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93.65 Exeter City Defences: A Fabric Survey of the City Wall. Part II The Interior.

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**EXETER CITY DEFENCES
A FABRIC SURVEY OF
THE CITY WALL
PART II THE INTERIOR**

by

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Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit

Report No. 93.65

October 1993

Contents

Introduction	1
Recent advances in research on the City Wall	1
The form of the gazetteer and description	2
Gazetteer and Description	3
Acknowledgements	38
Abbreviations	39
Bibliography	39

Illustration	at end
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Map showing the numbered sections of the interior and exterior fabric surveys.

INTRODUCTION

This survey is intended to give a description and provisional interpretation and dating of the fabric of the interior face of Exeter City Wall. The same exercise was carried out for the exterior elevation in 1978 and was rewritten, in the light of considerable work on the wall in the 1980s by Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit, by the present author in 1991 (Blaylock 1991(b)). Certain aspects of the structural history of the wall require revision in the light of new work between 1991 and the present; but, by and large, the work on the exterior elevation of the wall of 1991 stands with only minor corrections. No recent attention has been paid to the internal elevation on a general scale, however. Whilst limited individual areas have been the subject of special studies, no equivalent of the 1978/1991 work has ever been attempted for the interior. This was due, at least in part, to factors which limit the accessibility or visibility of the interior elevations: much of the wall was originally masked by a bank or rampart and some areas remain so concealed; late Roman and later urban occupation had led to the building up of ground levels within the city, thus adding to the obscuring of the wall; the tendency of post-medieval houses to encroach on the rear face of the wall, or even to be built on top of the fabric of the wall, has led to still more loss of ancient fabric. Nonetheless a considerable length of inner facework is visible with much fabric of interest to be described; in some places, Paul Street (Harlequins shopping centre, section 9.3) is a good example, modern development has led to the exposure of wall fabric which was never previously visible.

A full description of the interior of the wall was lacking, and formed the major outstanding component of a full study of Exeter's defences (itself comprising excavation of both bank and ditches, intensive study of individual areas, study of the documentary sources for medieval and later expenditure on the defence of the city; and general description of the surviving fabric to determine a structural history). This report aims to remedy that deficiency as a first step towards bringing the study of the wall to a publishable level. Its immediate context is as a part of a project to study the wall and to propose a management policy for the standing fabric which is funded by English Heritage and Exeter City Council.

Recent advances in research on the City Wall (since 1991)

The principal item of value which should be mentioned here is the confirmation of the identification of Roman facework in Quay Lane. This was thought to be so and described tentatively as such in 1991 (Blaylock 1991(b), 2-3 and 33-4 [section 21.8]). Recent work of archaeological examination and recording of the wall fabric in this area, carried out in the aftermath of the construction of the car park at Lower Coombe Street, has been able to demonstrate that front facework, the core of the wall in plan at its top, and the rear facework are of one contemporary build and thus are of primary Roman construction to the full surviving height. Drawings and an archive report on these observations are in progress as this introduction is written.

A second development is in the identification and recording of work dating to the Civil War, the last occasion on which the ancient defences of Exeter were called into use. The process of identification began with the fabric survey of the exterior (Blaylock 1991(b)) in which several sections were suggested as work of this period (*ibid.*, 4-5). Progress has been made in the last two years on the recording of some of these sections; the crenellations at Trinity Street (Blaylock 1993(c): forthcoming) and gun loops at Northernhay Street (*idem* 1993(b)). The realisation that work of this period often contains a pink sandstone of similar date and composition to the ubiquitous breccia (and which therefore should be termed Permian sandstone rather than pink Triassic sandstone, as has been used previously (Blaylock 1991(b), 5 *et seqq.*); this name is used throughout the present text for this stone), which came during the survey work of 1991, has proved a useful aid to the identification of additions of the mid 17th century. Some further sections of 17th-century work were identified in 1991; more have now been seen during the fieldwork for the present survey. Examples of new work of this period on a significant scale (where firm identification has been made on the basis of stone type) are: Section 6.3 in Rougemont Gardens where the parapet contains Permian sandstone and preserves several crenellations (below p. 8) and additions to the bastion in the garden of the Bishop's Palace (the so-called Lollards Tower), Section 24.4, below p. 30 (first suggested by Burrow 1977, 28).

Erection of scaffolding for the clearance of vegetation from Athelstan's Tower (at the western junction of castle and city walls) in October 1992 enabled a nearly-full record to be made of the elevations of this structure and a provisional interpretation to be established. Again a separate report has been prepared on this work (Blaylock 1993(a)). It is hoped to carry out some further recording of the wall to each side of the tower as a part of the present project (scheduled for the autumn of 1993) and perhaps to complete the recording of the tower (with detailed examination of its lower stages with modern pointing removed) when further work is carried out, possibly in 1994.

The form of the gazetteer and description in this report

The overall format of this description is the same as that adopted for the exterior fabric survey. The circuit of the walls (c. 2.35km in total) has been split up into 29 sections based on topographical and property-boundary criteria. In order to retain the same number of sections and to ensure that interior and exterior sections match it has been necessary in places to force an unnatural division, or to combine sections in different ownership on one side of the wall in order to include uniform builds in a single section on the other. An example of this may be given in the case of section 23 which displays a uniform build on the exterior but which falls into separate properties (Holy Trinity churchyard and the Convent of the Presentation of Mary) and ownership (ECC and the Catholic Church) on the interior. To split this length into two sections, as the interior arrangement requires, would have caused unnecessary duplication and complication in the description of the exterior. In short, it is difficult to apply a consistent treatment to the whole circuit whilst retaining a sub-division which is constant to the interior and exterior. The solution adopted here was based on a logical sub-division on the grounds of property boundaries and ownership but has allowed structural divisions to override this on occasion.

Within each section further sub-division is dependant on the complexity of the structure. One where many periods of work are represented will, for the sake of description, be sub-divided into many separate builds; conversely, sections of simple construction will require little sub-division (for instance that stretch in the garden of the Bishop's Palace where, aside from the bastions themselves, the only visible fabric belongs to the rebuilding of the parapet by Bishop Robertson in 1912 (Sections 24.1, 24.3, 24.5).

All of that which was said on the building stone of the wall, and on the dating evidence for various phases in the fabric, in the introduction to the exterior survey stands, and needs no repetition here (Blaylock 1991(b), 1-6). Some modifications have been made to the numbering of sections of the exterior (Blaylock 1991(b), Fig. 1) in order to regularise the treatment of the two parts of the fabric survey. Those of significance (i) are the amalgamation of former sections 1 and 2 (in Northernhay Place, now Section 2) in order to free the first number for the description of the section between the centre of High Street (site of the East Gate) and Bailey Street (now Section 1 in both parts); (ii) the rearrangement of sections 3-5 on the circuit of the castle in order to achieve a break at the junction of sections 3 and 4 (where the boundary of the inner ward falls on the *interior*; (iii) the rearrangement of sections 23-25 of the exterior fabric survey to conform to the property ownership of land within the wall. This has involved the expansion of section 24 (Bishop's Palace) to north-east and south-west; the contraction of section 25 (Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral) and the alterations to section 23 (described above). Other alterations comprise the detailed adjustments of terminal areas, from one section to another; the correction of measurements etc. It is intended shortly to produce a new edition of the 1991 fabric survey of the exterior elevation of the wall which will incorporate these alterations and corrections.

GAZETTEER AND DESCRIPTION

SECTION 1 High Street to Bailey Street

- 1.1 55m Wall destroyed. East Gate removed 1784 (Jenkins 1806, 220). Some of the adjacent wall may have been removed at that time. More still was presumably destroyed on the construction of the 'Royal Public Rooms' in 1820. Despite this some wall survived at the NW end of this section until the mid 20th century. The corner of the wall is described as obscured and only revealed after demolition in 1943 (Fox 1952, 52). The published section suggests that the wall was rebuilt in the late medieval period (*ibid.*). Inside the wall the base of the rampart survived but its upper surface had been truncated by late building platforms (*ibid.* 53 and Pl. XXIV).

SECTION 2 from Bailey Street to the boundary of Bradninch Hall (grounds of Castle Street chapel)

- 2.1 32m Rear of British Legion Club
Modern parapet wall of mixed geology on approximate line of the wall only. This spans the area of the Bailey Street car park and No. 6 Northernhay Place on the exterior of the wall. The section corresponding to No. 5 Northernhay Place has no visible interior facework at all, as the interior ground level is equal to the surviving height of the wall. Only in the first (north-westernmost) 1.5m does standing fabric occur; this is included with Section 3.1 (q.v.) as it is of identical composition.

SECTION 3 Rear of Bradninch Hall

- 3.1 22m Behind 3 & 4 Northernhay Place (and 1.5m of No. 5).
2-phase construction comprising a lower build of random, uncoursed rubble of c. 70% Triassic and Permian sandstone (red & white), 20% volcanic trap, very occasional breccia; mortar buff or pale brown lime mortar. This part stands to c. 2m height above surviving top of bank.
The upper build comprises c. 1m of roughly-coursed volcanic trap, nearly all of the veined variety, i.e. Pocombe stone and represents a rebuilt parapet. The top of the lower build was levelled off for the Pocombe stone parapet. The two builds are equivalent to Nos iii & iv of the outside of the wall in 3/4 Northernhay Place, q.v.
Both stages of this build are thin (how thin could be gauged by access onto top of wall behind 5 Northernhay Place). The upper level of the mixed-geology build is reasonably horizontal. At the NW limit of the build it appears to step up slightly. The Pocombe stone parapet, stepping up on the boundary of 3 & 2 Northernhay Place, is correspondingly higher from thence onwards.
3.1 probably continues below 3.2, the division is somewhat arbitrary and unclear.
- 3.2 c. 7.5m The parapet of 3.1 gives out, except for the concrete coping; the incidence of Triassic and Permian sandstones drops off rapidly (to pick up again to the NW) and the masonry style changes. Here comprising 80% volcanic trap rubble/semi-squared stone in rough

courses; 15% squared blocks; 5% sandstone and other; occasional integral brick. Same thickness as 3.1.

Buff-pinkish mortar with lime flecks; brick repair pointed with grey cement with coal inclusions.

Good facework, whose date is presumably C18th or C19th, probably later than main build of 3.1 but no structural relationship is demonstrable. Construction coeval with that of the Exeter Club? (OS 1876).

3.3 6.5m

From the NW boundary of 1 Northernhay Place, to the step out in the rear face of wall. Different masonry style and composition to 3.2, though similar mortar employed. 50% vesicular volcanic, mainly squared blocks; c. 25% Permian sandstone blocks; remainder mixed breccia; Triassic sandstone, occasional fragments of Roman tile. Parapet in two steps, of small volcanic rubble, the lower (SE) step predominantly veined (Pocombe), the upper more massy volcanic stone. Semi-coursed masonry.

The break with 3.2 is unclear and uncertain. 3.4 (step out) abuts the fabric of 3.3 but breccia blocks towards top of 3.4 (see below) are, in turn, abutted by the parapet of 3.3.

3.4 19.3m

Between 3.3 and the base of the E tower of the castle (for which see Blaylock (1991(a))) there is something like a continuous build although this is heavily disturbed; several courses of Heavitree blockwork run through the build at a high level succeeded by a mixed section of Permian sandstone and breccia blocks towards the NW end.

(i) at ground level: crude facework of small volcanic blocks and occasional pink Permian sandstone and breccia, some veined volcanic, some brick, pretty much uncoursed; late underpinning after lowering of the top of the bank

(ii) 2-3 courses of breccia blocks, well-coursed, probably the earliest facework build in this section

(iii) roughly-coursed pink Permian sandstone and occasional volcanic stone in whitish mortar; up to 2m high at SE end, diminishing to nothing before reaching the angle tower.

(iv) very rubbly build, barely facework, fills c. 3m immediately by tower at ground level; earlier than 4.i which overlies it.

(v) mixed geology rebuild of parapet/wall top c. 1m plus coping above (iii), 2m and coping above (iv). Trap 50%, breccia 40%, other 10%; 2 rows of coping stepping up between large breccia blocks in two courses of coping; four blocked gun loops in the three uppermost steps of the parapet. A long breccia slab towards the SE end of the third run of coping from the tower represents a remnant of a further gun loop which is visible on the outside elevation. The section is dated to the mid 17th century on this basis.

NB. Base of (v) at junction with tower is at the same level as the breccia battered base of the tower (on the tower everything below this is a rebuild). This level may represent the level of the top of the bank in the 17th century and all the work below this may belong to underpinning or to cut back/faced-up core.

In general the whole stretch of wall here is cut back from its original thickness (excavations on the bank might reveal core and footings as well as bank deposits).

Builds (ii), (iii) and (v) might be of one building programme, i.e. all C17th; (i) is probably C19th underpinning. Original breccia coping blocks survive on the uppermost steps; the coping and upper courses of the parapet are rebuilt thereafter.

