Archaeological Monitoring at No.61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral, Norfolk.



Prepared on behalf of Mr.J.Hawksley and The Dean & Chapter of Norwich Cathedral

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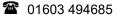
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1.0 Introduction

Norvic Archaeology was commissioned by Mr.J.Hawksley and the Dean & Chapter to undertake monitoring of groundworks under archaeological supervision and control for a studio building within the garden of No.61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral (Norwich City Council Planning Ref: 18/00940/F). The plot is located on a medieval frontage within close proximity to the site of the possible pre-Conquest parish church of St Helen.

The archaeological monitoring was undertaken in accordance with an Archaeological Brief produced by the Cathedral Archaeologist, Dr Roland B. Harris (Harris 25/9/2018). The brief was produced in consultation with Dr James Albone (Senior Historic Environment Officer) of the Norfolk County Council Community and Environmental Service.

The aim of the monitoring work was to record the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and features identified during groundworks associated with the work. This report presents a brief description of the methodology followed and an archaeological interpretation of the results

On completion of the project, the site archive will be offered for long term deposition with Norfolk Museums Service (Accession No. NWHCM 2020.14).

2.0 Summary of Results

The monitored groundworks and hand auger testing demonstrated that 18th to 20th century make-up deposits of up to 1.5m depth, appear to seal clean deposits of waterlogged silty-sand and sand, derived from archaic fluvial deposition and representative of natural riverine geology which predates human activity here. It is likely that any deposits which pre-date post-medieval activity here have been disturbed or removed through levelling and landscaping. Within the late post-medieval to modern deposit sequence, a gravel layer may be evidence for a consolidation layer or yard surface, with traces of localised demolition/construction lying directly above it. The upper 19th to 20th century soils contained frequent lenses of mortar and limestone waste. These deposits are consistent with the known use of the area as part of a former cathedral masonry works yard and store. The 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1882), shows this yard extending across the area now occupied by Nos. 60a The Close, 61 The Close and No.2 Bishopgate.

Map evidence shows that an extant eastern boundary wall was constructed at a similar date to No.61, sometime between 1885 and 1907. The removal of vegetation and banked topsoil against it revealed that the wall fabric comprised of large volumes of architectural limestone, predominantly of Barnack stone and Caen stone. Six of the reused ashlar blocks have well defined diagonal axe tooling, which is characteristic of Romanesque work at the cathedral. Numerous reused shaft stones were also noted, most of which appear to have originally been engaged shafts. The recycling of ashlar material here can be attributed to the former presence of the cathedral store or works yard. The majority of the stone appears to be medieval in date, of late 11th to 12th century date, much of which is suspected to derive from the cathedral church, collected and stored during restoration works in the 18th and, especially, 19th centuries.

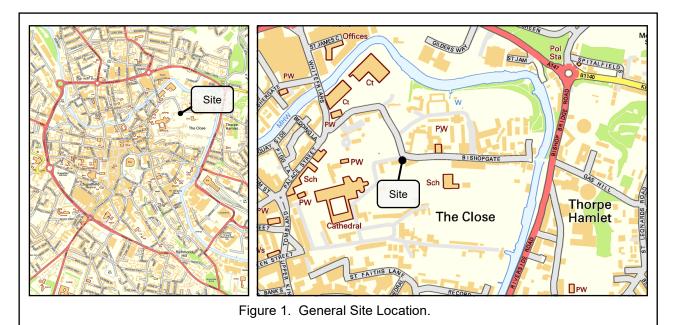


3.0 Geology and Topography

The site lies in the centre of Norwich, within a bend of the River Wensum within the precinct of the medieval cathedral. Norwich Cathedral is situated within a broad curve of the river and occupies a position on gently rising ground to the western edge of the flood plain.

No.61 The Close is located just off Bishop Gate to the rear (i.e. east) of Nos. 59 and 60. The walled gardens of the Bishops house are just to the north and the Great Hospital of St Helen (founded in 1249) is located just to the north-east. The plot is sited c. 100m east-north-east of the Cathedral at c. 3.5m OD, with the western bank of the River Wensum to be found c. 330m to the east at Bishops Bridge.

The underlying geology consists of alluvial sands above Cretaceous Upper Chalk with silts and peats known to occupy the immediate flood plain - Geology of Britain Viewer at a scale of 1:50 000k (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).



