



*Herefordshire  
Council*

## **HEREFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation  
and Recording within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of  
Lilleshall Abbey.**

**Lilleshall, Shropshire**

**October 2016**



**Report prepared by S. Mayes**

**Herefordshire Archaeology Report No. HAR 365**

**Herefordshire Archaeology**  
Environment, Planning and Waste  
Economy, Communities & Corporate Directorate  
Herefordshire Council



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**Herefordshire Archaeology** is Herefordshire Council's county archaeology service. It advises upon the conservation of archaeological and historic sites and landscapes, and carries out conservation and investigative field projects.

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## Summary:

Due to the unauthorised disturbance of an area of ground within the designated scheduled monument boundary of Lilleshall Abbey (Scheduled Monument 1015286), Hereford Archaeology (UK) Ltd were commissioned by Historic England, to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation, and recording, to examine and evaluate the impact from the unauthorised works.

The examination of the unauthorised works at Abbey Farm identified that an archaeological feature of uncertain characteristics and date was truncated by the action of the unauthorised excavations. The observation of the unauthorised works also identified a change in the characteristics of the stratigraphic makeup of the area, suggesting that it is possible that part of the area was subject to historic ploughing.

Disclaimer: It should not be assumed that land referred to in this document is accessible to the public. Location plans are indicative only. National Grid References are accurate to approximately 5m. Measured dimensions are accurate to within 1m at a scale of 1:500, 0.1m at 1:50 and 0.02m at 1:20m

Figures contained within this report contain material from the Ordnance Survey. The grid in this material is the National Grid taken from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (OS Licence 100024168). This material has been reproduced to locate the site in its environs.

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# 1. Introduction

This report (Herefordshire Archaeology Report No. 365) provides an account of archaeological observation, investigation and recording within the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument associated with Lilleshall Abbey (*List entry number 1015286*), following a series of unauthorised excavations for the installation of a ground-coupled heat exchanger system within the grounds of Abbey Farm.

In consultation with the Inspector Ancient Monuments and the Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Bill Klemperer and Alison MacDonald, respectively, a scheme of archaeological works was agreed upon. This consisted of a programme of archaeological investigation, observation and recording of the unauthorised excavations, that were identified during a site meeting between representatives of Historic England and Herefordshire Archaeology.

Historic England contracted Hereford Archaeology to undertake the required works. Site work was undertaken between the 28th and 30th October 2016.



Figure 1: Location of Abbey Farm Site in relation to the main towns and city in Shropshire. © Herefordshire Council

## **2. Aims and Objectives**

The objectives of the program of works were as follows:

- To conduct a programme of archaeological recording and investigation of the unauthorised works within the boundary of the Scheduled Monument of Lilleshall Abbey (1015286);
- To investigate the surrounding area within the vicinity of the unauthorised works to identify any existing earth works which may have incurred an adverse impact from the unauthorised works;
- To assess the vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the unauthorised works to be assessed;
- To produce a site archive for deposition with a Local Museum and to provide information for accession to the Shropshire Historic Environment Record.

## **3. Policy and guidance**

The assessment has been undertaken with reference to relevant legislation, National Planning Policy and Guidance, and Regional and Local Planning Policy relating to Cultural Heritage.

### ***Legislation***

Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings are protected by statute. Legislation regarding Scheduled Monuments is contained within The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Under this legislation it is an offence to carry out any works resulting in the demolition or destruction of or any damage to a scheduled monument without prior written consent.

## **4. Site location, Description, Setting**

The site is bounded to the north and north-east by the Lilyhurst Road (A518) and a curving farm access track to the west, the main buildings of Abbey Farm are located to the south of the area of unauthorised works.

The site is currently laid to grass; a line of trees mark the edges and a raised pond or reservoir is located within the centre of the field.

The main buildings of Abbey farm are located approximately 250m to the south west of Lilleshall Abbey and are arranged to the south of the southwest-northeast line of the redundant Donnington wood canal.

A small proportion of the land associated with Abbey Farm lies within the scheduled monument area of Lilleshall Abbey and it is within this area that the unauthorised work took place (See Figure. 2).

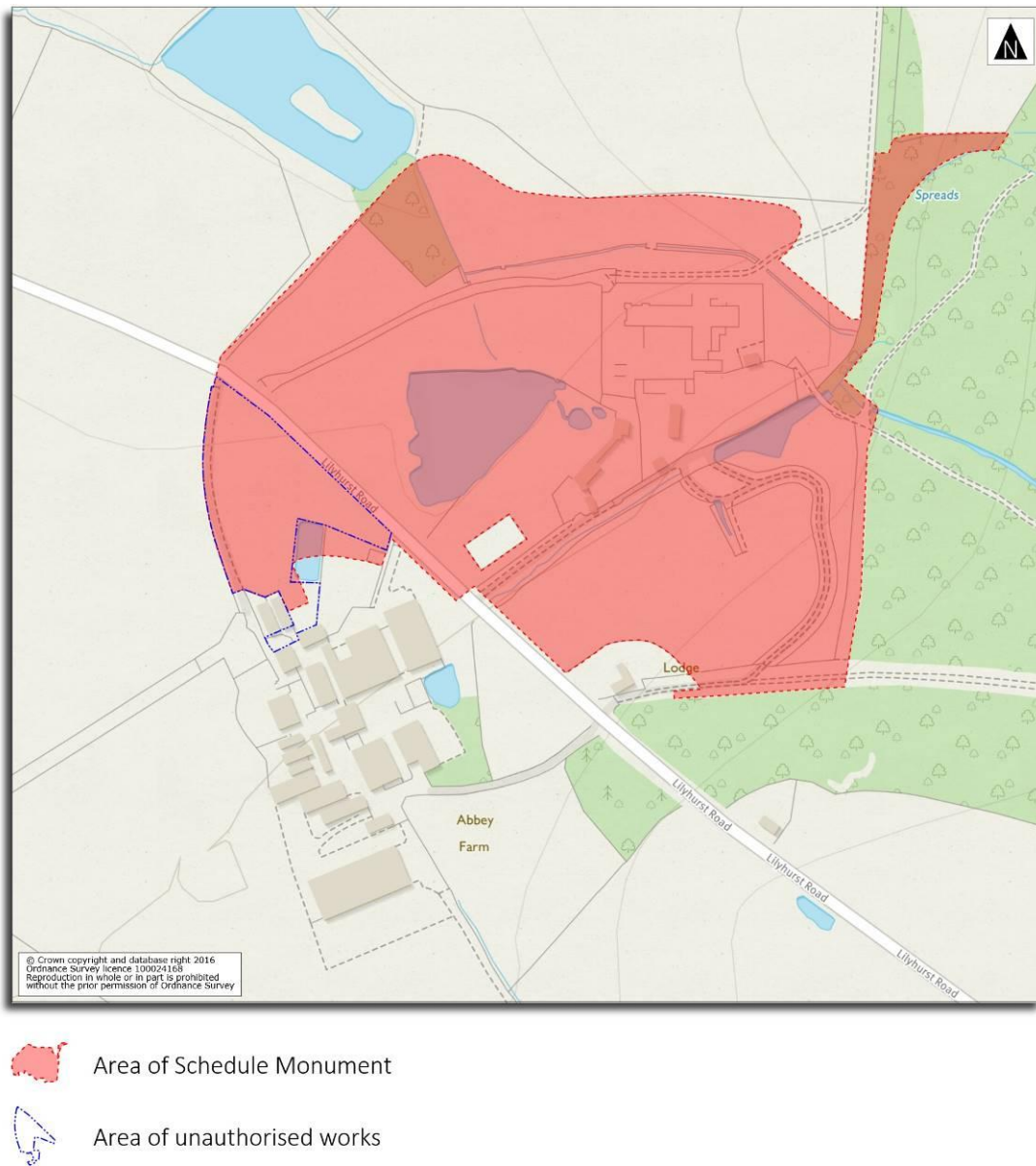


Figure 2 Location of Abbey Farm in relation to area of scheduled monument, Lilleshall Abbey (1015286).

## 5. Geology

The underlying solid geology within the area of works comprises Halesowen Formation, a mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. The Halesowen formation is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 307 to 309 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period indicating a local environment previously dominated by rivers. Superficial deposits consist of Alluvial Fan deposits, a mixture of clay, silt, sand and gravels laid down up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period

(British Geological Survey website, Accessed 30-10 2016; (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

## 6. Historical and archaeological background

### ***Lilleshall***

Lilleshall village lies 4 km. south-west of Newport and approximately 2.7km north of the site. The ancient parish boundaries are marked on the north and west by Headford and Humber brooks, which drain on the north-west into the Weald Moors, the southern boundary is defined by Watling Street.

The land slopes progressively from south-east to north-west, dropping c. 120 metres and then levelling out. A series of streams watering the centres of settlement, flow north-west across the parish to drain into the Weald Moors. There are two greatly contrasting areas. The larger is the agricultural north and east, centring on Lilleshall village and the south-west which was occupied by coal mines and ironworks in the early part of the 19th century.

A small 1st-century Roman military installation, apparently surrounded by a later civil settlement, once stood at Redhill in the south-east corner of the parish, where Watling Street crossed the summit of the hill. Nearby are indications of both Iron Age and Roman occupation. (fn. 6) There is no evidence that Redhill was occupied beyond the Roman period.

In the early Middle Ages the sandstone slopes in the south probably supported unbroken woodland, the only remnant of which is Abbey wood. The extreme north was a waterlogged waste, though later reclaimed. From the early Middle Ages until the late 18th century the population therefore mostly lived and worked within a central drift-covered belt stretching from north-east to south-west and including the villages of Lilleshall, Honnington, Muxton, and Donnington.

*(A History of the County of Shropshire: Volume XI, Telford.)*

### ***Lilleshall Abbey***

Lilleshall Abbey is a scheduled monument and is located 250m to the north east of the site, the site of the unauthorised works lies partially within the former precinct boundary of the Abbey grounds.