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| 3.5 | 3m | Obscured by abutment of the angle tower of the castle at ground level. Brick parapet (as 4.1) at top of tower. |
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SECTION 4 The castle from the eastern angle tower to the N corner of the County Court building

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| 4.1 | 45m | <p>A brick parapet wall, of a single stretcher's width, forms the only visible fabric on the line of the wall between the eastern angle tower of the castle and John's Tower. The top of the angle tower is closed off by railings on a granite kerb.</p> <p>Within the brick parapet wall the top of the wall (?) is marked by a grass berm revetted to the SW by a wall of breccia and volcanic blocks with some volcanic rubble, which is reached by steps in the eastern corner of the castle enclosure. The revetment is accurately mapped on the 1:500 OS Town Plan of 1876 and cannot have changed much since then (unlike the buildings within the inner ward). The topmost 2-3 courses and the coping of the revetment wall have been reset recently (? in 1990). Since there is a change in material to 90% veined volcanic (Pocombe) stone in these upper courses, it is probable that the recent rebuild is only a resetting of stones from an earlier rebuild. The earlier arrangement was probably the same as that shown by John Gendall in a watercolour painting in RAM Museum, Exeter (Baker 1979, 39; Cat. No. 80) and thus must be late 18th/early 19th-century in date (cf. the many other attempts at landscaping the City Walls in this vicinity at that period). The bricks of the parapet look 19th-century.</p> |
| 4.2 | 6m | <p>The parapet of John's Tower; brick quoins to each side (rising 5 courses higher than 4.1 and 4.3; facework of mixed-texture volcanic stone (veined, massy, vesicular) and occasional brick fragments; coping of bricks (set radially) on the inside and chamfered volcanic blocks on the outside face of the tower (the last a remnant of an earlier arrangement, presumably). The present fabric all looks 19th-century.</p> |
| 4.3 | c. 29m | <p>Brick parapet continues as section 4.1, stepping around the N corner of the castle enclosure in 5 separate lengths, the last (westernmost) of which has a single course of breccia blocks at its base. Grass berm as before; revetment returns c. 5m short of end of parapet into short flight of steps onto path along, early 20th-century extension to court building. The first length, of c. 12m, is in the same brick as 4.1 (orange colour, plentiful scorched faces, mainly headers but some stretchers); second, third and fourth, c. 12m again, is rebuilt in brick, of the same type as that of the court extension, therefore early C20th; the fifth length is probably older, C19th brick again.</p> |
| 4.4 | c. 4m | <p>Ancient wall core, rear face and bank cut to W by court building extension of 1905 (Cherry & Pevsner 1989, 401). Surmounted by a parapet wall of squared variable-texture volcanic blocks, coeval</p> |

with court building extension and which runs on to W, stepping down, for c. 20m in total.

Masonry of the rear face mixture of volcanic, occasional Triassic and Permian sandstone in vertical rear facework. Not original Roman; probably late medieval or early post-medieval (up to mid C17th). It was not possible to get a close look at this fabric in September 1993.

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| 4.5 | 18m | From the N corner of the C20th extension to gate pier (cf. exterior section 4.9); thin wall, C18th in origin, altered C19th and C20th. Rear elevation all rendered. |
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SECTION 5 Court building and Athelstan's Tower

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| 5.1 | 34m | Demolished for County Court buildings of 1774 by Philip Stowey & Thomas Jones (Cherry and Pevsner 1989, 401). Further demolition on extension in 1905 (<i>ibid.</i>). Now filled with iron railings on brick sleeper wall (renewed 1992). |
| 5.2 | 4m | Pier of volcanic ashlar and thin wall to the SW incorporating a doorway. (Blocking wall from pier to rear of court as on OS 1:500, presumably late C18th.) Thin wall abuts ancient wall fabric to SW. |
| 5.3 | 29.5m | <p>Stump of wall faced up with various modern patches, but patches of rubble core bonded both in white pebbly mortar (Roman) and distinctively brown sandy and pebbly mortar (?Norman) are visible in the stump.</p> <p><i>Rear elevation</i> (a) stands c. 2-2.5m high before an offset (b), above which the wall is narrower and characteristically rubble construction, standing c. another 5m high.</p> <p>The lower section appears to have vestiges of square blockwork, weathered, which could be from a rear face; although this is heavily patched. An apparent lower edge, at the bottom of a section of c. 4 courses, could be the transition from Roman face to core as all facework beneath that seems to be later.</p> <p>The high wall above is heavily patched but the original build is all of uncoursed volcanic rubble of fairly uniform colour and texture, and is very reminiscent of the fabric identified as Norman work on the outside face at this point (Blaylock 1991(b), 13; section 5.3iii) and also the rubble facework of other Norman walls at the castle, e.g. that of the Gatehouse Tower (Blaylock 1987, 3-4). Where it can be seen the mortar of this work appears to be a rich ochre brown. The top of the wall and the sloping stump at the NE end are capped with 19th-century cement-bonded masonry.</p> |

Further SW, the build continues to its junction with the castle curtain wall at Athelstan's Tower but with the following differences:

- (i) no possible Roman work is visible, indeed the ground level slopes up from NE to the SW throughout the length of this build, the slope representing the remnant of Roman town rampart and more substantially the Norman bank which firstly enclosed the inner ward of the castle;

(ii) the very much more extensive incidence of cement-pointed rubble masonry facework, which in places accounts for the full height of the wall. This is contemporary with similar work on the outside face of the wall and with the cement capping; date presumably C20th (cf. exterior Section 5.3.v, Blaylock 1991(b), 14).

(iii) Amongst the predominant facework 5.3.ii there are traces of an older build, which is all volcanic, uncoursed rubble and which I would like to identify as remnants of Norman facework. Its characteristics are – uniformly rubbly broken-up stones, often very weathered, yellow or yellow-brown sandy mortar where visible although everywhere it is heavily buttered over with cement. Limited patching – although occasional blocks of breccia and white Triassic sandstone are seen. Overall poor preservation, mainly at ground level, i.e. nearly all rebuilt above. If this is correctly identified, the interior face is much less altered (in terms of numbers of phases) than the exterior, although more in terms of surface area is rebuilt.

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| 5.4 | 2m | Obscured by abutment of curtain wall of inner ward of castle. |
| 5.5 | 4.7m | Athelstan's Tower - 12th-century tower with 18/19th-century passage through its base and 19th-century stair turret applied to that rear face abutting the <i>outside</i> of the castle curtain wall. See Blaylock 1993(a) for detailed description. |

SECTION 6 From the castle curtain wall to the SW boundary of Rougemont Gardens

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| 6.1 | 4m | (Plus parapet continuing over 6.2). Parapet build; breccia, volcanic trap, occasional Triassic sandstone, South Devon limestone etc, rubble coping, triangular in section. Abuts Athelstan's Tower; continues over build 6.2 and steps down to run on the same level as 6.3. Mostly modern but pink Permian sandstone levelling is visible in places so remnant of parapet from further SW does survive (cf. the description of the parapet, Section 6.3) |
| 6.2 | 36.5m | <p>Exposed Roman core of wall: classic herringbone pitched rubble, quite regular courses of pitched stones - two courses in each direction alternately, in herringbone pattern, at least at base. Clearly visible levelling courses, in mortar, sometimes employing small stones standing to a considerable height - c. 6m max at the point where the arch to Northernhay Gardens breaches the wall. 100% volcanic trap spalls.</p> <p>At the base of the wall the core is obscured by shrubbery and the scarp of the castle bank at the NE end, which has a cemented stone <i>glacis</i> at its base (a), and by a rubble-faced wall above the inner terminal of the castle ditch, c. 12.5m to the NW of the arch into Northernhay Gardens, and c. 1.5m to SW of the same (b). The arch frame (of breccia internally and externally and a zigzag-pitched lining to reveals) appears to cut this facework (crude patching and cement pointing around frame).</p> <p>(c) Small volcanic rubble including veined volcanic, breccia, one block of blue-green igneous rock (dolerite?) in pinkish sandy mortar with brick or tile fragments, and (d) the arch itself which</p> |

has white hard mortar with frequent coal or charcoal inclusions; then grey cement pointing.

The arch (d) post-dates the removal of Northernhay House c. 1913 (Reed 1931, 275); (b) is therefore late 18th or 19th-century; (a) the *glacis* is 20th-century work (cement-bonded).

Width at base (present pavement level) 1.95m.

This assumes the front face to be Roman (ext. fabric survey, section 6.1). At a minimum, a rear face must be added to this. Steps in until it aligns with the width of the parapet at the top. To the SW the ground slopes up again, obscuring wall core; the present path is presumably on or above core of wall if it exists cf. Bradninch Place section to SW.

6.3

[as 6.2 above]

Above the Roman core (6.2) the parapet build is interesting:

The break between 6.1 and 6.3 at parapet level is uncertain (although 6.3 is earlier than 6.1) but several courses of large, weathered Triassic sandstone blocks form the base of the build at the NE end. The top of the Roman core is levelled up with several courses of small pink Permian sandstone blocks.

The parapet proper is constructed of four courses of white Triassic sandstone blocks (with the occasional pink or half-pink block amongst them) at the NE end and five certain, possibly up to six courses, at the SW end. It is coped with a low build and triangular coping above of mixed rubble and brick, which presumably is 18th or 19th-century in date.

The intervening parapet (to be checked further) possibly also contains earlier build of different date and character. A group of three Triassic sandstone blocks towards the NE might be a remnant of this.

The Triassic sandstone build seems to match a build on the exterior elevation to the extent that there are c. five courses of blockwork on top of a (?) Roman face (although the face is quite heavily patched/rebuilt). The base of the parapet sits on a slight offset. The build continues downwards in a substantial section of rebuild below the offset, above and slightly to the left of the arch into Rougemont Gardens, but quickly steps up again over very weathered volcanic blockwork (again ?Roman - see exterior fabric survey, section 6.1) and survives as a maximum of one course, as far as the step up in the parapet.

Two potential embrasures of crenellations appear as filled gaps in this parapet; the sides of the merlons are crude but are represented by large Triassic sandstone or volcanic blocks, some placed on end. Fills of crude rubble, some of it pink Permian sandstone. This goes both for the interior (where 2 embrasures are clear) and the exterior where patches in equivalent positions must represent the fills.

The merlons are characteristically broad - cf. Trinity Lane (Blaylock 1991(b), 35). A third possible embrasure lies at the point where the parapet begins to step down to the SW and (if this slope down reflects an ancient drop in level) one side of a possible fourth embrasure (at the very end of this section. The same is visible on the external face at the base of the slope, tending to confirm the suggestion.

Date: the presence of pink Permian sandstone ought to suggest a 17th-century date; the white Triassic sandstone might then be re-used? Additional support for this comes from the high incidence of Civil-War-period work around the castle circuit (see Blaylock 1991(b), 5) which provides a suitable context for additions to the wall here. The presence of such a parapet suggests that the interior ground level was considerably higher at the time of construction than now; the implications for earth ramparts and/or walkways in this area are of interest, since the terminal of the castle ditch must have caused some interruption to the Roman banks to the rear of the wall.

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| 6.4 | 3.6m | From the SW limit of visible Roman core, crude facework of volcanic, breccia and Permian sandstone rubble built over Roman core as it steps down to the SW
? possibly contemporary with (6.3) |
| 6.5 | 3.5m | From here onwards the rear face is rebuilt core coming out of plane of (6.4); mixture of volcanic veined rock, Triassic sandstone, lots of pink Permian sandstone, breccia, re-used blocks and rubble; this looks like a rebuild (including one brick) using earlier materials; it has been repointed recently in cement mortar. |
| 6.6 | 30m | Simple parapet, mostly late rebuild, although older materials are re-used. Three sections:
(a) 6m. Predominantly small volcanic rubble with occasional breccia and brick (triangular coping of volcanic and breccia blocks continuous with (b) etc. below); probably later than 6.5 (up to and over it). Two internal straight joins suggest remnant crenellations, but are not very convincing; 18th/19th-century?
(b) 22m. Volcanic rubble and block, Triassic sandstone, occasional breccia, very occasional South Devon limestone. Steps out c. 0.1m from (a), for c. 2m, then curving inwards again; higher incidence of blocks (squared) than formerly. Straight join with (a) to NE, another straight join at top c. 1.5m beyond curved narrowing.
Pretty much the same build all the way to the end of the section; ends in straight join, abutted by (c).
(c) 1.9m. Steps in again c. 0.1m from (b). Volcanic block and ?Lias or South Devon limestone, with integral brick; later than (b) (abuts it in straight joint); of continuous build with parapet of section 7 to SW; 19th/20th-century? (b/c) transition is coincident with a break in the build on exterior (exterior sections 6.5/7.1). Otherwise there seems to be a less clearly-defined parapet build on the exterior, although a consistent 2-3 courses at the top of the wall are rebuilt. |

SECTION 7 Bradninch Place to rear of Queen Street

Most of this section, with the exception of the brick facing at the NE end, was recorded in detail by Barbara Jupp in 1982 in advance of repairs by C.J. Tansley's in 1983 (a programme of work which involved some areas of substantial refacing, and the repointing of much of the interior elevation). Cross references are given to the drawings and reference numbers of that, much fuller, record in EMAFU drawings 211.1, 2 & 3.