4.0 Brief Archaeological and Historical Background (Figures 1 and 2)

Includes extracts from Norwich Cathedral: 61 The Close. Brief for monitoring of works under archaeological supervision and control (watching brief) by Dr Roland B Harris 25/9/2018

No. 61 The Close is a two-storey house of three-bays, built of flint and with painted brick dressings (which include a stringcourse). There is a central doorway with segmental head, and sash windows throughout.

This property lies to the rear (i.e. east) of Nos.59 and 60 The Close, which represent remains of the medieval sextry, or sacrist's office. The rear garden of these properties was known as St Helen's in 1559, when it extended as far east as Gooseberry Garden Walk (i.e. including all the site of 61 The Close), suggesting that the possibly pre-Conquest parish church of St Helen Holme Street had been located here: it is possible, however, that the church lay south of this, in the area of 43-4 The Close (Whittingham 1985).

Cartographic sources from the 18th century to the 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1882) are consistent with use as a cathedral store yard, although by 1882 a



house had been built at the eastern end of the yard (i.e. on the site of No.2 Bishopgate), and, west of this, No.61 The Close was then built in the 1890s (Figure 2).

The small brick outhouse is shown as already present within the yard area on the 1882, and more clearly on the 1885, OS plan. No.61 is shown on the 1907 OS plan, along with the first depiction of the eastern boundary wall and a now lost building (sometime prior to 1956) set in the south-east corner of the plot.

A very small unmarked building adjacent to a pump shown on early OS plans on the other side of the northern boundary wall with Bishopgate is labelled as a urinal in the 1928 plan (demolished by the 1960s).

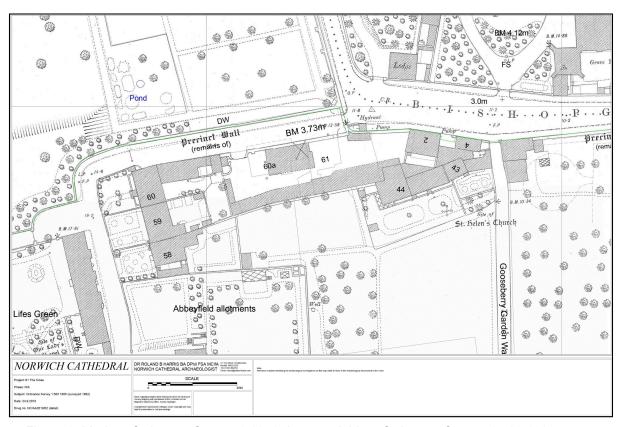


Figure 2. Modern Ordnance Survey 1:1250 data overlaid on Ordnance Survey 1:500 1885

Previous archaeological investigations

There have been no previous archaeological investigations at this property, although the location on the medieval lane frontage and the proximity of the possibly pre-Conquest parish church of St Helen suggests significant archaeological potential.

There have been several previous archaeological investigations or observations of particular note in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development;

Observation at 60a The Close (1997)

Possible medieval foundations, about 1.2m down, found to the west of No.60a The Close were observed when the modern conservatory was added (Gilchrist 1998) [c. 35m W]

Archaeological watching brief at Lifes Green (Warsop and Boghi 2002; NHER 26604)

This watching brief in July 2002 monitored a gas pipe trench c.600mm wide and c.700mm deep, extending 8m northwards from the Jesus chapel (Segment A), then eastwards for



60m along the driveway north of Lifes Green (Segment B), and then northwards in front of 60 and 61 The Close for 20m (Segment C). East of this, the gas pipe continued to the cathedral gate to Bishopgate, but excavation was limited here to three small sections (Segments D, E and F). A 3m long north-south medieval wall, with a westwards return at the south end, was discovered in Segment A. This had gone out of use by the time a post-medieval north-south grave was cut: the articulated skeleton was of a male 35-50 years old. Disarticulated skeletal remains were found in seven disturbed contexts in Segment B: it was unclear whether they derived from post-medieval or medieval burials.

