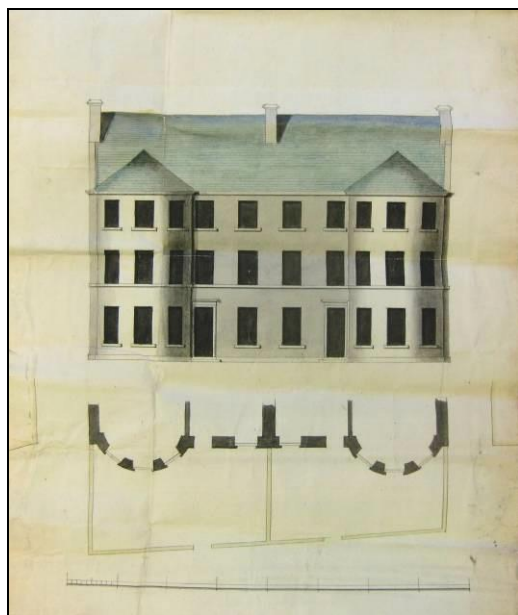
PETITIONER: James Craig, baker.

SITE: Leith, St. Bernard Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: This petition followed a complaint from the Procurator Fiscal dated 20 October 1784 about building without a warrant. A warrant must have been issued at some point as this building was erected and still stands.

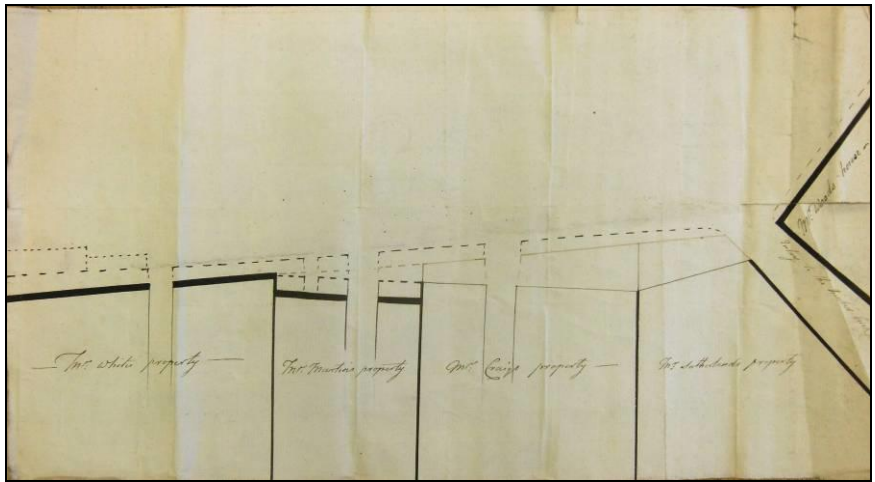
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of front wall.

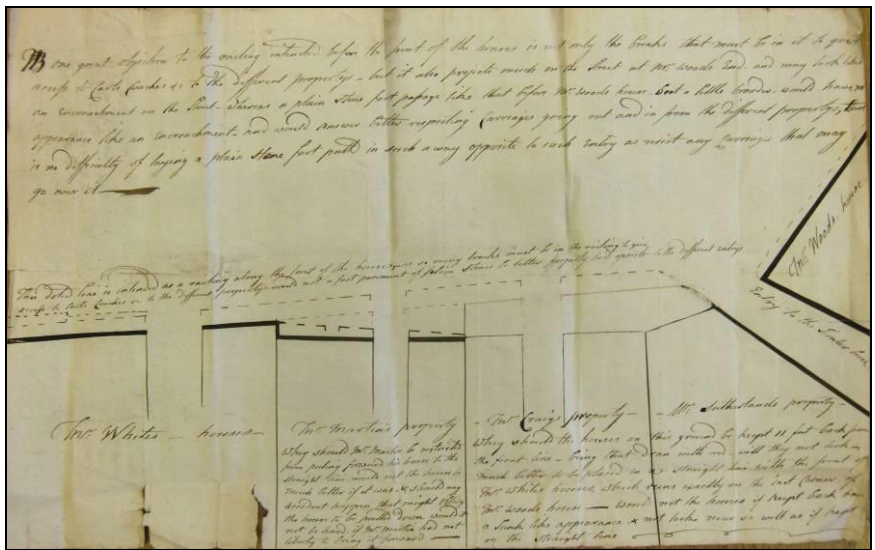
Size: 35.5 x 27.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman



Description: b. Plan of the north side of St. Bernard Street.

Size: 17.6 x 32.0 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the north side of St. Bernard Street with extensive notes.

Size: 20.0 x 32.2 cms.

## 1785

The Court Officers from 7 October 1784:

### **Dean of Guild**

Archibald McDowall

### **Council**

William Thomson, Old Dean of Guild

George Campbell, merchant

William Smith, merchant

Robert Dewar, glazier

Thomas Hill, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1785/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 January 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1784.

PETITIONER: Alexander Spence, goldsmith.

SITE: Opposite the Goldsmiths hall.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a shop front. To remove a stone pillar between windows.

NOTES: The shop lately occupied by William Davie. First version of the warrant noted: 'But prohibit and discharge the petitioner from erecting any bow window unless the same shall be executed nine inches of projection at the centre of the bow thereof.' The final version simply stated that the work had to be undertaken at the sight of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 16 September 1784.

PETITIONER: Francis Armstrong, merchant.

SITE: Penstones or Sellar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about David Stephens, trunk maker, tenant of a yard immediately to the west of petitioner's tenement. Piling up wood.

NOTES: Based on a servitude by Charles Bruce, glazier, deceased, not to build any further eastwards on the north and east parts of his cross house.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1784.

PETITIONER: John Grieve, Lord Provost of Edinburgh and others.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, head of

PROPOSAL: Statutory valuation and sale.

NOTES: Tenement became waste and ruinous several years ago and has been uninhabited for at least three years. See also warrant granted 24 August 1786 (Treasurer, City of Edinburgh) and petition lodged on 15 August 1787.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1784.

PETITIONER: George, Earl of Dalhousie against John Innes WS.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Panmure Close. A large tenement or lodging and garden.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about Innes changing his entry without warrant.

NOTES: Includes an inventory of title deeds for Dalhousie that shows the first owner as James, Earl of Panmure in March 1696.

DRAWINGS: None.



---

BOX: 1785/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 12 July 1784.

PETITIONER: Mrs Scott of Horsliehill, Mrs Margaret Cullen of Parkhead and Cathcart Boyd, examiner of the salt duties in Scotland

SITE: St Andrew Square, west side

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Dr. Abernethy Drummond of Hawthornden 'who pretends to be the proprietor or factor for the proprietor of the uppermost story'.

NOTES: He has slapped out a large window in the kitchen. Much other material here about proposed alterations including reference to plans by Mr Wright.

DRAWINGS: None

---

BOX: 1785/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1785.

PETITIONER: Robert Fowler, brewer in Prestonpans and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Robertson's Close, foot of

PROPOSAL: Complaint about his neighbour on the south, Isaac Salter, brewer and his builder, John Wilkie who have made alterations without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1785.

PETITIONER: William Glover, wright in Leith and his son John Glover.

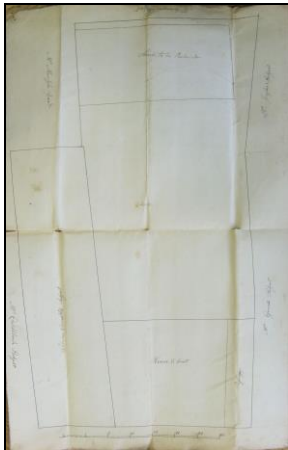
SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd

PROPOSAL: To take down and re-build a tenement that included a bake house and wrights shop and yard.

NOTES: Includes a transcript of a charter from the magistrates of Edinburgh to Capt. John Taylor, shipmaster dated 17 August 1672.

DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.

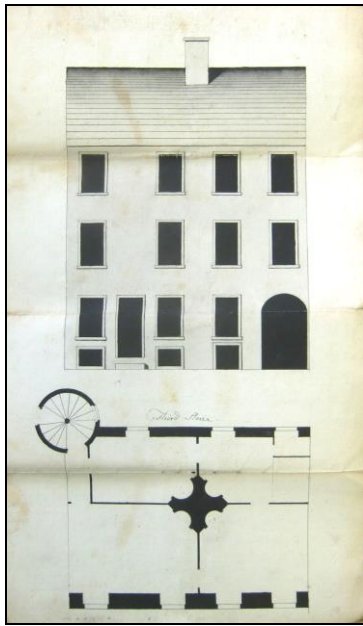
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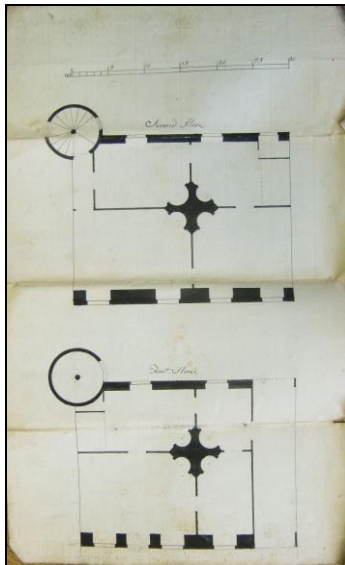
Description: a. Outline plan of area

Size: 44.0 x 28.2 cms.

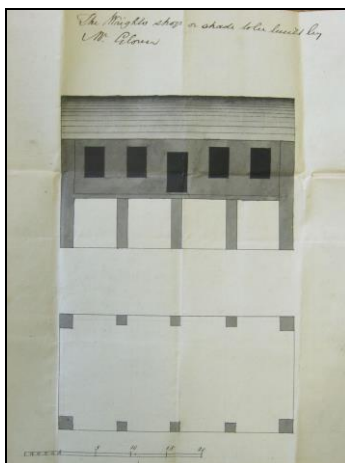
Watermarks: PORTAL



Description: b. Elevation to front and plan of third floor.  
Size: 35.7 x 20.6 cms.



Description: c. Plans of first and second floors.  
Size: 35.7 x 20.6 cms.



Description: d. Plan and elevation of a wright's shop.  
Size: 29.1 x 22.4 cms.  
Watermarks C TAYLOR

---

BOX: 1785/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1785.

PETITIONER: Mark Watt, grocer.

SITE: West Bow, foot. First floor above the shops.

PROPOSAL: To convert into a warehouse.

NOTES: Also proposed to shut up the present door at the foot of the stair and strike out another immediately to the south thereof, and erect one flight of a scale stair for access to the wareroom

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 May 1785

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1785.

PETITIONER: James Tait junior, wright.

SITE: Roxburgh's Close, near the head of the west side.

PROPOSAL: Payment of expences of demolishing and re-building a tenement in 1782

NOTES: Refers to a warrant to re-build dated 4 November 1782. Includes a measurement by Walter Kerr at £237 4s 9d. and sundry expences of £39 3s 6d.

DRAWINGS: None

---

BOX: 1785/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1785.

PETITIONER: John Elder, baker.

SITE: (Rose Street?) 'south side of the South back street' betwixt Frederick and Castle Streets.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven behind the undermost story.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of two undermost stories of a tenement built by John Crooks and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 8 July 1784.

PETITIONER: William Butter.

SITE: High Street, between Borthwick's Close and a small close now shut up, immediately to east of Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To create an entry from Fishmarket Close, and arch over the small close.

NOTES: Petition refused on 19 August and he may have modified his proposal by having an entry from Borthwhick's Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1785.

PETITIONER: Thomas Sommers, glazier, Burgess of Edinburgh.

SITE: High Street, immediately west of the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The petitioner has occupied the top floor of a stone tenement as his house and workshop for some years. A sign has been erected on the fore stair indicating 'Alexr.

Johnston Glazier, 2nd Turnpike down this Wynd'. The petitioner asks for its removal as it is not connected with Johnston's business he lives half way down Peebles Wynd. He goes on to point out that Johnston is neither a Burgess nor freeman. The Court ordered the removal of the sign.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1785.

PETITIONER: The Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Rt. Hon. James Hunter Blair, members of the town council and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, Johnstone's Close, a back land.

PROPOSAL: Statutory repairs ordered.

NOTES: Land sometime possessed by John Johnstone of Whitelaw, merchant in Edinburgh. Tenement became ruinous several years ago and has been empty for three years. See warrant of 24 August 1786 (Procurator Fiscal) to sell the ruinous tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1785

PETITIONER: Robert Sheriff, merchant in Leith.

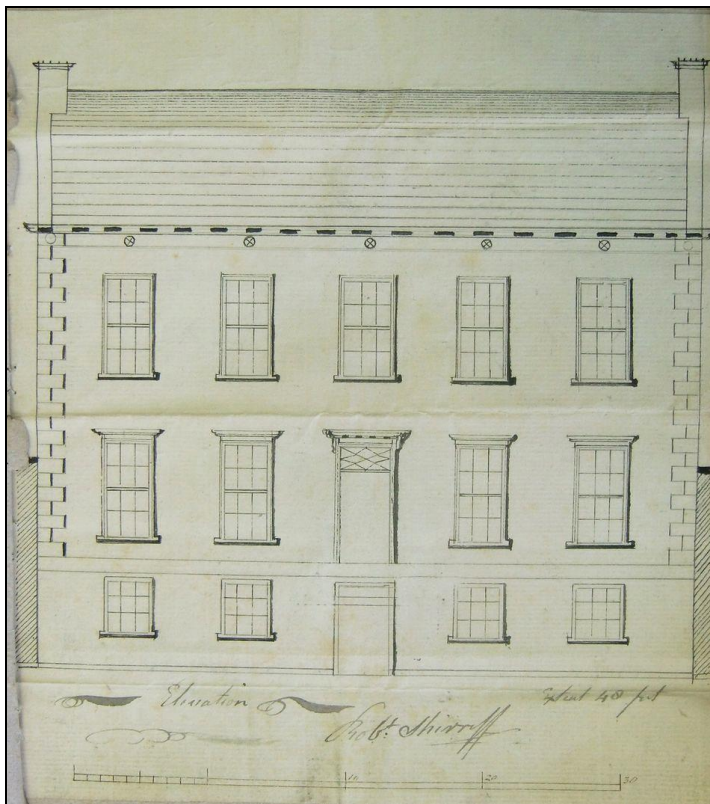
SITE: Small park adjoining the chapel or new Kirk of Leith.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: Robert Sheriff, merchant in Leith was the trustee on the bankrupt estate of John Biggar, builder in Edinburgh in 1807. (*Caledonian Mercury* 3 October 1807)

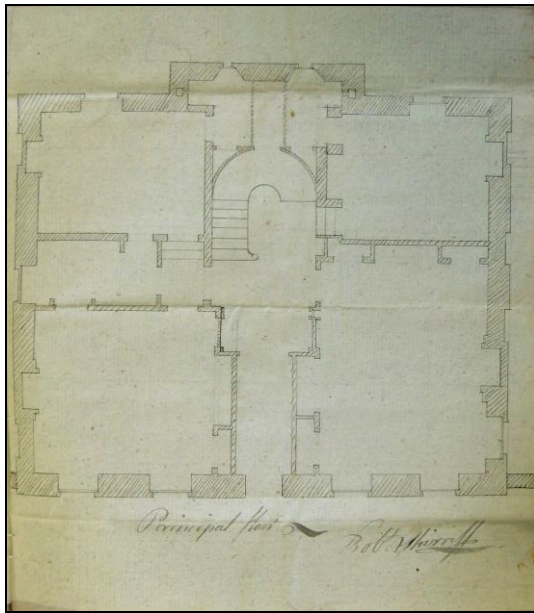
Advertisement in *Caledonian Mercury* 23 April 1812: Capital house and garden in Leith. To be let for one or more years... that large and commodious dwelling house situated in the Links of Leith as presently possessed by Robert Sheriff Esq. consisting of an elegant dining room and drawing room with eight good bedrooms... also with a coach house and stable of three stalls and a large garden, well stocked with fruit trees. Particulars, Francis Brodie WS.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets, bound in paper cover.



Description: a. Elevation

Size: 22.4 x 20.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of principal floor  
Size: 22.2 x 19.9 cms

---

BOX: 1785/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 7 May 1785

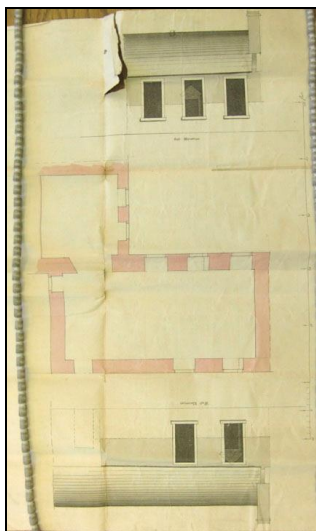
PETITIONER: Colquhoun Grant, WS.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, east side, two upper floors of a tenement in Robertson's land.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuilt roof and chimney stacks.

NOTES: Original dormers converted into an upper floor. Inscription on front of petition '29 June 1785, borrowed up the plan for behalf of Mr Jamison to be returned tomorrow'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of upper floor and elevations of roof to east and west.  
Size: 28.8 x 46.7 cms.

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BOX: 1785/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 6 June 1783.

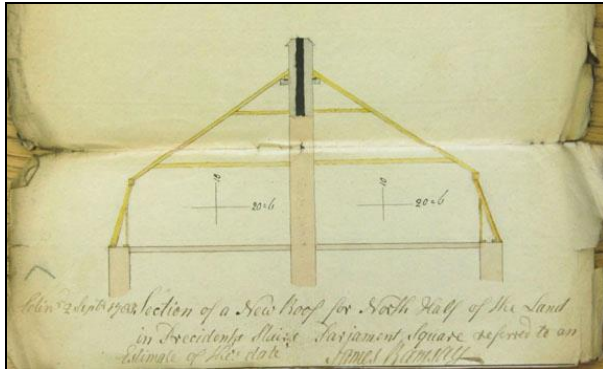
PETITIONER: John Dundas WS.

SITE: Parliament Close, east side (and north side). Entered from the President's stair.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof of the tenement by raising the ridge.

NOTES: Includes an estimate for the work on east side by James Ramsay, £174 16s and for north side by Thomas Hills dated 3 March 1785, £125 17s 8d or £110 0s 8d allowing

for reuse of materials. The roof profile proposed by Hills is a mansard. By an interlocutor of 23 June 1785 the proprietors of a tenement on the north side of the President's stairs were allowed to take down and re-build their roof. The unextracted petition dated 31 October 1783 may relate to this.  
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

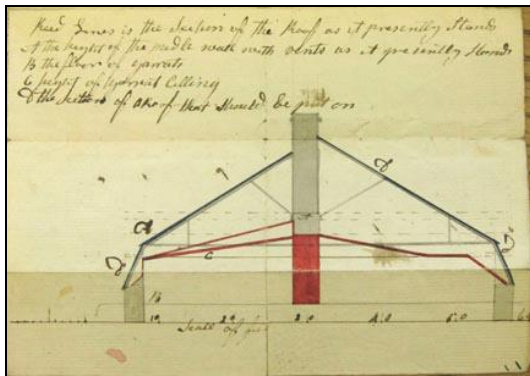


Description: a. Section of the roof for the north half of the land (on east side).

Size: 17.0 x 23.3 cms.

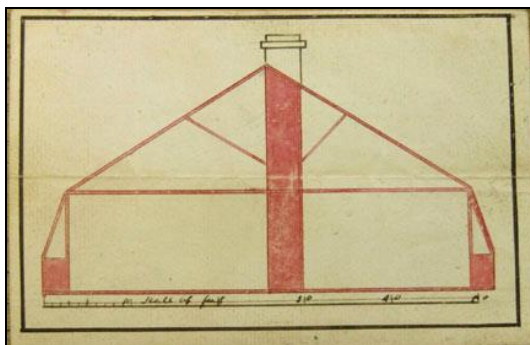
Inscriptions: 'Referred to in an estimate of this date, James Ramsay'.

Dated: 2 September 1783.



Description: b. Section of the roof 'as presently stands' (north side).

Size: 16.8 x 18.2 cms.



Description: c. Section of the new roof (east side?).

Size: 10.2 x 15.4 cms.

BOX: 1785/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1785.

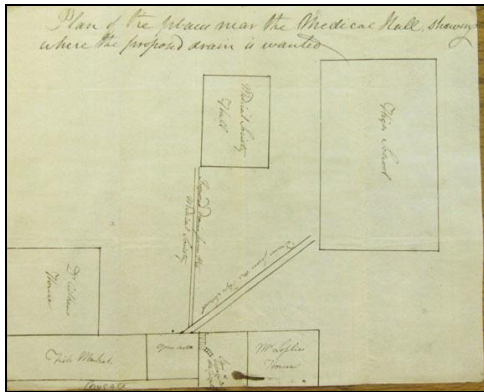
PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1785.

PETITIONER: The Medical Society of Edinburgh.

SITE: High School Yards.

PROPOSAL: To construct drains from their hall

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the area.  
Size: 18.5 x 22.7 cms.

BOX: 1785/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 4 June 1785.

PETITIONER: Miss Jean Bruce.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd (fronts). Bottom of Worlds End Close.

PROPOSAL: To convert cellars into two broker's shops.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1785/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1785.

PETITIONER: Alexander Gibb, tobacconist in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, north side, foot of Tolbooth Wynd (corner with the Shore)

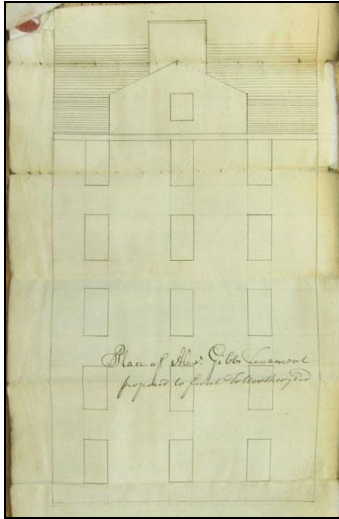
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuilt two old tenements.

NOTES: Property purchased at judicial sale before the Court of Session. Town council complained of an encroachment on the public. Warrant granted on condition that he rounded the northwest corner of the new tenement to a height of twelve feet.

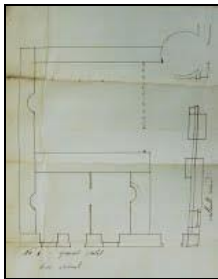
DRAWINGS: 11 sheets.



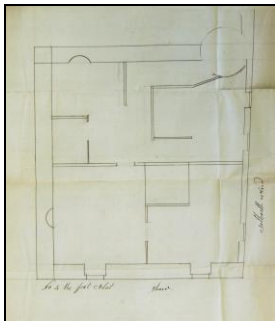
Description: a. Elevation to the Shore  
Size: 37.7 x 22.5 cms.



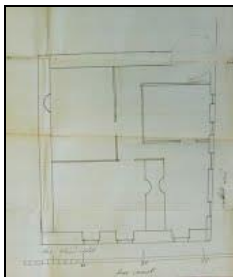
Description: b. Elevation to the Tolbooth Wynd  
Size: 37.2 x 23.5 cms



Description: c. Plan of ground floor 'No. 1'.  
Size: 26.3 x 30.0 cms.

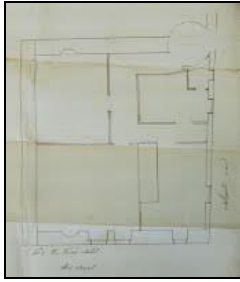


Description: d. Plan of first floor 'No. 4'.  
Size: 26.3 x 28.5 cms.

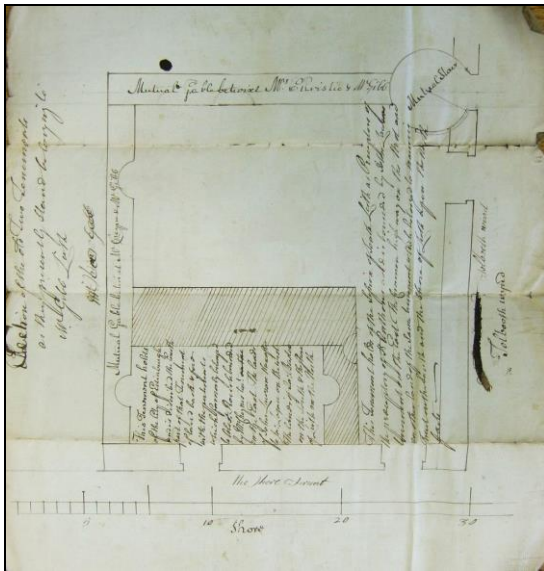


Description: e. Plan of second floor 'No. 2'.  
Size: 28.2 x 31.0 cms

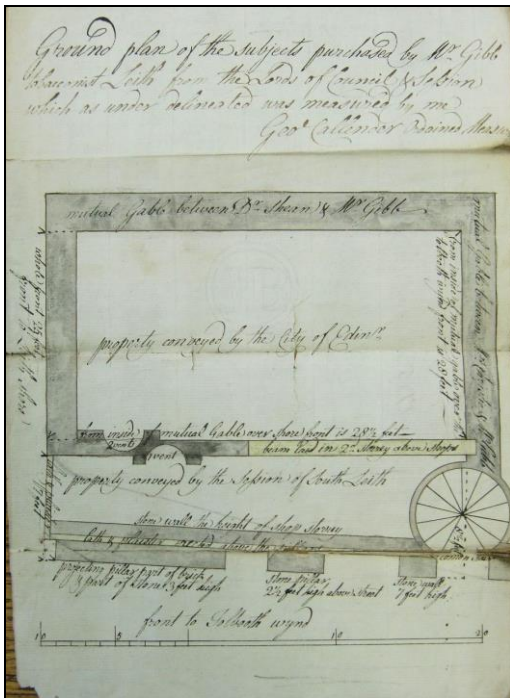




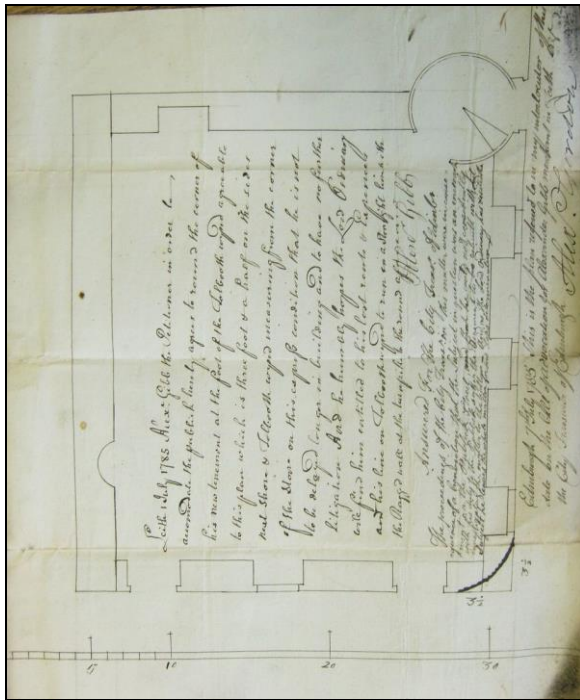
Description: f. Plan of third floor 'No. 3'.  
Size: 26.0 x 28.6 cms.



Description: g. Plan of two tenements as they presently stand. With a sketch plan, verso of the (ground?) floor.  
Size: 27.6 x 29.0 cms.



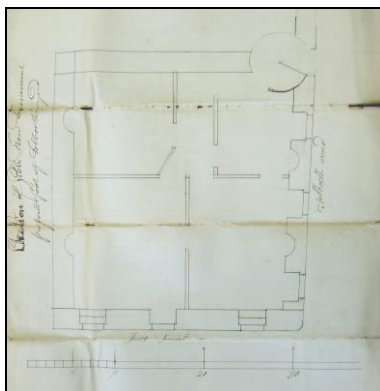
Description: h. Ground plan of the subjects, measured by George Callender  
Size: 27.2 x 19.6 cms.  
Inscriptions verso: Edr. 24 March 1785. The within plan is relative to an interlocutor of Court of this date.



Description: i. Ground plan.

Size: 23.2 x 28.0 cms.

Inscriptions: Edr. 7 July 1785. This is the plan referred to in my interlocutor of this date on the Bill of Advocation for Alexander Gibb.



Description: j. Plan of an unidentified floor with rounded corner.

Size: 30.0 x 32.4 cms

BOX: 1785/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 July 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 12 July 1785.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Agatha Drummond of Blair Drummond and the procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about tradesman striking out windows.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Rose, wright in Pleasance, Walter Porteous, mason in Canongate and James lees, slater in Pleasance. They are working for either Edwin Horsburgh the proprietor or John Porteous, curer in Canongate, his tenant. They are striking out windows in a tenement on the east of the petitioner's back court, without a warrant. The Court ordered the work to stop on 12 July and after a visit allowed them to continue.

DRAWINGS: None.

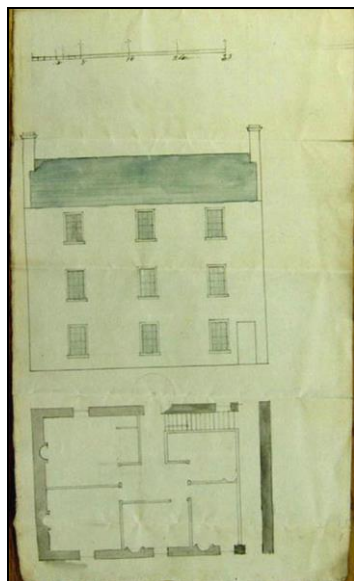
BOX: 1785/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 July 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1785.

PETITIONER: Robert Skinner, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kings street, west side.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.  
NOTES: Property purchased from the heirs of William Drysdale.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of ground floor.  
Size: 34.4 x 17.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/22  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 July 1785.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1785.  
PETITIONER: James Rannie senior, merchant in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, Rotten Row.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild the roof with an additional floor.  
NOTES: See warrants granted 29 April 1790 (Rannie) and the cognosed accounts for the work here by James Thomson, builder in Leith, 13 November 1806 (Rannie and others).  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/23  
WARRANT GRANTED: 30 June 1785.  
PETITION LODGED: 10 May 1785.  
PETITIONER: John Spottiswood, merchant.  
SITE: Canal Street, smiths shop.  
PROPOSAL: Argument over a mutual gable.  
NOTES: The shop is bounded on the west by a tenement built by Daniel Lamb, wright and John Elliot, mason. Now belonging to William Wilkie, tailor. The shop belonged formerly to Davidson and Porteous, smiths and was sold for behoof of their creditors to Laurence Johnstone, gardener at Grange. The petitioner bought from him.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/24  
WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1785.  
PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1785.  
PETITIONER: William Laurie, shoemaker, Mrs. Downie, Robert Foreman, shoemaker and others, tenants.  
SITE: Pleasance, west side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against Joseph Horn, baker who has built an oven.  
NOTES: The oven can be rebuilt but Horn is not allowed to store any more fuel (coal) than is necessary for his work.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1785.

PETITIONER: Robert Torbett, smith in Portsburgh.

SITE: Portsburgh, south side of the street. A little to the west of the West Port.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: An action brought by the Procurator Fiscal against the petitioner for building without a warrant, 29 June 1785. Refers to an Act of the Town Council of 1 May 1674, ratified by the Privy Council 'That no craftsman of this burgh shall repair or build any houses or tenements of land within this City, Leith, Canongate or suburbs Viz. West Port, Potterrow or Pleasance without first they acquaint the Dean of Guild and his Council with the design of the said reparation or building....'

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation

Size: 20.8 x 33.5 cms.



Description: b. Elevation.

Size: 25.7 x 32.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 9 August 1785.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, on the access street from the west roads into the New Town.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about wood, stones and building materials on the road.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Ferguson, mason, Daniel Lamb, wright and John Elliot, mason, builders in the new extended Royalty.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 August 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 26 February 1783.

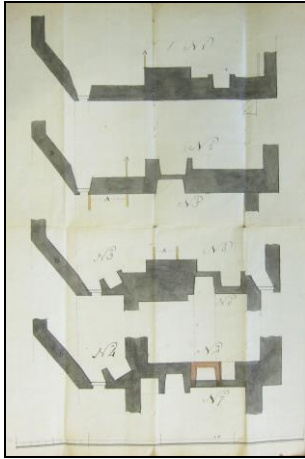
PETITIONER: Captain John Ranken, shipmaster in Inverkeithing.

SITE: 'looking down the broad wynd of Leith'

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a gable.

NOTES: A long legal process with many papers. There is an explanation of the plans.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the gable through four floors.

Size: 40.6 x 26.8 cms.

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BOX: 1785/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 September 1785.

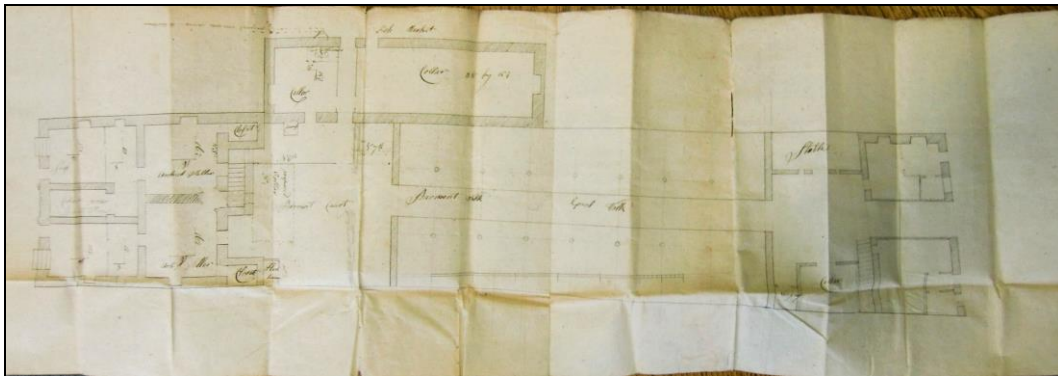
PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1785.

PETITIONER: John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith.

SITE: Leith. Fishmarket Close

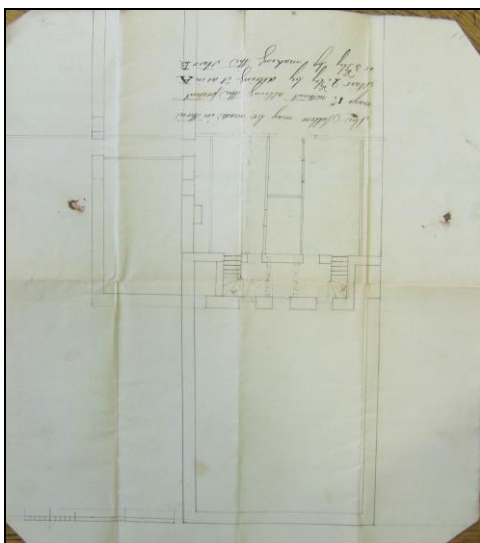
PROPOSAL: Alteration to a cellar behind his tenement, to railings and plumbing for a kitchen.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Ground plan of the entire property.

Size: 27.0 x 81.8 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the tenement and cellars.

Size: 34.3 x 31.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 September 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1785.

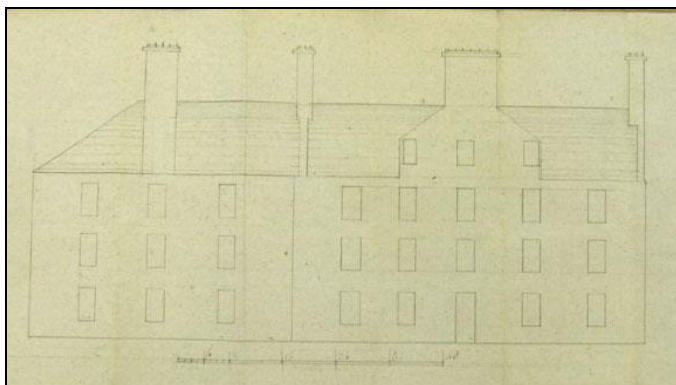
PETITIONER: James Lumisden, portioner in Leith.

SITE: Leith Walk foot, area of land, part of the Pewslands.

PROPOSAL: To enclose and build.

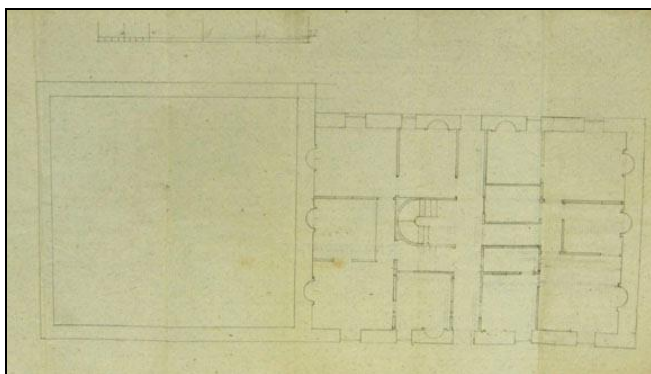
NOTES: '...cannot properly ascertain either as to height or division as there is a road now intended but produces a plan... which may eventually suffer some small alteration'.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 19.5 x 36.1 cms.



Description: b. Plan.

Size: 19.9 x 36.1 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 September 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1785.

PETITIONER: Alexander McHattie, merchant (grocer) in Canongate.

SITE: High Street, north side, at the back of the Fountainwell.

PROPOSAL: Payment for repairs.

NOTES: A timber tenement purchased from Mrs Elizabeth Campbell, widow of James Drummond, merchant in Edinburgh. Only half of the tenement was transferred, by disposition dated 17 December 1783. Remainder not yet transferred but repairs necessary to make it habitable. Estimates here from Charles Esplin & Co. for paper hangings £9 6s; William Watson, wright £6 9s 4d; John Ritchie, slater £3 3s 4d; William Jamison, mason £13 1s 8d; James Clark, glazier £1 17s 10; Archibald Cameron painter £3 15s 2d and (measured by?) Patrick Taylor £1 1s 2d. Shop and fore room occupied by Mr. Wilkieson, gunmaker. Shop walls in yellow. Woodwork on two ends of the upper front in stone colour. Exterior windows white. Taylor records only white and yellow.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 September 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 19 September 1785.

PETITIONER: Charles Elliot, bookseller.

SITE: Queen Street, next to the corner house on Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a boundary wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Brough, builder who built the petitioner's house and occupies the house on the east. The work (?) was stopped on 19 September and the defender was allowed to answer on the 22 September. There is a letter here from the petitioner to the Clerk of the Court dated 28 September 1785 stating that he and Brough have settled the matter.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 October 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 10 October 1785.

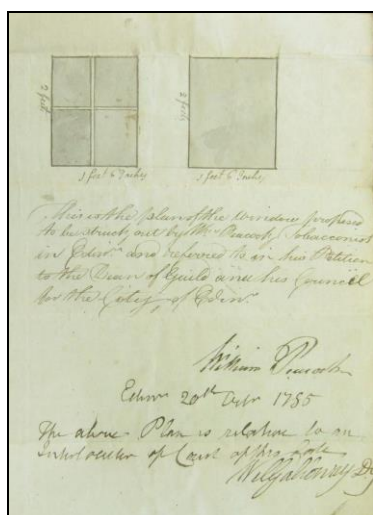
PETITIONER: William Peacock, tobacconist.

SITE: Head of Canongate, south side.

PROPOSAL: To slap out a small window.

NOTES: The shop has no light except what comes in at the door. See petition of 12 August 1784 (Hamilton).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of the window.  
18.0 x 31.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 10 November 1785.

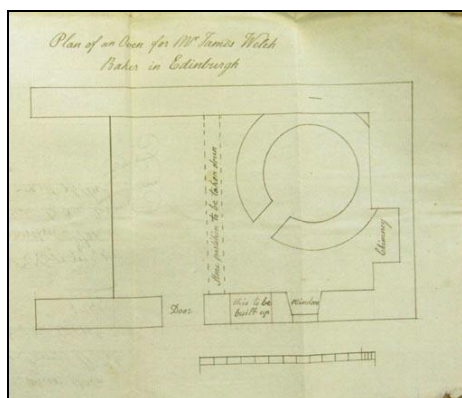
PETITIONER: James Welsh, baker.

SITE: West Bow, west side, Moffat's land.

PROPOSAL: To convert a smiddy to an oven.

NOTES: Cellar at rear formerly occupied as a forge and smith shop by David Brown, smith. The petitioner's present oven in the Lawnmarket is to be removed at Whitsunday 'in order to afford access to the mound of earth across the north loch'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the oven.  
18.2 x 31.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1785/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 13 July 1785.

PETITIONER: William Laurie, upholder.

SITE: High Street, first floor of tenement entered by the Clamshell turnpike.

PROPOSAL: To remove a stone pillar.

NOTES: Lately possessed by Andrew Gillespie, upholder. The stone pillar rises in the middle of the fore part and 'is of no use in supporting the tenement'. The same pillars have been taken out in the upper floors. (A pillar can be masonry between windows).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 December 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 1 December 1785.

PETITIONER: William Peacock, tobacconist.

SITE: Head of Canongate, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint by his neighbour.

NOTES: See petition of 20 October 1785.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 December 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1785.

PETITIONER: Angus McPhearson, merchant, trustee for the creditors of William Ballintyne, pewterer.

SITE: College Wynd, foot. Schedule of protest gives it as Wilson's Close, Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: Account from James Heriot, wright 12s. Tenants include John Reid, wright, James Donaldson, glover, William Thomson, copper plate printer and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

### Unextracted processes (ECA: SL91/16)

BOX: 1785/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 20 January 1785.

PETITIONER: William Richardson, smith.

PROPOSAL: Offers a device to weigh 'half pennys'.

NOTES: The Court accepted the device and ordered it to be stamped with the Dean of Guild stamp and lodged with the Court. He was prohibited for making and distributing others unless they also had the stamp.

DRAWINGS: None.



---

BOX: 1785/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 March 1785. (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 3 February 1785.

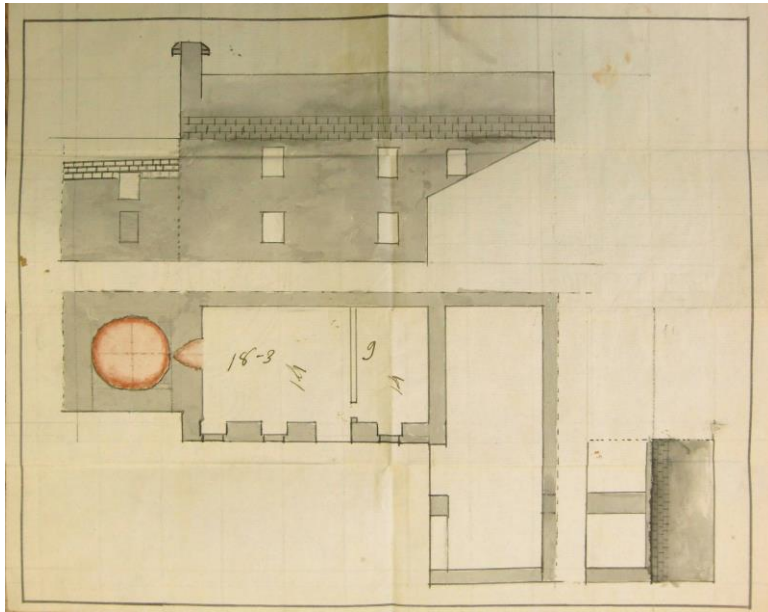
PETITIONER: John Brotherstone, upholsterer.

SITE: High Street, New Assembly Close, to the east.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: The petitioner wants to convert a cellar used for ale into a bake house with an oven for pies or small bread.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the cellar and elevation of the oven.

Size: 45.0 x 32.4 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

---

BOX: 1785/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1785 (no warrant, parties summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 20 May 1785.

PETITIONER: John Marshall, mason in the Extended Royalty.

SITE: New Town St David's lane.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an illegal erection.

NOTES: The complaint is against tradesmen employed by John Brough and John Hastie, who have begun building a brick smiths shop immediately opposite to the petitioner's new house. The work was ordered to be stopped on 20 May but resumed and completed in the early hours of the morning, before 25 May.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1785 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 4 June 1785.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Brichen (Jean Beveridge) relict of the deceased Alexander Brichen, merchant tailor in Canongate.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain or sewer.

NOTES: The petitioner is liferenter in the tenement where William Stewart, porter or janitor at the College is also a proprietor. He has constructed a drain but the Court finds that it is not close enough to the petitioner's property to cause any harm.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June (no warrant, replies allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1785.

PETITIONER: James Young, brewer in Leith, treasurer to King James's Hospital, Leith.

SITE: Leith Walk, foot, Pews garden.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building workshops without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Lumsden, cart wright who has begun building in Pews garden, contiguous to the garden wall of the Grammar School house of Leith which belongs to the managers of St. James's Hospital. He is building on the wall and the petitioner insists they keep 18 inches away. Lumsden claims a right to the wall.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1785 (no warrant, defender summonsed)

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1785.

PETITIONER: James Sprott, tanner, John Sligo, merchant in Leith his tenant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, head of Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about timber fixed to a railing outside his shop.

NOTES: The complaint is against Samuel Watson, solicitor and his tenant, William Clarkson, hairdresser who has placed timber on the railings of the common stair. Also a sign erected by Daniel McKinnon, hairdresser over the entrance to the Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 June 1785 (no warrant, agreement between the parties).

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1785.

PETITIONER: James Beddie and John Wilkie, masons in the Extended Royalty.

SITE: New Town, George Street, immediately west of the Assembly Rooms.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a Jacks or office house.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Henderson or others for building a toilet behind the petitioner's property, now building. '... your petitioner's men are scarcely able to stand at their work on account of the intolerable smell...'. Agreed to demolish.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1785 (no warrant, the defender summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1785.

PETITIONER: Cornelius Elliot, WS.

SITE: Canongate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about drains and flooding of his lower floor.

NOTES: The petitioner occupies a house owned by the heirs and creditors of the deceased Mrs. Mary Drummond. William Ramsay, WS acts as their factor. There is a letter here from Alexander Laing, mason dated 5 November 1785, offering to assist.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1785/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1785.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1777.

PETITIONER: Robert Whitehead, wright in Canongate and William Ritchie, mason there.

SITE: Canongate, Bulls Close.

PROPOSAL: To cognose accounts.

NOTES: This petition relates to a warrant granted to William Jamieson, mason on 1 March 1775, a copy of which is here. It has a note dated 8 March 1775, transferring it to Robert Whitehead and William Ritchie to whom Jamieson had sold part of an area of land he purchased and giving them power to apply to the Dean of Guild to cognose the accounts for whatever they built and declare it a debt on the property. For some reason

the Court appears to have been reluctant to cognose the accounts, over an extended period. There is an account here from Whitehead and Ritchie for £219 15s 6d, to build a brick house in 1775, measured by James Tate on 16 May 1785 and signed off by William Brodie and Thomas Hill on behalf of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1785/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 December 1785 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 December 1785.

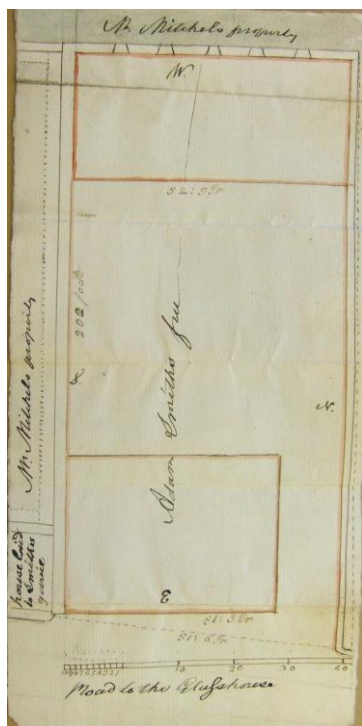
PETITIONER: Miss Smith, relict of Adam Smith, portioner in Leith.

SITE: Leith Links.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work not being carried out as agreed.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Mitchell, merchant in Leith. Refers to an earlier petition, lodged here, by Mitchell dated 24 August 1785; a complaint against Andrew Alison, rope maker in Leith. Alison had possessed houses belonging to Mrs. Smith and he had asked Mitchell if he could open some windows on the west wall of this property. Mitchell agreed, as long as they should be built up again, if requested. Alison is no longer working in his profession but refuses to build up the windows. This petition was dismissed on 20 October 1785. The drawing was submitted with Mrs. Smith's petition.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the area noted 'Road to the Glass houses'.

Size: 24.7 x 12.0 cms.

---

## 1786

The Court Officers from 6 October 1785:

### Dean of Guild

William Galloway

### Council

Archibald McDowall, Old Dean of Guild

George Campbell, merchant

William Smith, merchant

Robert Dewar, glazier

William Brodie, wright

William Jamieson, mason Procurator Fiscal, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

---

BOX: 1786/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 January 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 13 December 1785.

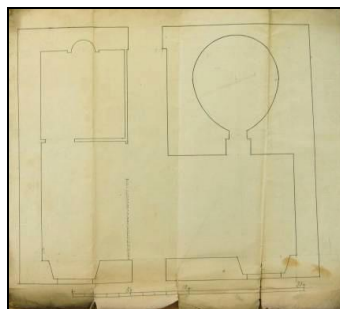
PETITIONER: William Ranken, dyer.

SITE: Borthwicks Close, foot of on east side.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

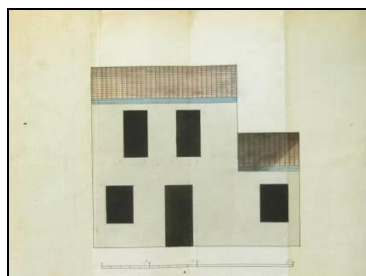
NOTES: The petitioner has let his property to a baker for the purpose of pie baking.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: Plan of ground floor with oven.

Size: 25.0 x 27.3 cms.



Description: Elevation.

Size: 19.5 x 26.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 January 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1786.

PETITIONER: John Wilson, mason (for?) Mrs. Gordon of Clunie.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Carrubbers land and adjacent land.

PROPOSAL: Seeking payment for rebuilding the west gable.

NOTES: Warrant dated 23 March 1781 on a petition by the Procurator Fiscal for the repair of the vents. Refers to an adjoining tenement on the west owned by William Young, writer and Robert Brown, founder, which had been condemned by a warrant and taken down.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 January 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 8 December 1785.

PETITIONER: John Dumbreck, innkeeper, head of the Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, White Horse Inn.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of a sign and whitewashing.

NOTES: The petitioner states that he and his predecessors for the past forty years and more have been in the habit of painting and whitening the entrance to the Inn from the Canongate '...with wine grapes and other emblems of the best entertainment...'. He also had a sign board on the side of the entrance, on the property of Mrs. Bell and with her agreement. This board has been taken down by Thomas Kepey or Capey, change keeper or stabler, who has recently taken a small house in the Close and has been replaced by a sign for himself. He has also whitened over the painted decoration. Kepey produces a letter from Samuel Stevenson, surgeon, dated 2 December 1785, owner of the property on which the sign board hung. It states that the sign belonged to William Campbell, former tenant of the house Mr. Capey now occupies and gave him permission to replace it. The Court ordered the defender to restore the decoration within eight days or allow the petitioner to do so. A claim for expences acknowledged by the Court on 16 February 1786 appears to have been dropped.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 19 January 1786.

PETITIONER: Alexander McHattie, merchant in Canongate.

SITE: Back of the Fountainwell.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: See previous warrant granted 22 September 1785 (McHattie). The petition includes receipts from tradesman for work carried out by: James Mathie, glazier £1 10s 8d; William Jamieson, mason £6 10s 11d; John Ritchie, slater, £3 8s 1d; Archibald Cameron, painter £4 6s 5d - includes whitewashing the shop and kitchen in the land at the back of the Fountain Well, 48yds 8ft of size yellow in the house of Mr. Wilkinson, gun maker 8s 1½d, oil painting the woodwork (no colour given) in the shop and fore room and the woodwork on the (exterior) front, stone colour, painting in oil three coats Mr Wilkinson's middle room 10s 8d. Also from Charles Esplin and Company for wall paper: 27 May 1784 for papering the back and fore shop 14s, papering a back room and putting up £1 16s 2d, papering the middle room £1 8s 10d, papering a laigh shop 15s. His account was settled on 18 December 1785 and his receipt notes 'for printed papers furnished by us for the houses at the back of the Fountain Well'. In a deposition made to the court on 17 February 1786 John Forbes, paper stainer in Edinburgh 'one of the company of Charles Esplin & Co' declared that the prices charged were 'current and ordinary'. Another account dated May 1785 from Patrick Taylor, painter to 'Mr. MacCattie' per order (of) Mr. Gardiner, hairdresser (presumably his tenant) providing size yellow on walls of his house 35½ (yds) at 2d, 5s 11d.

REFERENCES: National Archives of Scotland CC8/8/131, Dative testament of John Forbes, 17 September 1799 where he is described as the only surviving partner of Esplin & Forbes, paper stainers in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 March 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 7 October 1784

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal against Jonathan Townsend.

SITE: Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: Order to demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Previous warrant issued on 16 June 1785 ignored. Townsend sent in replies on 22 October 1784 stating that his tenement is perfectly sound but that another old timber

tenement to the west, belonging to the heirs of George Bathgate, is ruinous.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1786.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal against John Learmonth & Co.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous stair.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 March 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 20 February 1786.

PETITIONER: John Laurie, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: West side of the street to the Bridge of Leith.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild tenement.

NOTES: The warrant was granted with a stipulation regarding the distance between the gable of the tenement and an adjoining building.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevations and plans of two floors.

Size: 35.7 x 47.2 cms.

Watermark: Countermark C Taylor

---

BOX: 1786/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 April 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1786.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Wright (Euphemia), relict of the deceased Charles Wright, stationer, Patrick Lee, vintner her tenant, Mrs. Guthrie, John Hunter, brewer, back of Canongate and John Gordon, his tenant.

SITE: High Street, Old Assembly Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about vents.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Turner, mender of china and Robert Stevenson who occupy a cellar below the petitioner's property. They have opened a vent to the rear and erected funnels for smoke without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1786.

PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Weavers in the Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, immediately below the Weaver's property.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Mrs. Taylor, baker in Canongate

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1786.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Castlehill, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous construction.

NOTES: The complaint is against Michael Henderson, stabler and James Gray, mason, presently employed in carrying on a large wooden tenement. In answers for Michael Henderson he states that he owns a house, stable and yard on the north side of the Grassmarket, backing onto the Castlehill. He began building a shade in his yard and did not apply to the court because it was not for habitation but 'for the purpose of entertaining the gentlemen who frequent (his) house through the day'. Both were fined.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1786.

PETITIONER: The heritors of Arthur Reid's land, John Tawse, writer, factor for the heirs of Robert Anderson, merchant; Mrs Ramsay, relict of James Ramsay, slater in Canongate and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Borthwicks Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Michie and John Clark (mason?).

NOTES: They had begun work and created a window in the west wall of a tenement in Fishmarket Close. Fined £24 and £16 Scots plus expences of petition.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1786.

PETITIONER: Mrs Ann Miller of Wakenshaw.

SITE: Canongate, Reid's Court.

PROPOSAL: To build an extension for the accommodation of her family.

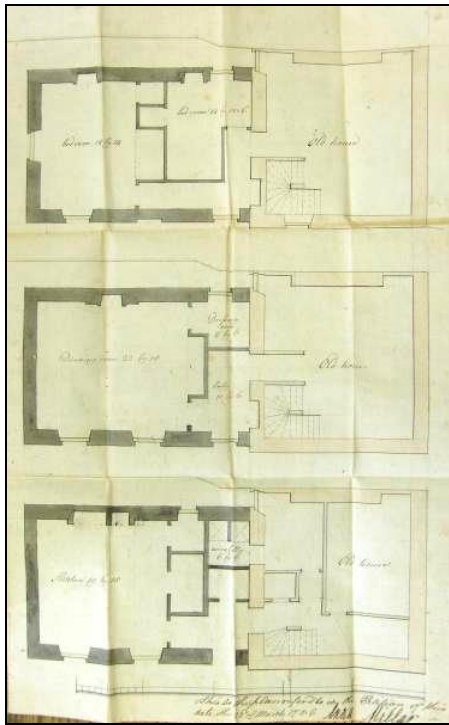
NOTES: Refers to a Sasine for the property granted by James Reid dated 10 February 1780 and a disposition by James Reid, eldest son of deceased James Reid, coachmaker in Edinburgh dated 4 April 1780. This from the responses by Mrs. Hay of Pitfour who is concerned about loss of light.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and section.

Size: 30.0 x 29.7 cms.



Description: b. Plans of three floors.

Size: 46.8 x 29.6 cms.

BOX: 1786/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 May 1786.

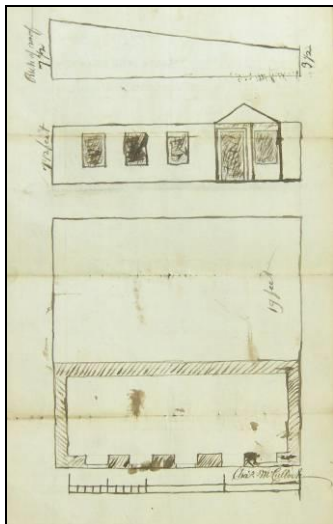
PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1786.

PETITIONER: William Fraser, white iron smith and others, heritors.

SITE: St Andrews street, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about Alexander Gray, tailor who is building on a back area without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

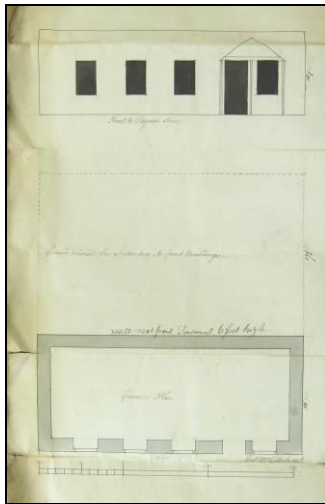


Description: a. Sketch plan and elevation.

Size: 36.4 x 23.3 cms.

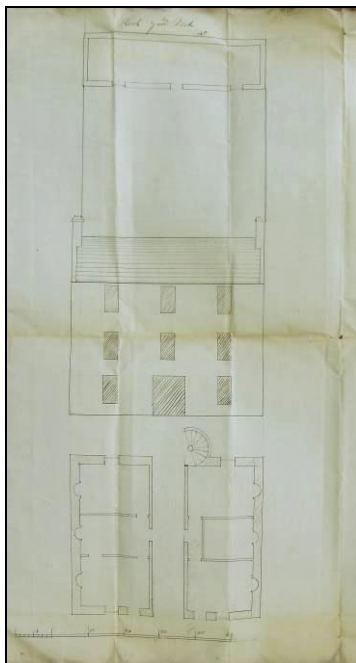
Signed: Chas McCulloch





Description: b. Elevation and plan.  
 Size: 32.4 19.7 cms.  
 Inscriptions recto: Front to Register Street.  
 Signed: Chas McCulloch, delt.

BOX: 1786/14  
 WARRANT GRANTED: 5 May 1786.  
 PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1786.  
 PETITIONER: Robert Barry (Barre), writer in Leith.  
 SITE: South Leith, Lauries Street.  
 PROPOSAL: To build a house.  
 NOTES: Land purchased from John Pew, late merchant in Leith.  
 DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



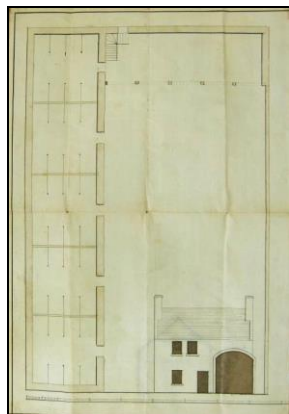
Description: a. Elevation and plan.  
 Size: 47.5 x 38.5 cms.  
 Inscriptions, recto: Kirk Yard Di(t)ch (at rear of property).  
 Watermark: Counter mark: R Williams.

BOX: 1786/15  
 WARRANT GRANTED: 25 May 1786.  
 PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1786.  
 PETITIONER: William Smith, riding post master.  
 SITE: Pleasance.

PROPOSAL: To take down an old tenement for an entrance to his stables,

NOTES: He had already begun work on the stables because there were entirely within his own property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation.

Size: 38.7 x 27.0 cms.

Watermark: Counter mark: C Patch.

---

BOX: 1786/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 May 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 17 January 1786.

PETITIONER: Peter Lyon, optician in Edinburgh.

SITE: North Leith.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expence of repairs.

NOTES: Includes a copy of James Lamb's petition for payment of expences for repairs to a tenement belonging to Francis Thomson, wright in Leith and Margaret Thomson, relict of Claudia Thomson, mariner there, dated March 1774. Accounts from James Lamb, wright dated 12 October 1773 and others. Lyon is petitioning in consequence of the testament of James Lamb dated 14 May 1777, registered 23 Feb 1777.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1786.

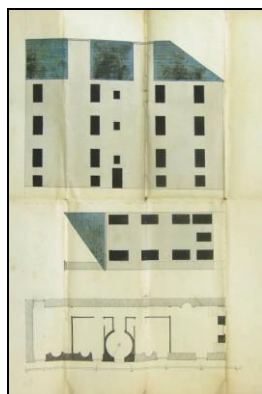
PETITIONER: Robert Alexander, clock and watchmaker in Leith.

SITE: Shore of Leith.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Property recently purchased from Lt. James Blair of the late 88th Regiment of Foot.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevations.

Size: 44.5 x 31.0 cms.

BOX: 1786/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1786. Second warrant dated 22 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1786.

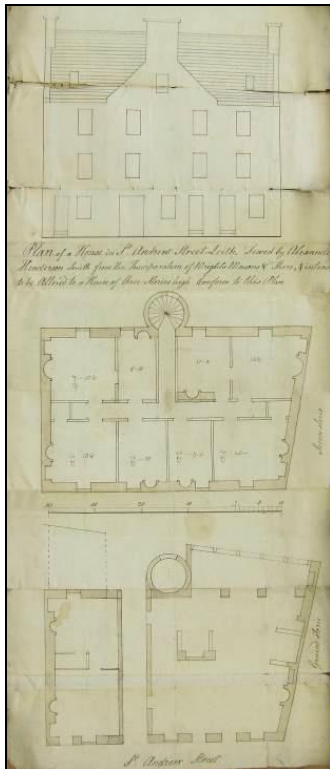
PETITIONER: Alexander Henderson, smith and Alexander Bennet, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Andrews Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old houses and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Land feued from the Incorporation of Wrights and Masons in Leith. The final warrant was for design, b. below.

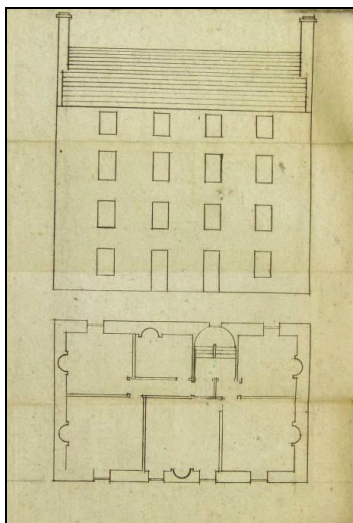
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 18.3 x 23.0 cms and 37.3 x 23.0 cms (two pieces, the elevation pasted to the plans).

Inscriptions verso: This is the plan and elevation referred to in my petition of date fourth May 1786. Alex Henderson.



Description: b. Plan and elevation.

Size: 28.9 x 26.7 cms.

Inscriptions verso: Edr. 22 March 1787. This is the plan referred to in an interlocutor of Court granted of this date relative to the petition of Alex Bennet wright in Leith.

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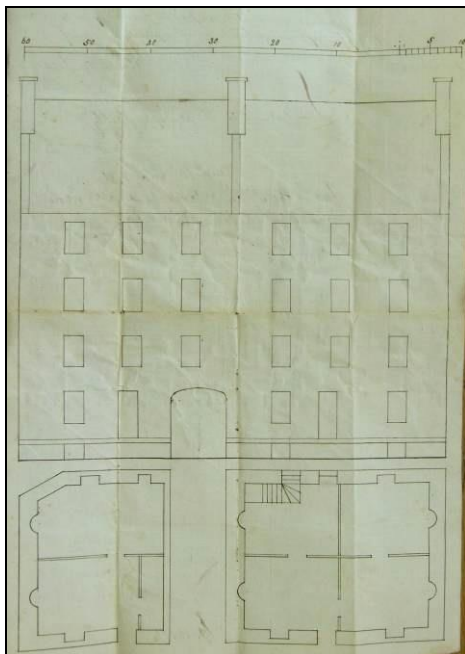
BOX: 1786/19  
WARRANT GRANTED: 1 June 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 25 May 1786.  
PETITIONER: George Mudie (Madie?), stationer.  
SITE: Horse Wynd, head of Craig's land.  
PROPOSAL: Alter a window to a door.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/20  
WARRANT GRANTED: 8 June 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1786.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Hamilton of Belhaven.  
SITE: Bishops land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging in the cellars.  
NOTES: The complaint is against John Mylne, founder. The work was stopped on 7 June but allowed to continue after Mylne acknowledged that he had begun to renew the floor in his cellar without a warrant.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/21  
WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 May 1786.  
PETITIONER: William Laing, Baxter, Convener of the Trades in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, immediately east of the vaults belonging to Messrs. Allan Steuart & Co.  
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.  
NOTES: Land feued from James Lee, tailor in Leith. Warrant granted on condition that he place the doors on each side of the gateway 'immediately under the windows...'  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



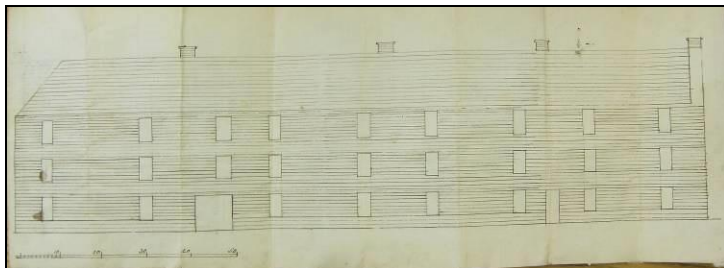
Description: a. Plan and elevation.  
Size: 35.0 x 23.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/22  
WARRANT GRANTED: 22 June 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1786.  
PETITIONER: Nicol Bell, coppersmith in Leith.  
SITE: Leith (head of Quality Street?).  
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement on part of the area.

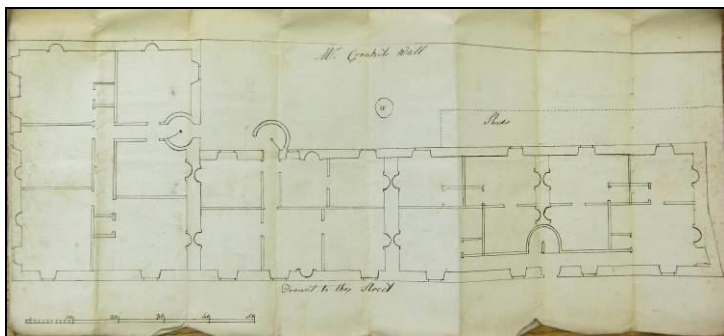
NOTES: Property purchased from the Kirk Session of South Leith. There is reference in associated papers to a feu entered into between Nicol Bell and the Master of King James Hospital. See further warrants, 13 March 1787 (Bell) 25 September 1789 (Bell).

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 18.4 x 50.3 cms.



Description: Plan of the 'front to the street'.

Size: 23.9 x 49.0 cms.

Watermarks: Counter mark: I Taylor.

---

BOX: 1786/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 July 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1786.

PETITIONER: Alexander Brown, merchant, factor for Robert Mylne, architect in London.

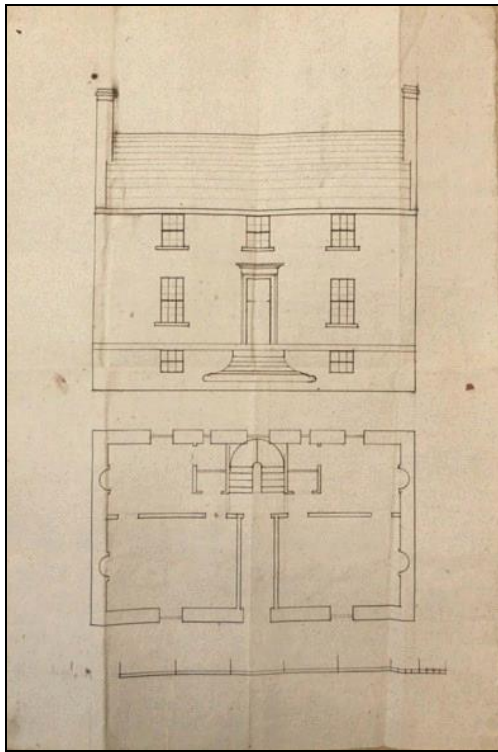
SITE: Mylnes Square, rear.

PROPOSAL: Alterations, entrances from the Veal Market into the ground floor.

NOTES: Reference is made in the petition to dispositions of the property from Thomas Mylne to William Mylne and from William to Robert.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Elevation with a plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 35.5 x 23.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1784.

PETITIONER: William Smith, merchant, factor for the deceased John Mowbray, merchant.

SITE: Potterrow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Smith, baker about building an oven.

NOTES: This warrant relates to the resulting expences. There is reference to a case between Mowbray and Wilson, see warrant granted 1 February 1758 (Wilson). An inventory of processes refers to at least two plans which are not here

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1786.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: George Street, a little west of St Andrews Church.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Brough, wright.

NOTES: Brough has erected shades on the public street and laid in a large quantity of stones and rubbish. In his replies Brough complains that he moved the shade as soon as the complaint was made and points the Court to Hanover street and other places where a great deal of work is going on. The procurator pointed out in response that Brought had been the subject of many similar complaints.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1785?

PETITIONER: Walter Scott against Elizabeth Porteous.

SITE: Canongate, north side, below the church, formerly called Munro's Land.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences as a preferable debt.

NOTES: This is for the building of a tenement for Alexander Peacock. Accounts here from tradesman for work, Includes an account from Thomas Peacock, painter dated 19

July 1783 'To painting in oil white the outside of 29 windows...'. A Mr. Lamont had a shop in the tenement and there is an account for a new sign for him from Thomas Peacock 'To painting in fine oil green a sign & writing your name & designation thereon. With fine yellow letters and a mock moulding round the whole'. Dated 30 July 1783. The total for the building came to £1088.2s 3d stg. Walter Scott acted in the Dean of Guild Court and Court of Session.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 26 December 1785.

PETITIONER: John Burns, mason.

SITE: Rose Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against David Greig, baker.

NOTES: Copy here of a decret in favour of David Greig in response to a petition by Robert Calder, mason in St. David's lane, William Inglis, porter and John Henry; proprietors of a new tenement in St David's lane, against Greig for building an oven in St David's street. Greig was ordered not to store wood and to keep a stone trough beside his oven, filled with water, in which he was to extinguish the embers every night. He did not comply with all of the requirements of the Court and was fined £5 Stg. on penalty of forfeiture of his goods or imprisonment.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1786.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, printer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, Rose Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the height.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Marshall, mason who has already built a tenement of three stories and sunk (basement) opposite to the petitioner's property but he is adding another story. This building is said to be contrary to an Act of Council dated 29 June 1785. In his replies, John Marshall states that he was ordered to stop work by the Town Overseer, Thomas Stevenson. He petitioned the Town Council to complete his tenement according to a plan given in to them but this was not agreed by a report from the Lord Provost's committee who ordered the tenement to be completed according to the Act of Council. Accordingly Thomas Stevenson pointed out the way he was to proceed and this is what he was doing. There is a measure of the work here signed by Alexander Ponton, ordained surveyor, in the presence of Messrs. Robertson and Marshall. The Court granted a warrant to continue with the work. There is no mention of this Act in the Town Council minutes for the 29 June 1785.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 2 August 1786.

PETITIONER: The Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, Johnston's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement had been the subject of a warrant 9 June 1785 (Lord Provost) to rebuild but this had not occurred. The Town Council remitted this petition to the Court who appointed a jury to give a valuation. They did so (£40 Stg.) on 17 August and the Court ordered the site to be advertised for sale as no effort had been made to rebuild.

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1786/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 2 August 1786.

PETITIONER: The Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement, belonging to James Loch, WS had been the subject of a warrant 3 February 1785 (Lord Provost) to rebuild but this had not occurred. The Town Council remitted this petition to the Court who appointed a jury to give a valuation. They did so (£100 Stg.) on 17 August and the Court ordered the site to be advertised for sale as no effort had been made to rebuild.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1786.

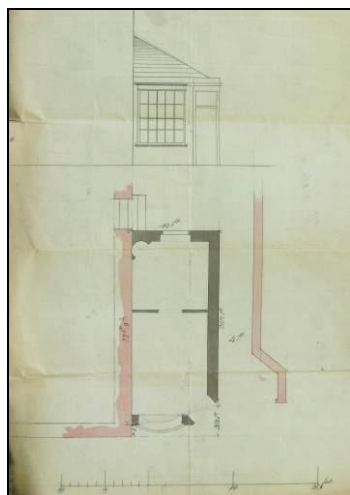
PETITIONER: Mrs. (Agnes) Chalmers, relict of William Chalmers, merchant.

SITE: Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: To build a lean-to (shop?) in the entry.

NOTES: The petitioner owns some houses in the back area, approached by a broad entry into the houses and area from Brown's Square.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 29.4 x 22.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1786.

PETITIONER: Alexander Sharp, late of Jamaica, now residing in High School Yards.

SITE: High School Yards, a lodging and a small area to east and north.

PROPOSAL: To build a small extension.

NOTES: Work begun without a warrant as the extension was on his own land. In replies for Mrs Kerr of Chatto and Dr Aitken it notes that the building should be demolished because it stands on land that belonged to the Incorporation of Surgeons and was feued to William Mylne, architect. He erected a building according to a contract and plan, which did not include the present extension. See also warrant of 11 November 1786 (Sharp). A plan was borrowed on 7 October, to be 'returned immediately'.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1786/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 September 1786.

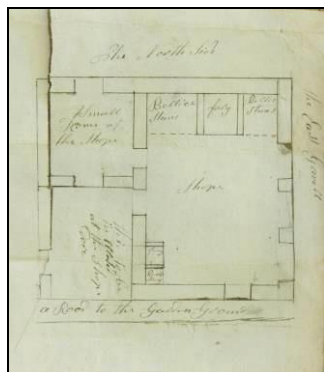
PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1786.

PETITIONER: William Stratton (Straton, Straiton), smith in Pleasance.

SITE: Canongate, south back, St John's Hill.

PROPOSAL: To build a smiths shop on site of a stable and byre.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch plan.

Size: 23.0 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 September 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1786.

PETITIONER: William Lyon, mason.

SITE: Potterrow, west side contiguous to the meeting house.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences.

NOTES: This refers to a warrant granted 1 April 1772 (Good) for repairs on the tenement carried out by William Good, wright, Richard Frame, mason and William Archibald, slater for Margaret Oliphant, relict of John Wilson, silk dyer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September

PETITION LODGED: 5 September 1786.

PETITIONER: Daniel Douglas, vintner.

SITE: Anchor Close, head of.

PROPOSAL: Complaint regarding alterations without a warrant.

NOTES: This petition follows on from a petition of complaint by David Rae, Lord Eskgrove and others against Daniel Douglas dated 5 September 1786 and lodged here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1786.

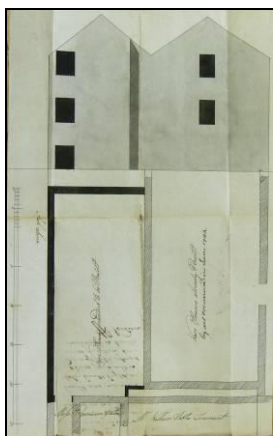
PETITIONER: Messrs Jamison and Paton, soap boilers in Leith.

SITE: Sheriff Brae, corner with Ash lane, Leith.

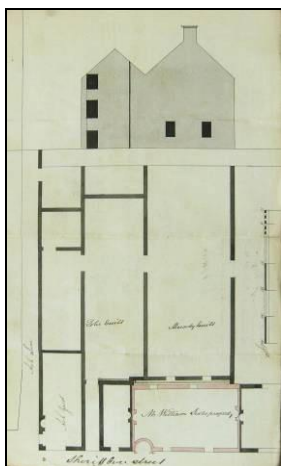
PROPOSAL: To build a further range of warehouses.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant dated June 1784 to build a range of warehouses in the Sheriff Brae, Leith. Papers include a 'Mandate of Authority' by the inhabitants of the Sheriff Brae and Coal Hill of Leith against the works.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation.  
Size: 37.6 x 23.4 cms



Description: b. Plan and elevation showing position of William Scott's property.  
Size: 31.0 x 18.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 October (expences) and 31 August 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1786.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, printer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: George Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about additional height of adjoining tenements.

NOTES: John Robertson's house is occupied by Sir William Forbes. He is complaining about the activities of John Brough, wright and Andrew Neil, mason who have built and are building on both sides of Robertson's property but have built additional floors. He complains that the symmetry of the contiguous buildings is destroyed and the prospect from Rose Street will become deformed and irregular. Work was stopped on 21 July and on 3 August the Court ordered that the tenements be measured.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 October 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 15 September 1786.

PETITIONER: James Hotchkiss, brewer.

SITE: Grassmarket.

PROPOSAL: To break through a door on the east side of his close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 October 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1786.

PETITIONER: Lord Henderland (Alexander Murray).

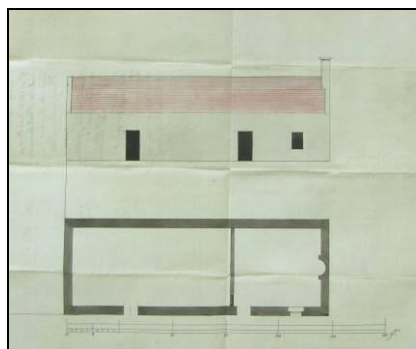
SITE: Brown Square.  
PROPOSAL: To repair his roof and take down and rebuild a wall.  
NOTES: George Callander, architect ordered to repair a wall he had undermined.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/42  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 30 September 1786.  
PETITIONER: John Robertson, printer.  
SITE: George Street.  
PROPOSAL: Claim for expences against Andrew Neil.  
NOTES: Follows on from previous petition.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/43  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 26 September 1786.  
PETITIONER: Robert Cairns, Register General of tobacco in Scotland.  
SITE: Leith, Kings Street.  
PROPOSAL: To build.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.  
Size: 27.6 x 34.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1786/44  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1786.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Calton.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James Mabon (Methven, Mavin also used here), residenter and weaver in Aberlady and George Simpson, shoemaker in Calton, the proprietors. The warrant is recorded on the verdict of the jury.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/45  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1786.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1786.  
PETITIONER: Daniel Lamb, wright.  
SITE: Carrubbers land.  
PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences.  
NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted to John Wilson, mason and Daniel Lamb, wright for repairs to a roof and rebuilding a gable wall dated 10 September 1781. Also refers to earlier petition by Daniel Lamb dated 9 December 1784 for expences (not there). Refers to the fifth story of the tenement previously belonging to Gavin Alston, printer but now belonging to Gavin Beugo, residing in Leith, James Spottiswood, paper merchant and Alexander Storie, candlemaker, as trustees for his creditors. All now belonging to

William Young, writer by purchase from them. Top story belongs to Mrs Gordon of Cluny.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 19 September 1786.

PETITIONER: Alexander Sharp and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High School Yards.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Dr Aitken.

NOTES: Dr Aitken undermined a boundary wall and according to the petitioner 'endeavoured to intimidate the masons employed at the petitioner's work, calling out to them 'to take care of themselves, to leave that part of the wall and go to some other part, for that he had undermined the wall which would tumble down about their ears & they would be lost in the ruins'. See also warrant granted 31 August 1786 (Sharp).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 December 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1786.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ramsay (Jean Walker), relict of Alexander Ramsay, slater in Canongate and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, St Andrews Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous gable

NOTES: The crumbling gable is on the tenement opposite, belonging to Alexander Dallas of North Newton, late dyer in Edinburgh. He was ordered to take it down by warrant dated 28 September 1786, a copy of which is here. On 16 October 1786 the Procurator Fiscal intervened to state that the work had not yet commenced. Robert Tennent defended Alexander Dallas in his absence in the country and was still doing so on 22 November but Dallas was found liable to the expence of the process by the warrant of 1 December.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 December 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1786.

PETITIONER: Samuel Mitchelson junior, WS for Mrs. Barbara Musgrave, relict of the Rt. Hon. John Musgrave, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

SITE: Head of Grays Close, Hogg's land.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 December 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 29 November 1786.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Kinloch's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against Sir David Kinloch of Gilmerton who sought a Bill of Suspension in the Court of Session. This was refused by David Dalrymple (Lord Hailes) and the warrant was granted for the demolition of the gable and side walls and sale of the materials.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 December 1786.

PETITION LODGED: 15 December 1786.

PETITIONER: James Feggans, solicitor at law.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To reinstate the roof and other repairs

NOTES: The petitioner occupies two flats belonging to Edward Bruce, Clerk to the Signet by virtue of a lease of fifteen years from Whitsunday 1782. As a result of the late fire in the Close and at the back of Bess's Wynd, it was necessary to remove part of the roof to prevent the fire spreading. He asks for the amount to be cognozed as a debt on the property. There is an unsigned estimate here for the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted processes (ECA: SL91/17)**

BOX: 1786/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 May 1786 (no warrant, contiguous heritors summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 27 April 1786.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Potterrow, adjacent to Turnbull's entry.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James McGill, shoemaker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 May 1786 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 8 May 1786.

PETITIONER: Gavin Naesmith, wright in Leith.

SITE: Constitution Hill, to the south and east of.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: The petitioner had a feu from William Mitchell, merchant in Leith. The plan shows a terrace of houses along a street on the south with a wright's shop behind.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.

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Description: Plan of the area.

Size: 53.7 x 55.2 cms (in two pieces).

Watermark: I VILADERY IHS

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BOX: 1786/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 July 1786 (no warrant, fines and expences).

PETITION LODGED: 7 April 1786.

PETITIONER: John Grieve, William Phin, William Gibson, Peter Forrester and Malcolm Wright, Burgesses.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about unfree tradesmen.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Green, Edmund Hodges and William Carrick. Richard Rice appears in the Court as a partner in trade with John Green. Hodges defends himself and notes that he has had a trading warehouse since January 1785 and he produces a certificate from the Excise office as an auctioneer dated 10 January 1785 and another dated 19 January last. He agrees to enter as a Burgess on 5 May 1786.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 August 1786 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1786.

PETITIONER: James Gibson, surgeon.

SITE: Canongate, Jack's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Ramsay, slater who is building a shade and encroaching on the petitioner's property. Work was stopped on 10 August but no further action.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 September 1786 (no warrant, replies allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 12 August 1786.

PETITIONER: Laurence Hill, WS, factor for Mrs. Clementina Bell, Sir James Hunter Blair and David Erskine, tutors for the children of the deceased John Bell WS.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about proprietors not contributing to the repair of chimneys.

NOTES: In replies for William Gibson and Walter Fergusson, they state that they had an estimate, had ordered the work and were prepared to pay their share.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1786/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1786 (no warrant, replies allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 14 September 1786.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Broad Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Anderson, surgeon in Leith who is making alterations to a tenement without a warrant. The work was stopped on 14 September.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1786 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1786.

