

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

## CARISBROOKE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

English Heritage has initiated a national series of Extensive Urban Surveys. Several counties have commenced such projects including Hampshire County Council who are undertaking the survey of the small towns of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The survey is intended to provide an up-to-date view of the archaeological resource in each of the towns building on earlier surveys (e.g. Hughes, 1976; Basford, 1980) and consists of three phases: Data Collection, Data Assessment and Strategy. The first stage, Data Collection, draws together the accessible history of the town, the archaeological knowledge and historic buildings data. The Data Assessment phase of the survey leads to the production of a report which presents a brief history of the town, (this document is not intended as a definitive history) an analysis of the plan of the town, an assessment of the archaeological and buildings data and the state of modern development resulting in the identification of areas of archaeological importance. Information about the development of the town through the ages, including plan-form analysis and the identified areas of archaeological importance, is also presented in cartographic form at the end of the report. The Strategy phase of the survey, uses the information presented in the Data Assessment combined with current statutory and non-statutory constraints, and present and future planning policy to make recommendations for policies regarding the historic environment. The policies may be incorporated into Local and Unitary Development Plans, non-statutory policies, supplementary guidance and for use within development control.

### 2. LOCATION

Carisbrooke lies near to the heart of the Island (NGR SZ 485882) to the south-west, and less than 2km from the heart of Newport, the county town. The castle sits on a chalk ridge that runs east to west across the Island with the village on the opposite side of the valley of the Lukely Brook. The High Street climbs from the valley bottom from 15m OD to 30m OD at the western end of High Street. The *Lukely* Brook, which rises near Bowcombe, flows from the south-west to the north-east and is a tributary of the River Medina, joining the Medina at Newport.

### 3. BACKGROUND

#### ARCHAEOLOGY

##### Prehistoric

There are no known settlement sites of prehistoric date in the immediate vicinity of Carisbrooke but flint artefacts of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date have been recovered from sites on both sides of the valley of *Lukely* Brook.

A1 There is a Bronze Age barrow on Mount Joy to the east of the castle.

##### Romano-British

A2 A Romano-British villa (Scheduled Monument SM 22039) lies on the north-western side of the *Lukely* Brook and south of the High Street. The villa is on a 'basilican plan' and has been partially excavated. The excavations revealed that the atrium and one other room had mosaic floors, together with a hypocaust system and a bath-house (English Heritage, 1995a). Coin evidence suggested late third-century to early fourth-century occupation only, although patches of burning on the mosaic floor may suggest that there was a later phase of occupation.

A3 At Clatterford, approximately 800m to the south-west of the centre of Carisbrooke, is the site of another Romano-British villa. There was a limited excavation on the site in the mid-nineteenth century that revealed stone walls which were subsequently robbed out for material to repair farm buildings. The villa is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM 22015).

It has been claimed that the lower parts of some of the medieval castle walls are actually of Roman construction and that there was a fort here which formed the most western link in the chain of coastal 'forts of the Saxon shore (Collingwood and Richmond 1969, 52; Muir 1990, 38).

- A4 Approximately 1.5km to the north-east of Carisbrooke are the remains of a Romano-British villa of 'corridor type' which was first excavated in 1926 with further excavations undertaken in 1981 and 1991. Part of a hypocaust system has also been seen in a pipe trench approximately 100m from the east wall of the villa. As the bath house of the villa has been located, it is presumed that the hypocaust belonged to another building. The villa is a Scheduled Monument (SM 22064).

Roman coins and pottery have been found along both sides of the valley of the *Lukely* Brook between Clatterford and Carisbrooke.

### Anglo-Saxon

Within the area of the village there are no sites or artefacts of Anglo-Saxon date recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

- A5 Excavations at the castle revealed an earthwork that has been interpreted as being part of an Anglo-Saxon burh, and three burials of sixth-century date have been taken as evidence for settlement on the site of the castle (English Heritage 1995b). A ridge-top location would not be unusual position for a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery, although there is no other evidence cited for settlement in the sixth century. If the earthwork was part of burh, it would probably date from the late ninth- or early tenth-century.