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| 7.1 | 5.5m | 19th-century brick facing; abuts boundary wall of Rougemont Gardens. Remnant of a Victorian glasshouse shown on OS 1:500 plan of 1876. |
| 7.2 | 10m | <p>Roman rear facework and exposed core. As recorded on drawings 211.3 (outline) and 211.1 (stone-for-stone).
Comprises two main builds: the lower, bonded in yellow mortar, is entirely core, i.e. has no rear face and is thought to be that part of the wall dug into the bank ?or concealed by the heightened bank? cf. Paul Street excavated trenches and discussion in Blaylock 1988, 13-14. This part is numbered 46 on 211.3. The upper build is faced, in stepped facework of dark purple volcanic trap, classic rear facework, No. 39 on 211.3.
A maximum of four courses of the upper step (with a vertical face) survive, up to six courses of the lower offset, which is less regular and crudely battered.
This section contains crucial evidence for the form of the rear face of the Roman wall. In conjunction with Sections 6.2 and 7.4 it ought to help on the total height of the Roman wall.
Repaired in places: a brick patch at the SW end of the upper step. Other repairs at bottom, NE end are now obscured by ground built up since 1982.</p> |
| 7.3 | 15m | <p>Semi-coursed blocks comprising 50% breccia, rest volcanic, pink Permian sandstone, occasional white Triassic sandstone, occasional Bath stone, in coarse cement mortar with frequent charcoal inclusions.
This facework, numbered 2 on 211.3, is the predominant phase of work in the section, probably post-dating the Bradninch Place houses - 40/41 might be related to Bradninch Place houses.
Small sections of older work (Roman facework according to the 1982 numbering: 39) are to be seen above the main build.
Towards the SW end four courses of blockwork (13/14) look like older work - rough-dressed volcanic blocks in ?medieval-type mortar; ?too crude to be Roman.</p> <p>Bradninch Place is shown on the OS plan of 1876; by 1905 (2nd ed. 1:2500 map); the two north-westernmost houses of Bradninch Place were missing; build 2 must, therefore, be after c. 1900. The style and mortar mixes are identical to masonry at Paul Street, post-dating the removal of the houses of Maddocks Row (1920s). The most likely date for this build is therefore late 1920s or 1930s.</p> <p>Houses were first built in Bradninch Place by 1617 (Norden's map reproduced by Oliver, 1861, frontispiece; the original reproduced by Ravenhill in Barber & Board 1993, 96-7). Houses existed on both sides of the street by 1709 (Coles' map, WCSL). It is not known if the buildings which survived until the early 20th century were those of 17th-century date or later replacements.</p> |
| 7.4 | 40.5m | Roman facework and core, heavily patched by later alterations and insertions but retaining rear facework in two steps. When it was recorded in 1982, prior to the most recent repairs, this section displayed fabric which was interpreted as Roman, in one form or another, for most of its length (cf. EMAFU drawing |

211.3). Repair works in 1983 obscured some of the ancient masonry, particularly core. The following description is based, therefore, on the records from 1982.

Three highly-informative cross-sections through the rear face and exposed core were noted in 1982: numbered 3, 4 and 6 on drawings 211.2 and 3. Section 3 at the NE end of the section shows three stepped faces (11, 32 and 37) with some further Roman core exposed above (8) standing to a height of 2.8m (nearly the full height of the wall in this position). Seven courses of volcanic blockwork for the lowest face (11); five the middle face (32) and three (with an unknown number lost from the exposed core above) the upper face (37). Sections 4 and 6 were located at the SW end of the section and show two steps of rear facework with superincumbent corework to a height of 2.5m. Here up to seven courses of blocks for the lower step (31 in drawing 211.2); three to four courses form the upper stage (20). Section 6 is complemented by a further section excavated through rampart layers by R.C. Thomas in 1985 (drawing EMAFU 82.1) which enabled the data from the wall to be related to the rampart layers. The data from these sections, when combined with material from elsewhere on the circuit (principally, now, Lower Coombe Street) offer opportunities for greater understanding of the Roman wall than has been possible previously.

Between the three cross-sections a good deal of Roman facework survived patched with later, mainly post-medieval, facework up to the position of the Bradninch Place buildings (represented by stumps of walls 49 and 5 in the 1982 record); these are faced with brick blocking. A long section of post-medieval facework (15) ran SW from the site of Bradninch Place.

Unfortunately it is now difficult to compare the drawings from 1982 with the actual fabric of the wall because of the extensive refacing work carried out in 1983. This applies to the full length of the section but is at its greatest extent towards the SW where virtually the whole of the upper stage of the wall is replaced with semi-coursed blocks and rubble - in a mixture of volcanic stone, breccia and isolated other stone (Culm sandstone, for example), some at least re-used from an earlier build of the wall. Much of this is set in cement and unpointed (i.e. the face is full of cavities). Further to the NE the work is more thoroughly pointed. Only at the NE end of the build can the Roman facework be followed completely as it was in 1982 (it was in this position that it was best preserved in the vicinity of section 3). For photographs before these repairs see AFU 959/2-8 (covering only the last 13.5m of the section, i.e. at SW end).

Parapet and wall walk of section 7

(i) 18.9m. Volcanic stone paving flush with rear elevation - 19th-century;

(ii) 51.4m. New shillet paving and inner kerb of mixed geology by Tansley's, 1983 as far as the end of the wall.

The parapet is continuous with that of Rougemont Gardens to NE, through most of the length as far as Northernhay Gate Methodist Chapel of 1857-8 (Brockett 1962, 197).

SECTION 8 Queen Street to Maddocks Row

- | | | |
|-----|------|--|
| 8.1 | 44m | <p>Gap. The wall was demolished for Queen Street (1838). The street is flanked by the Old Post Office constructed mid 19th century (DoE 1974) and the Dispensary on the corner of Northernhay Street (1841). Part of the rear wall of the dispensary is exposed in the small yard to the rear of Habitat: random volcanic rubble, some veined, with occasional integral bricks and a brick-lined chimney flue.</p> <p>The construction of Nos 74-75 Queen Street (NE side), and the laying out of the street itself, involved the cutting of a deep terrace. The rear yards of the Queen Street buildings lie more than 3m below the exterior ground level at the SW end of section 7.</p> |
| 8.2 | 4.5m | <p>Gap: small outbuilding at rear of dispensary; ground-floor structure stepped out (i.e. SE from line of adjacent buildings by c. 0.50m). Volcanic rubble with squared volcanic quoins abutting the E corner of Providence Chapel. Mid 19th century.</p> |
| 8.3 | 19m | <p>Two sections here:</p> <p>(a) 10.5m, up to the line of the SW boundary of 25 Paul Street; corresponds to the position of Edmund Grainger's mews of c. 1800 (Henderson 1984, 37), the construction of which cut away the rear face and core of the wall. Here the rear elevation of Providence Chapel, of 1839, is exposed. Mixed, roughly-coursed rubble, roughly 50:50 Heavitree breccia and volcanic stone (in which the veined variety seems to predominate). Squared breccia quoins to E corner.</p> <p>The SW half of this part of the elevation was repointed after the demolition of 25 Paul Street in 1984.</p> <p>Trench 13 of the Paul Street excavations, was located in this section, dug in 1984 (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 9, drawing 76.27).</p> <p>(b) 8.5m surviving city wall at base, on top of which is an extension to the Providence Chapel comprising a stone flank wall to the NE and a brick rear wall. This accommodates an organ chamber and presumably dates to the period after the transition of ownership of this chapel from the Plymouth Brethren to the Bible Christians in 1851 (Brockett 1962, 200).</p> <p>No ancient fabric is visible in the wall in section (i.e. on the SW boundary of 25 Paul Street. The rear elevation is as recorded during the Paul Street excavations of 1982-3.</p> <p>Roman rear facework at the base (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 12, 1770) is cut for the bell-casting pit of the Pennington foundry (<i>ibid.</i> 1689); possible remnants of a rear face above the step, at least one course, probably two at SW end (218); superimposed on this a late build - post-medieval with integral brick (217) which is itself abutted by 19th-century stone wall forming a base for the organ chamber above, which is entirely of brick.</p> <p>Various blockings in the brick elevation of the organ chamber comprise:</p> <p>(i) a lower roof line filled with a course of header bricks in 20th century.</p> <p>(ii) an upper roof line comprising an horizontal chase with vertical sockets for rafters above.</p> |

(iii) a blocked window directly above the roof line (20th-century brick).

Roof line (i) or (ii) is presumably that of the building at the NW end of the tenement plot whose footings were excavated by EMAFU in 1982 and which is shown on the 1876 OS 1:500 Town Plan at the rear of the 'London and South Western Hotel' (see EMAFU archive drawing 76.63).

NB. At the time of excavation the Roman rear facework of this section was covered by bank - a small remnant of which survived within the boundary of the tenement. The bank was removed by excavation, the SW boundary wall of the property demolished during redevelopment and the overall ground level to the SW was lowered by c. 0.5m.

8.4

22m

Formerly in the curtilage of the north-westernmost property on the NE side of Maddocks Row (OS 1876). Demolished in the late 1920s (Edna Fry etching; Baker 1977, No. 174).

(9.3m)

(i) Two late 18th/19th-century brick-vaulted niches in the thickness of the wall, relating to outhouses of the plot: the first 4.30m wide; the second, to the SW, 2.70m wide. The NE niche shows Roman herringbone corework at the base of its rear and left-hand-side elevations (later cruder rubble core above (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 12; sections 115 and 116). The SW niche has contemporary brick and stone facings so no core is visible in its sides.

Site of the extension to Trench 7 of the Paul Street excavations in which the footings of a Roman tower were discovered (*ibid.* 15, and Fig. 7).

(6.2m)

(ii) Section of facework post-dating the removal of the buildings of Maddocks Row (c. 1926) and probably associated with the laying out of the city bus station on this site in the 1930s. There is a considerable amount of refacing in this style on the rear face of the wall in Paul Street (below section 9). Similar work in the same mortar is seen at Bradninch Place (above, p. 10).

Predominantly breccia with lesser quantities of volcanic, pink Permian sandstone, Bath stone, another oolitic limestone (?not Bath) and chert, occasional small ?drainage holes left in facework. Bonded with hard gritty cement mortar with copious quantities of coal and charcoal fragments.

Laid on Roman core, base of build (recorded in 1988, Blaylock 1988, Fig. 13; 2032) on then ground level, now exposed by reduction of ground level during development of the Paul Street shopping centres (*ibid.* 2033). The SW end of the build collapsed in 1988 (during development) and as the collapse revealed a length of 6.3m of good-quality pitched Roman corework, standing to a height of 2.6m, it was decided to consolidate this and leave it visible, rather than to cap it with another section of 20th-century facework. The area was recorded before and after the collapse (cf. the two drawings, *ibid.* Figs 12 & 13), which may have been caused by the reduction of the ground level.

The frontage wall of Maddocks Row survived (as a revetment to the bus station and its succeeding car park) until the 1980s redevelopment.

- 8.5 2.2m Maddocks Row arch, dated 1772 ('opened 1772' inscribed on external keystone) associated with good-quality breccia ashlar build on exterior and reveals of archway, brick barrel vault to passage and interior arch; inner section of reveals rebuilt in breccia quoins and small volcanic rubble filling, ?at the time of demolition of Maddocks Row in 1920s.
- The internal parapet from Maddocks Row as far as Elim Chapel is coeval with the breccia ashlar of the exterior, although in lower-quality masonry. Since this is substantially earlier than Queen Street and its associated developments (the Chapel, Dispensary, etc. see sections 8.1-3), presumably this build once continued further to the NE.

SECTION 9 Maddocks Row to North Gate

- 9.1 3.9m Within the curtilage of the last house, against the city wall, on the SW side of Maddocks Row; two brick-vaulted cellars within the wall; late 18th/19th century. That on the left remains open with three tiers of brick shelves, supported on miniature brick vaults; that on the right, immediately adjacent to the arch of Maddocks Row, is blocked with the same masonry and mortar as described for 8.4(ii) above, i.e. of the 1930s. Masonry between and above the arches is mixed rubble, presumably 19th-century.
- 9.2 6m Predominantly breccia build of the 1930s 'bus station' period; as 8.4.ii and 9.1 above; neat quoin to SW. Uppermost course and slate coping relaid in 1988.
- The crude sloping plinth, and a course or two of facework beneath, sit on Roman corework, continuous with that of section 9.3, below (4.4m of this exposed) (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 13, 2039 and 2040).
- 9.3 82m A very long stretch of Roman core, of mortared volcanic rubble, exposed by the development of the Paul Street shopping centre in 1986-8 and recorded by EMAFU in 1986 (part of this wall already having been excavated by the Unit in 1984-5 - Paul Street Trench 15 (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 14; and archive drawings 76.67-69 incl.). Some 61m remains exposed; 21m at the SW end is now covered by a flowerbed beside the footpath.
- Before the redevelopment of the 1980s the ground levels here were considerably higher. Much of the clay rampart, which lay to the rear of the Roman wall footings, was removed in order to achieve the required gradient on the service road into the rear of the shopping centre, thus exposing wall core which had never before been exposed to the weather, nor was intended to stand up to exterior conditions. Thus a maintenance problem was created which has still to be resolved in a satisfactory manner. (Observation, over the years since the wall was consolidated in 1988, has shown that each winter leads to further losses from the wall.)
- The Roman wall in this area is built with the slope of the land, a slope which the present interior ground level and pavement within the wall do not follow exactly. At the lower end, therefore, Roman work lies mostly beneath present ground level. Sixteen courses of rear facework were seen at the SW end of

Trench 15 in 1985 (Blaylock 1988, Fig. 14, Section 147). Further to the NE, up the hill, rather more of the wall is now visible. Although consolidation has affected the appearance of the wall slightly – in the introduction of some unsympathetic building materials (such as breccia in Roman core which is overwhelmingly of volcanic stone), the greater part of the wall now to be seen parallel to the re-routed 'Maddocks Row footway' is Roman. A number of deep shear cracks were filled in during consolidation, to prevent the passage of water. A short length of facework on the top of the presently surviving corework is of medieval date (containing breccia blocks as well as volcanic stone; EMAFU archive drawing 76.69, 3503). The parapets (obviously) are modern (see below). Sadly this section, for all its importance, is not visually impressive and its setting, to the rear of the 1980s shopping centre, unappealing to all but the most dedicated of wall-followers!

