



**FIGURE 18-1** Fixed slices were embedded in saline, between two coverglasses, in order to allow optical access from both sides. (a) The slice was placed at the center of one coverglass, directly on the surface (with as little saline as possible between the slice and the glass). The rectangular spacer was glued directly on the coverglass, and the second coverglass was placed on top. (b) Diagrammatic view of the slice embedded between the two coverglasses. (c) Side view of the slice, indicating the position of two dendritic segments, at different depths within the slice. The dendrite drawn in red would not be visible from the top side due to the limits of the working distance of the objective and other optical problems (Section 4.1.2). For clarity of the illustration, the thicknesses of the spacer and the coverglass (which in fact are quite similar) are not shown to scale.