The History of Lilleshall Abbey is well documented; a brief synopsis of the buildings significance and historic asset value is give below;

*“Lilleshall Abbey is a fine example of an Augustinian abbey which is unusual in retaining most of its original 12th century fabric substantially unaltered. The standing remains retain details of their method of construction, including the building and decorative techniques employed. The full extent of the claustral ranges and ancillary structures will remain in the form of post holes and as buried foundations within the precinct boundary. Floor levels will preserve*



*environmental and artefact evidence for the activities which took place there. The subsistence and broader economic setting of this religious community can be understood in part from the earthwork remains of the fishponds, which will retain information relating to their method of construction and operation. The dams will retain information relating to their construction and the construction and operation of the sluices and mills they supported. The old ground surface sealed beneath the dams will retain information relating to land use immediately prior to their construction. The earthwork remains of the canal and its docking areas will also retain details of their method of construction, and waterlogged deposits will preserve environmental evidence relating to the activities which took place at and around the canal during its use. The masonry remains of the lock further enhance interest in this element of the site, the construction of which illustrates the continued significance of the site from medieval times to beyond the Industrial Revolution.*

*Documentary evidence attests the high status of the abbey, which is an element of the wider picture of medieval political and social organisation in Shropshire.”*

*(Historic England (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1015286>))*

For the full listing entry see Appendix IIII

## 7. Map regression

The earliest accurate map available for the study area is the Ordnance Survey map of 1881 published in 1888, the map shows the layout of the field system in which the unauthorised works have taken place. The map boundary unfortunately subdivides the study. Examination of the map shows the field is open a line of trees follow the west curving access track, the access track joins the existing canal bridge and some of the Abbey Farm buildings are also represented south of the line of the canal. (See Figure. 3)

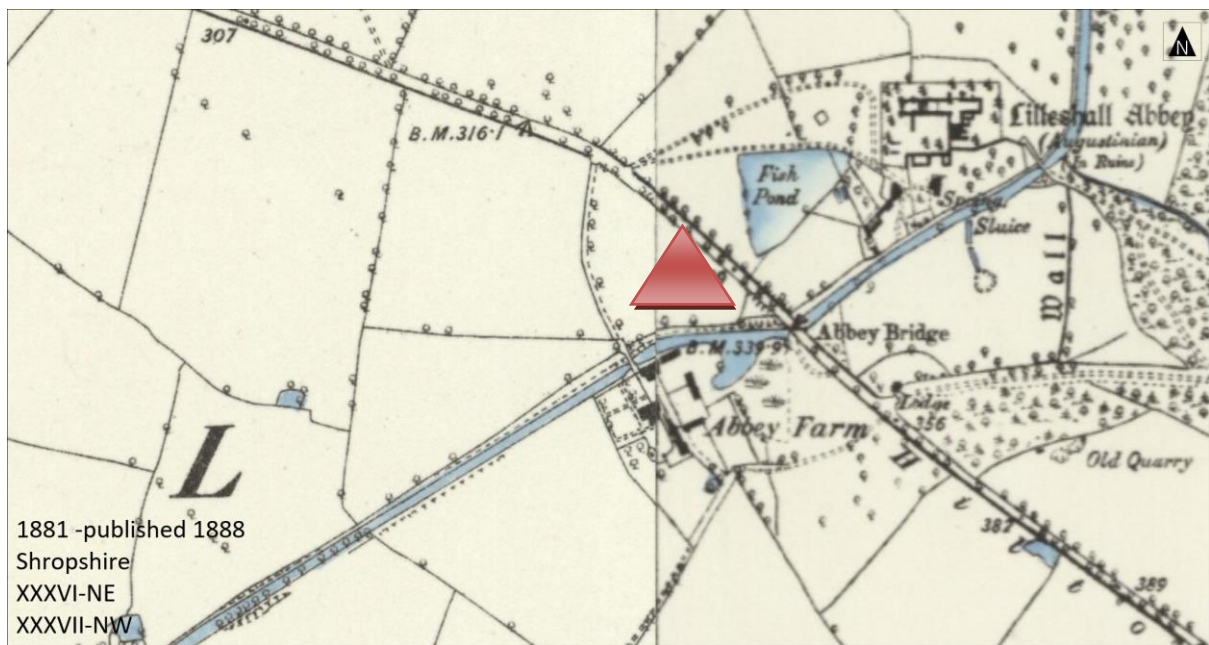


Figure. 3 1881 (Published 1888) map of Shropshire, showing area of unauthorised works.

The 1938 Ordnance Survey map shows that the canal is now disused, the line of trees recorded on the 1888 map are no longer represented the study area is again subdivided by the map edge, the filed boundary is shown to be free of features or buildings associated with Abbey Farm. (See Figure. 4)



Figure. 4 1938 Shropshire map, showing area of unauthorised works.

## 8. Methodology

In consultation with the Inspector Ancient Monuments and the Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Bill Klemperer and Alison MacDonald, respectively, a scheme of archaeological works was agreed upon. This consisted of a programme of archaeological investigation, observation and recording of the unauthorised excavations within the scheduling area.

The extent of the unauthorised works was examined and the stratigraphic sequence was recorded. A series of sample sections was located to represent the changes in stratigraphic sequence observed within the area of unauthorised works. The unauthorised works were located using a handheld GPS system.

All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). All contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological norms. Photographs of archaeological features, deposits and general area were taken using 16mp digital camera.

Registers were kept for context records, photographs and drawings.

## 9. Results

### *Excavation*

The site work comprised of three site visits between 28th and 30th October 2016 to investigate and record the area of unauthorised works.

Much of the unauthorised works was located within the scheduling area and comprised of a single machine cut trench dividing into two trenches, both approximately 3m in width with an average depth of 1.20m (Max 1.40m) and approximately 2m apart, running parallel in a northern direction, from the line of the former Donnington canal for approximately 108m at which point it turns to the east for approximately 14m then turning to the south east and terminating approximately 32m from the second turn. (See Figure. 5)

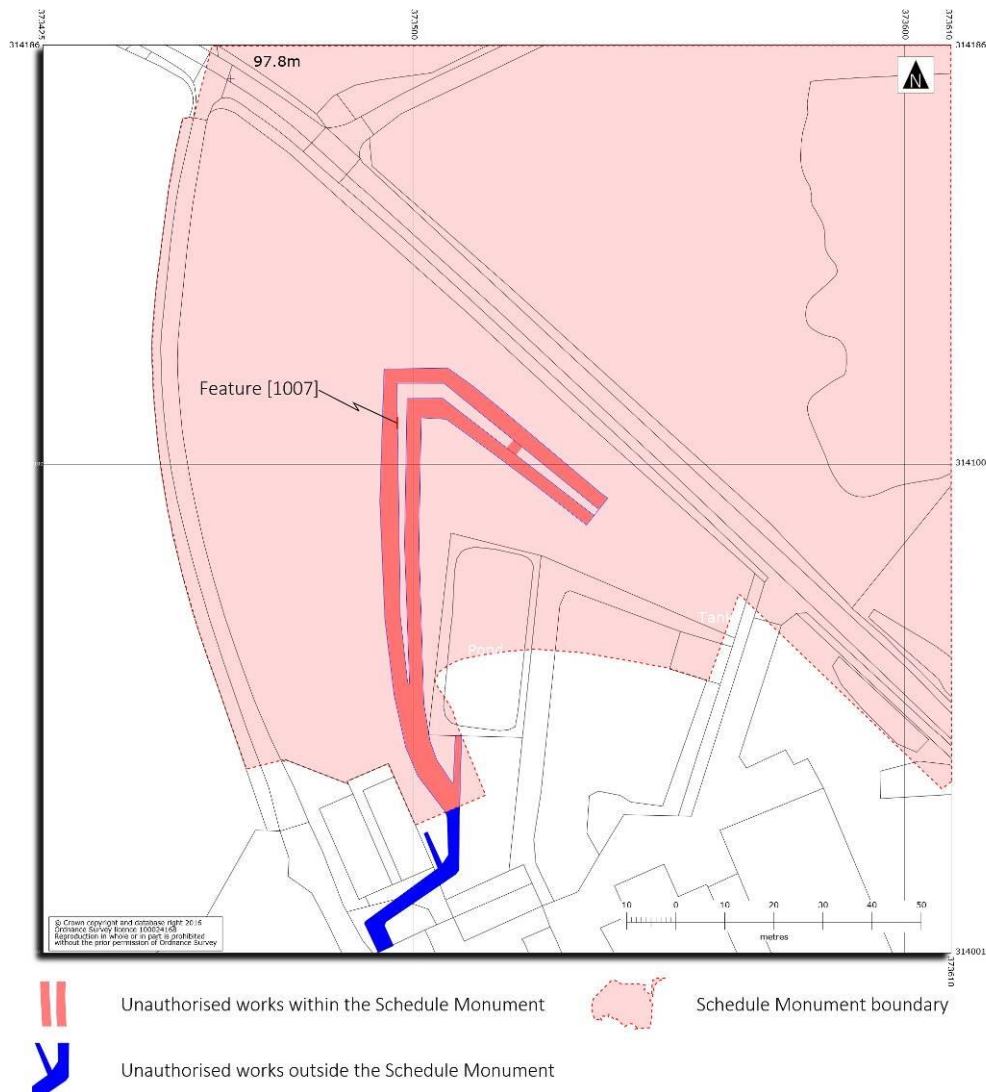


Figure. 5 Location of unauthorised works at Abbey Farm, Shropshire.

A section of the excavation works was located outside of the boundary of the scheduled area and followed the line of the former Donnington canal before entered a building at the time of the site visit undergoing refurbishment. (See Figure. 5)

The area of unauthorised works was examined in full and recorded through a series of sample sections (See Figure. 6). Six areas were recorded to illustrate the composition of the area, only one appeared to indicated that the unauthorised excavations had truncated an archaeological feature of possible significance (Feature [1007]).