Parapets. A variety of parapet builds overlays the top of the Roman wall core. For the first part of the length (32.5m) the parapet and some capping of the core itself are constructed of the 'bus station period' masonry and mortar described above under section 8.4ii and 9.2. A wide 19th-century parapet overlies the last 8m of the rebuilt 1930s work at the NE end of the build; this is related to the structure of 39 Northernhay Street.

Towards the lower end the capping of the wall core is replaced with a length of 18m of cast concrete with a battered rear face and stepped upper surface. The parapet wall above this was formerly of the 1930s style of work but was extensively rebuilt during consolidation works to the outside face of the wall in 1979, a phase of work identifiable by distinctive diamond-sawn blocks of volcanic stone and breccia with very crisp-cut faces (cf. Blaylock 1991, p. 28, Section 9.4). [NB. This section comprises two full steps, above concrete plinth and the butt end of the third step; the rest is 1930s 'bus station period'].

Downhill from the cast concrete section of capping and the 1979 build of parapet, the parapet displays a variety of modern builds, continuous with that of the section of modern walling to the SW and of similar sequence to that observed on the outside face in October 1992 (drawing 213.2, Blaylock 1993(b), [forthcoming]). The primary parapet build is probably 19th-century in date - predominantly of volcanic rubble but with a wide range of other stones ancient and modern: pink Permian sandstone (?from Civil War builds in this area, see below 9.4 and (Blaylock 1991, 21, Section 9.6), brick, granite, Bath stone, another oolitic limestone, etc. This is capped with a distinctive coping, semi-circular in section, bonded in hard cement (equivalent to build 501 of the 1992 record of the exterior, Blaylock 1993(b), [forthcoming]). One section of the coping of the parapet (of c. 3.5m), is rebuilt, ignoring the pebble-and-cement style of coping.

At the base of the inner face of the parapet throughout this stretch is a continuous plinth, or thickening, with a sloping top, of cement-bonded masonry, resting on the Roman core. This is later (in structural relationship as well as style and materials) to the thin parapet build, and is presumably late 19th- or 20th-century. The materials and style are continuous with the blocking of the 17th-century musket loops (see section 9.4 below).

At a point 27m SW of the end of the cast concrete plinth, the parapet build of mixed geology abuts a quoin of four large breccia blocks. To the SW of this the fabric of the parapet is perhaps older, although still containing frequent brick (therefore 18th/19th-century?) and capped by the pebble coping. This runs on over the 17th-century build (see below 9.4).

The last c. 21m of the Roman core (as recorded in 1986; drawing 76.65) is now obscured by a flowerbed, beneath the level of the present car park and pavement. Although the parapet builds described above run on to the SW end of the build, the last 4.5m (now forming the 'standing wall' in the sense that no footings are visible) is described separately because of its exceptional interest.

9.4 (*4.5m; measurement incorporated in that of 9.3 above)

Volcanic rubble, breccia and Permian sandstone containing remains of two trabeate embrasures, interpreted as musket loops of the Civil War period. One, the SW of the two, retains a complete embrasure blocked with 20th-century brick; the second is represented on the inside face by two quoins of its SW jamb only, the remainder being blocked by later masonry of the parapet plinth (see above, 9.3).

A full record, including stone-for-stone elevations of the musket loops, contemporary facework inside and out was made in 1992 (EMAFU drawing ref: 213.2; Blaylock 1993(b), forthcoming).

9.5 22m

A modern parapet to the wall (which presumably exists below ground although it has not been seen in excavation), between the 17th-century musket loops and the modern boundary of the Paul Street car park with London & Manchester Insurance Co.'s waste ground (site of EMAFU site 'North Gate 78'). Mixed geology rubble with a number of blocked window embrasures from 19th-century houses which stood on top of the wall, and against its rear parapet, i.e. those of approx. Nos 1-10 Paul Street (demolished in 1920s so the blockings are presumably of that date), more particularly of Arthur's Place and Combe's Buildings (see OS 1876).

Recorded in outline in 1988/1992 by EMAFU, see archive drawing 76.75.

9.6 15.5m

Immediate drop in ground level of 1.5-2m, sloping to 3m within the site. The rear face of the wall was heavily cut back for the construction of 19th-century (?) buildings against wall. The wall now has an average width of c. 0.4-0.5m. Seated on Roman corework, as excavated at the North Gate site in 1978 (Bidwell 1980, Figs 33-34; Blaylock 1988, 9; archive drawings 69.1-3). The visible fabric is composed of a variety of late corework, some refacing, features from 19th-century buildings (window, joist sockets etc), and new masonry from consolidation in 1978 (rebuilding of butt end of wall at SW end) and 1988 (various patches; the very overscaled buttress). Some of the top of the wall parapet was dismantled during the latter phase of consolidation (cf. drawing 76.75 showing survival before 1988 works).

SECTION 10 Lower North Street/Iron Bridge

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|----|-----|--|
| 10 | 25m | Wall demolished (a) for North Gate (removed 1769; Jenkins 1806, 213)/Iron Bridge/Lower North Street (1834); (b) for new flats in 1978; latter partially recorded by EMAFU (Blaylock 1991, 22) but no internal elevation was observed here. |
|----|-----|--|

SECTION 11 Crown and Sceptre Hotel and associated yard

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|------|-------|--|
| 11.1 | 10m | Spanned by hotel; brick integral to hotel build, 19th-century. The base of the Roman wall footings and a section of the rampart were observed here in 1983 (Blaylock 1988, 1;9; and Fig. 3). |
| 11.2 | 28.3m | Brick parapet/retaining wall on top of wall fabric on exterior (Blaylock 1991, 23) sub-divides into 10.8m of narrow parapet wall at the NE end stepping out to 0.4m over the remaining 17.5m to the SW. The change in width corresponds to the point at which the structures of Lant's Almshouses abutted the parapet of the wall (cf. OS 1876). Occasional odd blocks of stone. At the SW end the brick parapet sits on mortar/volcanic rubble wall core. 19th-century, repaired and rebedded in 1980s. |
| 11.3 | 13.3m | Masonry walling taking over from brick parapet. Obscured by dense undergrowth; probably post-medieval and connected with the 'Free Cottages' adjoining Lant's Almshouses to the SW (Jenkins 1841, 359). The cottages and almshouses were removed in 1959. Modern buttress in South Devon limestone accounts for the last 1.4m at SW end. Three windows and two fireplaces, of which traces remain in the fabric, are clearly seen on the plan of the buildings shown by the OS (1876, sheet 6.17). |

SECTION 12 The Old Malthouse, Bartholomew Street East

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|------|------|---|
| 12.1 | 6.2m | <p>The SE wall of the bottle kiln attached to the NE end of the malthouse building contains visible masonry, some of which probably predates the building. At the base of the wall, above a kerb of modern masonry which also runs SW along the frontage of the malthouse, is a height of c. 1m of trimmed-back mortared core. This core is composed of small volcanic rubble in a white gritty mortar and may be medieval; it is quite heavily patched in stone and brick.</p> <p>Above this, and beginning at a reasonably level upper surface, is a face of mixed breccia (some large squared blocks), Permian sandstone and some volcanic rubble in a white lime mortar. One brick appears to be integral so therefore this build has to be late 17th-century or, more probably, 18th-century, perhaps re-using slightly older materials (cf. the use of Permian sandstone).</p> <p>Alternatively: is the whole of this build the fabric of the bottle kiln, re-using materials from the wall face in this position? This would account for the wide variation in size and shape of blocks. At the top of the wall (nought (SW) to three (NE) courses of cemented masonry, including exotics (South Devon limestone, ?oolite): 20th-century.</p> <p>At its NE end the section is abutted by a buttress of wide modern</p> |
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masonry, breccia and (predominantly) grey Carboniferous limestone in cement. This was probably built in 1959 or later, post-dating the demolition of Lant's Almshouses.

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| 12.2 | 21.8m | Completely obscured by the restaurant building. The pavement runs up to the building frontage/line of the outside face of the wall. |
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SECTION 13 Napier Terrace/Bartholomew Street East

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|------|-------|--|
| 13.1 | 59m | Iron railings on granite coping to wall. The present pavement runs up to and over coping/railings. Granite obelisk terminal to NE end suggests that the railings are coeval with the catacombs, as 13.2. |
| 13.2 | 34.7m | Coursed rubble parapet wall of Pocombe stone with granite obelisk terminals, gateposts and coping; forms entrance to catacombs' terrace, constructed in 1837 (Cherry and Pevsner 1989, 397-8). |

SECTION 14 Bartholomew Yard/Friernhay

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|------|------|--|
| 14.1 | 114m | Iron railings on granite coping to wall; contemporary with construction of catacombs, as 13.2 above. To SW on older fabric (Blaylock 1991, 25; section 14.2 <i>et seqq.</i>). |
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SECTION 15 Barbican steps to Snayle Tower: 1-6 Bartholomew Terrace (Hillyfield House)

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|------|-------|--|
| 15.1 | 41.1m | Mixed coursed rubble including granite and shillet with granite and breccia coping blocks on Bartholomew Terrace side; mixed stone rubble coping face on exterior (Hillyfield House side). Abuts gate piers of NE gate of Hillyfield House (2m, within total for build of 41.1m). Presumably early 19th-century (DoE 1974, 13-14). |
|------|-------|--|

SECTION 16 Snayle Tower to Bartholomew Street West

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|------|-------|--|
| 16.1 | 10.5m | Site of the Snayle Tower at the western corner of the city (removed between c. 1806 and 1813). The tower is described in terms that suggest it was still standing by Jenkins (1806, 18) but the site is described as the '... spot where the Snail Tower formerly stood' in February 1813 (ECA Chamber Minute Book 17, 162; 15.2.1813). No specific expenditure for the tower's removal has been traced in the City archives. Despite this evidence the tower continued to be depicted on engraved maps of the city until 1835; although it is not shown on two key maps which predate 1835, those of Hedgeland (Jenkins 1806) and Coldridge (1819). The context for the removal of the Snayle Tower is to be found in the construction of houses of Paradise Place/Ash Grove. Brick parapet, 19th or 20th-century; coping renewed at the time the two buttresses on the exterior were constructed in 1979. Site of a Civil War battery or 'mount' (Stoyle |
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1990, 14-15).

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|------|-----|--|
| 16.2 | 70m | <p>(a) Rubble parapet and breccia coping.
Very mixed geology, but volcanic stone predominating, and very patched (latest repairs of 1990 are visible as patches bonded with pink mortar). Includes one lamp position: a pier with a pyramidal top, surmounted by an iron lamp standard (now defunct). Early 19th-century. The fabric also includes some re-used white Triassic sandstone (date?) (cf. exterior elevation where there is much of this stone: Blaylock 1991, 27; section 16).</p> <p>(b) From the position of the lamp standard the masonry looks later, therefore ?mid 19th-century and rather better built than (a); (b) has more breccia in the top 2-3 courses which are built on the level so they diminish towards the SE (in fact (b) is no more than a rebuilding of the top of the parapet wall coeval with the coping). Stops at point of transition from (b) to (c).</p> <p>(c) Coping only - switch from breccia blocks (b), to a greenish-grey ?sandstone.</p> <p>In summary: (a) extends full length; (b) is a rebuild of the top of the parapet plus coping; (c) is new coping at SE end.</p> |
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SECTION 17 Bartholomew Street West to New Bridge Street

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|------|--------|--|
| 17.1 | 13.8m | <p>Pavement and entrance to car park; survival of wall below ground is unknown.</p> |
| 17.2 | c. 72m | <p>The area was developed in the mid 19th century as Rackclose Lane and Beedles Terrace; the front of the wall was cut back and refaced at this time (Blaylock 1991, 28); the degree of survival of the rear of the wall is unknown, although its chances are rather better than that of the exterior due to the tendency of ground levels to build up within the wall. After an embanked flowerbed of c. 5m, the first 13m of the line of the wall is represented by a modern wall which post-dates the development of the Beedles Terrace houses of 1977-82 (Cherry & Pevsner 1989, 423). The remainder of the section shows a variety of late 19th- and late 20th-century fabric. At the SE end a short length of rubble-faced wall core can be seen on the exterior, ending in the brick stump (of one of the Rackclose Lane houses, 19th-century).</p> <p>NB. The precise course of the wall towards the SE end of this section, and its position beneath the New Bridge Street buildings (17.3) is not immediately apparent in the topography or on the 1876 OS map. It would be useful to collate information from pre-1770 sources (CMB, Rocque, deeds) with the OS to establish:</p> <p>(a) the line which the wall took as it approaches New Bridge Street</p> <p>(b) where it bent - as it must have done - to meet up with the next extant stretch, below West Street.</p> |
| 17.3 | 25m | <p>Obscured by buildings up to the footings of New Bridge Street and mostly removed by them. In the cellar of No. 41 New Bridge Street is a pier of masonry 1m wide (along the axis of the wall) which is probably a remnant of the outer face of the wall.</p> |

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| 17.4 | 19.5m | Demolished in 1770-6 for the construction of New Bridge Street. Site of the Church of All Hallows on the Walls which was ruined during the Civil War (Jenkins 1806, 403) and was removed in 1770 (Cresswell 1908, 14). The church is shown in plan on map 9 of the Exeter Chamber Map Book of 1758 (DRO/ECA/58). |
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SECTION 18 New Bridge Street to site of West Gate

