

Shrewsbury Town Walls

A Conservation Management Plan

PART 1

by
H R Hannaford



Archaeology Service



SHREWSBURY TOWN WALLS A CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

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H R HANNAFORD MCIfA

A report for

Historic England

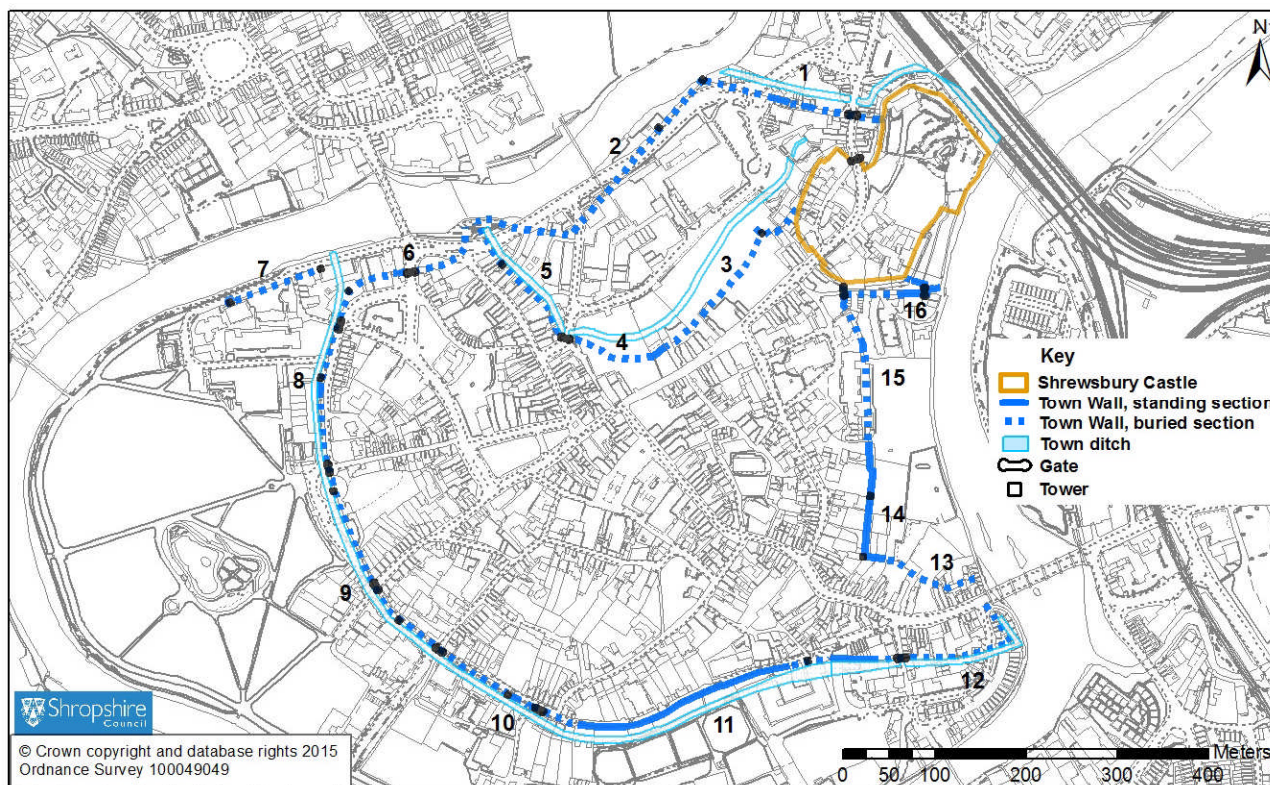
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1 Introduction

- 1.1** This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been produced in order to address a current lack of cohesive management strategy for the town walls at Shrewsbury. At present, investigation into the archaeology and built fabric of the wall has been carried out on a piecemeal level largely in reaction to development pressure. This has resulted in a lack of understanding of the form, development and current condition of the surviving above ground remains of the town walls. The CMP aims to deliver a single management strategy for the medium term future of the walls that can be used by local government, owners/occupiers and developers to ensure a better future for the surviving remains of the town walls.
- 1.2** Shrewsbury's town walls have been categorised as 'At Risk' on the Historic England "Heritage at Risk Register" due to the lack of a conservation management plan (CMP) for the monument and inconsistencies in, and in some places lack of, designation, and various threats affecting different lengths of the circuit, both above ground and below. Shrewsbury was the only county town in the West Midlands without a CMP for its historic defences.
- 1.3** The historic town of Shrewsbury is located on a low hill within a loop of the River Severn, with a single overland access point through the neck of the loop on the north side of the town, overlooked by the castle. The settlement's location and topography provided a degree of natural defence, which may explain the lack of material evidence for early medieval built defences. The present town walls originally date from the 1220s, with significant alteration in the post medieval and modern periods, although there is some limited evidence for earlier defences. Substantial sections of masonry walls including a mural tower (Wingfields Tower) survive on the southern side of the medieval town. A town ditch is recorded in documentary evidence, and has been confirmed archaeologically at a number of locations.
- 1.4** The Shrewsbury Town Walls CMP will cover the circuit of Shrewsbury's medieval town defences within the loop of the River Severn that defined the medieval town centre, from Castle Gates to the Welsh Bridge, from the Welsh Bridge to the English Bridge, and from the English Bridge to St Mary's Water Gate. It also includes the defences along Meadow Lane, an outwork along Victoria Avenue (The New Work), and Civil War defences at Roushill/Smithfield Road. The plan excludes the walls and defences of Shrewsbury Castle between Castle Gates and St Mary's Water Gate, and its outer bailey.
- 1.5** The surviving above ground remains of the town walls consist of designated and undesignated heritage assets. The individual sections are in multiple ownerships (including public, private and commercial). Land use is also a factor as several sections are managed as part of the public road system in Shrewsbury while others form part of commercial and residential properties.

2 Understanding and Significance

2.1 The defences today: a summary of heritage assets



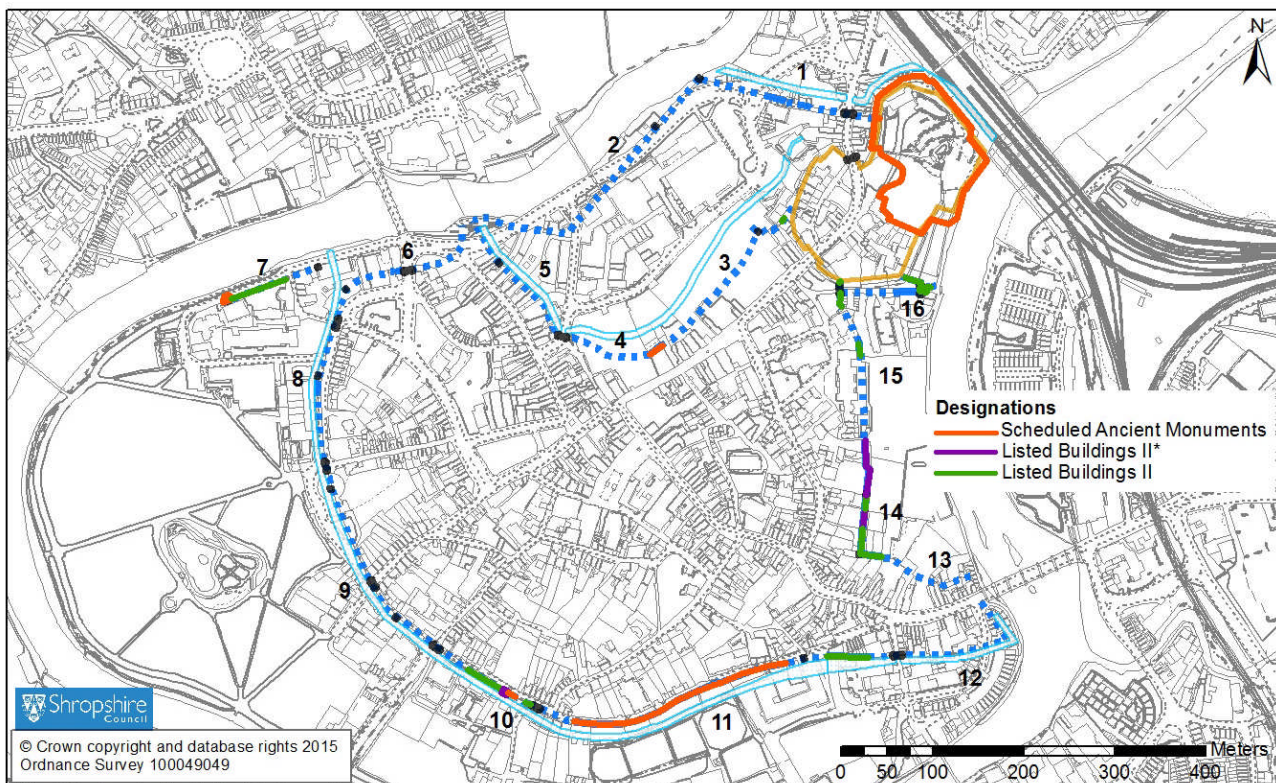
Shrewsbury's Medieval Town Defences: location plan showing Gazetteer Reference sections

1 Meadow Place	7 The New Work	12 St Julian's Friars
2 Smithfield Road	8 Claremont Bank	13 Wyle Cop
3 Pride Hill NE	9 Murivance	14 Dogpole
4 Pride Hill W	10 Wingfields Tower	15 St Mary's Place
5 Mardol	11 Town Walls and Beeches Lane	16 St Mary's Water Lane
6 Bridge Street		

2.1.1 The standing remains of Shrewsbury Castle still dominate the northern approaches to the town, despite modern development. The surviving above-ground sections of Shrewsbury's town walls include Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and un-designated heritage assets, sometimes incorporated into other buildings or structures. As part of this CMP, a gazetteer was produced (see Part 2) identifying each section of the wall by a single reference number and including a summary of location information, current condition, ownership and designation status as well as recommended management actions. This report will hereafter use this reference system to refer to discrete sections of the town wall, for example Meadow Place (Gaz. Ref. 1).

2.1.2 All of the city defences fall within the Shrewsbury Conservation Area. There are four Scheduled Monuments (Gaz. Refs. 4, 7, 10, & 11) included within the town walls. Section 11 is the most extensive, running for 250m along Town Walls road (National Heritage List Entry [NHLE] 1003710 "Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls E)"). Gaz. Ref. 10 includes the only surviving mural tower (Wingfields Tower) on the defensive circuit which is a Grade II* Listed Building (NHLE 1270530). A third Scheduled length (Gaz. Ref. 4 a) is incorporated into the rear of McDonald's restaurant on the north side of the town, to the rear of Pride Hill (NHLE 1003715, "Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch incorporated in the undercroft of Pride

Hill Chambers, Pride Hill)"). A fourth Scheduled Monument (Gaz. Ref. 7c) comprises half of the site of a tower at the end of an outwork, the "New Work", on Victoria Avenue (NHLE 1003714, "The Round House - remains of Tower in Victoria Avenue").



Shrewsbury's Medieval Town Defences: designations of upstanding sections of the town wall

2.1.3 Ten of the sections of the town walls contain lengths of the wall that are designated as listed buildings, including three Grade II* (Gaz. Refs. 10 & 14) and 13 Grade II (Gaz. Refs. 3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, & 16) structures. However, only three of the Listed lengths of wall are Listed in their own right; these include the section of the wall behind 1-3 Beeches Lane (Gaz. Ref. 11) and the remains of a barbican lower gate on St Mary's Water Lane (Gaz. Ref. 16). The remaining listed sections are curtilage listed as parts of other buildings.

2.1.4 The standing remains of the town walls also include a number of un-designated heritage assets, for example two sections of masonry wall (Gaz. Ref. 1) which are incorporated into later buildings fronting onto Meadow Place, below the castle. Elsewhere the defences lie beneath post-medieval and modern developments; in some areas they have been removed entirely but elsewhere they may survive as below-ground archaeological features and deposits (e.g. Gaz. Refs. 2, 8, & 9). On the eastern side of town substantial terraces mark the line of the town defences to the rear of St Mary's Place (Gaz. Ref. 15).

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 Geology The superficial geology of the town centre within the river loop comprises fluvio-glacial deposits of the Devensian phase of the Quaternary Period, formed from c. 80,000 years ago to c. 10,000 years ago. These deposits may be up to 50m thick in places, though the underlying bedrock does outcrop in places. The low ground beside the river is made up of alluvial deposits. A glacial trench, filled with

sand, silt, and lake clay runs northwest-southeast through the town (BGS, 2014; Toghil, 1990, p162-180). These glacial deposits sit on the undulating surface of bedrock that comprises sedimentary rock of the Salop Formation of mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate which was formed approximately 309 to 271 million years ago in the Permian and Carboniferous Periods. The bedrock outcrops in the western part of the town in The Quarry gardens and was exploited for building stone in the medieval period. These quarries are today used as a public garden ("The Dingle") and the site of the public baths. (BGS, 2015; Toghil, 1990, p130-1; Pannett in Baker, 2010, p25-6).

A detailed description of the topography of Shrewsbury within the river loop has been published by Baker. In essence, the town occupies a low hill with two summits, separated by the High Street, within a loop in the River Severn. The landscape of the town centre has been extensively terraced to accommodate the buildings, yards and gardens, churches, and defences of the town centre (Baker, 2010, p26-38).

2.2.2 The Saxon defences Shrewsbury is first mentioned in a royal charter of 901 AD, as the place in which that charter was issued by Athelred and Aethelflaed of Mercia. Coins were minted in the town during the reign of Aethelstan (925-39 AD), and at that time the minting of coins could only take place in a "port" or one of a number of "burghs" or fortified places, thereby implying that Shrewsbury was a fortified settlement (Baker, 2010, p89). The need for defences for the town may have been raised by the presence of Vikings in the area in c. 850 AD; Vikings also overwintered at Quatbridge near present-day Bridgnorth in 895-6 AD. While Saxon defences have not been found or examined archaeologically, it has been suggested that these early defences are likely to have comprised a ditch and rampart across the neck of the river loop that contained the medieval town, somewhere in the area of Meadow Place today (Gaz. Ref. 1). Baker also makes the link between the town defences and the bridging or fording points across the river, and suggests that it is unlikely that the river crossings would have been undefended. (Baker, 2010, p96-7)

2.2.3 Medieval defences Shrewsbury Castle was probably built shortly after the Norman Conquest, possibly as early as 1067. It was again strategically located at the northern end of the town immediately above the neck in the river loop and on the eastern end of the line of the Meadow Place defences. Orderic Vitalis mentions the presence of a castle or royal stronghold (*praesidium regis*) at Shrewsbury shortly after the Conquest, describing how in 1069 the Welsh, aided by the men of Chester, native citizens, and Edric the Wild besieged the castle and burnt the town, retiring before reinforcements could be sent from King William's army. The Domesday Survey of 1086 also records how the construction of the castle had taken over 51 dwellings in the town (Thorn & Thorn, 1986, C14). The town may have been defended by an earthwork rampart and ditch – a clay bank was discovered beneath the 13th century defences in excavations at Roushill (Gaz. Ref. 5 e) in 1958/9 and Riggs Hall in 1983 (Gaz. Ref. 3 d)

Following the capture of the town and the burning of its suburbs in 1215 by the Welsh under Llywelyn ab Iorwerth, Henry III ordered the burgesses of Shrewsbury to build a wall to protect the town in 1218. Construction work had begun by 1220 and is thought to have been largely complete by 1242. However, bailiff's accounts show that some sections were still being finished in the 1260s. Outside the wall for

most of its circuit was a defensive ditch, excavated as close as possible to the wall. The final circuit of the medieval town wall was about 2.2km in length, excluding the earlier castle and cross-peninsular defences and later outworks. (Baker, 2010, p130). Further murage grants were made throughout the 14th and 15th centuries, and repairs were carried out to postern gates, the Welsh Gate, and the castle in 1459. Documentary evidence also shows the town wall was already being colonised and encroached on by development, particularly on the sections behind Pride Hill (Gaz. Refs. 3 & 4) and Dogpole (Gaz. Ref. 14 & 15), in the 15th century. (Baker, 2010, pp162-3)

2.2.4 The Civil War In 1642 Charles I ordered the town gates to be repaired and cannon installed, and a fort (Cadogan's tower) was built across the river in Frankwell. The following year repairs were made to the castle and the town wall to the northeast of Mardol. Following the capture by surprise of Shrewsbury by Parliamentary forces in 1645, stone from Shrawardine Castle was used to repair the town walls and to build the Roushill Wall on what is now Smithfield Road (Gaz. Ref. 2 d). St Mary's Water Gate (Gaz. Ref. 16b) was also defended with blockhouses. (Owen & Blakeway, 1825, i, p431; Vaughan, 1994, p13-4).

2.2.5 Post-medieval defences In 1715 the town gates were renewed and strengthened following the Jacobite Rebellion, while later in 1740 a section of the wall east of 21a Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 11) was repaired by the Corporation. This may mark the last episode of rebuilding and major repairs. Although the Corporation also ordered the repair of the wall between Swan Hill and St John's Hill (Murivance, Gaz. Ref. 9) in 1745 (possibly as a reaction to the second Jacobite Rebellion), it is debatable whether this was actually done as Quarry Gate (at the end of St John's Hill) had been demolished by 1746, and St Chad's Terrace which overlies the town ditch to the northwest of this section is of mid-18th century date and the road outside the terrace would appear to have been extended over the line of the town wall here at about this time.

2.2.6 Thereafter the story of the town walls has been one of dilapidation and piecemeal destruction as a result of housing development, road re-alignment and major retail developments, from the later 18th through to the early 21st centuries.

2.3 Cartographic and pictorial sources

2.3.1 There is a strong corpus of cartographic and pictorial documentary sources for Shrewsbury's town defences. The earliest surviving cartographic source is the Burghley map of c. 1575, a bird's eye view of the town from the east. The circuit of the town walls is shown as being complete and apparently in good repair- there is just one section, between Garewald's Tower and Gilbert's Tower (Gaz. Ref. 2 a & c), where the wall is shown in disrepair. John Rocque's map of 1746 was the first properly surveyed plan of the town, and records the walls on the west and southern sides of the town. The 19th century saw the production of a number of accurate and detailed maps of the town centre, and in 1879-1882 the Ordnance Survey published their large scale plans of the town at 1:2500 and 1:500 scale. (See Appendix 2 for a fuller sample of the cartographic and pictorial documentary sources.)

2.4 Previous archaeological work

- 2.4.1** The antiquarian and archaeological interest in Shrewsbury's town defences really began in the 1880s with a discussion about the nature of a large sandstone wall behind the properties on the southeast side of the High Street. The Rev. W A Leighton saw these as representing various high status medieval buildings, including the College of St Alkmunds. The Reverend C H Drinkwater, vicar of St George's, Frankwell, traced the sandstone walls through various properties and suggested that they were the remains of an "inner town wall" that pre-dated the documented 13th century town wall. Drinkwater's suggestion was taken up by a number of amateur archaeologists, and in 1911 the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club set up a Town Walls Committee to find and map the remains of this "inner town wall". The idea of an inner town wall has since been convincingly rejected (Baker, 2010, p13-4). The Town Walls Committee was however also responsible for recording a number of sightings of masonry associated with lost sections of the 13th century defences during pre-1945 building works around the town, for example, on the Roushill section (Heath, 1911), Mardol (Morris, 1928), Bridge Street (Davies, 1912), and Claremont Bank (Morris, 1921).
- 2.4.2** In 1958-9 the first modern excavations undertaken in the town took place on a section of the town defences at the junction of Roushill and Mardol under the direction of Philip Barker (Gaz. Ref. 5 e). Barker's excavations provided a record of the original 13th century town wall, accompanied by stratified deposits with a sequence of ceramic finds and a specialist botanical analysis. The stepped, chamfered, plinth, the red (Keele Beds) masonry, and the green gritty mortar, recorded by Barker have come to be regarded as the diagnostic characteristics of the 13th-century town wall (Baker 2010, p15).
- 2.4.3** The town defences have been archaeologically recorded most frequently on the north side of Castle Street (Gaz. Ref. 3), Pride Hill (Gaz. Ref. 4) and on the east side of Mardol (Gaz. Ref 5). Between 1969 and 1987 redevelopment of buildings and the construction of two major shopping centres on the north side of Pride Hill were the subject of a number of salvage recording exercises. Substantial sections of town wall were found to have been encased in later 18th and 19th century buildings and terraces on the slope down to Raven Meadows. Masonry similar to that recorded by Barker in 1958-9 was found at a number of locations on these stretches (at Riggs Hall, Gaz. Ref. 3 d; Rodney House, Gaz. Ref. 3 c; the Woolworth's site, Gaz. Ref. 3 g; Pride Hill Chambers, Gaz. Ref. 4 a; and the Charles Clarke's Garage site Gaz. Ref. 4 d). The town ditch was also seen on the site of the present Shropshire Archives building (Gaz. Ref. 3 e). (Barker, 1963; Toms, 1969; Baker 1983, 1988, 1993, & 2010; Carver, 1983; Hannaford, 1995;). Smaller scale developments on the east side of Mardol (Gaz. Refs. 5 f & 5 h) have also produced evidence of the town wall and the town ditch (Stone, 2000; Nash, 2004; Wainwright, 2004).
- 2.4.4** Below ground remains of the Civil War Roushill Wall (Gaz. Ref. 2 d) between Gilbert's Tower (Gaz. Ref. 2 c) and the old Welsh Bridge (Gaz. Ref. 2 g) have been seen on a number of occasions (Heath, 1911; Barker, 1962; Brown & Watson 1989). And developments in the Bridge Street area (Gaz. Ref. 6) have also provided occasional glimpses of the defences (Morris, 1921; Hannaford, 1997 & 2007). Elsewhere along the western part and most of the southern parts of the circuit of the town defences (Gaz. Refs. 8, 9, 10, & 11) there has been little modern

development and accordingly little archaeological work, although the town ditch was located in 1997 in a trial excavation (Gaz. Ref. 9 f) at Quarry Place (Blockley, 1997).

- 2.4.5** Late 20th and early 21st century housing developments at the east end of Beeches Lane (Gaz. Ref. 11) and St Julian's Friars (Gaz. Ref. 12) have produced a number of sightings of the town defences in archaeological evaluation and recording work. The 13th century wall and the town ditch were seen in 2004 south of Beeches Lane (Gaz. Ref. 11 h), at the eastern end of the Beeches Lane section in 1975 (Gaz. Ref. 12 f) and in 2002 (Gaz. Ref. 12 i), and on development sites either side of St Julian's Friars (Gaz. Refs. 12 g, 12 h, & 12 j) in 1993 and again in 2003-4. (Carver, 1975; Durham, 1993; Tavener, 2002 & 2004).
- 2.4.6** On the east side of the defensive circuit (Gaz. Refs. 13 – 16), a small scale excavation at the foot of the masonry wall behind Dogpole in 1974 (Gaz. Ref. 14 e) suggested that the wall in that location was a 19th century rebuild. An evaluation across the line of the wall at St Mary's Place (Gaz. Ref. 15 f) found possible remains of the medieval wall at the base of a standing terrace wall. Other investigations prior to the development of the Blackfriar's site (Gaz. Ref. 16 e) were inconclusive. (Buteux, 1989; Baker 1997)

2.5 Photographic survey

- 2.5.1** As a part of the production of this plan, a photogrammetric survey was undertaken of the scheduled sections of the town wall in order to produce 3D models and orthophotos (rectified photography). This work was undertaken by Aerial-Cam Ltd. The photogrammetric survey covered the entire scheduled section of the wall along Town Walls from the British Telecom building to 21a Town Walls, the short section of wall adjacent to 26 Town walls, and the Wingfields Tower and adjoining section of wall. The survey also included the western section of sandstone wall on Meadow Place, and St Mary's Water Gate. A photographic condition survey was then made of the other sections of wall and associated features where access could be obtained.
- 2.5.2** The results of these photographic surveys have been incorporated into the gazetteer of the circuit of the walls that accompanies this CMP. The survey has been used to help identify phases of construction within the circuit of the walls. The current state of the monument, threats and issues have been identified at each point. Constraints and opportunities for the management of the monument have also been identified.

2.6 Phases of construction

- 2.6.1 Phase 1 Early defences.** The earliest recognised phase in the town defences comprised a clay rampart fronted by a ditch. These were seen and recorded by Barker in his 1958-9 excavations (Barker, 1960) At Roushill (Gaz. Ref. 5 e), and although he suggested that they may have immediately pre-dated the construction of the 13th century masonry wall, more recent commentators have suggested that they may have been earlier (Baker, 2010). A similar earthen rampart and ditch was found in excavations at Rigg's Hall in 1978 (Gaz. Ref. 3 d). The rampart was stratified between late Saxon pits and the 13th-century town wall. It was suggested on topographical evidence that it was part of the outer bailey defences of the Castle.

2.6.2 Phase 2 Primary wall construction The 13th century masonry town wall was identified by Barker at Roushill (Gaz. Ref. 5 e) and seen to have been terraced against a vertical cut. It consisted of footings of mortared sandstone rubble supporting a face of finely jointed sandstone ashlar, with a chamfered plinth course stepped in conformity with the slight gradient on the slope. The masonry was bonded in greenish, gritty mortar. Similar construction has also been seen at Pride Hill (Gaz. Refs. 4 & 3; Barker, 1963 & Baker, 1993), St Julian's Friars (Gaz. Ref. 12; Durham, 1993), Lower Claremont Bank (Gaz. Ref. 6 e; Hannaford, 1997), Mardol (Gaz. Ref. 5 f; Nash, 2004) and Beeches Lane (Gaz. Ref. 11 h; Tavener, 2004). Some possible stretches of original wall may survive at the base of the Scheduled section along Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 11), though if so they have been much degraded through exposure to the elements, and repointing masks any of the gritty greenish mortar that is typical of the 13th century wall seen in excavated sections (Photo 1; 2).

2.6.3 Phase 3 Medieval reinforcement A probable mid-14th century date has been suggested for Wingfield's Tower (Gaz. Ref. 10c) due to the use throughout of Grinshill stone and its post-Norman shouldered lintels (very late 13th - late 14th century). The photographic condition survey of the Scheduled section of the wall (Gaz. Ref. 11) has identified a distinct phase that comprises four courses of ashlar blocks of buff Grinshill sandstone battered back at a slight angle (Photo 1; 3). This masonry survives at the western end of the wall from 21a Town Walls (Gaz. Ref 11 b) running towards the Cathedral, and again at the eastern end opposite Bishopstone Mansions (Gaz. Ref. 11 c). There is no direct dating for this phase, but it may well be contemporary with Wingfield's Tower; it certainly pre-dates the construction of the party wall between 21a Town Walls and the gardens to the east, which is of 18th century date.