PETITIONER: John Patison, Town Clerk of Leith.

SITE: Morrison's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a 'beau' (bow) window.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of a shop and cellars, let to Messrs. Phin and Patison, merchants. He states that they were lately prosecuted before the Court for alterations to a window that would have encroached on the property of William Couper, upholsterer. He now applies to carry out the alteration.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1785 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 3 November 1785.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building materials in the street.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Burn, and William Pirnie, masons.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1786/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 December 1786 (no warrant, date of visit).

PETITION LODGED: 13 November 1786.

PETITIONER: Benjamin Yule, baker.

SITE: High Street, at the back of the Weigh House.

PROPOSAL: To open a vent or chimney in the shop.

NOTES: The property was used as a wool shop previously and the fireplace is now blocked. There is a report here by David Paton, mason dated 29 November 1786 on the building works that have blocked the vents.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1787

The Court Officers from 11 January 1786:

### Dean of Guild

William Galloway

### Council

Thomas Elder, Old Dean of Guild

George Campbell, merchant

William Smith, merchant

Robert Dewar, glazier

William Brodie, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, James Murray or Charles Rhind

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BOX: 1787/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 January 1787.

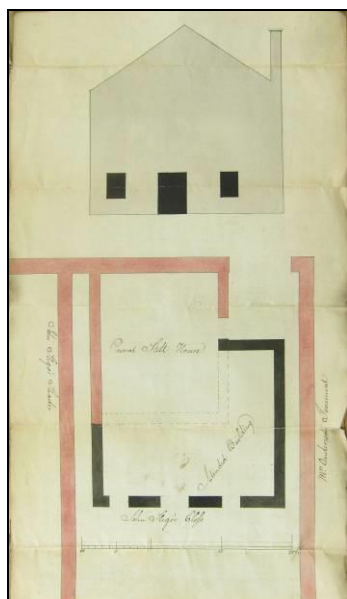
PETITION LODGED: 16 December 1786.

PETITIONER: John Sligo, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, John Sligo's Close.

PROPOSAL: To take down a still house and enlarge it.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 39.5 x 22.2 cms.

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BOX: 1787/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 January 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1786.

PETITIONER: James Thomson, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Peatneuck.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: An almost ruinous tenement had been purchased from Thomas Gladstones, merchant in Leith on 7 December 1784. Before this date Hugh Morton, wright in Leith had applied to the court to demolish other subjects belonging to Gladstones. Thomson agreed to take down as much of the old tenement as would leave an entry to Peatneuck, 11ft wide. On doing so the remainder became unsound.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 January 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 15 December 1786.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal against Edward Bruce and James Feggans, solicitor.

SITE: Between Bess and Forresters Wynd

PROPOSAL: Repairs to roof.

NOTES: He occupies two flats in a tenement belonging to Edward Bruce, Clerk to the Signet. As a result of the late alarming fire in Forresters Wynd and at the back of Bess Wynd, a part of his roof had to be removed. For action on a projection that had to be taken down. See 19 April 1787 and for expences, 12 July 1787.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1787.

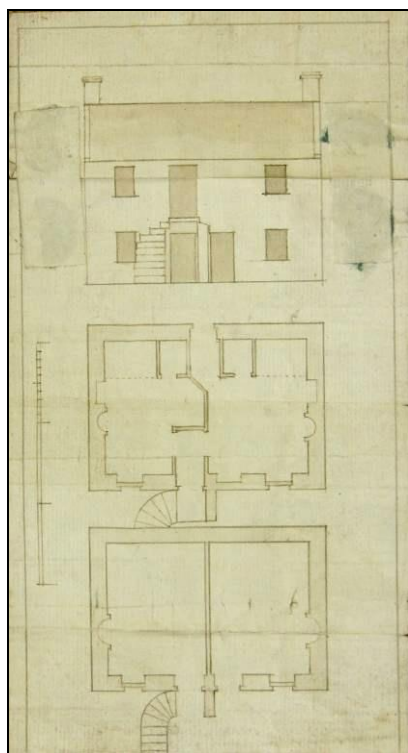
PETITION LODGED: 9 January 1787.

PETITIONER: William Wallace, stabler in Grassmarket.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To build a house on the north side of his yard.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans.

Size: 23.2 x 12.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1787.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laidlaw, tinplate worker.

SITE: Bridge Street

PROPOSAL: Alteration to lower floor, window to a door.

NOTES: Shop 'lately purchased' from City of Edinburgh. Includes answers from Lord Eskgrove.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 8 December 1786.

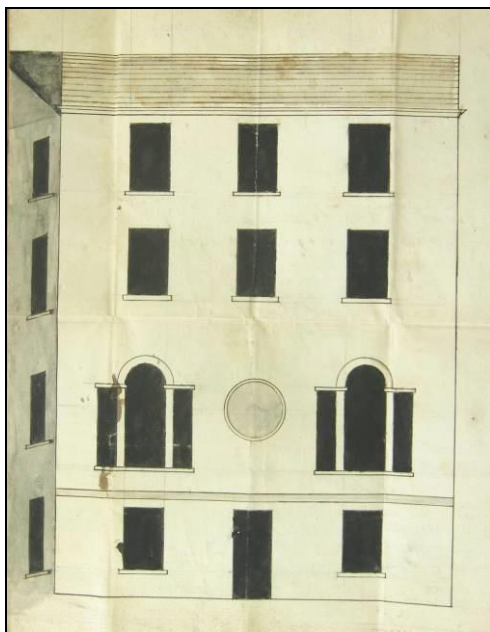
PETITIONER: James Williamson, mason, present master of the Lodge of Journeymen Masons and Thomas Russell, present Treasurer, for the Lodge.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, Hodges Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: To raise that part of their subject known as the Callander house.

NOTES: Inventory of writs includes a disposition by Thomas Tillydelph, Principal of St Leonard's College at St Andrews to the Lodge dated 4 February 1743, registered 21 December 1744. Also a decret of ranking of the creditors of James Hodge, maltman, dated 6 July 1720. Sold to Thomas Tillydelph, 23 January 1723. Argument over light as the Callendar house is a single story shade.

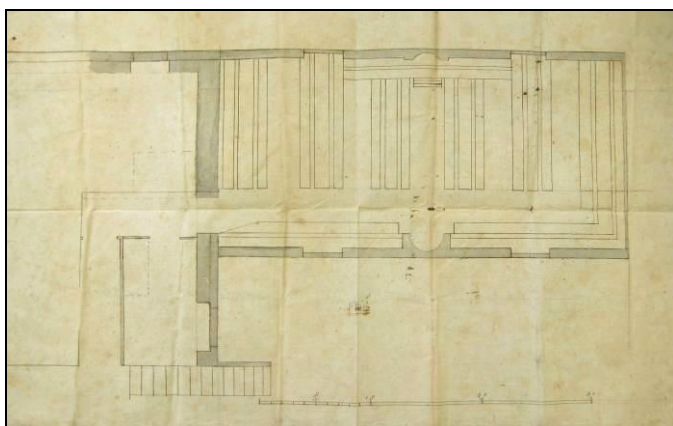
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 32.7 x 25.0 cms.

Watermark: I(?) Taylor



Description: b. Plan

Size: 36.0 x 59.5 cms.

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BOX: 1787/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1787.

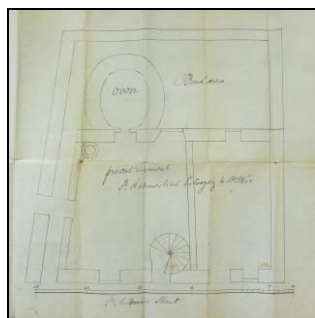
PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1787.

PETITIONER: James Weir, baker in Leith.

SITE: Leith, head of St Andrews Street.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a, Plan of tenement and oven.

Size: 39.0 x 42.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1786.

PETITIONER: Sir Harry Moncrief Wellwood, Adam Rolland, advocate, Charles Elliot, bookseller.

SITE: Queen Street, west end.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a great pile of rubbish in front of their houses.

NOTES: Because of the rubbish the street has not been paved. Disagreement about whether it is the responsibility of the Town's Overseer or John Brough, mason. John Brough 'finished Mr. (Alexander) Duncan (WS) and Sir Henry Moncrief's houses and the Lord Provost's house was also since finished'. Brough, in building the houses belonging to the petitioners believed the level he worked to would continue westward and so he laid down earth in front of Mr. Belches, Mr. Rolland and Mr. Elliot's houses. 'Indeed, the respondent (Brough) was very much surprised to find afterwards that when Mr. Baxter was employed to drive the levels of the New Town, his (Brough's) houses were founded much higher than the new adopted level, owing to the alteration of the street, in so much that it occasioned a great alteration in the main stairs which were with difficulty made to answer - and by this alteration the sunk storys appeared almost above the pavement'. The petition includes a proof with depositions from the following: James Baxter aged 42, married... two years ago he was foreman to John Baxter, architect... employed by Town Council to take the levels of Queen Street... Brough assisted him in taking the levels... that Brough's cellars were too high according to Baxter's level. William Neil, foreman mason to Alexander Laing, architect, aged 40 & upwards, married... about five years ago Laing was employed to build a house in Queen Street for Sir James Hunter Blair... he assisted with the work... Thomas Stevenson was then the overseer for levelling the streets in the extended Royalty. Andrew Neil, mason aged 36, married... was foreman to Brough when he was building house for Alexander Duncan, WS. Alexander Crawford aged 35, married... foreman mason to Brough. Thomas Stevenson, pavier in Edinburgh in an argument with Brough over mistaken levels...

DRAWINGS: There is reference to a plan or sketch of the level of Queen Street from St. David's Street eastward to Hanover Street which is not here.

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BOX: 1787/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1787.

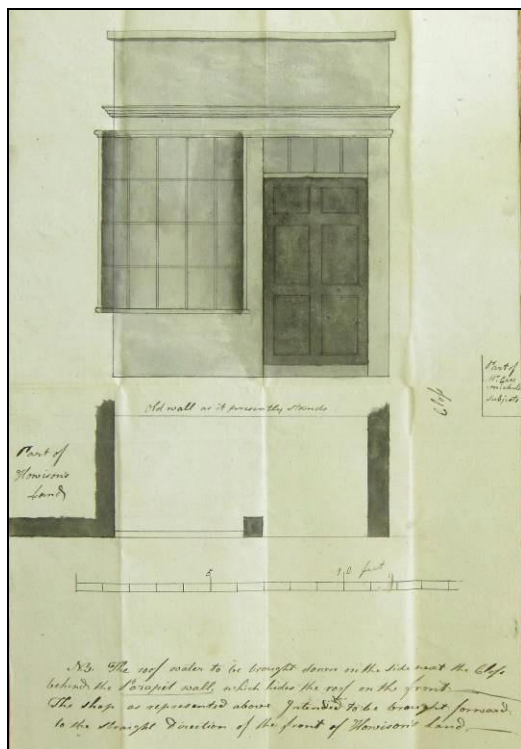
PETITIONER: William Armstrong, founder.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, foot of castle Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to shop front, to bring forward in line with Howieson's Land to the west.

NOTES: Shop leased from Dr. Michael Carmichael.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of front.

Size: 36.7 x 24.5 cms.

BOX: 1787/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 15 November 1786.

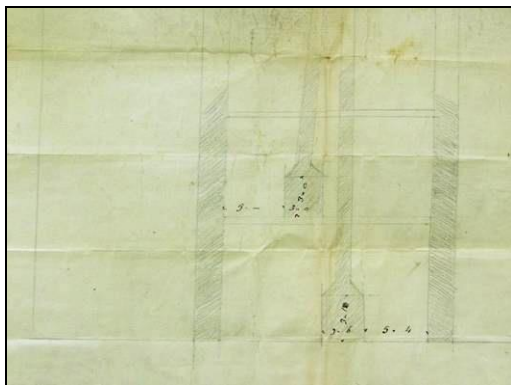
PETITIONER: Nicol Bell, coppersmith in Leith.

SITE: Leith, head of Quality Street.

PROPOSAL: Argument over exence of a mutual gable.

NOTES: Work carried out by Robert Purdie for petitioner. His neighbour, Esther Stanton employed William Chrystie, architect and mason in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch section in pencil.

Size: 24.5 x 28.1 cms.

BOX: 1787/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 16 December 1786.

PETITIONER: Francis Elliot, weaver

SITE: Portsburgh, head of Lady Lawson's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Brown, wright in Portsburgh, his neighbour, building without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1787/12

WARRANT GRANTED: See petition of 29 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 14 March 1787.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal versus James Izett, hatter.

SITE: Canongate, foot of Rae's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1787.

PETITIONER: David Shepherd, merchant.

SITE: Strichen's Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Internal alterations to a stair.

NOTES: Rents his shop from William Michie, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1787.

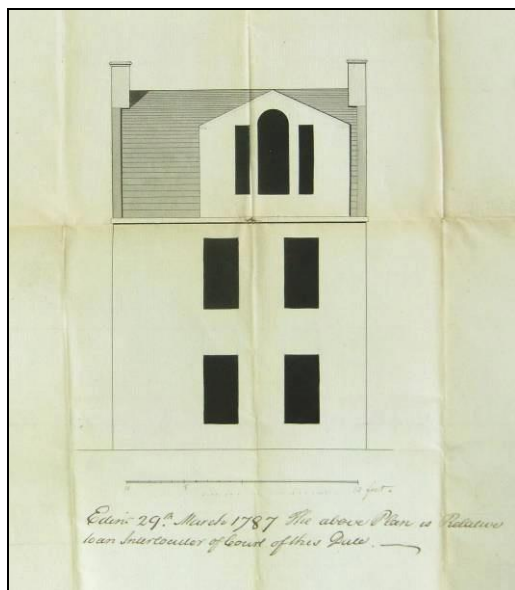
PETITIONER: James Izett, Hatter.

SITE: Canongate, foot of Rae's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a small tenement dwelling house.

NOTES: He had applied to the Magistrates of the Canongate on 23 February 1787 and found no objectors to his proposal. Work carried out by James Gilchrist, mason. See complaint by Procurator Fiscal lodged 14 March 1787.

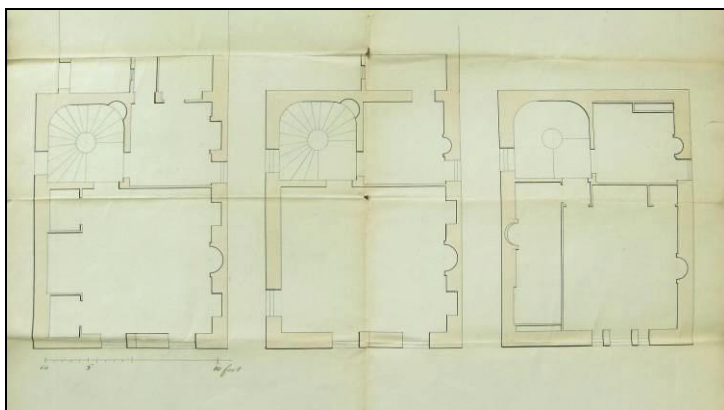
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 42.0 x 23.7 cms

Architect: (James Gilchrist)



Description: b. Plans of three floors.

Size: 30.0 x 42.2 cms.

Architect: (James Gilchrist)

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BOX: 1787/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1787 and 23 August (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1787.

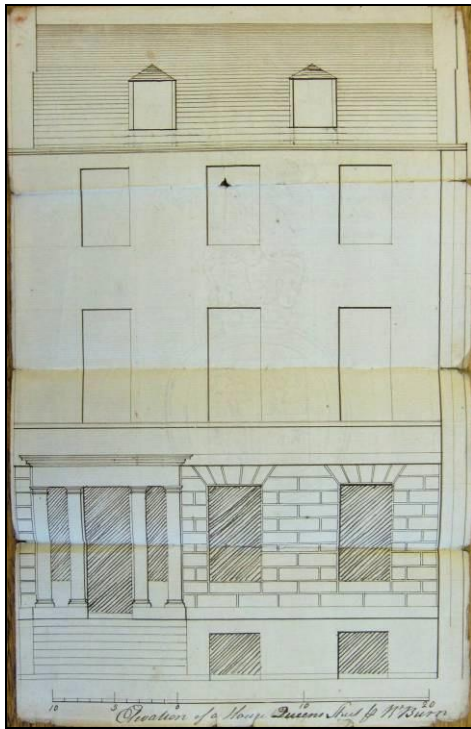
PETITIONER: James Eyre, City Treasurer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, Queen Street, immediately west of Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about storm windows.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Burn, builder who feued a plot from the Town Council on 22 February 1786. He supplied an elevation, at a. below which was annotated to the effect that the storm windows indicated, should not be allowed. Burn went ahead and built the storm windows, contrary to an Act of the Town Council dated 29 June 1785 which stated that 'no storm or other windows are to be allowed in the front of the roof except sky lights'. He refused to remove them when ordered by the Superintendent of Public Works. Burn appeared in Court on 22 March and said that he had forgotten his agreement and had been misled by others who were allowed to build such windows. The warrant of 5 April ordered Burn to remove the windows within eight days or allowed the petitioner's to do so at his expence. On 23 August they allowed expences against Burn of £1 3s 9d being half that claimed by the City Chamberlain. There are two letters here from Robert Burn, the first dated 26 March 1787: 'On maturely considering the nature of the obligation I signed, on the elevation I presented to the Council, for the house in Queen Street, that I was not to erect on the front of said house any Stormont windows - I am now of opinion that I have not violated that obligation, as the windows erected on the roof of said house is not Stormont windows - but what is commonly called roof windows or schooling windows - That no window is, or can be reckoned a Stormont window, but one that is laid on the perpendicular of the side wall, which they are not, for they are at least 4 or 5 feet back from the side wall of said house - And as all the houses in Queen Street has windows of a similar nature and the house immediately to the east of my house [has] windows of the same kind. I therefore expect that I should be allowed the same privileges as any of my neighbour builders. I therefore hope you will consider the above and Oblige Dr. Sir, Your most obt servt. Robt Burn'. This letter was remitted to the Lord Provost on 28 March. In the second letter, addressed to Hugh Buchanan the City Chamberlain and dated 26 June 1787, Burn defends himself against the imposition of expences. In a footnote he adds: 'P.S. It will be very obliging if you can get me information if the Council will feu me a piece of ground on east side of Leith Walk, south and next the wester[?] Lodge and what will be the feu duty...'. If this house stood on the corner of Queen Street and Hanover Street, it has now been replaced.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of a house of four stories.

Size: 30.0 x 19.0 cms.

Inscriptions verso: 'Elevation of a house proposed to be built by Robt. Burn on the long ground in Queen Street immediately to the west of Hanover Street. 22 February 1786'. 'The within elevation approved of with the exception of the stormont windows which are on no account to be allowed. (signed) J. Hunter Blair'.

BOX: 1787/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 April 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 9 March 1787.

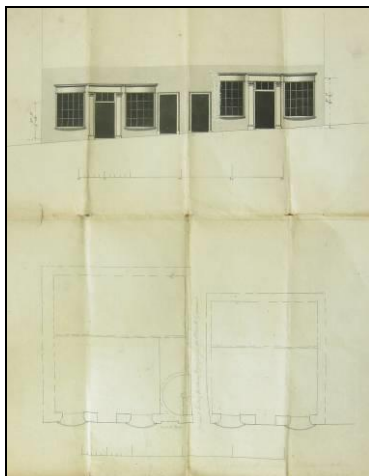
PETITIONER: William Crawford, smith and Alexander Deuchar, seal engraver.

SITE: Brown Square?

PROPOSAL: Alteration. To convert into two shops with dwelling houses behind.

NOTES: Property purchased at public roup by the trustees for the creditors of George Callender, wright. See warrant granted 2 July 1789 (Murray) which refers to Brown Square.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two shops.

Size: 45.5 x 32.2 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Architect: (Robert Kay?)



BOX: 1787/17  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 April 1787.  
PETITION LODGED: 25 December 1786.  
PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Forresters Wynd  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a timber projection into the Wynd.  
NOTES: Expences cognozed 12 July 1787.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/18  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 April 1787.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1786.  
PETITIONER: Harry Davidson WS. factor for Robert Smith, mariner, sometime in Leith and now in Greenwich Hospital.  
SITE: Leith, Vinegar Close.  
PROPOSAL: Claim for expence of repair.  
NOTES: In 1768 Robert Smith sold some houses in and about Vinegar Close, Leith to Robert Kennedy, merchant in Edinburgh. The agreement was that Smith and his wife should have the use of part of the property and Kennedy would maintain it. Parts began to fall and he now claims expence of repairs. Work carried out by Robert Purdie.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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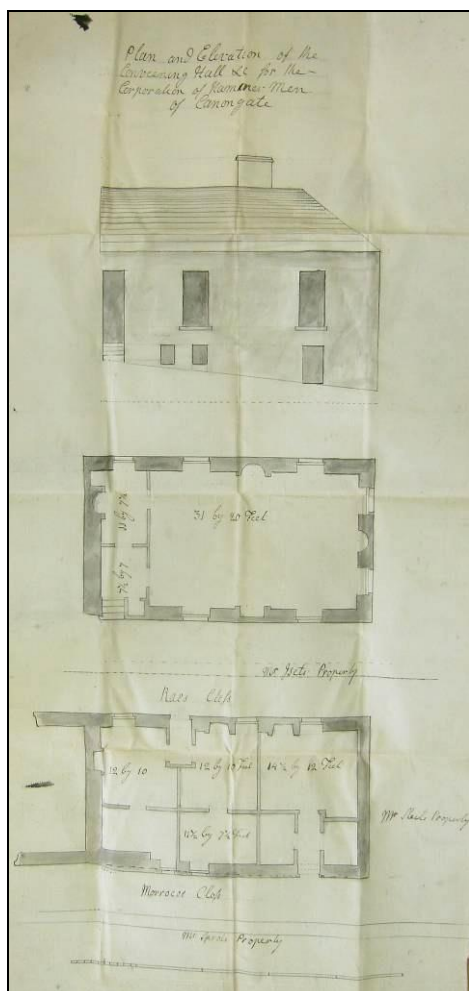
BOX: 1787/19  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1787.  
PETITION LODGED: 7 April 1787.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright.  
SITE: Between Leith Walk and St James Square.  
PROPOSAL: To build terrace of ten houses.  
NOTES: In duplies for James Salisbury he notes that the plan is subscribed by each of the feuars: 1 James Salisbury, 2. Richard Thomson, 3. Robert Burn, 4. Thomas Hill and 5. James Salisbury. The width of each plot is indicated and on each of these is marked 'Robert Adam Architect 1785'. Argument about the number of houses proposed and previously agreed. See warrant granted 13 July 1789 (Procurator Fiscal).  
DRAWINGS: Six plans mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1787/20  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1787.  
PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1787.  
PETITIONER: Isaac Salter, brewer.  
SITE: Robertson's Close, east side.  
PROPOSAL: Claim for expences of rebuilding a tenement.  
NOTES: Refers to warrant of 19 February 1784 (Salter) to rebuild an old brewery.  
Unsigned accounts enclosed.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/21  
WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1787.  
PETITION LODGED: 17 April 1787.  
PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Hammermen in Canongate: Andrew Bell, Deacon and Andrew Burward, Boxmaster.  
SITE: Canongate, north side, foot of Morocco's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To build a convening hall.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of two floors.

Size: 60.2 x 28.5 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

BOX: 1787/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 10 April 1787.

PETITIONER: Margaret McLachlan, relict of David Burrel, letter carrier.

SITE: Stair leading from Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about noise in the flat above.

NOTES: The complaint is against Francis Howden, goldsmith who has made a study in his back shop, above her laigh cellar, where he is beating out and hammering, making a noise and creating a dust. She is fearful that the ceiling will come down as partitions in her house have already given way. The defender made a very spirited defence but the Court decided that he should stop hammering or face a penalty of £100 Scots.

Donaldson issued a reclaiming petition, argued carefully by a lawyer but the decision was upheld on 14 June 1787. Mrs. Burrel applied for expences but this was denied on 6 September 1787.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1787/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 29 May 1787.

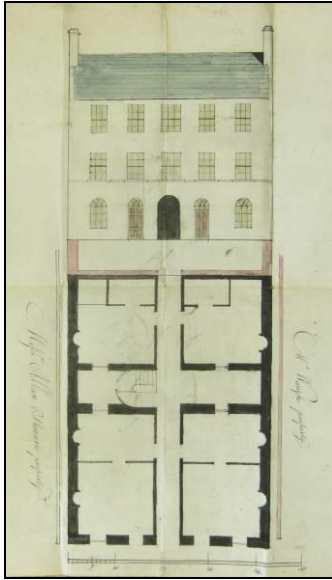
PETITIONER: Hugh Morton, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, fronting the Dubrow.

PROPOSAL: To demolish two old tenements at the back of his area and rebuild.

NOTES: Lately feued from Margaret Clark, daughter of Andrew Clark, brewer in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.  
Size: 39.5 x 27.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1787.

PETITIONER: The Heritors and proprietors of James's Court.

SITE: James's Court.

PROPOSAL: To repair the tenement.

NOTES: Tenement built by James Brownhill in 1727. 'It has never once been pinned or harled... the walls are now exceeding bare and much wasted with the weather'. Letter from William Jameson, mason agreeing to carry out the work. His estimate is mentioned but is not here. Reference to a rail in front of the tenement which is to be repaired by a wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1787.

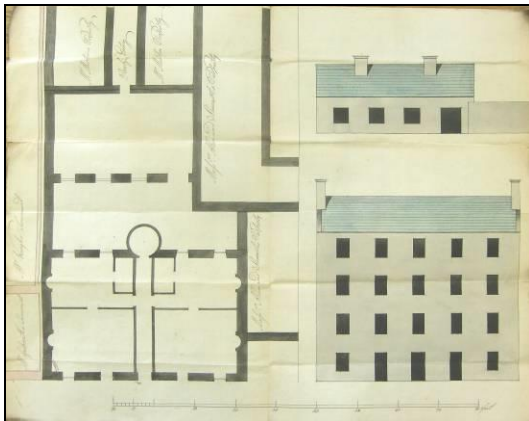
PETITIONER: James Wright jun. smith in Leith.

SITE: Leith, between the Dubrow and St Giles Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old houses and rebuild.

NOTES: Property recently purchased from Hugh Morton, wright.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations with a plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 33.4 x 24.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED:

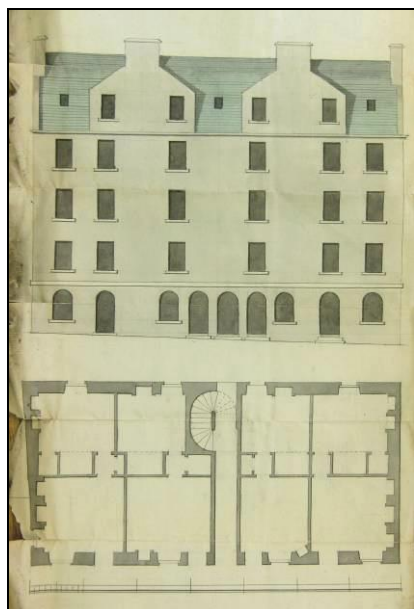
PETITIONER: John Ramsay, wright in Pauls Work

SITE: Leith Wynd, bottom, immediately south of Pauls Work

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: Property recently purchased from trustees of deceased James McDowall of Canonmills.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a five story tenement with a plan of the ground floor.

Size: 36.5 x 24.3 cms.

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BOX: 1787/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June and 5 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1787.

PETITIONER: John Crooks, mason in the New Town.

SITE: Rose Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: Crooks owns two stories and John Elder, baker owns another two. John Elder and Thomas Watson, mason had been engaged in slapping for a large door in the east gavel of the tenement without a warrant. They had 'began their work as early as 4 o'clock'. Included here a petition by John Elder and Robert Saunders, bakers in Edinburgh and a warrant for the work dated 21 June 1787 insisting that they have cautioners. They were fined £10 Scots. Report by Robert Inglis and Robert Thomson, builders stating that the work would endanger the tenement. Report to the contrary by Alex Laing and John Reid.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1787.

PETITIONER: Alexander Simpson, merchant tailor in the Pleasance.

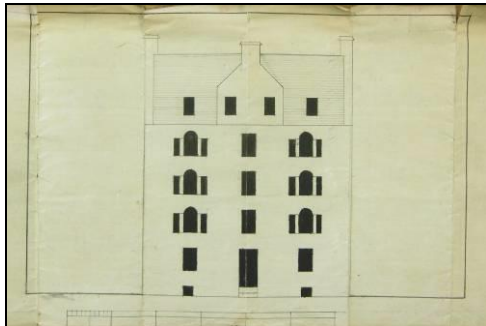
SITE: Canongate, south side, Piries Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Has right to a mutual gable with a tenement to the north, built by Archibald Chessels, wright in Edinburgh. His old tenement is ruinous and covered with thatch. A warrant of 31 May 1787 allowed him to build only on the foundations of the old tenement. The full act and warrant refers to a disposition to Alexander Simpson by David Pirie, soldier in Lord Robert Manners' Regiment of Foot, only son and heir of

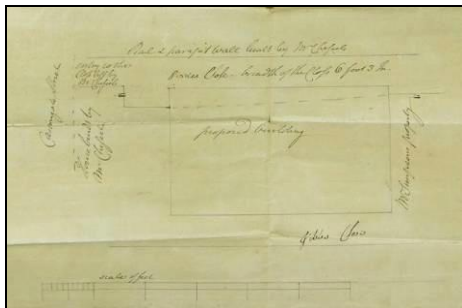
deceased Alexander Pirie and grandson of deceased Elizabeth Dundas, relict of the deceased William Corfar, master of the pin manufactory in Leith, previously spouse to Thomas Pirie, sometime writer in Edinburgh. Reference to a disposition of 29 August 1727 registered 4 April 1764 in Burgh Court books. See the unextracted petition below dated 9 July 1787 (Chessels).

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



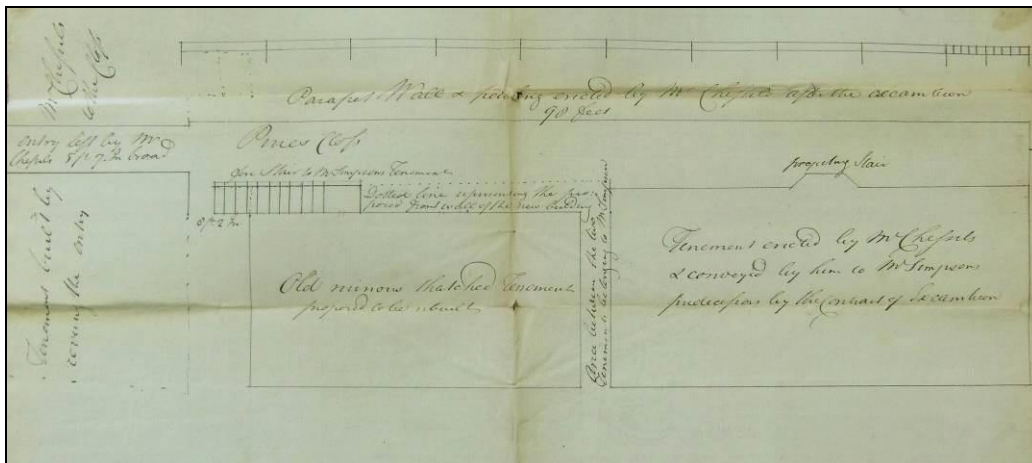
Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 22.2 x 35.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 22.8 x 36.8 (irregular)



Description: c. Plan of area including tenements to north and south.

Size: 24.8 x 38.6 cms.

BOX: 1787/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1787.

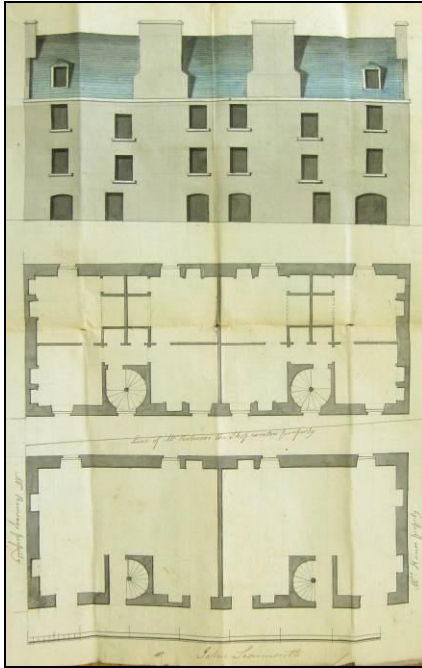
PETITIONER: John Learmonth, merchant

SITE: Leith, Willy Walter's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Recently purchased from James Cheap(?)

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans and elevation.

Size: 40.7 x 26.4 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1787/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1787.

PETITIONER: Walter Fergusson, candlemaker.

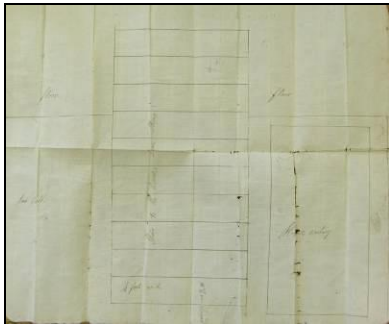
SITE: Candlemaker row, foot.

PROPOSAL: To repair external stairs.

NOTES: Property lately belonged to George Callender, wright.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.

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Description: Sketch plan.

Size: 32.5 x 38.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1787.

PETITIONER: Katherine Pirie (nee Price), relict of John Pirie, merchant.

SITE: Peebles Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about falling stones and rubbish.

NOTES: The complaint is against Francis Braidwood and Dr. Lauder who own the tenement on the opposite side of the Close. It is being taken down and some stones have come through the petitioner's roof. See warrant granted 13 September 1787 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 31 May 1787.

PETITIONER: Sir William Maxwell of Springkell Bt.

SITE: Between head of Halkerston's Wynd and North Bridge Street.

PROPOSAL: To recognise accounts for the rebuilding of a flat in a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted to David Rae, advocate to rebuild the tenement (No record of this found in petitions) This petition is in relation to the second flat, property of the representatives of Clement Rollo, son of Lord Rollo. Work carried out by James Robertson, mason and William Dallas, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1787.

PETITIONER: Edward Bruce, WS and Robert Calder, mason.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd

PROPOSAL: Cognose expence of repairs after a fire. For previous petitions see 18 January 1787 and 19 April 1787.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1787,

PETITION LODGED: 28 June 1787.

PETITIONER: John Ogle, writer.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, head, fifth story, on the east side of the scale stair.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water.

NOTES: The complaint is against Nicol Sommerville, haberdasher who is the proprietor of the house immediately above the petitioner's, presently possessed by James Gray, writer. Mr. Gray is accused of laying and breaking his coals on the loft floor above the petitioner's back room.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 27 June 1787.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Passage between Paterson's fore and rear court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the pavement, joisting and flooring in the passage.

NOTES: Warrant granted to John Miln, mason to make the repairs and claim from the heritors. See warrant of 3 January 1788 (Miln) for division of costs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/36

WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant here.

PETITION LODGED: 15 August 1787.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Head of St Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To sell property

NOTES: The complaint against James Loch, Kings Remembrancer in Exchequer. Refers to warrant of the court of 3 February 1785 for the demolition of the tenement belonging to James Loch WS, as ruinous. They were to have been rebuilt but, as this has not happened, they are to be sold. The court ordered a partial demolition of the tenement then occupied by Daniel Sutherland. See petition of 31 January 1788 for demolition by John Mylne, mason. This property was sold along with another ruinous tenement lying at the foot of the West Bow, known as Hempseed land. Articles of roup here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1786.

PETITIONER: William Young, writer.

SITE: Dunbar's Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Brown, founder in Edinburgh.

NOTES: Brown erected a stand or sign box to show his goods.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 15 August 1787.

PETITIONER: Robert Mcgachen, hosier.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, second shop east from the head of

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Charles McDonald in the house above who is allowing water through the ceiling.

NOTES: McDonald is described as 'Keeper of a Billiard Table'. His landlord is Nichol Somerville, haberdasher.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August and 13 September 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 6 August 1787.

PETITIONER: William Smith, merchant, factor for the representatives of the deceased John Moubray, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: College Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Ballantyne, late pewterer in Edinburgh.

NOTES: Ballantyne's chimney stacks blown down in recent high winds.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 September 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1787.

PETITIONER: The Trustees for South Bridge.

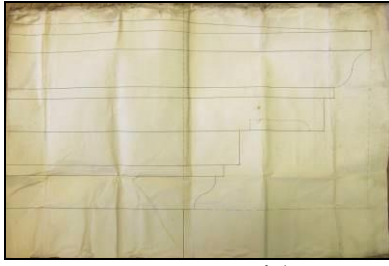
SITE: South Bridge, east side, Lot 4.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about height of pediment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Nathaniel Donaldson, late of Tobago who is erecting a tenement higher than allowed in the articles of roup. In replies for Donaldson dated 31 August he states that he purchased the Lot with John White, merchant in December last. He refutes the claim that he is building contrary to an elevation supplied by the Trustees. 'In May last a Palladian window was proposed by the Trustees, in place of the Venetian one in the first elevation, and as a compensation to the defender for making such alteration, the Trustees agreed to allow the shop windows nine inches additional width, the attic story one foot higher, and the roof one foot more in pitch with a tympany (pediment) to Nidderys Wynd as is more fully expressed in the writs thereanent in the hands of the Trustees or their Clerks... The Defenr. Is satisfyd that the pediment might be lighter and less hurtful to the eye and will cheerfully cooperate with the Trustees in any plan for effecting the same, provided his property is not depreciate and the expence defrayed by them...'. In replies for the Trustees they enclose a copy of the obligations signed by the builders on the east side of the street in which they note that alterations were allowed but never to the pediment fronting Bridge Street. The obligation document is dated May, June or July 1787 and is signed by John Patison, Town Clerk of Leith, John Reid, mason, John White, merchant for himself and Nathaniel Donaldson, Colin Lauder, surgeon, David Stewart, banker, Robert Allan, banker for J & D Allen, John Brough, wright, James Wardrop of (blank) Hugh Campbell.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

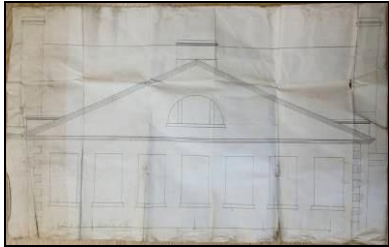




Description: a. Section of the cornice.  
Size: 30.8 x 46.8 cms.



Description: b. Section of the roof.  
Size: 32.0 x 46.5 cms.



Description: c. Elevation of an upper floor and pediment.  
Size: 30.5 x 48.5 cms.

Inscriptions verso: 'Edinburgh 3d September 1787. The within pediment is drawn of the same height & dimensions with the original elevation of the pediment referred to by the articles of roup of the areas on the east side of South Bridge street by Robert Kay.'

'Edinburgh 5th September 1787, For myself and taking burden on me for Mr. Nathaniel Donaldson I agree to alter the pediment now building on Lot 4th and to make the same agreeable to the within elevation. John White.'

---

BOX: 1787/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 12 September 1787.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Peebles Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: See warrant granted 5 July 1787 (Pirie).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1787.

PETITIONER: John Wilkie, mason and Mrs. Peddie, relict of James Peddie, mason.

SITE: George Street, immediately to the west of the Assembly rooms.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the use of a timber shade in the back ground as a stable and the storage of great quantities of hay.

NOTES: The lodging is let to Hugh Morris, ostrich feather manufacturer. Earlier complaint about the building of the shade is here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 October 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1787.

PETITIONER: John Sommerville, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: Leith, shore.

PROPOSAL: To repair the entrance and take away rubbish.

NOTES: He owns two shops and a dwelling house in the lower floor of a tenement owned by John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1787.

PETITIONER: John Dundas, WS.

SITE: Parliament Square, east side, north half of the uppermost floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water from above.

NOTES: The complaint is against the proprietors of the garrets, to undertake repairs on the roof. The flat is occupied by the petitioner's mother. There is an estimate here from William Watson, plasterer and accounts from Arthur Giles, wright and Thomas Russell for plaster work. The other heritors are listed in the summons.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 9 October 1787.

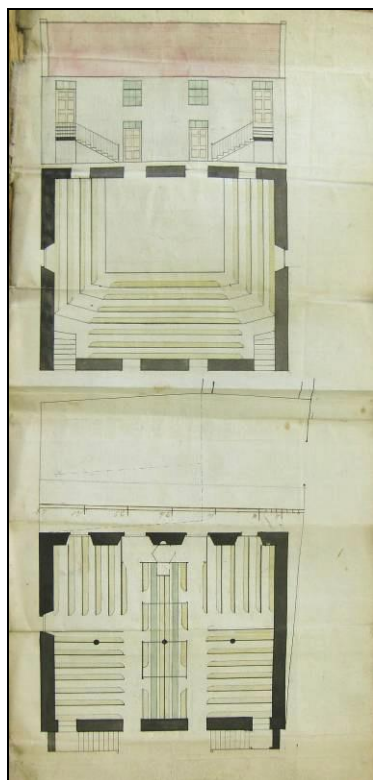
PETITIONER: John Brown, nailer in Leith, for himself and others.

SITE: Leith, near the Old Corn market.

PROPOSAL: To build a meeting house.

NOTES: Land feued from Alexander Ingram, teacher of mathematics in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and plans of ground floor and gallery.

Size: 47.6 x 22.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman.

---

BOX: 1787/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1787

PETITION LODGED: 16 October 1787.

PETITIONER: Hugh Inglis, wigmaker.

SITE: Portsburgh.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Baird, candle and soap manufacturer.

NOTES: Baird had a warrant from the court of 26 June to build a tenement. He is now building four stories in height. His petition submitted on 20 October 1787 is here. The mason 'persuaded me to deviate from my original design'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1787.

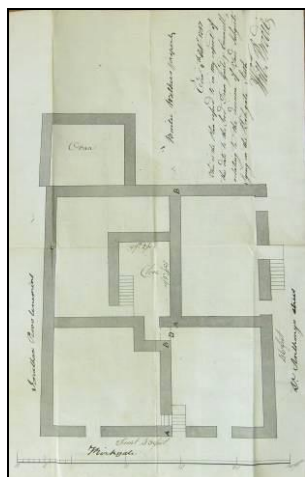
PETITIONER: Ann Tod, spouse to William Dewar, gardener in Leith

SITE: Kirkgate of Leith.

PROPOSAL: To divide the property into two houses.

NOTES: Property given to Ann Tod and her brother James by their father, John Tod, mason in Leith, 5 March 1782. Work to be carried out by William Brodie, wright in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 34.5 x 22.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 14 July 1787.

PETITIONER: Incorporation of Bakers in Edinburgh.

SITE: Anchor Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade.

NOTES: Work has already begun.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1787.

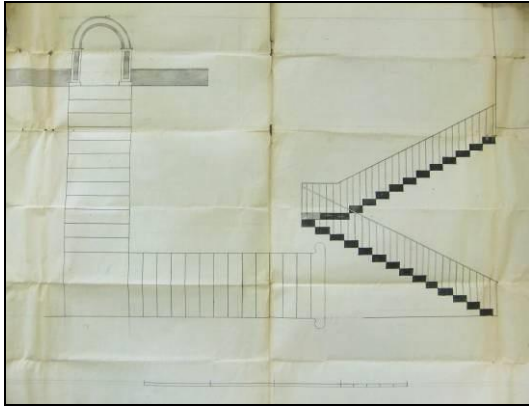
PETITIONER: The Orphan Hospital: Thomas Tod, merchant, treasurer.

SITE: Orphan Hospital (Shakespeare Square).

PROPOSAL: To build a stair.

NOTES: 'That as there is at present no convenient access to the Hospital... to erect a stair on their property behind the Hospital House so as to open a communication with Shakespeare Square'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and plan of stair.  
Size: 41.0 x 53.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1787.

PETITIONER: Ann McGrigor, relict of deceased George McGrigor, change keeper in Canongate.

SITE: Clarks Close, south side of the weigh house.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a ruinous tenement, recognition of expences.

NOTES: Work had begun by Arthur Giles, wright. See also 17 January 1788 for cognozed expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1787 and on or before 18 October 1787.

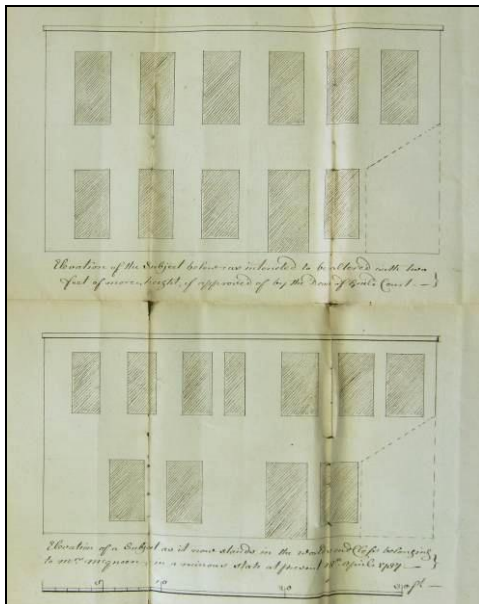
PETITIONER: Mrs McQueen: Rachael Auchinleck, relict of the deceased Duncan McQueen, tinsmith in Edinburgh.

SITE: Worlds End Close.

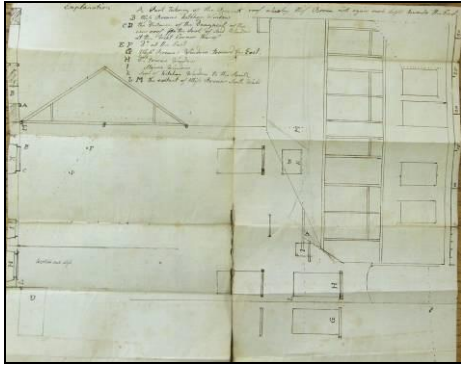
PROPOSAL: Extension at rear.

NOTES: There was an argument over light and the court ordered correct plans.

DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.

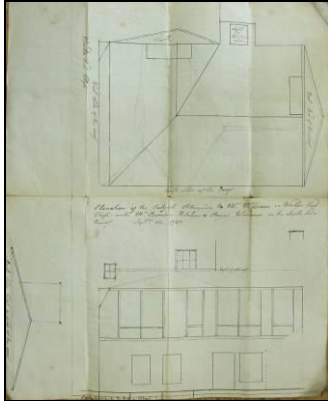


Description: a. Elevations 'as it now stands' and as proposed.  
Size: 31.3 x 28.0 cms.



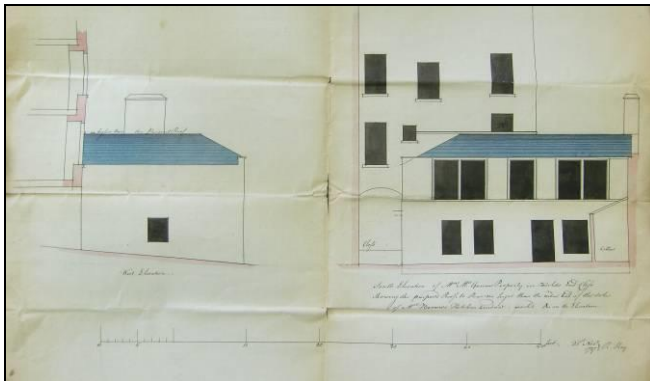
Description: b. Plan? and elevation.

Size: 30.6 x 37.4 cms.



Description: c. Plan of roof and elevation.

Size: 40.2 x 32.0 cms.



Description: d. West and south elevations.

Size: 30.7 x 45.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 23 October 1787.

PETITIONER: John Grieve, merchant and Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

SITE: Exchange, third shop above the entrance.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of a stair without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Francis Braidwood, wright who is working for Sibbilla Hutton, milliner. He has taken down an internal stair that led to the intersole shop above his. In replies Miss Hutton states that the stair had been shut up and did not belong to the petitioner. The Court ordered that the stair be put back exactly as it had been. This case began in 1781 with the same verdict; see unextracted petition of 6 February 1782 (Grieve) and went to the Court of Session. There is a fully copy of the Act and Remit of that Court here dated 28 November 1783.

DRAWINGS: None.

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**Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/18)**

BOX: 1787/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 January 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 10 January 1787.

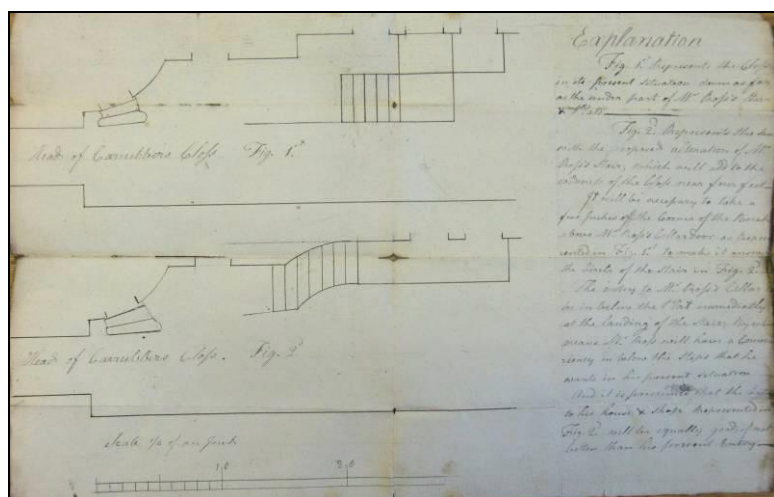
PETITIONER: Samuel Mitchelson, senior clerk to the Signet, Thomas Rattray, writer and others.

SITE: Carrubbers Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a stair at the head of the Close.

NOTES: The petitioners are paving the Close because it has become 'the most considerable avenue and thoroughfare from the high Street to the Lower parts of the City on the north; such as Canal Street, the College Kirk, orphan Hospital, Lady Glenorchy's Kirk and places adjacent'. They propose altering a stair that projects into the Close, belonging to the property of Robert Ross, music merchant who refuses to allow the alteration. In replies for Robert Ross he points out that he purchased the property at a public roup for his music shop, precisely because the stair could be seen from the High Street. The argument is still going on by 6 February 1787 with the Procurator Fiscal cited but no outcome other than the visit .

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plans of the head of the Close, as existing and as proposed.

Size: 25.8 x 39.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1787/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 February 1787 (no warrant, request for titles).

PETITION LODGED: 10 January 1787.

PETITIONER: William Monteith, son and heir of the deceased William Monteith, merchant in Leith and Dr. James MacNeil of Neilhall as creditors of the said deceased.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James White, merchant in Leith who is heightening a building behind the petitioner's property. Enclosed is a copy of a Sasine dated 28 December 1768 to William Monteith, merchant in Leith and Margaret Kellie his spouse for a property sold to them by David Dow. The property previously belonged to the deceased Euphan Fairservice, spouse of (blank) Greig, shoemaker in Calton and grand aunt to 'the said (sic) Margaret Neilson'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 February 1787 (no warrant, parties to reply)

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1787.

PETITIONER: Alexander Young, WS.

SITE: New Town, North Hanover Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about level of earth behind his property.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased his property from John Young, wright. The complaint is that the ground in the entry to the meuse land has not been levelled and it encourages water to lie in his back area. This entry serves property to the south of the petitioner and other property in George Street. In replies for Mrs. Boyd she states that the earth is not her responsibility and was not mentioned in the disposition from Messrs. Veitch & Burns who built her house. The Court summoned James Spalding, grocer, Vance (Vans) Hathorn, WS, James Ferrer WS, the Earl of Buchan, the Hon. Mrs. Boyd, residenter, Robert Burn, mason and George Veitch, mason on 21 February and James Eyre, City Treasurer on 22 February.  
DRAWINGS: None. James Murray is the DOG officer.

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BOX: 1787/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 March 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1787.

PETITIONER: Widow Catanach of Amsterdam and John Peat, writer in Edinburgh her factor.

SITE: High Street, Turks Close, head of on the east side, first and second stories.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about enclosing a common area.

NOTES: The complaint was initially raised by William Stewart sen. writer, on 24 January 1787 and later by the heirs of David Wardrobe, surgeon, deceased on 21 February. It is about a paling around an area which the Court had previously decided was common property. He notes that the area had been let to several of Mrs. Catenach's tenants, specifically Robert Kennedy, cooper, who is using the area to store barrels. He refers previous action in the Court for this property and a warrant granted on 27 August 1777. See warrant granted on 16 September 1778 (Catanach) and an unextracted petition dated 27 May 1779 (Thomson).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1787 (no warrant, defender allowed to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1787.

PETITIONER: Trustees for the South Bridge.

SITE: South Bridge, east side, Lot 3.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building contrary to the articles of roup.

NOTES: The complaint is against Colin Lauder, surgeon. The Court stopped work on 20 March 1787

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 May 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1787.

PETITIONER: James Kirkwood, engraver.

SITE: High Street, fronting the Cross of Edinburgh on the south.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign board.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased his house on 19 March last from Robert Rolland, minister of the Gospel at Culross, factor and commissioner appointed by James Cuthbert of Berthier in the province of Canada (Quebec). The complaint is against James Dewar, merchant, who owns the house immediately below the petitioner's and who has erected 'an ornamental piece of work' the point of which encroaches on the sill of the petitioner's property, preventing him from putting up his own sign.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1787 (no warrant, defenders allowed to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 19 May 1787.

PETITIONER: Trustees for the South Bridge.

SITE: South Bridge, east side, Lots 2, 3 and 4.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building contrary to the articles of roup.

NOTES: The complaint is against Colin Lauder, surgeon (Lot 1) and John Patison (Lot 2), Town Clerk of Leith and Nathaniel Donaldson late of Tobago (Lot 4) who are 'carrying up chimney heads on two gables of an equal breadth with the building and in front to South Bridge street in a straight line upon the side wall which will not only be a great deformity but is expressly contrary to the conditions of roup'. The Court stopped work on 19 May 1787

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 June 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 28 June 1787.

PETITIONER: John Lamont, wright.

SITE: Carrubbers Close, bottom.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge two windows.

NOTES: The petitioner has a tack for 19 years from William Vere, wigmaker for himself and as factor for the heirs of the deceased John Downie, dancing master, with the liberty to repair the same for his convenience. He wishes to 'heighten the daylight of two of the middle windows looking into Grays Close, which can be of no hurt to the tenement...'. William Reoch, cabinet maker opposed the petition on 1 August 1787, in the belief that it would endanger the tenement but there are two other letters of support from Andrew Cockburn (9 June) and John Wilson (mason) (9 July). Andrew Cockburn notes 'I visited the two windows according to your desire and I am still of the same opinion that I was in the year eighty five if you remember I was for you to take the arches down when I repaired them...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 24 July 1787.

PETITIONER: James Milne, shoemaker, Hugh Fraser, writer, Dougal Cameron, porter and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, St. David's lane.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish in the street.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Young, wright who is building and finishing a tenement adjacent to the petitioners and has laid down rubbish that is blocking the street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1787.

PETITIONER: John Johnston, broker.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against his neighbour, Daniel Monro, broker who has laid a cross beam on the petitioner's gable and fixed nails there.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1787.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Helen Chessels, spouse of James Scott, merchant and daughter of the deceased Archibald Chessels, builder with consent of the trustees appointed by her father and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate, High Street, head of Piries Close and Chessels Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rubbish laid in the Close.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Simpson, tailor who has a warrant, (21 June 1787) to demolish and rebuild a tenement in the Close. He is encroaching on a



parapet wall and rail that protects the petitioner's property along the eastern side of the Close, including a 'green Court' and which has now fallen down as a result. In his replies the defender notes that he undertook to repair the damage but was refused access by key to the green by the petitioner's husband. The repair is almost complete. DRAWINGS: See warrant of 21 June 1787.

---

BOX: 1787/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1787

PETITIONER: Charles Robertson, painter.

SITE: Barringers Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an outshot over the shop.

NOTES: The outshot had become ruinous and was being repaired or reinstated by Arthur Giles, wright. The Court ordered the work to be stopped on 2 August.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1787 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1787.

PETITIONER: William Young, writer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Carrubbers land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous chimney vent.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Murray & Co., porter dealers who have erected a vent up the north gable of the tenement, the upper four floors of which are constructed in lath and plaster. In a note from Gavin Alston he states that he lived in the tenement for twenty years without any fear of fire and that Mr. Young is only a lodger in the flat for the current year, for which he has not paid a halfpenny of rent.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1787 (no warrant, tradesmen to inspect).

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1787.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Bridge, east side, corner with the High Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a tenement and encroachment on the public footpath.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Reid and Richard Thomson, masons who purchased the Lot measuring 49ft on Bridge Street and 33ft on the High Street at a public roup on 8 November 1787. The plot was staked out by Robert Kay, architect. The Procurator had cited the Act of 1696 Chapter 8 but in their defence the masons stated 'It is well known that the Act founded on is obsolete, indeed was never in observance excepting as to limiting building to the height of five stories. - There is not a building in all the extended Royalty or suburbs erected otherwise agreeable to it and there are few or none in the old City. So that the stature having never been held in observance has gone into disnetude and can form no rule whatever in such cases.' The Court appointed a visit on 9 August and tradesmen to inspect the building on the 30th: John Wilson, Alexander Stevenson and James Begg, masons and John Baxter, architect.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 November 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1787.

PETITIONER: John McIntyre, writer in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Willy Water's Close, Dryburgh's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner is factor appointed by the Court of Session on the property of Margaret Ainslie. He wishes to repair her property and there is an estimate here for the work by John Crockat. In the copy of the factory enclosed, dated 14 December 1786 it refers to an action of payment and mails at the instance of Anne Blackburn, relict of

Edward Key, sailor in Leith and Cornelius key, their son against David Ballingall, shipmaster in Leith, only son of Anne Barron, one of two daughters of Margaret Ainslie, sometime wife of (blank) Barron, brewer in Leith. Margaret was afterwards wife of the late David Dryburgh, merchant in Leith, her first husband. The other daughter, Margaret Dickson was wife of John Hodge, mariner in Leith... (this becomes ever more complex).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 November 1787 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1787.

PETITIONER: William Pirnie, mason.

SITE: New Town, Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner has built a house and James Nisbet, plasterer is building a house on the lot to the east. Nisbet refused to contribute to the cost of the mutual gable so the petitioner built his on his own land and without any communications or vents on the east. Nisbet has now built a very thin gable which he is tying in to the petitioner's gable, using banding stones, without any warrant. Work stopped on 15 November.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1787/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1787 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1787.

PETITIONER: Henry Band, baker.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, head, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment by enlarging a window.

NOTES: The complaint is against Angus McDonald, haberdasher who owns the shop above the petitioner's laigh shop. McDonald enlarged his shop window in November or December 1786 and in the process reduced the size of the petitioner's window. The shop previously belonged to the deceased James Telfair, staymaker and is presently possessed by Peter McHarran, gardener. The shop had been disposed, 15 September 1785 to James Telfair by Cortes Telfair, teacher of languages at Knightsbridge, London. Registered in the Sheriff Court books 30 December 1785. It was sold to the petitioner, 15 August 1787 by Mary Probee, spouse to Cortes Telfair. The Court found the petition groundless on 1 November 1787 and confirmed this decision on 6 December 1787.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1787/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1787 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 19 December 1787.

PETITIONER: William Stewart, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Turks Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a shade over a shop.

NOTES: The shade was erected above the entrance to the shop below to keep off the rain water but the drain from it has been blocked for some time.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

## 1788

The Court Officers from 11 October 1787:

**Dean of Guild**

James Gordon

**Council**

William Galloway, Old Dean of Guild

Francis Carfrae, merchant

William Smith, merchant

Robert Dewar, glazier

James Ranken, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Walter Forrester (intermittent)

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BOX: 1788/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 January 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1787.

PETITIONER: John Miln, architect.

SITE: Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: Division of expences for repairing a passage.

NOTES: See warrant of 26 July 1787 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 January 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 20 December 1787.

PETITIONER: Ann McGrigor, residenter in Canongate and Arthur Giles, wright.

SITE: South side of the Weigh House.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences for repairs.

NOTES: See warrant of 29 November 1787 (McGrigor).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1788

PETITION LODGED: 25 October 1787.

PETITIONER: John Lithgow, shoemaker.

SITE: West Bow, north side.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences of repairs.

NOTES: Property purchased from Walter Scott WS. Work carried out by John Paterson, mason, Robert Thomson, wright, Archibald Hunter, wright, and Shaw Alexander, plasterer. Lithgow deponed on 21 January 1788 that he had 'paid Shaw Alexander, plaisterer, now gone to America £3 13s 11d stg. and that he also paid Andrew Hay three 3s for painting three windows and William Dick 15s 8d for papering room...' Paterson and Thomson's account refers to the property being 'the 2nd twin north side' viz. the laigh house above cellars fronting the street & two stories immediately above the same, entering by the fore stair & turnpike.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1787.

PETITION LODGED: 16 June 1787.

PETITIONER: George Fairholme of Greenhill.

SITE: Head of Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: Refers to a petition of 3 July 1780 to make the repairs. Work carried out by Alexander Laing, mason and Hugh Gibb, wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1788

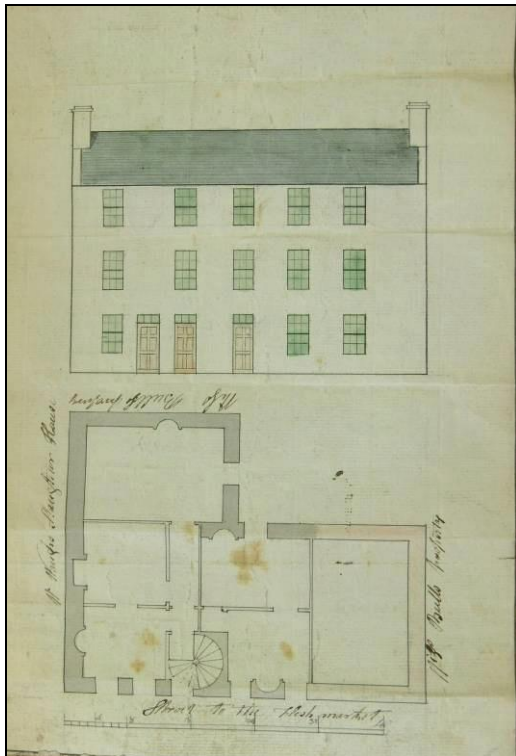
PETITIONER: John Boag, wright in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, fronting the Fleshmarket.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three floors.

NOTES: Property purchased from Agnes and Elizabeth Bulls with an old house on the site, he has taken down the house.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 32 x 21.6 cms

Inscriptions recto: Plan noted on left side 'Mr. Waugh's Slaughter House'.

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BOX: 1788/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 26 December 1787.

PETITIONER: John Mylne, mason and William Sprott, Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: To partially demolish a tenement belonging to James Loch WS.

NOTES: See previous petition of 15 August 1787. This refers to a warrant dated 3 February 1785. Mylne was ordered to take down the staircase and the roof and walls of the lodging in the tenement possessed by Daniel Sutherland. Also to enclose the area to prevent its use as a common nuisance.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 February 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 14 February 1788.

PETITIONER: Angus MacDonald, merchant.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, head, west side.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences.

NOTES: This petition relates to the unextracted petition below of Henry Band, baker dated 6 December 1787. After the decision of the Court, Mr. Band went to the Court of Session who confirmed the decision of 6 December. David Dalrymple's opinion is

lodged here; '.. everything which projects beyond the perpendicular of a wall within the Burgh, excepting for the sake of Stillside or eve's drop (gutters), is an encroachment on the public, and whenever the procurator Fiscal attends to the interest of the public as separated from the interest or caprice of individuals, all these segments of hexangular windows will be removed...'. The Court granted him expences of 10s.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 February 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 28 January 1788.

PETITIONER: Thomas Thomson, cook.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the house.

NOTES: The house is held on a lease from Alexander Orr, 'grazier in Nicholson Street' but is owned by (blank) Brown, flesher. The Court agreed that the house was uninhabitable and allowed him to flit. In a note of his losses he refers to '24 bottles of catchup ... containing a pint each at 3s per pint'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 February 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 13 February 1788.

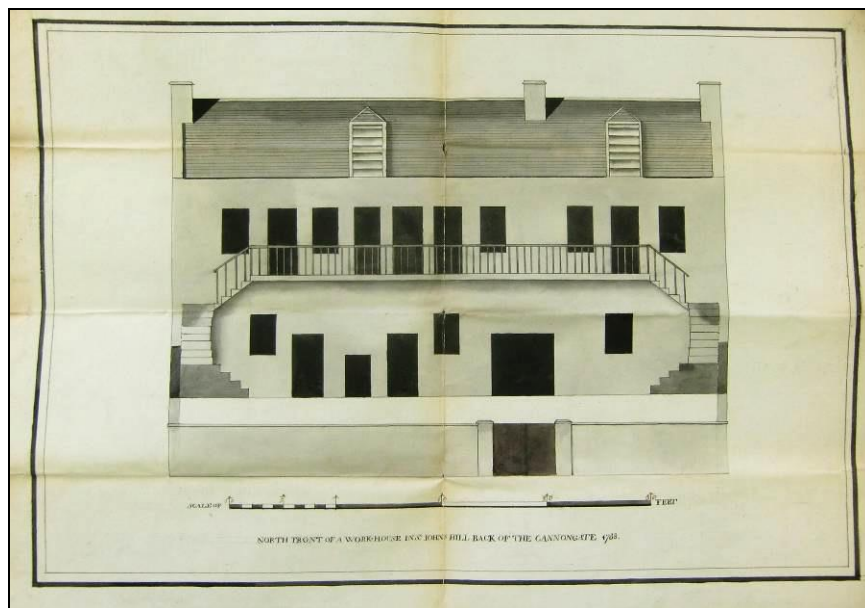
PETITIONER: Robert Ferrier, merchant.

SITE: Pleasance, St John's Hill.

PROPOSAL: To build a workhouse.

NOTES: Property recently purchased from Professor Robertson.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



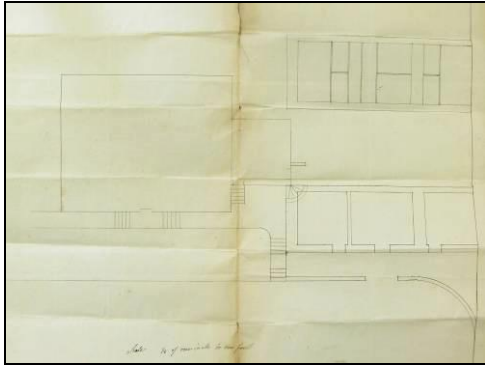
Description: a. Elevation of a three story building.

Size: 32.5 x 45.5 cms

Inscriptions Recto: North Front of a Workhouse in St John's Hill, back of the Canongate 1788.

Watermark: I Taylor

Architect: (Robert Kay?)



Description: b. Plan (which does not relate very clearly to the elevation)  
Size: 33.4 x 45.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1788/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1788.

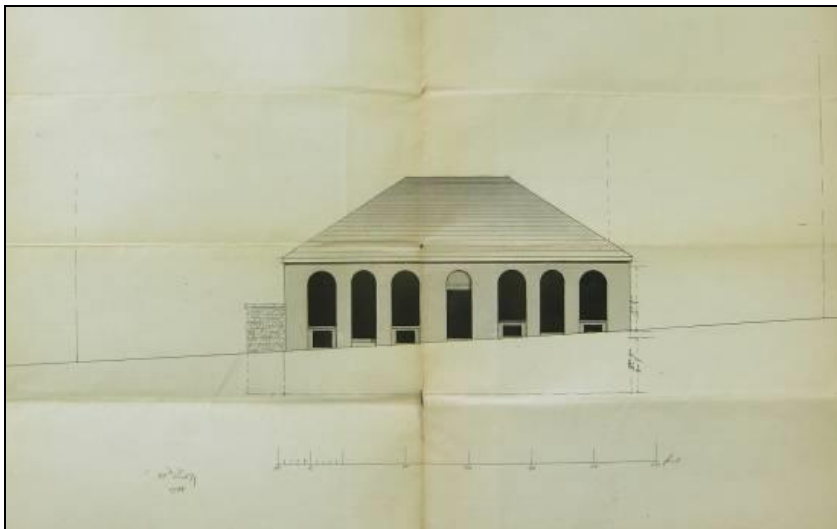
PETITIONER: William Montgomery, wig maker and hairdresser.

SITE: Shakespeare Square, north east corner.

PROPOSAL: To build two shops.

NOTES: Property occupied as a garden in 1788. The building may not have survived the construction of Regent Bridge in 1816-19.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

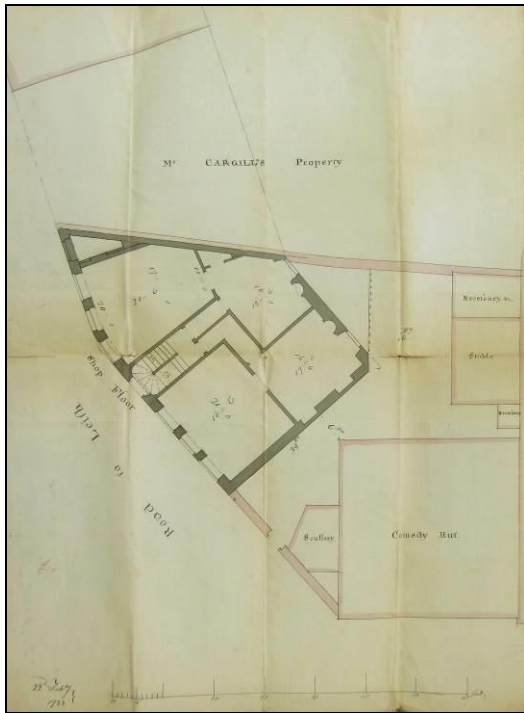


Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 31.3 x 45.3 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Dated 22 Feby 1788.

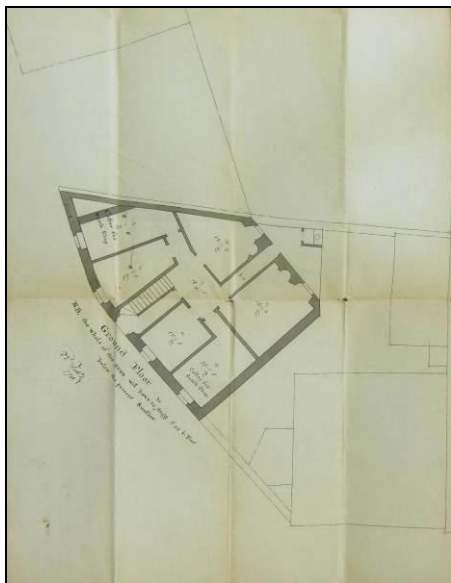
Architect: (Robert Kay?)



Description: b. Plan of shop floor

Size: 44.8 x 33.0 cms

Inscriptions recto: Dated 22 Feby 1788. Existing building on east noted 'Comedy Hut'.



Description: c. Plan of ground floor.

Size: 33.2 x 44.6 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Dated 22 Feby 1788. NB. The whole of this area will have to be dugg 5 or 6 feet below the present surface.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1788/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1788.

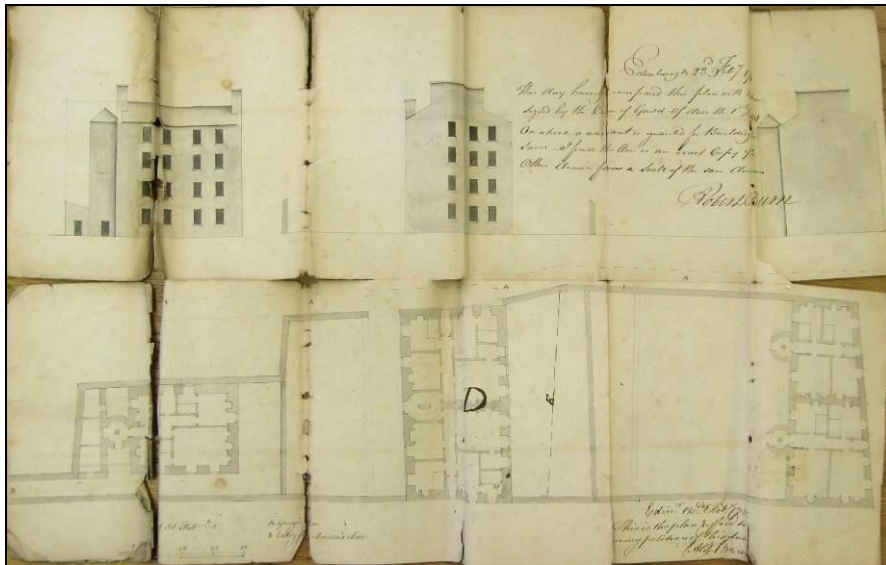
PETITIONER: Alexander Bruce, cabinet maker.

SITE: Between Morrison's Close and Gray's Close.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge a tenement (already building?) to the north.

NOTES: See previous warrant 23 March 1781 (Bruce) where there is another copy of the drawing below.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Ground floor plans and eastern elevations of three buildings, four stories in height.

Size: 34.5 x 57.6 cms

Inscriptions recto: Edinburgh 23 February 1788. This day having compared this plan with the one signed by the Dean of Guild of date 1st February 1781 on which a warrant was granted for building the same - I find the one is an exact copy of the other drawn from a scale of the same dimensions. Robert Burn.

Watermark: counter mark: LAVILADARY

BOX: 1788/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 11 December 1786.

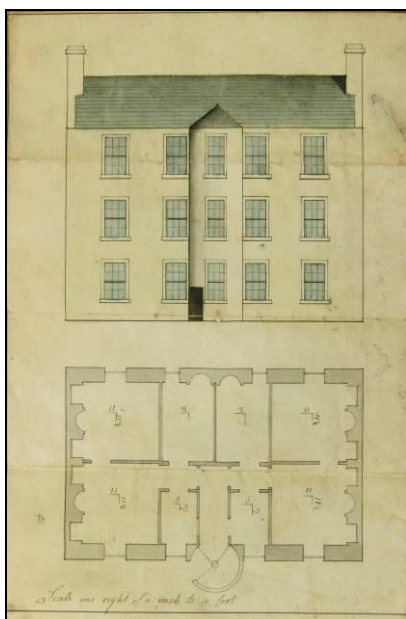
PETITIONER: Captain William Pillans, residing in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Willie Watters Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Hunter, shipmaster.

NOTES: Hunter owns the ruinous tenement on the north and refuses to take it down and rebuild it. The mutual gavel is causing harm to his property. Hunter agrees to rebuild 17 March 1788 but wants to rebuild the ruinous gavel on the north west, belonging to Margaret and Agnes Dicksons or to David Ballingall, mariner in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of the three story tenement.

Size: 28.0 x 18.6 cms.



BOX: 1788/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 April 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1788.

PETITIONER: Heritors of Carrubber's land including Robert Walker, surgeon with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Sellars Close head, Carrubber's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations to a vent.

NOTES: The complaint is against Murray & Company, porter sellers who have broken into an old vent, causing damage to other vents in the tenement and constant smoke and smell of fires. It is noted that the Clerks to the Bills have removed part of their office papers for fear of fire and are threatening to leave the tenancy. The Court ordered the plaster in the affected rooms to be removed and re plastered.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 April 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 1 April 1788.

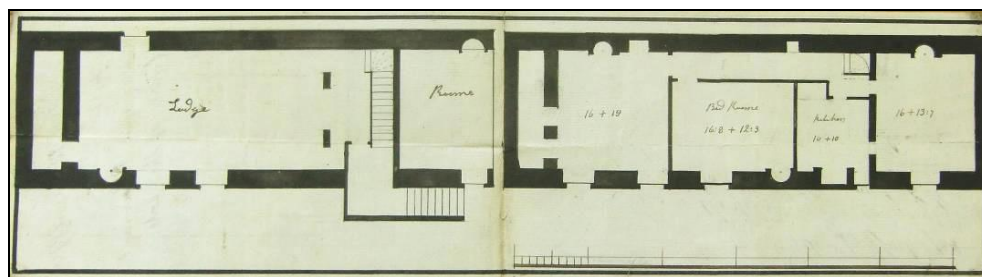
PETITIONER: David Willison, printer.

SITE: Craigs Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to windows.

NOTES: Part of the tenement is occupied by the Royal Arch Lodge. This proposal is to create a bedroom and kitchen within the upper floor of the lodge.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of lower (ground?) and upper floor.

Size: 11.0 x 40.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1788/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1788.

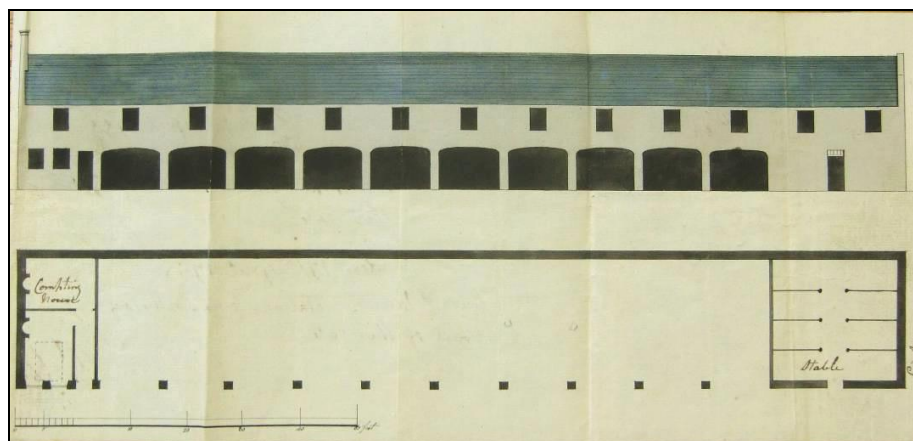
PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1788.

PETITIONER: James Scott and John Thomson, merchants in Leith.

SITE: Links of Leith, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse and stables.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a two story warehouse.

Size: 16.4 x 34.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1788/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1788.

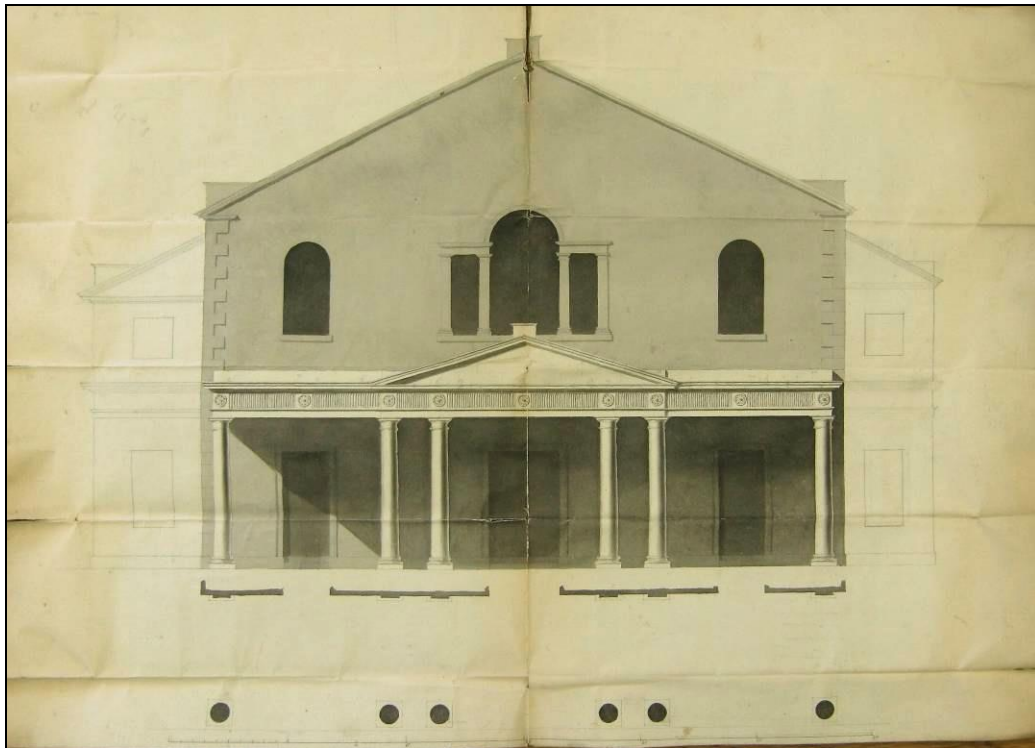
PETITIONER: John Jackson, manager of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

SITE: Shakespeare Square.

PROPOSAL: To build a portico on the north wall of the Theatre Royal.

NOTES: The portico will extend seven feet into the street and will be open for chairs and foot passengers. Jackson had written to the Town Council on 23 January 1788 and they approved his elevation and asked that the work be carried out at the sight of the Dean of Guild. See also the petition of 1 November 1792 (Jackson's trustees). A loose document found in the 1795 box has been placed here. It is noted 'Interlocutor Salisbury against Jackson & others, 12 November 1795'. It states that the expence of building the portico is a preferable burden on the whole subject and that the petitioner (James Salisbury, architect?) who was employed as builder, is entitled to the benefit of this burden. Further, that the petitioner by ranking on Mr. Jackson's estate and accepting bills from him did not thereby forfeit his real lien on the subjects. In respect of the report of tradesmen, approve of the petitioner's account amounting to £264 7s 11d Stg. and find that he is a preferable creditor.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the theatre with a plan of the portico.

Size: 35.8 x 51.2 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

---

BOX: 1788/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1788.

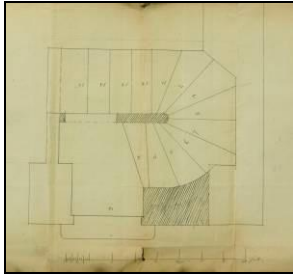
PETITIONER: Messrs Forrester & Co., merchants.

SITE: Borthwick's Close, head, 1st story.

PROPOSAL: To build an internal stair.

NOTES: He has a tack for 19 years on the shop below and the west of his flat. He wishes to make a staircase connecting the shop to his flat above.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the steps.

Size: 23.8 x 27.3 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1788/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 17 April 1788.

PETITIONER: James Grant, printer.

SITE: Cowgate, bottom of uppermost Mealmarket stairs.

PROPOSAL: To strike out windows to the west.

NOTES: He owns the laigh (lower) shop. Messrs Alexander Laing and John Wilson, architects asked to report.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 13 February 1788.

PETITIONER: Alison Pasley, widow of the deceased captain Walter Corbet, late of His Majesties Navy.

SITE: Shakespeare Square, nearly opposite north end of the Theatre Royal.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to reinstate a previous doorway into a shop.

NOTES: Property purchased from Thomas Hill, wright by her husband in 1775.

Argument here with Hill over the right to carry out the work, dating back to 1782.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 29 April 1788.

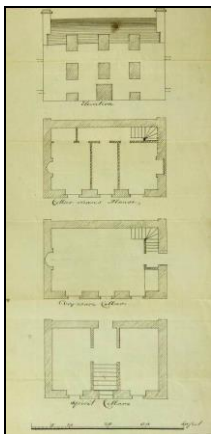
PETITIONER: Thomas Elder, merchant.

SITE: Kirkgate of Leith, Coalfield Lane.

PROPOSAL: To build two stories of cellars with a cellar man's house above.

NOTES: His property is immediately to the east of cellars and houses above belonging to Messrs. Cundell and Cundell, merchants in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of three floors and elevation.