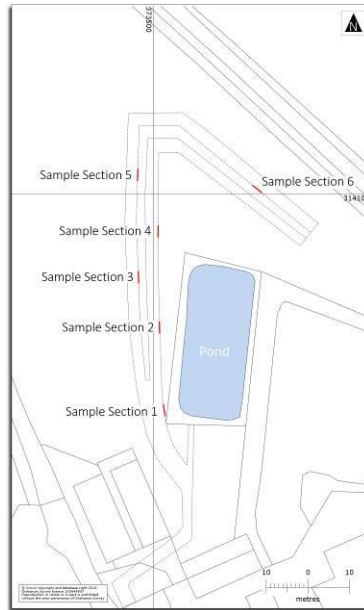


Figure. 6 Location of sample sections.

### General stratigraphic sequence

The general stratigraphic sequence of the site comprised of a Dark to buff grey Turf and Topsoil, deposit of approximately 0.30m in depth with inclusions of very small angular pea grit and small rounded pebbles overlaying a buff yellow subsoil with an average depth of 0.35m overlaying a mixed geological substrate of clay and sand deposits, except for the northern part of the site.

Within the northern part of the site the stratigraphic makeup differed, the subsoil was intermittent, the dark to buff grey topsoil directly overlaying a mixed geological substrate comprising vertical bands of red/brown clay and hard packed yellow sand over water logged red/brown sand deposits.

A full description of the deposits identified within the sample sections is provided in Appendix 1 and the location of the sampled sections are recorded on Illustrations 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

### Feature [1007]

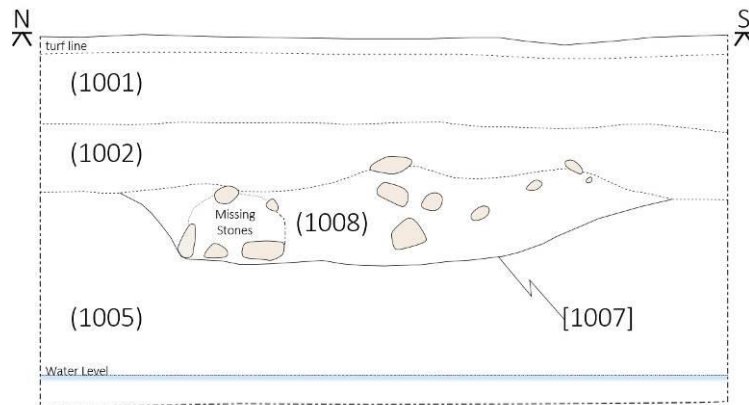
A single feature was identified (*See Figure. 3 & 6*), [1007] comprise of a gradually inclined cut aligned north south of approximately 1.60m in length, with a maximum depth of 0.35m, filled by (1008), a very stoney fill of medium to large angular stones, the feature was truncated by machine during the unauthorised excavation works. (*See Plate. 1*)





Plate. 1 Showing [1007], Sample Section 5, west facing section.

Investigation of (1008) indicated that it continued approximately 0.35m into the east section, [1007] did not continue to the west section of the excavated trench, suggesting that the feature was not greater than 3m in width, no finds were observed. (See Figure. 7)



Sample Section 5

0 1m

Figure. 7 Section drawing illustrating [1007], Sample Section 5, west facing section.

## Earthworks

An oblique aerial view of the site shows a possible continuation of a series lines possible indicating ridge and furrow, starting to the east of the A518, aligned east-west and continuing into the area of unauthorised works.

A curving linear feature runs from the north-west corner of the large pond/reservoir and continues to the north boundary of the site. (See Figure. 8)



Figure. 8 Google Earth image, showing possible earth works within the area of unauthorised works.

### Possible Earthworks

The area of the of unauthorised works at the time of the survey was laid to long grass making the identification of low lying earthworks problematic, however several possible features were identified within the open area to the north of the unauthorised works. (See Figure. 9)

#### Area A

Towards the east side of the existing access trackway, a shallow ridge, sloping towards the access track, runs for a length of approximately 60m. The change in levels may be due to spoil thrown up during the construction of the existing track way or may indicate that the trackway was at one time wider. (See Figure 9, Plate 2)

#### Area B

A small raised area projecting from the northern boundary of the site and opposite to the existing access track to Lilleshall Abbey runs for approximately 15m in length and approximately 8m in width. The raise feature may represent a continuation of the access track way to Lilleshall Abbey. (See Figure 9, Plate 3)

### Area C

Located towards the north of the unauthorised works Area C represents a raised boundary or curving bank running west to east and turning north, measuring approximately 20m in length the subtle feature may be a possible edge to the Ridge and furrow seen on figure 4. (See Figure 9, Plate 5, 6)

### Area D

Area D represents a circular depression approximately 8 to 10m in diameter, the depression is subtle and shallow and may represent the removal of a tree or trees. (See Figure 9, Plate 6, 7)



Plate 2 Image 43



Plate 3 Image 44



Plate 4 Image 42

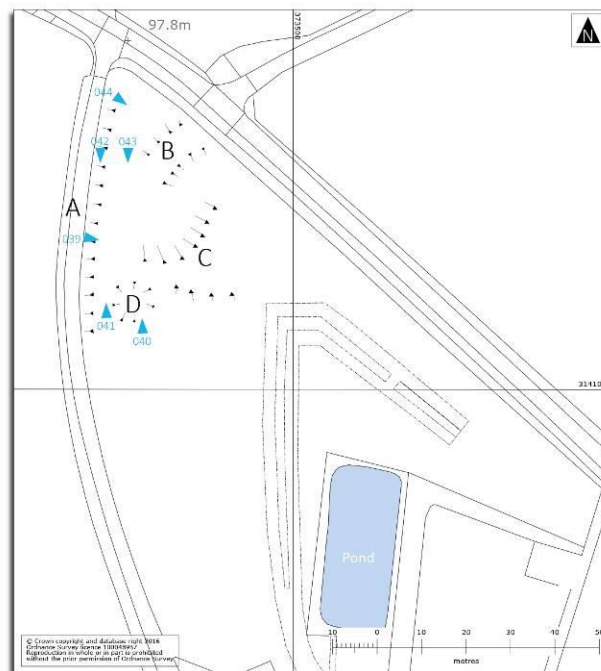


Plate 5 Image 39



Plate 6 Image 40



Plate 7 Image 41

Figure. 9 location plan showing possible earthworks.



## **10. Discussion**

The general stratigraphic sequence of the site comprised of a Dark to buff grey Turf and Topsoil, deposit of approximately 0.30m in depth overlaying a buff yellow subsoil with an average depth of 0.35m subsequently overlaying a mixed geological substrate of clay and sand deposits, except for the northern part of the site.

In the northern part of the site, the stratigraphic makeup differed, the subsoil was intermittent, the topsoil greater in depth and directly overlaying the geological substrate. The change in soil formation and characterises across the site may be explained through examination of the available historic satellite imagery which indicates that a continuation of a series of earthworks starting to the east of the A518 and possible forming an area of ridge and furrow within the northern portion of the site, the obvious lack of subsoil being a result of historic plough within the vicinity.

A series of further earthworks were observed towards the north of the area of unauthorised works although accurate identification was problematic due to the area being laid to long grass.

Within the unauthorised works a single feature was identified, [1007] formed a shallow cut feature with a stoney fill, truncated by the unauthorised works. The condition of the feature was such that it only remained as a trace within the section. It would be speculative to ascertain the dimensions or characteristic of the feature before the intervention of the unauthorised works.

## **11. Conclusion**

The examination of the unauthorised works at Abbey Farm identified that an archaeological feature of uncertain characteristics and date was truncated by the action of the unauthorised excavations. The observation of the unauthorised works also identified a change in the characteristics of the stratigraphic makeup of the area, suggesting that part of the area was subject to historic ploughing.

## 12. Acknowledgements

Herefordshire Archaeology would like to acknowledge the help and co-operation of the landowner.

## 13. Bibliography

### Data sources:

The following sources of information were referred to:

- Digital data for nationally designated heritage assets, from the National Heritage List for England (held by English Heritage)
- Archaeological records held by Shropshire HER
- Historic maps and plans held in the Shropshire Archives;
- MAGIC (Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside, ([www.magic.defra.gov.uk](http://www.magic.defra.gov.uk)), Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)),
- British Geological Survey (Website) <http://bgs.ac.uk>.
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The Victoria History of the County of Shropshire: Volume VIII, (1968), 77

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## 14. List of Figures and Plates

**Figure 1:** *Location of Abbey Fam Site in relation to the main towns and city in Shropshire. © Herefordshire Council*

**Figure. 2** *Location of Abbey Fam in relation to area of scheduled monument, Lilleshall Abbey (1015286)*

**Figure. 3** *1881 (Published 1888) map of Shropshire, showing area of unauthorised works.*

**Figure. 4** *1938 Shropshire map, showing area of unauthorised works.*

**Figure. 5** *Location of unauthorised works at Abbey Farm, Shropshire.*

**Figure. 7** *Section drawing illustrating [1007], Sample Section 5, west facing section.*

**Figure. 8** *Google Earth image, showing possible earth works within the area of unauthorised works.*

**Figure. 9** *location plan showing possible earthworks.*

**Figure. 10** *Sample Section 1.*

**Figure. 11** *Sample Section 2.*

**Figure. 12** *Sample Section 3.*

**Figure.13** *Sample Section 4.*

**Figure. 14** *Sample Section 5.*

**Figure. 15** *Sample Section 6.*

**Figure. 16** *Photographic Location plan.*

**Plate. 1** *Showing [1007], Sample Section 5, west facing section.*

**Plate. 2** *Image 43*

**Plate. 3** *Image 44*

**Plate. 4** *Image 42*

**Plate. 5** *Image 39*

**Plate. 6** *Image 40*


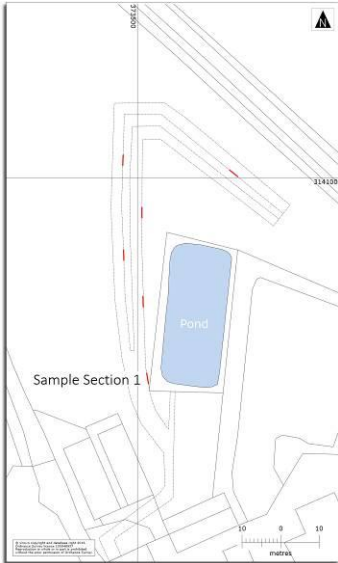
**Plate. 7** *Image 41*

## 15. Site Archive


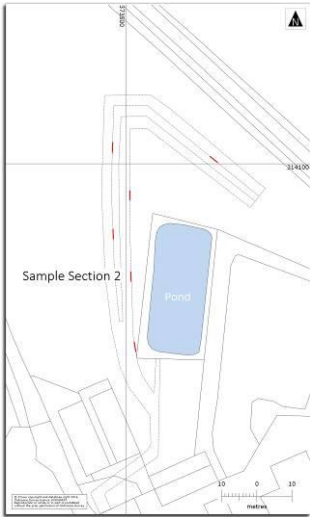
- 60 digital photographs.
- 10 context records.
- 6 site drawings on perma-trace @1:20 scale.
- This Document