Archaeological watching brief during repairs to sewers (Aug 2006-Aug 2007: Wallis 2008) (NHER 45440)

A watching brief was undertaken during excavation to replace the main sewer from in front of 15 The Close to, and through, the Ethelbert Gate (Trench 1: 215m long, 1.6m wide and 2.2m deep). Successive post-medieval (possibly 16th-century) road surfaces were identified in Trench 1 immediately outside No. 12 The Close at depths of 350mm and 650mm, below which was an earlier surface at a depth of 900mm. There was no evidence for a medieval or early post-medieval precursor to the present east-west road linking the Upper Close and Lower Close, and the upper road surfaces near No.12 The Close probably relate to the NE-SW aligned road of 16th-century date identified in the 1976 excavations on the Lower Close Green. A total of 14 other smaller trenches were dug to allow localised repairs to connecting drains. Features of probably medieval date were limited to two walls, of which one was located in Trench 8 (east of the south-east corner of the garden of 64 The Close) at a depth of c.500mm; and in Trench 13 (on the axis of the cathedral, on the east side of the road at Lifes Green) at a depth of c.600mm. It is possible that the wall in Trench 8 represents a northwards return of the probable late medieval inner precinct wall surrounding the infirmary buildings, whilst that in Trench 13 appears to represent a northsouth boundary or building within the sextry yard (the excavator incorrectly relates it to 62 The Close, on the west side of the road, which was demolished in 1930). The trench north of 61 The Close (i.e. Trench 14) measured 3m x 2m. Following removal of the road surface, a modern drain was revealed and no further excavation was undertaken.

Further sites, monuments and find spots in the immediate proximity or of particular relevance or interest which fall in close proximity to the site include:

The following information has been sourced from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER):

NHER 5244: Bawburgh to Bishop Bridge Roman road. It has been suggested that there was a Roman road between Bawburgh and Bishop Bridge in the centre of Norwich. For part of its route it is thought to have followed the modern Dereham Road, whilst in Bowthorpe and Bawburgh it has been linked to cropmarks visible on aerial photographs. A series of sections have been excavated across the line of the proposed road, a number of which have revealed undated chalk or gravel surfaces. [c. running through the site]

NHER 26039: Precinct Wall, The Close. The precinct wall to Cathedral Close dates back to the early 12th century, though there has been much 18th and 19th century rebuilding. It is generally of brick, flint and rubble, with tiled coping, and survives in sections around the precinct (NHER 377). In 1891, Walter Rye complained that the precinct wall in Bishopgate had been demolished in order to build 'vulgar cottages'. [c. 10m N]

NHER 26067: No.43 and 44 The Close. A pair of late 17th century Grade II listed three storey brick houses, possibly built against the precinct wall, with 18th and 19th century extensions and alterations, plus an extension to the left and three Dutch gables. Number 43 has a 19th century porch with trellis work. A crenelated parapet on the left has JHK 1679 in iron, referring to James and Katherine Hobart. [c. adjacent to SE corner of No.61 plot]



HER 561: St Helen's Church, South of Bishopgate, Norwich. The proposed site of a probably pre-Conquest church, taken into The Close in the 13th century and demolished in c. 1270 by Cathedral Priory. [c. 20m SE]

ENF12049: Unknown results from archaeological monitoring. An east-west trench of c. 75m length was excavated for lighting cables with the Bishop's Garden parallel to the precinct wall in March 2008 by Chris Birks Archaeological Services. Information awaited by the HER. [c.20m NW]

NHER 50283: Post-medieval walls, medieval and post-medieval finds. Archaeological monitoring of an east-west long trench for an IT link between Norwich Lower School and the Cathedral Close in 2007 recorded post-medieval walls, one of which appears to be a garden wall while another perhaps relates to a 17th century building known as Guybon's tenement. Finds from the site date from the medieval and post-medieval periods and include a 12th century voussoir and medieval brick. [c. 30m S]

NHER 686: Multi-period pottery finds at No., 57 The Close. A piece of possibly Roman pottery, a piece of Late Saxon pottery and fragments of medieval and post medieval pottery were found on the surface of the garden of No.57 in 1982. [c. 35m N]

ENF129374: Medieval deposits and Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery. An archaeological watching brief by NAU Archaeology was conducted for Norwich School during groundworks associated with the excavation of a wildlife pond. for the Norwich Lower School within the Cathedral Close. The pond measured 10m by 6m and was located on the south side of Bishopgate and the west side of Gooseberry Garden Walk. The works revealed a cross section through build-up, comprising four garden soils to a depth of 1.10m. The earliest soil layer was medieval in date, perhaps as early as 11th-/12th-century and a sample was taken to test for environmental data. The sample produced evidence of herb and weed seeds as well as manuring with household waste, suggesting that this area was part of the Great Garden of the monastic Outer Court. No evidence of burials connected with the adjacent church of St Helen, or of the presence of the monastic vineyard was encountered. Finds recovered include Late Saxon pottery, medieval to post-medieval pottery and medieval brick and tile. [c. 45m SW]

