

Peterborough Cathedral

Galilee Court Landscaping Project

A Report on a Programme of Archaeological Observation and Recording.

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Figure 1
Site Location

Peterborough Cathedral
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1 Introduction

1.1 Summary

The aim of the Galilee Court Landscaping Project, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, was to provide universal access to the cathedral and enhance the appearance and functionality of the main approach to the nave. To achieve this aim, areas of existing surfacing materials and their bedding were lifted and replaced, and a number of small trenches were excavated for the installation of mains services and lighting. Details of medieval and later building footings; a well; 19th and 20th century landscaping, road and path surfaces and service installation were recorded during archaeological supervision and monitoring of these works.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The site is centered on National Grid Reference 519325 298648 and includes the east and south sides of Galilee Court, also known as Minster Court, the great court on the west side of Peterborough Cathedral (Figure 1). The Court is bounded by the cathedral church to the east; Norman Gateway, the chapel and west ranges to the west; the walls of the Deanery to the north; and the Bishop's Gate and Nos. 24-28 Minster Precincts to the south. The court slopes gently to the south, towards the river Nene, and to the west towards the old town ditch. The whole area has been part of the cathedral/abbey precincts since at least the mid-12th century and it is probable that the eastern part of the court was within the Anglo-Saxon abbey precincts.

1.3 Planning Background

In June 2013, planning permission (13/00505/FUL) was granted for the creation of universal access to the West Front of the Cathedral and for the re-grading and re-surfacing of the southern path to the front of Nos 24-28 Minster Precincts, subject to a condition requiring archaeological monitoring of the construction groundworks. The developer, Peterborough Cathedral, undertook to implement the required programme of archaeological work to the standard specified by the Peterborough City Council (PCC) Archaeologist, and as set out in the Archaeological Assessment prepared by the Cathedral Archaeologist (Hall 2013).

According to the proposed scheme, drawn up by The Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP, the creation of universal access to the West Front would involve the removal of tarmac and sub-base to a depth of c.0.15m, prior to creating new ramped paths on a broad mound abutting the outer porch, and along the south side of Galilee Court the pavement would be taken up, kerbs removed, and the underlying deposits reduced to a depth of c.0.3m prior to resurfacing. Amendments to the design resulted in a maximum 0.26m depth of excavation on the site of the ramped access mound and a maximum 0.25m depth along the pavement area in front of Nos. 24-28, excluding the additional average 10cm depth of the trenches for new, low-profile, kerb stones in both areas. The areas affected by these landscaping works are shown, cross-hatched, in Figures 2 and 3.

The aim of the tasks scheduled for the West Front was to provide universal access to the cathedral and enhance the appearance and functionality of the main approach to the nave. This has been achieved by consolidating the existing stone steps and portico paving; installing new floodlights and associated electricity supplies in the porticos; removing the existing screens from the Inner Porch and installing new screens. The areas affected by these enhancement works are shown in Figure 2.

Works associated with the Galilee Court landscaping project include the refurbishment of No. 25 Minster Precincts for use as an education centre; the installation of new interpretation boards and signs around the precincts; and the conservation of the Bishop's Gateway. Archaeological reports on these works are in preparation.

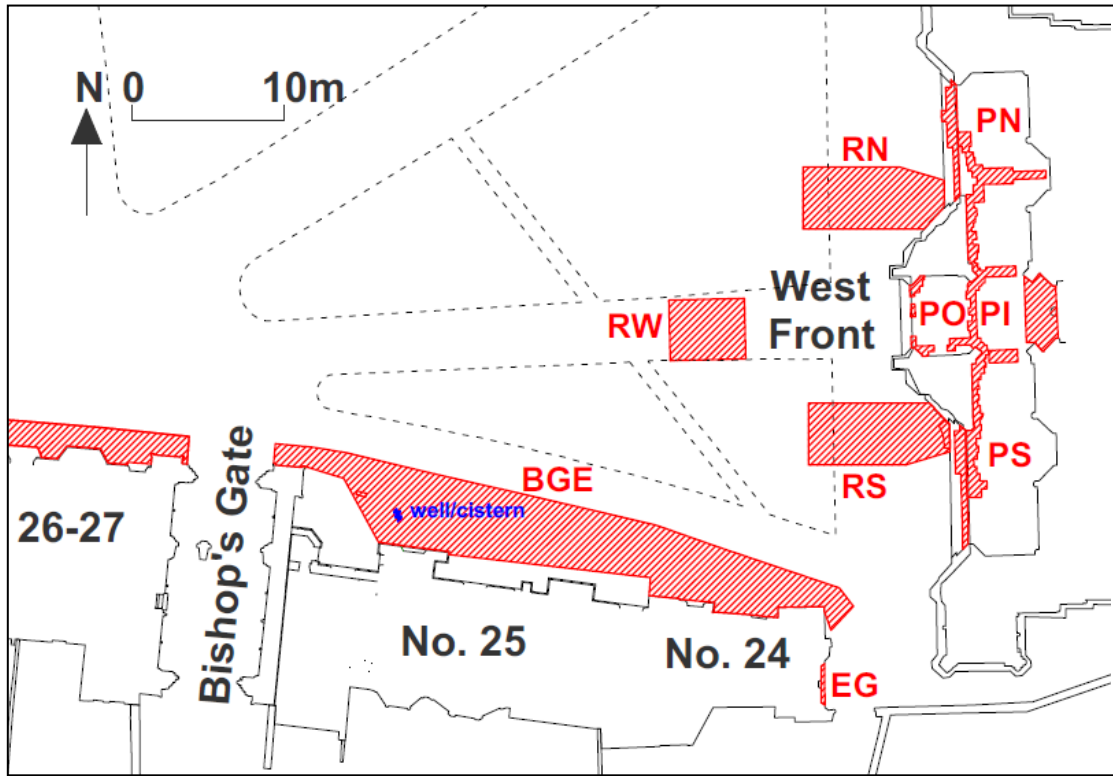


Figure 2
Galilee Court Landscaping Project works areas: West Front and Nos. 24-25 Minster Precincts

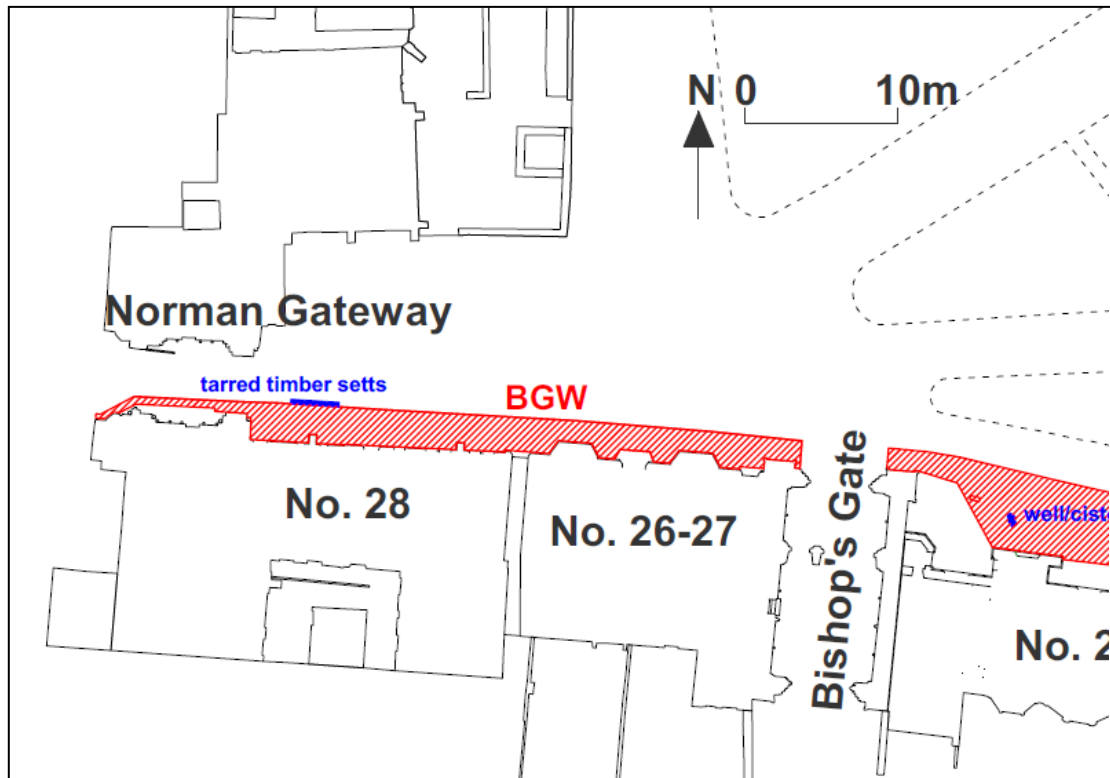


Figure 3
Galilee Court Landscaping Project works areas: Nos. 26-28 and the Norman Gateway.