- A6 An Anglo-Saxon cemetery on Bowcombe Down, about 2km to the south-west of Carisbrooke, was excavated in the mid-nineteenth century. The burials, which included both inhumations and cremations, were within eleven small mounds that have now been levelled through ploughing. Anglo-Saxon secondary burials have also been found in a large Bronze Age barrow on Bowcombe Down (Basford 1980, 131).

Two kilometres to the south-west of Carisbrooke is Bowcombe Farm that may represent the site of the important eleventh-century estate centre, recorded in Domesday Book, which included the area of the settlements of Carisbrooke and Newport.

### Medieval

- A7 Metal detectorists have recovered a number of mid- and late Anglo-Saxon coins from the area near Froglands Farm which may indicate the site of the market referred to in the Domesday Book.
- A8 Approximately 1km to the north-west of Carisbrooke is the site of the medieval manor-house of Alvington. The manor was recorded in the Domesday Book, and included part of the area of the settlement of Carisbrooke.

The only area within the settlement that has been examined archaeologically is the area to the north of the church. Excavations within the farmyard of Priory Farm encountered a stone wall that may have been part of the cloistral range of the priory (D. Motkin pers comm). An assessment excavation undertaken within the paddock to the east of the old road through the priory precinct revealed features that were interpreted as possibly the footings of a building or boundary wall (Whitehead and Higgins 1995, 15).

## HISTORY

### Anglo-Saxon

Although there are no Anglo-Saxon documentary sources relating to Carisbrooke by that name, it would appear to have been the principal settlement of the Island. The place-name *Wihthgarasburg*, recorded in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* for the year 530 as the site where Cerdric and Cynric killed many men, has been associated with Carisbrooke (Page 1912, 222; Garmonsway 1953; Cahill 1980, 26). *Wihthgarasburg* may mean 'the stronghold of the people of Wight' (Mills 1996, 36) or may incorporate the name Whitgar who was a kinsman of Cerdric and who was buried at *Whitgarasburg* (Garmonsway, 1953). Carisbrooke Castle was certainly the place of retreat for the population of the Island in the medieval period, and there may have been a burh or a settlement on the site from the ninth or tenth century. The *burg* element in the place-name would suggest that there may have been a defensive site near the settlement, possibly reusing a Roman fortification on the site of the castle. The name Carisbrooke may mean 'the brook called Cary' (Mills 1996, 36).

Partly based on the size of the medieval parish of Carisbrooke, which was formerly the most extensive parish on the Island stretching from the north coast to the south coast, it has been suggested that the church was a minster or mother church (Hase 1994, 53; 65; Cahill, 1980). There is, however, some uncertainty over the location of the church. It was recorded as part of the manor of Bowcombe in 1086 which has led to suggestions that it was located at Bowcombe rather than Carisbrooke (Page 1912, 232; Margham 1984, 479).

### Medieval

- After the Norman Conquest the Isle of Wight was given to William Fitz Osbern who is credited with the construction the first phase of the castle. The castle was closely associated with the lordship of the Island throughout the medieval period (Page 1912, 222). Within 2km to the north of Carisbrooke was the southern limit of the medieval forest of Parkhurst Forest which was the hunting ground of the Lords of the Island.

Carisbrooke does not appear in the Domesday Survey but was included within the estate of Bowcombe that was part of the king's demesne, and had previously been part of the revenue of King Edward. Bowcombe was probably the centre of a hundred which covered the entire Island (Cahill 1980, 26) although at Domesday there was also the Hundred of *Hemreswel* which consisted of three villas at the western extreme of the Island, and the Hundred of Calbourne which was said to lie within Bowcombe Hundred (Margham 1993, 4). There were several smaller holdings within the estate, and dues were received from a mill and tolls. The record of tolls is usually taken to indicate that there was a market, and may have led Cahill to suggest that there was a quasi-urban settlement here in 1086 (Cahill 1980, 27). The church and a mill were held by the monks of Lyre. There was a recorded population of fifty people on the main part of the estate, eight men on a part of the church's land, and a further twenty smallholders' dwellings attached to the church estate. William, son of Azor, held four houses on 2.5 acres (Munby 1982, fol 52b). The reference to the twenty smallholders has been taken to imply that the houses were physically near the church as the Domesday Book used 'adjacent' to describe the relationship and therefore Carisbrooke was a nucleated settlement by the late eleventh century (Margham 1993, 2). The castle was built on part of the manor of Alvington, which was also a royal manor, that had a recorded population of ten people, and there were two mills (Munby 1982, fol 52c).