NHER 61175: In 2011 an excavation by NAU Archaeology was undertaken during the replacement of a path within the Lodge Garden of St Helen's Church. It appears that in most areas this work only disturbed 20th-century deposits and, as a result, little in the way of archaeologically significant evidence was uncovered. The most significant observation was a medieval foundation or threshold that was probably associated with the porch at the eastern end of the site. A spread of rubble observed close to the Derlyngton Tower may have resulted from the demolition of a nearby structure during the 16th-century. A wall of probable late post-medieval date was also observed; most likely the remains of a toilet block that had formerly stood against the south precinct wall. [c. 70m ENE]

NHER 847: Human remains. In 1990, construction work in the road at Bishopsgate just to the north of the No.61 recovered a human skeleton, late medieval or transition period pottery sherds and a glazed medieval tile. [c. 75m SW]

NHER 45385: Medieval and post-medieval finds at The Lower School extension, The Cathedral. In 2006, a watching brief produced an array of archaeological finds including medieval and post medieval pottery, animal bone and oyster shell, and post medieval clay smoking pipes and building material. [c. 100m ESE]

NHER 659: Late Saxon pottery finds, Lifes Green, The Close. Fragments of Late Saxon pottery were found during works for waterpipes in 1891. [c. 125m SW]



5.0 Methodology (Figure 4)

The objective of the archaeological monitoring was to record archaeological evidence revealed during the groundworks, conducted under archaeological supervision and control.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector (Minelab XTerra 705). All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern. Soil arisings were temporarily stored adjacent to the trench before being moved by mini-dumper to fill a skip.



Plate 2. Front of No.61 looking east (along Bishopgate)

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Norvic Archaeology *pro forma* sheets. The trench location, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and digital images were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

All levels taken used a temporary benchmark of 30.48m OD located on a drain inspection cover at the garden gateway, tied to an OS benchmark of 3.73m OD located on the nearby gate (on the southern pier) leading to Bishopgate.

Site conditions were particularly fine and bright with no cloud cover.

6.0 Results (Appendix 1a) (Figures 3 to 5)

6.1 Archaeological monitoring

The clearance of thick vegetation and banked topsoil immediately prior to the groundworks exposed the western face of the 2.4m high late 19th to early 20th century boundary wall. Early OS plans demonstrate that the wall was constructed at a similar date to No.61, sometime between 1885 and 1907.

The wall was constructed almost exclusively of reused architectural limestone and, following on from the monitoring of the groundworks, the site was attended by Dr R Harris to make further notes on the fabric of the wall (see Section 6.2).

The wall footings comprised of a rough mix of hard mortar with flints and occasional late brick fragments (i.e. of 18th to 19th century date). The footings were offset by up to 150mm and measured c. 0.45m deep. A construction trench was identified ([02]), infilled with a mix of soil contaminated by mortar and limestone chips (03).

The topsoil revealed below the modern concrete hardstanding was a 0.35m thick make-up (05) of very soft, mid-brownish-grey sandy-loam with frequent lenses of mortar and limestone waste. Below this was a deeper make-up (06) of soft, mid-grey silty-sand which measured 0.65m deep. It contained occasional pieces of late brick along with mortar flecks and occasional inclusions of coal/charcoal.



Sealed by the make-up (06) was a thin layer of chalk lumps and mortar pieces (07) overlaying a gravel surface (08) of c. 150mm thickness. The gravel appeared to slope gradually to the north. A small sondage and hand auger test demonstrated that the gravel sealed a 0.65m deep deposit of moderately stony, mid-grey silty-sand (09). A few pieces of late brick were present within this layer. Below this at c. 1.65m below the modern surface, the auger revealed a wet deposit of soft, mid-grey silty-sand (10) of at least 0.3m depth, with occasional stones/gravel becoming slightly cleaner and more yellow with depth. The auger was unable to go deeper due to the frequency of gravel inclusions.

Borehole data within the grounds of The Great Hospital c.130m to the north-east records gravel terrace deposits at c. 2m below the modern ground surface (c. 3m OD and therefore relatively comparable), which was found to be overlain by c. 0.5m of peat (mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html). The deeper material at No. 61 therefore appears to be geological in character and may be natural fluvial deposits of sand with a waterlogged silty-sand development of subsoil above. All soils above this were of late post-medieval to modern date and include large volumes of soil build-up and make-up material of likely 18th to 19th century date. The gravel surface could be a consolidation layer or yard area, with traces of localised demolition/construction lying directly above it in the form of mortar debris, a few small and friable pieces of which appeared to be fragments of limewashed render. The upper 19th to 20th century soils contained frequent lenses of mortar and limestone waste, also consistent with the known use of the area as part of the cathedral's masonry works yard and store.