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|------|--|---|
| 18.1 | 9m | Obscured by buildings of 2 West Street. Extent of survival unknown. A short stump of masonry wall (0.2m) is visible protruding from the SE limit of No. 2 (in the small yard shown by the 1876 OS). The stump could be composed of wall fabric but might be later walling, i.e. of 1770 or later and relating to New Bridge Street. |
| 18.2 | 50m | The wall survives as the foundation upon which the houses of Nos 4-22 West Street (even numbers) are built. A specimen of this was observed in 1990 during renovation works to No. 8 West Street where the building was seen built on top of and abutting fabric of the city wall. Nos 2, 4 (see 18.1 above), 10, 20 and 22 have some sort of rear yard on top of or to the rear of the wall, but the interior elevations of the parapets are rendered and show no visible masonry. |
| 18.3 | 3.4m
[+ c. 1.7m wall
in section to SE] | <p>Short lengths of free-standing wall in the rear yard of 24 West Street ('the house that moved'), immediately short of the site of the West Gate. Facework (all modern) is composed of large breccia blocks, some volcanic (including one plinth block re-used), occasional other types, pebble, etc in cement. Several courses of older work (volcanic blocks) at base, c. 0.45m - but still not ancient, as the wall is cut back to this line from the original internal face.</p> <p>Facework abuts core to the SE, hidden by structures to the NW. This core could be ancient (mostly volcanic rubble), although it is heavily buttered over with cement. It is unlikely that any fabric of the West Gate survives.</p> |
| 18.4 | 77m | <p>Site of West Gate, removed in 1815 and the wall to the SE removed by stages in later years. The process of removal can be illustrated by comparison of early 19th-century pictorial sources. The situation after 1815 is shown by two engravings published in Shapter's <i>History of the Cholera in Exeter</i> (1849, 86 and 111). The first shows an oblique view along the outside of the wall (Cricklepit Street), the second the site of the gate in full elevation. In both views it can be seen that the SE side of the breach retained wall fabric and was finished with a similar rounded quoin to that which survives on the NW quoin. Although dated in the 1830s and 40s it can be assumed that this was the situation in the period after the removal of the gate in 1815.</p> <p>A further stage of demolition is shown in a pencil sketch attributed to John Gendall and dated c. 1840 (WCSL, P & D 5664). This is drawn looking west from inside the walls, at the time of the demolition of the wall on the SE side of the site of the gate. Thus a widening of the breach around 1840 is</p> |

suggested. The 1876 OS Town Plan shows a gap of 40m in this position. The present gap is 77m. Some of the foundation of the wall could survive beneath the road. No details are known, and no photographic evidence has been located. An etching by David Neave of c. 1912, shows West Street and Cricklepit Street (the then names of the streets, within and without the City Wall respectively) in the form prior to the construction of Western Way (WCSL P & D D-7280; EPRS 306).

SECTION 19 Lower Coombe Street (rear of Cricklepit Street)

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|------|----------------|---|
| 19.1 | 59m | <p>The section begins with 1.2m of 1960s railing contemporary with Inner Bypass, and equivalent to Section 19.1 of exterior (Blaylock 1991, 29). Then 19th-century railings on a sandstone plinth - these were here by the time of the 1876 OS survey, when earlier houses built inside and on top of the wall in West Street (now called Lower Coombe Street) had been removed.</p> <p>Several trenches excavated by P.T. Bidwell in 1974 showed wall core and rampart to be well-preserved to the rear of the wall in this section, although for much of this length the wall was rebuilt in the medieval period, after the Roman wall on an alignment slightly further out (to the SW) had collapsed (Griffiths 1974, 169; Bidwell 1980, 60-61; Simpson, forthcoming).</p> |
| 19.2 | 32.7m | <p>Stone parapet, beginning with a square pier c. 750mm square, which is abutted by railings of 19.1. Mixed geology indicating a late date. Frequent granite, breccia, volcanic, brick, squared volcanic blocks re-used from Roman or medieval wall.</p> <p>Cast concrete coping blocks, triangular in section, with red cement matrix (an attempt to imitate Heavitree breccia?).</p> <p>Heavily patched, most recently in 1990 - work of which date can be clearly identified by the use of pinkish mortar. (As with that in Bartholomew Terrace, above; this was done in the aftermath of the large programme of work in Friernhay in 1990).</p> |
| 19.3 | 32m | <p>Section collapsed on 13th January 1974. Photographs before collapse from exterior in collection of prints taken from negatives of Mr J. Caunter of Beaconsfield (held by EMAFU). Photograph from inside, after collapse, in RAMM file (Exeter City Walls 1963-1985).</p> |
| 19.4 | 12m
[+ 15m] | <p>Largely breccia build with more volcanic towards base</p> <p>Single course of breccia at top supporting cast concrete coping stones, as 19.2; two courses or so at base look older.</p> <p>All this must post-date the removal of the Water Gate in 1815, as the parapet wall lies on a divergent alignment from the line of the wall itself which curves eastward to align with section 20 on the far side of Quay Hill.</p> |

SECTION 20 Site of Water Gate and adjacent

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| 20.1 | c. 15m | <p>Quay Hill, formerly spanned by Water Gate, built 1563-4, demolished 1815; for details of position of which see Collings</p> |
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(forthcoming). No fabric of the Water Gate is known to survive on either elevation, i.e. the wall has been trimmed back beyond the limits of the work of the 1560s.

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| 20.2 | 23m | <p>The rear face of the wall is largely concealed by the abutting structures of a decrepit workshop, 44 Quay Hill. The wall survives to a substantial thickness here, as may be seen at the butt end. The inside face of the wall is obscured by plaster for the first 8m (and above by a low sloping roof) then by two two-storey brick structures built against the face of the wall for c. 8m again. The final section of c. 7m has a visible masonry face below a high-level roof of corrugated iron. The face is heavily coated with limewash and pointed with patches of ribbon pointing, but from that which can be seen beneath the coatings, the facework is mainly of breccia blockwork, only semi-coursed (or (?) heavily patched) with possibilities of other stone plus a good deal of brick in patches. In general the build looks pretty similar to that of the outside elevation and thus a complete rebuild of the wall here in the 16th/17th centuries is likely. It is presumed that the whole length (up to the site of the Quay Gate) was not rebuilt, as a section of older facework intervenes on the outside.</p> <p>It is possible to see the rear face of the parapet wall of the whole build. This is of the same composition (breccia and brick) as the outside build. Traces of crenellations at the SW end, disappearing to NE; presumably they were higher up, if they existed. Widths are: full width of wall: 1m; parapet: 0.5m; i.e. 1.5m in all (NE); of SW, 1.60m (wall 1.0m, parapet 0.6m).</p> |
| 20.3 | 5m | <p>As 20.2 (continuous build, division due to property boundary). Same build as before, breccia and brick on exterior, predominantly breccia on interior, although some other stone types present as well. Wider than wall to SW of boundary (section 20.2): 1.80m total, parapet wall 0.5m; wall top 1.3m. Does the workshop to the SW cut into the rear face?</p> |
| 20.4 | 10.5m | <p>Wall collapsed 11th March 1927 on site of Custom House Inn, below (in Quay lane). An archaeological watching brief in 1993, during the construction of a ramped stairway in this breach, showed that no solid wall footings survive in position here, although Roman clay rampart deposits were recorded to the rear. In part at least this accounts for the collapse as the buildings outside the wall, on Quay Lane, had undermined the foundations by cutting building terraces below the wall without adequate underpinning. This cause was indeed suggested during the enquiry which followed the collapse (WCSL Cuttings File B/EXETER Gates and Walls, ff.27-46, 50).</p> <p>At least one large fragment of collapsed masonry survives in the slope below the break and could be revealed for display, given the will to do so. It might also preserve facework to show the style of the collapsed portion (below).</p> <p>A change of alignment near to the SW side of the breach is shown by the OS of 1876, suggesting a structural break at this point and that the collapsed portion was of a different build.</p> |

SECTION 21 Quay Lane, rear of Lower Coombe Street Car park

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| 21.1 | 19.5m | <p>Pitched Roman corework of volcanic rubble and chert forms the base of the build, with a crude rear face in places (especially, e.g., at the base of the wall just short of the collapsed section 20.4 (at the southern corner of the car park). Some very large blocks are included in this work, including one left exposed by the consolidation of 1993 measuring 0.67 x 0.62 x 0.32m minimum. Above the Roman core, the wall is rebuilt as a patchy rear face, broad core and good-quality facework of mixed breccia, volcanic and other stones in squared, coursed blockwork on a breccia plinth. Not much breccia is visible in the core and rear face, although it was definitely present in these areas and inspection of the wall top in plan during the 1992-3 phase of work showed that the front face, core and rear face were of one build. Abuts build 21.2 to the NE. (A straight join was visible in the core when it was cleaned up during repairs.) Late medieval. The final phase is capping of the wall top, various patches to the core and rear face, and repointing of the original masonry. This occurred in 1992-3 and was preceded by full archaeological recording of this and builds 21.4-10 inclusive, above. Report is forthcoming. An interesting sequence was recorded at the SW end of this section in 1993. The Roman core and rear face were seen cutting into clay layers of the rampart behind the wall (see section 86 in the archive report, forthcoming). On the front the late medieval work could be seen cutting through the Roman corework and below the primary clay rampart. Although the front of the wall was cut away, more of the base of the wall footings was seen beneath the wall than has ever been recorded elsewhere.</p> |
| 21.2 | 9.5m | <p>Roman core of pitched rubble continues, visible sporadically amidst the rebuilt capping rear facework and pointing of 1992-3. The core survives to the level of the wall top, but is cut by a medieval rebuilding of the outer face and c. 1.5m of core at the front of the wall.</p> |
| 21.3 | 11m | <p>Roman core was exposed by the collapse of later facework in the early 20th century. It was recorded in an elevation drawing by EMAFU prior to its concealment in 1979. A little pitched stone core may still be seen on the rear, although much of the rubble now visible beside the path is modern capping, especially that at its NE end. The front face and the top of the wall were capped with red brick in 1979, the subject of controversy at the time (RAMM file City Wall 1963-85). Although the screaming newness of the brick has now mellowed somewhat it is still an intrusive and unsympathetic addition to the wall.</p> |
| 21.4 | 8.5m | <p>A further section of brick capping of 1979, although here the top of the wall and the rear face were so treated; the front face retained masonry facework (Blaylock 1991, Section 21.4 q.v.). A photograph of this section before 1979, showing concrete capping on masonry core is held in EMAFU archives (EMAFU 252/6).</p> |
| 21.5 | 12.5m | <p>A broad recess cut into the rear face of the wall comprising a return of 21.4 (2.50m, of which 1.75m [innermost] is old brickwork); brick facing of rear (3.2m); then masonry facing at an</p> |

acute angle to the outside face of the wall bringing the cut face back out to the plane of the rear face to NE and SW. The masonry is composed of breccia, shale, brick, some sandstone, some oolitic limestone (Bath and others), a heterogeneous mixture characteristic of the 19th century. The walling is associated with the construction of the building containing an organ factory against (cutting into) the rear of the wall in James Street in the (?) mid 19th century (OS 1876).

To the rear and above is a parapet wall of older masonry containing breccia, volcanic blocks, white TS blocks, some small volcanic rubble and one medieval or Roman tile fragment; capped with 1992 coping. Much of the masonry of this section was repointed in 1992.

21.6 11.5m

Roman core of pitched volcanic rubble and chert. At NE end, and for short stretch at SW end original battered rear facework of the Roman wall survives, large volcanic rubble and chert mostly pitched in courses. This appears to have been the method of construction in this section of the wall - employing a crudely faced and slightly battered (or outward-sloping) facework rather than the stepped facework seen elsewhere (Bradninch Place, Paul Street, South Street/Western Way, Post Office Street). In the central section the face is cut away by the construction of one of the post-medieval James Street buildings.

Above the rubble facework are two courses of squared volcanic blocks which could represent the beginning of the Roman rear face proper. Above this is later facework of mixed rubble. The top of the wall is capped off by up to four courses of 1992 facework finishing off the wall top to a level.

Until 1992 much of the rear face in this area was covered with a layer of adhesive cast concrete of the (?) 1950s or 60s. Most of this was removed in that year but a small area was retained where it did not conceal older facework.

21.7 12m

Rear facework predominantly of 19th-century masonry of coursed rubble, stepping out by 0.45m at 3.6m from SW end (brick quoins) and continuing as a two-level build carrying a flight of steps (five large breccia blocks) to the top of the wall.

All the facework seen here is late but some of the materials could be derived from the Roman wall - the incidence of volcanic and chert rubble is certainly suggestive of the Roman wall core.

At the NE end of the build is a short section of 0.6m where Roman core and crude rear face are revealed. This section was first recorded in 1987; the drawing is now incorporated into the main survey drawing of this area, EMAFU Drawing No. 217.02.

21.8 13m

Commences in a slight step in the facework, which again is modern - supported on a brick base, with a brick NW return at the SW end of the build. Masonry above is of stone obviously re-used, frequent chert and large breccia blocks - supporting another flight of steps to the wall top. Beyond the steps the lowest $\frac{3}{4}$ of the facework is modern again, 19th-century or later (in two sections, the first almost all chert blocks, the second very mixed in geology, with a distinctive occurrences of granite and a blue-grey igneous stone. More conventional stones (breccia and volcanic) also appear.

These modern builds must be seen as modern underpinning of the rear face of the Roman wall as, above, near the top of the wall there are up to seven courses of good-quality Roman facework in dark purple volcanic blocks (plus some chert blocks, in one course in particular). Above this is some modern work of 1992 associated with the construction of the footbridge over the Inner Bypass.

This section of Roman rear facework is of particular importance as it forms the rear to the only confirmed Roman front facework which survives to the full height of the standing wall (although it is still not certain that this represents the wall-walk level of the Roman wall), and is complete with plinth and, nearby, a section of the clay banks to the rear of the wall.