1.4 Historical and Archaeological Background

The areas affected by the groundworks (Figures 2 and 3) lie within the precincts of Peterborough Cathedral/Abbey, within the Galilee Court (or Minster Court). The following is taken from the archaeological assessment (Hall 2013) with additions.

Nothing certain is known of the pre-Conquest history of this particular area on the west side of the precincts. The precincts of the 10th-century abbey (Burgh) and the 7th-century abbey (Medeshamstede) are not believed to have extended as far west as the current precincts, while the late Anglo-Saxon town was probably to their east or north-east. The western area first receives historical attention in the 12th century, when we learn that Martin de Bec (abbot 1132-55) 'changed the gate of the minster and the market and the hithe and the town much for the better'. This has sometimes been assumed to be when the town was moved to the west side, and the precincts are also presumed to have been extended westwards, thus creating one side of the Galilee Court (see Hall forthcoming).

Based on archaeological investigations on the north and south sides of the precincts, Mackreth (1999) theorised that the western ditch of 10th-century Burgh might have run close to the west front of the cathedral church, but this has yet to be proved or disproved.

In succeeding centuries the buildings around the Galilee Court gradually developed, and were successively replaced, leaving it bounded as it is now (Figure 1). Most relevant to this report are the 12th-century Norman Gateway to the south-west (remodeled in the 14th century), the buildings of the south range, including the central medieval Bishop's/Abbot's Gateway (the Knights' Chamber), and the cathedral church itself, which bounds the east side of the court; these are considered in more detail below. Less important to this report, the west side, to the north of the Norman Gateway, is bounded by the 14th-century St Thomas' chapel (originally 12th-century), then a variety of 18th- and 19th-century houses, while the north side comprises an old almshouse, and the wall and gateway to the Deanery.

Speed's map of 1610 shows the Galilee Court to be open, as now, while the rather more useful 1721 map, by Eyre (Figure 4), also shows no buildings, but does have an orchard in its western half. The map also shows a single path crossing the court and implies an enclosure west of the orchard, as does a contemporary estate map. This may have been the playground of the King's School, which occupied the chapel after the Reformation. The now-characteristic diagonal paths are not shown on the enclosure map of 1822, but they have appeared by 1862 (Figure 5), and this basic pattern has remained the same since. The Galilee Court has remained open, with the temporary exception of air raid shelters during World War II (PCCHER 80051).

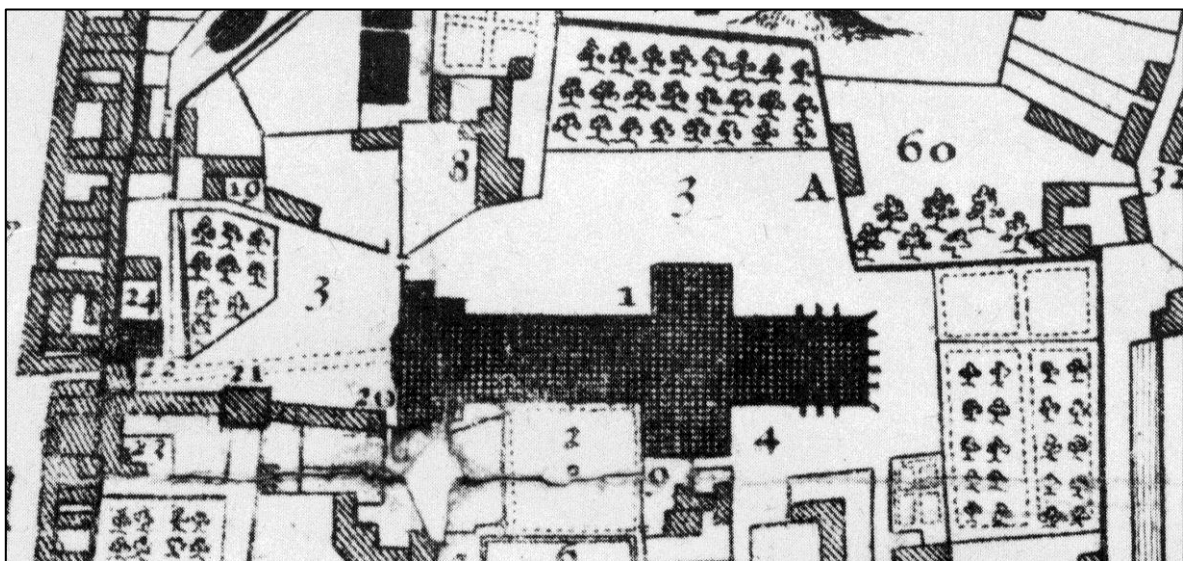


Figure 4
Part of Thomas Eyre's map of 1721



Figure 5
Part of George Smith's map of 1862

A number of archaeological observations have been made in Galilee Court (see Hall 2013), of which the most important are referred to in the more detailed notes below.

1.4.1 Norman Gateway

The Great or Norman Gateway is the principal, western, entrance to the precincts. It was constructed during the time of Abbot Benedict between 1177 and 1194 (PCCHER 80002). It was remodeled in the 14th century, with major changes to the upper levels, and the addition of a new wall to contain a portcullis, on the town (west) side, perhaps at the same time the new gate was made (scientifically dated to mid-late 14th-century; Tyers and Parsons 2010). A door in the south side led to part of the prison, and there was a chapel on the first floor, radically changed in the late 18th century and again in the 1950s. From the point of view of this watching brief, the most important points are the 12th-century architecture at ground level (possibly with later repairs); the 14th-century western side; and the fact that original plinth levels are now rather lower than the paved ground. A watching brief in 2006, east of the gateway (PCCHER 80035), revealed an extensive area of tar-soaked wooden blocks dating to the late 19th or early 20th centuries.

1.4.2 No. 28 Minster Precincts

Adjacent to the Norman Gateway, no. 28 (PCCHER 80098) served as the medieval abbey prison (PCCHER 80008), and subsequently the town prison until 1839 (PCCHER 70007). Early 19th-century engravings show a late 12/13th century building (PCCHER images 1153 and 1155). Just prior to this, however, John Carter made an engraving in 1791 (Figure 6) that seems to show the prison with a timber framed frontage that goes right up against the arch of the Great Gateway. This seems to be confirmed by an agreement, by the Marquis of Exeter, that the northern wall of the prison should be set back four feet. Judging by Carter's 1791 drawing and comparing it with the later engravings and present buildings, that is exactly what occurred. The major rebuilding and refacing of the medieval buildings took place after the building ceased to be the town prison, but remains of a medieval vault survive at the west end, and a large unvaulted cellar at the east end, which may represent the dug-out foundations of the vaulted building. It is likely that the current structure is still supported by medieval foundations.