Plate 3. Footing trenches (post-machining), looking east [2x2m & 2x1m Scales]

6.2 Observations of the eastern boundary wall by Dr Roland B. Harris

Vegetation was removed from the east wall of the property, immediately prior to excavation for footings for the new garden building. This exposed a length of garden wall 8.53m long and 2.40m high above ground level (with footings partly exposed to a further 0.44m). Although the wall will remain untouched by the development, the new garden building will be placed directly in front of it rendering much of it hidden for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the opportunity was taken to examine the wall and to make a record of it: the wall was recorded by digitally-rectified photography, using a Nikon D810 camera (full frame, 36 megapixel), 25mm retro reflective target control surveyed using a GeoMax Zipp 10 Pro 2" REDM total station, and Monobild rectification software (Appendix 4).



The wall is built of reused ashlar pieces, set mostly as random rubble, separated by vertical brick banding into three unequal bays or panels, and capped with brick full-length headers. The brickwork details suggest that the wall was constructed in the late 19th century, and this is consistent with the cartographic sources from the 18th century to the 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1882), which show no wall in this location, with it first appearing on the 1907 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map. Evidently the wall was constructed as a necessary property boundary in the 1890s when 61 The Close and adjacent No.2 Bishopgate were built: the former may well have been constructed for a Mr L Lincoln in 1896 (when mains water was supplied; Anglian Water plan No. 89.96: copy in Norwich Cathedral digital archive), and the latter was built for a Mr Wragg in 1892 (NRO DCN 57/8).

The reused ashlar is predominantly of Barnack stone and Caen stone, both of which are used in the primary construction of the cathedral and the associated monastic buildings, and in later works. Six of the reused ashlar blocks have well defined diagonal axe tooling, which is characteristic of Romanesque work at the cathedral. More distinctive, however, is the presence of numerous reused shaft stones, which have been rotated 90° and set so the cylindrical or part-cylindrical faces are in the plane of the wall. There are 34 such former shaft stones, of which four have projecting stubs showing that they were originally engaged nook shafts: most, if not all, of the other complete or near complete full shaft sections have remains of what appear to be removed stubs so that they too would have been engaged shafts. Less entirely complete shaft fragments may also have been of the same form, although those with a more defined semi-circular form may well have been half-shafts, where alternate keying was the norm. Shaft diameters range from 175mm to 420mm, with the largest concentration (12 examples) falling in the range of 210-20mm.

The dominance of reused ashlar in the east garden wall doubtless reflects the former presence in this part of the precinct of the cathedral store or works yard. The 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1882), shows this yard extending across the area now occupied by 60a The Close, 61 The Close and 2 Bishopgate. There has been no detailed study of the development of the cathedral works yard, or yards, although the location of this space to the rear of 59-60 The Close, which was formerly the medieval sacristy means that it is possible that such usage extended back into the medieval period (the sacrist being responsible for the fabric of the cathedral) (Whittingham 1985). The use as a works yard located outside the sacrist's gate (formerly against the north side of 60 The Close) would also explain the substantial medieval south wall to 60a and 61 the Close, which the 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map shows had an equally massive northern counterpart. Whatever the case, the 19th-century store yard evidently provided abundant material for the construction of the new property wall in the 1890s.

Identifying the exact provenance of the reused stones, comprising both oblong blocks and the numerous shaft pieces discussed above, is necessarily difficult, but there can be little doubt that they derive from the cathedral and its monastic buildings. Given the predominance of Barnack stone, the admittedly limited evidence of tooling marks, and the size and form of the pieces, the majority appear to be medieval in date and, especially, from the late 11th or 12th centuries. One obvious exception is a Bath stone shaft section (c.255mm diameter) at the south end of the wall: this is most likely a damaged stone, or waster, from the 19th-century works on the cathedral itself. While most of the shaft sizes have counterparts in the cathedral church, including the most frequent size of 210-20mm, it is possible – especially if the works yard was in the same place from pre-Dissolution times – that some of the material derives from the conventual buildings, such as the dormitory range and refectory that appear to have remained essentially in their 12th-century forms until demolished in the 16th century. It is more likely, however, that the reused material represents fabric removed from the cathedral church during restoration works in the 18th and, especially, 19th centuries.



