

GLA/SITE/3/14

D King

Glastonbury Abbey Excavations

1959, 1963 & 1964

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1959

4th August, 1959

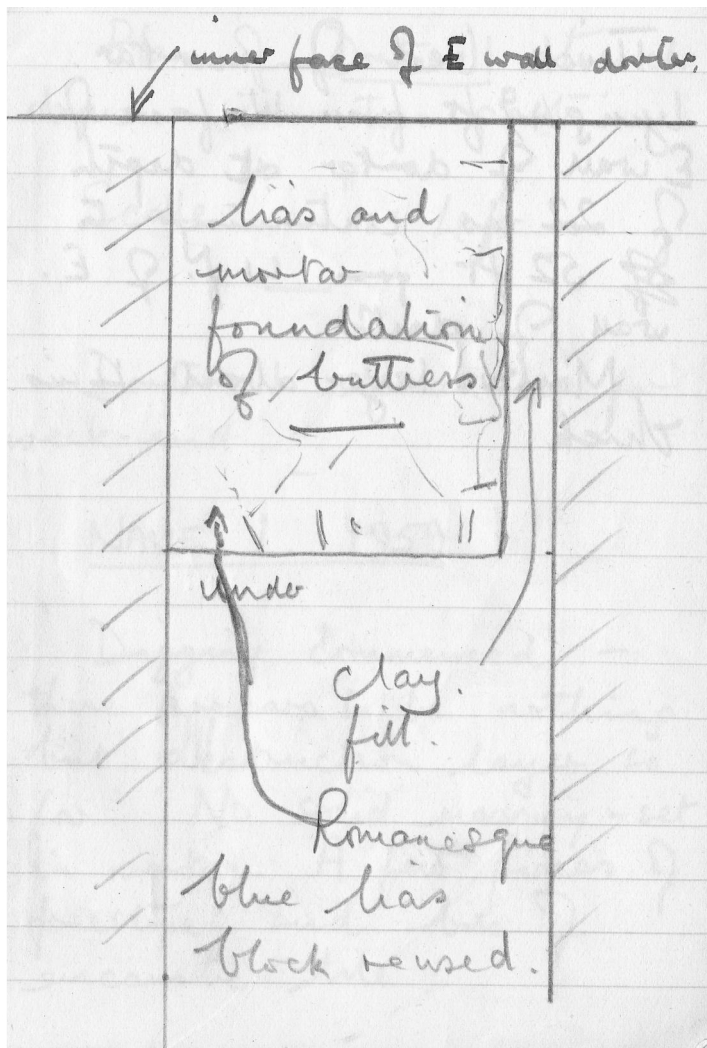
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Thursday 6th August

Dorter 1. Section 65

West of east wall of Dorter - foundation of inner vault buttress [C:5215] including large blue lias block – Romanesque re-used. See plan

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Sketch of inner face of east wall of dorter.

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Dorter 1

Thick bed of mortar [C:5251] lying 49ft from west face of east wall of dorter at depth of 22ins continuing to 52ft from west face of east wall of dorter.

Mortar layer about 4 ins thick.