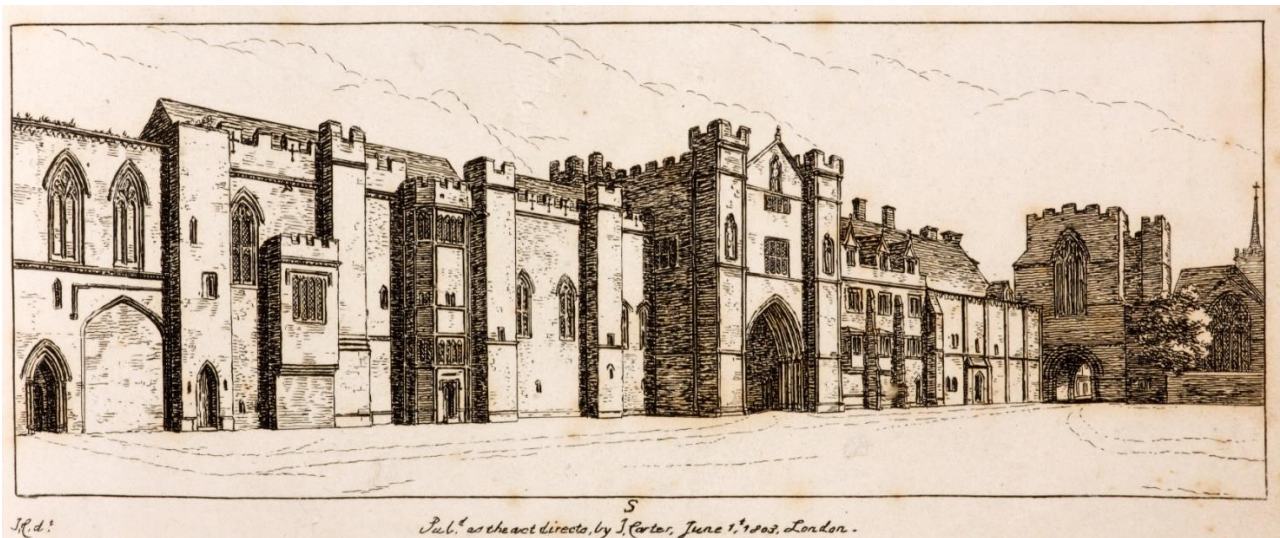


Figure 6

John Carter engraving from a drawing made in 1791

The buildings along the south side of Galilee Court (modern-day Nos. 24-28) and the Norman Gateway.

1.4.3 No. 26–27 Minster Precincts

The current 26–27 Minster Precincts (PCCHER 80236), between no. 28 and the Bishop's Gateway, replaced a 17th-century house that was once the home of historian and cathedral canon Simon Gunton (PCCHER 70012). It was built for John Gates in the mid-19th century, and architect's proposals survive. The proposals show that although the building appears to be a symmetrical single house, it was always, in fact, designed to be two houses, as it still is (although 27 is now divided into flats). Its actual appearance matches the proposals in overall proportions, but not in details. To the west of nos 26-7 is a door that leads to a 20th-century single-storey annexe constructed in the rear garden of no. 27 (PCCHER 80239), and also to the old stable block.



Plate 1

Nos. 26-28 Minster Precincts

Photograph: Jackie Hall

1.4.4 The Bishop's Gateway

This medieval gateway (PCCHER 80009) is probably the 'new inner gate' made by Abbot Robert Lindsey (1224–22), but may also be the 'new' gate, built 1303–08, by Abbot Godfrey Crowland (Hall 2012), with a clear building break between the two. The gateway is two storeys high, with crenellated turrets at each corner. The gate passage is vaulted in three sexpartite bays, with a side entrance for foot passengers. A staircase on the south side leads to a large room over the gateway, known as the 'Knights' Chamber' owing to the portraits and arms of the abbey knights which once adorned the room. The original windows have been replaced by Jacobean mullioned and transomed windows, with square heads, although the moulded stone string at the ceiling level in the interior is original. On the exterior, three original statues survive in niches on both the north and south elevations. The responds of the southern arch (Bishop's Palace side) were underpinned with cement and black bricks c.1903–14. The bases of the southern arch are now c.0.75m below the level of the roadway through the gate.

1.4.5 Nos 24–25 Minster Precincts

These lie on the eastern side of the Bishop's Gateway (PCCHER 80053 and 80078; Hall and Atkins 2016). In Figure 6 (Carter's engraving), it is plain that in the late 18th century the entire half-range was still medieval, with a late medieval tower-porch placed centrally, attached to an earlier building with, to the west, a hall with traceried windows over cellarge and, to the east, a two-storey arrangement also with a first floor traceried window, and a late medieval oriel window. Four stair towers, or garderobes, or chimney towers are evenly placed along its length. This range can almost certainly be identified with the 'attached [to the new gateway] chambers, [lying] towards the church, the cost of which was £140', begun by Abbot Godfrey in 1308 (Halliday 2009; Sparke 1723, 164). In the same year, the abbot and convent were also licensed to crenellate 'the gate of the abbey and two chambers lying between the gate and their church. All of this fits well with the architecture, surviving and engraved.



Plate 2
Nos. 24-25 Minster Precincts and Bishop's Gate.
Photograph: Jackie Hall

No. 24, at the east end, mostly retains its medieval fabric and appearance. No. 25, adjacent to the Bishop's Gate, has been comprehensively refaced and refenestrated; almost no medieval fabric survives. However, traces have been found in a recent watching brief (Hall and Atkins forthcoming) and the ghost, at least, of the medieval building survives in its narrow (N-S) plan, in the drawing room window (medieval porch), and in the conservation of the differing floor levels from east to west. There is the very real possibility that the foundations may still be medieval.

In the 19th century, the boundaries between the two properties were subject to change: in 1822 a map shows a division into three, while the 1862 map (Figure 5), shows the range divided into two, but with the drawing room belonging to no. 24 rather than to no. 25 as it does today.

1.4.6 The Eastern Gateway

The remains of a former gateway can be seen adjoining the east side of no. 24 (PCCHER 80068) (Figure 2, area EG; Plate 3). It was still standing in 1791, when it was drawn by John Carter (Figure 6) but had been destroyed by 1795. The fenestration shows it to be contemporary with the adjoining range ie. early 14th-century.



Plate 3
The Eastern Gateway. Note the wall rib of the vaulted gate passage above the main arch connecting the gateway with No. 24. No. 24's NE tower is right of frame).
Photograph: Jackie Hall

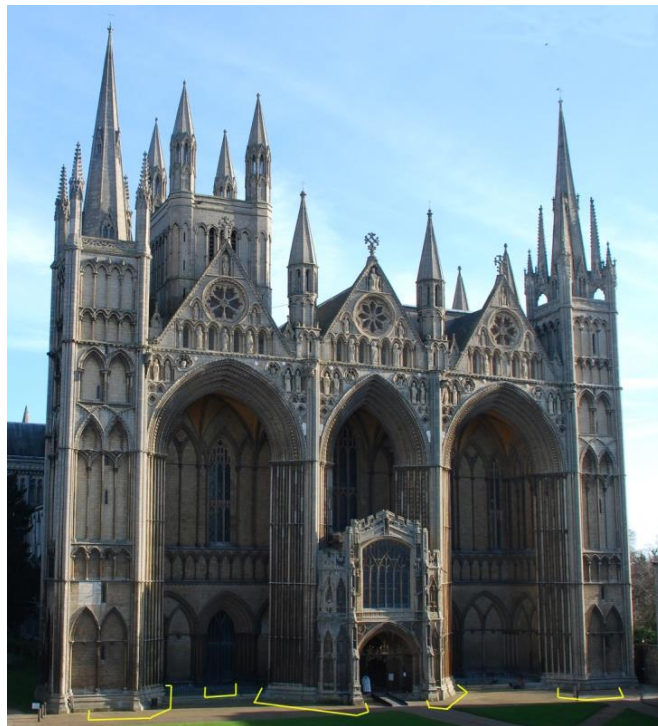


Plate 4
The West Front.
The yellow lines indicate areas of recorded Victorian excavation.
Photograph: Sarah Botfield

1.4.7 The Cathedral West Front

The magnificent west front, with its three giant arches, was built c.1200–1230 (Plate 4), and a small inner porch with chapel above inserted in the mid-late 14th century. Within the inner porch itself, there was a dark wooden glazed screen, designed in the late 1920s by then Cathedral Architect Leslie Moore.

Of particular note for this report is the record of 'new ironwork in the Minster Porch' in 1792, which may refer to the railings and central gate (PCL MS 54, fo 141v), despite the absence of railings from the engraving made for John Britton, published in 1828. Over a century later, in 1896, a programme of restoration began on the west front (PCCHER 80245 and Hall 2014). As part of this, eleven trial holes were excavated at the base to determine whether underpinning was required. These excavations were recorded, including an invaluable record of the medieval foundations on one side and, in some cases, the ground conditions on the other, including a very deep layer of 'much burnt wood'. A square well was also found below the north side of the projecting foundations of the Perpendicular porch, possibly Roman (Mackreth 1976, 15-19). Fragments of a laver were found below the south buttress and staircase of the inner porch (PCL, Irvine Papers, vol 6, fo 59).