7.0 Finds Analysis (Appendix 2)

Pottery

A small assemblage of post-medieval to early 20th century pottery sherds of pottery were collected from just two contexts.

Four sherds of 19th-century English Stoneware were collected from topsoil/make-up (05) representing two vessels; two pieces from the base of a plain small pot or inkwell (36g) and two body sherds with roulette decoration (22g). A single small sherd of Lambeth salt-glazed stoneware (5g) was collected from (06).

Two rim sherds of refined white earthenwares (14g) of mid to late 19th century date were collected from the topsoil/make-up (05); a scallop edged plate and a dish/bowl with "YUAN" oriental style blue transfer design, a very common household item dating from 1916 and onwards.

Clay tobacco pipe stems

Two snapped clay tobacco pipe stem pieces (4g) were collected from the topsoil/make-up (05) and a further two (8g) from the make-up (06). The form and borehole sizes provide date ranges of 17th to 19th century.

• 19th to early 20th century copper-alloy objects

A slightly squashed and broken machine-made copper-alloy thimble (3.99g) with fine regular knurlings was collected from topsoil/make-up (05) of Victorian or later date.

A badly corroded and damaged decorative two-piece button of Victorian to early 20th century date, with a foliate thistle decoration and traces of gilding, was collected from (05). This probable coat button has a diameter of 22mm and weighs 4.13g.

8.0 Conclusions

The monitored groundworks and hand auger testing demonstrated that 18th to 20th century make-up deposits of up to 1.5m depth, appear to seal clean deposits of waterlogged silty-sand and sand, derived from archaic fluvial deposition and representative of natural riverine geology which predates human activity here. It is likely that any deposits which pre-date post-medieval activity here have been disturbed or removed through levelling and landscaping.

Within the late post-medieval to modern deposit sequence, a gravel layer may be evidence for a consolidation layer or yard surface, with traces of localised demolition/construction lying directly above it. The upper 19th to 20th century soils contained frequent lenses of mortar and limestone waste. These deposits are consistent with the known use of the area as part of the cathedral's masonry works yard and store, although physical evidence for a medieval masons yard here alongside the sacristy, as postulated by Harris, based on the presence of a substantial medieval wall forming the southern boundary (to 60a and 61 The Close) and a northern counterpart interpreted from the 1st Edition OS map, remains elusive.

Map evidence shows that the extant eastern boundary wall was constructed at a similar date to No.61, sometime between 1885 and 1907. The removal of vegetation and banked topsoil against it revealed that the wall fabric comprised of large volumes of architectural limestone. These reused ashlar pieces, set mostly as random rubble, were separated by vertical brick banding into three unequal bays or panels, and capped with brick full-length headers. The ashlar is predominantly of Barnack stone and Caen stone, both of which are



used in the primary construction of the cathedral and the associated monastic buildings, and also in later works. Six of the reused ashlar blocks have well defined diagonal axe tooling, which is characteristic of Romanesque work at the cathedral. Numerous reused shaft stones were also noted, most of which appear to have originally been engaged shafts.

The recycling of ashlar material here can be attributed to the former presence of the cathedral store or works yard. The 1st Edition 1:500 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1882), shows this yard extending across the area now occupied by Nos. 60a The Close, 61 The Close and No.2 Bishopgate. The 19th-century store yard evidently provided abundant material for the construction of the new property wall in the 1890s. The majority of the stone appears to be medieval in date, of late 11th to 12th century date, much of which is suspected to derive from the cathedral church, collected and stored during restoration works in the 18th and, especially, 19th centuries.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Mr.J.Hawksley and Phil Thomas (Cathedral Estates Manager) who commissioned Norvic Archaeology to carry out this work. Thanks are also due to Colin Reed & Sons for their assistance and cooperation on site. The monitoring of groundworks and post-excavation analysis was carried out by the author. Dr Roland B Harris (Cathedral Archaeologist) recorded the masonry fabric of the eastern boundary wall and provided a written account of his observations for inclusion within this report, along with a digitally-rectified image. NHER data was supplied by the Historic Environment Service