As stated above, there is some uncertainty over the location of the church recorded in the Domesday Book. Page suggests that the church of Bowcombe was located further up the valley from Carisbrooke rather than on the site of the present church because the existing building would appear to lie on land belonging to the manor of Alvington (Page 1912, 232). Baldwin de Redvers is thought to have been responsible for the construction of the church on the current site as he granted the advowson of the 'new church of Carisbrooke' to the abbey of Lyre in the mid-twelfth century (Page 1912, 234). An unreferenced index card at the County Record Office records that the church of Bowcombe was destroyed c.1180. Both Cahill and Margham have assumed that the Domesday church of Bowcombe was at Carisbrooke (Cahill 1980; Margham, 1993) but in recent years relatively large numbers of mid-Saxon coins have been recovered by metal detectorists in the area of Froglands Farm to the south-west of the castle. The area from which the coins have been recovered may represent the site of the market suggested by the Domesday Survey, and may suggest that there has been a shift in settlement focus from the area of Froglands Farm/Bowcombe to the present site of Carisbrooke. There was a settlement

at Clatterford, to the south-west of Carisbrooke, by 1255-6 at least as it was recorded at that date (Page 1912, 231).

Sometime between 1142 and 1147 the Abbot of Lyre requested permission to set up a small alien priory to act as a collection centre for the revenues due to the Abbey from the Island. By 1247 there was a small community that was probably never much larger than the five monks and the prior recorded in 1260 (Hockey 1982, 36-7).

In 1374 the Prior of Carisbrooke appealed to the king against the claims being made upon the priory by the sheriff because the conventual buildings and granges had been destroyed by the enemy (Groves 1906, 166). This probably refers to attacks by the French, although there are no references to French offensives in the Island that year. The most severe of the French raids occurred in 1377 when the towns of Yarmouth, Newtown and Newport were attacked. Carisbrooke was also attacked and the town was burnt but the castle was successfully defended and a number of the raiders were killed in an ambush, traditionally in Deadman's Lane that runs between Carisbrooke and Newport (*CCR 1385-89* p356; Groves 1906, 166). The taxation returns from the 1379 Lay Subsidy (PRO E179/173/41) recorded a population of fifty living in twenty-four households and paying 14s. 2d., which suggests that Carisbrooke was a settlement of a similar size to Newtown at that time. The majority of the men of Carisbrooke were listed as husbandmen but there was a smith, a miller, a hellyer and a merchant.

#### Post-medieval

Although the castle continued to be the high-status residence of the Island, serving as the prison of Charles I, and the church continued to be the mother church of Newport, Carisbrooke can only be described as a village in the post-medieval period. There appears to have been little in the way of industry in the settlement and market facilities were provided at Newport.

### **4. ANALYSIS**

#### THE TOPOGRAPHY OF CARISBROOKE

##### Introduction

The earliest maps that show sufficient detail of the properties within the settlement are the early and mid-nineteenth-century maps by Mudge (*c.*1810) and the Tithe map of 1843 (IWCRO JER/T/78). These maps show rows of properties along both sides of the High Street with some settlement along Castle Street. Margham claims that Cahill suggested that Carisbrooke is a seventh-century, planned, nucleated settlement (Margham 1984, 479), although Cahill stated that the plan of the settlement may have been altered with its 'urban' status (Cahill 1980, 76). It is highly unlikely that the plan can trace its origins back to the seventh century. Margham, in a later paper suggests that the settlement was planned by William Fitz Osbern before 1071 and drew a parallel with Fitz Osbern's town development at Chepstow (Margham 1993).