Contemporary letters from the Cathedral Architect, J L Pearson to the Clerk of Works, J T Irvine indicate that the west front foundations were mostly considered in good enough condition not to require underpinning, and the holes were backfilled with what came out of them, although the drawings suggest that some at least were filled with concrete (NRO, XBOX 5097, RP 43). The front of the 14th-century inner porch and adjoining 13th-century piers, however, were underpinned to a distance of c.2m from the structure and down to the top of the Cornbrash (local limestone layer), around 9ft (2.7m) below Victorian ground level.

The modern ground level, pre-landscaping works, is slightly lower than in 1896, exactly at the level of the top of the foundations of the inner porch, as recorded in 1896; the 13th-century foundations are slightly lower.

Within the porch, it is clear that the floor is not original, with a mixture of late medieval and early modern grave slabs, not necessarily *in situ*, and plain, probably Clipsham stone, slabs and steps (poor light and dirty condition made identification difficult); most of the steps in the north portico, though, were of Ketton stone. The floor and steps have probably been disturbed and repaired on numerous occasions: at the very least when the railing was inserted in the late 18th or early 19th centuries; when the investigations and underpinning took place at the end of the 19th century; and when the first porch screens were inserted in the late 1920s.

1.5 Archaeological Methodology

The methodology outlined in the appended Mitigation Strategy (Hall, 2014), submitted to, approved and monitored by the PCC Archaeologist, was adhered to throughout the project. Wherever possible, supervision and periodic monitoring of the various tasks involved in the construction groundworks were organized to minimize delays to the works schedule and, throughout, the PCC Archaeologist was kept informed of progress.

1.6 Timing

As a whole, the Galilee Court Landscaping Project commenced on Monday 4th August 2014 and was completed 9th March 2015. Groundworks along the south side of the court were the first block of tasks on the schedule and therefore commenced on the 4th August, but work was suspended in that area, and the workforce moved to the West Front and east side of the court, while waiting for the delivery of materials. Discrete groundwork tasks were then carried out as and when the weather, and the supply of design alterations and of materials, allowed.

Archaeological inspection of the deposits exposed by the lifting of step and paving stones from the West Front commenced on 28th August 2014, and on the adjacent site of the new ramp on 19th September 2014. Tasks relating to the West Front and Galilee Court east side programmes, that is provision of new floodlights set into the floors of the North and South Porticos; the installation of new screens in the Inner Porch; and the creation of the ramped access to the West Front respectively, then proceeded in tandem. Archaeological monitoring of these works was concluded on 9th March 2015, when all tasks involving the excavation of deposits and lifting of existing paving slabs had been completed.

2 Galilee Court, South Side Landscaping

2.1 Introduction to the Groundworks

The aim of the works scheduled for the pavement area along the south side of Galilee Court (Figures 2 and 3: areas BGE and BGW) was to remove all obstacles to universal access for pedestrians and wheelchair users. To achieve that aim, the existing stone kerbs, paving slabs and tarmac surface were removed and the level of the existing substrate was reduced by an average of 200mm, as shown in Plates 5 and 6. In addition, a deeper narrow trench was excavated on the north side to hold new, low profile, kerb stones. All of these groundworks were carried out between the 4th and 14th of August 2014.

The excavation of a post hole for a new way-marker sign, which was carried out during the week commencing 20th October 2014, was not carried out under archaeological supervision due to a revision of the design and location which placed it within an area already investigated.



Plate 5

(Archive Image PCGC 024)

Pavement area to the west of the Bishop's Gate. Viewed from the west.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 6

(Archive Image PCGC 180)

Pavement to the east of the Bishop's Gate. Viewed from the east.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

The deposits removed and exposed by the groundworks in the area of the pavement were very mixed materials but all, save a small patch of garden topsoil to the east of No. 24's front door, had been deposited and frequently redeposited to fill a series of service trenches and provide a firm bed for the recently removed paving slabs and tarmac surfaces. Consequently, with the exception of a well (or cistern), little of archaeological significance was revealed in the pavement area, and less destroyed.

However, along the margins of the pavement areas, the reduction of levels provided a rare opportunity to inspect the lower courses, footings and associated features of Nos. 24 to 28, and to add to our knowledge of the area of timber setts adjacent to the east side of the Norman Gate.

Features of particular interest are described below, starting at the east end of the pavement area, closest to the cathedral's west front.

2.2 No. 24 NE Tower and Eastern Gateway

The medieval structures which clasp the north-eastern corner and form part of the east elevation of No. 24 are elements of a relatively poorly understood set of buildings. The walls of the Eastern Gateway have been both truncated and overbuilt; the NE tower is shown to be a stair tower by stairs that survive internally above ground floor level, though on the ground floor internal details are masked by plaster and paint. However, the temporary reduction of levels around the tower during the landscaping works, exposed significant details, in particular, the form and condition of the plinth and marked changes in ground level adjacent to it. Partial exposure of a chamfered course beneath the damaged courses of a moulded plinth indicates that when the tower was built the ground level was a minimum of 0.40m lower than now (Plates 7–10).



Plate 7

(Archive image PCGC 047)

No. 24: NE tower, north elevation.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 8

(Archive image PCGC 049)

No. 24: NE tower, north elevation, east end, showing the previously buried chamfer. Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 9

(Archive image PCGC 055)

No. 24: NE tower, north elevation, west end, showing the west jamb of the doorway and the upper part of the plinth. Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 10

(Archive image PCGC 058)

No. 24 Gate: NE tower, west elevation, north end, showing the upper part of the plinth. Photograph: Caroline Atkins

The tower is part of the building now known as No. 24, which is a conversion of a medieval building, possibly a lodging range, and is attached to the much truncated remnant of the eastern medieval gateway (Plate 3). A large arched opening, now blocked (Plate 11), once gave access between the vaulted gate passage and the interior of No. 24, within which much of another medieval vault is visible.

Removal of the existing tarmac surface and the reduction of levels within what used to be the gate passage, prior to resurfacing of the entrance to the rear of No. 24 (currently a car park), exposed the lower face and footing courses of the east elevation of the wall which blocks the arched opening off the west side of the passage (Plates 11 and 12).



Plate 11
(Archive image PCGC 380)
Eastern Gateway: west side, east elevation with exposed footing.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 12
(Archive image PCGC 384)
Eastern Gateway: west side, east elevation with the footing courses of the wall blocking the arch.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

When the lower part of the blocking wall and its footing were exposed and investigated it was apparent that the footing and wall courses each butted up to the moulded south and north jambs of the arch (Plates 13 and 14 respectively). The rather generous offset (0.25m) of the footing beneath the blocking masonry might indicate more than one phase of blocking the archway, with the footing belonging to an earlier phase with a thicker wall above.

The construction of the extant blocking wall is consistent with that of the major part of No. 24's external elevations and the rear of no. 25, and therefore the existing blocking of the gate passage arch is likely to date to the same period. Based on the style of the earliest visible refenestration of the range (Hall and Atkins forthcoming), this may have been as early as the 18th century, which also fits with Carter's engraving of 1791, which shows the eastern gate roofless, with weeds growing on the wall top, and with blocked windows and doors. The blocking wall between the Eastern Gate and no. 24 could, of course, have been rebuilt during later periods of refurbishment: the window set within it matches a later phase of refenestration. However, given the banded coursed rubble of the wall and the heavy pointing, we cannot be certain whether this window is contemporary or later.

Although the lower courses of stonework had been severely damaged during previous campaigns of path and access road resurfacing, it was possible to determine that the ground surface during the period of blocking was at or slightly above 8.195m OD. The lower limit of archaeological investigation in 2014 was 8.02m and the bottom of the footing was not exposed, and neither was the bottom of the arch jambs.

Unfortunately, the retention of a brick-edged gully (Plate 13) and the existing iron railings to the north of the arch limited the horizontal area of excavation and prevented investigation of the lower courses of the arch itself and of its relationship with the adjacent parts of the gate passage wall.



Plate 13
(Archive image PCGC 389)
Eastern Gateway: west side, east elevation:
blocking wall footing, south end.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 14
(Archive image PCGC 390)
Eastern Gateway: west side, east elevation:
blocking wall footing, north end.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

2.3 No. 24 Features

The only part of the external elevation of the north wall of No. 24 exposed by the groundworks was that which lies between the NE tower and the front door of No. 24, the remainder of the house frontage being masked by a well-established and fenced shrubbery. Evidence exposed in this limited area (Plate 15) suggests that a similar, potentially fenced, strip of garden was present to the east of the front door until fairly recently.