## 16. Appendix

### Appendix I Sample Sections and Context Registers.


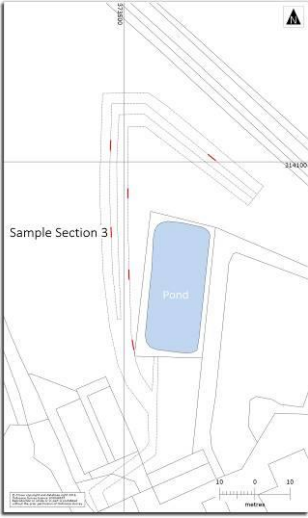
<b>Sample Section Number</b>		1					
							
<b>Sample Section Length</b>		1.0m		<b>Excavated Depth</b>		1.10m	
<b>Minimum Depth to level of archaeological horizon</b>		0.35m		<b>Maximum Depth to level of archaeological horizon</b>		0.65m	
<b>Datum height</b>		98m					
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>					
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<1m	<3m	0.30m		
(1002)	Subsoil, Buff yellow with flecks of orange (10YR8/8), sharp interface. Occasional	-	-	-	0.35m		

	inclusions of small rounded pebbles 1%, occasional inclusions of angular small to medium pebbles.				
(1003)	Geological substrata, buff red with occasional orange flecks (7.5R3/4), silty sand, loose, free of inclusions.	-	-	-	0.12m
(1004)	Geological substrata, orange brown, sandy clay (2.5YR5/6), ague interface with (1003), mouldable. Inclusions of green sand stone flecks and small rounded green sand stone pebbles, occasional lenses of blue grey clay.	-	-	-	0.30m +
<b>Interpretation</b>					
Turf and topsoil deposit over subsoil and geological substrate, maximum depth to potential archaeological horizon 0.65m. No features of archaeological significance.					

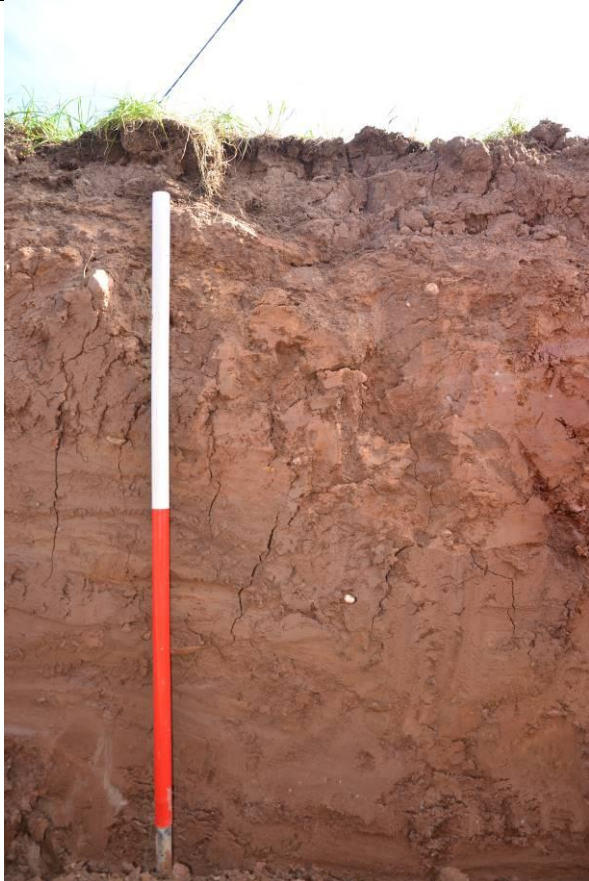
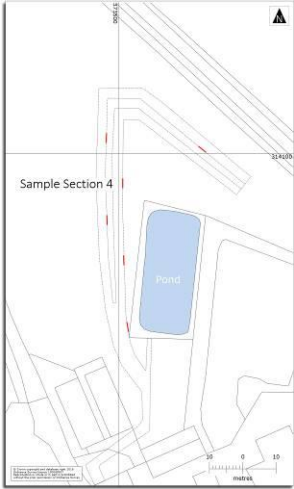
<b>Sample Section Number</b>	2		
		<b>Sample Section Length</b>	1.0m
		<b>Excavated Depth</b>	1.30m

<b>Minimum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>	0.30m	<b>Maximum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>	0.70m		
<b>Datum height</b>	98m				
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>			
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<1m	<3m	0.30m
(1002)	Subsoil, Buff yellow with flecks of orange (10YR8/8), sharp interface. Occasional inclusions of small rounded pebbles 1%, occasional inclusions of angular small to medium pebbles.	-	-	-	0.40m
(1005)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions.	-	-	-	0.50m
(1006)	Geological substrata. Red/brown deposit of sand, sharp interface, loose	-	-	-	0.55m +
<b>Interpretation</b>					
Turf and topsoil deposit over subsoil and geological substrate, maximum depth to potential archaeological horizon 0.70m. No features of archaeological significance.					




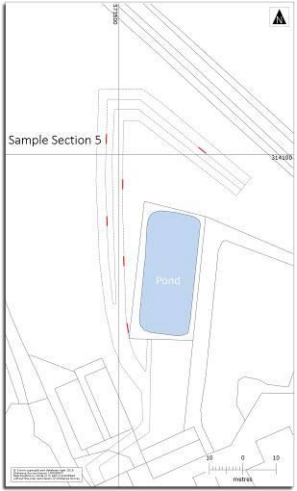
<b>Sample Section Number</b>		3					
							
<b>Sample Section Length</b>		1.0m		<b>Excavated Depth</b>		1.40m	
<b>Minimum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>		0.30m		<b>Maximum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>		0.65m	
<b>Datum height</b>		98m					
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>					
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<1m	<3m	0.30m		
(1002)	Subsoil, Buff yellow with flecks of orange (10YR8/8), sharp interface. Occasional inclusions of small rounded pebbles 1%, occasional inclusions of angular small to medium pebbles.	-	<1m	<3m	0.35m		
(1005)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions.	-	-	-	0.57m		
(1006)	Geological substrata. Red/brown deposit	-			0.27m +		

	of sand, sharp interface, loose				
<b>Interpretation</b>					
Turf and topsoil deposit over subsoil and geological substrate, maximum depth to potential archaeological horizon 0.65m. No features of archaeological significance.					



<b>Sample Section Number</b>		4					
							
<b>Sample Section Length</b>		1.0m		<b>Depth</b>		1.20m	
<b>Minimum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>		0.40m		<b>Maximum Depth to level of potential archaeological horizon</b>		0.40m	
<b>Datum height</b>		98m					
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>					
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<1m	<3m	0.30m		
(1002)	Subsoil, Buff yellow with flecks of orange (10YR8/8), sharp interface. Occasional	-	-	-	0.35m		



	inclusions of small rounded pebbles 1%, occasional inclusions of angular small to medium pebbles.				
(1005)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions.	-			
<b>Interpretation</b>					
Turf and topsoil deposit over subsoil and geological substrate, maximum depth to potential archaeological horizon 0.65m. No features of archaeological significance.					

<b>Sample Section Number</b>		5					
							
<b>Sample Section Length</b>		3.0m	<b>Excavated Depth</b>		1.37m		
<b>Minimum Depth to level of archaeological significance</b>		0.43m	<b>Maximum Depth to level of archaeological significance</b>		0.50m		
<b>Datum height</b>		98m					
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>					
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>		
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<3m	<3m	0.30m		
(1002)	Subsoil, Buff yellow with flecks of orange (10YR8/8), sharp interface. Occasional inclusions of small rounded pebbles 1%, occasional inclusions of angular small to	-	<3m	<3m	0.35m		

	medium pebbles.				
(1005)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions. Same as (1005a)	-			0.70m +
[1007]	Cut, gradually inclined sides flat base. Cut into (1005), Filled by (1008). Feature cut by machine during excavation.	-	1.60m		0.35m (max)
(1008)	Fill of [1007]. Dark brown (7.5YR4/3), silty clay, mouldable, medium to large angular (0.10-0.20m) stones 20%, small angular flat stone 20%. Feature cut by machine during excavation, several stones from the fill were removed by the machine during excavation.	-	1.60m		0.35m
<b>Interpretation</b>					
<p>A single feature was identified, [1007] comprise of a gradually inclined cut of approximately 1.60m in width with a maximum depth of 0.35m, filled by (1008), a very stony fill of medium to large angular stones, the feature was truncated by machine during the unauthorised excavation works. Investigation of [1007] indicated that it continued approximately 0.35m into the east section but east not visible in the west section of the excavated trench, suggesting that original shape in plan was most likely circular.</p>					

<b>Sample Section Number</b>  	6		
	<b>Sample Section</b>	3.0m	<b>Excavated Depth</b>