Photo 1: The wall (Gaz. Ref. 11 c) along Town Walls, showing phases 2, 3, 4 & 6

2.6.4 Phase 4 Late medieval and post medieval reinforcement Above this course of battered Grinshill masonry are five courses of mixed red and buff Grinshill sandstone masonry (Photo 1; 4). In places this stonework is banded elsewhere it is mixed with an almost chequerboard effect. Where the battered Grinshill courses are absent, there are sections of mixed though predominantly red sandstone masonry reaching down from this level to the base of the wall.

2.6.5 Phase 5 Civil War The documented Civil War repairs to the town have not been identified either within the standing sections of wall or archaeologically. However, the Roushill Wall (Gaz. Ref. 2 d), built following the capture of Shrewsbury by Parliamentary forces in 1645, was identified in salvage recording in 1989 (Gaz. Ref. 2 f) and was seen to comprise red sandstone bonded in lime mortar. The wall was 1.65m wide and its outer face was of well-dressed uniform blocks, with a rubble core of mainly red sandstone (Brown & Watson, 1989). At the top of Wyle Cop, three possible musket loopholes (Photo 2) which may date to the Civil War period are cut through the town wall (Gaz. Ref. 13 d); these would have given enfilading fire along the outer face of the wall behind Dogpole.



Photo 2: Possible musket loopholes in the wall at the top of Wyle Cop (Gaz. Ref. 13 d), seen from the inner side of the wall.

2.6.6 Phase 6 Later post medieval and modern repairs This phase comprises generally three courses of mixed sandstone masonry plus a coping course (Photo 1; 6) which forms the parapet of the wall from the level of the pavement on the north face of the wall along Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 11). Much of this parapet level is pointed in cement, and thus may have been rebuilt in the 20th century; a stone in the western end of the Scheduled section records the rebuilding of this section in 1740 (though this stone is set in cement which suggests that it may have been re-set in the 20th century). A number of the buttresses against the outer face are clearly of relatively recent (20th century) date and can be seen to butt against the earlier fabric.



Photo 3: The stone in the parapet on Town Walls road, recording repairs in 1740: "This part of the wall Was Repaired A. D. 1740. Edward Twiss, Esq. Mayor, M Samuel Elisha and M Arthur Downer, Coroners"

3 Statement of Significance

3.1 Introduction

Shrewsbury's medieval defences are a physical reminder of the town's role as a border fortress throughout the Middle Ages, and into the post-medieval period during the English Civil War. During the later post-medieval period, the town walls formed part of the backdrop to Shrewsbury's reputation as a fashionable market town. The prominence of the town walls in various 18th century panoramic depictions of the town provides graphic evidence for their status as a feature in the medieval and post-medieval townscape. The 19th or 20th centuries saw large-scale demolitions of the surviving gates and extensive sections of the walls.

3.2 Historic development and relationships to the town

3.2.1 Evidential value. Shrewsbury's town defences have the potential to yield evidence about the development of the town in the medieval and post medieval periods. The standing remains demonstrate periods of building, rebuilding, repairs, and incorporation into other structures. However independent dating evidence from these standing remains alone is limited. Wingfield's Tower and St Mary's Water Gate both have architectural features that provide some dating evidence, and this is consistent with the type of stone used in their construction. The buried archaeological remains of the defences, in particular the town ditch where it survives as a below-ground feature will have associated archaeological deposits with the potential to yield dating evidence and artefactual and environmental evidence for occupation and activity within the town. The potential of this resource has been demonstrated by various archaeological interventions around the circuit of the defences since the 1950s.

3.2.2 Historical Value. The historical value in the town defences lie in their potential to link the present day townscape with episodes in the history and development of the town. The response of the townspeople to Welsh raids in the 13th to 15th centuries, the capture of the town by Parliamentary forces in the Civil War, even the alarm raised by the Jacobite rebellions in the 18th century, all have tangible reminders in the standing monument. The sites of the gates (and bridges) reflect the control of movement and trade into and out of the town. The physical dominance of the town defences through into the post-medieval period is demonstrated in the early maps and illustrations of the town, in which the town walls, gates and towers are prominent features.

3.3 Archaeological significance

3.3.1 National context Shrewsbury is one of 48 English towns with standing remains of medieval urban defences. At Shrewsbury, excluding the castle, about 30% of the circuit of the medieval defences and outworks (excluding the castle) survive as walls or earthworks. One mural tower survives, as does a barbican with a complete gate. At a national level, in terms of its preservation as a standing monument, Shrewsbury's town defences can be assessed as being of moderate significance.

3.3.2 Regional context As the county town of Shropshire, Shrewsbury can be compared with the county towns of the adjoining English shires: Stafford, Hereford, Worcester, and Chester. Vestiges of the medieval town walls survive at Stafford, and at Worcester about 30% of the defences survive. In Hereford roughly a half of the circuit of the medieval defences are marked by walls or earthworks, and two out of 17 bastions or mural towers survive, though none of the five gates survive. The circuit of Chester's walls is largely intact, and is perhaps the most complete circuit of

a Roman and Medieval defensive town wall in Britain. As well as the surviving above ground elements of their circuit, there is a not inconsiderable corpus of recorded and published archaeological intervention on those sections of Shrewsbury's defences that have been lost to or obscured by modern development. In these respects, Shrewsbury's defences can be assessed as being of moderate significance in a regional context.

3.3.3 Local (Shropshire) context Whilst a number of Shropshire's market towns were furnished with defences in the medieval period, only at Ludlow do these defences survive in anything other than fragments (if at all). The 360m length of masonry wall and a mural tower on Town Walls, the wall incorporated into the medieval town house at the rear of McDonalds on Pride Hill, the 30m of sandstone wall on Meadow Place, and the walls and terraces behind Dogpole and Wyle Cop, together with the archaeological evidence for the "unseen" defences, all argue, that Shrewsbury's town defences can be considered to be of high significance in this local context.

3.4 Current use and enjoyment of the heritage asset

3.4.1 Aesthetic value. The remains of the town walls still form an integral part of the topography and viewsapes of Shrewsbury town centre. The wall along Town Walls road and the line of the wall to the rear of Dogpole still form a boundary between the built-up town centre and green space running down to the River Severn. Two short sections of town wall on Meadow Place are incorporated into structures on the north side of that road.

3.4.2 Communal value. St Mary's Water Gate is still a physical gateway on a route into the town centre from a riverside walk that is much used by pedestrians accessing the town centre and by recreational; walkers and cyclists. The gateway forms a picturesque reminder of the town's medieval heritage. The Scheduled section of town wall retains the highway along Beeches Lane and Town Walls, part of the one-way system around the town. The top of this section of the wall provides a viewpoint over allotments, tennis courts and bowling greens, and the Abbey Foregate and Longden Coleham suburbs, and is itself part of the viewscape of the southern fringe of the town centre. Wingfields Tower, on the western end of this stretch of wall is owned by the National Trust, and is one of the more prominent component of the surviving remains. It is open to visitors on occasions such as Heritage Open Days, and on these days it is a popular visitor attraction. The tower is currently leased to Shrewsbury High School, and is in use by them during term time for education purposes.

3.5 Conclusion

The Scheduled sections of Shrewsbury's town wall on Town Walls and the Grade II* Listed Wingfield's Tower are highly visible and prominent reminders of Shrewsbury's importance in the medieval and post-medieval periods as a border fortress town and commercial centre. Today this section of wall also serves as a retaining wall for one of the principal routeways through the town. 70% of the circuit of the defences now lie below ground, and much of these have been lost to development, increasing the importance and significance of the surviving remains as an archaeological resource.

4 Conservation Issues and Policies

4.1 Current planning policies

- 4.1.1** This section sets out the current national and local legislation and policy framework regarding the conservation and protection of heritage assets, as it affects Shrewsbury's town defences. Policy guidance on planning is provided at a national level by Historic England and locally by Shropshire Council.
- 4.1.2** National legislation is set out in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, which covers Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (covering Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas).
- 4.1.3** As a major heritage asset, Shrewsbury's defences fall within the scope of the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF] paras. 126-141 (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012). Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled "Conserving and enhancing the historic environment" provides policy regarding the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Planning Practice Guidance for the historic environment is available on the Historic England website: <http://www.historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/planning-system/>
- 4.1.4** In a local context the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) is the principal document of the Shropshire Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF is a set of documents setting out policies relating to the use and development of land in Shropshire. The Core Strategy, adopted in March 2011, sets out the Council's vision, strategic objectives and the broad spatial strategy to guide future development and growth in Shropshire during the period to 2026.
- 4.1.5** Shropshire Council's Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan 2014 sets out proposals for the use of land and policies to guide future development in Shropshire up to 2026 and will sit alongside the Core Strategy. The Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) expands on policies concerning historic environment contained within the Core Strategy and the SAMDev document. The SPD provides additional details on how these policies will be implemented to ensure that change to the historic environment is managed sustainably throughout the development process.

4.2 Existing designations and status

- 4.2.1** All of the city defences fall within the Shrewsbury Conservation Area. Four individual sections are Designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments, including the 250m length along Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 11). Three sections of the defences are Listed Buildings in their own right, Wingfields Tower (Gaz. Ref. 10) Grade II*, and the wall behind Beeches Lane (Gaz. Ref. 11) and St Mary's Water Gate (Gaz. Ref. 16 b) both Grade II. Many of the remaining sections of above-ground wall are protected under curtilage listing of adjoining Grade II* and Grade II properties (see paras. 2.1.2-3, above).
- 4.2.2** A few sections of standing wall are undesignated heritage assets, such as the two lengths along Meadow Place (Gaz. Ref. 1 d & 1 e). The majority of below-ground remains are recorded as undesignated heritage assets on the HER, but are not included in any Scheduling or Listing descriptions.

4.3 Ownership and Access

- 4.3.1** The Town Walls fall under a number of different ownerships including public and private, commercial and residential. They can also be stand-alone separate monuments or form part of homes or businesses, or roads and highways. Access also varies with some sections visible from public rights of way.
- 4.3.2** About 45% of the circuit of the town defences are followed, at least approximately, by public highways, which means that about half of the circuit can be walked. Of the standing remains of the town wall, 60% can be accessed by the public as they stand alongside public roads.
- 4.3.3** The section of standing town wall on the south side of Town Walls road (Gaz. Ref. 11) is owned by Shropshire Council. The footpath along the highway here runs along the inside of the parapet of the wall. There is no public access to the outer face of the wall, which fronts onto allotments owned by the Shropshire Horticultural Society. Shrewsbury Town Council owns a short stretch of the wall to the southeast of No. 26 Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 10 f). Wingfields Tower is owned by the National Trust and leased to Shrewsbury High School. The short stretch of Scheduled wall (Gaz. Ref. 4 a) behind Pride Hill is owned by McDonalds Hamburgers Ltd. The outer face is not accessible to the public, but is visible from the public highway on Raven Meadows. The interior elevation forms part of the restaurant. The two fragments of wall on Meadow Place (Gaz. Ref. 1 d & 1 e) are in private ownership, but front onto the highway. The walls and terracing behind Dogpole and Wyle Cop are in private ownership and there is no public access. A small section of rebuilt wall behind Wyle Cop can be accessed by customers of the Nag's Head Public House (Gaz. Ref. 13 c). The barbican and gates on St Mary's Water Lane (Gaz. Ref. 16) are on a public highway, terminating in a Public Footpath (Routecodes 0443/UN40/1 and 0443/UN44/7) alongside the river. The "New Work" outwork (Gaz. Ref. 7) forms the retaining wall for the grounds of the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College along Victoria Avenue, a public highway; the standing wall here is a modern rebuild, though the site of a Scheduled tower at its western end is marked out by a semi-circle of stone sets in the road tarmac.
- 4.3.4** The line of the wall is crossed by two Public Footpaths (0443/UN26/1 "King's Head Passage" and 0443/UN29/1 "Phoenix Passage") running between Mardol and Smithfield Road and Roushill (Gaz. Ref. 5). There is a distinct dip in Phoenix Passage, where it crosses the line of the town ditch, and this is the only remaining visible sign of the ditch. The line of the town defences behind Pride Hill (Gaz. Ref. 3) is also crossed by two Public Rights of Way (0443/UN32/1 "Seventy Steps", and 0443/UN2/1 "Castle Court").
- 4.3.5** The majority of the below-ground archaeological remains of the town defences are in private and commercial ownership. Some sections are in multiple-ownership, forming a party wall or terrace wall between different private owners, and actual ownership of and responsibility for these sections of wall is not always clear. (Further details of ownership can be found in the gazetteer section of this report.)

5 Management Proposals

5.1 CMP Management Policies:

5.1.1 The CMP has drawn from existing planning policy guidance for designated and un-designated heritage assets to propose first a series of management policies for the Shrewsbury's town walls and secondly a more detailed series of Management Actions for the conservation and care of the individual sections. These are included in the gazetteer

5.1.2 This CMP is intended to stand for 5 years, after which it should be reviewed.

5.2. CMP Management Policy for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls

5.2.1 There should be a long-term presumption against further loss to and degradation of the line of the town wall by public and private development and construction of thoroughfares in order to safeguard the viability and sustainability of the Designated monument. This is supported by the NPPF Chapter 12, paragraphs 128 - 135, and the Shropshire Core Strategy section CS17.

5.2.2 Pre-application advice for development which might affect undesignated sections of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council's Planning Services who will in turn consult with the Council's Historic Environment Team. The HET curatorial archaeologist will assess the threat to any known archaeology and the risk of unknown archaeological remains being present in the application site. This assessment may lead to a requirement for further information on, or evaluation of, the application site.

5.2.3 The curatorial archaeologist will then make recommendations for mitigation based the results of the desk-based assessment and any field evaluation. The recommendations will take into account the national and local guidance, and the potential contribution to national and regional research agendas. Mitigation measures might include:

- Preservation in situ of all or part of site.
- Preservation by record. Depending on the nature of the archaeological resource to be recorded, this might range in scale from: full-scale excavation, a strip, map, and sample strategy, selective or sample excavation, earthwork survey, drawn or photographic recording, palaeoenvironmental sampling.
- Archaeological watching brief.
- Other mitigation (this might, for example, include screening to protect the setting of a monument).
- No further action.

5.2.4 Any permitted development affecting the town walls (including their setting) should refer to the CMP to provide a clear understanding of the monument, its significance and setting in the townscape. Any work should be preceded by an appropriate level of archaeological investigation by a qualified specialist following advice from Historic England or Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team. This is supported by the NPPF Chapter 12, paragraphs 128 & 141) and the Shropshire Council Core Strategy Historic Environment SPD.

5.3 CMP Management Policy for a repair and maintenance strategy

5.3.1 A regular programme of inspection should be put in place for the management of the Scheduled section of the standing town wall in the ownership of Shropshire Council, in line with guidance provided in Historic England's "Managing Heritage Assets" (English Heritage, 2009):

<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/managing-heritage-assets/>

and "Grants for Historic Buildings, Monuments and Designed Landscapes: Maintenance Plans" (English Heritage, 2004):

<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/historic-buildings-monuments-and-designed-landscapes-maintenance/>

5.3.2 The CMP should be used as the basis for a comprehensive programme of remedial work and maintenance for the Shrewsbury town wall and associated defences. All works should be informed by a clear understanding of the monument, and should therefore be preceded by an appropriate investigation of the historic fabric to be affected by any repairs. Any works should be recorded, and the recording should be carried out to a uniform standard by a qualified specialist and all records permanently archived. The rectified photography of this section of the wall is available and should be used as a reference for any such work.

5.3.3 A regular, effective and properly resourced cycle of maintenance and inspection should be set up for the section of the town wall in the ownership of Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Council. All work should be carried out to the highest conservation standards.

5.3.4 The aims of the repair and maintenance strategy will be to:

- Ensure the stability of the town wall where it revets the public highway along Town Walls road through the establishment of a management agreement with Historic England
- Ensure that Shropshire Council Highways (who currently inspect the footway on the north side of the wall along Town Walls on a monthly basis) can continue to care for this section. The inspection should monitor the level of salt erosion to the base of the parapet wall.

5.4 CMP Management Policy for managing stone and mortar decay

5.4.1 Modern cement mortar should be avoided in repairs to the historic fabric of the town wall because it can disfigure and hasten the decay of historic masonry. Re-pointing with impervious cement can cause erosion of the bricks and stones in historic masonry in preference as they become the most permeable part of the wall and suffer the greatest frost and salt action. Permeable lime mortar by contrast will allow the fabric to 'breathe'.

5.4.2 Repointing should be avoided unless the mortar in the joint has decayed to at least the depth of the original joint width. Pointing is often best done as localized repairs and not as a comprehensive job and failing pointing should be removed with hand tools. Very hard cement mortars may be better left until the pointing fails naturally from frost action rather than being forced out, as greater damage can be caused by trying to remove particularly hard mortar.

5.4.3 Cracks in masonry that are moderate or greater (5mm or more in width), or that are of any complexity in shape, orientation and continuous movement should be professionally investigated at the earliest opportunity (see Appendix 1, para. 1.3).

5.4.4 Stone repair should be undertaken using stone matched from an appropriate source, in this case the Grinshill stone quarries. Advice on stone matching can be sought from Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team and is also provided in Historic England's Technical Advice Note "Identifying and Sourcing Stone for Historic Building Repair".

5.5 CMP Management Policy for managing vegetation growth

5.5.1 Heavy vegetation growth against the wall can mask damage to the fabric of the wall, and can itself cause damage when roots penetrate the joints in the wall. The following advice on the removal of vegetation growth has been provided by Historic England.

5.5.2 Heavy ivy growth should be removed in controlled sections so that over-enthusiastic pulling at large chunks does not result in damage to the stonework. The ivy should be removed from the top down, taking a line about 600mm down from the top and working along a section, cutting the stems with secateurs and then pulling the cut section up and away from the wall. The first (youngest) stems will often be the hardest to remove as the aerial rootlets on this cling strongly to the surface and careful use of flat wooden or plastic scrapers may be needed to assist complete removal (metal scrapers may damage the surface of soft stone, such as the sandstone used in the town wall).

5.5.3 As removal progresses downwards it may be necessary to move up to loppers or even saws for the thicker stems; these older stems should come away from the wall more easily as many of the aerial rootlets will have died and lost their grip on the surface.

5.5.4 When removal reaches ground level about 75-100mm of stem should be left above ground level and treated with a herbicide to prevent regrowth. 'Roundup' (Glyphosate) or 'Garlon Ultra' (Aminopyralid + Triclopyr) are suitable for this and should be applied as soon as possible after cutting and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Anyone applying herbicides should have the appropriate Certificate of Competence.

5.5.5 Where stems of ivy or indeed any other shrubs are rooted into the wall these should be cut back to a similar length and treated to prevent regrowth in a similar way to those at ground level. However, if the growth is more than pencil thickness, thought should be given to the need for re-pointing (or repair) once the stump/root has rotted away, otherwise the resulting hole may provide an entry point for water into the wall core.

5.5.6 An advantage of working in this way is that if there is only a limited amount of money the work can be stopped at any point without concern as the ivy will simply start to regrow from the last cut. If removal has been started at the base and then stops, any stems left on the wall will endeavour to root into the wall to survive.

5.5.7 Trees or shrubs growing close to the wall should be assessed with a view to damage that they may be causing to the wall. Advice on dealing with trees can be obtained from Shropshire Council's Natural Environment Team.

5.5.8 The aims of the vegetation maintenance and control are to

- Clear the ivy from the face of the town wall, in particular along Town Walls road adjacent to No 21a Town Walls (Gaz. Ref. 11 b). The cleared section should then be assessed for condition and stability. Other sections of ivy growth along the Town Walls length of the wall should also be removed.
- Attempt to initiate a programme of ivy control for St Mary's Water Gate (Gaz. Ref. 16 b).
- Other shrubby vegetation growing on the wall should be removed in line with the advice above (5.5.4 & 5.5.5).
- Trees and shrubs growing adjacent to the wall should be assessed and treated as necessary.

5.6 CMP Management Policy for managing roadworks

5.6.1 A proportion of the town defences may survive as archaeological features beneath public highways. These below ground remains are potentially vulnerable to work on utilities.

5.6.2 Work on utilities is managed by Shropshire Council's Street Works Team. Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team will liaise with the Street Works Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences.

5.7 CMP Management Policy for managing graffiti

5.7.1 Graffiti should be removed as quickly as possible after it occurs, firstly to prevent "copy-cat" emulation which can occur rapidly once a clean surface is defaced, and secondly because as paints, glues and inks can become increasingly difficult to remove over time.

5.7.2 Cleaning methods should be tested on small unobtrusive areas first, if possible, starting with the least aggressive method (usually water). Subsequent cleaning should use the least aggressive method successfully tested.

5.7.3 Further guidance on managing graffiti is available in Appendix 1 section 3 and from Historic Scotland (Historic Scotland: *"Inform: Information for Historic Building Owners – Graffiti and its safe removal"*)

5.8 CMP Management Policy for Designation review

5.8.1 The designation status of the various sections of the town defences should be monitored with the aim of improving the protection afforded to the defences.

5.8.2 No change is recommended from this study to the boundaries of the Shrewsbury Conservation Area.

5.8.3 Designated Heritage Assets: It is considered that the current extent of designated heritage assets is not sufficient to adequately protect the town walls. As part of this CMP, Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team intends to propose the following amendments to existing designations:

- It is recommended that a review of the designation of the town wall or terrace wall to the rear of Wyle Cop and Dogpole (Gaz. Refs. 13 & 14) be undertaken with a

view to regularising the current arrangement of curtilage Grade II* and Grade II Listed and undesignated sections to a single Designated status.

- It is recommended that a review of the designation St Mary's Water Gate and attached sections of wall be undertaken with a view to re-designation as a Grade II* Listed Building in order to provide adequate protection to the historic defences on the northeastern side of the town as represented by this features.

5.8.4 Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team also intends to propose the following site for designation:

- It is proposed that the work collated as part of the CMP is used to support the case for designation to the town wall at Meadow Place (Gaz. Ref. 1 e). It is recommended that this section be designated in order to provide protection to the historic defences on the northern side of the town.

5.8.5 Associated designated heritage assets: A separate conservation management plan should be designed, commissioned and funded for Shrewsbury Castle.

5.9 CMP Management Policy on themes for future archaeological investigation

5.9.1 There are currently a number of gaps in our knowledge of Shrewsbury's town defences. It is hoped that future archaeological investigation undertaken either as part of the development control process or as research investigation could increase our understanding of the following themes:

5.9.2 The Saxon defences: The town's Saxon defences have never been found, but are thought on historical and topographical grounds to lie across the neck of the peninsula created by the river loop, i.e. in the area around Meadow Place. Confirmation of the existence of defences in this area would contribute substantially to our understanding of the early development of the town (Shrewsbury Urban Archaeological Strategy [SUAS], 2000)

5.9.3 The town ditch The town ditch has been located in only a few places. The town ditch, particularly in low lying areas such as Mardol, Roushill, and Lower Claremont Bank, has the potential to contain waterlogged archaeological deposits. Such deposits can contain plant, animal and insect remains that can be used to reconstruct changes in the local ecology and the human manipulation of the local environment. Such deposits have been examined at only one site in the town centre (Philip Barker's excavations on Roushill in 1959), and at the excavations at Shrewsbury Abbey in 1986-8. (SUAS, 2000, p15)

5.10 Guidance and advice

5.10.1 Further advice can be found in Appendix 1 or can be obtained from Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team, and/or from Historic England.

5.10.2 It is intended that the guidelines in this CMP should be prepared (and made available via the Shropshire Council website) for private owners of the town defences, briefly setting out the current understanding of the monument, and giving advice on repair methods and where to find specialist contractors.

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Shrewsbury Town Walls CMP

Appendix 1: Management guidance notes

1 Managing stone and mortar decay

- 1.1 Modern cement mortar should be avoided in repairs to the historic fabric of the town wall because it can disfigure and hasten the decay of historic masonry. Re-pointing with impervious cement can cause erosion of the bricks and stones in historic masonry in preference as they become the most permeable part of the wall and suffer the greatest frost and salt action. Permeable lime mortar by contrast will allow the fabric to 'breathe'.
- 1.2 Repointing should be avoided unless the mortar in the joint has decayed to at least the depth of the original joint width. Pointing is often best done as localized repairs and not as a comprehensive job and failing pointing should be removed with hand tools. Very hard cement mortars may be better left until the pointing fails naturally from frost action rather than being forced out, as greater damage can be caused by trying to remove particularly hard mortar.
- 1.3 Cracks are the visible symptom of possible problems, not the actual problem itself. The great majority of cracks tend to be superficial and benign; it is necessary to understand the properties of cracks, and why they have happened. Guidance from Historic Scotland on cracks in historic masonry suggests using the width of the crack to provide an indication of its severity, and categorises cracks into five groupings dependent on their width (negligible <1mm; slight 1 - 5mm; moderate 5 – 15mm; severe up to 25mm; very severe 25mm and above). The shape and plane of a crack may also be indicators of its cause and severity. The guidance recommends that cracks that are moderate and above should be professionally investigated, and that any complexity in the shape, orientation and continuous movement of a crack should be professionally investigated at the earliest possible opportunity. (Historic Scotland, 2008: *Inform: Information for Historic Building Owners – Structural Cracks*)
- 1.4 Stone repair should be undertaken using stone matched from an appropriate source, in this case the Grinshill stone quarries. Advice on stone matching can be sought from Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team and is also provided in Historic England's Technical Advice Note "Identifying and Sourcing Stone for Historic Building Repair".

2 Managing vegetation growth

- 2.1 Heavy vegetation growth against the wall can mask damage to the fabric of the wall, and can itself cause damage when roots penetrate the joints in the wall. The following advice on the removal of vegetation growth has been provided by Historic England.
- 2.2 Heavy ivy growth should be removed in controlled sections so that over-enthusiastic pulling at large chunks does not result in damage to the stonework. The ivy should be removed from the top down, taking a line about 600mm down from the top and working along a section, cutting the stems with secateurs and then pulling the cut section up and away from the wall. The first (youngest) stems will often be the hardest to remove as the aerial rootlets on this cling strongly to the surface and careful use of flat wooden or plastic scrapers may be needed to assist complete removal (metal scrapers may damage the surface of soft stone, such as the sandstone used in the town wall).
- 2.3 As removal progresses downwards it may be necessary to move up to loppers or even saws for the thicker stems; these older stems should come away from the wall more easily as many of the aerial rootlets will have died and lost their grip on the surface.

- 2.4** When removal reaches ground level about 75-100mm of stem should be left above ground level and treated with a herbicide to prevent regrowth. 'Roundup' (Glyphosate) or 'Garlon Ultra' (Aminopyralid + Triclopyr) are suitable for this and should be applied as soon as possible after cutting and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Anyone applying herbicides should have the appropriate Certificate of Competence.
- 2.5** Where stems of ivy or indeed any other shrubs are rooted into the wall these should be cut back to a similar length and treated to prevent regrowth in a similar way to those at ground level. However, if the growth is more than pencil thickness, thought should be given to the need for re-pointing (or repair) once the stump/root has rotted away, otherwise the resulting hole may provide an entry point for water into the wall core.
- 2.6** An advantage of working in this way is that if there is only a limited amount of money the work can be stopped at any point without concern as the ivy will simply start to regrow from the last cut. If removal has been started at the base and then stops, any stems left on the wall will endeavour to root into the wall to survive.
- 2.7** Trees or shrubs growing close to the wall should be assessed with a view to damage that they may be causing to the wall. Advice on dealing with trees can be obtained from Shropshire Council's Natural Environment Team.
- 2.8** The aims of the vegetation maintenance and control are to
- Clear the ivy from the face of the town wall along Town Walls adjacent to No 21a Town Walls. The cleared section should then be assessed for condition and stability.
 - Other sections of ivy growth along the Town Walls length of the wall should also be removed.
 - Other shrubby vegetation growing on the wall should be removed in line with the advice above (5.5.4 & 5.5.5).
 - Trees and shrubs growing adjacent to the wall should be assessed and treated as necessary.

3 Managing graffiti

- 3.1** This guidance has been based on Historic Scotland's Inform guidance for removing graffiti (Historic Scotland: *"Inform: Information for Historic Building Owners – Graffiti and its safe removal"*).
- 3.2** Graffiti should be removed as quickly as possible after it occurs, firstly to prevent "copy-cat" emulation which can occur rapidly once a clean surface is defaced, and secondly because as paints, glues and inks can become increasingly difficult to remove over time.
- 3.3** The owner of a building that has been subjected to graffiti attack should:
- Record details and take photographs of the graffiti (the type of media used, the area affected, the type and condition of the surface it is on) and the time and manner of its execution, if known.
 - Inform the police as there may be other related incidences occurring locally.
 - Check if cleaning will require consent. Advice should be sought from the Historic Environment Team to determine whether graffiti removal will require planning permission and/or listed building consent. Where a Scheduled Monument is concerned advice should be sought from Historic England.
 - Cleaning trials should be carried out to test a range of methods and should be carried out on a small, unobtrusive area, if possible. Cleaning trials should always start with the least aggressive solution, usually water, and stop once a successful method has been found.
 - Treatment of the graffiti should be undertaken using the most effective method found in the cleaning trials. Health and safety legislation with regard to both the protection of

people carrying out the cleaning and of passers-by. Operatives should follow product guidelines in terms of application and removal, and wear the appropriate protective equipment.

- Preventative measures should be considered. A Crime Prevention Officer may be able to advise on measures to reduce risks of a further graffiti attack.

4 Masonry bee damage (advice from The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings [SPAB])

4.1 Affected mortar joints may be cleaned out to a depth of 15mm and repointed, preferably in late summer or autumn. Because female masonry bees commonly re-use their natal nest sites, this will help break the cycle. New mortar should not be too strong for the bricks or stone, but hard enough to discourage the bees. Galleries and burrows can be filled using a mortar gun with a wetter than usual mix to aid the flow. Exceptionally, with formerly rendered walls it may be appropriate to reinstate a protective lime render (for example, where stones themselves have been entered by bees). Limewash by itself seems an insufficient deterrent. In some cases, the temporary use of a fine netting over walls is practical: it should be used in the spring when bees are searching for nest sites. The provision of artificial nesting boxes on or near walls can help entice bees away from them and prevent recolonisation. These can be home-made from dried clay soil indented with holes or, alternatively, proprietary kits are available manufactured from environmentally-friendly materials.

4.2 Chemical treatment alone is not always effective in the long-term, and may stain masonry. It is also ecologically undesirable, though there may be little alternative in rare cases where bees are nesting in actual bricks or stones. Water-based insecticide is also sometimes added to mortar mixes, particularly when repointing in the spring rather than late summer or autumn, and a risk exists of damage before the mortar hardens.

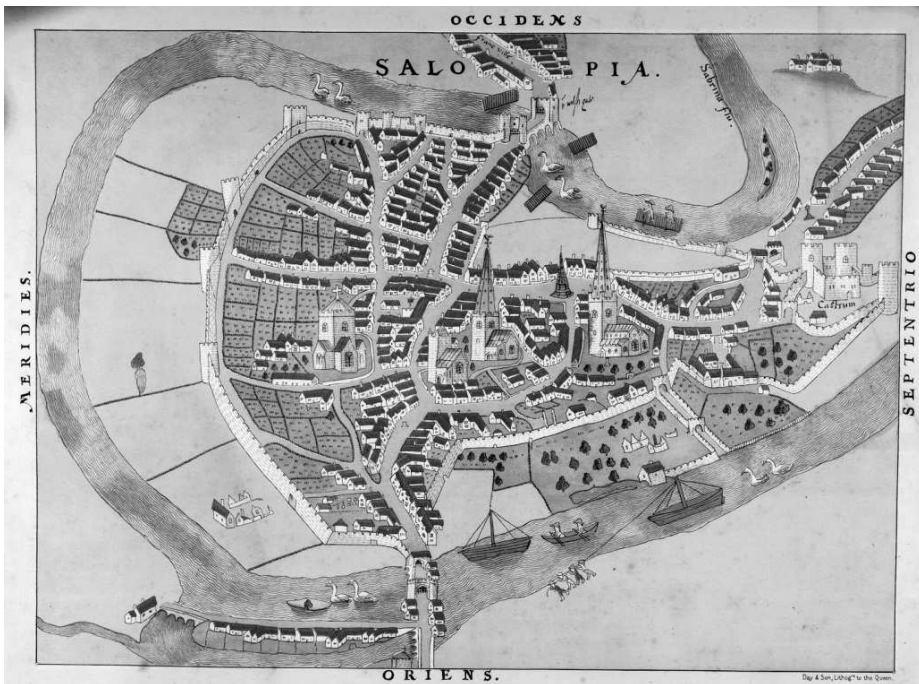
5 Further advice

5.1 Further advice can be obtained from Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team, and/or from Historic England. Advice can also be found on-line at:

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications>
<http://www.spab.org.uk/advice/technical-qas/technical-qa-21-inappropriate-cement-pointing/>
<http://conservation.historic-scotland.gov.uk/inform-structural-cracks.pdf>
<http://conservation.historic-scotland.gov.uk/bio-growth-masonry-inform.pdf>
<http://conservation.historic-scotland.gov.uk/inform-graffiti.pdf>
<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/documents/leaflets/pte090335.pdf>
<http://www.buildingconservation.com/articles/bio/bio.htm>
http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/dealing_with_vegetation-3.pdf
<http://www.spab.org.uk/advice/technical-qas/technical-qa-17-masonry-bees/>

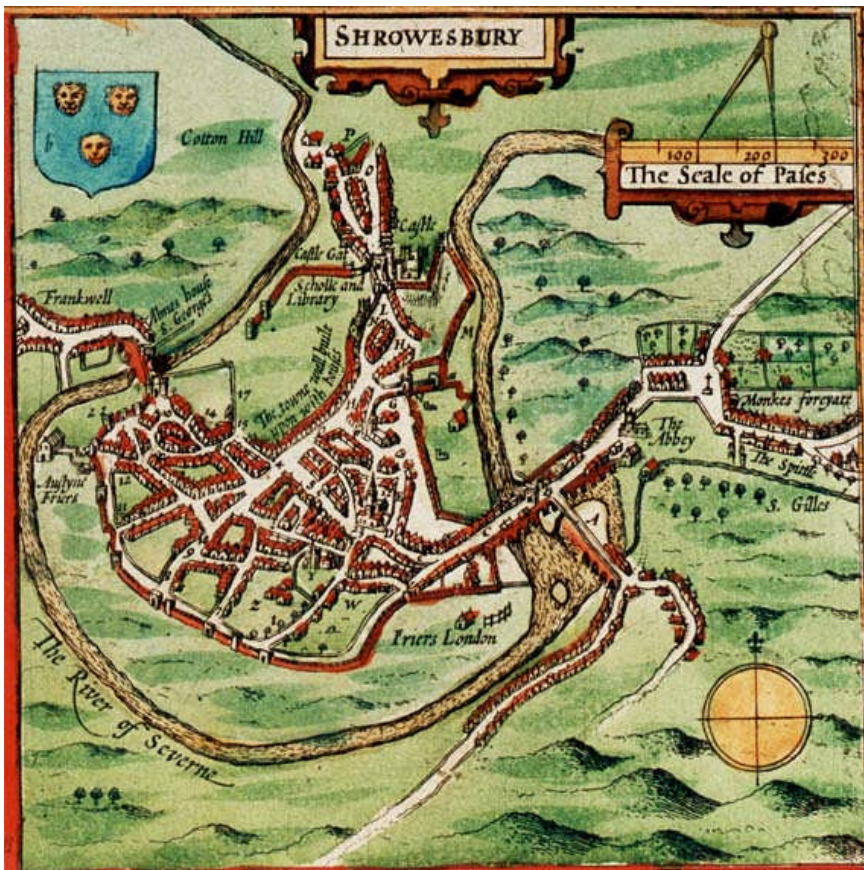
Shrewsbury Town Walls CMP

Appendix 2: Cartographic and pictorial sources



The Burghley map of Shrewsbury c. 1575

The earliest cartographic source for Shrewsbury's defences is the Burghley map of c. 1575. The map is a bird's eye view from the east, and features details such as the castle, the town's defences and its churches, and the layout of its streets. The circuit of the town walls and mural are shown as being complete and apparently in good repair- there is just one section, between Garewald's Tower and Gilbert's Tower, where the wall is shown in disrepair.

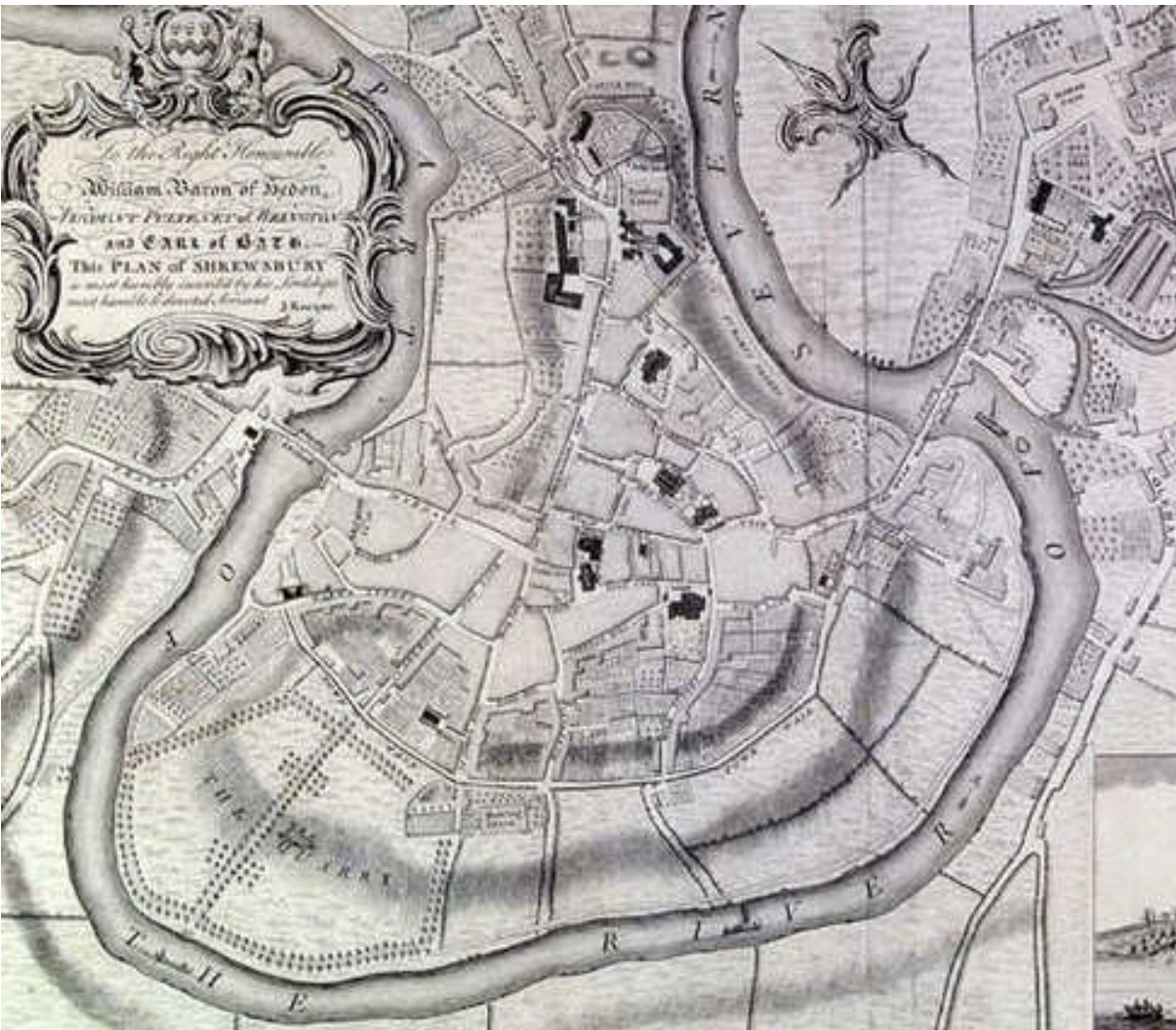


John Speed's map of Shrewsbury, 1610

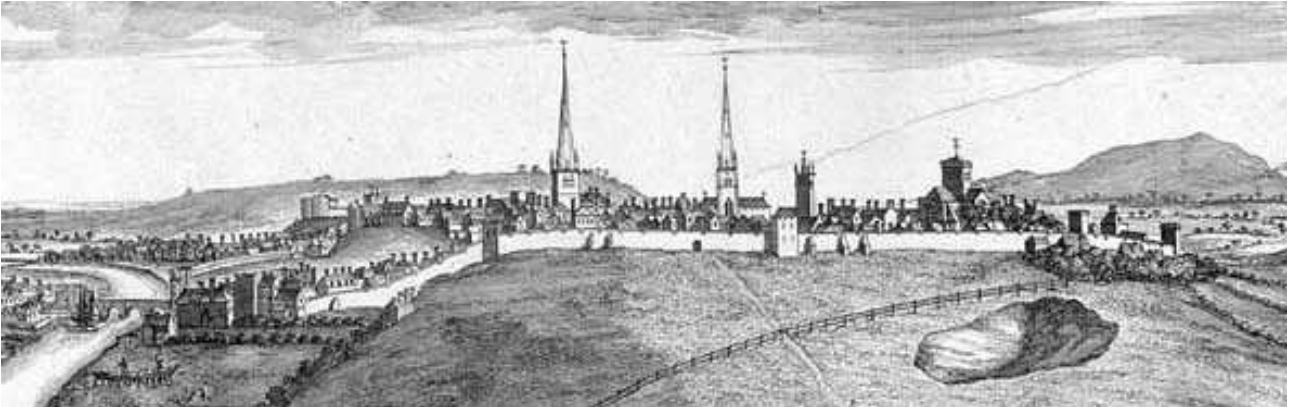
In c. 1612 John Speed published a map of the town with county map of Shropshire in his "Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain". Again the town defences are clearly shown; the section behind Pride Hill bears the label "The towne wall built upon with houses".



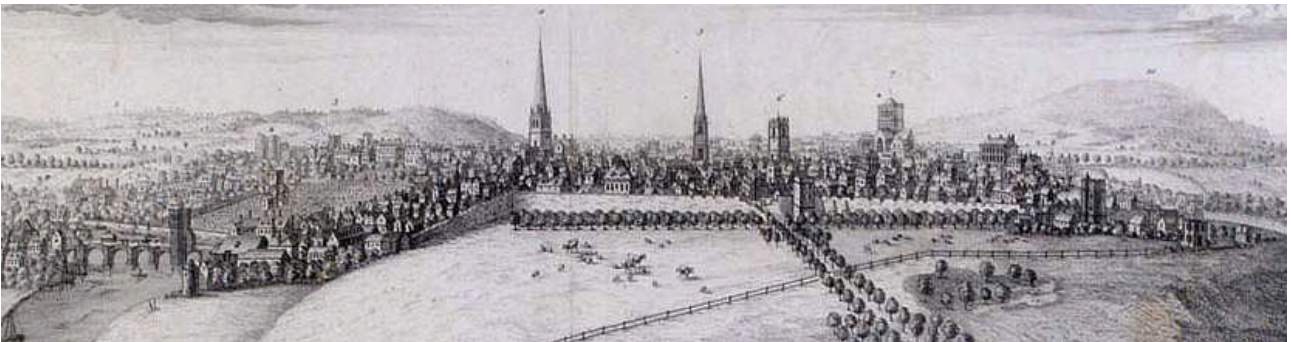
A panoramic painting of the town, produced in about 1630, shows the castle and the town wall behind St Mary's Court and Dogpole. A round or semi-circular tower is shown on this stretch of the wall; the tower is not shown on other illustrations. Panoramic view of Shrewsbury c. 1630, in Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery



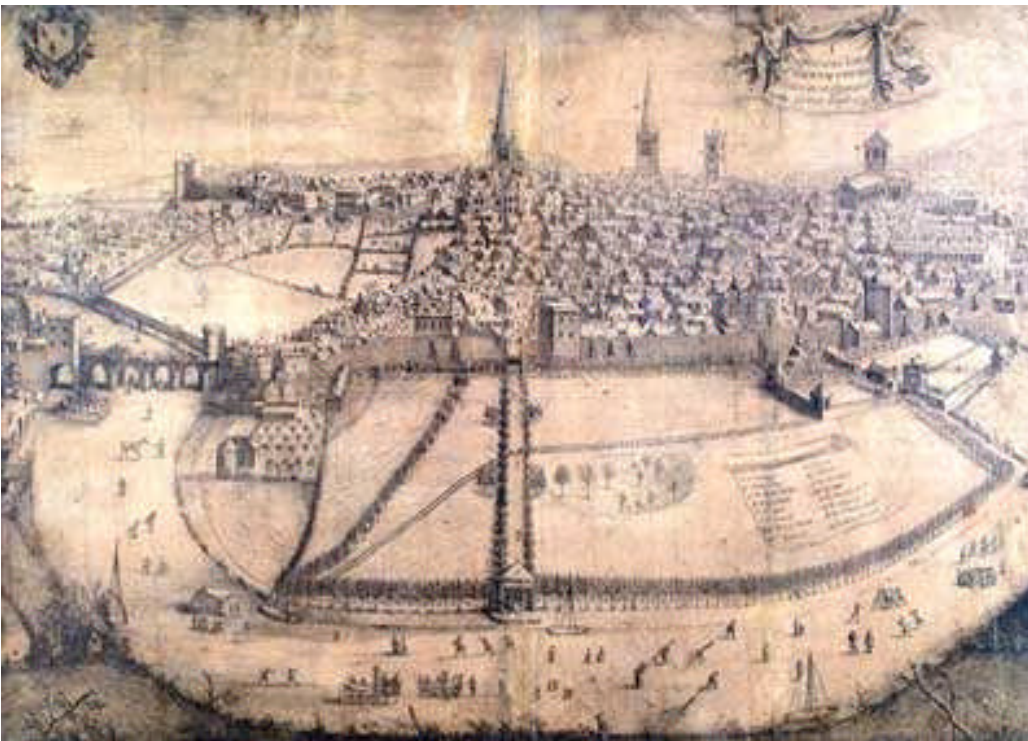
The next detailed map of the town is John Rocque's town plan of 1746. This was the first properly surveyed plan of the town. It shows the town wall on the south side of the town between Beeches Lane and Barker Street, and the Roushill wall along modern Smithfield Road and Meadow Place. The line of the walls behind Pride Hill and behind Dogpole are also shown as boundaries, but not otherwise labelled.



John Bowen "A Prospect of the Town of Shrewsbury taken from the Kingsland Bank", c. 1720. Shropshire Museums FA/1991/136/2



An extract from S & N Buck *South west Prospect of Shrewsbury*, 1732 showing the town walls around the southern part of the town. Shropshire Museums FA/1991/171/1



A panoramic view of the town from the south, drawn in 1739 at the time of the Great Frost shows the town wall in some detail on the southwest and south sides of the town. Details shown include the mural towers, buttresses and the occasional breach made for access to the quarry gardens.

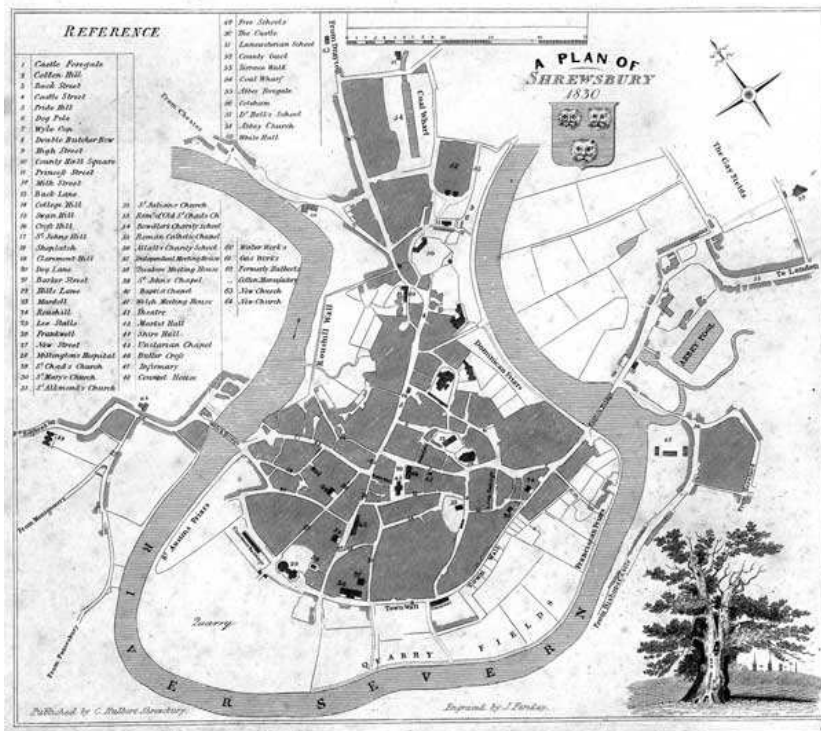
Shrewsbury in the Great Frost. 1739 (artist unknown), Shropshire Museums FA/1995/001



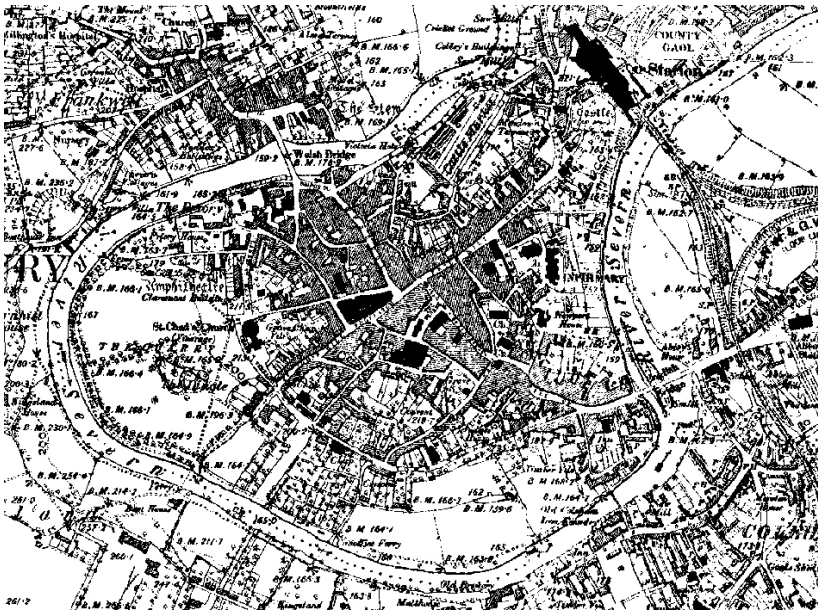
Extract from "A view of Shrewsbury from the north", an 18th century engraving by T Sanders showing the archway (Gaz. Ref. 1a) on the Dana (Shropshire Museums FA/1991/135/1)



Meadow Place, 1811, showing the wall walk on the inner face of the wall (Gaz. Ref. 1). (Shropshire Museums FA/1991/230)



The first half of the 19th century saw the production of a number of accurate and detailed maps of the town centre, in particular Hitchcocks "Map of the Borough of Shrewsbury" of 1832 and John Wood's map of Shrewsbury of 1838. This map is Hulbert & Fereday's Map of Shrewsbury, 1830



Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6" map (1:10,560), c. 1880. In 1879-1882 the Ordnance Survey also published their large scale plans of the town at 25" (1:2500) and 1:500 scale.



The town wall on the Charles Clarke garage site (Gaz. Ref. 4d) in 1969, looking southwest towards the rear of the properties at the bottom end of Pride Hill.



The town wall on the Charles Clarke garage site (Gaz. Ref. 4d) in 1969, looking northwest towards Roushill. The chamfered plinth course on the wall can be seen at the far end of this stretch of masonry.

Shrewsbury Town Walls CMP:

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Shrewsbury Town Walls CMP: Appendices

Appendix 4: Designations

Designation and HER reference nos. for sections of Shrewsbury Town Walls

Gaz. Ref.	HER PRN	Name	NHLE (SAM)	NHLE (LB)	LB Grade	Curtilage/ Own right
1a	62522	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from castle to river - Belesme's Wall, via Meadow Place)	1003706	1246877 1271197	I II	CL CL
1b	62528	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (The Outer Ditch)				
1c	01443	Outer or Lower Castle Gate, or North Gate, Shrewsbury				
1d, 1e	62523	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Surviving stretch in Meadow Place)				
1f, 2a	01446	Garewalds Tower				
2b	62527	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch controlling Garewald's Ford, along line of present Smithfield Road)				
2c	01457	Gilberts Tower				
2d	04303	Shrewsbury Civil War Town Wall (the Roushill Wall)				
2f	62423	Shrewsbury Civil War Town Wall (Stretch exposed on the Riverside Medical Centre site)				
3a	01442	Upper Castle Gate or Burgess Gate				
3b	62514	Shrewsbury Castle Outer Bailey Wall/ Town Wall (Stretch from Castle Court parallel with School Gardens)		1246750 1254868 1254870 1254845 1270574 1246545	II II II II II II	CL CL CL CL CL CL
3c	62516	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Surviving stretch in foundations of Rodney House, School Gardens)		1246545	II	CL
3d	62515	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch observed at Riggs Hall, School Gardens)				
3e	62519	Observed Section of Shrewsbury Town Ditch (Raven Meadows)				
3f	01461	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch parallel with Castle Street, ending at Castle Court)				
3g	62579	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from Pride Hill to Castle Street)		1270658 1254709	II II	CL CL

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Gaz. Ref.	HER PRN	Name	NHLE (SAM)	NHLE (LB)	LB Grade	Curtilage/ Own right
4a	62360	Undercroft under Pride Hill Chambers (S2)	1003715	1254709 1254708	II II	CL OR
4a	62361	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch incorporated in the undercroft of Pride Hill Chambers, Pride Hill)	1003715	1254708 1254709	II II	OR CL
4c	62356	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch parallel with Lower Pride Hill which survived until 1986)	1003715	1254709 1254708	II II	CL OR
4d	08075	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from Roushill to Pride Hill)	1003715	1254709 1254708	II II	CL OR
4e	62519	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (Raven Meadows)				
4b, 5a	01458	Roushill Gate				
5b	01471	Old Welsh Bridge (St George's Bridge) and Gate, and Mardol Gate				
5c	62401	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch parallel to Mardol)				
5	62400	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch uncovered at junction of Roushill and Mardol)				
5	60181	King's Head tower				
6,7,8	62570	Shrewsbury Town Ditch ('La Mote': Victoria Avenue to Beeches Lane)				
6	62580	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from Welsh Bridge to Bridge Street)				
6	60239	Cripple Lode Gate (?)				
6	01456	Crippelode Postern				
6	62563	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Lower Claremont Bank)				
6	60304	The Town Wall				
6	01460	Tower found on Morris Bakery site				
7	62561	NE Tower of The New Work (part of Shrewsbury Town Wall)				
7	01459	Shrewsbury Town Wall: The New Work		1059005 1254737	II II	CL CL
7	01096	The Round House - remains of Tower in Victoria Avenue	1003714			
8a	01455	Montgomery's Tower (Romaldesham Postern)				
8	62566	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Claremont Bank)				
8b, 9a	01453	Gatepol Postern Gate				
8c	01454	Berringtons Tower				
8	62568	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: New St Chad's)				
9b, 10a	01449	Cordlode Gate				
9c	01452	Tower where New St Chads stands				
9d	01450	The site of Quarry Gate				
9d	08044	Sandstone Wall, possibly part of Quarry Gate				
9e	01451	Wheelers Tower				

Shrewsbury Town Walls: A Conservation Management Plan

Gaz. Ref.	HER PRN	Name	NHLE (SAM)	NHLE (LB)	LB Grade	Curtilage/ Own right
10b	62589	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls W) (22-25 Town Walls)		1270561	II	CL
10c	10618	Wingfields Tower, Shrewsbury		1270530	II*	OR
10d	01448	Chadlode Postern				
10e	62584	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch along Murivance)		1254932 1254933 1255054	II II II	CL CL CL
10f	62589	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls W); Watch tower and adjoining wall, Town Walls	1003709	1270530	II*	OR
10g	62589	26 Town Walls, attached walls and railings; Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls W)		1254931	II	OR
11a	62590	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls E)	1003710	1254934	II*	OR
11g	01462	Shrewsbury town wall: Tower at bottom of Belmont Bank				
11	62591	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Beeches Lane)				
12a	62393	Shrewsbury town wall (Section: 1-3 Beeches Lane)		1271331	II	OR
12a	62471	Shrewsbury town wall (Section: W of St Julian's Friars)		1271331	II	OR
12b	62472	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: E of St Julian's Friars)				
12b	62395	Observed Section of Shrewsbury Town Wall E of St Julian's Friars				
12b	08555	Possible gate through town wall south of English Bridge				
12b	08545	Observed section of Shrewsbury town wall behind Marine Terrace				
12c, 13a	62645	Medieval bridge(s) at English Bridge crossing, Shrewsbury				
12d	62470	Gate to Franciscan Friary through Shrewsbury Town Wall				
12g	62473	Shrewsbury town ditch (W of St Julian's Friars)				
12g	08553	Observed section of town ditch west of Severn House, behind Beeches Lane				
12g	62474	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (E of St Julian's Friars)				
12g	62396	Observed section of Shrewsbury town ditch (E of St Julian's Friars)				
12g	08542	Ditch with medieval fills, seen east of Greyfriars				
13b	62452	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch along rear of 22-44 Wyle Cop)				
13b	08551	Observed section of town wall rebuild behind 48-49 Wyle Cop				
13b	08552	Observed section of town ditch behind 48-49 Wyle Cop				
13c	04629	Wall at Rear of Nags Head, Wyle Cop, on line of Shrewsbury Town Wall		1255142 1255127 1255105 1254946	II II II II	CL CL CL CL
13d	62452	Town wall to rear of 18 Wyle Cop		1255103	II	CL

Shrewsbury Town Walls: A Conservation Management Plan

Gaz. Ref.	HER PRN	Name	NHLE (SAM)	NHLE (LB)	LB Grade	Curtilage/ Own right
14a	62447	Miss Humphreys Tower				
14d	08397	Yrkyslode Postern				
14d (?)	01447	Gate (probably a garden gate) through Shrewsbury Town Wall, below Dogpole				
14e	60275	Town Wall site, Wyle Cop Meadows 1974				
14f	62581	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Dogpole)		1247173 1247171 1247491 1270999	II II* II II*	CL CL CL CL
15	62547	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: St Mary's Place)		1254655 1254831	II II	CL CL
15b, 16a	01445	St Mary's Gate (St Marys Water Lane upper gate)		1254831	II	CL
15c	60274	The town wall				
15d	62546	Possible Standing Section of Shrewsbury Town Wall (Windsor Place)		1254831	II	CL
15e	60273	The Town Wall				
16a	60244	Town Wall				
16b	10549	St Marys Water Gate, St Marys Water Lane, Shrewsbury		1254843	II	OR
16c	62552	St Marys Water Lane				
16d	10549	Wall running NW from St Marys Water Gate		1254843	II	OR

Shrewsbury Town Walls

A Conservation Management Plan

PART 2: Gazetteer

by
H R Hannaford



Archaeology Service



SHREWSBURY TOWN WALLS CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN: GAZETTEER

This gazetteer presents an account of the medieval defences of Shrewsbury broken down into sixteen separate sections, described anti-clockwise starting from the west side of Shrewsbury Castle on the northern edge of the historic town centre. Shrewsbury Castle is not included here but is described briefly in Section One of this conservation management plan. An overall historical summary and for general policies referring to the town defences are provided in Part 1 of this report.

The defences have been broken down into sixteen sections:

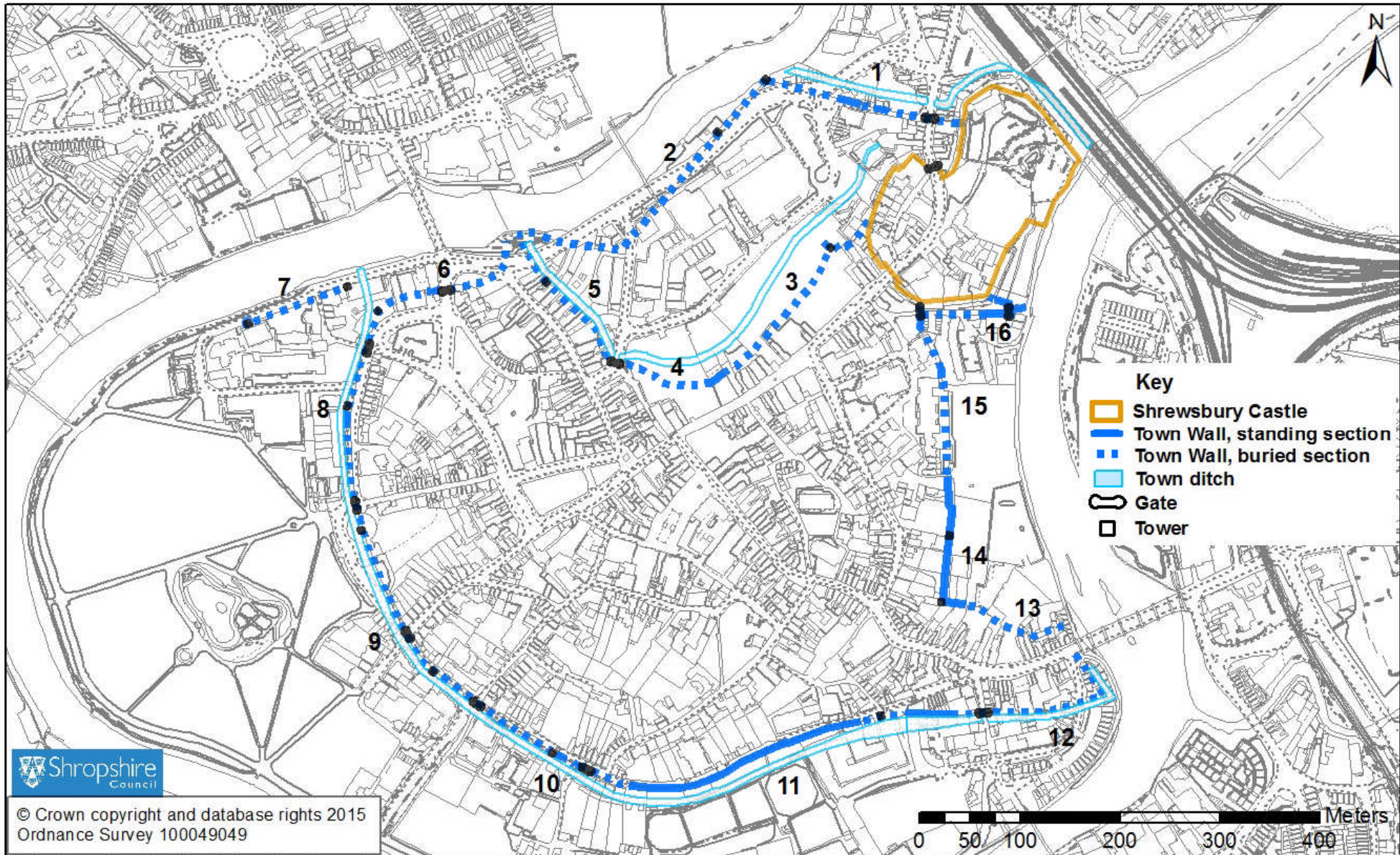
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1 Meadow Place	3	9 Murivance	26
2 Smithfield Road	7	10 Wingfields Tower	29
3 Pride Hill NE	10	11 Town Walls and Beeches Lane	37
4 Pride Hill W	13	12 St Julian's Friars	46
5 Mardol	16	13 Wyle Cop	49
6 Bridge Street	19	14 Dogpole	53
7 The New Work	21	15 St Mary's Place	58
8 Claremont Bank	24	16 St Mary's Water Lane	61

(see the map below for the location of these sections)

Each section of the gazetteer below follows a standard format:

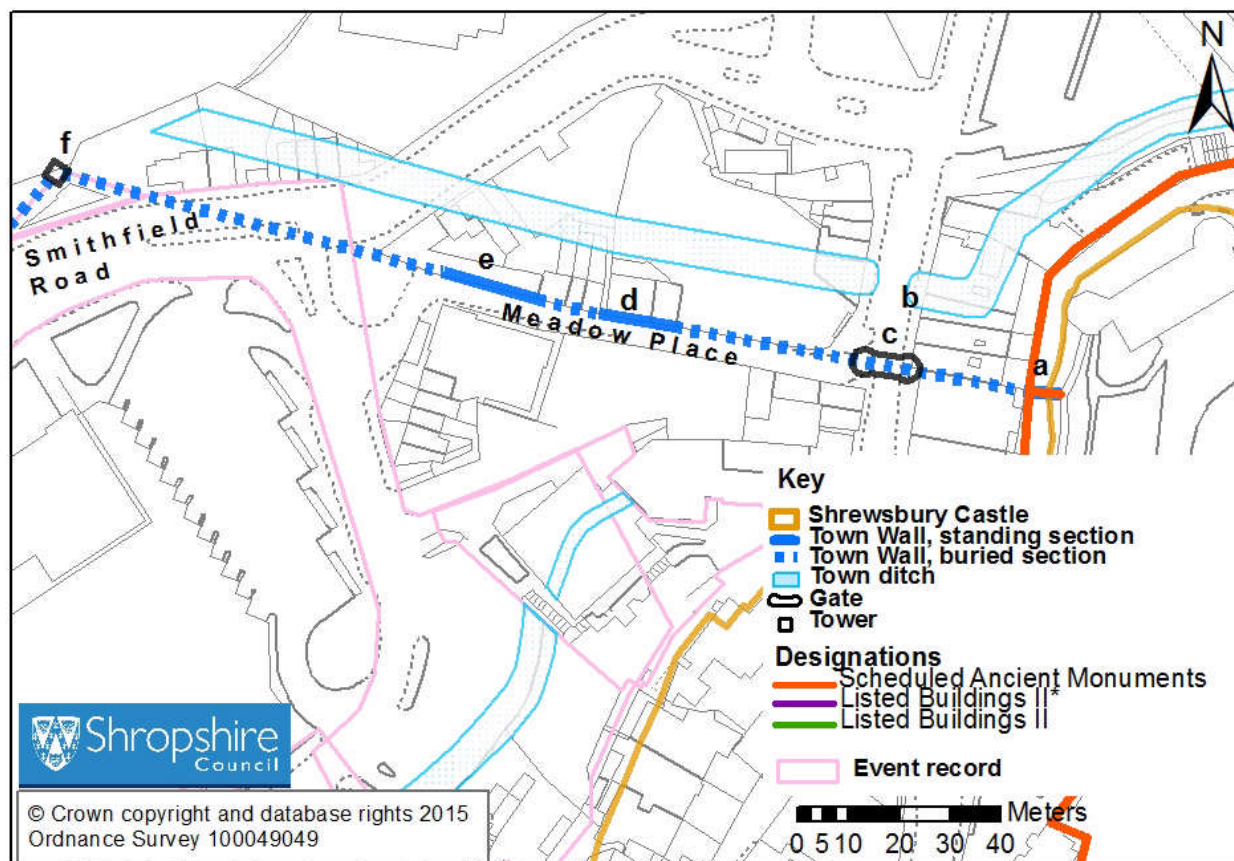
- location plan
- location and summary
- description
- local archaeological investigations
- present condition and issues
- ownership and status
- local action
- illustrations

[National Heritage List Entry (NHLE) numbers for Designated Heritage Assets (Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings) and Historic Environment Record (HER) primary record numbers for other sites and monuments are given where relevant in the map keys.]



Shrewsbury's Medieval Town Defences: location plan

1 Meadow Place



Gazetteer Map 1 key

1	Meadow Place	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from castle to river - Belesme's Wall, via Meadow Place)	HER 62522
b	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (The Outer Ditch)	HER 62528
c	Outer or Lower Castle Gate, or North Gate, Shrewsbury	HER 01443
d	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Surviving stretch in Meadow Place)	HER 62523
e	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Surviving stretch in Meadow Place)	HER 62523
f	Garewald's Tower	HER 01446

Location and summary

This section of the town defences runs across the narrowest point of the town peninsula, from Shrewsbury Castle, along the north side of Meadow Place, and down to the River Sever.

Description

The Meadow Place defences join the inner bailey wall of Shrewsbury Castle across the Dana footpath. The wall runs from the slight salient on the west side of the castle inner bailey curtain wall across the Dana footpath which was inserted c.1790. The masonry arch (1 a) is an 18th century addition. The wall continues as a brick property boundary wall through the properties on the east side of Castle Gates below the Dana to approach the site of the Lower Gate (1 c). There are two sections of upstanding sandstone masonry on Meadow Place itself, both incorporated into the south walls of buildings on the north side of the road. The first section (1 d), part of No 24 Meadow Place, is rebuilt masonry. The second section (1 e) from The Albert PH to 20 Meadow Place comprises at least two phases – a lower phase of red sandstone, and upper courses of mixed sandstone bringing the wall up to roof level. The top of the lower courses has traces of

a number of patches of masonry filling which have been interpreted as possible filled crenellations. From there the wall ran to the site of Garewald's Tower (1 f) on the riverbank. A town ditch is thought to have run along the outer side of this section of the wall, and is suspected of being the cause of subsidence in The Bull PH on the north side of Castle Gates (see photo below).

Local archaeological investigations

There have been no below ground or above ground investigations of this section of the town defences.

Present condition and issues

The archway on the Dana is maintained by Shropshire Council; it was repointed c. 2012 (in cement). The surviving lengths of wall on Meadow Place are in relatively sound condition, however a lack of designation leaves them vulnerable – and indeed a small window was permitted to be punched through the wall as part of a redevelopment of the building in c. 2006.

Ownership and status

The archway on the Dana is owned by Shropshire Council. This forms part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Shrewsbury Castle. Responsibility for and ownership of the inner face of the wall on Meadow Place lies with a number of separate private owners, from west to east: the section to the east of The Albert PH is in unresolved private ownership; the section that forms part of 24 Meadow Place is in unresolved private ownership.

Local actions

- Review the designation of the monument on Meadow Place with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences along the Smithfield Road section, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



The archway on the Dana footpath (1 a) where the Meadow Place section of the town wall joins the west side of Shrewsbury Castle.



Subsidence visible in the frontage of The Bulls Head PH (1 b) over the line of the Town Ditch where it runs up to Castle Gates

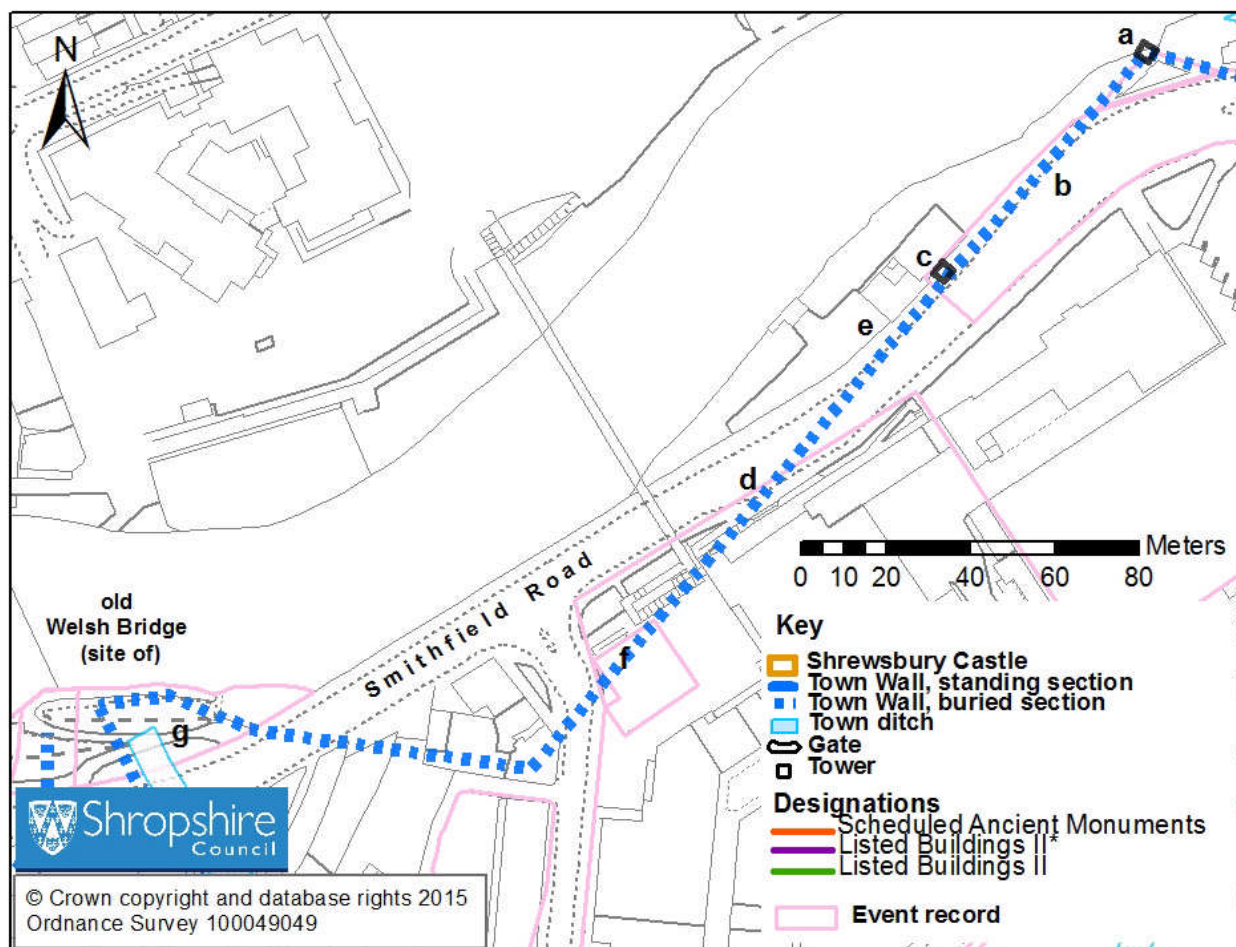


The section of rebuilt wall on Meadow Place (1 d)



The section of the town wall (1 e) at the bottom end of Meadow Place adjacent to The Albert PH. Amongst the patching and rebuilding, there are traces of possible crenellations (marked by arrows). The upper courses of the wall are a late 18th to 19th century addition when the wall was incorporated into outbuildings.

2 Smithfield Road



Gazetteer Map 2 key

2	Smithfield Road	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Garewald's Tower	HER 01446
b	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch controlling Garewald's Ford, along line of present Smithfield Road)	HER 62527
c	Gilberts Tower	HER 01457
d	Shrewsbury Civil War Town Wall (the Roushill Wall)	HER 04303
e	Barker's 1961 observation of the town wall	
f	Shrewsbury Civil War Town Wall (exposed on the Riverside Medical Centre site)	HER 62423
g	Old Welsh Bridge (St George's Bridge) and gate	HER 01471

Location and summary

This section of the town defences runs from the site of Garewald's Tower (2 a) beside the River Severn southwest towards the rear of the Shrewsbury Hotel and then west to the site of the old Welsh Bridge (2 g).

Description

There is sandstone masonry revetting the riverside on the site Garewald's Tower, although this appears to be of later post-medieval date. Otherwise there are no above ground remains of the defences here on this section. The wall (2 b) between Garewald's Tower and Gilbert's Tower (2 c) was an outwork of medieval date, probably built after the original 13th century wall, defending the former site of a ford just upstream. The wall was extended from Gilbert's Tower to the Welsh Bridge during the Civil War (2 d).

Local archaeological investigations

An evaluation in 2000 on the site of Garewald's Tower (2 a) found a mass of red sandstone masonry at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.9m, although the wall was thought to be of 17th century date (Appleton-Fox, 2000). In 1961 a trench for a new sewer on Smithfield Road (2 e), close to the old mortuary, cut across the Civil War Roushill Wall (2 d). The wall ran parallel with the road and was roughly faced and well mortared, 1m thick, and backed by a bank of yellow clay. Its outer (north) face was about 0.3m south-east of the pavement curb on the river side of the road. The trench went 2.5m deep without finding the footings of the wall (Barker, 1962). Previously, in 1911, the wall had been seen in the basement of the former Victoria Hotel (the site of town end of the modern footbridge) on Smithfield Road (Heath, 1911). The wall was again recorded in 1987 during salvage excavation at the Riverside Medical Practice (2 f), and was seen to comprise red sandstone masonry. The wall lay about 1m below the contemporary ground surface; on the Roushill frontage it was seen in section, and there it survived up to the top of the parapet wall, which lay just below the modern ground surface (Brown & Watson 1989).

Present condition and issues

The remains of the town defences lie below ground beneath Smithfield Road and the Shrewsbury Hotel. From previous archaeological observations there appears to be a reasonable level of preservation of the wall below ground. These remains are under threat from roadworks, installation of services and development.

The central part of this section lies within an area which currently has planning permission for redevelopment. The permission contains a condition for a programme of archaeological work to include evaluation, mitigation, and publication.

Ownership and status

Smithfield Road is a public highway in the ownership of Shropshire Council. The Shrewsbury Hotel is currently owned by Weatherspoons. The below ground remains of the wall in this section are un-designated.

Local action

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences along the Smithfield Road section, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations

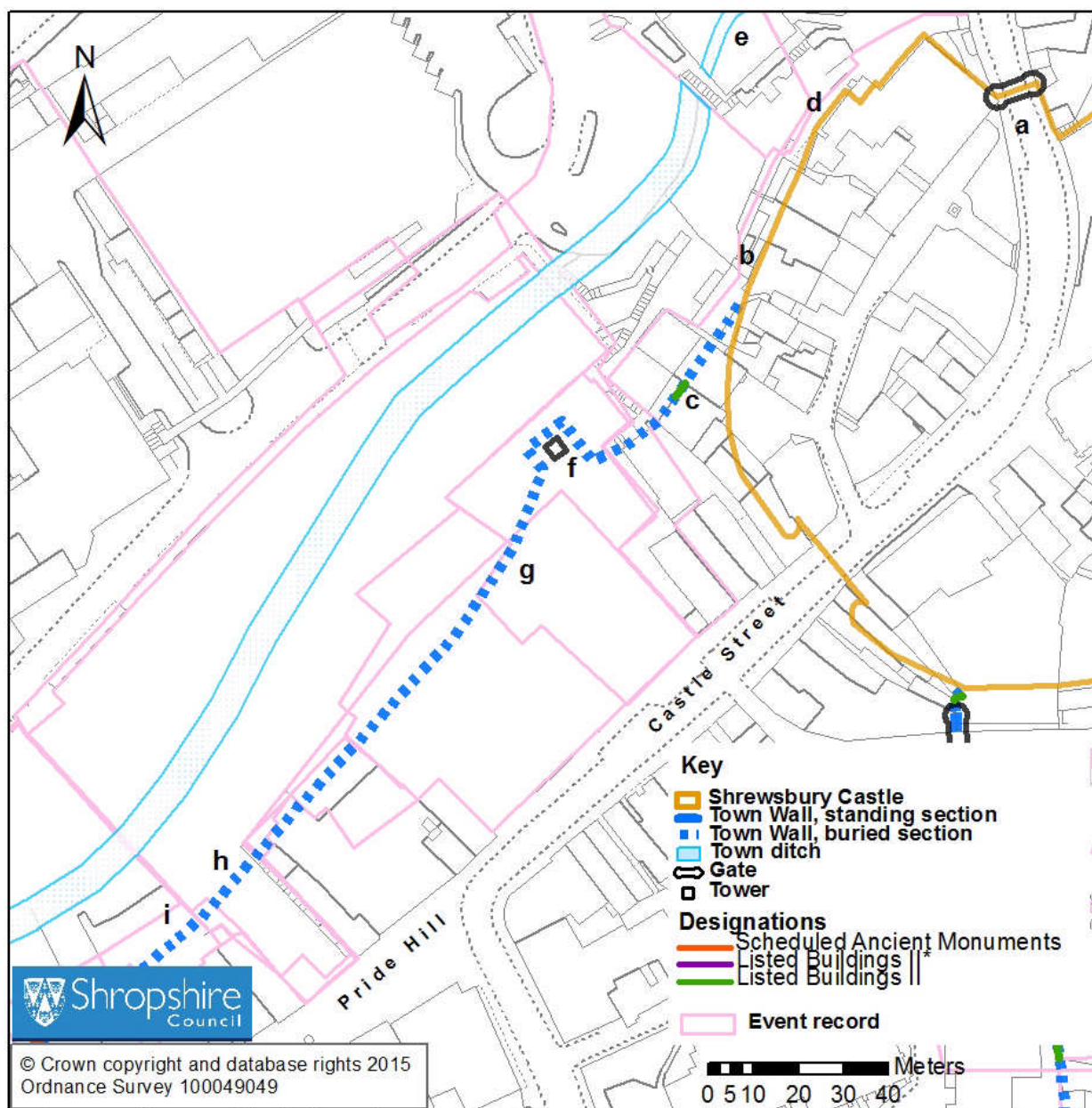


The site of
Garewald's Tower
(2 a) on Smithfield
Road



The site of Garewald's
Tower (2 a) on
Smithfield Road from
the Frankwell side of
the river

3 Pride Hill NE



Gazetteer Map 3 key

3	Pride Hill NE	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Upper Castle Gate or Burgess Gate	HER 01442
b	Shrewsbury Castle Outer Bailey Wall/Town Wall (School Gardens)	HER 62514
c	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch in foundations of Rodney House,)	HER 62516
d	Shrewsbury Town Wall (observed at Riggs Hall, School Gardens)	HER 62515
e	Observed Section of Shrewsbury Town Ditch (Raven Meadows)	HER 62518
f	Tower on town wall (Castle Street to Castle Court)	HER 01461
g	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from Pride Hill to Castle Street)	HER 62579
h	1987 BUFAU watching brief, Charles Darwin Centre	HER 01461
i	Shrewsbury Town Wall (incorporated in the undercroft of Pride Hill Chambers)	NHLE 1003715 HER 62361

Location and summary

This section of the town wall runs from the site of the former Upper or Burgess Gate (3 a) on Castle Gates, outside the Library building to form a terrace along the rear of the buildings on School Gardens. The line of the wall runs through the Charles Darwin and Pride Hill Shopping Centres, both built in the 1980s. This section ends at the Pride Hill Chambers site (3 i). The line of the town ditch is thought to run parallel to the line of the wall at the base of the slope along Raven Meadows.

Description

The line of the wall behind School Gardens is still marked by terraces (3 b) on the steep hillside, and a short section forms part of the rear elevation of Rodney House (3 c). Southwest from Castle Court, the wall lies below ground or has been lost to 20th century retail developments.

Local archaeological investigations

Excavations in 1983 at Rigg's Hall (3 d) found an earth dump, interpreted as a rampart, stratified between late Saxon pits and the 13th century town wall. It contained two sherds of probable 12th-century pottery and a greater quantity of residual late Saxon material. It was interpreted as a feature belonging to the castle's outer bailey defences. The town wall here formed the base of the rear elevation of the standing building prior to its demolition during the restoration of the library buildings in c.1979-80. It consisted of a foundation platform 1.9m wide, cut into the front of the earlier earth rampart. The wall had a Keele Beds sandstone rubble core in a matrix of greenish gritty mortar, with an outer face of Keele Beds ashlar and stood to a height of c.3m; what became of it during the subsequent restoration process is uncertain. A short section of the wall (3 c) was exposed in October 1986 in the rear elevation of Rodney House, School Gardens, when soil was removed from the garden. The wall here was seen to have a chamfered plinth and up to 2m of coursed Keele Beds masonry. The top of the ditch (3 e) was seen during a watching brief on the construction of the Shropshire Archives building in 1993, but the ditch was not seen in section (Hannaford, 1995).

In 1953 J T Smith recorded the substantial remains of a tower "40ft long and surviving to a height of 17ft" behind and beneath the Raven (Hotel) Garage (3 f). The tower was built of coursed and roughly squared sandstone rubble with substantial side-alternate ashlar quoins and with a pronounced batter. The exact course of the town wall was not visible (Smith, 1953). Philip Barker in 1963 noted the lowest courses of the town wall (3 g) during a watching brief on the Woolworth's store site on Pride Hill (Barker, 1963). And in 1987 BUFAU carried out a watching brief on the building of the Charles Darwin Centre (3 h) and recorded the probable course of the town wall (Baker, 1988 & 1993).

Present condition and issues

The town wall here, where it survives at all, is mostly below ground. A short stretch of wall survives in the rear wall of Rodney House. A further section may survive below ground beneath Riggs Hall in the Library complex, and also at the western end of this section adjacent to the Pride Hill Chambers site. There is an outstanding planning application for the redevelopment of the car park to the rear of the Pride Hill Chambers site (known locally as "the Gap site" as it lies between the two shopping centres) which would affect the line of the town ditch and possibly a short stretch of buried wall behind Nos. 14-18 Pride Hill.

Ownership and status

A short section of the wall around the rear of the Library complex is in the ownership of Shropshire Council. The remainder of this section is in multiple private ownership.

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.

Illustrations

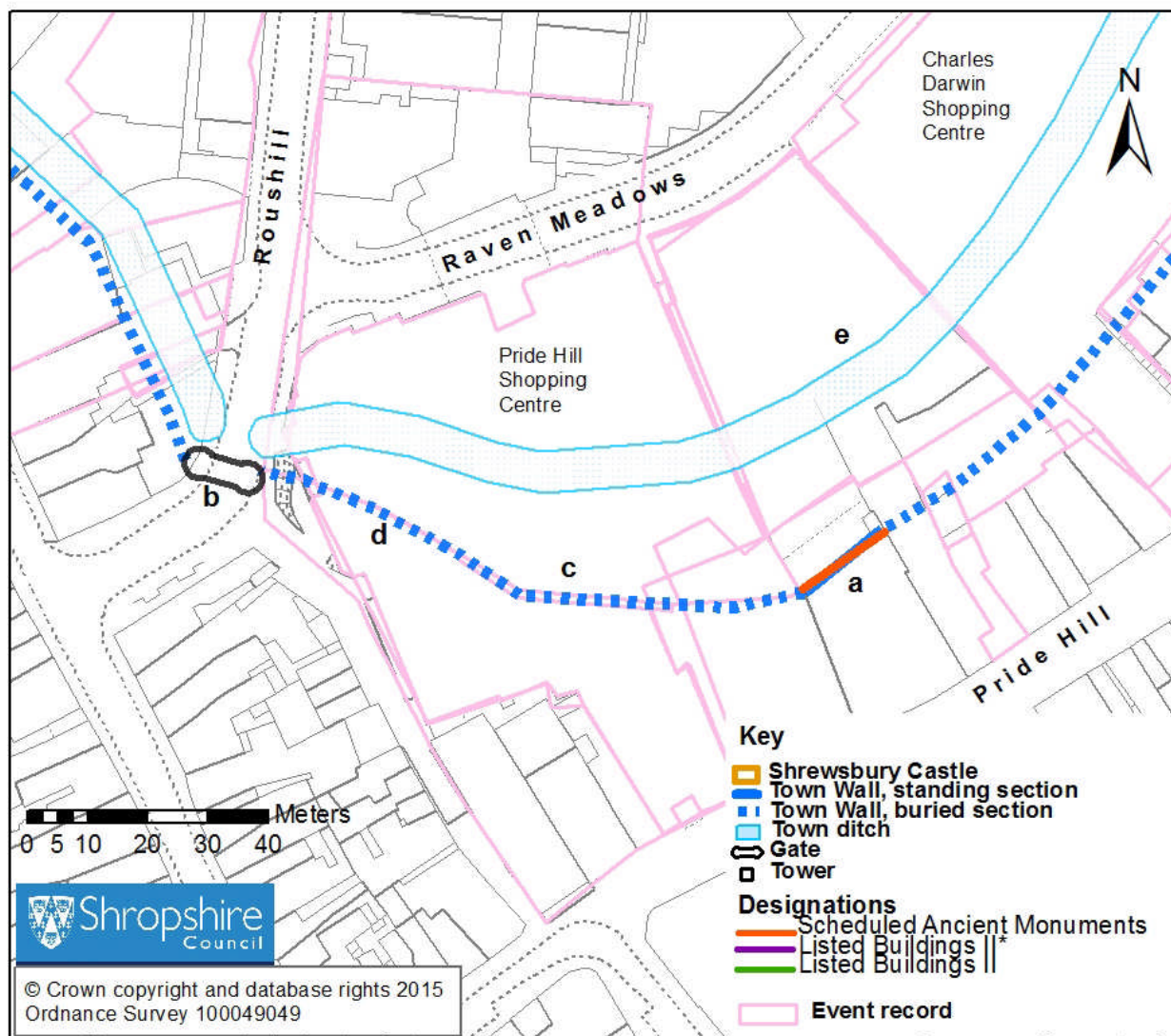


The rear (northwest) elevation of Riggs Hall, standing on the line of the town wall (3 b).



The terrace marking the line of the town wall behind Scholl Gardens (3 b) and Rodney House (3 c), looking south.

4 Pride Hill W



Gazetteer Map 4 key

4	Pride Hill W	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch incorporated in the undercroft of Pride Hill Chambers, Pride Hill)	NHLE 1003715 HER 62361
b	Roushill Gate	HER 01458
c	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch parallel with Lower Pride Hill which survived until 1986)	HER 62356
d	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch from Roushill to Pride Hill)	HER 08075
e	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (Raven Meadows)	HER 62519

Location and summary

This stretch of wall starts at the Pride Hill Chambers (McDonald's restaurant) site (4 a) and runs west to the site of the Roushill Gate (4 b) on Roushill. Apart from the length which forms the back wall of Pride Hill Chambers, this section of wall was removed in the 20th century.

Description

A section of probable 13th-century town wall fabric is incorporated into the rear elevation of the Pride Hill Chambers undercroft (4 a). The town wall extended west from here along the rear of the properties at the lower end of Pride Hill, and in the later post-medieval period had been subsumed into a jumble of terraced outbuildings running

down the slope. The wall ran up to the site of the Roushill Gate (4 b), which was shown as a tower on the 1575 Burghley Map, but had been demolished by the early 18th century. It gave access through the town wall to the extra-mural section of Roushill and to Raven Meadows, and it is thought to have been a primary part of the town wall construction in this area, to maintain access to the bottom of the Pride Hill and Mardol plot-systems after they were cut off by the town wall. (Baker, 1993)

Local archaeological investigations

The core of the town wall and its internal face were exposed in excavations by W E Jenks within the undercroft of the Pride Hill Chambers in 1972-4 (4 a). These excavations revealed the footings of the reduced town wall. The wall contained all the diagnostic features identified by Barker's 1958 Roushill excavation (Carver, 1983; Baker, 1993). The construction of the Pride Hill Centre in 1986 destroyed the town wall (4 c) immediately to the west of the Pride Hill Chambers site. The wall here comprised brick terrace (retaining) walls of various, largely 19th century builds with patches of sandstone masonry, but observation of the demolition process showed this to be a re-facing over an original core about 1.7m thick of Keele Beds rubble in a greenish gritty mortar matrix. During demolition part of the re-facing fell away and revealed a short section of original wall facing, complete with plinth course (Carver, 1983; Baker, 1993). The wall between here and the Roushill Gate was exposed in 1969 during building works at Charles Clarke's Garage (4 d). Recording at the time noted both original work and 'much evidence of repair and reconstruction perhaps in the 15th century and at the time of the Civil War, and the wall had later served as the back wall of buildings in the 19th century'. A chamfered plinth was seen to run for some 10m east from the site of the Roushill Gate, before continuing as a stepped foundation of three courses, probably marking the end of the 13th century face and the beginning of a later re-facing (Toms, 1969).

An evaluation on Raven Meadows of the car park area (4 e) to the rear of the Pride Hill Chambers in the area of the projected line of the town ditch found an accumulation of deep post-medieval deposits on the rear slope of Pride Hill but found no trace of the town ditch (Hannaford, 1997).

Present condition and issues

The section of this wall incorporated into the back wall of Pride Hill Chambers is in good condition. The remainder of this section of wall has been destroyed. Planning permission is currently being sought for the erection of a multi-storey car park on the "Gap Site" (4 e) on Raven Meadows (Planning Ref. 12/03258/FUL).

Ownership and status

This section of the defences is in multiple private ownership. The section of the town wall incorporated into the north face of the Pride Hill Chambers building is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE No. 1003715, Shrewsbury Town Wall [Stretch incorporated in the undercroft of Pride Hill Chambers, Pride Hill]). The building is owned by McDonalds Restaurants Ltd.

Local actions

- The planning application for the "Gap Site" application has been assessed by English Heritage in regard to the effects of the proposed development on the Scheduled Ancient Monument and by Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team for the impact of the proposed development on designated and non-designated heritage assets with archaeological interest. It has been recommended that a phased

programme of archaeological works be made a condition of any approval for the proposed development. (This is in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, although of course the policy has been formulated since consultation and consideration of this application was completed.)

- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on Roushill, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations

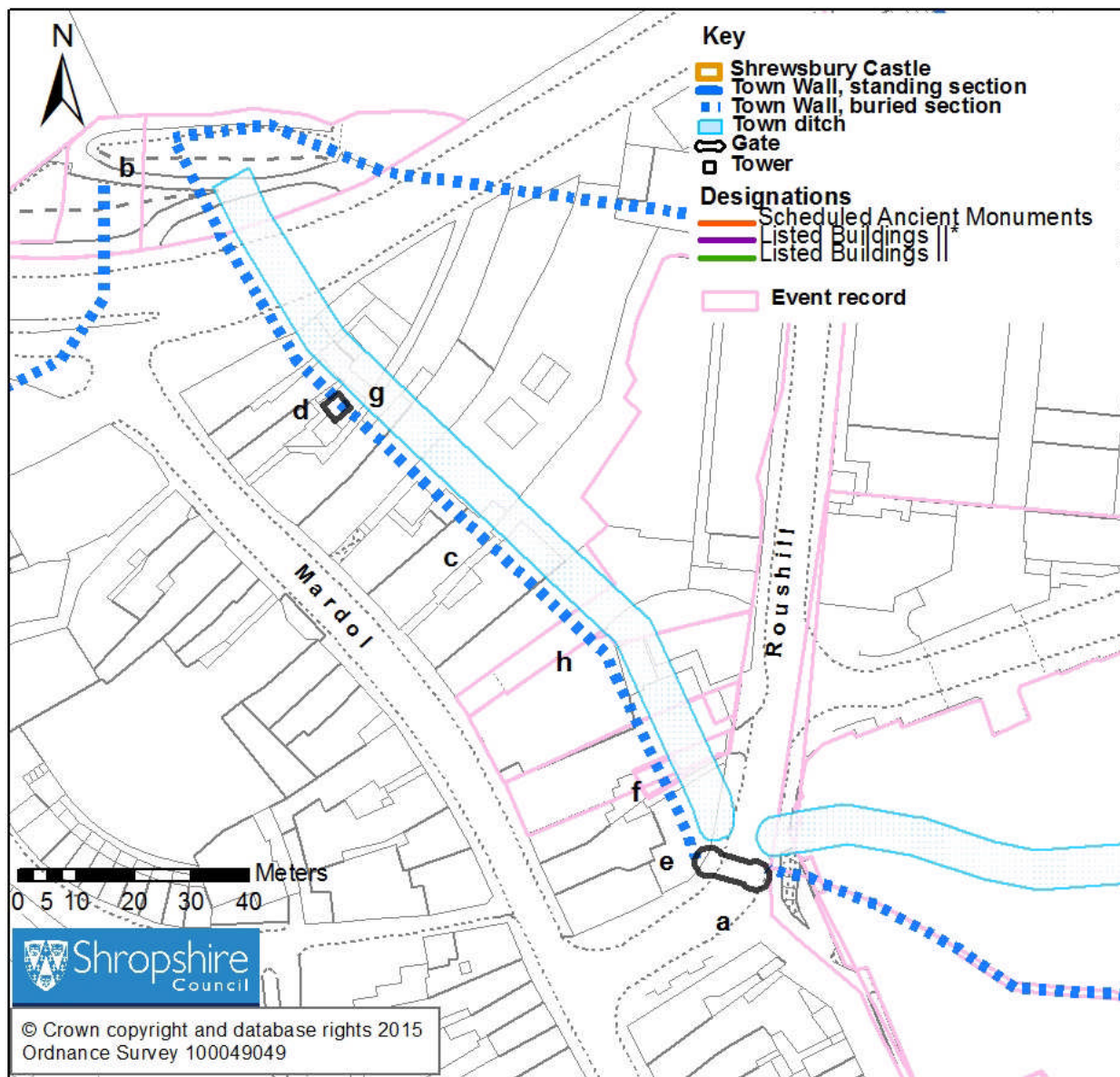


The rear wall of the Pride Hill Chambers site (4 a), incorporating the town wall
© Aerial-Cam Ltd



The town wall on the Charles Clarke garage site (4 d) in 1969, looking southwest towards the rear of the properties at the bottom end of Pride Hill.

5 Mardol



Gazetteer Map 5 key

5	Mardol	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Roushill Gate	HER 01458
b	Old Welsh Bridge (St George's Bridge) and gate	HER 01471
c	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch parallel to Mardol)	HER 62401
d	King's Head tower	HER 60181
e	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch uncovered at junction of Roushill and Mardol)	HER 62400
f	Marches Archaeology evaluations 58-59 & 60 Mardol, 2000 & 2003	
g	Shrewsbury Town Ditch (Mardol)	HER 62406
h	Marches Archaeology evaluation Mardol Gardens 2004	

Location and summary

The line of this section of the town wall runs through the back of the properties on the east side of Mardol, from the site of the Roushill Gate (5 a) to the site of the old Welsh Bridge (5 b).

Description

The defences along this stretch of the circuit are now entirely below ground. Nevertheless, the town wall has been seen here in a number of modern archaeological investigations, including the first modern excavations undertaken in the town which took place at the junction of Roushill and Mardol under the direction of Philip Barker in 1958-9. This section of the defences includes the possible site of a mural tower on King's Head Passage (5 d); at the end of the 19th century, sandstone masonry here was identified as the south and east walls of a tower (Prideaux, 1898). No remains fitting this account were apparent in 1997 during a visit made as part of the compilation of the Shrewsbury Urban Archaeological Database (SUAD). The town ditch has also been seen in excavations and is thought to cause a dip in a passageway (King's Head Passage) that crosses the line of the ditch (5 g).

Local archaeological investigations

Barker's 1958-9 excavations of the town wall at Roushill (5 e) found that the original 13th century masonry wall was preceded by the construction of a clay bank. The wall was built against a vertical cut, and consisted of footings of mortared sandstone rubble supporting a face of sandstone ashlar, finely jointed where protected by deposit build-up from weathering, with a chamfered plinth course, stepped in conformity with the slight gradient. The wall was associated with stratified deposits with a sequence of ceramic finds (Barker, 1960). An evaluation by Marches Archaeology to the rear of 58-59 Mardol (5 f) in 2000 revealed the lower courses of the 13th century town wall. Deposits associated with the town ditch were not encountered, but the extent of tipping in the area suggested its existence below the area excavated (Stone, 2000). And in 2003 a watching brief to the rear of 60 Mardol during redevelopment of the site recorded the top of the medieval town wall. A sondage revealed six courses of the east face of the wall below the excavation level, but there was no sign of the chamfered plinth, which was presumed to be at a lower level. The face of the wall was constructed of pink sandstone blocks. The stone behind the face was blue sandstone blocks of various sizes set in yellow brown clay. The wall was 1.64m wide (Nash, 2004). Another evaluation in 2004 at Mardol Gardens (5 h) by Marches Archaeology found stratified deposits dating to the 17th century and concluded that archaeological features and deposits including the town ditch might have existed at deeper levels (Wainwright, 2004).

Present condition and issues

Where they survive, the defences in this section are entirely below ground. There are no current issues here.

Ownership and status

This section is in multiple private ownership.

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on Roushill, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



King's Head Passage, on the east side of Mardol, looking northeast. A dip in the ground surface in the middle distance may mark the line of the underlying town ditch (5 g), and is prone to flooding in wet weather.

here in an area formerly known as the “Mudholes” or the “spouthole”. A culvert still runs through here below ground.

Local archaeological investigations

The base of a circular red sandstone tower (6 d), also known from documentary sources, was found in 1921 when excavations for new buildings exposed the base of the tower, previously covered by a cottage 'built in the corner of St Austin's Court'. The tower was encountered again in an evaluation of the site in 1997, which also found a section of the 13th-century town wall (6 e) and a possible bridge abutment on the side of a former channel, possibly the terminal of the town ditch (Hannaford, 1997). A watching brief in 2007 following the demolition of a former school house building recorded sandstone stonework incorporated into the lower courses of the current offices buildings at Bridge Street (6 f) (Hannaford, 2007).

Present condition and issues

Where they survive, the defences in this section are entirely below ground. There are no current issues here.

Ownership and status

Where the line of the defences lie below the public highway (Mardol Quay, Bridge Street, and St Austin's Friars/Lower Claremont Bank, they fall within the ownership of Shropshire Council. The remainder is in land in private ownership, including Morris Property Ltd..

Local actions

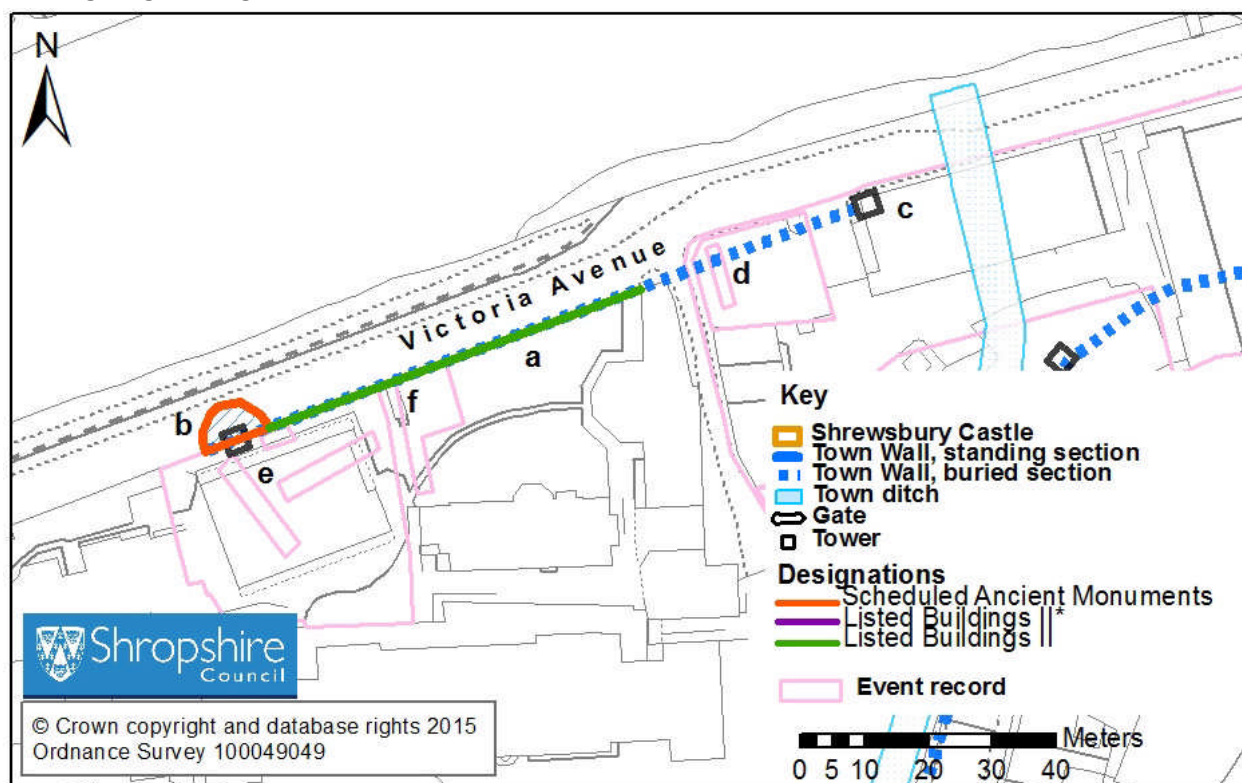
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on Smithfield Road, Bridge Street, and Lower Claremont Bank, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



The Bridge Street and Lower Claremont Bank area today

7 The New Work



Gazetteer Map 7 key

7	The New Work	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Shrewsbury Town Wall: The New Work	HER 01459
b	Remains of tower in Victoria Avenue	NHLE 1003714
c	NE Tower of The New Work (part of Shrewsbury Town Wall)	HER 62561
d	1997 Evaluation at the corner of Victoria Avenue and St Austin's Friars	
e	2011 trial excavation at Shrewsbury Sixth Form College	
f	2012 watching brief at Shrewsbury Sixth Form College	

Location and summary

The “New Work” was an outlying stretch of wall (6 a) defending a ford across the River Severn in the vicinity of the Augustinian Friary. The line of the wall is now marked by the boundary of the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College along Victoria Avenue.

Description

The sandstone terrace wall on Victoria Avenue runs approximately on the line of the New Work wall (7 a), but is thought to be of 19th century or later construction. The approximate site of a tower at its western end is marked by stone setts laid in the tarmac road surface on Victoria Avenue. The eastern end of this section of the defences lies beneath a restaurant and bar (The Armoury) complex on Victoria Avenue. The New Work was an outlier to the town’s defences which ran along the river frontage to the west of the Welsh Bridge. It seems to have been built in the late 13th century to guard a ford which crossed the river from Frankwell. It comprised a stretch of wall some 100m long with a circular tower at each end. In 1337 the Borough granted the Augustinian Friars the New Work, on the condition that they built an “embattled house” there and allowed it to be garrisoned in time of war (Baker, 2010, p146). In 1342 the wall was referred to in inquisitions of that year and the following year, which described the wall as being 20 perches long (c. 100m) with two round towers. By 1620 the post-Dissolution owner of the friary, the barrister Roger Pope, had converted the round tower (of the New

Work) into a tanning room (W Champion, 2006). The tower is shown on several 18th-century engravings and paintings with a building adjoining its east side, aligned north-south (Bowen, 1720; Buck, 1732; & anon, 1739). The Bowen painting also shows boatbuilding on the land to the west of the tower. The tower, by then known as the Round House, was demolished c.1800 (Owen, 1808, p75).

Local archaeological investigations

The tower (7 b) at the west end of the New Work was excavated in 1911 and its position thus fixed. The tower at the east end (7 c) is referred to in a document of 1565 as being 14 yards from the 'spouthole', later the site of a culvert, and originally probably the point at which the town ditch entered the river. A 1997 evaluation trench on the south frontage of Victoria Avenue (7 d) on the line of the New Work wall encountered deep post-medieval deposits sloping sharply down to the north, towards the river. The wall may, however, have survived at a lower level (Hannaford, 1997). A 2011 evaluation (7 e) on the western end of the defences (Dodd, 2011) and a 2012 watching brief (7 f) on the central portion (Frost, 2012) likewise found no trace of the wall within the depth investigated.

Present condition and issues

There are no above ground remains of the towers at either end of the wall. The standing sandstone wall is of modern construction; the medieval wall may survive below ground. There are no issues with this stretch of the defences.

Ownership and status

The below ground remains of the northern half of the tower at the western end of the wall are a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1003714, Remains of tower in Victoria Avenue), and lie partly on the highway, owned by Shropshire Council, and partly in the grounds of Shrewsbury Sixth Form College (this southern half is not Scheduled). The standing wall belongs to the Sixth Form College and is curtilage listed as part of The Priory, a Grade II Listed Building (NHLE 1059005 Shrewsbury Sixth Form College, The Priory, St Austin's Friars). The eastern end of the line of the medieval wall and the eastern tower probably lie within property owned by Morris Property Ltd.

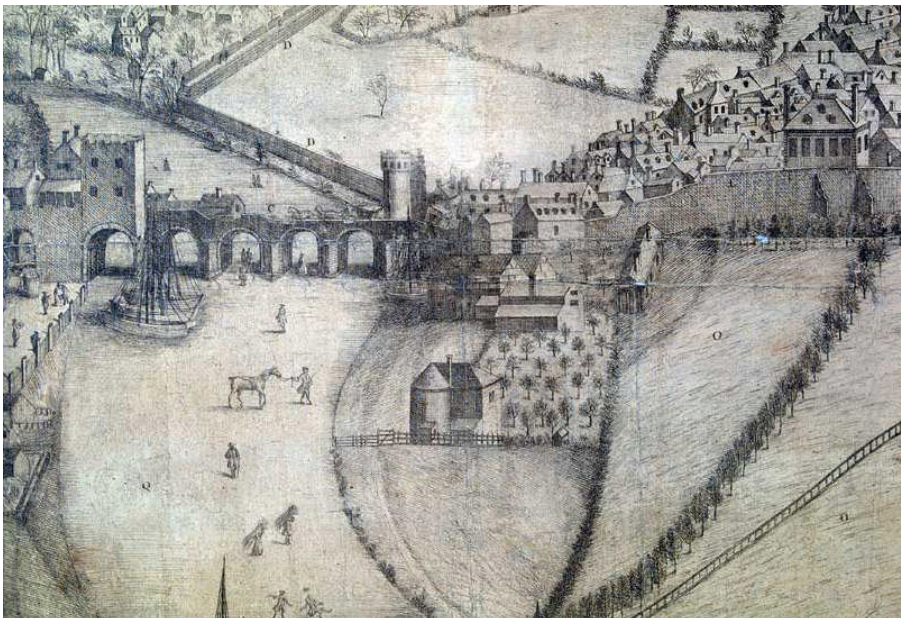
Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on Victoria Avenue, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.
- Review the designation of the monument on Victoria Avenue with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.

Illustrations



J Bowen, *Prospect of Shrewsbury from Kingsland, 1720*, showing the Round House tower (7 b) (© Shropshire Council)

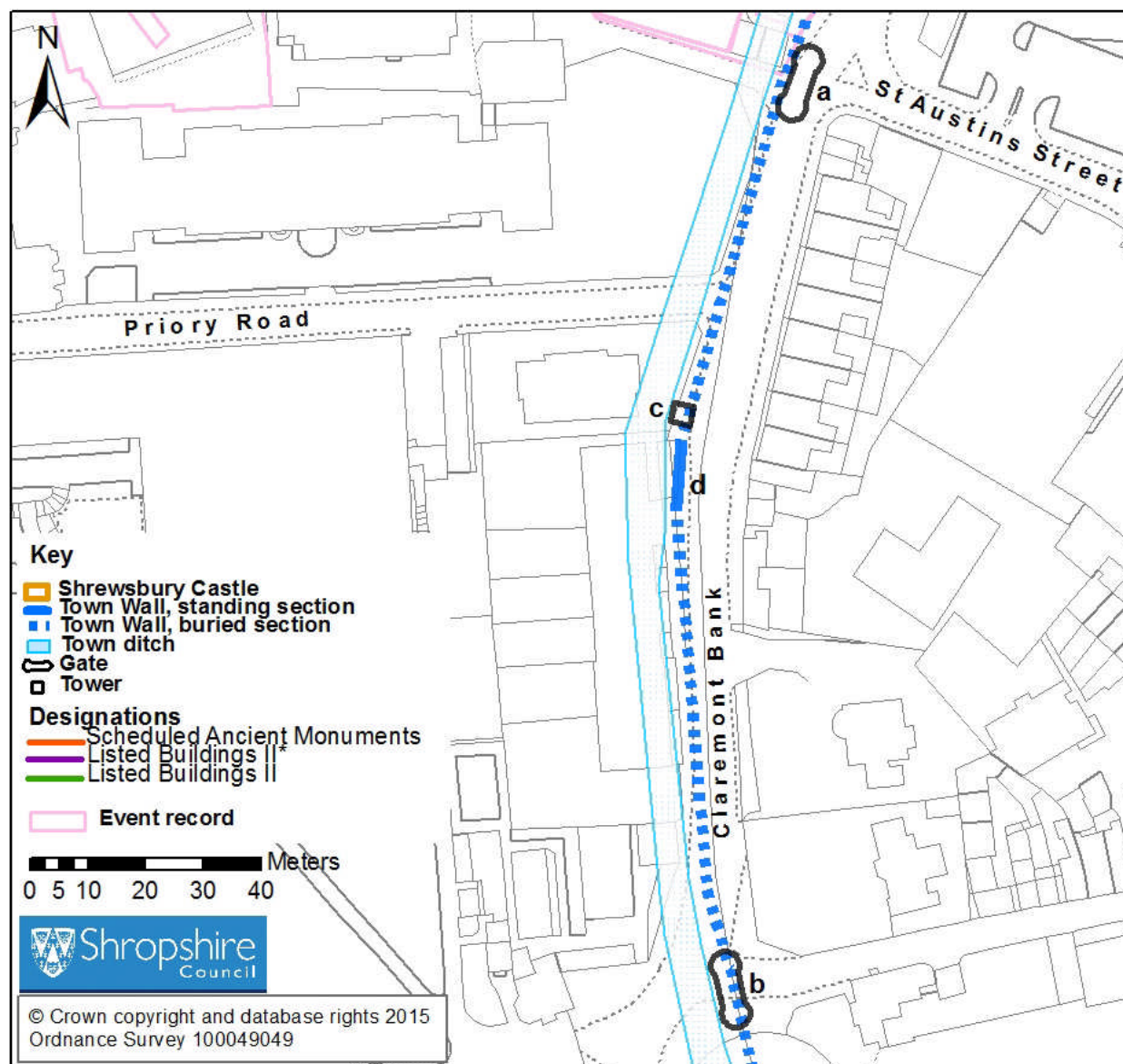


Anon, *Shrewsbury in the Great Frost, 1739* also showing the Round House tower (7 b), and Civil War Roushill Wall (top left) and the wall along Claremont Bank (right). Shropshire Museums FA/1995/001



The standing wall on Victoria Avenue (7 a), and the site of the tower (7 b) at the west end of the New Work, marked in stone setts.

8 Claremont Bank



Gazetteer Map 8 key

8	Claremont Bank	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Montgomery's Tower (Romaldesham Postern)	HER 01455
b	Gatepol Postern Gate	HER 01453
c	Berringtons Tower	HER 01454
d	Masonry supporting raised forecourt, Claremont Buildings	

Location and summary

The line of this section of the town defences runs up the west side of Claremont Bank from the site of the Romaldesham Postern (8 a) to the site of the Gatepol Postern (8 b) at the end of Claremont Hill. The site of a mural tower, Berringtons Tower (8 c), lies about halfway along this section, opposite the St John's Ambulance headquarters.

Description

The defences, where they survive, in this section lie entirely below ground. Sandstone masonry (8 d) supporting a raised section of forecourt outside the northern end of Claremont Buildings may have derived from the town wall. The terraced Claremont Buildings themselves lie on the line of the town ditch, and have probably removed this

as a feature; to the north of these buildings the ditch was probably removed by late 19th/20th century landscaping.

Local archaeological investigations

There have been no previous archaeological investigations along this section of the defences.

Present condition and issues

The defences in this section are entirely below ground. There are no current issues here.

Ownership and status

Where the line of the defences lie below the public highway (Claremont Bank), they fall within the ownership of Shropshire Council. The line of the ditch is partly in private ownership, and partly lies within the grounds of the Shrewsbury Sixth Form College. The defences here are not designated.

Local actions

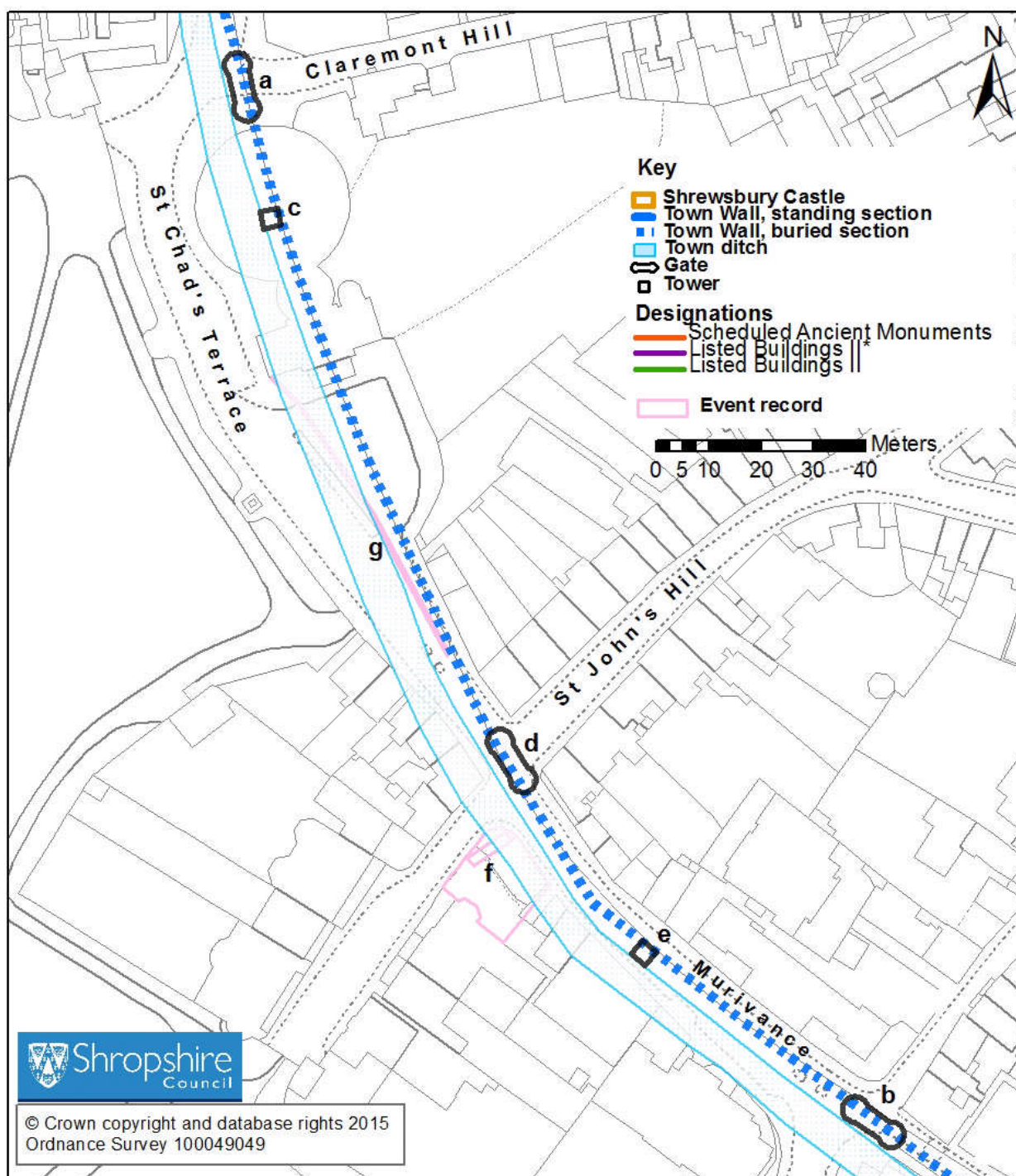
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences along the Claremont Bank section, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



The sandstone masonry (8 d) outside the north end of Claremont Buildings

9 Murivance



Gazetteer Map 9 key

9	Murivance	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Gatepol Postern Gate	HER 01453
b	Cordlode Gate	HER 01449
c	Tower where New St Chads stands	HER 01452
d	The site of Quarry Gate	HER 01450
e	Wheeler's Tower	HER 01451
f	1997 Trial excavations at 1a Quarry Place	
g	2001 watching brief at St Chad's Church	

Location and summary

This section of the defences runs below ground from the site of the Gatepol Gate (9 a) at the top end of Claremont Hill to the site of Cordlode Gate (9 b) at the end of Swan Hill.

Description

The defences here are shown on a number of 18th and 19th panoramic illustrations, in particular the anonymous “*Shrewsbury in the Great Frost*” 1739. However, the section of wall between Claremont Hill and St John’s Hill, which included a mural tower (9 c), was lost when the new St Chad’s Church was built here in 1790-92. Another mural tower, Wheeler’s Tower (9 e), was demolished about 1783, and the Quarry Gate (or Shoplatch Gate) at the end of St John’s Hill (9 d) was probably destroyed in the mid-18th century. The defences here now lie entirely below ground, beneath St Chad’s Church and churchyard and St Chad’s Terrace and Murivance roads.

Local archaeological investigations

The town ditch was revealed in 1997 in trial excavations at 1a Quarry Place (9 f). The excavation encountered a large cut feature identified as the medieval extramural ditch sealed beneath shallow post-medieval strata a depth of 1m. The ditch lay partly under Murivance road and only limited excavation was possible, but an estimated depth of c.3.8m along the site boundary was postulated with the use of a hand auger. Two fills were seen, a primary sandy fill on the southern lip and a greenish brown loam containing sherds of probable 14th-century date, indicating that the ditch was probably backfilled at this time (Blockley, 1997). In October and November 2001 a watching brief (9 g) on excavations on the line of a new drain from St Chad’s Church to St Chad’s Terrace crossing the line of the town ditch and close to the supposed line of the town wall found no trace of the defences in the excavations (Hannaford, 2001).

Present condition and issues

The defences in this section are entirely below ground. There are no current issues here.

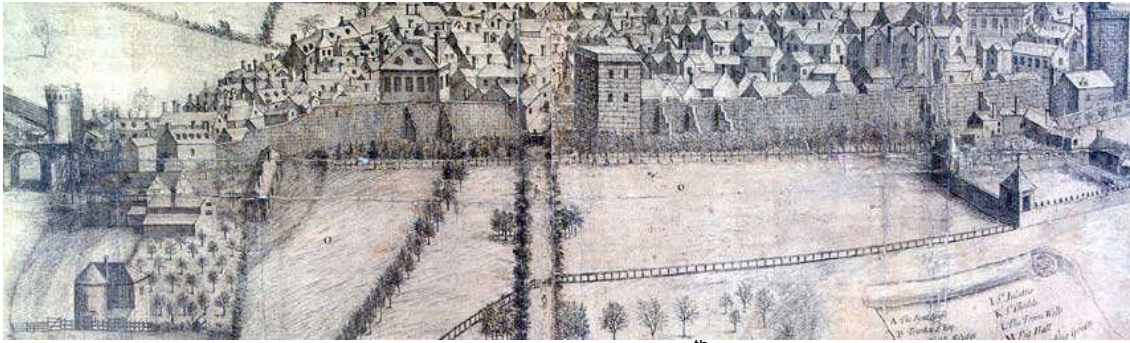
Ownership and status

Where the line of the defences lie below the public highway (St Chad’s Terrace and Murivance), they fall within the ownership of Shropshire Council. The defences also run beneath New St Chad’s Church and churchyard (Church of England), and the line of the ditch runs beneath properties on the southwest side of Murivance. The defences here are not designated.

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team’s curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council’s Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences along the Murivance section, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



The town wall on Claremont Bank and Murivance in the 18th century, detail from Anon, *Shrewsbury in the Great Frost*, 1739, Shropshire Museums FA/1995/001

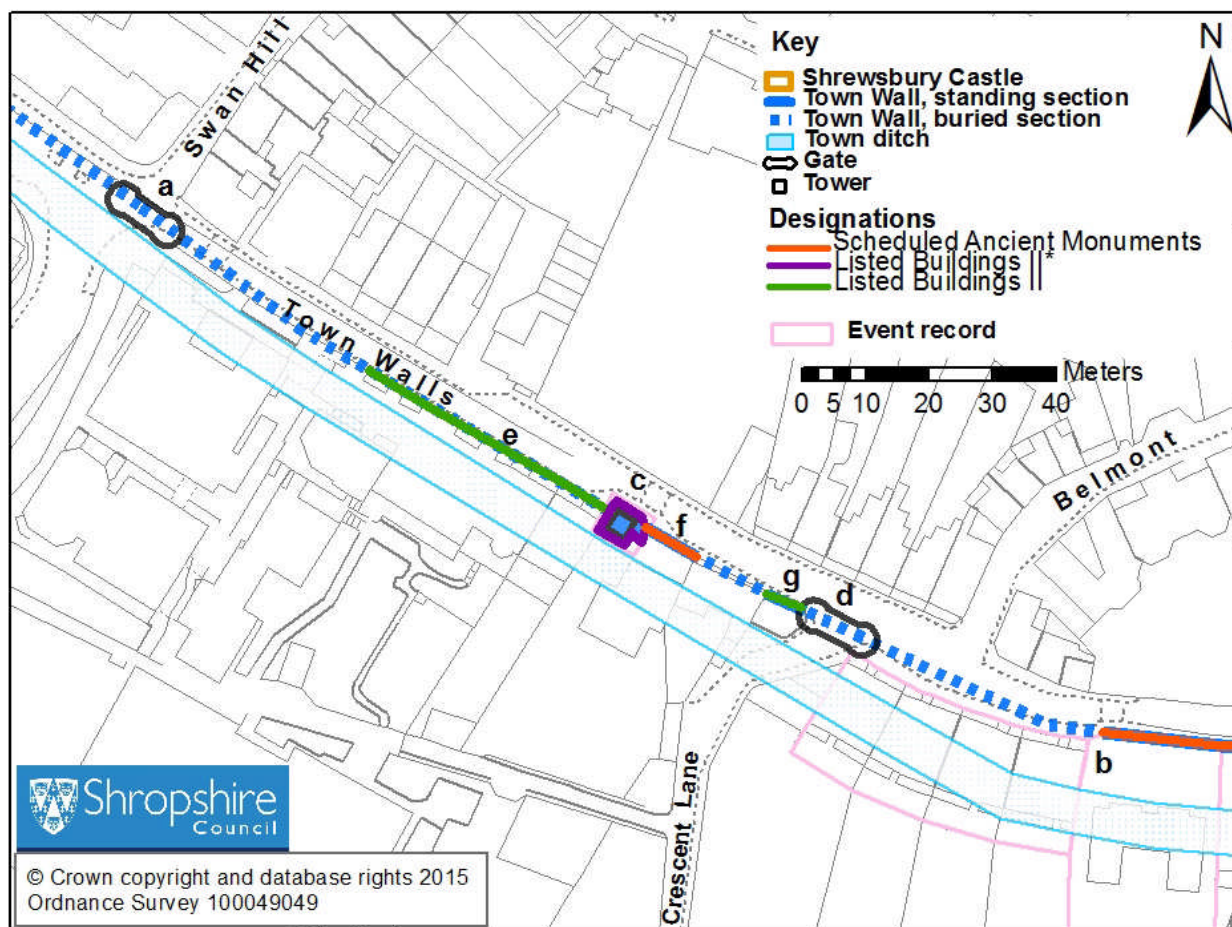


The line of the town wall along Murivance, looking NW towards new St Chad's Church.



The line of the town wall along Murivance, looking SE towards the site of the Cordlode Gate (9 b) and Wingfield's Tower (10 c) in the distance

10 Wingfields Tower



Gazetteer Map 10 key

10	Wingfields Tower	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Cordlode Gate	HER 01449
b	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls W) (eastern end)	HER 62589
c	Watch tower and adjoining wall, Town Walls	NHLE 1270530 HER 10618
d	Chadelode Postern	HER 01448
e	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch along Murivance)	HER 62584
f	Town wall section W of Belmont Crescent	NHLE 1003709
g	26, Town Walls, attached walls and railings Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: Town Walls W)	NHLE 1254931 HER 62589

Location and summary

This section of the defences runs between the site of the Cordlode Gate (10 a) at the end of Swan Hill along to No 22 Town Walls (10 b). There are three stretches of upstanding masonry wall on this section (10 e, 10 f, & 10 g), and it also includes the only surviving mural tower, Wingfield's Tower (10 c).

Description

The line of the town wall from the site of the Cordlode Gate (10 a) to No. 31 Town Walls runs beneath the road, but along the frontage of Nos. 28 – 31 it is visible as masonry on the street side of the access wells to the basement levels of these terraced properties (10 e). In some of the wells the masonry has been painted blue-grey, in some it is unpainted and can be seen to be of red sandstone construction; it is almost certainly town wall. The wall may survive below ground in front of No. 27 Town Walls, next to

which stands Wingfields Tower (10 c), the only surviving mural tower on the town defences.

The tower is a rectangular structure of four storeys plus parapets. It is accessed via a side door in the southeast wall at basement level or via a street-level door through the northeast wall (on the town side), or via a first floor door in the northeast wall at wall-walk level. The building is constructed in ashlar Grinshill sandstone, suggesting a date after 1300 for its construction. There are narrow rectangular single-light windows to the upper storeys, and internally these have shouldered lintels (Caernarvon Arches). At street level there are cruciform arrow loops in the side walls.

A 9m length of standing masonry town wall joins the southeast wall of the tower (10 f). The inner face (on the street side) is c. 2m in height and is of red sandstone. The upper three courses are of red sandstone ashlar, with a coping of Grinshill sandstone. The lower half is of red sandstone rubble construction, bonded in a light grey mortar, and may represent consolidated wall core. The inner face stands to a height of about 3.5m. The top 2m are of mixed red and buff Grinshill sandstone ashlar, over three courses of Grinshill with a distinct batter, in turn over a further five (exposed) courses of mixed sandstone ashlar. Similar battered Grinshill courses are seen at a lower level at either end of the section of standing wall to the east (see section 11 Town Walls and Beeches Lane, below). The wall again is missing in front of No. 26 but continues to the southeast for about 6m (10 g), where it is cut through by Crescent Lane. This length of wall is again of mixed sandstone ashlar on its outer face, but again is of red sandstone rubble on its inner (street side) face. The line of the wall then runs below street level between Crescent Lane and No. 22 Town Walls. The site of a gate, the Chadelode Postern (10 d), is thought to lie somewhere in this area opposite the end of Belmont road.

Local archaeological investigations

Wingfield's Tower was the subject of a comprehensive structural survey and report for the National Trust in the mid 1990s (Milne and Woodside 1996). In 2013 Castlering Archaeology carried out a watching brief on groundworks to the rear of No. 26 Town Walls (10 g), and recorded 1.3m depth of post-medieval deposits, possibly representing fills on the line of the town ditch.

Present condition and issues

The standing lengths of wall in this area are in good condition. There is some weathering to the inner face (street-facing) of the Scheduled wall attached to Wingfields Tower. This inner face of the wall is of poorer construction to the outer face, which is also in better condition (although obscured by a number of clematis plants growing against the wall). The section of wall attached to 26 Town Walls is generally in good condition, though there is some erosion of the pointing and masonry at the very base of the inner (street) face.

Ownership and status

The wall below the pavement in the access wells in front of 28-31 Town Walls is in Shropshire Council ownership. Nos. 28-31 are owned by Shrewsbury High School and are a Grade II Listed Building (NHLE 1254933, Former First Church Of Christ Scientist and attached railings, Town Walls) and the town wall here will be curtilage listed. Wingfields Tower and the adjoining section of wall are owned by the National Trust and leased to Shrewsbury High School. The Tower is a Grade II* Listed Building (NHLE 1270530, Watch tower and adjoining wall, Town Walls), the adjoining wall is a

Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1003709, Town wall section W of Belmont Crescent). The section of standing wall to the southeast of 26 Town Walls is owned by Shrewsbury Town Council. This section is listed as part of the Grade II Listed Building No 26 Town Walls (26, Town Walls, attached walls and railings, NHLE 1254931). The town ditch here, if it survives, underlies the buildings on the south side of the street which are owned by Shrewsbury High School. Wingfields Tower itself appears to be in sound condition. The masonry has been re-dressed and repointed relatively recently.

Local actions

- Some re-pointing of the base of the inner (street) face of the wall attached to No 26 Town Walls will be required in the medium term. The Scheduled wall attached to Wingfields Tower should be monitored for similar erosion. Otherwise no action is proposed for this section.
- There are signs of damp possibly caused by water overflowing from guttering at the top of the north face of the tower. There is also some loss of mortar from the parapet crenellation below the chimney here too.
- On the south face of the tower there is some damage from mason bees; while the bee activity may not be recent, one quoin stone on the southeast corner has been quite badly affected in the past and is now spalling, and may require repair. Any repairs should be carried out in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.4) for managing stone and mortar decay. (Further advice regarding mason bee damage is available in Appendix 1 of this report, section 4).
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences along the Wingfields Tower section, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.
- Review the designation of the defences in the Wingfield's Tower section with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.

Illustrations



Wingfield's Tower (10 c) and attached section of town wall (10 f), looking W



The outer face of the Scheduled wall (10 f) attached to Wingfield's Tower, looking N



Wingfield's Tower, looking N



Wingfield's Tower, NW face



Wingfield's Tower, SE face



Wingfield's Tower, NE face



Wingfield's Tower, showing the top of the northwest face



Detail of Wingfield's Tower showing eroded pointing on the parapet northwest face



Detail of Wingfield's Tower showing damp on the northwest face



Wingfield's Tower, showing the top of the southeast face



Detail of Wingfield's Tower showing damage from mason bees and spalling on the corner of the southeast face



The wall attached to No. 26 Town Walls (10 g), looking SW

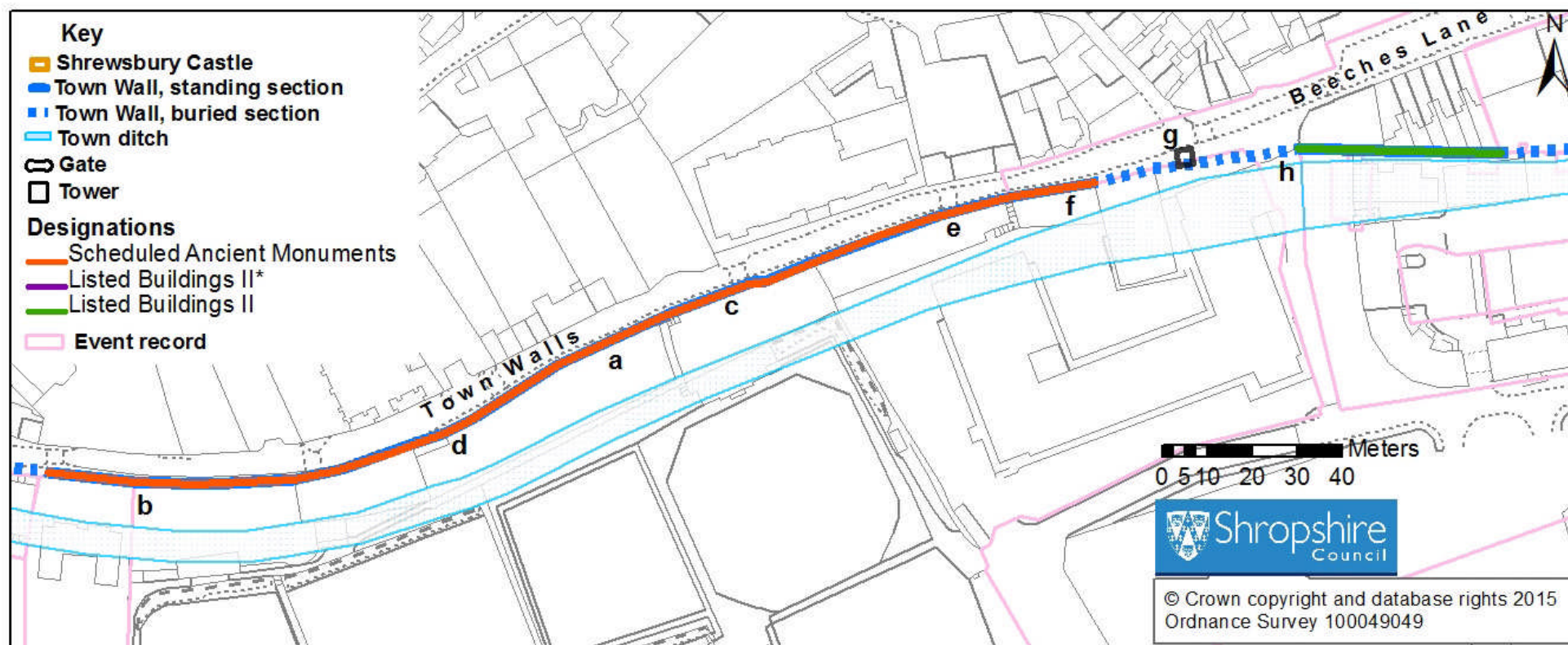


The wall attached to No. 26 Town Walls (10 g), looking N



The pump outside Wingfield's Tower

11 Town Walls and Beeches Lane



Gazetteer Map 11 key

11	Town Walls and Beeches Lane	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – possible 13 th century masonry	NHLE 1003710
b	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – Grinshill coursing	NHLE 1003710
c	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – Grinshill coursing	NHLE 1003710
d	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – rebuilding in red sandstone	NHLE 1003710
e	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – jettied parapet	NHLE 1003710
f	Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent – jettied parapet	NHLE 1003710
g	Tower at the bottom of Belmont Bank	HER 01462
h	2003-2004 excavations off St Julian's Friars	

Location and summary

This section of wall runs around the south side of the historic core of the town from No. 21a Town Walls for some 360m to the rear of Beeches Lane. 290m of this section survives as standing masonry walls, most of this revetting the south side of Town Walls road, with a shorter length forming the boundary of the gardens to the rear of Beeches Lane. The wall has been breached in the 1950s by part of the British Telecom building and the Williams Way road which was constructed in the 2000s over the wall to access a development at St Julian's Friars.

Description

The stretch of standing masonry along Town Walls road (together with Wingfields Tower) is today the most visible part of the town's medieval defences. The inner face of the parapet to the wall along Town Walls forms the boundary to the highway and stands above pavement level for most of its length as three or four courses of mixed sandstone ashlar with a Grinshill coping course. The outer face of the wall stands to a height of up to about 5m, and is of a mixture of red and buff Grinshill sandstones. Much of the land to the south of the wall's outer face is in use as allotment gardens.

Some possible stretches of original 13th century wall may survive at the base of the Scheduled section, though if so they have been much degraded through exposure to the elements. There is one section (11 a) where there may be a survival of the chamfered plinth course, as has been seen in excavated sections elsewhere, although this is much weathered; elsewhere along this entire section the chamfered plinth is absent, and moreover the masonry at the base of the wall does not have the uniform appearance of the primary 13th century wall recorded in archaeological excavations elsewhere in the town. Repointing in both lime mortar and cement may mask any sign of the gritty greenish mortar that is also typical of the 13th century wall.

Above the base layers, however, is a distinct phase of masonry that has been identified by this project's photographic condition. This phase comprises four courses of buff ashlar blocks of Grinshill sandstone battered back at a slight angle. This phase survives at the western end of the wall from 21a Town Walls running towards the Cathedral (11 b), and again at the eastern end opposite Bishopstone Mansions (11 c). There is no direct dating for this phase, but it pre-dates the construction of the 18th century brick party wall between 21a Town Walls and the gardens to the east.

Particularly between sections (11 a) and (11 b) the wall appears to have been a number of episodes of rebuilding (or re-facing) of the wall, largely but not entirely separated by the older buttresses incorporated into the outer face. One section of rebuild is of a fairly uniform mainly red sandstone ashlar (11 d) almost up to parapet level. Elsewhere the repairs are of more mixed stone, both in terms of the mixture of red and Grinshill sandstone and the size of the blocks used.

Above the courses of battered Grinshill masonry (11 b & c) and across much of this length of the wall are five courses of mixed red and buff Grinshill sandstone masonry. In places this stonework is banded elsewhere it is mixed with an almost chequerboard effect. Whether this represents a single phase or multiple phases of repair, this generally takes the wall up to street level.

Above street level, the parapet comprises generally three courses of mixed sandstone masonry plus a coping course. Much of this parapet level is pointed in a brown mortar or cement (on the street face it is repointed in cement), and may have been rebuilt in the 20th

century; a stone in the western end of the Scheduled section records the rebuilding of this section in 1740 (though this stone is set in cement which suggests that it may have been re-set in the 20th century). There is also evidence of extensive episodes underpinning of the wall, in re-used stone, brick, and concrete, which have been exposed by slippage and erosion of the deposits in front of the wall. A circular brick drain (now blocked) emerges from the base of the wall opposite Shrewsbury Cathedral, and a number of services pierce the wall, mainly just below pavement level. In c. 1904, the owner of 16 Belmont built a tunnel underneath Town Walls road to access his garden on the side of the town wall. The tunnel entrance on the south side is still visible in the wall of 21a Town Walls.

In front of the western wing of Telecom House the Parapet of the wall is jettied out and supported by three brick arches on stone piers (11 e). And at the easternmost end of this section of wall, the parapet is again jettied out and supported this time by three wide stone arches of red Bridgnorth sandstone (11 f). In the western of these arches the town wall at the back has an opening with a flat brick arch, blocked with thin sandstone rubble. The wall in the central arch has at its eastern corner a narrow vertical recess that may also be a blocked opening. It is possible that these features are associated with a tower that is thought to have stood near the bottom of Belmont Bank (11 g). The tower is shown on Speed's 1610 map, but not on Rocque's map of 1746.

It was not possible to closely examine the wall behind the properties on Beeches Lane. The wall here is of red sandstone ashlar and stands to about 2m in height on its outer face. The wall is about 0.5m thick.

One of the features of this section of the town wall is the number of buttresses on its outer face. While some of these are clearly of relatively recent date and clearly butt against the fabric of the wall, others are of older date and are built into the sections of wall they support, and indeed the buttresses are shown on many of the 18th century illustrations of the south side of the town.

Local archaeological investigations

In 2004, the town wall was found just below the modern ground surface in excavations to the south of Beeches Lane (11 h). In places the wall was the original medieval structure, elsewhere it was an early post medieval rebuild. The medieval town ditch was also clearly identified, and had been recut in the early post medieval period (Tavener, 2004). However, no evidence of the town ditch was seen at the western end of the Scheduled section during a watching brief at 21a Town Walls in 2006 (Wykes, 2006).

Present condition and issues

These standing sections of the town wall appear to be generally in good condition. There is evidence that they have until recently been inspected and maintained – for example, there are areas of later 20th century SPAB-type tile and mortar filling of gaps in the masonry and joints. However, the owners of the land to the south of the wall are not aware of any repairs being undertaken in the last few years. There is one visible vertical crack in the masonry opposite the Catholic Cathedral at NGR SJ 49172 12208. A mid-19th century brick drain (now blocked) emerges from the base of the wall 2m to the east of the crack, and the wall has also been underpinned in 19th century brick at this point.

The stretch of the wall immediately to the east of No. 21A Town Walls has heavy growths of ivy on its outer (south) face. There are a few other isolated patches of ivy growth, but in the main plant growth on this outer face of the wall is kept in check by the owner and occupiers of the allotment gardens at the base of the wall.

A small number of services – an electricity cable and a water pipe emerge through wall from just below pavement level. While these are unsightly they do not appear to present any structural issues.

There is some salt erosion to the base of the parapet level on the inner (street) face of the wall. This erosion is localised to where the pavement is narrower; whilst at present the erosion is not severe, it should be monitored.

An access gap between the Telecom House and Williams Way to access the underside of the road and services is being used for fly-tipping.

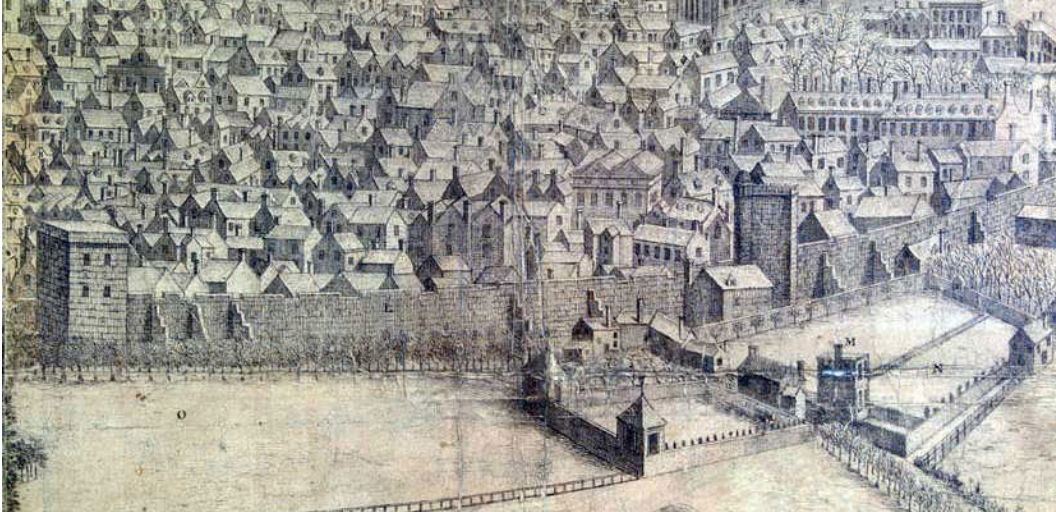
Ownership and status

The wall between 21a Town Walls and the Telecom House is owned by Shropshire Council, and this probably includes the sections outside no. 21a and Telecom House. This section of the wall up to Telecom House is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1003710, Town wall section E of Belmont Crescent). The section under Williams Way will also belong to Shropshire Council. The section behind Beeches Lane is in multiple private ownership, and is a Grade II Listed Building (NHLE 1271331, Town Wall to south of Numbers 3-10, Beeches Lane). The line of the town ditch in front of this section of wall is not included in the scheduling or listing. It will fall under multiple private ownerships, including the owners of 21a Town Walls, the Shropshire Horticultural Society, British Telecom, Shropshire Council, and the owners of the properties to the south of Beeches Lane.

Local actions

- There are areas of heavy ivy growth at the western end of the Scheduled wall adjacent to No 21a Town Walls. The ivy should be removed from the wall in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.5) for managing vegetation growth. (For further guidance see the CMP Appendix 1).
- Once cleared of ivy, these sections of the wall should then be assessed for condition and stability.
- Although the crack in the masonry at NGR SJ 49172 12208 is minor (<5mm wide; see Appendix 1, para. 1.3), it is recommended that it should be professionally investigated at the earliest possible opportunity, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.4) for managing stone and mortar decay.
- In view of the role of the town wall in revetting the public highway along Town Walls, a programme of inspection of the standing wall along Town Walls road for stability would be advisable. Shropshire Council's Highways currently inspect the footway on the north side of the wall along Town Walls on a monthly basis, and this routine should be maintained. The inspection should monitor the level of salt erosion to the base of the parapet wall.
- Review the designation of the monument on Town Walls and Beeches Lane with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.

Illustrations



Extract from “Shrewsbury in the Great Frost”, 1739 (artist unknown), showing the buttresses on the outer face of the wall along Murivance and Town Walls. (Shropshire Museums FA/1995/001)



The town wall at 21a Town Walls, showing the tunnel cut under the road in c. 1904



The west end of the Scheduled section of wall on Town Walls (11 b), showing the ivy growth. Note the four slightly battered courses of Grinshill ashlar. These courses continue west (behind the ivy) into 21A Town Walls.



The central part of the Scheduled section of wall on Town Walls (11 c) adjacent to Bishopstone Mansions. This section also has four courses of Grinshill ashlar.



A section of the wall along Town Walls (11 a) showing the patchwork use of buff Grinshill and red sandstones in episodes of repairs (looking NE).



Location of crack in masonry (11 d) opposite Shrewsbury Cathedral



Detail of the crack in the masonry (11 d) in the wall opposite Shrewsbury Cathedral



The central part of the Scheduled section of wall on Town Walls (11 c) adjacent to Bishopstone Mansions. This section also has four courses of Grinshill ashlar. © Aerial-Cam Ltd



The town wall and the jettied section of the parapet (11e) in front of Telecom House on Town Walls. © Aerial-Cam Ltd



The town wall and the jettied section of the parapet (11 e) in front of Telecom House on Town Walls.



The eastern end of the town wall visible in the back of arches in front of Telecom House (11 f). The wall in the left and central arches has blocked openings. This may be the site of a tower thought to have stood at the foot of Belmont.

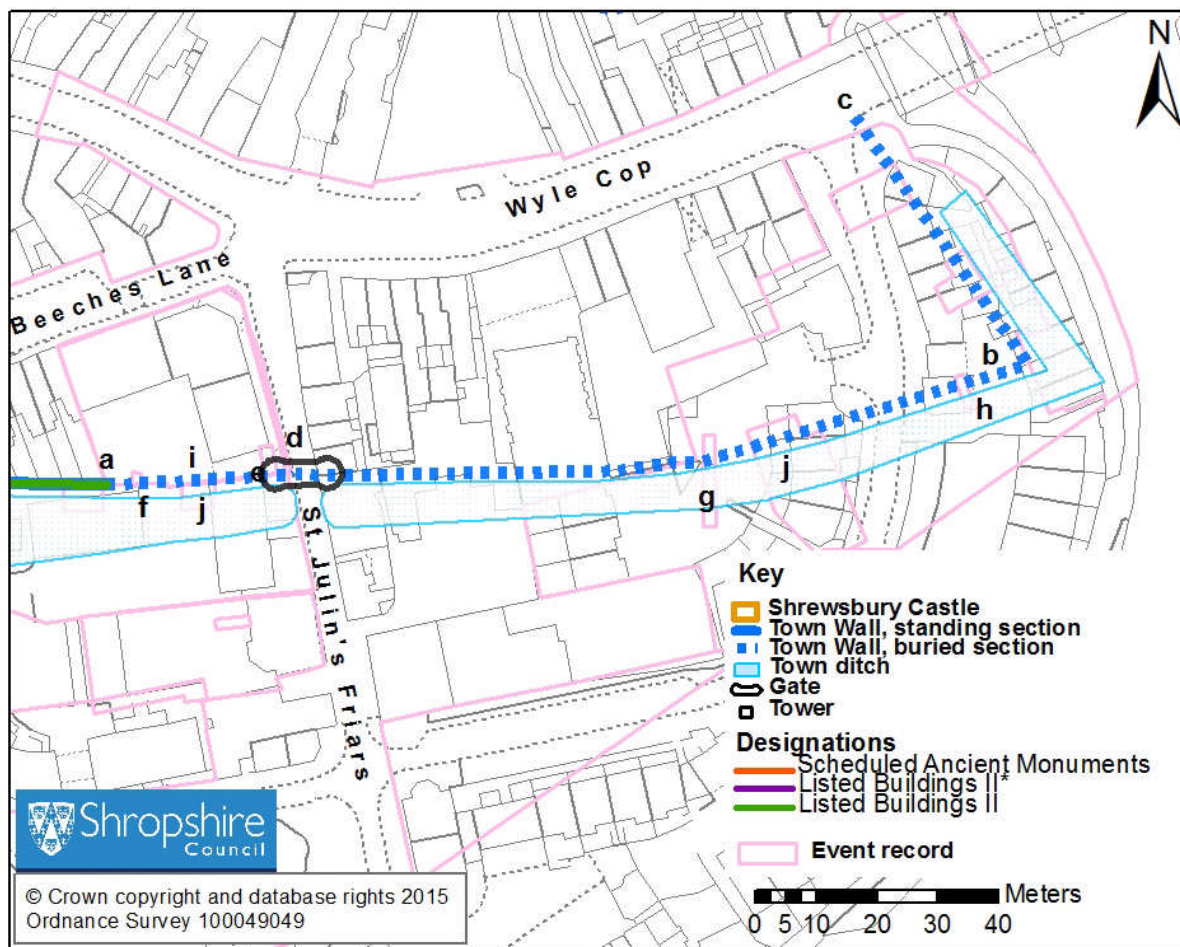


The town wall at the rear of the properties on the south side of Beeches Lane



Salt erosion at the base of the inner face of the parapet outside Telecom House

12 St Julian's Friars



Gazetteer Map 12 key

12	St Julian's Friars	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Shrewsbury town wall (Section: W of St Julian's Friars)	HER 62471
b	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Section: E of St Julian's Friars)	HER 62472
c	Medieval bridge(s) at English Bridge crossing, Shrewsbury	HER 62645
d	Gate to Franciscan Friary through Shrewsbury Town Wall	HER 62470
e	1922 observation of town wall south of Beeches Lane	
f	1975 trial trench against town wall south of Beeches Lane	
g	1993 evaluation of St Julian's Friars area (trench 10)	
h	1993 evaluation of St Julian's Friars area (trench 8)	
i	2002 excavation S of former Century Cinema, St Julian's Friars	
j	2003-2004 excavations off St Julian's Friars	

Location and summary

This section of the town defences runs below ground from the end of the standing wall behind Beeches Lane (12 a) eastwards to the rear of Marine Terrace (12 b), and then turns north to join the abutment of the English Bridge (12 c).

Description

The site of a gate or postern (12 d) giving access to the town's Franciscan friary is thought to lie on St. Julian's Friars road. Permission was given by the king in July 1246 for the friars to raise the town wall next to their new house and to insert a gate in it for easy access to the town, and in 1267 the friars received permission to enlarge the gate so that carts could pass through it. The gate is shown on the Burghley map of 1575 but not on subsequent maps. Although there are no above ground remains of the town defences in

this section, their presence has been confirmed by a number of archaeological investigations.

Local archaeological investigations

In 1922, the Town Walls Committee reported that 10 feet of wall had been exposed at No.40 St Julian's Friars (12 e). A trial excavation (12 f) in 1975 by Martin Carver across the suspected line of the town wall at the easternmost end of this section on Beeches Lane located the town wall, which was built on a cut in a natural clay scarp. Waste material from the construction of the wall was found scattered on the north side, and in the 18th century the area had been levelled and the exposed town wall repointed (Carver, 1975). In 1993, an evaluation of the St Julian's Friars site located the town wall and the town ditch (12 g & 12 h). The wall masonry comprised three courses of unspecified sandstone ashlar with a plinth course at the base of the outer face, built on silty clay containing 13th-century pottery (Durham, 1993). An evaluation of the Century Cinema site on Beeches Lane in 2002 (12 i) located the medieval town wall just below the modern ground surface, surviving to a height of 2.3m. A deep sequence of late Saxon sedimentary deposits were found and the sedimentary sequence continued until the 13th century, just after the construction of the town wall. The area was then covered in a deep spread of landfill, during which a wall was constructed along the St Julian's Friars frontage, separating the plot from the street (Tavener, 2002). And in 2003-2004 excavations were carried out on two development sites either side of St Julian's Friars (12 j). In four of the seven trenches excavated, the town wall was found just below the modern ground surface. In two of these the wall was definitely the original medieval structure, whilst in the other two it was an early post medieval rebuild. The medieval town ditch was clearly identified in two trenches where it had been recut in the early post medieval period (Tavener, 2004).

Present condition and issues

The defences in this section are entirely below ground. There are no current issues here.

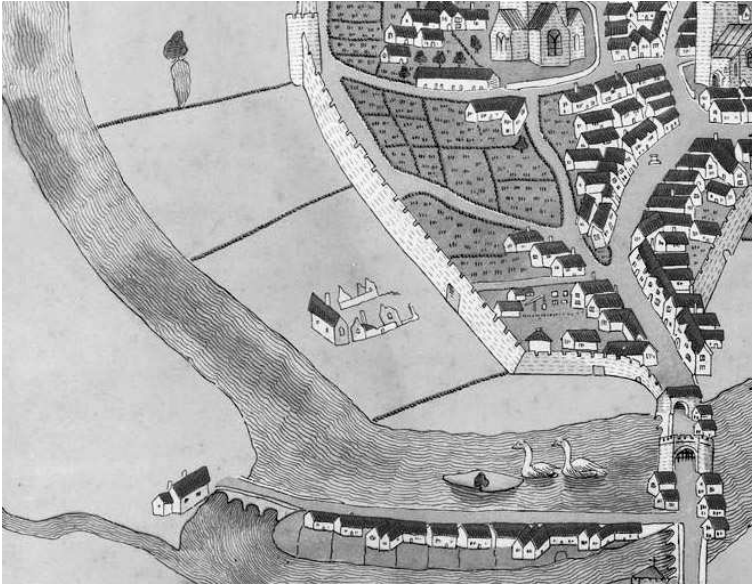
Ownership and status

Where the line of the defences lie below the public highway (St. Julian's Friars road), they fall within the ownership of Shropshire Council. The remainder is in land in private ownership. The defences here are not designated.

Local actions

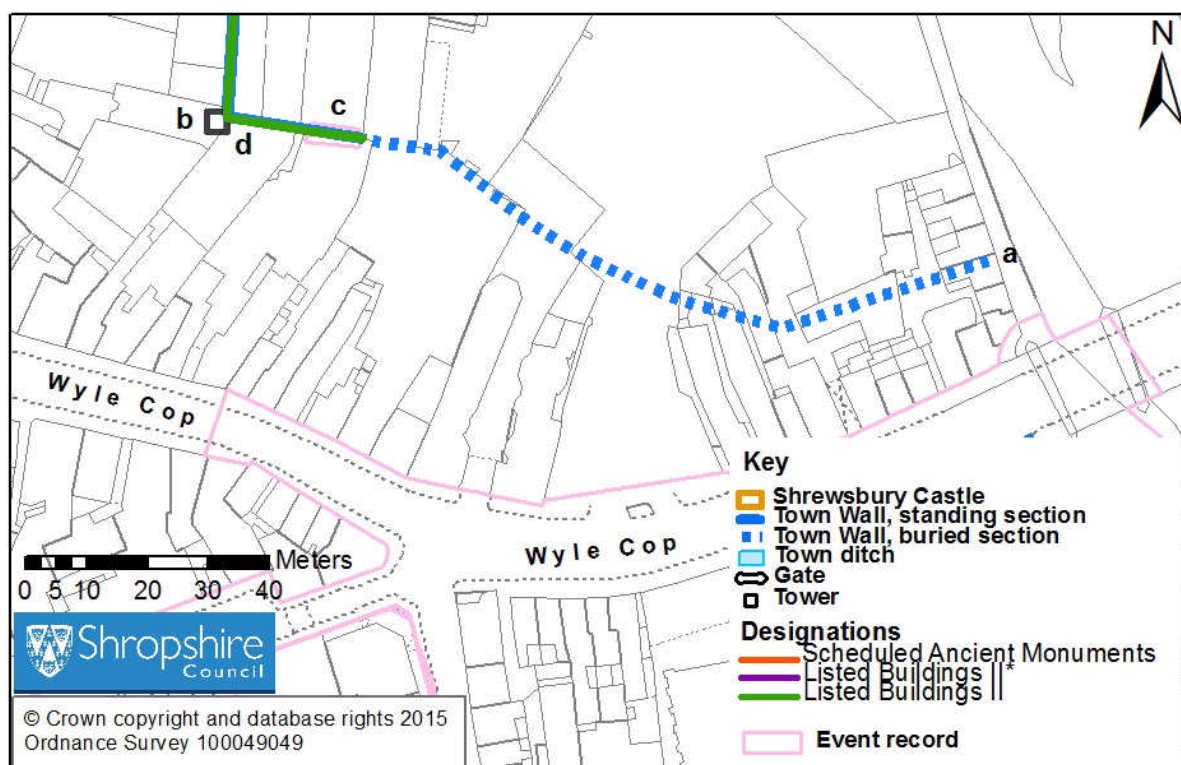
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on St Julian's Friars road, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.

Illustrations



The remains of the Franciscan Friary and the town defences in the St Julian's Friars area from the Burghley map, c. 1575

13 Wyle Cop



Gazetteer Map 13 key

13	Wyle Cop	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Medieval bridge(s) at English Bridge crossing, Shrewsbury	HER 62645
b	Shrewsbury Town Wall (Stretch along rear of 22-44 Wyle Cop)	HER 62452
c	The Nag's Head PH, Shrewsbury	NHLE 1255142; HER 62452
d	18 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury	NHLE 1255103; HER 62452

Location and summary

On the north side of Wyle Cop, the line of the town defences ran from the west abutment of the English Bridge (13 a) westwards along and up the rear of the properties on the north side of Wyle Cop to a terrace line marking the rear of the properties on Dogpole (13 b).

Description

From English Bridge to the rear of the Nag's Head PH (13 c), the town wall no longer survives above ground, and there has been no confirmation of below-ground survival from archaeological observations. It is not known whether there was ever a ditch outside the wall along this section of the defences. At the rear of the Nag's Head garden is a section of sandstone wall (13 c), rebuilt in 1995, on the line of an older sandstone wall. The older sandstone wall continues up hill to the west at the rear of 18 Wyle Cop (13 d). The outer face of the eastern end of the wall behind 18 Wyle Cop is patched and includes some brick work, and was possibly at some time incorporated into the gable end of an outbuilding at the rear of the property. The western end of the wall at the rear of No. 18 rises up to meet the terrace to the west and here the wall is of certain post-medieval and possible medieval construction. This end of the wall is of weathered red sandstone ashlar bonded (or repointed) in a hard light grey mortar. It is pierced by three loopholes which would have provided flanking (musketry) fire along the line of the wall behind Dogpole. These loopholes probably date to the Civil War period, and as they have been cut through rather than built into the masonry it suggests that the wall here predates the middle of the 17th century and may be medieval in date. A tower, Miss Humphrey's Tower (13 b) is thought

to have stood at the junction of the Wyle Cop and Dogpole sections of the defences. A sandstone wall of probable post-medieval date continues the line of the defences along Dogpole south along the western edge of 18 Wyle Cop; this wall in the past has been referred to as part of an “inner town wall” and is still so called by the occupiers of the properties in this area. The wall is of sandstone construction and is of some scale, and is certainly of post-medieval date. However, it is now thought to be a terrace wall rather than part of the town’s defences.

Local archaeological investigations

In 1995 an excavation of the footings of the sandstone wall behind the Nag’s Head PH on the line of the medieval town wall (13 c) showed that it represented at least two phases of post-medieval work; the medieval wall itself may have existed below the base of the excavation (Earthworks Archaeological Services Ltd. 1995).

Present condition and issues

The standing wall here behind 18 Wyle Cop is in good condition, although there is heavy growth of ivy on the top, probably originating from gardens in Dogpole to the west. The eastern end of this section, running up to the rebuilt wall at the rear of the Nag’s Head, when viewed from the gardens of 21a Dogpole, can be seen to be in need of consolidation.

Ownership and status

The line of the defences here are in private ownership. The standing wall at the west end of this section is protected by Grade II Listing as part of the curtilage of 18 Wyle Cop (NHLE 1255103) and the Nag’s Head PH (NHLE 1255142).

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team’s curatorial archaeologist.
- The ivy should be removed from the top of the wall behind 18 Wyle Cop in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.5) for managing vegetation growth. (For further guidance see the CMP Appendix 1).
- The eastern end of the wall at the rear of 18 & 19 Wyle Cop requires some consolidation work in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.4) for managing stone and mortar decay.
- Review the designation of the monument on the north side of Wyle Cop with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.

Illustrations



The inner face of the rebuilt (1995) wall at the rear of the Nag's Head PH (13 c)



The inner face of the wall at the top of Wyle Cop (13 d), showing musket loopholes

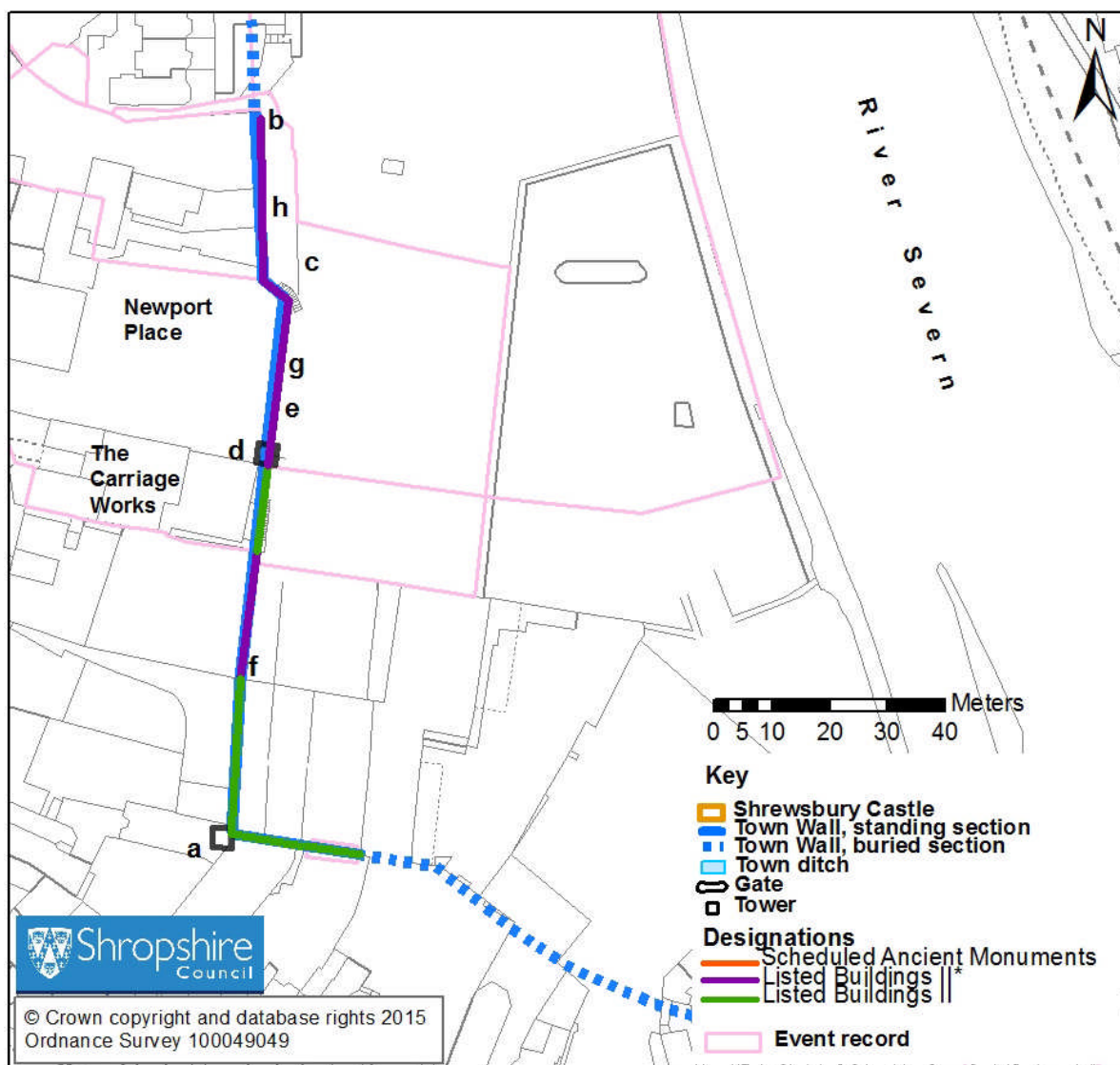


The outer face of the wall (13 d) behind Wyle Cop, looking SE



The outer face of the wall to the rear of 18 & 19 Wyle Cop (13 d), looking southwest

14 Dogpole



Gazetteer Map 14 key

14	Dogpole	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Miss Humphrey's Tower	HER 62477
b	Access from Newport Place car park	HER 62581
c	Grinshill terrace wall	
d	Yrkylode Postern	HER 08397
e	1974 excavation (Town Wall site) at Wyle Cop Meadows	HER 60275
f	Wall behind 21 & 21a Dogpole	NHLE 1247530; HER 62581
g	Wall behind Carriage Works, 19 Dogpole	NHLE 1247491 HER 62581
h	Wall behind Newport House	NHLE 1270999 HER 62581

Location and summary

The section of the defences comprises lengths of mainly red sandstone terrace walls that run along the rear of the properties on the east side of Dogpole, from the site of Miss Humphrey's Tower (14 a) to the edge of the Parade Shopping Centre (formerly the site of the Royal Shrewsbury Infirmary) where there is an access from the Newport Place car park to the gardens below the wall (14 b). The wall here is thought to be of post-medieval

date, but probably follows the general line of the medieval defences, and its foundations may in places rest on the remains of the medieval wall.

Description

A lower terrace wall of grey Grinshill sandstone (14 c) is probably of 19th century construction. Until recently much of this section of the wall was heavily overgrown making assessment of its age and construction difficult. As part of a recent development of Newport Place this wall has been cleared and stabilised. This length of masonry wall is built of mixed red and buff Grinshill sandstone. In places (for example at the southeast corner of the Carriage Works building) it stands to a height of over 5m. The wall still forms a strong terrace line along the top of the hill on the eastern edge of the town. The southernmost part of the wall, in the grounds of 21a Dogpole, forms a corner with the section running behind Wyle Cop. The actual junction is masked by a set of steps from the terrace above, and is then faced in 19th or early 20th century brick before continuing in mainly red sandstone blocks with a Grinshill string course. The masonry here is bonded and heavily re-pointed in a hard white/light grey mortar of 19th century type, and this section of wall appears to be of later post-medieval construction. At the northeast corner of the Carriage Works is the supposed site of a documented gate (14 d), the Yrkeslode Postern, (though its actual site could lie up to 50m either to the north or the south of the mapped point). The sections of wall behind the Newport Place development are clearly of multiple period construction. Some of the wall would seem to be of 19th century date down to its base, other parts are of similar appearance to the probable post-medieval sections to the south and along the section on the south side of Town Walls road. And it is possible that in some parts the base of the wall may be earlier, possibly medieval in date.

Local archaeological investigations

Excavations in the gardens east of Dogpole in 1974 (14 e) indicated that the sandstone walls here, thought to be the medieval town wall, were in fact 19th century terrace walls. A further standing terrace wall of Grinshill stone (14 c), outside (east of) the first, was found to be of 18th or 19th century date and cut destruction levels of another substantial well-faced red sandstone revetment wall survived three courses high also of post-medieval date. The real medieval town wall was thought by the excavators to lie further to the west beneath the upper section of the Guildhall's garden. (Sawle & Wills, 1974; Carver, 1978)

An assessment of the terrace wall on the line of the Town Wall behind the Guildhall/Newport House and the former Mountford Carriage Works was carried out by Morriss in 2005. The assessment concurred with Carver's findings in 1974 and concluded that this section of the wall was probably a post-medieval re-building of the Town Wall, though possibly constructed on medieval foundations (Morriss, 2005, pp11-14).

Present condition and issues

There is some ivy growth on the top of the wall at the rear of the Newport Place car park, and at the southern end where ivy is growing over the wall from properties on the Wyle Cop side. Otherwise the wall here is in good condition, and in particular, the section behind Newport Place has been stabilised as part of the redevelopment of that site just over a decade ago.

Ownership and status

This stretch of the wall is in private ownership. It is protected by curtilage listing the Grade II Listed 21 and 21A Dogpole (NHLE 1247530) the Grade II* Old House, 20 Dogpole (NHLE 1247171), the Grade II Carriage Works, 19 Dogpole (NHLE 1247491) and the Grade II* Listed Guildhall (Newport House) (NHLE 1270999)

Local actions

- The ivy should be removed from the top of the wall behind Newport Place in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.5) for managing vegetation growth. (For further guidance see CMP Appendix 1).
- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.

Illustrations



The brick terrace wall on the line of the town wall at 21a Dogpole (between 14 a & 14 f)



The sandstone town wall at 21a Dogpole



The wall at the rear of the Carriage Works, Dogpole, looking SW (14 g)



The wall at the rear of the Carriage Works and Newport House (14 g & 14 h), looking NW



The tunnel or drain through the wall behind Newport Place (formerly the Guildhall)



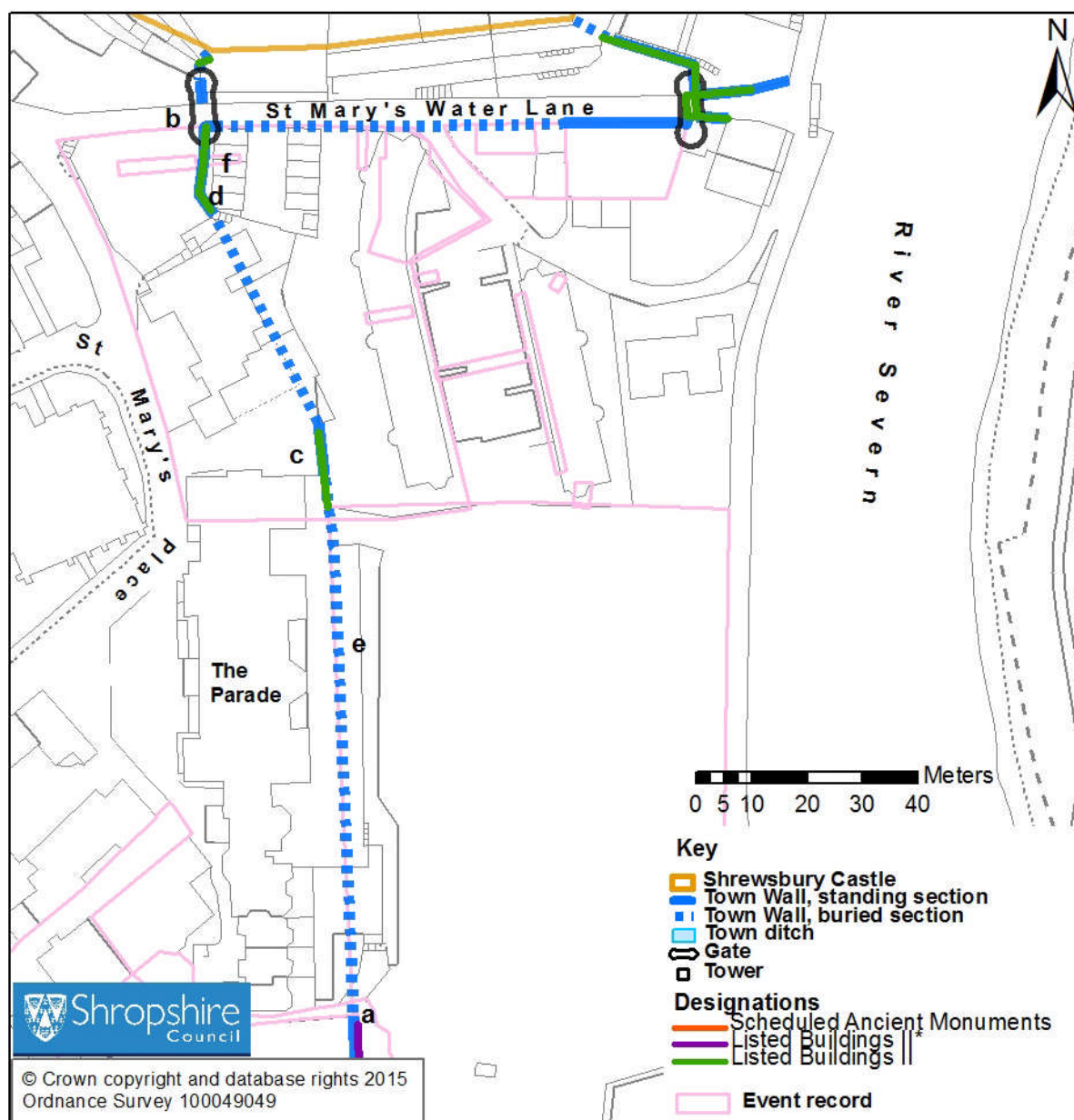


The town wall below the Newport Place car park (14 h), looking NW



The 18th or 19th century Grinshill sandstone terrace wall (14 c) behind Newport Place.

15 St Mary's Place



Gazetteer Map 15 key

15	St Mary's Place	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	Access from Newport Place car park	HER 62581
b	St Marys Gate	HER 01445
c	The Parade Shopping Centre, St Mary's Place	NHLE 1254655
d	Possible Standing Section of Shrewsbury Town Wall (Windsor Place)	HER 62546
e	The Town Wall (1958 sighting)	HER 60273
f	1989 evaluation of the Nurses Home site	

Location and summary

This stretch of wall runs north from the northeast corner of the Newport Place development (15 a) behind the Parade Shopping Centre (formerly the Royal Shrewsbury Infirmary) and the car park for Watergate Mansions (formerly the Nurses Home). This section of the wall ends at the site of the St Mary's Water Lane upper gate (15 b).

Description

Behind the Parade, the town wall runs below ground beneath the car park to the rear of the building, with a steep bank of earth sloping down to the east towards the River Severn. A short section of stone wall (15 c) emerges from the bank at its northern end before turning northwest to run beneath Watergate Mansions. From Watergate Mansions a brick and sandstone wall (15 d) runs north along the east side of a car park up to the red sandstone remains of St Mary's Gate (15 b).

Local archaeological investigations

A serious collapse of soil below the RSI in 1958 was said to have 'brought to light a fine stretch of town walls' (15 e). Part of the same stretch had been observed by H E Forrest in the late 1930s. The fabric and precise position of this 1958 sighting are not recorded. In 1989 an evaluation was carried out prior to the preparation of detailed redevelopment proposals for the Nurses Home site in an area believed to contain remains of the town wall and the town's Dominican Friary. One trench located below the car park wall (15 f) found its lower courses to be of red sandstone, cut into or founded upon a dark layer containing 13th century pottery. Soil dumped 1.5m thick up against the foundations contained disarticulated and partly-articulated human bone, possibly from friary destruction deposits. (Buteux, 1989)

Present condition and issues

The outer faces of the sandstone terrace walls could not be closely accessed as part of this investigation. Observation from the top of the parapet of the wall behind the Parade suggests that this section of wall is in good condition.

Ownership and status

The line of the defences and the standing walls here are in private ownership. The two short standing sections are protected as part of the curtilage of two Grade II Listed Buildings, The Parade Shopping Centre, St Mary's Place (NHLE 1254655) and Watergate Mansions, the former Nurses' Home, St Mary's Place, (NHLE1254831).

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.

Illustrations



Extract from a watercolour of Shrewsbury from the south, c. 1630, showing the town wall behind Dogpole and St Mary's Place. (© Shropshire Council)

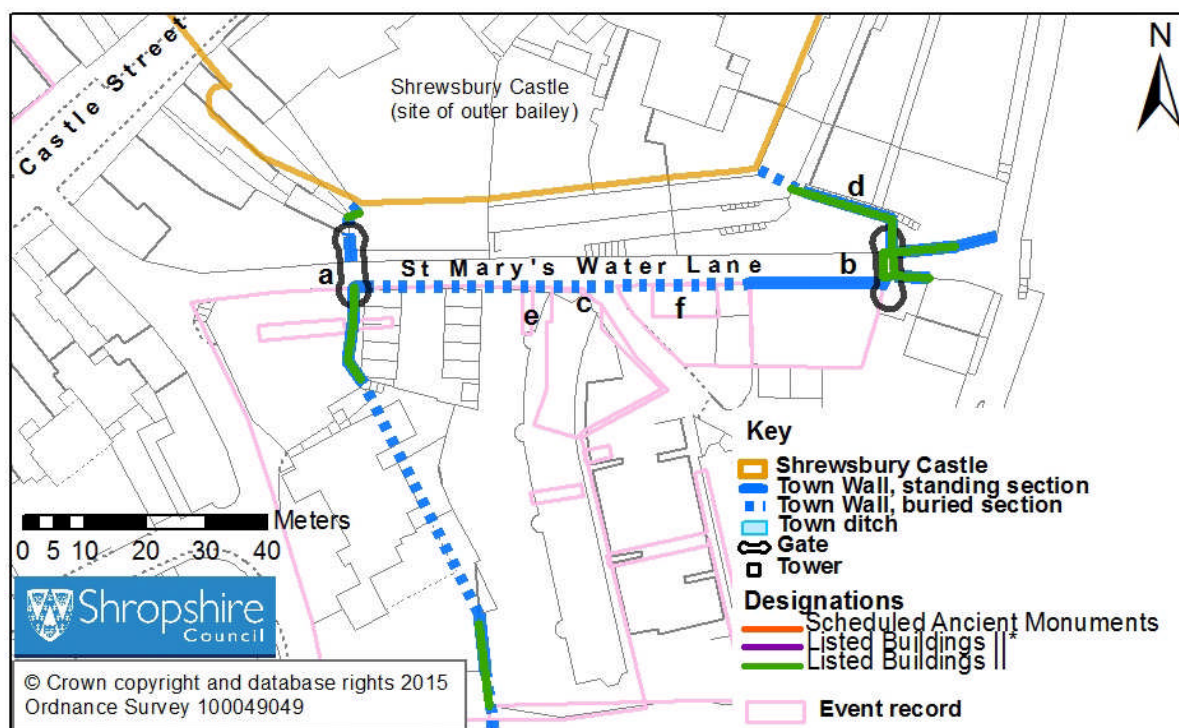


The terrace and slope (15 e) at the rear of The Parade shopping centre looking NW



The sandstone parapet wall (15 c) behind The Parade shopping centre, looking NE

16 St Mary's Water Lane



Gazetteer Map 16 key

16	St Mary's Water Lane	NHLE No. / HER PRN
a	St Marys Gate	HER 01445
b	St Marys Water Gate, St Marys Water Lane, Shrewsbury	NHLE1254843; HER 10549
c	St Mary's Water Lane	HER 62552
d	Wall running NW from St Marys Water Gate	NHLE1254843; HER 10549
e	1996 test pits at the Nurses' Home (Blackfriars) site	
f	Former Union Wharf Company warehouse, St Mary's Water Lane	HER 20373

Location and summary

St Mary's Water Lane formed a barbican running from an upper gate (16 a) in the town walls down to a lower gate (16 b), St Mary's Water Gate, just above the river. A Dominican Friary was founded outside the town walls in the angle made by the St Mary's Place section and the south side of St Mary's Water Lane.

Description

Gated at top and bottom the Burghley Map and Speed's map show St Mary's Water Lane defended by crenellated walls on both sides to form an extended barbican down to the river. The remains of the upper gate are visible on both sides of the lane, the remains on the south being the more substantial. On the south side the gate jamb can be seen, constructed of weathered sandstone ashlar. At the same level as the jamb, immediately adjacent to the south, is a cellar with a brick barrel-vaulted roof, under the car park above. Within the cellar, the masonry of the jamb appears to return southwards as a finished face, suggesting that there was an internal space associated with the gate to the south; this cellar is now gated and not accessible. Red sandstone masonry in the basement of Traitors Gate Restaurant (34 Castle Street) may be remains of this upper gate or a section of wall connecting the gate to the castle defences.

The wall on the south side of the lane (16 c) also represents the line of the precinct wall of the Dominican Friary (Blackfriars). The wall is of red sandstone, though many sections

have been rebuilt in the late 20th century, though the lower part running down to St Mary's Water Gate may be medieval in date. There is no surviving evidence of the fortified wall on the north side of the barbican, where there is now a brick retaining wall of 18th century date. There was a wharfage on the south side of the river at the end of the lane probably in the medieval and certainly in the post-medieval periods.

The surviving gate at the bottom of the lane, St Mary's Water Gate (16 b), is a two-centred arch of late 13th or 14th-century type, chamfered on the outside and flanked by buttresses, with a broader segmental rear arch. A solid mass of masonry either side results in a basically rectangular structure. The gate itself is constructed of Grinshill ashlar though the wing walls are a mixture of Grinshill and red sandstone ashlar. Much of the fabric is covered with a combed cement render in imitation of tooled masonry, though this is now hidden by ivy. On the north side, running up the slope towards the Council House and the castle defences is a sandstone wall (16 d), just possibly contemporary, (though this has not been examined closely). According to Owen writing at the beginning of the 19th century the gate may 'have been flanked with towers, and had a passage over the arch' (Owen, 1808). No detailed recording or analysis of the standing structure has taken place to-date.

Local archaeological investigations

Prior to the redevelopment of the Blackfriars site a trial trench (16 e) was dug against the southern frontage of St Mary's Water Lane to test the possibility of foundations surviving along the southern frontage from the former town (barbican) wall or precinct wall. In the event excavation could only be taken to within c.0.3 metres of the edge of the lane due to the presence of live underground electricity cables, and no such foundations were seen (Baker 1997). In October 1998 a rapid archaeological survey of a former Union Wharf Company warehouse (16 f) on the south side of St Mary's Water Lane noted that the base of the north wall contained ashlar sandstone which could represent *in situ* fabric of medieval date; if so this would have formed part of the south side of the barbican down to the water gate (Baker, 1998).

Present condition and issues

The surviving remains of the barbican and gates appear to be in good condition. However, there is substantial ivy growth on the top of St Mary's Water Gate at the bottom of the lane, which prevents closer inspection of the upper fabric. There is evidence of recent graffiti on the southwest side of the gate and adjoining wall.

Ownership and status

The walls of the upper gate and the north and south sides of the barbican are in private ownership. Ownership of St Mary's Water Gate has not been established – it may be in multiple ownership; although it spans the end of a public highway and a Right of Way, this does not itself indicate ownership by Shropshire Council. St Mary's Water Gate is a Grade II Listed Building (NHLE 1254843). The sandstone masonry in the basement of Traitors Gate Restaurant, is protected by the Grade II Listing of 34 Castle Street (NHLE 1246905), and the south side of the upper gate by the curtilage listing of the wall on the east side of the Watergate Mansion car park (NHLE1254831). The sandstone walling on the south side of the barbican is undesignated.

Local actions

- In line with the CMP Management Policy (5.2) for a strategic approach to development along the Town Walls, pre-application advice for development which might affect this section of the town defences should be sought from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team's curatorial archaeologist.
- The ivy should be removed from the top of St Mary's Water Gate in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.5) for managing vegetation growth. (For further guidance see CMP Appendix 1).
- Shropshire Council's Street Works Team should liaise with the Historic Environment Team in order to ensure that adequate archaeological provision is in place for any road works that might affect below-ground remains of the town defences on St Mary's Water Lane, in line with the CMP Management Policy (5.6) for managing roadworks.
- The graffiti on St Mary's Water Gate should be removed in line with in line with CMP Management Policy (5.7) for Managing Graffiti. (For further guidance see CMP Appendix 1).
- Review the designation of the monument on Meadow Place with a view to rationalisation and to improve protection for this monument in line with CMP Management Policy (5.8) for Designation review.

Illustrations



The remains of St Mary's Gate (16 a) at the top of St Mary's Water Lane, looking W



St Mary's Water Gate (16 b), looking E towards the River Severn



St Mary's Water Gate (16 b), looking W