Size: 35.9 x 18.0 cms.

Architect: (Alexander Laing?)

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BOX: 1788/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1787.

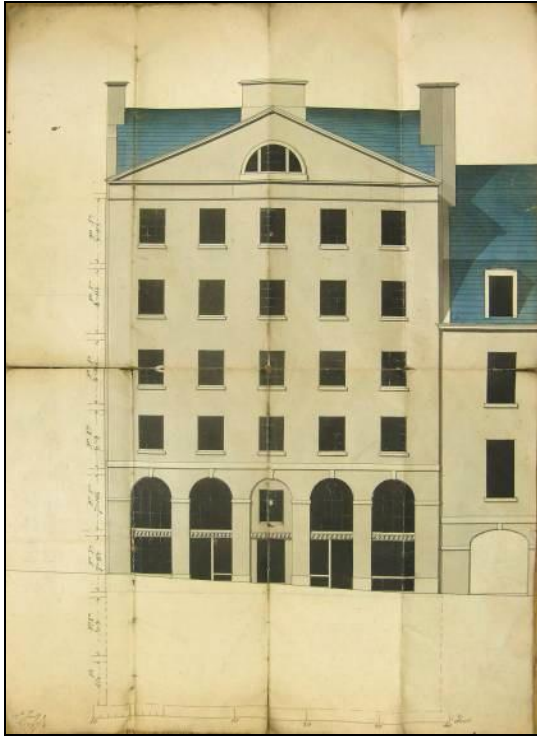
PETITIONER: John Neil, merchant, John Tait WS, John Spence, painter and David Paterson, proprietors of the east end of the back land of Mills Square.

SITE: North Bridge, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: There is a very long and clear explanation here of the processes involved. The proprietors had to pay the Town Council £50 for the right to build on the bridge

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 45.0 x 33.0 cms.

Inscriptions recto: 12 January 1787.

Inscriptions verso: 26 January 1787 Lord Braxfield. This is the plan and elevation referred to in the Lord Ordinary's Interlocutor of this date in the process of advocation and reduction & declarator at the instance of John Tait, WS and others against the magistrates and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh.

Architect: (Robert Kay).

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BOX: 1788/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1788.

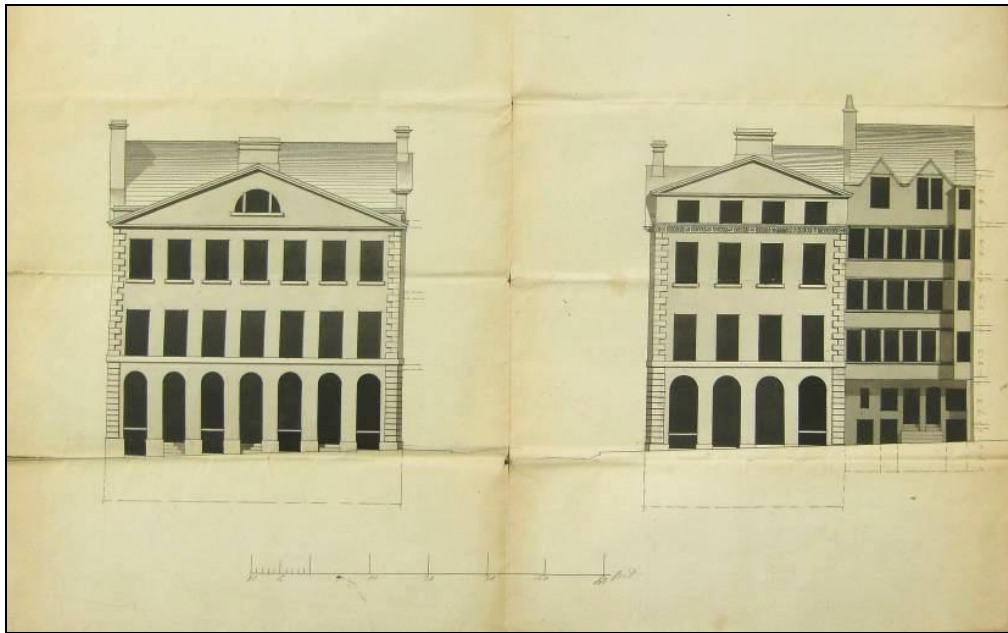
PETITIONER: Robert Kay, architect.

SITE: High Street, north side, west of the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: He purchased Lot 1 from the Trustees for erecting South Bridge. He refers to an old tenement immediately to the west of his, the two under stories of which belong to the said Trustees and the upper part belongs to John Neal, merchant in Edinburgh. He believes he will have to demolish their mutual gavel. On 15 May 1788 the Court ordered work to be stopped until the 25th.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation to the north (High Street) showing the intended building with the old tenement to the west. Elevation to the east (Hunters Square)

Size: 31.0 x 45.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Architect: (Robert Kay)

BOX: 1788/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 17 April 1788.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Moubray, relict of John Moubray, wright, with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, south side, Gray's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James McKain, tailor, residing in Blackfriars Wynd and Robert Baillie, mason who have slapped out a new entrance. In replies for McKain and Baillie it is pointed out that Baillie was at the Abbey of Holyroodhouse and therefore outside the jurisdiction of the Court and letters of supplement should have been raised. McKain states that he was simply reinstating a previously existing door. The Court ordered the work to stop and be rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1788/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1788.

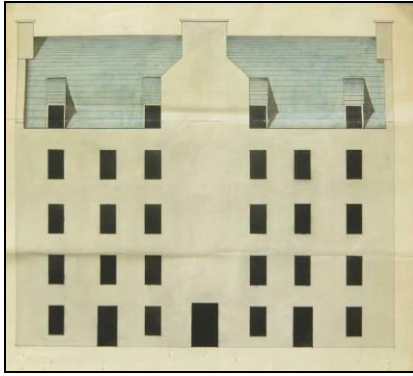
PETITIONER: John Wilson, builder.

SITE: Calton 'alias Wester Restalrig'

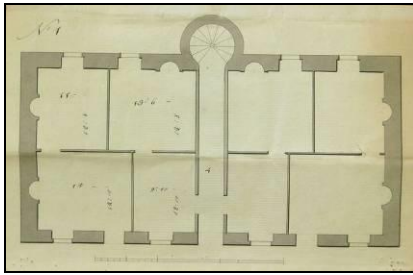
PROPOSAL: To partially demolish and rebuild a tenement of 5 floors.

NOTES: Two tenements involved here. Previous proprietor of the first was the deceased James Brown. Bounded on the west by the road from Edinburgh to Leith. Previous proprietor of the second tenement (to the north of first) was the deceased James (Norie or Nosie) Present proprietor of the second tenement is Robert Norie or Nosie, smith. The drawings had been stitched into a blue paper cover, now folded within the cover. Possibly No's 12-15 on the east side of Calton Street. Shown on Robert Kirkwood: *Plan and Elevation of the City of Edinburgh* 1819.

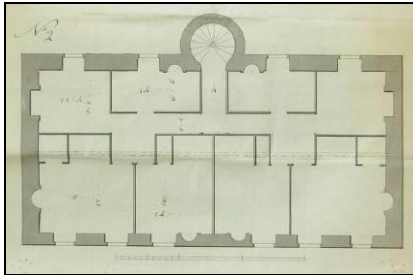
DRAWINGS: 5 sheets.



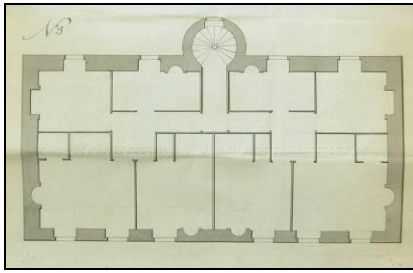
Description: a. Elevation  
Size: 19.8 x 21.9 cms.



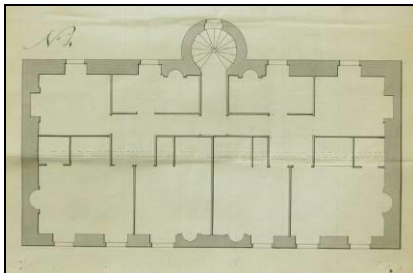
Description: b. Plan of ground floor (No. 1)  
Size: 14.7 x 21.9 cms



Description: c. Plan of first floor (No. 2)  
Size: 14.7 x 21.9 cms



Description: d. Plan of second floor (No. 3)  
Size: 14.7 x 21.9 cms



Description: e. Plan of third floor (No. 4)  
Size: 14.7 x 21.9 cms.  
Watermark: Countermark: J Whatman

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BOX: 1788/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 7 May 1788.

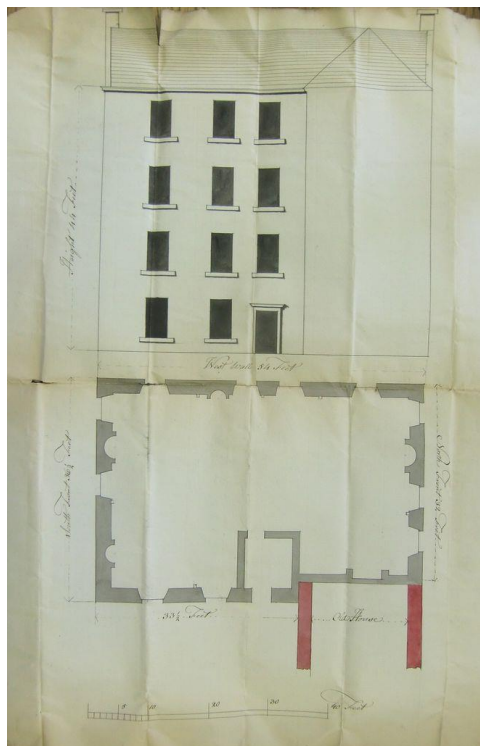
PETITIONER: John Milne, founder, present Deacon of the Incorporation of Hammermen in Edinburgh.

SITE: Chalmers Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement of four floors.

NOTES: Asks the court to declare the expence of the work and the cost of the warrant to be a real and preferable debt on the property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 51.6 x 35.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1788/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1788.

PETITIONER: Robert Kay, architect.

SITE: High Street, north side, west of Tron Kirk, Lot 1.

PROPOSAL: To arbitrate on a dangerous gable.

NOTES: This petition relates to the warrant of 24 May 1788 (Kay). The tenants had been removed by 26 May and work begun on demolishing the old tenement. It was found that it was integrated with the tenement immediately to the west on the High Street, belonging to the Trustees for South Bridge and cracks had appeared in the south wall of that tenement. The petitioner appointed arbiters, John Baxter, Alexander Laing and John Young, builders but they did not feel able to give directions regarding the demolition. The Court ordered part of the gable to be demolished and report back. See warrant of 7 July 1788 below.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 24 May 1788.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Meal Market.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alteration without a warrant.

NOTES: Complaint against Robert Morham, fleshier and tenant of Robert Sempill, brewer at Castlebarns who have opened a new entrance to the east without a warrant. In replies for Sempill he refers to property purchased in 1761 by Robert Mellis, fleshier from John Kid in Moutriehill, lying immediately above the entry to the Over Flesh Market, on the east side of Old Provost's Close. He then refers to a passage, in ancient times, from an upper story on the east side to the mid Flesh Market Close. Mellis sold this property to William Bain in 1774 who sold a small house to Mrs. Sime 'and having failed' sold the rest of the property to a trustee under sequestration in the Court of Session. The property was purchased by Sempill at a public roup in March 1787. Further explanation here but the Court ordered the new entrance to be built up within 48 hours. There is a letter of appeal from Sempill to the Lord Provost dated 28 July 1788, apparently unsuccessful.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1788.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: This is the tenement belonging to John Neal and others, mentioned in the petition of Robert Kay, architect on 25 May 1788.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1788.

PETITIONER: John Hill, mason.

SITE: High Street, near the head of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Request for instructions on disposal of materials in a demolition.

NOTES: He is demolishing the tenement belonging to John Neal, merchant and others, on the instructions of the Court. He is instructed to sell the materials to best advantage for the behoof of all concerned.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 25 May 1788.

PETITIONER: James Laing, writer.

SITE: Carrubber's land, north side of Lawnmarket.

PROPOSAL: To repair the upper floor.

NOTES: Asks the Court to declare the costs a preferable debt on the property.

Appointed a visit on 26 May and appointed Mrs Gordon of Cluny, the proprietor or liferentrix, to be summoned. Accounts here for the work but no mason named.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1788.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Thomas and Alexander Hutcheson, merchants.

SITE: Luckenbooths, head of Warriston's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to shop floor.

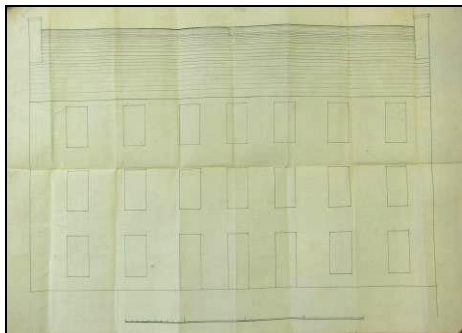
NOTES: They asked to remove small pillars and thin walls. Replies here from Patrick Leslie, musician who owns the flat above. Many other documents here relating to ownership of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

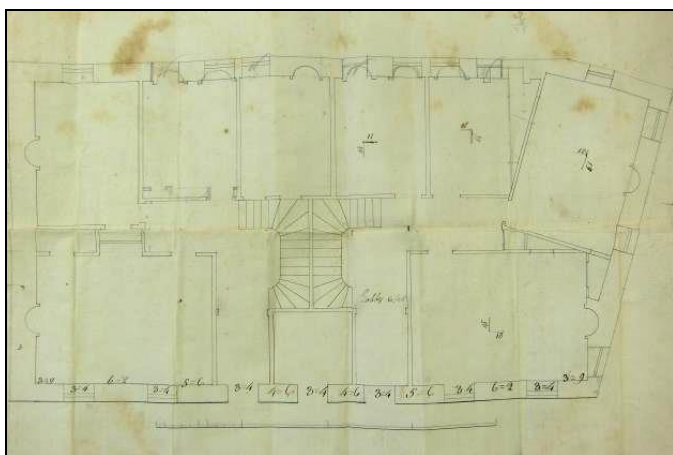
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BOX: 1788/32  
WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1788.  
PETITIONER: James Thomson, mason in Leith  
SITE: Northeast of Leith Assembly Rooms  
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three floors.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 35.5 x 50.5 cms.



Description: b. Plan.  
Size: 34.0 x 50.5 cms.

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BOX: 1788/33  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1788.  
PETITIONER: William Hunter, shipmaster in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, Lambs Close.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous gable, mutual with David Balingall.  
NOTES: Refers to previous petitions of January 1787 and March 1788 to demolish a tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/34  
WARRANT GRANTED: 6 and 7 August 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1787.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Bulls Close, west side.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: Property belongs to the heirs of William Reid, tobacconist and others.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 August 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1788.

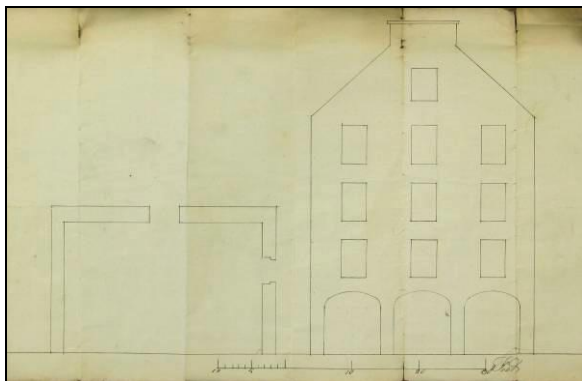
PETITIONER: John Murray and William Falconer, wrights in Leith Wynd.

SITE: Canongate, back of north side of Fleshmarket. At the head of the yards belonging thereto.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors.

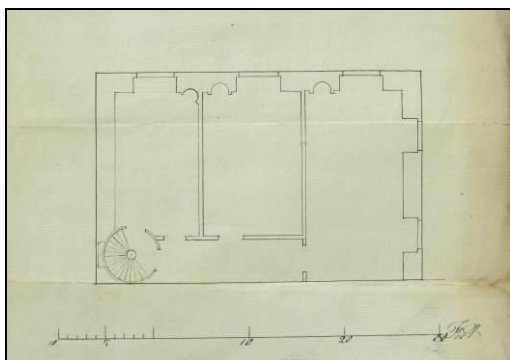
NOTES: They have a twenty year lease on the ground from Alexander Orr with permission to build or rebuild as convenient.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation with a plan of ground floor

Size: 23.7 x 36.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan.

Size: 16.7 x 22.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1788/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1788.

PETITIONER: David Henry, shoemaker.

SITE: Canongate, 'head of the upmost common Close'.

PROPOSAL: To build a mutual gable.

NOTES: He already has a plan approved by the Court to rebuild his tenement. He now has agreement with Isabella and Clemintina Baillie to build a mutual gable.

DRAWINGS: None here.

---

BOX: 1788/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: Unknown

PETITIONER: John Mathie (wright).

SITE: Craigs land.

PROPOSAL: To build.

NOTES: The warrant is the only surviving paper relating to this petition and it can be found in the unextracted petition of 10 October 1788 (Murray and Incorporation of Bakers) below. It refers to other documents and specifically to a servitude on the

neighbouring property of John McIntyre.  
DRAWINGS: An elevation is mentioned but is not here.

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BOX: 1788/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May and 11 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1788.

PETITIONER: William Duncan, fruit seller and Grace Duncan his daughter, relict of Robert Meek, messenger in Dalkeith.

SITE: New Green Market.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent.

NOTES: Complaint against Peter McKerran, pensioner, residing near the head of Carrubbers Close who own a cellar in a house beside the petitioner. Having no fire place Mckerran got a white iron choffer with a vent of the same. This was challenged and since then Mckerran has dug out a hole in the back side wall and have put up something in the form of a chimney. Fills the petitioner's house with smoke. Ordered to build up the vent within 24 hours. Further petition on 31 July 1788 and interlocutor of 11 September 1788 for the expences of building up the vent as Mckerran had not acted.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 2 September 1788.

PETITIONER: Francis Allan, wright.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of tenement and obstruction by a pile of rubbish and stones and a door at the head of the close.

NOTES: Asks that the Court should find that 'for the reasons above mentioned, I am at liberty to flit from the said house and that I ought not to be liable for the current years rent'. Court agreed that he could flit. He holds a lease from David Freer WS.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 27 February 1787.

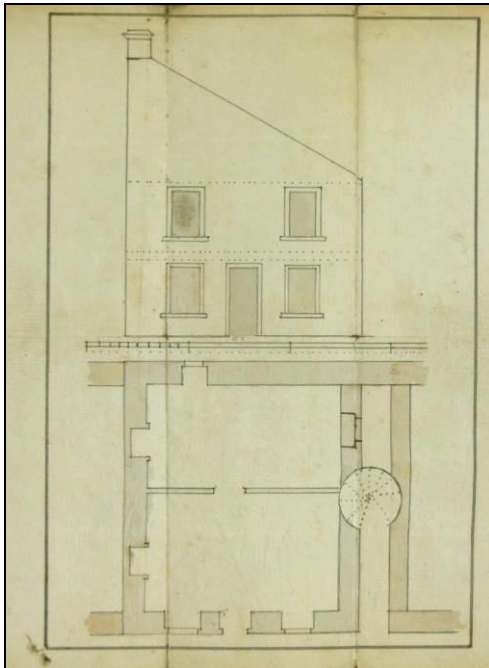
PETITIONER: John Learmonth, merchant.

SITE: St Mary Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a small house.

NOTES: Complaint by Alexander McIntyre. He acquired right to a dwelling house on the site with a servitude over the ground and workhouse previously belonging to David Anderson, hatter and Ann Cassie his spouse and now belonging to Learmonth. The proposed building encroaches on his right by being too high. An inventory of writs refers to a disposition by Alison Beasley & Alex Miln, glover her husband in favour of Elizabeth Beasley and the said Alexander McIntyre dated 25 March 1779. Registered in Burgh Court books, 12 April 1779. This petition refers back to a petition from David Anderson, hat maker dated 25 May 1743 to demolish an old workhouse and rebuild it. The Court at that time asked Walter Hog, merchant, William Mcvey, wright, Thomas Miln, mason and John Watson, slater to inspect the property and report. Anderson produced his legal title which included a disposition by Rachael Young, relict of John Brand, co heir served and retoured with the deceased Margaret Young, spouse to John Arbuthnot, her sister dated 19 August 1705 (the document is here). They were heirs to their father, Thomas Young, tailor. Also lodged here: an obligation by Rachael and Margaret Young to John Brand, tailor dated 4 march 1724; a post nuptial contract of marriage between David Anderson and Ann Cassie dated 10 September 1764; a tack between David Anderson and Peter Gow, currier dated 1 February 1769; a disposition from David Anderson and spouse to George Beasley, merchant and his spouse dated 12 August 1777 and an offer to purchase a stable with a house above it by John Learmonth

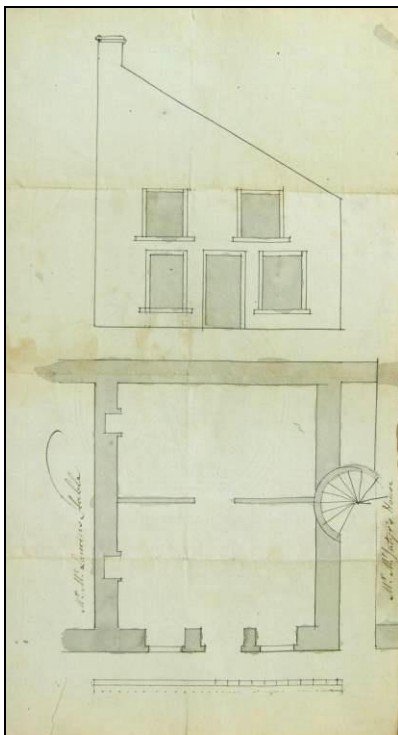
for £115 dated 25 September 1784.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 21.0 x 16.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Edr. 27 February 1787. This is the plan referred to in my petition to the Dean of Guild Court of this date. JL,



Description: b. Plan and elevation (which reduces the pitch of the lean-to).

Size: 31.4 x 18.0 cms.

Inscriptions verso: Mr Learmonth's plan 2nd.

Edr. 27 February 1787. This is the plan referred to in my petition to the Dean of Guild Court of this date. John Learmonth.

---

BOX: 1788/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1788.

PETITIONER: John Laurie, smith and ferrier at Orchardfield.  
SITE: Cowgate, south side, foot of Campbell's Close. Almost opposite the foot of Forrester's Wynd.  
PROPOSAL: Alteration to entrance to the Cowgate, windows and doors. See petition of 5 March 1789.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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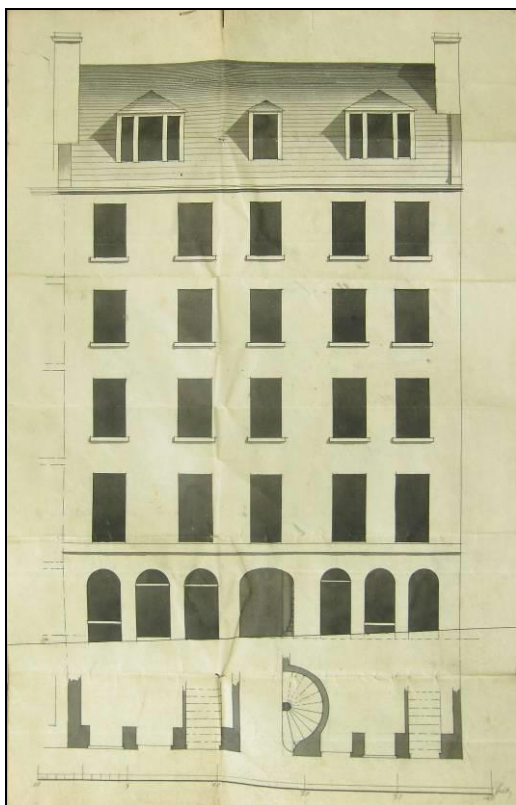
BOX: 1788/42  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 October 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 18 September 1788.  
PETITIONER: Margaret Maule, relict of John Watt, shipmaster in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, Shore.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Glover, wright in Leith.  
NOTES: Glover refuses to rebuild ruinous vents.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/43  
WARRANT GRANTED: 20 November 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1788.  
PETITIONER: The Merchant Company of Edinburgh; David Bridges, merchant as treasurer.  
SITE: Blair Street, west side of Tron Kirk.  
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.  
NOTES: Plot is immediately to the south of the tenement presently building by Robert Kay, architect.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1788/44  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1788.  
PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1788.  
PETITIONER: Andrew Murray, wigmaker and others, proprietors  
SITE: High Street, south side, Brown's land.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish the east gable fore wall and turnpikes and rebuild.  
NOTES: The east gable and the fore wall of their land have become unstable due to the demolition of Wilkie's land. A jury was appointed to consider the condition of the tenement and it reported on 5 December 1788. Robert Kay, Robert Burn, and William Pirnie designated 'architects' were members of the jury along with a number of builders, wrights and merchants. The warrant demanded 'that the pillars in the first story of the tenement shall not be narrower than 21 inches in front and the said pillars to be built with solid ashlar the whole thickness of the pillars to the spring of the arches... and the petitioners are appointed to proceed to execute the foresaid building within ten days of this date... (marginal note continues) the front line of the said tenement to be adjusted and sett off by Mr. Robert Kay, architect'.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation with a plan of front wall.

Size: 45.8 x 29.0 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay?).

---

BOX: 1788/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 December 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1788.

PETITIONER: Robert Trotter WS, Thomas Rattray, writer, Mrs. Kinnear relict of Thomas Kinnear insurance broker, John Lamond wright as factor for deceased William Reoch, wright and Mrs. Margaret Forbes residing in Canongate.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, Fogo's land. Bounded on the west by Kinloch's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a drain or sewer at the rear of the land.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

#### **Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/19)**

BOX: 1788/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 January 1788 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 3 October 1787.

PETITIONER: John Northland, advocate.

SITE: New Town, George Street, to the east of the new Assembly Rooms.

PROPOSAL: To construct a drainage system.

NOTES: This process began with a complaint to the Court from John Pitcairn, merchant about the activities of John Northland in lifting the pavement to lay pipes. Pitcairn owns the first two flats, the third belongs to Miss Halyburton, the fourth to John Northland and the garrets to John Watson, writer. John Northland (who is a proprietor of the Assembly rooms) petitioned the Court on 30 October, stating that servants were in the habit of carrying foul water from their kitchens into the street and leaving it there. He proposed constructing a reservoir beside his kitchen to collect rain water and to use this to flush the foul water out into the common sewer by a lead pipe. He that the work is to be carried out by Mr. (James) Nisbet, plasterer and Mr. Marshall, plumber. He also complains that his neighbour in the flat below, John Pitcairn, initially agreed to

the proposal but is now against it. The work was stopped on 3 October.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 March 1788 (no warrant, agreement between the parties)

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1788.

PETITIONER: Daniel Smart, gardener in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, entry to the Flesh market.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Bog, wright who is building on land claimed by the petitioner. He refers to a warrant granted to John Bog or Boag dated 31 January 1788 to build but that he was not summoned by the Court as an interested party yet he had taken action in the Court of Session in April 1787 against John Bog and others, to establish his legal title to the land in question. He also states that he has a warrant from the Dean of Guild dating to 1725 to build on the site and that this warrant was stolen by John Bog. Work was stopped on 28 February leaving 22 masons idle. In answers Bog argues his title convincingly but notes that the action in the Court of Session has yet to determine the boundaries. The petitioner agreed on 4 March for the work to continue.  
DRAWINGS: See warrant granted 31 January 1788 (Boag).

---

BOX: 1788/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March 1788 (no warrant, account to be verified).

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1784.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Canongate, Couls Close, Ballantyne's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of repairs.

NOTES: The claim is made against James Ballantyne, wheel wright in Canongate who refuses to pay his share of the expence of repairing dangerous chimneys. The petition here dated 1 May 1784 relates to an unextracted petition by Thomas Ruthven, writer dated 10 January 1782 requesting repairs to the chimneys. This resulted in a visit at which it was verbally agreed among the parties that the petitioner would carry out the necessary work. The Court appointed William Smith, William Brodie and other members of the Court to visit the site on 3 August 1786 and cognose the accounts. They 'wakened' the petition on 21 February 1788 and the accounts were finally cognosed on 19 March 1788. There is a measure of the work here by Archibald Aitkin and an account from Jamieson dated 30 January 1782 for £7 7s 11d, attested by James Ballantyne and it appears that he paid 15s by cash in 1784.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 April 1788 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 10 April 1788.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, north side, passage between Allan's Close and Craig's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous masonry.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander(?) Stevenson, surgeon and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 May 1788 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1788.

PETITIONER: John McLeish, writer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Portsburgh, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Brown, glover and James Robertson, smith who have opened windows in the gable of an adjoining tenement without a warrant. Refers to an arbitration lodged here, by John Wilson and Robert Ferguson masons dated 22 December 1785 between the petitioner and James Brown regarding the re-

routing of a drain.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1788 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 May 1788.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: The Vennel, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the Town wall.

NOTES: The complaint is about a section of wall which fell down during the night.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1788 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1788.

PETITIONER: John Reid and Richard Thomson, masons.

SITE: Milns Square, back.

PROPOSAL: To lay stones on the street.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant (24 May 1788, Kay) for taking down the east gable of a tenement at the back of the Square. This is now down to the level of the Bridge (South Bridge) and they require an area of the street to lay down and prepare materials.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1788 (no warrant, defender to answer)

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1788.

PETITIONER: William Crawford, reedmaker in Leith, factor appointed by the trustees of George Douglas, mathematician in Ayr.

SITE: Leith Wynd, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Thomson, wright who is building on a mutual dyke. Work was stopped on 11 June and in replies for Alexander Thomson he states that the petitioner is mistaken as he is not building on the site, having sold it some time ago to Michael Marshall, residenter in Pauls Work, whom he believes is building a house or stable there. Marshall is called but no response here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1788 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1788.

PETITIONER: John Rae, surgeon and other heritors.

SITE: Old Fishmarket Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Peter Forrester, merchant and Peter Forrester & Co. merchants who have employed a mason to alter an arch at the top of a staircase they are building. See warrant granted 1 May 1788 (Forrester).

DRAWINGS: Drawing with warrant of 1 May 1788.

---

BOX: 1788/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1788 (no warrant, appointment for a visit)

PETITION LODGED: 22 July 1788.

PETITIONER: John Laurie, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: North Leith.

PROPOSAL: To partly demolish and rebuild tenements.

NOTES: A note on the front of the petition states that the plans and elevations were removed on 16 March 1798. See warrant for this work, 8 February 1798 (Laurie).

DRAWINGS: With warrant of 8 February 1798.

---



BOX: 1788/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1788 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1788.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, south side, head of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Described as a large stone tenement which has had wooden stoops inserted to prevent it falling. The Court called Archibald Gilchrist, John Lothian, merchant for Beatrix Sheills, Daniel Stewart, macer of Exchange for James Murray, merchant. They signed a statement on 2 August 1788 agreeing to the demolition after a visit to the site with the Court officers.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 August 1788 (no warrant, defender summoned)

PETITION LODGED: 14 August 1788.

PETITIONER: Alexander Reid, mason, William Young, writer, George Farquhar, writer as agent for the Miss Wisharts, James Sommers, writer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, Frederick Street, south east corner with George Street.

PROPOSAL: Compliant about encroachment.

NOTES: The petitioner has built the tenement and sold it off to the other petitioners. The complaint is against John Calder, mason who is building a house immediately to the south of the petitioners but has constructed a projection at the rear that is contrary to the plan of the New Town. The work was stopped on 14 August.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1788 (no warrant, proofs allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1788.

PETITIONER: Archibald Gilchrist, haberdasher.

SITE: High Street, (Stevenlaws Close?) Wilkie's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about falling masonry.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neal, merchant and John Richardson who are demolishing the neighbouring tenement. John Neal is associated with the Robert Kay petitions above, 24 May and 21 June 1788 (Kay) for work near the Tron Church.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1788.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1788.

PETITIONER: Thomas Stewart, treasurer to the Bank of Scotland.

SITE: High Street, opposite the Tron Church, Mylnes Square and Lees Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of access to a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neal, merchant, John Tait, WS, John Spence, painter and David Paterson, merchant who are demolishing the tenement above the petitioner's cellar with plans to rebuild towards North Bridge. They are ignoring his concerns about access to the cellar after their work, even though he has offered the cellar to them on reasonable terms. Work was stopped on 12 August. The matter was settled out of Court as there is a letter from Walter Fergusson, doer for the petitioner, stating this and agreeing to the stop on the work being lifted.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1788.

PETITION LODGED: Unknown

PETITIONER: John Mathie (wright).

SITE: Craig's land.

PROPOSAL: To build.

NOTES: The warrant is the only surviving paper relating to this petition and it can be found in the unextracted petition of 10 October 1788 (Murray and Incorporation of Bakers) below. It refers to other documents and specifically to a servitude on the neighbouring property of John McIntyre.

DRAWINGS: An elevation is mentioned but is not here.

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BOX: 1788/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 October 1788 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 7 October 1788.

PETITIONER: William Murray, Deacon and John Gray, Boxmaster to the Incorporation of Bakers in Edinburgh.

SITE: Craig's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building work.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Mathie, wright who has a warrant granted 4 September 1788 to build at the back of Craig's land but on condition that he arranges to carry off the rain water from his building and the back of Craigs land, into the Incorporation's wood yard. Mathie simply sent his warrant, with a postscript note dated 5 September 1788, to the Incorporation, agreeing to abide by the condition. They require a proper legal form and having provided it, Mathie is reluctant to sign it. Work was stopped on 8 October and Mathie allowed to see and reply to the petition on the 10th but no further action here.

DRAWINGS: An elevation is mentioned in John Mathie's warrant but is not here.

---

BOX: 1788/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 November 1788 (no warrant, request for a drawing).

PETITION LODGED: 22 October 1788.

PETITIONER: Rabina Durham, spouse to David Wishart, shipmaster in Leith with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Newhaven, High Street east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Clark, late bookseller in Edinburgh now keeper of the Whale Tavern in Newhaven and William Walker, mason. The Court stopped the work on 22 October 1788 and requested a plan with a description of his intended tenement on the 20 November. Enclosed here is a copy of a disposition dated at Edinburgh, 2 March 1761, registered 21 November 1767 which notes a disposition by Thomas Haddoway, brewer, in Leith to Alexander Hall, gardener in Newhaven of eighteen dwelling houses lying on the south side of the village of Newhaven. They had been assigned to Haddoway by the Society of Shipmasters of Leith at Trinity House dated 22 April 1747. They had been disposed by Alexander Hall to Dr. James Walker, physician in Edinburgh on 3 March 1761 and he had built several other houses there, sold to John Thomson, gardener in Clellands yards near Edinburgh and to George Durham, seaman in Newhaven. Etc. etc.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1788/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 December 1788 (no warrant, appointed visit).

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1788.

PETITIONER: Janet Mack residing in Langholm Castle.

SITE: Leith, head of Burgess Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner holds the tenement by right of a disposition from Charles Hog, writer, her great uncle, dated 22 July 1774 registered in Sheriff Court books on 10 August 1774. By the same deed, Alexander Laurence, carpenter in Leith was granted a liferent in a house, part of the said tenement. Charles Hog died on 4 August 1774 and the petitioner claims that she would like to repair the building. Laurence states in replies that the petitioner tried to buy his liferent for 40s pa. but he refused and he thinks that she is just trying to dislodge him. There is an estimate here for repairs from

John Thomson, dated 16 September 1788.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 December 1788 (no warrant, expences)

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1788.

PETITIONER: George Trotter, shoemaker.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Close leading to the High School of Canongate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work and encroachment on the Close.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Henry, shoemaker who is building on the east side of the Close. Work stopped on 4 August. See warrant granted 4 September 1788 (Henry).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1788/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: No date or warrant.

PETITION LODGED: 1788?.

PETITIONER: Alexander Thomson, David Cathcart, advocate and John Moubray, writer.

SITE: New Town, foot of North Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about lack of pavement.

NOTES: The petition is dated on the front 1788 and notes that the Town Council lately passed an Act obliging feuars in the New Town to pave the area in front of their houses or vacant ground. The complaint is that the feuars of the ground immediately to the east of the petitioner's property have not done so and if they did, 'this would complete the pavement of that division of Queen Street and North Frederick Street'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1789

The Court Officers from 10 October 1788:

### Dean of Guild

James Gordon

### Council

Donald Smith, Old Dean of Guild

James Carfrae, merchant

William Smith, merchant

John Young, wright

James Ranken, wright

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, George Penman

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BOX: 1789/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 February 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1789.

PETITIONER: Messrs. Thomas and Alexander Hutchisons, merchants.

SITE: High Street, Luckenbooths.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: Complaint against Charles Stewart of Dalguise and Patrick Leslie, musician in Perth have suspended their warrant in the petitioner's favour, to alter their shops.

Refers to a decision in the Court of Session, 27 January 1789 insisting that the petitioners find caution before proceeding with the work. They propose John Innes, WS and Alexander Laing, architect.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 February 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1788.

PETITIONER: Incorporation of Tailors in Potterrow: John Sturrock, (signs Storack)

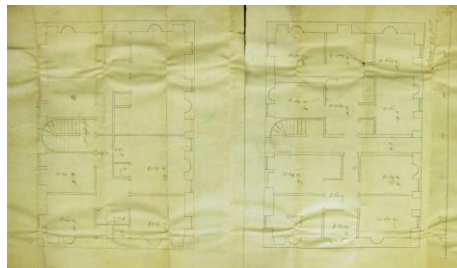
Deacon and John Sliders(?) treasurer.

SITE: Potterrow street, east side 'near Edinburgh'.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Old tenement called Scoons land. Inventory of writs notes a charter of resignation from Edinburgh Town Council to the Tailors dated 12 February 1772. Will Young acts as agent for the petitioners and countersigns the drawings.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

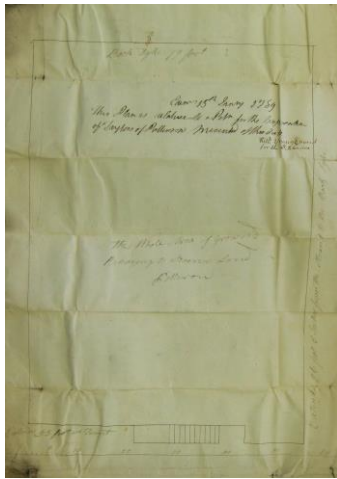


Description: a. Elevation with a plan of the lowest floor.

Size: 28.0 x 48.4 cms.

Watermark: Portal & Bridges

Inscriptions verso: Plans of two upper floors.



Description: b. Plan of ground floor.

Inscriptions verso: Plan of 'the whole area of ground belonging to Scoons land, Potterrow'.

Size: 29.8 x 45.0 cms.

BOX: 1789/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 August 1788 and 5 February 1789 (warrant refused).

PETITION LODGED: 17 June 1788.

PETITIONER: Thomas McGeorge, baker.

SITE: High Street, north side, opposite the Fountain Well.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a bakehouse.

NOTES: He held the property on a tack from Robert Middlemist, baker in Edinburgh, now deceased dated 3 March 1785. Middlemist had died during the process.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1789/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 19 December 1788.

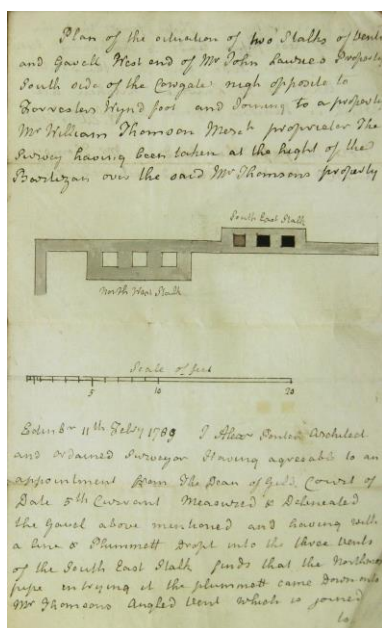
PETITIONER: John Laurie, farrier at Orchardfield.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, opposite foot of Forrester's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Work on a mutual gable.

NOTES: The tenement is undergoing repairs under a warrant of 22 September 1788.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of vents in a report by Alexander Ponton, architect dated 11 February 1789.

BOX: 1789/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 3 September 1788.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Elizabeth Norris, widow of the deceased John Innes of Brickfield and John and George Innes, his sons.

SITE: Canongate, south side.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences.

NOTES: Refers to a disposition of the property by Mrs. Marion Drummond, sister of George Drummond, one of the Commissioners of Excise to John Innes, bricklayer in Canongate, Adam Weir, wright in Edinburgh residing in Leith, and Charles Mack, mason dated 29 June 1762. She had purchased the tenement from Robert Bull. Other legal processes mentioned here. Account enclosed from John Innes to Mrs. Mary Drummond dated 11 November 1762 totalling £225 1s 5d for building and plaster work. Notes amounts for Mr. Selby for leadwork, James Smith for slater work and John mason for mason work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 25 December 1788.

PETITIONER: George Grindlay, leather merchant, West Bow.

SITE: West bow, foot, Hempseeds (or Johnstones) land.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences.

NOTES: The property disposed by the Town Council to the petitioner on 6 October 1786. He was bound with William Grindlay, mason in Edinburgh to rebuild the ruinous tenement within a year and a day from 11 September 1786. Accounts from George Ritchie, slater; James Aikman, mason; John Murray, plasterer; Aikman & Kennedy for additional repairs dated 24 November 1787

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of entire area.

Size: 42.0 x 57.5 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Signed James Begg Octr. 1786. Drawing refers to Curries Close and an entry from there leading to Castle Wynd.

Watermark: J Whatman

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BOX: 1789/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 April 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1789.

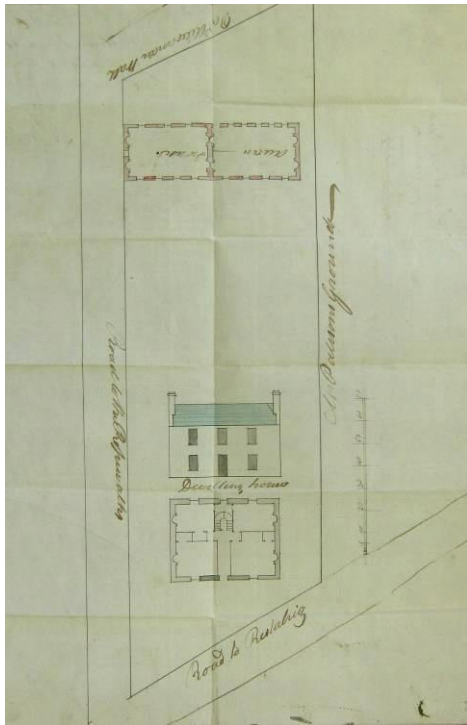
PETITIONER: Daniel McNab, ropemaker in Leith.

SITE: Leith Links, fronting the road to Restalrig.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: Land 'lately' feued from Edinburgh Town Council. The plan shows a road to the ropeworks on the left.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 37.0 x 30.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, Bigg

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BOX: 1789/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 May 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 29 April 1789.

PETITIONER: David Freebairn, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Bernard's Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: Land feued from Christopher Wood, merchant in Leith.

DRAWINGS: Plan mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1789/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 May 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1789.

PETITIONER: David Bruce, slater and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, at the head of Foulis Close, top story.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks

NOTES: The petitioner has tried to organise the repair but the other heritors are not cooperating. Warrant granted to John Miln, mason in Edinburgh to repair and claim expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 30 April 1789.

PETITIONER: John Neal senior, merchant.

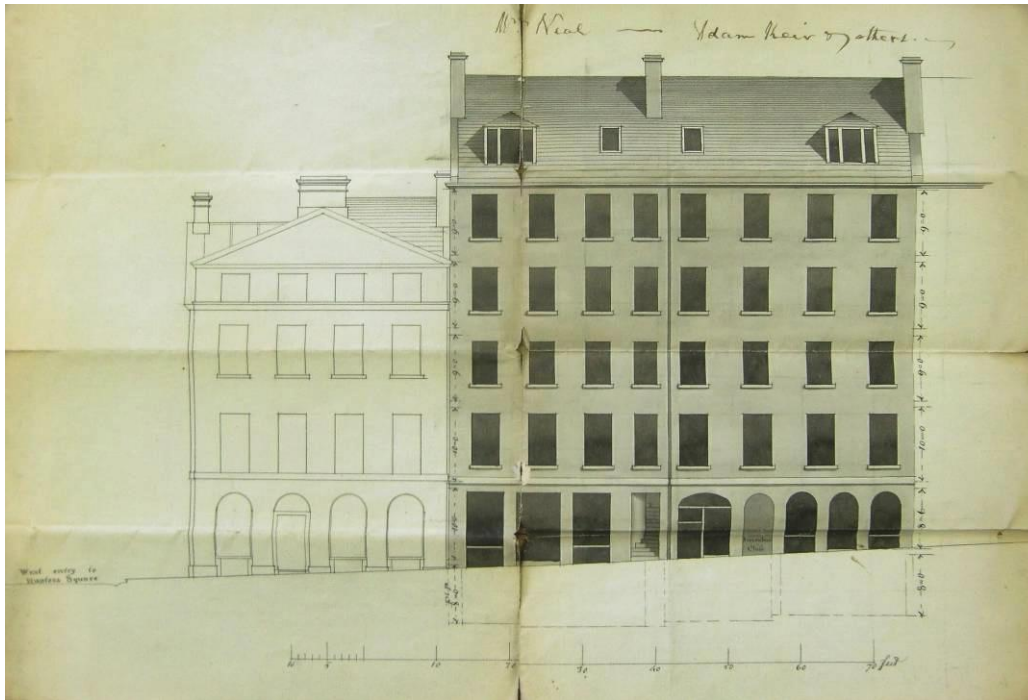
SITE: High Street, south side, a little above the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner was the owner of three stories in the tenement on the site, recently taken down. He has since purchased the other stories and applies to rebuild.

See unextracted petitions: 3 September 1789 and 1 April 1790 (both Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of two new tenements of five stories and attics.

Size: 31.5 x 46.0 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Neal - Adam Keir and others above the elevation.

Architect: (Robert Kay?)

BOX: 1789/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1789.

PETITIONERS: Adam Keir, baker, Archibald Gilchrist, merchant, Daniel Steuart, macer before the Court of Exchequer, Miss Sheils, residenter and Robert Gibson of London.

SITE: High Street, south side, a little above the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioners are owners the tenement on the site, recently taken down.

DRAWINGS: None here but the drawing in the previous petition is cited as a production.

BOX: 1789/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1789.

PETITIONER: John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith.

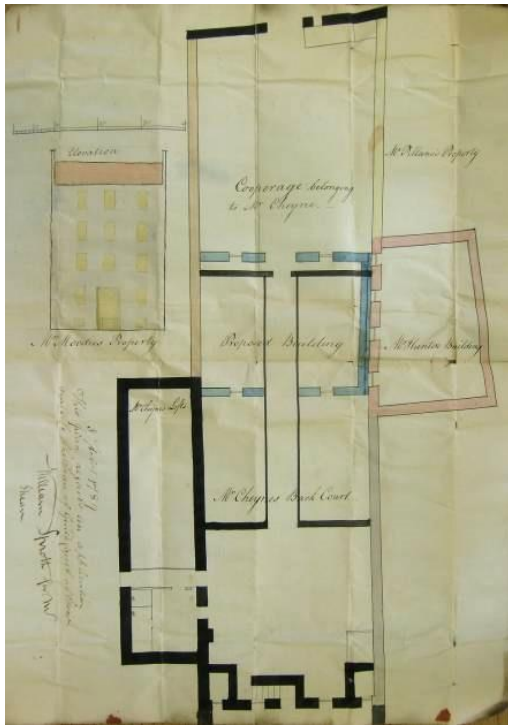
SITE: Leith, fronting the Shore on the south side of the water.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement in his back area.

NOTES: The existing tenement built by the deceased Ezra Thomson. The property disposed by David Neilson, merchant in Leith to the petitioner on 4 April 1785.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation of a 5 story tenement.

Size: 51.7 x 37.5 cms

Watermark: J Whatman

BOX: 1789/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 22 October 1788.

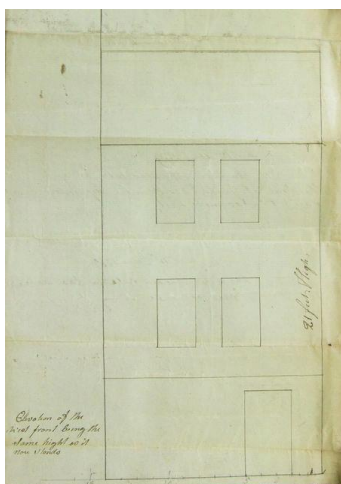
PETITIONER: Patrick McVicar, writer.

SITE: Grassmarket, east corner at the back of Warden's stabler.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a house.

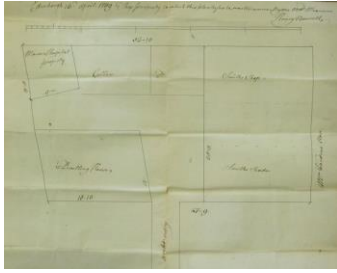
NOTES: The petitioner Has a warrant from the court dated 8 April 1779 to build a 'Pye Bakehouse'. He entered into an agreement with a baker to have a bakery erected but he resiled from the agreement and the existing buildings, destroyed by a previous fire, are still ruinous. They are however occupied by James Pollock, smith.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of three story tenement.

Size: 32.0 x 23.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 31.0 x 41.5 cms.

Inscriptions recto: 'Mrs. Warden's Close' on right and 'Maiden's Hospital property' top left.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1789/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1789.

PETITIONER: Alexander Fyfe, merchant.

SITE: North Bridge, head, east side.

PROPOSAL: To alter a shop window to a flat bow.

NOTES: The petitioner held his shop on a lease from John Ranken, one of the Baillies of Inverkeithing. It had previously been let to Mr. Ranken (same man?) stoneware merchant. The neighbouring heritors agreed on 28 May 1789. In a letter dated 30 May 1789 addressed to 'Mr. Fife at his umbierella wearhouse, Edinburgh', William Douglas at Dalhousie Bleachfield regrets that 'the throng of my business cannot admit me to have the plesuer to see you in Town' agrees to the alteration and requests a change to his window in the upper storie.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1789.

PETITIONER: James Izett, hat maker and John Ogill, writer.

SITE: Canongate, foot of Rae's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Clephane, cabinet maker in Canongate.

NOTES: Izatt is the proprietor of a large house there and Ogill, of a dwelling house and a wright shop. Clephane has begun to build a 'large public necessary house' a little to the westward of Izatt's house. Ordered to stop the work, 19 March 1789 and pay expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 27 May 1789.

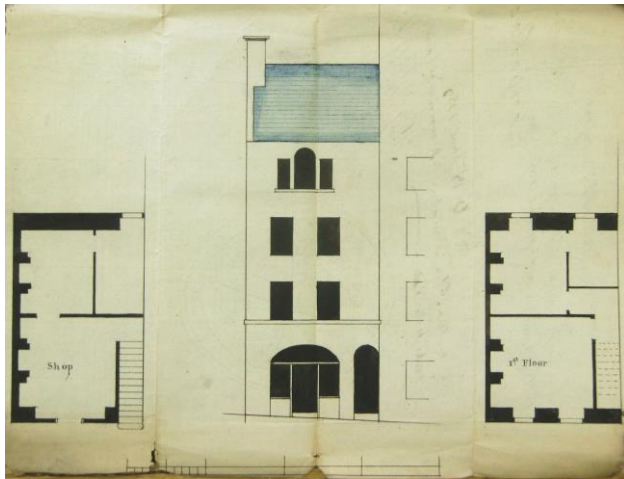
PETITIONER: Baillie George Rae, candlemaker.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Barrowman's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair the roof and rebuild the tenement.

NOTES: Property bounded on east by a tenement belonging to William Murray, grocer and Walter Smeaton, painter, both in Canongate and others. On the west by a tenement lately belonging to the deceased John Fyfe, tailor in Canongate but sold by him to the Charity Workhouse of Canongate.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors and elevation.

Size: 23.0 x 29.5 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay?)

BOX: 1789/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1789.

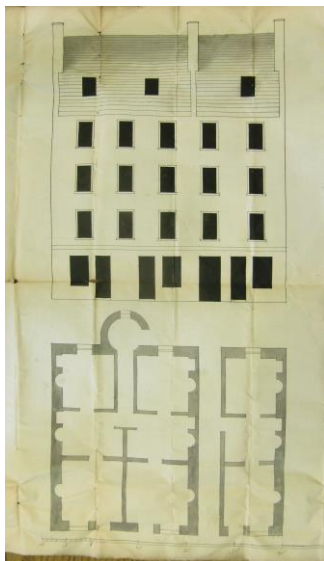
PETITIONER: John Aitchison, mason.

SITE: Wester Portsburgh, Doig's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: Property purchased 2 December 1788 from the Incorporation of Tailors of Portsburgh including an old thatched tenement fronting the street of Portsburgh.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement of 5 floors and a plan of the ground floor.

Size: 56.0 x 43.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman

BOX: 1789/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1789.

PETITIONER: William Keith and Co.

SITE: North Bridge Street, east side near the High Street.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a window.

NOTES: Window to be completed at the sight and by the direction of Messrs. Young and Ranken, members of the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1789/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 18 June 1789.

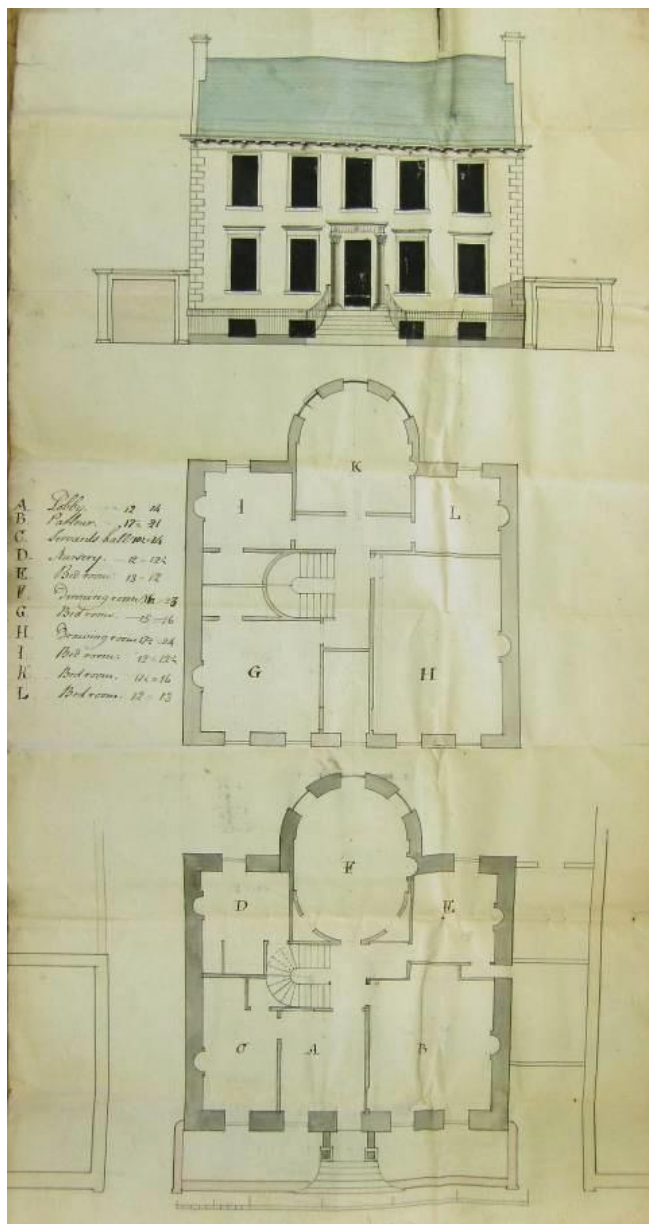
PETITIONER: William Bell senior.

SITE: Leith, (Quality Street?).

PROPOSAL: To build a villa.

NOTES: The property had been purchased from the trustees of the deceased Alexander Portland, (Kings couper?) in Leith. It is contiguous to a house and garden already belonging to the petitioner. Includes a letter from David Kelly of Boyd McDonald & Co, 55 Constitution Street, Leith dated 8 July 1878, asking (the Dean of Guild) for the petition and plan for a proof the following day. The second plan indicates the property stretching from 'The street' to 'Constitution road' William Bell is described as a 'wine cooper in Leith, at his House in Quality-street' in press advertisements in the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* in 1752, although he is involved in the importing of tar, pitch and turpentine from America. See: North Carolina Archives online.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

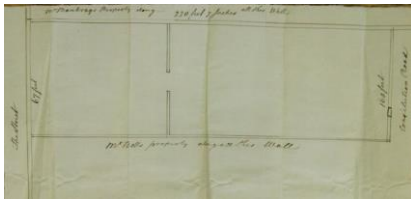


Description: a. Elevation of three story house with plan of ground and first floor.

Inscriptions recto: Noted with size and use of all rooms.

Size: 55.2 x 29.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman



Description: b. Plan of the area.  
Size: 16.7 x 33.0 cms.

BOX: 1789/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 July 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1789.

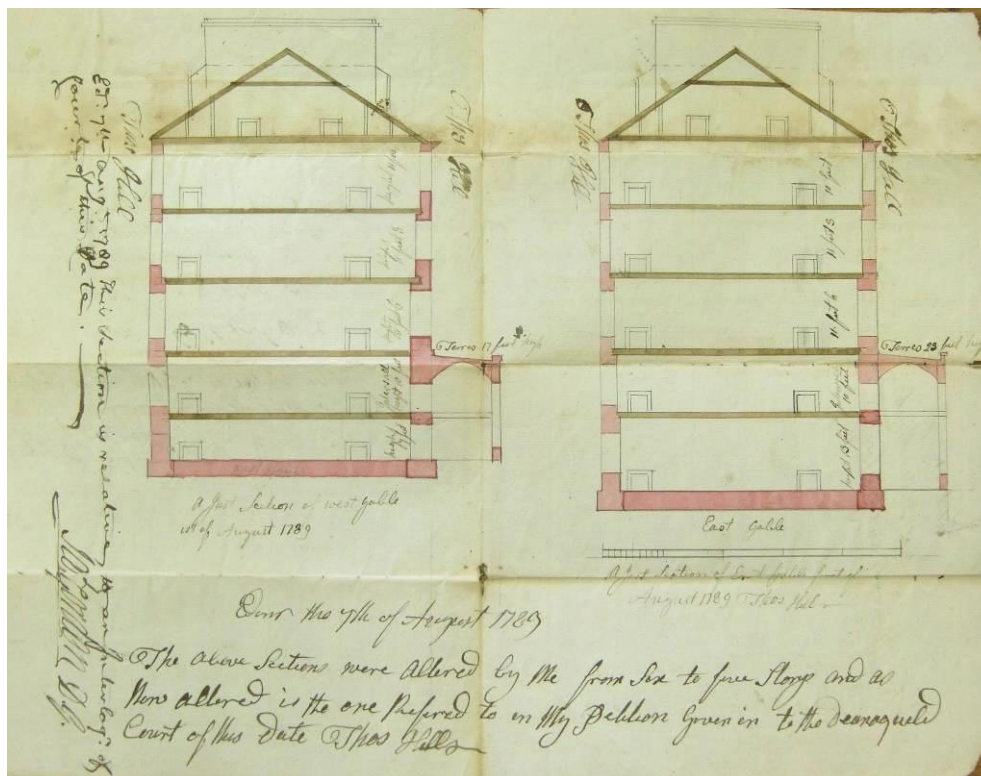
PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal versus Thomas Hill, builder.

SITE: Leith Street, top.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without warrant.

NOTES: The buildings are above the statutory height 'whereby they must prove a disagreeable nuisance'. The heritors included Hill, James Salisbury, John Reid, Richard Thomson, John Baxter and John Hay, all builders in Edinburgh. On 14 July the court demanded to see a plan of the intended buildings, repeated on 23rd and 30th. In a petition by Thomas Hill he states 'The petitioner and the other builders on Leith Street are feuars from the Trustees for erecting the Register office &c. to whom the area belonged, and to whom they pay a very heavy duty. And the elevation by which they build was given to them by the said Trustees, and their architect, and they are expressly taken bound to build conform thereto; and which elevation accords with the section that the petitioner formerly produced'. He mentions that he has about 100 tradesmen in his employment. He agrees, under protest, to reduce the tenements to five stories. See petition of 26 April 1787 (Hill).

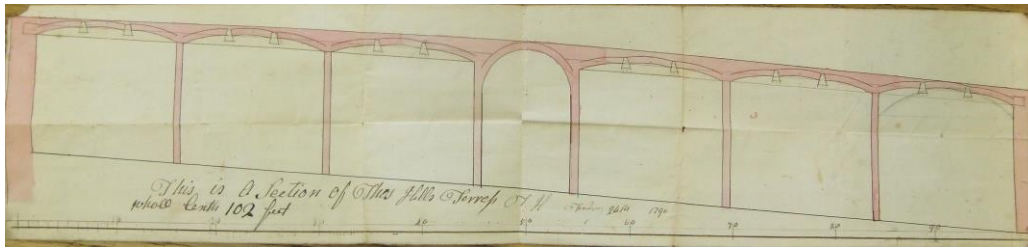
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Sections of the west and east gables.

Inscriptions, recto: The above sections were altered by me from six to five storys and as now altered is the one referred to in my Petition given in to the Deansquair Court of this Date Thomas Hill

Size: 28.5 x 38.4 cms.



Description: b. Section of the terrace.

Inscriptions recto: This is a section of Thos Hills terrace. TH February 24th 1790.

Inscriptions verso: Section of a part of the terrace on the north of Leith street & which was given in to the Dean of Guild Court of Edinr. by me, Thos Hill of this date. 25 Febr 1790.

Size: 12.5 x 55.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1789/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 July 1789 and 27 August 1789 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1789.

PETITIONER: Charles Salter, brewer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Frederick Street, south east corner.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Carruthers, supervisor of window lights who is the proprietor of a lodging in the same building. He is erecting a structure in the 'angle or void space of the hanging stair'. This related to the cellars in the basement floor, under the entrance plat. A warrant was granted on 23 July 1789 to remove the construction. George Farquhar, writer entered the argument over expences and the Court reduced these to one guinea against the defenders on 20 August 1789.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 July and 20 August 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1784.

PETITIONER: Hon, Alexander Murray of Henderland, senator of the College of Justice and Hon. Mrs Ann Austin, widow of Dr Adam Austin, physician.

SITE: Brown Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Callender, wright in Edinburgh.

NOTES: The petitioners own two houses with an area behind and a servitude to prevent buildings higher than theirs. While Lord Henderland was on the circuit, his neighbour, Callender began erecting a building that breaches this servitude. The work was ordered to be stopped on 5 October 1784. A second petition by the same in concurrence with the Procurator Fiscal was submitted on 22 May 1789. In this they complain that the property previously owned by Callender is now in the possession of David Deuchar, seal engraver and William Crawford, smith who are going ahead with the previously stopped work and Crawford is 'even proposing to erect a forge and smith shop in the said area'. On 2 July Crawford was ordered to remove the smith shop. See warrant granted 13 April 1787 (Crawford & Deuchar).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 September 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1789.

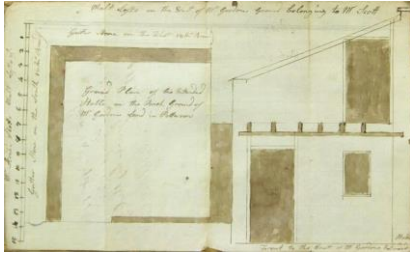
PETITIONER: Archibald Scott, late distiller in Potterrow.

SITE: Potterrow

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without warrant.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a tenement and brewery with waste ground adjoining. His neighbouring proprietor, Marmaduke Gordon, depute librarian in the College of Edinburgh, (signs himself Duke Gordon) has begun clearing ground to erect a building. Included petition from Duke Gordon to build a small stable.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch plan and section of the stable with indications of its position.  
Size: 18.7 x 30.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1789/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 September 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 18 September 1789.

PETITIONER: Niccol Bell, coppersmith in Leith and William McGall, bookkeeper to Messrs. Bell and Ramsay, wine merchants there with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Leith.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The property feued from the Kirk Session of South Leith and was then possessed by John Baldin, stabler and now in part by Mrs. Cree, relict of John Cree, stabler in Leith and Robert her son. The petitioner holds a warrant dated 22 and 29 June 1786 to rebuild the ruinous buildings according to a plan and elevation submitted. He has progressed considerably but is now prevented from continuing by an insufficient east gable, belonging to Mrs. Cree and her son. Warrant granted to rebuild east gable.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 October 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 22 September 1789.

PETITIONER: Alexander Monro, physician, Robert Inglis and Simon Frazer, masons.

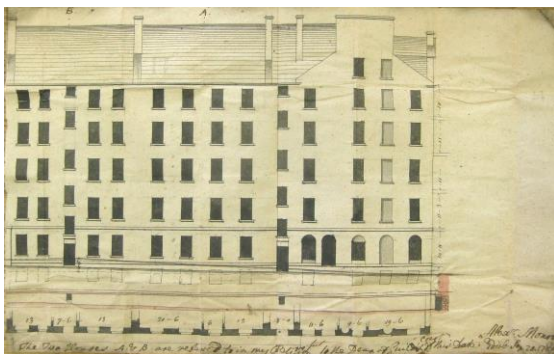
SITE: Nicholson Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: To build cellars under existing tenements.

NOTES: 'That the road between the Town wall and Dr. Monro's park on the east side of Nicholson's street was formerly but ten feet in breadth. - That the Doctor many years ago allowed it to be widened to 30ft without asking or receiving anything from the public. -That he has lately added three feet more to that road at his own expence.... That altho Dr Monro gave ... the breadth of 25ft off his park & for the improvement of the road as before noticed, he did not give away his right of forming such vaulted cellars or other conveniences as he might judge proper under the road....The plan of these cellars by Mr. Robert Kay, architect.' 'The petitioners likewise produce the plan of two houses, one of which is begun to be built by the said Simon Frazer and the other will soon be begun by the said Robert Inglis. The drawing appears to be torn from a longer drawing.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.

---



Description: a. Elevation of three tenements of five floors and basement and a plan of the cellars.

Inscriptions recto: The tenements on the left are indicated A and B.

Size: 29.3 x 46.2 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay?)

---

BOX: 1789/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1788.

PETITIONER: William Stewart, advocate and Thomas Scott W.S.

SITE: South Hanover street, west side, adjoining Rose lane.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an oven

NOTES: The tenement was built by William Pirnie, mason in Edinburgh and was purchased by the petitioners in 1786. Pirnie owned the ground floor which he let as shops to Mr. Clark, grocer and Mr. Small, confectioner. He has built an oven in Mr. Small's shop without a warrant. See an unextracted petition below, dated 5 March 1789.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/27

WARRANT GRANTED: Late 1789. (Not sure that this was ever resolved)

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1788.

PETITIONER: The Earl of Haddington, John Stuart younger of Allanbank, James Mansfield, banker and others.

SITE: George Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Hill, builder.

NOTES: Hill, while working for Robert Belches in the Meuse Lane, has dug away the level of the lane behind their properties, rendering access to their stables impossible. He has also deposited a large pile of bricks outside Lord Haddington's stable preventing him taking out his coach or chaise, both of which are standing in his coach house. The Court had ordered Mr. Gordon, Superintendent of Works to make a plan and section of the lane. Includes a deposition by Thomas Stevenson, one of the overseers of the public works regarding the original levels, which he gave to Alexander Reid who was then building Haddington's coach house. He notes that Mr. Nisbet's stables were built by Robert Inglis, mason. (It seems that everyone built at different levels).

DRAWINGS: Note on front of replies for the Earl of Haddington states '27 April 1789. Borr'd the plans produced wt the original petition, Alex Reid.'

---

BOX: 1789/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 December 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 21 October 1789.

PETITIONER: Peter Lawson, seed merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Blair Street, connected by a stair to Bridge Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: Complaint against James Boyd who has taken a tavern above Lawson's seed shop. Regarding the painting of signs on either side of the entrance to the stair and the arch over it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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### **Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/20)**

BOX: 1789/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 February 1789 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 19 February 1789.

PETITIONER: Alexander Dallas junior (silk dyer).

SITE: Hodges Close, foot of Blackfriar's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build.

DRAWINGS: Inscription on front of petition states they were removed 16 April 1789 by Robert Tennent.

---

BOX: 1789/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 March 1789 (no warrant, asked to produce a plan).

PETITION LODGED: 21 February 1789.

PETITIONER: Miss Rachael Hamilton.



SITE: Rose Street, nearly adjoining Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an oven.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Burns, builder, owner of the adjoining lot who has begun to build an oven without a warrant. See warrant granted 29 October 1789 (Stewart and Scott)

DRAWINGS:

---

BOX: 1789/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 April 1789 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 9 April 1789.

PETITIONER: Adam and Thomas Russell, builders and John Burns, builder with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Queen Street, between Frederick and Castle Streets.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about stones and building materials in the road.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hill, builder who in his replies states that he is using an area behind Queen Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 May 1789 (no warrant, request for plans and title deeds).

PETITION LODGED: 7 April 1789.

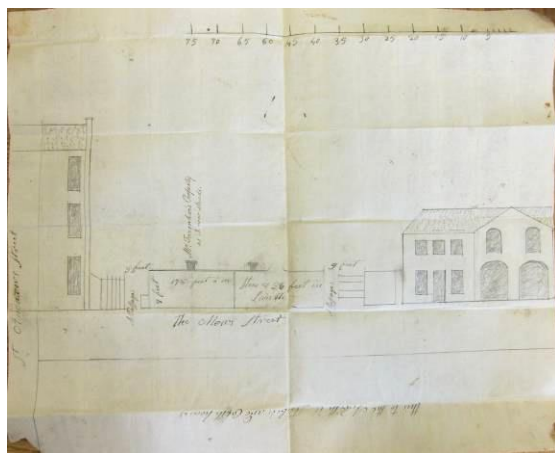
PETITIONER: James Farquhar Esq.

SITE: Princes Street, east end.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild in the meuse lane behind.

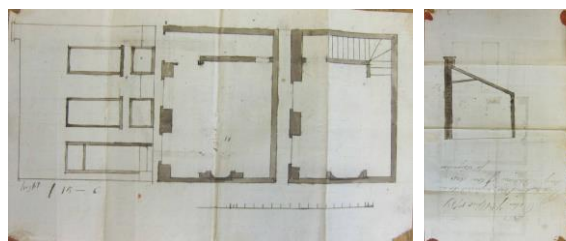
NOTES: The meuse lane is east of St Andrew's Street. In replies for Mrs. Helen Wight, occupier of the flat above, she asks for plans to be produced.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a part of the Meuse lane.

Size: 30.0 x 36.0 cms.



Description: b. Plans of two floors and elevation. With a section verso.

Size: 30.3 x 18.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1789/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789 (no warrant, duplies allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1789.

PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Bakers, William Murray, Deacon and John Gray,

Treasurer.

SITE: Old Bank Close, near the head of the Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To reopen a vent.

NOTES: While doing repairs they found the vent in the flat above, belonging to John Bonnar, painter had the kitchen vent blocked. In replies for John Bonnar he states that the entire tenement, 'Hope's or Hunter's land in the Cowgate', had been bought by Thomas Murray, late baker in 1752 who left it to his daughter Eupham. She sold the middle flat to Mr. Allison about 30 years ago, who sold it to Mr. Laurie and is now purchased by the Incorporation. He claims the vent was taken away before 1752.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789 (no warrant, parties agree).

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1789.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Dickson's Close, near the middle, Drummond's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous vents.

NOTES: The property belongs to Peter Leslie, musician, late of Edinburgh now in Perth, for whom Neil Stewart, music seller is factor; John Greig, clerk to Hume & Cleghorn, coachbuilders; the Rev. John 'Bishop' Geddes residing in Blackfriar's Wynd and Thomas Wright Esq. Georges Square.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1789 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1789.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Dickson's Close, Lindsay's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the vents.

NOTES: The complaint is against Richard Barton of Manchester for whom Messrs. David, Stewart and Robert Allan and William Dalrymple, merchants are factors.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1789 (no warrant, work stopped then allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1789.

PETITIONER: Deacon and Boxmaster of the Incorporation of Tailors in Potterrow.

SITE: Potterrow Street, part of the Easter Croft of Bristo.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Dickieson, glazier and William Laurie, edge tool maker who have begun to erect a structure on the dyke to the south of the petitioner's property, causing rainwater to fall into their property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 July 1789 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1789.

PETITIONER: William Mitchell, merchant in Leith.

SITE: An area to the south east of the Town of Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of boundary walls.

NOTES: The property is bounded on the east by the road from Leith Walk to the glassworks of Leith and on all other sides by land not feued. The petition refers to a feu contract entered 28 February 1774 by the petitioner and Adam Smith, then residenter in Restalrig of a parcel of land at the glasshouses of Leith, being part of a larger area disposed to the petitioner by Alexander Peter, wright. The dyke walls were in position when owned by Adam Smith but are now in disrepair.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1789 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1789.

PETITIONER: James Salisbury, architect.

SITE: Leith Street, north side (Leith Terrace).

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors and attics.

NOTES: This is one of a group of three petitions. There is a fourth included, with no details of the petitioner filled in. All of them refer to the same property on land feued from the trustees for building the General Register house.

DRAWINGS: See petition below.

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BOX: 1789/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1789 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1789.

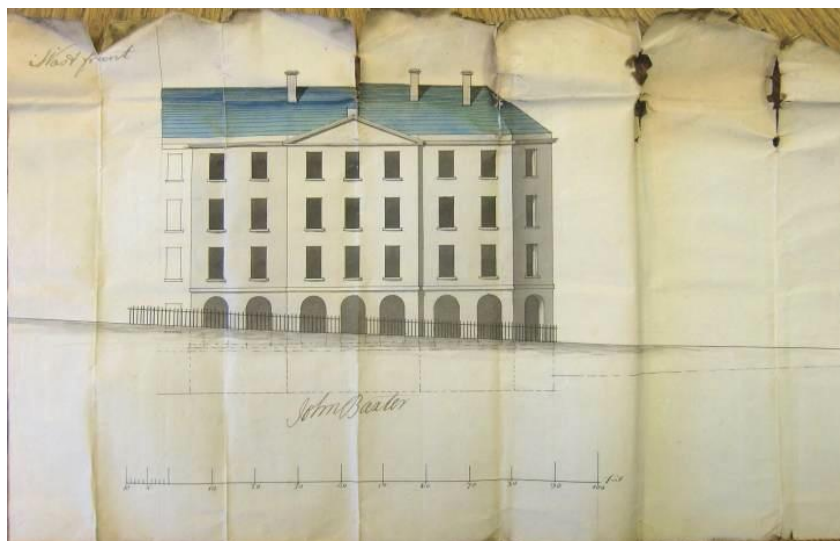
PETITIONER: John Baxter, glazier.

SITE: Leith Street, north side (Leith Terrace).

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors and attics.

NOTES: This is one of a group of three petitions. There is a fourth included, with no details of the petitioner filled in. All of them refer to the same property on land feued from the trustees for building the General Register house.

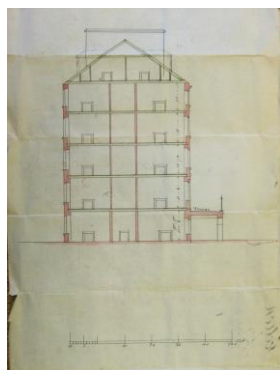
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation to the west.

Inscriptions, recto: John Baxter beneath the three central pedimented bays.

Size: 27.7 x 44.1 cms.



Description: b. Section.

Size: 33.7 x 22.5 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Edinr. 1st August 1789 / This is the section of the houses building on /Leith Street by us / John Baxter/ Richd. Thomson / John Reid.

---

BOX: 1789/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1789 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1789.

PETITIONER: John Reid and Richard Thomson, builders.

SITE: Leith Street, north side (Leith Terrace).

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of five floors and attics.

NOTES: This is one of a group of three petitions. There is a fourth included, with no details of the petitioner filled in. All of them refer to the same property on land feued from the trustees for building the General Register house.

DRAWINGS: See petition above.

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BOX: 1789/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 August 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 22 July 1789.

PETITIONER: Adam Keir, baker and others.

SITE: High Street, west of the Tron Church, Wilkie's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rebuilding of a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neal senior who has a warrant to rebuild his tenement but has left Edinburgh without leaving any instructions to begin the work. In a reply it is stated that Mr. Neal has been some months in London but his son, John Neal junior has given instructions to Messrs. Reid and Thomson, builders to proceed with the work. See warrant granted 14 May 1789 above.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 August 1789 and 22 October (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 28 April 1789.

PETITIONER: Lachlan Duff, WS, curator bonis appointed by the Court of Session to James Wright, presently in India, only child of Robert Wright Esq, deceased. With Ebenezer Gardner, linen manufacturer.

SITE: High Street, head of old Fish Market Close, first flat.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a leaden scaffold.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Gourlay, haberdasher who occupies the ground floor shop owned by Adam Keir, baker. He erected a structure above his shop front which encroaches on the petitioner's property and prevents Mr. Gardner from erecting a sign. Expences were denied. In replies for Adam Keir he states that the evesdrop and gutter were erected 15 years ago under an agreement with Mr. Wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1789/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1789 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1789.

PETITIONER: David Paterson, insurance broker.

SITE: High Street, north side, immediately opposite Hunter Square.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge a window.

NOTES: The petitioner wants to take out 8 to 12 inches at the bottom of the window and take off a small pediment at the top. There are answers here from James Falconer of Monkton, Mrs. Catherine and Dame Mary Falconer his daughters, John Mckenzie of Allangrange, husband to the said Catherine and Sir James Colquhoun of Luss, husband of said Mary. They are heritors of the 3rd floor and the petitioner has recently purchased the first floor and they give detailed arguments against the proposed work. In answers for William Simpson, cashier to the Royal Bank of Scotland and factor for representatives of the deceased William Mercer, merchant he notes that the shop was previously possessed by George Spankie from 1697 and that in the entry to the shop there are tow large freestone pillars covered with a large cope stone with a shop sign on it. The petitioner wishes to remove this.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1789 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 31 August 1789.

PETITIONER: Robert Jameson, bookseller and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Bridge Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Boyd, vintner who has put up a sign to the north of the petitioner's shop which prevents him putting up his sign.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1789 (no warrant, liable for expences).

PETITION LODGED: 30 April 1789.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal and John Mylne, mason.

SITE: High Street, west side of Tron Church.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of expences.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neal senior, merchant. There is also a copy of the jury's report here dated 2 April 1789. See warrant of 14 May 1789 above.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1789 (no warrant, appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 31 August 1789.

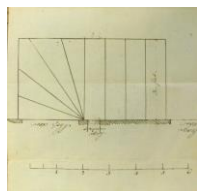
PETITIONER: William Crawford, residenter and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, west end.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Kegie, stocking manufacturer who is making alterations to his manufactory by inserting a stair. The drawing is annotated with 'Lodge window' and 'Lodge door'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of a stair.

Size: 30.7 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1789/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 September 1789 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 September 1789.

PETITIONER: Thomas Wilson, advocate.

SITE: 5 South Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign and railing.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Cumming, carver and gilder who painted his name on a mutual wall beside the entrance. The petitioner and Charles Walker, late vintner, own the 3rd and 4th floors. Mr. Lamb, who previously owned the entire tenement, told Cumming to paint his sign over in white and he did so. He has now painted an oval figure on a black ground on the side of the mutual wall beside the petitioner's door. The petitioner intends erecting a railing.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 September 1789 (no warrant, process continued).

PETITION LODGED: 23 September 1789.

PETITIONER: George Walker, drawing master.

SITE: South Bridge Street, west side, second story.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about obstruction of the passage.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Gourlay, haberdasher, who owns the shop below. He has erected 'standards & slyders' in the passage.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 October 1789 (no warrant, visit appointed).

PETITION LODGED: On or before 22 October 1789.

PETITIONER: Mrs. James Knox.

SITE: Lady Stairs Close and upper Baxter's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint relates to a burnt out tenement that belonged to Mr. Espie, distiller. A stair and 3 or 4 stories remain but the area is frequented by 'whores, thieves, filth and every sort of nastiness',

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/21\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1789.

PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1789.

PETITIONER: William Fraser, spirit dealer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: East of general Register house.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against Messrs. Hay and Baxter, builders who are erecting a building immediately to the east of the petitioner's property and 'darkening his windows'. The tavern is presently occupied by James Duguid, vintner. The work was stopped on 2 November but the parties reached an agreement. There is a letter here to this effect from Robert Inglis dated 12 November 1789,

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/22\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 December 1789 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1789.

PETITIONER: The Lord Provost, Thomas Elder, Baillies and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: St Mary's Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Learmonth senior and junior, tanners who own the property. It is bounded on the west by the Town wall, on the south by a stable belonging to the Learmonth's and on the north by Anderson's land belonging jointly to the Learmonth's and Alexander McIntyre, tailor. In replies the Learmonth's state that they applied for permission to rebuild the tenement at the end of 1777 or the beginning of 1778 but had mislaid the warrant. The PF accepts their argument but notes that he does not know of any such application.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/23\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1789 (no warrant, defender did not appear).

PETITION LODGED: 3 December 1789.

PETITIONER: John Neall, merchant.

SITE: Stonelaws (Stevenlaws) Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Tod (mason?) who is building a wall between the petitioner's property and the Merchant's Hall. The work was stopped on 3 December.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/24\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1789 (appointment for a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 4 May 1789.

PETITIONER: James Dallas, WS, George Rae, candlemaker, Robert Aitcheson, watchmaker, Thomas Morgan, watchmaker, John Paterson, tailor, William Spence, hairdresser, James Walker, merchant and (blank) Chisholm, engraver

SITE: Bells Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about rebuilding of the tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is about rebuilding Brown's land on the east of the petitioner's tenement on a warrant granted 14 May 1788 (Murray) because it encroaches on their property. The matter was agreed between the parties on 11 June 1789 and the warrant was reinstated. However, the Procurator Fiscal petitioned the Court on 8 December 1789, stating that the parties were deviating from the agreed plan and that this would have the effect of narrowing the entry to Bells Wynd.

DRAWINGS: See petition of 14 May 1788.

---

BOX: 1789/25\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 December 1789 (no warrant, answers allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 10 December 1789.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Maitland of Soutra.

SITE: George Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a masons shade.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Calder, mason, who has built a shade on the petitioner's south garden wall, shaded with an area behind a tenement in Frederick Street. He has finished building and refuses to say when he will remove the shade.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1789/26\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 December 1789 (no warrant, work stopped and visit appointed).

PETITION LODGED: 12 November 1789.

PETITIONER: The City Treasurer, Robert Young and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, the Rope Ground, between the north pier and the Citadel.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about carriage of stones and lime.