Plate 15
(Archive image PCGC 59)
No.24: north elevation, east of front
door, showing evidence for a strip of
front garden edged with stones and
possibly a railing.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Post-construction alterations to the lower part of the north wall of No. 24 (coursed rubble), adjacent to its junction with the (ashlar) NE tower and extensive and heavy-handed repointing higher up, have masked any evidence which there may have been for the relationship between the two structures, although the surviving architectural features suggest they are contemporary.

2.4 No. 25 Features

Due to the presence of established and securely fenced gardens flanking the front door of No. 25, no part of the front elevation of the building was newly exposed by the landscaping works. An engineer's trial pit was excavated at a later date to test the character and depth of the footings beneath the north elevation of No. 25 to the east of its porch (see Hall & Atkins, forthcoming). However, other features and deposits of interest were exposed by service trenching in the area adjacent to the north of the front porch.

One feature of particular interest was found, beneath a stone slab, in front of the front door (Figure 2 and Plates 16 - 19), when levels were being adjusted to accommodate a temporary path surface across the works area. At its current base, 1.23m below the closing slab, the feature is a circular void, 1.12m in diameter, lined with roughly coursed small stones, and very like a well in appearance. Indeed, the true bottom of the feature was not found and it remains possible that it was a well when first excavated and lined. The nine courses of inwardly corbelled brickwork (bricks 230 x 108 x 60-65mm), which sit on top of the stone lining, appear to represent an alteration to an existing structure, fitting it for a second period of use.



Plate 16

(Archive image PCGC 187)

No. 25: the location of the well/soak-away.

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 17

(Archive image PCGC 186)

No. 25: brick top of the soak-away, from the E.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

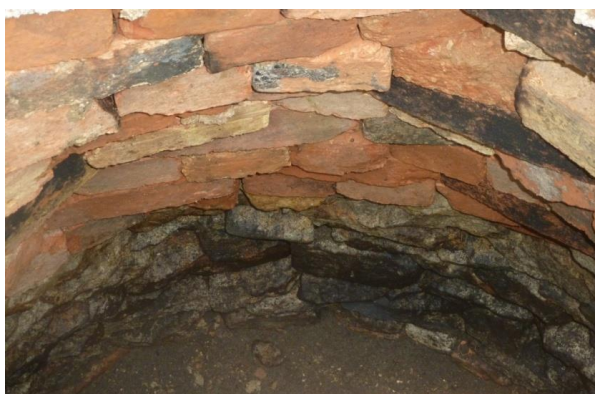


Plate 18

(Archive image PCGC 188)

No. 25: the stone and brick courses lining the west side of the well/soak-away.

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 19

(Archive image PCGC 190)

No. 25: the inlet pipe, right of frame, and outlet pipe to the left, viewed from the W.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

In its current form, with inlet and outlet pipes set into the brickwork, the lined void appears most likely to have served as a soak-away. Changes to the drainage systems in the city and surrounding area, and the availability of a new and cleaner water supply, would permit a change of use, from water source to means of foul water disposal, especially in view of the long history and many refurbishments of No. 25.

Without notice, two service trenches, roughly N/S aligned and 0.40m wide, were excavated across the pavement to either side of No. 25's porch. In section, beneath the hardcore deposited in 2014, were two layers of crushed stone (**821** and **823**) separated by a substantial layer of dark topsoil (**822**). All but the lower of these layers (**823**) had been cut away by service trenches running parallel to the pre-2015 stone sett road gully. This evidence suggested that the ground level had changed markedly during the recent past and that a major re-vamp of the north elevation and approach to No. 25 had occurred when layer **821**, a mortar-rich deposit (potentially indicative of a scheme of repointing), was laid down. Layer **821** supports the garden railings and their plinth and appears to mark a change from a potentially grassed area in front of No. 25 to a hard-surfaced area.

2.5 Bishop's Gate

The reduction of levels adjacent to the north elevation of the Bishop's Gate exposed a 10cm offset beneath the previously masked bottom of the roll mouldings which decorate the corners of the elevation, and made it possible to discern the true lower limits of stone replacement on both sides of the gate arch. Much of both the offset course and the one above were shown to be Ketton stone replacements, a stone which appears to have been used elsewhere at Peterborough in the early 19th century (eg. on the west front). The lack of a base or moulded plinth, especially to the corner shafts, is probably indicative of inaccurate repair to an area that was no longer visible, just as with the documented repairs to the rear of the gateway (section 1.4.4).

As elsewhere, but particularly regrettable in this medieval structure, there was a very marked horizontal band of damage and erosion (Plates 21 and 23) straddling the line of the modern ground surface. Hair-line cracks between the wall face and abutting, hard, pavement surface permit water and soil to collect against the stonework, and ice-formation and plant roots to expand the crack and damage the stone.



Plate 20
(Archive image PCGC 145)
Bishop's Gate: east side,
north elevation.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 21
(Archive image PCGC 142)
Bishop's Gate: east side, north elevation, showing
the offset course exposed by the groundworks.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 22

(Archive image PCGC 063)

Bishop's Gate: west side, north elevation.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 23

(Archive image PCGC 069)

Bishop's Gate: west side, north elevation, showing the offset course exposed by the groundworks.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

2.6 Nos. 26 and 27 Features

The reduction of levels outside Nos. 26 and 27 exposed very little additional detail other than a couple of previously buried courses of stonework, which are clearly part of the same (mid-19th century) build as the main elevation of the building, and two coal-holes, one for each of the current front doors (Plates 24 – 27). These pieces of evidence support the previously held belief that this building is unlikely to contain any remnants of earlier structures.



Plate 24

(Archive image PCGC 147)

No. 26: north elevation, showing the location of the coal-hole.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 25

(Archive image PCGC 149)

No. 26: north elevation, showing the lower courses exposed by the groundworks.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 26
(Archive image PCGC 153)
No. 27: north elevation, east of the front door, showing the location of the coal-hole.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 27
(Archive image PCGC 157)
No. 27: north elevation, west of the front door, showing the basement window.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

2.7 No. 27A Features

To the west of the Bishop's Gate in particular, numerous existing covers over service inspection chambers, water supply stop taps and meters required specialist contractors to adjust their height and tilt so that they conformed to the intended gentle slope of the new pavement. Three electricity supply installations formed a cluster outside the door which leads to No. 27A. The oldest and most easterly of these (Plates 28 - 30) is of particular interest. An electricity supply specialist confirmed that the installation was not only redundant but of a type which he had never seen before. Cast into the lid on the inspection chamber were the words 'CORPORATION ELECTRICITY SUPPLY', indicating that the transformer is likely to date from the period during which private companies and corporations were permitted to supply electricity, which in Peterborough was between 1900, when an electricity supply was first installed by Peterborough City Corporation, and 1947, when the new Electricity Act led to the merging of numerous private and corporation electricity suppliers in the area to form the Eastern Electricity Board.



Plate 28
(Archive image PCGC 008)
The electricity supply inspection chamber outside No. 27A
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 29
(Archive image PCGC 014)
The 'CORPORATION ELECTRICITY SUPPLY' inspection chamber lid.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 30
(Archive image PCGC 160)
The transformer after removal of the
brick walls of the inspection chamber.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

2.8 No. 28 Features

Reduction of levels immediately to the west of the door leading to No. 27A (Plates 31 and 32) exposed two courses of an offset stone footing, so different in character to the stonework above it and so irregularly offset (by an average of 10cm) that it appears likely that it belongs to an earlier, potentially medieval, building, still well-represented by internal features (section 1.4.2).



Plate 31
(Archive image PCGC 163)
No. 28: potential medieval footings
to the east of the buttress.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 32
(Archive image PCGC 127)
No. 28: potential medieval footings
to the west of the buttress.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Further west, the exposed footings themselves appear to represent two separate periods of construction, at least one of which (and potentially both) predates the superimposed wall, at least on the exterior. The eastern footing in Plates 33 and 34 is offset from the plinth by an average of 17cm, while the western footing projects by only 8cm. The evidence which suggests that the footing(s) pre-date the superimposed wall is important because it confirms that there is the potential for medieval floors and construction deposits to exist inside the multi-period building known as No. 28. The evidence is of even greater importance because it reflects a piece-by-piece development of the medieval south range, with the western section perhaps contemporary with the Norman Gate, creating a stub ready for the next phase of building.