<b>Length</b>					
<b>Minimum Depth to level of Geological substrate</b>	0.30 m	<b>Maximum Depth to level of Geological substrate</b>	0.35m		
<b>Datum height</b>	98m				
<b>Context No</b>	<b>Description (Layer, Cut, Fill)</b>	<b>Dimensions (as appropriate)</b>			
		<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
(1001)	Turf and Topsoil, Dark buff grey (2.5YR6/1), silty clay, mouldable, sharp interface. Inclusions of very small angular pea grit 1%, occasional small rounded pebbles 1%, root disturbance.	-	<3m	<3m	0.35m (max)
(1005)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions. Same as (1005a)	--	-	-	0.90m
(1005a)	Geological substrate, red orange clay (2.5YR4/6), mouldable, free of inclusions. Same as (1005)	-	-	-	0.95m
(1009)	Geological substrate, buff yellow (10YR8/6), hard packed sand deposits	-	-	-	0.97m
(1010)	Geological substrate, red orange (10R4/8), water logged sand deposit.	-	-		0.34m +
<b>Interpretation</b>					
<p>The stratigraphic sequence within the area sample was relatively different to the previous sample sections, a lack of subsoil was noted, the top soil directly overlaying the geological substrate, the geological substrate represented a change to the previous sequence with red clay and hard packed yellow sand forming vertical bands overlaying water logged sand deposits. No features of archaeological significance were observed.</p>					

**Appendix II Site drawings.**

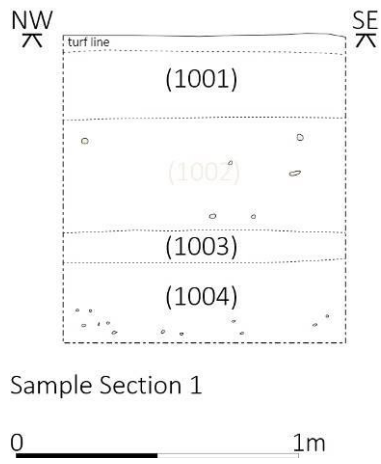


Figure. 10 *Sample Section 1.*

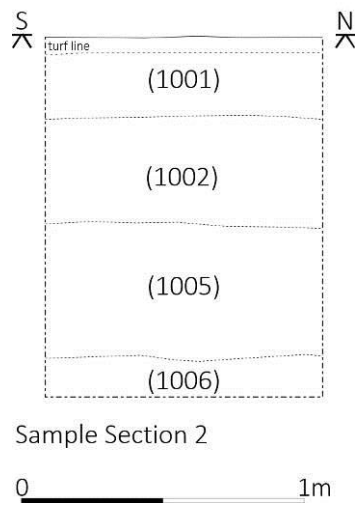


Figure. 11 *Sample Section 2.*

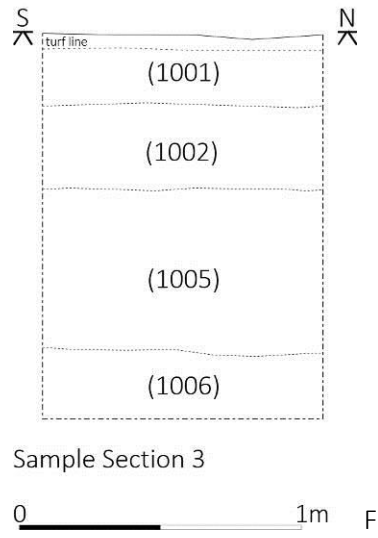


Figure. 12 *Sample Section 3.*

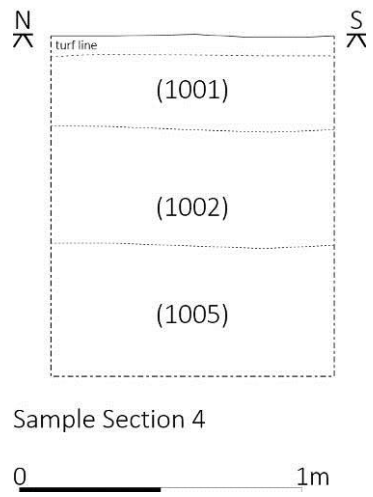
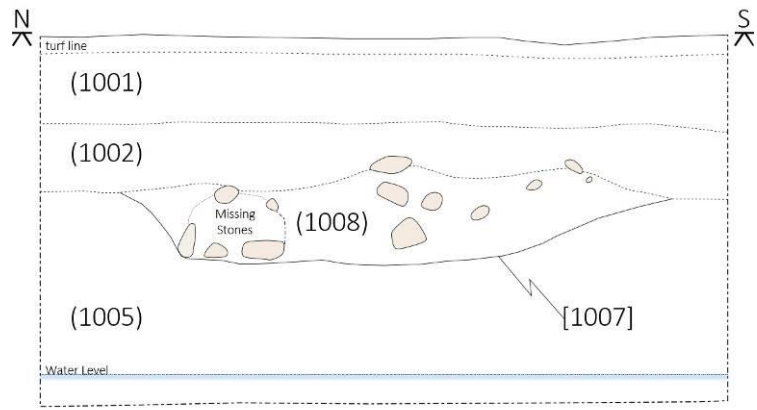


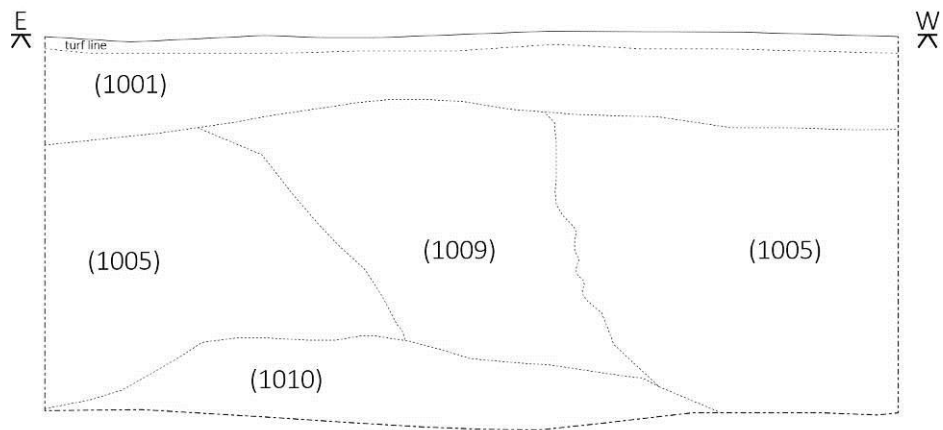
Figure.13 *Sample Section 4.*



Sample Section 5



Figure. 14 Sample Section 5.



Sample Section 6



Figure. 15 Sample Section 6.

**Appendix III Photographic Register.**

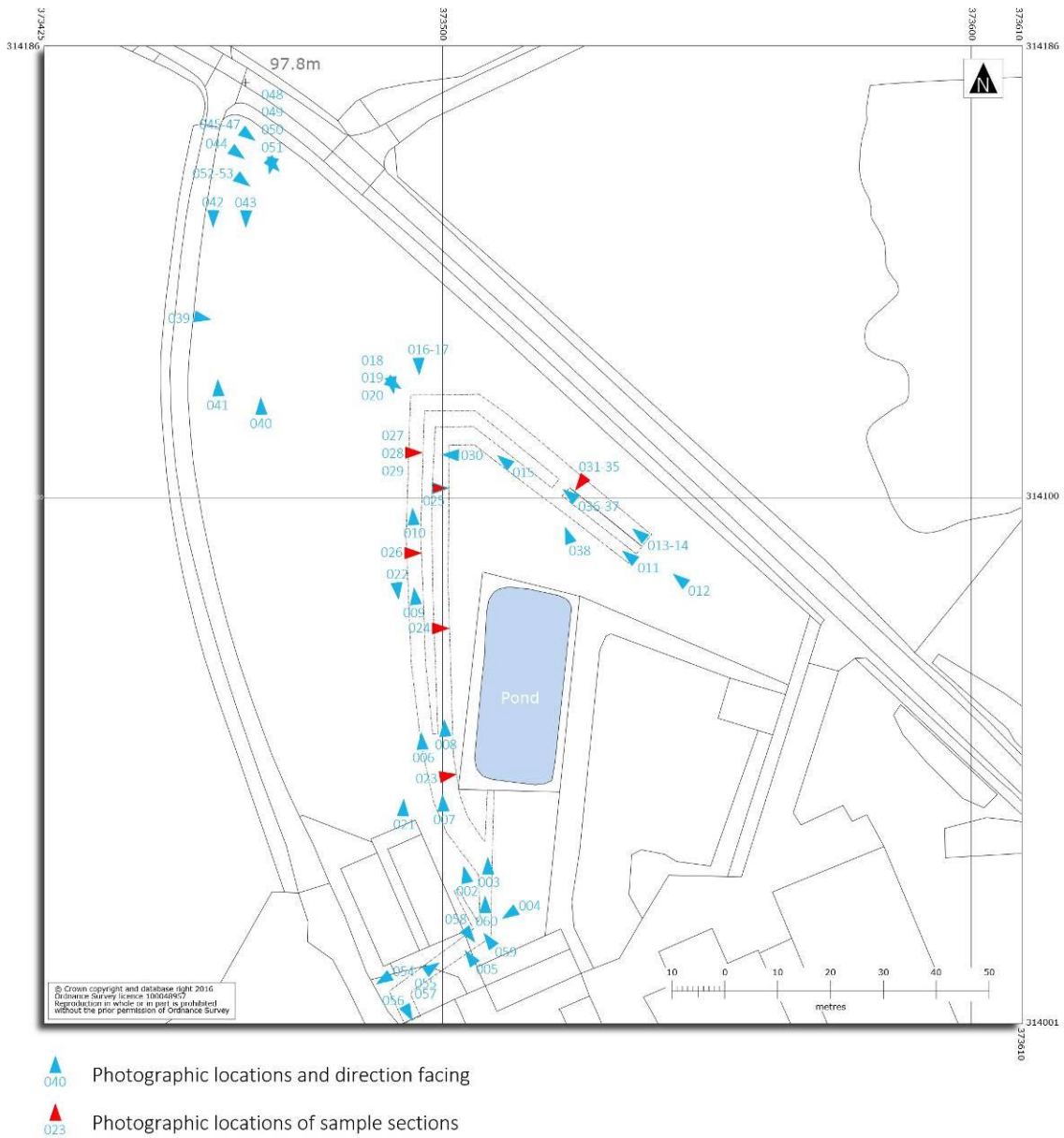


Figure. 16 Photographic Location plan.