11.0 Bibliography

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Fill of	Brief Physical Description	Interpretation	Period
01	Masonry		Well constructed, vertical wall of rescued architectural/ashlar limestone with brick ranging from Med to Modern but with some calcined pieces poss. early med. fair faced, hard sandy mortar, occ. flints. c. 2.3m high (from footings)	Boundary Wall	Late C19th
02	Cut		Footing construction trench, c. 0.45m deep, steep, concave sides	Footings Trench	Late C19th
03	Deposit	[02]	Friable mix of soil similar to (05)	Fill	Late C19th
04	Masonry		Hard, pale yellowish to grey mortar, random fractured flints + occ. Late CBM pieces. c.0.35m thick, off-set of c. 100 to 150mm	Wall Footings	Late C19th
05	Deposit		V.Soft, mid-brownish-grey sandy-loam, 'rooty', freq. lenses of mortar and occ. limestone waste. Mod. stones, c. 0.35m deep	Make-up	Late C19th to Modern
06	Deposit		Soft, mid-grey silty-sand. 0.65m deep, occ. late CBM pieces + mortar flecks, occ. coal/charcoal flecks/pieces, mod. stones c. 0.65m deep	Soil build- up/Make-up	C19th
07	Deposit		Loose, white chalk lumps and chalky mortar pieces up to 60mm thick	Debris Layer	C19th
08	Deposit		Irregular gravel up to 30mm, in dirty gritty sandy matrix. Up to 150mm thick, mid-greyish-yellow.	Gravel Surface	C19th
09	Deposit		Friable, mid-grey silty-sand with mod. stones (gravel), rare pieces of late brick (Norfolk Red type C18 th -19th) c.0.65m deep	Layer	C19th
10	Deposit		Wet, soft, mid-grey silty-sand, occ. stones/gravel (more yellow with depth)	Layer	Pre-C19th



Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Yard surface	1
Modern (1900 to 2050 AD)	Boundary Wall	1

Appendix 2: Finds by Context & Period

Context	Material	Quantity	Weight (g)	Period
05	Clay tobacco pipe	2	4	Post-medieval
05	Copper-alloy object – Button	1	4.13	L19th to E20th
05	Copper-alloy object – Thimble	1	3.99	C19th to E20th
05	Pottery	8	72	C19th to E20th
06	Clay tobacco pipe	2	8	Post-medieval
06	Pottery	1	5	C19th

Appendix 3: Factual Archive summary table

Factual Type	Quantity
Site diary sheets	1
Permatrace drawing sheets	1
Context register sheets	1
Context Sheets	8
Photo Index sheets	1
Digital Images	12
Dwg. CAD file	1

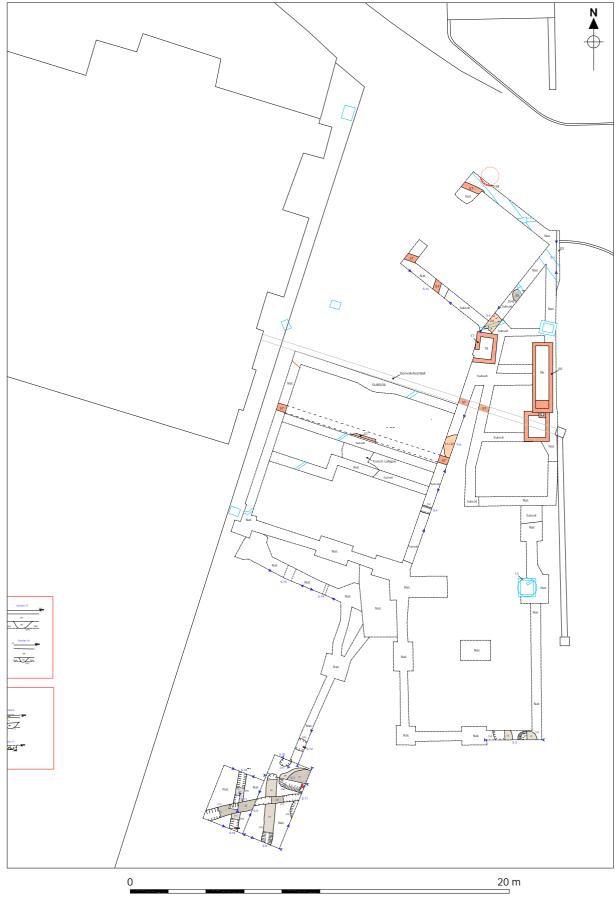


Figure 2. Site plan. Scale 1: 200

Figure 2. Site plan. Scale 1:25.