##### Roads, streets and bridges

The principal street of the settlement is the High Street that rises from the *Lukely* Brook up the western side of the valley. At the western end of the High Street it divides into two roads; one, Nodgham Lane, curves to the south whilst the second, Calbourne Road, leads to the west. From opposite the church Castle Street runs to the south and, together with Millers Lane and Castle Lane, connects the settlement with the castle. Carisbrooke Road leads to the north-east and Newport. One road, School Lane, leads to the north and the nearby hamlet of Gunville. There was a second routeway to the north that probably led to the hospital. This road formerly ran through the priory and so, to prevent people entering the priory, the monks obtained permission to create a new road to the west (Doubleday and Page 1903, 230) which is probably represented by Priory Farm Lane, diverting the road around the priory and connecting up with the line of the old route to the north-east of the priory. The line of this road may reflect the extent of the precinct of the priory to the west of the church, or the limit of the built-up area of the settlement at that date.

Mid-fifteenth century rentals record properties in *Clerkynlane* (Clerken Lane) and *Coppeshay* (IWCRO SC11/575/1 & /6). The name *Clerkynlane* must have also applied to the lane now called Spring Lane as Clerken Lane is a hollow-way up to 2.5 - 3m deep and it is unlikely that there would have been properties along it.

Some new streets were laid out in the post-medieval period. Clatterford Road, which takes a more direct route between the eastern end of the High Street and Clatterford than Nodgham Lane, was built between 1810 and 1843.

Margham states that Castle Road developed between 1769 and 1862 (Margham 1984, 479). However, Castle Road is shown on Andrews' map of 1769, although it is only shown as a track on Mudge's map of 1810. Although it has a very straight course, the route provides a direct course between the castle and Newport and therefore it may have an earlier origin.

The northern part of Priory Road, linking Gunville Road and the High Street, is of modern construction. The southern part of the street is probably the new road created by the monks to divert the route towards the hospital around the priory.

### Property plots

#### *High Street and Castle Street properties B1*

The nineteenth-century maps, particularly the Tithe map, show two rows of properties along the High Street. Although the rows are quite regular, in that there are few unoccupied plots in the rows, the plots are not as stiffly regulated as if the village was planned, or re-planned, in one phase. On the north side of High Street all the plots, both the east and west of the church, are of a similar length with the rear boundary line lying parallel to the High Street, but on the south side of the High Street there is less regularity with several smaller blocks of properties that have plots of differing length that appear as separate phases of development. It is suggested that the plots to the east of the church represent the twenty messuages recorded as being attached to the church, and that they may indicate burgage plots, whilst the plots on the south side of the High Street were laid out over open field furlongs (Margham 1993, 10-11). There are no references to burgesses in Carisbrooke in the medieval period and blocks of apparently regular properties such as those to the north of the High Street can be found in many rural settlements in Hampshire and beyond where there is no suggestion of urban status.

There are few medieval references to properties in the settlement. It is known that nine messuages were granted to Quarr Abbey sometime between 1228-1238 (Hockey 1991, 306), and there were properties along Castle Street, as evidenced by a lease of 1275 of a message that lay between two other messuages (*ibid*, 315).

#### *Clerken Lane properties B2*

There are medieval references to properties in Clerken Lane but due to the depth of the holloway, it is unlikely that there were properties alongside the deep hollow-way but it is possible that Spring Lane, continuing the line of Clerken Lane, was also known as *Clerkynlane*.

#### *Nineteenth-century development B3*

In the late nineteenth century the major areas of development were along Clatterford Road and Castle Road.

### Buildings

There appear to be few, if any, medieval domestic buildings in Carisbrooke. St Mary's Cottages near the south-east corner of the churchyard, and the row immediately to the east of

the church appear to be seventeenth- or early eighteenth-century in date but they may contain earlier elements.