Photo number	Digital	Direction Facing	Description
001	ABF-001	-	Film Identification.
002	ABF-002	NW	Overview of excavation works.
003	ABF-003	N	Overview of excavation connecting existing pond, the trench has been partially backfilled with gravel.

004	ABF-004	SW	Overview of excavation along line of former canal, trench partially backfilled with gravel
005	ABF-005	NW	South east facing section of excavation, following line of former canal.
006	ABF-006	N	Overview showing arrangement of the two trenches excavated for the instillation of the ground-coupled heat exchanger system.
007	ABF-007	N	Overview showing arrangement of the two trenches excavated for the instillation of the ground-coupled heat exchanger system.
008	ABF-008	N	Overview showing the run of the east trench.
009	ABF-009	N	Overview showing the run of the west trench.
010	ABF-010	N	Overview showing the run of the west trench at north end, flooded.
011	ABF-011	NW	Overview of excavations.
012	ABF-012	NW	Overview of excavations.
013	ABF-013	NW	Overview of excavations.
014	ABF-014	NW	Overview of excavations.
015	ABF-015	NW	Overview of excavations.
016	ABF-016	S	Overview of excavations.
017	ABF-017	S	Overview of excavations.
018	ABF-018	SE	Overview of excavations.
019	ABF-019	SE	Overview of excavations.
020	ABF-020	SE	Overview of excavations.
021	ABF-021	SE	Overview of excavations.
022	ABF-022	S	Overview of excavations and instillation of ground heat exchanger pipes.
023	ABF-023	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 1, west facing section.
024	ABF-024	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 2, west facing section.
025	ABF-025	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 3, west facing section.



026	ABF-026	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 4, west facing section.
027	ABF-027	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 5, west facing section.
028	ABF-028	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 5, west facing section.
029	ABF-029	E	SAMPLE SECTION – 5, west facing section.
030	ABF-030	W	Rear elevation of Sample section 5, indicating that [1007] does not continue.
031	ABF-031	SW	SAMPLE SECTION – 6, north east facing section.
032	ABF-032	SW	SAMPLE SECTION – 6, north east facing section.
033	ABF-033	SW	SAMPLE SECTION – 6, north east facing section.
034	ABF-034	SW	SAMPLE SECTION – 6, north east facing section.
035	ABF-035	SW	SAMPLE SECTION – 6, north east facing section.
036	ABF-036	NW	Section cut through dividing trench wall.
037	ABF-037	NW	Section cut through dividing trench wall.
038	ABF-038	NW	Section cut through dividing trench wall.
039	ABF-039	W	Line of red flags marking change in ground level.
040	ABF-040	N	Overview of area towards the west of the excavations, showing slight depression in landscape.
041	ABF-041	N	Overview of area towards the west of the excavations, showing slight depression in landscape.
042	ABF-	S	Overview of change in ground level running parallel to the existing roadway.
043	ABF-043	S	Overview showing possible ridge line running east west.
044	ABF-044	E	Overview of excavation area.
045	ABF-045	E	Overview of excavation area.
046	ABF-046	E	Overview of excavation area.
047	ABF-047	E	Overview of excavation area.
048	ABF-048	S	Overview of excavation area.
049	ABF-049	S	Overview of excavation area.

050	ABF-050	SE	Overview of excavation area.
051	ABF-051	SE	Overview of excavation area.
052	ABF-052	E	Tree stump with group of worked stone on the surface.
053	ABF-053	E	Tree stump with group of worked stone on the surface.
054	ABF-054	SW	Overview of canal bridge.
055	ABF-055	NE	Overview of excavation following the line of the former canal.
056	ABF-056	SE	Overview of point of entry into associated building.
057	ABF-057	NE	Overview of excavation following the line of the former canal.
058	ABF-058	SE	North west facing section within line of former canal.
059	ABF-059	NW	Overview of small trench cut of main works.
060	ABF-060	N	Overview of excavation works, partially backfilled with gravel.

## ***Appendix III Historic England Listing entry for Lilleshall Abbey.***

### **List Entry Summary**

This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance. This entry is a copy, the original is held by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Name: Lilleshall Abbey

List entry Number: 1015286

### **Location**

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County:

District: Telford and Wrekin

District Type: Unitary Authority

Parish: Lilleshall and Donnington

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: Not applicable to this List entry.

Date first scheduled: 08-Feb-1915

Date of most recent amendment: 21-Feb-1997

### **Legacy System Information**

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: RSM

UID: 29364

### **Asset Groupings**

This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

### **List entry Description**

#### **Summary of Monument**

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

#### **Reasons for Designation**

From the time of St Augustine's mission to re-establish Christianity in AD 597 to the reign of Henry VIII, monasticism formed an important facet of both religious and secular life in the British Isles. Settlements of religious communities, including monasteries, were built to house communities of monks, canons (priests), and sometimes lay-brothers, living a common life of religious observance under some form of systematic discipline. It is estimated from documentary evidence that over 700 monasteries were founded in England. These ranged in size from major communities with several hundred

members to tiny establishments with a handful of brethren. They belonged to a wide variety of different religious orders, each with its own philosophy. As a result, they vary considerably in the detail of their appearance and layout, although all possess the basic elements of church, domestic accommodation for the community, and work buildings. Monasteries were inextricably woven into the fabric of medieval society, acting not only as centres of worship, learning, and charity, but also, because of the vast landholdings of some orders, as centres of immense wealth and political influence. They were established in all parts of England, some in towns and others in the remotest of areas. Many monasteries acted as the foci of wide networks including parish churches, almshouses, hospitals, farming estates and tenant villages. Some 225 of these religious houses belonged to the order of St Augustine. The Augustinians were not monks in the strict sense, but rather communities of canons - or priests - living under the rule of St Augustine. In England, they came to be known as 'black canons' because of their dark coloured robes and to distinguish them from the Cistercians who wore light clothing. From the 12th century onwards, they undertook much valuable work in the parishes, running almshouses, schools and hospitals as well as maintaining and preaching in parish churches. It was from the churches that they derived much of their revenue. The Augustinians made a major contribution to many facets of medieval life and all of their monasteries which exhibit significant surviving archaeological remains are worthy of protection.

Lilleshall Abbey is a fine example of an Augustinian abbey which is unusual in retaining most of its original 12th century fabric substantially unaltered. Further interest is added by the unusual adoption of Romanesque details on some of the later elements of the church. The standing remains retain details of their method of construction, including the building and decorative techniques employed. The full extent of the claustral ranges and ancillary structures will remain in the form of post holes and as buried foundations within the precinct boundary. Floor levels will preserve environmental and artefact evidence for the activities which took place there. All this information will enhance our understanding of the relationships of the priory buildings and their various dates and functions. The subsistence and broader economic setting of this religious community can be understood in part from the earthwork remains of the fishponds, which will retain information relating to their method of construction and operation. The dams will retain information relating to their construction and the construction and operation of the sluices and mills they supported. The old ground surface sealed beneath the dams will retain information relating to land use immediately prior to their construction. The earthwork remains of the canal and its docking areas will also retain details of their method of construction, and waterlogged deposits will preserve environmental evidence relating to the activities which took place at and around the canal during its use. The masonry remains of the lock further enhance interest in this element of the site, the construction of which illustrates the continued significance of the site from medieval times to beyond the Industrial Revolution.

Documentary evidence attests the high status of the abbey, which is an element of the wider picture of medieval political and social organization in Shropshire.

## **History**

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

## **Details**

The monument includes the ruined, earthwork and buried remains of Lilleshall Abbey, and the earthwork remains of a disused 18th century canal which bisects the abbey precinct. In addition, it includes, within separate areas, the earthwork dams of two fishponds situated to the north west of the abbey precinct. The abbey is located on very gently sloping ground on the east side of the Tern Valley, 3km SSW of Lilleshall and 6km north of Roman Watling Street.

The abbey was founded in the mid-12th century for canons of the Arrouasian order, which was later absorbed by the Augustinians. Brothers Philip and Richard de Belmeis brought a house of canons from the abbey at Dorchester-on-Thames to a site at Lizard Grange, some 6km south east of Lilleshall, and had provided them with a new house on the present site by 1148. The style of the standing remains at Lilleshall indicates that stone building was begun immediately to replace the existing, probably timber framed, structures. The house prospered, expanding and consolidating gifts of new lands for over a century, and Henry III was entertained at the abbey twice around 1240. In common with many other abbeys Lilleshall had a financial crisis during the early 14th century, partly due to haphazard administrative practices. However, the latter part of the century saw increasing stability, and many lay people continued to seek admittance to its fraternity. Among these was John of Gaunt, who spent two days at Lilleshall convalescing after a fever in 1398. Although the number of brethren dropped after the Black Death, to only ten or eleven canons around 1400, the abbey's stability continued and a high degree of self-sufficiency was maintained. One of Lilleshall's canons, John Mirk, gained the distinction of having one of his

religious works printed by Caxton in 1483. Towards the end of the abbey's life finances again became a problem and many canons complained about the poor food, while others were accused of seeing women of bad repute. Some of these failings had been corrected by the Dissolution, and when the house was dissolved in 1538 it had a gross income of about 340 pounds. William Cavendish received possession of the site and its demesnes and a year later the site was granted to James Leveson, whose family took up residence there and retained possession until the 1920s. Sir Richard Leveson was a Royalist during the Civil War and in 1656 he fortified and defended the abbey for several weeks before Parliamentary troops forced an entry through the north transept of the church. The church towers and Lady Chapel were ruined in the conflict. In the late 18th century Leveson's descendant, the Duke of Sutherland was behind the construction of England's second canal, the line of which can be seen cutting across the monastic precinct. The abbey site is now in the care of the Secretary of State, and open to the public. The ruins are Listed Grade I.