2 m



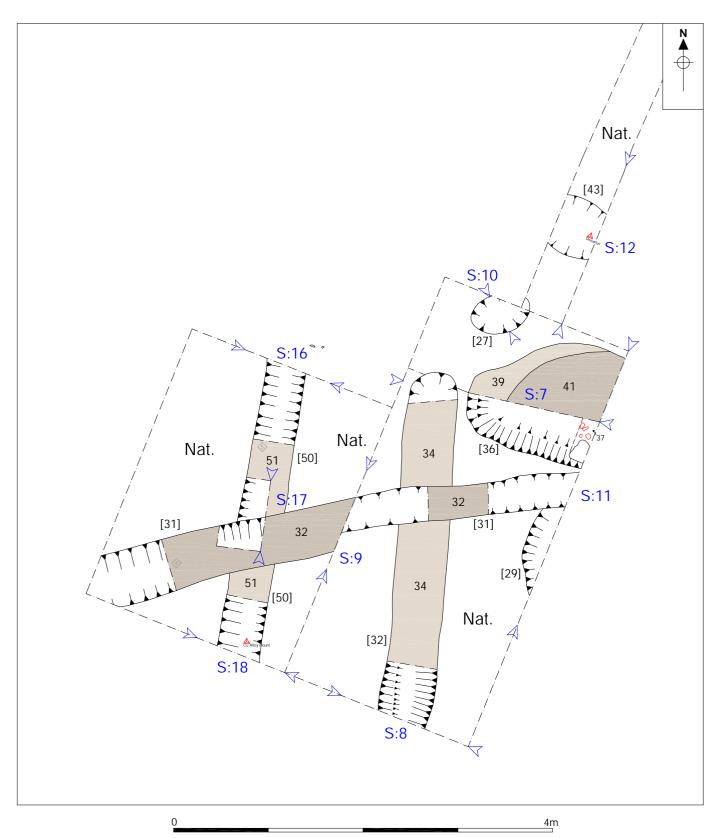


Figure 2. Site plan. Scale 1:40



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OASIS ID: norvicar1-376881

Project details

Project name Archaeological Monitoring at No.61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral, Norfolk,

Short description of the project

The results of monitoring of groundworks under archaeological supervision and control for a studio building within the garden of No.61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral. The monitored groundworks and hand auger testing demonstrated that 18th to 20th century make-up deposits of up to 1.5m appear to seal cleaner deposits of waterlogged silty-sand and sand, which may be derived from archaic fluvial deposition. Within the late postmedieval to modern deposit sequence a gravel layer maybe evidence for a consolidation layer or yard surface, with traces of localised demolition/construction lying directly above it. The upper 19th to 20th century soils contained frequent lenses of mortar and limestone waste. These deposits are consistent with the known use of the area as part of a former cathedral's masonry works yard and store. The removal of vegetation and banked topsoil against the wall revealed fabric comprised of large volumes of architectural limestone, predominantly of Barnack stone and Caen stone. Six of the reused ashlar blocks have well defined diagonal axe tooling, which is characteristic of Romanesque work at the cathedral. Numerous reused shaft stones were also noted, most of which appear to have originally been engaged shafts. The recycling of ashlar material here can be attributed to the former presence of the cathedral store or works vard. The majority of the stone appears to be medieval in date, of late 11th to 12th century date, much of which is suspected to derive from the cathedral church, collected and stored during restoration works in the 18th and, especially, 19th centuries.

Project dates Start: 17-04-2019 End: 18-04-2019

Previous/future work

No / No

Any associated project reference codes

ENF145960 - HER event no.

Any associated project reference codes

18/00940/F - Planning Application No.

Any associated project reference codes

NVC18/496 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Monument type YARD SURFACE Post Medieval

Monument type BOUNDARY WALL Modern

Significant Finds CLAY TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds COPPER ALLOY OBJECT Modern

Significant Finds POTTERY Modern

Investigation type ""Watching Brief"

Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16 Prompt

Project location

Country England

NORFOLK NORWICH NORWICH 61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral Precinct Site location

Postcode NR14EH Study area 0 Kilometres

Site coordinates TG 2364 0898 52.63191468459 1.305201209658 52 37 54 N 001 18 18 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Norvic Archaeology

Project brief originator

Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design

originator

Roland Harris

Project

Giles Emery

director/manager

Project supervisor Giles Emery

Name of

Mr J Hawksley

sponsor/funding

body

Project archives

Physical Archive

recipient

NMAS and Norvic Archaeology

Physical Archive

Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Metal"

2020.14

Digital Archive

recipient

NMAS

Digital Archive ID 2020.14 **Digital Contents** "Survey"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

Paper Archive

NMAS

recipient Paper Archive ID

2020.14 "Survey"

Paper Contents Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Archaeological Monitoring at No.61 The Close, Norwich Cathedral, Norfolk.

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