NOTES: The complaint is against Captain Robert Liddle, shipmaster and James Thomson, mason who have been driving carriages loaded with stones and lime through the Town's property to a building site, causing damage to the road surface and making it impassable. John Syme, carpenter in North Leith has the lease on the Town's area for the purposes of shipbuilding. Refers to an application to the Court some time ago by Robert Liddle, James Ramsay, slater and others.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1790

The Court Officers from 16 October 1789:

### Dean of Guild

Donald Smith

### Council

James Gordon, Old Dean of Guild

James Carfrae, merchant

Thomas Hutchison, merchant

John Young, glazier

James Ranken, wright

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

---

BOX: 1790/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 18 February 1790.

PETITIONER: John McIntyre, tenant in Latterwallone, in the parish of Ardhattan and county of Argyll, factor loco tutoris to Hugh McIntyre, son of Daniel McIntyre, later merchant, the petitioner's brother German.

SITE: Bell's Wynd, head of, Browns land. A shop and cellar.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences.

NOTES: Appointed factor to his nephew, 30 November 1782. Shop and cellar described in a disposition dated 14 April 1780. In a tenement belonging to William Whitehead. Tenement ordered to be demolished 6 December 1788. Rebuilt by William Jamieson, mason and William Wright, master builder and wright who also did the plaster work, locks, glass etc. Estimates enclosed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1790.

PETITIONER: William Thorburn, merchant.

SITE: Leith, corner of Laurie street and Kirkgate.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement,

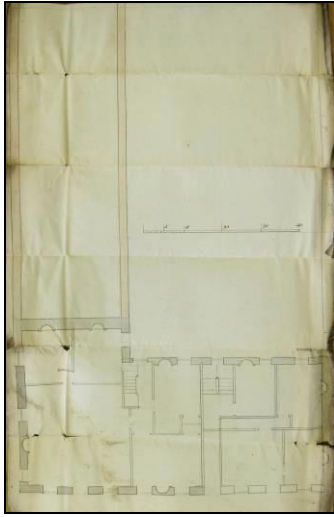
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a 4 story, 9 bay tenement.

Size: 23.5 x 32.5 cms.





Description: b. Plan of ground floor.43.0 x 27.6 cms.  
Size: 43.4 x 27.8 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 March 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1790.

PETITIONER: Alexander Dundas, coach wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, head of Lochend's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences.

NOTES: Refers to warrant dated 8 May 1776 to demolish and re-build. The property was rebuilt by Whitsunday 1777. The petitioner was proprietor of part of ground floor. Includes measurement and account by James Ramsay.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1790.

PETITIONER: James Jollie, WS and the Procurator Fiscal against the Ladies of Traquair and others.

SITE: Canongate, south side head, Inglis's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimneys.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1790.

PETITIONER: Andrew Steele WS and Alexander Wilson, plumber in Edinburgh.

SITE: Cowgate, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about flooding from above.

NOTES: Wilson is Steele's tenant in a flat below John Mack, writer, a tenant of James Arret, surgeon. Mack and his family are accused of being careless in allowing dirty water to penetrate into the bedroom below Mack's kitchen.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 2 October 1787.

PETITIONER: Misses Margaret and Helen Halliburton, Adam Maitland, advocate and John Watson, writer.

SITE: George Street, tenement adjoining the Assembly hall on the east.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Pitcairn, clerk in His Majesty's Printing Office who owns the flat below. He has knocked out a new doorway for a shop and 'to

disfigure the first street in the world' with two bow windows, he has altered the front wall by removing stone pillars. In replies, Pitcairn notes that he purchased the first and second floors (ground and shop floor) from John Brough, wright and Andrew Neil, builder in January (1787). At that time the mason work was finished, most of the partitions up and some parts of the roof and walls plastered. The other parts were to be completed according to a bargain agreed and the keys delivered by 15 May 1787. Mr. Butterworth, teacher and Mr. Watson, writer 'who make a trade of buying and selling houses' purchased the two flats above Pitcairn from the same builders. They sold them to the petitioners, who made considerable internal alterations to the partitions. This is a long process with 22 numbered papers including further information and responses from the builders. Pitcairn paid £500 Stg. deposit. A warrant was granted on 3 January 1788 ordering Pitcairn to return the building to its precious condition. Report here from Alexander Laing and Robert Burn dated 14 September 1789 on the safety of the work. The matter went to the Court of Session. The warrant here granted expences to the petitioners and fined the two builders £40 Scots.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 33.5 x 19.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1789.

PETITIONER: Charles Stewart, Boxmaster to the Society of Waterbearers in Edinburgh.

SITE: Stonelaw's Close, foot, Bruce's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without a warrant.

NOTES: Tenement belongs to Robert Bruce slater in Edinburgh. He has begun building a shade above the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1790.

PETITIONER: John Dick, writer.

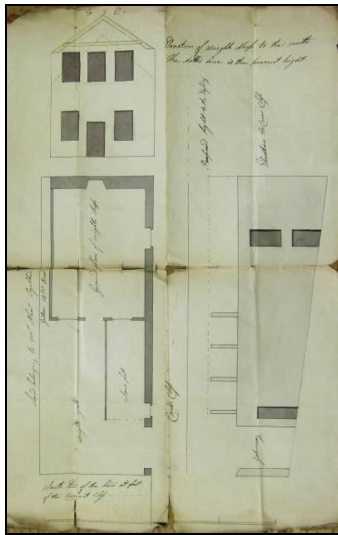
SITE: Covenant Close, to south of tenement at foot of close, on corner with Cones close.

PROPOSAL: To raise the upper floor.

NOTES: He is proprietor of a garden and wrights shop 'with the posts & wooden works fixed thereon, lying on the south side of that great tenement' at the foot of the close.

Plan shows a sawpit. Reference to a disposition by John Hamilton.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan elevation and section of roof.  
 Size: 44.5 x 29.0 cms.  
 Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman.

BOX: 1790/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1790.

PETITIONER: George Rae, candlemaker.

SITE: Canongate, head of New Street, west side. Formerly Barrowman's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of repair.

NOTES: Refers to warrant of 18 June last. Measure and account by James Ramsay and William Wright (wright) ordained measurers. Includes 292 ft. of 'droved Craigleith stone in Pillars. Arches &c. in front'... 88ft of 'lineal of plaster cornice with brackets & two enrichments'... 57ft 4in of 'mahogany sash windows with crown glass' .... 72ft 4in of 'Fir sash windows with crown glass'... 90ft 'lineal of mahogany cope on dado lining and borders of hearths 2 inch broad'... 'To marble jambs & lintel with enriched mouldings incl. chimney piece in Mr. Smitton's principal room'

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1790/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1790.

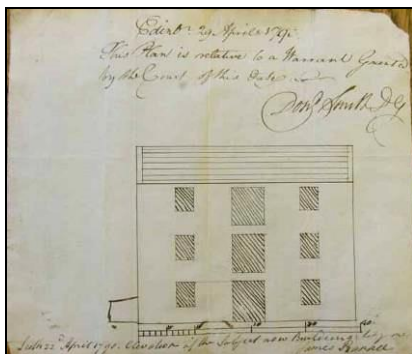
PETITIONER: James Rannie senior, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Rottenrow.

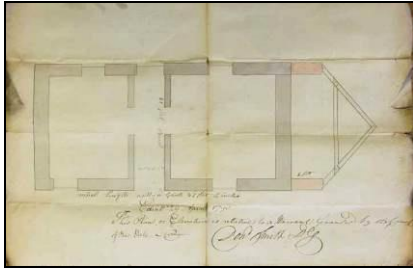
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a warehouse.

NOTES: See warrants granted 21 July 1785 and the cognosed accounts for the work here by James Thomson, builder in Leith, 13 November 1806 (Rannie and others).

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a three story warehouse.  
 Size: 20.4 x 23.5 cms.



Description: b. Ground plan, with a section of the roof.  
Size: 43.2 x 28.2 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1790.

PETITIONER: Archibald Campbell of Succoth and others, heritors.

SITE: High Street, (St?) James back court.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to timber railing down to sunk floor and replacement in iron.

NOTES: List of those summoned includes Capt. James Hamilton of Broomhill.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 June 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 18 May 1790.

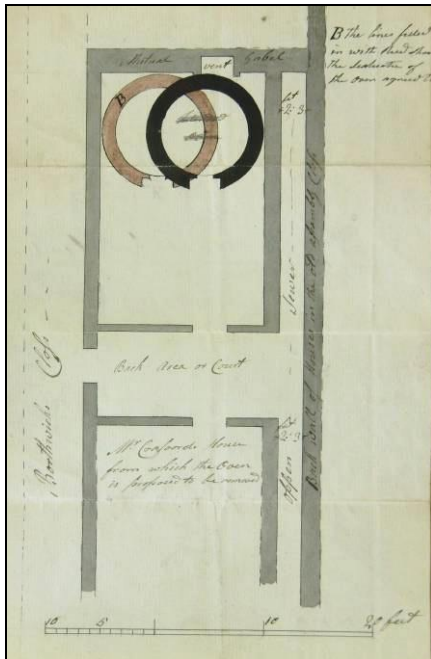
PETITIONER: William Ranken late dyer and John Crawford, baker, tacksman.

SITE: Borthwick's Close, foot, west side.

PROPOSAL: To alter an oven.

NOTES: Drawing shows an open sewer between the back wall of houses in Assembly Close and the bakery in Borthwick's Close.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of area.  
Size: 26.3 x 17.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1790.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright, Dr. Glassford and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: No.'s 3 and 4 Shakespeare Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an oven.

NOTES: The first complaint was made by the procurator Fiscal on 28 May 1790 but the defender ignored the interdict. The complaint is against William Dowie, baker who has built an oven in the ground floor of No. 3 Shakespeare Square without a warrant. Ordered to remove the oven and pay a fine of 5s Stg.  
Drawings: None.

---

BOX: 1790/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 June 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1790.

PETITIONER: Robert Whitehead, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, New Street.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted to the petitioner dated 6 February 1770 to build a tenement on an area at the foot of New Street on land purchased from Dr. Thomas Young. Whitehead had a contract with Mrs. Mary Nairn, relict of Capt. Fras. Rolland, late of Col. Coutts Regiment, to build the tenement and she insists that he have the expence cognosed. Accounts and measurement of the work by Robert Weir included.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 June 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1790.

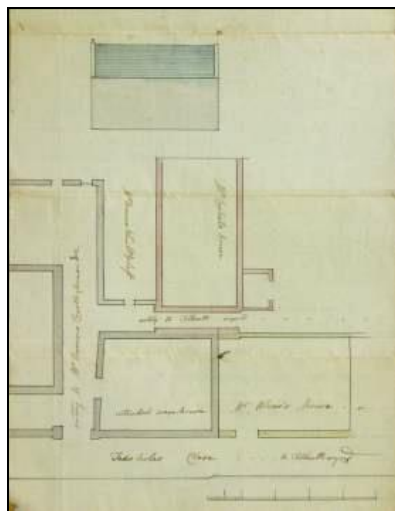
PETITIONER: George Brown factor for the heirs of the deceased Henry Balfour, merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Tods Hole Close.

PROPOSAL: Converting two laigh houses into a warehouse.

NOTES: Noted on front of of petition as 'Major Balfour'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation.

Size: 24.8 x 18.9 cms.

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BOX: 1790/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1790.

PETITIONER: George Cheap, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith (corner of Queen Charlotte street and Constitution street)

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: He states that he wishes to build on the south east corner of his garden.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the east front.

Size: 26.5 x 23.0 cms.

Watermark: Curteis & Sons

Architect: (Robert Kay?)

BOX: 1790/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 July 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1790.

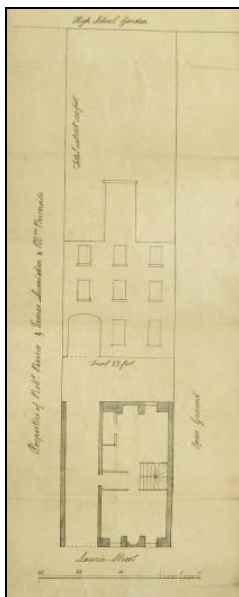
PETITIONER: James Dow, barber in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Laurie Street, north side, extending back to the High School dyke.

PROPOSAL: To build a house fronting Laurie street.

NOTES: Includes a letter from William Sibbald to the Dean of Guild. 'Having examined the ground on the north side of Laurie Street on which Mr. Dow intends to build a house, did find that it does not interfere with the new road proposed, being only twenty seven feet in front, after which there remains about the same space to the west side of the road.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of 3 story house with entry on west.

Size: 52.2 x 19.2 cms.

BOX: 1790/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 July 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1790.

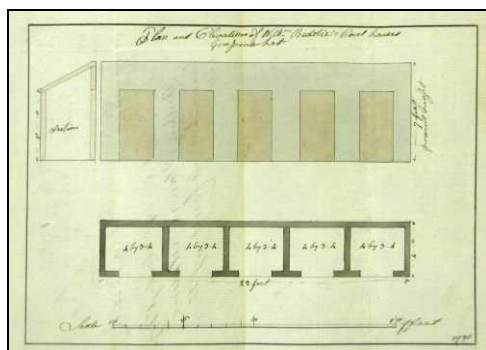
PETITIONER: Robert Finlay, tacksman of the Greenmarket in Edinburgh. Follow up petition by William Beddie & spouse, 21 July 1790.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, Plainstones Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building without warrant.

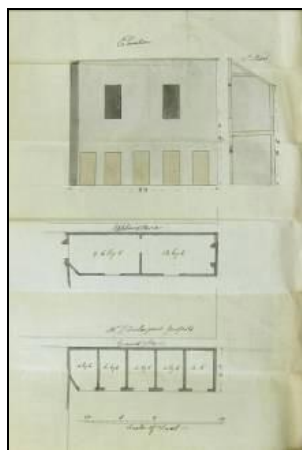
NOTES: Complaint is against William (changed from John) Beddie, day labourer (coalgrieve) in Duddingston, proprietor of the contiguous property. He was asked to provide a plan and elevation of his intended building on 19 July. Reference to a warrant granted to William Wallace, William Beddie's father in law, dated 8 February 1787 to build a tenement on the same land.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan, elevation and section of single story coal cellars.

Size: 16.6 x 23.5 cms.



Description: b. Plan, elevation and section of coal cellars with additional floor above.

Size: 32.5 x 21.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 July 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 7 July 1790.

PETITIONER: William Lamb, upholsterer.

SITE: High Street, north side, Grays Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about right of access through a passage.

NOTES: Complaint against his neighbour in the flat above, Sir Stewart Thrieland who refuses to let the sooty men use the passage through the back part of his house. Sir Stewart replied that he had closed off the entry because he found boys using it to gain access to his roof to steal the lead. Court decided Lamb could use the entry if he gave Sir Stewart 24 hours notice of his intentions.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 August 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1790.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hay, surgeon.

SITE: Blair Street, west side or Stevenlaw's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Petitioner is proprietor of an old tenement which he proposes to demolish and build new tenements on this site and other stances in Blair street, purchased from the Trustees for the South Bridge.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 August 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 21 August 1788.

PETITIONER: Robert Cairns, Register General of Tobacco in Scotland.

SITE: Leith, King Street.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of building.

NOTES: Refers to warrant dated 26 October 1786 to build on this site. The house and stables built by Messrs. Jamieson and Ponton.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1786.

PETITIONER: John, Lord Swinton, Senator of the College of Justice, Alexander Gibson, wright of Clifton Hall, John Halliburton, Patrick Bryden and Mungo Campbell, Esquires; Charles Butter architect, Robert Donaldson, John Russell jun. and Charles Innes, Writers to the Signet, George Andrew, writer and John Elder, baker.

SITE: Princes Street, between Hanover Street and Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: Paving and drains.

NOTES: The petitioners had decided to causeway the meuse lane behind their houses. They reached a bargain with Daniel Lamb, wright to create a drain along the lane leading under his tenement on the east side of Frederick Street. They also employed Alexander Ponton, architect to survey the meuse lane, make a plan and section of it and portion the expence of the causeway. Builders for the houses on the opposite side of the meuse lane have piled earth and rubbish in the lane. There are reports here from Alexander Ponton and James Gordon Superintendent of Public Works. This is a long process and the warrant refers to the date of the division of expences. This document is numbered 41 suggesting there are a number of papers missing.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1790.

PETITIONER: George Rae, candlemaker.

SITE: High Street, south side, Bell's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To build a cellar below the pavement,

NOTES: Refers to an earlier petition and provides a copy, dated May 1790. 'That in the intended alterations now about to be executed your petitioner's property will be almost annihilated entirely, by the new buildings being to be brought forward to the line of the (--?) lately erected by the Trustees for the South Bridge.'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 31 August 1790.

PETITIONER: Marjory Buchanan, lawful daughter of John Buchanan late stabler and spouse of Laurence Scotland, stabler with the Procurator Fiscal.



SITE: Grassmarket, north side, (Plainstones Close).

PROPOSAL: Complaint, building activity without a warrant.

NOTES: The petitioner owns sundry houses and haylofts and the tenement of Robert Findlay is immediately adjoining on the north. Findlay has employed John and William Aitcheson in striking out windows in the south gable. This includes Finlay's petition lodged on 8 September 1790 and a warrant of 21 October 1790 allowing him to put two windows in his east side wall.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 5 April 1790.

PETITIONER: James Thomson, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Willy Water's Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognose expences of rebuilding a gable.

NOTES: Refers to warrant of 17 July 1788 to rebuild. Thomson carried out the work with John Thomson, wright, John Crockat, slater with plaster by John Milne & Co in Edinburgh. There are accounts here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 29 September 1790.

PETITIONER: Sir William Forbes for James Hunter & Co, bankers.

SITE: Parliament Close and Post house stairs.

PROPOSAL: Shutting off the passage.

NOTES: He has recently purchased a tenement in the back stairs behind Mr. Hutton's shop, which was lately burnt down. Proposes to take down the tenement and rebuilt which will necessitate closing off the bottom of the old Post house stairs and the passage from Parliament Close to the stairs. Instructed to erect a railing.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1790/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 October 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 7 October 1790.

PETITIONER: David Paterson, insurance broker, James Marshall, WS, William Howieson, writer and others, proprietors.

SITE: Miln's Square, south west corner.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against proprietors of tenement at head of Bull's Close.

NOTES: Refers to the removal of the tenement in Bull's Close, to the west of the petitioner's tenement. The complaint is about a timber projection erected over part of Bull's Close with run off water falling into the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 17 September 1790.

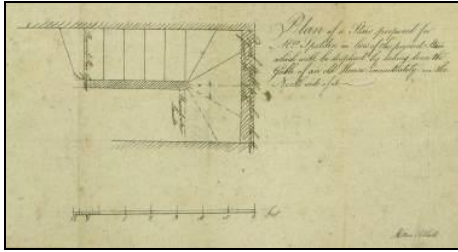
PETITIONER: James Spadin, grocer.

SITE: High Street, north side, at the head of Bull's Close.

PROPOSAL: Claiming damages for his shop,

NOTES: Petitioner had a 19 year lease from Patrick Crawford, now of Lauriston, of a shop and dwelling house at the head of Bull's Close. The dwelling house was sold to the Magistrates of Edinburgh by Mr. Crawford in April last. The Magistrates have since sold the materials of the said house and those above it to John Ritchie, slater in Edinburgh. Includes an earlier petition by the same, lodged on 20 August 1789, complaining of mason work by Mr. Pirnie, mason.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of stair within his shop.

Size: 14.8 x 27.5 cms.

Architect: Signed, William Sibbald.

---

BOX: 1790/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1790.

PETITIONER: Robert Kay, architect.

SITE: Blair Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the demolition of an old boundary wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neal, owner of the neighbouring tenement who is demolishing the old wall. Work stopped on 26 October 1790. The Court granted a warrant to allow the demolition to continue on condition that enough should remain to mark the boundaries. William Sibbald was asked to prepare a plan of the boundaries.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 November 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1790.

PETITIONER: Robert Young, treasurer to the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: Leith, Drawbridge.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade.

NOTES: The shade is to accommodate the Leith fish women who presently gather in an entry leading to the Drawbridge.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

#### Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/21)

BOX: 1790/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1790 (no warrant, plan and elevation requested).

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1790.

PETITIONER: Robert Playfair, writer.

SITE: Libbertons Wynd

PROPOSAL: To build a stable.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 March 1790 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 31 March 1790.

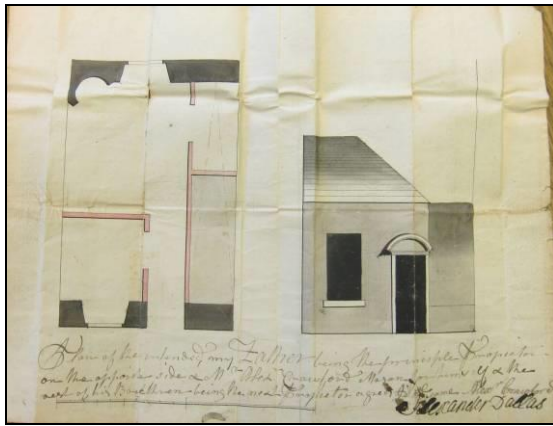
PETITIONER: Alexander Dallas, silk dyer.

SITE: Toddricks Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: To remove a stone well and build a dye house.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous warrant granted to James Ramsay, slater to move a stone well so that he could build a house. It was agreed to build it into the side wall of a dye house. This is now inconvenient and he wished to move it again. He states that the drawing was given in by the Journeymen masons, adjoining. The drawing is noted 'My father being the principal proprietor on the opposite side' and verso 'Sasine recorded in the Register of Sasines for the Burgh of Edinburgh, 7 Sept 1747'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 23.7 x 30.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1790/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 April 1790.

PETITION LODGED: 24 March 1790.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, head, Wilkie's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about digging up the street.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Kay, architect and Daniel Stewart, macer in the Court of Exchequer. By an interlocutor of 25 March 1790 the petitioners were told they had no right to build vaults or cellars in front or below the pavement but gave them permission to do so, with conditions. There is a note here dated 6 April 1790 from John Baxter, architect stating that he had seen the different elevations and provided a sketch as to how he considered the work should be done. See previous warrants granted 14 May 1789 (Keir) and (Neal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 April 1790 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1790.

PETITIONER: Andrew Bell, engraver.

SITE: Parliament Square, house occupied by the Cess office.

PROPOSAL: Request for an inspection.

NOTES: The request comes after a fire in the tenement behind that of the petitioner. He is conscious that important documents are stored in the office of Mr. George McQueen, Collector of Cess. The Court decided no damage had been sustained.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 June 1790 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1790.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Andrea Petrie, spouse of Thomas Potts, tenant in Oxnam and Thomas Potts, writer in Kelso, their factor.

SITE: Burnett's Close, foot, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a stagnant sewer.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Jamieson, mason, proprietor of the tenement on the east side of the Close. Jamieson complains that the problem is caused by the tenants of the petitioner whose windows were previously trellised but are now open and out of which they throw all their rubbish. He agrees to contribute to the expence of cleaning the sewer if they cover their windows again.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 October 1790 (no warrant, stop continued).

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1790.

PETITIONER: Robert Brown, WS and John Stewart of the Excise office.  
SITE: Queen Street, immediately west of corner house on Frederick Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a stable being built behind Frederick Street.  
NOTES: John Stewart owns the two upper floors of a house built by Robert Wright, mason in Queen Street. Wright also built and sold the house immediately above the corner house on Frederick Street to Dame Catherine Campbell, widow of Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglass and she is building a stable on her back ground that is encroaching on their light. The Court ordered the work to stop and the defenders did not appear in Court so the stop was continued.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 October 1790 (no warrant, request for an estimate).

PETITION LODGED: 16 September 1790.

PETITIONER: Agnes Hastie, widow of Thomas Hart, wright in North Leith.

SITE: North Leith, near the Bridge end.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to the tenement previously belonging to James Law of Hillhousefield and Mrs, Jean Foulis, his widow. This adjoined by a mutual gable, a tenement on the north, recently demolished by the Town Council to make way for the new intended road from the Drawbridge, lately erected over the harbour of Leith. She seeks to rebuild the mutual gable. See warrant granted 27 December 1781 (Heart)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1790/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 November 1790 (no warrant, replies allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 16 November 1790.

PETITIONER: The City Chamberlain, Hugh Buchan and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, new Quay, a tenement called Babylon.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The Town Council purchased the tenement from the heirs of George Home, Town Clerk of Leith. The cellar below belongs to James Paisley, merchant in Leith and his factor, Thomas Paisley, accountant in the Bank of Scotland. They or Samuel Alexander, barber in Leith or James Lumsden, wheelwright there, have broken through to the street without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX:1790/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED:23 December 1790 (no warrant, defenders called).

PETITION LODGED: 18 December 1790.

PETITIONER: Andrew Murray, wigmaker.

SITE: New Assembly Close, Brown's land, easter half, first flat above the shop floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about deviation from a plan.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Crichton, mason who has demolished Brown's land according to a warrant from the Court. But in rebuilding he is altering the mutual wall with another of the petitioner's properties on the east side of the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1791

The Court Officers from 13 October 1790:

**Dean of Guild**

Donald Smith

**Council**

William Trotter, Old Dean of Guild

Francis Sharp, merchant

Malcolm Wright, merchant

John Young, wright

James Ranken, wright

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

---

BOX: 1791/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 January 1791 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1790

PETITIONER: John Baxter, John Hay, Richard Thomson and John Reid, all builders in Leith Street.

SITE: Leith Walk Terrace.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Thomas Hill, wright.

NOTES: They state that they purchased various lots of land from the Trustees of the Register Office and by agreement with the Trustees, they built according to a plan and elevation made out by Robert Kay, architect and countersigned by George Home for the Trustees. As part of this design they had to build a terrace along the front of their properties. They complain that Thomas Hill is now building the terrace in front of his lot and he is deviating from the agreed drawings by not building to a sufficient height.

A note on the front of answers for Thomas Hill '11 Jany 1791, Borrowed by me Architect in Edinburgh the elevation of the houses on Leith Street signed by them Thos. Hill Mr George Home & others which I shall return in two or three days.... James Salisbury'. On a report by Messrs Sibbald and Kay a further note: 'Edin 29 July 179(1?) Borrd up the section of the foot pavement subscribed by the Dean of Guild... Arch Cameron.' On an interlocutor dated 6 January 1791 a further note: 'Edin 24 February 1796. Borrd the plan of Leith Street as delineated by Robert Kay, William Sibbald and Thos Stevenson... Rob Tennent'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 27 August 1788.

PETITIONER: James Laing, writer.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Carriber's Land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.

NOTES: The petitioner had a warrant of 17 July 1788 to repair the roof and the walls of the upper floor of Carriber's Land. Accounts enclosed from Andrew Neil, mason and plastering; Marshall & Armstrong, plumbers; Richard Cockburn, wright and Robert Dewar, glazier.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/3.

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1791 and 24 May 1792 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 18 January 1791.

PETITIONER: John Bonnar, painter and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate head, Halliburton's or Gillons Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dung heap.

NOTES: The complaint is against the tenants of Robert Charles Gibb who is in Jamaica and his factor, William Dallas WS. Dallas is factor for the heirs of (blank) Gibb, coach

master. The claim for expences was not pursued.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 February 1791.

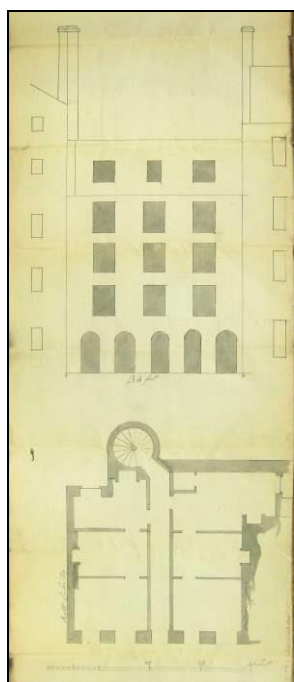
PETITION LODGED: 12 January 1791.

PETITIONER: Eaglesfield Griffith, presently residing in Edinburgh.

SITE: St Mary Wynd, east side. Bounded on the north by Hamilton's land, on the south by Watson's land and on the east by Hume's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild an old tenement.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the ground floor and elevation of a tenement of five floors.

Size: 48.5 x 20.4 cms.

Watermark: (W)hatman

---

BOX: 1791/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 16 July 1790.

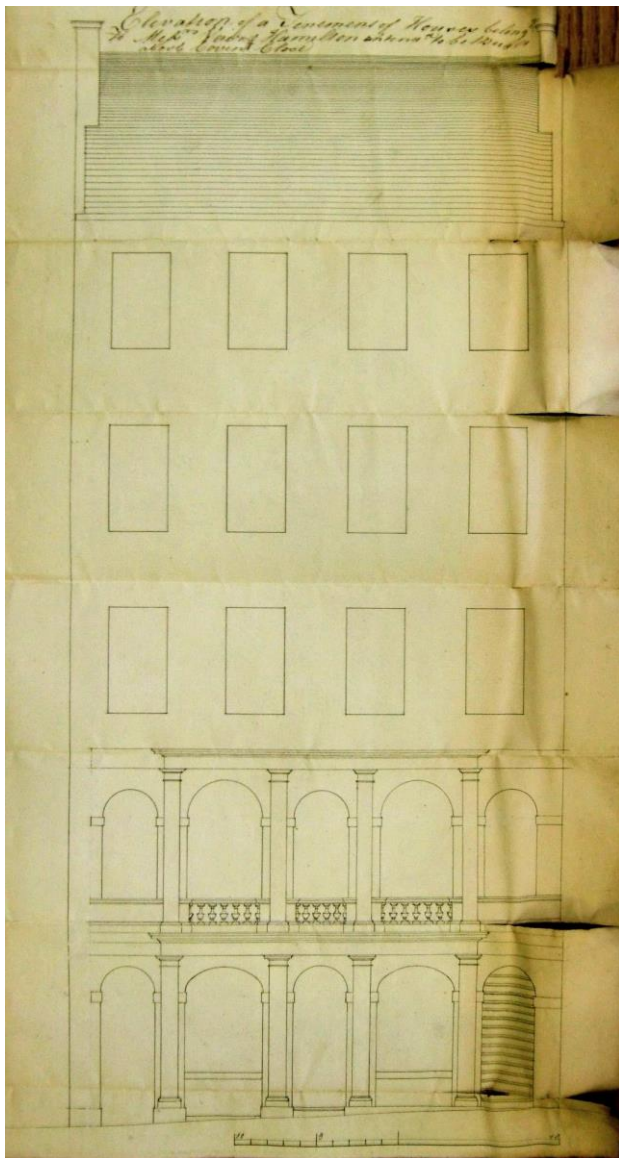
PETITIONER: William Vair, barber and wigmaker and Thomas Hamilton wright.

SITE: High Street, Covenant Close, west side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish the south gable and rebuild.

NOTES: William Vair owned the basement, shop floor and the floor above while Thomas Hamilton owned the three topmost floors. They applied to the Court on 15 December 1790 to rebuild and the expence of the repairs shared. James Veitch of Elliock, Senator of the College of Justice argued a case against as the owner of a shared gable. The warrant allowed the rebuilding and the expence to be a debt on the property. Lord Elliock to pay one third of the cost as he had no vents in the demolished gable. Account here from Arthur Gilles and James Herriot dated 10 July 1790 to carry out minor repairs to Lord Elliock's gable. See warrant granted 26 February 1766 (Vere or Vair) where the tenement is described as 'Hamilton's land'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation to the High Street.  
Size: 47.7 x 26.6 cms.

---

BOX: 1791/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 8 January 1791.

PETITIONER: William Watson, cabinet maker.

SITE: Parliament Close, entering by the President's Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences.

NOTES: Claim against George Cairncross, writer who owes the petitioner £10 9s 2¼d outstanding, as part of an account for wright work carried out in his garret flat in September 1785 amounting to £17 18s 2¼d

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 February 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 14 February 1791.

PETITIONER: Adam Stewart, writer.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To repair joists and flooring.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/8  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 January 1791.  
PETITIONER: James Ranken, merchant.  
SITE: Fowlis Close, head on the east side.  
PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: Ranken in proprietor of the fourth floor, William Wemyss WS acts for the proprietors of the upper floor, possessed by Robert Paterson, wright in Edinburgh.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/9  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1791.  
PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Candlemaker Row, adjoining Greyfriar's Churchyard wall.  
PROPOSAL: To remove a necessary house.  
NOTES: The necessary house was built without permission by Alexander Menzies, stabler, in the public street. It is now causing offence being 'directly opposite to all the front windows of a large tenement of land possessed by respectable inhabitants'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/10  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 April 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 12 April 1791.  
PETITIONER: James Cunningham, baker.  
SITE: Covenant Close, head.  
PROPOSAL: To rebuild vaults under the pavement.  
NOTES: There had been vaults opposite his property but 'by the taking down of the pavement, these vaults are now useless'. See petition below of 2 June 1791 (Brown). Cunningham refers to a similar petition by George Rae to do the same work.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/11  
WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1791.  
PETITIONER: Charles Brown of Coalstoun, advocate.  
SITE: Old Assembly Close, head.  
PROPOSAL: To lower the pavement and rebuild vaults.  
NOTES: The work is necessary 'to answer the new pavement lately made immediately to the east'. Work to be undertaken at the sight of Mr. William Sibbald, Superintendent of Public Works.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/12  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 April 1791.  
PETITIONER: Heritors of Bain's land, Blackfriars Wynd.  
SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, Bain's land.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.  
NOTES: Upper floor and garrets lately burnt. A jury was appointed and they declared the tenement to be unsafe.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/13  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 March 1791.  
PETITIONER: James Heriot, wright and others with the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Old Post Office Close, Allan's Close and Mary Kings Close.



PROPOSAL: Complaint against William Scott, smith and nailer.

NOTES: The petitioners are proprietors of houses, warehouses and shops and printing offices at the foot of the Closes mentioned. William Scott has begun building a foundry in the centre of their property, without a warrant. In his replies he states that he took a lease on a small house at the foot of Craig's Close from Elias Scott, plumber. He is building three small hearths for the manufacture of nails.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 May 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 12 May 1791.

PETITIONER: William Keith & Company

SITE: North Bridge.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: He has taken a lease of a shop from Baillie McDougald

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 May 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1791.

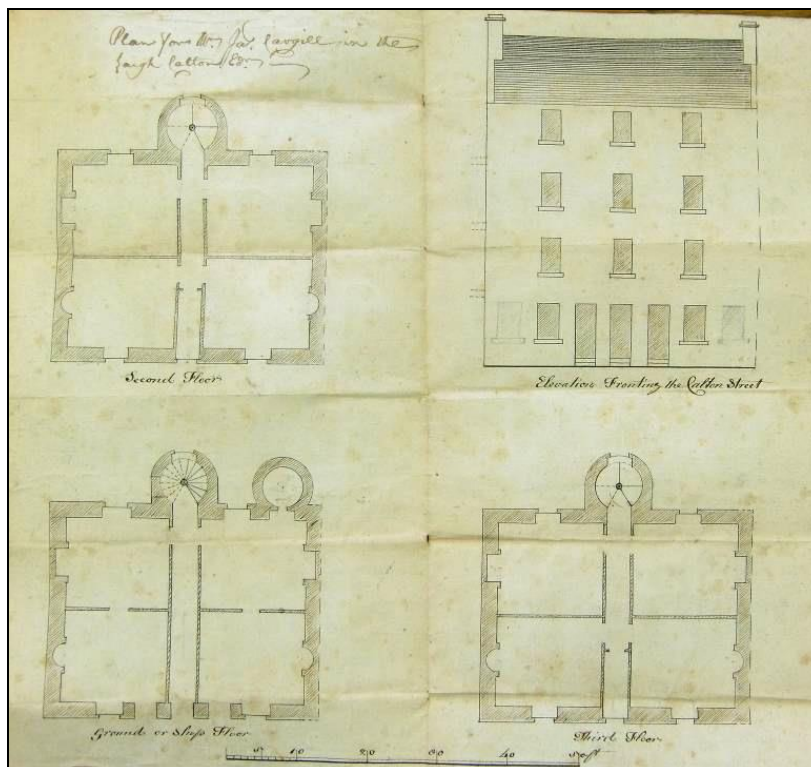
PETITIONER: James Cargill, merchant.

SITE: Low Calton... 'the second house from the foot of the Vennel that leads from the Low Calton to the back part of St. Ninian's Street'.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous house.

NOTES: Refers to the late William Montgomery, wigmaker who built a few years ago, a large tenement on the south side of 'St Ninian's or Leith Street' adjoining the petitioner's property. He put windows in his east gable from which the inhabitants throw out water and other nuisances.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plans of three floors and an elevation to the Calton Street.

Size: 35.0 x 39.0 cms.

Architect: (Alexander Laing?)

---

BOX: 1791/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 23 May 1791.

PETITIONER: William Sibbald, Clerk of the King's Works of Edinburgh.

SITE: Rose Street, north side, between Hanover and Frederick Streets.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations to the roof, without warrant.

NOTES: Large windows had been inserted in the roof. The property was sold to the petitioner's spouse, Jean Henderson by Alexander Porteous, mason in Edinburgh on 25 February 1789. This was the third story and consisted of six fire rooms and a bed closet in a tenement built by Porteous. Bounded on the west by the meuse lane and on the east by a mutual gable with William Veitch, mason in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1791.

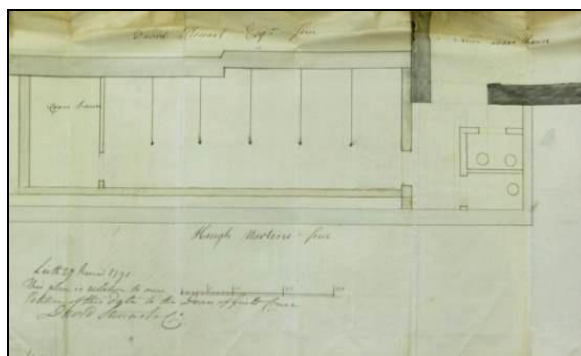
PETITION LODGED: 27 June 1791.

PETITIONER: David Steuart & Co., merchants in Leith.

SITE: St Andrews Street, Leith.

PROPOSAL: To build a stable and hay loft on the west side of their property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the stables.

Size: 23.5 x 37.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1791/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1791.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge.

PROPOSAL: To lower the pavement.

NOTES: Refers to the levelling of North Bridge which began at the north end and is now opposite the private houses on the Bridge. John Tait, WS insists the work will destroy his entrance. Alexander Reid, mason was appointed to carry out the work and Tait to be liable for the expence. List of heritors of North Bridge here. See warrant granted 21 June 1792 (Procurator Fiscal) for accounts and division of expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 July 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 21 July 1791.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Close leading to the Royal Bank.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mitchell Young, painter whose sign reduces the light in the Close. He was ordered to take it down or have it removed at his expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1791 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1791.

PETITIONER: Alexander Ferguson, silk dyer and Walter Ferguson, candlemaker with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Fishers Close, foot

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of a timber shelter.

NOTES: Complaint against John Colston, late merchant in Edinburgh and his spouse, Isobel Howieson (daughter of Charles Howieson, cabinet maker) along with John Thomson and John Gow, journeymen wrights. They removed the shelter in the night.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1791.

PETITIONER: Alexander Laidlaw, tinplate worker.

SITE: North Bridge, east side.

PROPOSAL: To alter the level of his shop front.

NOTES: He owns a high and low shop.

DRAWINGS: Plan mentioned but not here. Note on petition states that it was borrowed on 16 August 1791 and would be 'returned upon demand'.

---

BOX: 1791/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1791.

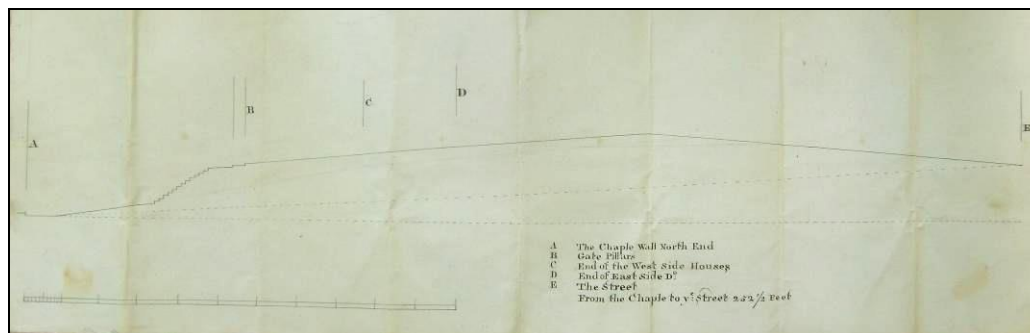
PETITION LODGED: 16 August 1791.

PETITIONER: The Vestry of the New Episcopal Chapel: Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo for himself and the other gentlemen.

SITE: Fountain Close.

PROPOSAL: To make alterations to the pavement and steps in the Close.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Section of the Close from the Chapel to the High Street.

Size: 19.0 x 57.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1791/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 27 July 1791.

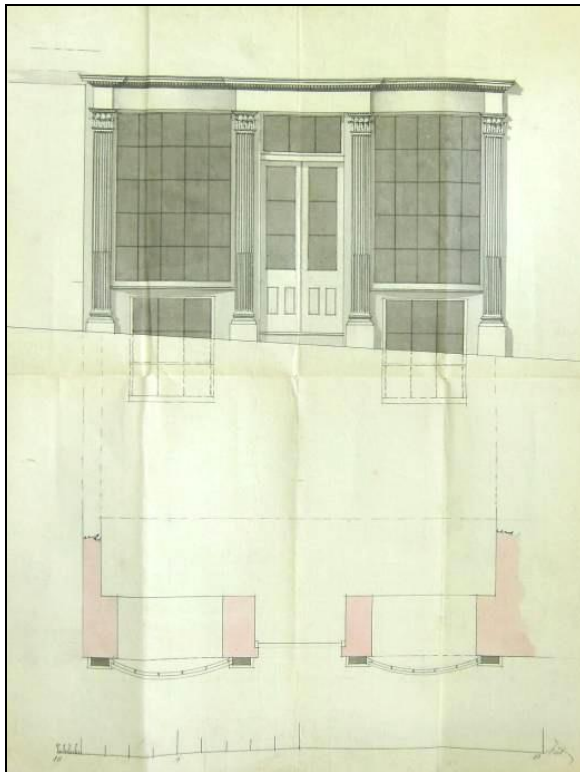
PETITIONER: John White, merchant.

SITE: High Street, opposite the Tron Kirk.

PROPOSAL: To lower floors and build a new shop front.

NOTES: The petitioner is affected by the lowering of the High Street when he had several additional steps added to his shop.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation of shop front with a plan of the front wall.  
Size: 42.0 x 31.3 cms.

---

BOX: 1791/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 August 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1791.

PETITIONER: Henry Jeffray, merchant in Sterling.

SITE: High Street, head of the Netherbow,

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Loch and Graham who delay repairing the roof.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the ground floor and the floor above. The ground floor (is shared with?) Mrs. Simson, rousing woman (organises rousps or sales) and the floor above him by William Cuthbertson, saddler; the third floor belongs to Mr. James Lock, WS, the top floor to James Graham, messenger in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 August 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 23 June 1791.

PETITIONER: William Caddel of Carron park, Thomas Eddington, iron manufacturer in Cramond, Capt. John Douglas, late of ye Marines, son of the deceased Mr Lewis Douglas of Garvalt (Garvald), John Biggar, linen manufacturer, James Thomson, and George Andrew, writer, Trust disponees of James Anderson, late merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, south side near the foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Crockat, slater in Leith.

NOTES: The property is owned by the late James Anderson and is presently possessed by Robert Brunton, merchant in Leith and others as tenants. Refers to the lowering of Tolbooth Wynd from about the middle down to the harbour in Spring or Summer 1790. Crockat removed earth from beneath his adjoining tenement on the west and has caused subsidence. Report from Robert Burn, architect who carried out remedial work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 24 August 1791.

PETITIONER: George Jeffrey, writer and other heritors.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, head and east side of Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild their east gable wall.

NOTES: The gable had been damaged as the result of a recent fire and they had applied to the Town Council to rebuild it, the expence to be shared with the Council. The Council did not think it proper to rebuilt their part but gave permission for it to be taken down and rebuilt according to a plan and elevation produced. Enclosed is a brief report dated 16 August 1791 by David Milne and Alexander Reid for a committee who saw a plan and elevation by Alexander Ponton and agree to the gable being increased in thickness. Note on front of petition states that the plan had been borrowed.

DRAWINGS: None here.

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BOX: 1791/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 11 August 1791.

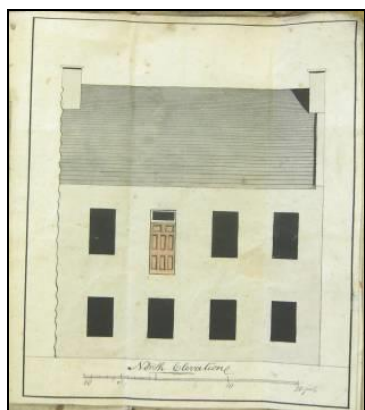
PETITIONER: Walter Hog, manager and for the British Linen Company.

SITE: Tweeddale Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a lodging.

NOTES: Property recently purchased from the Marquess of Tweeddale and described as 'that large lodging and area adjacent thereto at the foot of Tweeddale close near the Nether bow. That the said Company found it necessary to take down part of said lodging fronting the New Chapel area on the south and Fountain close on the west...'

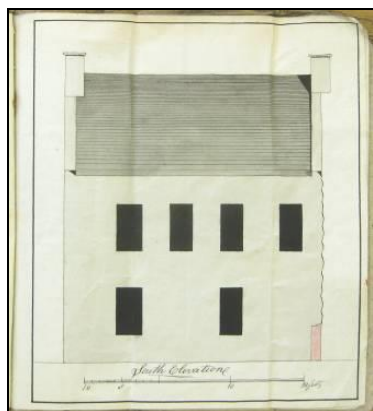
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets, bound and stitched.



Description: North elevation of a two story house.

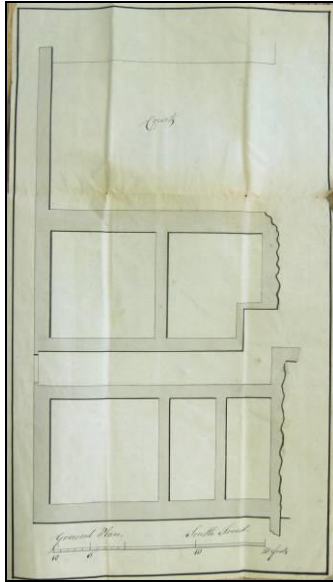
Size: 20.5 x 18.5 cms.

Watermark: R Williams (partial)



Description: South elevation.

Size: 20.5 x 18.5 cms.



Description: Ground plan.

Size: 31.0 x 18.5 cms.

Watermark: I.V G

Architect: (Alexander Ponton, in view of petition of 29 September 1791?)

---

BOX: 1791/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1780.

PETITIONER: James Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Todricks Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences for paving the Wynd.

NOTES: Refers to a petition of 15 March 1769 by the heritors of Todricks Wynd to re-pave and improve it. At that time the Court agreed that the Wynd should be paved with square causeway stones and that an office (or outhouse) belonging to John Moubray, one of the proprietors, was a nuisance. Ramsay carried out the work at a cost of £102 3s 11d stg. He only managed to claim 6 guineas, mainly because the papers were mislaid until now. The papers include Ramsay's account between February and October 1769. The gutter stones came from Craigleith and four carts of causeway stones came from 'Salisbury'. Mr Sinclair, Mr Jamieson and Mr Tait were also paid for stone. Also included is a carter's account book from 1769 -1771. This lists many journeys not associated with the petition including building materials delivered to Lord Panmuir (Panmure), to Powderhall, to Viewfrith (including mahogany and pavement from Hailes), to Beaverhall etc. This is a very long process.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 27 September 1791.

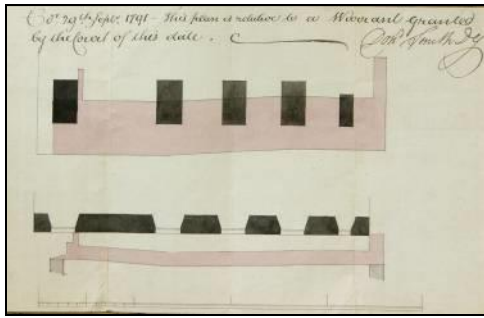
PETITIONER: Walter Hog, manager and for the British Linen Company.

SITE: Fountain Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild a parapet wall with railings.

NOTES: Property - 'several houses and an area' at the foot of Tweeddale Close, fronting part of the new Chapel area, recently purchased from the Marquess of Tweeddale.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan and partial elevation.

Inscriptions, verso: Long description of the height of the wall in relation to windows in adjoining property. Signed by Alexander Ponton.

Size: 16.2 x 27.3 cms.

Architect: (Alexander Ponton?)

---

BOX: 1791/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 5 September 1791.

PETITIONER: John Spence, painter, Alexander Smith, baker, John Gray, WS with the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer behind their houses that is blocked.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1791.

PETITIONER: John Paterson, tailor, James Spence, hairdresser, Thomas Morgan, watch maker, William Scot, solicitor, factor for Robert Gibson, and others

SITE: High Street, the Clam Shell tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Ramsay, slater.

NOTES: The proprietors had some time ago entered into discussions before taking down their tenement. Ramsay, who owned the small tenement behind, took issue with their actions. Messrs Baxter and Kay, architects and William Wright, wright were consulted as arbiters and it was agreed, 25 June last, to provide steps to Ramsay's property.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1791/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 September 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 15 September 1791.

PETITIONER: Peter Forrester and William Turnbull, merchants.

SITE: Craigs Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations to an external stair.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Creech, bookseller and Messrs. Anderson, Leslie & Co, seed merchants who have begun modifying the external stair without a warrant. In his defence lodged on 5 October and ignored by the Court, William Creech states that he had a verbal agreement to the work from the Dean of Guild's predecessor. The defenders were fined £12 12s Scots plus 17s expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 October 1791 (dismissed)

PETITION LODGED: 29 September 1791.

PETITIONER: William McIntosh, late chair master, portioner of Rubbish Hill, part of the lands of Calton.

SITE: Calton.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Kerson or Kesson, cart wright.

NOTES: '...petitioner is proprietor of a piece of ground 20 yds sq., part of the lands of Calton lying immediately to the north of the gable of the house possessed by the late George Mackie, vintner, feued by the Magistrates of Edinburgh to John Bennet, wright, from whom the petitioner purchased the same with the dwelling house and others built thereon about eleven years ago...'. His complaint was dismissed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 October 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1791.

PETITIONER: Thomas Sheriff, glazier in Leith, son of deceased John Sheriff, slater in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Watson, merchant in Leith.

NOTES: Sheriff held a lease from Maurice Trent and Watson had begun to slap out windows in the cellar below his property, without a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/35

WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant.

PETITION LODGED: 20 October 1791.

PETITIONER: Miss Mary Brown, daughter of deceased John Brown, farmer at Salton, John Miller, advocate and Robert Brown, WS.

SITE: North Castle Street, west side, facing Queen Street

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Edmund Butterworth.

NOTES: Petitioners had purchased three dwelling houses some time ago, in a tenement presently erecting by Mr. Butterworth, being the whole of the tenement except the upper floor and garret. 'That your petitioners made these purchases on the faith and in the belief that the appearance and elevation of the said tenement both to Castle Street and Queen Street, especially to Castle Street from which the entry to the two principal houses are made, would be uniform and regular and similar to the fronts of other corner houses in Queen Street. Your petitioner is however informed that some weeks ago it appeared to some of your Honours that Mr. Butterworth had carried the front of the tenement to Queen Street to a greater height than was consistent with the regulations of the Town, and this produced an application for having the height reduced and your Honours will remember Mr. Butterworth was ordained to bring down the front of the said house on Queen Street to an equal height with the house immediately adjoining to it on the west...' There is no warrant here although it is listed in the Dean of Guild Index on 20 October 1791. Edmund Butterworth was a writing master from Dumfries who lived in Edinburgh from 1786. He became a builder and was responsible for parts of Charlotte Square to the designs of Robert Adam. He died in 1814 a few days after his wife, Ann Wylie. He lived in George Street from 1790, possibly at No 18 and may have shared No 36 with his son George from 1808. The corner house was owned by Aeneas McBean in the early 19th century and the upper floor occupied by High William Williams, the watercolour painter.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



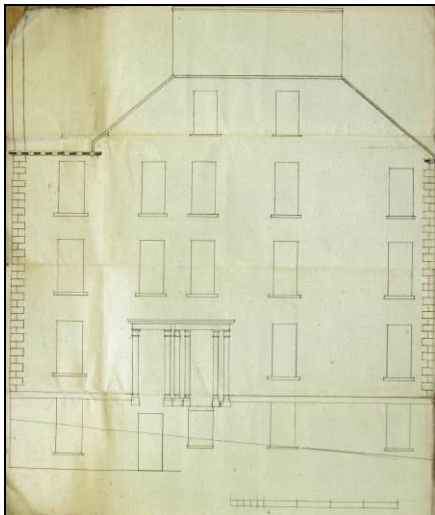


Description: Elevation of three tenements in Queen Street.

Size: 25.5 x 43.1 cms.

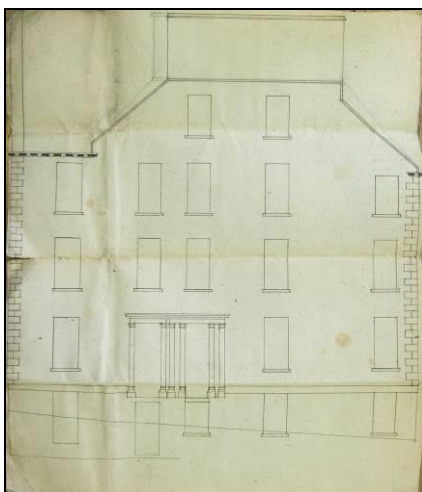
Inscriptions, recto: Robert Inglis for Messrs. Butterworth and Wille (Wylie, verso) The west most house is noted 'Lord Rockville's house'.

Architect: (Edmund Butterworth?)



Description: Elevation to Castle Street, with a scale.

Size: 31.0 x 26.5 cms.



Description: Elevation to Castle Street, with pencil alterations to the roofline.

Size: 31.0 x 26.5 cms.

BOX: 1791/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1791.

PETITIONER: John McIntyre, farmer at Millhill, factor appointed by the Court of Session to Hugh McIntyre, son of Daniel McIntyre, sometime merchant.

SITE: High Street, Brouns (Browns) Land.

PROPOSAL: To construct a drain through the house and down new Assembly Close, to join with a sewer at the east end of the Guard House.

NOTES: The tenement in which High McIntyre owned the under story had recently been taken down and rebuilt but his property was uninhabitable due to flooding. The water came from the 'fire cock or well' at the head of new Assembly Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 November 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 13 October 1791.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Eleanora Robson alias Wilson alias Sheill, relict of the deceased David Wilson, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north back.

PROPOSAL: Repair an old malt barn and associated brewery buildings destroyed by burning.

NOTES: Refers to a disposition dated 3 April 1769, registered in the Court books of Edinburgh 15 November 1780 in which David Wilson disposed to Eleanora Wilson alias Brown, the petitioner's daughter, all of his garden on the north side of the Canongate and a malt barn and other buildings. The work is to be carried out by Andrew Ramsay, slater in Edinburgh and Michael Nasmith, whose estimate is here and Mr Ramsay is to take possession and claim rent. This area is surrounded by gardens some described as flower gardens, with a detailed note of the previous owners including gardeners William Wood, James Somervell, James Lauder. The brewery is said to have been built by Elizabeth Park, alias Boutcher, relict of William Boutcher of Comely garden

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1791.

PETITIONER: Miss James Ann McDowell of Canonmills and Thomas Walker Baird, writer, her factor loco tutoris, appointed by the Court of Session.

SITE: West Port, immediately without on the south side of the High Street thereof.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous roof and upper floors.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the ground floor of the tenement and the floor above. The upper floors owned by the deceased Allan Grant, shoemaker in Portsburgh and his children, Thomas Grant, ginger bread baker in Portsburgh and Margaret Grant, spouse to John Carstairs residing in the Canongate.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 28 October 1791.

PETITIONER: John Hardie, merchant.

SITE: Horse Wynd, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked drain.

NOTES: The petitioner owned two houses at the head of the Wynd. The tenement to the south is owned by --? -- Nisbet, weaver in Edinburgh and his drain is blocked.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/40  
WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1791.  
PETITION LODGED: 20 September 1791.  
PETITIONER: John Balfour, bookseller, John Home, WS, and George Leslie, treasurer to George Heriot's Hospital.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, south side, Fisher's land.  
PROPOSAL: Repairs to the chimney vents.  
NOTES: Alexander Laing, architect and builder will carry out the work. His letter is also signed by Andrew Balfour, advocate.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/41  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 December 1791 (Interlocutor preventing further work)  
PETITION LODGED: 20 December 1791.  
PETITIONER: John Hay, builder.  
SITE: North Castle Street, west side, corner with Queen Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about an encroachment.  
NOTES: Complaint is against Edmund Butterworth, writing master in Edinburgh, proprietor of the tenement immediately to the north.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/22)**

BOX: 1791/1\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 13 January 1791 (no warrant, appointed a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 11 January 1791.  
PETITIONER: James Campbell, merchant.  
SITE: West Bow, eastmost Close which leads to the Cowgate.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbouring garret.  
NOTES: The complaint is against John Kid, merchant whose garret is so insufficient in the roof that it is making the petitioner's garret uninhabitable for his tenant.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/2\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1791 (no warrant but work to be demolished)  
PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1791.  
PETITIONER: James Marshall, WS, John Spence, painter and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Milnes Square, east side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about height of building.  
NOTES: The complaint is against David Hay, builder for encroachment and William Sibbald, Overseer of the City's public works, for neglect of duty. Notes that one of the petitioners has complained to the Court of Session on a number of occasions about David Hay exceeding the height in his plans. Hay and Sibbald are building a vent that is not in accordance with their plan. In replies David Hay states that he purchased the lot of land in July last and in the autumn he sold the northmost shop to Messrs Tweedie & Carlier, merchants. He claims he produced an elevation, which he does again, but this does not give any indication of the plan he proposed. A note on the back of the petition states that the drawing was borrowed on 11 August 1791. Work was stopped on 25 February and on 27 January Hay was ordered to take down the vent.  
DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1791/3\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 27 January 1791 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1791.  
PETITIONER: Samuel Watson, merchant.  
SITE: Old Assembly Close, head on east side.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about lack of access.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Vair, barber and wigmaker and Thomas Hamilton (senior) wright who are currently rebuilding the tenement. Work stopped on 25 January 1791. The petitioner states that he is proprietor of the sunk floor and two floors above on the east side of the Close and that the entry to his uppermost floor was by a forestair between his property and that of Vair and Hamilton. He asks to have a new entry off the stair that they are building. Vair is proprietor of the ground floor, shop floor and the floor above (presumably sunk floor, shop floor and floor above). See warrant granted 10 February 1791 (Vair).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 February 1791 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1791.

PETITIONER: Robert Chalmers of Larbert.

SITE: Adam Square.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about stones and rubbish in front of his house.

NOTES: The complaint is against Andrew Irvine, mason, who is engaged in work nearby. The stones had been removed by 10 February 1791. There is an argument here about the serving of a summons to attend.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March 1791 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 9 March 1791.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Rose Street, between St. David's Street and Hanover Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the footpaths.

NOTES: '...the foot pavement is only three feet eight inches broad, which is too narrow for passengers. Notwithstanding of which, no fewer than four iron grates, before cellar windows have been placed upon the said pavement, some of which are about one foot six inches broad, which being deducted... leaves only two feet two inches of a footway...'. He orders to grates to be removed as they were placed there without a warrant and refers to specific examples: William Pirnie, mason and William Park and David Grub his journeymen - two grates for James Paterson, harness maker and John Marshall, mason and his apprentice, William McAllum - two grates for James Clark, glazier.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 March 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1791.

PETITIONER: John Wilson, stabler.

SITE: Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of light.

NOTES: The complaint is against Archibald Binnie, letter founder who is building a house to the south of the petitioner. Work stopped 23 March 1791 and the defender was asked to produce a plan of his intended building on 24th March. They met and came to an agreement and the stop was lifted on 25 March.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 March 1791 (no warrant, defenders to reply).

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1791.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Rose Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about width of pavement and illegal grates.

NOTES: This is the same complaint as above, 20 March 1791 the specific occupiers being: Edward Bannatyne, merchant, Alexander McIntyre, tailor, Peggy Bruce, (blank)

Macconochie, Miss Ogg, Mrs. Edie, John Mitchell, Miss Campbell, Alexander Brown, hairdresser, Mrs. Hamilton, Robert Sheriff, merchant in Leith, John Galloway, merchant now residing in Cannonmills, Miss Laurence, Bristo Street, James McGill, shoemaker in Potterrow and John Fraser, merchant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1791.

PETITIONER: Alexander Williamson, farmer at Fallside.

SITE: Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The petitioner was proprietor of part of the ground floor of the tenement recently demolished and rebuilt. In its former state it consisted of a shop and back room, lit by a window four ft. height, above the entry to the cellar below. The complaint is against John Brotherstone, upholsterer who occupies the cellar and who has built a stair higher than he should, cutting out the light. Mentions ground plans made out before the tenement was demolished by Alexander Ponton, measurer and William Wright, wright to ensure that such mistakes did not occur. Work stopped on 25 February 1791 and Ponton & Wright were asked to report on the 3 March. In their report they state that they cannot give an opinion as their remit was simply to measure the area and height of each person's property, without regard to windows or doors in the elevation. The Court decided on 24 March 1791 that the issue should be solved by going back to the elevation signed by the Dean of Guild on 24 (sic, 14) May 1789 for the rebuilding of the tenement. See warrant of 14 May 1789 (Keir). The matter rumbled on until 21 April 1791 when it was decided that the building had been erected according to the elevation submitted and Alexander Williamson's petition was refused. This decision was upheld after further processes, 21 May 1791.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but none here.

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BOX: 1791/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1791 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 May 1791.

PETITIONER: John Fergusson, coppersmith.

SITE: West Bow.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against (blank) Ramsay, printer in Canongate who have begun to remove stones from the front of the tenement. The replies come from Ramsay and Thomas Fergusson, coppersmith, the petitioner's brother. Work was stopped on 3 May 1791.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 11 May 1791.

PETITIONER: James Heriot, wright, John Eiston solicitor, David Willison, printer, James Cochran, printer, John Wood solicitor, Patrick Somervill, flax manufacturer, Colin McFarquhar, James Brown and James Ramsay, printers, David Stephens & William Peddie, trunkmakers and the Procurator Fiscal..

SITE: Allan's and Craig's Closes, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about erection of a foundry.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Scott, nail maker who states that he recently took a lease on a house at the foot of Craig's Close from Elias Scott, plumber. He built shades and three small hearths for heating the wire used in making nails. His yard is bounded on the east by a wright's shop and on the west by a lint manufactory belonging to Mr. Somervill. The Court ordered him to stop working there as a founder.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 July 1791 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 13 July 1791.

PETITIONER: Alexander Allan, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close, entry.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Kay, architect who is erecting a building behind the petitioner's property. Work stopped on 13 July 1791.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1791/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1791.

PETITIONER: John Gray, writer.

SITE: Paterson's Court, fourth floor in the back tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ingress of water from above.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Cameron, tailor who owns in the flat above. The petitioner repaired joists and on asking the plasterer to complete the work found that Cameron had only replaced part of the floor.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1791 (no warrant, petition dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 26 July 1791.

PETITIONER: James Brown, bookseller.

SITE: Brown's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against John More, painter who has erected a stable in the yard beside that of the petitioner, making use of his wall as support.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 May 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1790.

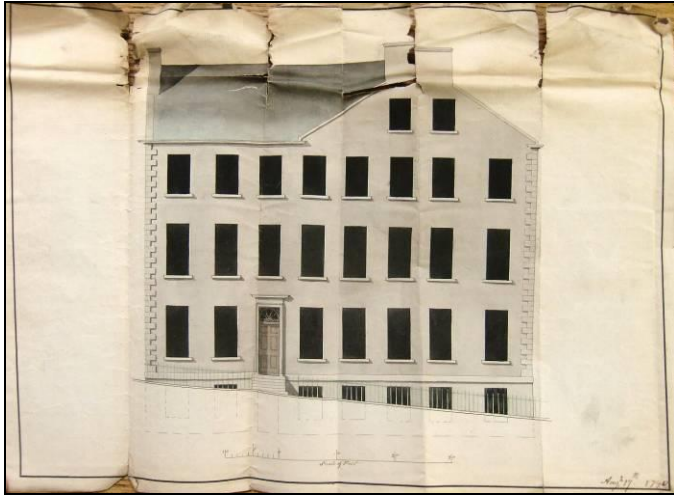
PETITIONER: Edmund Butterworth, drawing master.

SITE: Queen Street, corner with Castle Street on the west.

PROPOSAL: Argument about the height of a tenement.

NOTES: This petition grew out of one made by William Sibbald, Overseer of the Public Works, to the Town Council of unknown date. He complained that part of the petitioner's tenement was higher than allowed by the regulations. Much discussion here about other houses in the same corner position and 'short ground'. The petitioner had made an agreement with Richard Livingston, mason to transfer the 'short ground' on both ends of Queen Street to him by feu dated 25 April 1787. The final word here, on 2 May 1791, is by William Sibbald who states that the petitioner is entitled to 64ft. being the extent of the areas H and K which comprehend the short ground. The drawing at a. is stored in the Edinburgh City Archive at MYBN-U331D.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.

Inscriptions, recto: Aug. 17th 1790.

Draughtsman: (Edmund Butterworth).

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BOX: 1791/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 September 1791 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 August 1791.

PETITIONER: Heirs of Alexander Adam, architect: Mrs Isabella Brown, spouse of Robert Brown WS, Mrs Helen Brown, spouse of Rev. James Brown, minister, New Bottle (Newbattle), Elizabeth Watt, spouse of John Watt, merchant, children of the deceased Alexander Adam.

SITE: Cowgate Port.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Gall, broker, to whom Alexander Adam had sold the under story. He has opened a new entry that endangers the whole tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1791/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 October 1791.

PETITION LODGED: 12 October 1791 (no warrant, dismissed).

PETITIONER: James and William Lawson, merchants.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Paterson's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the rebuilding of a stair.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Laing, mason who is rebuilding the east gable of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None

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## 1792

The Court Officers from 13 October 1791:

### Dean of Guild

William Gillespie

### Council

Donald Smith, Old Dean of Guild

Francis Sharp, merchant

Malcolm Wright, merchant

John Young, wright

James Ranken, wright

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

---

BOX: 1792/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 January 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 10 January 1792.

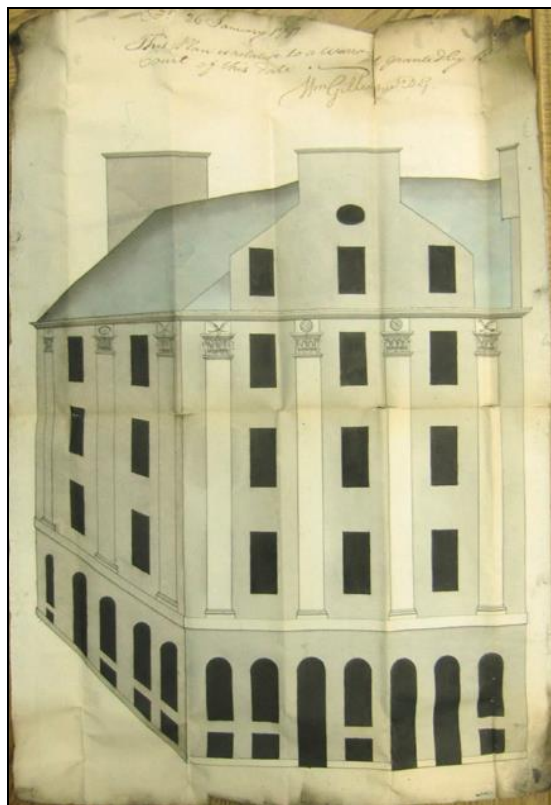
PETITIONER: Robert Liddle, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: North Leith 'at the end of the street immediately opposite the drawbridge'.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and build a tenement of 5 floors.

NOTES: Property recently feued from Town Council. There is further information about adjoining tenements in answers for John Breakenrigg, eldest son of the deceased John Breakenrigg, watchmaker in Portsburgh and Margaret Breakenrigg, his mother in law. See unextracted petition, 5 April 1792 (Bruckenrige).

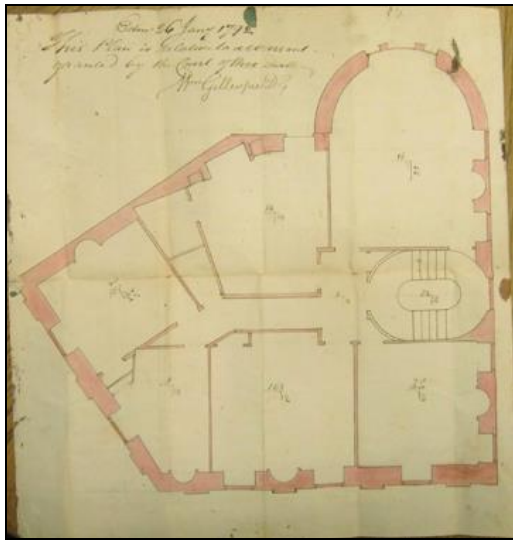
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Perspective elevation.

Size: 54.0 x 38.0 cms.





Description: b. Plan.  
Size: 38.5 x 36.5 cms.  
Watermark: E & P

---

BOX: 1792/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 February 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 20 April 1791.

PETITIONER: William Henderson, resider and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Paterson's Court, north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Messrs Grant and Moir, printers.

NOTES: Grant and Moir have taken the flat below the petitioner's and they have begun making alterations without a warrant. He is also worried about the quantities of oil they must have for preparing ink and 'the large quantity of paper hanging to dry before large fires...' In very informative answers for Grant and Moir they state that they entered into partnership at Whitsun 1790 and that all the works had been completed a year ago. State that they had the permission of their landlord (unnamed) to carry out the alterations. Arthur Giles, wright and John Mylne, mason summoned. Court ordered, 19 May 1791 the insertion of beams and supporting posts.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 February 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 3 December 1791.

PETITIONER: William Campbell of Fairfield.

SITE: (25 north Frederick Street, east side or George Street?)

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to his dining room

NOTES: The complaint is against John Gardiner, employed by a mason, Robert Inglis, who had knocked a hole through the mutual gable to support a timber beam. In doing so they broke through into the petitioner's dining room fireplace, in the middle of the afternoon as the family were sitting around the fire. Inglis was fined £12 12s plus expences of 10s 6d Stg. *Williamson's Edinburgh Directory from June 1784 to June 1794* (Edinburgh 1794) Mrs. Campbell is at 25 Frederick Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1792.

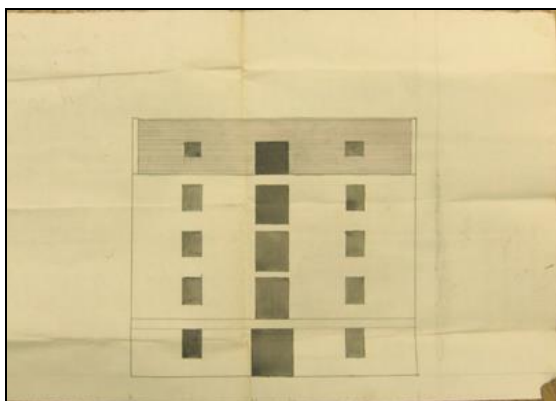
PETITIONER: John Maclaren, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Andrews Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a tenement and build a warehouse of 5 floors and a house.

NOTES: The plan of the area at b. indicates 'Maclaren's warehouse 55ft by 44ft to be

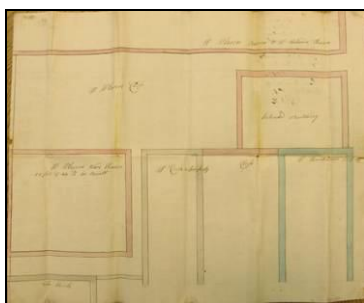
built' and on another site 'intended building.'  
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of the warehouse.

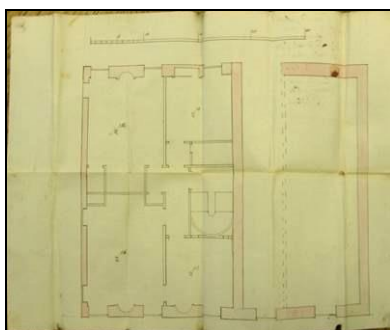
Size: 23.5 x 37.5 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, Budgen (all three sheets)



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 37.5 x 46.7 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the house.

Size: 37.5 x 46.9 cms.

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BOX: 1792/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 3 January 1792.

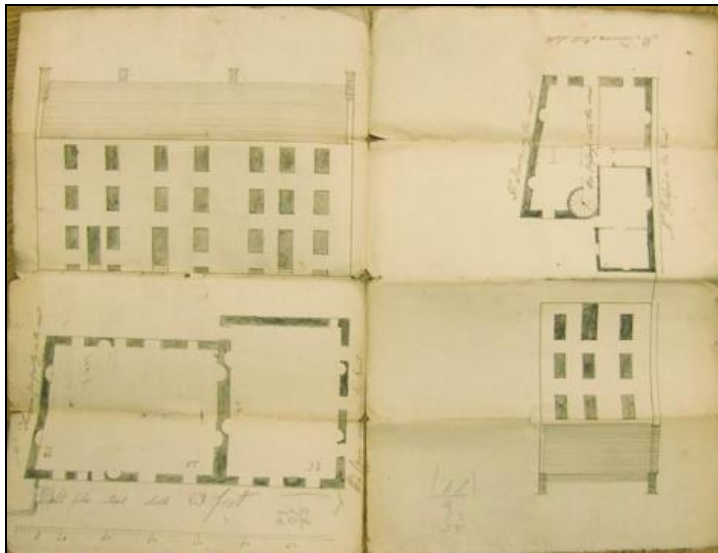
PETITIONER: John Galloway, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Between the Sheep head and Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old tenements and build two tenements; one of 3 floors and basement (to St Giles Street) and the other 3 floors (to St Andrews Street).

NOTES: Property purchased from Alexander Ramsay, painter in Edinburgh. The elevation and plan at c. was produced at the request of the court, 18 January 1792, to show how the petitioner would avoid encroaching on the neighbouring property. See petition dated 17 May 1792 (Redford) for a further plan of this area.

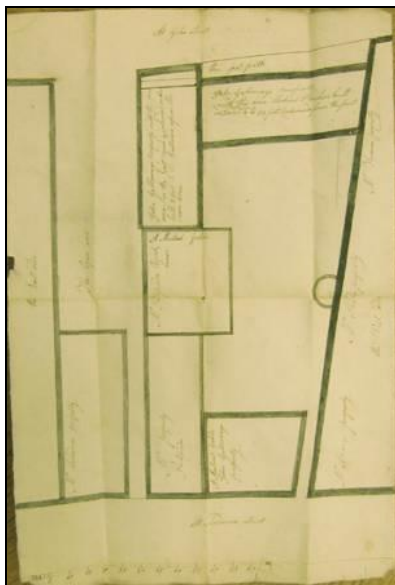
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevations and plans of two tenements.

Size: 34.0 x 44.0 cms.

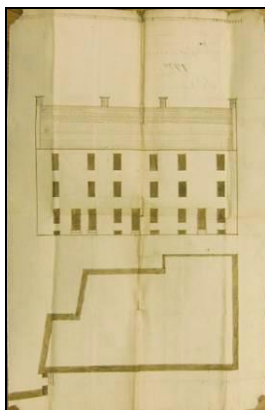
Watermark: Countermark, I Valance



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 42.0 x 28.3 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, A



Description: c. Elevation (to St Giles Street) and plan.

Size: 39.7 x 25.8 cms.

BOX: 1792/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 March 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 28 February 1792.

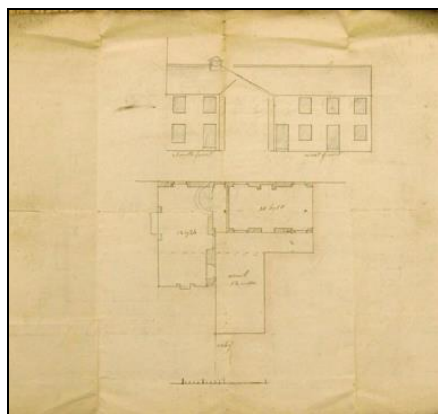
PETITIONER: William Miller, hatter.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, at the foot on the east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a house on part of the subjects.

NOTES: Property purchased from Francis Drummond, captain in the late 98th Regiment of Foot.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevations to south and west and plan of two story house. There are faint pencil indications of houses standing nearby.

Size: 22.6 x 24.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1792 and 8 March 1792 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of the entry to James's Court north side of the High Street.

Immediately west of the tenement where Archibald Ponton, baker has a bakers shop.

PROPOSAL: To demolish timber fronted lands, sell the materials and clear the site.

NOTES: A jury was appointed, including John Hamilton, wright, John Spence, painter, John Ritchie, slater, John Bonnar, painter and William Scott, plumber, Alexander Laing, mason and James Brown, architect. With letters from all the owners expressing surprise that the three buildings are to be demolished. See petitions of 10 January 1793, 5 November 1793 and 12 December 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 20 March 1792.

PETITIONER: Miss Margaret Nisbet, daughter of the deceased Alexander Nisbet, merchant.

SITE: Laigh Calton.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: On reverse of petition states that two plans were borrowed on 24 April 1792, to be returned in a few days.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 8 March 1792.

PETITIONER: John Millar and David Sutherland, masons.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, head.

PROPOSAL: To divide a flat into two dwellings of three rooms and kitchen.

NOTES: Property purchased from Andrew Carmichael, writer in Edinburgh. It is on

the fifth floor of the tenement and consists of seven rooms and kitchen.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 March 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 15 March 1792.

PETITIONER: Andrew Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Foulis Close, head, fronting the High Street.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: Property purchased from Lord Tankerville being the fourth flat. He has employed Alexander Laing, builder to repair the interior but wished to remove the stones and soles on the outside of the windows to the street and replace with new.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 13 March 1792.

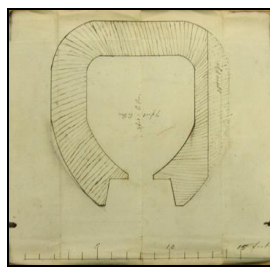
PETITIONER: Andrew Fisher, spirit dealer.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, Brodie's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: he has let the oven to a tenant from Whitsunday

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the oven.

Size: 22.9 x 23.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 April 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1792.

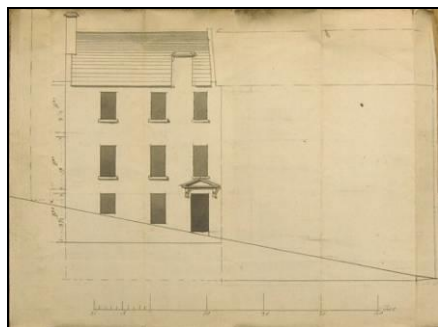
PETITIONER: John Forbes, weaver at the Wrightshouses, near Edinburgh.

SITE: The Vennel.

PROPOSAL: To take down ruinous houses and rebuild a house and workshop.

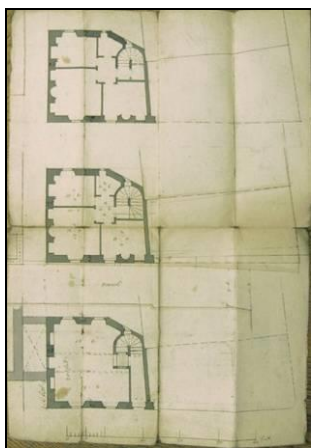
NOTES: Property purchased from George Orr, baker in Portsburgh. The petitioner was granted a warrant on condition that he did not 'extend further eastward than six feet beyond the range of the east wall of the meeting house presently building on the south of the petitioner's property'. Petition noted on front that the plan was borrowed by Alex Hamilton on 14 April 1792 and the plan by John Forbes on 29 April 1793.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a three story house. With pencil indications of a tenement to the right.

Size: 23.6 x 32.0 cms.



Description: b. Plans of three floors. With pencil indications of the interior of an adjoining tenement.

Size: 46.6 x 32.5 cms.

Watermark: Portal & Co

---

BOX: 1792/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1792.

PETITIONER: Rebecca Gardner, widow of the deceased Andrew Gardner, merchant and Ebenezer Gardner, linen manufacturer.

SITE: The Vennel.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement, ordered to be demolished.

NOTES: Ruinous tenement belongs to Archibald McDowal, merchant in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 April 1792.

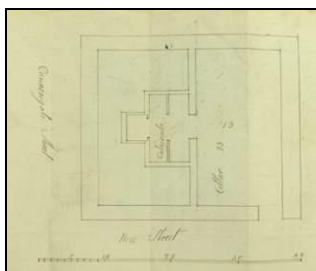
PETITION LODGED: 28 March 1792.

PETITIONER: William Murray, merchant in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, head of New Street on the west side.

PROPOSAL: To construct cellars and catacombs below his shop and back room.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of cellars.

Size: 17.0 x 22.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 7 March 1792.

PETITIONER: William and Patrick Cunningham, goldsmiths.

SITE: Mound, foot of Lady Stair's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a shop of two floors and cellar.

NOTES: See petition of 24 May 1792 (Cunningham) for payment to Robert Kay for a drawing of Patrick Cunningham's flat in Brown's land.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets (in archival sleeves).



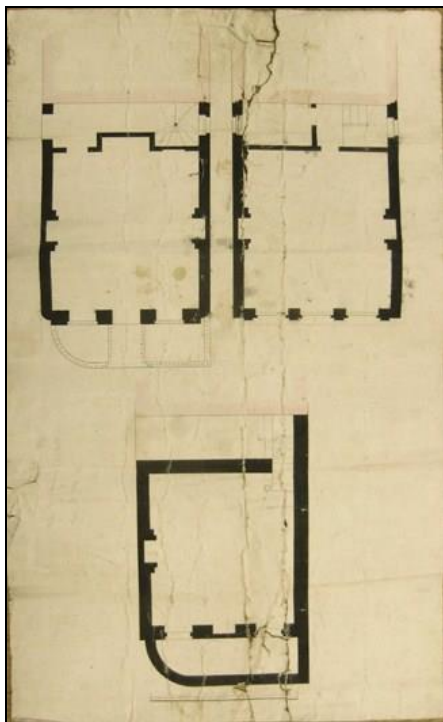
Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 23.9 x 38.1 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. Nov 16 / 1791. Also: This elevation is of the same dimensions with that formerly signed by the Lord Provost. / SPW William Sibbald

Watermark: S

Draughtsman: (John Baxter?)



Description: b. Plans of three floors.

Size: 42.6 x 26.0 cms.

Architect/Draughtsman: (John Baxter?)

BOX: 1792/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 19 April 1792.

