

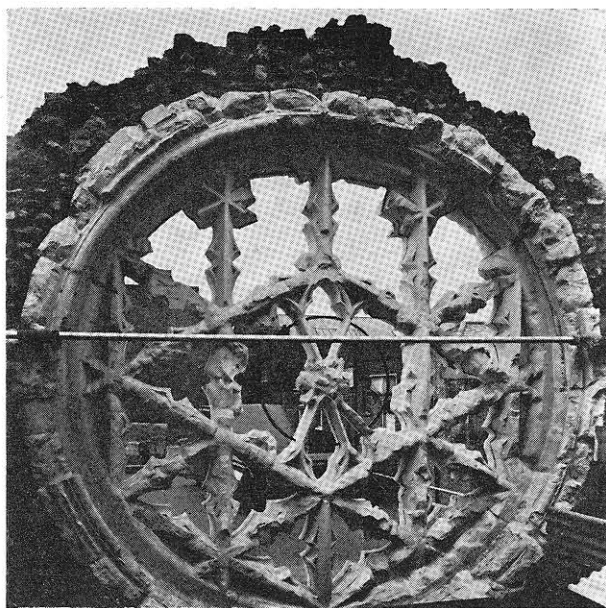
The Rose-Window of Winchester Palace

THE WEST WALL of the great hall of Winchester Palace is, apart from the Cathedral, the only visible medieval feature remaining in Southwark. It stands among warehouses in Clink Street, which will soon disappear in the riverside redevelopment scheme reaching from Southwark Bridge to Tower Bridge. The hall was built in 1370, though the Bishop's Palace had occupied the site since the early 12th century. The focal point of the 50ft. high gabled wall is the rose-window.

Excavations took place west of the wall, before the modern warehouse was built, in 1962-3, directed by Dr. F. Celoria for SAEC. In 1972 small trenches were dug east of the wall by Mr. Peter Curnow for the DoE. In both these excavations, evidence of Palace buildings pre-dating the great hall were found.

Also in 1972, the masonry and the rose-window were consolidated; the window cleaned and protected by a coat of lime and tallow, and a viewing platform was built. The site has been put in the care of the DoE, by the generosity of Messrs. J. O. Sims, the Trustees of the Warlow Estate, and the Proprietors of Hays Wharf Limited.

A key to the viewing platform may be obtained



The rose-window completed, with limewash coating.

(Photo: Crown copyright reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.)

on Monday to Friday in office hours, from the adjoining warehouse of J. O. Sims Limited, and on Saturday and Sunday from the Head Verger, Southwark Cathedral (not during times of regular services). There is no entry charge.

Remains of Winchester Palace sometime after its destruction by fire. Below the rose-window, the triple doorway of the great hall is shown. On the right is Clink Street. Engraving by George Cooke from a drawing by John Sell Cotman, 1828.

(Guildhall Library)