From that which is known elsewhere, further to the SW, the 19th-century underpinning here was probably added to protect core and exposed rampart-clay from weathering.

The NE end of this section is faced up with modern rubble, but must preserve a section through Roman wallcore with front and rear facework.

SECTION 22 Western Way to South Street

22.1	26m	Destroyed in c.1961 for Inner Bypass (Western Way). Some excavation work was carried out by M.J. Mountain but to date only a brief note of the results has been published (<i>JRS</i> 52 1962, 184 & Pl. 23). Demolition of the wall is shown in a photograph published by Thomas and Warren (1980, 125).
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22.2	21.5m	Stretch of standing Roman rear facework and footings. This area was not known until the demolition of structures in 1961 revealed them to be built against and on top of the Roman wall. The subject of detailed examination by excavation by Lady Fox in 1964 (Fox 1968) and by fabric recording before consolidation and repointing in 1992.
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Comprises a rear face of large and very large blocks of chert and volcanic rubble, surmounted by stepped facework of squared blocks some of which is Roman, but much of which is a medieval rebuild. Detailed comparison of the rubble facework at the bottom with photographs from the time of the 1960s excavations show that less is repaired or replaced than had been thought, in fact, most of the central section of the lowest, crude facework is Roman. This is the section which would have been concealed by the clay bank when the wall was standing. There are large sections of rebuild to NE and SW however (see EMAFU archive drawing 217.1, build 566).

The upper stage is rebuilt: 15.5m at the SW end is late medieval or early post-medieval; it was recorded as 550 in the EMAFU detailed survey, and as 22.2 in the exterior fabric survey. The remaining 6m at the NE end is post-medieval rebuilding, cutting into 550; recorded as 558 and 22.3 in the same two sources. The wall is cut into at each end by a prominent building platform for a house at the SW end, and a remnant of a large circular bread oven (still there but filled during the consolidation) at the NE

end.

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| 22.3 | 36m | <p>Removed on the demolition of South Gate, church of the Holy Trinity, and adjacent city wall in 1819. A pencil sketch by I.F. Bird shows the rear elevation of the South Gate, with some adjacent wall to the NE, after the demolition of Holy Trinity Church but while the gate was still standing (i.e. in 1819); rubble, presumably from the church, is strewn around the foreground of the drawing (Baker 1977, No. 38). The composition of the same sketch was copied by John Gendall in a somewhat later engraving <i>idem</i> 1979, No. 43; illustrated by Henderson 1984, rear cover).</p> |
| 22.4 | 10.5m | <p>Narrow boundary wall on the line of the outside face of the city wall (only 0.45m thick). At NE end it abuts medieval fabric on the outside face (Blaylock 1991, 35; section 23.2). Cut back on interior so no medieval fabric is visible. Pretty much composed as the rear face to the NE, in the yard of Holy Trinity church, and presumably contemporary with the removal of the South Gate and old church in 1819, and the construction of the new church in 1820.</p> <p>Mixture of volcanic rubble and blocks, Triassic sandstone blocks, pink Permian sandstone, occasional brick, very occasional Roman tile fragment, occasional breccia. Bonded with a creamy lime mortar.</p> <p>Brick coping survives as a concave facing of an angle near the SW terminal of the wall.</p> <p>A few of the blocks of the medieval facework and of the 17th-century parapet above can be seen in section where this wall abuts the next section of wall. At this joint the gap between the rear of the wall and the church (on convergent alignments) is closed by a short blocking wall of similar composition, which abuts the church.</p> |

SECTION 23 Holy Trinity Church and the Presentation of Mary Convent (formerly Archdeacon of Exeter)

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| 23.1 | 14m | <p>The graveyard to the E of the church; a boundary wall predominantly of Heavitree breccia on the line of the ward boundary divides graveyard from convent.</p> <p>The rear face of the wall itself is cut back (early 19th-century at time of construction of the church(?) [1820]) and faced with roughly-coursed re-used blocks: volcanic stone (rubble and block), Triassic sandstone, pink Permian sandstone (derived from the parapet of 17th century?), some occasional integral brick bonded with lime mortar. As far as can be seen the facework is continuous to the top of the wall for much of this width - i.e. rear face of parapet does not survive other than above a lean-to section abutting the church; iron girders span the width of the wall associated with 20th-century brickwork (an attempt to stabilise the thinned wall?).</p> <p>Older work survives at the top - especially the remnants of a crenellated parapet above the roof of the 20th-century lean-to at the SE corner of the church; filled with brick and capped with slate.</p> |
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Exposed old (?medieval) wall core is visible at the NE end beneath the boundary wall between the churchyard and the convent. The refacing of the wall also partly faces up the area of exposed core.

A thick base to the boundary wall supports a flight of steps at 90° to the rear face, parallel to the breccia build (Lega-Weekes 1915, 109; Lyster 1913, Fig. 5). It is under this that the core is visible. Roman rampart survived here until the construction of Holy Trinity Church in 1820; as on the other side of the wall in the convent grounds.

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| 23.2 | c. 20m | <p>Parapet wall; begins at the boundary with Holy Trinity Church in a short stump/buttress (0.25m to NW), mostly broken away. To the NE sloping down over 3m to a parapet wall of regular height. Mixed breccia and other rubble in cement, ribbon pointing; late concrete capping, flat top. For most of the length of 23.2 some old-looking facework is visible at the base of the parapet; one or two rough courses of volcanic trap with occasional breccia, greyish mortar, before the cement-bonded rebuild.</p> <p>From c. 20m into the build the rebuild seems confined to a course or two below the coping (23.3 below).</p> |
| 23.3 | 38m | <p>Indistinct junction with 23.2 but presumed earlier than that build on the grounds of material. Predominantly volcanic rubble, some blocks, some Triassic sandstone, occasional breccia, in slightly pinkish lime mortar with plentiful grit. Occasional exotic such as Salcombe stone, pink Permian sandstone, and brick/tile suggest that this is a post-medieval rebuild using mostly ancient material. Ribbon-pointed in cement in many places, as 23.2. Rather higher incidence of Triassic sandstone towards the NE end of the section, although insufficiently different to suggest a different build (cf. external elevation for rebuilds).</p> <p>Coping slopes up at the NE end, at the boundary with the grounds of the Bishop's Palace. A cutting for the exit to Trinity Street, 12m short of the NE limit of the build, is faced with volcanic rubble, and roofed the SE c. 55m with a semi-circular barrel vault, presumably late C19th (convent here since 1896; possibly earlier?). There is a good profile of the bank at this point.</p> <p>The whole of this length has well-preserved rampart behind the wall; c. 15m at SW end is cut into for a netball court but the remainder retains the 'tail' of the bank cut into only for paths and tunnelled for the doorway through the wall into Trinity Street. Some work was carried out on this stretch in 1932 by the Exeter Excavation Committee (Montgomerie-Neilson and Montague 1934, 83. The suggestion made then that the wall and bank were breached at this point is no longer sustainable).</p> |

SECTION 24 Garden of The Bishop's Palace

[Boundary wall with convent grounds: looks old but might only be C18/C19th; rough breccia blocks, some small volcanic levelling, brick at top. 1m short of rear face of wall build stops in a straight joint, i.e. former doorway on top of bank from Palace to Archdeacon of Exeter's Garden. This is blocked with random masonry in cement.

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| 24.1 | 14m | <p>From the boundary with the convent (SW) to the first bastion. Modern rebuild of parapet incorporating crenellations, 1912, cf. exterior which bears a stone with the arms of Bishop Robertson (1903-16) and the date (miswritten as MDCCCXII for MDCCCCXII).</p> <p>The facework is a mixture of volcanic rubble, some volcanic blocks, breccia blocks, some integral brick, and various other stones in smaller quantities, bonded in a dark-red sandy cement mortar, then repointed with a gritty cement.</p> <p>The parapet comprises four merlons running SW to NE, 2.8, 2.5, 2.25 and 2.25m approximately, separated by embrasures, each approximately 0.8m wide. Parapet 1.0-1.1m thick at SW end, 0.7m at NE end.</p> |
| 24.2 | 9.5m | <p>Semi-circular bastion.</p> <p>Rebuilt as a ruin in 1912; exterior footings survive below ground (recorded by EMAFU 1986, archive drawing 88.13). Little is known of the interior.</p> |
| 24.3 | 68m | <p>Regular parapet of 1912 work. Uniformly large blocks of breccia with coping of breccia blocks laid across the width of the wall (0.5-0.6m wide). Parapet wall stands c. 0.9m high.</p> <p>The centre part of this parapet build especially contains a higher incidence of volcanic and Triassic sandstone blocks which probably are re-used from earlier builds, rather than remaining in position from such builds. (Where seen they contain integral brick etc suggesting that the whole is a rebuild). Beyond a slight (0.15m) step in the parapet wall at 30m short of 25.4, the build is again predominantly of breccia. At the NE end of the parapet build are two features of interest:</p> <p>(i) looking over to the outside face of the wall – a slight ledge is visible at the base of the masonry of 1912, enabling its height to be measured: 1m; on the interior the height is 0.8m, i.e. the base of the build lies c. 0.2m below the level of the top of the bank.</p> <p>(ii) Immediately before the tower, 25.4, is a length of 2.05m of breccia coping with chamfered outer edges (four blocks). 1-2 courses of 1912 build make up the space above these blocks - it is not certain to which fabric they belong - either older material (therefore possibly remnants of earlier coping or crenellation), or re-used in 1912 work (in which case they are also probably derived from coping or crenellation in this area).</p> <p>Comparison with outside builds 24.5-7 shows that the parapet build here is only 1-2 courses on the outside face.</p> <p>The bank over most of this section is well preserved with a flat top of c. 2-2.5m width and a steep (45°) rear slope. The trench in which the rampart was partially examined in 1939, lay approximately 7.5m NE of the bastion, in this section (Morris <i>et al.</i> 1946, Fig. 1).</p> |
| 24.4 | 9m | <p>Semi-circular bastion, the so-called Lollards Tower or Prison. Top parapet (along with bulk of the exterior elevation) is work of 1912 -see datestone on exterior of the tower.</p> <p>The interior elevations retain ancient work. Outline drawings were published by Burrow (1977, 27-8; Figs 8, 9). The rear elevation comprises two storeys, the first floor stepping in from the ground floor by c. 4m so that the profile of the elevation</p> |

follows that of the slope of the bank behind the wall.

The rear elevation of the *ground-floor stage* is possibly entirely rebuilt, or may be just heavily patched. It is overgrown with ivy and other shrubs so it is not easy to see all of the masonry details. The central ground-floor passage is framed by a two-centred arch of vesicular volcanic stone with a plain chamfer and crowned by a rough relieving arch. The frame of the arch is certainly heavily repaired. Low modern retaining walls flank the entrance, which slopes down towards the exterior (to the SW). The facework to each side, where it is visible, is rebuilt, although probably with some of the ancient materials: volcanic rubble predominates, quite frequently veined as Pocombe stone (although this may also derive from other quarries), but with sufficient incidence of brick and other modern materials to confirm that the facework is rebuilt. The ground-floor stage has a modern coping of breccia blocks and about halfway between the entrance arch and the SW quoin, a projecting pier of breccia (now overgrown, see Burrow's drawing and photograph [1977, Fig. 9; Pl. 2, A & C]). Both NE and SW quoins are rebuilt and die into the slope of the bank; the ancient arrangement is unknown, but presumably must have included formal side walls of masonry to the tower.

The *first-floor elevation* is set back 4m from that of the ground floor. This, although in a state of decay, looks more authentic (and has been cleared of ivy growth recently). This is uniformly of volcanic rubble facework, roughly coursed with dressed volcanic features, all bonded in a very decayed white lime mortar. The veined variety of stone is common (perhaps around 50%) - increasing the likelihood that the stone in the ground-floor elevation (above) is re-used from original. Both quoins are rebuilt, and there is a large patch of roughly rebuilt facework bonded in cement above the door.

Two features survive in the elevation: (i) a doorway: the outer arch survives as three stones of the NE jamb, one of the SW jamb, above the present ground level; presumably it had a two-centred arch, as the ground-floor door, but the rebuilt facework above obscures any evidence for this. Within the embrasure the stone of the jamb survives to the full height and supports a shallow relieving arch of volcanic rubble voussoirs. Within the embrasure on the SW side is the door at the head of the stair from ground to first-floor level.

(ii) a window towards the NE end of the elevation. A shouldered arch frame c. 0.9 x 0.4m, with surviving vesicular volcanic stone jambs with a plain chamfer. The sill is missing although the position of its stone survives at its lower left corner. Above the lintel is a relieving arch of rough voussoirs, the facework broken away above. The interior has a splayed embrasure and shallow-arched head - little is visible within as collapsed/decayed mortar and debris fills the bulk of the embrasure and spills out onto the first-floor 'terrace' of the tower. Remnants of sockets of three horizontal glazing-bars in the jambs, but no trace of a vertical bar, although the lintel stone is heavily fractured and the sill is missing/not visible.

Both quoins have been rebuilt but the side walls of the first floor, where visible outside the line of the bank, appear to be original

fabric of undisturbed volcanic rubble facework.

Above, on the top of the tower (at 'second-floor' level) is the remnant of a wall on the line of the rear elevation, principally rubble core; little convincing facework survives. In contrast to that facework previously described, this is very mixed in composition and includes breccia, volcanic stone, Permian sandstone and occasional white Triassic sandstone. One piece of iron slag is also built into this core. Where mortar is visible, it appears to be pinkish with coarse sand aggregate and flecks and streaks of lime, hard and adhesive. This wall is marked as 'd' on Burrow's drawings (1977, Figs 8, 9).