#### Priory and Church B4

The priory was founded sometime between 1142-7 and the monastic buildings stood to the north of the church. The house was a small foundation, with only six monks in 1260, but by the mid-fourteenth century there was a complete set of buildings on the site of the present-day Manor Farm. In the sixteenth century the buildings, which were described as being ruinous, included a hall and buttery and three chambers in one building which measured 42ft by 18ft, a kitchen and larder with a loft over that was 55ft long and 25 ft wide, stables and ox stalls, a malting house, and a barn that was over 80ft in length (Groves 1906, 169; Hockey 1982, 36-42). The barn is probably the building remembered by Groves and shown on the OS 1st Edition 6" map of 1862 to the west of the pond. It has been suggested that there was a building belonging to the priory on the east side of the old road through the priory precinct (Groves 1906, 156). The fact that the monks had the road to the north diverted to the west of the priory because they did not want strangers passing through the precinct suggests that the precinct extended to the east of the old road, and that there was probably ancillary buildings in that area. A small archaeological assessment in the area to the east of the road located a possible wall foundation which was interpreted as either part of a building shown on a painting of the early nineteenth century, or a boundary wall shown on a map of 1862 (Whitehead and Higgins 1995, 15). Another feature described as a robbed out wall foundation was given a similar interpretation. To the north of Priory Farm is a pond which may also be part of the priory complex. The exact limit and the form of boundary of the priory precinct is not known.

The earliest architectural evidence within the church are two small Early Norman windows above the south arcade that may be part of Baldwin de Redvers' 'new church'. There is supposedly a reference to the church dated 1071 (Margham 1993, 3), but it is not clear whether the church was called Bowcombe or Carisbrooke in that document. In 1114 there was an agreement recorded between the vicar of the church of *Caresbroc* and the lord of a manor wishing to found a church on his manor (Hase 1988, 57). The south arcade was built in the late twelfth century and the chancel arch was built c.1200. The west tower is fifteenth-century Perpendicular (Pevsner and Lloyd 1967, 737). When Henry V dissolved the alien priories in the early fifteenth century the priory was granted to the priory of Sheen which ordered the demolition of conventual buildings although it has been suggested that the ranges of buildings shown on the Tithes Apportionment (IWCRO JER/T/78) and the 1st Edition 6" OS map of 1862 to the north of the church were a remnant of the cloistral ranges (D. Motkin pers comm). Certainly, one building lay in a position that would correspond to the north side of the cloister. These buildings had been demolished by 1898 (OS 2nd Edition 25" map). After the dissolution of the priory the chancel was in a poor state of repair and the new owner of the priory's property convinced the local population that they did not require the chancel and so it was demolished (Page 1912, 230) thereby avoiding the cost of its maintenance.

By the mid-eighteenth century the church was in a bad state of repair and a survey of the work needing to be undertaken was carried out, but its recommendations were not undertaken for many years (Page 1912, 232).

#### Chapel and Cemetery

In the early fourteenth century the Bishop of Winchester consecrated a chapel dedicated to the Holy Cross, the Apostles of SS Peter and Paul, and St. Swithun and a cemetery which was to be the burying place for the monks of the Island and for others as the priest of Carisbrooke thought fit (Page 1912, 235). The site of the chapel and burial ground is not known but it was described as being 'under the walls of the castle' (*ibid.*).

#### *New cemetery* B5

A new cemetery developed to the east of the castle and Whitcomb Road in the late nineteenth century. The cemetery is shown on the OS 2nd Edition 25" map of 1898.

### Hospital (unlocated)

There was a chapel, dedicated to St Augustine, which was described as ‘for lepers’ who were attended by the monks from the priory. Documents in the Carisbrooke Chartulary mention the Chapel of the Infirm. The exact site of the hospital is not known but it has been assumed that it stood near St Augustine’s Gate, to the north of Carisbrooke (Worsley 1781, 185; Page 1912, 234). Alternatively, it has been suggested that the hospital stood near the hamlet of Gunville.

### Castle B6

The castle stands high above the town at the end of a long chalk ridge. It is thought that there was a Roman fortification and a late Anglo-Saxon burh on the site of the castle. Remains of the wall of the burh are half buried in the bottom of the motte and two substantial eleventh-century timber buildings were also discovered in excavations within the castle. It is also suggested that the deep hollow to the east of the castle, along which Clerken Lane runs, was part of the Saxon defences (Margham 1993, 7; English Heritage, 1995b) but it has also been suggested, with no evidence cited to support the theory, that the cutting dates from the iron Age (Margham 1993, 5).