The abbey precinct was a roughly oval enclosure, bounded in part by a substantial wall, stretches of which remain standing to the south east and north west of the conventual buildings. The precinct is now bisected by the canal and the modern A518 road. The abbey church was large by Augustinian standards, cruciform in plan and roughly 70m in length, with an aisleless nave, quire, square-ended chancel, and north and south transepts each with two eastern chapels. Its tower was at the west end of the nave rather than at the crossing, and was completed sometime after the other elements of the church. The cloister was to the south of the church and was also mostly completed in stone in the late 12th century. The east range consisted of a sacristy adjoining the transept, a slype and the chapter house. The south range contained the frater, with a vaulted passage at its east end leading south from the cloister into an outer court. The west end of the south range was altered in the 14th century to give access to a kitchen and service rooms which were shared by the west range. The latter probably replaced earlier timber structures in the 14th century, and housed an outer parlour, and the abbot's hall and private chamber. Both were at first floor level above vaulted undercrofts, with the lodging projecting westwards from the south end of the hall. The water supply on which the abbey depended as both a domestic and economic resource was manipulated to feed a number of fishponds and mills within and beyond the precinct, notably two roughly triangular ponds retained by substantial dams to the north west of the conventual buildings. The new water course created by the 18th century canal entered the abbey precinct at its north east corner and ran south west across it, passing just north of what is now Abbey Farm.

The standing remains are of sandstone rubble construction with ashlar dressings. Much of the church still stands to a considerable height, the earliest part being the east end, which comprises a four-bayed presbytery with a tomb recess on each side. Its Romanesque details have only been altered by the insertion of a large 14th century east window, replacing the original round-headed windows which were probably in two tiers of three. The north and south walls each have two tiers of windows, and the upper tier continued westwards to form a clerestory above the roofs of the flanking chapels. A string course between the tiers is carried internally on imposing corbels of stepped plan. In the east end of the south wall is a fine processional doorway which led into the church from the east alley of the cloister. It has a semicircular arch of three orders, above a segmental arch with a plain lintel supporting a crescent-shaped tympanum. The outer shaft is decorated with a spiral motif, and the other shafts, jambs and tympanum are all richly carved with varieties of chevron and diamond ornament characteristic of the late 12th century. Although built in the 13th century, the nave fulfils the original plan of the church, and has a number of Romanesque features deliberately provided to harmonise with the earlier work. In particular the semicircular head of the arch of the west door would have been outdated by the 13th century. However, the stiff-leafed capitals of the door's shafts and the running foliage on the outer order of the arch are pure 13th century details. Flanking the arch are the clasping buttresses of the west tower, and the northern of these retains its broad stopped chamfered angles and an arcade of three narrow pointed arches. A small north door and the base of a spiral stairway leading to the tower remain, as do a number of springers rising from plain corbels, indicating that both nave and tower were vaulted. The footings of two dividing screens can be seen between the nave and the quire. The easternmost, the pulpitum, marks the western end of the quire stalls, while the second is probably a 14th century rood screen, and has the foundations of nave altars to north and south. A third footing, further west, is probably the remains of a post-Dissolution adaptation. The foundations of the northern transept remain, however the arches to its eastern chapels have been blocked. The south transept stands to a considerable height, and its chapels have similarly been blocked off, probably before the Dissolution. On the outside face of the west wall of the transept is a fine Romanesque book locker, with two compartments rebated for doors and a shaped projection to hold the bolt. The tympanum, under a semicircular arch, has chevron ornament. South of this are a doorway and window which date to a post-Dissolution adaptation of the transept.

The east range stands to a considerable height, and the sacristy and slype remain roofed. The sacristy had an additional chamber, probably a chapel, attached to its east end, and both are now blocked off. The vaulted slype is entered from the

east alley of the cloister by another Romanesque doorway with a crescent-shaped tympanum on both sides, and provided the access from the cloister to the monk's cemetery. The chapter house has plain walls with two lateral windows at the east end, and the remains of one of the windows which would have flanked the doorway in the west wall. Several abbots' graves remain in the floor of the chapter house. Excavation has revealed the foundations of the undercroft below the dormer or dormitory, which extended southwards from the chapter house and survives as a buried feature within the garden of Abbey Cottage. At the east end of the south range is another Romanesque door leading to a once-vaulted passage which led to a court to the south of the claustral ranges, and now leads to the grounds of Abbey Cottage. The rest of the south range comprised the frater or refectory, which was entered from the cloister at its west end and retains the foundations of its pulpit at the east end of the south wall. In the 14th century the frater was divided to provide a dayroom or warming house with a large fireplace in its eastern half. Against the partition wall the outer wall was set back to form a new frater pulpit, and wall recesses on the south side are probably of the same date. The north-south passage at the west end of the frater was rebuilt at an elevated level, and its door, ogee-headed windows and fireplace are all of 14th century date. The remains of the earlier segmental-headed door can be seen at a lower level. A buttery and pantry, connected to the kitchen, were built on the west side of the passage, and also served the abbot's hall and lodging in the west range. At the north end of the north range are the corbels which supported the ceiling of the passage through the range known as the outer parlour. The chamfered footings of the porch here date from the post-medieval adaptation of the range for residential use. Parts of the east wall of the abbot's hall and the sides of the abbot's chamber stand above ground, showing early 14th century details, and elsewhere the foundations of the range survive below ground and are visible as parch marks in dry weather. There are no indications that the cloister walks themselves were ever vaulted, and the remains of these, probably timber framed, alleys will also survive as buried features. The substantial precinct wall, which is Listed Grade I, stands to its full height for c.160m along the east side of the precinct, turning west at its southern end and continuing as a foundation visible above ground in some places until it reaches the grounds of Abbey Lodge. Although modified further east by the construction of Lillyhurst Road and the development of Abbey Farm, the line of the boundary can be traced along the track leaving the farm to the north east, and the wall itself continues as a standing feature up to 1.2m for roughly 120m to the north west of the conventual buildings. The north end of the eastern wall was broken through for the construction of the canal, and the existing terminal of the wall dates to the 18th century. However, its foundations are exposed in a culvert further north and can be seen continuing north westwards. The northern boundary of the precinct is marked by a line of fishponds which can be traced as earthworks along the line of the now straightened field drain which runs westwards to the north of the church. The eastern of these ponds has been cut by the construction of the canal, but its western edge can be traced as a distinct scarp slope up to 1m high. Its northern edge has been modified by the straightening of the field drain. To the west is a second roughly oval pond, whose northern edge is marked by a clear scarp, and which the field drain now roughly bisects east-west. The western pond is L-shaped and measures up to 110m east-west by up to 80m north-south, with the field drain marking its southern edge.

A second series of ponds are fed by a spring which rises in the south east quarter of the precinct. A stew pond was created around this spring, and is now stone-lined. The water supply between this and the next pond is obscured by the canal, however it runs north west underground before rising close to Abbey Court to feed the large triangular pond which is now a feature in its landscaped gardens. This pond is retained by a dam and wall along its northern edge, which measures c.100m east-west. It drains north westwards through a now straightened water course, and feeds a further two triangular ponds. The first of these is retained by a substantial earthen dam across its north west side, which measures c.100m long by c.15m wide. An inner masonry revetment wall is exposed at the north east end of the dam, and at the south west end are the remains of the sluice which would have controlled water flow out of the pond. Masonry blocks roughly 0.7m square on either side of the stream have vertical slots for the timber shutters which would have regulated the outflow. The outflow channel itself is artificially straightened and partly stone-lined, and runs north west from the sluice. A now dry spillway diverts northwards off the outflow and runs along the back of the dam. Towards the centre of the dam a second outlet emerges and runs north for c.25m before continuing north west along a field drain. Both channels feed into the third pond, which is also retained by a dam, c.140m long. The original outflow at the south west end has been replaced by a later brick and stone sluice, and the outlet channel runs north east along the back of the pond before turning north west along a straight field drain. The monastic fishponds would have generated income for the abbey as well as making an important contribution to the community's food supply. A sample of the deposits in the two northernmost pond bays along with their dams and a sample of their outlet channels is protected in two separate areas. The sluice and bridge at the south end of the north westerly dam are, however, not included in the scheduling.

Within the precinct the remains of various of the ancillary structures associated with the monastic community, such as stables, barns, and guest accommodation, can be seen as building platforms most clearly visible to the west and north of

the triangular fishpond south west of the church. The post holes and floor levels of these timber framed structures will survive below ground. The foundations of a dovecot were revealed by excavation and the site is still visible south of the line of the canal.

The canal itself was only the second to be constructed in England, and was built in 1774 at the behest of the then Duke of Sutherland, a descendant of the Leveson family who formerly occupied the abbey. The canal approaches the abbey precinct from the north and enters roughly the north east corner, where it turns south west and bisects the precinct. Where infilled the canal can be traced as a drain along the south side of the private drive, and the remains of one of the canal locks can be seen where a footbridge crosses this drain near the entrance to Abbey Court. A stone bridge over the canal near the north east corner of the precinct is Listed Grade II, and retains a bracket for telegraph cables. North of the precinct are two hollows extending off the east side of the canal. One is linear, c.5m wide and c.12m north west-south east. North of this is a more substantial crescent-shaped depression extending up to 80m north eastwards to encompass the line of a watercourse which spreads in this area. These are the remains of docking areas, where barges could be unloaded or worked on. A stretch of the canal incorporating these docking areas is included in the scheduling, to illustrate the continued use of the site.

Abbey Cottage, Abbey Court, and all their ancillary buildings and associated paved and metalled surfaces, garden furniture, metalled track surfaces, the custodian's hut and kiosk, information boards, all drain covers and modern gateways and doors within the abbey ruins, the modern wooden steps in the nave, the shed south of the stew pond, the bridge over the canal, the tennis courts, all fences around and across the monument, tree guards, and the sign posts, track surface and jetties at the dam, are all excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath these features is included.

The tennis court at the southern corner of Abbey Court is totally excluded from the scheduling.