Plate 33
(Archive image PCGC 111)
No. 28: potential medieval footings
to the west of the buttress.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 34
(Archive image PCGC 112)
No. 28: potential medieval footings
to the west of the buttress.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

2.9 The Norman Gateway

The reduction of levels for the new pavement abutting the southern part of the east elevation of the Norman Gate exposed evidence for a series of relatively recent events, as shown in Plate 35. Almost certainly the earliest of these is a much-damaged layer of water-smoothed pebbles (context **805**), only a few of which remain *in situ* against the gateway footings, which may represent a cobbled pavement or road surface. Potentially cutting this surface is a large stone into which is set a vertical iron bar in a lead cramp, probably intended to serve as the west end of a set of iron railings, similar to those which remain *in situ* in the south-eastern part of the court.



Plate 35
(Archive image PCGC 078)
Norman Gate: east elevation, medieval
footings exposed by reduction of levels
prior to the reopening of the service trench.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 36
(Archive image PCGC 103)
Norman Gate: east gate arch, south side - medieval
footings exposed in the reopened service trench.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 37

(Archive image PCGC 173)

Norman Gate: the reopened service trench against the south side of the east gate arch.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 38

(Archive image PCGC 178)

Norman Gate: the reopened service trench against the south side of the west gate arch, showing the exposed footings.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

The re-opening of an electricity supply trench on the south side of the gate passage exposed parts of the medieval footings for the east and west arches of the gateway (Plates 37 and 38 respectively). Unfortunately, the existing service trench was not bottomed and therefore it was not possible to see or record the full extent of the architectural and archaeological evidence exposed when the trench was first dug, and no such record was made at that unknown time.

A relatively minor alteration to the extent of the groundworks, to the east of the Norman Gate, resulted in the exposure of a 2.60m by 0.23m strip of a tarred timber road surface, immediately beneath the current tarmac surface (Plates 39 and 40). The 228mm x 75mm x 75mm (9 x 3 x 3inch) blocks of tarred timber (807) had been laid on a very substantial concrete raft (808), 11cm thick (Plates 41 and 42). The concrete raft has cast, not cut, southern and eastern edges, the south edge running parallel to and 2.50m distant from the north elevation of No. 28 and the eastern edge lying 5.50m east of the Norman gateway (2.50m east of the cast iron gully grating shown in Plate 39).



Plate 39

(Archive image PCGC 089)

Norman Gate road surface: the full extent of the tarred timber road surface showing the stone cobble gutter abutting its eastern limit. Photograph: Caroline Atkins.



Plate 40

(Archive image PCGC 088)

Norman Gate road surface: the east end of the tarred setts. Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 41

(Archive image PCGC 087)

Norman Gate road surface: the tarred timber setts bedded on a raft of concrete.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 42

(Archive image PCGC 092)

Norman Gate road surface: the eastern limit of the concrete raft with current stone setts overlapping it.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

The current western limit of the concrete raft and timber setts lies approximately 0.50m east of the gateway's east elevation, where both have been cut away and replaced by a substantial raft of more recent concrete, presumably designed to strengthen the roadway surface beneath the gate arch and reduce damage to its structure.

Identical tarred timber setts were observed and recorded by Jackie Hall, during excavation for a telephone cable duct in 2006 (Hall, 2006), to the south of the chapel and east of the Norman gateway. There can be little doubt that both observations relate to a single area of tarred timber sett road surface, which was probably laid to reduce the noise made by traffic passing through the gate.

3 Cathedral West Front and Galilee Court East Side

3.1 Cathedral West Front Stone Steps and Paving

Before and during the period when the universal access and presentation-related tasks were undertaken, individual step and paving stones were identified for replacement. Visible surface erosion and faults liable to deteriorate in the near future informed the schedule of stone replacement and weakness or unevenness discovered during the lifting of paving stones, to lay service ducting beneath the portico and porch floors and install the new screens, resulted in either replacement or re-bedding of the existing stones.

Repair of the steps leading up into the north and south porticos was the first task to be undertaken, since the steps needed to be in good condition before the new ramped access to the outer porch could be constructed. The lifting of paving stones within the porticos immediately preceded the excavation of trenches for the new floodlights, details of which are given below (Section 3.2).

As already noted (section 1.4.7), the paving and steps of the three porticos are not original, and date from a number of periods; the main period, using Clipsham may belong to the making good work after investigation and underpinning in 1896; replacements to the south steps are all Ketton and principally reused grave stones; the new replacements are Ancaster Weatherbed.

3.1.1 North Portico Steps and Paving

The first stones lifted were those at the northern end of the north portico's top step (Figure 2, area PN), where a total of three, Clipsham stones had survived the adjacent programme of stone replacement. Lead cramps were found between these three stones, as shown in Plates 43 to 45 below which record the joint between the 2nd & 3rd stones from the N end of the top step. No cramping was found between the later replacement stones, which were bedded on a strong, cement mortar.



Plate 43
(Archive image PCGC 194)
North Portico, top step:
lead visible in the vertical
joint between the 2nd and
3rd stones from the N end.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 44
(Archive image PCGC 198)
North Portico, top step:
the lead cramp exposed.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 45
(Archive image PCGC 200)
North Portico, top step:
the lead cramp extracted.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Several of the Clipsham stones at the north end of the steps (Plates 46 and 47) were not replaced in 2014 and therefore their relationship with the lower courses of the pier base remains as found. They pre-date the replacement plinth to the north-west tower.



Plate 46
(Archive image PCGC 233)
North Portico steps, north end:
after stone removal, showing the
location of Plate 44.



Plate 47
(Archive image PCGC 235)
North Portico steps, north end:
with evidence for the original Clipsham step profiles.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Lifting of the stones from the middle step exposed an alignment of small flat stones (Plates 48 and 49), which might be the capping on a duct or drain. The small flat stones did not need to be lifted, therefore the feature was not investigated, but it appears likely that it is a duct for cables serving new lights installed in the 1920s or 1930s and that the stones of the portico step were lifted and replaced for that purpose.



Plate 48
(Archive image PCGC 301)
North Portico steps, north of centre, showing
the location of Plate 49.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 49
(Archive image PCGC 302)
North Portico steps, north of centre:
stone-capped duct beneath the middle step.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

3.1.2 South Portico Steps and Paving

While the steps of the south portico (Figure 2, area PS) appeared to be very similar to those of the north portico, a significant difference was discovered when the stones designated for replacement were lifted. Several of those lifted were in fact reused memorial stones, cut into appropriately sized pieces (Plate 50). In some cases, the inscribed faces had been dressed to achieve a better fit, resulting in large parts of the inscriptions being lost, as can be seen in Plates 51 and 52 (stones SR 002 and SR 001 respectively), but in others, it was possible to reunite parts of a memorial, as shown in Plate 53 (stones SR 003 and SR 004).