The castle includes a shell keep, built c.1100, on a large motte with a curtain wall around the bailey. Isabella de Fortibus carried out extensive alterations to the castle in the late thirteenth century and further additions were made in the fourteenth century, including the construction of a new gate-house. The defences were improved in the sixteenth century when there was a threat of invasion by the Spaniards. The new defences were designed for, and as a defence against, artillery with earth ramparts and bulwarks on each corner of the fortification (English Heritage, 1995b).

### Mills B7

In the late eleventh century there were four mills recorded on the manors of Bowcombe and Alvington (Munby 1982, 52b; 52c). By the late eighteenth century there were three mills in existence in the settlement, a paper mill to the south-west of the castle near to the road to Froglands Farm, one at the junction of Miller’s Lane and Castle Street which was known as Kemp’s Mill, and a mill on the site of the pumping station at the northern end of Spring Lane. The latter mill is thought to have been the mill that belonged to the priory (Groves 1906). It is possible that some of the six mills around Newport, formerly part of Bowcombe manor, may have been in existence in the eleventh century.

Two mill ponds survive along the valley, one that was associated with the priory mill, and the second is suggested to represent the site of Bowcombe Mill (Groves, 1906), although the latter mill pond served Carisbrooke Mill, as evidenced by a long mill leat between the pond and the site of Carisbrooke Mill. *VCH* connect the site of the paper mill with the mill on the Domesday estate of Bowcombe (Page 1912, 230).

### Tannery B8

There was a tannery on the north-west side of Carisbrooke Road in the mid-nineteenth century and is shown on the Tithe map (IWCRO JER/T/78).

### Lime burning and quarrying B9

The OS 25” map of 1898 shows a lime kiln and marl pit on the east side of Whitcombe Road and to the south of the cemetery. The Tithe map of 1843 (IWCRO JER/T/78) marks the outline of the marl pit.

### Brick making

In 1900 a brick works was opened at Gunville 1km to the north of Carisbrooke (Gale 1987, 42).

A field to the west of the settlement was called 'Kiln Close' on the Tithe map. The name may be derived from either a brick kiln or a lime kiln that operated in this area.

## 5. RECENT DEVELOPMENT

There has been a significant level of development in Carisbrooke, but the majority of the building has taken place to the north of the settlement outside the historic core

## 6. IMPORTANCE AND POTENTIAL

### CRITERIA FOR THE AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE AND POTENTIAL

#### Introduction

The primary aim of the Data Collection and Data Assessment phases of the project is to enable the identification of areas of archaeological importance and potential within each town to inform the Strategy phase of the project. Four such areas of importance and potential have been defined, and the criteria for these are briefly described below. Although they are all described in this introduction, not all towns will have areas within each of these categories.

#### Levels of Archaeological Importance and Potential

The levels of importance and potential are Areas Comprising Nationally Important Remains; Areas of High Archaeological Potential; Areas of Archaeologically Potential; and Areas of Limited Archaeological Potential.

As additional archaeological information becomes available, and a greater understanding of the archaeological resource of the town is achieved, it is possible that some areas will be re-assigned to different levels of potential.

#### *Areas Comprising Nationally Important Remains*

Areas of identified nationally important archaeological remains, whose location, character and importance have been demonstrably established. These remains merit physical preservation *in situ*. The criteria used to assess national importance is set out in Annex 4 of the Secretary of State's non-statutory guidance note PPG16, and are briefly noted below.

- Period
- Rarity
- Documentation
- Group Value
- Survival/Condition
- Fragility/Vulnerability
- Diversity
- Potential

This category will include Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

#### *Areas of High Archaeological Potential*

Areas considered to include other important archaeological remains, whose location, character and importance are inferred from observation, research and interpretation. Those remains are likely to merit preservation *in situ*. Where preservation is not justified appropriate archaeological recording will be required.