#### **Selected Sources**

##### Books and journals

The Victoria History of the County of Shropshire : Volume VIII, (1968), 77

The Victoria History of the County of Shropshire: Volume XI, (1985), 163

Butler, L, Given-Wilson, C, Medieval Monasteries of Great Britain, (1979), 281

Walker, C C, History of Lilleshall, (1891), 18-19

Walker, C C, History of Lilleshall, (1891)

Toms, G, 'Shropshire Newsletter' in Lilleshall Abbey, , Vol. 42, May, (1972), 3

##### Other

conversation with owner, Davis, John,

DOE (IAM), Ancient monuments of England 3, (1978)

on SMR, Pagett, J, (1957)

photos, plans, Rigold, S E, Lilleshall Abbey, (1969)

SMR SJ7314 A-D,

Watson, Mike, SA 03851, (1984)

National Grid Reference: SJ 73233 14563, SJ 73447 14414, SJ 73703 14145

**Appendix V Catalogue of Archive Records and Sources.**

**9Lilleshall Abbey; extracts from an unpublished history of Shropshire - belonging to Rev E.R.D. Bridgman.**

**Identity**

- **Class:** K 71.8
- **System Reference:** XLS1168

**Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

**On Lilleshall Abbey.**

**Identity**

- **Class:** Periodicals
- **System Reference:** XLS15586

**Details**

**Author:** Roberts, Edward

- **Notes:** In Journal of the British Archaeological Association Volume 17, 1861 pp 265-271
- **Format:** Article

**Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

**Printed plans of Haughmond Abbey, Wenlock Priory, Lilleshall Abbey and Buildwas Abbey**

**Identity**

- **Document Reference:** 6004/293/120-123
- **System Reference:** X6004/293/120-123

**Details**



- **Level:** Item

#### Access

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket

### **A brief history of Lilleshall and description of Lilleshall Abbey.**

#### Identity

- **Class:** K 96
- **System Reference:** XLS1164

#### Details

- **Author:** Walker, Charles Clement
- **Format:** Book

#### Access

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

### **Plan of Lilleshall Abbey**

#### Identity

- **Document Reference:** 972/7/2/5
- **System Reference:** X972/7/2/1/5

#### Details

- **Level:** Item
- **Date:** early 20th century
- **Repository:** Shropshire Archives
- **Finding Aids:** Former reference: 972/240/1
- **Description:** Plan of Lilleshall Abbey building showing the results of excavation early 20th Century. Part 1 of 2.  
[Aperture card available]
- **Physical Description:** 1 piece, 127x 145cm

#### Access

- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket
- **Conditions:** Aperture card available

## Catalogue

- - **X972: LILLESHALL COLLECTION (1145-1931)**
    - X972/1: MUNIMENTS OF LILLESHALL ABBEY AND EARLY DEEDS OF THE LEVESON FAMILY (1145-1600)
    - X972/2: PROPERTY (1542-1922)
    - **X972/3: ESTATE MANAGEMENT (1660-1931)**
    - X972/4: PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (1793-1925)
    - X972/5: BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY (1818-1914)
    - X972/6: PERSONAL RECORDS RELATING TO THE THIRD DUKE AND HIS WIVES (1849-1892)
    - X972/7: MAPS, PLANS AND SURVEYS (1576-1931)
      - **X972/7/1: Estate maps (1576-1896)**
      - **X972/7/2: Maps of individual properties (1634-early 20th century)**
        - **X972/7/2/1: Ancient parish of Lilleshall: Demesne (1634-early 20th century)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/1: Survey of the demesne lands of the manor of Lilleshall (1634)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/2: Map of Lilleshall Park (Sep 1679)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/3: Map of Lilleshall Park (c. 1720)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/4: "A survey of lands late Lillyshall Park as divided and cultivated" (1774)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/5: Plan of Lilleshall Abbey (early 20th century)**
          - **X972/7/2/1/6: Plan of Lilleshall Abbey (early 20th century)**
        - X972/7/2/2: Ancient parish of Lilleshall: Non-demesne (c. 1642-mid 19th century)
        - X972/7/2/3: Properties in the ancient parish of Edgmond (1642-mid 19th century)

- X972/7/2/4: Properties in the ancient parish of High Ercall (1824)
- X972/7/2/5: Properties in the ancient parish of Sheriffhales (1839-c. 1900)
- X972/7/2/6: Properties in the ancient parish of Wellington (mid 19th century)
- X972/7/2/7: Properties in the ancient parish of Wrockwardine (?1855)
- X972/7/3: Maps of the Wildmoor (Wealdmoor) and its drainage (c. 1579-mid 19th century)
- X972/7/4: Plans relating to exchanges, improvements and projects (1838-1901)
- X972/7/5: Building plans and architectural designs (early 19th century-1916)
- X972/7/6: Ordnance Survey maps used as estate maps (early 20th century)
- **X972/7/7: Maps and plans relating to mining and industry (1805-early 20th century)**
- **X972/7/8: Tithe maps (1837-1902)**
- **X972/7/9: Plans relating to public undertakings (1767-1931)**
- X972/7/10: Books of reference (1760s-late 19th century)
- X972/8: MISCELLANEOUS (1591-1918)

## The cartulary of Lilleshall Abbey.

### Identity

- **Class:** q KP 63 Reading Room
- **System Reference:** XLS7794
- **ISBN:** 0950122769

### Details

- **Editor:** Rees, Una
- **Publisher:** Shrewsbury, Shropshire Archaeological and Historical Society
- **Pagination:** xxii, 235p maps

- **Publication Date:** 1997
- **Associated Period:**
  - 12C; 13C; 14C; 15C

#### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

### **A survey of Lilleshall Abbey, Shropshire.**

#### **Identity**

- **Class:** q C 61
- **System Reference:** XLS15443

#### **Details**

- **Author:** Ferris, Iain
- **Notes:** In box of Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit reports
- **Format:** Article
- **Associated Period:**
  - 12C; 13C

#### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

### **A survey of Lilleshall Abbey, Shropshire; a second interim report.**

#### **Identity**

- **Class:** q C 61
- **System Reference:** XLS15469

#### **Details**

- **Author:** Ferris, Iain; Hutchinson, Q
- **Notes:** In box of Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit reports
- **Format:** Article
- **Associated Period:**
  - 12C; 13C

#### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Reference

### **An outline of the history of Lilleshall Abbey.**

#### **Identity**

- **Class:** K 96 v.f.
- **System Reference:** XLS14527

#### **Details**

- **Author:** Jones, Edward
- **Notes:** Readers Ticket only
- **Format:** Book

#### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket

### **2009? WB at Lilleshall Abbey by Ironbridge Archaeology**

- **HER Event Number:** ESA7090
- **Event Name :** 2009? WB at Lilleshall Abbey by Ironbridge Archaeology
- **Civil Parish:**
  - Lilleshall and Donnington , Telford and Wrekin
- **Related Monuments:**

- Lilleshall Abbey, 01112
- **Description:** HER has not received a copy of this report. Exact nature of report and the date and location of works is unknown.
- **Sources:**

(01) **Watching brief report: Belford P et al. 2009. Lilleshall Abbey, Shropshire: Archaeological Watching Brief. Ironbridge Archaeology Series. 304.**

## **The story of Lilleshall Abbey.**

### **Identity**

- **Class:** K 97 v.f.
- **System Reference:** XLS26256

### **Details**

- **Author:** Boston, Noel
- **Format:** Book
- **Associated Period:**
  - **12th-20th Century**

### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket

## **1891 excavation**

- **HER Event Number:** ESA1371
- **Event Name:** 1891 excavation
- **Civil Parish:**
  - Lilleshall and Donnington , Telford and Wrekin
- **Related Monuments:**
  - Lilleshall Abbey, 01112

- **Description:** Source <01> given in old SMR as same as Mon PRN 01112/55 - source not matched during data migration - identified by PAW 21/10/2005.
- **Sources:**

- **Monograph:** Walker C C. 1891. History of Lilleshall.

### **1987 assessment and field survey of Granville Country Park in advance of landscaping by The Ironbridge Institute**

- **HER Event Number:** ESA5130
- **Event Name:** 1987 assessment and field survey of Granville Country Park in advance of landscaping by The Ironbridge Institute
- **Civil Parish:**
  - Lilleshall and Donnington , Telford and Wrekin

### **HER Event Number: ESA3236**

- **Event Name :** 1975 field observation by the Ordnance Survey
- **Civil Parish:**
  - Lilleshall and Donnington, Telford and Wrekin
- **Related Monuments:**
  - Earthworks NE of Lilleshall Abbey (possible canal dock or Civil War fortifications), 03846
- **Sources:**

(01) Card index: Ordnance Survey. 1975. Ordnance Survey Record Card SJ71SW4. Ordnance Survey record cards. SJ71SW4.

### **Lilleshall Abbey Farm**



- **Description:** Lilleshall Abbey Farm. Including house, farm buildings, 3 cottages and 222 acres, tenants A Crow, W Silletoe, G Adams, F B Causton, sub-tenants Meredith, Mason & Roberts. Lot 94 of the house and estate sale. Details taken from the catalogue. Owner Duke of Sutherland.
- **For more information contact:** Newport History Society SNAP Project

## **A history of Shropshire volume II. (The Victoria history of the counties of England)**

### **Identity**

- **Class:** 6004/1550
- **System Reference:** XLS14477

### **Details**

- **Editor:** Gaydon, A T
- **Notes:** Readers Ticket only; Note, news cutting, and ephemera in envelope.
- **Format:** Book

### **Access**

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket



## English Heritage; Lilleshall Abbey.

### Identity

- **Class:** K 71.8 v.f.
- **System Reference:** XLS29847
- **ISBN:** 1850741360
- **Notes:** Handbook of Lilleshall Abbey, Shropshire. description, photographs and map of site

### Details

- **Author:** Rigold, S E
- **Publisher:** English Heritage
- **Pagination:** 16p, illus, map, plan
- **Publication Date:** 1989
- **Associated Period:**
  - 13th Century

### Access

- **Location:** Shropshire Archives
- **Access Status:** Readers Ticket