Plate 50
(Archive image PCGC 217) South Portico
Steps: reused memorial stones SR
002 and SR 001 as lifted from the
top step.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 51
 (Archive image PCGC 221)
 South Portico steps: stone SR 002
 Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 52
 (Archive image PCGC 219)
 South Portico steps: stone SR 001
 Photograph: Caroline Atkins

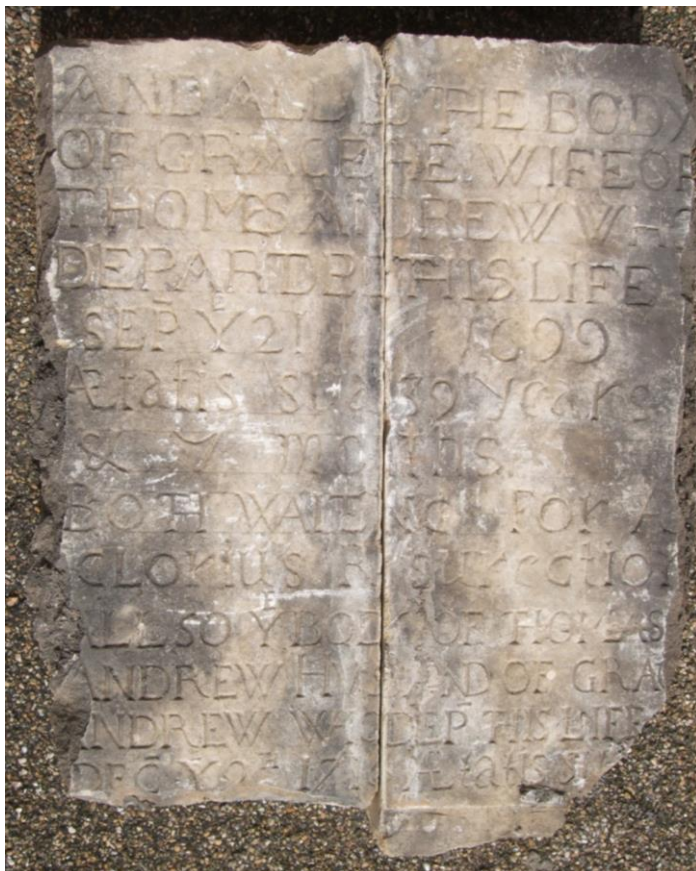


Plate 53
 (Archive image PCGC 228) South Portico steps:
 Stones SR 003 & SR 004 reunited to form what appears to be the lower half of a memorial stone dedicated to the ANDREW family.
 Photograph: Caroline Atkins

Plate 54
 (Archive image PCGC 228) Plate 53, top left detail
 Photograph: Caroline Atkins



The inscriptions on the two stones shown in Plate 53 are as shown below, with grey shading on the decorative 'A's (Plate 54) which only appear in the upper inscription, dated 1699. Letters given in blue appear in the inscriptions in digraphic or otherwise abbreviated form. The letter in red is partially damaged and underscores show the location of illegible or missing characters.

AND ALLSO THE BODY
OF GRACE THE WIFE OF
THOMAS ANDREW WHO
DEPARTD FR _ THIS LIFE
SEP YE 21 1699
AEtatis sua 39 years
& 7 months
BOTH WAIT NO_ for A
GLORius R__surection
ALLSO YE BODY OF THOMAS
ANDREW HVS _AND OF GRACE
ANDREW WHO DEP THIS LIFE
DEC YE 9TH 1710 AEtatis su_

The stones shown above (SR 001 to SR 004) were all found to be 144mm thick at their best preserved points, and it appeared more probable that they had been chosen because of this dimension than that they had been dressed to suit their reuse in the steps. Due to the obvious reductions of width and length, there were no other dimensions or details of mouldings available.

In contrast, two memorial stones were found towards the north end of the south portico steps (Plate 55) with parts of their edges and mouldings intact (Plates 56 and 57, stones SR 006 and SR 005 respectively).



Plate 55

(Archive image PCGC 261)

South Portico steps: positions from which Stone SR 006
(centre bottom of frame) and Stone SR 005 were lifted.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

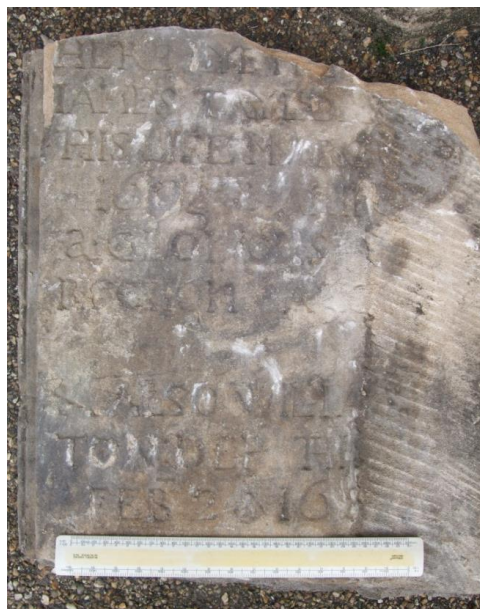


Plate 56

(Archive image PCGC 259)

South Portico steps: inscription naming
'JAMES TAYLOR' on Stone SR 006.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

In addition to retaining a moulding along its side, which indicates that it was part of a table monument, stone SR 006 bears an inscription to James Taylor and gives a date in 168*. Unfortunately, stone SR 005 has only the moulding to offer, re-dressing and wear having removed any inscription there might have been.



Plate 57

(Archive image PCGC 257)

South Portico steps: Stone SR 005 after lifting from position of reuse as shown in Plate 55.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

3.1.3 Outer Porch Steps and Paving

Relatively little work was required in the outer porch (Figure 2, area PO) and consequently little new information was collected. Part of one memorial stone (Plate 58, SR 007), dated 1685, was lifted from its position of reuse near the centre of the top step but otherwise, only recently laid slabs in the south-west (Plate 59) and north-west corners of the porch were lifted and these exposed only the modern backfill of the two floor light pits.

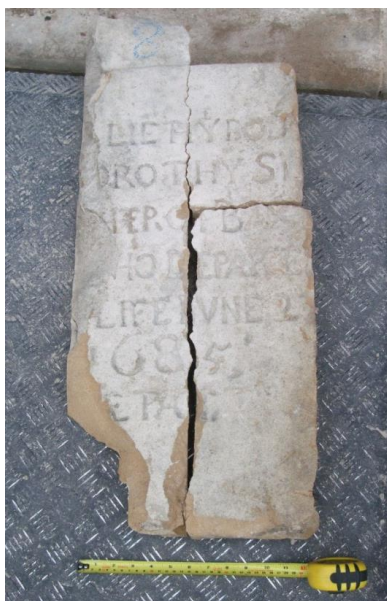


Plate 58

(Archive image PCGC 278)

Outer Porch Steps: memorial stone SR 007 which was found in the top step.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 59

(Archive image PCGC 267)

Outer Porch interior, SW corner: selected stones lifted for renewal of floor lights.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

3.1.4 Inner Porch Paving

Works scheduled for the inner porch (Figure 2, area PI) were confined to its periphery, where small stone slabs were lifted and rebbed for the installation of electricity cable ducting, and larger stones, two of them memorial slabs (Plates 60, 61 and 62), were lifted and set slightly lower so that the new side screens could be installed.



Plate 60
(Archive image PCGC 340)

Inner Porch, W & N sides showing a duct trench to the left and the vacant position of stone SR 008 centre right.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 61
(Archive image PCGC 349)

Inner Porch: memorial slab SR 008 while temporarily stored in the yard behind No. 24.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 62
(Archive image PCGC 343)

Inner Porch: memorial slab SR 009 *in situ* in the floor on the south side of the porch.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

The majority of these paving and memorial stones were lifted without archaeological supervision, with the agreement of the project archaeologist, because only their bedding material would be exposed and minimally reduced. The exceptions to this agreement were the paving stones which abutted the walls of the cathedral, in particular those flanking the west doorway into the nave, where bedding deposits were likely to be shallow and details of west front construction and earlier paving schemes might be exposed. Unfortunately, this distinction was forgotten in the haste to complete the paving tasks before the new porch screens arrived on site to be installed, with the result that the western half of the cross-hatched trench abutting the nave's west doorway (Figure 2, eastern part of area PI) was opened and re-paved without archaeological inspection.

Archaeological supervision of the eastern half of the same trench enabled the recording of a previously buried offset footing or threshold (Plate 63) and patches of bedding material for an earlier paving scheme (Plate 64).



Plate 63
(Archive image PCGC 420)
Nave west doorway: north side viewed
from the south.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 64
(Archive image PCGC 414)
Nave west doorway: west side viewed from the
north, showing the lower part of the central column.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

3.2 North and South Portico Floodlights

The trench for the north portico floodlight (Plate 65) was 0.96m N/S by 0.84m E/W by 0.64m deep, and that for the south portico floodlight (Plate 66) was 1.20m N/S by 0.92m E/W by 0.55m deep, when the sections and deposits were recorded. In both trenches (Plates 67 and 68), the same floor levels and deposits were present, that is a well-trampled, stone dust, working floor at the limit of excavation (contexts **817** and **820** respectively); a horizontally banded bulk deposit of crushed stone, stone dust and gravel (**816** and **819** respectively); and the existing, sand-bedded, stone paving (**815** and **818** respectively).