Areas of High Archaeological Potential may:



- Contain well preserved, archaeological deposits which may not be of national importance, but which are of importance to the understanding of the origins and development of the town;
- Be areas where the destruction, without archaeological record, of well preserved archaeological deposits means that the last surviving elements have an increased value for the understanding of the origins and development of the town;
- Have been identified as having significant water-logged deposits;
- Have a high number of existing medieval buildings. The survival of medieval buildings may also indicate that there is well preserved stratigraphy beneath the building;
- Be areas that are thought to have High Archaeological Potential due to their proximity to other, recognised, plan elements even though there is little direct evidence to indicate high importance. For example, the area around an isolated church that may have been the focus for earlier settlement may be defined as an Area of High Archaeological Potential.

It is possible that areas of High Archaeological Potential may, through further archaeological or documentary work, be shown to include Nationally Important Remains.

#### *Areas of Archaeological Potential*

Areas considered to contain archaeological remains of some importance. Where these remains cannot be preserved *in situ*, they are likely to require appropriate archaeological recording.

Such areas:

- Are significant elements in the plan but where there has been a moderate level of modern development or cellaring;
- Have had little archaeological work undertaken within them but cartographic or documentary sources suggest that they may have been within the historic core of the town or areas of important suburban development.

Surviving archaeological deposits in Areas of Archaeological Potential will probably have a relatively high density but, due to pressures of development over many centuries, there may be a high level of fragmentation.

#### *Areas of Limited Archaeological Potential*

Areas considered to include archaeological remains of a character unlikely to provide significant information, or archaeological remains whose integrity has been severely compromised by development. These remains may require appropriate archaeological recording if threatened by development.

Areas of Limited Archaeological Potential may:

- Have a good survival of archaeological deposits, but where there is likely to be a low density of archaeological features;
- Be areas with significant modern development resulting in limited archaeological potential, either due to the scale of development or due to the limited nature of the archaeological resource before development;
- Be areas where the current hypothesis supports only a limited possibility of encountering archaeological remains.

## THE POTENTIAL OF CARISBROOKE

### Areas of Archaeological Importance and Potential

#### *Areas Comprising Nationally Important Archaeological Remains*

There are two Areas Comprising Nationally Important Remains, both of which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments. One is Carisbrooke Castle (SM 22021) which is a good example of a shell keep castle with well-preserved sixteenth-century artillery fortifications. Additionally, it is suggested that there

was a Romano-British fortification, a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery and the remains of an Anglo-Saxon burh on the site.

The other Scheduled Monument is the site of the Roman villa (SM 22015) in the village that is apparently well preserved and so is expected to contain substantial evidence about the economy of the Island. The villa is one of seven identified in the Isle of Wight, and so it is integral to an understanding of the Isle of Wight in the Romano-British period.

#### *Areas of High Archaeological Potential*

The historic core of the settlement, which includes the properties along the High Street and Castle Street and the site of the church and priory is an Area of High Archaeological Potential. Priory Farm House contains medieval elements? Remains of the medieval priory may still survive in the area to the north of the church although small assessment excavations undertaken in this area and to the east of Priory Farm provided no conclusive evidence for priory buildings. The area lies within the Area of High Archaeological Potential as buildings such as a dovecote or the stables and ox stalls recorded in the sixteenth century may have been within this area. Within the property plots information about the development of the settlement may survive. Evidence for any trades or industries undertaken in the village may also survive, particularly in the rear parts of the plots, which will throw further light on the economy of the medieval settlement.

The site of the Romano-British villa is a Scheduled Monument but there would have almost certainly been a substantial complex of buildings around the main, Scheduled, buildings, although these have not been located. Therefore, the area around the villa is an Area of High Archaeological Potential. If well-preserved remains were to be discovered they may be regarded as being Nationally Important.

#### *Areas of Archaeological Potential*

Much of the valley of the *Lukely* Brook is an Area of Archaeological Potential as along the valley there were several medieval mills and it is possible that there was a mill associated with the Romano-British villa on the stream. The river has been used to power mills since the eleventh century at least, and there is a long history of water management in the valley, evidence of which may survive. Any deposits associated with archaeological remains, for example, the site of one of the mills, may be water-logged that could have resulted in the preservation of organic artefacts and structures. A number of Romano-British artefacts have been recovered from the valley that may have been associated with structures that formed part of the villa estate. The limit of the Area of Archaeological Potential is not yet clearly defined and so further fieldwork is required along the valley to allow a better definition of the area.