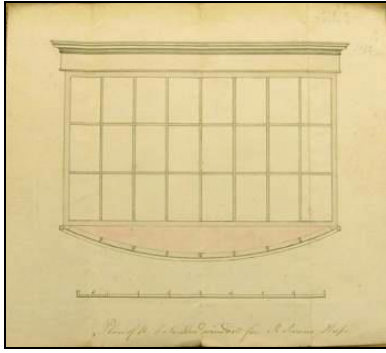
PETITIONER: Robert Swan, jeweller.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: Petitioner states that he is to enter into possession of the shop at Whitsunday next. Lately possessed by James Wemyss now by David Marshall, jeweller. Swan borrowed the plan on 15 May.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of bow window.

Size: 21.2 x 23.6 cms.

Watermark: Partial countermark, IA(?)

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BOX: 1792/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1792.

PETITIONER: Samuel Watson, solicitor and Thomas Tibbets, hatter.

SITE: High Street, head of Royal Bank Close.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a doorway.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 16 April 1792.

PETITIONER: William & Andrews and Co., merchants in Leith.

SITE: Leith, near the foot of the Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To erect two large bow windows.

NOTES: The petitioners hold a shop and dwelling house on a lease from Thomas Sheriff, glazier in Leith, entered into 27 December 1791. This tack is under reduction in a process in the Court of Session.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1792.

PETITIONER: Isaac Cowie, portioner in Leith.

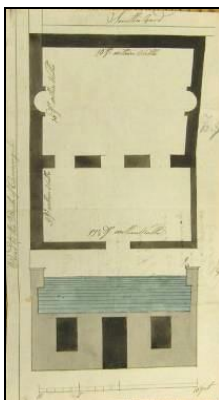
SITE: Pleasance.

PROPOSAL: To build a 'small shed house'.

NOTES: Drawing has an indication of 'the road to the back of the Canongate' along the left side.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.

---



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 31.2 x 17.2 cms.

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BOX: 1792/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 26 April 1792.

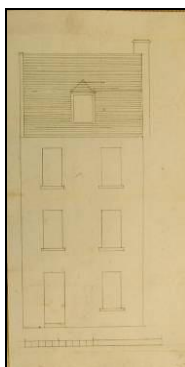
PETITIONER: John Redford, messenger in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Andrew's Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild an old and ruinous tenement.

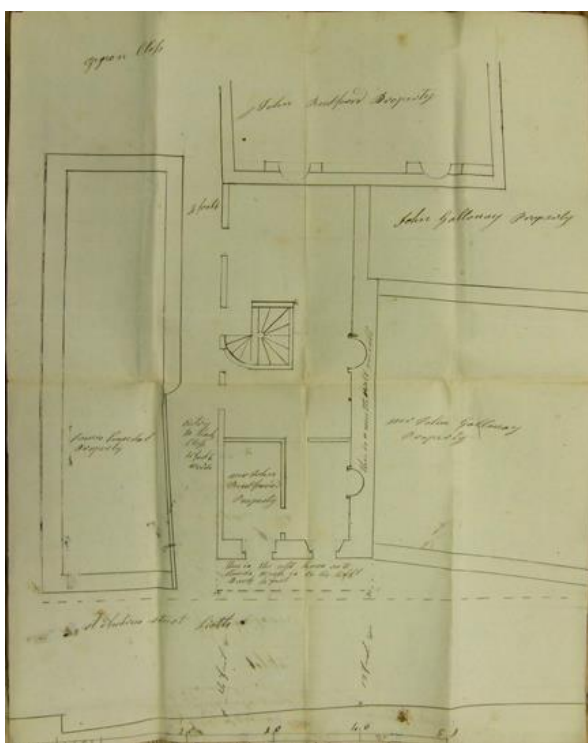
NOTES: Property recently feued from Alexander Ramsay, painter in Edinburgh. See petition dated 23 February 1792 (Galloway) for a further plan of this area.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of the three floor tenement with attics.

Size: 33.5 x 16.7 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 39.4 x 31.5 cms.

Watermark: T Valance

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BOX: 1792/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 12 January 1792.

PETITIONER: Patrick Cunningham, silversmith and other heritors.

SITE: High Street, south side, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: See petition of 14 May 1788 (Murray) to partially demolish and rebuild according to plans submitted then. There is some confusion in the accounts as to the exact address. Refers to a petition of 13 July 1790 by the heritors of the Clam shell

tenement to repair and rebuild. Cunningham owns one quarter of the third flat above the shops in Browns land, now occupied by Alex. Robertson, tailor and habit maker. Includes accounts from Braidwood & Bruce for building work including 2 marble and 2 carver chimney pieces, flush panelled main door, plain lineal cornices etc. £210. Account from Robert Kay to Messrs Cunningham & Govan for 'a plan of lodging floor of their property, head of New Assembly Close, £1 1s' dated 28 December 1790. Account settled 15 June 1791. Account from W. Smiton & Co for 'oil and varnish painting, 3 coats in your house, head of Old (sic?) Assembly Close', for whitening the roofs and size colour painting in the stairs and passages, 12 November 1791, £12 1s. Account settled 28 December 1791. Account from William Jamison, mason for time and labour in demolishing 'your old land, head of Stevenlaw's Close'. Account from Alexander Ponton and William Wright 'to measuring and delineating their property ('in its former state') also plans to be considered for building their proportion', £2 10s. Settled 16 December 1790, Thomas Ponton signs 'for my father'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 May 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 23 May 1792.

PETITIONER: Alexander Blair, WS for Mrs. Margaret Blair, his mother.

SITE: New Town, George Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building a wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Campbell of Fairfield who built a brick wall that obstructs the petitioner's windows. Ordered to take down the wall.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 June 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1792.

PETITIONER: James Lindsay Carnegie, advocate and Robert Fullarton, late of Jamaica.

SITE: New Town, west corner of Castle Street with Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about obstruction to light.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Winton, mason who is building in Castle Street, second next to the petitioners, at a height that is beyond the limits of the New Town plan. This building has a projection that is beyond the limits. The Court ordered the builder not to build the projection any higher than the single story already built.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 23 April 1792.

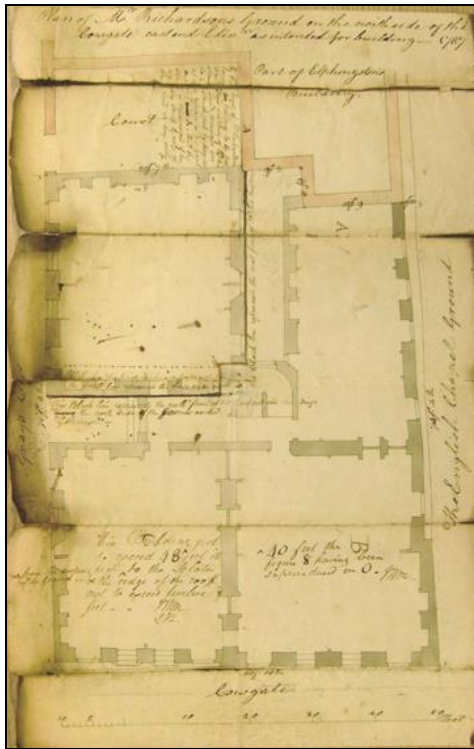
PETITIONER: William Richardson, smith.

SITE: Cowgate, north side, foot of Mint Close (Gray's Close on plans) on the east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: Property purchased from the Directors of the English Chapel. Refers to a previous petition and drawings with answers etc., much of which is here, lodged on 25 August 1787 and subject to an interlocutor on 30 August 1787. He is submitting new plans because of objections.

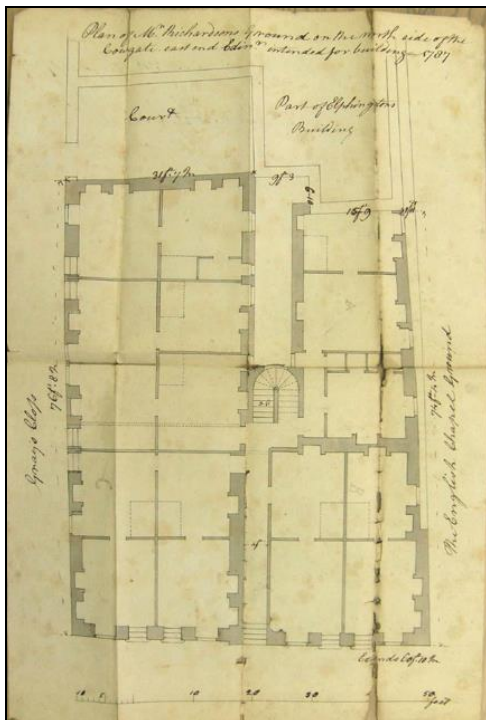
DRAWINGS: 8 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of the area.

Size: 37.5 x 24.0 cms.

Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 22 August 1787. This is one of the ground plans referred to...



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 38.8 x 25.5 cms.

Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 30 August 1787. This is one of the ground plans referred to...

Watermark: Countermark, T French



Description: c. Elevation to the south (Cowgate).

Size: 30.4 x 24.9 cms.

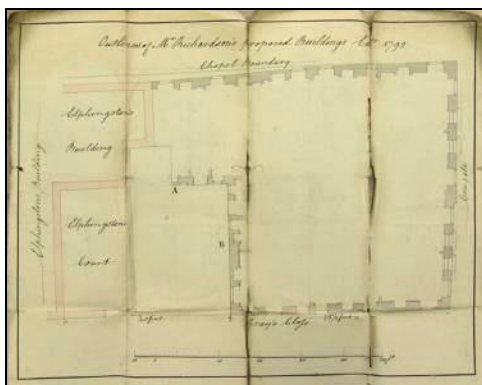
Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 30 August 1787. This is one of the elevations referred to...



Description: d. Elevation to the south (Cowgate).

Size: 26.3 x 21.0 cms.

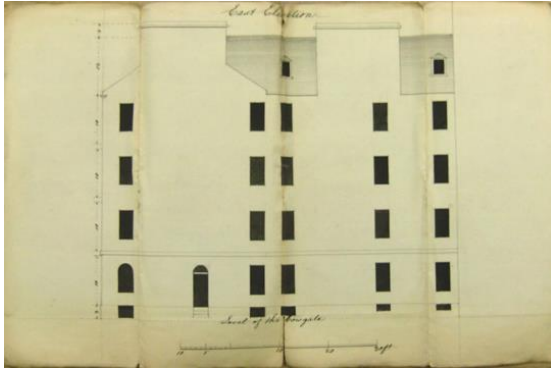
Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 22 August 1787. This is one of the elevations referred to... Also: Edin 23 April 1792. This is the front elevation to the Cowgate still intended to be executed by an application of this date.



Description: e. Ground floor outline plan.

Size: 29.0 x 36.6 cms.

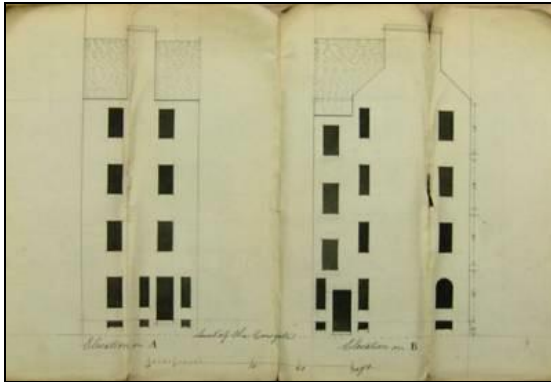
Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 23rd April 1792. This plan regards an application to build preferred by me of this date... Also: Edin 14 June 1792. The within plan is relative to a warrant granted by the Court of this date.



Description: f. Elevation to the east.

Size: 23.5 x 37.3 cms.

Watermark: Portal & Co



Description: g. Elevation on A and elevation on B (as marked on drawing e. above).

Size: 23.5 x 37.3 cms.

Watermark: Portal & Co



Description: h. Elevation to Grays Close.

Size: 23.5 x 37.3 cms.

BOX: 1792/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 9 May 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, pavement on both sides.

PROPOSAL: To repair the pavement on both sides

NOTES: This warrant is the cognition of the expences of relaying the pavement and declaring them a debt to Alexander Reid, builder. There is an estimate here for the work by William Sibbald and accounts and measures of the work for each side of the street. Also here, a scheme of division and valuations on all the properties with the names of all the owners. See warrant granted 7 July 1791 (Procurator Fiscal) for the repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/26  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1792.  
PETITION LODGED: 21 June 1792.  
PETITIONER: James Wilson maltman in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, head of Sheephead Wynd in Lees Quarter  
PROPOSAL: Alteration to raise roof and shop floor  
DRAWINGS: None.

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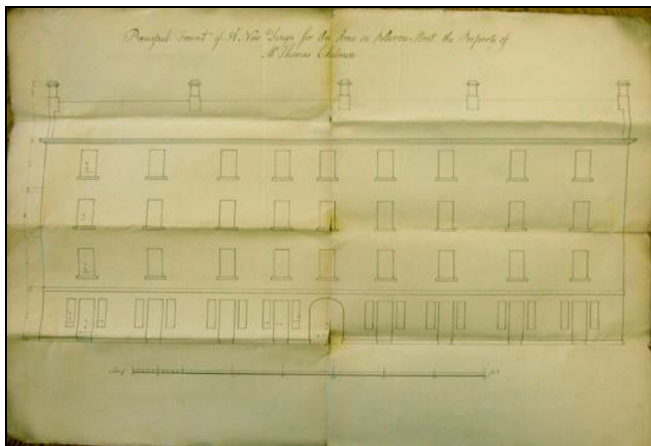
BOX: 1792/27  
WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1792.  
PETITION LODGED: 21 June 1792.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Duff, slater.  
SITE: West Bow.  
PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.  
NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted 27 March 1783 to make repairs.  
There are accounts here from John Paterson, mason; James Heriot (wright) and Duff himself.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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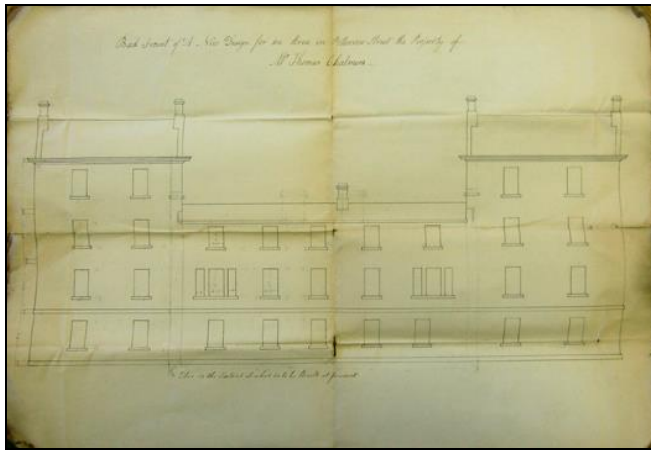
BOX: 1792/28  
WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1792.  
PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1792.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Royal Exchange, opposite Bertram Gairdner & Co, bankers.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sewer or drain.  
NOTES: Andrew Irvine, mason appointed to repair.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/29  
WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1792.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 June 1792.  
PETITIONER: Thomas Chalmers, smith.  
SITE: Potterrow, west side.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish and build a tenement of 4 floors around a courtyard.  
NOTES: States that he only intends to erect the middle building on the plan at this stage (on the west of the site).  
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



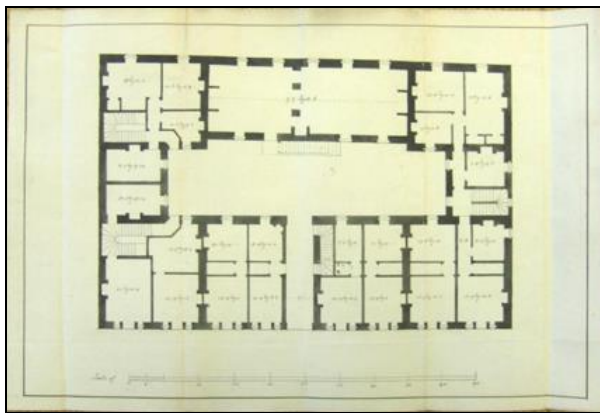
Description: a. Elevation of the principal front.  
Size: 36.5 x 54.0 cms.  
Watermark: J Whatman.



Description: b. Elevation of the 'back front'.

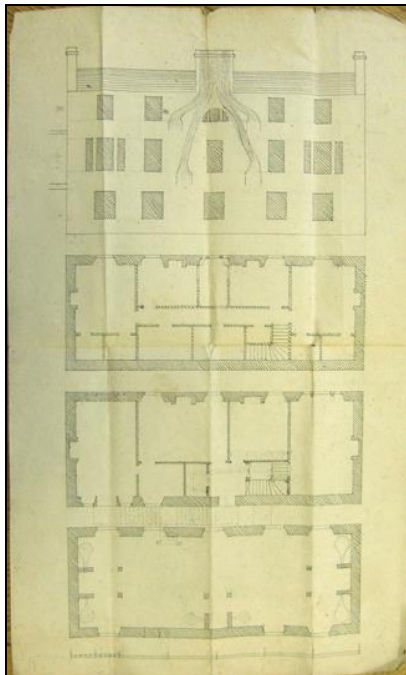
Size: 36.5 x 54.0 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Pencil additions to the chimney stacks and a note 'This is the extent of what is to be built at present', indicating the central, 3 story section.



Description: c. Plan of the entire block.

Size: 25.0 x 37.2 cms.



Description: d. Plans of three floors and elevation of the 3 story section, showing chimney flues.

Size: 51.2 x 30.7 cms.

Architect: Alexander Laing?

BOX: 1792/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1792.

PETITIONER: The proprietors of Fishers land: John Balfour, bookseller, John Home, WS and George Leslie, treasurer to Heriot's hospital.

SITE: Lawnmarket, south side, Fisher's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair to chimney stacks.

NOTES: Repairs carried out by Alexander Laing, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1792.

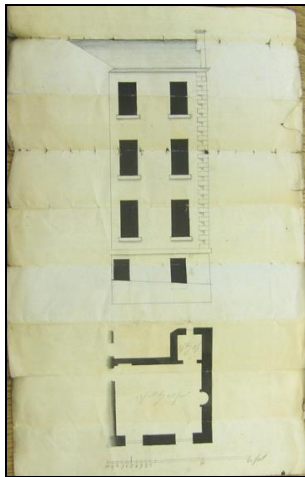
PETITIONER: David Hume, advocate.

SITE: St Andrew Square, south west corner.

PROPOSAL: To build an addition to his house.

NOTES: He proposes to build on an area to the south, along the line of St David's Street, presently vacant. In a letter from Mr. Eiston, Allan's Court to Mr. Walter Scott he refers to Mr. Jamieson senior having spoken to one of the neighbours.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and plan of extension.

Size: 36.5 x 22.8 cms.

Watermark: IB

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BOX: 1792/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1792.

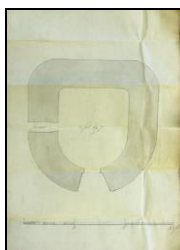
PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1792.

PETITIONER: James Eyre, brewer and David Thomson, baker.

SITE: Cowgate, Campbell's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the oven.

Size: 31.9 x 23.0 cms.

---



BOX: 1792/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1792.

PETITIONER: Walter Lothian, treasurer, for the Merchant Company of Edinburgh.

SITE: Hunter Square

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a load of stones.

NOTES: They own a tenement and back court. The stones have been dumped in the back court by Alexander Allan, merchant and Robert Kay, architect. They wish to pave the court but cannot do so. Robert Kay ordered to remove the stones within ten days or the petitioner could sell them. There are copies of an exchange of letters with Robert Kay here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1792.

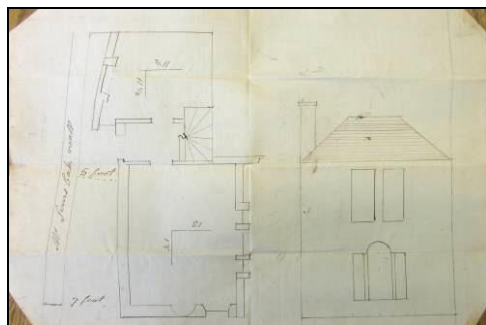
PETITIONER: James Syme of Northfield.

SITE: Chalmers Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about undermining of his property.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Horn, builder who is erecting a building that is undermining the petitioner's cellar. The petitioner holds his property on a feu from the City of Edinburgh. His father, James Syme, late master slater to the Board of Ordnance, built a large cellar to store slates, the back wall of which is within the garden or area sometime the property of the later Lord Edgefield at the foot of Monteith's Close but now the property of John Wright or his assignees. John Horn is building immediately north of the north wall of this cellar and is carrying away the earth. Work stopped by the Court, 18 July 1792 and John Horn ordered to provide a plan and elevation on 19 July. This he did with a petition dated 31 July 1792 and he was granted a warrant on 9 August. See previous warrant granted 16 May 1783 (Horn).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan of the upper floor and elevation.

Size: 26.0 x 38.5 cms (irregular).

Inscriptions, verso: Edr. Juley 31st 1792 what is belo ground is not represented in the plan John Horn.

Watermark: Countermark, BUDGEN

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BOX: 1792/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 6 August 1792.

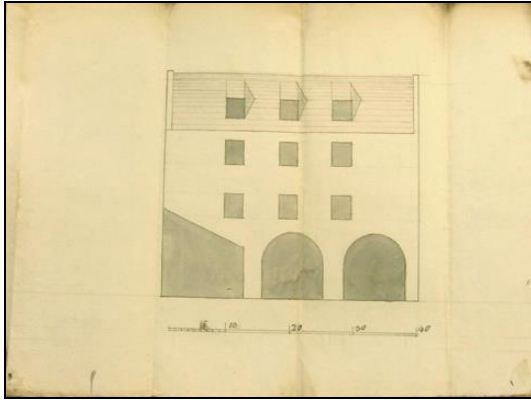
PETITIONER: John Johnston, baker in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Sands Quarter (the area of Bernard's Street)

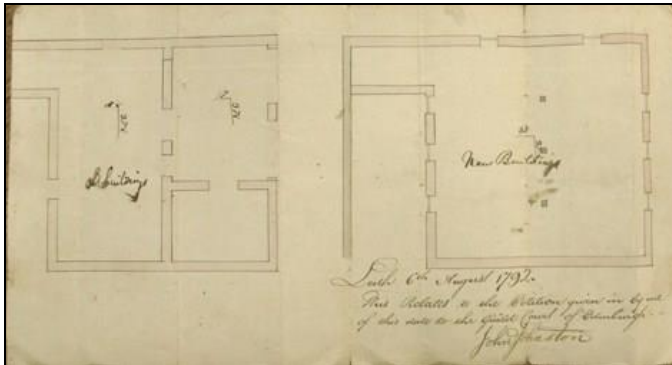
PROPOSAL: Alterations to a small building

NOTES: Property purchased from Susan and Jean Graham, sisters of the deceased John Graham, cooper in Leith.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 21.0 x 28.0 cms.



Description: b. Ground plan of existing building and plan of alterations.  
Size: 21.0 x 39.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 August 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 2 June 1792.

PETITIONER: John Fraser WS, Thomas Ogilvy, writer and others.

SITE: Myln's Court, at the head of the West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks and walls.

NOTES: Alexander Laing, mason to carry out the work. Enclosed is an account from John Spottiswood dated 17 July for 'repairing a rail and furnishing 9 ballusters 90 (lit?); lead putting up etc. £1 14s 6d.'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 October 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1792.

PETITIONER: Heritors of a tenement: John Ogill, James Laing and others, proprietors.

SITE: High Street, head of Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: Request that John Myln, mason in Edinburgh be granted a warrant to carry out the work. His estimate is enclosed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 October 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Castle Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building materials in the street.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Hay, Andrew Neil, Alexander Crawford, Robert Wright and James Mckean, all builders.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 17 October 1792.

PETITIONER: William Pirnie, mason.

SITE: South Hanover Street, west side, fronting Hanover Street and Rose Street.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1792 and 6 December 1792 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1792.

PETITIONER: Hugh Inglis, wigmaker.

SITE: Allison's Close, adjoining Pollock's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a necessary house.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Hyslop who has stables in Pollock's Close who has erected a necessary house against the wall of the petitioner's house 'which occasions an uncommon stench'. There is a statement here, signed by eighteen of the inhabitants stating that the necessary house in its new position is of much benefit to all his neighbours.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 18 April 1792.

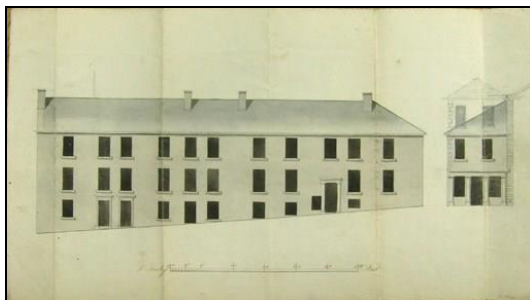
PETITIONER: Jackson's Trustees: Robert Playfair and John King, trustees on the sequestrated estate of John Jackson of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh and James Tait, builder.

SITE: Shakespeare Square, south side, to the east of the Theatre Royal.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three (changed to four) floors.

NOTES: Land sold to John Jackson by Thomas Hill, 8 June 1788 being 22ft frontage and extending the length of the Theatre ground. The piece of ground was first feued by the Magistrates to David Ross of Covent garden and afterwards of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. By him sold to the said Thomas Hill and which, on his petition to the Magistrates, was included in a Charter granted by them to Hill dated 9 December 1772. The trustees have entered into an agreement with James Tait to erect a building on this piece of land. In answers from William Scott, plumber in Edinburgh he states that the proposed building extends beyond the ground belonging to the Theatre and encroaches on his property. He states that he purchased an area of land to the south of the Theatre from Mr Hunter, architect on 10 December 1771 and the Town Council gave him a charter for this land. There was a dispute about the quality of the façade towards Shakespeare Square and the trustees appealed to the Court of Session in October 1792. See also the petitions of 24 April 1788 (Jackson) and 20 February 1794 (Tait).

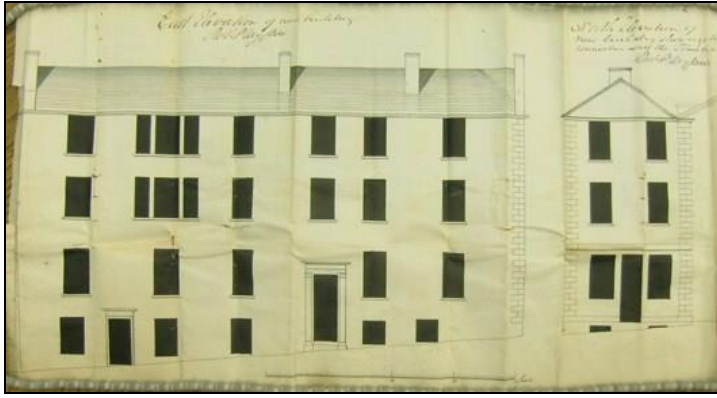
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation to Shakespeare Square, with pencil modifications and elevation to the east.

Size: 18.7 x 33.5 cms.

Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 7 June 1792. The within plan is relative to a warrant granted by the Court of this date.

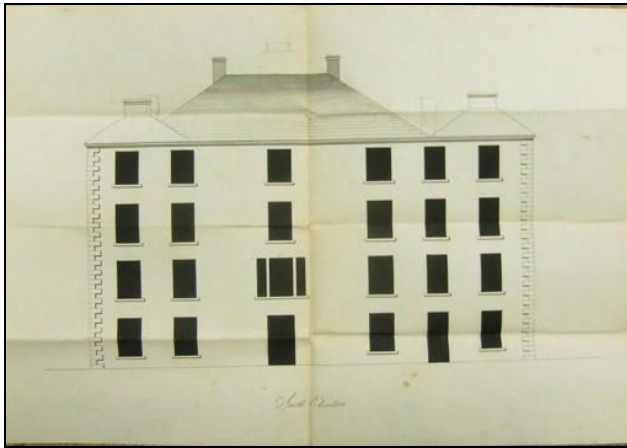


Description: b. Elevation to Shakespeare Square (north) and elevation to the east for a four story tenement.

Size: 28.0 x 51.5 cms.

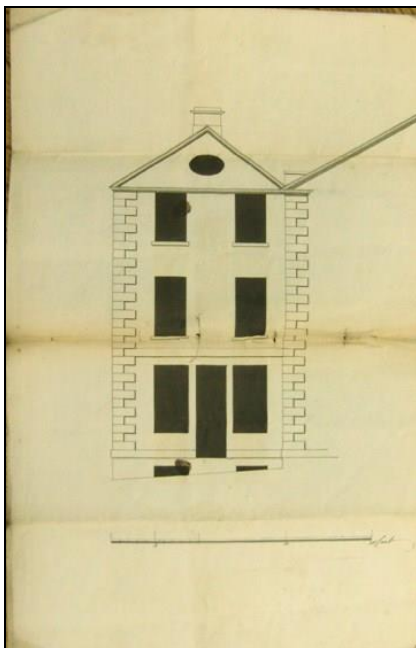
Inscriptions verso: Edinr. 1 November 1792. The within plan and elevation is relative to a warrant granted by the Court of this date.

Watermark: Curteis & Sons



Description: c. Elevation to the south.

Size: 26.8 x 41.0 cms.



Description: d. Elevation to the north, corrected.

Size: 29.5 x 18.8 cms.

BOX: 1792/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 10 October 1792.

PETITIONER: Nicholas Lenain, pastry cook and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Hanover Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Andrew Morrison, writer in Edinburgh.

NOTES: The tenement had been built by (William) Pirnie, mason. Morrison had begun building in the area behind the tenement without a warrant. See warrant of 13

December 1792 (Lenain) for expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 November 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1792.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Katherine Moubray and Alexander Watt, wright, her tenant.

SITE: Toddericks Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney heads.

NOTES: The complaint is about a chimney head in the adjoining tenement in Blackfriar's Wynd, possessed by John Dundas, secretary and Christian Moubray cashier to the Edinburgh Friendly Insurance Co.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 November 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1792.

PETITIONER: Misses Watson, John Young, Duncan Mcfarlane and others, proprietors.

SITE: Canongate, Boyd's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the entry to the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1792.

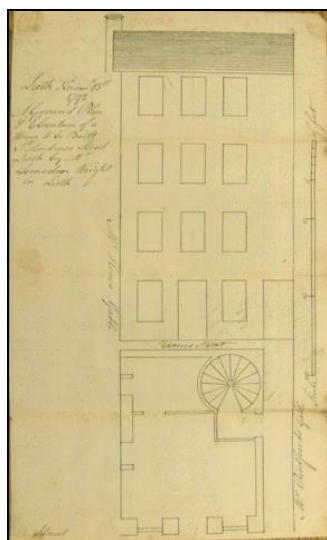
PETITIONER: James Lumisden, Cartwright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Andrew's Street.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old buildings and erect a tenement of 4 floors.

NOTES: Land recently feued from Alexander Ramsay, painter in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 31.8 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 3 December 1792.

PETITIONER: Nicholas Lenain, pastry cook.

SITE: South Hanover Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Andrew Murison, writer proprietor and occupier of an adjacent tenement built by Mr. Pirnie. He built a necessary house in his sunk area and has not removed it as ordered by the Court. See previous warrant granted 20 November 1792. This is a claim for expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1792.

PETITIONER: Eaglesfield Griffith, presently residing in Edinburgh.

SITE: St. Mary's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Cognising accounts of rebuilding.

NOTES: Refers to a petition of 12 January 1791 and warrant of 3 February to demolish and rebuild. Accounts here for a total of £630 6s 9d stg. from Andrew (and William) Irvine & Co. Charges for mason work and labour of 26 'summer days' and 25 'winter days'. Also refers to 'difference between plain deal and bowed work in back rooms, plain deal ingouns (ingoes, the bevelled timber sides of the window) &c'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1792.

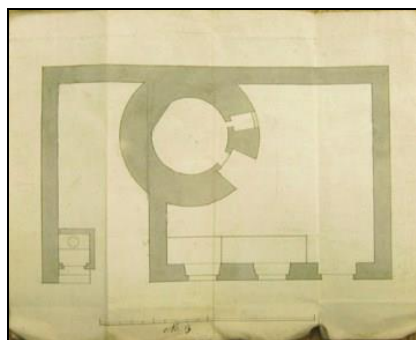
PETITIONER: William Dallas WS, factor for Robert Charles Gibb Esq. and William Wallace, grocer in Canongate, his tenant.

SITE: Canongate, Gibbs Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a bakehouse and oven.

NOTES: One of the neighbours mentioned in Jo(hn) Bonnar, painter.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of bakehouse and oven.

Size: 21.6 x 27.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1792.

PETITIONER: Alexander Paterson, mason and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Royal Exchange, west side, opposite Bertram Gairdner & Co, bankers.

PROPOSAL: Division of expences for clearing a sewer or drain.

NOTES: See petition of 5 July 1792 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

**Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/23)**

BOX: 1792/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 March 1792 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 29 February 1792.

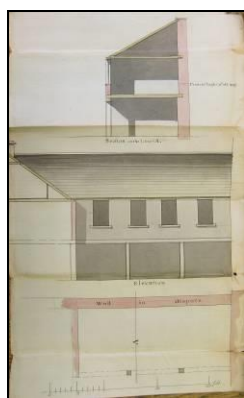
PETITIONER: William Lamb, upholsterer.

SITE: Morrison's Close, foot, east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade and work shops on waste ground to the north.

NOTES: The proposal was contested by Alexander Bruce, cabinet maker, the petitioner's neighbour on the grounds that he owned the waste area and that the proposed wall was to be built on a mutual wall. Bruce produced a Sasine in favour of James Norie dated 6 February 1750, another in favour of George Norie dated 19 October 1773 and another in favour of Alexander Bruce dated 6 October 1778. The petitioner was asked to produce a regular plan on 1 March 1792 and this is noted on the outside '2nd plan of elevation'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan, elevation and section of the workshop.

Size: 38.0 x 23.0 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: 'Edr, 2 March 1792 This is the new plan produced by order of the Court, Wm Lamb'.

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BOX: 1792/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 March 1792 (no warrant, defenders called and absent).

PETITION LODGED: 29 February 1792.

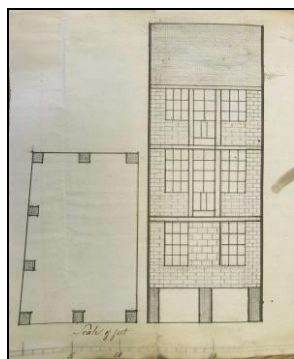
PETITIONER: Captain John Wright of Calcutta at Fort William in Bengal, John Northland, advocate and Miss Jean Wright, his attorneys.

SITE: Cowgate, between it and High School Yards, entered by Bulls Close.

PROPOSAL: To build a wrights shop on a small yard.

NOTES: The area has been let to (blank) Laurie, wright for a certain number of years. John Kettle, broker objects to the proposal. The Court asked for a plan, 1 March 1792.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation and plan.

Size: 22.0 x 18.3 (irregular).

---

BOX: 1792/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 April 1792 (no warrant, defenders to answer).

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1792.

PETITIONER: Margaret Bruckenrige, clock and watchmaker in Portsburgh.

SITE: North Leith.

PROPOSAL: Argument about a mutual gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Cossar, grocer in North Leith who purchased the stone and other materials from an adjoining, demolished tenement. He is now insisting on removing stone from the mutual gable. The petitioner holds her tenement on a factory from her son John Bruckenrige, from her late husband's former marriage.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 April 1792 (no warrant, defender allowed replies).

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1792.

PETITIONER: John Young, wright.

SITE: Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about not building.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Morrison, writer who has built on the greater part of his land feued from the Town Council. The petitioner has purchased a considerable area to the west of this and required Mr. Morrison to start on his cellars and pavement before he can build on his property. The petitioner cites and encloses a copy of the Act of the Town Council of 29 June 1785 'Rules with regard to feuing out the ground of the Extended Royalty...' in which it states (7mo) that the feuar must begin work within one year of obtaining the feu or forfeit it and be liable for a fine of £30 Stg. The defender made replies on 27 April 1792 with no response from the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 May 1792 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 9 May 1792.

PETITIONER: Adam Watson, weaver, late of Glasgow, now of Edinburgh.

SITE: Grassmarket, south side, Clamper's Close, next to Baillie Hotchkis' brewery.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Esplin, brewer owner of houses in the adjoining Close to the east. He has opened a new doorway into the petitioner's Close, with the intention of having a stable for eight horses with a hayloft above.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1792 (no warrant or action).

PETITION LODGED: 21 June 1792.

PETITIONER: Ebenezer gardener, merchant and manufacturer.

SITE: West Port.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Archibald McDowall, residing in Leith and Thomas Walker Baird, trustee for Mr. McDowell's creditors.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1792 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 14 June 1792.

PETITIONER: James Stoddart, one of the Commissioners of Excise.

SITE: New Town, Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an unfinished house.

NOTES: The complaint is against Edmund Butterworth, writing master who had agreed a lease on the house in Frederick Street from Whitsunday last to Whitsunday



next, for £52 10s. Stg. The house is not ready for occupation and the petitioner has had to take another house at considerable extra expence. He had written to Mr. Butterworth asking him to accept less rent but had not received a satisfactory reply. The Court found that the plaster in the dining and drawing room floors was dry but that in the sunk floor was not and that it would have been unsafe for anyone to sleep there.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1792 (no warrant, request for estimates).

PETITION LODGED: 1 August 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous building.

NOTES: The complaint is against Margaret Scotland, relict of James Gibson, stabler and Eupham Gibson her daughter, spouse to Euan McPherson, stabler who hold a lease from the petitioner. They have sublet part of the property to (blank) McCallum who is using it as a byre and this was never intended. They are obliged to keep the buildings in repair under the terms of the tack.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1792/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1792 (no warrant, defenders to reply)

PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1792.

PETITIONER: Patrick Herron, late Inn Keeper in the Cowgate.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, to the east of the Kirk heugh, St Ninian's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build two tenements.

NOTES: The property was obtained from Lord Buchan and the petitioner has already taken down some gates and begun to build on the west side of an entry. He wishes to continue and build on the east side. In replies from William Richardson, solicitor he states that the petitioner made a similar application in April 1787 when he was given permission to build on the west side of the gateway. There is an inventory of writs here: disposition from Alexander Lockhart, advocate to Col. Charles Campbell dated 17 May 1766, registered 3 July 1766; Sasines for same dated 3 and 16 July 1766; disposition and assignation from Col. Campbell to Earl of Buchan dated 15 September 1781; disposition from Earl of Buchan to Patrick Herron dated 29 May 1787; Sasine for same dated 10 July 1788; disposition by Col. Campbell to Earl of Buchan dated 15 July 1784; Sasine for same dated 1 November 1784; Sasine in favour of Earl of Buchan dated 18 January and recorded 25 January, 1785 and Charter of resignation in favour of Col. Campbell dated 16 July 1766.

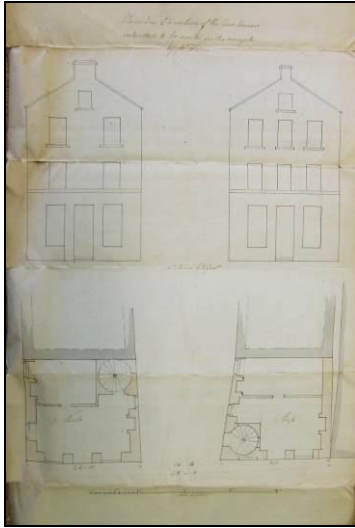
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: Elevation of tenement on west side of entrance.

Size: 23.0 x 18.5 cms.

Draughtsman: (John Baxter?)



Description: Plans and elevations of two houses.  
Size: 37.0 x 24.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1792/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 August 1792 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1792.

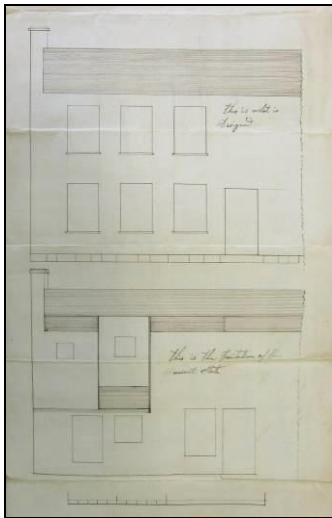
PETITIONER: John Kettle, broker and auctioneer in Cowgate.

SITE: Cowgate, south side, near the foot.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner proposes to remove an old wooden addition and rebuild in brick.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevations, before and after.  
Size: 35.7 x 21.0 cms.

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BOX: 1792/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1792 (no warrant, interdict lifted)

PETITION LODGED: 19 July 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, north side a little to the west of old Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a plan.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Crighton, mason who has begun work '...without shewing a plan and elevation to your Lordships...'. He was fined £20 Scots.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 September 1792 (no warrant, request for a drawing).

PETITION LODGED: 6 September 1792.

PETITIONER: Robert and Alexander Sherriff, merchants in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, bounded on the north and east by the public highway.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild parts of a large site.

NOTES: The property was disposed to the petitioners by the late George Penman, merchant in Edinburgh on 14 March 1782. The description mentions parts of a tenement that belonged to the deceased Alexander Chalmers, thereafter to Alexander Napier, son of Alexander Napier, merchant in Edinburgh. Cellars and two stories of lofts above a Close were repaired by the deceased William Beg Goodsire (and sold to?) Thomas Beg of Atherney and then to the deceased John Penman, father of John (sic. George?) Penman merchant in Edinburgh. Alexander Simpson owned an adjoining tenement. The Court demanded a plan and elevation of the intended work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1792 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 October 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, foot of Broad Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement belongs to (blank) Richardson, saddler in Leith. Part of it fell down on Saturday 29 September hurting a number of people including Mrs. Orr's servant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1792 and 6 December 1792 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1792.

PETITIONER: Hugh Inglis, wigmaker.

SITE: Allison's Close, adjoining Pollock's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a necessary house.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Hyslop who has stables in Pollock's Close. He has erected a necessary house 'which occasions an uncommon stench'. Included is a statement, by the inhabitants stating that the necessary house is of much benefit to all his neighbours.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 24 October 1792

PETITIONER: Robert Johnston and Sons, merchants.

SITE: North Bridge, down to a level with the Veal market.

PROPOSAL: Alteration of a window into a door.

NOTES: This is a letter sent to the Magistrates and Town Council and remitted to the Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1792/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1792 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 14 November 1792.

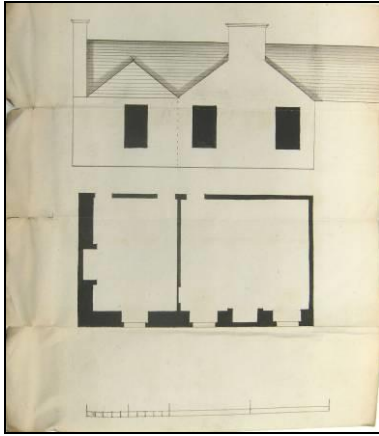
PETITIONER: James Clark, glazier in Canongate.

SITE: Rose Street.

PROPOSAL: Attic conversion.

NOTES: The tenement was purchased from Alexander Young, wright who built it.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan and elevation of top floor.

Size: 26.6 x 23.0 cms.

Watermark: Curteis & Son.

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BOX: 1792/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1792.

PETITION LODGED: 29 November 1792.

PETITIONER: John Spence, painter.

SITE: Milns' Square, back.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Neil, merchant and Robert Johnston his tenant who have converted a window into a door.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1793

The Court Officers from 11 October 1792:

**Dean of Guild**

William Gillespie

**Council**

Robert Young, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

Malcolm Wright, merchant

William Scott, plumber

James Ranken, wright

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

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BOX: 1793/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 January 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1792.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Lawnmarket, James' Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous tenements.

NOTES: Refers to a timber fronted tenement to the east of the lands belonging to Mr Gowan, glazier that has been taken down. Report here on Mrs Janet Murray's (relict of Adam Murray, baker) tenements in James's Court adjoining a tenement in the High Street by Alex Ponton, John Clark, Robert Kay, Thomas Hamilton and Robert Burn. Her tenement is sound with the exception of the south gavel and part of the west wall. A further report with same conclusion by William Jameson but he notes that the tenement adjoins a fore tenement recently taken down. Also further documents relating to the condition of four tenements belonging to Thomas Tod, William Gowan, glazier and others, on the east of Milne's Court at the head of James' Court, opposite the head of the West Bow. This matter taken to the Court of Session by Mrs. Murray who refers to 'The rage for improvement which so much prevails in the Town of Edinburgh, having unfortunately extended itself to the Lawnmarket...' She blames the proprietors of the recently demolished houses fronting the High Street for stirring up the idea that her tenement is dangerous so that they can extend their properties backwards. See petitions of 16 February/8 March 1792, 11 July, 15 August, 5 November and 12 December 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 24 December 1792.

PETITIONER: David Deas, baker in the Cowgate.

SITE: Cowgate, foot of Libberton's Wynd.

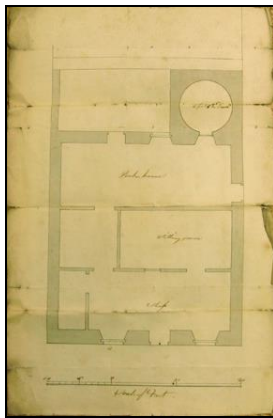
PROPOSAL: To build an oven on an area at the rear.

NOTES: In answers for James Webster, residing in Canal Street and proprietor of the tenement to the north of the petitioner he refers to a servitude dated 18 March 1554 over the area on which the oven is to be built. Copy of the servitude here which is about preventing any building that would interfere with his lights (windows). The elevation at a. was provided at request of the Court on 3 January 1793 to satisfy this question.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Section of the oven and elevation of the gable of the tenement to the north.  
 Size: 35.3 x 23.7 cms.  
 Watermark: J Whatman



Description: b. Plan of the shop fronting the Cowgate.  
 Size: 33.5 x 22.0 cms.  
 Watermark: S & I

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BOX: 1793/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 17 January 1793.

PETITIONER: James Ranken, merchant and Alexander Reid, mason.

SITE: Foulis Close, head, east side

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repair.

NOTES: See petition of 3 March 1791.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 24 January 1793.

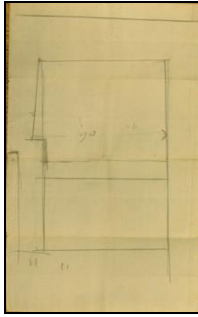
PETITIONER: Captain Thomas Dallas of the Hon. East India Company Service at Madras and William Dallas, WS, his factor

SITE: 58 Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: Complaint is about John Crooks, builder who is building a tenement on a lot in South Frederick Street and is encroaching on the petitioner's back area. In answers for Crooks he states that he feued two lots from the Town Council.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Sketch plan in pencil.  
Size: 31.0 x 19.0 cms.

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BOX: 1793/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 February 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1793.

PETITIONER: Dr. Frances Home, physician.

SITE: Foulis Close, at the foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked sewer or drain.

NOTES: Petitioner is proprietor of a lodging.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 February 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 14 February 1793.

PETITIONER: Magistrates and Kirk Session of the Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, New Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: To build a church.

NOTES: This was the Canongate Chapel of Ease which opened on 16 March 1794.

James Grant described it as hideous, suggesting that the petitioners opted for a less elaborate design, as explained in their petition. On the *Plan of the Regality of Canongate comprising the Liberties of Pleasance, North Leith, Coal-hill and Citidel thereof*, (Edinburgh 1813) the building is shown with a simple rectangular plan. The Index to the Dean of Guild Court in the City Archives and the front of the petition itself, erroneously give the address as Plainstones Close. See: James Grant, *Cassell's Old and New Edinburgh* (Edinburgh 1884) Vol III, p. 19.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 23.7 x 32.3 cms.

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BOX: 1793/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 February 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1793.

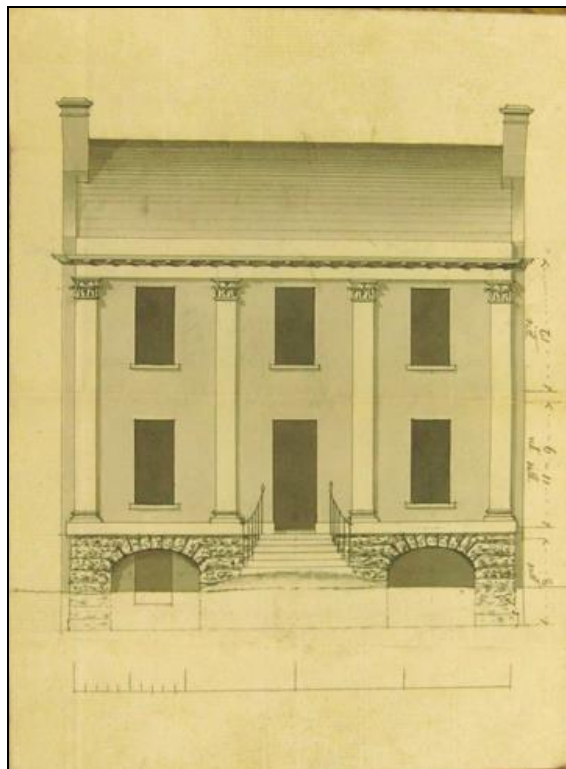
PETITIONER: Harry Gardner, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, between the lands of James Mitchell and Robert Sheriff, merchants.

PROPOSAL: To build a house.

NOTES: Refers to the land lately feued from Peter Forrester, merchant in Edinburgh although the coach house is marked as being already built on the plan at b. See petition of Robert Sheriff to build a villa, 16 June 1785.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 29.5 x 22.5 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay?).



Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 22.5 x 16.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1793/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 March 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1787.

PETITIONER: George Fyfe, coppersmith in Leith.

SITE: Leith, the head of Baillie Muckle's Close, in the Yardheads there.

PROPOSAL: To cognose expences.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted on 2 August 1775 to George Clapperton, writer as factor for David Wilson, ship carpenter, sometime in Leith, to



demolish and rebuild a tenement and have the expences cognozed by the Court. See warrant of 31 August 1775 with a plan there. David Fairlie, mason in Leith now deceased had outstanding accounts for £26 8s 4d for mason work and Alexander Henderson, smith in Leith was also owed a small sum. The petitioner is acting for his spouse, Jean Fairlie, daughter of David by a settlement dated 29 September 1779. There are accounts here from William Hunter, wright, (died March 1778) which includes accounts for mason and slater attested by other tradesman at £153 8s 1d. here is a further petition here from Messrs. Todd and Stoddart, merchants in Leith, creditors on Hunter's estate dated 6 April 1787. George Clapperton had agreed to pay Hunter £10 pa. until his account was settled but this had ceased on Hunter's death. The Court ordered the accounts in both petitions to be inspected on 14 June 1787 but the matter seems not to have been resolved until the date of the warrant here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 March 1793 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 8 November 1790.

PETITIONER: The heritors of Fogo's land and others.

SITE: Carrubber's Close, Fogo's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Lamond, wright for storing large quantities of timber.

NOTES: Refers to a recent fire that originated in a carpenter or wright's shop, chiefly in old wood collected from buildings recently taken down. Lamond has his premises in Carrubbers Close on land belonging to the heirs of William Reoch, wright, on the north end of the large tenement called Fogo's land, where he has built timber shades and is storing wood. Refers to a great fire in Carrubber's Close in 1758

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 March 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 23 January 1793.

PETITIONER: John Ritchie, slater.

SITE: Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognozing accounts.

NOTES: Refers to warrant granted on 3 March 1791 (Ranken) for repairs. Account here from Ritchie which includes; 'mending several holes on the roof of Da. Hume's (David Hume?) stable there'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 March 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1793.

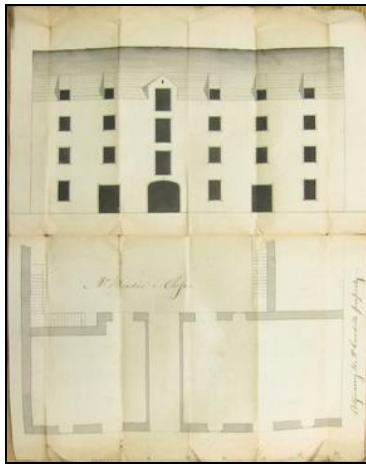
PETITIONER: John Beaddie, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Sherriff Brae.

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse of 4 floors.

NOTES: 'That in case the said area or back ground at the back of his fore tenement should anyway interfere with the City's plan of widening the harbour, your petitioner apprehends it will be necessary that the City of Edinburgh and John Cundell, brewer in Edinburgh.... Should be called...'. The City complained that it could not understand exactly where he was going to build and in response the petitioner noted that he was going to demolish an old house presently possessed by the petitioner and Alexander Henderson, lint dresser. 'Any additional breadth the intended building may occupy is to the south and not towards the river'.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and ground floor plan.

Size: 48.0 x 37.5 cms.

Watermark: T Vallance

---

BOX: 1793/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 March 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1793.

PETITIONER: John McIntyre, tenant in Letter Walton, Parish of Ardhattan, Argyll.

SITE: Bell's Wynd, head, Brown's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant dated 18 February 1790 for rebuilding the shop floor and cellars. There are detailed accounts here from William Jamieson and James Crighton, masons, David Alexander, painter (simple oil painting of windows and shutters), Alexander Ponton and William Wright 'for measuring & delineating Mr. McIntyre's property also plans to be considered for rebuilding of which proportion of Mr McIntyre is £2 8s.' Payment made 16 December 1790 to Thos Ponton, 'for my father'. Wright work by (Thomas?) Murray & (William) Falconer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 April 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1793.

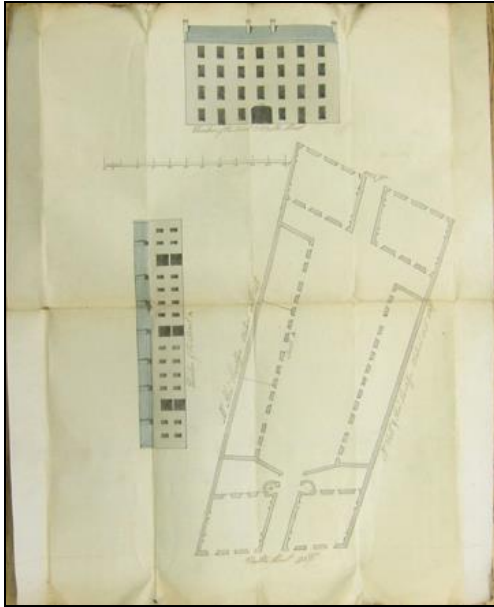
PETITIONER: William Crawford, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Baltic Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse.

NOTES: Property bounded on east and west by the property of Robert and Alexander Sherriff.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevations to Baltic Street and internal courtyard.

Size: 44.5 x 35.8 cms.

Watermark: R Williams

---

BOX: 1793/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1793.

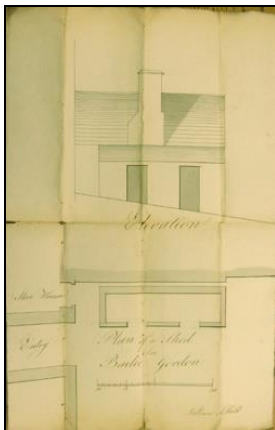
PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1793.

PETITIONER: James Gordon, brewer.

SITE: Close immediately to the west of Heriot's Bridge Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Samuel Watson, solicitor and to erect a small building.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 44.6 x 28.3 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Signed, William Sibbald.

Architect: William Sibbald.

---

BOX: 1793/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1792.

PETITIONER: John Spence, painter, Alexander Smith, baker, John Gray WS and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, blocked drain.

PROPOSAL: Division of expence of repairs.

NOTES: Refers to a warrant granted on 29 September 1791. There is an account here from John Paton, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1793.

PETITIONER: Francis Sharp, merchant and Robert Burn, architect.

SITE: South Bridge, west side, southmost tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain for carrying off water.

NOTES: The tenement was built on Lot 17, purchased from the Trustees for the South Bridge.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 23 October 1792.

PETITIONER: James Thomson, WS and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Castle Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about lack of a drain.

NOTES: Alexander Crawford and James Williamson, in company as builders are erecting a tenement to the south of the petitioner but they are neglecting to put in a drain. Thomson's property has been flooded.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 June 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1793.

PETITIONER: Henry Jeffray, Provost of Stirling.

SITE: Canongate head, south side.

PROPOSAL: To divide a large shop.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a large shop occupied by Messrs. Chrystal, auctioneers.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1793.

PETITIONER: John Forbes, weaver in Portsburgh.

SITE: The Vennel, west side at the foot.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement as required by the Court, and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1793/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 June 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1793.

PETITIONER: William Dalzel, WS.

SITE: North Frederick Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased two houses from Edmund Butterworth, writing master on 18 February 1792. It is bounded on the south by the house belonging to Mr. Campbell of Fairfield, on the north by houses belonging to Messrs Reid and Thomson, builders and on the east by a meuse lane. The complaint is about an entrance to the cellars in the sunk area of his southmost house, constructed while the petitioner was in the west during the last vacation. In replies for Edmund Butterworth he relates that in the missive of sale it was agreed that the two houses would be finished equal in manner to two houses in Queen Street, specified. When it came to the division of the sunk area, the petitioner was away and he decided to copy the arrangement in Queen Street. He notes that the cellars had been built before the houses, by Mr. Howden, builder. The problem had been raised between them and Mr. Laing, builder had been agreed as an arbiter. The Court eventually ordered the removal of the encroachment. Expences of 1 Guinea settled on 18 July 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 June 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 3 June 1793.

PETITIONER: John Thomson, blockmaker in Leith

SITE: Leith, Queen Street

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The property to be demolished is an old tenement contiguous to another belonging to Samuel Johnston, farmer at Niddry.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of four floors.

Size: 57.5 x 41.4 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, J Whatman

---

BOX: 1793/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1793.

PETITIONER: William Coulter, William Butter (wright), Dugald Masterton (writing master) and John Mylne (architect).

SITE: High Street, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a vent (chimney) in adjoining gable.

NOTES: See further petitions of 8 August 1793 and 23 November 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 July 1793

PETITION LODGED: 9 July 1793.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, James's Court

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: See previous petition, 10 January 1793 (Procurator Fiscal).

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1793.

PETITIONER: William Beaddie, stabler.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old stables, cut away some earth and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1793/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 July 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 8 July (1793).

PETITIONER: Anne Abercromby, wife of Alexander Pedden, wright in Auchenleck and William Scott, brewer in Leith.

SITE: Leith.

PROPOSAL: To demolish some buildings and erect stables over vaults.

NOTES: The petitioners have lately sold part of their property in Leith to William Scott.

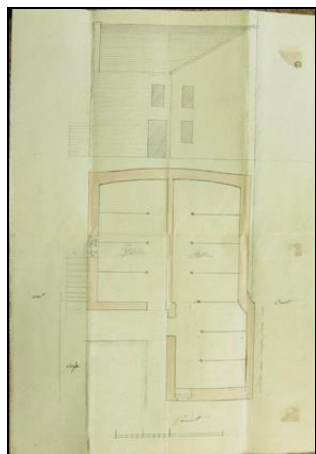
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of vaults.

Size: 38.6 x 24.7 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman



Description: b. Elevation and plan of stables.

Size: 37.5 x 26.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1793/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 August 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 24 July 1793.

PETITIONER: Christopher Moubray of the Friendly Insurance Office.

SITE: Friendly Insurance Office – back stairs area.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to and repair of windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 August 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 10 November 1790 and 3 April 1792.

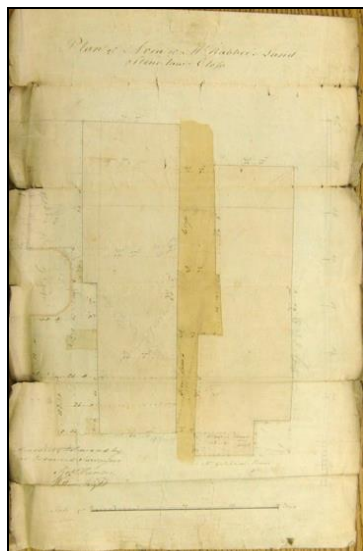
PETITIONER: John Gloag, merchant.

SITE: Hunters Square.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner owns an area lying behind and to the west of a tenement lately built by him. The area is intersected by Stevenlaws Close. The petition of 10 November 1790 is for the demolition of an old gable behind his new tenement in Hunter's Square. There is a reference in the answers for the Merchant Company to a measurement (drawing?) by George Callander which was produced but is not here. The petition includes a letter from Robert Kay to William Scott, solicitor dated 18 April 1792. He understands that the Dean of Guild have ordered Mr Gloag to produce a copy of the plan by the trustees for the South Bridge, conform to which he and the Merchant Company purchased their lots on Hunters Square. He certifies that he has the plan but that he cannot release it without an order from the Trustees for South Bridge and 'I believe the Trustees will not allow the plan to be produced in any process.' In an inventory of processes it refers to a Sasine for subjects on the south side of the High Street in favour of Reuben Macrabie dated & registered 17 June 1703, Further, a disposition to his son, Alexander and others dated 8 August 1729 and a Sasine for the same registered 8 November 1739 and an instrument of cognition and Sasine for Mrs. Elizabeth Macrabie, alias Frances, spouse of Phillip Frances Esq. of London and only child and heir of Alexander, dated and reg. 8 February 1791. In a petition by Adam Bruce and John Taylor, writers in Edinburgh, presented on or before 13 December 1792 they refer to Gloag's intention to knock through an entry from a part of his house which he intends for an oyster cellar, into new Assembly Close. Gloag was allowed to make the entry.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet. A plan and elevation is mentioned in the petition of 3 April 1793 but they are not here.



Description: a. Plan of the area of Macrabie's land Stevenlaw's Close.

Size: 36.5 x 24.0 cms.

Watermark: T Bodgen

Draughtsmen: Robert Hunter and William Wright, ordained surveyors.

---

BOX: 1793/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 August 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 27 June 1793.

PETITIONER: John Reid, John Pettigrew and (blank) Walker, proprietors.

SITE: Shakespeare Square, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Mackenzie, proprietor of the sunk floor and her tenant, William Shaw 'who keeps a house of bad fame'. Shaw has fixed a sign on the tenement belonging to John Reid and another sign which he hangs on the railing in front of their joint tenements. Ordered to remove the signs and pay a fine of 15s.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 August 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1793.

PETITIONER: William Coulter (hosier), William Butter (wright) and Dugald Masterton (writing master).

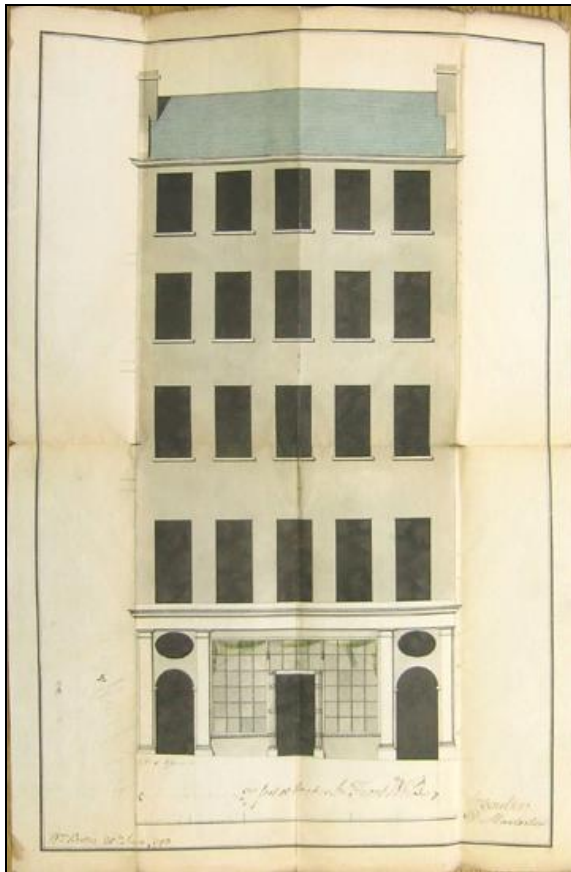
SITE: High Street, north side, Peacock's land (Lyon's Close)

PROPOSAL: To demolish a tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: The tenement is being demolished by order of the Dean of Guild. In answers from neighbours, including Mr. Fotheringham, David Bridges and Mr. Cunningham, they request sight of a ground plan. See other petitions by Coulter for this site; 4 July 1793 and 23 November 1793 and the plan by William Sibbald (c.) with the petition of Charles Ritchie, 3 September 1795, which indicates the position of Coulter's shop. Also an unextracted petition dated 14 September 1795. William Coulter (1754-1810) was a very wealthy hosier who built a large villa in Morningside in 1780. He became Dean of Guild in 1806 and was Lord Provost of Edinburgh from 1808 until his death. He was honoured with a public funeral and a parade that was 'gratefully overdone'. Thomas Aitchison, *A Directory for Edinburgh, Leith, Musselburgh and Dalkeith* July 1794 to July 1795, p. 59 'Coulter William hosier, opposite the Cross, manufactory in Selby's court, Baillie Fyfe's close'. By 1800 he was 'at the top of Jackson's Close' with a house in Greenside.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet. A plan of the area was borrowed on 13 August 1793 and 17 March 1795 but it is not here.





Description: a. Elevation of a 5 story tenement.

Size: 41.7 x 27.3 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Wm. Butter 20 June 1793

Draughtsman: William Butter.

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BOX: 1793/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 August 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 9 July 1793.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, James's Court

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: See previous petition, 10 January 1793 (Procurator Fiscal)

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 May 1793 and 15 August 1793 (expences)

PETITION LODGED: 7 December 1792.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Anchor Close, head of on the east side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish four ruinous tenements.

NOTES: The proprietors of two tenements challenged the order. Petition includes a report by William Jameson, Alexander Laing, John Read and John Mylne, masons in Edinburgh dated 17 December 1792 stating that the two lands west of Anchor Close are not dangerous or hazardous. The properties belong to or are factored by Frederick Fotheringham WS, William McIntosh, chairmaster, Harry Jamison, banker, David Bridges, merchant and Peter Cunningham, jeweller, and Dugald Masterton (writing master) all in Edinburgh. This is a very long process with at least 50 papers and the argument went to the Court of Session. A jury of 17 tradesmen was appointed, spokesman, John Baxter, architect, who decided that the tenements were a danger. In an interlocutor of 24 January 1793 the Dean of Guild ordered the demolition of the two tenements at the head of the Close. Jameson, Laing, Read and Mylne maintained their opinion on 27 May 1793 but they changed their view and the Dean of Guild confirmed

his opinion in a warrant of 28 May 1793. In a Bill of Advocation for Frederick Fotheringham WS acting for James Wright 'presently in the East Indies' he noted that 'Reform, in one denomination or other, seems to be the prevailing spirit of the times, and one species of it, the improvement of the Old Town of Edinburgh and particularly the High Street by pulling down every house which has an old or antiquated appearance, in order that new and elegant houses may be erected in their room for the ornament of the Town...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 August 1793 and 12 September 1793 expences.

PETITION LODGED: 20 August 1793.

PETITIONER: Proprietors of Lady Lawson's Wynd: Richard Learmond, wright in Portsburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lady Lawson's Wynd, Portsburgh.

PROPOSAL: Complaint and request to causeway at the expence of the residents.

NOTES: Includes an estimate from William Millar dated 13 August at Castle Barns to carry out the work for £38 5s 4d. See petition of 22 May 1794 (Steele).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 October 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 14 October 1793.

PETITIONER: James Gillespie of Spylaw and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Anchor Close and Jackson's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about potential damage to Richardson's land.

NOTES: 'That certain wooden fronted tenements of land lying between the head of Anchor Close and Jackson's Close on the north side of the High Street of Edinburgh were lately condemned by a jury as hazardous , ruinous and dangerous...'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 October 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 28 September 1793.

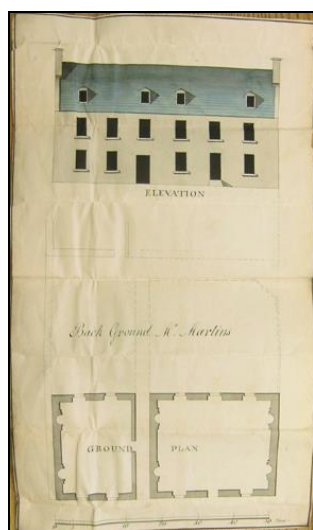
PETITIONER: John Martin, ship master, South Queensferry.

SITE: North Leith, Citadel.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner's property adjoins that of John Campbell WS.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of a three story tenement.

Size: 45.5 x 26.3 cms.

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BOX: 1793/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 October 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1793.

PETITIONER: William Sibbald, merchant in Leith and Robert Grieve, merchant there.

SITE: Leith, Shore and Weigh house Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a tack of 14 years entered into on 13 July 1779 between James Tod, Esq. and the now deceased Thomas Waugh for the property in question. On the death of Thomas Waugh at the end of 1788 or early 1789 the remainder of the tack was purchased by William Glover, wright who agreed, along with William and James Glover, grocery merchants in Leith, to undertake all the necessary maintenance of the property. They then took a tack of 20 years from 1 July 1792. The property is now in disrepair and requires work. Thomas Tod, in replies from his factor, Charles Livingston has been assured that the structure is perfectly sound. There is an estimate here from Alexander Cairn and John Thomson, wrights in Leith for the repairs to the building under the headings of the occupants: James Glover, Stuart Nairn, Mrs. Auld, Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Lillie. Also a report from Walter Bruce dated 13 July 1793 on the condition of the property 'on the corner of the Shore of Leith and St. Bernard Street' and from John Crocket, slater in Leith. The petition had been refused on 18 July 1793 but after further argument the work was undertaken by Walter Bruce under a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 November 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 28 November 1792.

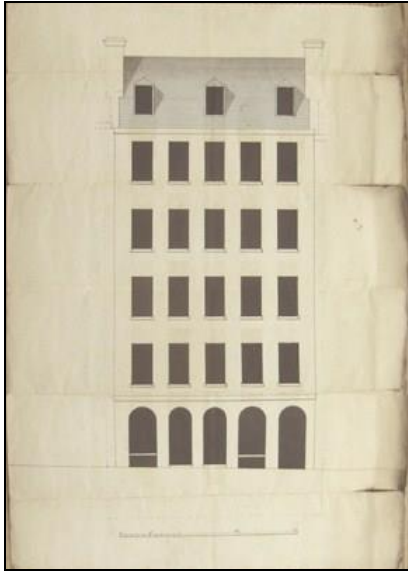
PETITIONER: Rev. Walter Young, minister of the Gospel at Erskine.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, to the west of and adjoining Whitslaid's land.

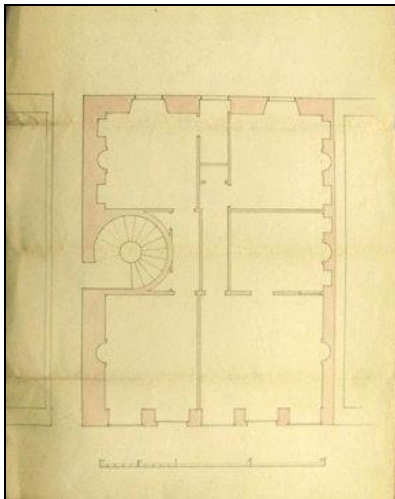
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the Court.

NOTES: The petitioner is given to understand that the line of the street is to be altered and allowance given to the proprietors of the three lands taken down to bring the fronts of their houses forward. He asks that the new line be determined by the Court and this was done on 7 February 1793. The Rev. Young made a second petition on 24 October 1793, having purchased the area behind his proposed tenement from Mrs. Murray. He states that he paid £20 to the proprietors of James's Court to allow him to extend his property over the entry into the Court on the east (west on plan). He submits a (new?) plan and previous elevation, a. and b. below. There does seem to be some discrepancy between the plan and the elevation with regard to entrances. There is an argument here about mutual gables. In answers from the proprietors of James's Court dated on or before 4 November 1793 they state 'In the year 1727 James's Court the largest building in Edinburgh was erected, and from that period down to the present, the proprietors have been at the sole expence of laying and paving the fore closes or entrys leading to the court. When the fore lands were demolished, the respondents were in hopes by giving up some of their fore entrys that they might be accommodated with one more commodious and large in the centre; but from the variety of clashing interests in the fore tenements, this is found somewhat impracticable ' They dispute that they agreed to accept £20 and ask instead, if he will not widen the entry by 3 feet, for £25. He agreed. See petitions of 16 February/8 March 1792, 10 January 1793 and drawings with 12 December 1793 (Andrew) which suggest the entry was on the east.

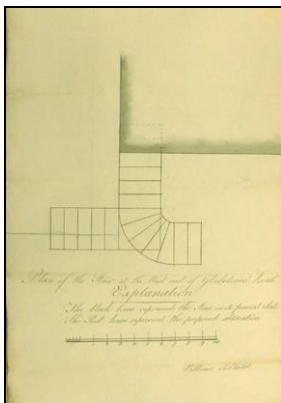
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets.



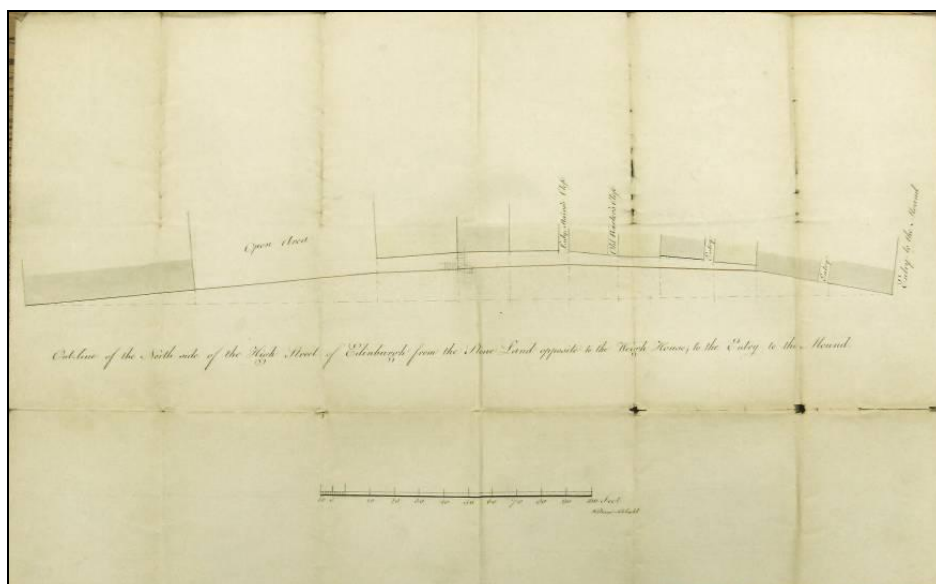
Description: a. Elevation of a 5 story tenement with attics.  
Size: 36.0 x 25.2 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor with a close on the west.  
Size: 30.4 x 23.4 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the stair at the west side of Gladstones' land.  
Size: 32.2 x 20.0 cms.  
Draughtsman: William Sibbald.



Description: d. Outline of the north side of the High Street from the stone land opposite the Weigh house to the entry to the Mound.

Size: 28.2 x 45.7 cms.

Draughtsman: William Sibbald.

BOX: 1793/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 November 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 11 June 1793.

PETITIONER: Alexander Thomson, merchant and others.

SITE: High Street, between Geddes Close and Lyons Close, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about tradesman's materials.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Coulter, John Mylne, founder, William Butter, wright and Dugald Masterton, teacher. Speaks of mounds of materials three stories high, lifted pavement, large pits for lime and stances for masons all outside the adjoining properties. In replies for the defenders they state that they began pulling down Peacock's land on the 11th June.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1793/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 November 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 20 November 1793.

PETITIONER: William Coulter, hosier.

SITE: High Street, north side, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: To alter the shop front in a previous petition.

NOTES: Coulter is applying for a modification because the proprietor of the tenement immediately to the west is allowing his property to lie waste. This may be a reference to the tenement in Anchor Close in the petition of 28 May and 15 August 1793 above which went to the Court of Session. Note on front of petition that the elevation was borrowed on 17 March 1795. Also that William Butter, wright and Dougal Masterton, writing master be summoned immediately. See previous petitions by Coulter of 4 July 1793 and 8 August 1793.

DRAWINGS: Elevation of the shop front is not here.

BOX: 1793/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 December 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1793.

PETITIONER: Andrew Crombie & Son, dyers.

SITE: Hume's Close, ground floor, occupied as a dyehouse.

PROPOSAL: Minor alterations, windows and doors.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 December 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1793.

PETITIONER: William Steedman, carter in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kirkgate, Brickwork Close.

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of his stable and to build to the east of the area.

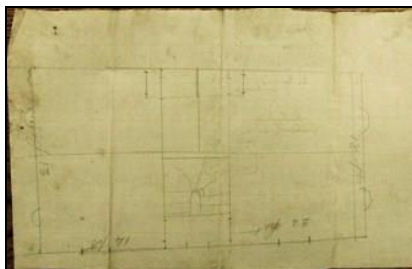
NOTES: The petitioner signs himself William Steadman.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



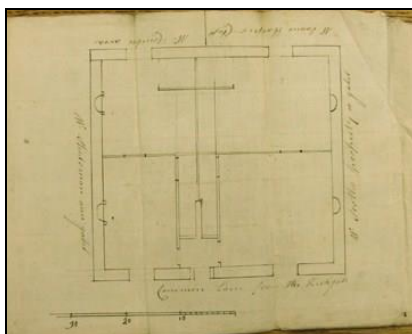
Description: a. Elevation to the lane from the Kirkgate and plan.

Size: 19.0 x 25.0 cms (irregular).



Description: b. Sketch plan.

Size: 18.0 x 30.0 cms (irregular).



Description: c. Plan.

Size: 19.0 x 31.0 cms.

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BOX: 1793/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 December 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 4 December 1793.

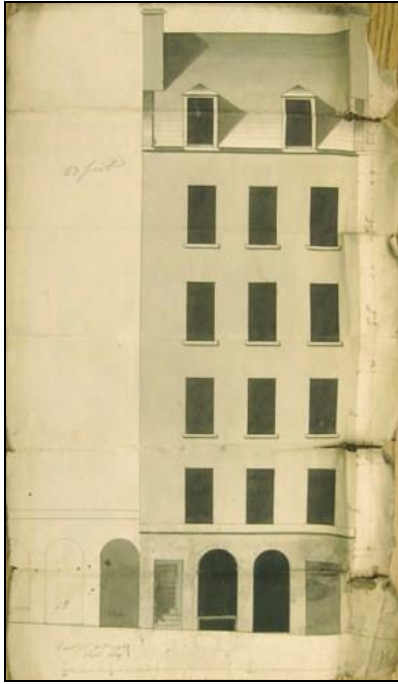
PETITIONER: John Andrew, merchant, Andrew Murray, wigmaker and John Allan, builder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Elliot's land James's Court.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the Court.

NOTES: See petitions of 16 February, 8 March 1792, 10 January and 5 November 1793.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

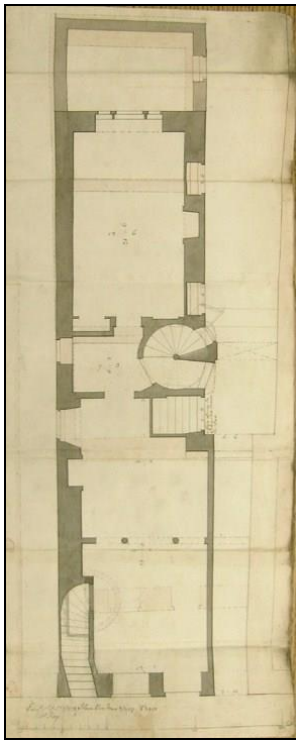


Description: a. Elevation for a tenement of 5 floors and attics.

Size: 46.8 x 27.2 cms.

Inscriptions recto: Edinr 1st Octr 1793 / Robt Kay.

Architect: Robert Kay



Description: b. Plan of the shop (ground) floor with indications of the plan of the previous tenement.

Size: 54.0 x 21.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr 1st Octr 1793 / Robt Kay.

Architect: Robert Kay.

Watermark: Countermark, J Larking

---

**Unextracted petitions** (ECA: SL91/24)

BOX: 1793/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1793 (no warrant, dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 4 January 1793.

PETITIONER: Colonel Robert Rickhart, Hepburn of Rickarton.

SITE: North Castle Street, corner with Queen Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of a wall.

NOTES: The petitioner, who lives in Queen Street, refers to a previous complaint against Andrew Neil, mason who was ordered to pull down two feet of wall, last Spring. The mason has now raised a (new?) wall which obstructs the light to the petitioner's kitchen and back bedroom.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1793.

PETITIONER: David Hay, builder and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Charlotte Square, north side.

PROPOSAL: To coordinate work on a mutual gable.

NOTES: The petitioner's lot is bounded on the west by the feu belonging to Adam Russell, builder and on the east by a stance belonging to Robert Inglis, mason and builder. The petitioner began his tenement about March and has the jointing in place above the ground or sunk floor. He wished to continue the ashlar work but needs the cooperation of Robert Inglis, who has not yet begun to build, to supply a section of the vents in his gable. He also needs Inglis to begin so that they can tie their respective facades together.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 February 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 2 February 1793.

PETITIONER: Thomas Wilson, advocate.

SITE: No. 5 South Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a carpenter's shop.

NOTES: The petitioner owns two stories of the tenement and below the first story (ground floor) is a shop owned by the heirs of Thomas Walker, vintner and occupied by James Hardy, cabinet maker. He is not using the shop for retail but as a workshop where he has shavings lying about and stored timber.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1793.

PETITIONER: Thomas Tod, merchant, John Allan, builder and John Andrew, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, fronting James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non demolition of the back tenements.

NOTES: The petitioners were ordered to demolish their tenement and they did so. In another verdict in October last, the back tenements were also to be demolished but this has not occurred, delaying any rebuilding. The complaint was repeated in June 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 2 July 1792.

PETITIONER: Edward Simpson, barber and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: North Bridge, two upper floors and garrets.



PROPOSAL: Complaint about the tenants of the shop below.

NOTES: The petitioner has occupied his property for six years and the shop floor belongs to Thomas Tod, merchant. The complaint is against Nicoll Sommerville and Andrew Hay, painters who hold a lease on the shop floor from Thomas Brown, cloth merchant, the previous tenant, from Whitsunday 1791. The petitioner considers the new tenant to be a nuisance and a danger to the building. In replies for Sommerville & Hay they state that they only use the premises to keep and mix colours, receiving messages and painting sign boards. They refer to the shops of 'Mr. Bonnar, Messrs Taylor and the Nories occupying oil and colour shops in lands fronting the High Street...'. They go on 'Indeed, the smell of the paint is not so disagreeable to the respondents or to many others as the smell of some of the petitioner, Mr. Simpson's perfumes and dust of the powder which he uses...'. In replies for Mr. Brown he states that he thought he was leasing the shop to one who would sell pictures. It is noted that Messrs. Taylor and the Nories have their shops in a meuse lane in the New Town and Mr. Bonnar has his work and painting shop at the foot of a Close in the Canongate and a sale shop in the High Street. There are depositions here from lodgers including from Mrs. Mary Fergus at Kinnaird House dated 7 November 1792, aged 20 years and upwards, governess to Miss Bruce of Kinnaird (aged 14) who briefly rented accommodation from Mr. Simpson in April 1792 but had to leave because of the smell. Also from James Bruce of Kinnaird, aged 58, a widower. This is a very long process with nineteen numbered documents including proofs from others with much interesting material on other painters in the City in addition to those mentioned above; Michael Young, painter, aged 30, unmarried, who has traded for 14 or 15 years; John Ross, painter aged 20, married who has traded for 6 years; Mr. Donaldson, painter is mentioned; John Bonnar, painter aged 64, married, master painter for 34 years, served his apprenticeship with Robert Norie, painter; George Norie, painter, deceased is mentioned; Robert Norie, painter aged 25, married, master painter for 4 years and William Deas, painter is mentioned; Charles Baillie, journeyman painter, aged 22, unmarried employed by the defenders; John Symington, journeyman painter, aged 19, unmarried, also employed by the defenders, Somerville & Hay for about 2 years; James Watson, painter aged 60, married, has been a master painter since 1768 and that he served an apprenticeship with Messrs. Reoch, Cochran & Miller, painters from age 13 or 14. (William Reoch was a stuccoist) The Court found in favour of the petitioner and ordered that the defenders should only use their shop for the sale of prepared paints and receiving orders and prohibited them from preparing paints, oils or varnishes and also from painting chairs and other articles in the shop. The case rumbled on over expences until July 1793.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1793.

PETITIONER: Adam Bruce and John Taylor, writers.

SITE: High Street, New Assembly 'or Snowdowns' Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an alteration to steps.

NOTES: The complaint is against Abraham Newton, tea and spirit dealer who occupied shops at the head of the Close with a dwelling house behind. He has constructed a new step that projects into the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 June 1793 (No warrant here).

PETITION LODGED: 15 May 1793.

PETITIONER: Procurator Fiscal versus Andrew Mein, son of deceased William Mein, merchant.

SITE: Fleshmarket Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint, working without a warrant.

NOTES: Mein was creating an entrance into the Close with access through the site of a

ruinous tenement, sometime ago purchased by the City for public uses. Mein produced titles: Margaret Blair and George Hewit to James Johnston of 10 May 1707, registered 1731; disposition by Harry Davidson WS, commissioner for Lt. Robert Mein to the petitioner, Andrew Mein of 26 April 1785  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1793 (remit to the Lord Ordinary regarding expences).

PETITION LODGED: 6 June 1793.

PETITIONER: Miss James Ann McDowall and Thomas Walker Baird, advocate, her factor loco tutoris.

SITE: Portsburgh, on the south side of high street leading from the West Port.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about condition of upper floors.

NOTES: This process may have begun in response to a petition by the Procurator Fiscal before 27 December 1792. From the numbering, there are some papers missing. Report from Alexander Purdie and John Clark, builders dated 27 May 1793 stating that the property was not ruinous. Report enclosed from James Brown and James Salisbury, architects and Andrew Irvine, mason, declaring the entire tenement to be ruinous. Jury appointed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1793 (no warrant, petitioners to see the complaint).

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1792.

PETITIONER: Charles Brown of Coalstoun, advocate.

SITE: High Street, head of Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked vent.

NOTES: The petitioner recently purchased a cellar from Alexander Fraser of Torbreck in that great tenement built by John Moubray. He has let the cellar to a china burner who has found that the vent is blocked at a level above the cellar, owned by Mrs. Watson, relict of Samuel Watson, tobacconist in liferent and Janet Watson, daughter of said Samuel Watson and spouse to William Gillespie, merchant, in fee. On 11 July 1793 the Procurator Fiscal complained that the vent was a danger to the tenement. It appears that nothing happened.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1793 (no warrant, parties to produce drawings).

PETITION LODGED: 11 July 1793.

PETITIONER: Andrew Murray, barber and John Andrew, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, front of James's Court, Elliot's land.

PROPOSAL: Argument about valuation of a demolished property .

NOTES: The various parties appointed tradesman to make a valuation and the names of Robert Kay, architect, William Wright, surveyor and Robert Burn, architect are mentioned here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1793.

PETITIONER: John Haggart, advocate.

SITE: Merchant Street, eastmost tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The petitioner owns the 1st floor, John Crombie the second and Mr. Keir the third. The complaint is against Mrs. French, widow of (blank) French of the General Post Office, who has made an opening in the westmost gable of the upper story.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 August 1793 (no warrant)

PETITION LODGED: 15 August 1793.

PETITIONER: Alexander Storie, candlemaker.

SITE: North side of street from the Infirmary to College Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an 'office house' (toilet).

NOTES: The complaint is that an office house was erected about two years ago when the building of the new College (University) began which was to have been temporary. It is not cleaned and has become a nuisance.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 September 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 31 August 1793.

PETITIONER: Robert Clark, tailor in Geddes Close and Mrs. Watson, with the procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Geddes Close, Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an exposed gable.

NOTES: Their east gable is exposed to the elements due to the demolition of the neighbouring tenement. The Court decided that the tenement was unsafe and that they should all move out.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 October 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 30 July 1793.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Grassmarket, north side, and part of West Bow, pavement.

PROPOSAL: To repair the pavement.

NOTES: A list of proprietors here for properties on north side of the Grassmarket and west side of the West Bow, between Baillie Grant's Close and Nicholson's Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1793/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 October 1793 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1793.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South and North, St. David's Street, St. Andrew Street, George Street, Hanover Street and Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the pavement.

NOTES: The complaint is against seven named individuals; Alexander Fraser, grocer in St. Andrew Street, Matthew Sandilands WS and Miss Laurie in Queen Street, Lt. General Horn Elphinstone in George Street, Alexander Learmonth, tanner, John Tawse, WS, in St. James's Square and Thomas Sanderson, treasurer to the Assembly rooms in George Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1793/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 December 1793.

PETITION LODGED: 13 November 1793.

PETITIONER: James Forrest, merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Geddes Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of lead.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Thomson, builder at the foot of Leith Wynd who was employed to demolish has cut away the lead on the roof of the petitioner's tenement. The lead was returned but the petitioner was not allowed expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

## 1794

The Court Officers from 10 October 1793:

### Dean of Guild

John Gloag

### Council

William Gillespie, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

William Dalrymple, merchant

William Scott, plumber

John Young, wright

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

---

BOX: 1794/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 January 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 2 November 1793.

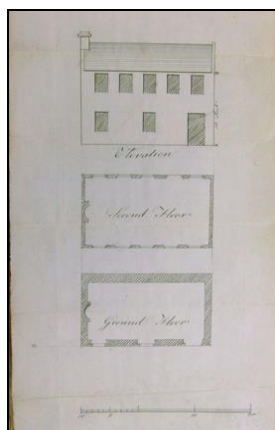
PETITIONER: Archibald Howison, carver and gilder.

SITE: Roxburgh Close, bottom, east side.

PROPOSAL: To build a small workshop

NOTES: The petitioner had purchased an area of vacant land. He applied for a second time to enlarge his building, being part of a tenement purchased from the heirs of Reuben Mackrabie

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and outline plans of two floors.

Size: 32.0 x 19.7 cms.

Watermark: Curteis & Sons

Draughtsman: Dexter hatching.

---

BOX: 1794/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 January 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 28 November 1793.

PETITIONER: Rev. Alexander Allan.

SITE: Chessells Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: There is a disagreement with Archibald Borthwick, banker about blocked drains, apparently caused by the petitioner. He employed Alexander Laing, architect for advice and he wishes to build a new drain.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1794/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1793.

PETITIONER: John Robertson, writer.  
SITE: Middle Meal market stairs, 3rd door.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint.

NOTES: The flat above had been converted into a printing house and book binder's shop by Dr. James Anderson, publisher of a periodical paper called *The Bee*. 'That those employed by the said Dr Anderson in the printing and the book binding business are mostly young people and boys who daily make the most uncommon noise, particularly in the afternoons from two till four o'clock in so much that it is heard in the petitioners house like that of Murder or coach horses prancing in the rooms and they also have some large unwieldy piece of furniture which they hurle along from one place to another...' etc. etc. In answers for Dr. James Anderson he notes that he took a lease at Martinmas 1791 of the 4th and 5th floors. He has been operating since then without complaint and he placed his printing press on the 5th floor to avoid any nuisance.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1794/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1794

PETITION LODGED: 10 December 1793.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Road from North Loch

PROPOSAL: Complaint against representatives of the deceased Thomas Heriot, wright  
NOTES: Includes a petition from the proprietors of houses in Canal Street and St. Ann's Street and a number of lanes, to the Town Council dated November 1793, complaining that the road has been blocked. Signatories included Young, Trotter & Hamilton. The road was constructed about 15 years previously. Thomas Heriot owned property at the back of the Royal Exchange and the road has been blocked below his property. Heriot's heirs provide legal title to the area they have blocked. They refer to a disposition by Thomas Fairholme of Pilton to Joseph Wardrobe, wright dated 24 May 1726. Also a disposition by Joseph Wardrobe in favour of his creditors dated 16 October 1733, reg. 28 March 1738 and a disposition by the creditors in favour of Thomas Heriot dated 28 January 1742, reg. 6 October 1767 - all of which refer to the northerly boundary of his property being the shore of the North Loch. The Procurator Fiscal argues that the shore has moved. On 20 March 1794 the Court suggested the petitioners take an action in the Court of Session to determine the extent and limit of their property.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 February 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1794.

PETITIONER: James Tait, builder.

SITE: Shakespeare Square, east side of Theatre Royal.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expence of building a tenement.

NOTES: Total expence £1276 6s 0½d Stg. Full set of accounts beginning 7 July 1792 and ending 1 May 1793. Also a measurement of the work included. Of interest: 2 January 1793 slapping a door into the theatre; polished (ashlar) cornices capitals & bases architrave mouldings; mahogany tops of counters; sash frames, crown glass bor(owe)d lights over doors; enriched mouldings cove room ditto (4 flats); ornamental frieze lineal Coffee Room; 2 carved chimney pieces for ditto(?), 1 ditto (carved chimney piece) for Coffee Room £2 12s 6d, 1 pair carved capitals for ditto 12s. Ends with a note dated Edinburgh 19 February 1794 'The Committee subscribing having considered the preceding accmpt with the measurement relative thereto, and also having examined the work are of opinion the said work is sufficiently executed (excepting the plaister work) .... But are of opinion that there should be a deduction from the plaister work of £18 stg. giving a total of £1258 6s 0½d Stg'.

DRAWINGS: None here. See warrant of 1 November 1792 (Playfair and King).

---

BOX: 1794/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 February 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1794.

PETITIONER: The Governors of Heriot's Hospital: James Jackson, merchant, treasurer.

SITE: High Street, immediately below Foulis Close, opposite the Fountain Well.

PROPOSAL: To extend the shop forward to include the piazza and lower the floor to near the level of the street.

NOTES: Heriot's Hospital owns the shop. The warrant insists that they employ John Young, architect to carry out the work. Note on petition, 'borrowed the plan produced in order to make a copy thereof, which shall be returned in a few days/William Sibbald'. The petition includes a detailed estimate of the work required by William Sibbald dated 3 December 1793. He provides one estimate to include the piazza and another just to improve the shop.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1794/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 18 November 1793.

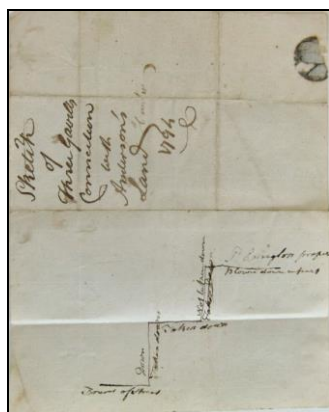
PETITIONER: Messrs Goldie and Robertson, Henry Jamieson and David Bridges, merchants, Robert Hunter, architect, doer for the heirs of Major Goldie and Peter Cunningham, jeweller.

SITE: High Street, Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: To take down and rebuild parts of a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner's tenement is beside one recently demolished and they wish to demolish other parts of their tenement and rebuild. There is a sketch plan with answers for Alexander Gardner. This is a complex group of papers with later petitions from the procurator Fiscal joined with it. Others mentioned here as interested parties include the Earl of Eglinton, Alexander Gardner, goldsmith, trustees of John Blair, late writer, Archibald mercer, wine merchant, Calton Hill etc. The Court decided that the gable on the west of the south gable of Fortunes land was also ruinous and should be demolished. They further decided on 20 March to request a plan and elevation from the heritors of Richardson's land. There are articles of roup here for the sale of the demolished building materials, advertised on Monday 1 December 1794.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Sketch plan of the gables taken down and those standing.

Size: 20.0 x 15.7 cms.

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BOX: 1794/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 March 1794.

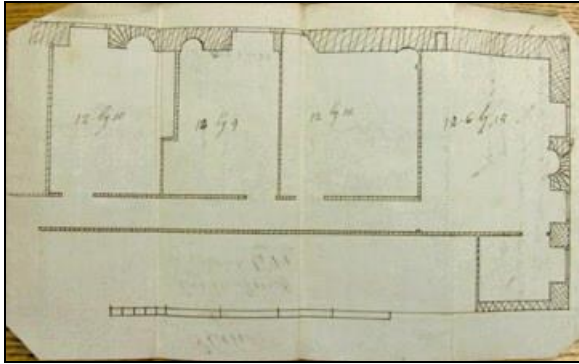
PETITION LODGED: 5 March 1794.

PETITIONER: Robert Sheriff.

SITE: Dons Close, Edinburgh.

PROPOSAL: Internal alterations.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.  
Size: 18.6 x 31.4 cms.

BOX: 1794/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 17 December 1793.

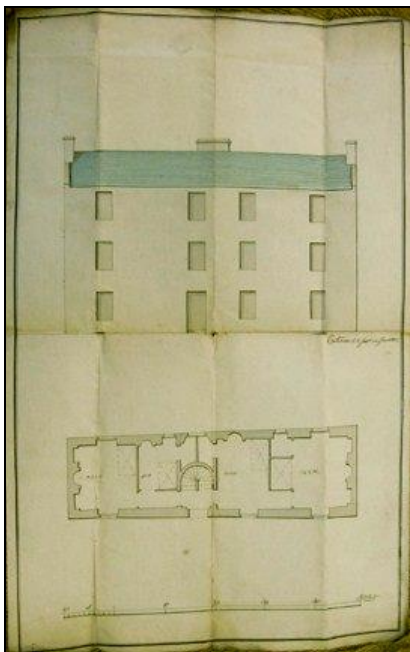
PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Tailors in Potterrow: James Hamilton, Deacon and George Hardie, Boxmaster.

SITE: Potterrow, east side, a yard.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The yard is immediately behind a tenement feued by the Incorporation to Peter Logan and John Rule, masons in Edinburgh, on which they have built a new tenement. They intend feuing out the yard area but they wish to build a tenement of three floors before doing so. The Incorporation was refused a warrant on 13 February 1794 and this resulted in a referral to the Court of Session. Enclosed is a Bill of Advocation, remitted 14 March 1794, for James Hamilton with instructions to the Dean of Guild to overturn his first decision.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 43.7 x 27.8 cms.

BOX: 1794/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 March 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1792.

PETITIONER: Eleanora Sheill (alias Robson, alias Wilson), relict of deceased David Wilson, brewer in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, north back.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.

NOTES: Refers to previous petition and warrant granted 3 November 1791. The petition includes a proof for Eleanora Robson dated 10 December 1792. It includes depositions by Andrew Ramsay, slater in Edinburgh aged 32 and married; Michael Nasmith, wright and ordained measurer in Canongate, aged 66 years, a widower; Robert Porteous, wright in Edinburgh aged 40 and upwards, married; William Gray, mason in Canongate aged 40 and married; Archibald Aitken, wright and ordained measurer in Canongate aged 50 and upwards, widower; Thomas McInnes, mason in Canongate aged 50 and upwards, married and Daniel Wright, slater in Canongate aged 35, married. There is a full set of accounts here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 March 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 11 March 1794.

PETITIONER: Walter Ferguson, candlemaker.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Fisher's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked sewer; from head of the Close to the Cowgate.

NOTES: See further petition of 7 August 1794. William Jamison, mason required to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 May 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1794.

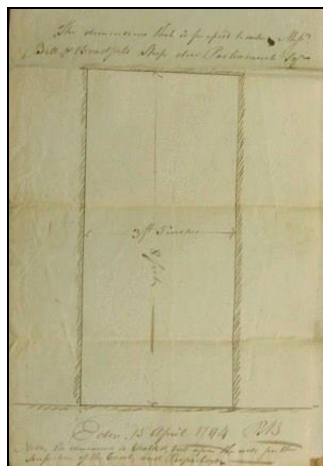
PETITIONER: Bell & Bradfute, booksellers.

SITE: Parliament Close, immediately south of the piazzas.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to their shop entrance.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.

---



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 31.818.4 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edin. 15 April 1794 RB (Robert Burn).

Architect: Robert Burn.

---

BOX: 1794/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 5 March 1793.

PETITIONER: John Ranken residing at Inverkeithing.

SITE: Leith, Ranken's land, head of Broad Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and repair part of his tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a cellar at the rear occupied by Robert Sheriff, merchant in Leith.

Note on front of Replies for John Ranken (No 7) 'Ed. 8 July 1794. Borrowed up the plan produced in order to lodge to the Lord Ordinary the cause having been suspended to



be returned to the Court when advised by his Lordship'.  
DRAWINGS: Plan and elevation mentioned but not here.

---

BOX: 1794/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 May 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1793.

PETITIONER: Andrew Steele, WS.

SITE: Portsburgh, Lady Lawson's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of laying causeway.

NOTES: Petition includes a scheme of division between the heritors. See petition of 29 August 1793 (Learmond).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1794.

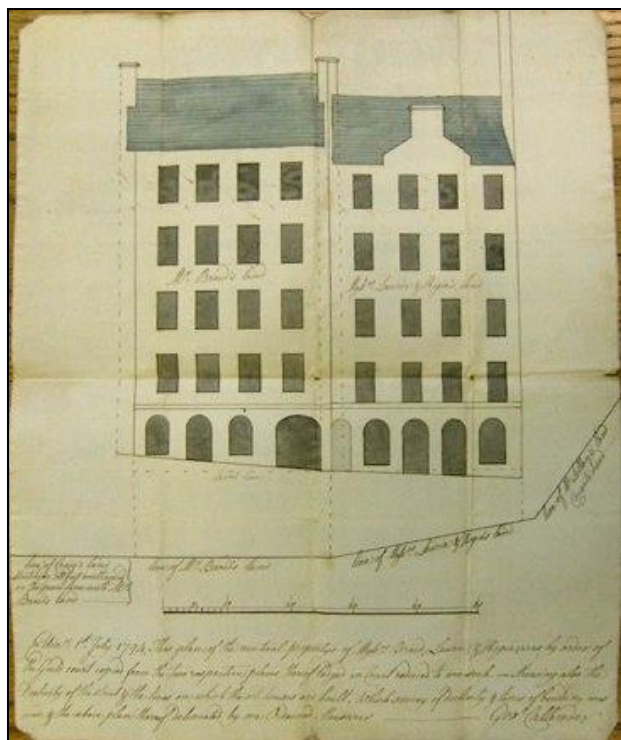
PETITIONER: Andrew Laurie, dancing master and John Keggie, stocking weaver.

SITE: Corn Market, east end (east end of Grassmarket).

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: David Braid, stabler in Edinburgh is the neighbouring owner and there is an argument about the stability of his tenement. The drawing at a. is said to be copied from two plans lodged with the court. Presumably one of these is with Braid's petition to rebuild, 17 July 1794.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of Mr Braid's and Laurie & Keggie's tenements of five floors. Mr Craig's land stood on the left of these and Mr McLellan's on the right, in Cowgatehead.

Size: 38.6 x 31.9 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, BRAND

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. 1st July 1794. This plan of the mutual properties of Messrs. Braid, Laurie & Keggie, was, by order of the Guild Court, copied from the two respective plans thereof lodged in Court, reduced to one scale. Showing also the declivity of the street & the lines on which the old houses are built, which survey of declivity & lines of building was made & the above plan thereof delineated by me, Ordained Surveyor, Geo(rge) Callender'.

Draughtsman: George Callender

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BOX: 1794/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 June 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 22 May 1794.

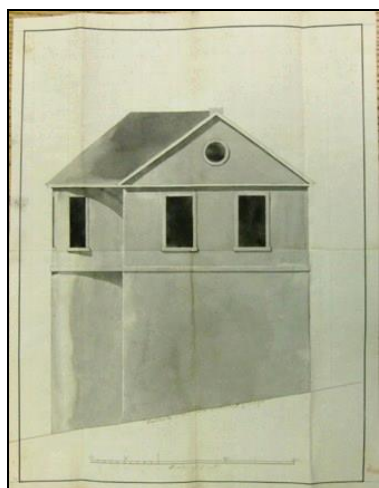
PETITIONER: Governor and Company of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

SITE: Old Fishmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: To build an additional office.

NOTES: The petitioners asked to build using plan 2, in which the apsidal room encroached on the Close. On 29 May 1794 they were asked to supply an elevation. On 5 June they were given warrant to build as they proposed. Also included here is a petition of 13 November 1794 for the repair of shade at the entrance to the bank, built many years previously to accommodate a cobbler who also kept the Bank Court clean. Warrant granted 20 November 1794.

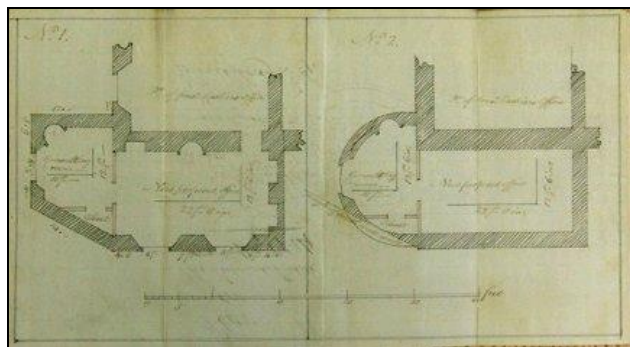
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 33.8 x 25.8 cms.

Watermarks: J Larking



Description: b. Plans, marked 1 and 2, with alternative options for encroachment on the Close.

Size: 16.2 x 29.7 cms.

BOX: 1794/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 June 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 4 June 1794.

PETITIONER: Annabella Low, daughter of the deceased Robert Low, writer.

SITE: High Street, Jackson's land, sixth floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the height of a new wall.

NOTES: The complaint is against Dougal Masterton, writing master, proprietor of the uppermost floor of the adjoining tenement, being rebuilt for himself and William Coulter, one of the magistrates of Edinburgh. He is building the back wall higher than allowed by his warrant. The Court agreed and ordered the wall to be lowered. In a further petition of 18 June the petitioner complained about the use of her gable but the Court decided on 26 June that it was mutual.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1794/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1794.

PETITIONER: Robert Lawson, surgeon, James Latta, surgeon, William Nelson, lecturer in chemistry and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High School Yards, east end, Old Wives Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about decayed stairs.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Michie, owner of the stair who has allowed them to become insufficient. He is ordered to repair within fourteen days.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 July and 17 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1794.

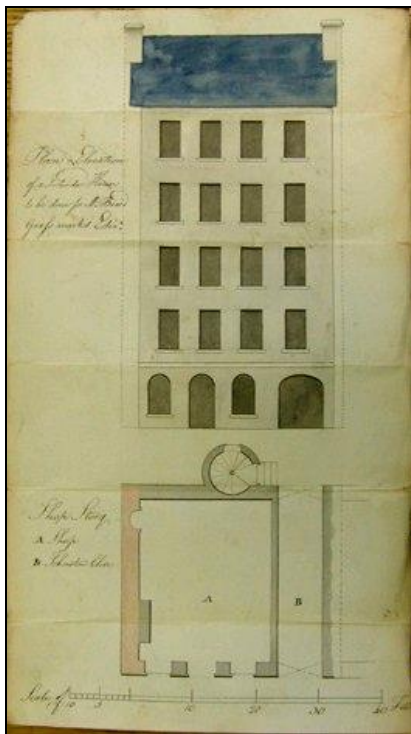
PETITIONER: David Braid, stabler.

SITE: Corn Market, (east end of Grassmarket).

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: See previous petition of 29 May 1794 (Lurie) for the adjoining tenement. Note on front of petition refers to two plans and elevations submitted. The drawing at a. below is the one mentioned in the warrant of 3 July 1794.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan of shop floor. Entry indicated as Johnston's Close.

Size: 38.0 x 21.2 cms.

Watermark: Curteis & Sons

---

BOX: 1794/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July and 31 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1794.

PETITIONER: (Captain) George Smith, mariner in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, Willy Water's Close.

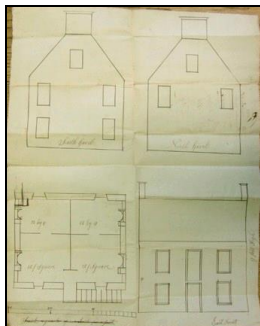
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Note on petition refers to drawings being borrowed and returned in May 1795.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1794/21  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1794.  
PETITIONER: Alexander Gibb, candlemaker in Leith.  
SITE: North Leith.  
PROPOSAL: To demolish a tenement and rebuild.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



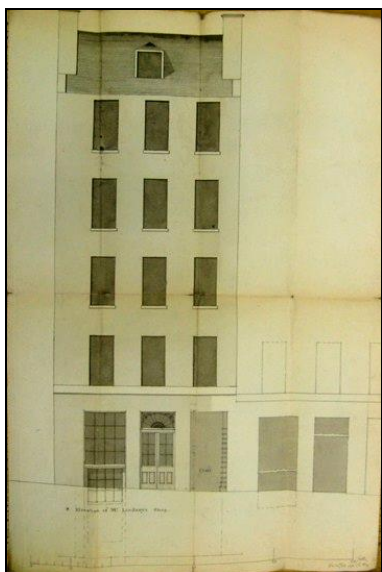
Description: a. Elevations from three directions and plan of ground floor.

Size: 49.5 x 38.4 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, French

---

BOX: 1794/22  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 July 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 15 July 1794.  
PETITIONER: David Lindsay, wool merchant, Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith and James Brunton, wright in Lugton, near Dalkeith.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, east side of Mylne's Court fronting James's Court.  
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the court.  
NOTES: Lindsay is proprietor of the basement and shop floor above, Sanderson, the third floor above the shops and Brunton, the top floor. The first floor above the shop is owned by Edward Rogers, late merchant in Edinburgh and the second above the shops, by (David) Russell. They have refused to join in the petition. See further petition of 27 November 1794 (Lindsay). See also the petition of 31 July 1794 (Sanderson) for the position of the tenement.  
DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a six floor tenement with attic.

Size: 43.5 x 29.0 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edr. 13th July 1793 R. Kay.

Architect: Robert Kay.

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BOX: 1794/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1794.

PETITIONER: The Heritors of Warristons Close: Rev. Patrick Robitson and other proprietors.

SITE: Warriston's Close

PROPOSAL: Re-paving the Close with flagstones.

NOTES: Petition includes the minutes of a meeting of the proprietors on 9 April 1794 in Mr. (James) Baxter's tavern, head of Blackfriar's Wynd. Alexander Laing architect attended and he was appointed to undertake the work at a cost of about £50 stg.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1794.

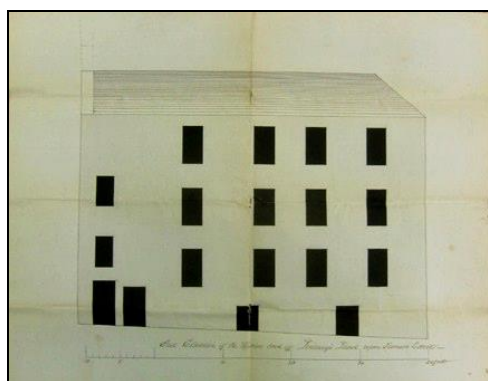
PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1794.

PETITIONER: Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith.

SITE: Lawnmarket, back of westmost land (Lindsay's) fronting James's Court.

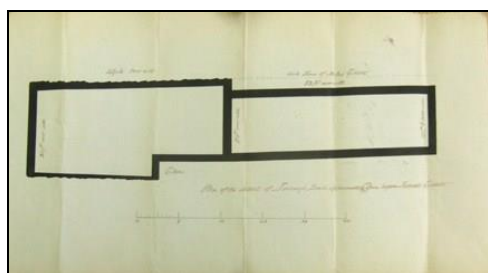
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the Court

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.

Size: 28.8 x 36.3 cms.



Description: b. Plan of Lindsay's land.

Size: 20.5 x 37.4 cms.

---

BOX: 1794/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 7 May 1794.

PETITIONER: John Stewart, merchant.

SITE: Toddericks Wynd, Watt's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.

NOTES: He suggests Alexander Laing, mason to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1794/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 14 May 1794.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Jean Anderson, residenter and Charles Mackenzie, writer.

SITE: Strichen's Close, foot. Bounded on the west by Cant's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about water penetrating from Cant's Close.  
NOTES: The Court appointed William Jamison to open the sewer on the east side of Cant's Close and report. His estimate dated 8 July 1794 is enclosed.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/27  
WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1794.  
PETITIONER: Walter Ferguson, candlemaker.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, Fisher's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.  
NOTES: See previous petition of 27 March 1794. Petition includes a scheme of allocation among feuars.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/28  
WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 26 November 1793.  
PETITIONER: Lt. John Yetts of the Royal Navy.  
SITE: Canongate head, north side, Buchanan's land, eastmost half.  
PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous roof.  
NOTES: The proprietors of the garret flats who are responsible for the repair of the roof refuse to carry out the work unless compelled to do so. The petition is signed by Eliza Yetts for her husband. Mrs. Wood, one of the neighbouring proprietors died after the process came to court and the property passed to her daughter Catherine. Petition includes an estimate from James Ramsay, New Street, Edinburgh dated 14 August 1794. Of interest: 'To re-slating the same being very flat much exposed high and difficult to access & slates at present scarce and high priced £19 14s 6d. To timber cut down with trees & deals for scaffolding.... To re-slating a flat Watergate with large square slates... (Total) £55 2s 10d. NB the old slates are all wasted & unfit for any use being of a very bad quality... Since calculating the above estimate a duty of twenty per cent has taken place on slates, which must increase the above sum'.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/29  
WARRANT GRANTED: 11 September 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1794.  
PETITIONER: Allan Buchanan, lace manufacturer and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Hyndfords Close, west side.  
PROPOSAL: To repair chimney stacks.  
NOTES: Petitioner is proprietor of the three upper flats. Includes estimate from William Jamison (mason).  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/30  
WARRANT GRANTED: 18 September 1794.  
PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1794.  
PETITIONER: Robert Dempster, druggist and Elizabeth Still, relict of Robert Still, haberdasher.  
SITE: High Street, front land at the head of Grays Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about chimney stacks.  
NOTES: There is an estimate her for the repair of the stacks from William Jamieson, mason  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 October 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 9 September 1794.

PETITIONER: William Glover, wright in Leith and Alexander Muckle, merchant there.

SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, 'fronting the pipes'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about in disrepair an adjoining tenement.

NOTES: Complaint is about a tenement owned by Robert Caldcleugh, merchant in London which lies to the north of that owned by Muckle and to the east of that by Glover.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 November 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1794.

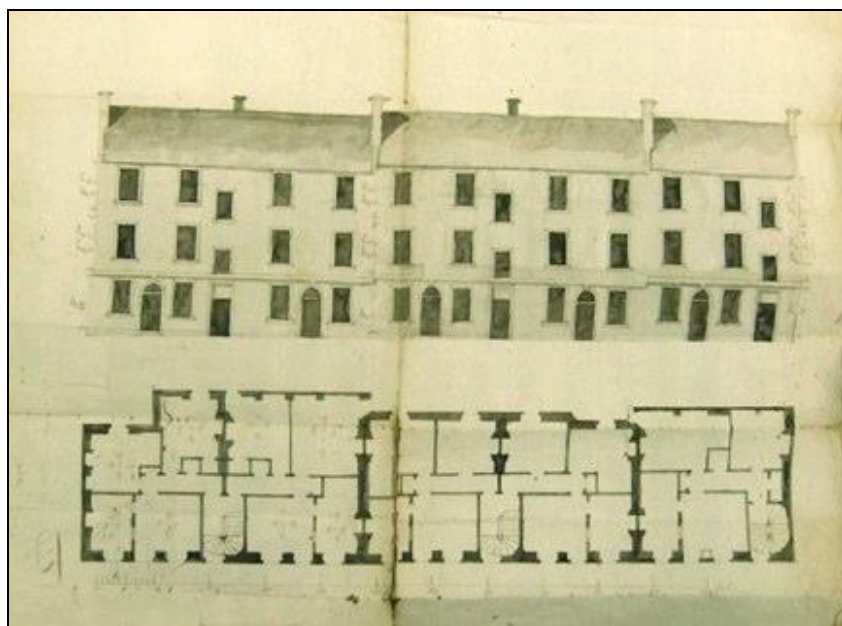
PETITIONER: Jean Bull, residing in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Liddells Close, north side.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement of five houses, three stories in height.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of a tenement of land and an area with several cellars and workshops. The tenement is bounded on the north by a tenement built by the late (John) Bogue, wright in Leith and on the east and west by other property of the petitioner. The petition includes answers for Maitland Bog, carver and Gilder in Edinburgh. He states that his brother, the late John Bog, wright in Leith feued a piece of ground adjoining the Flesh Market in Leith from Miss Bull and her now deceased sister, on which he erected a tenement of houses.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

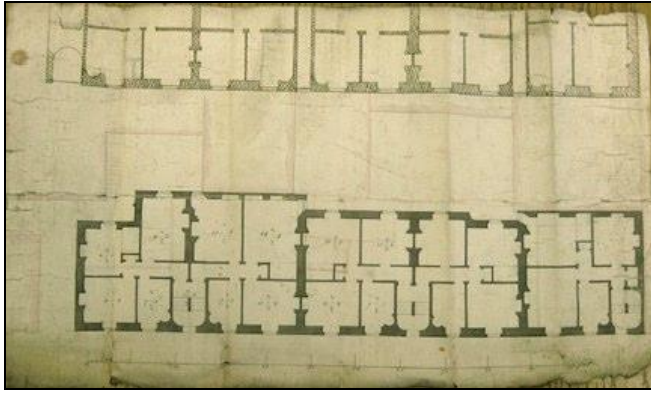


Description: a. Elevation and plan of ground floor.

Size: 39.0 x 47.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, encircled B

Architect: (Robert Kay).



Description: b. Plan of upper floor with a further plan (of the tenement built by John Bog?). There are indications of previous buildings on the site.

Size: 24.8 x 42.2 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Architect: (Robert Kay).

---

BOX: 1794/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 November 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 17 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Margaret and Helen Lithgow, only children of the deceased John Lithgow, shoemaker and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: West Bow, corner land at the first turn of the Bow in going down and opposite to the Stinking Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about Allan Peat, pie baker who is building an oven without warrant.

NOTES: Peat was ordered to remove the oven.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1794/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 November 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 24 October 1794.

PETITIONER: Alexander Brown and others.

SITE: Craigs Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about undermining.

NOTES: The complaint is against Peter Leslie, vintner and John Thorburn, a mason who has been employed to dig out earth from the foundations of a shop. Leslie purchased the ground floor (basement?) from Peter Forrester, merchant who owns the shop above it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 November 1794.

PETITION LODGED: On or before 17 September 1794.

PETITIONER: David Lindsay, wool merchant, Charles Sanderson, mason, James Brunton, wright and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, east side of Mylne's Court fronting James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against owners who refuse to rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: See previous petition of 17 July 1794. The proprietors who refuse to rebuild are Edward Rogers and David Russell, accountant in Edinburgh, Treasurer and Praeses of the Society for Propagating Christian knowledge.

DRAWINGS: See petition of 17 July 1794 (Lindsay).

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**Unextracted petitions** (ECA: SL91/25)

BOX: 1794/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 January 1794 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 15 January 1794.

PETITIONER: Francis Braidwood, wright.

SITE: No. 4 South Bridge, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The petitioner owns a shop which was built and fitted by himself at great expence. The complaint is against J. Thomson who possesses a warehouse in the same tenement, up the stairs. He has erected a large circular sign at the entry to the common stair.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 February 1794 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 6 February 1794.

PETITIONER: William Govan junior for William Govan senior, glazier.

SITE: James's Court, head, a timber tenement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Hamilton, wright who is building an adjoining tenement for the Rev. Walter Young. He has erected a pillar that obstructs the petitioner's entry. There is a copy here of answers from Thomas Hamilton and William Coulter to a Bill of Advocation offered by Frederick Fotheringam, WS and John Wilson, merchant in Dalkeith, doers for (blank) Wright and Misses Margaret and Sophia Anderson. Noted on the front 'Lodged 21 August'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 April 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 10 March 1794.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Whitesleads land, to the west of Gladstones land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an insufficient mutual gable.

NOTES: Whitesleads land, a timber fronted tenement was demolished following on from the demolition of other neighbouring properties by order of the Court. He proprietors wish to rebuild but are prevented from doing so by the remnants of a large stone turnpike stair communicating with the floors of a back land. In a second petition from the Procurator Fiscal of 11 March 1793 he stated his belief that the west gable of Gladstones land was out of plumb, hazardous and ruinous and that it should be taken down. He cites the proprietors or their agents: William Gowan, glazier for himself and as doer for James Brunton, wright at Lugton and Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith; James Chalmers, solicitor and James Skinner, writer, factor for John Kerr, merchant near Dunbar, proprietors in Whitesleads land. Then William Dawson, merchant, Mrs. Col. Rixon, residing there; John Longlands, linen manufacturer in Potterrow; Miss Nelly Fergusson, residing head of Blythes Close, Castle Hill and John Spence, painter for himself and as factor for his sister, all proprietors or dowers for Gladstones land.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 April 1794 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1794.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Jackson's Close, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment of a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Dick, factor for the heirs of Thomas Ruthven, writer who explains that the cellar or tofall complained of has been in place for many

years but that it is now in the way of the City who recently opened a tripe market at the foot of the Close. Legal titles are requested and produced including a disposition from Abraham Grimes of Cotton, County Warwick in favour of the deceased Thomas Ruthven dated 3 August 1785 and registered in the Town Council books, 15 December thereafter where the area is described as the west side of Old Provost's Close. Further reference is made to a disposition from Mrs. Mary Grimes in favour of Abraham Grimes dated 17 May 1785. The Court admitted molestation against the defender on 24 April 1794 and appointed another visit.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1794 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: (On or before 11 April 1793).

PETITIONER: Charles Kerr, City Treasurer.

SITE: North Leith.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Thomson, mason.

NOTES: The petition is missing. Thomson was engaged in building without a warrant and encroaching on the property of the City. Work was stopped on 11 April 1793. In answers for Captain Robert Liddel it is noted that the complaint should have been lodged before Captain Liddel sailed for Jamaica. Captain Liddel was required to produce his title deeds.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/ 6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 May 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1793.

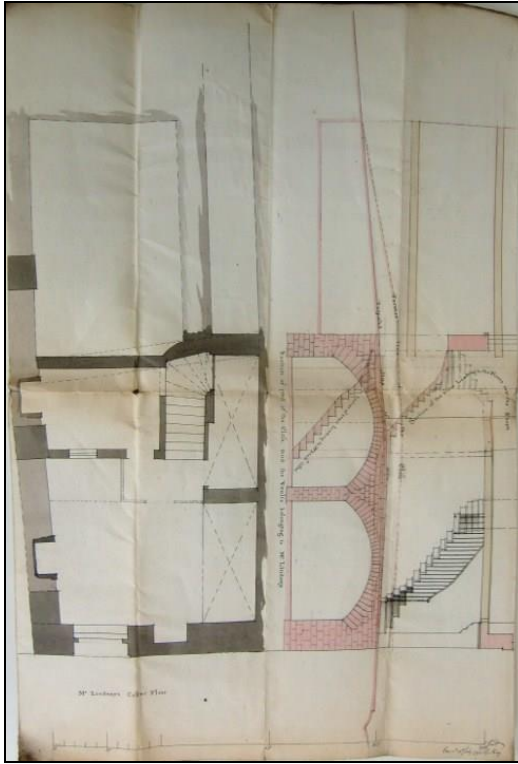
PETITIONER: David Lindsay, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, east of foreland in Miln's Court, opposite the head of West Bow.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a demolished tenement.

NOTES: The petitioners wish to rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the Court some time ago. They cannot go ahead because of a problem with rebuilding the cellar and the Court requested a plan and elevation on 10 May 1793. There is a further petition here from David Lindsay along with David Russell, accountant, Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith and James Brunton, wright at the bridge end of Dalkeith dated 25 April 1794 where they repeat the issue about the cellar belonging to Christian Kirkpatrick and her husband, Edward Rodgers, merchant, who also own the floor above the petitioners. They say they have submitted a plan and elevation and they ask that William Jamieson, mason should rebuild the cellar. In a further petition for David Lindsay dated 2 May 1794 he states that Mrs. Kilpatrick cannot rebuild her cellar and he asks to carry out the work himself according to a plan and elevation submitted. The Court requested a plan and elevation again on 29 May 1794. There is a note on the front of the petition stating that the plan and elevation had been borrowed on 16 June 1794.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan and section of two floors.

Size: 43.5 x 29.0 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. 13 July 1794 R. Kay.

Architect: Robert Kay.

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BOX: 1794/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 March 1794 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 27 January 1794.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Pleasance 'fronting the street leading up the Pleasance'.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous gable.

NOTES: The complaint is against Isobell Cairney, relict of Alexander Buchan, portioner in Pleasance and Cairney Buchan her son. In replies the defenders state that Alexander Buchan purchased a number of small properties in the area twenty five years ago, the remainder of the property belongs to the heirs of Professor Stevenson. They also state that the complaint is being orchestrated by Hugh Bell, brewer 'who reckons himself to be a gentleman of great consequence' has been finding fault with their property ever since the purchased it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 June 1794 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1794.

PETITIONER: John Syme, writer.

SITE: South St. David's Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a new fire place.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Skinner, stabler who has opened a new fire place in one of the rooms in his adjoining house. In his replies, John Skinner describes himself as a horse dealer and states that he purchased a shop below a shop from the builder, William Jamieson. The shop had been let to a hatter who required a new vent for a smoothing iron, not for a boiler as suggested. The Court decided he could have the new vent but not for any 'extraordinary purposes'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 June 1794 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 19 June 1794.

PETITIONER: Daniel McKinnon, barber.

SITE: Chalmers Close, head, fourth floor.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the removal of a sign board.

NOTES: The complaint is against George Borthwick, wire worker who has removed a sign that had been in place for seven years.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 July 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 14 July 1794.

PETITIONER: Alexander Forsyth, painter in London and James Stewart, writer, his factor.

SITE: Cowgate foot, south side, Forsyth's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Lawson, late surgeon in Leith, now in Edinburgh who has purchased subjects in High School Yards that formerly belonged to Dr. John Aitken, and has come to reside there. He has modified the rain water run off to include filth and nastiness which comes down upon the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 July 1794 (no warrant, remitted)

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1794.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town pavements.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the pavement.

NOTES: The complaint relates to specified properties,

Princes Street:

Mrs. Bruce, No. 42; (blank) McDougal of Castle Semple, No. 75; Captain Swindle (?) No. 20 and William McDonald (no number).

George Street:

The Earl of Balcarres; Mrs. Fotheringham of Powrie No. 41; James Mansfield, banker; Robert Colt of Seacliff No 14; Robert Graham of Fintry No 27; Dr. James Hamilton and Dr. Nathan Spence for the Royal College of Physicians; Henry Brougham No. 7; Robert Hodshon Cay, advocate No 1; Miss Hope.

Queen Street:

Mrs Douglas of Kirkness No 62; George Robinson WS, No 68; Mrs. Cunningham of Bonnington, No 79; Adam Grieve WS, No 39; The Hon. Mrs. Maitland No. 32; George Kinnear, banker No 31; Mrs. Boswell No. 30.

St. Andrew Square:

Robert Boswell WS, No. 13, John Allan of Errol No 8, James Stewart, writer No. 17;

Robert Sheriff, wood merchant in Leith (no number).

South St. David Street:

David Home (Hume), advocate No. 4; Mrs. Preston No. 1; John mason, bone merchant for a house; James Ranken, wright; (blank) Morrison, glazier.

North St. Andrew Street:

Matthew Sandilands WS,

St Andrew Street:

William Cockburn, baker No. 4 .

North Hanover Street:

Robert Brown, advocate No. 20; Miss Moncrieff No 23; John McFarquhar WS, No 24;

Alexander Wight, WS, No 23.

South Hanover Street:

Messrs Thomson & Lauder, surgeons No. 40.

North Castle Street:

James Moll, WS; Miss Maxwell Calderwood.  
North Frederick Street:  
Miss Barclay No. 38; Miss Deans.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1793 and 7 August 1794 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1793.

PETITIONER: William Brown, ham dealer.

SITE: High Street, south side, below the head of Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations to the shop above.

NOTES: The petitioner holds his shop on a tack from James Clark, shoemaker who leased the shop immediately above (i.e. up the street) to John McCrobie, merchant for fifteen years at 'an exorbitant rent of £45 per annum'. This tack allowed Mr. McCrobie to undertake repairs but not to alter his shop front. He has done so and this now obstructs the entry to the petitioner's shop. The Court granted a warrant on 1 August 1793 for the removal of the obstruction. The case eventually went to the Court of Session and a long argument ensued over expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1794 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 1 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Walter Ferguson, writer.

SITE: Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment of a debt.

NOTES: The petition and 16s owed by William Gibson, merchant (account here) relates to the heightening of chimney vents in Buchanan's land in 1786. See unextracted petition of 14 September 1786 (Hill).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 September 1794.

PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1794.

PETITIONER: John Gray, solicitor, trustee for the creditors of John Shand, baker and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Irelands Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about gathering waste water.

NOTES: The water and filth gathers in a waste area immediately above the property,

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1794/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 December 1794 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 25 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Agnes and Margaret Lundie, daughters of the deceased Dr. James Lundie, physician in Haddington.

SITE: Frederick Street, west side, corner with Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about loss of access to a cistern.

NOTES: This petition came immediately after a petition to the Baillie Court by the Procurator Fiscal dated 24 September 1794, against Mrs. Colonel Sutherland (nee Lundie?) and James Innes who occupy the 2nd and 3rd floors of a tenement on the west side of Frederick Street, immediately above that possessed by Archibald Fraser of Lovat. He made a list of complaints against them; that they allowed water to be thrown from the windows in their upper flats, beat carpets so that the dirt fell down the windows of the lower flat, kept flower pots on their window sills in what is a windy street 'hang out fish to dry and also petticoats and other kinds of cloaths washed in urine to dry...' Finally, he asserts that they have erected a cistern in the basement area without any right. In the petition for the Misses Lundie that state that they own the

upper floors and have always had right to a water supply to the common sunk area and a cistern, erected at their expence. They state that Archibald Fraser occupies the lower flat, which looks out towards Princes Street and belongs to James Hume WS and that he (Fraser) has demolished or taken away the cistern, has blocked all passage to the sunk area and said that he intends building a wall to prevent access. After a visit, the Court agreed that the cistern should not have been built where it was and allowed the petitioners to move it to the eastern side of the sunk area, fronting Frederick Street. Archibald Lovat claimed expences but the Court found for the petitioners in expences, modified to 1 guinea.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1795

The Court Officers from 30 October 1794:

### **Dean of Guild**

John Gloag

### **Council**

James Dickson, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

David Hunter, merchant

William Scott, plumber

Alexander Reid, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Charles Rhind

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BOX: 1795/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 January 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Mrs Margaret Hope, relict of Lt. Manning and Miss Elizabeth Hope for themselves and for behoof of Hugh Hope, watchmaker in Dumfries and Patrick Hope, painter in Glasgow, their brothers. With James Rankin, wright, a proprietor of Thomson's land immediately adjoining the Hope's land and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Canongate head.

PROPOSAL: Repair of chimney stacks and roof.

NOTES: Complaint against the other heritors who refuse to participate in the repairs. The petitioners have an estimate from John Clark, mason and Alexander Duff for the roof repairs dated 17 December 1794. The petition includes a complaint from the Society of Barbers about having to pay for the repairs to a roof that is not their responsibility.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 January 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 29 October 1794.

PETITIONER: Miss Ann Murray of Peterhead. Also James Braidwood, upholsterer and Robert Wilson, schoolmaster, manager, under the Tolbooth Kirk Session of Wightman's Charity School, proprietors of the first floor.

SITE: Castlehill

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruined chimney.

NOTES: Petition includes an estimate for repairs by John Paton, mason in Edinburgh.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 January 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 14 May 1794.

PETITIONER: Macduff Hart, shoemaker.

SITE: South Bridge, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The petitioner's shop is presently possessed by Mr. Laing, saddler. The sign was erected without any authority by James Mather, vintner.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1795.

PETITIONER: John Wauchope, WS, factor for Archibald, Earl of Eglinton, Matthew Fortune, vintner, his lordship's tenant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, north side, Fortunes Tavern.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is about the tenement next to the Tavern, immediately to the west, at the head of Geddes Close, Geddes land. Asks for the tenement to be demolished completely, or just the dangerous parts. The Court served notice on Alexander Gardener, jeweller, Andrew Morrison, macer in the Justiciary Court, Mrs. Kinnear, relict of Robert Kinnear, merchant, John Smith of Balharry, James Clerk, tanner and [blank] Forrest merchant. The Court ordered that the proprietors take down their tenement 'with certification if they do not, they will employ other tradesmen to do the same at their expence'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 March 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1795.

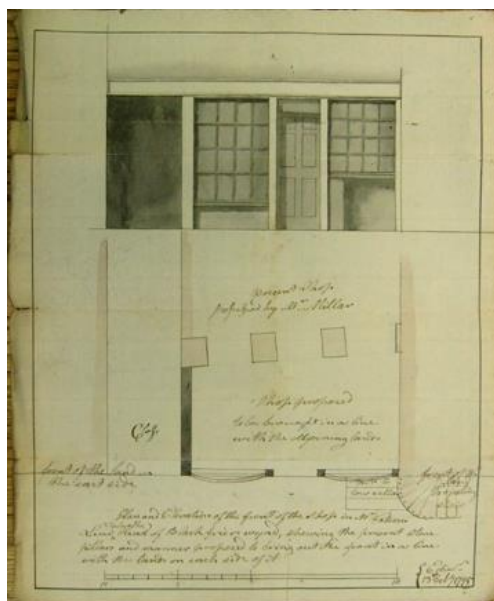
PETITIONER: James Watson, WS and William Millar, hat maker.

SITE: Blackfriar's Wynd, near the head.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to shop front; to extend forward to line of adjoining tenements.

NOTES: The petition included replies from Mrs. Katherine Moubray regarding her right to the use of the entry on the left of the shop front which allows access to two areas of land being, used as a wood yard. She refers to a previous attempt by James Watson to deprive her of access. She refers to an action by Adam Rolland, advocate, 2 November 1790. The close is described as being immediately west from Toddricks Wynd on the south side of the High Street and she as Mrs. Katherine Keir, alias Moubray, [an heir of the deceased John Moubray]. There is a spirited response by Mr. Watson.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan and elevation of shop front.

Size: 25.7 x 21.1 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr 13th Feby 1795

Draughtsman: [Robert Kay?]

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BOX: 1795/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1795,

PETITION LODGED: 27 November 1794.

PETITIONER: Alexander Pew, blockmaker in Leith.

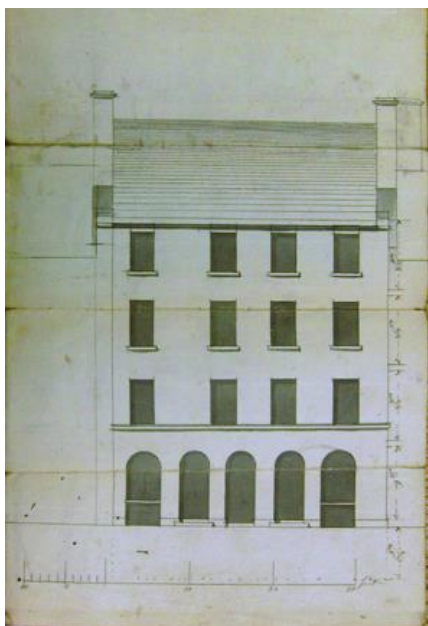
SITE: Leith, St Andrews Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a steading of houses.

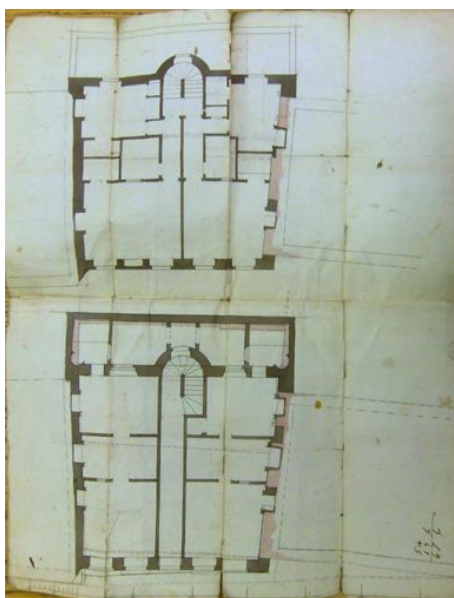
NOTES: Petition includes an inventory of deeds beginning with a precept of clare constat by the magistrates of Edinburgh to John Simpson, surgeon at Dalkeith, grandson of Patrick Simpson, slater, Burgess of Canongate dated 18 January 1792. Also a disposition from John Simpson to Alexander Pew dated 2 February 1792. There was



some discussion about the line of the frontage.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of tenement of four floors.  
Size: 29.5 x 19.5 cms.  
Architect: [Robert Kay?].



Description: b. Plans of the ground and an upper floor.  
Size: 39.5 x 30.4 cms.  
Architect: [Robert Kay?].

---

BOX: 1795/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 12 March 1795.

PETITIONER: Lady Darcey Maxwell, relict of Sir Walter Maxwell of Pollock Bt.

SITE: No 7 Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: To dig two cellars under the pavement.

NOTES: Warrant granted on condition that the petitioner rail in the pavement on the front of her property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/8  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1795.  
PETITION LODGED: 6 March 1795.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Leith, Kemps Close.  
PROPOSAL: Ruinous tenement to be repaired.  
NOTES: Tenement belongs to Mrs. Dickson, residing there. The Court appointed James Thomson, mason in Leith to take down the side wall next to the Close and rebuild.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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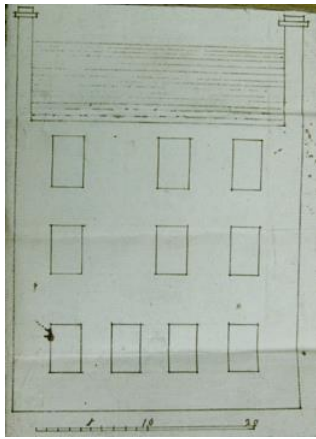
BOX: 1795/9  
WARRANT GRANTED: 19 March 1795.  
PETITION LODGED: 11 March 1795.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Hogg and Mrs. Menzies [Rebecca McLellan, spouse of Thomas Hogg, shipmaster in Leith, and Margaret Dryburgh, only child of the deceased Mary McLellan and Robert Dryburgh, ship carpenter in Leith and spouse of Robert Menzies, ship builder there].  
SITE: Leith, Queen Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous adjoining tenement.  
NOTES: The petitioner's tenement is let to George Fyfe, coppersmith, John Taylor, cooper and [blank] Ged, cooper. The complaint is about the tenement on the south of the petitioner's tenement, belonging to James Thomson, mason in Leith. The Court ordered the tenement to be demolished within fourteen days.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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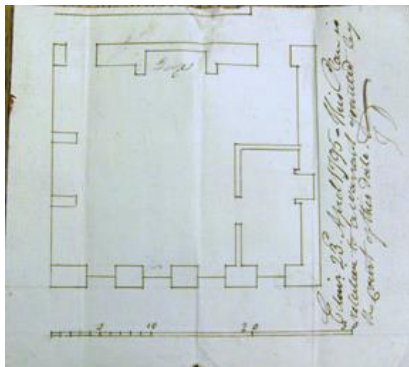
BOX: 1795/10  
WARRANT GRANTED: 9 April 1795.  
PETITION LODGED: 5 February 1795.  
PETITIONER: Francis Mitcalf, vintner.  
SITE: Head of Cellar's Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a neighbour, Balthazer Knee, weather glass blower, throwing out waste water.  
NOTES: The petitioner owns a tavern which has two function rooms at the rear, with a flat lead roof and a lead bartizan. The neighbour's house overlooks the flat roof and he has been in the habit of throwing his dirty water out on the roof. During the recent heavy frost this water has penetrated the roof and caused internal damage. There is a rough pencil sketch of a close and stair enclosed, which may be related to the petition. See also an unextracted petition dated 18 February 1796 (Hepburn).  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/11  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 April 1793.  
PETITION LODGED: 31 March 1795.  
PETITIONER: Eleanor Wilson, only daughter of Eleanor Robson with David Wilson and Alexander Skeil, seal engraver, her factor.  
SITE: High Calton, south side, adjoining the entry to the Calton Hill.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint against John Auchenleck, smith who is presently building on the adjoining land.  
NOTES: John Auchenleck explains that he was informed that the area was outside the Burgh and that this part of the Calton Hill was not included in the late Act to extend the Royalty. The drawings for a smiths shop with living accommodation above accompany his petition, lodged 15 April 1795.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 17.5 x 13.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor.  
Size: 15.7 x 17.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1795/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 April 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1795.

PETITIONER: Sir Alexander McKenzie of Coul, Lady Stewart of Grantully and John McGowan, writer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Bennet, smith for building a smith's shop and forge on land behind their houses.

NOTES: Bennet was ordered to stop verbally, but his masons continued until 17 April and he was given a warrant on the 23rd without any explanation.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 April 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1795.

PETITIONER: Lachlan Bogle, baker in Canongate and Eupham Hepburn residing in Canongate.

SITE: Canongate, St. John's Close.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: The petitioner has a lease from Mrs. Hepburn, proprietor of Grierson's land, head of St. John's Close, of the ground and first floor of a tenement and area or garden behind the same. His oven will adjoin the back [south side] of this tenement [set into a corner on the west].

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the oven.

Size: 34.5 x 24.8 cms.

Watermark: J Larking

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BOX: 1795/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 April 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 29 April 1795.

PETITIONER: Matthew Fortune, vintner.

SITE: High Street, north side, a little below the Cross.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about incomplete work.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Jamieson, mason who was employed to rebuild a gable between the petitioner's tavern and a recently demolished tenement. He has not done so but agrees to complete the work within fourteen days.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 26 March 1795.

PETITIONER: Samuel Paterson, merchant, Alexander Barrie, teacher, Mrs Rutherford and Alexander Bell, residents, all heritors in Writer's Court and proprietors of houses in the north tenement.

SITE: Writer's Court, common stair.

PROPOSAL: To repair the stair.

NOTES: Estimate here from James Crichton, mason which was considered at a meeting and approved, agreeing to cut out the steps and fit new ones of hard stone, droved square and repair the plats at £5 8s stg. each story, containing two flights of 18 steps. The old stones are to become the property of the undertaker. He notes that he gave in an estimate about three years ago to take off the astragal from each step at £6 stg. each story ... 'but as the value of workmanship has rather decreased since that time....' he gives a new estimate. Also accounts here for repairing the roof of a house possessed by George Callander, ordained measurer and others, from John Baxter, for slater work, Braidwood & Bruce, wrights, and William Scott, plumber.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 May 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 6 May 1795.

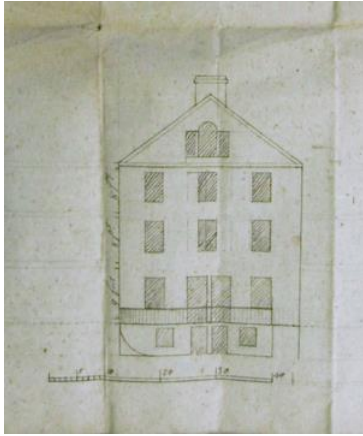
PETITIONER: Captain George Smith, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Willie Walter's Close.

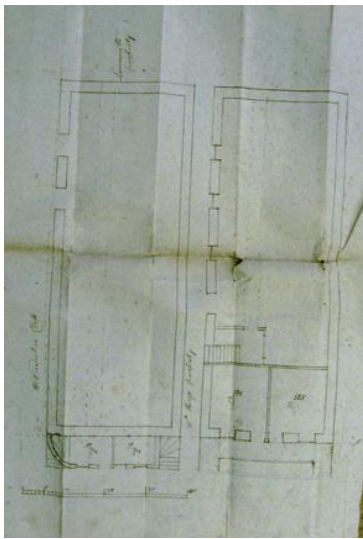
PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to previous warrant, [17 July 1794] to build on the back part of his ground at the foot of the close. He states that this work is now complete and that he did not build up the front of his tenement according to the drawing given in because the only heritor affected was John Hay, shipmaster, who was then abroad.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of a tenement of five floors.  
Size: 46.8 x 34.5 cms.



Description: b. Plans of ground and first floors.  
Size: 49.5 x 33.5 cms.

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BOX: 1795/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 June 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1795.

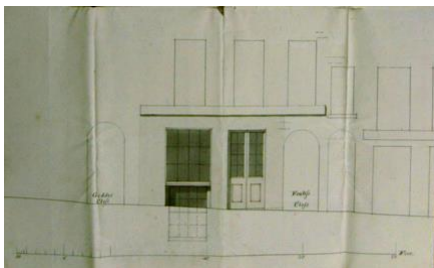
PETITIONER: James Gillespie of Spylaw, tobacconist.

SITE: High Street, north side, between Geddes Close and Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The property had been condemned by the Court. Neighbouring heritors included William Coulter, hosier, David Bridges and Thomas Hamilton, wright and builder.

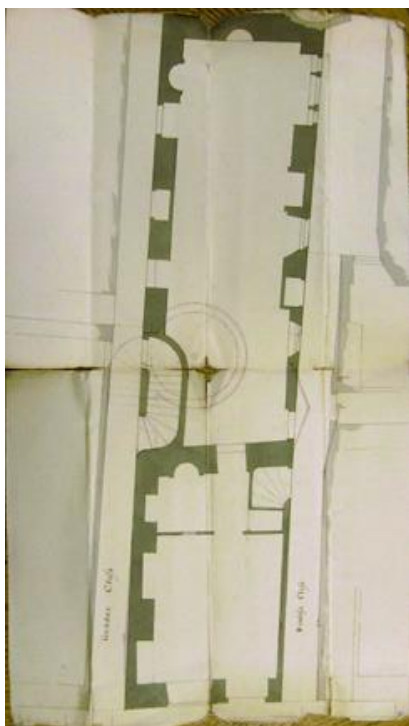
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of two floors and shop front.  
Size: 35.5 x 29.0 cms.

Watermark: IV 1794

Architect: [Robert Kay?].



Description: b. Plan of the entire tenement.

Size: 48.0 x 27.0 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

Architect: [Robert Kay?].

---

BOX: 1795/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 June 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1795.

PETITIONER: James Watson, WS.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Paterson's land and Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair stables and other buildings damaged by a recent storm.

NOTES: The property is bounded on the west by Campbell's land and on the east by Weddels land. The petition refers to a charter of adjudication dated 19 June 1793 and a Sasine dated 25 June and 14 July 1793 in favour of John Sommerville, gunsmith and afterwards merchant in Canongate. It also refers to a decret of mails and duties from the Magistrates of the Canongate dated 4 and 11 December last [1794]. The stables and buildings are possessed by Mrs. Wilson, widow of Robert Wilson, stabler in Canongate. There is an estimate for work in 'Sommerville's Close' possessed by Mrs Wilson, from James Gilchrist, wright 'head of Leith Walk midd [or mudd] Island' dated 15 May 1795.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 July 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 25 May 1795.

PETITIONER: William Burn, merchant, Rev. [William] Welsh, minister at Drumelzier [Peebleshire], Archibald mercer, wine merchant, factor for Miss Blair in Virginia & John Smyth of Balharrie, factor for heirs of Mrs. Crese.

SITE: High Street, north side, entering from Anchor Close, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous chimney.

NOTES: The petitioner's tenement was lately taken down, except for the vault. This is a complaint against the owners of the adjoining tenement, Forglen's land fronting the High Street which has a ruinous chimney, viz. Robert Brown for Lord Eskgrove, Walter Scott WS for Mrs. Johnston, James Thomson for Pat Rigg of Morton and Elphingston Balfour for John Balfour senior. They cannot proceed to rebuild because the mutual gable rests on the vault which they wish to remove. In the warrant the Dean of Guild insisted that the gable be taken down and rebuilt along with the north wall of the staircase over the Close, within ten days of the warrant and the whole to be finished

within two months. The owners of Forglen's land appoint Alexander Laing to carry out the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 2 July 1795.

PETITIONER: James Waugh WS.

SITE: Old Assembly Close, ground flat of the small tenement in the middle court.

PROPOSAL: Minor alterations and repairs.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 22 June 1795.

PETITIONER: William Creech, bookseller, Alexander Brown, merchant and Ms. Farquharson, widow of Francis Farquharson, accountant.

SITE: High Street, Craig's Close, Miln's land.

PROPOSAL: To harl the tenement and repair the chimney stacks.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 30 May 1795.

PETITIONER: Robert Stevenson, painter and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Luckenbooths, Penman's land at the foot of Advocates Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a large cavity beneath the pavement of the Close.

NOTES: The petition includes an estimate from William Guthrie for William Jamison dated 25 June 1795. He offers to furnish new steps and plate for the upper flight of the stair at the foot of the Close; lifting broken pavement and replacing with 'ribbed' pavement; removing the wooden plate in the middle of the Close and laying pavement and steps to the door.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 20 May 1795.

PETITIONER: Alexander Hill, Boxmaster of the Society of Carpenters in North Leith for the Society.

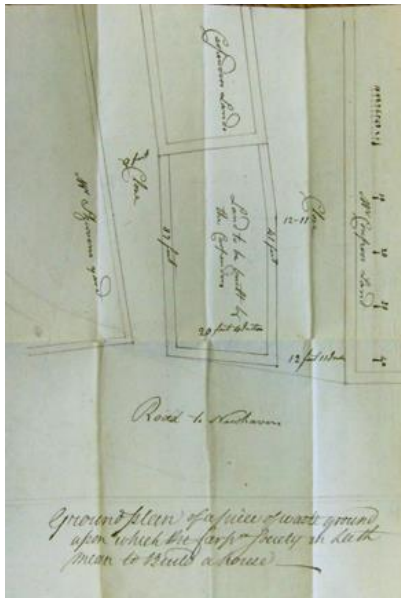
SITE: North Leith, fronting the lane down to the church with its gable on the road to Newhaven.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner refers to a previous warrant granted to John Tod, shipbuilder and Boxmaster of the Society dated 7 March 1753. They only built on part of their land at that time.

In a minute dated 16 July 1795 the petitioner refers to a charter from the Magistrates of Edinburgh to the Society for their property in Leith dated 19 February 1720 and a Sasine for the same dated 25 February. The plans at b. were presented with this minute.

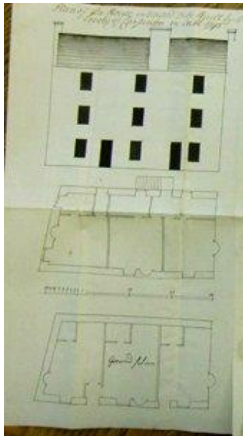
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Ground plan of the area.

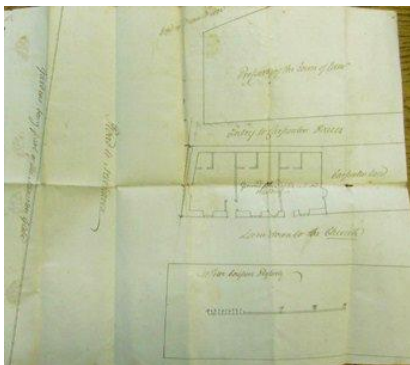
Size: 31.2 x 19.0 cms.

Watermark: W Simpson



Description: b. Elevation and plans of two floors [This sheet and c. below are joined with sealing wax].

Size: 32.0 x 19.5 cms.



Description: c. Plan of the area.

Size: 33.1 x 37.8 cms.

Watermarks: Countermark, Band

BOX: 1795/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 August 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 30 April 1795.

PETITIONER: Mrs Jean Anderson and Charles Mackenzie, writer.

SITE: Strichen's Close and Cants Close.



PROPOSAL: Repairing the pavement, division of expences.

NOTES: The petition includes an account from William Jamison for the paving and a warrant dated 31 July 1794 allowing him to proceed. Also refers to pointing the gutter stones with cement all the way from the south wall of the house lately possessed by Charles Mack to the covered part of the entry at the head of the Close. Includes a scheme of division of the expence. John Clark, mason lifted the pavement in May 1794 to discover the source of seepage and his account is also here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 August 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 7 February 1795.

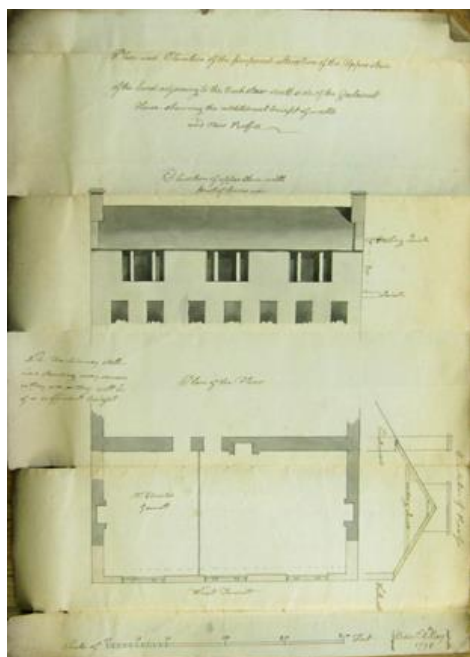
PETITIONER: Robert Auld, writer and Christopher Moubray, cashier of the Edinburgh Friendly Insurance Company.

SITE: West side of the Mealmarket, between it and Parliament Stairs.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to roof, additional floor.

NOTES: The petition includes an estimate from Daniel Lamb dated 7 July 1795. Also a report on the roof by Daniel Lamb, wright and William Crichton, mason dated 21 April 1795. The front wall raised by 8ft and three 'Venetian' windows inserted. In a petition by Mrs. Sommerville, relict of James Sommerville, dyer in Edinburgh she notes that the garret floor of the tenement is occupied by William Christie, bookbinder. Also a report on the roof by Charles Watson, wright, William Jamison [mason] and John Ritchie [slater] dated 10 January 1795. It is addresses to the petitioners Auld and Moubray but also to David Bridges.

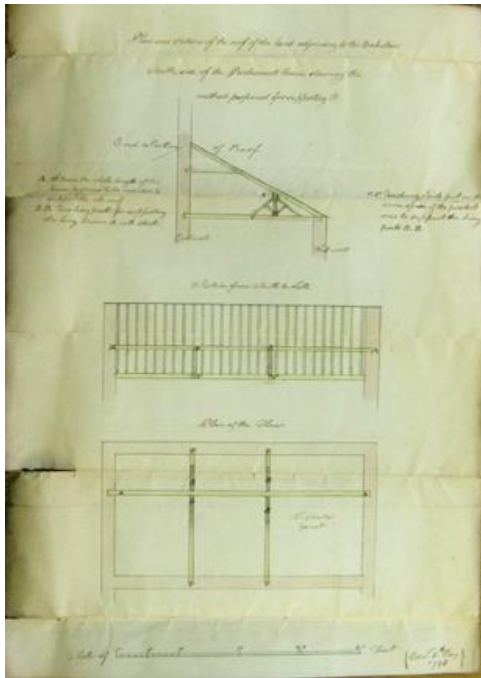
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation of the top two floors, with addition.

Size: 35.2 x 25.3 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr 5th May 1795.



Description: b. Plan and sections of the roof.

Size: 35.7 x 25.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr 5th May 1795.

BOX: 1795/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1795.

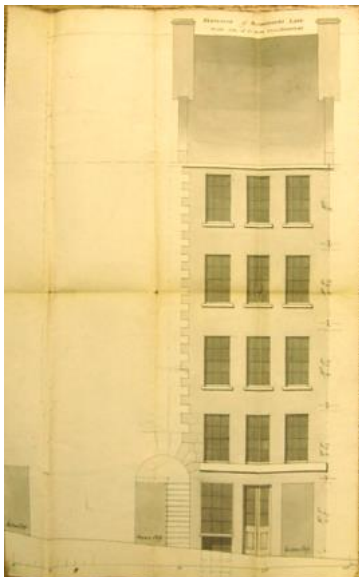
PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie, merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Anchor Close, Clarkson's land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild the shop floor, vaults and two floors above.

NOTES: Petition stored in a white envelope to protect fragile drawings. He proposed taking away the pavement and rebuilding the vaults.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

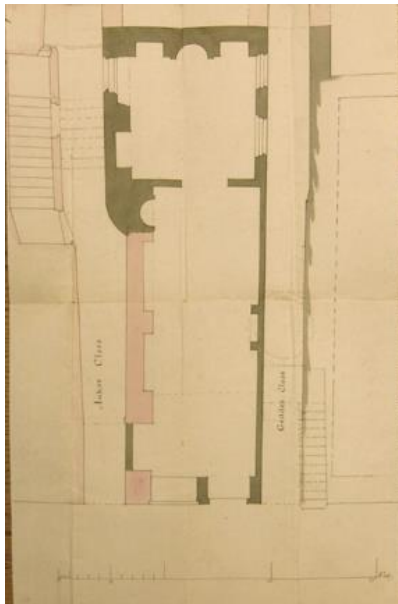


Description: a. Elevation of the entire tenement of 5 floors and basement.

Size: 47.0 x 29.0 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice].

Architect: [Robert Kay?]

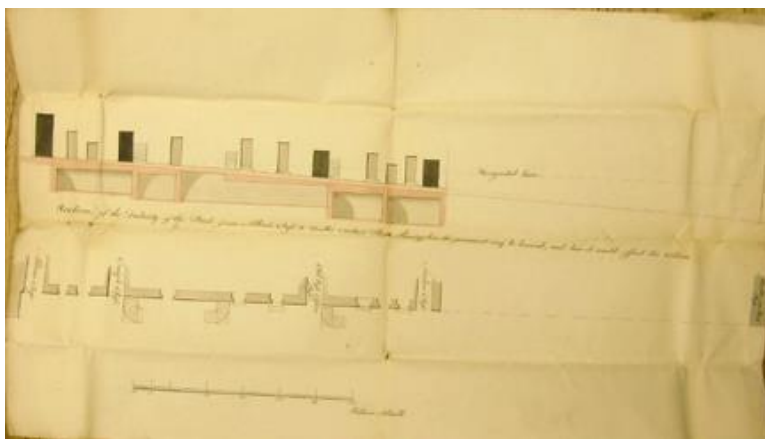


Description: b. Plan of the area.

Size: 36.5 x 23.5 cms.

Watermark: J Buttanshaw.

Architect [Robert Kay?]



Description: c. Plan of entries to closes and section of cellars with the declivity of the street from Allan's Close down to Baillie Coulter's shop.

Size: 30.5 x 52.5 cms.

Watermark: Edmeads & Pine

Inscriptions, recto: Signed William Sibbald.

Architect: William Sibbald.

---

BOX: 1795/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 1 June 1795.

PETITIONER: George Yife, coppersmith in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Yardheads, head of Baillie Muckles Close, Wilson's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair a tenement.

NOTES: Refers to cognition of expences of 7 March 1795 [no petition here]. The petition mentions that the work was finished on 14 December 1776. A copy of a warrant dated 2 August 1775 is enclosed which recites that George Clapperton WS as factor for David Wilson, ship carpenter petitioned the court for repairs to the tenement by William Hunter, wright according to a plan produced. Baillie Muckle is George Muckle, brewer in Leith. This petition appears to be for further repairs, estimates for which have been provided by John Thomson.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1795 [expences].

PETITION LODGED: 24 June 1794.

PETITIONER: James Gillespie of Spylaw and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, north side, head of Geddes Close. Bounded on west by Richardson's land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished because it was ruinous.

NOTES: The petitioner's land has been condemned and ordered to be demolished. It shares a gable with Richardson's land. Richardson's land is owned by Alexander Gardner, goldsmith, Andrew Morrison, one of the Macers in the Court of Justiciary, Mrs. Kinnear, relict of Robert Kinnear, grocer... Charles Cowan, merchant and others. The court appointed a jury of tradesmen to inspect Richardson's land and they confirmed that parts of it should be demolished. They suggested that 'three or four ranses of strong timber should be inserted between the west gable of Richardson's land and the stone tenement on the west side of Anchor Close... that being done large tackle ropes should be hauled up upon the east corner of the front of Richardson's land & fastened round the same and that strength should be put to said ropes, pulling eastwards so as to bring down said corner and any other parts of the said building that may be dangerous'. The court ordered this to be done, 12 February 1795 at the sight of William Sibbald, overseer of the City's public works and Robert Inglis and Walter Greig, masons. In an account for the work (£5 7s.) the building is called Ritchie's land. This is a long process with many papers.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 September 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1795.

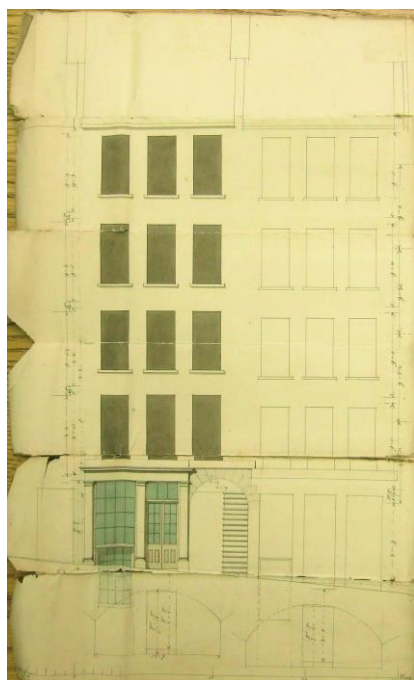
PETITIONER: James Clark, leather merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Geddes Close [Geddes Entry] and Swan's Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement demolished by order of the court.

NOTES: Petition stored in a white envelope to protect fragile drawings. James Clark owns the shop floor and basement.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.

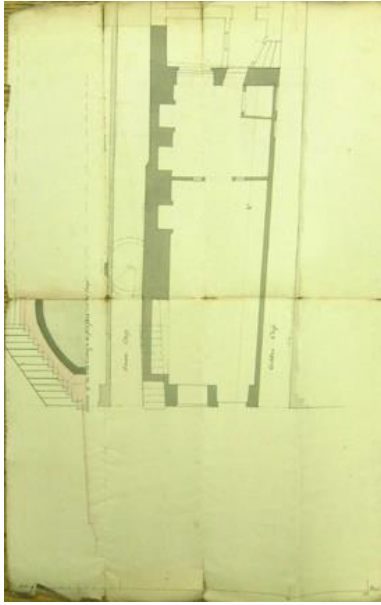


Description: a. Elevation of a tenement of five floors and basement.

Size: 42.2 x 26.5 cms.

Watermark: J Larking

Architect: [Robert Kay]

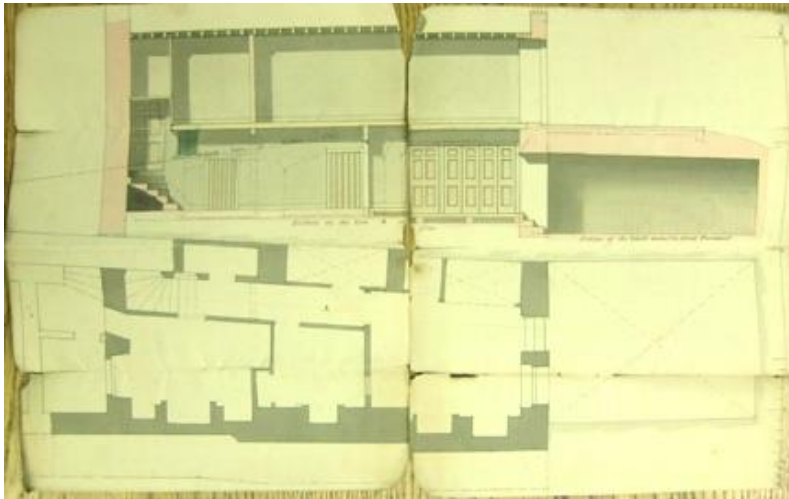


Description: b. Plan of the area between Swan's Close and Geddes Close.

Size: 45.8 x 29.1 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

Architect [Robert Kay]



Description: c. Plan of the basement floor and section of two floors and cellar under pavement.

Size: 45.8 x 28.8 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

Architect: [Robert Kay?]

---

BOX: 1795/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 September 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 16 May 1795.

PETITIONER: Andrew Lawrie, dancing master.

SITE: West Bow foot, new tenement and Johnstone's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a steading and a dyke.

NOTES: Complains about encroachment by David Braid, stabler and horse hyrer.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 October 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 10 June 1795.

PETITIONER: William Lamb, upholsterer.

SITE: High Street, north side, foot of Morrison's Close.

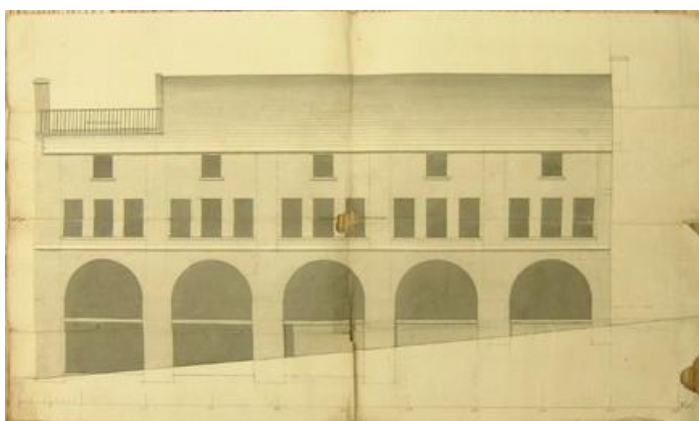
PROPOSAL: To rebuild the tenements, shops and shades destroyed by fire.

NOTES: Petition stored in a white envelope to protect fragile drawings. Refers to a fire

on Friday last. The warrant was granted under conditions contained in a mutual renunciation between Alexander Bruce, cabinet maker in Edinburgh and William Lamb, dated 4 June and recorded in the register of Sasines, 29 June 1795 and in the Burgh books, 10 July 1795. There was an exchange of papers with James Millar, preacher of the Gospel in Kincaid's land, east side of Carrubber's Close and the petitioner, over a servitude dated 1 May 1719. This was granted by Alexander Hay, smith, to Thomas Kincaid, eldest son of the deceased Thomas Kincaid of Auchinreach. 'On the fifth of June, 1795, about three in the morning, a fire was discovered in the workshop of Mr. William Lamb, upholsterer, situated in Morrison's Close, High Street. On the first alarm the Magistrates attended, with a considerable body of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, city-guard, firemen, &c., which was soon reinforced by a party of the Scots Brigade from the Castle, owing to whose exertions in preserving order, a great quantity of valuable furniture was saved; notwithstanding which, the damage done was very considerable. One Colquhoun, a journeyman of Mr. Lamb's, was killed, and four others very much hurt, by the fall of a gable. The unfortunate person left a widow and children, for whom and other sufferers a subscription was opened.'

REFERENCES: Robert Chambers: *Notices of the most Memorable Fires in Edinburgh*. 1824. p. 42.

DRAWINGS: 5 sheets.

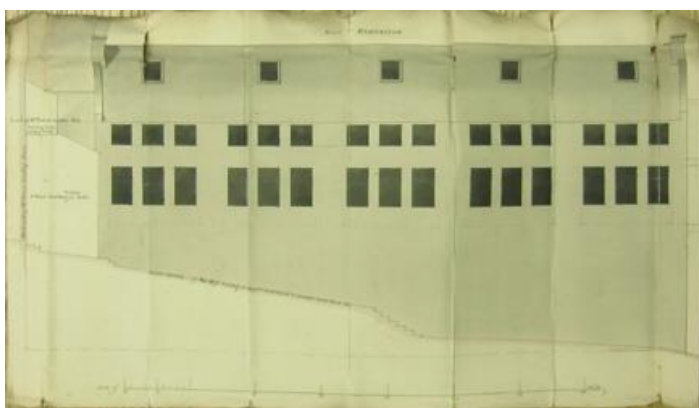


Description: a. Elevation towards the entry to Braidwood & Bruce's wood yard [west].  
Size: 27.6 x 47.2 cms.

Inscriptions verso: The building is carrying on to the plans, only in place of the stone arches on the west side, there is to be straight beams of wood..... there is to be no platform or railing on the north end.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

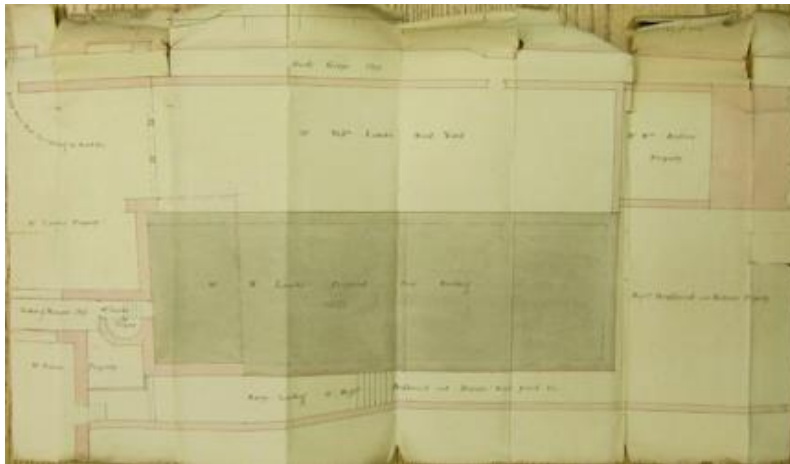
Architect: [Robert Kay?]



Description: b. Elevation to the east.  
Size: 27.0 x 47.3 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice] IV

Architect: [Robert Kay?]

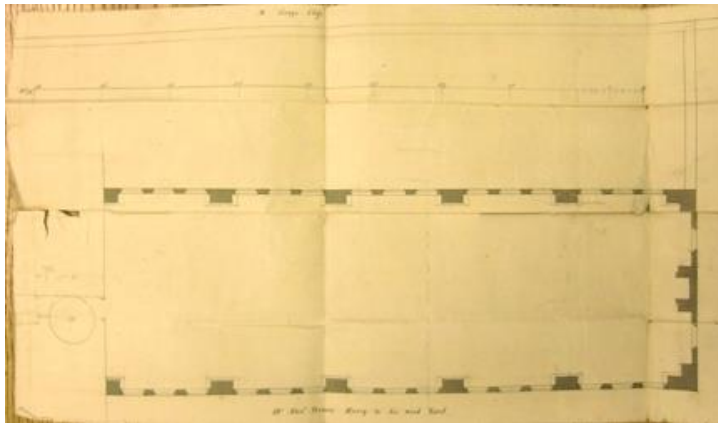


Description: c. Plan of the area.

Size: 27.5 x 47.4 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

Architect: [Robert Kay?]

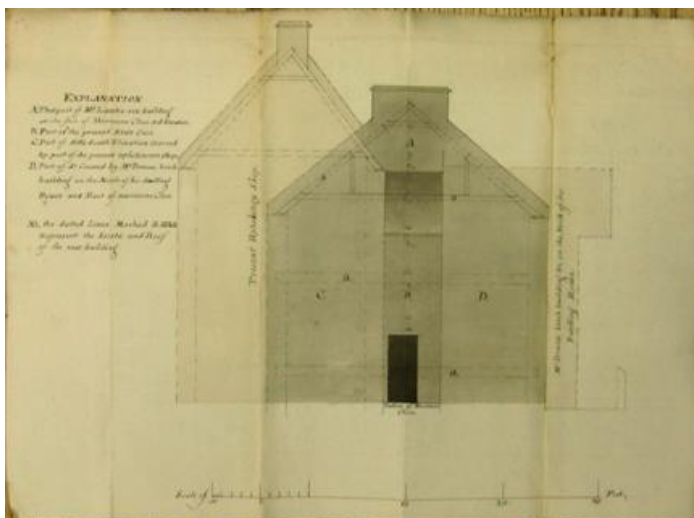


Description: d. Plan of the new building.

Size: 28.0 x 47.2 cms.

Watermark: 1794 [twice]

Architect: [Robert Kay?]



Description: e. Sections of buildings at the foot of Morrison's Close.

Size: 23.5 x 37.0 cms.

Watermark: J Buttanshaw

Architect: [Robert Kay?]

BOX: 1795/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 17 September 1795.

PETITIONER: James Smythe, WS, Alexander Wight, baker, Jean Polson, resider, John Spence, painter, Hector Mackay, army agent, London, William Morrison, writer, his factor and George Christie, jeweller, proprietors.

SITE: Parliament Close or Square, south east corner, entering by the old Post Office Stairs.

PROPOSAL: To repair roofs damaged by winter storms.

NOTES: There are estimated enclosed from James McGriggor, slater; Alexander Duff, slater; Andrew Irvine [mason?] Crichton Street and John Spence, painter 'for whitewashing 6 story's of the scale stair in Babylon's land, Parliament Square... the above flats of stair the laigh to be done in gray or yellow £2 15s'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 October 1795 [date of interdict, no warrant here].

PETITION LODGED: 26 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Incorporation of Tailors in Leith: James Lee, Deacon and Donald Henderson, Boxmaster.

SITE: Leith, Burgis Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work on a shed without warrant.

NOTES: The petition refers to an area and shed behind the tenement, belonging to Alexander Pew, clockmaker. He was ordered to stop work by the court on 28 September 1794 and a visit ordered on 1 October. There is no warrant here.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1795.

PETITIONER: James Watson, WS.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Paterson's Close. Bounded on the east by Campbell's land and on the west by Weddel's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair buildings damaged by storms.

NOTES: Refers to charters as before. See previous petition of 15 June 1795 (Watson). Estimate from Andrew Ramsay, slater dated 4 September 1795 and a measurement of the work by Archibald Aiken.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 October 1795

PETITION LODGED: 6 October 1795.

PETITIONER: Harry Guthrie, writer and others: John Campbell, WS, doer for the trustees of the late Jean Campbell of Nellfield, Sir James Suttie of Balgone Bt., Mrs. Monro, widow of Dr. George Monro, and the trustees of Dr. George Monro.

SITE: Argyle Square, south side.

PROPOSAL: To construct a drain or sewer, along by the Trades Maiden Hospital and down Horse Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 November 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1795.

PETITIONER: William Gillespie and John Hutton, joint Masters of the Police.

SITE: None specified.

PROPOSAL: This is a request for clarification of the regulations regarding the laying down of builders rubbish on the pavement.

NOTES: In the warrant the Dean of Guild states that builders are only allowed to lay



down rubbish on one third of the pavement if the street is sixty feet wide or if narrower, as allowed at the sight of the Police Masters. They were to report any infringement to the Dean of Guild.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 December 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 7 December 1795.

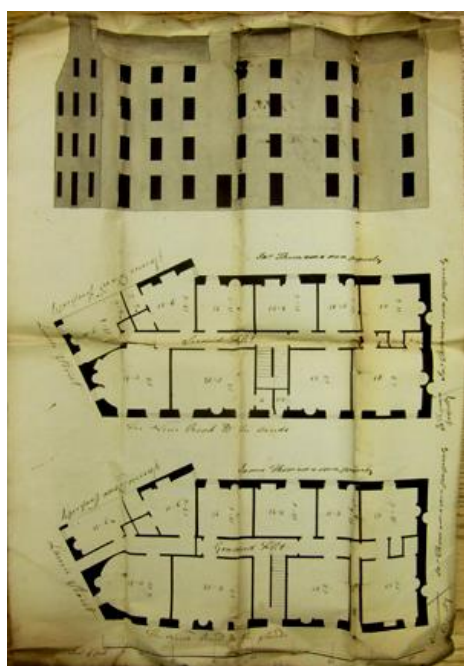
PETITIONER: James Thomson, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Laurie Street and the new road leading to the sands [corner with Constitution Street?]

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of four floors.

NOTES: The petitioner recently purchased an area of garden ground from John [Pine?], late merchant in Leith now of Hillontoun. The warrant was granted in terms of the Act of Parliament Anno 1698 Caput 18th.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation to [Constitution Street] and Lawrie Street and plans of two floors.

Size:

Watermark: Countermark, C Taylor

---

BOX: 1795/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 December 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 22 August 1794.

PETITIONER: William Gowan, glazier, Henry Hardie, baker, Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith and William Haldane, mason in Nicholson Street.

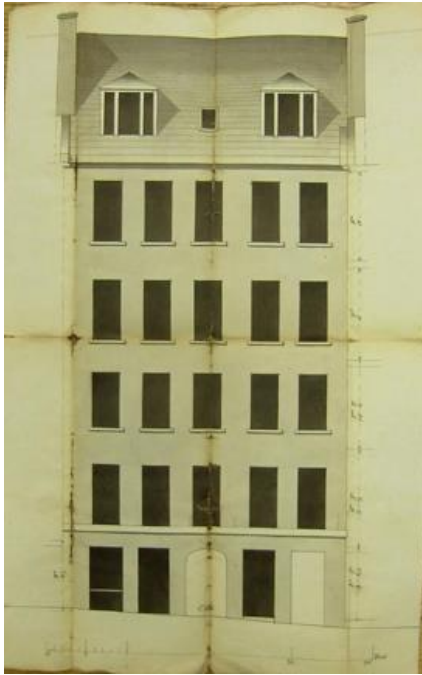
SITE: Lawnmarket, Whitslaid's land, fronting James's Court 'immediately to the west of Gladstone's land'.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement of five floors and attics.

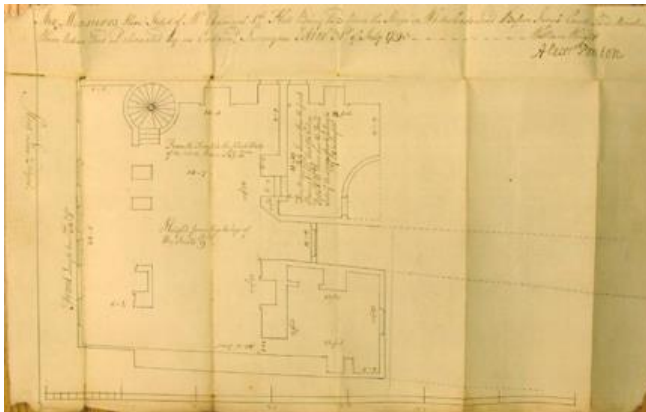
NOTES: Tenement demolished by order of the court. The court required William Sibbald, Overseer of Public Works to make out a plan of the intended alteration to the stair on 16 October 1794. A note on the back of the petition states "Edinburgh 29 Aug 1797 Borr'd by me, writer in Edinburgh, no 6 of this process being a plan of the shop story of Whitslaid's land for the purpose of laying before Messrs. Thos Hamilton & John Mylne, arbiters in the submission between the proprietors of said land which shall be returned in a day or so. The drawing is not here. There was a lengthy discussion about the position of the external stair.

There was a complaint by the proprietors including Dr. Gregory Grant, physician and others, on or before 19 December 1795 about narrowing the entrance to James's

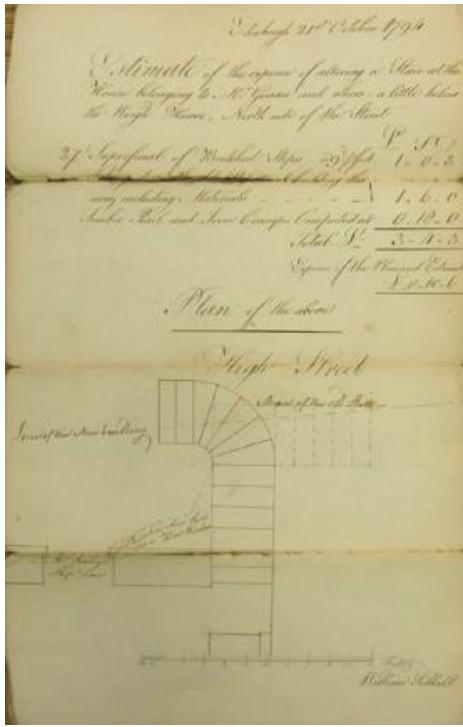
Court. The court visited on the 25th December and ordered that the walls of the entrance be taken down and rebuilt, moving each wall two inches outwards.  
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation.  
Size: 40.8 x 25.9 cms.  
Architect: [Robert Kay?]



Description: b. 'Survey' [plan] of the 1st flat above the shops in Whitslaid's land.  
Size: 25.0 x 40.5 cms.  
Draughtsman: William Wight, ordained surveyor.



Description: c. Plan of the modified external staircase. Shows entrance to Mr Finlay's shop.

Size: 32.5 x 20.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: dated 21 October 1794 and signed, William Sibbald.

Architect: William Sibbald.

#### Unextracted petitions [ECA: SL91/26]

BOX: 1795/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1795.

PETITIONER: Miles McPhail, vintner.

SITE: Foulis Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to his property.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Smith, WS, who has been ordered to demolish his tenement. He has ordered a mason to take down a mutual gable, which is in good sufficient condition. The Court granted a warrant to stop the work.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1795/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 March 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1795.

PETITIONER: Macduff hart, shoemaker.

SITE: South Bridge Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences.

NOTES: The claim relates to a previous complaint against William Mather, vintner and a warrant granted on 29 January 1794 for the removal of a sign board erected by him.

Thomas Chalmers, smith, carried out the work and he now claims expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1795/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 April 1795 [no warrant, defender to see].

PETITION LODGED: 8 April 1795.

PETITIONER: Robert Stevenson, painter and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Advocates Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous chimney stack.

NOTES: The complaint is about the neighbouring tenement on the east, owned by

William Young, writer.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/4\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: [no warrant].  
PETITION LODGED: 25 April 1795.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: High Street, Richardson's land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about non demolition of the tenement.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Henry Meldrum, mason who purchased part of the materials of the tenement but has not begun work on demolition.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/5\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 25 June 1795 [no warrant, proofs allowed].  
PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1795.  
PETITIONER: James Clark, leather merchant (or shoemaker).  
SITE: High Street, Geddes Close, west side, Richardsons land.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to property.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Henry Melville, wright who is demolishing the adjoining tenement.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/6\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 9 July 1795 [no warrant, a visit appointed].  
PETITION LODGED: 9 July 1795.  
PETITIONER: Rev. John Ferguson.  
SITE: 15 Thistle Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about an empty plot.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Mr. Russell, master builder in Brickfield near Leith, owner of the plot opposite the petitioner. The area is open and has become a nuisance. The petitioner has written to Mr. Russell as has his landlord, Mr. Ritchie.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/7\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1795 [no warrant, appointed a visit].  
PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1795.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Rose Street, west end.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about open foundations.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James McKean, builder who has opened foundations for a house but has left them open and full of deep water. He refused to provide a rail when requested by William Sibbald, Overseer of the public works.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1795/8\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1795 [no warrant, appointed a visit].  
PETITION LODGED: 20 July 1795.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: George Street, west end.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about open foundations.  
NOTES: The complaint is against James McKean, builder who has opened foundations for a house but has left them open and dangerous. He refused to provide a rail when requested by William Sibbald, Overseer of the public works.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 September 1795.

PETITION LODGED: 14 September 1795.

PETITIONER: William Coulter, hosier and Thomas Hamilton, architect.

SITE: High Street, Peacock's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about delay in rebuilding.

NOTES: This petition is noted 'Copy' on the front. The petitioners state that they owned the sunk and shop floors of the tenement recently demolished and now rebuilding. They complain against David Bridges, merchant, Frederick Fotheringham, writer, Patrick Cunningham, jeweller and John Wilson, merchant in Dalkeith who have been slow to complete their respective parts of the tenement. The petitioners (and John Wilson in his replies) refer to a warrant granted on 12 June 1795 allowing them to build according to the plan marked No. 2 and the elevation marked No. 17. The warrant specified that the windows above the shops shall be three foot 6 inches wide and that the centre of the pillars above the shops shall be in a line with the centre of the pillars in the shop story and appoint the parties to make a circular arch of hewn stone over Foulis Close and a straight arch over the Old Bank Close or Ship Close. There is no copy of the warrant or the drawings mentioned in the archive but this petition relates to warrants granted on 8 August 1793 (Coulter) where there is a drawing and 2 October 1796 (Gowdie).

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1795/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 October 1795 [no warrant, case continued]

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1795.

PETITIONER: Francis Braidwood, wright.

SITE: South Bridge.

PROPOSAL: Disagreement about building a chimney vent.

NOTES: The petitioner built a tenement on South Bridge and sold the upper floor and garrets to George Walker senior, drawing master. The petitioner had intended letting the first floor as a warehouse but he had put a chimney in the back wall in case he wanted to convert it to a dwelling. He had now converted it into a dwelling but discovered that the chimney vent was incomplete in the section through Mr. Walker's property. He applied to Mr. Walker to undertake the work to open the vent but he refused permission. This is probably the tenement immediately behind the tron Kirk.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1796

The Court Officers from October 1795:

### **Dean of Guild**

Neil Macvicar

### **Council**

John Gloag, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

William Coulter, merchant

William Scott, plumber (drops out later)

Francis Braidwood, wright

Robert Burn, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Robert Bryson

---

BOX: 1796/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 January 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 8 October 1795.

PETITIONER: Mrs. General Houston.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Libberton's Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Repair to Chimney stacks.

NOTES: Petition includes an estimate from William Jamieson dated 14 January 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January 1796.

PETITIONER: James Campbell, merchant.

SITE: West Bow, west side, Grants Close, Veitch's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dyke and retaining wall.

NOTES: In a response from John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith he states that the dyke and wall form part of the old Town wall. The City disagreed because the dyke is intersected by closes. A warrant was granted to take down the dangerous parts of the wall and rebuild at the expence of the adjoining heritors.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 February 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1795.

PETITIONER: David Lindsay, wool merchant, Charles Sanderson, mason in Dalkeith, (inserted: William Brunton, only son and heir of the deceased) James Brunton, wright in Saughton near Dalkeith and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, east side of Mills (Mylne's) Court fronting James's Court.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a condemned tenement.

NOTES: See previous warrants dated 17 July 1794 (with drawings) and 27 November 1794. On 11 February 1796 William Jamieson, mason was declared a preferable creditor on the property for the sum of £116 11s. 1d. He was granted possession of the property and entitled to uplift rents until payment of the sum. There are accounts here for the mason, wright and plaster work carried out by William Jamieson.

DRAWINGS: None here.

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BOX: 1796/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 10 February 1796.

PETITIONER: Lords of Council and Session (Court of Session) against William Coulter and others.

SITE: High Street, head of Fortune's Close.

PROPOSAL: Request for documentation.

NOTES: This is a request for all the warrants and other documentation for the building of a tenement by William Coulter and Thomas Hamilton (senior) architect at the head of Fortune's Close. During the building a gable wall of Richardson's land fell onto the new building at the head of the Close, owned by Alexander Gardener, goldsmith and jeweller, James Clark, leather merchant and others.

DRAWINGS: Mentioned in the inventory of processes handed over to the Court of Session.

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BOX: 1796/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 26 January 1796.

PETITIONER: Alexander Duchar (Deuchar), seal engraver.

SITE: Rose Street, Ferguson's land, two upper flats.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a leaking roof.

NOTES: John Grant, one of the owners is not willing to contribute to the repairs. In a report on the last page of the petition, William Jamison gives his opinion that 'the flankers of the Stormont & windows ought to be turred (tarred?) and slated and lead put in place of the Tyle so as to make is sufficient, likewise to turr & flat the perpendicular skews on said Stormont which may cost from seventy to eighty pounds'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 3 March 1796.

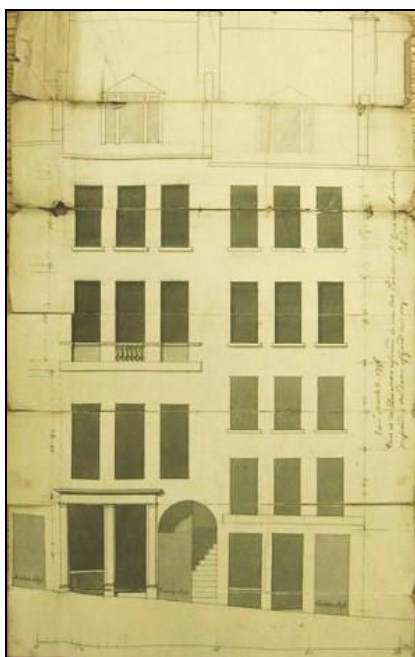
PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie, merchant. (In a long envelope)

SITE: High Street, between Anchor Close and Geddes Close, including Swans Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: Ritchie states that he owns the second and third stories with garrets, above the shops of Clarkson's land (between Anchor and Swans Closes) and also the third floor of Richardson's land (between Swans and Geddes Closes). The two lands were recently taken down and have been partly rebuilt. See the warrants of 3 September 1795 and 21 April 1796 (Ritchie) for the alteration to the attic floors.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of both tenements with pencil additions on the attic floors.

Size: 45.7 x 28.5 cms.

Watermark: IV and 1794 (twice)

Architect (Robert Kay?)

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BOX: 1796/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 25 February 1796.

PETITIONER: William Rankin, His Majesty's Tailor for Scotland.

SITE: High Street, fronting the entry to Parliament Close.

PROPOSAL: To enlarge four windows.

NOTES: He has four windows fronting the High Street and he proposes to enlarge them by making them nine inches lower than at present.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 12 January 1796.

PETITIONER: William Young, shoemaker in Leith.

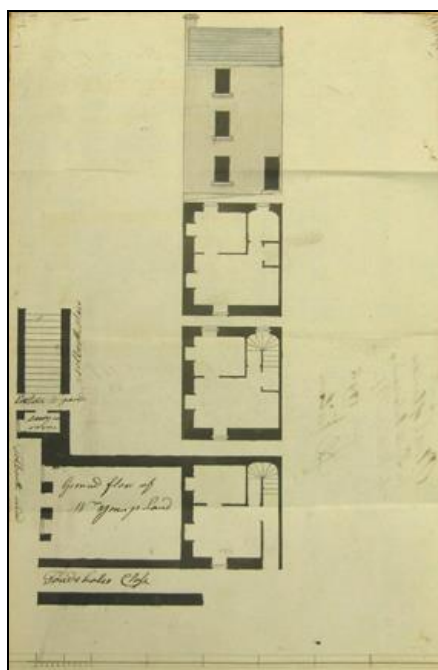
SITE: Leith, Tolbooth Wynd, immediately to the west of the Leith Tolbooth.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement of three floors.

NOTES: The new tenement will front Toads Hole Close and is on a slight declivity.

Petition includes an estimate for the work.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plans of three floors.

Size: 28.5 x 18.5 cms.

Watermarks: Encircled M 1794

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BOX: 1796/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 March and 24 March 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 14 January and 15 March 1796.

PETITIONER: David Brugh, wright in Leith against Peter Couper, shipmaster.

SITE: North Leith, near the church of North Leith.

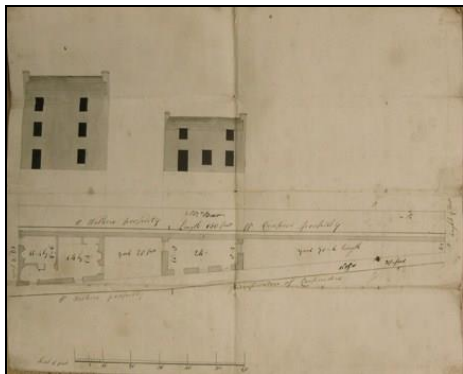
PROPOSAL: To demolish ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: He submitted a further petition to modify his proposal with a new plan and elevation at b. below. The property lies on the north side of a street between two unnamed closes, that on the east bounded by the property of the Incorporation of Tailors. In an inventory of processes it refers to a disposition by James Gowan, baxter, Burgess of Canongate in favour of Bessie Malloch, his spouse dated 10 August 1723, recorded in books of Council and Session, 13 November 1724. A deposition by Bessie Malloch to George Scott, baxter, her only son of same lands dated 17 August 1726, recorded 16 February 1742. Disposition by George Scott to John Brecking his grandson by the



daughter, he being the only son of John Brecking, watch maker in Portsburgh dated 9 February 1779. Disposition by the said John Brecking junior to David Brugh dated 26 September 1795.

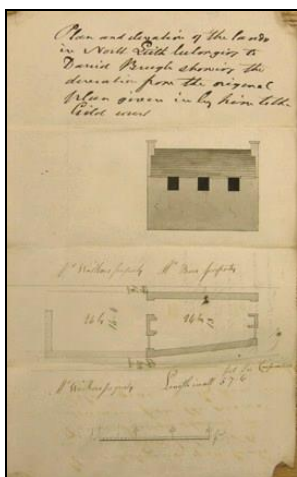
DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevations to the close on the right.

Size: 33.3 x 40.3 cms.

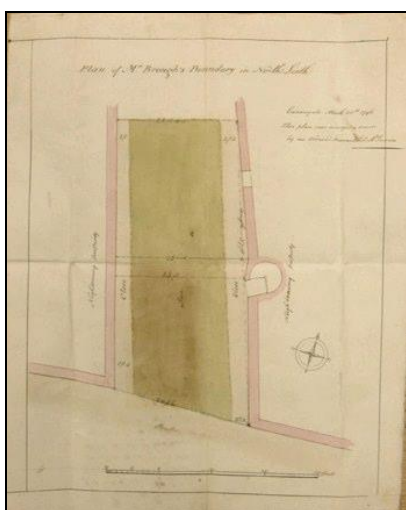
Watermark: Britannia encircled and crowned. Countermark IB 1794



Description: b. Modified plan and elevation of part of the site.

Size: 33.3 x 20.5 cms.

Watermark: IB 1794



Description: c. Plan of the area.

Size: 30.5 x 24.5 cms.

Watermark: I Taylor

Inscriptions, recto: Canongate, March 30th 1796. This plan was surveyed & drawn by me  
Ordnained Measurers Thos. McInnes.

BOX: 1796/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 March 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 24 February 1796.

PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie, merchant.

SITE: High Street, between Anchor Close and Geddes Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against James Clark, shoemaker and tanner and John Clark, mason for building a vent close to the petitioner's property and terminating below his windows.

NOTES: See previous warrant of 3 March 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 April 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1796.

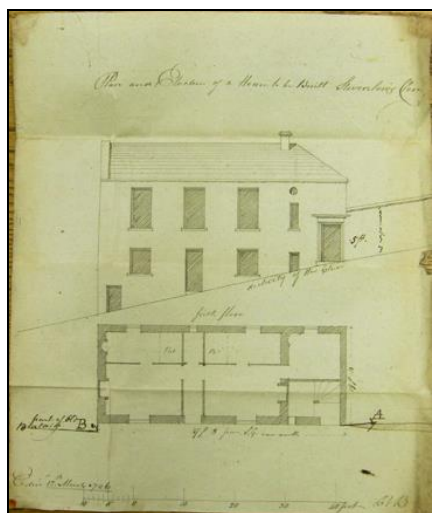
PETITIONER: Robert Burn, architect.

SITE: Stevenlaws Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish an old tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: property purchased from John (Eister?), solicitor at law. The petition is noted on the front '(against) Alexander Duff & others.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation and plan.

Size: 29.0 x 24.8 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. 12th March 1796 RB (Robert Burn)

Watermark: Shield with a bend.

Architect: Robert Burn.

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BOX: 1796/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 23 March 1796.

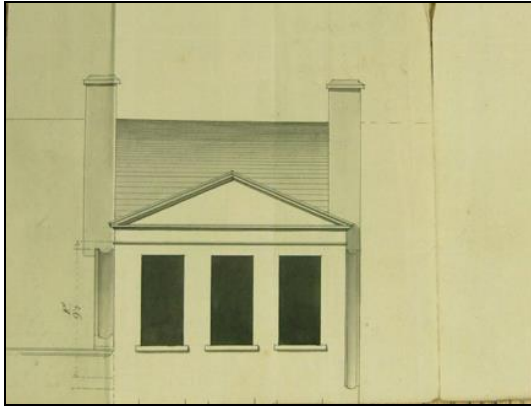
PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie, merchant.

SITE: High Street, between Anchor Close and Geddes Close.

PROPOSAL: To modify the previously submitted design.

NOTES: See previous warrant of 3 March 1796. To erect 'a small tympany [pediment] in place of a stormont window'.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

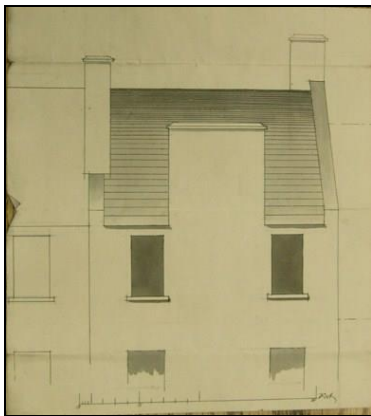


Description: a. Elevation to the High Street of the attic floor.

Size: 19.0 x 24.5 cms.

Watermark: 1794

Architect: (Robert Kay?)



Description: b. Elevation to the rear of the upper floors.

Size: 21.6 x 19.7 cms.

Watermark: 1794

Architect: (Robert Kay?)

---

BOX: 1796/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1796.

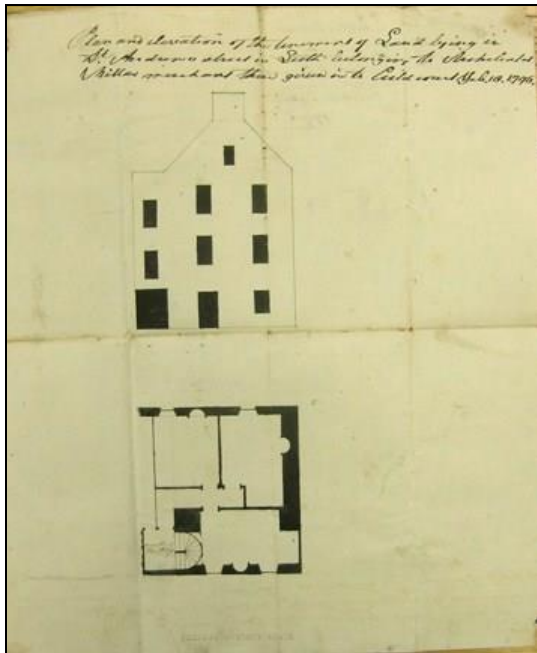
PETITIONER: Archibald Millar, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, St Andrew Street.

PROPOSAL: Alteration, to rebuild the wooden front in stone.

NOTES: There is a complaint about the staircase, part wood and part stone, which must also be rebuilt; the neighbouring proprietor, James Baird, merchant (grocer and spirit dealer) refuses to contribute. A temporary staircase is to be put up at the sight and direction of Robert Burn (architect). The petition includes estimates from David Noble, wright and James Thomson, mason, both in Leith and a report from George Calendar, ordained measurer dated 5 April 1796. Court decided that Baird should contribute one third of the expence.

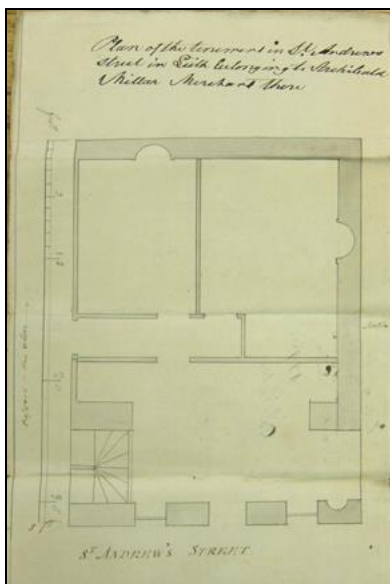
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation with a plan of the ground floor.

Size: 38.8 x 32.7 cms.

Inscription, recto: '...given in to Guild court Feb. 18 1796.'



Description: b. Plan of ground floor, modified.

Size: 33.0 x 20.0 cms.

Inscription, recto: Right side of building is annotated 'north'.

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BOX: 1796/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 21 March 1796.

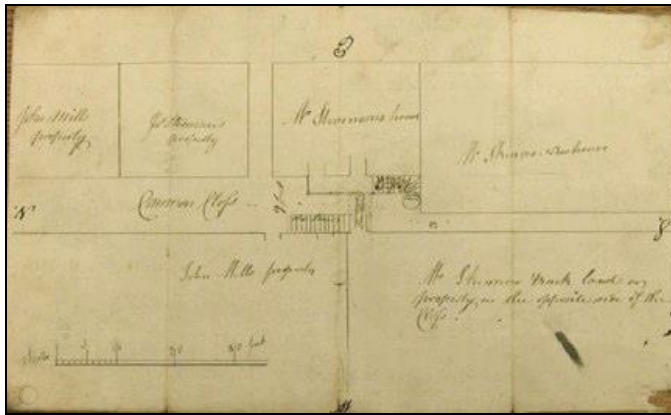
PETITIONER: James Stevenson, portioner in Leith.

SITE: Leith Kings Street.

PROPOSAL: To repair a ruinous staircase.

NOTES: This petition had been incorporated into one by Robert Skinner, wright in Leith, lodged on 11 September 1794 and a warrant granted to him on 7 July 1796.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area (north on the left).  
Size: 20.0 x 33.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1796/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 May 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 6 April 1796.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ranaldson of Blairhall.

SITE: West Bow head, first story of the fore land of Milns Court.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to the chimney in the east room, to move 2ft further east.

NOTES: After a visit on 17 April the petitioner agreed that the work could be carried out by any two members of the court. Messrs Laing and Irvine, architects asked to report after a further visit on 21 April 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 May 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 19 March 1796.

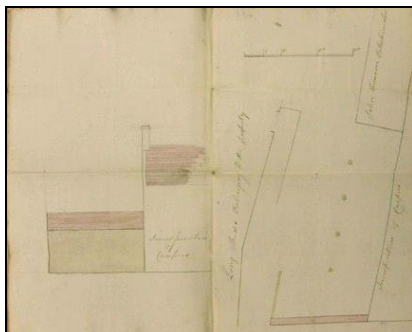
PETITIONER: Margaret Kay, daughter of John Kay, shipmaster and ship broker in Leith and Hugh Pollock, baker (a minor), son of the deceased Hugh Pollock, cooper in Leith... with consent of the said John Kay and John Thomson, blockmaker in Leith, his curators & Thomas Thomson, merchant their factor.

SITE: Leith, Pollock's land (next to the Incorporation of Coopers' building).

PROPOSAL: To build a shade.

NOTES: Among those summoned was James Rannie, wine merchant and treasurer of the Incorporation of Coopers of Leith. The petition includes an estimate from John Thomson, wright in Leith which refers to 'a stair &c. to the warehouses' (not mentioned in petition).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation of a shade.

Size: 30.3 x 37.3 cms.

Watermark: 1795

---

BOX: 1796/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 June 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1796.

PETITIONER: John Lamond, wright, manager appointed by James Watson WS. for letting subjects in the Canongate and collecting rents.

SITE: Canongate, north side, Patterson's Close and land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.

NOTES: The tenement is bounded on the west by Campbell's land and on the east by Weddel's land. The property previously belonged to the deceased John Sommerville, gunsmith and afterwards merchant in Canongate. The petition includes a number of receipts and measures for work carried out in the tenement: measure by Archibald Aitkin of painting and whitening carried out by William Grant - 'of size stone colour in Mr. Lauchlan's house, 70yds 0ft 3in; of size yellow in the kitchen there, 57yds 2ft; of whitening there, 72yds 4f 6in; of size stone colour in the stair case, 157yds 3ft.; of whitening there, 144yds 2f 3in'. William Grant's account dated 2 October 1795 for this work, £3 8s 4d, George Alexander for wright work, Andrew Ramsay, slater; James Gilchrist, mason; John Simpson, locksmith. See further expences cognosed 24 September 1796 and previous warrant of 29 October 1795.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1796.

PETITIONER: The Incorporation of Bakers in Edinburgh; James Orr, Deacon and James Hunter, treasurer.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: To have new firloft stamped.

NOTES: The Incorporation has had numerous complaints about the measures used for metting wheat and barley. These were supplied by the Dean of Guild in Linlithgow. They recently requested the same to have two new firlofts made and this is a request to have them inspected and stamped. The inspection is carried out by Professors Playfair and Fergusson in the presence of the cooper for the City and the cooper from the town of Linlithgow.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 June 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 4 September 1794.

PETITIONER: Lt. John Yetts RN and others.

SITE: Canongate head, north side, Buchanan's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repairs to the roof.

NOTES: The petition includes a copy of the warrant granted on 4 September 1794 to carry out the repairs. Also here, an account from James Ramsay, slater giving the division among the inhabitants, Mrs. Woods and Miss Colzier.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 June 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 26 May 1796.

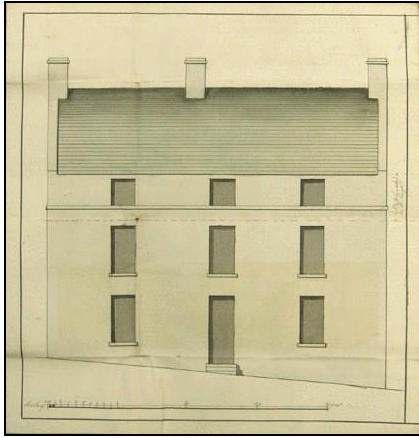
PETITIONER: James Lea, dentist.

SITE: Canongate, New Street

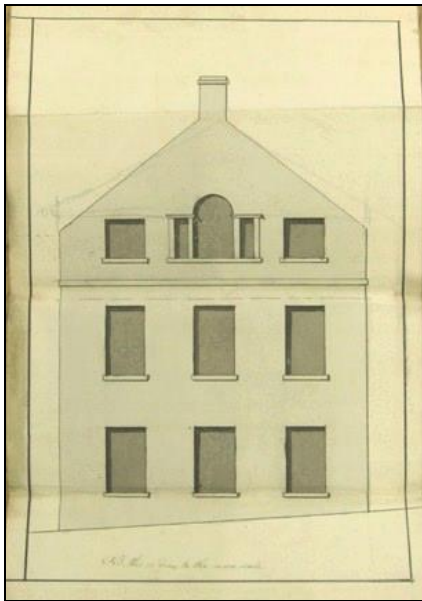
PROPOSAL: To add a further story.

NOTES: The property was built by the deceased John Syme, WS and feued by him from the later Dr. Thomas Young, physician. It is bounded on the north by the property of the late Lord Hailes, now belonging to Dr. Fyfe, on the south by that of the petitioner and Michael Nasmith, wright in Canongate and on the west by the said street.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation (to the street?).  
Size: 26.4 x 25.0 cms.



Description: b. Elevation (to the north or south).  
Size: 26.4 x 18.0 cms.

BOX: 1796/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 July 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1794.

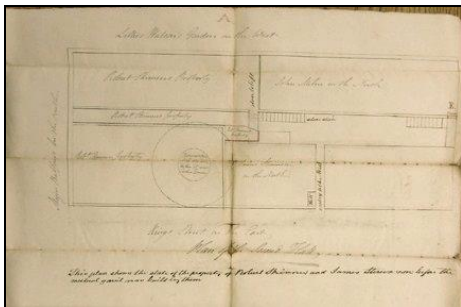
PETITIONER: Robert Skinner, wright in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kings Street.

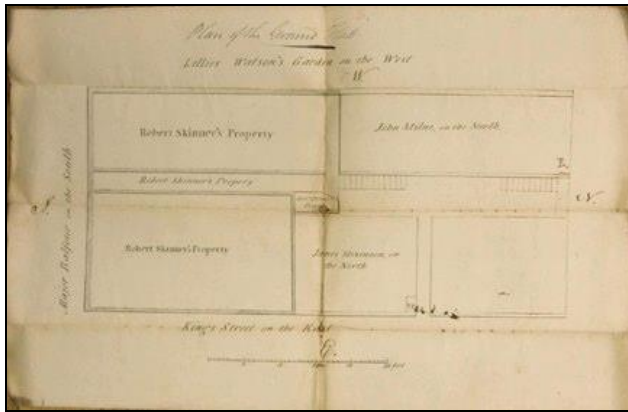
PROPOSAL: To build on a small area.

NOTES: See petition of Robert Stevenson 21 April 1796.

DRAWINGS: 3 sheets.



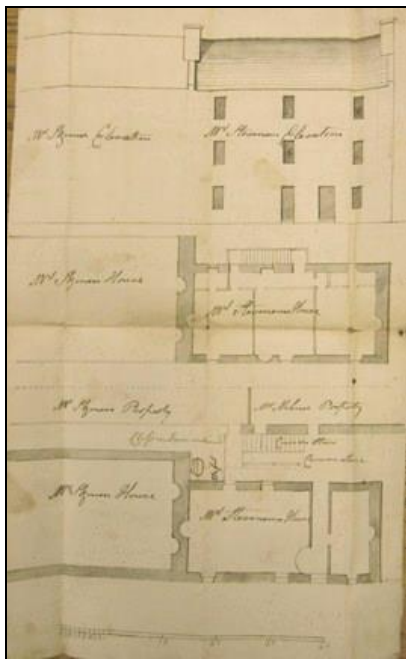
Description: a. Plan of the second flat with an indication of an old kiln, before it was taken down.  
Size: 28.6 x 45.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the ground flat.

Size: 28.6 x 45.0 cms.

Watermark: Countermark, Curteis & Sons



Description: c. Elevation and plans of two floors of Robert Stevenson's house.

Size: 38.0 x 23.0 cms.

BOX: 1796/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 29 June 1796.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, north side of the harbour, Glass house Quay.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the quay.

NOTES: The complaint refers to the condition of the Quay, part of which has given way and a large stone tenement and a dry dock belonging to John Sime, ship's carpenter.

The Court granted a warrant on 30th June 1796 to Robert Burn, architect to immediately take down that part of the Quay that is falling and report the expence to the Court for further work. This matter was the subject of a dispute between John Sime and the Magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh whom he accused of undermining his property in order to deepen the harbour of Leith. The Court intervened again on 18 July, ordering plans to be made out and the work to commence and accepting that both parties should be responsible for the cost until such time as either party should be found liable. Work was only agreed on 1 August 1796 with Robert Burn undertaking to complete the work for £220 2s Stg. He signed the plans along with John Gray, one of the principal clerks of the City.

DRAWINGS: None.



BOX: 1796/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1796.

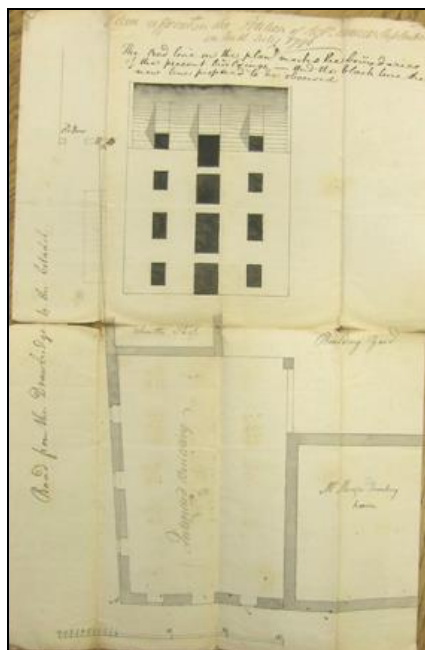
PETITIONER: Robert Menzies, shipbuilder in Leith.

SITE: North Leith, to the west of the Drawbridge.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild old cellars and part of his property.

NOTES: The property is held in right of his spouse, Margaret Dryburgh and consists of a dry dock, dwelling house and office houses.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation with the road to the Drawbridge on the left.

Size: 42.0 x 27.0 cms.

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BOX: 1796/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 August 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1796.

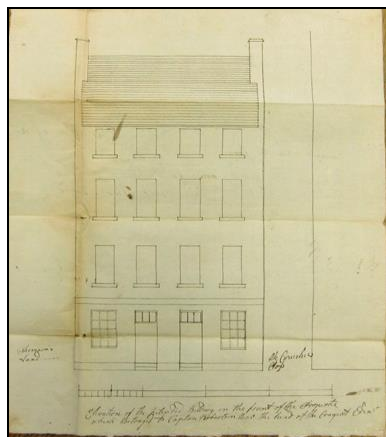
PETITIONER: Alexander Purdie and Adam Gillies, builders.

SITE: Cowgate, near the head, at the foot of McConnochie's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish old houses and build a tenement of four floors.

NOTES: Drawings were requested on 4 August 1796. John Hamilton is one of the approving heritors.

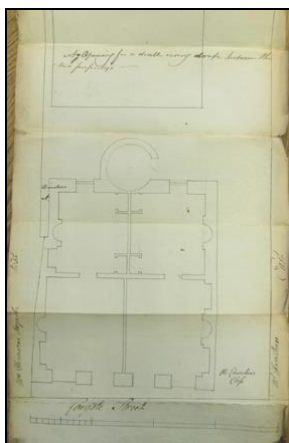
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Elevation to the Cowgate.

Size: 27.7 x 24.5 cms.

Watermark: C Taylor



Description: b. Plan of the ground floor.

Size: 37.0 x 32.3 cms.

Watermark: Crowned hunting horn 1794

---

BOX: 1796/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 September 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 17 August 1796.

PETITIONER: Alexander Grant WS on behalf of Lords Dunsinan and Glenlee, Robert Cullen, advocate, John Pringle and George Hume, Principle clerks of Session, Thomas Smith, writer and other proprietors of Argyle and Browns Squares.

SITE: Argyle Square and Browns Square.

PROPOSAL: To pave the north side of the street.

NOTES: The petition refers to a large drain being dug in the street leading from the College to Browns Square, by Mr. (William) Jamison. He provided an estimate for freestone paving 4ft wide to run along the north side of the street westward from Horse Wynd to the head of Scott's Close. The warrant granted as long as the carriageway remained 15ft wide, according to an Act of the Town Council dated 31 August 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 24 August 1796.

PETITIONER: The Lodge of Edinburgh St. James; Alexander Veitch, mason William Thomson, Past Master, James Forbes, Deputy Master, John Inglis and James Wilson, Wardens.

SITE: Writer's Court, first story in the stair leading to the Sun Fire office.

PROPOSAL: Repair of chimney.

NOTES: They note that there is a benefit society annexed to the Lodge. This is also a complaint against Charles Walker whose property is let to Mr. Hunter, vintner and who refuses to contribute to repairs. There is an estimate of the work required by James Callender, ordained measurer.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 September 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 4 August 1796.

PETITIONER: James Watson, WS.

SITE: Canongate, Paterson's land.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of further expences.

NOTES: The petition refers to a warrant granted to the petitioner, 29 October 1795. Additional work required and accounts and depositions included from William Marshall, plumber, Andrew Ramsay, slater and George Alexander, wright. See also previous warrant granted 2 June 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 October 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 18 August 1796.

PETITIONER: Lt. Col. Francis Gowdie of the Hon. East India Service and John Wilson, merchant in Dalkeith, his attorney.

SITE: High Street, north side, Blackcastle's land ('Peacock's' crossed through). In the measure it is noted as the tenement at the head of Fortunes Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences.

NOTES: The petition refers to rebuilding the second flat above the shops and a cellar on the site of a condemned tenement. William Jamieson, mason was employed to rebuild the flat for £264 1s 6d or £281 0s 3d including demolition of previous flat, drawings, measurements etc. Accounts here from William Jamieson, mason; John Mylne, mason, 17-21 September 1793 for demolition; Robert Kay, architect, 7 May 1794 for a plan of the floor over the shops, between Foulis and Old Bank or Ship Closes £2 0s 4d. Also Wilson & Elliot for bells, and measures of work by Andrew Irvine, mason on chimneys and paving. Receipt for drink money from Francis Metcalf, Sellers Close, Lawnmarket.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 October 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1796.

PETITIONER: William Jamieson, mason.

SITE: Advocates Close.

PROPOSAL: Cognition of expences of repairing the pavement.

NOTES: Refers to the previous warrant granted 9 July and 3 September 1795 to Robert Stevenson, painter in Edinburgh. Jamieson's account is here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 December 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 23 June 1796.

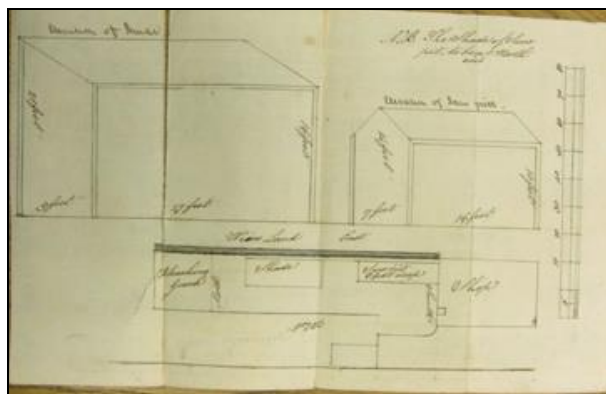
PETITIONER: Rev. Alexander Allan, clergyman of the Church of England.

SITE: Canongate, Chessell's buildings.

PROPOSAL: To enclose the ground on the east and build shades, one for a sawpit.

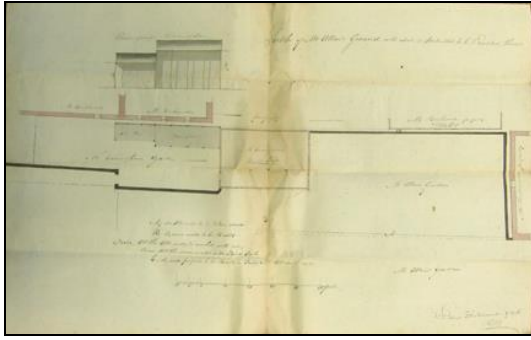
NOTES: There is an argument over rights and boundaries which gave rise to the second, more accurate drawing. Enclosed is a long quotation from Edmund Burke, *Letters on a Regicide Peace* (London 1796) about the law '...There is a law of neighbourhood which does not leave a man perfect master on his own ground...' Also enclosed is an extract from a Sasine in favour of Archibald Chessells (wright in Canongate) from D(avid) Milne dated and recorded, 22 March 1764. The plan at b. records 'Mr. Cunningham's wright shop' and Mr (Archibald) Borthwick's property, also noted as a wright shop.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Sketch plan of the area and elevation of two shades.

Size: 18.3 x 29.5 cms.



Description: b. Plan of the area and elevation of two shades.

Size: Inscriptions, recto: Edinr. 23 November 1796, RB (Robert Burn).

Watermark: Countermark, B

Architect: Robert Burn.

---

BOX: 1796/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 29 December 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 14 July 1796.

PETITIONER: William Creech, bookseller, Alexander Brown, wine merchant, Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Willieson, printers.

SITE: Craigs Close.

PROPOSAL: Expences of a claim.

NOTES: Refers to a petition by Gregor Drummond, flesher, William Wilkie, tailor and Charles Calder, hat maker and the decision of the court to dismiss their petition on 7 July 1796.

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted petitions** (ECA: SL91/27)

BOX: 1796/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 January 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 25 January 1796.

PETITIONER: Henry David Inglis, advocate and John Ross, painter.

SITE: Elliot's Close and Curries Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous chimneys.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Dickson, parts of whose property have fallen down in recent high winds. Messrs. Burn, Jamieson and Braidwood appointed to inspect.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 February 1796 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 3 February 1796.

PETITIONER: William Gibson, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Bridge Street, west side, immediately south of the Cowgate arch.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the construction of the vents.

NOTES: The petitioner purchased his property; the shop floor and the second story, some years ago from Messrs. Paterson and Dott, builders. One of the vents from the house below his, occupied by Mrs. Stewart, takes a very circuitous route and cannot be cleaned and the smoke comes through the wall into his shop and dining room.

In replies for Paterson and Dott they state that they built the property about six years ago and Mr. Gibson has lived there for five years without any complaint. Mr. Gibson points out that the property below has only recently been occupied as a dwelling, having been a printing house before that. There is an estimate here for rebuilding the vents (and possibly windows) on the back wall of Lindsay's land, Blackfriars Wynd.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 February 1796 (no warrant, expences).

PETITION LODGED: 14 February 1795.

PETITIONER: Miss Margaret Hepburn, daughter of the deceased Henry Hepburn, surgeon.

SITE: High Street, Cellars Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a legal title.

NOTES: The complaint is against Francis Mitcalf, vintner who has begun alterations a lead platform roof, to which he makes a claim. Reference is made to a Sasine in favour of David Hepburn, deceased, the petitioner's elder brother dated 9 April 1751. This petition ends with the Court ordering Miss Hepburn to pay for the original warrant but asking all the parties to make 'short' statements. This appears not to have occurred. See warrant granted 5 February 1795 (Miticalf)

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1796 (no warrant, request for a drawing).

PETITION LODGED: 17 February 1796.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: New Town, meuse lane behind Princes Street, between Frederick and Hanover Streets, but closer to the former.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about an illegal vent.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Robertson or Robinson, wright who has erected a stove in the loft of a stable and created a vent where there should be none. William Burn was asked to report and he suggests the stove is dangerous and that a vent should be built.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 February 1796 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 22 February 1796.

PETITIONER: Hugh Buchan Esq. and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith Walk, Greenside.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about damage to the Calton Hill.

NOTES: The complaint is against Messrs. Crichton and Field, coach makers, Walter Smeiton, painter, William Coulter, hosier, Robert Burns, mason, John Dickson, plumber and Jno. Bennet, wright in Calton who have all taken feus in the area at the top of Leith Walk and between it and the Calton Hill. They are preparing the area for building and the coach manufactory and other buildings by Crichton and Field are almost finished. They have been excavating parts of the hill and the public 'will be deprived of that symmetry & beauty of view which the Hill presents from the Walk of Leith and adjacent grounds'. The Court ordered operations to stop.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 March 1796 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 16 March 1796.

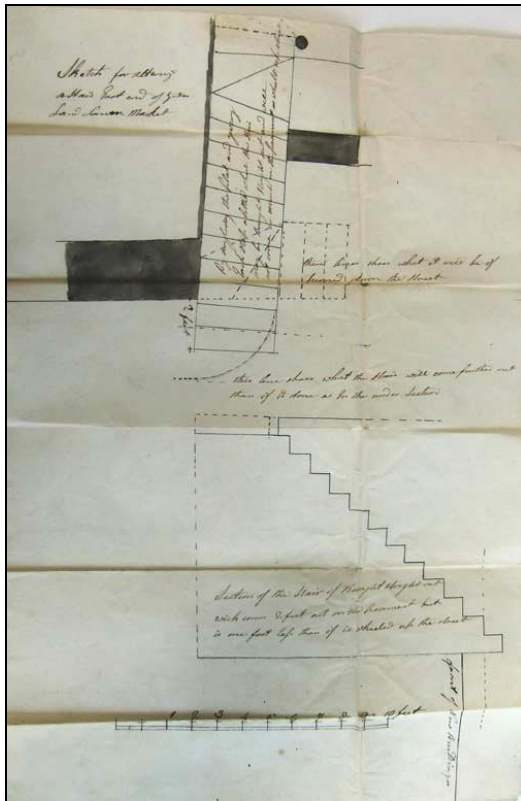
PETITIONER: Miss Ferguson.

SITE: Lawnmarket, 3rd floor of Gladstones land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the entrance stair.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Govan, glazier, proprietor of the area and tenement now building, to the west of the stair. He has removed part of the stair without a warrant. The defender refers to a warrant granted 22 August 1794 for the rebuilding and the judgement of Lord Dreghorn on p. 24 of the said Act and Warrant dated 20 May 1795 and an interlocutor of the Court dated 11 June 1795.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and section of the stair.

Size: 40.0 x 26.5 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

BOX: 1796/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 April 1796 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 14 April 1796.

PETITIONER: James Forrest, merchant and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Bridge, Hunter Square, corner shop fronting north and east.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a downpipe.

NOTES: The complaint is against Forrest Dewar, surgeon who is allowing his servants to pour dirty water and nastiness into the lead rainwater downpipe with the consequence that it runs out onto the footpath, producing 'a most noxious efluvia'.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1796/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 April 1796 (no warrant, defenders called).

PETITION LODGED: 21 April 1796.

PETITIONER: Andrew Irvine, builder and Patrick Cunningham, jeweller.

SITE: High Street, (above Lyons Close) Blackcastle land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about removal of pillars in the flat below.

NOTES: The complaint is against David Bridges, merchant who occupies the first flat above the shops and who refuses to reinstate the pillars as this would destroy his ware room. The petitioners own the 3rd and 4th flats. The Court refer to a report by Messrs Francis Braidwood and Robert Burn and a drawing and ordered them to reinstate columns in the lower shop occupied by Miss Paterson. From a note on the front of the petition, this report and plan was borrowed by William Jamieson on 28 April 1796.

There is a letter here to David Bridges, signed by William Coulter, Thomas Hamilton and Jean Paterson dated 26 April 1796 in which they state that on 29 March last Francis Braidwood, by his certificate, declared all of the work done in Miss Paterson's shop to be sufficient and workmanlike. They go on to point out that the fault lies with Mr. Bridges who employed improper tradesmen who removed the posts. In a reply from Bridges he states that he cannot proceed in reinstating columns in his ware room until

the work in the shop below is completed.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 19 April 1796.

PETITIONER: Sir Archibald Grant, Dr. Nathaniel Spens, physician, Andrew Wood, surgeon, John Young, wright and John Mathie, upholsterer.

SITE: Horse Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying a drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against the proprietors of Argyll Square who applied to the Court for a warrant to construct a drain from the Square to the Cowgate. They received a warrant on 29 October 1795 to carry out the work but the heritors in Horse Wynd were not informed. They point out that the drain was to have been covered and it is not. The Court ordered the drain to be covered.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 June 1796 and 17 November 1796 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1796.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, foot of Libbertons Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Thomas Dunn, spirit dealer and masons employed by him who are knocking down masonry walls and partitions. Dunn occupies a shop owned by David Deas, baker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1796 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1796.

PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie and other heritors on the north side of the High Street.

SITE: High Street, north side.

PROPOSAL: Agreement to level the pavement.

NOTES: This is simply a letter of agreement between Charles Ritchie, acting for J. Gillespie & Co and James Chrystie and other proprietors to take up the pavement outside the shop of James Gillespie and re-lay it, down to Mr. Balfour's warehouse.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 July 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 17 May 1796.

PETITIONER: William Wilson, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Meeting house green, near Yardheads.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a drain.

NOTES: The complaint is about an arch of masonry that lies in an eighteen inch space between the petitioner's property and that of James Bannerman. This space is intended as an eves drop but the masonry prevents it functioning properly. The Court appointed James Thomson, mason to clear out the space, reinstate the drain and report. The Court ordered work to be carried out but a report from James Thomson dated 11 January 1797 states that the masonry cannot be removed without endangering the properties and he suggests sinking a cask in the sand inside Mr. Wilson's cellar and allowing the run off water to soak away there.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 August 1796 (case dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 28 July 1796.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Royal Exchange, shop on the front.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about alterations without a warrant.  
NOTES: The complaint is against William Murray, porter dealer who has begun to knock through the wall into Allan's Close. The Court called him and William Jamieson, mason but it decided that, as the defender had described his intentions to two members of the Court and had the consent of the contiguous heritors, the work could continue.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/14\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 25 August 1796 (no warrant).  
PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1796.  
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Road from the Lawnmarket to the Mound.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about excavation work.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Mills and Alexander Purdie, masons who are excavating foundations on the east side of the street and undermining it.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1796/15\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 11 August 1796 (no warrant, appoints a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 10 August 1796.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. McLaggan.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Carrubber's land.  
PROPOSAL: To alter shop windows.  
NOTES: The petitioner proposes to lengthen the front windows by 8 inches.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/16\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 17 November 1796 (no warrant, appointed a visit).  
PETITION LODGED: 17 November 1796.  
PETITIONER: Mrs. Douglas, widow of the deceased Daniel Douglas, vintner.  
SITE: High Street, immediately east of Anchor Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about broken flagstones.  
NOTES: The complaint is against the workmen employed by Charles Ritchie, merchant, who demolished and rebuilt the tenement immediately to the east and damaged the flagstones in the head of the Close. The pavement in the Close is now almost a foot higher than the street.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/17\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: 24 November 1796 (no warrant, case continued).  
PETITION LODGED: 11 November 1796.  
PETITIONER: Andrew Steel, WS, attorney for Patrick Scott, in the East India Company.  
SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, east side, second floor. The tenement of the Archbishop of St Andrews lies on the south of the same.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the roof.  
NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Archibald, residing in the Grassmarket who is the proprietor of the upper floor and garrets.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/18\*  
WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant. Visit appointed 1 December 1796.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 December 1796.  
PETITIONER: William Carlisle, porter dealer.  
SITE: Mynes Court, laigh house.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked vent (chimney).  
NOTES: The petitioner was probably leasing the flat. No action noted here other than



the visit.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1796/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 December 1796 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 14 November 1796.

PETITIONER: James Lea, dentist .

SITE: Canongate, New Street, east side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment.

NOTES: The petitioner owns two houses and the complaint is against James Ramsay, slater who owns the property to the north. He has encroached on the petitioner's gable by erecting a drain pipe and a necessary house 'in full view of the petitioner's windows looking to the east and into Masie Smith's Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

## 1797

The Court Officers from 13 October 1796:

### Dean of Guild

Neil Macvicar

### Council

William Hunter, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

William Dalrymple, merchant

Robert Burn, mason

William Jamieson, mason

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Robert Bryson

BOX: 1797/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 January 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 6 January 1796 and 4 February 1796.

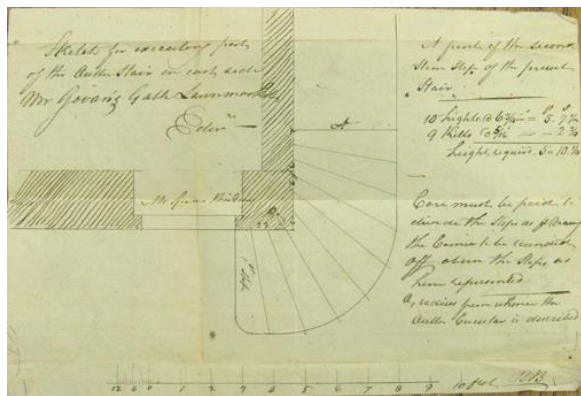
PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, James's Court, head of east entry.

PROPOSAL: To remove or repair an open stair encroaching on the pavement.

NOTES: The petition of 4 February refers to an interlocutor of 28 January 1796 allowing John Milne to repair the staircase. He is rebuilding the condemned land at the head of the east entry. The open staircase to the east of this leads to a turnpike off the landing on the first floor above the shops. The second petition complains that the repaired staircase now encroaches on the pavement. The warrant requires the staircase to be rebuilt under the inspection of Robert Burn, architect. The Procurator Fiscal refers to a Court of Session case: Mrs. Dawson against William Gowan, 20 May 1795 and the staircase should be in the same position as the previous one.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of staircase.

Size: 16.0 x 23.8 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Initialled, RB (Robert Burn)

Architect: Robert Burn.

BOX: 1797/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 February 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 25 August 1796.

PETITIONER: Ebenezer Anan, smith.

SITE: Potterrow, upper story of Lamb's back land.

PROPOSAL: To carry out repairs to upper floor and roof.

NOTES: The north end of the property stands on the road south of the College.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1797/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 March 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 22 March 1797.

PETITIONER: Robert Brown, founder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, foot of Galloway's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a pile of rubbish.

NOTES: The rubbish is the material from the demolition of tenements in Galloway's Close, taken down by John Nesson, coachmaker at the head of Leith Walk and J.

Lumsdane, cart and plough wright.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/4

WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant. Interlocutor of 26 January 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 19 January 1797.

PETITIONER: Andrew Ramsay, slater.

SITE: Canongate, east side 'of the upper common close'.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner intends raising the walls. After complaints by Elizabeth Hardie and George Trotter work stopped on 12 January. The petitioner purchased the tenement from Thomas Alves, Clerk of the Dean of Guild Court in April 1796. John Steele is the proprietor on the east. Thomas Alves may have acquired the property by Sasine dated 14 March 1759. It may be that Ramsay was unable to provide proper title.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a three story tenement.

Size: 21.5 x 19.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1797/5

WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant here. 12 January 1797 (dated from the provision of a drawing).

PETITION LODGED: 6 January 1797.

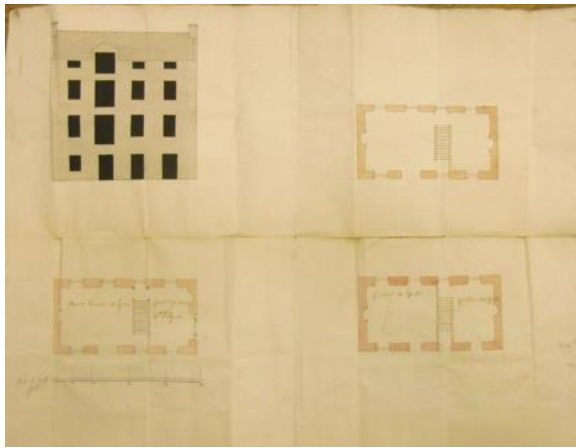
PETITIONER: James Thomson, mason in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Queen Street, Bowie's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is being built (?) for James Alison, merchant in Leith. There is a neighbouring old tenement which fronts Queen Street, owned by William Walker. In taking down Alison's tenement, this building is going to be damaged so Alison offered to purchase it but Walker refused. The record ends here with the visit to the site on 12 January 1797. There is evidence that the drawing was a re-used sheet with an earlier plan in pencil erased.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a four story warehouse tenement and plans of three floors.

Size: 38.8 x 48.9 cms.

Watermark: J Whatman

---

BOX: 1797/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 February 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1797.

PETITIONER: The Lord Provost.

SITE: Lawnmarket, head of Galloway's Close.

PROPOSAL: To demolish part of the tenement.

NOTES: Refers to an Act of Parliament to create an easy communication from the Lawnmarket to the new extended royalty by an earthen mound. Also an agreement with the proprietors of houses between the east entry to Paterson's Court, extending eastwards to the large wooden fronted tenement lying between the entry to Galloway's Close and Dunbar's Close. This wooden tenement is in 'hourly' danger of falling down and he wishes to have it demolished. He lists the proprietors including John Mathie, upholsterer. John Milne, mason is ordered to demolish the turnpike and gable and 'lay the materials carefully by themselves'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 9 February 1797.

PETITIONER: John Howie, stocking merchant.

SITE: High Street, south side, Polton's land, between Fountain Close on the west and a small back close on the east.

PROPOSAL: To enclose the archway flush with the front of the tenement.

NOTES: The shop is entered through one of a series of arches resting on pillars 'as has been the case with most part of the tenements on both sides of the High Street'. These arcades '...have been found to shelter loose and disorderly people...'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 February 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 23 February 1797.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Murray against Lady Dalziel.

NOTES: Warrant granted to the officer of the Court '...to apprehend and incarcerate within the Tolbooth of Edinburgh the person of John Ormiston, solicitor at law in Edinburgh, therein to remain until he return the above process and pay the officer his fees being two shillings and sixpence'.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 March 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 2 March 1797.

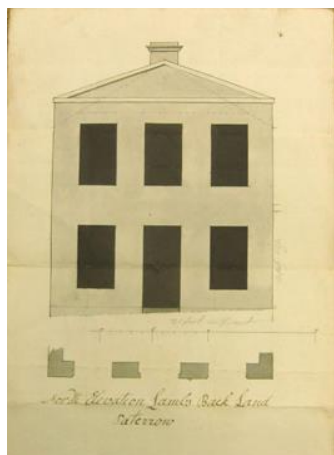
PETITIONER: Ebenezer Annan, smith and Mrs. Polson.

SITE: Potterrow, Lamb's back land.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a small tenement.

NOTES: Refers to a petition to demolish and rebuild a tenement 'but on account of the plan of elevation not being given in, the warrant to rebuild it was not granted.'

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of a two story house.

Size: 32.2 x 20.1 cms.

---

BOX: 1797/10

WARRANT GRANTED: (7 June 1797)

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1797.

PETITIONER: John Crombie, dyer.

SITE: Cowgate, Campbell's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a chimney.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mr. Home who occupies a distillery in Campbell's Close. The great fires lit by Mr. Home can be seen from the petitioner's house and he has been advised by Mr. Moubray of the Friendly Insurance office that there is a danger. Warrant granted to the officer of the Court to stop the burning of fires in the said vent.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 June 1797 (expences). Previous warrant 24 November 1796.

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1796.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Candlemaker Row, the head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous coach house.

NOTES: The coach house belonged to the late Lord Henderland and now belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Bannatyne, cloth merchants and Alexander Wright, writer. By the warrant granted on 24 November 1796 the petitioners were ordered to support the roof with timber standards in the meantime and to take down the pediment of stonework and rebuild it.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 July 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 30 June 1797.

PETITIONER: John Barclay and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Castle Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about works in the flat above.

NOTES: The petitioner is proprietor of the third flat of a new tenement of land. The flat above has recently been purchased by Francis Brodie, writer in Edinburgh. Mr. Brodie had employed tradesmen to take up the floorboards in his flat and relay them closer together and in doing so this had damaged the plaster and cornice of the petitioner's flat. The court ordered work to cease on 31 June but it had recommenced. Enclosed is a letter from (Francis) Braidwood to Neil McVicar (Dean of Guild), Lothian Street, dated 3 July 1797 stating that the floorboards had shrunk and were being re-laid. '...Mr (Robert) Burn and I went over this forenoon & we are both of opinion that the complaint is vexatious: there are a few trifling plaster ornaments that have been brought down which Mr. Brodie has no objection to replace when the work is finished...!'

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 August 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 30 March 1797.

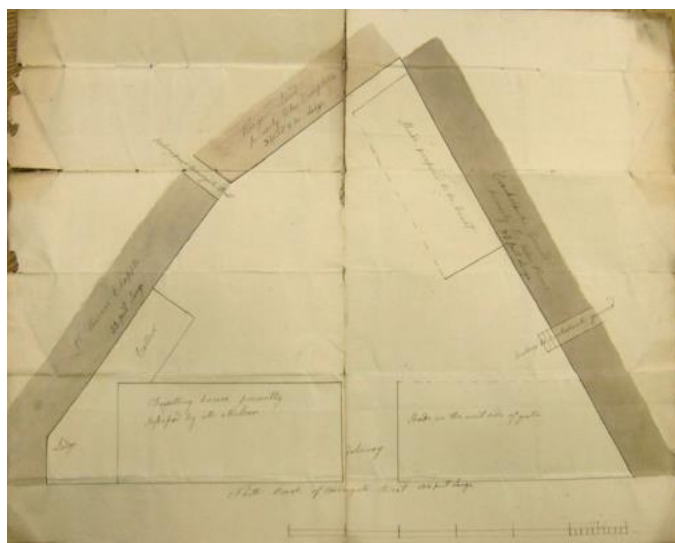
PETITIONER: William Robertson, cowfeeder at Croftangry (Croft an Righ)

SITE: North back of Canongate.

PROPOSAL: To build a shade for a byre or stable and repairs.

NOTES: The petitioner acquired right to the property by a disposition from Gilbert Neilson, merchant in Edinburgh dated 23 March 1797. The drawing shows property of St Thomas's Chapel (on the west?) with an entry from Canongate Street beyond. See further warrant on 23 November 1797.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the courtyard area.

Size: 37.0 x 45.8 cms.

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BOX: 1797/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 September 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 7 August 1797.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Old Provost's or Fleshmarket Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The petitioner notes that the Town has been purchasing and demolishing old tenements on the north side of the High Street to widen the Veal market and making a commodious Greenmarket. The ruinous tenement stands to the west of these demolished buildings and it too should be removed. A jury appointed and warrant granted for demolition.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/15  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1797.  
PETITION LODGED: 8 August 1797.  
PETITIONER: James Gordon, brewer.  
SITE: Grassmarket, west side of Heriot's Work bridge.  
PROPOSAL: Alteration, slapping out a window.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/16  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 September 1797 (expences). First warrant, 27 April 1797.  
PETITION LODGED: 15 April 1797.  
PETITIONER: James Lee, tailor in Leith and Beatrix Pillans, spouse of Robert Grieve, merchant there and the Procurator Fiscal.  
SITE: Leith Riddles Close.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about a bake house.  
NOTES: The petitioners are complaining about an oven and bake house being constructed in the ground floor of a neighbouring tenement belonging to the heirs or creditors of the deceased William Morrison, mason in Leith. The ground floor consists of four rooms with one family occupying each room and three upper floors similarly crowded with inhabitants. David Robertson, baker has taken a lease of two rooms on the ground floor where he is clandestinely building an oven. The first warrant on 27 April 1797 ordered Robertson not to use the oven until the roof is arched and the oven converted into a furnace oven to be heated with coals instead of wood. There is an enclosed petition by all of the neighbours to remove the oven dated 11 May 1797.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/17  
WARRANT GRANTED: 12 October 1797.  
PETITION LODGED: 11 October 1797.  
PETITIONER: John (Cave?).  
SITE: Thistle Street.  
PROPOSAL: Complaint about laying pavement at the wrong level.  
NOTES: The complaint is about Mr. Bryce, living in the same street. The court ordered that the work be carried out at the sight of Mr. Sibbald, the Overseer of public works.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/18  
WARRANT GRANTED: No warrant.  
PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1797.  
PETITIONER: John Hardie, merchant.  
SITE: Lawnmarket, Cellar's Close.  
PROPOSAL: To reinstate a 'water barge' or roof.  
NOTES: The timber construction was mounted on the wall above the entrance to his shop, to keep off the rain. A window cleaner, employed by Mr. Knie (Knee), weather glass maker in the flat above, stood on the water barge and it now needs replacing. There is no warrant, the court having appointed a visit on 2 November 1797. For Mr Knie's position see 'Information for Mr Knie' supplied to Mr. Wood, solicitor at law, 14 December 1797 – with warrant of 21 December 1797.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/19  
WARRANT GRANTED: 23 November 1797.  
PETITION LODGED: 26 September 1797.  
PETITIONER: William Robertson, cowfeeder, Croftangry.  
SITE: North back of Canongate.  
PROPOSAL: To rebuild a wall that has fallen down at the expence of William Cruikshanks, late candlemaker and soapmaker at Restalrig, now in Leith.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1797 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 20 June 1797.

PETITIONER: Dr. Nathan Spens, physician and Andrew Wood, surgeon and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Horse Wynd, west side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint

NOTES: The complaint is against James Horne WS, Mary Gall, broker and Alexander Hamilton, mason all in Edinburgh. Horne had acquired right to a lodging previously owned by Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk (which he had acquired from Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto) and began making alterations. Dr. Spens and Andrew Wood are proprietors of large tenements lying on the south and north sides of the gateway leading to the lodging. In consequence of an agreement with Mrs. Gall, James Horne had employed Alexander Hamilton and other tradesmen to alter the gateway - in fact an old building between the two tenements with an access through to the lodging - turning it into a broker's shop. The work was stopped by the court on 20 June 1797. This was followed by a petition from James Howe and Mrs. Gall which was referred to the Procurator Fiscal. This petition refers to a disposition from John Mackie, brewer to Sir Gilbert Elliot dated 16 March 1728.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 December 1797.

PETITION LODGED: 30 November 1797.

PETITIONER: John Hardie, merchant.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Cellar's Close.

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences of process and complaint about a sign.

NOTES: See previous petition by Hardie, on or before 1 November 1797.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX 1797/22

A petition from John Walter, Music Seller, 34 North Bridge dated 15 April 1797. To the effect that he had been summoned by the Court 'last year' to take out a Burgess ticket. He demonstrated that as he had served in His majesty's navy as an officer, the whole of the last war, he became entitled to carry on his business in any of His majesty's dominions without purchasing the freedom of the City. While he has this liberty, he asks that they allow him a Burgess and Guild brother's ticket at a reduced price. Inscribed 'refused' on the front of the petition.

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### **Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/28)**

BOX: 1797/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 March 1797 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 14 March 1797.

PETITIONER: Alexander Deuchar, seal engraver and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Sutherland, glazier who made alterations to a cellar belonging to the petitioner, at the head of Old Assembly Close. The cellar had been occupied by Peter McCairn, cook. In replies for the defendant he states that the cellar is one of three on the right hand, near the head of the Close and for many years bypast they have been occupied by China burners, which profession is part of the defender's employment. He entered into possession of his cellar in 1789 and has just vacated it to move to the Lawnmarket. He removed the timber flooring he had placed there to prevent the rising damp. He describes Mr. McCain's usage of his cellar: he is 'keeper of one of these low Ordinaries or Eating houses about the Town, where the



poorer people dine for two or three pence a head. McCain has a fire put in the middle of the floor, above which he has a large yelling pot filled with water and greens &c. for the providing of his Ordinary. The fire is put on in the morning and the victuals are left to providence to be right or wrong cooked; for the door is lockit after the fire is kindled, and the pot is never visited till about dinner time when the contents are removed...'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1797/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 July 1797 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 July 1797.

PETITIONER: Robert Burns, grocer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Skinners Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a modification to the entrance stair.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Ronaldson, baker in Forrester's Wynd and his tenant, Peter Stewart, changkeeper, at the head of the Close.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 August 1797 (no warrant, damages allowed).

PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1797.

PETITIONER: William Calder, merchant in Portsburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Portsburgh Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about storage of flax.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Chalmers, flax manufacturer who stores flax in cellars that run beneath the petitioner's shop and back room. The petitioner purchased his shop from the trustees of James Baird, soapboiler in Portsburgh in 1788, being the eastern arched front shop, part of a tenement built by James Baird. He was allowed to erect a necessary house in a back part of a Close and this stood for eight years without any comment, until James Chalmers recently demolished it. Chalmers purchased the western arched shop from William Douglas, merchant in Leith, in the same tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1797/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 November 1797 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 1 November 1797.

PETITIONER: William Gowans, grocer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Cowgate, Campbell's Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Attwell who has erected a boiler or stove.

DRAWINGS: None.

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## 1798

The Court Officers from 13 October 1797:

**Dean of Guild**

Charles Kerr

**Council**

Francis Braidwood, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

Andrew Irvine, merchant

Thomas Chalmers, smith

George Spankie, merchant

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Robert Wemys

---

BOX: 1798/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 January 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 9 December 1797.

PETITIONER: John Ross, officer of police in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Kings street.

PROPOSAL: To repair ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Ross had been appointed by the Court of Session as factor on the lands in Leith belonging to the deceased Andrew Galletly, officer of excise there and thereafter to James Matheson, accountant in Edinburgh.

Accounts from (John) Russell & Anderson, masons, Robert Skinner, wright, Peter Fiskin, slater

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 January 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 6 January 1798.

PETITIONER: George Smith, ship master in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Willy Walter's Close and Shore.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences for rebuilding.

NOTES: Refers to two warrants, the first dated 17 and 31 July 1794 to rebuild and plans and elevations presented then. The second (no date given) to build the remainder of his property, fronting the Shore of Leith, with drawings. Accounts here from James Thomson (mason?), John Glover, wright, Alexander Henderson, smith, John Crokot, slater, Richard Foster for 'new chimney pieces', James Goodwin, plasterer, Robert Brunton, locksmith, James Wright, smith and William Neilson, painter for painting the dining room and parlour. No colours given. Some of these employed by George Robertson, writer in Leith.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 8 February 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 4 July 1797.

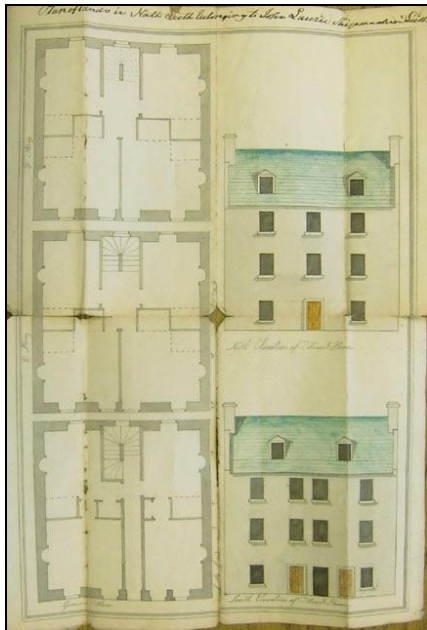
PETITIONER: John Laurie, ship master in Leith.

SITE: North Leith.

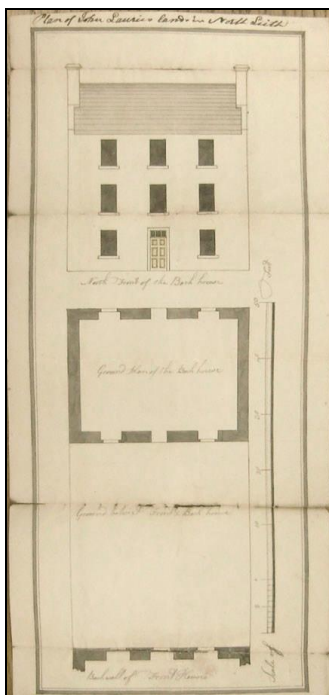
PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement and rebuild.

NOTES: He proposes building two tenements, one on the back and one on the front of his land. In answers for James Ramsay, slater in Canongate he notes that there had been a previous petition by James Laurie for this work and that visits had been arranged then. See unextracted petition dated 31 July 1788 (Laurie). The work had not been carried out. Laurie replied that this was the case but that he had been advised on a better way of laying out the ground. In a minute for Capt. John Laurie dated 19 October

1797 James Ramsay, slater is described as deceased and in answers for John Laurie (No. 12) it is noted that his eldest son was abroad. Refers to Capt. Laurie's Sasine for the property dated 28 September 1785  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plans and elevations to north and south of the 3 story front land.  
Size: 39.4 x 27.4 cms.



Description: b. Plan and north elevation of back land.  
Size: 39.2 x 18.4 cms.  
Watermark: 1794 on both sheets.

---

BOX: 1798/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 22 February 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 15 February 1798.

PETITIONER: Ralph Hardie, baker.

SITE: Fronting the Cowgate, Henderson's land.

PROPOSAL: To build an oven.