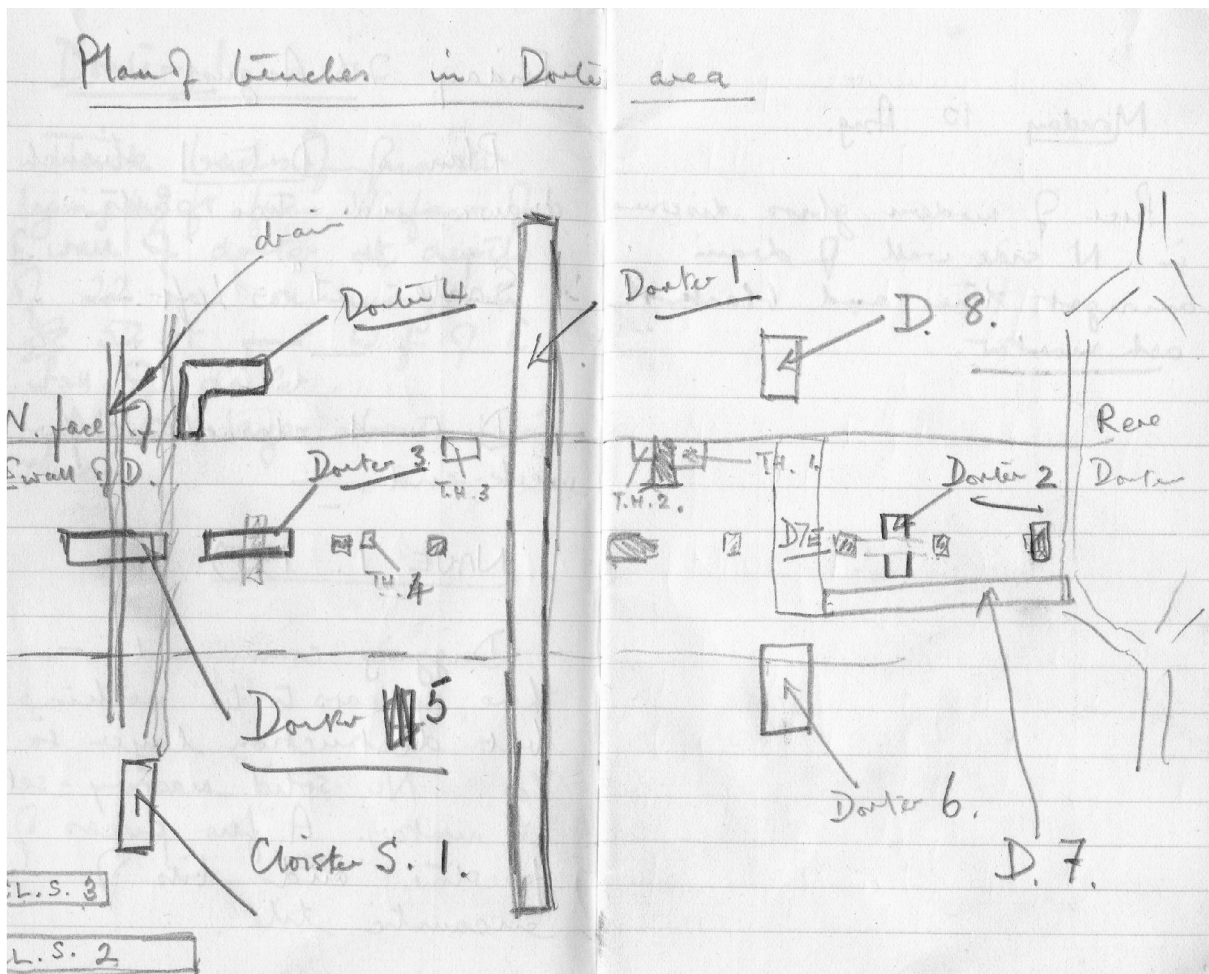
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Friday 7th August

Plan of Dorter 1 trench drawn in two parts. Scale 1" = 4ft. Dorter 1 cleared up for weekend.

Nave 1 – 1959. Section 63

Digging commenced – there appears to be nothing but destruction layer so far. No solid masonry – set in mortar. A few pieces of freestone and bits of encaustic tile.



Sketch plan of dorter and CLS trenches.

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Monday 10th August

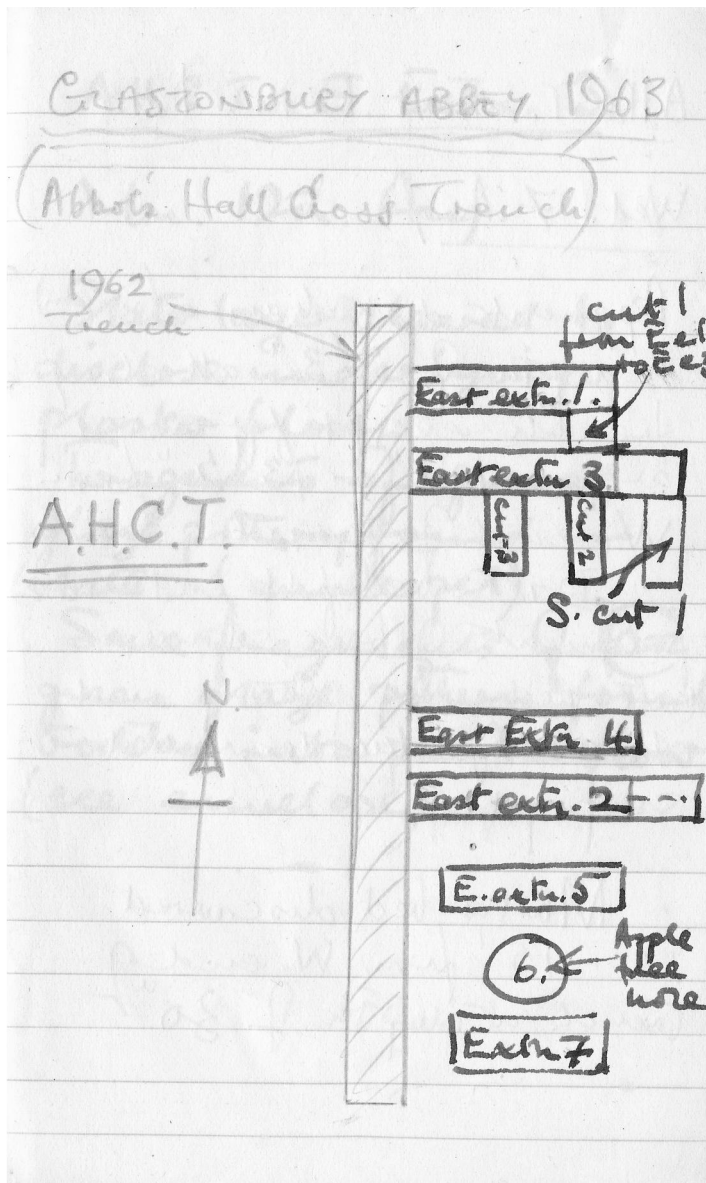
Piece of modern glass discarded in North side wall of drain amongst stones and blackish ash mortar.

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Glastonbury Abbey

1963

Abbots hall cross trench



Sketch plan of AHCT trenches.

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AHCT East Extension 1. Section 76

Wednesday 7th August

Apparent disturbance (modern) [C:6052] to depth of 2'3" all along trench except for small area 10'6" - 13'2" from west end of trench.

Disturbed fill contained fragments of bone, stone, late medieval pottery and sherds of blue decorated soup plate.

Mortar bed [C:6056] discovered 12'-15' from west end of trench at depth of 30"

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AHCT East extension 3. Section 77

Monday 12th August

Slate layer [C:7059] cleared to disclose underlying plaster floor [C:7060]. Fragments of green glaze pottery found in slate (enveloped) [F:BF7110] & [F:BF7112]. Some fragments of 12th century green glaze pottery found trodden into plaster floor (see envelope) [F:BF7077], [F:BF7084] & [F:BF7091].

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Tuesday 13th August & Wednesday

Cross trench cut from AHCT East extension 1 to AHCT East extension 3 in attempt to discover line of Saxon wall.

Apart from a small area about 1ft wide at the south end the mortar floor [C:6056] & [C:7060] had been cut through by a medieval disturbance yielding pottery (see envelopes).

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AHCT East extension 3 south cut 1

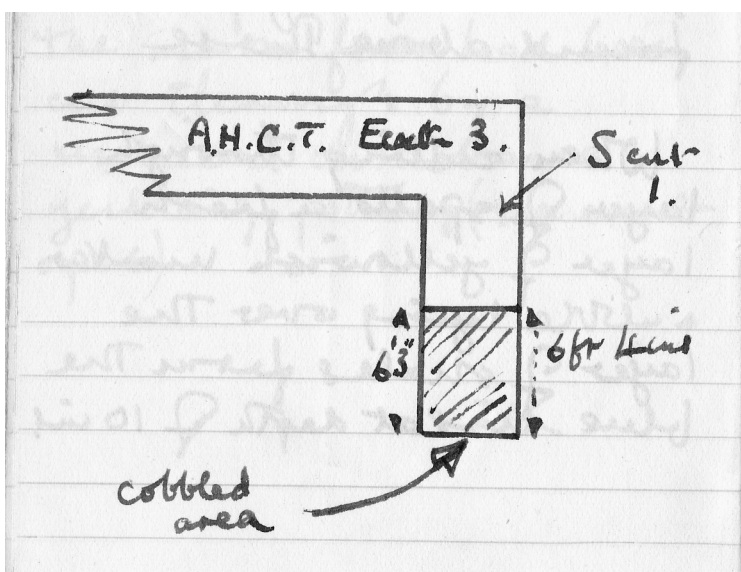
Overlying layer of destruction rubble [C:7054] containing pottery.

At a depth of 9" layer of blue lias spalls [C:7057], some decayed glass found above these.

When cutting through layer of spalls a fresh layer of yellowish mortar rubble lying over the layer of shales from the blue lias at depth of 10 inches.

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Sketch plan of Abbots hall courtyard cobbling in AHCT East extension 3 south cut 1



Sketch plan of AHCT Extension 3 and S cut 1.

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Pins @ 264', 1ft N from SW corner of cage

@ 132'. 6ft3" from NW corner of cage

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1964

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Glastonbury Abbey 1964

Tuesday 11th Aug.

O-S 13ft 4ins, O-W 2ft 8ins. At depth of c.32ins. Base of pot. Black ware lying on darkish earth and lias make-up (depth taken at line of turf E).

Wednesday 12th August

Fragments of green glaze pot lying beneath shales upon plaster floor.

O-S, 10ft 2ins

O-W, 24ft 9ins

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NW corner of pit. O-N 28ft 9ins against North face, at depth of 4ft 5ins.

Six pieces of assorted med pottery ? 12th century – 15th century/ 17th century in modern fill.

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The courtyard of Abbots House cut through. This was thick layer of mortar containing chipped lias and broken pieces of free-stone. This appeared in east section of pit O-S 13ft 9ins.

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Trenching S of wall

O-S

O-W

Remains of mortar and rubble pack of courtyard cut through. This yielded green glaze pottery. Beneath this a thin scatter of ?. Below this a further layer of smashed Dundry (?) stone containing a 12th century column in Dundry.

Cutting south along east face of trench. Portions of green glaze pottery – strap handle 13th century etc. in clay make-up below Abbots Yard.

O-S 10ft

O-W 1 ft

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O-S 32ft

O-W 16 ft

Late M. glazed pottery intrusion through courtyard floor.

Workmen cutting through destruction debris unearthed portion of blue lias column, O-S 12ft, O-W 17ft.