#### *Areas of Limited Archaeological Potential*

The street frontages along both sides of Spring Lane are Areas of Limited Archaeological Potential. There is documentary evidence for buildings along Clerken Lane which is a deep holloway that is thought to form part of the defences of the Saxon burh. Due to the depth of the lane, it is unlikely that there were properties along this section of the lane and so it is possible that the name was also applied to what is now Spring Lane. Although there has been development within these areas in the twentieth century that may have severely compromised any archaeological remains, small interventions in this area may provide some information about the extent of settlement in the medieval period.

The property plots at the east end of the High Street and on the south side are longer than most of the plots in the rest of the settlement. The rear parts of these plots are an Area of Limited Archaeological Potential as it is probable that most activity associated with trade or industry will probably have happened close to the rear of the buildings, but there is a possibility that some activities were undertaken, or rubbish dumped in these areas.

#### Issues to be resolved

- The Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon occupation of the castle site

It would appear that there was a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery on the site of the castle indicated by the three inhumation burials excavated within the castle. It is also claimed that the site was a burh, probably dating from the late ninth- or early tenth-century, and it is thought that the deep hollow to the east of the castle formed part of the Anglo-Saxon defences. Any work undertaken on the castle should consider looking for further evidence of Roman and Anglo-Saxon occupation.

- The extent of the priory precinct and evidence for the buildings of the priory

The exact limit of the priory precinct is not known and there is little archaeological information about the buildings of the priory, although there have been some small scale excavations to the north and north-east of the church. Documentary sources indicate the range and sizes of the buildings of the priory but none of them have been positively located to date.

- The church of Bowcombe

It is suggested that there was a church at Bowcombe to the south-west of Carisbrooke that was replaced by the 'new church of Carisbrooke' in the eleventh century. If the site of the church was to be located with survival of archaeological deposits, it would almost certainly be regarded as a site of national importance as an example of a Saxon minster church which would also have had a burial ground.

- The development of the settlement

In the eleventh century Bowcombe was recorded as the principal manor of the Isle of Wight in the Domesday Book whereas Carisbrooke was not recorded as a separate settlement. Although the castle site would appear to have been a place of refuge in the Anglo-Saxon period, it is possible that there was a shift in settlement focus from Bowcombe to Carisbrooke, possibly at the time of the foundation of the priory. Archaeological excavation in the settlement could provide evidence for when the settlement began to develop along the High Street. Allowing for the possibility that there has been a shift in settlement focus, the area of Bowcombe requires further research as there may have been a more substantial settlement there in the late eleventh century than is now the case.

- The valley of the *Lukely* Brook

The stream that runs through Carisbrooke has been used as a source of power since the eleventh century at least and evidence for water management, possibly dating from the Romano-British period, probably survives along the valley. However, the exact extent of any archaeological features has not been defined and so there is a need for fieldwork along the valley to record the archaeological features.

## 7. SOURCES

### DOCUMENTARY

There is an extensive archive of documents relating to Carisbrooke Priory, many of which have been transcribed and translated by Father Dom. Hockey. Quarr Abbey also held some properties in the settlement and documents relating to them also survive.

Documents referenced as PRO, for example, the 1379 Lay Subsidy (PRO E179/173/41) have been accessed through transcriptions held in the County Records Office.

### MAPS AND PLANS

1769	Andrews' map of the Isle of Wight
1810	Mudge's map of the Isle of Wight
1843	Tithe Apportionment map (IWCRO JER/T/78)
1862	OS First Edition 6" map Sheet 95
1898	OS Second Edition 25" Sheet 95.5

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## 8. ABBREVIATIONS

<i>c.</i>	<i>circa</i> , about
CCR	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
CPR	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls</i>
Ed	Editor
IWCRO	Isle of Wight County Records Office
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
pers comm	personal communication
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance

SAS Southern Archaeological Services  
SMR Sites and Monuments Record  
VCH *Victoria History of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight*