

4 RESEARCH DESIGN AND LAYOUT OF REPORT

Following the evaluation, a programme of excavation and historical research was conducted with four specific goals:

1. To test the hypothesis that settlement at Jack's Houses pre-dated the 19th century;
2. To produce a phased account of the evolution of the settlement at Jack's Houses;
3. To test the hypothesis that the large dump of potsherds discovered during the evaluation was associated with Jack's Houses;
4. To provide a social history of the settlement at Jack's Houses.

The report that follows is in three main parts. Firstly an account of the archaeological evidence is presented. This is followed by an examination of Jack's Houses and their inhabitants over the century *c* 1830–1930. Lastly, a broad historical account of the Parish of Kirkliston is presented, with a particular emphasis on the 1830s and 1840s, when the cottages were built and first inhabited. An appendix gives biographical details on the occupants of the cottages in the census years 1841–91.