A face is most easily seen in the low section of wall at the SW end of the structure, the higher area to the NE looks more massive. This stage is obviously an addition. Its composition and context at the top of the tower might suggest a 17th-century date (especially in view of the quantity of Permian sandstone, see also in the introduction, above).

The interior

Fragments of two areas of the interior are visible:

(i) the SW corner of the first-floor room has been partially dug out. The facework of the two interior walls is well-preserved, showing neat and unweathered in comparison to the exterior facework) coursed volcanic rubble. There are inner arches to the door from the first-floor 'terrace'/platform (a chamfered frame, the arch missing but a high relieving arch would suggest a two-centred arch here); and to the stair from ground to first floor (chamfered again but here with a shouldered arch and a lower relieving arch above).

(ii) A portion of the top of the stair turret has also been dug out and shows four intact blocks of a newel stair above the arch to the first-floor doorway (visible adjacent) showing that the stair continued to the roof or second-floor level. Also visible here is the SW half of the facework of the stair in the very corner of the structure. Again all the visible facework is in volcanic stone. This second stair was a separate structure to that rising from ground to first floor (mentioned under (i) above), and was entered from a doorway within the thickness of the wall at first-floor level.

A further feature of interest in the interior of the first-floor room is an offset at a level above the top of the relieving arches c. 0.30m deep. Above the offset on the NW wall is a further 2-3 courses (0.5m) of facework in the primary volcanic stone style. The rough mixed masonry (already described) lies above this work. This must be interpreted as the ledge on which the original second-floor level was supported (or conceivably the roof level, were the second floor no more than that).

A further small excavation or subsidence hole, 1m in diameter, lies over the position of the first-floor window. No fabric is visible in position in this hole.

24.5

57m

The parapet wall of 1912 continues in very similar form to 24.3. Slight changes of orientation at c. 11m and 35m NE of the tower; width of parapet c. 0.6m. Breccia coping blocks, fabric etc. are all similar to those described for 24.3, the one principal difference being the presence of a chamfered plinth at the base of the inside face of the parapet, 0.8m below wall-top level. This plinth may

well be present throughout Bishop Robertson's rebuild of 1912; the last point at which it is visible is c. 13m NE of the tower 24.4, to the SW of which the ground level on top of the bank rises sufficiently to obscure it if present. It is not certain if the same applies to 24.3 because the parapet wall there often stands to more than 0.90m above bank-top without displaying a plinth.

The bank at the rear of 24.5 is of similar width to that of 24.3 although the slope is less steep.

Boundary wall with 26.1 to NE has a blocked doorway immediately behind the rear face of the parapet.

SECTION 25 15 Cathedral Close

25.1	6m	Parapet of breccia blocks, presumably of 1912 in this form as it is identical in form to the parapet and coping of 24.5. (q.v.), presumably work of 1912 at the same time as Bishop Robertson's rebuild to the SW.
25.2	9.5m	Parapet of mixed stone type with smaller breccia blocks predominating; coping of breccia slabs inclined inwards. Coeval with 10a Southernhay West - early 19th century (DoE 1974, 252); but presumably after the enlargement of New Cut (25.5 below).
25.3	2m	Rear face of parapet steps outwards: volcanic blocks, Permian sandstone in irregular courses. Fragment of older work, although still post-medieval. C17th or 18th?
25.4	1m	Pier and associated parapet work of New Cut bridge of 1814. Mainly breccia block, some volcanic block, cuts 25.3.
25.5	5.5m	New Cut. Site of semi-circular tower in the Middle Ages (?C13th), removed before the late C16th. Further altered by the creation of a way through the wall in 1753 (New Gate [Chamber Map Book ECA 58/fo.11]); now New Cut. Achieved its present form in 1813-14 when the cast-iron bridge was erected (inscribed 'Burnet Patch Esq'r, Mayor 1814. R. Trewman Esq'r. Receiver). Breccia ashlar facing to wall core 3.1m deep abutted by revetment walls of New Cut to either side (possibly some older [i.e. pre-1814] fabric to revetment wall on NE side).

SECTION 26 Grounds of 14 Cathedral Close (Archdeacon of Cornwall, now Drew Pearse & Co.) and gap for Bedford Street buildings

26.1	0.5m	Pier of breccia with breccia coping block. Abutment of bridge spanning New Cut (1814) and coeval with it.
26.2	59m	Parapet wall at top of wall, fabric heavily overgrown. Large trees on top of the bank and smaller (but well-established) saplings on the wall parapet itself (especially to NW end) prevent a detailed description. The profile of the bank is well-preserved over the full length of this section. Large sycamore trees grow on the tail of the bank which is also overgrown with ivy, long grass and brambles.

26.3	45m	Wall demolished for Theatre Royal and Bedford Street, originally in the late 18th century (Newton 1984, 124). The theatre was constructed with its NW wall over the line of the City Wall c. 1787 (<i>ibid.</i> 70), removing the fabric of the wall. The theatre was rebuilt after fires in 1820 (<i>ibid.</i> 131) and 1885, and finally destroyed in 1942 (Thomas & Warren 1980, 289-90). The site is now cut off by post-war redevelopment on the line of Bedford Street and used as a car park at the rear of 21-22 Southernhay West.
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SECTION 27 Bedford Street to Broadwalk House car park entrance

27.1	13m	Low boundary wall of c. 1974-5. Contemporary with redevelopment of Nos 25-44 Southernhay West (Broadwalk House).
27.2	4.8m	Rubble wall (620-70mm thick), containing doorway which until 1942 led from the rear of 27 Southernhay West into Post Office Street (at the rear of Bedford Circus). The fabric of the wall comprises: (i) uncoursed rubble of volcanic trap, pink Triassic sandstone, and breccia, in white gritty lime mortar (ii) rather larger blocks forming jambs to the doorway and the superstructure over build (i) and doorway (iii) new lintel and rebuilt masonry to top of wall above : 1992 (iv) is earlier (cut by) the crowning masonry of build 27.3 which itself is later than 1832 (q.v.)
27.3	15m	The rear face of the wall is cut back and refaced with coursed grey South Devon limestone bearing a datestone of 1832. Slightly to the SW of the centre of this build is a blocked doorway (see also exterior, section) which formerly led from 28 Southernhay West to Post Office Street (OS 1876). The blocking is of similar grey limestone, although coarser, less squared and with wider joints: late 19th or 20th-century. At the top of the wall there is a later build, averaging four courses or so but deeper over the blocked doorway. This employs more conventional local materials and is presumably 20th century.
27.4	8.5m	Wall demolished: the 1876 map shows an intrusive structure at this point, which may well have already removed the fabric of the wall. The gap now forms an entry from the modern Post Office Street to Southernhay. The butt ends of the wall are revetted by sloping buttresses of new breccia, of the 1970s.
27.5	4.7m	Rear facework on something like the proper line (cf. section 27.6 below) but with a variety of modern builds and patches; principally one incorporating re-used granite (including paving setts) and a brick kerb to the top of the wall, as well as brick and local stone. For a sketch plan of this section, and those up to 27.11, see Burrow 1977, Fig. 10.
27.6	21.7m	A long section founded on good quality Roman rear facework. Beginning with a very disrupted section of c. 2.5m in which only two courses of facework survive; above the rear face is rebuilt in

a mixture of materials similar to 27.5 and also including granite, therefore 19th- or 20th-century. To the NE there is a substantial length of good quality Roman facework. Most of this is built on a plinth c. 1m high, faced with breccia blockwork and capped with 20th-century rubble capping (this ends c. 6m short of the SW limit of the build, its place being taken by a flowerbed flanking the modern pavement). The function of this plinth is not clear, but on parallels with similar configurations elsewhere it is likely to contain rough footings, formerly cut into the bank, i.e. the plinth has been built to protect footings and/or exposed bank deposits, revealed by the cutting away of most of the bank.

The rear facework is in an excellent condition and well exemplifies the form of the rear face of the wall. Here it is composed of relatively small blocks of worked volcanic trap of a very uniform colour and texture: dark purplish grey and vesicular. The coursing is slightly irregular, i.e. blocks of varying depth are employed in any given course, and so joints tend to be wider than those of the outside face. The mortar is characteristic of the hard pebbly lime mortar seen in Roman work elsewhere (e.g. of Northernhay Gardens/Bradninch Place: Blaylock 1988, 11), the size and roundness of the pebble inclusions readily distinguishing it from typical medieval mortars.

The surviving facework is in two steps, with a maximum of six courses in the lower and five in the upper. This occurs at the lower, SW, end of the section. There is a slight overall drop from NE to SW and a tendency for the courses to dip in that direction. At the NE end the surviving arrangement consists of five and two courses respectively, but here the later plinth is slightly lower and shows some three-to-four courses of rough rubble corework exposed, in addition to the facework, to a maximum height of c. 0.7m. Above the upper step of facework there is also some later rebuilding in rubble (probably 20th-century, as it is bonded with cement and very crude). The rebuild is set back by up to 0.3m from the upper step of Roman facework. Dimensions of the facework at the SW end are: lower step, maximum height 0.85m; upper step, maximum height 0.75m; offset at top of lower step, 0.1-0.15m in width.

The top of the wall over the whole length of this section is capped in a build of small rubble of mixed geology, bonded in cement, with a regular fall from the parapet to the rear of the wall. This is an addition of the mid 20th century.

The parapet consists of a variety of stone - some large and squared blocks re-used from the wall itself, elsewhere quite small and rubbly work. Sporadically there are patches of pink Permian sandstone, whose use elsewhere is characteristic of 17th-century builds - but as the parapet wall also contains brick and granite, and seems largely to be bonded (?or pointed) with cement, it is probable that this stone, is derived from work of that period in the vicinity and re-used in this context (see also comments on section 27.8, the site of the Bedford Postern Tower, below). ?19th-century, cf. the exterior where the parapet is also of mixed geology bedded in cement.

Area IX of the post-war excavations, the last to be dug (in 1950), lay at the SW end of this section (Fox 1952, 58-9). In this section it was first seen that the Roman wall fabric was later than the early bank, and a complete section of the primary rampart was

recorded (*ibid.* 19 and Pl. XXIII).

- 27.7 c. 2.2m Modern coursed blocks of volcanic trap (presumably re-used) bonded in cement; below, traces of the Roman rubble core (as at the NE end of 27.6) poke out of several patches and overall heavy repointing in cement. ?mid 20th century rebuild of Roman facework. All in one vertical plane, i.e. no steps. The plinth, as described in 27.6, continues about halfway over this small build, then is replaced, on the same line, by a late 20th-century rebuild, with one/two courses of earlier work at the base.
- 27.8 6m The site of the 13th-century tower known as the 'Bedford Postern Tower'. A description and illustration of the tower from the outside was given by Jenkins (1806, 18 and Pl. opp. p. 365); a plan is also given in the Exeter Chamber Map Book of 1758 (DRO/ECA 58 fo.11) where Jenkins' depiction of the tower as polygonal is confirmed. Beginning with an ashlar build, terminating in a transverse face of 19th-century masonry representing the SW side of the tower (a); continuing with a gap - faced on the outside with a narrow blocking wall (b) and concluding with a second transverse face representing the NE side of the tower.
- [c. 1.80m] (a) The SW 'reveal' of the tower. In line with the rear face of the wall the fabric consists of volcanic blocks and fragments of a variety of colours and textures set in a hard, brownish mortar, probably containing some cement and therefore 19th-century in date, although earlier than 27.7, the capping of the plinth and (probably) the plinth itself. The uppermost 1.1m of the quoin (total height 1.75m) is rebuilt, along with most of the transverse face (below).
Forming a return at 90° to the rear face of the wall, the lower part of the transverse face is of the same fabric, although the upper and outer parts are rebuilt in mid 20th-century style and materials (quite well-squared blocks of volcanic trap, occasional breccia and Permian sandstone in coarse cement mortar). This build abuts the facework of (b) below, and appears to be of the same composition as the capping of the wall to the SW. Presumably post-WWII.
- [c. 3.2m] (b) Recess, 3.2m wide, 2.5m deep, base level with top of plinth and capped with mid 20th-century cement - bonded volcanic rubble (as above 29.6 etc.).
The 'rear' of the recess, i.e. the front in terms of the wall, is closed by a thin wall, 2.8m high (from the top of the capping) in line with (and of a continuous build with some of) the parapet wall to the SW.
This wall is constructed of mixed rubble of widely differing sizes, c. 50% volcanic, 30% Permian sandstone, and 20% breccia (plus occasional exotics such as a block of oolitic limestone), whose principal bonding material is a hard pinkish gritty mortar with a cement content. Patches of two other bonding materials are visible: (i) a red marl seen in places adhering to the rear surface and filling cavities in the face - this is a remnant of a former filling of this recess; (ii) a white lime mortar with plentiful grit seen bonding small areas in places. This is a typical medieval

mortar and occurs here due to the re-use of small chunks of bonded masonry as building materials in their own right (it is also seen adhering to isolated larger stones). Re-used sections of masonry of this type probably derived from the fabric of the tower in this position.

The rear face of the blocking wall is built with a slight and irregular offset at a height c. 1.6m above the level of the capping. It is uncertain if this had a function (e.g. one related to the level of earth fill/bank here?) or if it is simply a step in to bring the facework into the same plane as the parapet wall. The topmost 0.4m or so of the wall is rebuilt with rubble in a cement heavily tempered with coal and charcoal (early-mid 20th-century).