NOTES: 'to be used in baking a few rolls, Tea bread etc'. Warrant granted on condition

that it did not touch the ceiling and to be erected at the sight of Deacon Irvine.  
DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 November 1797 and 5 April 1798 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 5 October 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Netherbow, south side of the High Street, head of Fountain Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is about a tenement belonging to Robert Lawson, surgeon of the 4th or Queens Own Dragoons, Mrs. McDougald, relict of Alexander McDougald, clerk in Exchequer, Mrs. Colvin, candlemaker and room setter at the Watergate, foot of the Canongate and John Howie, hosier at the head of Fountain Close. There is a report here from Alexander Laing, Alexander Reid and Thomas Hamilton, builders dated 8 June 1797 where that state that the front of the tenement is bulging and should be taken down and rebuilt. Their tavern bill for £1 6s is also here. Robert Lawson stated that he could have told them it was out of plumb when he bought the property 14 years ago and had been for 50 years before that and would stand for another 50 years! The Court orders William Jamieson to take down and rebuild the upper two floors and to be a preferable creditor on these floors, the accounts to be cognozed by the Court on completion.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 April 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 29 March 1798.

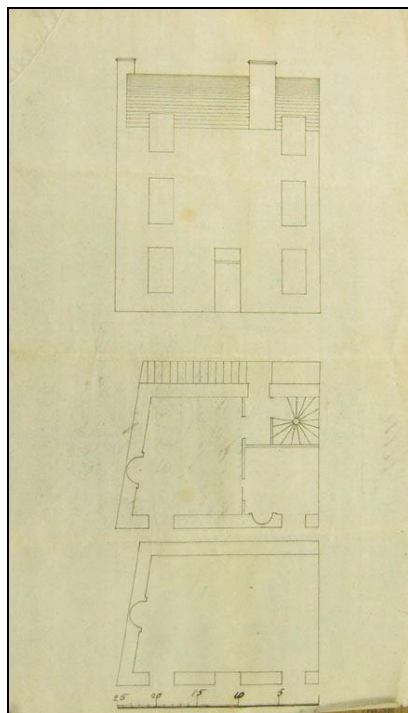
PETITIONER: Patrick Herron, residerter.

SITE: Cowgate, Herron's Court.

PROPOSAL: To raise the walls of a coach house.

NOTES: Property formerly possessed by (blank) Lockhart Esq. The coach house fronts the Cowgate.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors and elevation.

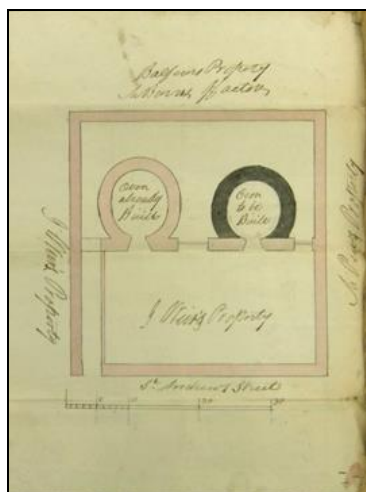
Size: 30.2 x 18.0 cms.

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BOX: 1798/7  
WARRANT GRANTED: 14 June 1798.  
PETITION LODGED: 28 May 1798.  
PETITIONER: James Weir, Baker in Leith.  
SITE: Leith, head of St Andrews street.  
PROPOSAL: To build a second oven.  
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of ovens.  
Size: 20.2 x 27.0 cms.



Description: b. Plan of ovens highlighting the one to be built.  
Size: 25.0 x 21.0 cms.

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BOX: 1798/8  
WARRANT GRANTED: 21 June 1798.  
PETITION LODGED: 6 June 1798.  
PETITIONER: Charles Ritchie, merchant.  
SITE: High Street, Richardson's land, situated betwixt the Anchor and Geddes's Closes.  
PROPOSAL: To cognoze expences of rebuilding a tenement.  
NOTES: Includes a copy of an earlier warrant to rebuild the 2nd, 3rd stories and garrets above the shops of Clarkson's land and 3rd story above the shops in Richardson's land, dated 3 March 1796. Many accounts here for work carried out. Of particular interest: from John and Thomas Hamilton (senior) for wright work amounting to £197 13s 1d carried out between 4 June to 20 August 1796 and on 13 March 1797. Noted verso, payment of £11 10s 10d to John Hamilton (his brother) for 'self' and other payments for 'company'. Also from Thomas Hamilton for two doors put into a house possessed by Mr. Young, 20 May 1797, discharged in cash, 27 February 1798. Promissory notes to John and Thomas Hamilton for £67 19s and £49 10s. Account from Alexander Clark for painter work and from William Cuthbert, wright, also for work in the house occupied by Mr. Young 'of the Phoenix Fire office', 'entering from Geddes Close'. This included a front for a smoke board covered with canvas and papered. There are further accounts from: Elliot Stewart for 'painting & ornamenting 4

chimney pieces' dated 24 April 1797, £7 6s; James West for 'painting doors of a (concealed bed?) mahogany colour...7s 6d.'; James Nisbet, plasterer '...plain cornice... lineal enrichments...' £20 1s 2d; Henry Watt, painter for 'painting the tirlaces (trellises) on front of bed stance doors three coats (Brass?) colour £3 3s and Robert Kay (architect) in 1796: 28 January: Plan of lodging floor 15s; 29 February: Plan of ditto with alterations etc. 10s 6d; 17 March: Section of roof 5s; 22 March: Elevation of pediment 5s; 14 April: Section of roof & north elevation of garret 5s. Discharged £2 0s 6d by Robert Kay, 2 September 1796. Also receipts from John Lawson for 2 marble chimney pieces £5 5s, 5 November 1796; Richard Forster in the Mint for a chimney piece £1 15s, 1 March 1797 and John Adam for bell hanging, £3 0s 7d. 15 April 1797.  
DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 June 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 9 June 1798.

PETITIONER: John Howden, saddler, Patrick White of the Excise and Alexander Liston Ramage, writer.

SITE: New Town, 15 Rose Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a sign.

NOTES: The petitioners own the tenement built by the deceased James Dickson, carver and gilder and William Romanes, hosier, sometime previous to 1787. Under ground there are some small houses occupied by washer women and chairmen but at Whitsunday last Mr. Dickson let part of the sunk story to Charles Robertson, coach wright with Messrs, Home and Cleghorn, to be used as a dwelling house. Robertson has painted a large area in the cheek of the entry bright yellow with painted symbols, a sign for porter, strong ale and . beer. In replies for the defendant he states that his wife has sold ale and beer at 19 Princes Street He moved to Rose Street which he describes as 'the meanest street in all the New Town and, of course, is mostly occupied by people of an inferior rank who serve their superior neighbours with necessary articles of vivers.' The Court allowed him to complete his sign within the area painted yellow.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 July 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1793.

PETITIONER: Andrew Ramsay, slater.

SITE: High Street, head of the Netherbow.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences of repairing the roof.

NOTES: Property owned by Henry Jaffray, merchant in Stirling (ground and first); James Loch WS (third) and James Graham, messenger in Edinburgh (fourth). Depositions here, part of an action by Andrew Ramsay, slater against James Graham, messenger dated 12 June 1798, from tradesmen employed in repairing the roof: James Watson, journeyman slater and servant to Andrew Ramsay aged 32, married, apprenticed to and worked with him for 23 years; Robert Porteous, wright in Edinburgh aged 58, married; Duncan McNaughton, journeyman slater with Ramsay aged forty, married and Mrs. Sophia Grant aged fifty, widow, living in the upper flat.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 10 July 1798.

PETITIONER: Patrick White, joint Register of Seizures in the Excise, Edinburgh.

SITE: Rose Street, third floor of the westmost of two tenements.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about possession of a cellar.

NOTES: The two tenements were built by Francis Dickson, carver and gilder and William Romanes, hosier. The petitioner purchased a flat on the third floor with a cellar from William White, writer on 23 June 1788. The complaint is against Alexander Liston Ramage, writer who has taken down the dividing wall between his and the petitioner's

cellar and made use of the area. The Court decided Ramage had no right to the cellar and ordered him to reinstate the dividing wall within fourteen days.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1798.

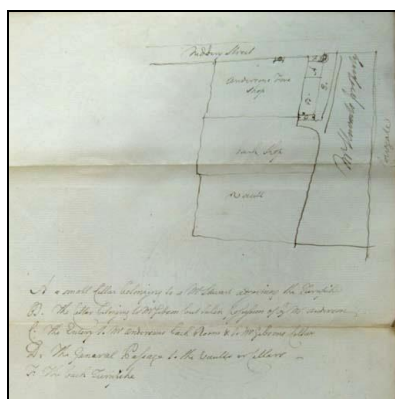
PETITIONER: Peter Gibson, haberdasher.

SITE: South Bridge Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about encroachment in a cellar.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Anderson, flax dresser who has taken possession of a cellar that belongs to the petitioner. The petitioner purchased his property being the large shop off the pavement of South Bridge, the southmost shop in the tenement, from Robert Allan, banker on 31 May 1792 (1790 on front of petition?) Registered 28 May 1794. The shop was then divided into two but is now one shop let to Messrs. Dudgeon & Sheriff, haberdashers, entered from Niddry Street. He sold part of the same subject to James Anderson in 1795 but this did not include the cellar, of which Anderson has taken possession.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Sketch plan of the west corner of Niddry Street and Cowgate

Size: 30.0 x 18.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1798/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 9 August 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 17 July 1798.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Lilius Carmichael, widow of John Carmichael, late of Glasgow, merchant.

SITE: George Street (sunk and first floor) immediately to the west of the Assembly room. Also on north east corner, entering from Frederick Street (two upper floors)

PROPOSAL: Alterations, windows into doors in George Street and a cellar in Frederick Street.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 August 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 14 August 1798.

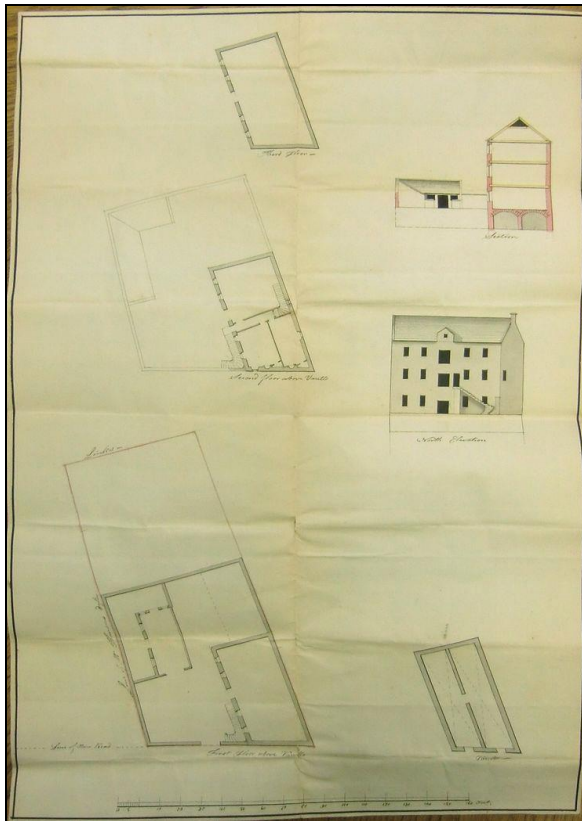
PETITIONER: Benjamin Waters, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, east side of road leading from the bottom of Leith Walk to the lands which he feued from John Pew. (Constitution Street)

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse and shades.

NOTES: Plan notes 'Links' at western extremity of the property. Stands oblique to line of street.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of three floors and vaults, elevations of north wall and section.  
Size: 50.7 x 35.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1798/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 September 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 7 June 1798.

PETITIONER: Robert Lawson, surgeon.

SITE: Surgeon's Square, adjoining the Town wall.

PROPOSAL: Repairing a drain and a blocked stone spout out into the Pleasance below.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 September 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 24 August 1798.

PETITIONER: James Watson WS.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Robert Hastie, stabler and John McGowan, writer.

NOTES: He cannot use his stable because of foul water coming from Hastie's stables.

See Unextracted petition of 24 January 1799 for expences.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 October 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 8 October 1798.

PETITIONER: William Crawford, shoemaker and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Thistle Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about leaking sewage.

NOTES: The complaint is against the occupiers of the adjoining tenement who have a cistern on the ground floor and a water pipe but no sewage pipe and their waste water is penetrating into the petitioner's ground floor property. The Court ordered the cistern to be taken out to the back wall of the tenement within one month.

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1798/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 October 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 25 July 1798.

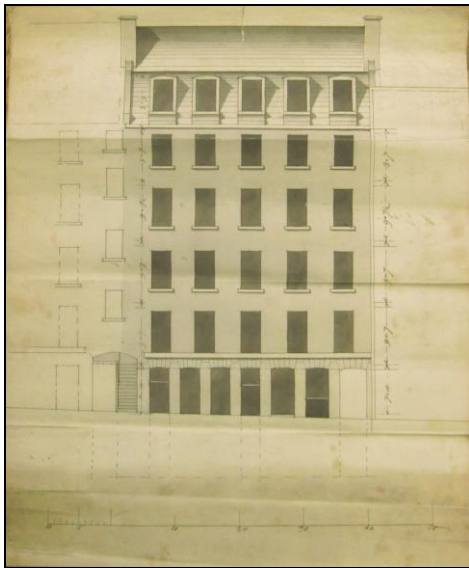
PETITIONER: Alexander Logan, baker, Thomas Hutcheson, merchant, Matthew Sherriff, upholsterer, John Matthew, wright and John Paterson, tailor.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, to the west of Dunbar's Close.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement condemned by the Town Council.

NOTES: Disagreement about the placing of the stair immediately to the west of Dunbar's Close. This gave rise to a change of plans. John Paterson owned the garret floor and had sold it by 1799. See an unextracted petition dated 15 October 1799 (Ritchie) with a new elevation for a proposed alteration to the top floor. This building stood on the site of the present Edinburgh High Court, built as the Sheriff Courthouse, 1934-37.

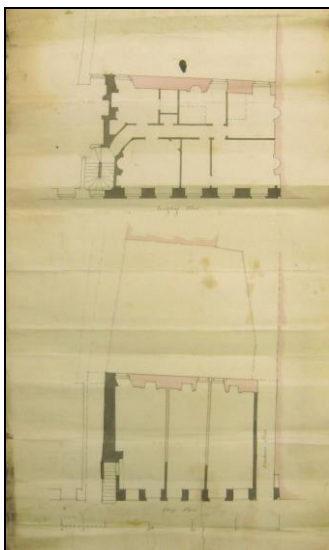
DRAWINGS: 4 sheets (two sets with modifications to one)



Description: a. Elevation of 6 story tenement.

Size: 29.0 x 23.7 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay).

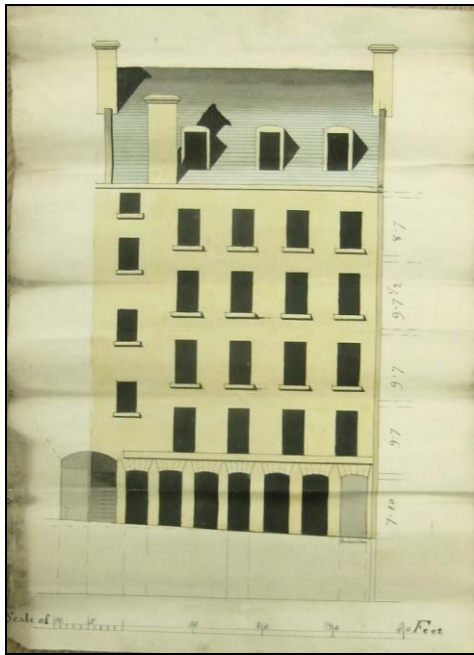


Description: b. Plans of shop floor and floor above with Dunbars Close indicated.

Inscriptions, verso: First plan and elevation.

Size: 42.0 x 24.8 cms.

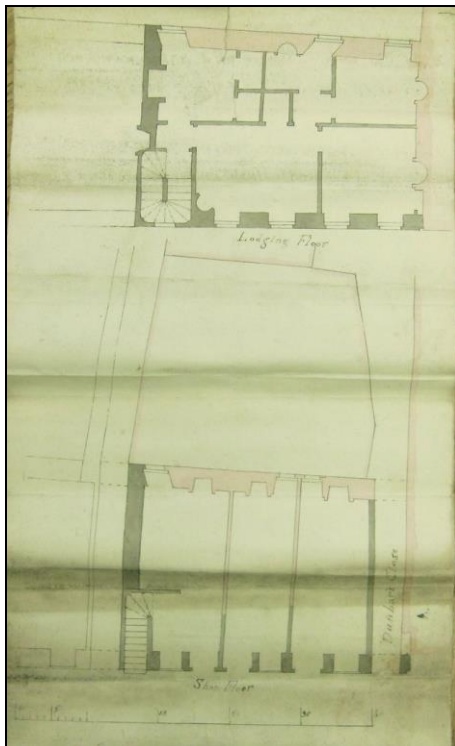
Watermarks: A Blackwell 1794



Description: c. Elevation of 6 story tenement.

Size: 29.5 x 21.7 cms.

Architect: (Robert Kay).



Description: d. Plans of shop floor and floor above.

Size: 35.0 x 20.4 cms.

Inscriptions, verso: Second plan and elevation.

---

BOX: 1798/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 October 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1798.

PETITIONER: Thomas Hill, wright.

SITE: Laigh Calton

PROPOSAL: Complaint against (blank) Ormiston.

NOTES: Refers to previous complaint against (blank) Ormiston, shoemaker.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/20

WARRANT GRANTED:

PETITION LODGED:

PETITIONER: James Forbes, master, Alexander Veitch, past master, John Thin, depute master, James Wilson and William Anderson, wardens and William Waugh, clerk of the Lodge and Society of Edinburgh St James's.

SITE: Tenement in Writer's Court.

PROPOSAL: Cognozed expences.

NOTES: Includes a copy of the warrant granted 15 September 1796 relating to the chimney heads being ruinous. Account from James Crichton, (mason).

DRAWINGS: None.

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#### **Unextracted petitions (ECA: SL91/29)**

BOX: 1798/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 April 1798 (no action).

PETITION LODGED: 2 April 1798.

PETITIONER: James Cowan, candlemaker.

SITE: Cowgate head, near the Greyfriar's under gate.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a nuisance.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Lees, stabler, who has his stables on the opposite side of the Close. He is keeping a much heap against the petitioner's wall and the water is seeping into his property.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 April 1798 (no warrant, case continued).

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1798.

PETITIONER: David Thomson, WS.

SITE: New Town George Street, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about subdivision of a tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Alexander Paterson WS, about the legal title to various parts of the tenement which is getting in the way of its use. The petitioner purchased a quarter part of the eastmost half of the tenement, built by William Smith and Robert Wright, on 7 November 1793(5?). There are further details here about the subdivision. The case was continued because Alexander Paterson was declared by Dr. David Wardrobe to be unfit to appear in any Court.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against traders using measures that have not been stamped.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Burns, Jno. Forrest and Messrs. Sheriff & Dudgeon, all merchants on South Bridge. There is an additional document of execution here dated 7 August 1798 against Mrs. Chalmers, tin plate worker, Archibald McDonald, bookseller, Charles Calder, hatter, William Brown printer, John and Alexander Grives, merchants, Mrs. E. Crichton, milliner, George Borthwirck, wire worker, J. McKay iron munger, William Murray, merchant, Mrs. McFarlen, vintner, Hugh Cameron, vintner, Mrs. Kidd, haberdasher, William Stark, combmaker, Peter Henderson, pattern maker, and William Burton, grocer. As not all of these appear to use a measure this may be an action against unfree tradespeople.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 13 September 1798 (no warrant, remitted for report).

PETITION LODGED: 6 September 1798.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Alison Gray residing in Nicolson's Square.

SITE: Libberton's Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To repair a chimney stack.

NOTES: The petitioner employs David Paton, mason to carry out repairs in all of her properties and he suggested the repair of three of her chimney vents. The adjoining four vents belong to Ebenezer Wilson, founder but he refuses to pay his share of the repairs, now complete. The account was remitted to Messrs. Braidwood and Irvine to inspect the work and report. In the summons Ebenezer Wilson 'or the trustee for his creditors' is named.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 3 October 1798 (no warrant, parties summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 28 September 1798.

PETITIONER: Bell Keir & Co.

SITE: The Pleasance, immediately above William Smith's stable entry.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement is in imminent danger of falling and the petition is signed by a group of neighbours(?). The Court summoned Mrs. Miller, widow of Thomas Miller, vintner and Carnie Buchan, writer. There is a note here dated 22 August 1798 from R. Keir to Charles Kerr Esq. George Square, alerting him to the condition of the tenement.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 October 1798 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 18 October 1798.

PETITIONER: Robert Brown, founder.

SITE: Castle Hill, south side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Campbell, flax dresser, the petitioner's neighbour on the west who has knocked a window through the adjoining gable.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 November 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 24 October 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Potterrow, north end, immediately west of the Relief Church.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Miller, mason who is building a tenement without a warrant and that it is higher than allowed by the regulations. The work was stopped on 24 October but on the 1 November the stop was lifted and work allowed because 'there are vents in the tympany from the lower story upwards'

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1798/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 December 1798 (no warrant, case dismissed).

PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1798.

PETITIONER: The proprietors of Scott's land.

SITE: Cowgate head, Scott's land.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about tradesman in a garret.

NOTES: The complaint is against William Chalmers, wright who has a workshop in the garret of the tenement. He also carries out carving and gilding there. The complaint was dismissed because the defender had never used a fire in his workshop.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 December 1798.

PETITION LODGED: 19 November 1798.

PETITIONER: Dr. Daniel Rutherford, physician.

SITE: High Street, Hyndefords Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building rubbish.

NOTES: The complaint is against tradesmen who have piled up building rubbish in front of the petitioner's entrance. The Court summoned John Thomson, slater, Dr. Congleton, physician and William Ingels, writer. The petitioner tried to make a claim for expences but the Court refused on 10 December 1798 and ordered the clerk not to receive any further papers in the cause.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1798/10\*

25 January 1798.

By order of the Dean of Guild of Edinburgh,

That as a result of recent high winds, the Dean of Guild enjoins owners of properties to immediately order the repair of chimney stacks. Failure to do so will incur legal action by the Procurator Fiscal. 'And whereas it has been found that many of the cans have been most unskilfully placed, on chimney stacks, and from not being carefully built, are subject to accident by high winds and otherwise. Therefore, these are also prohibiting and discharging the placing of cans on chimney stacks in future unless the same shall be introduced into the vents or substantially secured by building of brick or stone to the said stacks...!'

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## 1799

The Court Officers from 11 October 1798:

**Dean of Guild**

Charles Kerr

**Council**

Malcolm Wright, Old Dean of Guild

John White, merchant

William Phin, merchant

Alexander Duff, slater

Francis Braidwood, wright

Andrew Irvine, builder

**Procurator Fiscal**, William Sprott

**Clerk of the Court**, Thomas Alves or his clerk, John Ogill

**Dean of Guild Officer**, Robert Wemys

---

BOX: 1799/1

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 17 January 1799.

PETITIONER: William Neil, builder, Alex Logan baker, Matthew Sherriff upholsterer, John Matthew wright and John Paterson, tailor.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To bring their front wall forward a few inches.

NOTES: They are rebuilding a tenement that had been condemned. 'Deacon' Andrew Irvine, builder had purchased an area to the west 'and is at present erecting a large elegant building.' This is going to be 'a few inches' further forward than their building. Their proposal approved by the Overseer, William Sibbald, on sight of a plan.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/2

WARRANT GRANTED: 17 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 16 January 1799.

PETITIONER: James Clephan, wright in Canongate.

SITE: Blair Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about smoke.

NOTES: The complaint is against (blank) McIntosh who uses a shop on a tack or lease from the petitioners as a public house serving coach drivers who operate from the stance at the Tron Kirk. His chimney is blocked and on getting an opinion from (blank) Williamson, mason 'an adept at curing smoking chimnies' he suggested removing a blockage by entering the chimney from the neighbouring flue belonging to Forrest Dewar, surgeon. Dewar refused to allow this and was summoned by the Court who granted a warrant to have the work done and to have access to Mr. Dewar's flat, at his convenience.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/3

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1799.

PETITIONER: William McKenzie, jeweller.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, Brownlees land.

PROPOSAL: Repairs to a fallen chimney.

NOTES: Work to be undertaken by John Paton, mason and his estimate is included.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/4

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1799 and 21 February 1799

PETITION LODGED: 24 December 1798.

PETITIONER: Rev. Dr. John Kemp, Secretary to the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge

SITE: Baron Maules Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a ruinous tenement

NOTES: The tenement to the west in Moffat's Close was condemned some years previously and has not been occupied since. Owned by the deceased Cumberland Moffat and William Moffat, druggist in Nicholson's Street, his son. Includes a letter to the petitioner from William Sibbald dated 9 February 1799, describing the problem.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/5

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 February 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 30 January 1799.

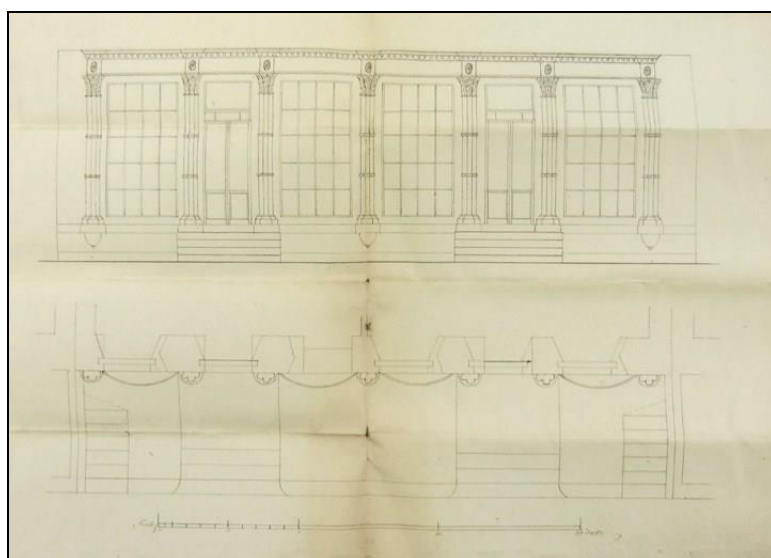
PETITIONER: James Keay, WS.

SITE: 13 Princes Street.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to a shop front.

NOTES: This drawing is in the same hand as the petition of John Bell, 2 October 1800.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 33.1 x 49.0 cms.

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BOX: 1799/6

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 March 1799.

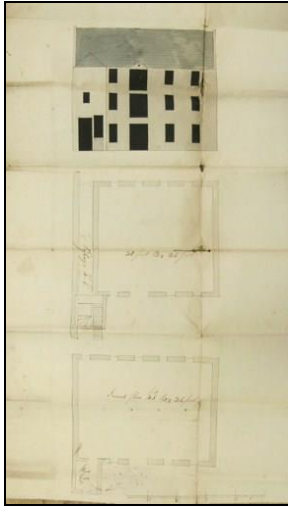
PETITION LODGED: 1 February 1799.

PETITIONER: John Kay, merchant and shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: Constitution Street, back ground called the Windmill.

PROPOSAL: To build a warehouse.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans of two floors and elevation.

Size: 56.5 x 37.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: 'This is the plan referred to in the petition of John Kay. 14 March 1799' and 'John Kay. Leith'.

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BOX: 1799/7

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 March 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 6 March 1799.

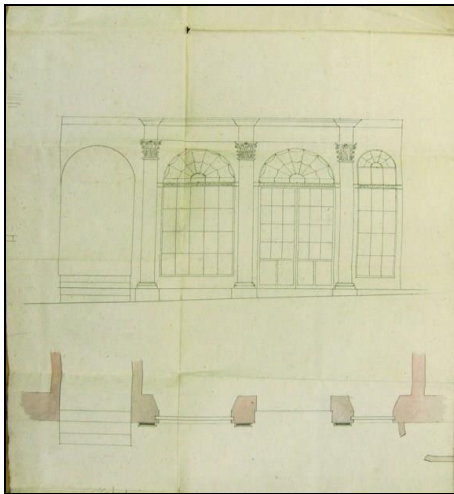
PETITIONER: George Murray, merchant.

SITE: High Street, head of Dickson's Close.

PROPOSAL: Alterations to a shop front.

NOTES: The drawing may be by John Thin.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 38.0 x 32.4 cms.

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BOX: 1799/8

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 March 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 16 February 1799.

PETITIONER: Alexander Wright, WS and Mrs. Bannatyne.

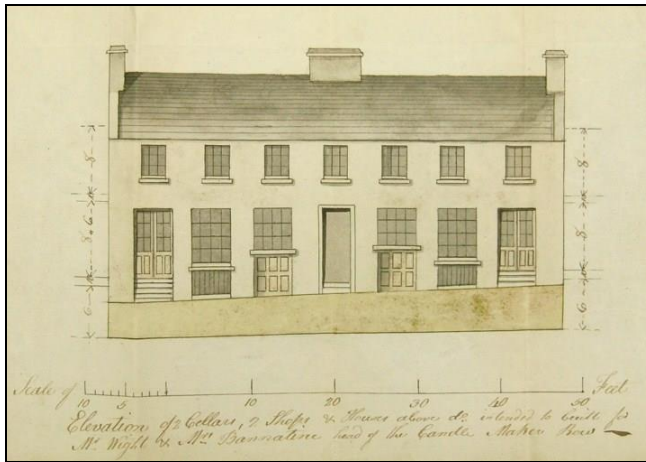
SITE: Candlemaker Row.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: Similar drawing style to petition of 7 August 1800 (Edward Simpson). On the evidence of the declivity shown on the elevation, this building probably stood on the east side of the Row and was probably removed for the construction of George IV Bridge.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.





Description: a. Elevations of two houses and shops.

Size: 19.5 x 26.0 cms.

BOX: 1799/9

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1799.

PETITIONER: Inglis Horner & Co.

SITE: South Bridge

PROPOSAL: To build a stair to flat below the shop.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1799/10

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 25 March 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side, Lady Stair's Close, near the head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimneys.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Smith, wright and auctioneer, John Ritchie, slater, (blank) Longlands, manufacturer in Potterrow and Mrs. Colonel Rixon. The Court ordered the chimneys to be taken down and rebuilt within a month.

DRAWINGS: None.

BOX: 1799/11

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 April 1799.

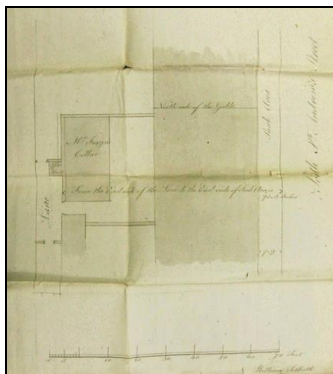
PETITION LODGED: 15 June 1798.

PETITIONER: Alexander Robertson of the Register Office.

SITE: St. Andrew Square, south east corner.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Alexander Fraser, grocer, for encroaching on the petitioner's property.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of area showing South St. Andrew Street.

Size: 38.6 x 30.2 cms.

Signed: William Sibbald.

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BOX: 1799/12

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 April 1799.

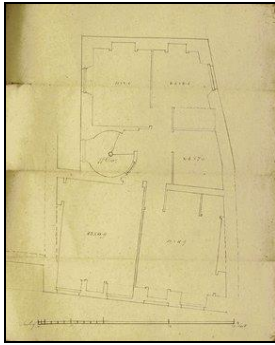
PETITION LODGED: 12 February 1799.

PETITIONER: John Archibald, merchant.

SITE: Head of West Bow.

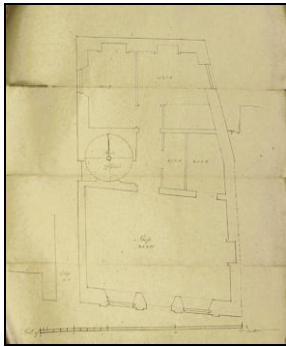
PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a tenement.

DRAWINGS: 4 sheets



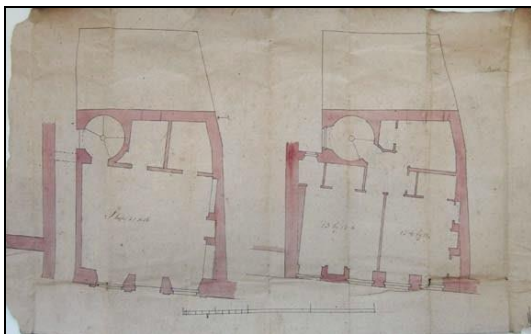
Description: a. Plan (of first floor?).

Size: 32.6 x 27.2 cms.



Description: b. Plan of shop floor.

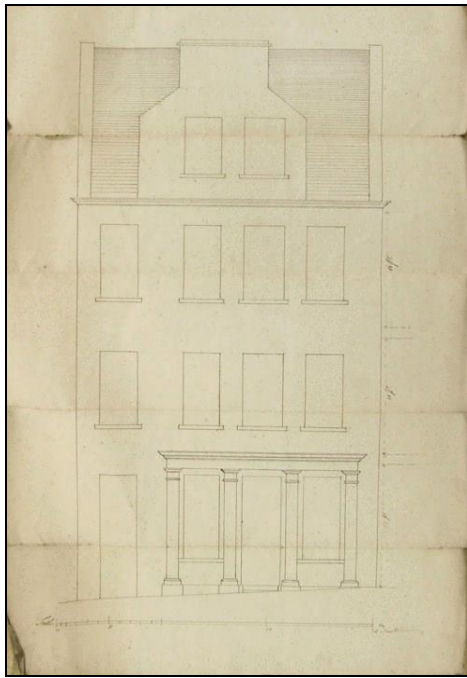
Size: 32.6 x 27.5 cms.



Description: c. Plans of two floors with alterations.

Size: 32.7 x 53.5 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: New Plan.



Description: d. Elevation.  
Size: 48.9 x 28.0 cms.

BOX: 1799/13

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 27 March 1799.

PETITIONER: William Ainslie, merchant in Leith.

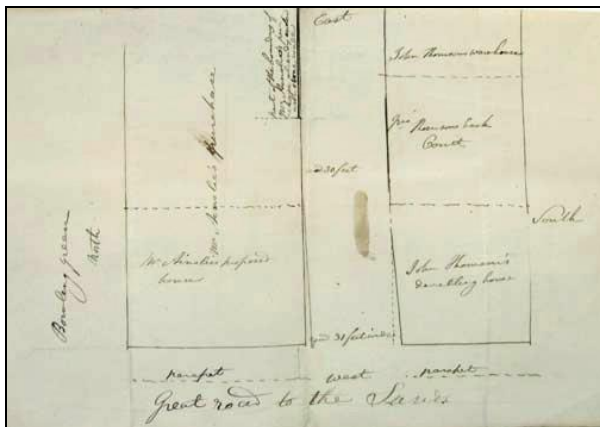
SITE: Constitution Street (No. 55, corner with Mitchell Street).

PROPOSAL: To build a house with offices at the rear.

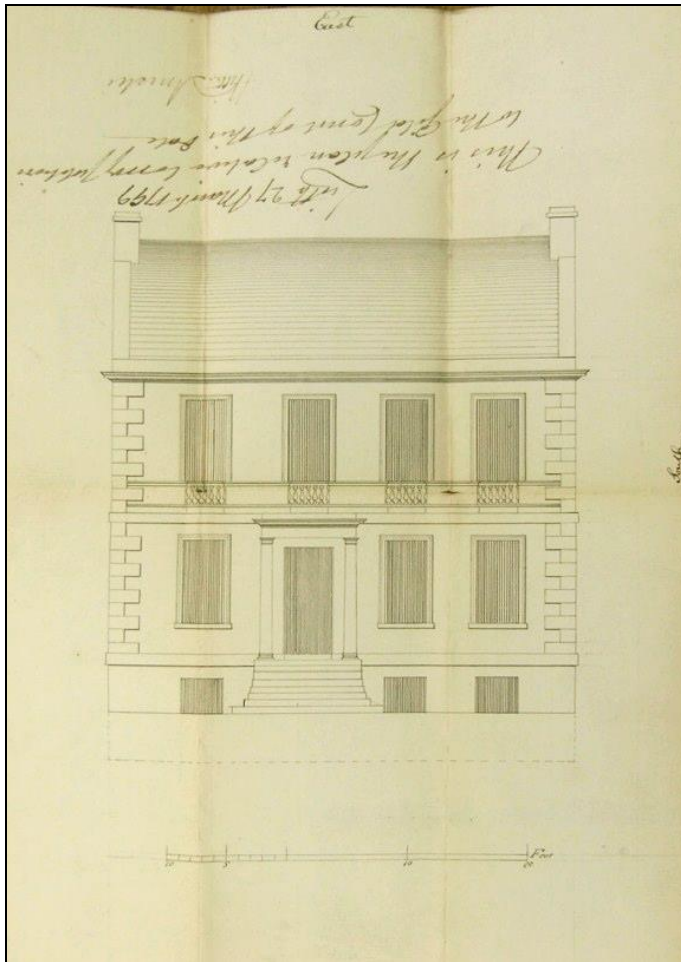
NOTES: The land had been purchased from Gavin Naesmith, wright in Leith, with a feu contract. The sketch plan shows the house fronting Constitution Street and bounded by a lane on the south and a bowling green on the north.

This house survives and stands on the corner of Constitution Street and Mitchell Street, Leith. It has been expanded to the north by two bays

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of area (sketch).



Description: b. Elevation. (vertical hatching)  
 Size: 33.5 x 24.0 cms.

BOX: 1799/14

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 11 April 1799.

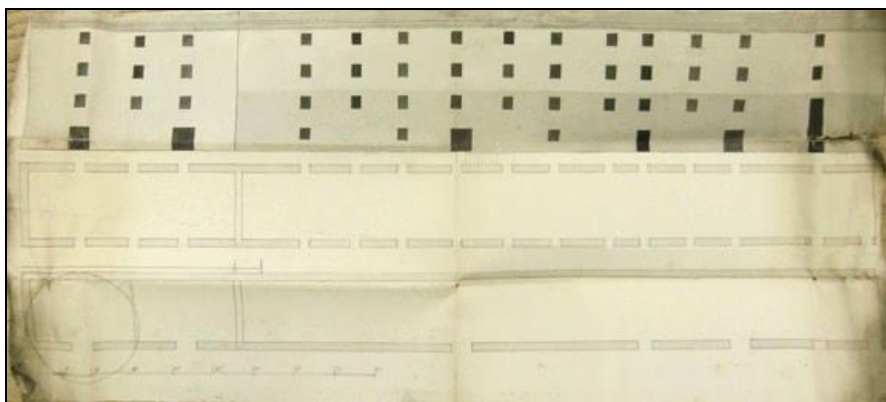
PETITIONER: William Glover, merchant in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, near Kings Street.

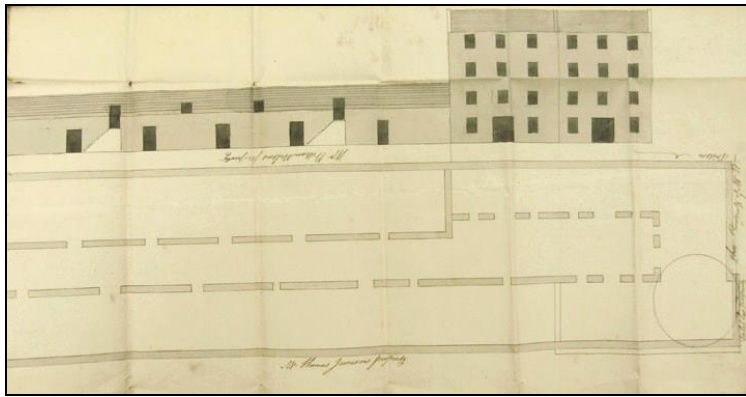
PROPOSAL: To demolish a tenement, kilns, barns etc. and rebuild a warehouse.

NOTES: The two drawings may join, indicating a warehouse some 400 ft. long.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.  
 Size: 29.0 x 51.5 cms.



Description: b. Plan and elevation.

Size: 24.6 x 54.5 cms.

Watermarks: V F 1796

---

BOX: 1799/15

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 8 February 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: High Street, Allans Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked drain.

NOTES: The complaint is against the heritors in the Close for the repair of the drain. There is a valuation list here and a scheme of division of expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/16

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1799.

PETITIONER: William Laing, bookseller.

SITE: Canongate, St John Street, west side.

PROPOSAL: Began building repairs without a warrant.

NOTES: Property purchased from the Earl of Wemyss. Petitioner sold part of it to the Rev. Fitzsimmonds, Episcopal clergyman. Premises were in disrepair and were surrounded by a high wall.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/17

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 April 1799.

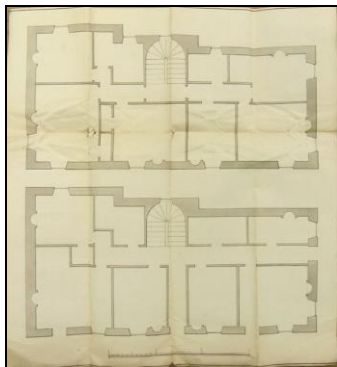
PETITION LODGED: 26 March 1799.

PETITIONER: Dougal McDougal, cowfeeder.

SITE: Canongate, Tolbooth Wynd.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild a ruinous tenement.

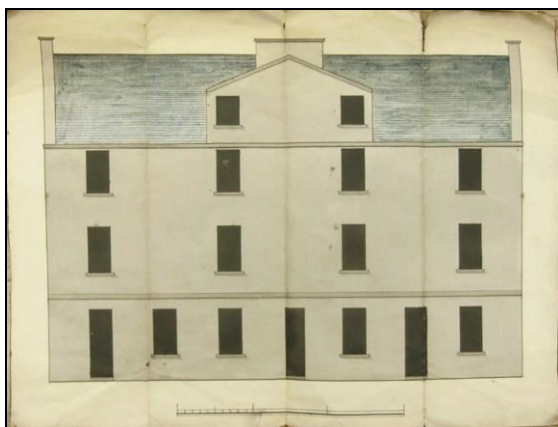
DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plans of two floors.

Size: 37.4 x 35.5 cms.

Watermarks: T W 1796



Description: b. Elevation.

Size: 27.0 x 36.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1799/18

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1799.

PETITIONER: The Society of Barbers, Edinburgh; James Swan, and James Eddington.

SITE: Cowgate, corner land at the foot of Libberton's Wynd. East side of passage and fronting the Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: Alterations, to enlarge windows to Cowgate, a door and internal.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/19

WARRANT GRANTED: 10 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 8 May 1799.

PETITIONER: Alexander Abercrombie, WS.

SITE: Potterrow, west side.

PROPOSAL: To complete alterations and build an oven.

NOTES: Petitioner is the owner of several tenements. John Miller, builder began alterations to the tenement and to build an oven for the petitioner without a warrant which gave rise to a petition by the procurator Fiscal dated 6 May 1799.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/20

WARRANT GRANTED: 16 May 1799 and 23 January 1800 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 13 April 1799.

PETITIONER: Thomas Craig, tailor.

SITE: High Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about water from the kitchen above.

NOTES: The complaint is against Andrew Irvin, builder, from whom the petitioner purchased his flat in a new tenement erected by him. The flat above belongs to Irvin and is let to John and (blank) Halliday, tailors. The kitchen in this flat is above one of the petitioner's principal rooms and not above all the other kitchens in the tenement. Water is getting through the ceiling and he asks the Court to prohibit the use of the room as a kitchen. The Court orders the floor to be sealed.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/21

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 13 May 1799.

PETITIONER: Kelly & Thomson, Leith, leaseholders.

SITE: Bernard Street, near the Assembly rooms.

PROPOSAL: Repairs and alterations.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/22

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 15 May 1799.

PETITIONER: John Kay, shipmaster in Leith.

SITE: Leith, Timber Bush.

PROPOSAL: To build some temporary shades.

NOTES: He obtained a lease on some land from the heirs and widow of the deceased John Learmonth, merchant in Leith.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/23

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 3 April 1799.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Elizabeth Kerr and Mrs Margaret Manderston, relict of the Rev. William Walker, late minister in Collessy in Fife.

SITE: High Street, Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: To repair the second story tenement.

NOTES: Purchased from now deceased Jean Dixon and William Dempster, jeweller also now deceased, 20 June 1792. The petition is noted outside 'Mr. Jas. Brown, architect & Chas. Steuart, WS, Trustees of the late Wm. Dempster'.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/24

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1799.

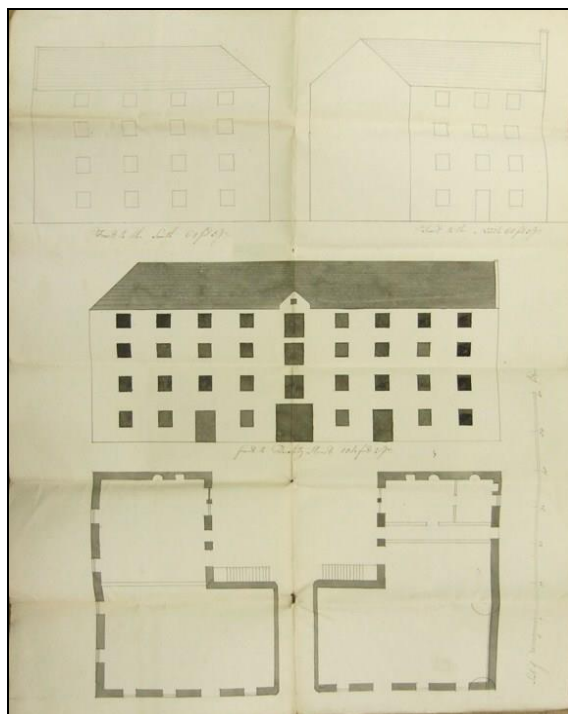
PETITION LODGED: 16 May 1799.

PETITIONER: James Sherriff, merchant.

SITE: Leith, north side of Quality Street.

PROPOSAL: To partially demolish and rebuild.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans, and elevations to the north, south and Quality Street.

Size: 53.5 x 41.5 cms.

Watermarks: 1794

(Architect: George Anderson?)

---

BOX: 1799/25

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 May 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 24 April 1799.

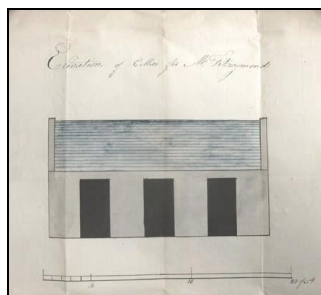
PETITIONER: Rev. Mr. Fitzsymonds, Episcopal clergyman.

SITE: Canongate, west side St. John Street, next to the Kilwinning Lodge.

PROPOSAL: To repair a small building.

NOTES: The petitioner had begun work without a warrant but after a verbal warning he now submits a drawing. He had purchased his property from William Laing, bookseller who had recently purchased a larger area from the Earl of Wemyss.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Elevation.

Size: 22.0 x 24.0 cms.

Watermark: G Taylor 1794

---

BOX: 1799/26

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1799.

PETITIONER: Archibald Stewart, glover.

SITE: North Bridge, 3rd floor flat, entering by Halkerstons Wynd.

PROPOSAL: Alteration to windows.

NOTES: He proposes to enlarge three front windows by 6 inches in height and width.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/27

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1799.

PETITIONER: John Paton, mason.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: To demolish parts of tenements destroyed by fire.

NOTES: Tenement owned by James Campbell, lint merchant, John Carnegie, tea & spirit dealer, heirs of Thomas Ruthven, writer, and Mrs Kerr.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/28

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 8 June 1799.

PETITIONER: William Handyside, WS.

SITE: 18 Frederick Street.

PROPOSAL: To provide a new entrance.

NOTES: He is owner of the basement and shop floors. Other owners are Peter Sandilands and Dixon & Wemyss, builders. He divided his property vertically into two houses and let the other half to Miss McEvans, milliner as a house and shop.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/29

WARRANT GRANTED: 20 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 1 May 1799.

PETITIONER: William Sibbald, merchant, Leith.

SITE: South Leith, corner of (Queen) Charlotte Street and the new road (Marine

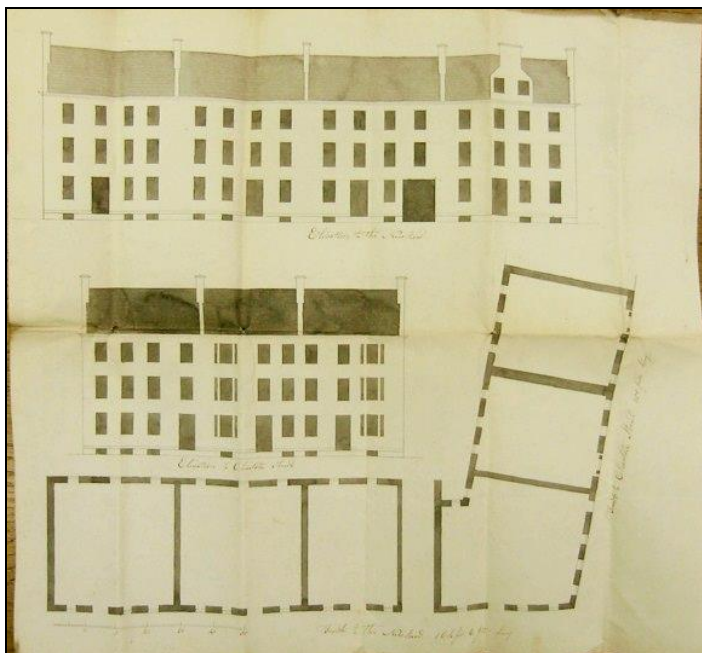


Street?).

PROPOSAL: To build tenements.

NOTES: The long side may have been in Marine Street and if so, all of this has been demolished.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plans, and elevations to both streets.

Size: 44.7 x 47.5 cms.

Watermarks: W

Architect: (George Anderson?)

---

BOX: 1799/30

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 18 June 1799.

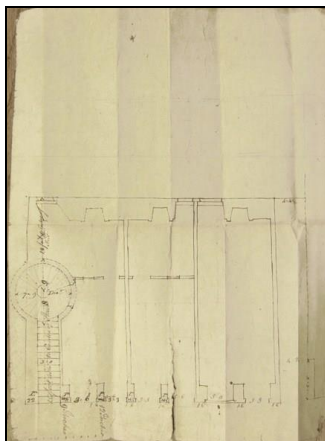
PETITIONER: William Murray, baker in Cowgate Head.

SITE: Grassmarket, Hunter's Close.

PROPOSAL: To partially demolish and rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: There is evidence in the petition of an attempt to change the name of the property; 'the Close formerly (crossed through) known by the name of Hunter's Close, now called Murray Close (crossed through)'.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.

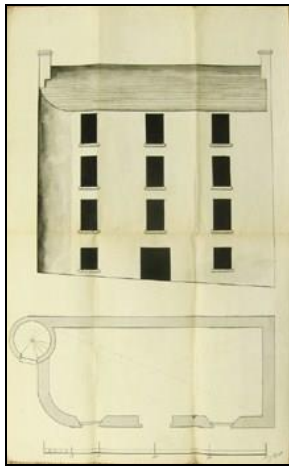


Description: a. Plan.

Size: 38.0 x 28.5 cms.

Watermarks: 1796

Dated: Verso, 16 March 1799.



Description: b. Plan and elevation.

Size: 40.5 x 25.5 cms.

Watermarks: C Taylor 1794

---

BOX: 1799/31

WARRANT GRANTED: 27 June 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 12 June 1799.

PETITIONER: James Cowan, candlemaker.

SITE: Portsburgh.

PROPOSAL: Alterations, enlarging windows.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/32

WARRANT GRANTED: 4 July 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 30 April 1799.

PETITIONER: Rev. John Allan.

SITE: Chessels Court, back buildings, west end.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a blocked drain.

NOTES: The drain runs down to the sewer at the south back of the Canongate. The Court granted a warrant to repair the drain at the sight of Andrew Irvine, mason.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/33

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1798 and 4 July 1799 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 23 November 1797.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Greyfriar's Churchyard.

PROPOSAL: To build up windows overlooking the graveyard, or place iron bars on them to prevent ingress.

NOTES: There are reports here from William Sibbald, Overseer of the Public Works dated 11 June 1798 and 18 June 1799 with an estimate for the work dated 5 September 1798 from Andrew Irvine, mason. This work later involved raising the height of the walls.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/34

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 July 1799 and 31 October 1799 (expences).

PETITION LODGED: 13 June 1799.

PETITIONER: John McGowan, WS and Robert Hastie, stabler.

SITE: Grassmarket, Wardens Close

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement destroyed by fire.

NOTES: The tenement was destroyed when the neighbouring tenement recently caught fire and there is a danger from the part hanging over Wardens Close. The Court appointed David Paton, mason to carry out the work and submit accounts.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/35

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1799.

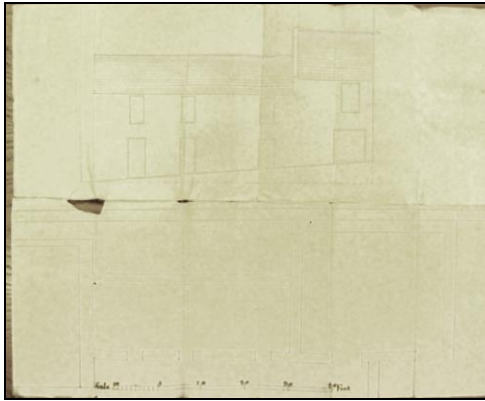
PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1799.

PETITIONER: Archibald Campbell, brewer.

SITE: Cowgate.

PROPOSAL: To demolish and rebuild parts of the brewery.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 38.3 x 47.0 cms.

---

BOX: 1799/36

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 29 May 1799.

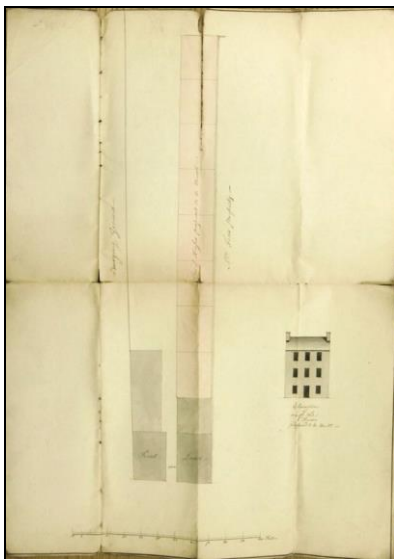
PETITIONER: Robert Kidd, baker in New Town.

SITE: Cowgate, Dunbar's Close (head of?).

PROPOSAL: To build eight houses.

NOTES: Also included with this petition; a Precept(?) for Christian Arthur dated 8 December 1773; a Sasine in favour of Gavin Beugo dated 17 December 1773; a Sasine in favour of Christian Arthur dated 1773; a Disposition by Marion Beugo to Robert Kidd dated 1799 and a Bond and Disposition by Christian Arthur and Gavin Beugo dated 16 December 1773.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan of the area and elevation of one house. A burial ground is indicated to the left of the close.

Size: 50.3 x 36.2 cms.

Watermarks: J Whatman 1794

---

BOX: 1799/37

WARRANT GRANTED: 25 July 1799.

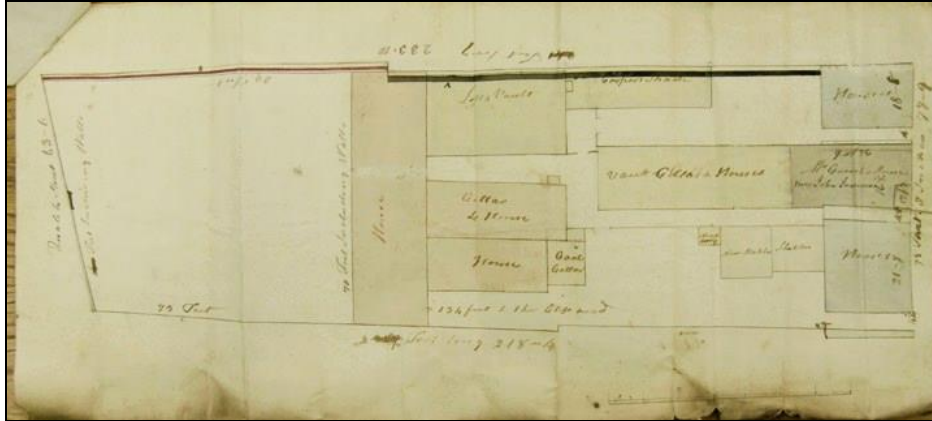
PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1799.

PETITIONER: John Jameson jun., merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, between Quality Street and Water Lane.

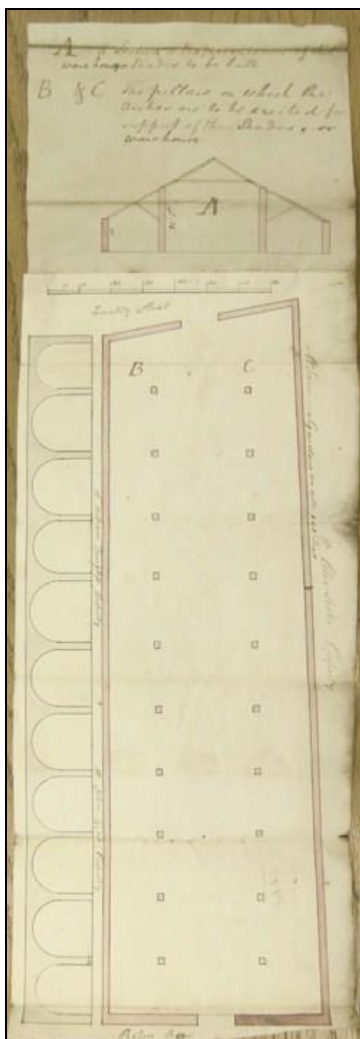
PROPOSAL: To build tobacco warehouses.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of property 'as presently'.

Size: 24.5 x 53.5.



Description: b. Plan, elevation and section of warehouses.

Size: 51.5 x 17.0 cms.

BOX: 1799/38

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 July 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 24 September 1799.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Christian Nisbet, widow of John Riddel, WS.

SITE: South St. Andrew Street, south east corner.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about drainage.

NOTES: The warrant ordered the defenders; William Fraser, tinsmith, Mrs. Carnachan, residing in Thistle Court, Misses. Kinnear and Miss Thomson, daughter of the deceased John Thomson, writer, to remedy the problem within twenty four hours.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/39

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 20 May 1799.

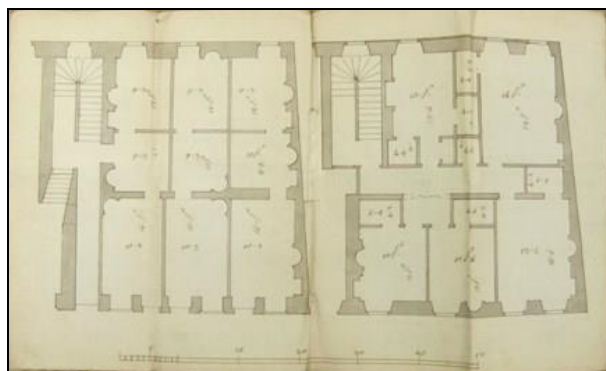
PETITIONER: John Miller, mason.

SITE: College Street.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

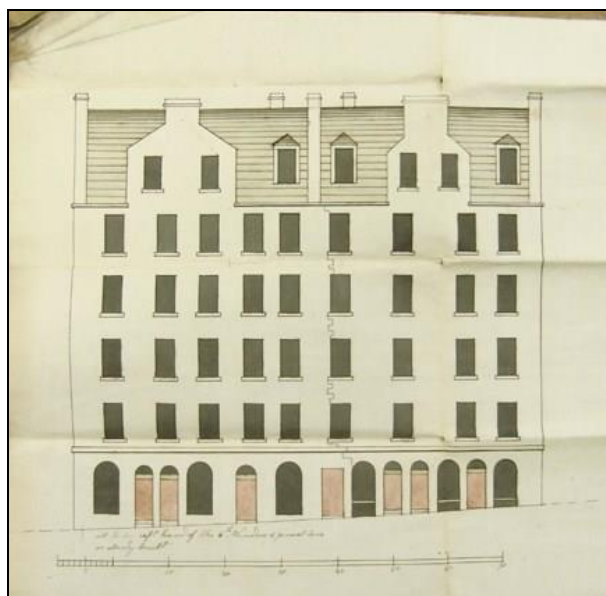
NOTES: There are indications on the elevation that a large part of the property had already been built. There is a note on the reverse of the petition '18 May 1801, Received up attested copy of Interlocutor pronounced by Lord Meadowbank in suspens[ion] Young ag[ainst] Philip. John Miller'. See 17 July 1800 (Ebenezer Annan) for similar drawing style for elevation at b.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 21.0 x 36.5 cms.



Description: b. Elevation of 6 story tenement.

Size: 29.5 x 29.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1799/40

WARRANT GRANTED: 1 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 10 May 1799.

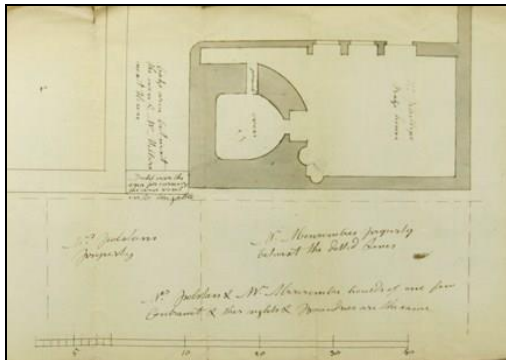
PETITIONER: Alexander Philips, baker.

SITE: 'A little to the south of' College Street.

PROPOSAL: To erect an oven

NOTES: The work already underway, by John Miller, builder.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan.

Size: 21.6 x 30.5 cms.

---

BOX: 1799/41

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 6 August 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: None given.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Mrs. Jean Polson, relict of William Polson, late merchant. The back wall and other parts of the tenement have fallen.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/42

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 August 1799.

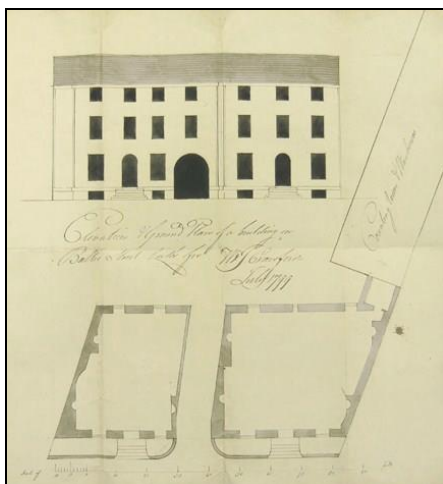
PETITION LODGED: 31 July 1799.

PETITIONER: Messrs. William and John Crawfords, merchants in Leith.

SITE: South Leith, north side of Baltic Street.

PROPOSAL: To build (a warehouse?).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation.

Size: 34.5 x 32.2 cms.

Architect: (George Anderson?)

---

BOX: 1799/43

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 19 December 1798.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Ramsay residing in Antigua Street.

SITE: Todricks Wynd, foot.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against George Miller regarding a drain.

NOTES: Work to be completed by John Thorburn, mason. An estimate for the work is noted 'The said work to be finished by James Moreson, frimen in Canongate', 6 August 1799.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/44

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 6 August 1799.

PETITIONER: John Thomson junior, merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith, east side of town.

PROPOSAL: To build a wall around his land.

NOTES: Land acquired from William Mitchell, merchant. The area is defined in detail in relation to adjoining properties.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/45

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Blackfriars Wynd, Gillespie's land.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a ruinous tenement.

NOTES: The tenement, owned by William Cruikshanks, candlemaker, was condemned on 9 July 1795 and was reduced in height. Following heavy rains the remaining walls have become unsound. Seeks complete demolition.

DRAWINGS: None

---

BOX: 1799/46

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 19 August 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Byres Close.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about a dangerous tenement.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Gray, solicitor, James Square for whom Mr. Smyth, WS, is factor. The tenement has timber and plaster outshots and the Court ordered their removal immediately by William Sibbald, Overseer of Public Works at Robert Gray's expence.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/47

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 29 July 1799.

PETITIONER: Adam Gibb, change keeper and grocer.

SITE: George Street, basement.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Mrs. Carmichael

NOTES: Mrs. Carmichael, who owns the tenement (and shop?) has thrown a stair over from the street and created a new door to her house. Gibb had a sign which could not be seen so he moved it to between the windows. Mrs Carmichael has removed it.

Warrant allowed him to reinstate it.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/48

WARRANT GRANTED: 30 August 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 30 August 1799.

PETITIONER: Robert Aitkin, painter.

NOTES: The petitioner applied to become a Burgess in March 1797 in right of his apprenticeship with Walter Smiton, painter. His master having died without discharging his indentures he now asks to be made a Burgess 'at the old price'. Remitted to the Dean of Guild to grant his request.

---

BOX: 1799/49

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 September 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 6 July 1799.

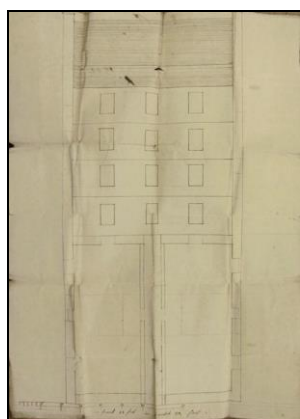
PETITIONER: John Cheyne, surgeon in Leith.

SITE: Shore of Leith, between the Shore and Water Lane. Fronting both.

PROPOSAL: To demolish a tenement fronting Water lane and rebuild.

NOTES: The new tenement to be larger and on part of the garden ground between this and the building fronting the Shore. The building was not demolished at this date. See new petition of 27 May 1802 (Kirk).

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: Plan and elevation of 4 story tenement.

Size: 48.5 x 35.7 cms.

---

BOX: 1799/50

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 September 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 25 June 1799.

PETITIONER: William Neil, builder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To complete the tenement and increase height of roof.

NOTES: Tenement was some time ago condemned and is now rebuilding. He has rebuilt as high as the fourth story, which he is informed belonged to the heirs of Mr Carmichael of Glasgow. Court ordered an advertisement in the papers on 19 September.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/51

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 September 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 19 September 1799.

PETITIONER: Sir James Campbell of Kilbridge.

SITE: Society, adjoining Brown's Square.

PROPOSAL: To construct a drain.

NOTES: He owns a lodging lately possessed by John Pringle one of the principal clerks of Session.

DRAWINGS: None.

---



BOX: 1799/52

WARRANT GRANTED: 19 September 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 11 September 1799.

PETITIONER: William Begbie, tailor, John Rae, dentist, David Deuchar, seal engraver, William Frazer, tailor and Mrs. Mary Thomson.

SITE: South side of the Cross, Keir's land.

PROPOSAL: To repair chimneys.

NOTES: Work to be carried out by a freeman mason at the sight of Andrew Irvine, mason. Estimate of William Woodburn accepted.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/53

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 October 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 26 June 1799

PETITIONER: John Finlay, merchant.

SITE: Pleasance, foot of west side, contiguous to the Town wall.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: He complains that Mrs Sharp who possesses a lodging in Surgeon's Square, inside the City wall, has made a hole in the wall for a spout to carry off water.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/54

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 October 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 26 October 1799.

PETITIONER: Isaac Salter, brewer and others, trustees of the deceased Charles Salter, brewer and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: South Bridge, Adam Square, next to the tenement on the north side.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Messrs. Inglis & Harris(?), merchants.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/55

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 October 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 30 September 1799.

PETITIONER: Mrs. Elizabeth Kerr and Mrs Margaret Manderston, relict of the Rev. William Walker, late minister in Collessie in Fife.

SITE: Old Assembly Close.

PROPOSAL: Recognition of expences.

NOTES: Previous petition of 4 April 1799.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/56

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 November 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 4 November 1799.

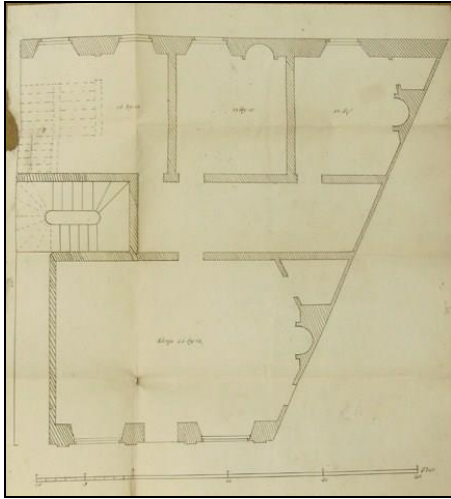
PETITIONER: James Cargill, merchant.

SITE: St. Ninian's Street, Leith.

PROPOSAL: To build a tenement.

NOTES: The new tenement is to be between those recently built by John Reid, mason and Mr. Montgomery, wig maker.

DRAWINGS: 2 sheets.



Description: a. Plan of shop floor.

Size: 33.5 x 30.0 cms.



Description: b. Elevation of 5 story tenement, indicating buildings either side. (vertical hatching)

Size: 43.5 x 28.0.

Watermarks: V

---

BOX: 1799/57

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 November 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 5 June 1799.

PETITIONER: Daniel McKinnan, wigmaker

SITE: Chalmers Close, head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against Alexander Dalzell writer who refuses to pay for repairs to the roof.

DRAWINGS: None.

---

BOX: 1799/58

WARRANT GRANTED: 28 November 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 31 October 1799.

PETITIONER: William Neil, builder.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: Claiming expences of rebuilding a shop as part of the tenement.

NOTES: Warrant to rebuild was granted on 17 January 1799. The tenement owned by Alexander McCulloch, late writer in Glasgow and was possessed by Archibald Steel, bookseller.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/59

WARRANT GRANTED: 26 December 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 26 December 1799.

PETITIONER: Mrs Ramsay

SITE: Todricks Wynd, foot

PROPOSAL: Claim for expences of a drain.

DRAWINGS: None.

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**Unextracted Processes (ECA: SL91/30)**

BOX: 1799/1\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 21 January 1799.

PETITIONER: James Watson, WS.

SITE: Cowgate head.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about non payment for work.

NOTES: The complaint is against John McGowan, writer for payment of expences for work carried out. See warrant granted 6 September 1798, a copy of which is here.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/2\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 January 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 22 January 1799.

PETITIONER: John Hamilton, builder.

SITE: York Place.

PROPOSAL: Seeking arbitration.

NOTES: The petitioner is taking out foundations for a house in York Place, no deeper than the house on the east belonging to Mr. Dallas, writer. However, he is below the level of the house on the west, built by Alexander Reid, mason, which is only five feet below the pavement. Alexander Reid has taken a protest against the petitioner and he seeks the judgement of the Court.

---

BOX: 1799/3\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 7 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 31 December 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal

PROPOSAL: Prosecution of unfree tradesmen.

NOTES: The following tradesmen named:

(blank) Mclauchlan, merchant, Grassmarket.

James Torrance, merchant Grassmarket

Alexander Hog, merchant, Grassmarket

David Anderson, grocer

(David) Wardrobe, surgeon

William Forrest, stocking maker

Colin Campbell (noted 'Kings Freeman')

John Riddock, public house keeper, vintner

Peter Johnston, public house keeper, vintner 'all Castle Hill' (from Anderson?)

(blank) Ruddiman, hatter

(blank) Bruce, leather merchant, Bowhead

(blank) Taylor, spirit dealer

(blank) Moor, printer

Robert Stevenson, painter, noted 'Kings Freeman'

James Cairnton, spirit dealer

(blank) Balfour, apothecary, 'all Lawnmarket' (from Ruddiman?)

Some of this information from a second sheet here with notes. There are twenty five further petitions here with lists, dated between January and May 1799, the first numbered '3' on the front suggesting there are two lost petitions.

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BOX: 1799/4\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 31 January 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen.

Thomas Hay, upholsterer

John Bell, surgeon and others.

NOTES: Fined £1 sterling plus 5s expences and 4s 6d for extracting the document.

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BOX: 1799/5\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 31 December 1798.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen.

James Spottiswood, merchant

Hugh Handiside, hired man, merchant

John Caird, confectioner

Robert Jack, bookseller.

Lewis Murray, porter dealer

Archibald Constable, bookseller

Henry Grieve, grocer

(blank) Davidson grocer

James Ross, hosier

(blank) Griffiths, umbrella maker

Mr. (blank, probably Gavin) Beugo, engraver

John Sutherland, flesher

David Riddoch, vintner

(blank) Innes, flesher

Alex Grieve, merchant.

NOTES: Fined £1 sterling plus 5s expences.

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BOX: 1799/6\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 31 January 1799.

PETITION LODGED: 31 December 1798.

PETITIONER: William Sprott, Procurator Fiscal versus unfree tradesmen.

Robert Armstrong, cloth merchant

Gow and Shepherd, music sellers

James Bishop, cloth merchant

R & T Hay, upholsterers

John Jenkins, toyman

Milroy & Morton, jewellers

P & T Morton, grocers

John Hamilton music seller

(blank) Robertson, haberdasher

James Hunter, vintner

John Bell, surgeon

Henry Martin, founder

(blank) Dusseck, music seller (possibly [Jan Ladislav Dussek](#) (1761-1812) composer and pianist)

Mennie & Son, grocers.

NOTES: Fined £1 sterling plus 5s expences.

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BOX: 1799/7\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 March 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 14 March 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith Links.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against James Thomson, mason in Leith who has been erecting a row of houses on Leith Links, all without having presenting a plan and elevation to the Court. In his robust replies the defender states that none of the houses he erected belong to him but to John Scougal, proprietor of a park on Leith Links who has been building a house on his own land, along with his son and Messrs. Strong, Ogilvie, Miln, Crockat and Goodlet each a house for themselves... 'where no person can interfere with another's property'. He has completed the mason work and complains that the Court could just as easily have called Mr. Russell, mason who is also building some of the houses, John Thomson, Walter Bruce, Mr. Crockat and every tradesman concerned, but that they chose to pick on him. He goes on that the

prosecutor should have known 'that ever since there was a Guild Court no warrant was taken out for building contiguous to the Links of Leith'. He refers to Messrs. Jamieson, Scales, Ogilvie, Mitchel, Whyte, Ramsay and Paterson who know the Guild laws never applied for or obtained a warrant to build. The Court issues a summons but takes no further action.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/8\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 March 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 15 March 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Lawnmarket, St. James's Court.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about ruinous walls and tenements.

NOTES: The complaint is against the Rev. Walter Young who lives at No. 1 James's Street with Miss Young. The ruins are behind tenements recently rebuilt.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/9\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 21 May 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 21 May 1799.

PETITIONER: Miss Jean Nicolson residing in Brickfield.

SITE: North Bridge, upper flat.

PROPOSAL: Complaint against a tenant.

NOTES: The complaint is against her tenant, Daniel Forest, merchant who is removing shelving and partitions prior to his departure. The petitioner purchased the flat from William Gibson, merchant in 1797. The flat was inspected by John Young, wright who gave a valuation before it was let. She had asked her brother in law, William Jamieson to inspect the flat before the departure of her tenant but he refused access. The Court stopped on the removal of fittings and had John Young inspect the property and report.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/10\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 11 June 1799 (no warrant, estimate requested).

PETITION LODGED: 8 July 1799.

PETITIONER: Mrs Elizabeth Craig in Fountainbridge.

SITE: Lawnmarket, Gosfords Close, third flat.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the condition of the property.

NOTES: The property is jointly owned by (blank) Gilchrist aged about four or five, son of the deceased Michael Gilchrist, shoemaker in Glasgow and nephew to the petitioner. He has not curators appointed and lives upon charity but the condition of the property means that it cannot be let.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/11\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 18 June 1799 (no warrant, defenders summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 4 April 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Patersons Court, about the middle.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about dangerous chimney stacks.

NOTES: The two tenements, one on the east side of the passage of Patersons Court and the other running therefrom westward, crossing the said Court so as to divide the fore from the back Court. The owners are James Murray, solicitor, Robert Dudgeon, Deacon and James Newton, Boxmaster of the Incorporation of Bakers, Andrew Laurie, baker in Bristo Street, Deacon and Thomas Anderson, baker, Potterrow, Boxmaster of the Incorporation of Easter and Wester Portsburgh. The summons lists further owners or occupiers.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/12\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1799 (no warrant, appointed a visit).

PETITION LODGED: 5 July 1799.

PETITIONER: Archibald Gilchrist, Treasurer and Thomas Hay, Chamberlain for the City of Edinburgh and the Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith shoreline, fronting the sea, in line with the Naval Yard.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building stone walls.

NOTES: The defenders, Messrs. Ramsay Williamson & Co, Robert Anderson and Elis Martin, all merchants in Leith, had permission to extend their property towards the sea by an Act of Council of 25 July 1787. This allowed them to enclose their property with palings but they have now begun to build substantial walls.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/13\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 5 July 1799 (no warrant, defenders summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 3 July 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Leith, Baltic Street.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about work without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against William and John Crawford and Co., merchants who are erecting sundry buildings in an area that belongs to the City.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/14\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 6 August 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 18 July 1799.

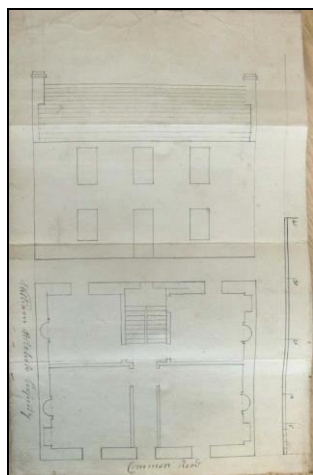
PETITIONER: John Thomson jun., merchant in Leith.

SITE: Leith?

PROPOSAL: To build a two story house.

NOTES: This is a collection of papers that may or may not be related. There is an opinion by William Fraser Tytler (WS?) regarding a contract granted by William Mitchell to Robert Neilson, on which the defender, James Connel founds his right to build a wall. Tytler notes that the right to the wall remained with John Thomson. He recommends that the Dean of Guild should recall the warrant granted to 'Kay, the defender's author' and have the building already erected, demolished. There is another scrap of an opinion by 'W. S.' (Walter Scott) dated Castle Street, 18 July 1799.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Plan and elevation of a two story house.

Size: 24.7 x 15.7 cms.

Inscriptions, recto: Noted on left edge 'William Mitchell's property'

Inscriptions, verso: Edinb. 6 Augt. 1799. This plan relates to an application of this date presented to the Dean of Guild Court by Ja. Thomson jun., merchant in Leith. William Sprott (Procurator Fiscal). 15 August 1799. Malm. Wright, ODG (Old Dean of Guild)

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BOX: 1799/15\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 2 September 1799 (no warrant, defenders summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 2 September 1799.

PETITIONER: Robert Boswell, WS.

SITE: Murdoch's Close, west side, third flat.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about the roof.

NOTES: The complaint is against Robert Laweson, surgeon, proprietor of the upper flat.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/16\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 12 September 1799 (no warrant, petition refused).

PETITION LODGED: 13 August 1799.

PETITIONER: Henry Farquharson, carver and gilder.

SITE: Wardrop's Court, back (and Bank Street?).

PROPOSAL: To build a stair.

NOTES: The petitioner holds his property on a tack from Robert Jamieson, WS. which allows him to erect steps from the mound across the sunken area to one of his windows.

DRAWINGS: Plan mentioned but not here.

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BOX: 1799/17\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 15 October 1799 (no warrant, heritors summoned)

PETITION LODGED: 15 October 1799.

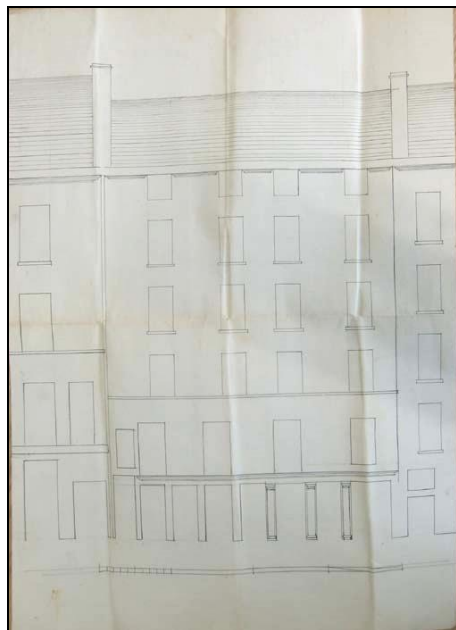
PETITIONER: John Ritchie, slater.

SITE: Lawnmarket, north side.

PROPOSAL: To rebuild a tenement.

NOTES: The tenement was demolished by order of the Court. See warrant granted 25 October 1798 (Logan and others). Since then John Paterson, tailor has sold the garret or upper floor to the petitioner. The other heritors have built the land according to the original plans, up to his story. Ritchie wishes to modify the upper floor according to the elevation submitted. The other heritors called are: Andrew Irvine, mason, Alex. Logan, baker, Matthew Sherriff, wright, William Neil, mason, William Hall, merchant and George Fordyce, writer.

DRAWINGS: 1 sheet.



Description: a. Elevation of the entire tenement.

Size: 37.5 x 26.5 cms.

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BOX: 1799/18\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 24 October 1799 (no warrant, heritors summoned).

PETITION LODGED: 23 October 1799.

PETITIONER: The Procurator Fiscal.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, east side from top to foot and extending across the back of Beaths Wynd with Beaths Wynd itself to the back of Parliament House and the Council Chamber.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about deserted and ruinous buildings.

NOTES: The complaint is against Edward Bruce, WS, for the Faculty of Advocates and the community of Edinburgh. These buildings may have been ruinous since the great fire of 1701.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/19\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 14 November 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 14 November 1799.

PETITIONER: The Chamberlain of the City of Edinburgh.

SITE: South Charlotte Street, south west corner.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about open foundations.

NOTES: The complaint is against John Hay, builder. There are answers from Walter Moir, accountant, trustee on the sequestrated estate of John Hay who states that the property will be advertised for sale on 27 November and he does not wish to spend money unnecessarily in fencing the area off.

DRAWINGS: None.

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BOX: 1799/20\*

WARRANT GRANTED: 23 December 1799 (no warrant).

PETITION LODGED: 23 December 1799.

PETITIONER: James Brown, wright and others.

SITE: Forrester's Wynd, the middle.

PROPOSAL: Complaint about building without a warrant.

NOTES: The complaint is against Walter Ferguson, candlemaker who has purchased three flats in two tenements in property built by Charles Bruce, glazier. Ferguson applied to build a shade but he is now building a stone dye house. The property is defined as: an area of ground in front of the tenement in question - a green, that has not been built on in the memory of man but which, until lately, was used as an entry to one of the tenements. This green area is bounded as follows: On the North by one of the said tenements, joint property of Hector Gavin, engraver, Mrs. Stewart, (blank) Lawson, plasterer and Mr. A. Crombie, solicitor. On the west by the other tenement, property of Mr. Guthrie, writer, Mrs. Thomson, Miss (Dall?) and others. On the south by the stone tenement, the property of James Brown, wright. On the east by the ground lying at the back of Parliament House, lately purchased by the Faculty of Advocates and clearing 'for the purpose of Pleasure Grounds'. Most of the above proprietors have servitudes over the area. The Court ordered to stop work until he applies for a warrant.

DRAWINGS: None.