Plate 65
(PCGC 331)
North Portico floodlight trench.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 66
(PCGC 328)
South Portico floodlight trench.
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

The working floor and bulk deposits contained no artefacts or other inclusions to provide a date of deposition, but given the (patchily) documented late Victorian underpinning works it seems probable that both date from that period. The banding of the bulk deposit roughly coincides with the top of each of the portico steps, suggesting that the ground level within the porticos was raised as each step was completed.



Plate 67
(PCGC 333)
North Portico floodlight trench, west-facing
section. Scale unit = 0. 5m
Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 68
(PCGC 326)
South Portico floodlight trench, west-facing
section. Scale unit = 0. 5m
Photograph: Caroline Atkins

3.3 The West Front Ramp

The aim of the tasks scheduled for the east side of the court was to create universal access to the West Front and thereby into the cathedral. In order to achieve this, the project architects designed a shallow mound up which the existing paths, leading to the outer porch from the west, north and south, could ascend gently to the level of the porch door's threshold (Figure 2, areas RN, RW and RS).

Preparatory excavation across the site of the mound was intended to be minimal and certainly no deeper than the existing path surfacing materials and lawn topsoil.

3.3.1 Ramp Test Trench

During on-site discussions with the building contractor, it became apparent that the disturbance of existing deposits, particularly around the perimeter of the mound, would be greater than previously envisaged, therefore a small trench was opened, at the foot of the north end of the South Portico's lower step (Plates 69 and 70), to establish whether archaeological supervision of the contractor's groundworks was necessary.

The east side of the test trench, abutting the bottom step, was 1.55m long by 0.70m at its widest point, and it was excavated, largely by hand, to a depth of 225mm, which was the maximum depth of excavation required at the perimeter of the mound where the new lengths of path would join the existing ones.



Plate 69

(Archive image PCGC 295)

Ramp Test Trench: location abutting the south portico's bottom step.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins



Plate 70

(Archive image PCGC 298)

Ramp Test Trench: N part of the trench with trampled surface exposed at excavation limit.

Photograph: Caroline Atkins

The earliest deposit exposed in the test trench was a roughly horizontal layer of firmly compacted ginger-brown stone dust which had acquired a cement-rich crust (**813**), and which lapped up the west-facing side of the test trench, beneath the bottom step of the south portico. Above this well-trampled surface was a bulk deposit of crushed stone and dust (**812**) and above that a layer of mixed coarse sand and loam (**811**) which appeared to have been laid to provide a bed for the tar-bonded gravel path surface (**810**).

All of the deposits exposed and investigated in the ramp test trench were consistent with the documented outline of the Victorian west front works, in that the bulk deposits consisted of archaeologically clean, imported quarry products, of a type likely to have been used at that time to consolidate excavated areas, and the trampled working surface contained grey cement. Consequently, excavation of the mound area was inspected and recorded, but was not supervised, by a project archaeologist.

3.3.2 Ramp Trenches



Plate 71

(Archive image PCGC 306)

Trench RS: fully excavated, showing layer **824** centre-frame and the existing, undisturbed, tar-bonded gravel bottom of frame. Scale units = 1m

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 72

(Archive image PCGC 307)

Trench RS: showing the 0.35m-deep trench dug for the new kerb stones.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

The mound is a near complete circle in plan, which clasps the central piers and outer porch of the west front (Figure 2). However, much of the circular footprint was and is under grass, and therefore required no excavation, unlike the three areas of existing path surfacing which approach the porch from the south (Trench RS), north (Trench RN) and west (Trench RW). These three areas were excavated by machine, to a depth of 0.23m to 0.26m, and subsequently inspected and recorded by Jackie Hall.

The deposits exposed in the bottom of Trench RS (Plates 71 and 72), were a ginger-brown coarse sand and gravel (context **824**), on which the existing tar-bonded gravel path surface had been bedded; a grey-brown clay mixed with sand and gravel (**825**), which lay beneath layer **824** and had a firm surface; and a patchy spread of mortar (**826**), which separated layers **824** and **825**. A dark loam (**827**) was exposed in the trench for the new kerb stones.

The deposits exposed in Trench RN (Plates 73 and 74) and Trench RW (Plates 75 and 76) were identical to those seen in Trench RS, but their relationships with each other, and the steps of the north portico in Trench RN, were more clearly defined.



Plate 73

(Archive image PCGC 313)

Trench RN: showing the limit of excavation, viewed from the south. Scale units = 1m

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 74

(Archive image PCGC 317)

Trench RN: showing the salt-glazed pipe projecting from beneath the southern end of the lower step.

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 75

(Archive image PCGC 321)

Trench RW: limit of excavation, viewed from the east. Scale units = 1m

Photograph: Jackie Hall



Plate 76

(Archive image PCGC 319)

Trench RW: viewed from the south.

Photograph: Jackie Hall

The presence of a 4-inch (102mm), salt-glazed, drain pipe projecting from beneath the lower step of the north portico (Plate 74) is of particular interest, given that a capped duct or drain was exposed beneath the middle step (Section 3.1.1, Plates 48 and 49) during stone replacement. Unfortunately, only part of the drain pipe was exposed and therefore its purpose remains unknown. It seems unlikely that even a prevailing south-westerly wind would cause water to pool on the portico steps, or that the drain carried water from the interior of the portico, but this must remain a possibility. Perhaps rather more likely is the possibility that the capped feature and the drain pipe served as a cable duct for a pre-floodlight scheme of portico lighting.

4 Conclusions

The Galilee Court Landscaping Project has succeeded in providing universal access to the cathedral's main west entrance at minimal cost to the archaeological record. Most of the deposits and structures exposed and disturbed by the landscaping works are demonstrably 19th or 20th century in date and the bulk of these deposits remain *in situ* beyond the limits of the groundworks, as was the intention from the outset.

In most areas affected by the landscaping works, the limited disturbance of archaeological deposits has been more than offset by the knowledge gained. The 19th century may seem recent relative to the 900 year history of the cathedral nevertheless, our knowledge of the myriad of investigations, alterations and refurbishments carried out during this and subsequent periods of more minor works is very limited.

The 2014/15 landscaping project has provided an opportunity to record evidence for the extent and substance of the incompletely documented Victorian works and has exposed a greater than previously appreciated complexity of the development of the west front of the cathedral and Galilee Court throughout their history. These relatively recent Victorian and early 20th century works will continue to be investigated, whenever the ground is disturbed in the precinct, but the larger questions highlighted by the 2014/15 project pertain to earlier buildings and deposits which have been altered or masked during the modern era.

The buildings which front onto the south side of Galilee Court are known and understood relatively poorly, with perhaps the exception of No. 25 and the Knights' Chamber (Hall and Atkins, forthcoming). Lower wall courses and offset footings exposed in 2014 (section 2) have confirmed suspicions that some of the south range buildings stand on medieval footings and that changes in ground level within Galilee Court are likely to have resulted in the survival of medieval deposits within those building footprints. Any opportunity that arises should be taken to investigate this possibility.

One part of the south range is of particular interest and that is the current east end of the range. The major parts of No. 24 and the west side of the eastern gateway are demonstrably medieval in origin but both have been much altered since 1791 (Figure 6) and the evidence for the true extent of those alterations is masked by a more recent scheme of re-pointing. When it becomes financially viable and desirable, in the interests of building maintenance and presentation, to embark upon a scheme of exterior re-pointing of No. 24 detailed investigation and recording of the elevations should be undertaken in order that the development of this historic building might be better understood.

5 Acknowledgements

Thanks to John Lucas Ltd for access to the site during landscaping works, notably Richard Priest and Julian Vosper; to the various staff of the Peterborough Cathedral involved in the project for enabling the watching briefs; and to the project architect (The Whitworth Co-Partnership) for providing drawings and other information.

6 Project Archive

The project archive, paper and electronic, including drawn, written and photographic records will be deposited with Peterborough City Museum under the project code PCGC. The reused memorial stones have been retained by the Cathedral.

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NRO Northamptonshire Record Office

PCCHER Peterborough City Council Historic Environment Record

PCL Irvine Papers, Peterborough Cathedral Library, Papers collected and created by J T Irvine, Clerk of Works in the late 19th century

PCL MS 54, Peterborough Cathedral Library Dean and Chapter Acts and Minutes 1660–1811

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