The wall was put up on the removal of the tower (early to mid 19th century); Jenkins' description in 1806 makes it clear that the tower was in a state of advanced decay at the beginning of the 19th century. The removal of the tower presumably took place at the time of the construction of Southernhay, particularly Nos 35/36, in the rear garden of which the tower lay. These houses were built after 1806 (Jenkins described 36 houses of which 12 [presumably those at the SW end] were finished: 1806, 357). Hedgeland's map of Exeter, also dated 1806 and drawn for Jenkins' *History* shows three blocks of the four Southernhay buildings complete, the last (northernmost) lying just short of the position of the Bedford Postern Tower (i.e. No. 34).

[c. 1m]

(c) The NW 'reveal' of the tower. The transverse face is principally of the same squared volcanic blocks as the SW 'reveal', again in mid 20th-century cement bonding. Some older volcanic rubble in a pebbly lime mortar can be seen across the bottom which could be, at least in part, ancient corework. The upper right (SE) part of the facework is of larger breccia blocks, set in hard white gritty mortar which might be a remnant of facework from a time when the tower was still standing (?late 18th or early 19th century). At the top is one dressed architectural fragment perhaps part of a door or window jamb.

On the line of the rear face of the wall the quoin and c. 1m of associated masonry (more at the very top of the wall) are modern work of the same phase and character (NB. very clean squared blocks of volcanic trap, two with vertical semi-circular sectioned grooves; ?Joggles). Four stones of an earlier quoin (0.55m) survive at the base.

The rear face of the plinth throughout this section is mainly a late 20th-century rebuild (clean slightly cementy mortar, clearly abutting work of the ?1950s - capping etc: 1980s?)

27.9

8m

Plinth continues from 27.8 etc: mid 20th-century capping; late 20th-century patched face with some earlier masonry and brick at its base.

Facework in small volcanic blocks and rubble up to 1m in height at the base of the wall may be material re-used from Roman face and corework. At the NE end this abuts or overlies Roman core of 27.10. The lack of any obvious intrusive stone is noteworthy: i.e. all the materials could be derived from the Roman wall.

Presumably medieval. The top of the wall is rebuilt in a number of later and inferior patches (up to mid C20th).

This section, by a process of elimination, is identified as that through which the culvert for the Blackfriars water supply pipe (underground passage) passed. The fabric of this was observed and recorded by A.W. Everett in 1954 (DRO/31162/Z11/7). The precise location of this feature could be established by the removal of capping and the cleaning of the surface beneath.

27.10

6m

A section founded on Roman work. Pitched rubble corework is visible along the full length of the section above the plinth (which continues from that described for the builds to the SW, 27.8 etc). Here it is rather clearer that the plinth serves to underpin and protect Roman core since the latter is seen stepping out in the top surface of the plinth. Pitched corework survives to heights of 0.8m (SW) and 0.9m (NE) above the capping of the plinth. Above this is a Roman rear face, possibly 11 courses (1.4m) high at the NE end, although some of the upper courses here could be reset (the more likely because all 11 courses are set in the same vertical plane). Only six [0.75m] are certainly in situ. The stepped facework of build 27.6 is not repeated. The facework decreases (by the cutting in of later repairs) to a single course at the SW end. Later rubble builds, very similar to those of 27.9, complete the section to wall-top height.

The squared facework is abutted by the modern buttress of the adjacent build (27.11) and must terminate somewhere within its width as only post-medieval work is visible to the NE of the buttress.

27.11

c. 2.25m

Deep NW-SE buttress 1.25m wide, 2.3m deep, abutting the Roman facework of 27.10. Of one build with a stepped extension of the late plinth to the SW, and abutting a NE-SW pier which formed the SW side of the entry from Southernhay West to St John's Hospital, between the sites of Nos 36 and 37 Southernhay West, opened in 1934.

Croump (1933-40, not paginated) shows a drawing of the SW terminal prior to opening up, dated November 1934; photographs of the entrance, which survived until 1952 are in Venning (1988, 46) and Fox (1952, Pl. Va). The NW-SE buttress is predominantly of Pocombe stone (i.e. veined volcanic trap) with very clean-cut vesicular volcanic quoins in cement mortar - probably late 19th or early 20th-century; at the top a re-used moulded granite coping. The adjacent buttress (at least its NE and NW faces) is of re-used blocks from the wall, weathered but well-coursed. This includes a large iron hinge-pin for one of the gates of the opening. The SE (external) face of the buttress slopes outwards to accommodate an earlier breccia buttress on the outside face of the wall.

The parapet of sections 27.9-27.11 is broader than that of the preceding sections of wall, and in a late build of mixed volcanic stone and breccia. It is capped with a recent spread of plain cement mortar untempered with stone and very unsightly from above (e.g. the NCP Princesshay car park; or Broadwalk House opposite). The same material is used in heavy resetting of some

facework and to cap the adjacent upstand of masonry above the buttresses in section 27.11, and to bond the rebuilt NE terminal of that walling.

The same length of wall, 27.9-27.11 - is noteworthy as the main habitat of the plant, Perennial Wall Rocket (*Diplotaxis tenuifolium*), a member of the cabbage family, whose occurrence here is very rare, if not unique, in the Westcountry (ex. inf. D. Bolton, RAM Museum).

SECTION 28 Southernhay Car Park entrance to eastern angle tower

28.1 12m Wall demolished; entrance to car park (see refs above, 27.11). The NE end of the gap was refaced in squared blocks in c. 1974. This opening was first made in 1934 to give access into the new 'Bedford Garage' from Southernhay (*Express & Echo* 21.11.1934). Sections through the wall were examined and recorded on both sides of the breach by the Exeter Excavation Committee (Radford and Morris 1935, 183ff.; see also the section drawings in Pl. XLIV [sections 2 & 3]). Roman bank deposits were observed behind the wall on the NE side of the breach (*ibid.* section 2). The gap was widened considerably in 1952 (ECC, Department of Technical Services microfiche file 0645, 22.2.1952) and achieved its final form on the construction of Broadwalk House in the early 1970s.

28.2 40m From the car park entrance to the tower: one build. The rear face and core of the wall were cut away and refaced in 1933, leaving only a very narrow but high wall. There is mention, in City Council files at the time, of the removal of a 'firing-step' to the wall in the grounds of Bedford Garage (DRO, ECA Surveyor's Papers Box 39/35/20). On the construction of new buildings in Southernhay in the early 1970s a considerable depth of earth was piled against the outside face of the wall (possibly to 2m in height) obscuring Roman and medieval facework and, no doubt, adding to the weight bearing on the narrow wall from the outside.

As it is now seen, the rear face of 1933 is composed of facework of predominantly volcanic blocks plus some breccia, occasional Permian or Triassic sandstone and other accidentals. There is some evidence of patching and a dominant impression that the height of the wall is divided into two approximately equal halves. This is deceptive; the impression of different builds is created by strongly different pointing styles and, although finished at different times in different styles, the facework is of one build. The wall has a recent concrete coping. The SW terminal is finished with new quoin-stones of the 1970s. The rear face appears to abut the SW side of the refaced angle tower (see below). A section was recorded at an oblique angle to the wall some 6m SW of the angle tower, by the Exeter Excavation Committee in 1934 (Radford and Morris 1935, Pl. XLIV, section 1). A further section, much more informative, was excavated by Lady Fox after the war (Fox 1952, 53-5) giving a full section across the surviving defences at a point c. 33.5m SW of the angle tower (*ibid.* Pl. XIX). The wall was cut and the rampart truncated (*ibid.*, 54 and Pl. XXV) but Roman facework on the

exterior, which is now concealed, was identified and the inner lip of the ditch plotted in relation to the wall (*ibid.* Pl. VIA).

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| 28.3 | 7m | <p>The fabric visible in the rear elevation of the angle tower is almost entirely modern. As it now appears the tower consists of a central drum with near vertical (very slightly battered) inner elevations on a horseshoe-shaped plan; a broad offset ledge at parapet level, surfaced in concrete; a tall narrow parapet wall, and inward-facing butt ends to the 'horseshoe', faced with modern masonry. The most recent of the masonry repairs date to a tidying-up period in the [?] early 1960s, after the construction of Princesshay, when what remained of the wall between this point and the site of the East Gate was removed (below) and the stump of wall on the tower was faced up. The ground level in this area was lowered substantially in the mid 20th century, firstly in 1933 when the Exeter Excavation Committee of the DAES explored the tower, secondly in the course of post-war redevelopment. The DAES examination showed that the semi-circular parapet was of 17th-century date and recovered evidence for a floor of the same period within the structure, close to wall-top level (Montgomerie-Neilson and Montague 1934, 78-81). A photograph of the inner elevation of the tower before clearance was published by Lyster (1913, Fig. 3), cf. the situation after excavations as shown by a photograph published by Radford and Morris (1935, Pl. XLV 1).</p> |
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SECTION 29 Eastern Tower to site of East Gate (High Street)

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|------|-----|---|
| 29.1 | 78m | <p>The wall in this area was finally destroyed in 1947-52 during post-war redevelopment. Area VIII of the post-war excavation lay 20-30m NW of the angle tower (Fox 1952, 55-6 and Pl. XIX). At this point the superstructure of the wall had already been removed and replaced with a brick wall (?connected with the Eastgate Arcade of late 19th-century date) but clay-bonded footings and bank layers behind, were examined (<i>ibid.</i> Pls V, VI, XXII [Plan] and XXIV [sections D and C]).</p> |
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report has been prepared in the context of a project on Exeter City Walls funded by English Heritage and Exeter City Council. I wish to acknowledge the help and advice of Messrs R. Iles and N.A.D. Molyneux of English Heritage and J. Clark of Exeter City Council. The fieldwork for the survey, comprising visits for description of the visible fabric of the wall, was carried out in September and October 1993. I was greatly assisted in this by the various owners of property running up to the wall and wish to thank all of them for their help and for their interest in the work. The report has been produced with the help of Pam Wakeham (word processing), Richard Parker, Tony Ives (map) and Tom Dixon (production).

I am indebted to many colleagues and friends for discussion of matters arising from the survey work and more general aspects of the defences of Exeter: John Allan, Mike Baldwin, Tony Collings, Mark Hall, Chris Henderson, Robert Higham, Richard Parker and Mark Stoye have provided particular help with recent work.

ABBREVIATIONS

DAES Devon Archaeological Exploration Society
 DRO Devon Record Office
 ECA Exeter City Archives (DRO)
 ECC Exeter City Council
 EPRS Exeter Pictorial Record Society (WCSL)
 WCSL Westcountry Studies Library

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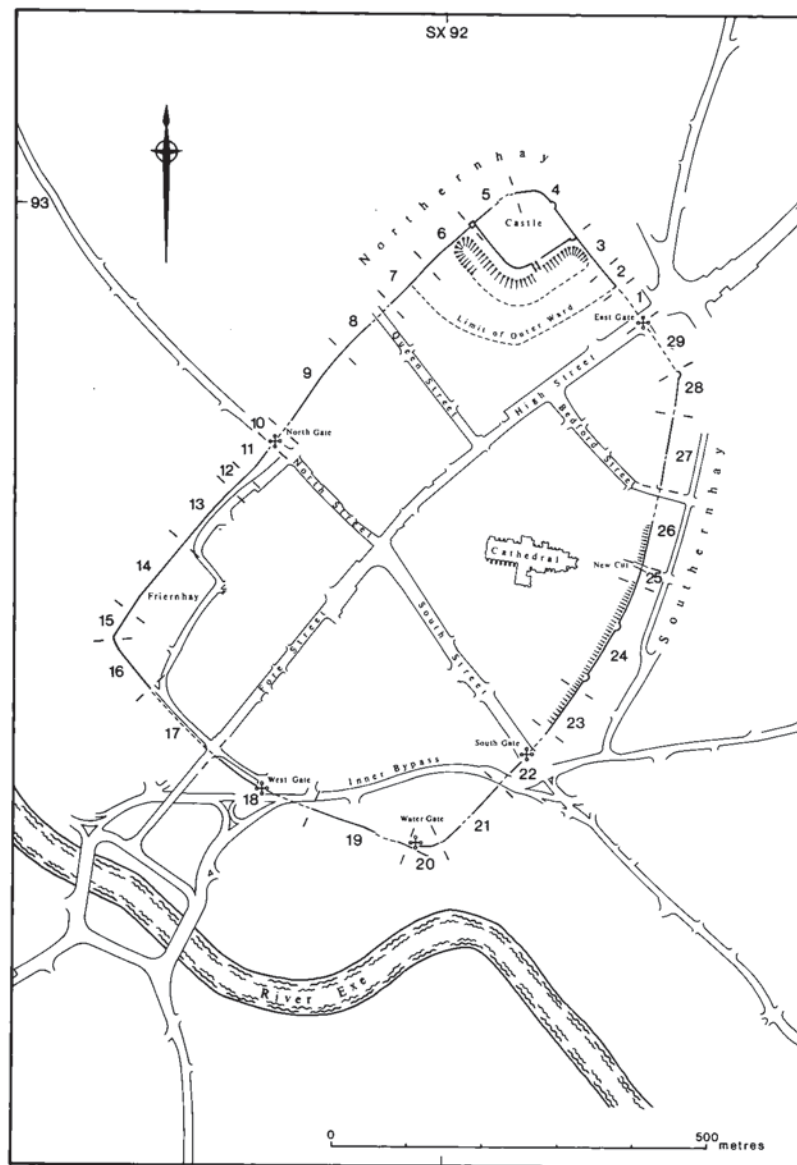


Fig. 1 Map showing the numbered sections of the interior and exterior fabric surveys.

(210) 2(a)